

TALK OF THE TOWN



v CAMBRIDGE UNITED

TUESDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2011

7.45PM

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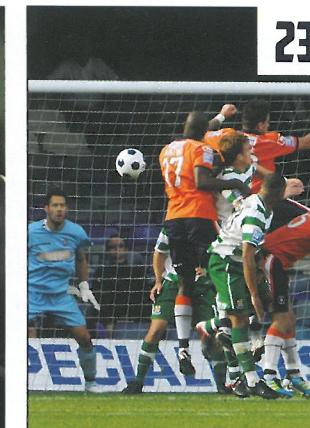
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OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

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BRABS

Good evening and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for tonight's big game against Cambridge United.

I'd like to give a warm welcome to Jez George, his players and staff plus the directors and supporters of Cambridge.

Our visitors this evening lie only a point behind us following another impressive victory and performance at the weekend when they beat Darlington at the Abbey Stadium.

Jez has worked wonders since he was appointed on a full-time basis and the improvement has been noticeable. We face a difficult task of keeping our good record here at Kenilworth Road intact tonight.

I am writing these notes in a very disappointed mood following Saturday's defeat to York City. It was an unacceptable performance, one we did not deserve to get anything out of. York were quicker, sharper and hungrier than us.

When you play a team of York's quality you need all of your players on your game and that just wasn't the case on Saturday.

The first half was an absolute disaster and while the second performance was an improvement, by then the game was over, we were three goals down and York had shut up shop.

Football is all about reactions and that's something I've asked my players to give me ever since I've been the manager of this Club.

It's important we react in the right way and I'm glad we have a game tonight because it gives us an immediate opportunity to put right the wrongs of Saturday.

After a start to the season that saw us unbeaten in 10 games and top the table it was hugely frustrating that that run came to an end and the manner in which it did so.

However we cannot afford to dwell on the disappointment and instead need to focus on the positives of the opening 11 matches of the season.

Up until Saturday we had performed really well, looked a real threat going forward and had kept an unbeaten record going – no easy feat in such a competitive division.

Only a week ago the mood was much brighter and we'd just seen off Lincoln in what was a fantastic performance having played three-quarters of the game with 10 men following Dean Beckwith's sending off.

Since that victory we have had two indifferent away performances which have put us on the back-foot again and playing catch-up.

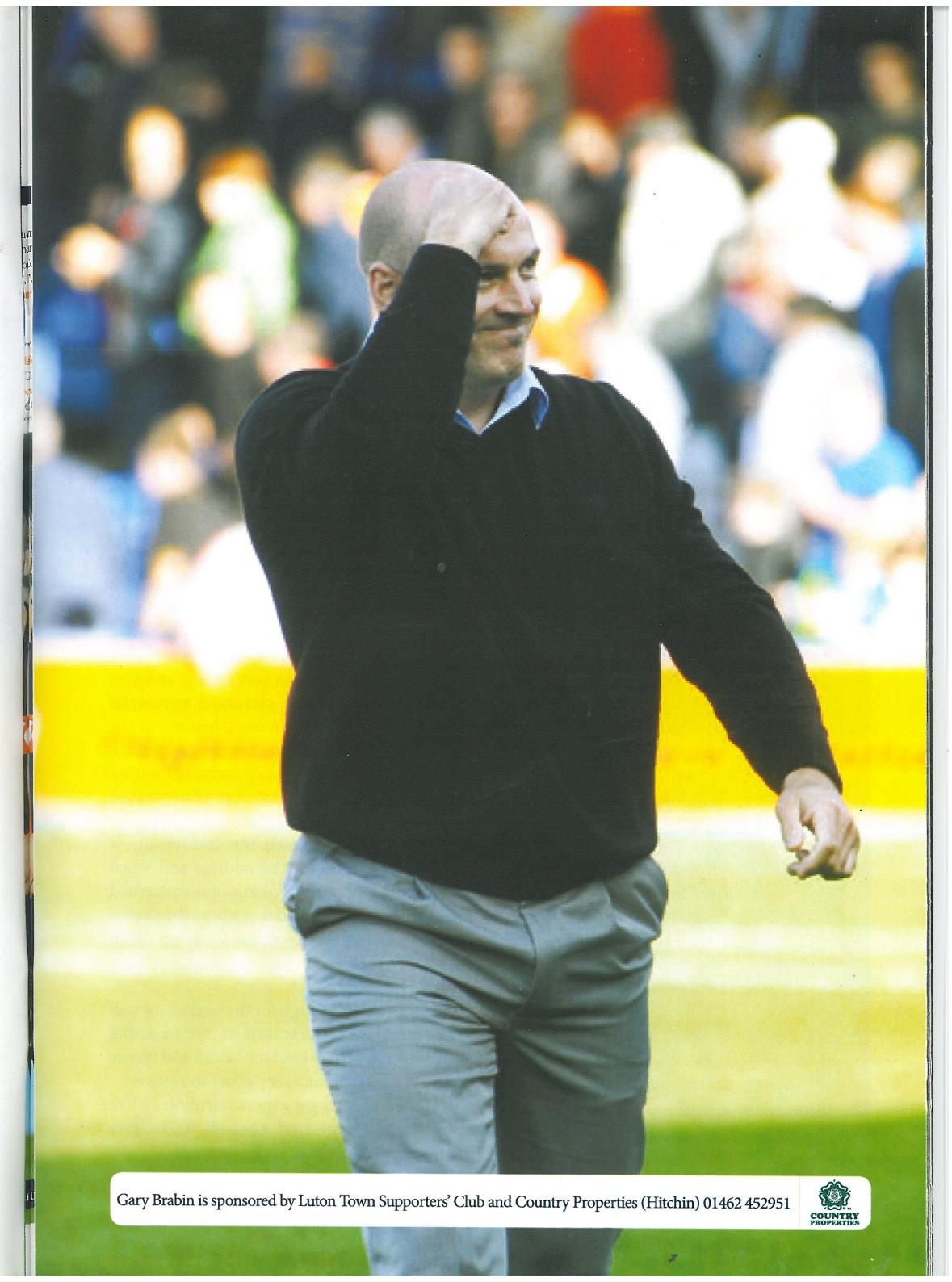
I know that we need to be topping the table and so do the players. It's been a good start to the season but I know we could – and should – have done a lot better than we have done, and I have been disappointed when dropping points from winning positions.

I have told the players that Saturday was not good enough and we must learn from the mistakes that we've made – not only from the York game – but from all the matches in which we've disappointed in so far.

The season is only 11 games old and we currently sit three points off the top of the table. There have been times I have been delighted and at times I have been frustrated but I know from the players we have here at this club that we will be successful.

Finally, thank you for your support so far this season. Thank you to those who braved the elements at Bath City last Tuesday and again to those who made the long trip to York. I really do appreciate it.

Enjoy the game.



Gary Brabin is sponsored by Luton Town Supporters' Club and Country Properties (Hitchin) 01462 452951

FROM THE BOARDROOM

WITH NICK OWEN

Good evening and welcome to Kenilworth Road for our Blue Square Bet Premier match against Cambridge United. A warm welcome to all our visitors from the Abbey Stadium, who are just a point behind us after a good win at home to Darlington on Saturday.

Ah yes. Saturday. What a shocker for Luton Town! I am writing this while I am still shrouded in bewilderment, albeit a day later, after we were positively trounced 3-0 by York City. York's goals were excellent, their overall play very good at times and they just seemed far sharper and more up for it than we did. After a fabulous week when we took nine points out of nine, we followed it with a dismal return of one out of six which saw us sit briefly on top and then fall to sixth.

Our manager Gary Brabin was rightly upset and bitterly disappointed afterwards, but he is not one to make excuses, so I want to try and mitigate a little on his behalf.

As you know, we have suffered a dreadful run of injuries, way beyond the norm, and it seriously affects our form, formation and planning. Just look at the defenders who are missing - George Pilkington, Shane Blackett, Dan Gleeson, Freddie Murray and, most recently, Dean Beckwith through suspension.

If you can't have a settled formation, particularly at the back, it can lead, almost inevitably, to mistakes. George and Shane, I am glad to say, are getting close to full fitness, while Freddie and Dan are still a little way off. Because things became so serious in terms of manpower in the back four, we signed Janos Kovacs on loan from Hereford and I would like to welcome him back

to Kenilworth Road. I thought he played well at York.

Just to add injury to injury, we had the bizarre half time incident at Bootham Crescent involving Alex Lawless. Alex, returning to his old club, felt anger and frustration at the way we'd been playing. We'd just suffered a third killer goal in first half injury time. He punched the wall in exasperation and broke his hand. He's out for up to eight weeks. Utterly infuriating for all of us, even if it graphically displays the passion he feels for our football club. Something else I would like to say about Saturday - John Paul Kissack played despite feeling lousy with a bug and, although he gave it his best, he had to come off before half time. We've been hit by a virus in the club twice this season and that inevitably debilitates our players. A number of key men have had to turn out when not at the top of their game, for one reason or another, whether it's through illness or carrying injuries. We missed the pace, aggression and early season form of Amari Morgan-Smith on Saturday through suspension. Discipline, incidentally, is something we are quick to address and when the bulk of a player's bookings are concerned with dissent, or the like, rather than over zealous tackling, we are quick to clamp down on it with a fine.

So, it's been mighty tough for the backroom staff in this early part of the season, but we are acting positively to try to sort out the health and fitness issues. We are making every effort to ensure our injured players get expert attention. We've called in the very best consultants to give them the greatest chance of making a swift but complete recovery. There's no pattern to the injuries. They're all different, so we have



to accept we've been extremely unlucky, but I can assure you the players are getting the best treatment.

I'm glad to get that off my chest and I hope it explains why our form's been patchy at times, culminating in our demolition on Saturday. Having said all that, I want to reassure you the players are utterly committed and the defeat hurt them all. Just as it hurt us, the fans. Truly horrible, but the dressing room spirit is good and the desire almost tangible. We are a mere three points from the top, we've had a blip, but we are determined to put it right and kick on towards automatic promotion. We all know we've a talented bunch of players here and let me tell you we are still intending to strengthen the squad.

Thanks to all of you who travelled to York on Saturday - as always, our away support was a credit to Luton Town, even when the match was somewhat demoralising.

Also, thanks to all of you who made it to Bath and got thoroughly showered. The players really appreciate it and, as you know, it is a great magnet for them when asked to join the mighty Hatters!

We've had mighty wake up call, a bad day at the office (terrible cliché!) - now for the response! Enjoy the game tonight and let's hope we can get back on winning form.

Bye for now.

Nick



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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PILKS

I think I speak on behalf of all the players when I say how disappointing Saturday's 3-0 defeat to York City was.

It's an often used cliché when you lose but the most important thing after such a defeat is how you react and tonight it's absolutely vital we bounce back to form and get a positive result.

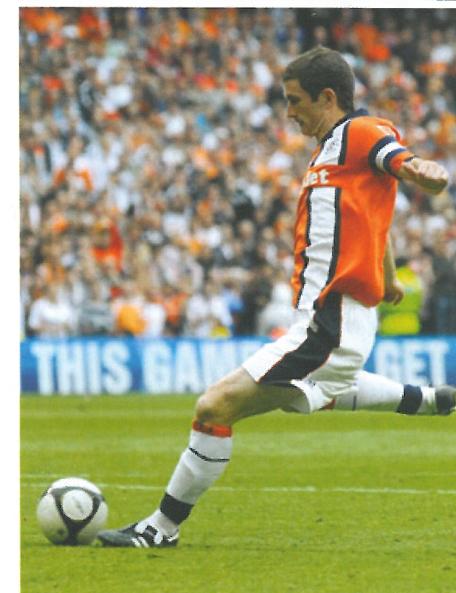
Not that that's going to be easy. Cambridge have had an excellent start to the season and we know a number of players in their ranks that can cause us problems tonight.

Our home form has been exceptional so far this season, having won four and drawn one of our five games and we must continue that tonight.

The basis of a good season is built on fortress-like home form and we have played some magnificent attacking football in those matches here at Kenilworth Road.

It might have only been 1-0 last time we played here, against Lincoln, but what a result and performance considering the circumstances.

I'm sure it is well documented throughout other



George Pilkington's shirts are sponsored by WHOSH and the Bobbers Travel Club

areas of this programme but having played with 10 men for three-quarters of the game to beat a side of Lincoln's quality was a massive boost.

At the final whistle the ground was absolutely rocking and it was the kind of atmosphere we've become accustomed to over the years. There was a sense of injustice about the sending off but having not seen the incident I can't comment.

But the way the lads, and you, the crowd, reacted was brilliant. It was the most one-sided 1-0 victory by 10 men I've ever seen.

Like the players I'm sure you all felt confident going into last Tuesday's match at Bath but it was hugely frustrating to only leave with one point.

This time the boot was on the other foot - Bath were reduced to 10 men just before half-time and they rallied to earn a draw, coming from behind following Amari's first-half strike.

There were a lot of disappointed faces in training the next day but we took the positives: we'd stayed unbeaten and went top of the league.

I think the less said about Saturday the better. We know it was an unacceptable result, a bad day at the office but we move on. It's important not to get too down hearted about just one game. We've shown over the past two seasons that we, as a group, have always responded well to set-backs. Therefore it's up the lads tonight to put it right.

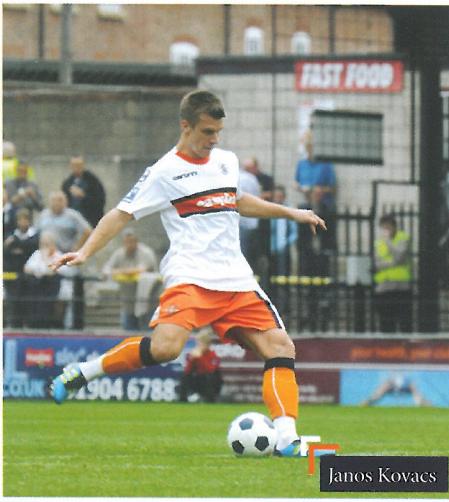
Looking at the other results on Saturday and in previous weeks and the current league table it is already looking like this year is the most competitive this league's been since we've been in it. The onus is on us to go and put on another unbeaten run and get ourselves back on the top of the table.

I'm pleased to report I'm back in training. It's going well so far, nothing too strenuous, and I can't wait to get back involved but appreciate it's going to take time.

Thank you, as ever, for your support in recent weeks. Please back the boys once more tonight.

AROUND TOWN

KOVACS BACK



Janos Kovacs

With Gary Brabin short on senior defensive options, the Town were pleased to welcome back centre-half Janos Kovacs on an emergency one month's loan from Hereford United last Friday.

The Hungarian defender first joined the Hatters from Lincoln City in January 2010 - scoring on his debut in a 2-0 win at Histon.

The 26-year-old went onto make a further 16 appearances in Town colours before he joined Hereford in the summer of 2010.

Previously with MTK in his native Hungary, Janos came to England in 2005 when signing for Chesterfield before his switch to Lincoln.

The defender, who has made 182 appearances in five years in England, brings a wealth of experience to a Town back-line still missing a plethora of players currently either injured or suspended. Boss Brabin told Talk of the Town: "It's been well documented that we need more

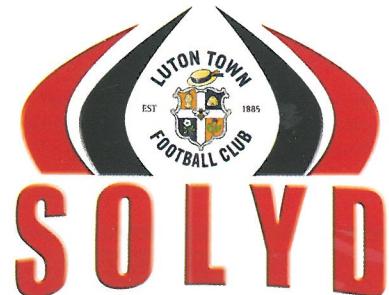
cover in defence and I'm delighted that we've been able to bring in Janos.

"He is a commanding, vocal defender who has vast experience and was the Hereford captain last season.

"Not only is he a great defender but he's a threat in the opponent's penalty area."

real

SOLYD QUIZ NIGHT



Are you the Barcelona or the Barnet of the quiz world? Can you beat the SoLYD committee? Enter a team in the first SoLYD quiz night and demonstrate your knowledge. The winning team will walk away with a cash prize and there will be raffle prizes up for grabs as well.

The event takes place in the Eric Morecambe suite at the club on Thursday, kicking-off at 7.30pm.

Come along for an evening of fun and show how much you know about LTFC, football, sport and every subject under the sun.

You can have up to eight people in your team. If you would like to join in but do not have a team, register now and we will put you with some fellow Luton fans on the night. Places

are limited so why not register your team or as an individual in advance by emailing contactSOLYD@gmail.com

Entry to the quiz is £5 per person and includes a strip of tickets for the raffle. Free car parking will be available in the Maple Road car park.

All money raised will go to SoLYD to help secure the future of the club through developing young talent.

For further information email contactSOLYD@gmail.com

LINCOLN GOLDEN GAMBLE

The winner of our Golden Gamble against Lincoln City went home even happier after the 1-0 win after picking up £640.

Jenny Hills of Harpenden walked away with the prize after her ticket number 06919 was plucked out of the barrel at half-time.

Look out for sellers around the ground today and at our next draw this Saturday when Barrow are the visitors to Kenilworth Road.

YOUNGSTERS DRAWN AT HOME

The Hatters' Under-18s reward for beating Rothwell Corinthians is a home FA Youth Cup tie against Leighton Town.

Paul Driver's side cruised to an 11-1 win on Wednesday and they will again be under the Kenilworth Road floodlights for the second qualifying round tie.

The game will be played on Wednesday 5th October, kick-off 7pm.

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FACEBOOK PAGE TOPS 6,000 MARK

Our presence on the social networking site Facebook has seen over 6,000 of you join the official page.

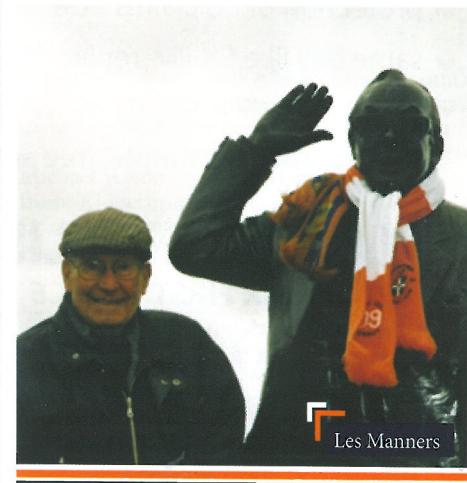
Together with the Twitter feed LTFC_Official, the official Facebook page www.facebook.com/lutontown gives you the all-important links to official stories on our official website.

REST IN PEACE

The Town were saddened to hear of the death of life-long supporter Les Manners who died aged 85 on 5th September.

Les was a popular figure and travelled home and away for over 40 yards and was present at the Hatters' 1-1 draw at Stockport County three days before he passed away.

Our thoughts are with Les's family and friends at this sad time.



Les Manners

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WELCOME CAMBRIDGE UNITED



This evening we welcome Cambridge United to Kenilworth Road for a match that will see many familiar faces reunited.

Town players Robbie Willmott and Danny Crow, as well as the injured Dan Gleeson and of course Gary Brabin and Paul Carden, will all have fond memories of playing for or coaching the club from the Abbey stadium.

Meanwhile, former Hatters Rossi Jarvis and Ryan Charles will be in familiar surroundings as they return to Kenilworth Road in Cambridge colours.

Jez George, who looked after the U's academy under Brabin and helped with Willmott's development, is now the manager at United, who are currently sitting comfortably in the top half of the Blue Square Bet Premier.

Like the Town, Cambridge have had a number of draws this season which suggests that this evening's match could be a tight one, and after a convincing win at home over Ebbsfleet the U's have moved to within three points of a Play-Off place before the weekend's fixtures.

After an awkward start in which they lost twice in their first four games, George's side were on the back of a six-game unbeaten run ahead of their home fixture against Darlington on Saturday. Well-earned points have been won on the road at difficult places like Gateshead, Kettering, and Newport, and United fans will be satisfied with the start their new-look side has made.

Along with Jarvis and Charles, several other players have been brought in to George's squad including the experienced striker Michael Gash from York, England C international defender Michael Wylde from Tamworth, Tom Shaw from Kidderminster, and hungry youngsters from the lower leagues such as Bromley's Harrison Dunk and former Ebbsfleet midfielder Ashley Carew.

George's side is young and talented, and the long-suffering fans of the former FA Cup quarter-finalists will be hopeful that their side might just have what it takes to sneak back into the Football League as an outside bet for the Play-Offs this season.

THE VISITORS

HISTORY

Cambridge United were formed in 1912 as Abbey United with the club's first fixture being a 2-1 friendly victory over MJ Drew's XI which was played on Midsummer Common on 22nd November 1913.

In 1958 the club was accepted into the Southern League after numerous top four finishes in the Eastern Counties League and under player-manager stewardship of Alan Moore in 1961 they clinched promotion to the Southern League Premier by finishing as runners up to Kettering Town.

In 1969/70 United retained the title and successfully applied for Football League membership, managing 31 votes to Bradford Park Avenue's 14. United were in the Football League. A club record attendance of 14,000 was set on 1st May 1970 when FA Cup winners Chelsea visited the Abbey, a record which stands to this day.

In 1972/73 United won promotion to Division 3 by finishing third, but coped badly with the higher grade of football and were relegated straight back to Division 4.

By the end of the 1976/77 season United had been crowned Fourth Division champions and they continued their success next season, by finishing runners up to Wrexham and winning promotion to Division 2 despite losing Atkinson to West Brom in January.

In 1985 they found themselves back in Division 4, now under ex-United centre back Chris Turner but a slow start to the 1989/90 season saw Turner resigned after a disagreement with the Board. Under new manager John Beck they ended the season at Wembley, having made the Play-Offs by finishing in sixth place. Chesterfield were seen off 1-0 in the first ever Play-Off final to be held under the old Twin Towers.

The next year saw United make the Play-Offs once more but a 5-1 aggregate defeat to Leicester City prevented them being the first club ever to be promoted from the bottom division to the top in successive seasons.

Another relegation was suffered and it wasn't until the arrival of manager Roy McFarland in 1996 that things started to improve again. By the 1998/99 season he had built another excellent side which eventually won promotion from Division 4, finishing runners up to Brentford.

United again struggled at the higher level and McFarland paid for a slump in 2001/02. He was replaced by the returning John Beck, but after a dreadful run he was replaced by club legend John Taylor. Taylor led United to the LDV Vans Trophy final at the

Millennium Stadium, losing 4-1 to Blackpool, but that was merely a diversion as relegation followed at the end of the season. Taylor lasted until March 2004 when he was replaced by Claude Le Roy and was assisted by Herve Renard.

The next season was the worst in United's history, with Renard replaced in December by Steve Thompson. He could do little to prevent United's eventual relegation from the Football League.

Thanks to the hard work and endeavours of both a new Board of Directors and the supporters the club survived the summer and started life in the Conference under Rob Newman.

2006/07 started badly so Newman paid the price and was replaced by Jimmy Quinn. Quinn led the side to safety from relegation on the final day and exceeded expectations the following year by reaching the Play-Off Final at Wembley, where United lost 1-0 to Exeter City.

Quinn left in the Summer – officially because he wouldn't relocate to the area – and was replaced by Southport manager Gary Brabin. Brabin also led United to Wembley but once more all concerned suffered the agony of defeat as they lost 2-0 to Torquay United.

Brabin was replaced by Leyton Orient manager Martin Ling two weeks later. Ling led the U's to a 10th place finish in the Blue Square Premier in his first season, having taken 30 points from the final third of the season, raising hopes for the following year.

However after an inconsistent record during the first half of the 2010/11 season and a dire run of form over Christmas and New Year he was relieved of his duties on 1st February 2011 and Director of Football, Jez George, stepped in to lead the team as Caretaker Manager. After survival was secured, George was offered the manager's role for the foreseeable future during the summer.

MEET THE MANAGER

JEZ GEORGE

Formerly the club's Director of Football, Jez became caretaker boss in February 2011 and guided the club to safety following the sacking of previous incumbent Martin Ling.

As a result of this he was asked to take on the position of manager for the foreseeable future. Since arriving at the club in May 2006 he has been central to resurrecting the club's widely respected youth set-up, which has produced a great number of the current first team squad and players who have gone to further their careers higher up the league pyramid.

IN OPPOSITION



Unbeaten in seven games and fresh from Saturday's 2-0 win over Darlington confidence at the Abbey Stadium is sky-high.

However, despite the U's excellent start to the season, manager Jez George is refusing to get carried away with his side's form.

The boss, who took over full-time in the summer, has guided tonight's visitors to within four points of top spot and a victory tonight could see the U's leapfrog the Hatters in the table.

"We brought in nine players during the summer and we've taken 16 points from 10 games," George said.

"It's given us a foundation for the rest of the season, but the problems start as soon as you begin getting carried away."

"We've just got to keep our feet on the floor and understand where we are. We're a million miles from being the team that's going to win this league."

"But hopefully if we keep working hard and the fans appreciate the passion and commitment the players show each and every game, we can be a team in the future who can challenge for the league."

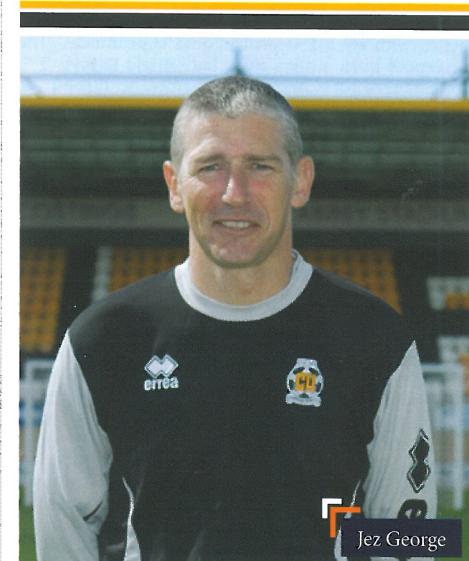
Winning games and picking up points has always been the best recipe for any successful side and George hopes that continues in his team's quest for promotion back to the Football League.

"Belief is something you need to have

when you're 2-0 down away from home or if you've had an iffy performance," he said.

"Because the age of the squad is very similar, the players have a similar mindset and ethos.

"When I spoke to them or Nolan Keeley spoke to them, we wanted players who wanted to get better and better and better and who wouldn't see Monday to Friday as a chore, but as something they wanted to do to improve. We've just got to as a group not get too excited when we win and not too distraught when we lose."



IN TOWN

■ GOALKEEPERS

DANNY NAISBITT

Danny joined the U's on a two-year contract in May 2010 from neighbouring Histon via a two month loan spell at League 1 Brighton. After winning Chairman's Player of the Year in 2008/09 for the Stutes, Danny forced his way into the U's squad in October of his first season before ending as number one for the last three matches of the campaign, bringing his tally to 20 appearances.

SIMON BROWN

Joining the club on a short-term deal towards the end of the 2009/10 season, in which he saved penalties against both Histon and Altrincham, veteran Simon penned a two-year deal shortly afterwards. Starting as an apprentice at Tottenham, the Chelmsford born stopper made over 140 appearances for Colchester from 1999 before representing Hibs in the SPL. Prior to making 32 appearances last season he enjoyed spells at Brentford, Darlington and Northampton.

■ DEFENDERS

KEVIN ROBERTS

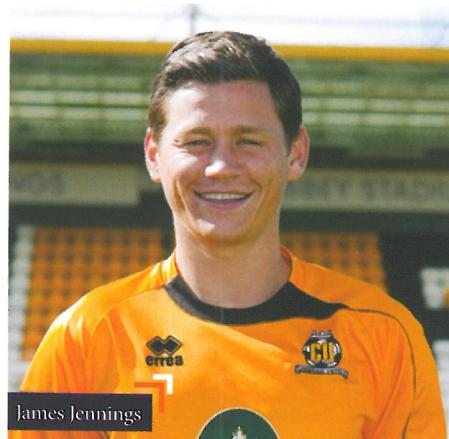
Kevin is virtually a veteran among his teammates with over 150 professional appearances. The Liverpool-born utility man had made over a 100 appearances for Chester City before he turned 20, before being snapped up by the U's soon after the Cheshire club's demise. He made the right-back slot his own last season despite also being able to appear in midfield, making 42 appearances and subsequently signing a one year contract extension in May 2011.

JAMES JENNINGS

Left-back JJ made 43 starts in his first season at the R Costings Abbey after signing a two-year contract upon arriving from Kettering. A left-back who gets forward on a regular basis, the former Macclesfield and Altrincham player's combative nature was demonstrated by his three red cards, while he also scored his fourth career goal with a free-kick against Eastbourne.

JOSH COULSON

One of many first-team players to have progressed through the United's well-regarded youth system, Josh is the club's longest serving player despite only being 21 at the start of this season. The local boy and childhood U's fan made his debut under Jimmy Quinn during the 2007/08 season and had gone on to play over 90 games for the club by the time 2011/12



James Jennings

came around. A virtual ever present in the last year-and-a-half.

RORY MCAULEY

The most versatile member of the squad, Blackpool-born Rory has played in central midfield and all across the defence during his 60-plus games for the club. More recently seen in central midfield, he broke into the team as a right back in 2008 while still a teenager after his release by Norwich as a 14-year-old.

MICHAEL WYLDE

Left-footed centre-half Michael became the club's second summer signing, agreeing a two year contract following three years at Tamworth. Michael represented England C on three occasions during the 2010/11 season and amassed over seventy appearances during his time with the Lambs. The defender began his career with Cheltenham and also made a handful of appearances on loan at Kidderminster in April 2008.

■ MIDFIELDERS

ADAM MILLER

Turning down Football League interest to join the club in the summer of 2010, the former Ipswich trainee had his season ruined in only his fifth appearance. Injury against Eastbourne in August was his last outing of the campaign, and he is still completing rehabilitation with two years still remaining on his contract. Counts QPR, Peterborough, Gillingham and Dagenham as his former League employers, while he excelled at Stevenage and has also turned out for Canvey Island, Grays, Gravesend and Aldershot.

CONAL PLATT

Exciting winger Conal made over 30 appearances in his debut season for the U's after joining from fellow Conference outfit Forest Green, for whom he had featured over 70 times. After a promising start he sat out almost two months through injury. He returned to form in the closing weeks of the season and will be hoping to build on that in his second season at The R Costings Abbey.

CAMBRIDGE UNITED



KEIRAN MURTAGH

This creative midfielder appeared at League 1 level for Yeovil at a young age, making over 50 league appearances after making his debut while still a teenager. Turning down a new deal in favour of a move to Wycombe in summer 2010 he made only seven league appearances before coming to Jez George's attention with an eye-catching loan spell at Woking. Released by Wycombe he soon signed for the U's, agreeing a one year deal in June 2011.

ROSSI JARVIS

Former Town midfielder and a product of Norwich's youth academy, Jarvis impressed in pre-season enough to convince Jez George to offer a one month contract at the beginning of the campaign. After appearing in each of his new side's first six games he was rewarded with a contract to the end of the season.

■ STRIKERS

MICHAEL GASH

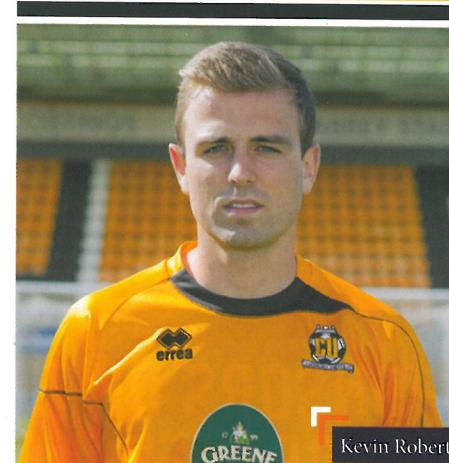
Michael was not a new name to United fans when his one-year contract was penned at the end of June, having made 15 appearances for the club in the 2006/07 season. Despite only scoring twice he moved on to score prolifically at Cambridge City and Ebbsfleet, prompting York to splash out £55,000 in June 2009. Only seven goals later he moved to Rushden on loan during 2010/11, during which time he netted four goals in a game against Bath. After being released by York during the summer he was quick to be reunited with Jez George.

RYAN CHARLES

A former Young Player of the Season here at Kenilworth Road, Ryan was snapped up by Jez George on a free transfer due to Rushden & Diamonds' expulsion from the Conference in the summer of 2011. Released by Luton in May 2010, Rushden were quick to benefit and he went on to make almost 40 league appearances, proving a valuable asset due to his ability to use his pace and strength as a wide midfielder as well as up front, before penning a one year deal for the U's.

LIAM HUGHES

After making his first-team debut as a sub against Grimsby in October 2010 he would make his first start against the same opposition four months later, eventually making 18 appearances, including eight from the bench, before being offered a one year professional contract. The former Scunthorpe schoolboy found the net twice, against York and at Altrincham.



Kevin Roberts



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■ CLASSIC CAMPAIGN

1990/91

Dion Dublin was leading marksman as Cambridge United won the Third Division title in 1990/91. They managed just one victory in their opening six matches but six straight wins catapulted them into the promotion frame. United hammered Sheffield Wednesday 4-0 en-route to the FA Cup sixth round for the second consecutive season, losing 2-1 at Arsenal. John Beck's side lost just one of their final 11 games and pipped Southend United to the title with a 2-0 victory at home to Swansea on the last day. Notable players included John Vaughan, Alan Kimble, Phil Chapple, Danny O'Shea, John Taylor and Lee Philpott.

■ MANAGING TO SUCCEED

RON ATKINSON

Ron Atkinson managed Cambridge United's 1976/77 Fourth Division title triumph and laid the foundations of their 1977/78 promotion success. Initially with Aston Villa, the wing-half joined Oxford United in July 1959 and skippered their rise to the Second Division. He became Kettering Town's player-boss in December 1971, then managed Cambridge United from November 1974 until taking charge of West Brom in January 1978. Big Ron became Manchester United's manager in June 1981 and later managed West Brom again, Atletico Madrid, Sheffield Wednesday, Aston Villa, Coventry City and Nottingham Forest.

■ FAB FOUR

BRENDAN BATSON

Stylish right-back Brendan Batson starred in Cambridge United's 1976/77 Fourth Division title triumph. Signing professional for Arsenal in June 1971, he gained top-flight experience before moving to Abbey Stadium in January 1974. He also featured in Cambridge's 1977/78 promotion success and netted six goals in 162 League games before following Ron Atkinson to West Brom in February 1978. The England B international featured in three UEFA Cup campaigns and when

a knee injury ended his playing career he became PFA deputy chief executive. He then re-joined West Brom for a spell as their chief Executive.

ANDY SINTON

Brilliant winger Andy Sinton was capped 12 times by England after leaving Cambridge United. He was Cambridge's youngest-ever League player at 16 years 228 days in November 1982 and starred in a struggling side, netting 13 goals in 93 League games before moving to Brentford in December 1985. He joined QPR in March 1989 and followed Trevor Francis to Sheffield Wednesday for £2,750,000 in August 1993. Moving to Tottenham Hotspur in January 1996, he featured in their 1999 Worthington Cup final success, then played for Wolves and Burton. He has since managed Fleet Town and AFC Telford United.

DION DUBLIN

Powerful striker Dion Dublin was capped four times by England after leaving Cambridge United. Initially with Oakham United, he had a spell with Norwich City before moving to Abbey Stadium in August 1988. He was leading marksman in Cambridge's meteoric rise under John Beck and netted 52 goals in 156 League games before being sold to Manchester United for £1,000,000 in August 1992. Moving to Coventry City for £2,000,000 in September 1994, he joined Aston Villa for £5,750,000 in November 1998. He featured in the 2000 FA Cup final and subsequently played for Leicester City, Celtic and Norwich again.

ALAN BILEY

Popular striker Alan Biley was Cambridge United's leading marksman in three consecutive seasons. A former apprentice here at Kenilworth Road, he moved to Abbey Stadium in July 1975 and starred as Cambridge soared from the Fourth Division to Second in two seasons. He netted 75 goals in 165 League games for the U's prior to joining Derby County for £300,000 in January 1980, then moved to Everton for £350,000 in July 1981 and later played for Stoke City, Portsmouth and Brighton, as well as various foreign clubs. Since managing the likes of Potton United, Ely City and Diss Town, he has run his own gym in Biggleswade.



COMMERCIAL BREAK

WITH DAVID HOSKINS

A warm welcome to our corporate guests and sponsors this afternoon for our sixth home match of the season.

It's certainly been a busy and exciting start to the season on and off-the-pitch with the commercial department launching a number of new projects.

One of which was our Hatters Business Breakfast Club - a linking tool for local businesses to meet and establish lasting relationships.

The meetings are held on a monthly basis in the newly refurbished Eric Morecambe Lounge. They have a wide variety of benefits and are a great way to enhance and promote business to other local establishments.

Summer seems as though it's been and gone and while it may only be September, soon it will be Christmas.

We're in the midst of planning our Christmas celebration evening - where our current management team will be joined by David Moss who will be reminiscing about his time with the Town. The event will be held at the Luton Hoo and further information will be released in the Barrow programme.

Once again we have the pleasure of welcoming a match sponsor and mascot to this afternoon's game and I hope you have a fantastic time.

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SPONSOR GALLERY



Dunstable, the gym where the Hatters players and management train when they're not on the training pitch.

For further information on the gym membership and facilities check out their full page advert on page 58.

MASCOT

Please give a warm welcome to this afternoon's mascot who is 11-year-old Nicholas Ross from Eaton Bray.

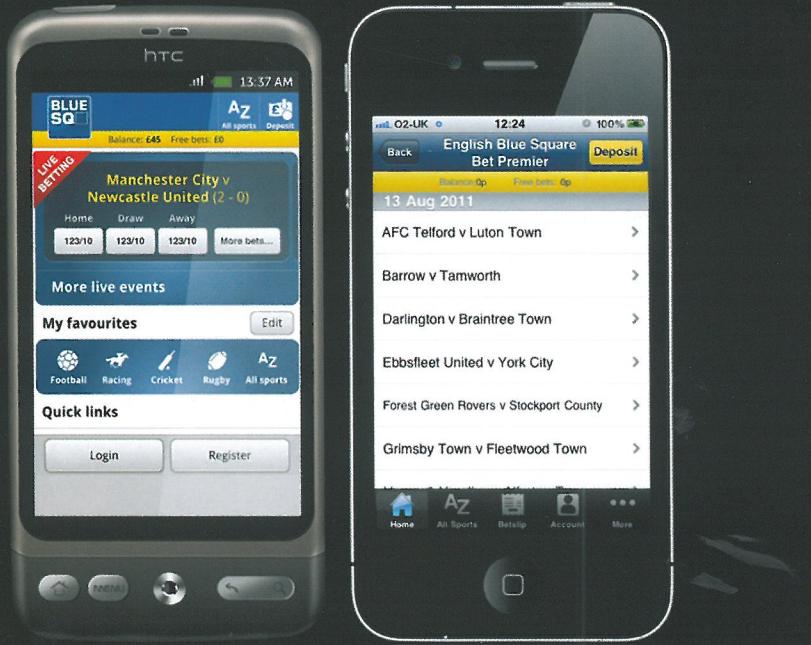
Nicholas attends Linslade Middle School and plays for Totternhoe and apart from football he also enjoys karate.

His favourite player is Robbie Willmott and he attends matches at Kenilworth Road with his dad and brother Daniel and sister Francesca.



Does your son or daughter crave to be a mascot at Kenilworth Road? Why not treat them to a commercial mascot package. Telephone 01582 411622 or email commercial@lutontown.co.uk for more details.

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LOOK BACK



TOWN 1-0 LINCOLN 10 MEN VICTORIOUS



Town boss Gary Brabin hailed his 10 men after Stuart Fleetwood's goal six minutes from time gave his side a huge three points against Lincoln City.

With the Hatters a man down following Dean Beckwith's 23rd-minute dismissal, Fleetwood popped up to net from close range after John Paul Kissock's moment of magic from a short corner to send the biggest Kenilworth Road crowd of the season into raptures.

"It's a fantastic win," Brabin said afterwards. "The thing is we've deserved it. We've won 1-0 and on another day it could have been two or three and it's all been done with 10 men."

"We've had chances and I'm delighted with that - I said before Lincoln are a good side with a good manager and good players."

"I said to the players we didn't want it to be the turning point in Lincoln's season."

Beaming following the win that lifted the Town in to second and a point behind leaders Gateshead, Brabin, however revealed he was less than happy with his side's first half showing.

"We didn't start as well as we have done in recent games," he said. "At half-time I said to the players 'it's easy to hide behind the fact we're down to 10 men'.

"We weren't defending well and weren't bright enough but I told the players to believe in themselves and if we defended properly we'd win the game."

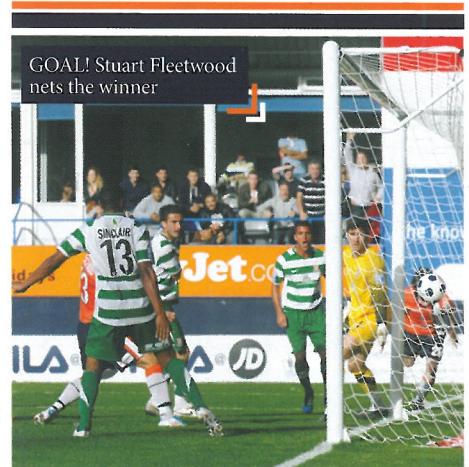
"Every 10 men on the pitch - including the subs - were absolutely fantastic in the second half. We've gone down to 10 men early on and I've recently talked about us showing character

recently - and we certainly showed that."

Striker Fleetwood was delighted to score the all-important winner. "It was a massive three points for us," he said. "The lads kept going and we've been rewarded.

"We dominated from start to finish and showed greater character. I was disappointed I missed a few chances before and after the goal but I don't let it affect me.

"The way we play I know I know there will be chances for me and I'm just glad we got the win because I thought the fans deserved it because they were brilliant."





TOWN

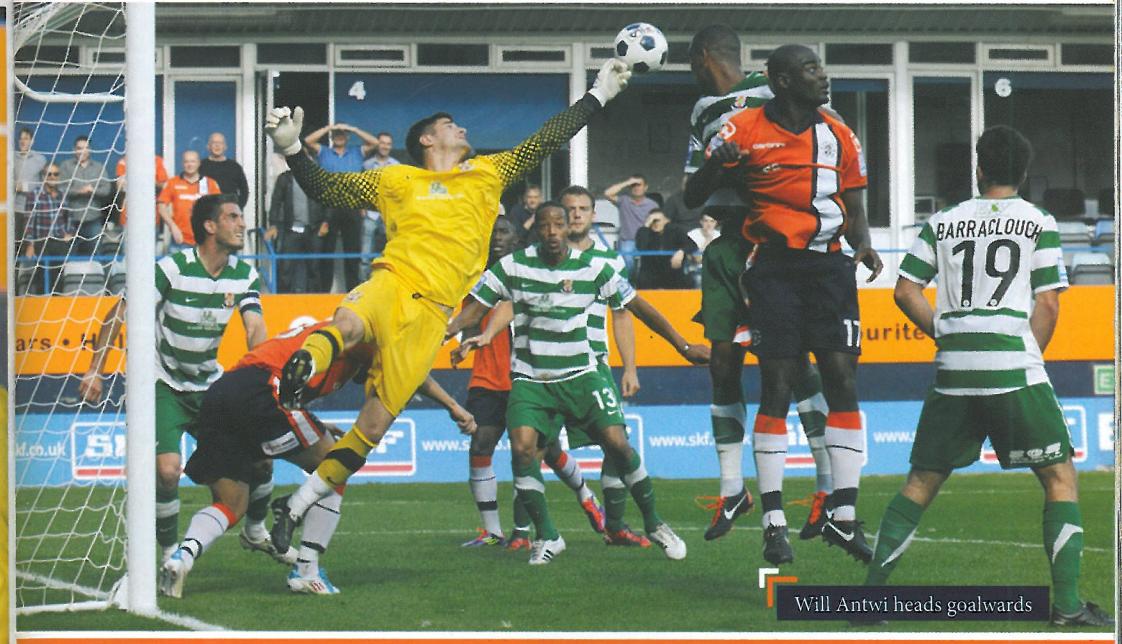
Fleetwood 84



LINCOLN

1
0

John Paul Kissock bursts into the penalty area



Will Antwi heads goalwards



The Town clear as Lincoln press for an equaliser

TOWN: Tyler, Dance, Beckwith, Antwi, Howells, Morgan-Smith (sub Kissock 67), Lawless, Hand, Willmott (sub O'Connor 57), Fleetwood, Crow (sub Watkins 46). Subs not used: Samuel, K. Pilkington.

LINCOLN: Anyon, Watts, Nelson, Sinclair, Nutter, Russell, Power, Fuseini (sub O'Keefe 86), McCallum (sub Smith 71), Perry, Barracough (sub Nicolau 67). Subs not used: Hone, Wilson.

ATTENDANCE: 6,316

POSSESSION	
44%	56%
SHOTS ON TARGET	3
9	3
SHOTS OFF TARGET	8
3	8
CORNERS	5
7	15
FOULS	17



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LOOK BACK



BATH 1-1 TOWN ALL SQUARE



Town boss Gary Brabin said the draw with bottom-of-the-table Bath City felt like a defeat.

The Hatters had to settle for a point despite playing 50 minutes with a man advantage when Lee Phillips equalised Amari Morgan-Smith's first-half opener.

And while the point kept up the Town's unbeaten start and lifted them to the top of the Blue Square Bet Premier, Brabin was hugely disappointed with the 1-1 draw.

"We feel like we've been beaten," he said afterwards. "It kills me to say it but Bath were down to 10 men and they worked harder than us in the second half.

"The one thing I was worried about was us taking our foot off the gas. They were going to roll their sleeves up and fight ten times as hard and that was the case.

"We played some really good football in the second half but we didn't have any cutting edge. To be fair to Bath, they battled their socks off and it's disappointing that we conceded a goal in the manner that we did.

"We gave the ball away sloppily in the middle of the pitch and they've gone and scored from it.

"Possession-wise I think we've probably had 70 per cent of it but they fought, scrapped and defended like their lives depended on it. We gave the ball away sloppily in the middle of the pitch and they've gone and scored from it.

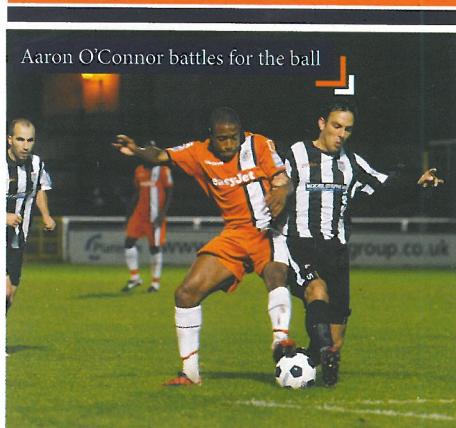
"In the last three matches we've shown a lot of character as well as playing some good football.

Whether we thought, as individuals, that we didn't need that much character because they are bottom of the league, I certainly hope not."

The draw at Twerton Park marked the return of centre-half Janos Kovacs and the Hungarian defender was pleased to be back in Town colours.

"It's great to be back," he said. "It's a little bit disappointing that we haven't won because we were in front and had a man advantage for over half of the game. We know we should have done better.

"I had good memories of my time and I'm hoping I can help the team continue its fine start to the season."



**BATH**

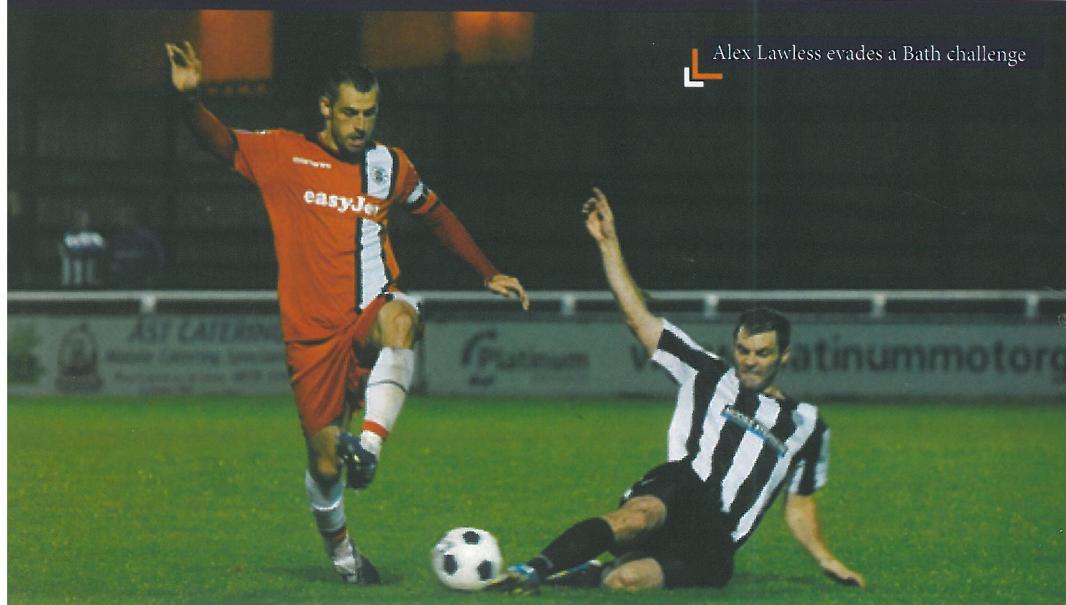
Phillips 72

**TOWN**

Morgan-Smith 44

1
1

John Paul Kissock goes for goal



Alex Lawless evades a Bath challenge

BATH: Garner, Simpson, Clough, Jones, Stonehouse, Swallow, Canham, Burnell, Connolly, Phillips (sub Murray (sub Preece 90)), Adgestein (sub Hogg 46). Subs not used: Russell, Rollo.**TOWN:** Tyler, Dance (sub O'Connor 54), Antwi, Beckwith, Howells, Kissock (sub Willmott 76), Hand, Lawless, Morgan-Smith, Crow (sub Samuel 76), Fleetwood. Subs not used: Watkins, K. Pilkington.

ATTENDANCE: 1,158

Amari Morgan-Smith is fouled



POSSESSION	56%
SHOTS ON TARGET	9
SHOTS OFF TARGET	6
CORNERS	5
FOULS	8
11	



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MEMORY LANE

NAME: Kelvin Ripley.

AGE: 37

LOCATION: Aylesbury.

WHERE DO YOU WATCH GAMES FROM:

I am a season ticket holder in the Main Stand enclosure Block F with my dad and son.

FIRST GAME:

We beat Charlton 3-0 at home on 29th August 1981. My dad used to bring a wooden crate along so I could see over the wall in the Main Stand enclosure.

FIRST MEMORY:

One of my earliest memories is a home game against Newcastle in 1981/82 where we found ourselves 2-0 down at half-time but went on to win 3-2 thanks to a Brian Stein hat-trick.

BEST GOAL SEEN:

Scott Oakes' goal against Derby. He scored some wonderful goals for Luton but this sticks in the memory as one of the best.

BEST MATCH WITNESSED:

Witnessed Apart from our victories at Wembley, our 7-0 win over Southampton was fantastic – any time your team puts seven past the England goalkeeper is a great day.

WORST MATCH:

If you were to ask my wife she would say any time we lose, but I'll plump for our defeat to Ebbsfleet during our first season in the Conference, it was a real low.

BEST INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE SEEN BY A PLAYER:

The debut of a certain Jean-Louis Valois against Torquay capped by a fantastic goal always comes to mind.

FAVOURITE HATTERS KIT:

The 1982-84 white shirts with orange sleeves adidas kit has always been my favourite kit and was the one I wore when I was a mascot in 1984 during a Milk Cup game against Rotherham, which we unfortunately lost.

FAVOURITE ALL-TIME PLAYER: Ricky Hill, I have great memories of him juggling the ball on his head during a game against Southampton at Kenilworth Road.

FAVOURITE ALL TIME MANAGER: David Pleat was a great manager and helped to assemble some of the best players I have watched play for Luton over the years.

ALL-TIME TOWN XI:

Sealey, Breaker, Thomas, Foster, Donaghy, Horton, Hill, Moss, Preece, Brian Stein, Harford.

I LOVE LUTON TOWN BECAUSE...

they have provided me with some wonderful memories during the past 30 years that I have been fortunate enough to share with my dad and brothers, especially at Wembley in 1988 and now with my own family who will hopefully see us rise up the leagues once more. COYH.



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LIVE ONLINE

Hatters Player subscribers had plenty to sit back and watch since we were last at Kenilworth Road.

The Town saw off Lincoln 1-0 after playing three-quarters of the game with 10 men – Stuart Fleetwood grabbing the all-important goal six minutes from time.

Hatters Player was there to get the reaction and a delighted Gary Brabin spoke to the cameras giving subscribers his account of what he thought was a deserved display.

The manager thought it was an excellent performance considering the loss of Dean Beckwith in the first half.

Goalscorer Fleetwood was obviously delighted to grab the winner – tapping home John Paul Kissock's cross but the striker was disappointed he couldn't score more given the number of chances he created.

Player also caught up with James Dance after his excellent performance at right-back and Alex Lawless who was skipper for the day.

The victory saw plenty of incident and on Sunday subscribers to Player saw eight minutes of exclusive highlights.

It was a different story at Bath on Tuesday night with Brabin hugely frustrated with the 1-1 draw against the league's bottom club.

Amari Morgan-Smith's goal a minute before half-time wasn't enough as the hosts came back to level.

Player caught up with new loan signing Janos Kovacs as the Hungarian centre-back made his second debut in Town colours.

He explained his love for the club and his disappointment at having to settle for a point against the Romans.

Collin Samuel made his first appearance for the Hatters, coming on as a second half substitute and the forward was pleased to get some minutes under his belt in his quest to break into his manager's first XI.

Remember it will be the same once again after this evening's game when we'll have video reaction from all concerned from the dressing room.

Remember if you can't get to a game, home or away, the official website at www.lutontown.co.uk has it covered.

The Hatters' official website will provide you with the players' and management's pre-game views and post-match reaction, photographs, commentary, text commentary, news and plenty more.

For just £4.29 for the month you can watch and listen to all the exclusive content from Kenilworth Road on Player so check out www.hattersplayer.co.uk for all the latest exclusive video content online and give it a try.

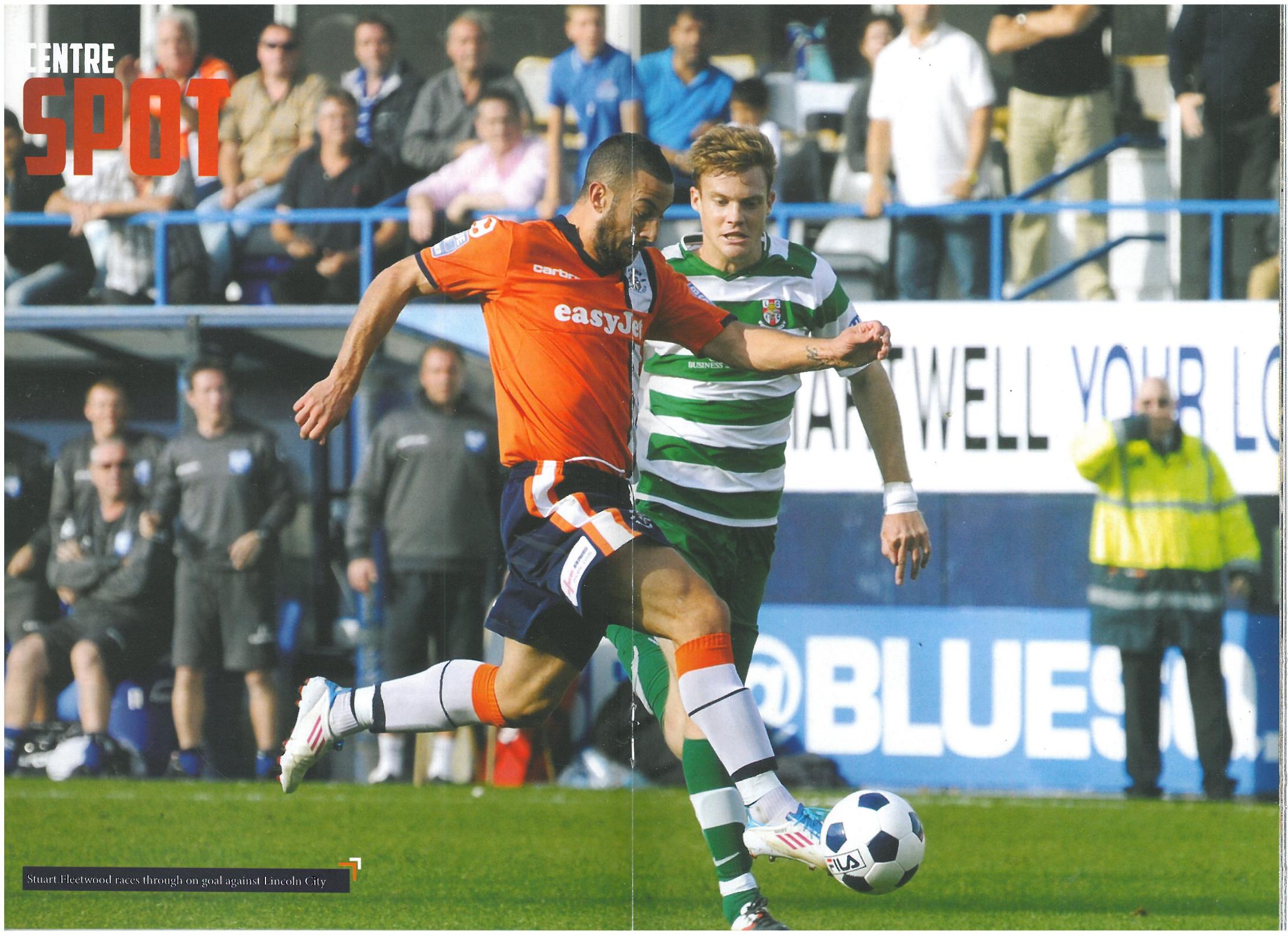
PLAYER: BRABIN DISAPPOINTED
The Town boss was not a happy man after seeing his side surrender a one-goal lead against 10 men
5 days ago

PLAYER: SAMUEL ON DEBUT
Collin Samuel tells the press his thoughts after coming on as a substitute at Bath for his first Town appearance
5 days ago

PLAYER: KOVACS SECOND DEBUT
It was a mixed night for defender Janos Kovacs on his second debut for the Hatters at Bath
5 days ago

PLAYER: JANOS KOVACS EXCLUSIVE
The Hungarian centre-half talks to Hatters Player on his return to Kenilworth Road after signing on loan
6 days ago

CENTRE SPOT



Stuart Fleetwood races through on goal against Lincoln City

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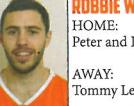
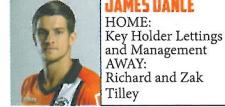
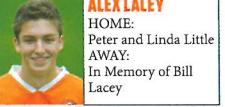
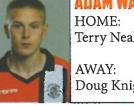
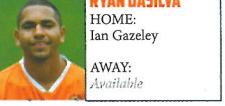
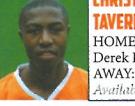
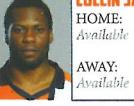
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10 SEP MANSFIELD TOWN V NEWPORT COUNTY

27 SEP KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS V GRIMSBY TOWN

06 OCT CAMBRIDGE UNITED V STOCKPORT COUNTY

14 OCT LINCOLN CITY V FLEETWOOD TOWN

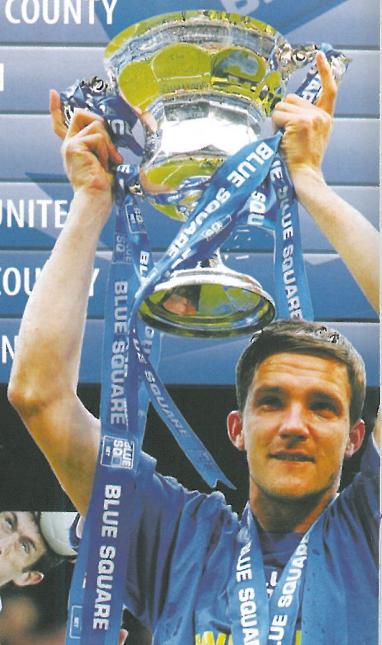
21 OCT GRIMSBY TOWN V LUTON TOWN

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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FLAWLESS LAWLESS

The Hatters' victory last time at Kenilworth Road against Lincoln City saw midfielder Alex Lawless named skipper in the absence of the a number of senior players who have worn the armband.

With Club captain George Pilkington already on the sidelines and Keith Keane also out boss Gary Brabin handed Lawless the captaincy and the 26-year-old responded by helping the Hatters to a crucial 1-0 victory over Steve Tilson's Imps.

"I was surprised," Lawless told Talk of the Town. "It's the first time I've been named as captain and I was chuffed to bits."

"It was a massive win against Lincoln. We'd gone down to 10 men and we've won, it was a perfect day really: three points and a clean sheet and the crowd were great."

"They knew that we were up against it being a man light and we responded, it gave us a real lift."

"It was a kind of backs to the wall mentality but we got through it."

Lawless, who has scored once this season so far – a superb 25-yard strike at Stockport – believed the win was a huge test of the Town's mental and physical strength.

"It was a huge result," he said. "We've shown that we have got great character – we're able to go down to 10 men and still win."

"We played really well and we've got goals in us."

Lawless, together with new signing Stuart Fleetwood, have been the butt of jokes from their team-mates believing they look identical.

But the midfielder knows with the chances that the Town create his lookalike will get plenty of chances to score.

"I've taken a bit of stick for looking like him, but that's normal!" he jokes. "I played with Stuart together at Forest Green and that one season he scored 36 goals."

"It's no surprise he's started his career here well and I'm sure they will keep coming."

"We're capable of scoring goals all over the pitch which is great for the manager and for competition for places."

With right-back Ed Asafu-Adjaye banned for the Lincoln game and with Keane already out, you could argue that Lawless could have slotted it at right-back, where he has played before.

"To be honest when the gaffer told me I was going to be captain I thought I was going to be playing at right-back," he said.

"But James Dance has been doing really well there, and has played there before too."

"I think Keano said recently it doesn't matter where you play you've just got to get on with it. We have a number of players that can play in a variety of positions which will stand us in good stead throughout the season."

"We've played the same amount of games as everyone else and we're not too many points of the top two teams."

It was another fine display from the Hatters who kept their second successive clean sheet following last Saturday's 2-0 win over Darlington.

And Keane believes the confidence taken from the two shutouts can only enhance the Town's chances of success this season.

"It gives everyone confidence," he said.

"We've got a lot of good players; the goalkeeper, defence, midfielders and attackers can all gain confidence from a solid defence."

"The most momentum has come from the fact we've kept two clean sheets – it gives everyone that belief."

"The Telford game was massive – we knew we had to win because it was our game in hand and we were very happy to come away with all three points."

"We can take the positives from the last two games into the Lincoln match. As for me, with Jamie Hand back and maybe Curtis Osano back I'm not sure where I'll be playing!"

"I'm just happy to be here and to help the team out, as long as we're doing well I don't care where I play!"

His boss, Brabin, praised the vice-captain for his commitment and loyalty to the club after reaching his milestone.

"It's not often you get players who reach this kind of appearance tally for one club," he said.

"Keith is a credit to the club and a vitally important player for us. He's played in three positions for us in the past three matches which demonstrates his ability and versatility and he just gets on with it."

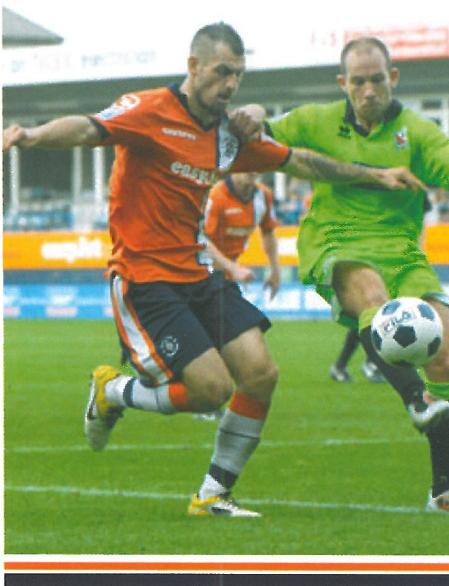


DREAM TEAM

Midfielder Alex Lawless chooses his favourite XI made up for players he's played with in his football career

GOALKEEPER

Edwin van der Sar (retired) – Arguably the best player I've ever played with, when I was a youngster at Fulham I used to stay and watch him because he was extraordinary. His distribution and kicking was first class and not only was he a great goalkeeper but a true professional.



RIGHT-BACK

Ben Purkiss (Oxford United – on-loan at Darlington) – Comfortable on the ball and capable of carrying the ball forward, Ben was a vital component of the success I had with York.

CENTRE-BACKS

George Pilkington (Luton Town) – Pilks hardly puts a foot wrong, he's Mr Consistent.

Liam Fontaine (Bristol City) – He was my best mate when I was at Fulham, a great player and a defender who I'd always want on my side.

LEFT-BACK

Anthony Tonkin (Oxford United) – A very determined, hard-working defender who I played with at Forest Green. He's very difficult to get past.

RIGHT MIDFIELD

Steed Malbranque (unattached) – His quick feet left you open-mouthed, his technique was that good. It seemed in training when I was at Fulham that he never lost the ball – even when it seemed he'd been dispossessed. A greater passer too.

CENTRAL MIDFIELDERS

Darren Pratley (Bolton Wanderers) – Full of energy in the centre of midfield he was also a great scorer of goals.

Mark Pembridge (retired) – As a midfielder I learn so much from Mark who was still playing at the age of 36 when I was at Fulham. Mark was the most professional footballer I've ever met.

LEFT MIDFIELD

Martin Phillips (retired) – 'Buster' as he was known was a terrific winger I played with whilst I was with Torquay United. He was two-footed and could turn people inside-out.

STRIKER

Stuart Fleetwood (Luton Town) – When I was a Forest Green he scored 36 goals in one season – a goal machine.

Andy Cole (retired) – This guy absolutely oozed class. He was a great pro who practised his finishing – it certain paid off, a terrific striker who I learned a lot from.



GETTING TO KNOW...

ALEX LAWLESS

WHO IS YOUR BEST FRIEND IN FOOTBALL?

Liam Fontaine at Bristol City, who I played with at Fulham. I was his best man last year.

WHO DID YOU SUPPORT AS A BOY?

Manchester United. I loved Eric Cantona.

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

The massive expectation is a challenge. It's the most expectation I've ever experienced – all clubs' fans expect a lot and get frustrated, but this club has been so high so recently you can understand the desperation to get back up there quickly. I thrive on that atmosphere.



WHAT AMBITIONS DO YOU HAVE IN FOOTBALL?

To play at as high a level as possible. I'm 26 now so I'm not sure what will happen in the future, I just hope for the best.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST ACHIEVEMENT IN FOOTBALL?

Signing a professional contract at Fulham. It was nice to play in two Play-Off finals but I lost both of those so that spoiled it.

WHO IS YOUR FUNNIEST TEAM MATE?

Freddie Murray. Some of the things he comes out with... I don't know how to describe it, he's just very funny.

WHO IS THE WORST-DRESSED PLAYER AT THE CLUB?

Is everyone saying George Pilkington? I know, Jake Howells! When he reads this he'll be furious! We went out one night and he wasn't allowed in somewhere because they said he was 'under-dressed'.

WHO IS THE HARDEST WORKER AT THE CLUB?

Keano. More on the pitch than anything, but that's where it matters.

WHAT'S YOUR EARLIEST FOOTBALL MEMORY?

Just playing over the park with my mates in Rhondda in South Wales.

WHO HAS BEEN YOUR MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT?

I played against Birmingham's David Dunn when I was at Torquay, and I couldn't get the ball off him. They won 2-0.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR LIFE AFTER FOOTBALL?

Coaching I'd imagine, at as high a level as possible.

WHO IS YOUR FOOTBALL IDOL?

David Beckham. His work rate is great and I respect the way he has come back from setbacks over his career.

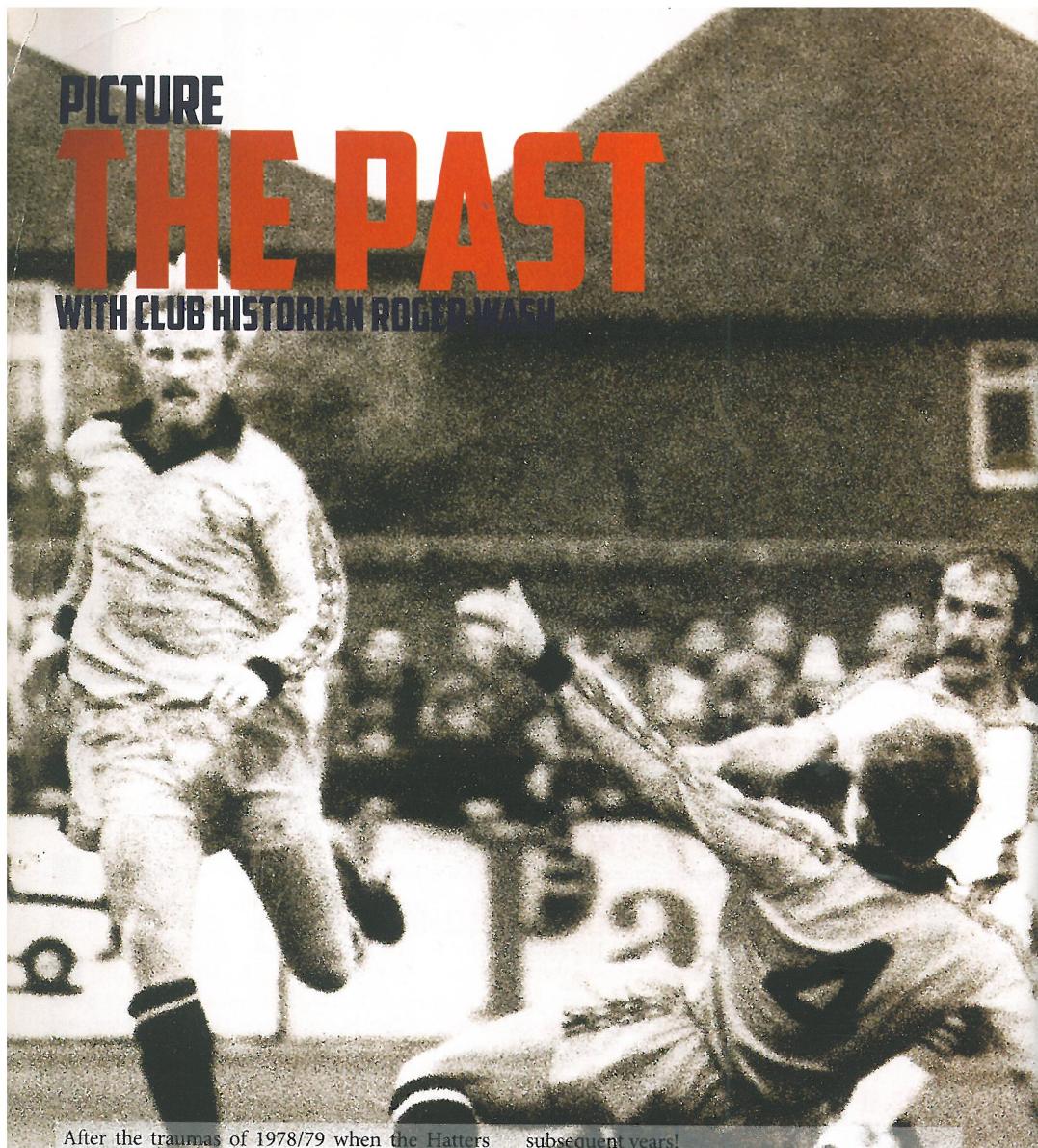
AND YOUR NON-PLAYING HERO?

Jack Bauer from 24! My missus won't like that! She doesn't like the show, she'll say, "oh why didn't you say something serious?" but I'm sticking with that, I love 24.

PICTURE

THE PAST

WITH CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH



After the traumas of 1978/79 when the Hatters narrowly avoided relegation from the old Division Two (now the Championship), manager David Pleat, now in his second full season in charge, hoped to push on and prayed for an injury free campaign unlike the previous one.

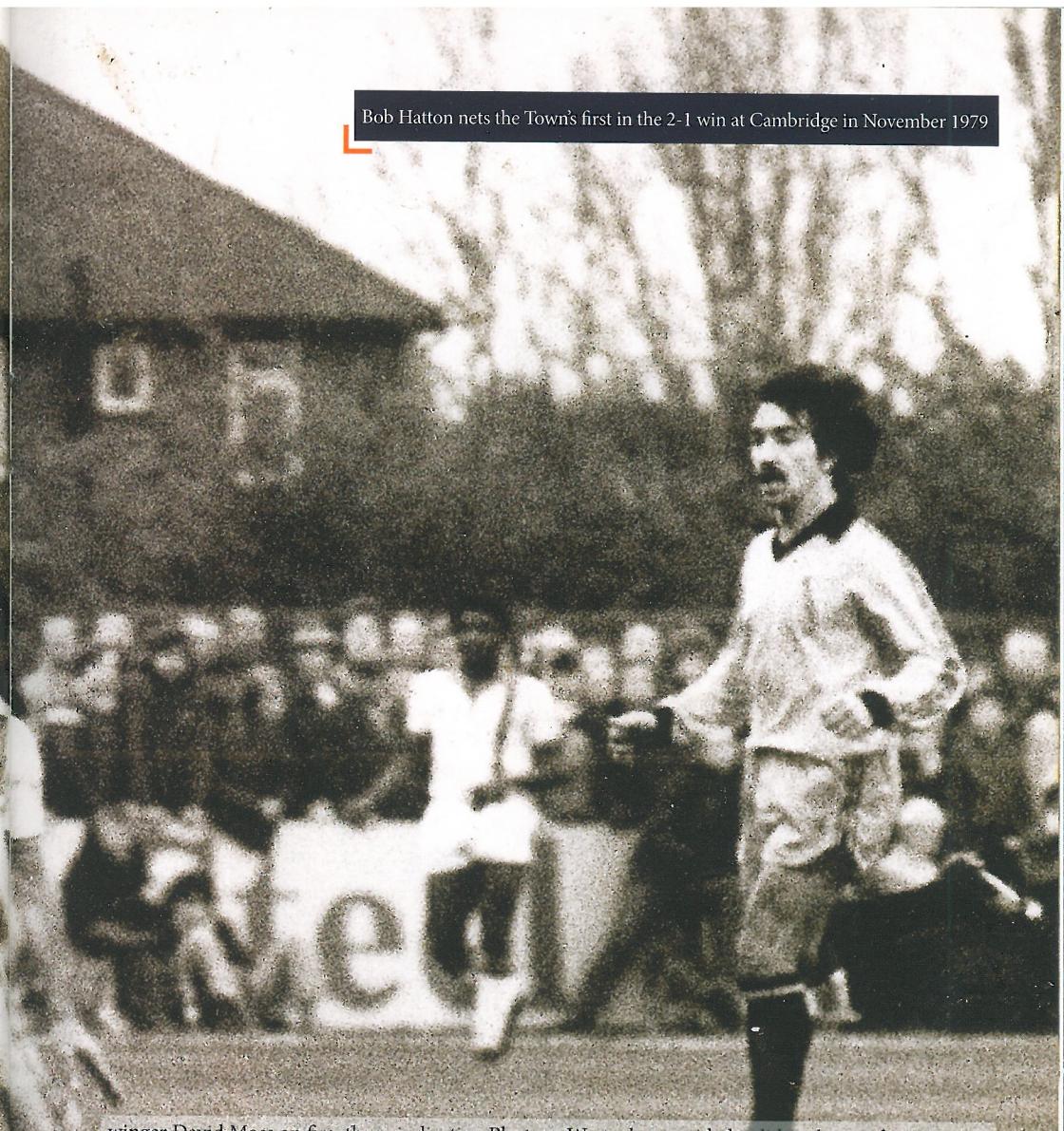
During the summer of 1979 Pleat paid out £200,000 to Mansfield for centre-back Mike Saxby and then, in one of the early transfer tribunals, managed to secure midfielder Tony Greaves from Orient for £150,000 which was less than half the London club wanted for him. Pleat had been a quick learner and was able to exploit the tribunal system to his own advantage many times over

subsequent years!

The new season started sluggishly but when the Hatters won 3-1 at Leicester in a televised game supporters sat up and took notice. This victory was followed by a 5-0 home thrashing of newly promoted Swansea and with it top position in the table for the first time since January 1971.

By the time of the visit to Cambridge in early November the Town were still in pole position and many Luton supporters made the short trip to the Abbey to swell the crowd to 8,104.

The Hatters team had remained virtually unchanged throughout the season, with mercurial



Bob Hatton nets the Town's first in the 2-1 win at Cambridge in November 1979

winger David Moss on fire, thus vindicating Pleat who had pleaded with the Luton fans to judge him when he could put out a settled side.

Cambridge, on the other hand, were beset with injuries and had not won for seven games although they were quickest out of the blocks with ex-Hatter Alan Biley missing a sitter in the opening minutes.

Gradually the Town took control with Bob Hatton, Ricky Hill and Kirk Stephens all shooting narrowly wide. Moss was well shackled with defenders doubling up on him which left gaps for the Luton midfielders to run into and it was Alan

West who provided a slide rule pass for Hatton to run on to and curl a shot past Malcolm Webster in the Cambridge goal on 58 minutes.

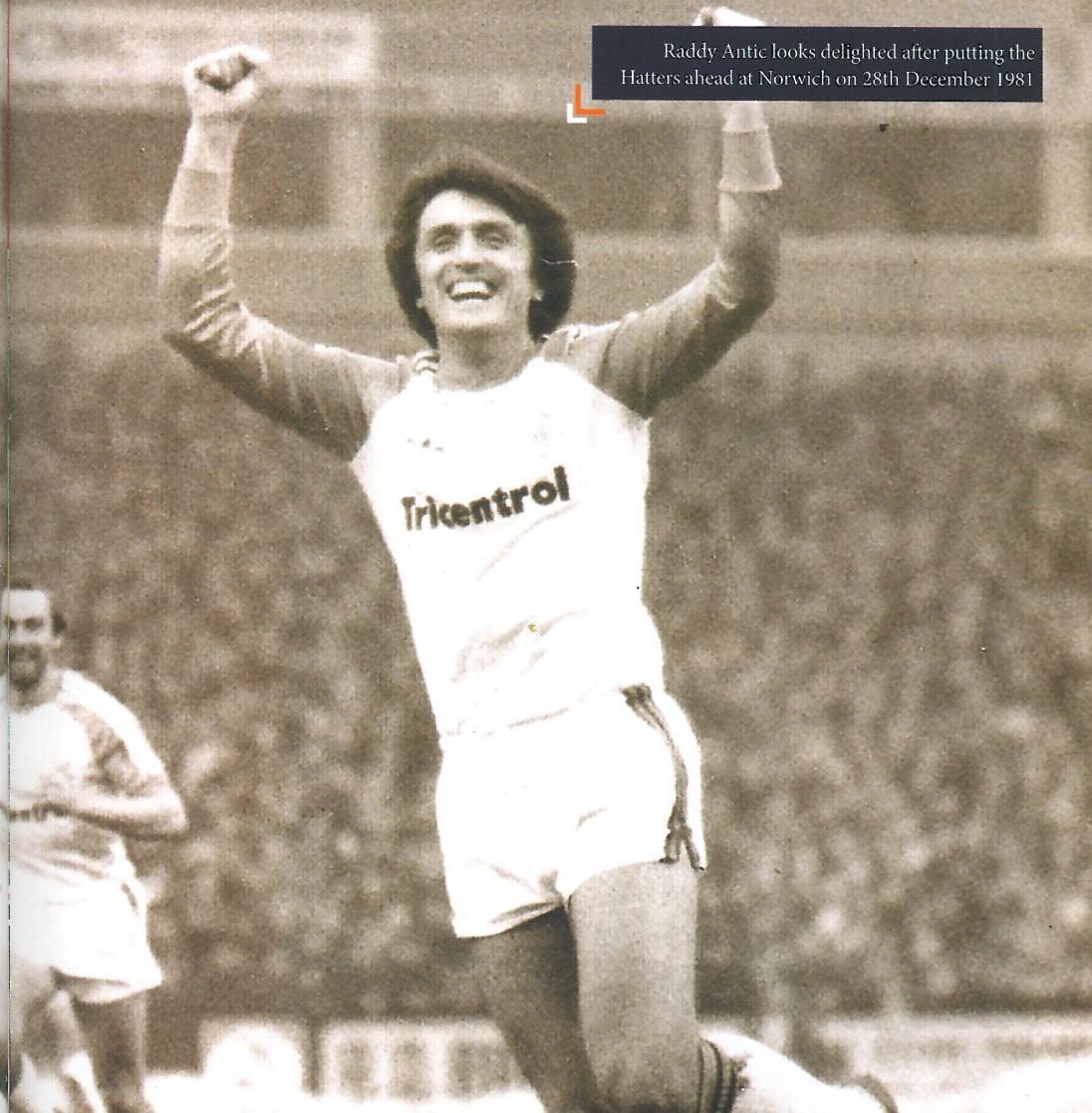
The game was as good as over three minutes later when Moss arrowed a 60-yard pass over to the right wing where Brian Stein anticipated it and, leaving his opponents trailing, was upended by Webster as he went for goal. Moss stepped up to score from the spot with ease, his sixth of the season and his 12th goal overall.

Biley halved the deficit in the 87th minute but it was too little too late as the Town held on to the end.

THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

BY CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH

Raddy Antic looks delighted after putting the Hatters ahead at Norwich on 28th December 1981



After two near misses at promotion from the old Division Two (now the Championship) the Town seemed set fair to make it third time lucky as Christmas 1981 approached.

Several points in front of the second placed club and with games in hand caused by postponements, it was a confident squad that travelled to newly relegated Norwich in search of their seventh away victory of the season.

A best of the season crowd of 19,348 turned out at Carrow Road, not expecting the amazing display of football put on by the Town as they took a 3-0

lead in the opening 15 minutes.

Raddy Antic was first off the mark when he hit a 30-yard, dipping and bending shot into the top corner in the third minute then he provided a superb defence splitting pass on ten minutes to enable Steve White to double the scoreline.

To complete the rout, defender Mal Donaghy placed an inch perfect pass over the Norwich defence for Brian Stein to run through and slot home.

Perhaps feeling that the job was done, the Town

eased off slightly leaving the Canaries to put on some pressure which eventually resulted in Norwich loanee John Deehan, on his debut, pulling a goal back shortly before the interval.

Luton manager David Pleat gave his men a roasting at half-time for letting Norwich back into the game and the Town certainly controlled the second period allowing the Canaries to attack then attempting to catch them on the break.

The woodwork prevented both Brian Horton and David Moss from adding to the score and when White went on a mazy run from deep inside

his own half into the opposing penalty area he seemed odds on the find the net but dragged his shot agonisingly wide of the far post.

By this time the Norwich fire had burned out and their manager Ken Brown had to admit that, "Luton looked a very good side."

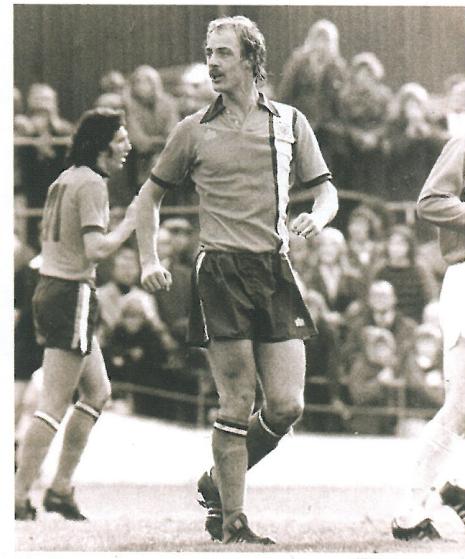
David Pleat was not so impressed but took comfort in the fact that the Hatters were now seven points ahead of the second placed club and a massive eleven clear of QPR, in fourth spot, with a game in hand.

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF LUTON

HATTERS STAR TURNED PSYCHOLOGIST JOHN FAULKNER TALKS ABOUT THE SPECIAL MENTALITY OF KENILWORTH ROAD

From playing part-time for a non-league club and working as a building site surveyor in Sutton, to being catapulted into a "fairytale" move to one of Europe's biggest clubs, suffering a cruel injury, and winning promotion with Luton Town before enjoying the special "boot room" atmosphere of Kenilworth Road for a number of years as a coach, John Faulkner has seen so many different sides of the game.

But the footballer-turned-psychology consultant, who went on a famous FA Cup run with semi-professional Sutton United and was part of



Leeds United's glory-chasing squad of the early 1970s, has the professional knowledge to analyse his personal football journey, and it is the dressing room psychology of one club that sticks most prominently in his mind. "I'm very much a Luton man," says the defender who made over 200 appearances for the Town in a

successful six-year spell. "It was the happy club. The manager, Harry Haslam, would always have a joke in his team talk, Eric Morecambe would come in the dressing room before the game and have a laugh – but that belied how serious it all was. Haslam had huge standards but made it relaxed. In any club the manager always dictates the atmosphere – he got it right and he played the right way."

The psychology behind Haslam's approach went further than merely creating a jovial atmosphere, as he worked to import a winning mentality to the club. As Faulkner explains, "His policy was to get players from big clubs who weren't quite getting in the first team – John Aston [from Manchester United], Brian Chambers [Arsenal] – players who knew how big clubs worked and what standards are demanded, and that would make us a big club."

"Happy Harry" had a shrewd brain behind it all!"

That is praise indeed from a man who played under the great Don Revie at Leeds, one of the best managers in British history, and someone who in Faulkner's words "did everything with a lot of class."

Released from Charlton Athletic as a teenager, Faulkner was working on a Wates building site and playing for semi-pro Sutton United when he impressed in a 6-0 FA Cup Fourth Round defeat to Revie's side in 1970. The young centre-back was catapulted into the position of being one of the country's hottest prospects, drawing the attention of Tottenham, Crystal Palace, and Faulkner's boyhood favourites Arsenal. But it was Revie's personal touch that persuaded the Kent-born defender to move with his young family to Yorkshire.

"He came down to London and said he was impressed with me and thought I could replace Jack Charlton. So that was a fairytale for me, Leeds were one of the biggest clubs at that time, with 13 internationals in the squad. So there I was all of a sudden, from Wates to Leeds!"

Faulkner never quite made the breakthrough at Elland Road, making early appearances in the 1969/70 season run-in but suffering a broken kneecap in only his second appearance for the club. The injury came close to finishing his career at one stage, but after a full recovery and a couple of games in Europe for the Whites, he was offered the opportunity to join the Luton revolution underway with chief scout and soon-to-be manager Haslam, signing a contract in 1972.

After a moderately successful first season with Hatters, Faulkner was a key part of the side that won promotion to the old Division One in the 1974/75 season, playing all but two games as the Town hit the big time by finishing as runners-up behind Middlesbrough.

Looking back on that period in the top flight, Faulkner says: "Winning promotion with Luton was my first big success on the pitch. We got relegated the following season because we started terribly and couldn't win a game. But we hit a spell around Christmas where we beat Arsenal, Leeds and Birmingham and really hit a good patch of form – if we'd have started like that we'd have been fine, but we went down on the last day of the season when Spurs beat a Leeds reserve side. We were fuming."

"But we knew we could beat any team on our day. I think because of the state of the stadium – we were a big club and the stadium didn't reflect that – other clubs hated playing there and it had a great atmosphere."

"We liked playing at home – some players are frightened of their crowds getting on their backs but that never happened at Luton, we always had full support from the fans."

Faulkner says he loved every minute of his time with Luton, and was "totally settled" in the town where he brought up a family and returned to work as a coach after a spell playing in the USA. His coaching career with the club was every bit as successful as his playing career, as the tight-knit backroom team of David Pleat, John Moore, Jim Ryan and himself established one of England's top outfits in the 1980s with a team that, in his words, "could beat anybody and bloody well did!"

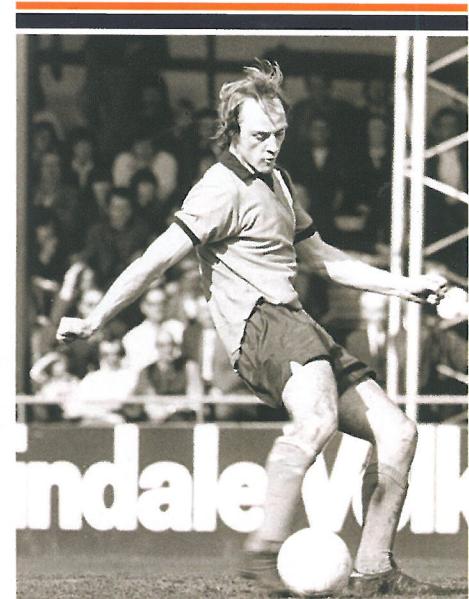
When John Moore was promoted to first team manager, Faulkner took over the youth team and helped develop players of the calibre of Julian James, Kingsley Black, Marvin Johnson and John Hartson, and again he stresses that the psychology and atmosphere around the club was

key to the quality set-up. "All the coaches were ex-players with a love and appreciation for the history of the club, and we had a plastic pitch so the youth and reserves all trained and played at the ground," he explains.

"Young kids would be in professional dressing rooms and around pro players, so there was a shared spirit throughout the club. The set-up was so good we were getting the best kids in the country ahead of the biggest clubs – everyone was after Hartson and Paul Telfer, Darren Salton was the captain of Scotland boys and all the top sides were after him, but we were getting them all because of our Premier League set-up."

Drawing upon such experiences of being in dressing rooms with a positive, shared sports psychology, Faulkner retrained later in life as a business coach and psychology consultant, and has worked with the likes of Sir Alex Ferguson and Manchester United, as well as Cranfield University and business leaders – and of course Luton Town, who he continues to work with intermittently.

But there is one chapter of Faulkner's professional life that will always remain dearest in his memory, and has influenced his later work in coaching and psychology. "Luton was my career," he says, "It's such a special club."



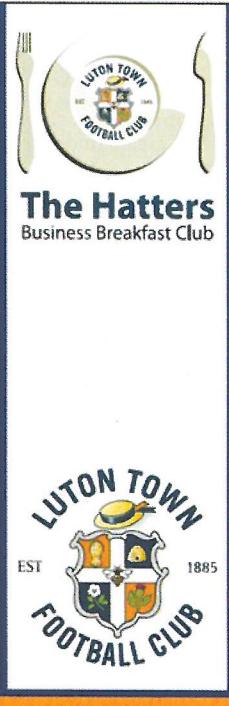
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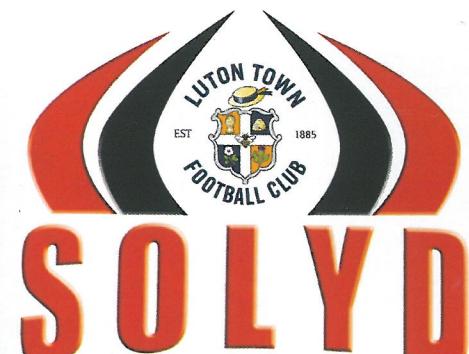
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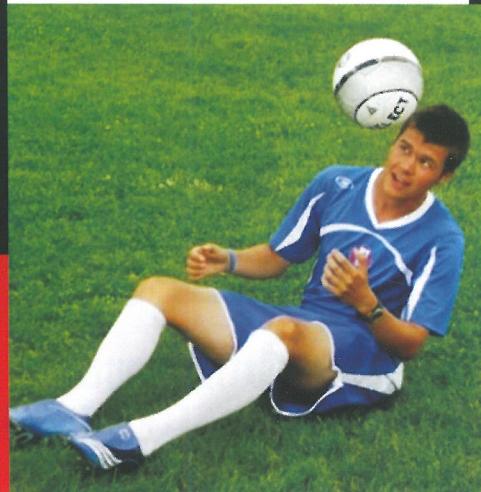
Visit: www.beds.ac.uk/sport

Profile:

Michael Sup

Football studies student

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



YOUNG HATTERS YOUNGSTERS CRUSH CORINTHIANS

The future looks bright for the Town, as the youth team got their FA Youth Cup campaign underway with an 11-1 win over Rothwell Corinthians at Kenilworth Road last Wednesday.

Victory never looked in doubt for Paul Driver's side, who were inspired by a hat-trick from Charlie Smith.

The young Hatters dominated the opening exchanges, with defender Ben Ekins going close with an early header from a corner.

And Driver's side opened the scoring on 14 minutes when Jake Woolley coolly flicked past the Corinthians goalkeeper after being played through by his strike partner Charlie Smith.

Smith put the Town two up three minutes later with a neat lob, Newman Carney having set him up with a chip forward from the back.

The visitors' Callum Plowright then attempted a speculative effort from range that sailed over the bar, before Woolley scored his second from a rebound after Chisom Amadi forced a good save out of the 'keeper.

Carney had an effort cleared off the line and Amadi had another effort well saved, before Ian Rees twisted and turned inside the box on the way to finishing a neat solo goal to put the hosts 4-0 up on the half-hour mark.

Despite the goals flying in at the away end, Rothwell were gamely giving a good impression of themselves, and the visitors' midfielder Oak Mapson scored a sublime goal from 25 yards that left the Town's Ben Barnes with no chance as it flew into the back of the net via the post.



Woolley should have sealed his hat-trick just before half-time but could only head wide from six yards following Jordan Davis's right wing cross.

And he forced a terrific save out of the visitors' 'keeper Alex Forward just after the restart, shooting low from ten yards only for Forward to show great reflexes to get down to his right to flick the ball away.

But Smith made it 5-1 with a cool finish inside the area, finding space in the box after a fine run and pass from Amadi.

On 55 minutes, the Hatters winger broke into the box and was fouled, leaving Carney to make it six from the penalty spot with a low effort to the 'keeper's left.

It was 7-1 moments later thanks to another fine effort from Rees, who beat several Corinthians players before lifting the ball over Forward and into the net for his second of the game.

Captain Zak Stephens made it 8-1 with a close-range effort following a corner, before Amadi netted to make it nine.

Smith capped a fine performance with a deserved hat-trick after rounding the goalkeeper on 85 minutes, and Davis scored a excellent solo effort in the last minute to make the final score 11-1.

Town: Barnes, Longden, Carney, Burtenshaw, Ekins, Stephens, Davies, Rees, Woolley, Smith, Amadi. Subs: Ann, Jibodu, Johnson, McAdams, Nash.



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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First Capital Connect

ACADEMY UPDATE



Last Tuesday the Hatters confirmed that Michael Cain had joined Leicester City for a significant five-figure fee.

The transfer fee will increase to six figures if Michael achieves significant career milestones, including becoming a Premier League footballer with the Foxes and achieving senior international recognition. The Hatters have also secured a significant sell-on clause to cover future transfers.

Michael was due to join the Hatters as a scholar this summer but requested a transfer following the club's failure to win promotion to the Football League.

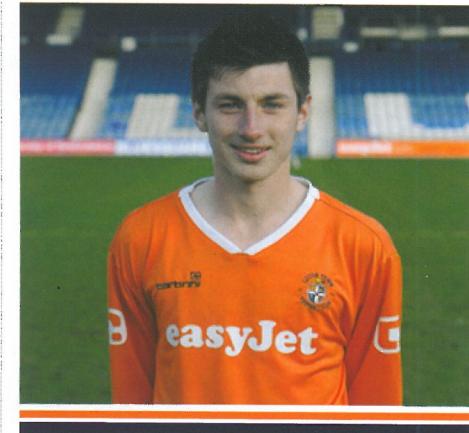
The player and his family have worked closely with the Club over the summer to ensure that the Town received compensation for the development Michael received since joining the club at the age of 12.

Youth Development Officer, Gregg Broughton told Talk of the Town: "We never like to lose young, talented players, but once a player expresses a desire to leave the club, despite all efforts to keep him here, it then becomes a case of ensuring that the club is properly rewarded for its work in identifying and developing him.

"We would thank Michael and his father Mark who made sure that this process was done amicably and transparently.

"We had developed a good relationship with Leicester, it is good to see that they have recognised the FA's ruling to protect our player's registrations and thank them for ensuring that the matter was resolved quickly.

"Our Youth Team has had a great start to the season, with eight Under-18s having appeared in the reserves already along with six Under-16s appearing in the Youth Team.



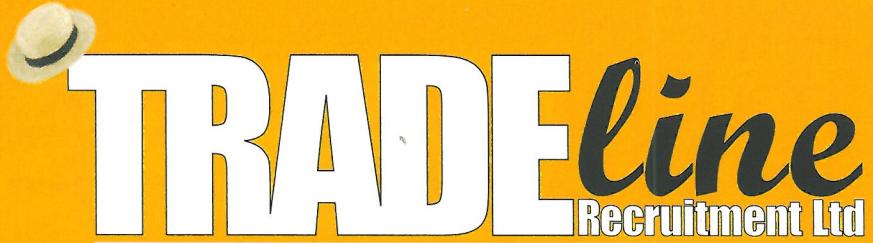
"Along with these successes, Michael's transfer will reassure our directors that their investment is being spent sensibly to ensure the long-term future of the Football Club is very positive."

Cain, who was an unused substitute for the Town first team in last season's FA Trophy second round tie against Uxbridge paid tribute to the Hatters' youth department.

"I am obviously delighted to be moving to an ambitious Championship club in Leicester City, whose Academy has a fantastic record of developing players that have gone on to have highly successful careers.

"However I am leaving Luton Town with a heavy heart. I'd like to express my thanks to all of the coaches, staff and team-mates I have worked with during my four years with the club. Each of them I learned from and I am very grateful to all of them for believing in me.

"I would like to wish everyone at the club the best of luck in taking Luton Town back to the Football League."



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IN THE COMMUNITY

THE FOOTBALL CONFERENCE COMMUNITY CLUB DEVELOPMENT FUND SUPPORTED BY THE PREMIER LEAGUE AND THE PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLERS' ASSOCIATION.

Luton Town and the Club's Community Trust are pleased to welcome Lord Faulkner of Worcester to tonight's game to present the Trust with a grant cheque of £12,000 from the the Football Conference Community Club Development Fund supported by the Premier League and the Professional Footballers' Association.

The grant will be 'matched' by our main Club sponsor, Easyjet and McDonalds and will be used to fund the Club's recently launched Schools Visit project which aims to provide free curriculum time Football coaching and PE lessons to all primary schools within Luton, Bedfordshire and North Hertfordshire.

The Football Conference Community Club Development Fund was launched earlier this year for member Clubs of the Blue Square Bet Premier and Blue Square Bet North and South and involves both the Premier league and Professional Footballers' Association committing up to £400,000 each for the next three years and is designed to encourage member Clubs to develop their work in their local communities.

Each member Club can apply for a maximum grant per season of £12,000 and Lord Faulkner, who has been associated with many football clubs and organisations, as well as serving on committees, panels and working groups connected with the game throughout his career, is here to present the maximum grant funding available.

With the backing of the Conference Development fund the Club's community department have already contacted almost 100 schools in our catchment area since the start of the term last month with the offer of free coaching and already almost 20 schools are now receiving visits from our coaching staff.

Our Football Development Officer, James Hatch, who runs the Schools Visit project on behalf of the Community Trust told Talk of the Town: "We have already had a great response from local schools who have asked us to come in and help with all kinds of requests from running lunch time clubs to coaching the schools' football teams.

"The funding is great because for the first time in quite a while we can now get all of our local schools involved with the Club at no cost to them. We hope this project will not only help schools with providing quality PE lessons but also by getting the children involved with Luton Town FC future supporters of the Club."

For any schools looking to be involved in the project you can contact James Hatch at the Club on 01582 583618 or via email on james.luton@live.co.uk.



Luton Town FC

OCTOBER HALF TERM SOCCER SCHOOLS

YEAR GROUPS

- Available for
- Years 1 & 2
- 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, Caddington, Dunstable, Flitwick / Ampthill, Leighton Buzzard, Linslade, Luton, Harpenden, Shefford / Clifton

Telephone and Credit Card bookings
01582 583618 or 07725 172345

HERTS

HARPENDEN

Venue: Sir John Lawes, Manland Way
Dates: Mon 24th to Wed 26th October

BARTON

Venue: Arnold Middle School, Hexton Road
Dates: Wed 26th to Fri 28th October

BEDFORD

Venue: Newnham Middle School, Newnham Avenue
Dates: Wed 26th to Fri 28th October

BIGGLESWADE

Venue: Edward Peake Middle School, Potton Road
Dates: Mon 24th to Wed 26th October

CADDINGTON

Venue: Caddington F.C., Clifford Crescent
Dates: Thurs 27th to Fri 28th October

DUNSTABLE

Venue: Dunstable Town F.C., Creasley Park
Dates: Wed 26th to Fri 28th October

LUTON & BEDS

FLITWICK / AMPHILL

Venue: Flitwick Leisure Centre, Steppington Road
Dates: Mon 24th to Wed 26th October

LEIGHTON BUZZARD

Venue: Gilbert Inglefield Middle School, Vandyke Road
Dates: Thurs 27th & Fri 28th October

LINSLADE

Venue: Cedars Academy, Mentmore Road
Dates: Mon 24th to Wed 26th October

LUTON

Venue: Play football.net, Stopsley, St Thomas' Road
Dates: Wed 26th to Fri 28th October

Venue: Barnfield College, New Bedford Road
Dates: Mon 24th to Fri 28th October

SHEFFORD / CLIFTON

Venue: Samuel Whitbread Community College, Shefford Road
Dates: Wed 26th to Fri 28th October

PRICES

1 day: £12.50 2 days: £25 3 days: £35 4 days: £45 5 days: £55 All Luton and Dunstable courses £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: _____

Age: _____ Dob: _____ M/F: _____

Contact number(s): _____

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

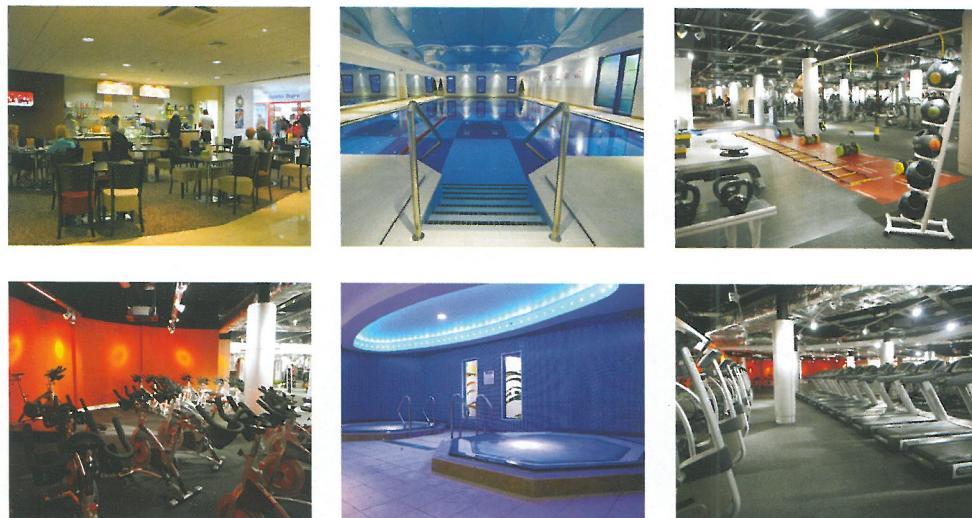
Credit card bookings: 01582 583618

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

These courses are operated by
LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB
01582 583618 or 07725 172345



- Huge state of the art gym with the latest functional training area
 - Superb swimming pool, relaxing steam room and spa pools
- Group Exercise Studios: Encouraging all ages and fitness levels to join in
 - Extensive free weights area
 - Personal programmes and advice
 - High quality changing areas
 - Members lounge with food and drinks served throughout the day
 - Retail loyalty card offering members 10% discount in all DW stores**
 - Free car park*
 - Swimming lessons available
 - 60+ locations nationwide
 - Children welcome, please see website for childrens hours
 - Massive sports store with massive savings on top brands*

To find your local fitness club visit us online

** Available on full priced products only. Not including replica, large equipment and garden games.

* Please note facilities may vary between clubs. Prices vary between clubs.

LUTON LADIES

The Town completed a winless September with a 3-1 reverse at Norwich City at the weekend.

The past month has been littered with a run of bad fortune with injuries decimating the squad allied with little luck on the field.

A strong Norwich squad were confident of maintaining their strong start to the season but were reduced to speculative long shots which were comfortably dealt with by Town goalkeeper Randi Reynolds.

With the game goal-less, another cruel twist of luck gave the Canaries the lead. A relatively straightforward shot took a wicked deflection off of Rachel Spendalow and found the bottom corner of the Town net.

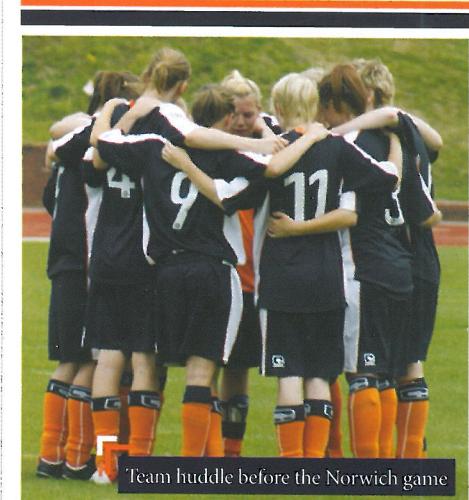
The Hatters responded with a Jess McKay shot that rolled narrowly wide and an Amy Summerfield strike that forced a diving save from the goalkeeper. From the resulting corner Michelle Byrne headed narrowly over.

Norwich made it 2-0 midway through the second half but the Town soon pulled a goal back when Rebecca Kane was sent sprawling in the area by the City centre back with the offending player reprieved a sending-off by the referee.

Nicola Henman stepped up to convert the spot kick and put the Town back in contention.

However, in another cruel twist of fate the very same City player who conceded the earlier penalty popped up at the far post with a header to score the clinching goal.

Meanwhile the Under-12s have stepped up their game this season winning all three of their opening fixtures. The latest victory was a very good 2-0 away win at Bedford. Molly McClelland scored both goals.



ON THIS DAY

SIMON PITTS LOOKS BACK ON GAMES PLAYED AT HOME ON THIS DAY

13

The number of home games previously played on this date, with Luton winning nine and drawing four. The Hatters have scored 32 goals and conceded just nine.

1

The first game, back in 1902, ended in a 1-0 win for the Hatters with a solitary goal from Leon Gall settling a Southern League game against Kettering Town.

6

The number of goals scored against Treharris in 1913 as the Hatters found themselves in the second division of the Southern League. There was a brace apiece for Ernie Simms, Frank Rollinson and Arthur Wileman.

3

The third home game on this day, in 1919 saw Luton net three goals they beat visitors Swindon Town 3-1. Ernie Simms followed up on his brace six years earlier with another double and John Rutherford was also on the scoresheet.

5

Notts County were beaten 5-1 when they came to Kenilworth Road in 1952 with Bernard Moore and Jesse Pye both scoring twice. Bert Mitchell also scored for the Hatters.

1

A First division match in 1958 saw the highest recorded attendance for a home fixture on this date as 23,056 watched the Town beat Preston North End 4-1. Jimmy Adam netted twice with George Cummins and Billy Bingham adding further goals.

1

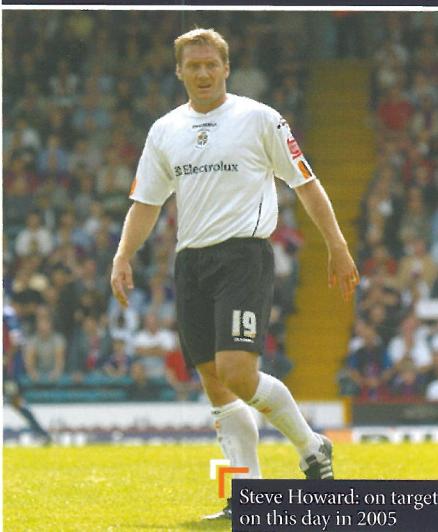
The only cup game came in 1988 as Luton were defending their League Cup win against Arsenal five months previously. Rob Johnson netted his first goal for the Hatters against Burnley but the visitors equalised from the spot after Johnson fouled a visiting player inside the area.

3

The number of goals scored, and points gained, from a 3-0 victory over Preston. Warren Feeney, Ahmet Brkovic and Steve Howard were all on target in this Championship victory in 2005.

2008

It's three years since the last match on this date at Kenilworth Road, and it ended in a 1-1 draw with Chester City. Asa Hall opened the scoring with his second goal of the season, having also netted in the previous home game against Aldershot, but Paul McManus equalised for the visitors in the second half.



Steve Howard: on target on this day in 2005

NLP VIEW WITH SAM ELLIOTT

It was a routine telephone call that we expected would confirm the inevitable, the regrettable administration error from a red faced and sorry secretary.

We're duty bound to follow-up when a side are removed from a big competition so when Mangotsfield United were told they could no longer compete in the FA Cup, naturally we picked up the phone.

Straight away it was clear that there was more to this one than met the eye.

This wasn't a club official on the go slow, allowing a suspended player to pull on the shirt without checking first. This was a player thinking only with his feet, and not with his head. Dean Griffiths declined to tell the Mangos he was playing Sunday League football last season, and his club folded owing the County FA money.

Now for those not up to speed with FA protocol, in this situation the debt is not forgotten about. Every player registered to that club is then saddled with a percentage of what is owed. When they pay, they can play.

In Griffiths' case, it was simply £16 outstanding. A quick phone call with his debit card at the ready and he's a free man.

Problem is, he didn't bother. And sadly no-one bothered telling his Saturday club.

His Sine Die blanket ban kicked in a matter of hours before the 3rd September FA Cup game with Hallen but the club didn't receive any correspondence alerting them to the impending ban.

Few would predict little Mangotsfield, currently jostling for a Play-Off place in the Southern League South & West, will be this year's Crawley. But the point of the FA Cup is that they could have been – as they say, it could have been their year!

Chairman Mike Richardson said: "We dream like all the others, but it's not just the lure of a big club in future rounds – it's the prize money that keeps us going.

"We had to hand back a cheque for £1,500 that we won after beating Hallen – all because he didn't pay up his fine. We hadn't received any notification – so you have got to blame the player.

"They asked us why we didn't go on their website the night before the match and look at who is suspended, but who is going to do that late on a Friday night?"

They have since kicked Griffiths out of the club following his costly lack of consideration.

But perhaps it's high time the brainless got their comeuppance, and that they be the ones punished by the Football Association for their lack of thoughtfulness, instead of the clubs?

The FA have to rule with an iron fist and we respect why, but the brick wall response when circumstances are clearly mitigating helps nobody. What if this hadn't been spotted until November?

Had things been different then perhaps angotsfield wouldn't have spent last Saturday going down a 95th minute defeat to Thatcham in the league but instead be on the march to Old Trafford!

THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER

Buy it every Sunday from your local newsagent



HOME COMFORTS

FOLLOW THE HATTERS AT KENILWORTH ROAD



LUTON TOWN v BARROW

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2011, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets are now on sale at normal match day prices.



LUTON TOWN v GATESHEAD

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2011, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets are now on sale at normal match day prices.



LUTON TOWN v WREXHAM

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

TUESDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2011, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

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



KIDDERMINSTER v LUTON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2011, KICK-OFF 3PM

This game is all pay on the day at Kidderminster via cash turnstiles.

Prices: Terrace: Adult £14, Under 16/Over 60 £8.

Seating: Adult £17, Under 16/over 60 £11



EBBSFLEET UNITED v LUTON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

TUESDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2011, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

We are yet to receive ticket information from Ebbsfleet United for this fixture.

Ticket arrangements will be publicised online and in programmes in the lead up to the game.



GETTING TO...KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS - AGGBOROUGH

Bobbers Travel (01234 856542): £17 adults, £14 concessions. Departure: 11am.

Town on Tour (07960 567465): £19 adults, £17 concessions. Departure: 11.30am.

Car: Leave M5 at junction 4 (signposted A491 Stourbridge). After approximately five miles, turn left onto A456 and follow towards Kidderminster. At roundabout on Kidderminster Ring Road, take first exit (signposted A451 Stourport). At next roundabout, take first exit (signposted A448 Bromsgrove), then take first turning on right into Hoo Road for the ground.

For the sat-nav: DY10 1NB

By train: The ground is a 10 minute walk from Kidderminster railway station, which is served by trains from Birmingham Snow Hill. Just come straight out of the station and go past the Severn Valley Railway station on your left. Go down the hill and turn left into Hoo Road and the ground is up this road on the left.

GETTING TO...EBBSFLEET UNITED - STONEBRIDGE ROAD

Bobbers Travel (01234 856542): £17 adults, £14 concessions. Departure: 4pm.

Town on Tour (07960 567465): £15 adults, £13 concessions. Departure: 4.30pm.

Car: M1, M25, after the Dartford Crossing keep to the left hand lanes and after passing through the toll booths turn left onto the A226, towards Northfleet. Keep on this road until you reach the ground on your left.

For the sat-nav: DA11 9GN

By train: The nearest station to the ground is Northfleet, which is only a few minutes' walk away from the ground. The station is served by trains from London Bridge and Charing Cross. Just come straight out of the station and turn left at the top of the road. The ground can be then seen down on the right.

FIXTURES & RESULTS

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY POS	STARTING XI
■ August							
Tue 16	19:45	H	Forest Green Rovers	1-1	6,061	60	16 K. Pilkington, Asafu-Adjaye, Beckwith 1, Antwi, Osano, Keane, Howells, Lawless, O'Connor, Dance, Barnes-Homer*
Sat 20	15:00	H	Southport	5-1	5,681	64	10 Tyler, Osano, Beckwith, Antwi 1, Howells, Keane, Watkins 1***, Lawless, Willmott, Lee*, O'Connor**
Tue 23	19:45	A	Mansfield Town	1-1	2,592	437	10 Tyler, Osano, Beckwith, Antwi 1, Asafu-Adjaye*, Dance, Watkins, Howells, Morgan-Smith, Innes*, Crow
Sat 27	15:00	H	Braintree Town	3-1	5,703	110	6 Tyler, Osano, Beckwith, Antwi, Howells 1, Dance***, Lawless*, Keane, Willmott, G.M.Smith 2
Tue 30	19:45	A	Hayes & Yeading United	2-2	1,015	727	8 Tyler, Osano, Beckwith, Antwi, Howells*, Dance**, Lawless, Keane, Willmott, Crow 1***, M.M.
■ September							
Fri 2	19:45	A	Stockport County	1-1	3,389	321	6 Tyler, Osano, Keane, Antwi, A-Adjaye, Lawless 1, Kisock*, Watkins, Willmott, M-Smith, O'Connor, Dance*, Fleetwood**
Sat 10	15:00	H	Darlington	2-0	5,952	151	6 Tyler, Keane, Antwi, Beckwith, Howells, Lawless, Hand, Willmott, Morgan-Smith*, Crow, Fleetwood 1
Tue 13	19:45	A	AFC Telford United	2-0	2,640	502	3 Tyler, Asafu-Adjaye, Antwi, Beckwith, Howells, Lawless, Keane, Willmott***, Morgan-Smith*, O'Connor, Fleetwood**
Sat 17	15:00	H	Lincoln City	1-0	6,316	206	2 Tyler, Dance, Beckwith, Antwi, Howells, Morgan-Smith***, Lawless, Hand, Willmott**, Red 1, Crow*
Tue 20	19:45	A	Bath City	1-1	1,158	442	1 Tyler, Dance*, Kovacs, Antwi, Howells, Morgan-Smith 1, Lawless, Hand, Kisock*, Fleetwood**
Sat 24	15:00	A	York City	0-3	3,570	606	6 Tyler, Keane, Kovacs, Antwi, Howells, Dance, Lawless**, Hand, Kisock*, Willmott, Fleetwood
Sat 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	Ebbesfleet United				
Sat 15	15:00	H	Gateshead				
Tue 18	19:45	H	Wrexham				
Fri 21	19:45	A	Grimsby Town				
■ November							
Sat 5	15:00	H	Fleetwood Town				
Sat 19	15:00	A	Cambridge United				
Sat 26	15:00	A	Newport County				
Sat 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	Ebbesfleet 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				



Matt Fleetwood waits patiently for a corner against Lincoln

SUBS

Willmott*, Watkins, Morgan-Smith, Crow, Kidd
M-Smith 1**, Crow 1*, A-Adjaye***, Barnes-Homer, K. Pilkington
Cleeson*, Walker**, Poku, Barnes-Homer, K. Pilkington
Watkins*, O'Connor*, Kisock***, A-Adjaye, K. Pilkington
Watkins**, A-Adjaye*, O'Connor**, Kisock, K. Pilkington

LEAGUE TABLE 2011/12

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

PLAYER STATS 2011/12

	THIS SEASON						CAREER	
	LEAGUE APPS	CUP APPS	TOTAL APPS	LEAGUE GLS	CUP GLS	TOTAL GLS	DISCIP	TOTAL GLS
Will ANTWI	11 (0)	2 (0)	11 (0)	0	0 (0)	0 (0)	11	2
Ed ASAFU-ADJAYE	4 (2)	0 (0)	4 (2)	0	0 (0)	0 (0)	1	75
Matthew BARNES-HOMER	1 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	0	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	81
Dean BECKWITH	8 (0)	1 (0)	8 (0)	8 (0)	1 (0)	8 (0)	1	8
Shane BLACKETT	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	39
Danny CROW	8 (2)	3 (0)	8 (2)	3 (0)	1 (0)	45 (1)	1	45
James DANCE	8 (3)	0 (0)	8 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	0
Stuart FLEETWOOD	5 (1)	2 (0)	5 (1)	2 (0)	0 (0)	2 (0)	2	6
Dan GLEESON	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	43
Jamie HAND	4 (0)	0 (0)	4 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1	4
Jake HOWELLS	10 (0)	1 (0)	10 (0)	1 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	0	141
Keith KEANE	8 (0)	0 (0)	8 (0)	3 (0)	0 (0)	3 (0)	0	251
John-Paul KISSOCK	3 (3)	0 (0)	3 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	6
Janos KOVACS	2 (0)	0 (0)	2 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	1
Alex LAWLESS	10 (0)	1 (0)	10 (0)	1 (0)	5 (0)	39 (5)	1	39
Amari MORGAN-SMITH	8 (1)	7 (0)	8 (1)	7 (0)	5 (0)	36 (5)	15	36
Fredie MURRAY	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	79
Aaron O'CONNOR	3 (6)	0 (0)	3 (6)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	9
Curtis OSANO	6 (0)	0 (0)	6 (0)	6 (0)	0 (0)	6 (0)	0	6
George PILKINGTON	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	131
Kevin PILKINGTON	1 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	1 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	0	19
Godfrey POKU	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	19
Collin SAMUEL	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1	0
Mark TYLER	10 (0)	0 (0)	10 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	104
Dan WALKER	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0	20
Adam WATKINS	3 (5)	1 (0)	3 (5)	1 (0)	1 (0)	1 (0)	1	14
Robbie WILLMOTT	8 (2)	1 (0)	8 (2)	1 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	0	7

LAST WORD

WITH THE LUTON & DUNSTABLE EXPRESS' JAMES CUNLIFFE

Since my last entry on this page Luton on Sunday has gone and joined the Twitterverse, or Tworld, or whatever it is called today. For the uninitiated that's Twitter – an internet social networking site.

Already, thanks to the World Wide Web I can get almost any information at the click of a button and I can do wonderful things like buy my food shopping without having to suffer queues or struggle with a wobbly shopping trolley.

It also gives me something to do when I'm at work (don't tell the boss) and because I've got a smartphone that, by law, must be looked at every five nanoseconds, I can instantly vent my spleen at the slightest imperfection of my club.

Let's face it though, if I had to write a letter, I'd probably develop some perspective in between the final whistle and popping it in the post box and think better of it. But even before a game has finished I can be bashing out a 140 character tirade against my team.

Of course, it's built into my British DNA to have a right good moan, so the internet would seem custom built for my gripes.

But when it comes to the beautiful game, going online just seems to enhance and speed up my powers of overreaction.

And it's endemic, I would suggest, like the web acts as a common sense filter.

No sooner had Luton lost their first game of the season on Saturday than some people – a minority it must be said – were calling for the head of boss Gary Brabin.

That's not to say there shouldn't be concerns over the manner of the 3-0 defeat at York but it should be tempered with the fact that Town's defence changes almost daily and still contains none of last term's Steady Eddies.

Top scorer Amari Morgan-Smith was also absent through suspension. A bad day alright, but a bit

too premature to call for heads to roll.

At almost a quarter of the way through the campaign the Hatters are one league position higher and two points better off than at this stage last season, despite injuries and suspensions galore.

In press conferences Brabin has frequently said that the league table means little until the 12 game mark, but truly starts to provide a guide around Christmas time.

Well, the first of those milestones will be up when the final whistle blows tonight. And with Town currently only three points behind joint leaders Wrexham and Gateshead, there's every possibility, that with a win against Cambridge United, they could be back at the top of the table again.

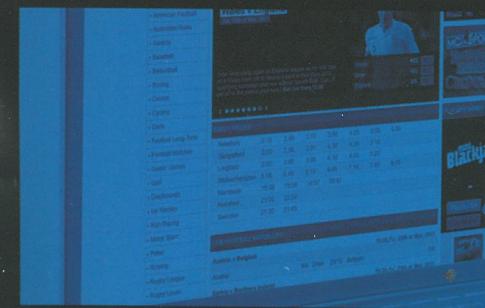
So, it's not all bad and while they are still in the promotion mix then perhaps it's a tad too early to crank up the computers and turn on the phones.

We all know that won't happen because they both make it so easy to have a good old rant. And, let's be truthful, as football fans we love it, don't we?

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TONIGHT'S TEAMS



LUTON TOWN

Mark Tyler	1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dan Gleeson	2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Freddie Murray	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keith Keane	4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dean Beckwith	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
George Pilkington	6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alex Lawless	7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Amari Morgan-Smith	8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Danny Crow	10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Robbie Willmott	11	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Shane Blackett	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stuart Fleetwood	13	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aaron O'Connor	14	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jake Howells	15	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ed Asafu-Adjaye	16	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Will Antwi	17	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Curtis Osano	18	<input type="checkbox"/>
James Dance	19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
John Paul Kissock	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Charlie Henry	21	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collin Samuel	23	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jamie Hand	27	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Adam Watkins	28	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kevin Pilkington	30	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Janos Kovacs	34	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

CAMBRIDGE UNITED

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	Daniel Naisbitt
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2	Kevin Roberts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3	James Jennings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4	Joshua Coulson
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	Michael Wyld
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Tom Shaw
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	Ryan Charles
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8	Keiran Murtagh
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	9	Michael Gash
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	10	Ashley Carew
<input type="checkbox"/>	11	Harrison Dunk
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	12	Rory McAuley
<input type="checkbox"/>	14	Conal Platt
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	16	Rossi Jarvis
<input type="checkbox"/>	17	Liam Hughes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	18	Luke Berry
<input type="checkbox"/>	19	Adam Marriott
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20	Jordan Patrick
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	21	Peter Winn
<input type="checkbox"/>	25	Blaine Hudson
<input type="checkbox"/>	26	Jack Eades
<input type="checkbox"/>	27	Jonathon Thorpe
<input type="checkbox"/>	28	Luke Allen
<input type="checkbox"/>	29	James Brighton
<input type="checkbox"/>	30	Simon Brown

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: *an Insurance* A. Davies
Assistant: D. Jacecko
Assistant: M. Rushton
Fourth official: A. Neil

UP NEXT

v BARROW

Saturday 1st October 2011, 3pm
Blue Square Bet Premier