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Blue Square Bet Premier

Friday 21st October 2011

Kick-Off: 7.45pm

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We wish everyone at the club and all supporters every success in tonight's game and for the rest of the season



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Telephone: 01472 605050 | Fax: 01472 693665
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Editor-in-Chief: Bernard Johnson
(gtfcprogramme@hotmail.com)
Photography: The Grimsby Telegraph, Michael White,
Lucie Ramsden, Dale Ladson.
Contributors: Rob Briggs, Jim Connor, Gary Croft,
Leigh Edwards, Stuart Fuller, Sam Kinnaird, John Lister,
Nigel Lowther, David Pye, Lucie Ramsden, Graham Rodger,
Jenni Silver, Laura Williamson.
Design: Mark Tomlinson | MVB Communications
Tel: (0115) 8409998 | mark@mvmc.co.uk
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Tel: (01472) 608007 | Email: dave@gtfc.co.uk
Sponsorship, Back Issues & Subscription: Lucie Ramsden |
Tel: (01472) 608006 | Email: lucie@gtfc.co.uk

grimsbytown 

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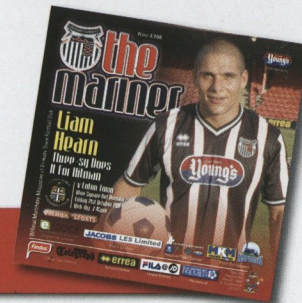
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 grimsby town
 v luton town

Friday 21st October 2011 | Kick-Off: 7:45pm
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Page 05 From The Boardroom – Chief Executive Ian Fleming looks at off-the-field matters; Page 7 From The Dugout – Managers Rob Scott and Paul Hurst look back on recent league outings; Page 9 Captain's Log – Craig Disley looks ahead to tonight's game; Page 10 The Visitors – An extensive look at our opponents Luton; Page 34 In The Hotseat – Defender Gary Silk joins us for an exclusive interview; Page 40 Winners & Champions – Leigh Edwards continues his look at the 1961/62 and 1971/72 seasons; Page 44 The Ball Is Round – Stuart Fuller's latest adventures; Page 48 Head To Head – Anthony Church faces Gary Silk in our quiz; Page 55 London Eye – Laura Williamson's take on national football matters; Page 69 I-I-I – We catch up with Andi Thanoj.

The Mariner Matchday Magazine:

Soccer Club Swap Shop National Award: 2008/09
Soccer Club Swap Shop Best in League Two: 2007/08,
2008/09, 2009/10
Soccer Club Swap Shop Best in Conference: 2010/11
Northern Programme Club Merit Award: 2008/09
Northern Programme Club Best in League Two: 2007/08

Programme Monthly League Two Most Improved: 2007/08
Programme Monthly League Two Best Value: 2009/10
Programme Monthly Division One Best Read: 2001/02
Programme Monthly Division One Merit Award: 2002/03
Football League Supporters' Survey League Two Programme of the Season: 2009/10

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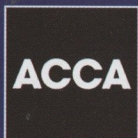
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PROBIZ
ACCOUNTANT

from the boardroom

with Ian Fleming



Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen and welcome to tonight's game with Luton Town here at Blundell Park.

A warm welcome goes to everyone who has made the journey up from Luton for the game, I hope you all have a safe journey home after the game.

Kick It Out's One Game, One Community weeks of action is here, with a renewed call from football's equality and inclusion campaign for supporters everywhere to report discrimination heard, or seen in stadia.

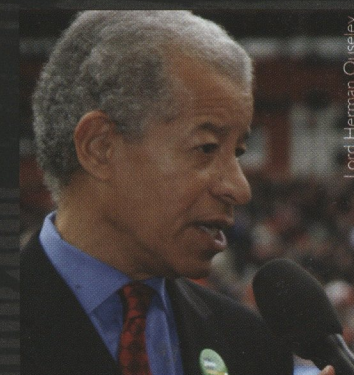
"Some of the worst excesses of abuse, where players, fans, even managers and coaches, were abused, harassed and attacked based on colour, race and religion, are now thankfully a thing of the past," says Lord Herman Ouseley, the campaign's Chair. "But pockets of unacceptable behaviour still exist. It's the duty of everyone within the game to flag this up where and when it happens."

Throughout the 18-day period, extended this season by a week to accommodate all home fixtures, professional clubs will be making their contribution by holding match day activities at their dedicated One Game, One Community day of action. At grass roots and amateur level, a number of thought leadership seminars, football tournaments and fan and community led activity will take place.

one game community
www.kickitout.org

Notable link ups include those with the Black and Asian Coaches Association (BACA), the Gay Football Supporters Network (GFSN) and the Muslim Women's Sport Foundation (MWSF) in a continued attempt to engage with and provide support to as many communities and groups as possible. One marquee event will see former World Champion boxer, Barry McGuigan, join Kick It Out for its 'Faith in Football' conference at Birmingham City's St Andrews Stadium on 27 October.

And, with the dust settled but ramifications still being felt from the August riots, a



Lord Herman Ouseley

number of fixtures having fallen victim to the troubles, the weeks of action is a period where a real opportunity to stitch a sense of community back into the game lies.

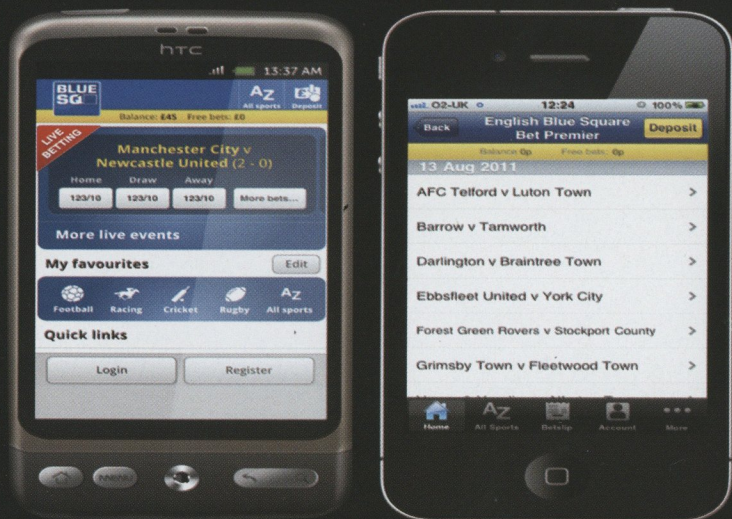
The final word goes to Ouseley: "It's under the banner One Game, One Community which we tackle bigotry, intolerance and anti-social behaviour and its presence in our game. If something or someone is damaging your experience of football, share it with the appropriate governing body, club or contact Kick It Out where details will be taken, and acted upon."

For more information on the One Game, One Community weeks of action, events taking place and how you can get involved visit www.kickitout.org or email info@kickitout.org

Please get behind the lads tonight everyone. We have had two fantastic home wins in our last two outings at Blundell Park, hopefully we can make it three here tonight.

Enjoy the game everyone.
Ian Fleming
Chief Executive
Grimsby Town FC

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from the dugout

with Managers Rob Scott and Paul Hurst



Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen and welcome to tonight's game
with Luton Town here at Blundell Park.

A warm welcome goes to Gary Brabin and his Luton side, we hope you all have a safe journey home after the match.

Our last home outing against Barrow saw us earn our second successive 5-2 win at Blundell Park.

Obviously the result was very pleasing, as was the amount of chances we created and the manner in which we took our goals. However, we're well aware that on another night our defending could have been costly.

Liam has got off to the perfect start but we didn't build on that and the game has been too open from our point of view and that has allowed Barrow back into the game.

We go into the break in front but allow the visitors back into the game just after half time and over the 90 minutes we have relied on the woodwork to keep us in the game.

The plus points for us are that we showed our fitness in the final 15 minutes and ended up with a comfortable-looking scoreline. Liam has netted himself another fine hat-trick and Elds has come off the bench to continue his recent goalscoring form.

The game at York was an excellent one for

the spectators. Gary Mills' side are one of the best we have played this season and for long periods of the game we have matched them, created some good chances and we are bitterly unlucky to come away from Bootham Crescent with nothing to show for our performance.

We changed our formation around a bit to match what York were doing and we got off to the perfect start with Craig Disley's header inside the opening five minutes.

Sometimes you have to hold your hands up with an opposition goal and that was the case with Jason Walker's equaliser for York. It is a fantastic overhead kick that goes in off the post but nine times out of ten that will end up in the stand, unfortunately for us it is nestling in the back of the net.

In the second half we were a lot more adventurous and carved York's defence open on several occasions. On another day we could have grabbed all three points but in the end we have come away from the game with nothing. It is hard to be critical of the players after a display like that though.

On Tuesday night at Ebbsfleet we again got off to a flying start with Elds' goal in the opening minute. However, we failed to capitalise on taking the lead and allowed the

home side to get back in the game quickly.

We're disappointed in the manner of the three goals we conceded. We put some pressure on in the second half but we didn't look like getting the goal we needed and we have to become a lot more ruthless in front of goal, particularly away from home.

It has to be a belief and confidence thing with us at the minute because the lads are constantly reminded that they are good players and that we are a good team, who are better than where we are in the league at the moment.

We have to prove that out on the field though and tonight will be a tough test against a good Luton side.

Before we go we would like to thank our Match Sponsors **JACOBS LES**, our Associate Match Sponsors **HARTWELL GRIMSBY** and our Matchball Sponsors **KB RAIL** and **MKM BUILDING SUPPLIES** – enjoy the game everyone and thanks for your support.

Keep backing the lads everyone.

ROB SCOTT & PAUL HURST



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Grimsby Town v Luton Town 07



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captain's log

with Skipper Craig Disley

Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen and welcome to tonight's league game with Luton Town here at Blundell Park.

I would like to begin by wishing a warm welcome to our Match Sponsors **JACOBS LES** and our Associate Match Sponsors **HARTWELL GRIMSBY** and our Matchball Sponsors **KB RAIL** and **MKM BUILDING SUPPLIES** – thanks for your support and I hope you enjoy the game.

Our last three games have seen three completely different results and performances. We started off well with the 5-2 win over Barrow here in our last home outing.

It was a good team display and we weathered a bit of a storm from the visitors in either half. We scored the goals at the right time as well; getting our noses in front early and then regaining the lead before half-time.

Our energy and fitness showed in the final 15 minutes and Liam's hat-trick and two from Elds has made the win look more comfortable on paper than perhaps it was – however, we have to be pleased with a second successive 5-2 win.

We travelled to a good York City side full of confidence and that showed as we took an early lead. I'm delighted to get my first goal for the club and it is something I want to add more of to my game as the season goes on.

Their equaliser was a spectacular goal from Jason Walker. You can't really legislate for things like that and on the balance of play, 1-1 at half-time was probably a fair reflection of the game.

In the second half we showed more of our attacking game and we penned York back for several stages of the game. On another day one of our chances would have gone on and we would have taken all three points.

As it is, they nick one late on and we come away with nothing. It is incredibly frustrating because we matched one of the better sides in this division for 99% of the game.

Again we got off to a flier at Ebbsfleet on Tuesday but once more we have failed to turn that early start into superiority on the field. Coulo has done well to react to the loose ball and Elds is always in those sorts of positions to get the goal.

Almost straight away we have let them back into the game with a chance and that has got their tails up. It is bitterly disappointing to come away with a 3-1 defeat after taking the lead so early on. We really need to start picking points up on the road if we are to make an impression on the league this season.

Tonight we welcome Gary Brabin and his Luton side to Blundell Park. As always the Hatters are amongst the favourites to go up this season and they have plenty of options to choose from in their squad.

Enjoy tonight's game everyone and please keep backing the lads.

CRAIG DISLEY

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Grimsby Town 109

introducing

luton town

Things are beginning to look ominous for the 23 other sides in the Blue Square Bet Premier this season after the bookies' pre-season favourites Luton Town racked up their third 5-1 home victory of the season last weekend.

The Hatters 10/11 fact file:

Chairman: Nick Owen

League Position: 3rd, Blue Square Bet Premier, 84 points

FA Cup: L 1-3 – Second Round Replay, Charlton Athletic (h), 09.12.10

FA Trophy: L1-2 (agg) – Semi Final, Mansfield Town, 19.03.11

Biggest Win: W 6-0, Southport (H), 09.04.11

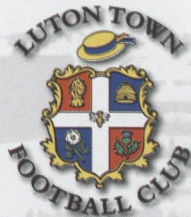
Biggest Loss: L1-3, Fleetwood (H), 12.02.11

Average Attendance: 6,242

Top Scorer: Matthew Barnes-Homer (18)

Head-to-Head:

At Blundell Park: 04.09.10, L0-2
At Kenilworth Road: 25.01.11, W1-0



What was more impressive about this five-star Kenilworth Road display was that it came against early-season pacesetters Gateshead and the result has certainly put the rest of the Conference on notice as the division's big hitters look to make it third time lucky in their quest for a return to the Football League.

The Hatters, who boast the largest average attendance in the Blue Square Bet Premier by some margin, have quality in depth in every department and they will be looking to go one better this season, having lost out to AFC Wimbledon in the Conference Play Off Final at the City of Manchester Stadium in May.

That defeat came 12 months after their inaugural Conference season ended in a fiery Play Off Semi Final defeat to York City.

leadership

Former Hull and Doncaster midfielder Gary Brabin was named as the Hatters' new boss in March 2011 after the departure of previous manager Richard Money.

Brabin had been assistant to Money for the 2010/11 season and had previously served as the club's chief scout. Following Neil Woods' departure, the Liverpoolian had been heavily linked with the managerial

vacancy at Blundell Park but the Hatters were fiercely competitive in hanging onto their man, especially with Money's departure on the horizon.

The 40-year-old has enjoyed success at this level before with Cambridge and Southport, both on shoestring budgets, and the Hatters' Board will be hopeful that he can lead the side back into the Football League this season.

hotshots

The Hatters sat third in the Blue Square Bet Premier after the last round of matches and that impressive start to the season comes courtesy of the side being the division's joint-top goalscorers.

That feat is all-the-more noteworthy considering that the side's top two goalscorers from last season, Matthew Barnes-Homer and Claude Gnappka, are no longer at Kenilworth Road.

England 'C' striker Barnes-Homer moved to League One side Rochdale on loan on transfer deadline day with the deal expected to become permanent in January. Meanwhile, versatile midfielder Gnappka is back in the Football League with another League One side, Walsall.

Brabin pursued new attacking options in the summer and his pursuit of former Mariners' striker Alan Connell was well documented in North East Lincolnshire. However, Town rebuffed the Hatters' approach and the former Bournemouth man ended up moving into League Two with Swindon Town.

The Luton boss continued his search for a fresh face to spearhead the Hatters' attack and his patience paid off on transfer deadline day in August when Hereford's Stuart Fleetwood dropped down a division. The striker will be hoping to recapture the form that saw him hit 36 goals in just 49 outings for Forest Green Rovers in 2007/08.

impact players

Over the course of their three seasons in the Blue Square Bet Premier, the Hatters have developed something of a transfer policy whereby they quickly follow-up interest in players that have performed well against them; it is a tactic that has served them well so far.

And that has been no different this season either. Rushden & Diamonds pair Aaron O'Connor and Curtis Osano were quickly snapped up after the demise of the Northamptonshire club and after missing out on the signing of former Kettering midfielder James Dance last season, the Hatters finally brought the player to Kenilworth Road – on loan from current club Crawley.

Ex-Everton youngster John Paul Kissock caused defences plenty of problems last season with his intricate play and he has been a big hit with Luton fans since his August switch to the club.

Mariners' supporters will remember Jamie Hand well as he scored a superb goal against Town here last season for Hayes & Yeading United. The former Lincoln man joined the Hatters on loan in September with the deal being expected to be completed in January.

Brabin may have plenty of exciting, young attacking options but in defence the manager has stuck with experience. Centre halves Dean Beckwith and Will Antwi have impressed in the Football League for a number of clubs, whilst former St Johnstone man Collin Samuel appeared in the World Cup for Trinidad and Tobago back in 2006.

Added to this is Osano, one of the most athletic right backs in the division and the loan capture of giant Hungarian defender János Kovács, who previously spent six months with the Hatters between January and June 2010.



players' lounge

Arrivals:

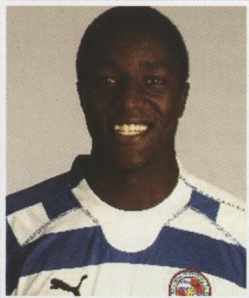
Dean Beckwith (Northampton), Aaron O'Connor, Curtis Osano (Rushden & Diamonds), Will Antwi (Dagenham & Redbridge), James Dance (Crawley (L)), John Paul Kissock (Southport), Jamie Hand (Hayes & Yeading (L)), Stuart Fleetwood (Hereford), Collin Samuel (St Johnstone), János Kovács (Hereford (L)).

Departures:

Claude Gnappka (Walsall), Jason Walker (York), Adam Newton (Woking), Lloyd Owusu (Barnet), Zdenek Kroca (Kilmarnock), Matthew Barnes-Homer (Rochdale (L)).

**MARK TYLER** Goalkeeper

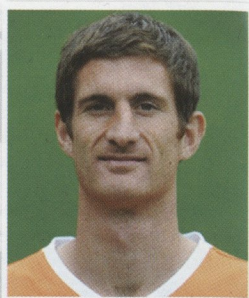
DOB: 02.04.77 | **Norwich**
Height: 6'1" | **Weight:** 13st 11lb
11/12 Apps: 16 | **Goals:** 0
 Hugely experienced goalkeeper who arrived at Kenilworth Road in June 2009 from Peterborough United.
 Mark made 483 appearances in 15 years at London Road and was rewarded for his loyalty with a testimonial against Liverpool in 2007.
 After falling down the pecking order at Posh he found first team opportunities hard to come by and in 2008/09 he was loaned out to League 2 Bury where he made 11 appearances for the Shakers.
 A former England Youth international, Tyler was handed the number one shirt by the Hatters boss who admitted he'd failed in an attempt to sign the stopper the previous summer.
 After two hugely successful seasons between the sticks for the Town, amassing 94 appearances and a string of end-of-season awards, Tyler signed a one-year contract extension to keep him at Kenilworth Road until June 2012.

**CURTIS OSANO** Defender

DOB: 08.03.87 | **Nakuru, Kenya**
Height: 5'11" | **Weight:** 11st 4lbs
11/12 Apps: 11 | **Goals:** 0
 Lightning quick attacking defender who signed a six-month contract at Kenilworth Road following his departure from Rushden & Diamonds in July 2011.
 Able to play anywhere along the backline, the strong Kenyan-born defender began his career at Reading as a youngster.
 He failed to make an appearance with the Royals but enjoyed loan spells at Aldershot, Woking and Rushden before making the move to Nene Park permanent in 2008, going onto make over 150 appearances for the Northamptonshire club.

**SHANE BLACKETT** Defender

DOB: 03.10.82 | **Luton**
Height: 6'3" | **Weight:** 12st 6lbs
11/12 Apps: 4 | **Goals:** 0
 Luton-born Shane became Mick Harford's sixth summer signing of 2009 after penning a two-year contract at Kenilworth Road.
 Equally adept at centre-back or at left-back, Shane began his career with Dunstable Town before a switch to Arlesey Town in 2003.
 His form with the United Counties side alerted the attentions of Dagenham & Redbridge who signed the 6ft 3in defender in May 2004.
 He made 83 appearances during his time at Victoria Road and helped the Daggers win the Conference title and earn promotion to the Football League in 2006/07.
 His reputation as a pacey defender alerted the attention of Peterborough who snapped him up with Dagenham team-mate Craig Mackail-Smith in January 2007. He went on to make 38 appearances during his time at London Road.

**GEORGE PILKINGTON** Defender

DOB: 07.11.81 | **Rugeley**
Height: 6' | **Weight:** 12st 5lbs
11/12 Apps: 4 | **Goals:** 0
 Highly experienced defender who joined the club on a free transfer in August 2008. Having began his career as an Everton trainee, Pilkington joined Port Vale in June 2003, after a loan spell at Exeter City. Having started 223 league games for the Valiants, the highly-regarded defender has been named Player of the Year twice.
 Injury frustrated the centre-half in his first season at Kenilworth Road in 2008/09 but he still managed to pick-up a Johnstone's Paint Trophy winners' medal.
 Pilkington hit the headlines for his goalscoring exploits in the Town's first season in the Conference, twice scoring braces in early season victories over Mansfield and Crawley.
 His impeccable form on the pitch led to him winning a string of end-of-season awards and underlined his loyalty to the Hatters by signing a new contract at the end of the campaign.

**JANOS KOVACS** Defender

DOB: 11.09.85 | **Budapest**
Height: 6'4" | **Weight:** 14st 10lbs
11/12 Apps: 8 | **Goals:** 0
 Giant defender Janos Kovacs rejoined the Hatters on loan from Hereford in September. The big Hungarian originally spent six months at Kenilworth Road between January and June 2010.
 Born in Budapest, Janos began his career with famed Hungarian side MTK before moving to English football with Chesterfield in 2005. He spent three seasons at Saltergate and impressed with his physically dominating displays.
 After a loan move to York, Janos moved to Lincoln in a £17,500 switch and he immediately caught the eye with his towering aerial presence. Janos was a regular for the Red Imps in his first 18 months at Sincil Bank but was surprisingly placed on the transfer list in January 2010.
 That brought about the move to the Hatters and Janos was part of the Luton side that reached the Blue Square Bet Premier Play Offs in 2009/10. The club failed to win promotion and the Hungarian centre half looked to return to the Football League with Hereford.

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**ROBBIE WILLMOTT** Midfield

DOB: 16.05.90 | **Harlow**
Height: 5'9" | **Weight:** 12st 2lbs
11/12 Apps: 16 | **Goals:** 5
 Harlow-born winger who penned an 18-month contract with the Hatters in January 2011 after hitting 10 goals for Cambridge United.
 Capable of playing on either wing or behind the front two, Willmott came through the ranks at the Abbey Stadium and wowed the home faithful with his pace, dribbling, close control and eye for goal.
 His performances for the U's youth team saw him break into the senior squad, making his debut as a 17-year-old in September 2007.
 After signing his first professional contract two months later, the midfielder was mainly used as an impact substitute during 2007/08 but continued to impress: 8 goals in his first season as a pro followed in 2008/09 while his level of performance and his assist tally soared last season.
 Weighing in with 10 goals and eight assists from just 29 starts for Martin Ling's side, Willmott's turn of foot and delivery from set-pieces has also become a highly sought-after commodity.

**KEITH KEANE** Midfielder

DOB: 20.11.86 | **Luton**
Height: 5'9" | **Weight:** 11st 3lbs
11/12 Apps: 13 | **Goals:** 0
 Having made his debut as a 16-year-old in November 2003, Keane went on to enjoy an extended run in the side from February onwards whilst Kevin Foley was out injured.
 Such was the contribution he made that the return of Foley didn't signal the end of his involvement at first-team level and he finished the season with 14 appearances under his belt, all this whilst still in the first year of his scholarship.
 He joined the Hatters at the age of nine having been scouted in local football, and made a rapid progression through the club's centre of excellence and youth teams, demonstrating enough potential to convince Mike Newell to give him his first taste of senior action. Over the course of his career at Kenilworth Road Keane has proved to be one of the, if not the most, versatile players to pull on a Luton shirt.
 Capable of playing right the way across the back four or in midfield.

**JAMES DANCE** Midfielder

DOB: 15.03.87 | **Coleshill**
Height: 5'9" | **Weight:** 11st 3lbs
11/12 Apps: 17 | **Goals:** 2
 Energetic, tricky winger who joined the Hatters from Crawley Town in July 2011.
 Able to play on either flank or as a central striker, Dance began his career as a trainee at Birmingham City but, after being released, he made his name in non-league circles in the West Midlands before catching the eye of Kettering Town in 2009.
 After a string of fine performances on the wing for the Poppies - including a man-of-the-match performance against the Town in August 2009 - he signed for Crawley in January 2011.
 However, after picking up a Blue Square Bet Premier winners' medal last term, Dance found himself out of the Red Devils' starting XI and, after the Hatters' bid was accepted by the League 2 club, the Coleshill-born man was quick to agree a two-year deal.

Grimsby Town v Luton Town | 13

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JAKE HOWELLS Midfielder

DOB: 18.04.91 | **Hemel Hempstead**
Height: 5'9" | **Weight:** 11st 9lbs
11/12 Apps: 14 | **Goals:** 3
The young winger, who can also play at left-back, came through the ranks at Kenilworth Road and made his first team debut as a second half substitute in May 2008. He made his full debut in the Hatters colours away at Bradford City in October 2008. After making 36 appearances for the Hatters in the 2008/09 he was rewarded for his efforts with a professional contract in May. In his first season as a pro, Howells made huge strides with impressive performances on the left-side of midfield, ending the 2009/10 campaign with six goals, including his first senior goal in the incredible 4-3 win over Cambridge in September.



STUART FLEETWOOD Striker

DOB: 23.04.86 | **Gloucester**
Height: 5'9" | **Weight:** 11st 3lbs
11/12 Apps: 11 | **Goals:** 2
Prolific striker who signed for an undisclosed fee from Hereford United on deadline day in August 2011. The Gloucester-born frontman, who scored 28 goals the last time he played at Conference level whilst with Forest Green Rovers, signed a two-year deal at Luton. He began his career as a trainee at Cardiff City, making the grade to feature eight times for the Bluebirds between 2003 and 2006. In January 2006, Fleetwood signed for Hereford for the first time scoring eight times before he signed for Forest Green in June 2007. And it was his spell with Rovers that saw people sit up and take notice after plundering 32 league and cup goals in a season that saw the Gloucestershire side earn their highest league placing. The Wales Under-21 international turned down a new contract to sign for then Championship Charlton in June 2008 but was loaned out Cheltenham, Exeter and Brighton. Fleetwood returned to Edgar Street.



AARON O'CONNOR Striker

DOB: 09.08.83 | **Nottingham**
Height: 5'10" | **Weight:** 11st 10lbs
11/12 Apps: 15 | **Goals:** 1
Striker, who picked up a plethora of end-of-season awards at Nene Park, arrived at Kenilworth Road after signing a two-year contact following the expiry of his deal with Rushden & Diamonds. He scored 27 times in two seasons at Nene Park after arriving from Mansfield Town. Aaron started his career on YTS forms with Derby County before moving to Ilkeston Town. He then had spells at Scunthorpe United and Nuneaton Borough before returning to Ilkeston. He then joined Gresley Rovers where between 2004-07 he scored 80 goals in 127 games which saw him pick up the Player's Player of the Year, Manager's Player of the Year and Supporter's Player of the Year awards two seasons in succession. He later moved to Grays Athletic, where he played under Justin Edinburgh. Aaron went from Grays to Mansfield in 2008 where he scored eight times in 39 games at Field Mill prior to his switch to Rushden in the summer of 2009.



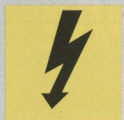
GARY BRABIN Managers

Following the departure of Richard Money in March 2011, Brabin took control of the Hatters until the end of the 2010/11 season. After playing over 275 times in League football as a tough-tackling midfielder, Brabin moved into management firstly with Southport - guiding them to the Conference North Play-offs - before moving south to manage Cambridge United in 2008. In his first - and eventually only - season at the Abbey Stadium he guided the U's to the Blue Square Premier Play-off final after finishing runners-up to champions Burton Albion, but lost to Torquay United at Wembley. Despite that set-back Brabin was awarded the BSP Manager of the Year award before behind the scenes differences at the Abbey led to him leaving the club in July 2009 before arriving at Kenilworth Road. He guided the Town to the Play-Off final in May 2011 but once again he found himself on losing side following a penalty shootout defeat. Brabin then committed his future to the Hatters by signing a two-year contract.

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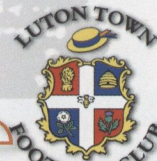
Broadburn

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in the ranks



Will Antwi

Defender



DOB: 19.10.82 | Ashford
Height: 6'2" | Weight: 12st 8lbs
Career: Crystal Palace,
Northwich (L), Wycombe,
Dagenham, Aldershot, Luton
11/12 Apps: 12 | Goals: 2

Ed Asafu-Adjaye

Defender



Nationality: English
DOB: 22.12.88 | Hammersmith
Height: 5'11"
Weight: 12st 4lbs
Career: Luton, Salisbury (L),
Histon (L), Walton & Hershham (L)
11/12 Apps: 6 | Goals: 0

Dean Beckwith

Defender



DOB: 18.09.83 | Southwark
Height: 6'3"
Weight: 12st 2lbs
Career: Gillingham,
Dagenham (L), Margate (L),
Hereford, Northampton, Luton
11/12 Apps: 8 | Goals: 1

Danny Crow

Striker



DOB: 26.01.86
Gt. Yarmouth
Height: 5'9"
Weight: 13st 3lbs
Career: Norwich,
Northampton (L),
Peterborough, Notts Co (L),
Cambridge, Luton
11/12 Apps: 13 | Goals: 3

Jamie Hand

Midfielder



DOB: 07.02.84 | Uxbridge
Height: 6' | Weight: 11st 8lbs
Career: Watford, Oxford (L (2)),
Livingston (L), Peterborough (L),
Fisher, Northampton (L),
Chester, Lincoln, Ebbsfleet,
Chelmsford, Woking, Hemel
Hempstead, Hayes & Yeading,
Luton (L)
11/12 Apps: 9 | Goals: 2

John Paul Kissock

Midfielder



DOB: 02.12.89 | Liverpool
Height: 5'6"
Weight: 10st 8lbs
Career: Everton, Gretna (L),
Accrington (L), Hamilton,
Newton, Formby, Southport,
Luton
11/12 Apps: 9 | Goals: 0

Alex Lawless

Midfielder



DOB: 26.03.85 | Llwynypia
Height: 5'11"
Weight: 10st 8lbs
Career: Ton Pentre, Fulham,
Torquay, Forest Green, York,
Luton (L), Luton
11/12 Apps: 10 | Goals: 1

Amari Morgan-Smith

Striker



DOB: 03.04.89 |
Wolverhampton
Height: 6' | Weight: 13st 5lbs
Career: Wolves, Crewe,
Stockport, Ilkeston, Luton
11/12 Apps: 14 | Goals: 9

Kevin Pilkington

Goalkeeper



DOB: 08.03.74 | Hitchin
Height: 6'1"
Weight: 13st 10lbs
Career: Man Utd, Rochdale
(L), Rotherham (L), Celtic (L),
Port Vale, Aberystwyth, Wigan,
Mansfield, Notts Co, Luton (L),
Luton, Mansfield (L)
11/12 Apps: 1 | Goals: 0

Adam Watkins

Striker



DOB: 08.09.91 | Luton
Height: 5'9"
Weight: 11st 3lbs
Career: Luton, Arlesey (L)
11/12 Apps: 11 | Goals: 2

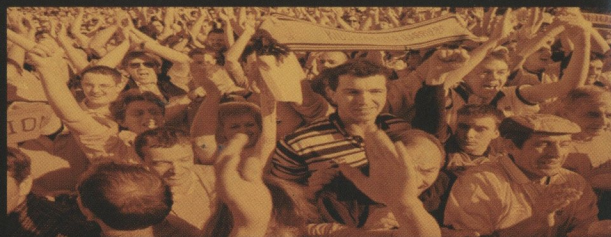
Tommy Wright

Striker



DOB: 28.09.84 | Kirby
Muxloe
Height: 6' | Weight: 11st 6lbs
Career: Leicester, Brentford
(L), Blackpool (L), Barnsley,
Walsall (L), Darlington (2),
Aberdeen, Grimsby,
Kidderminster
11/12 Apps: 1 | Goals: 0

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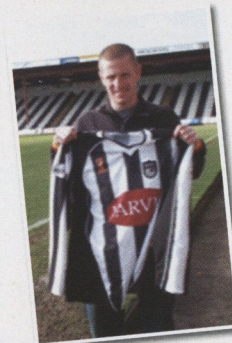
number crunching

Today's article features the significance of number Nine for The Mariners

Dressed to the Nines

Arguably the most significant number nine in Town's history is the 9-2 Second Division victory over Darwen in April 1899. Not only does it remain Grimsby's biggest-ever FL win, it was also a great send-off for the final game to be staged at Abbey Park.

On Boxing Day 1933, while the Mariners were hammering Second Division Manchester United 7-3 at Blundell Park, Town's Reserves achieved an even bigger score at Midland League rivals, Scunthorpe United. The 9-3 result saw forward Wally Ponting net five goals.

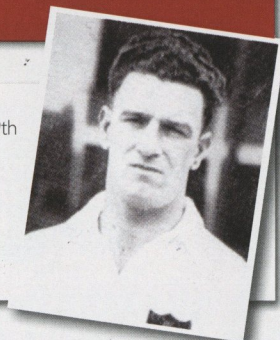


Those to have played 9 FL games for Grimsby include defender Craig Armstrong (2004) and loan winger Des Hazel (1986/87). Forward Jock Shearer (1949-51) meanwhile, hit 9 FL goals for Town.

The number nine also features in Grimsby's record FL defeat. In January 1931 Arsenal triumphed 9-1 over Town at Highbury in a replayed game (the first had been abandoned due to fog). In fact, it might have been 10-1 but for a disallowed Gunners' goal!



In season 1979/80 the Mariners played 9 League Cup games (including replays) before a Fifth Round exit to eventual winners Wolves at neutral Derby. The highlight of course, was the 2-1 home success over Everton thanks to winger Mike Brolly's two goals.



Grimsby's greatest marksman, Pat Glover, was born on the 9th day of the 9th month (September) in 1910. By coincidence, his death in 1971 also occurred on the 9th September.

And finally...Grimsby's visit to Second Division Plymouth Argyle in February 1934 (a 2-0 win) was seen by 18,301 Home Park fans, the gross receipts totalling £999 (plus a few pence)!



Grimsby Town v Luton Town 19

COMMUNITY CORNER

WWW.GRIMSBYTOWNFC.CO.UK

Good Evening and a warm welcome to tonight's game against Luton Town. In tonight's page we are looking at what Sports & Education Trust have been doing in the community over the past few weeks. You will also find details of our Birthday Parties and Saturday morning clubs. Enjoy the game!

MIDDLETHORPE PRIMARY

Middlethorpe Primary School held a creative writing week with some outstanding stories being produced by the whole school. Topics ranged from wildlife to space exploration and some outstanding pieces of work were produced across every school year.



The children were writing stories that they can read to younger children. Some children worked on writing traditional tales whilst others were writing stories from other cultures and myths and legends. They wrote the stories to be displayed in a big book in the school and two children who had worked hard were picked to win the competition to come and GTFC play. They also won a book of their choice. The children loved meeting the players and would very much like to see them again soon!

Pictured here with all the school are Rob Duffy and Gary Silk presenting certificates of achievement to some participants from years 1 through to year 6. Match tickets for tonight's game were also given as prizes to some of the young people.

ROUNDABOUT

The Sports and Education Trust recently assisted with the staging of a regional five-a-side tournament, held at the Playsport indoor sports facility.

The competition was for teams representing centres in Yorkshire & Humberside that provide support for individuals recovering from habitual drug use.

It was the second of a series of monthly tournaments, organised by the "Roundabout" organisation in Grimsby, intended to give former drug users the opportunity to participate in competitive physical activity.

The competition was won by "Stepping Stones" from Grimsby, whilst the first tournament saw "The Archer Project" from

Doncaster go away with the trophy.

Both days were a great success, with 50% more teams taking part in the latest event.

The next competition is scheduled for the same venue, on Friday 4th November between 11-3PM and spectators are welcome.

KICK IT OUT

Tonight is our designated kick it out fixture. Last game we invited members from Strand Community School to attend and take part in the pre week of action event. In the pictures you can see Strand Community School who have been working on a project with their teachers and Sports & Education Trust who delivered a 5 week programme which started in September 2011, for year groups 4, 5 and 6, with workshops and discussions on the effects of racial discrimination and 'Respect' in sport and the community.

Adie Merrikin, Grimsby Town Sports & Education Trust Community Sports Officer, said "we have developed a very good working relationship with the Strand Community School and this campaign will go a long way in developing young

SATURDAY CLUBS - GRIMSBY, CLEETHORPES & LOUTH

Football in the Community currently runs three Saturday clubs. One running in Grimsby at the Grimsby Institute, one running at Signhills School and one in Louth held at London Road playing field.

The clubs give young people the opportunity to be involved with active exercise through fun based football games. The clubs are great fun and there for anyone with an interest in football regardless of age, gender and ability. The most important factor is fun.

The Grimsby and Signhills Clubs runs from 10am to 12pm, Grimsby's on the Grimsby Institute Fields at the rear of the college past Hereford Avenue and Signhills'

at the school.

The Louth Club runs from Meridian Leisure Centre, Wood Lane, which is a new location with great facilities. The club runs from 10am to 11am for school years one to four, and 11am to 12pm for school years 5 and upwards.



BIRTHDAY PARTIES AT BLUNDELL PARK

Grimsby Town Football Sports and Education Trust are offering young mariners fans a fantastic opportunity and a perfect present for a birthday, Christmas or just a special treat. The day will include:

MATCH TICKETS - 16 juniors and 16 Adults for the chosen match.

GROUND TOUR - Exclusive behind the scenes tour of Blundell Park.

PARTY FOOD

DVD of the half-time game

PLAY ON THE PITCH AT HALF TIME - Young participants will be divided in to 2 teams and play at half time in front of the fans.

GRIMSBY TOWN PRIZE

- The birthday boy/girl will receive a signed Grimsby town ball.

MAX GROUP SIZE 16 and costs **£200.00** for all of the above. Party available to **13 YEARS AND UNDER** *There are only a few matches left for the rest of the season. **PLEASE BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT**

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programme matters

with John Litster

The founding editor of "Programme Monthly" magazine illustrates how the changing face of football – and society – has been reflected in programmes through the years

Local Enterprise

Brand recognition is a marketing concept which is hardly required in matchday programmes. They are sold, on the day of the match, in and around the stadium at which the game is being played. The customers can be under no illusion as to what they are buying, and do not require to recognise their purchase in order to distinguish it from competing products on sale at the same place.

For that, and aesthetic reasons, most modern club programmes feature as much full colour photography as the front page size will permit, with a minimum of identifiable features. This was not always the case, and in the past clubs often stuck to a familiar, and usually unchanging, cover design. What distinguished many club programmes in the years immediately before and after the Second World War, were local adverts.

In the days before globalisation, cross-border mergers and acquisitions, towns and cities throughout the country were known for their native industries, and the companies which supplied the nation, and in the many cases the world, with these particular products often advertised them on the front page of their local club's programmes.

The North East clubs reflected on their supporters' taste for the local brew. Vaux's Strong Beers frequently appeared on the front of the Sunderland programme, while Newcastle Brown Ale and the familiar blue star logo was to be seen on many United programme covers.

Mitchells & Butlers Beers could be found on the front of a number of Midlands issues, notably the beautifully illustrated West Brom programme of the early 1930's, while Soames' Welsh Ales was a regular feature of Wrexham programmes, which extended to the Welsh International matches at the Racecourse Ground. At some point or another in their early programme producing years, most clubs featured the local brewery on the front of their programmes,

while many others gave that prime advertising spot to local retailers, cinemas or theatres.

Manchester United's programmes in the 1930's featured a half page advert on the cover for Horrockses, Drapery suppliers, who also featured on the cover of Preston North End programmes on either side of the Second World War.

The Sheffield clubs, understandably, paraded their Steel City lineage, but the



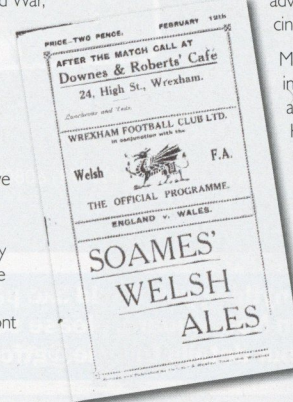
advertisers had to justify their expenditure. Steel for industrial use would be unlikely to appeal to the man on the terracing; nor would domestic cutlery. Therefore, razor blades were the chosen medium by which the steel companies could patronise their two local football clubs.

John Player, the cigarette manufacturers, were prominent advertisers in the Nottingham clubs' programmes, although usually on the back page, the local Co-operative Society being front page advertisers for most of the 1930's.

Hereford United, then as now a non-league side in the 1940's, had their programme cover dominated by an advert for "The Wine of the West", Weston's Cider, described as "Britain's Healthiest Drink". This was produced at nearby Ledbury.

Local pride in the team was often matched by identification with local industries and products in the club's official programmes, in the days when advertisements dominated the front cover.

(Illustrations: "Wrex" note to printer – reproduce in Red. "WBA" note to printer –



For more information and advice on programmes and programme collecting, visit www.pmf.co.uk, or contact PM Publications, 38 Lowther Road, Norwich, NR4 6QE

www.grimsby-townfc.co.uk

Grimsby Town v Luton Town | 23

GOLD BOND

Winners Week 39
Friday 30th September 2011

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£500	AC1432	Mr & Mrs Ledgley	Mr R J Smith
£200	AG4689	Mr Munnery	Shaun Jamieson
£100	UU1927	Mr B Peacock	D Wann & M Shipley
	XX2007	Robert Annable	Business Pack
£50	Q.1738	Mrs D Greaves	David Hampson
	ZZ1449	Gordon Vincent	On-Line-Payer
	PP0010	Sonya Hall	Danny Jobs
	JJ3284	Mrs J Fell	Mike Greaves
£25	AK0221	Mrs Houghton	Michael Robinson
	KK4666	Mrs B Daly	Abbey News
	L.4445	Mr I Grant	Abdul Khalique
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For £150 the day includes: -

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- GTFC goody bag Official certificate signed by the manager
- Two Adult and one Junior ticket for the Main stand
- Photograph and editorial in the match day magazine plus a complimentary copy
- Meet the team in the dressing room before the match
- Line up with Mighty Mariner, the referee and the team captains for a pre-match photograph
- Lead the team out from the Blundell Park tunnel

To apply please contact Lucie Ramsden on (01472) 608006 or email lucie@gtfc.co.uk

*subject to availability



If you have anything you would like printing on the Grimsby Town Noticeboard, please send a picture and your details to lucie@gtfc.co.uk

AWAY TRAVEL CLUB 2011/12 MEMBERSHIP

£5 ADULTS, CONCESSIONS £2.50

For bookings ring Terry on 07716094444

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Saturday 5th November
Twerton Park
Coach Fare: £25.00
Departing 8.00am



KETTERING TOWN

Thursday 24th November
Stonebridge Road
Coach Fare £15.00
Departing 3.00pm



FROM THE FANS....



HALF TIME BONANZA

The winning half-time bonanza results from our fixture v Barrow are:-

1st Prize: 07385 - ABP
2nd Prize: 07935 - S. Marley, Grimsby
3rd Prize: 05933 - J Anthony, Grimsby



Happy 4th Birthday Charlotte lots of love Mummy and Daddy x



CONGRATULATIONS!

To Becky Ackrill and Gareth Richards on their Engagement x x

TONIGHT'S MASCOTS

Name:

Callum Fox

Age: 8 Years

School:

Oakfield

Hobbies:

Football, Swimming and Computer Games

Favourite Player(s):

Michael Coulson & Darran Kempson

Predicted Score:

Mariners 1 Hatters 0

Happy Birthday Callum whose birthday was on 18th October. Love from all your family & friends x x



Name:

Emily Dabb

Age: 6 Years

School:

Laceyby

Hobbies:

Playing & Watching Football, Building Lego

Favourite Player(s):

Bradley Wood

Predicted Score:

Mariners 2 Hatters 0

Happy Birthday to Emily who was 6 on 10th October. Love from all your family & friends x x



Name:

Drew

Parkington

Age: 9 Years

School:

Humberston

Cloverfields

Hobbies: Football, Cricket & Squash

Favourite Player(s):

Kenny Arthur

Predicted Score:

Mariners 2 Hatters 1

Happy Birthday Joe who was 9 on 18th October. Love from all your family & friends x x



Name:

Liam Murrell

Age: 11 Years

School:

Cleethorpes

Academy

Hobbies:

Football, Discoveries Colts, Watching GTFC in the Pontoon & playing X-Box

Favourite Player(s):

Liam Hearn

Predicted Score:

Mariners 2 Hatters 13

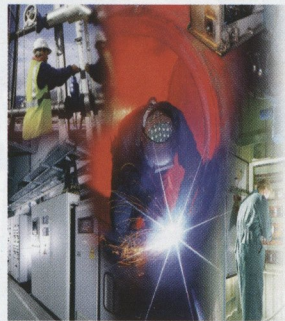
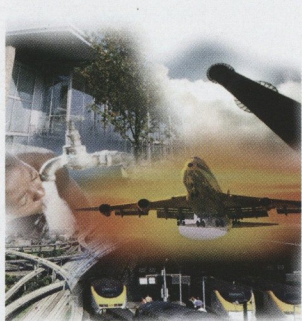
Happy Birthday to Liam whose birthday is on 23rd October. Love from all your family & friends x x



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commercial matters

with Dave Smith



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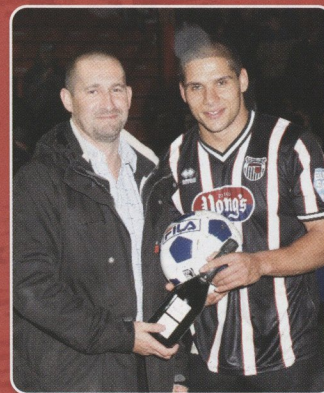
In the picture is Kev Rogers with Mighty Mariner taking part in a half time draw at our game v Barrow. The draw was done on behalf of Vanel who sold tickets for the game. Any money made from the sold tickets will be going to the three chosen charities. The winning charities are:-



The Fire Fighters
Charity



In the picture we have John King being presented with a signed framed shirt by Chief Executive, Ian Fleming. John has left the club after giving 30 years service as a steward and CCTV operative.



Presenting Liam Hearn with his match ball and Man of the Match award is a representative from ABP. ABP were match sponsors at the game v Barrow and we would like to thank them for all of their support.

Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen and welcome to our Blue Square Bet Premier fixture with Luton Town here at Blundell Park.

Match Sponsors

Welcome to our Match Sponsors **JACOBS LES LTD**, our Associate Match Sponsor **HARTWELL GRIMSBY** and our Matchball Sponsors **MKM BUILDING SUPPLIES** and **KB RAIL** – many thanks for your continued support of the club and I hope you enjoy the game.

JACOBSTM LES Limited



Commercial Opportunities

We still have plenty of commercial opportunities around Blundell Park. If you are

interested in advertising with us or taking up one of our sponsorship packages then please call me on (01472) 608007 or drop me an email at commercial@gtfc.co.uk.



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2011-12

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DAMIAN SPENCER



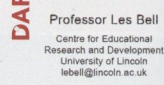
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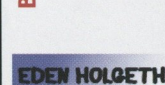
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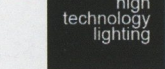
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SHAUN PEARSON



is sponsored by



ROBERT EAGLE

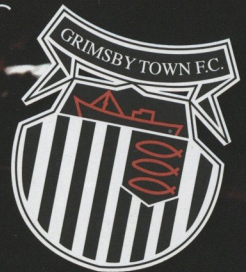


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Generating Opportunities -
Making A Difference

The Football Conference Community Club Development Fund

Good new stories in football rarely grab the headlines. Often it is transfer speculation, tales of bad behaviour and general gossip that fill our back (and sometimes the front) pages. Yet we all know how football can be a force for good. We just need to get better at telling the story.

Where does the money go from the top of the game? Re-investing in its communities is central to the Premier League's business model. A total of £167.2m was distributed outside of the Premier League in 2010/11 - over 14% of their £1.2bn turnover. The Football Conference is now in receipt of a formal £2m Solidarity agreement, in place for three seasons. Of this annual income, The Football Conference has agreed to invest £800,000 of this sum into their communities each year.

This created a unique opportunity: This money has created a new funding stream, offering every club support to help grow their community work.

The Football Conference Community Club Development Fund is in its second season. Each club can apply for up to £15,000 as 50% contribution to their costs. Last season 43 clubs received grants totalling £450,000 for projects costing £1.08m. That means more than £500,000 was achieved from inward investment from outside football.

Projects have ranged from arts activities, volunteering, work with young people not in education or training (NEETs), disability sport teams, creating educational initiatives, working with isolated community groups, green projects, healthy eating and lifestyle, support for



existing community programmes, and working in partnership with schools to deliver football coaching.

This money comes freely to the competition from the top of the game, because the Premier League and the PFA recognise the role Football Conference clubs play in their communities. Whatever the result today, let's celebrate that good news.



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Grimsby Town v Luton Town

<< rewind

mansfield town 2

O'Neill 72, Connor 78

grimsby town 1

Coulson 31



Date: Saturday 8th October 2011

Attendance: 2,982

Competition: Blue Square Bet Premier

Venue: Field Mill

the stags:

Marriott; Naylor, O'Neill, Sutton, Futcher; Worthington, Murray, Dyer, Todd; Green, Meikle (Connor 55). subs not used: Redmond, Riley, Stevenson, Bolland.

the mariners:

McKeown; Wood (Silk 87), Ridley, Kempson, Garner; Coulson, Church, Disley, Eagle (Makofo 79); Hearn, Duffy (Elding 66). subs not used: Pearson, Artus

match action

1 min: Rob Eagle crosses from the left and his centre reaches Rob Duffy at the far post but he can't get a significant connection on the ball and Alan Marriott is able to gather in the Stags' goal.

23 mins: Eagle again has joy down the left and crosses for Michael Coulson but he directs his header just wide of the far post. **31 mins: GOAL!** The Mariners take a deserved lead through Coulson. The winger cuts in from the right and powers in a left-foot effort that Marriott

can only tip onto the post before the ball crosses the goal-line. **33 mins:** A cross from the right drops to Mansfield striker Linden Meikle on the edge of the 18-yard box but his fizzing effort goes just wide of the upright. **36 mins: OFF THE BAR!** Luke O'Neill fires in a tremendous free kick from 25 yards that James McKeown does superbly to tip onto the crossbar. **43 mins: GOAL DISALLOWED!** Duffy looks to have doubled the advantage against his former club

but the goal is ruled out for an earlier foul by strike partner Liam Hearn. **72 mins: GOAL!** The hosts draw level from a fantastic free kick by O'Neill. The defender is fully 35 yards out when he strikes the ball but it curls into the top corner to give McKeown little chance. **75 mins:** O'Neill's free kick again causes problems from distance but this time McKeown is able to get back and scramble the ball over the crossbar. **78 mins: GOAL!** Substitute Paul Connor

is left unmarked in the six-yard box and he is able to nod home unchallenged. **85 mins: OFF THE BAR!** Another corner causes problems for the Mariners and ex-Town defender Ben Futcher rises highest but sees his header come back off the crossbar.



<< rewind

mariners:

McKeown; Silk, Ridley, Kempson, Garner; Coulson, Disley, Church, Makofo (Eagle 74); Hearn, Duffy (Elding 81). subs not used: Pearson, Artus, Wood.

barrow:

Hurst; Nicholas (Hollis 89), Quinn, Lomax, Skelton; Mackreth, Baker, Owen, Smith, Rowe (Rutherford 68); Boyes. subs not used: Clancy, Moyo, Ferrell.

grimsby town 5

Hearn 5, 45, 76, Elding 83, 85

barrow 2

Smith 19, Mackreth 54

Date: Tuesday 11th October 2011 | **Venue:** Blundell Park

Competition: Blue Square Bet Premier | **Attendance:** 2,982

match action

5 mins: GOAL! Lee Ridley's long ball is misjudged by Adam Quinn and Kelvin Lomax and this allows Liam Hearn a free run on goal and he slots home coolly underneath Danny Hurst. **7 mins: OFF THE LINE!** Craig Disley curls in a left-foot effort that is headed off the line by Lomax. **8 mins:** A fantastic one-two by Serge Makofo and Rob Duffy gives the Congolese man an opening but he is denied by the legs of Hurst. **19 mins: GOAL!** The Bluebirds draw level as a short free kick is fired home by Paul Smith from 20 yards – James McKeown gets a hand to the ball but can only help into the corner. **22 mins:** Dangerman

Adam Boyes gets in behind the Mariners' defence but he is denied Barrow's second by the feet of McKeown. **31 mins: OFF THE BAR!** Quinn is left unmarked from a left-wing corner but his header strikes the crossbar. In the ensuing melee, Boyes fires in a half volley that strikes the post before Town frantically clear their lines. **45 mins: GOAL!** The Mariners retake the lead on the stroke of half time after a clever one-two between Hearn and Disley. The former streaks clear of the Barrow defence and finishes with a neat left-foot effort into the bottom corner. **54 mins: GOAL!** The visitors draw level for the

second time. Richie Baker brings in James Mackreth on the right and he advances to plant his low effort inside McKeown's near post. **58 mins: GOAL DISALLOWED!** Hearn robs Quinn in the area and nets from 12 yards but the goal is disallowed as the Town forward is inexplicably penalised for his challenge. **64 mins: OFF THE POST!** Mackreth uses his pace to get in behind the Mariners' defence and his lob beats McKeown but comes back off the base of the post and into the Town 'keeper's grateful arms. **76 mins: GOAL!** Michael Coulson bursts clear of the Barrow defence but sees Hurst equal to

his effort. The winger keeps the ball moving and brings in Hearn who turns smartly in the area and finishes with a low shot for his second successive home hat trick. **83 mins: GOAL!** Hearn is denied a fourth by another Hurst save but the ball eventually runs for substitute Anthony Elding and his shot takes a slight deflection off Lomax and nestles in the goal. **85 mins: GOAL!** A sensational nine-minute spell from the Mariners ends with Elding smashing in an unstoppable left-foot volley from 15 yards following a cross by fellow sub Rob Eagle.

In The Hotseat

PLAYER FACTFILE

Name: Gary Silk
Position: Defender
DOB: 13.09.84 | Newport, IOW
Height: 5'9" | **Weight:** 12st 2lbs
Career: Portsmouth, Barnet (L), Wycombe (L), Boston (L), Notts County, Mansfield, Grimsby
GTFC Apps: 7 | **Goals:** 0

Grimsby Town right back Gary Silk is seeing his Blundell Park career run more smoothly after recovering from a knee ligament injury that ruined the start of his stint in a Mariners' shirt.

The 27-year-old lasted less than 45 minutes of his debut for the Mariners, against Fleetwood on the opening day of the season.

In fact it was a nightmare for the former Portsmouth trainee in his first two home outings for his new club, losing a tooth in the aforementioned Fleetwood game, before being carried off, and then on his return against Alfreton he lost the same tooth after a stray elbow from big striker Drewe Broughton.

So, after finally completing 90 minutes in front of the home faithful, Gary was

happier than most at the Mariners' recent 5-2 triumph over Barrow, he said: "It's not been the best of starts for me with losing a tooth in my first game and then doing my knee ligaments.

"It was just one of those tackles where our studs came together and that sends the impact straight up your leg and jarred the ligaments in my knee.

"As a new player you really want to make an early impression, so it was frustrating and disappointing for me at the same time.

"It doesn't really feel like my season has got going yet and I suppose it won't for a



Gary Silk

few more weeks yet, at least until I have a run of games under my belt."

The former Notts County defender, who was the Mariners' first summer signing of 2011, admits it has been a long road back: "Everyone was out on the field training and I was restricted to gym work, so you don't really feel part of things.

"It does affect you in a way, especially at a new club; I just wanted to get out there with the rest of the lads."

Silk came back into contention for the 1-1 draw at Kidderminster and played the last five minutes as a substitute, as he did in the following home game against Alfreton Town. It was in that 5-2 victory that the player again lost his tooth: "I couldn't believe," he exclaimed, "I had only been on the field a few minutes and the lad (Broughton) has swung out at me and caught me in the jaw and my tooth has come flying out!"

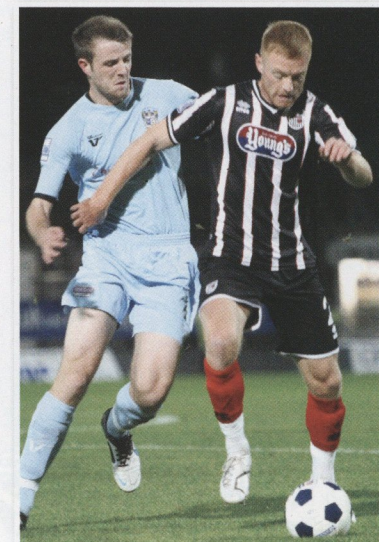
"I was beginning to think that I had done something wrong to be going through all this bad luck at Blundell Park!"

Silk's next home appearance came in another 5-2 victory, this time against Barrow and he was able to complete the full 90 minutes, much to his delight: "It was good to get my first full match under my belt, now I want to keep my place in the side. The managers have put together a good squad here and there is plenty of competition for places, so you have

to be on your toes."

Liam Hearn hit another hat-trick for the Mariners against the Bluebirds and Gary reserved special praise for the in-form striker: "I think Liam was frustrated that things weren't quite going for him at the start of the season. "It's different being out there on the pitch with the lads but even from the stands you could see he was doing everything right but the ball just wouldn't go in the net.

"I think a lot of people thought that when his first one came the rest would follow and that has proven to be the case."



In The Hotseat

Gary Silk

Despite the impressive scoreline, Gary was quick to comment on the part the visitors had played in the game, he said: "Anyone just skimming the results might think that it was an easy result for Grimsby but that was far from the case.

"They had plenty of pace in wide areas and that is always a problem for full backs. Both myself and Rids (Lee Ridley) on the other side had our hands full with the two lads in front of us.

"We got better as the game went on though. The managers worked us hard on our fitness in the summer and I think that shows as we finish games quite strongly, especially at home."

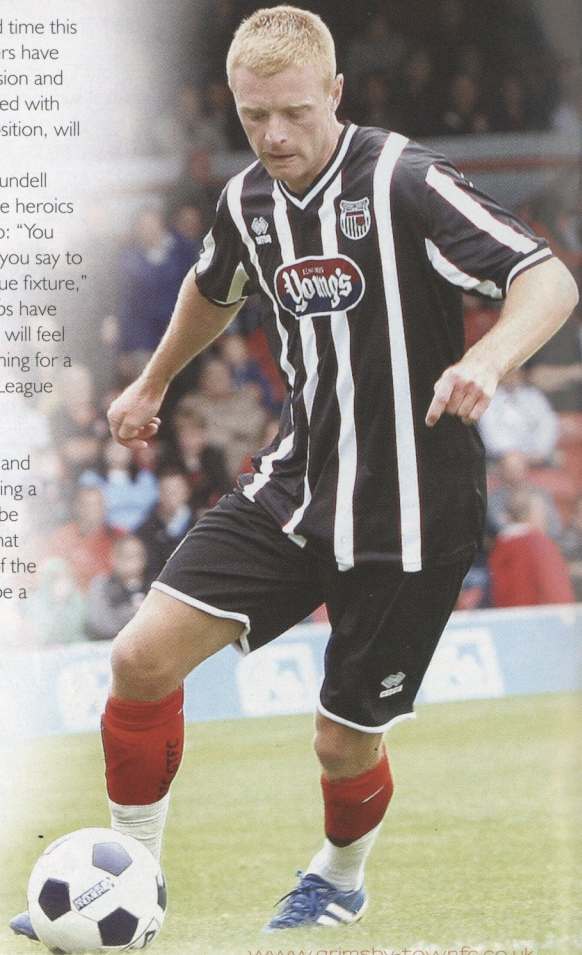
Tonight the Mariners entertain a Luton side reeling from a 1-0 home defeat by Wrexham on Tuesday and Gary is expecting a tough encounter: "The last few seasons I have been at Mansfield and Luton have been one of our toughest opponents.

"You can see why they are well-fancied every season because they have quality in every department.

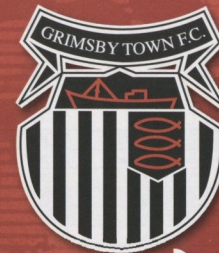
"It doesn't seem to matter whether they are away or at home, they always set out to attack teams and I would expect nothing different here tonight."

This will be the second time this season that the Mariners have been live on the television and Gary thinks that, coupled with the quality of the opposition, will make for an excellent atmosphere around Blundell Park, especially after the heroics of Barrow ten days ago: "You look at this match and you say to yourself that it is a league fixture," he declared, "both clubs have excellent pedigree and will feel that they should be aiming for a return to the Football League this season.

"It's a night time game and I am sure Luton will bring a few up. Everyone will be out there to impress that little bit extra in front of the cameras, so it should be a good game."



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Football historian **leigh edwards** looks back at Grimsby's 1961-62 and 1971-2 promotion campaigns.

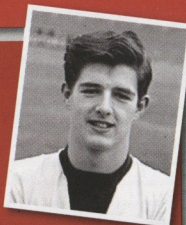
50 years on... 1961-62

match 17

21st October 1961 | Attendance: 6,420
grimsby town 1 qpr 1

Grimsby Town were held to a draw by promotion rivals QPR at Blundell Park. John Pearce made his first start of the season in place of the injured Ron Cockerill. Rangers dominated the early exchanges and a snap shot by John Collins almost surprised Alan Barnett who grabbed the ball at the second attempt with Bernard Evans ready to pounce. Brian Bedford was a constant danger, while Ron Rafferty and Cliff Portwood were closely marked by the QPR defence. Grimsby went ahead in the 23rd minute after Ray Drinkwater pushed out Denis Fidler's shot and Rafferty fired home. QPR pushed forward and Collins scored their equaliser on 69 minutes.

GRIMSBY: Alan Barnett, Don Donovan, Brian Keeble, Duncan Welbourne, Keith Jobling, John Pearce, Johnny Scott, Cliff Portwood, Ron Rafferty, Mike Cullen, Denis Fidler.



headlines elsewhere

Two goals by Alan Skirton plus others from George Eastham, John Barnwell and Gerry Ward gave Arsenal a 5-1 win over Manchester United Ray Crawford scored twice in Ipswich's 3-2 win over Tottenham Hotspur.
No 1 single: Walkin' Back To Happiness – Helen Shapiro



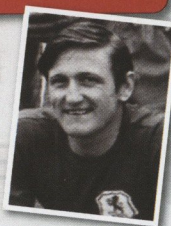
match 18

28th October 1961 | Attendance: 4,776

halifax town 3 grimsby town 3

Grimsby Town shared six goals with Halifax Town in this terrific battle at The Shay. Frank Large had a header cleared off the line before Halifax went ahead on three minutes when Conway Smith struck the post and the ball rebounded to Gerry Priestley who scored against his former club. Brian Redfearn had an effort disallowed, then Smith hit the post again. Ron Rafferty equalised after 29 minutes but it seemed all over when Halifax scored through Large on 63 minutes and Graham Barnett a minute later. The Mariners reduced the deficit when Fidler netted his first goal for the club on 74 minutes, then Fidler snatched Grimsby's dramatic last-minute equaliser.

GRIMSBY: Alan Barnett, Don Donovan, Brian Keeble, Duncan Welbourne, Keith Jobling, Ron Cockerill, Johnny Scott, Cliff Portwood, Ron Rafferty, Mike Cullen, Denis Fidler.



player profile - Ron Rafferty

Centre-forward Ron Rafferty was top scorer with 34 goals in Grimsby Town's 1961-62 promotion success. He had spells with Slough Centre and Wycombe Wanderers prior to joining Portsmouth in July 1954, helping finish third in the top-flight in 1954-55. Moving to Grimsby in December 1956, he formed a lethal partnership with Northern Ireland international Johnny Scott and was leading marksman four times, netting 145 goals in 264 League games prior to joining Hull City in July 1963. He played for Aldershot and Guildford City, then was a sales rep for Allied-Lyons for 17 years until early retirement in December 1986. Now living in Hayling Island.



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1961-62 / 1971-72

40 years on... 1971 / 72

match 17

13th November 1971 | Attendance: 2,284

darlington 3 grimsby town 2

Grimsby Town lost by the odd goal in five to Darlington at Feethams. The Mariners took the lead after 12 minutes when Matt Tees headed home following a corner. Darlington equalised on 21 minutes after Dave Boylen fouled Allan Gauden and Ken Hale scored from the resultant penalty. Grimsby were unsettled by the loss of Stuart Brace and the home side went ahead in the 36th minute when Peter Graham headed in Billy Horner's cross. Grimsby did most of the pressing during the second half but two minutes after Mike Hickman headed the Mariners' equaliser on 71 minutes, Darlington broke away to regain their lead through Gauden.

GRIMSBY: Pat Cuff, Dave Worthington, Stewart Gray, Rob Smith, Graham Rathbone, Clive Wigginton, Stuart Brace (Eddie Ferguson), Jack Lewis, Matt Tees, Mike Hickman, Dave Boylen.



headlines elsewhere

Joe Royle scored four times and David Johnson a hat-trick as Everton hammered Southampton 8-0 at Goodison Park Derek Dougan netted twice as Wolves fought back from behind to defeat Arsenal 5-1 at Molineux.

No 1 single: Coz I Luv You - Slade



player profile - Matt Tees

Scottish striker Matt Tees was Grimsby Town's top scorer on three occasions. Previously with Airdrie, he moved to Blundell Park in July 1963 and scored as Grimsby took star-studded West Ham to a League Cup fifth round replay in 1965-66. He joined Charlton Athletic in February 1967 and was twice leading marksman, joining Luton Town in August 1969. Featuring in their 1969-70 promotion success, he returned to Grimsby in November 1970 and starred in the 1971-72 Fourth Division title triumph. He netted 93 goals in 196 League games overall prior to joining Boston United in July 1973, becoming a warehouseman for Volvo at Immingham.



match 18

27th November 1971 | Attendance: 4,000

aldershot 1 hartlepool united 1

Grimsby Town fought back to gain a vital draw at the Recreation Ground. The Mariners found it hard going in the first half when they failed to muster a single direct shot. Lawrie McMenemy's side were under pressure for long spells and Harry Wainman made a succession of fine saves. Aldershot deservedly took the lead after 22 minutes when Trevor Pearce outpaced Alan Campbell and Jim Thomson before shooting past the advancing Wainman. Grimsby looked much more positive after the break and drew level with a goal from Stuart Brace in the 66th minute. Thomson cleared a shot from Murray Brodie off the line in the closing minutes to earn a point.

GRIMSBY: Harry Wainwright, Dave Worthington, Alan Campbell (Dave Boylen), Jim Thomson, Clive Wigginton, Stewart Gray, Stuart Brace, Mike Hickman, Matt Tees, Jack Lewis, Rob Smith.

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Grimsby Town v Luton Town | 41

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with Rhys Wynne

Rhys Wynne, from You're Supposed To Be At Home, shares his thoughts on Major League Soccer.

From Sea To Shining (F)C

Americans eh? They don't understand "Sawvka" do they? Despite hosting one World Cup, escaping the group stages in four more, and winning the CONCACAF Gold Cup on numerous occasions, the game is perceived to struggle compared to its European and South American counterparts.

History isn't on its side. A barren spell of top league outdoor football between the years of 1984 and 1992, as well as the international side not qualifying for the World Cup for 40 years meant that the game wasn't perceived to be as big as "the big four" (American Football, Basketball, Baseball & Ice Hockey). Yet with the formation of Major League Soccer a year after USA '94, football in the US has been growing. So much so that today the national team is seen as a threat, the top MLS players can slot into Premier League teams (Landon Donovan), and the league is seen as a competitive and profitable alternative for

aging yet still talented household names (see David Beckham, Thierry Henry).

Recently, I took a trip to New York to see what the MLS was all about, to see New York Red Bulls play New England Revolution.

Overall, the game is quintessentially American. The game is still football, but there are major rule differences from the game sanctioned in Europe. For one, there is a salary cap like other United States sports. To improve the standards of the game, the cap can be broken by two players per team as the designated players. Franchises are not vilified, with teams regularly changing names (New York Red Bulls, for example, were the former New York & New Jersey Metrostars) if the money is right. Furthermore, All Star games are regularly organised against the elite of the world.

Like the aforementioned New York Red Bulls, sponsorship was rife as I arrived at the Red Bull Arena and headed immediately to



the Coors Light sponsored Beer Garden outside the ground. Garden was probably the wrong word, as the area was full of weak beer, as well as foosball tables and other pub games.

The final notable example of Americanisation was the fan friendliness. Drinking at your seat was encouraged with beverage holders, and the game was a fan night. Popular in baseball, themed nights are when the game is themed similar to the same themed nights you experience on a quiet Saturday in your local before pay day,



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only with more diverse and impressive subjects. Today was "Croatian fan night", with hand towels handed out, a large Croatian shirt unveiled in the cheaper seats, and Davor Suker paraded on the pitch at half time. Make no mistake, MLS is very American.

That doesn't make it a bad thing, au contraire.

You see, with it both being a very new league and the level of cultural diversity in the States, the games themselves are rather well supported. Although stadiums aren't full to the brim, the support is extremely passionate, singing loudly throughout the game, equalling and even surpassing a lot of top European league games I've been to.

To say that the fans aren't passionate is a lie, sure it may not get the mainstream media attention that other sports get, but the fans care – more so than in games such as baseball. Fans of the MLS have adopted the European nature of caring for the team. Further that with a surprisingly in-depth knowledge of the world game and an MLS game is a welcome slice of home when you are abroad.

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Onto the game itself and the standard of football was great, if not amazing. New England Revolution started brightly, winning a few early chances. After 20 minutes the New York Red Bulls, with their front line of ex Arsenal & Barcelona Thierry Henry and ex Shrewsbury Town & Notts County Luke Rodgers, imposed themselves on the game. After 35 minutes, Red Bulls conceded a penalty, which was saved by Greg Sutton. Following this, Red Bulls seemed to spur on, taking the lead 5 minutes before time when a cross from the right wing was turned into the net by Revolution's Ryan Colchrane. Come the half time break, Red Bulls were 1-0 up.

Ryan Colchrane would put down the Red Bulls game as a bad game, as he was soundly beaten by Thierry Henry, to bury the ball into the back of the net. That boy was well above everybody else on the pitch, and was obviously one of the first picks for the MLS All Star Team. Zak Boggs however may have something to say about that with a 35 yard strike to reduce the deficit to one, but Red Bulls hung on to win the game 2-1.

Following the game, I managed to get chatting to a few fans. Yes the game wasn't the best quality (Henry aside, who probably



could play with a ridiculous hangover and still be the best player on the park), but the atmosphere was electric, and considering MLS is one of the least promoted sports in the US, it's quite refreshing to see amazingly passionate fans, which ironically you don't seem to get at many other US sporting events.

Then again, it's worth remembering that I wasn't watching a European match, instead I was in the Big Apple. On the train home I got chatting to a couple of Red Bulls fans about fantasy football, Swansea's chances for the "BPL" (yes, it's now the British Premier League over in the States), and had an overall intelligent conversation about New York. Almost a European conversation, until I emerged from the subway, and saw I was standing outside Ground Zero.

In conclusion, should you get an opportunity to go to a Major League Soccer game, do so, you will be pleasantly surprised. You can read more of Rhys Wynne's work at <http://youresupposedtobeathome.com/>, or you can follow him on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/ystbah>. Other (and better) beers and energy drinks are available.

Grimsby Town v Luton Town | 45

Tag along with Town

Was it a penalty? Should it have been a red card?



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slice of pye

with Dave Pye



Looking Back In Anger

There has been a lot of talk around town in recent weeks of glory days gone by; a look back to those halcyon days of 2001 when the Mariners topped Division One and knocked holders Liverpool out of the Worthington Cup.

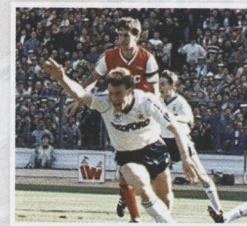
Of course, it's always great to look back on special memories and tonight's visiting Luton fans will no doubt be the same, fondly recalling even greater days in the top-flight in the 1980s.

Those Hatters followers won't forget a famous Littlewoods Cup win at Wembley 23 years ago, either, when a certain Brian Stein's winner in the last minute saw them beat Arsenal. But big clubs like Town and Luton can also be hampered by their past; fans expectations are higher and that adds pressure to get back to those days again.

There is no problem in wanting the team to rediscover the good times; who doesn't want to see their team winning? That's why we all spend our hard-earned cash each weekend after all.

Nevertheless, Town joint boss Rob Scott made a good point earlier this season when he said

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there has to be a sense of realism of where the club currently stands.

When the Mariners succumbed to relegation out of the Football League in 2010, it ended a 99-year stint and many thought the chances of a quick return were good against non-league partners.

But the Blue Square Bet Premier is far from a pub league – a fact proven with so many former league clubs are striving to get out of the division.

Tonight's opponents are the prime example of how difficult

it can be after two failed play-off appearances since their own drop through the trap door in 2009, having finished second and third.

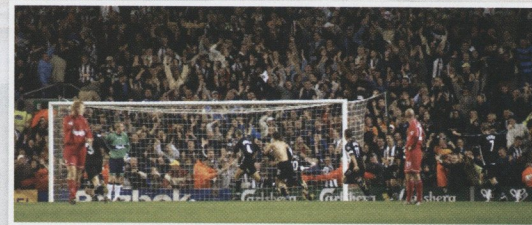
Luton and Town are, however, not the only Conference sides hankering for former glories. While Town won twice at Wembley in 1998 and enjoyed life in the second-tier just a few years later, Wrexham can look back 20 years to when they played in Europe against Manchester United.

Cambridge, too, had good days making the FA Cup quarter-finals that same year as eventual

1990/91 champions Arsenal ended their dreams.

Clubs with illustrious histories like Town and Luton are desperate to reclaim their league membership but there are like-minded others in what some would admit is virtually a 'fifth' Football League nowadays.

And when you add clubs on the up like Fleetwood and Kidderminster, it's clear getting back what was once lost with just automatic promotion spot is only going to get harder each year.



head2head

first team squad player quiz

The Grimsby Town Players' Quiz sees your favourite Mariners' stars go Head to Head in hope of being named the Mariners' Mastermind for 2011/12.

anthony church
✓ gary silk
questions

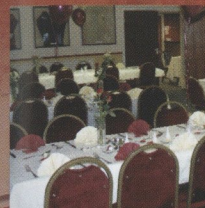
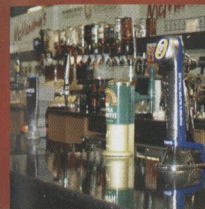
anthony church
midfielder

DOB: 29.03.87 | London
Height: 5'11" | Weight: 12st
Career: West Ham United, Dag & Red, Ilkeston Town, Loughborough University, Boston United, Grimsby Town
Honours: English Universities
GTFC Apps: 11

gary silk
defender

DOB: 13.09.84 | Newport, IOW
Height: 5'9" | Weight: 12st 2lbs
Career: Portsmouth, Barnet (L), Wycombe Wanderers (L), Boston United (L), Notts County, Mansfield Town, Grimsby Town
GTFC Apps: 7

	anthony's		gary's		answers
1) How many Countries are in the World ?	200	✗	200	✗	192
2) Who turned a can of soup into a work of art ?	Heston Blumenthal	✗	Andy Warhol	✓	Andy Wahol
3) What year was Richard Nixon impeached ?	1974	✓	200	✗	1974
4) Which countries capital is Nassau ?	Bahamas	✓	Bahamas	✓	Bahamas
5) How are the seven seas of the world defined ?	7 oceans	✓	Don't know	✗	North Atlantic, South Atlantic, North Pacific, South Pacific, Indian, Antarctic & Arctic Oceans
6) What is the common name for Sodium Hypochlorate ?	Chlorine	✓	Bleach	✓	Bleach
7) What is 40% of 40 ?	16	✗	16	✓	16
8) What is the Capital of Peru ?	Lima	✓	Lima	✓	Lima
9) How many colours can the human eye detect ?	Millions	✗	Don't know	✗	10,000,000
10) Who was the first man to reach the South Pole ?	Martin Keown	✗	Roald Amundsen	✓	Roald Amundsen
	total: 4/10		total: 6/10		



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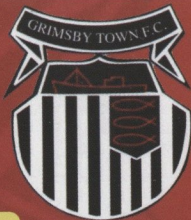
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Assault On The Football Pitch

Judging by the reaction this week, many have last Saturday down as a watershed moment for football.

It came about when referee Chris Wicks was allegedly punched to the floor in an unprovoked attack by Redditch United's Josh McKenzie, 51 minute into a Southern Premier League match at Chesham United after a penalty was awarded against him.

A sorry day for the sport that seems hell bent on distancing itself further from what once made it great. Is this the moment football finally went too far?

The Football Association's next move is critical – let McKenzie back onto a football pitch again and possibly wave goodbye to a number of referees, and lose any authority their Respect campaign holds.

Implement a life ban and send out the clearest of messages that things need to change before it's too late. It's make your mind up time at Wembley Stadium.

Of course, there are two sides to every story. Instead of going to ground, the www.grimsby-townfc.co.uk

striker went on the defensive. Or as I like to call it, damage limitation.

A quick call to Sky Sports News on Sunday morning and within a few hours bingo, there he was. A good bit of editing later, and the player accused of flooring an official was putting his side of things across to the nation.

"I know I shouldn't have done it," he began, "but the whole thing has been wrongly reported."

Of course, it's the media's fault. How silly of me! And wait dear reader, there's still more.

"For a start I didn't actually punch the referee – but I did push him in the face with the palm of my hand and he fell to the ground."

Well, that's OK then. The shot then pans to the obviously wronged forward, flicking through a lower-brow Sunday paper where he has

By Sam Elliott
The Non-League Paper



made the headlines before it cuts to ashamed Redditch chairman Chris Swan saying: "He punched the referee. He'll never play for the club again."

The question is now should he ever be allowed to play football again.

If there is some defence for McKenzie, at least he had the bottle to apologise publicly and quickly. But will that spare the 28-year-old, the FA will soon decide.

A panel will confirm his footballing future, and what a chance they have to make a stand for the good of the game.

So how about this for an idea? Put the decision – if he wants it – in the hands of referee Wicks.

Bullies have no place in society, we are all told. They have less of a place on the football pitch.

Grimsby Town v Luton Town | 51

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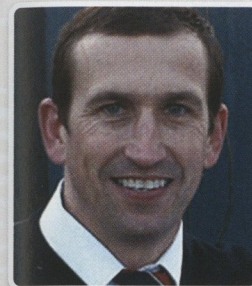
park preview

Jenni Silver looks at our next opponents at Blundell Park.

newport county

Blue Square Bet Premier | Saturday 19th November 2011 | Kick-Off: 3.00pm

What a difference a year makes, this time 12 months ago Newport County were flying – Dean Holdsworth was in charge and super striker Craig Reid was tearing apart defences all over the Conference Premier. Fast forward to last weekend when their fourth manager in a year, Justin Edinburgh, saw them lose to Tamworth.



Newport looked like a nailed on play-offs side last year, but after a wobbly spell when Tim Harris became caretaker boss before Anthony Hudson took over in April they finished 9th.

This season has been pretty underwhelming for the Exiles. Hudson was shown the door a couple of weeks ago, after Newport picked up a single win in the first 12 games.

Edinburgh has a job on his hands now to try and pick the

www.grimsby-townfc.co.uk

Exiles up and start getting some results. A drubbing at the hands of Southport before the loss to Tamworth hasn't really helped matters but that said, they did manage a stunning win away at Fleetwood in between the two fixtures. Newport's 22nd place somewhere near the bottom of the table really doesn't reflect the quality of some of their players.

Danny Rose has scored seven this season and has been highlighted by Edinburgh as one



of the squad's quality players, likewise Sam Foley who managed a hat trick against Fleetwood.

Forward Craig McAllister looks dangerous and Edinburgh will remember Elliot Buchanan as the player who scored four against Rushden last season for Hayes and Yeading.

With Edinburgh bedding in to his new role it won't be long until the Exiles start picking up results, on paper they should be already.

Obscure fact time, Nathaniel Jarvis, who has been on loan with Newport from Cardiff City has won an international cap this season. Despite being born in Wales he represented Antigua and Barbuda – thanks to his grandfather hailing from there.

The new boss has said he's going to trim the 26 man squad

down a bit so today might be time for a few big performances. The results suggest the defence will be under pressure, defender Paul Robson has already been released – but there have been precious few goals scored by the Exiles this year, Foley is probably the in form forward due to his heroics at Fleetwood but he struggled against Tamworth. Craig McAllister usually puts a shift in but hasn't hit the target in a while, one goal would probably open the floodgates but he's taking his time with it.

Newport's fans are a loyal bunch and have stuck with their club through thick and thin, the last year hasn't been ideal in terms of results, a mini-managerial-merry-go-round and a total lack of fulfilling the team's promise but if anyone can bring them back from the bottom it will be Edinburgh.



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Oh Wayne. You've really gone and done it now, haven't you?

With England's passage to next summer's European Championships assured, Fabio Capello must cope without the talismanic striker for all three group games in the Ukraine and Poland after Wayne Rooney was sent off against Montenegro. And just when he's got a full head of hair and everything.



Remarkably, news of Rooney's suspension prompted a "Would you still take him?" debate in the national media. The answer, of course, is yes. Without question.

Should England happen to stumble their way through the group stage, you would definitely want a fit and rested Rooney raring to go. In addition, the prospect of 'Wazza' chomping at the bit could only provide extra motivation for the strikers Capello turns to in the Manchester United forward's absence.

But who on earth is going to play instead? With Wayne reduced to playing table tennis at England's hotel in Krakow for the first stage of

the tournament, the squad suddenly has room for an extra striker. It will be interesting to watch who pushes themselves forward to spend the summer in eastern Europe between now and May. One thing's for sure – you don't really want to be starting when England get pulled apart by Spain at Wembley next month. That's definitely a match in which not playing will do you more favours.

Aston Villa striker Darren Bent, you would think, must be the prime candidate to replace Rooney, despite missing out on Capello's squad for the World Cup in South Africa in 2010. Jermain Defoe, too, has looked lively for Tottenham this season after enduring the worst campaign of his career in 2010-11. But he's clearly not impressing the England manager, as Capello left him out of his squad to face Montenegro.

Peter Crouch has probably curtailed any chance of an England call up by moving to Stoke City. Capello and his No.2, Franco Baldini, are hardly likely to sample the swirling winds and Arctic temperatures of a December match at the Britannia Stadium with any enthusiasm. Mind you, that goes for most people – particularly away fans.

Bobby Zamora is impressing at Fulham but,



for all his good build up play, is still capable of whacking it into Row Z when presented with a genuine goal-scoring opportunity. Baldini is a frequent visitor to Craven Cottage (the Italian deli often sampled by former Chelsea boss Carlo Ancelotti is just down the road), but Zamora is a little too preoccupied arguing with his club manager, Martin Jol, at the moment. The striker's persistent injuries will also mean he plays fewer games than his England rivals, which will be reflected in his goal tally at the end of the season. Mind you, so will Andy Carroll's – mainly because he's struggling to get into Liverpool's starting XI.

The answer, it seems to me, lies in the two Daniels – Welbeck and Sturridge. The pair formed a good partnership for England Under 21s and have moved up a notch this season at Manchester United and Chelsea after doing well on loan at Sunderland and Bolton. Both are quick and versatile – Sturridge, for example, has been playing on the right of Chelsea's front three and has scored four goals in four Premier League starts this season. He was in Capello's preliminary squad for the last round of Euro 2012 qualifiers but, inexplicably, did not make the final squad.

Yet Rooney's ban changes everything.





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the big issue

with Sam Kinnaird

Ups and Downs

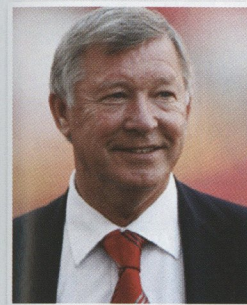
League Managers Association Chief Richard Bevan this week revealed that many foreign owners in the Premier League are in favour of scrapping promotion and relegation from the division, something which would kill the game we love.

Already a number of high profile Premier League figures have condemned the plans, but the decision simply won't be down to them. At present nine of the 20 top level clubs are under foreign ownership, just a handful more would give them a majority say in many future decisions for the league.

Scrapping the current model is one of the most obscene suggestions I've heard for

football, and although it seems far-fetched it's something that is a genuine threat to our game.

The move would split English football, creating a top level gentleman's club. The Championship would become an entirely different entity, becoming the main aspiration for teams throughout the land who weren't 'lucky' enough to be offered a seat at the top table.

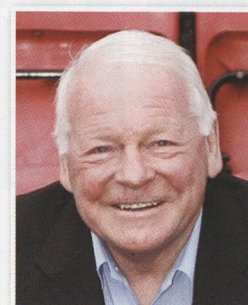


This week Dave Whelan and Sir Alex Ferguson have been the highest profile voices to speak against the plans. The latter described it as 'suicide' while Wigan owner Whelan said it would effectively kill the English game.

Once again foreign owners are sticking two fingers up at the very fans that are the heartbeat

of their clubs, and chasing the dollar at their expense. Liverpool co-owner Tom Werner went down a similar route earlier this month when he said his club were exploring the possibility of selling their own foreign TV rights in a similar manner to Spain's La Liga.

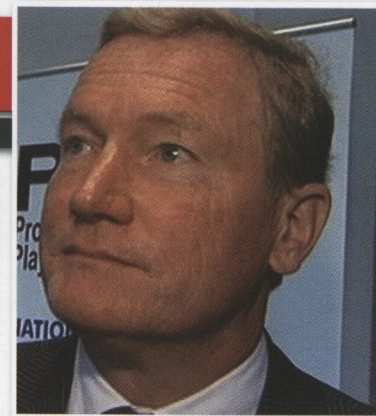
Bevan's revelation will have sent shudders down the spines of many Football League



chairman, with the likes of West Ham, Birmingham, Southampton, Leeds and Middlesbrough all currently languishing outside of what many would say is their rightful home of the Premier League.

It seems impossible to understand how any such system could be worked. Imagine the last play-off final before the Premier League door slammed shut. Sky Sports would certainly have a field day: 'Last ditch Sunday' perhaps.

But with each new suggestion more bizarre than the last, and the foreign ownership number increasing by the season, it might not be long before a few small tweaks work their way into our game, soon to be followed by more drastic changes which could threaten the sport we all love.



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with robbie stockdale



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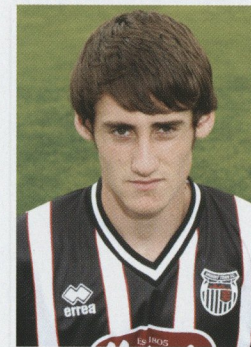
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Just days after their shock FA Youth Cup elimination at the hands of Brighthouse Town, a very young Mariners' side were downed 4-1 at home by York City in the Football League Youth Alliance North East Conference.

The Minstermen took an early lead through Rob Moncur and this was quickly added to by Tom Platt. Despite that early two-goal deficit, Robbie Stockdale's side stuck to their guns and pulled one back through Rob Bryant before the interval.

However the visitors regrouped after the interval and added a third goal from a Platt header. The scoring was completed late on when Tom Allan fired home from close range after a free kick fell invitingly into his path.



we found it harder to deal with set pieces. York are a big strong side and they put that to good use."

The Mariners' Head of Youth reserved special praise for goalscorer Bryant (pictured), he said: "Rob has worked hard and got his head down in training and it is starting to pay off for him in matches - he has hit a good run of form as of late.

"It's not just his goals though; his movement off-the-ball is excellent and his all-round play and attitude off the field are pleasing."

their worth to the side.

"Of course that meant we were able to give a lot of the Under-16s a run-out and that was a bonus for them.

"Even though we got beaten 4-1, the young lads have done well and that will stand them in good stead later on.

"Naturally with a younger team,

august	F.A
Sat 6 Rotherham Utd	3-0
Sat 13 Darlington	0-5
Sat 20 Bradford City	1-1
september	
Sat 3 Chesterfield	2-3
Thu 8 Ossett Albion (FAYC)	0-1
Tue 13 Notts County* (MYC)	3-3
Sat 17 Burton Albion	2-1
Thu 22 Pontefract Col (FAYC)	4-0
october	
Sat 1 Hull City	0-3
Wed 5 Brighthouse Town	2-3
Sat 8 York City	1-4
Sat 15 Scunthorpe Utd	11.00
Sat 22 Hartlepool Utd	11.00
Sat 29 Doncaster Rovers	11.00
november	
Sat 5 YA CUP 1	
Sat 12 Lincoln City	11.00
Sat 19 Notts County	11.00
Sat 26 IN SERVICE	11.00
december	
Sat 3 YA CUP 2	
Sat 10 Hull City	11.00
Sat 17 Burton Albion	11.00
january	
Sat 7 Scunthorpe Utd	11.00
Sat 14 York City	11.00
Sat 21 YA CUP 3	
Sat 28 Doncaster Rovers	11.00
february	
Sat 11 Hartlepool Utd	11.00
Sat 18 YA CUP 4	
Sat 25 Notts County	11.00
march	
Sat 3 Lincoln City	11.00
Sat 10 Rotherham Utd	11.00
Sat 17 Darlington	11.00
Sat 31 Bradford City	11.00
april	
Sat 21 Chesterfield	11.00
*won 3-1 on penalties	

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youthprofile

Brodie Blankley

personal

Name: Brodie Blankley

D.O.B: 12/10/93

Birth Place: Leicester

First or Second Year:

Second Year

Position: Central Midfield

A bit about yourself

When did you join GTFC: Under 16

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What are your strengths as a footballer:

I am a good passer of the ball, strong and confident and vocal

What do you like best about being a YT:

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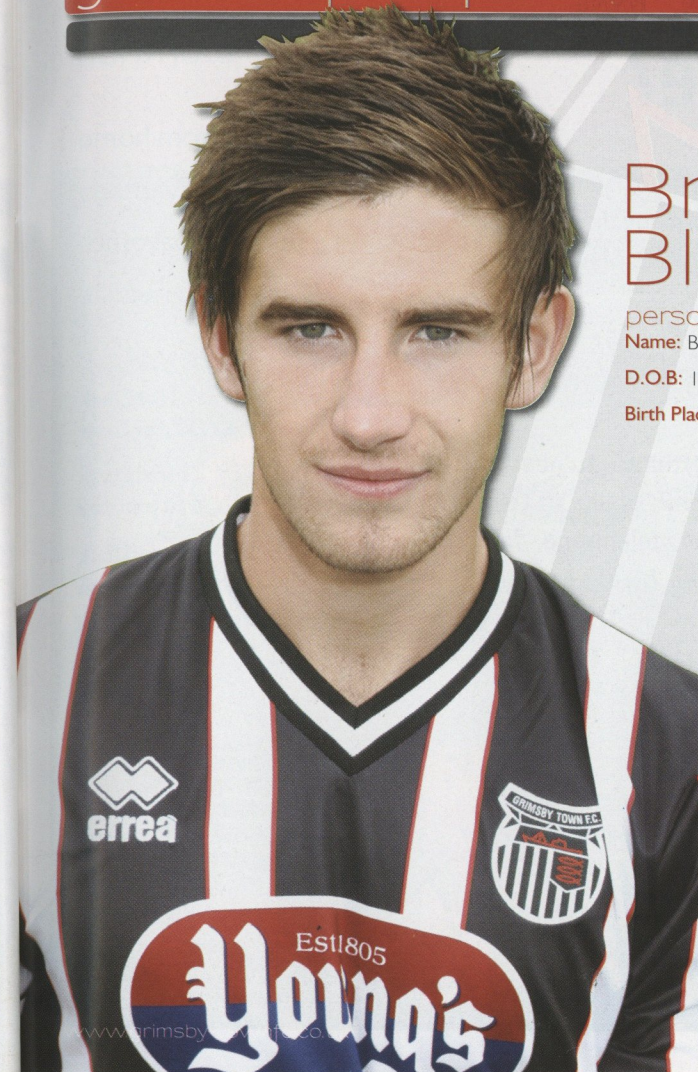
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1-11 with Andi Thanoj

- Best friend in football:
Louis Edwards
- Biggest influences on your career:
My Dad & Uncle
- Favourite movie, actor and actress:
Bad Boys, Martin Lawrence, Megan Fox
- Albums you would take to a desert island:
Eminem - Recovery, Craig David - Greatest Hits, 50 Cent - Get Rich or Die Tryin, Michael Jackson - Thriller
- Tips for the English leagues:
Man United, Leicester City, Charlton Athletic, Southend United, Grimsby Town
- Hobbies outside football:
Watching movies, listening to music and other sports such as tennis and basketball
- Favourite things to eat and drink:
My mum makes the best chicken and rice meal ever
- Best players you've played with:
Jean-Louis Akpa Akpro
- Best players you've played against:
Marvin Emnes
- Songs that come up when you press shuffle on your MP3 player:
Don Omar - Danza Kuduro
50 cent - I Get It In, Wretch 32 - Unorthodox,
- Your greatest ever side:
Schmeicheal, Cafu, Baresi, Beckenbauer, Maldini, Ronaldo, Zidane, Xavi, Rivelino, Messi, Maradona



Player Factfile:

Name: Andi Thanoj
Position: Midfielder
Height: 5'9"
Weight: 11st 6lbs
Born: Tirana, Albania
DOB: 19.12.92
Career: Aylestone Park, Grimsby Town
GFTC Apps: 8 | Goals: 0

www.grimsby-townfc.co.uk

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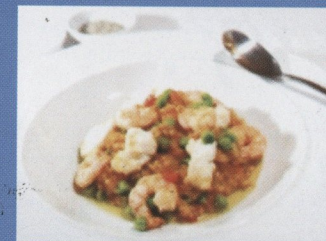


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final whistle



Tee Holden

While the Mariners were enjoying top-flight football in the 1930s, Town's powerful Reserve side was under the command of Thomas Henry Holden.

Popularly known as 'Tee', the Lancashire-born Holden had made one FL outing for Burnley before becoming Clarets' trainer in 1907. Two years later he began a similar role at Grimsby, overseeing Town's first-team (before the club had a permanent manager) to 1919.

Tee was to rejoin the Mariners in 1933 as assistant-trainer, his vast experience culminating in the Reserves winning the Midland League in his first season - a success rewarded with a gold watch subscribed for by all the players. At the outbreak of war he took charge of the 'A' team combined with groundsman duties at Blundell Park, being one of only two permanent GTFC employees during hostilities.

One long-standing myth surrounding Holden was that he kept goal for Town in a 0-9 wartime loss at Bradford in 1916. It now appears that it was an AWOL Ron Sewell between the sticks who wished to keep his identity secret so Tee took the fall, receiving messages of sympathy from friends for his supposedly forgettable display!

Despite his long GTFC service, Tee's death in May 1947 aged 74 was largely ignored by the local press. The Blundell Avenue resident was laid to rest in the 'new' part of Cleethorpes Cemetery, with his grave marked by a small plinth and flower pot. Interestingly, his name is given as 'Tee Holden'.



To find Mr. Holden's grave, take the path adjacent to the war graves in the direction of the flats beyond the fence. Turn right at the junction, step onto the grass, and his resting place is a few yards further on.

Findus

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