

FLEET LIFE

ISSUE 03 / SEASON 2012/13 / £2.50



EBBSFLEET UNITED v LUTON TOWN

MONDAY 27/08/2012 / 3.00PM

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER





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BOARD TALK

Phil SONSARA
Twitter: @EUFCOfficial



Good afternoon everyone and a very warm welcome to you all. I would like to thank everyone for making it to today's Blue Square Bet Premier league game against Luton Town. I hope everyone has a good afternoon and wish you all a safe journey home.

At the time of writing these programme notes the club has had mixed fortunes in the league with a win, a draw and a defeat in the opening three games.

I thought I would take a few moments to reflect on how the club has performed in terms of the early attendances as this is a very important area when it comes to the income for the football club.

Whilst the pre-season gates were up on last year, for example, the Leyton Orient attendance this season was 617 compared to 432 last season and the Gillingham attendance was 915 compared to 787 last season, the income for year to date July was around £4,000 lower than budget.

The overall figure for friendly games budgeted for the year is £15,000 and this is unlikely to be achieved because last season we had a well attended bonus game against a West Ham XI.

Whilst only a couple of league games have been played at home the attendances have already been mixed. The game against Braintree on a Tuesday evening saw a crowd of 857. Last season the same game had an attendance of 938, however, this was played on an Easter Monday when we would expect a good

attendance. Normally Tuesday evening games are in the region of around 700-800 fans in attendance.

The game against Wrexham was very disappointing in the attendance was only 843 on a Saturday early in the season. The same game was played on a Tuesday evening in mid March last season where there was an attendance of 990.



I appreciate that there were a few London clubs playing at home on the day, but the attendance was poor. What do we have to do to get a few more fans along to the games? I also appreciate that both ourselves and Wrexham went into the game on the back of a defeat which seems to have had an impact on the number of away fans travelling to Stonebridge Road.

Last season our average league attendance was 1,018 and this season we have budgeted for an average attendance of 1,060. Hopefully, the way the fixtures have fallen this season this should be achievable, but we cannot afford to be complacent about the subject.

If you know a friend who has stopped coming to games or never

"This season we have budgeted for an average attendance of 1,060. Hopefully, the way the fixtures have fallen this season this should be achievable, but we cannot afford to be complacent about the subject"

been to a Fleet game, try to get them to come along. The football is of a good standard and there are plenty of former league clubs playing in this division which makes it a massive challenge for the club.

I was pleased to report to the board earlier this month that the football club made a profit of around £70,000 for the two months ending July 2012, when a year to date loss of around £40,000 had been budgeted.

This compares to an overall full year budgeted profit of just under £20,000. Whilst there were a few up and downs, costs came in just about on budget which is very good to see.

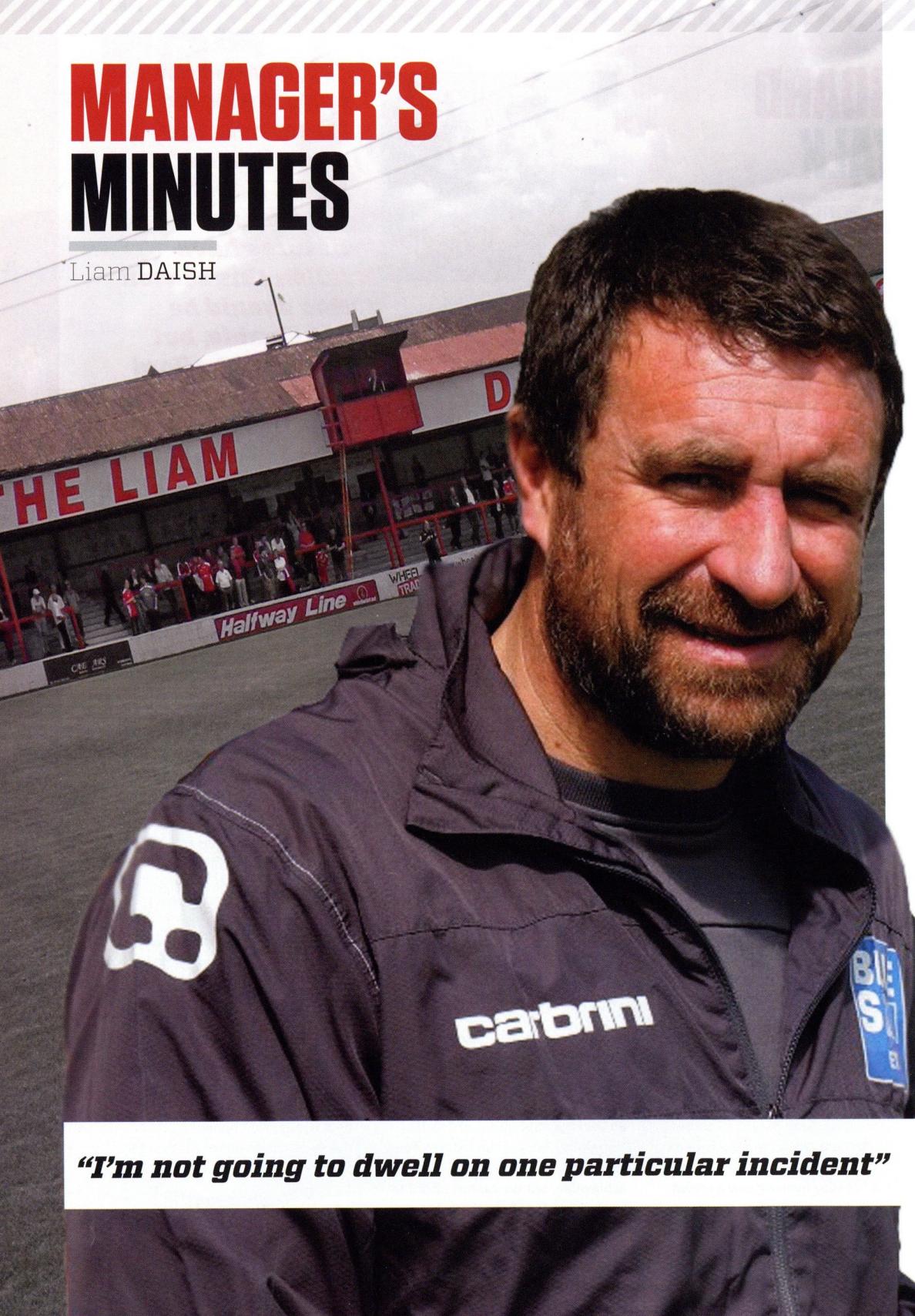
The profit came about from various income streams being better than budgeted, but there were also one or two areas that under-performed. Again, to ensure the survival of the football club we cannot afford to be complacent but it is a positive start to the season.

Be positive and I hope the rest of the season is an enjoyable one for everyone associated with the club.

Phil Sonsara

MANAGER'S MINUTES

Liam DAISH



"I'm not going to dwell on one particular incident"

If you can't stand the heat...



Good afternoon everyone, I hope you are enjoying the Bank Holiday and hopefully we are going into today's game on the back of a positive result from Saturday's away trip to Hereford.

Today we entertain the favourites for the BSP title. I'd like to welcome their manager, staff and players to Stonebridge Road and wish them all the best for the rest of the season.

Luton Town have stated their intentions this summer with the signings they have made, especially in the forward department with the likes of Jon Shaw and Scott Rendell in their ranks, along with Stewart Fleetwood who has started the season on fire – they have real options and genuine firepower. I have no doubt we face a team today that will be there or thereabouts at the end of the season.

Last Saturday we faced another club who will be disappointed not to be in the mix of promotion in Wrexham. The weather conditions the game was played in were far from ideal, with temperatures pushing into the thirties during the game.

Both sets of players gave it their all and they deserve a lot of credit for putting on such an entertaining game in such difficult conditions. I'll extend that even further to my players as I know when you go a goal down as we did you can feel the heat and conditions even more than normal when you're chasing the game at home in front of your own supporters. To be fair to our players we dug in and started to really create opportunities to get us level and when we did through Liam Enver-Marum's piece of opportunism we had a few great chances to actually win the game.

The clear chance was obviously the penalty awarded to us that we failed to convert. I'm not going to dwell on one particular incident, we move forward and try and do better the next time we find ourselves in that position. We are well under way now and in full swing for the next eight months. I believe if we can learn quickly and stay relatively injury free we can have a successful season and improve on last year. But to improve as individuals and as a team certain areas are the key. I don't want to be saying the same things to the same players too often – that's when we hit a brick wall and stop improving.

We also need to keep developing off the field to continue to develop on it. Your support is so important and appreciated. Please continue to bring and recruit another potential supporter to this club.

Enjoy today and play your part.

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Liam





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You don't have to be as Mad as a Hatter to tweet, but occasionally it does help! Especially if you want to appear here...

Tweets



Moses Ashikodi @MosesAshikodi

My 3 best players at #eufc @TomPhipp @Howe88 @Preston_Eddy
22 Aug



Ryan Blake @ryblakey

@TomPhipp @MosesAshikodi exactly Phippsy has a nightmare everytime with his fancy touches he blames it all on us!! #twotouchkings
22 Aug



Tom Phipp @TomPhipp

RT "@Gint_ST: Definite Peno" Not sure about that
#GintyLovesUnitedTooMuch
20 Aug



Joe Howe @Howe88

MNF is back! And so is Gary Neville's strange quotes #FlushTheToilet
#SpaghettiDefending
20 Aug



Rob Mucci @Rob_Mucci

Everyone buy shares in McNeill Products... at the rate I'm going through Benilyn and Sudafed you'll be rich in no time! #ill #manflu
20 Aug



Liam Daish @liamdaish

RIP Winnie Johnson, to die still not knowing how and where your little boy died, well... can't comprehend! God Bless. #keithbennett #Mum
18 Aug



Jessica McQueen @ebbsqueen

Thank you to everyone for taking time to show appreciation for the return of Jako as kit suppliers #quality #eufc
18 Aug



Craig Stone @stone_craig

Great point today, in the most stupid conditions you could think of!! Great performance lads!! #eufc
18 Aug

LOUNGE NOTES

Phil MOSS



Mad Hat(ter)s off to one and all on this Bank Holiday afternoon! Welcome to San Stonebridge for this afternoon's match against another of the highly fancied sides after our recent hosting of Wrexham.

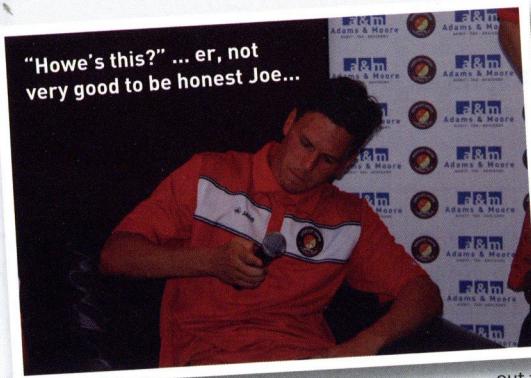
It was bad enough being in the suit in 32°C so I can't imagine what it must've been like to play in that heat. I thought both teams did extremely well to produce a game of that quality in those conditions and, while a point was an excellent outcome, I think we deserved all three. Let's not mention penalty saves shall we...

LOUNGE KNIGHTS

As well as my usual warm welcome to our members and guests, it gives me great pleasure to welcome Mr & Mrs Doug Knight into the Lounge this afternoon. Diehard Luton fans, they enjoy the finer elements of all the grounds in the 'real' Prem and it's lovely to host you both this afternoon. After last season's game here, you'll be pleased that Westy now plays for Crewe Alexandra!

THE NEXT GRAHAM?

It was great to see most of the players in the Lounge after the Wrexham game, although maybe hot food wasn't exactly what they were hoping to get after those 90 minutes!



FANCY A BALL?

Alongside our main Match Sponsor, you can also sign up to sponsor the match ball. Packages start at £100 (+VAT) for two fans who receive Lounge membership for the day, seats in the Directors' Box, a signed ball and a mention in the programme.

And if you wish to add one or two more folks, we can arrange a price that suits.

For more information, and to book a match, please contact either myself at fleetlounge@gmail.com or Neil Barrett at neil_b_eufc@hotmail.co.uk.

LAST TIME OUT

Sauna Stonebridge hosted representatives from some of our 'Fleet Life' advertisers as Match Sponsors at the Wrexham match, including Nathan and guest James from Kinetic Driving School, and Simon Beagley from Priority Environmental Consultants - www.priority-group.co.uk

As the MotM presentation was taking place, Joe Howe decided to audition to be the next Graham McQueen (our stadium announcer and Fleet Trust chairman). Unfortunately for @Howe88, working out how to switch on the mic proved to be a greater challenge than completing his UEFA B coaching badge...

Simon's firm utilises up-to-date technology to provide engineering solutions for a sustainable environment including new technology for heating and cooling, lighting and water conservation. They serve domestic, commercial and industrial customers, so give them a thought next time you're sorting out your home or workplace.

BUBBLY LAD

There were a number of contenders, as always, considered by our Match Sponsors as they basked – should that be boiled? – in the Directors' Box last time out. Phippsy and the two centrebacks – Lorro and Ada – came close, but the bottle went to the guy who sorted out their sponsorship packages this season, Neil Barrett CM (Centre-Mid & Commercial Manager).



Next time Baz, don't beg in your column to be MotM. It's a lot more classy when you're chosen on merit ;-)

AND FINALLY...

It was 1-6, then 2-2. So a 6-1 victory for the Fleet this afternoon, surely...

Enjoy the game!

Cheers, Phil

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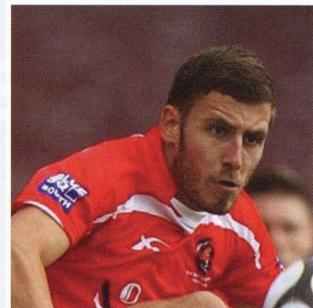
COMMUNITY AND EVENTS

Maria MUCCI

Hello everyone and welcome to Stonebridge Road today for our match against Luton Town.

This season I will be mainly concentrating on community liaison and getting myself involved with the local school and education system, inviting young children and teenagers alike to become part of the Fleet family.

I will be working closely with Craig Stone and other members of the first team who wish to become involved.



As we all know football, like any sport, plays a big part in many children's education – from the aspect of healthy eating and living, right the way through to not only playing football, but other areas in the day-to-day running of a football club. From the office junior to the maintenance staff and groundsman.

Anybody leaving school whether they want to be a plumber, electrician or carpenter, do not seem to realise that they too can have a career in football.



It is not only players that make up the staff at football clubs. I would like to help educate and involve these young people from the local area in what it takes to run a football club.

Skills learnt from school are needed in all areas. What would the club be without a cared-for pitch, how would we open the gates every matchday if the general maintenance around the ground had not been done? What would you eat if the food and drink, carefully prepared by the club staff was not ready for you?

I doubt many of you would think that these career paths are open to you. Hadlow College, which is fairly local to us, is the place you would need to go to learn all the skills required to keep the football pitch in tip-top condition. They run a vocational course which is open to anyone who works hard at school and gains the right qualifications.

Catering courses are also available to you; once again you need to motivate yourself and get the right grades.

As already mentioned, plumbing, general maintenance, carpentry... all these skills make you much more likely to be able to further your own career, or even work for yourself!

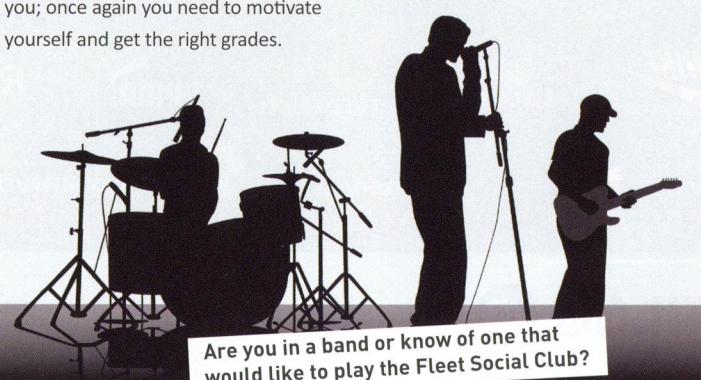
Ebbsfleet United is willing to give schools the opportunity to visit the club and I will be sending correspondence to local schools to arrange appointments.

On the events side of things, I am at presently trying to arrange a 'Band in the Bar', for the near future, probably the Barrow match (September 25) so hopefully I'll have more news in the next article.

If you know of a band that would be interested in performing in the Social Club, then please telephone the office on 01474 533796 and ask to speak to Maria.

C'mon The Fleet!

Maria





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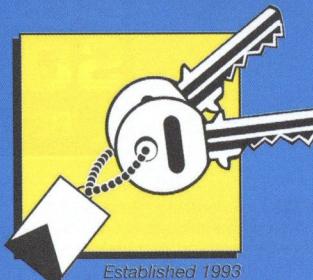
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MEMBERS' MUSINGS

Derek WOOD
Twitter: [@myfootballclub](https://twitter.com/myfootballclub)



Football truly is a funny game. This season the Blue Square Premier consists of teams that have risen from the lower leagues. Teams such as our near neighbours Dartford, and also Newport County are examples. Both these clubs were a few years ago playing in the Kent and Hellenic Leagues respectively.

Also in the BSP are the 'big guns'. These are the teams that were experiencing great footballing times not so long

ago. Naturally, the names of Luton Town, Wrexham and Stockport come to mind. Then, of course, there is also Hereford United. Who can ever forget Ron Radford's screamer of a goal

versus Newcastle United in the FA Cup many moons ago!

During the late 1980s Luton Town were a force to be reckoned with in English football. Managed by the tactical genius that was David Pleat, the Hatters achieved a highest Division 1 placing of seventh. A year later they were in the League Cup Final at Wembley against the then holders, Arsenal. With 10 minutes to go Luton Town were trailing the mighty Gunners 2-1. It looked all over

for the minnows. However, a penalty save from Andy Dibble sparked a recovery. Goals from Danny Wilson and a last-gasp effort from Brian Stein ensured a memorable victory in front of 95,000 fans.

During this same period Ebbsfleet United, then known as Gravesend & Northfleet, had been relegated to the old Southern Division (South). On top of this, the club was beset by financial

problems. At that time reaching the first round of the FA Cup, or even getting to the then Blue Square Premier equivalent was just a pipedream.

The season that Luton Town won the League Cup, the Fleet finished fourth in the Southern Division. Although I cannot verify this, I

would guess that the team would not have played in front of a total of 95,000 fans all season!

This just goes to show how things can change fairly quickly in the football sphere. You only have to look at what Fleetwood Town have achieved over the past few years to see evidence of this.

So both clubs' fortunes have changed



"Both clubs' fortunes have changed a lot since the 1980s"

a lot since the late 1980s, and today they play each other at Stonebridge Road. Naturally, we will be hoping that Ebbsfleet put on a good show and record their first home win of the season. Luton, on the other hand, will be wanting to stretch their away wins to three. It should be a cracker of a game. Last year the Fleet came from 2-0 down to earn a creditable home draw with two late Michael West goals.

Now for a bit of footballing trivia. Whilst I was researching some of the facts for this article I came across a website that listed all the players that had been bought and sold by a team called Manchester United. Apparently they are quite well known in one of the leagues, though I cannot place them!

Anyway, back in 1898 a player by the name of John Turner was transferred from Gravesend United to the Red Devils. It is safe to assume that the

transfer price would have been the cost of a train ticket rather than the millions paid out to the top players

nowadays. Gravesend United were, of course, the predecessors once removed of Ebbsfleet United.

Enjoy the game!
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PAPER TALK

Stuart HAMMONDS
Chief Reporter

I've just returned from a fortnight in a part of southern France which is the world's largest wine-producing region, and it's fair to say a bottle or two were sunk (most days).

But having missed the opening week of the 2012-13 season, it's also fair to admit that not everything was rosé in the Hammonds apartment.

The shakes I experienced certainly weren't to do with any cold weather, after all, there were health warnings issued with temperatures in the mid to late-30s. I suppose they could have been connected with the alcohol.

My guess, however, is that it was from severe withdrawal symptoms of being situated in Languedoc at 3pm on the opening Saturday of the season when I'd much rather have been at Long Eaton United against Dunkirk.

Thankfully, I had a Non-League fix to help me through in the form of the autobiography of Eric Nixon (pictured), 'a larger than life goalkeeper'.

Entitled 'Big Hands Big Heart' and superbly written by one of Fleetwood Town's media men, David Mitchell, it

"I had severe withdrawal symptoms of being situated in Languedoc when I'd much rather have been at Long Eaton United"



Met by City legends Tony Book, Denis Law and Ken Barnes in reception, he asked for a trial. A scout watched

him play in the North West Counties League the following day, then invited him to play in a reserve game at the stadium where he had watched his heroes from a being small boy.

To cut a long story short, Nixon earned a contract and went onto play 84 times for the Sky Blues. He then enjoyed great success at Tranmere Rovers, earning cult status over a decade, and Stockport before more recently

working as goalkeeper coach at Fleetwood and now Macclesfield.

Picking up The NLP after returning home last weekend, I then read an excellent interview my colleague Matt Badcock had done with current Stockport player Joe Connor.

After eight years studying and playing soccer in America, the 26-year-old returned to his native Stockport last November with his pregnant wife and child.

His granddad Jack and dad Jim had both played for the Hatters, so after seeing County had been hammered 7-0 at Grimsby, he thought "I'm going to see if I can go and play for them".

The midfielder turned up at the training ground, asked if he could join in and was told 'No'. But he stayed to watch to "see what the standard was like", and when they needed an extra man, he was invited onto the training pitch.

Connor must have impressed Jim Gannon, because the Edgeley Park boss soon signed him and has since made him his captain.

Now, I did actually enjoy my holiday. And the wine wasn't half good. But it's equally refreshing to be back and able to report on rags-to-riches – or at least trialist-to-talisman – tales such as Eric and Joe's as another fine season matures!

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TIME TEAM

Ed MILLER

Fill in the blanks to uncover
the Fleet side that started
against Lewes on April 13 2009, the
same day Luton Town were relegated
from the Football League

Answers on page 43



HALF-TIME TEASERS

Paul JARVIS

- 1 **Luton Town** became the first southern club to do what in 1890?
- 2 Who beat **Luton Town** in the FA Cup Final in 1959?
- 3 When **Luton Town** were relegated in 2009 this ended there long stay in the Football League that lasted how long?
- 4 Who scored **Luton Town**'s winner when they beat Arsenal 3-2 in the 1988 League Cup Final?
- 5 **Luton Town**'s biggest victory was a 15-0 score line against which Norfolk coastal town?
- 6 Which former **Fleet** player played in a UEFA Cup Final?
- 7 Which current **Fleet** player has been called up by Antigua and Barbuda?
- 8 Who scored twice for the **Fleet** in 10 minutes against Luton last season?
- 9 What was the result when Moses Ashikodi scored the winner for the **Fleet** against Luton at Kenilworth Road in 2010?
- 10 What was the score when the **Fleet** played Luton at Stonebridge Road later that season?
- 11 Who did West Germany beat in the 1954 World Cup Final?
- 12 Who were the first British team to win the European Cup?
- 13 How many teams have won the FA Cup?
- 14 Which Football League team have gone the longest without promotion?
- 15 Michel Platini won his first trophy with which club?

Answers on page 43

SIX DEGREES

Ed MILLER

Ed Miller manages to eke yet another season out of ever more random connections of people and places. Six degrees of separation refers to the idea that everyone is at most six steps away from any other person or place on Earth. We discover what links former Luton trialist **Nathan Elder** and a man who once shared a house with Neil Barrett, Luton's **Alex Lawless**...



NATHAN ELDER...



1 ... shares his birthday, April 5, with actress Jane Asher ...



2 ... who was engaged to Beatles star Paul McCartney in 1967 ...



3 ... whose daughter Stella designed Team GB's athletics uniforms ...



4 ... who won the most Olympic medals since the 1908 London Games ...



5 ... which should have been held in Rome, but for the eruption of Mount Vesuvius ...



6 ... which destroyed Pompeii in AD79, the city famously portrayed in BBC comedy Up Pompeii starring Frankie Howerd ...



... who was born in York, from where Luton signed ALEX LAWLESS



Good luck to the Fleet from
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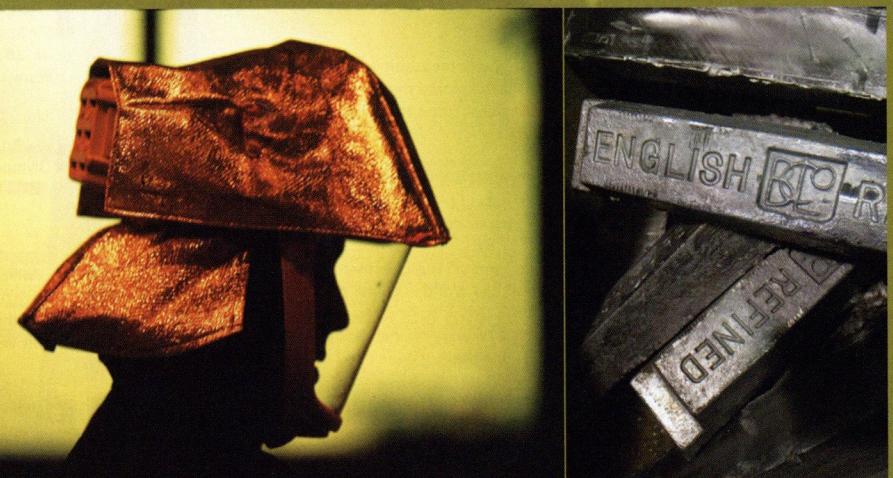


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FLEET TRUST UPDATE

Alan MITCHELL
Twitter: [@FleetTrust](https://twitter.com/FleetTrust)



Hello you Fleet supporters, you must have seen my new lectern as you have walked into the ground, the one with the large badge on the front; it's all about putting the Fleet Trust on the spot. If want you to ask questions about the Trust, if I can answer them I will.

On sunny days we will be outside and on rainy or dark nights as the days are getting shorter we will be situated in the bar.

We are trying our best to raise money and Steve and I will be out there again with our buckets. Sadly not at the Luton match as we are doing a BBQ at the away end to make money for the club as we do not have any food outlets at that end when we are segregated.

One problem we currently face is when we try and put fundraising nights on or events like the recent Olympic Big Screen showing, the support is

not there. I know we are not in the best place but let's be brave and try to attend.

We do, however, need volunteers to help at the club. We need people as we are trying to paint the social club and also some of the paintwork at the back of the stands is in dire need of a facelift. Some of these jobs can be done whilst the team are away on a Saturday. Just talk to me and I will give you more details.

On to the football side of things, one of the really good things about Dartford coming up into our league is that we should have a good crowd on New Years Day. Getting gates like this can only be a positive thing. There is nothing better than local football banter; it just isn't the same when long-distance fans visit us, although it is always good to see them.

AWAY TRAVEL

We really need to attack the way we

support the away travel organised and run by the Trust.

We will operate anything from an eight-seater to a 53-seater coach. All we need is you to make the commitment to go. We will be happy to take your name. It makes so much sense and is cheaper if we all travel together. Chris Pilkinton in the shop can advise you how it all works if you have any questions.

If you would like to join the Fleet Trust, it's easy – come to see me and hand over a tenner. You are then entitled to attend any meeting called by the Trust and voice your thoughts to carry our club forward.

TRUST MEMBERSHIP PRICES

Gold member £120.00

Red member £60.00

Regular member £10.00

As the gaffer says...

BELIEVE

BOSS POSTERS

The BOSS volunteers are doing a brilliant job at getting posters distributed throughout Gravesham but we need more help. Could you deliver in Swanscombe or Gravesend town centre? Do you have local shops that would put up a poster? It doesn't matter if you can put up one or 10 posters, we want to hear from you so if you can help please let me know. We have our season fixtures poster online and one for September's games will shortly be up. Visit www.fleet-trust.co.uk/boss-scheme.php



BEAUTIFUL GAME

Ade ROBERTS

If the opening fixtures of this season in all leagues are anything to go by, us fans could be in for an absolute feast of goals. Obviously, it's not so good if we're on the receiving end of a high-scoring game but it's a great spectacle for supporters to see from the stands.

Let's be honest, no-one likes a 0-0 scoreline! It says very little about the quality of the teams involved other than it being either a) a tight encounter between two quality competitive sides whose defences were impenetrable or b) two sides whose strike forces were so poor that they barely threatened the opposing keeper at all.

If the opening fixtures of this season are anything to go by, us fans could be in for an absolute feast of goals

What we do like to see is the lads come from behind and steal victory in the dying minutes of the game don't we? The greater the goal tally for a match, the more entertaining it is for us.

There are a number of factors that can determine a high-scoring game, strikers who are absolutely on fire and/or defenders who are actually half-asleep. One or more red cards can often help one side's attacking ability too. We all love to see the ball in the back of the net, as long as it's the opposition's net that is!

Saturday 11th August saw the opening fixtures of the Blue Square Bet Premier League and Round 1 of



which ended 5-5 after the 90 minutes. Derby had been 3-0 to the good at half time, only for Scunthorpe to fight back for the draw and eventually won the tie on penalties.

the newly named Capital One Cup. Of the 11 BSBP games on this day there were 39 goals scored, that's an average of 3.54 goals per game – great for the spectators. The 13 Capital One Cup Fixtures on the same day (excluding penalties) saw 35 goals scored in 13 games averaging 2.69 goals per game.

On the Tuesday (14th August) after this Goal Fest weekend, the averages per game were even better! Again it was the BSBP and Capital One Cup which provided the net-swellers.

The scoreboard operators at these opening games must have had their work cut out as the goals were flying in! Not so bad if you've got the modern day electronic scoreboard where you just key in the scorer and your job's done. They don't know how easy they've got it nowadays do they?

The 12 BSBP fixtures on this Tuesday evening provided the paying customers with a total of 35 goals (2.91 goals per game). Those at the 18 Capital One Cup fixtures on the same night were treated

to an incredible 64 goals averaging 3.55 goals per game!

Sadly, those at the Oxford United v Bournemouth game saw NO goals at all as their game ended 0-0. Those at any of the other 17 fixtures witnessed goals galore, especially at Derby County's Pride Park where 10 goals were scored (in regular time) in the game v Scunthorpe United



Borussia
Moenchengladbach -
try spelling that after
conceding 12 goals

They should spare a thought for the scoreboard 'monitor' at a German Bundesliga game back in 1978. The score between Moenchengladbach and Dortmund had reached 6-0 and the scoreboard was already choc-a-block with the goalscorers' names. A further six goals were scored making it 12-0 to Moenchengladbach but there was simply no more room left on the electronic scoreboard (yes, electronic, even way back in 1978) to add the later goalscorers.

Hopefully, we'll see a similar scoreline in today's game? Though we'd doubtless settle for a simple 1-0 victory and all three points surely, wouldn't we?

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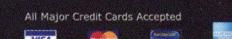
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KEY TO SYMBOLS

- Started
- Sub on
- Unused sub
- Sub off
- Booked
- Sent off
- No. of goals

			01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
H/A	DATE	COMP	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT.	Preston Edwards	Craig Stone	Brian Blake	Patrick Ada	Phil Walsh	Paul Lorraine	Liam E-Marum	Ram Marwa	Nathan Elder	Moses Ashikodi	Tom Philip	Tom McNeill	Joe Howe	Neil Barrett	Liam Bellamy	Ben Greenhalgh	Lanre Azeez	Adam Williams	James Folkes
A	Sat 11 Aug	BSBP	Nuneaton Town	5-4	1,088					1>		1>	1>	1>	1>	1>								
H	Tue 14 Aug	BSBP	Braintree Town	0-1	857			■																
H	Sat 18 Aug	BSBP	Wrexham	1-1	843					■														
A	Sat 25 Aug	BSBP	Hereford United																					
H	Mon 27 Aug	BSBP	Luton Town																					
A	Sat 01 Sep	BSBP	Lincoln City																					
A	Tue 04 Sep	BSBP	Forest Green Rov.																					
H	Sat 08 Sep	BSBP	Mansfield Town																					
A	Sat 15 Sep	BSBP	Southport																					
A	Tue 18 Sep	KSC1	Whitstable Town																					
H	Sat 22 Sep	BSBP	Barrow																					
H	Tue 25 Sep	BSBP	Woking																					
A	Sat 29 Sep	BSBP	Stockport Co.																					
H	Sat 06 Oct	BSBP	Kidderminster H.																					
A	Tue 09 Oct	BSBP	Newport County																					
H	Sat 13 Oct	BSBP	Alfreton Town																					
tbc	Sat 20 Oct	FAC4Q	tbc																					
A	Sat 27 Oct	BSBP	Tamworth																					
tbc	Sat 03 Nov	FAC R1	tbc																					
A	Tue 06 Nov	BSBP	AFC Telford United																					
H	Sat 10 Nov	BSBP	Hyde																					
A	Sat 17 Nov	BSBP	Macclesfield Town																					
tbc	Sat 24 Nov	FAT R1	tbc																					
H	Sat 01 Dec	BSBP	Grimsby Town																					
H	Tue 04 Dec	BSBP	Cambridge United																					
A	Sat 08 Dec	BSBP	Mansfield Town																					
tbc	Sat 15 Dec	FAT R2	tbc																					
H	Sat 22 Dec	BSBP	Hereford United																					
A	Wed 26 Dec	BSBP	Dartford																					
A	Sat 29 Dec	BSBP	Luton Town																					
H	Tue 01 Jan	BSBP	Dartford																					
H	Sat 05 Jan	BSBP	Lincoln City																					
A	Sat 12 Jan	BSBP	Wrexham																					
H	Sat 19 Jan	BSBP	Tamworth																					
A	Tue 22 Jan	BSBP	Cambridge United																					
A	Sat 26 Jan	BSBP	Hyde																					
H	Sat 02 Feb	BSBP	Macclesfield Town																					
H	Sat 09 Feb	BSBP	Gateshead																					
A	Tue 12 Feb	BSBP	Woking																					
H	Sat 16 Feb	BSBP	Stockport County																					
A	Sat 23 Feb	BSBP	Grimsby Town																					
A	Sat 02 Mar	BSBP	Kidderminster H.																					
H	Sat 09 Mar	BSBP	Newport County																					
A	Tue 12 Mar	BSBP	Alfreton Town																					
H	Sat 16 Mar	BSBP	Southport																					
A	Sat 23 Mar	BSBP	Barrow																					
H	Sat 30 Mar	BSBP	Forest Green Rov.																					
A	Mon 01 Apr	BSBP	Braintree Town																					
H	Sat 06 Apr	BSBP	Nuneaton Town																					
H	Sat 13 Apr	BSBP	AFC Telford Utd																					
A	Sat 20 Apr	BSBP	Gateshead																					

FLEET AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

- We do not tolerate discrimination of any sort at the club, on the pitch or in the stands
- If you experience any form of discrimination, help us to eliminate it from football by reporting it
- Contact us on 01474 533796/ info@eufc.co.uk
- Your co-operation in helping make Stonebridge Road a safe and enjoyable environment for all is greatly appreciated
- We would like to remind all supporters that swearing is not permitted at Stonebridge Road.

FLEET FIREPOWER

OUR GOALSCORERS IN 2012-13

	Lge	FAC	FAT	Tot
Liam E-MARUM	2	0	0	2
Tom PHIPP	2	0	0	2
Moses ASHIKODI	1	0	0	1
Nathan ELDER	1	0	0	1
Lanre AZEEZ	0	0	0	0
Neil BARRETT	0	0	0	0
Ryan BLAKE	0	0	0	0
Liam BELLAMY	0	0	0	0
James FOLKES	0	0	0	0
Ben GREENHALGH	0	0	0	0
Joe HOWE	0	0	0	0
Paul LORRAINE	0	0	0	0
Craig STONE	0	0	0	0
Phil WALSH	0	0	0	0
Adam WILLIAMS	0	0	0	0

TODAY'S GAMES

- AFC Telford United v Stockport County
- Alfreton Town v Nuneaton Town
- Cambridge United v Dartford
- Ebbsfleet United v Luton Town
- Gateshead v Lincoln City
- Grimsby Town v Mansfield Town
- Hyde v Southport
- Kidderminster Harriers v Forest Green Rovers
- Macclesfield Town v Barrow
- Tamworth v Wrexham
- Newport County v Hereford United (tomorrow)
- Woking v Braintree Town (tomorrow)

STAT ATTACK

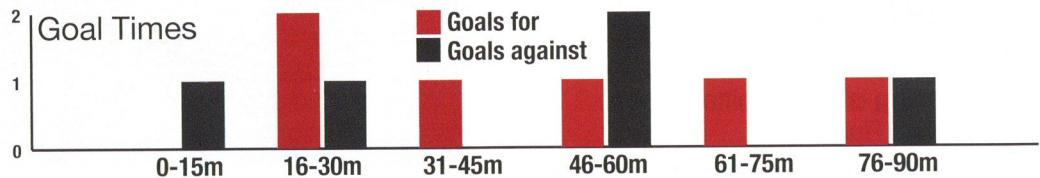
League Table 24.08.12 (pre-Hereford)

	PL	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Newport County	3	3	0	0	10	4	+6 9
2	Hereford United	3	2	1	0	7	3	+4 7
3	LUTON TOWN	3	2	1	0	6	3	+3 7
4	Cambridge United	3	2	1	0	5	2	+3 7
5	Tamworth	3	2	1	0	6	4	+2 7
6	Macclesfield Town	3	2	0	1	5	2	+3 6
7	Woking	3	2	0	1	5	4	+1 6
8	Stockport County	3	2	0	1	3	2	+1 6
9	Gateshead	3	1	2	0	7	4	+3 5
10	Forest Green Rovers	3	1	2	0	4	3	+1 5
11	AFC Telford United	3	1	1	1	4	2	+2 4
12	EBBSFLEET UNITED	3	1	1	1	6	6	0 4
13	Wrexham	3	1	1	1	4	4	0 4
14	Braintree Town	3	1	1	1	3	5	-2 4
15	Lincoln City	3	1	0	2	3	4	-1 3
16	Mansfield Town	3	1	0	2	7	10	-3 3
17	Hyde	3	0	2	1	3	4	-1 2
18	Grimsby Town	3	0	2	1	2	3	-1 2
19	Southport	3	0	2	1	4	6	-2 2
20	Barrow	3	0	2	1	1	3	-2 2
21	Alfreton Town	3	0	1	2	3	7	-4 1
22	Nuneaton Town	3	0	1	2	4	9	-5 1
23	Dartford	3	0	0	3	2	6	-4 0
24	Kidderminster	3	0	0	3	2	6	-4 0

Form Table

1	Newport County	3	0	0
2	Hereford United	2	1	0
3	Luton Town	2	1	0
4	Cambridge United	2	1	0
5	Tamworth	2	1	0
6	Macclesfield Town	2	0	1
7	Woking	2	0	1
8	Stockport County	2	0	1
9	Gateshead	1	2	0
10	Forest Green Rovers	1	2	0
11	AFC Telford United	1	1	1
12	Ebbsfleet United	1	1	1
13	Wrexham	1	1	1
14	Braintree Town	1	1	1
15	Lincoln City	1	0	2
16	Mansfield Town	1	0	2
17	Hyde	0	2	1
18	Grimsby Town	0	2	1
19	Southport	0	2	1
20	Barrow	0	2	1
21	Alfreton Town	0	1	2
22	Nuneaton Town	0	1	2
23	Dartford	0	0	3
24	Kidderminster	0	0	3

Goal Times



Attendances

	LOW	HIGH	AVE.
1	Luton Town	6,743	6,743
2	Wrexham	4,088	4,088
3	Stockport County	3,448	3,448
4	Grimsby Town	3,095	3,670
5	Mansfield Town	2,924	2,924
6	Hereford United	2,646	3,024
7	Cambridge United	2,004	2,546
8	Lincoln City	2,139	2,139
9	AFC Telford United	2,112	2,112
10	Macclesfield T	1,770	2,275
11	Kidderminster H	1,420	2,368
12	Woking	1,743	1,743
13	Newport County	1,373	1,846
14	Southport	1,524	1,582
15	Barrow	1,370	1,370
16	Dartford	1,265	1,270
17	Tamworth	1,128	1,128
18	Alfreton Town	1,088	1,088
19	Forest Green Rovers	1,041	1,041
20	Ebbsfleet United	798	1,141
21	Braintree Town	843	857
22	Gateshead	531	801
23	Nuneaton	562	690
24	Hyde	598	598

Top scorers

A. O'Connor (Newport Co.)	5
T. Elliott (Cambridge)	4
S. Fleetwood (Luton Town)	4
A. Cunningham (Tamworth)	3
N. Fisher (Gateshead)	3
A. Brown (Nuneaton)	2
B. Bubb (Woking)	2
S. Canham (Hereford)	2
P. Clayton (Alfreton)	2
L. E-Marum (Ebbsfleet U)	2
Gateshead	1
Braintree Town	1
Hyde	1
Cambridge United	1
Grimsby Town	1
Alfreton Town	1
Southport	1
Barrow	1
Woking	1
Stockport County	1
Mansfield Town	1
Lincoln City	1
Forest Green Rovers	1
Ebbsfleet United	1
Wrexham	1
Hereford United	1
Luton Town	2

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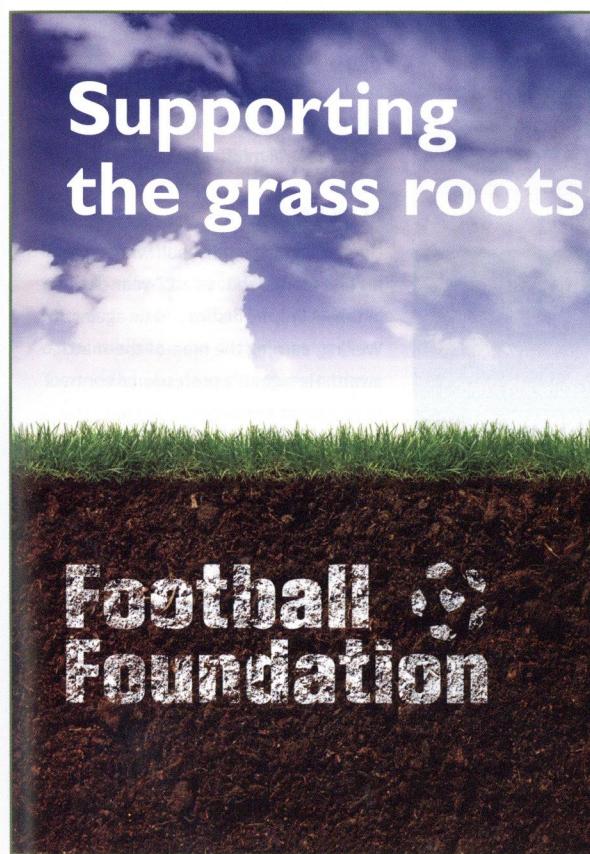
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THE OTHER SIDE: LUTON TOWN

COMPILED BY Joshua PECK

IN GOAL

MARK TYLER

Hugely experienced goalkeeper who signed a two-year contract at Kenilworth Road in June 2009 to become Mick Harford's fifth signing of the summer following his release from Peterborough United.

Tyler made 483 appearances in 15 years at London Road and was rewarded for his loyalty with a testimonial against Liverpool in 2007.

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 a hugely successful two years between the sticks at Kenilworth Road, he signed a new contract in the summer of 2011.



MANAGER PAUL BUCKLE

The Hatters appointed Welwyn-born Paul Buckle in April 2012 following the departure of Gary Brabin. He signed a two-year contract at Kenilworth Road three months after leaving League 2 side Bristol Rovers.

He originally moved to the Memorial Ground having managed Torquay United where he won them promotion from the Blue Square Premier in 2009.

After a 17th-place finish in League 2 in 2009/10, Buckle guided the Devon club to the League 2 play-off final the following season where they were defeated narrowly by Stevenage at Old Trafford. In his playing days he was best known for his spells in midfield for Colchester, Brentford and Torquay and Exeter.

year he joined Buckle at Plainmoor. In his first season on the Devon coast the youngster appeared 10 times and scored once. Last season Lathaniel made 24 appearances in all competitions prior to his release by manager Martin Ling.

GARRY RICHARDS

Commanding centre-half signed a two-year contract at Kenilworth Road this summer following his release from League 2 Gillingham where he made 122 appearances over four years. A tough, no-nonsense defender, he started his career with Colchester United, who he helped earn promotion from League 1 as runners-up in 2006. In August 2007 he made the short hop south to join Southend but after just six months Richards made the move to Priestfield.

GREG TAYLOR

Left-back signed from Darlington in November 2011 and made his Town debut in the 1-1 draw at Cambridge United. Started his career as a junior with Northampton before he signed for Kettering Town. He then joined Darlo and is also capable of playing right-back and in central midfield.

ALEX LACEY

Up-and-coming centre-half who made his first team debut as a 17-year-old in the FA Trophy first round tie against Welling, earning the man-of-the-match award. He signed a professional contract to remain at Kenilworth Road until the end of the 2011/12 season which was extended to a three-year deal by Paul Buckle in the summer of 2012.

DEAN BECKWITH

Centre-back Beckwith became the Hatters' second signing of the summer of 2011 following his release from League 2 side Northampton Town. The commanding 6ft 3in defender has experienced promotion from the Blue Square Bet Premier before having been

part of the Hereford United side that won the Play-Off Final against Halifax Town in 2008. The defender turned down offers from a number of Football League clubs but was delighted to agree terms to bolster the Hatters' defensive options.

JANOS KOVACS

Hungarian defender who signed on-loan for his second spell at the club in September 2011. Formerly with Chesterfield and Lincoln, Kovacs first signed in January 2010 before signing for Hereford United in the summer of that year. Signed a 18-month contract in January 2012.

Hungarian defender who signed on-loan for his second spell at the club in September 2011. Formerly with Chesterfield and Lincoln, Kovacs first signed in January 2010 before signing for Hereford United in the summer of that year. Signed a 18-month contract in January 2012.

RONNIE HENRY

The Hatters unveiled influential defender Ronnie Henry as their first signing of the summer in June 2012. The former Stevenage captain signed a two-year contract at Kenilworth Road to also become Paul Buckle's first recruit as Town boss. In the season just passed, Henry made 40 appearances in League 1, helping Stevenage to another play-off appearance. But, having received an offer of a new contract with Boro and from a string of Football League sides, he opted to sign on the dotted line for the Town – and was named captain for the 2012/13 season by Paul Buckle.

IN MIDFIELD

JAKE HOWELLS

The young winger, who can also play at left-back or in central midfield, came through the ranks at Kenilworth Road and made his first-team debut as a second-half substitute in May 2008. After making 36 appearances for the Hatters in 2008/09, the England C international was rewarded for his efforts with a professional contract in

May that year. Capped at U21 level by Wales, Howells signed a three-year contract extension in the summer of 2012.

JJ O'DONNELL

Left-sided or central midfielder who joined the Town in January 2010. He made his first-team debut as a substitute in the 4-2 FA Cup first round replay win over Corby Town and was handed a one-year contract extension in June 2011. After loan spells at Thurrock and Hampton & Richmond in 2011/12, Paul Buckle rewarded his efforts with a new three-year contract in the summer of 2012.

DANNY SPILLER

Former Millwall and Gillingham central midfielder, and younger brother of ex-Fleet player Lee



ONE TO WATCH

STUART FLEETWOOD

Prolific striker who signed for an undisclosed fee from Hereford on deadline day in August 2011. 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 before joining Forest Green. The Wales U21 international turned down a new contract at FGR to sign for then-Championship Charlton in June 2008 but was loaned out to Cheltenham, Exeter and Brighton.

ALL ABOUT THE HATTERS

Manager: Paul Buckle

Stadium: Kenilworth Road

Capacity: 10,226

Distance to EUFC: 57 miles

Timeline:

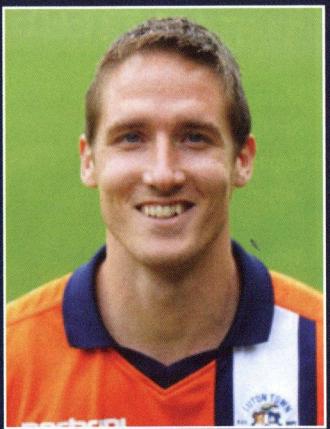
- 1885** Luton Town FC formed
- 1890** First club in southern England to turn professional, making payments to players and turning fully professional a year later.
- 1894** Invited to become a founder member of the Southern League. Luton finishing as runners-up to Millwall in each of its first two seasons.
- 1896** Bid for election to Football League fails and club spends season in the United League.
- 1897** Accepted at second attempt into Football League Division Two.
- 1900** Not re-elected to League, club rejoins Southern League.
- 1912** Relegated to Southern League Division Two.
- 1920** Founder member of Division Three South, winning it in 1937.
- 1956** Reaches the top division of English football for first time.
- 1959** Reaches a major final for the first time, playing Nottingham Forest in the FA Cup Final.
- 1960** Relegated from the top division.
- 1965** Relegated to Fourth Division.
- 1975** Another turn around in fortunes, club promoted back to top level.
- 1988** League Cup won with a 3-2 victory over Arsenal at Wembley.
- 1992** Relegation from First Division signals end of major success.
- 2005** Promoted to Championship.
- 2009** Club deducted 30 points and relegated from Football League.

LEAGUE FORM

(includes 2011-12)

W D W W L L D W W

ONE TO WATCH



JON SHAW

Prolific centre-forward who the Town beat off stiff competition to sign on a two-year contract in June 2012. Shaw hit a phenomenal 35 goals in all competitions for Gateshead in 2011/12 – 28 of which came in the Blue Square Bet Premier. In total Shaw netted a hugely impressive 56 goals in 97 appearances for the Heed – 45 of them coming in 81 league games. In the past two campaigns he has scored four hat-tricks, including back-to-back trebles in late September 2011.

Spiller, he signed a two-year deal at Luton in June 2012. His displays in the middle of the Gills' midfield helped the Kent club achieve several mid-table finishes in the Championship and he signed for Millwall in 2007. Spiller failed to settle at the New Den but he still managed to score once in six starts for the Lions, and, after leaving the London club, he enjoyed short spells with Wycombe, Welling and Dagenham & Redbridge. However, when Gillingham came calling in 2010 he jumped at the chance to return to Priestfield prior to his departure in the summer of 2012.

ADAM WATKINS

Young midfielder, capable of playing in attack, who signed professional forms at Kenilworth Road in June 2010. He broke into the first team squad during 2010/11 and scored his first league goal on his first league start in the 3-1 win over Braintree in August 2011 and was then offered a new two-year contract extension. Watkins went on to have a fine first season, scoring six goals and was capped at England C level – scoring against Italy.

ALEX LAWLESS

Former Wales U21 midfielder who

YASER KASIM

Iraqi central midfielder who has arrived on a six-month loan deal from Championship side Brighton. Began his career as a trainee at Tottenham Hotspur before moving to the Amex Stadium. Made his league debut for the Seagulls in May 2011.

IN ATTACK

DAN WALKER

Quick young forward capable of playing down the flanks who signed a one-year deal in July 2010 after impressing in pre-season in games for and against the Hatters. Previously with Bedford, Walker has also played for Stony Stratford Town and Leighton Town. Has enjoyed loan spells at Eastbourne, Cambridge and Southport in recent seasons and this summer signed a new one-year contract with Luton.

ANDRE GRAY

Lightning-quick forward signed from Blue Square Bet North Hinckley United in March. The prolific striker had scored 39 goals in two seasons for the Knitters after being released by Shrewsbury in 2010. He made a goalscoring debut for the Town when scoring in the 1-1 draw with Grimsby and scored seven goals in 12 games at the end of last season to earn his first call up to the England C squad this summer.

JAMES DANCE

Energetic, tricky winger who joined the Hatters from Crawley Town in July 2011. Able to play on either flank or as a central striker, 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 he signed for Crawley in January 2011.

However, after picking up a Blue Square Bet Premier winners' medal, Dance found himself out of the Red Devils' starting XI and he joined Town later that year.



SCOTT RENDELL

Striker who was a thorn in Fleet's side while at Cambridge, he became the Town's third signing of the summer after completing a move from Wycombe Wanderers for an undisclosed fee. He hit 85 goals in his past six seasons and has been the creator of many more during successful stints with Wycombe, Torquay, Cambridge (twice) and Crawley in both the Conference and in League 2.

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SAT 25 AUG WREXHAM v GRIMSBY TOWN 17:15
 SAT 15 SEPT CAMBRIDGE UTD v AFC TELFORD 17:15
 FRI 21 SEPT GRIMSBY TOWN v LUTON TOWN 19:45
 FRI 28 SEPT FOREST GREEN v LINCOLN CITY 19:45
 WED 10 OCT STOCKPORT CO. v WREXHAM 19:45
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TOTAL GOALS

FLEET	6
LUTON	13

2011/12 (HOME=red AWAY=black)

D 2-2 West (2) • L 0-3

2009/10

L 1-6 OG • W 3-2 Vieira (2), Ashikodi

This is the fifth time the teams have met with the Hatters only just having the edge – although the goal difference is well in their favour with two decisive victories. Will this be the season Luton regain their coveted Football League place – lost off the field rather than on it? And with it the loss of a big pay day for all their opponents as they continue to attract 6,000 crowds to Kenilworth Road.

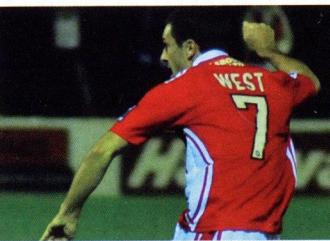
GAME COMMENT HENRY HUDSON

Today we welcome title favourites Luton Town to Northfleet as they look to continue their strong start to the season. Many Luton fans are expected here today so we should see the first 1,000+ attendance of the season. I hope this will be the first of many. Like our last opponents here, Wrexham, Luton are a very attack-minded team, they have some class strikers up top and of course strength all over the park. However, against Wrexham the Fleet back four were strong, brave and solid as the home side earned a surprise draw against one of the promotion hopefuls. A similar defensive display is required this afternoon. The main two to look out for are Stuart Fleetwood, who scored just a few months ago against Ebbsfleet, and recent acquisition Jon Shaw who scored 35 goals in all competition last season. Others to watch out for include defender Jan Kovacs who leads the defensive line as well as Scott Rendell and JJ O'Donnell who can both produce something unexpected – but the front two have to be the main players to watch out for with finishes typical of Football League players. However, saying this the Fleet defence seems to be gelling nicely from a very shaky display at Nuneaton. Craig Stone, Patrick Ada, Paul Lorraine and Joe Howe have the potential to be the Fleet's best back four in a long while and hopefully the statistic of seven clean sheets obtained last season can be beaten this year. I hope all Luton fans have a great day and that any non-regular home fans have a fantastic day and come back to Stonebridge Road soon.



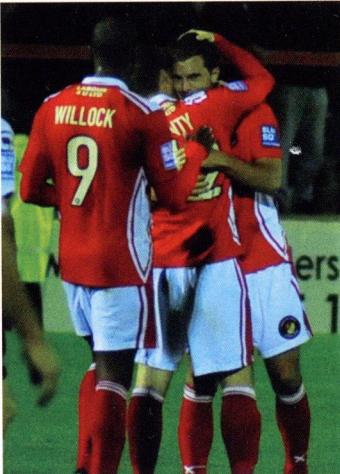
Memory Match Fleet 2 Luton Town 2 / 11th October 2011

The Hatters looked to be on the way to a comfortable win when James Dance made it 2-0 on 71 minutes with a shot that squirmed under Preston



Above: Tyler cannot prevent West's opener. Left/below: West lets fly for his second and takes the plaudits

Photos: Keith Chase



Team: Edwards, Stone, Herd, Lorraine, Mambo, Fakinos (Stavrinou 30), Marwa, Phipp, West, Darvill (Ginty 73), Willock.

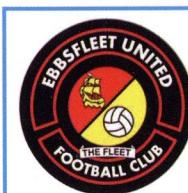
Attendance: 1,651


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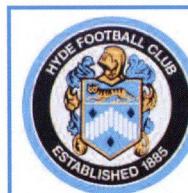
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STAR GRADUATE

Powerful midfielder Bruce Rioch was capped 24 times by Scotland after leaving Luton Town.

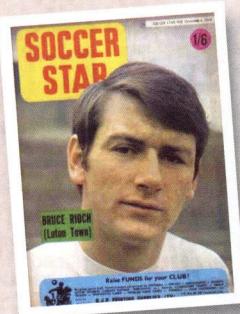
Born in Aldershot, where his father was a regimental sergeant major, Bruce was raised in Luton and became an apprentice at Kenilworth Road.

He turned professional in September 1964 and made his League debut in Luton's 1-0 defeat at home to Southend United two months later. His first League goal came in the Hatters' 3-2 defeat at Bradford City in December 1965 and he soon attracted interest from bigger clubs with his pace, power and fierce shooting. He also had great competitiveness and a ruthless streak.

Bruce was Luton's leading marksman in 1966-67 and again in 1967-68 when he missed just two matches as the Hatters stormed to the Fourth Division title.

Rioch was also an important figure as Luton narrowly failed to win promotion again in 1968-69, netting 47 goals in 149 League games before moving to Aston Villa for a then club record £100,000 in July 1969. His younger brother Neil, an England Youth international, followed him from Luton to Villa shortly afterwards.

Bruce played for Villa in



He may be more familiar to younger fans as manager of Bolton and for a brief stint as Arsenal boss, but Bruce Rioch was one of Luton Town's finest-ever players. Football historian LEIGH EDWARDS profiles him

the 1971 League Cup final and starred in their 1971-72 Third Division title triumph. Moving to Derby County for £200,000 in February 1974, he took over from the injured Henry Newton and helped Dave Mackay's side to finish third in the top-flight that season. Rioch was ever-present and leading marksman with 15 League goals in

1974-75 when Derby won the League Championship for the second time in four seasons.

Towards the end of that title campaign, he scored one of his most memorable goals with a surging run from near the halfway line against

Newcastle United at St James' Park. The following season, he hit a thunderous free-kick in the FA Cup sixth round win at home to Newcastle, then scored four goals in Derby's remarkable 8-2 First Division victory over Spurs in October 1976.

Rioch could play for Scotland through parental qualification and made his international debut in their 1-0 victory over Portugal at Hampden Park in May 1975. He scored his first international goal to clinch Scotland's 2-2 draw with Wales four days later and went on to become the first English-born player ever to captain Scotland, leading them in the 1978 World Cup finals in Argentina.



Sold to Everton for £180,000 in December 1976, Rioch returned to Derby a mere 11 months later but fell out with Tommy Docherty and Colin Addison and had loan spells at Birmingham City and Sheffield United.



After that he played for Seattle Sounders, becoming Torquay United's player-coach in October 1980 and later their player-manager. He then took charge of Middlesbrough, managing them from the Third Division to First in consecutive seasons.

More recently he has been involved with his local non-league side, Falmouth Town. His son Greg was a regular foe of the Fleet, playing for Shrewsbury and Northwich (indeed he was once sent off for the latter against the Fleet for a foul on Toastao Kwashi). He is also the uncle of former West Ham midfielder Matty Holmes.

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SKY SPORTS
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One of three ex-Bees in the Fleet squad, Ryan Blake is one of a rare breed who finds the move to part-time football has its benefits. We find out more about his background and stifle a giggle at the thought he used to play for a team called The Anglo-Saxons.

BACK TO BLAKE

Jessica McQUEEN

RE BET

Ryan Blake was born in Ashford, Middlesex, and has lived in and around that area for most of his life. He attended Laleham primary school and later progressed to Thamesmead School.

He began his footballing career at the tender age of seven, when he started going to a Saturday coaching school. Two of the dads then decided to form their own team and Ryan was one of the chosen few. The team went by the unlikely title of The Anglo Saxons and Ryan stayed with them for about a year before he joined Chelsea's youth setup where he stayed until he was 14. Ryan recalls being released as pretty devastating and says that without his dad's support and encouragement, that may well have been it as far as football was concerned. Indeed many of the lads that were with him at Chelsea no longer play football at all.

Ryan, however, was fortunate enough to continue and was asked to join Brentford at U15 level, where he was offered a scholarship for two years which was then extended for a further year. It was during this time that Ryan first joined Ebbsfleet United on loan, making his debut in a 4-2 win at Hampton & Richmond in January 2011.

Like so many footballers, Ryan also took part in other sports growing up and did a fair amount of athletics, in particular long-distance running. But football always came first and from the start he found his natural position at full back, initially playing on the right.

By far the biggest influence and support in his life comes from his parents, who are always there for him and clocked up the mileage, especially when he was with Chelsea. Added to this list is his youth team manager

who encouraged and helped Ryan develop towards senior football – he was helped with lots of things, from how to deal with disappointment, conduct himself on the field of play and how to maximise the enjoyment from a football career.

Ryan has a sister and brother, who (aged 8) is showing plenty of promise.

He also had some kind words for the Brentford fans; even though he did not make that many first-team appearances, he always felt they were supportive, even when he was on the bench. He also feels the fans at Ebbsfleet offer good support and hopes he will become a firm favourite with supporters.

To keep himself fit, especially in that all-important pre-season period, Ryan does running, weight-training at the gym every other day as well as generally working himself back to

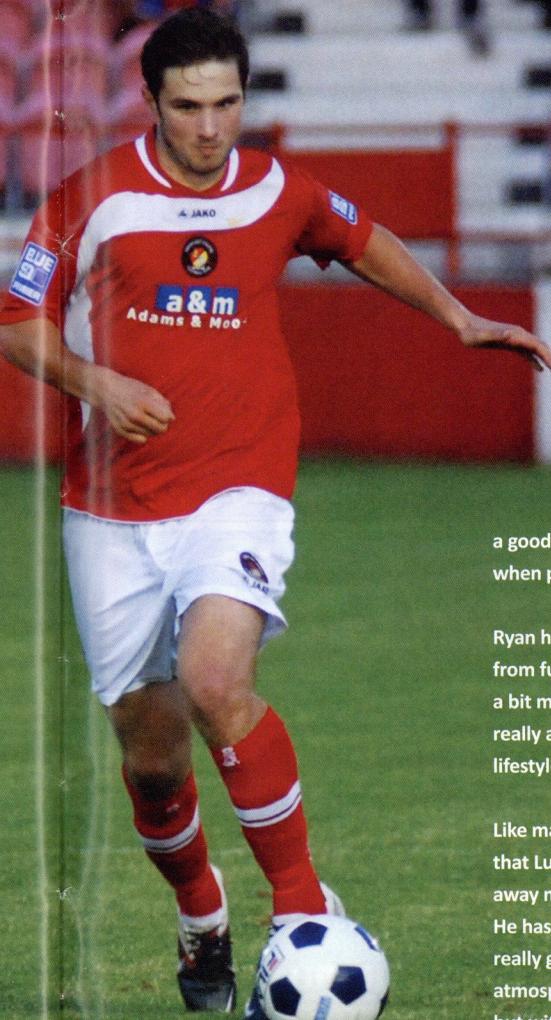
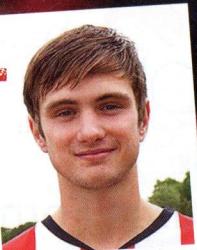


Photo: Paul Jarvis

FACT FILE



Full name: Ryan George Blake

Date of birth: 8 December 1991

Age: 20

Previous clubs: Brentford, Hampton & Richmond B, Farnborough, Woking

Football League debut: for Brentford v Yeovil, 24.04.2010

International duty: Ryan has played for Northern Ireland at U18, U19 and U21 level

U21 debut: European Championships qualifier, v San Marino, 03.09.2010

a good level of fitness ready to start when pre-season begins.

Ryan has rather enjoyed the change from full time; he says it gives him a bit more freedom and he has really appreciated the change to his lifestyle.

Like many of the lads Ryan feels that Luton will be one of the tough away matches this coming season. He has heard that the fans at Luton really get behind their team and the atmosphere can be intimidating, but with their high expectations, a smash and grab goal for the Fleet may quieten them down. He can put that to the test this afternoon with any luck!

Going forward, Ryan would like to cement a place in the first team and would love to see the club gain promotion into the league.

Ryan has settled well at the club, having already met most of the lads – and he knows Nathan and Liam (Bellamy) very well through their time at Brentford.

The Fleet dressing room is a good place to be and Ryan feels that once the lads start travelling around to away matches, they will have a good opportunity to mix and get that team-building (ie. beating each other at cards, electronic games and PlayStation) going.

Away from football Ryan enjoys listening to music, going out to eat and generally enjoying himself.

When asked how he'd like other players to describe him he said "As someone they remember as being tough to play against, in a match they'll always remember, that he never stopped running for the whole 90."



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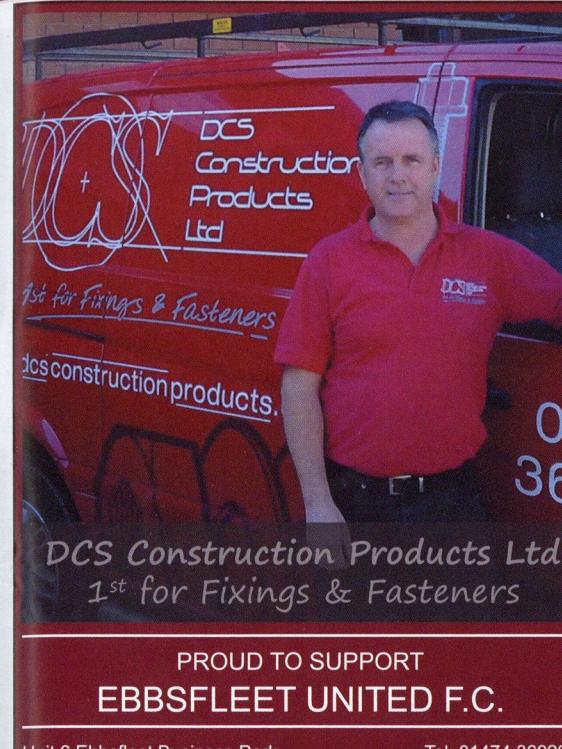
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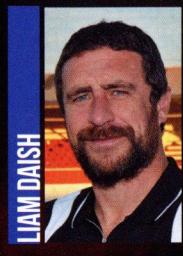
2012-13

■ Staff ■ Goalkeeper ■ Defender ■ Midfielder ■ Striker

FULL KIT

Emily Connolly

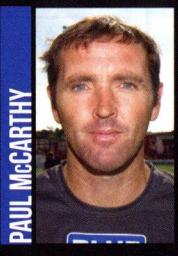
LIAM DAISH



HOME/AWAY

Available

PAUL McCARTHY



FULL KIT

Tom Rutnam

RON HILLYARD



FULL KIT

David Rutnam

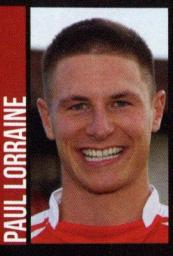
JOE HOWE



FULL KIT

Rachel Spurgeon, M.A.P.S.

PAUL LORRAINE



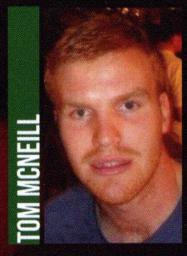
HOME

Mike Sinack

AWAY

Available

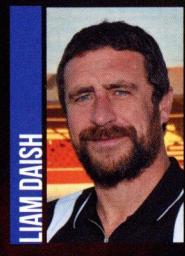
TOM MCNEILL



HOME/AWAY

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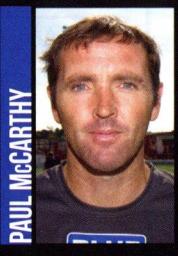
ROB MUCCI



FULL KIT

Adrian Felstead

PATRICK ADA



FULL KIT

Alan Parker

MOSES ASHIKODI



FULL KIT

Jessica McQueen

RAM MARWA



HOME

Gianfranco Giordano

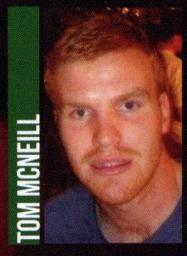
AWAY

Phil Moss

HOME/AWAY

Available

CRAIG STONE



TRACKSUIT

Pete Sutton

BOOTS

Steve Leach

HOME/AWAY

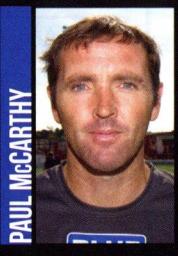
Available

FULL KIT

Courtney Havers

(Independent Financial Advisers)

NEIL BARRETT



FULL KIT

Graham McQueen

LIAM BELLAMY



HOME/AWAY

Available

PHIL WALSH



HOME/AWAY

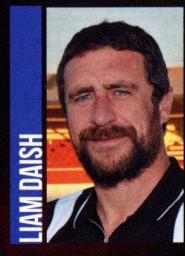
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ADAM WILLIAMS

HOME/AWAY

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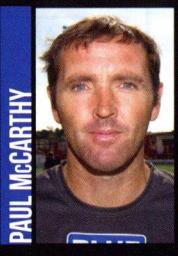
RYAN BLAKE



FULL KIT

Ed Konrad and Alex Glockner (USA)

PRESTON EDWARDS



HOME/AWAY

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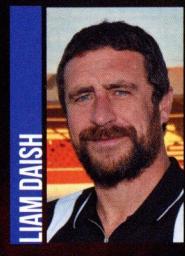
NATHAN ELDER



HOME/AWAY

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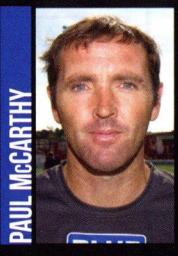
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MATCH RECALL

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Fleet missed the chance to take all three points with a late penalty miss but will otherwise be happy with a point after coming from behind against Wrexham.

With Patrick Ada's red card rescinded by the FA, he was eligible to play while elsewhere in defence Craig Stone returned to action after injury, meaning Ryan Blake dropped to the bench. In scorching conditions, with not a breath of wind, the game was never going to start at pace, with Fleet needing to take a measured approach against full-time opponents.

Fleet started well enough, however, and Moses Ashikodi dinked a shot just wide of the post from close range. There was a long delay on 8 minutes after Wrexham's Mark Creighton appeared to twist his knee as he cleared from Ashikodi on the edge of the box and the player had to be stretchered off. His replacement Martin Riley then had to withdraw in turn to change his bloodied shirt after he took a blow to the nose.

The visitors were slow out of the blocks, though had some pace down the right with Rob Ogleby proving a handful, but the Fleet defence was firm, Joe Howe in particular standing out.

Liam Enver-Marum was booked for a dive inside the box on 24 minutes as he hared down the left and looked to get a cross in and that signalled the end of the Fleet's good spell as the visitors asserted themselves in midfield. Dean Keates had a couple of off-target efforts



Photos Dave Plumb / Paul Jarvis



SUBSTITUTIONS

Azeez > Bellamy (59), Walsh > Elder (59)
Not used: McNeill, Blake, Greenhalgh

as the diminutive Wrexham midfield passed the ball well.

But led by Tom Phipp, the Fleet battled back. Phipp struck a low shot on target and Liam Bellamy floated a high one in that the goalkeeper dealt with before Ashikodi bundled the ball over the goalline but was penalised for offside. Eight minutes of time added on produced little more and the teams had a much-needed break from the sun.

Wrexham came out with more purpose and were in front inside four minutes. Fleet cleared one attack but only as far as Keates who cut open the defence

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Enver-Marum 70

WREXHAM

Hunt 48

Saturday August 18 / Stonebridge Road / Attendance: 843 / Half-time: 0-0

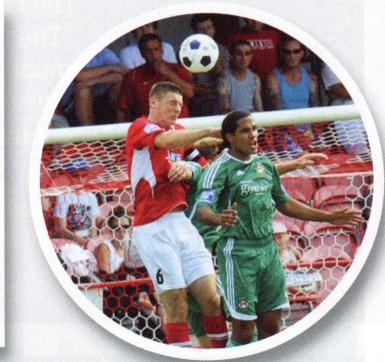
with a precision pass and Johnny Hunt ran on and belted the ball past Preston Edwards.

It was Phipp again who drove Fleet forward as the home side looked drained. He singlehandedly unlocked the visitors' defence on 58 minutes, shrugged off Riley's challenge and forced goalkeeper Mayebi into a good block in the six-yard box.

Liam Daish made a double change on the hour, Lanre Azeez and Phil Walsh

replacing Bellamy and Nathan Elder. And Fleet got back into things courtesy of a Mayebi error on 70 minutes. The keeper appeared to have gathered a ball 10 yards from goal but Ashikodi took advantage of a fumble and as Mayebi lay on the floor, Enver-Marum tucked a shot over him and into the net.

The expected onslaught from Wrexham never quite materialised though Ada and Howe had to be alert to clear the danger on several occasions. And with



TIME TEAM ANSWER FROM PAGE 19

Cronin, Stevens, Opinel, Charles, Crooks, Ricketts, Yussuff, Long, West, Gash, Shakes.

QUIZ ANSWERS FROM PAGE 19

- 1 Turn professional
- 2 Nottingham Forest
- 3 89 years
- 4 Brian Stein
- 5 Great Yarmouth Town
- 6 Cedric Anselin
- 7 Moses Ashikodi
- 8 Michael West
- 9 3-2
- 10 6-1 to Luton
- 11 Hungary
- 12 Glasgow Celtic
- 13 42
- 14 Coventry City
- 15 Nancy

three minutes left, the Fleet almost grabbed an unlikely win.

Riley was adjudged to have handled inside the box, though it appeared to be right on the line, and after Wrexham protests, Ashikodi stepped up to the spot. But Mayebi turned from villain to hero as he got down low to his left to push the penalty away.

So mixed feelings in the 32-degree cauldron for the Fleet but ultimately it was a worthy point against opponents who put five past us on their last visit.

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 Balas Little Mart, Riverview Park, Gravesend
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 Castle Auto Welding, Pelham Street, Gravesend
 Dover Road Stores, Dover Road, Gravesend
 Dover Road Fish Bar, Dover Road, Gravesend
 The Rose Public House, Rose Street, Northfleet
 Allpark Limited. May Avenue, Northfleet
 Railway Inn, Sole Street, Cobham
 Peacock Public House, Peacock Street, Gravesend
 The Waterloo Public House, Wellington Street, Gravesend
 T J's Public House, Milton Road, Gravesend
 Crown and Thistle Public House, 44 The Terrace, Gravesend
 Six Bells, Gill and Mark, Coldharbour Road, Northfleet
 Earl Grey, Vale Road, Northfleet
 The George, Queen Street, Gravesend
 The Pilot, Bentley Street, Gravesend
 Campbell Arms, Campbell Road, Gravesend
 Pelham Arms, Perry Street, Northfleet
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TERRACE TALK

Alan PARKER



Hello everyone and welcome to today's visitors for what should be another tough encounter.

One thing struck me when I first looked at this season's fixtures. That was three out of our first four home games where against sides who had been in play-off positions last season and are expected to do so again this season. Today's opponents Luton are sandwiched between Wrexham and Mansfield.

Four points from our first three games is probably a fair return all things considered. I believe the battle at the top of the table could be much tighter this season than it was in the last two. League positions at this stage of the

season do not mean much although it is always nice to make a good start.

You may remember that in my last set of notes I mentioned the demise of the Gravesend Football League after 108 years. This brings me to today's trip down memory lane:

I cannot remember exactly what year the event I'm going to talk about happened but it was approximately 60 years ago. The Fleet had two teams. The first team were due to play away to Exeter City reserves in the Southern League. On the same day our reserves were due to play at home to Windsor and Eton and away to Guildford City, so two games in the one day.

"Four points from our first three games is probably a fair return all things considered"

As they could not play two games at the same time the decision was made to sign up the best team in the Gravesend League i.e. Kings Farm – and they went to Guildford. They managed to draw 2-2 and the two Fleet teams both lost. It was said that seven coachloads of supporters travelled from Kings Farm estate to Guildford to support their team.

It was felt that the club should have let Kings Farm play the match against Windsor and Eton, instead of the reserves, as the supporters would have greatly swelled the crowd at Stonebridge Road!

**Enjoy the game.
UP THE FLEET**

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FANTASY FOOTBALL

So after Match Week 1 in the EUFC Premier League fantasy challenge, the front runners are already apparent (see table).

Ian Mackie's squad stormed to a 76-point total, four points clear at the top, mainly thanks to a 42-point performance from star man, Chelsea's Eden

POS	NAME	TEAM NAME	GW	TOT
1	Ian Mackie	Mackie's Marvels	76	76
2	Mario TB	Dyslexic Untied	74	74
3	Ed Miller	Strictly Non-League	72	72
4	Jack Dickey	The Abusement Park	65	65
5	Nick Baines	The CADfathers	64	64
6	Nofa Kingway	Primitive Painters	61	61
7	Andrea Rossi	Virgilian Kaos	60	60
8	Stuart Smith	Smith's Superstars	60	60
9	Joshua Peck	Pecks Men	58	58
10	John Fryer	UEFAChamps OhYes!	57	57

tough, with all of them languishing in the bottom five. Preston Edwards scored 31 points, Tom Phipp 30 and Craig Stone propped up the 36-strong league with a measly 22 points.



Hazard (pictured left).

For all their pre-season bravado, the three Fleet players involved found the going a bit

You can still join in and probably overhaul the players' totals within a week or so - visit <http://fantasy.premierleague.com>, register and join the Fleet League with code 323163-89823.

ON THE ROAD: LINCOLN CITY

Phil MOSS



Sincil Bank
Saturday 1 September, Kick-Off 3pm



ADMISSION PRICES

The Imps list admission prices as follows:

Adult (21-59): £18

Concession (Students U22, 60+): £13

Under 18s: £7

Please note that proof of age ID is required to qualify for the Concession or Under 18s price.

GETTING THERE

By Car: The recommended route is to take M25, M11, A14, A1(M) and A1 until you reach Newark when you should take the A46, signposted "Lincoln A46 (Sleaford A17)".

After approx. 9 miles, take the second exit at the 'Hykeham Roundabout', signposted "A1434 Lincoln South"

and after 4 miles, you'll merge with the A15. Take the 2nd exit at the next roundabout into South Park Avenue, signposted "A15 Humber Bridge, Skegness", and the ground is on the left hand side.

Parking is available on South Common which is on the right hand side as you turn into South Park Avenue.

SAT NAV: LN5 8EL (Lincoln Fire & Rescue, South Park Avenue)

By Train: There are two routes to Lincoln from London, either from King's Cross via Newark/Retford, or from St Pancras via Nottingham (see box, below).

Cheapest fares, at the time of writing, are:

- **King's Cross to Lincoln via Newark/Retford - £46.50**
- **St Pancras to Lincoln via Nottingham - £53.40**

Lincoln Central station is a short walk from the ground. Exit the station and turn left up St Mary's Street. At the main road (High Street), turn left and walk across the railway crossing. Head straight down the High Street, calling in at any number of pubs (!), until you reach Scorer Street on the left hand side. Walk down Scorer Street, cross the Sincil Drain and turn right into Sincil Bank. The ground is ahead on the left hand side.

LINCOLN LOCOMOTION: TRAIN SCHEDULES

King's Cross dep. 1103
 Newark North Gate arr. 1225
 Newark North Gate dep. 1302
 Lincoln Central arr. 1330

Lincoln Central dep. 1726
 Newark Castle arr. 1755
 [walk to Newark North Gate]
 Newark North Gate dep. 1902
 King's Cross arr. 2030

St Pancras dep. 1015
 Nottingham arr. 1159
 Nottingham dep. 1227
 Lincoln Central arr. 1318

King's Cross dep. 1148
 Retford arr. 1309
 Retford dep. 1323
 Lincoln Central arr. 1407

Lincoln Central dep. 1923
 Newark North Gate arr. 1952
 Newark North Gate dep. 2000
 King's Cross arr. 2130

Lincoln Central dep. 1726
 Nottingham arr. 1831
 Nottingham dep. 1902
 St Pancras arr. 2101

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VICE PRESIDENTS Jason Botley, Roly Edwards, Adrian Felstead, Graham Hartup, David Holden, Duncan Holt, Brian Kilcullen, Mark Lindop, Alan Parker, Carol Parker, Alan Roberts, David Ruttnam, Phil Sonsara, Barry Stevens, Mick Ward, Charles Webster

Fleet vs Luton Town

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER DIVISION

MONDAY AUGUST 27th 2012 / STONEBRIDGE ROAD
KICK-OFF 3.00PM

Manager **LIAM DAISH**

01 Preston **EDWARDS** (GK)

02 Craig **STONE**

03 Ryan **BLAKE**

04 Patrick **ADA**

05 Phil **WALSH**

06 Paul **LORRAINE**

07 Liam **ENVER-MARUM**

08 Ram **MARWA**

09 Nathan **ELDER**

10 Moses **ASHIKODI**

11 Tom **PHIPP**

12 Tom **MCNEILL** (GK)

14 Joe **HOWE**

15 Neil **BARRETT**

16 Liam **BELLAMY**

17 Ben **GREENHALGH**

18 Lanre **AZEEZ**

19 Adam **WILLIAMS**

20 James **FOLKES**

Manager **PAUL BUCKLE**

01 Mark **TYLER** (GK)

02 Lathaniel **ROWE-TURNER**

03 Greg **TAYLOR**

04 Garry **RICHARDS**

05 Dean **BECKWITH**

06 Janos **KOVACS**

07 Alex **LAWLESS**

08 Danny **SPILLER**

09 Jon **SHAW**

10 Scott **RENDELL**

11 Jake **HOWELLS**

13 Stuart **FLEETWOOD**

15 Adam **WATKINS**

16 Alex **LACEY**

17 JJ **O'DONNELL**

18 Yaser **KASIM**

19 James **DANCE**

23 Matt **ROBINSON**

25 Ronnie **HENRY**

27 Andre **GRAY**

28 Jake **WOOLLEY**

29 Dan **WALKER**

32 Alasan **ANN**

33 Dean **BRILL** (GK)

LAST TIME OUT

v Wrexham (D1-1)

Edwards, Stone, Howe, Ada, Lorraine, Bellamy, Barrett, Phipp, Enver-Marum, Elder, Ashikodi

LAST TIME OUT

v Hyde (W2-1)

Tyler, Rowe-Turner, Taylor, Kovacs, Henry, Lawless, O'Donnell, Kasim, Shaw, Rendell, Fleetwood

Today's Referee

Mike
BULL

(Chelmsford)



Asst. Referee

Dean
APPLEBY

(Bourne)



Asst. Referee

Alan
DALE

(Ipswich)



Fourth Official

Sam
PURKISS

(London)



NEXT HOME GAME

v Mansfield T, Blue Sq Bet Premier

SATURDAY 08.09.12 KICK-OFF: 3PM