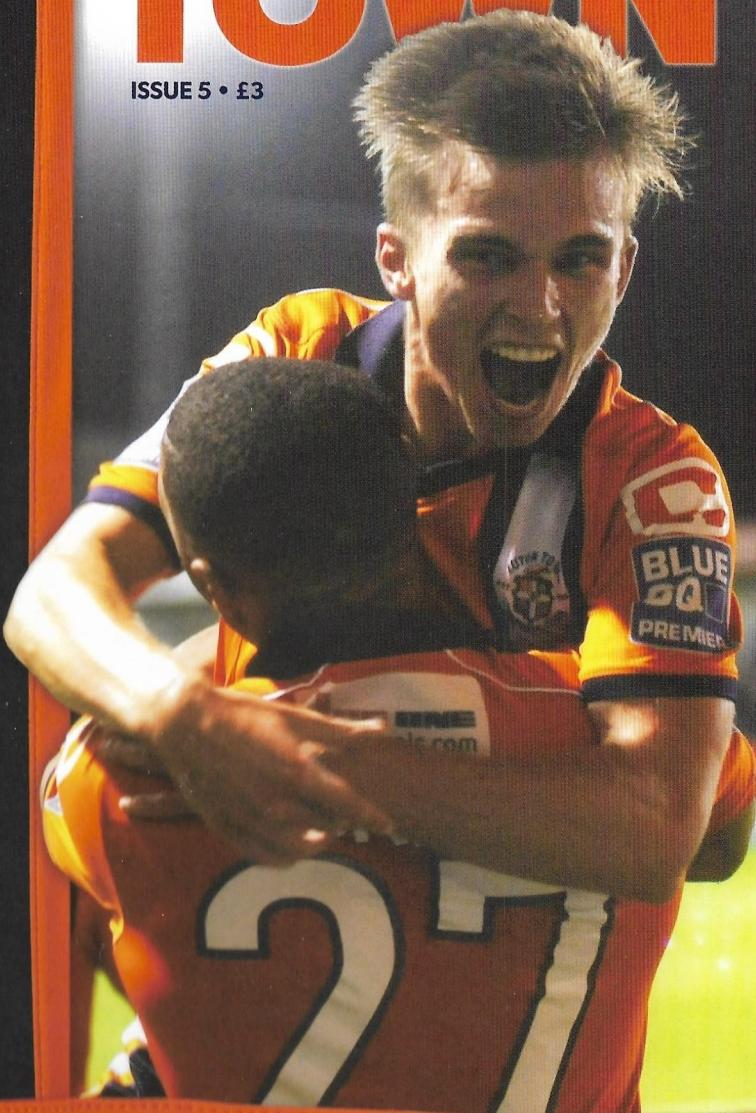




Official Matchday Programme of Luton Town Football Club

TALK OF THE TOWN

ISSUE 5 • £3



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BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

LUTON TOWN v WREXHAM

SATURDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2012 • 3PM



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FROM THE BOSS

Paul Buckle's programme notes

6-7 BOARDROOM TALK

Nick Owen looks ahead to today's game

13

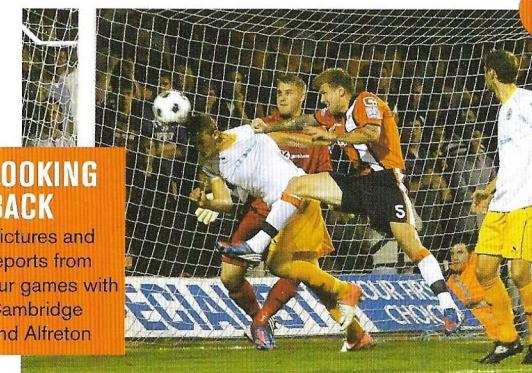
JUST THE TICKET

Home and away admission prices

25

18-23 WELCOME WREXHAM

We take a look at our visitors this afternoon



LOOKING BACK

Pictures and reports from our games with Cambridge and Alfreton

36-41 HATTERS HISTORY

Three fantastic articles from club historian Roger Wash

64-65 THE SEASON AHEAD

Results, fixtures and statistics

The views in this programme are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the editor and/or Luton Town.

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OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

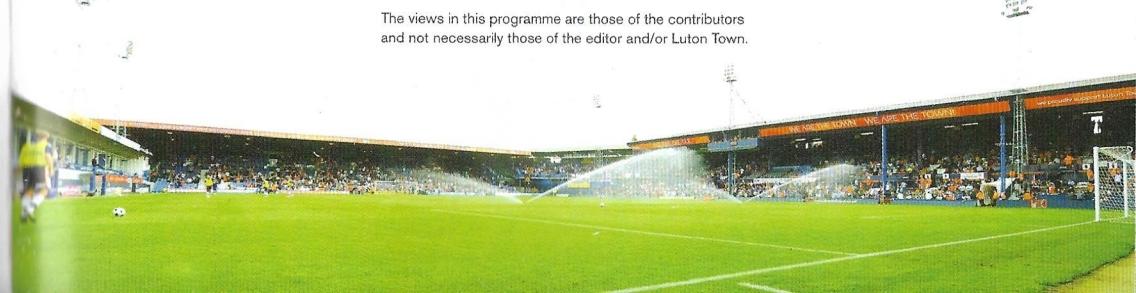
Editor: Andrew Barringer

Photography: Gareth Owen

Contributors: Andrew Barringer, Roger Wash, Joe Flemons, Ryan Percival, Tom Skinner, Graham Miller, Leigh Edwards and Matt Aquino.

Design and print: Barham Group

Additional artwork: Elliott Quince



PAUL

BUCKLE

Welcome back to Kenilworth Road to you all for an important, and what promises to be exciting, game against Wrexham.

The less said about our defeat at Alfreton last week the better. Sometimes you have to take results like that on the chin, but the most crucial thing is that you find the reason why it happened and work hard on the training ground to try and get it right.

In any game of football it is vital to get off to a good start and, after we were punished very early on, we gave ourselves a mountain to climb.

Naturally, I was disappointed and our preparation for the game wasn't helped with three strikers ruled out through injury and suspension.

Back on track

So, this afternoon we are aiming to get back on track – and what a better match to do that against a really good side who will up there challenging come the business end of the season. I was delighted with the response of the players after the AFC Telford defeat and I'm confident we can repeat that once more, starting today.

While every manager and every team strive for perfection, we can take heart from our start to the season. I was told that we had made our best start to a Blue Square Bet Premier season after eight games.

I think that record speaks volumes considering the changes we have been forced into so far. Injuries, suspensions and international call-ups have made it tough for me to pick a settled XI each week.

Rise above it

It is great for Andre Gray, Adam Watkins and Greg Taylor to represent England C but from a club point of view it's hugely frustrating that the trio have been absent for a large part of training this week as a result. It's not an ideal situation with three important players unavailable to train all week with the exception of yesterday, but it's something we have to deal with.

But, whatever is thrown at us, I know we are capable of rising above it. This afternoon's test is something we will all relish and a game that is sure to bring the best out

of everyone. This group of players have been absolutely fantastic and the start we have made to the season, all things considered, is top drawer.

We go into this fixture just two points off the top of the table with an incentive to go top of the pile come 5pm, and we have the added bonus of welcoming Jon Shaw back following his three-match suspension. He's a massive player for us and he's been desperate to get back and I am personally looking forward to seeing him back in a Luton shirt, and I know you are, too.

The injury, suspension and international call-ups have meant I have had to chop and change things but, as I sit here writing these notes, I am hopeful to have a stronger group to pick from than we did last week.

Number one priority

Fielding a consistent XI is our number one priority because that in turn gives consistency in our results. That might take time as players return from suspension and injury but I believe we are heading in the right direction.

The results and performances in our last two home games here were phenomenal. Our work-rate and goal return in those victories over Macclesfield and Cambridge were nothing short of superb.

Your support also played a big role in those games. Nobody panicked when we went a goal down against Cambridge and the noise inside Kenilworth Road was unbelievable.

While it's fair to say we have been struggling defensively, we proved in those two games that attack is the best form of defence.

This is our team and together we can achieve great things.

Keep the noise levels up and enjoy the game.
Thanks for your support.



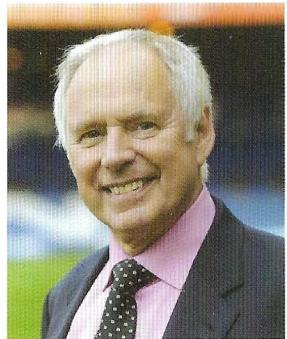
Paul Buckle is sponsored by:



FROM THE

BOARDROOM

WITH CHAIRMAN NICK OWEN



Good afternoon and welcome, as ever, to Kenilworth Road for this afternoon's tasty looking encounter with Wrexham. A special welcome to the directors, players and fans from the Racecourse Ground.

They arrive here on the back of an exhilarating 4-1 win at Cambridge last weekend and they sit just one point ahead of us in the league table. As you know, they had a superb season last time, finishing with 98 points, 17 ahead of us, yet they failed to make the Play-Off Final at Wembley.

We were utterly brilliant in our first leg semi-final against them on a truly memorable night here at Kenilworth Road and we were equally resilient in the second leg to get through to the final. It must have been a terribly bitter pill for all associated with the club to swallow - the agony and lottery of the Play-Offs!

Hugely important

Today's game is hugely important for us after our dismal result last weekend at Alfreton. It takes a few days to get a performance like that out of the system, doesn't it? Frankly, after our fine displays recently, it was inexplicable. I know it's a cliché, but good players don't become rubbish overnight.

So, how do you account for what happened? The first half, in particular, was wretched. We never seemed to get going. I know we had injury and suspension issues, but should it make that much difference? We looked far more like it in the second half and came close once or twice, at least we got some shots in and I thought Yaser Kasim

really showed his class, as I gather he did abundantly earlier this week in the Development Game against Peterborough. We won it 3-0, against a decent collection of Peterborough first-team players, and my spy in the stand (David Wilkinson) says we were excellent.

Manager Paul Buckle was obviously hugely disappointed as we all were - and indeed mystified - but be assured that he and his coaching staff have been working flat out all week to rectify matters, including a four-hour session on Sunday dissecting the Alfreton display and also highlighting some very encouraging statistics from our season so far.

I am sure you'll see a very different performance this afternoon. Paul is not one to let the grass grow under his feet.

It's difficult at the time, but we have to accept that sometimes things simply don't happen and you have bad days. I've been in bed nearly all week since the match with a virus and I've tried not to dwell on Alfreton in case I have a relapse.

Magnificent support

One very positive note to emerge came in the form of an email I received from Alfreton director John Glasby, he said:

"Great to see you again on Saturday - it was just our day for a change.

"I just wanted to pass on our congratulations on the behaviour of your supporters - even though it must have been a difficult afternoon for them we had no trouble at all. This helps a small club like ourselves to mitigate against rising policing costs - any savings we can make is like 'manna from heaven'.

"Please pass on my thanks to the appropriate organisations - supporters associations etc. - they will all be welcome back at any time.

"Having said that I am sure that they would prefer to achieve promotion and not visit us again!

"Good luck on your journey - we are looking forward to our trip to yourselves."

So, thanks for that for that John. We are enormously proud of our magnificent support and messages like that go to show why we are right to feel so strongly about it. In fact, our turnout at Alfreton was bigger than the home support and we actually took a greater number of fans than they've had for any home attendance this season - astonishing! I should say about 95 per cent of clubs in League 1 and 2 envy our following - and I can tell you the players really appreciate it.

Welcome, Jake!

It probably wasn't the greatest day for Jake Robinson to make his debut after signing on Friday from Northampton Town. He was in full training at Sixfields when his manager told him about the chance here at Luton and he was immediately on his way to complete a training session in a different place with a different set of people. Welcome, Jake! I feel confident you'll see a very different performance this afternoon after a week's soul searching followed by the likely return of Jon Shaw and Scott Rendell.

Are you still groaning over our shiny new high-tech website? You're not alone. There are 86 clubs in the same position, 10 of them in the Blue Square Bet Premier. Our Press Officer Andrew Barringer details elsewhere in this programme how there has been a meeting this week to try to resolve the problems. It should be sorted by the end of this month, and the same goes for the new mobile phone website, too.

We have two away games after today - Grimsby next Friday night, then Tamworth on the following Tuesday - and then we're back at Kenilworth Road for Southport on Saturday 29th, so make the most of it here this afternoon with all the vocal support you can muster.

Bye for now.

HONOURS

Littlewoods Challenge Cup:
Winners 1988
Runners-up 1989

F.A.Cup:
Runners-up 1959
Semi-finalists 1959, 1985, 1988, 1994

Johnstone's Paint Trophy:
Winners 2009

Simod Cup: Runners-up 1988

Football League Division Two:
Champions 1981/82
Runners-up 1954/55, 1973/74

Football League Division Three (South):
Winners 1936/37
Runners-up 1935/36

Football League Division Three:
Runners-up 1969/70

League One: Champions 2004/05

Football League Division Four:
Champions 1967/68

Football League Division Three:
Runners-up 2001/02

Blue Square Premier:
Runners-up 2009/10

Southern League Division One:
Runners-up 1894/95, 1895/96

Southern League Division Two:
Runners-up 1913/14

United League: Champions 1897/98
Runners-up 1896/97, 1900/01

Southern Alliance: Runners-up 1913/14

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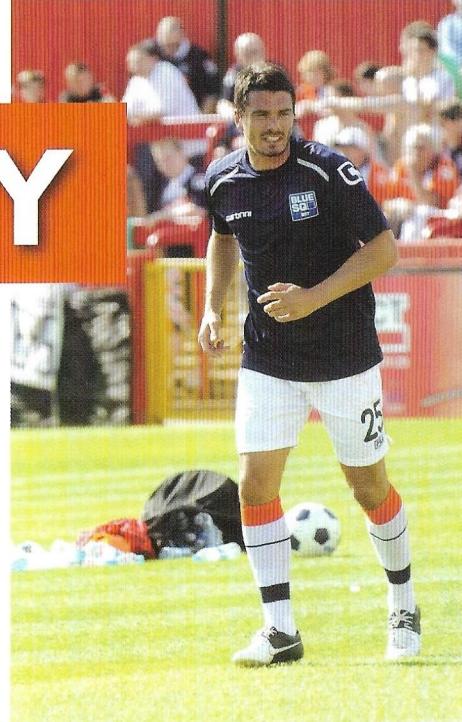
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RONNIE HENRY



Games like today's are what being involved in football is all about. A big match between two good sides in front of a big crowd at Kenilworth Road.

It reminds me of last season's Play-Off game between the two clubs. I was here sitting in the stands that evening of the first leg and the place was absolutely buzzing. If the atmosphere is anything like that this afternoon we are in for a real treat. If you can't get up for games like this, you never will.

We go into this afternoon's game off the back of a hugely disappointing result and performance against Alfreton. We let ourselves, the management and you, the supporters, down and for that I can only apologise on behalf of the lads.

We have to draw a line under that defeat last Saturday. We must, however, learn from it and since we reported back for training last Sunday, the response from the lads has been nothing short of unbelievable.

On the Sunday we discussed what went wrong and dissected the DVD – something we do even if we have won. We need to make sure what happened at Alfreton doesn't happen again. For whatever reason a lot of things didn't go to plan and today represents a chance to put things right.

Of course it's not going to be easy. Wrexham have won their last four games and won 4-1 at Cambridge last Saturday.

We mustn't, however, focus our attentions solely on what the opposition are capable of: we know we are good enough and we must ensure we centre our thoughts on how we can hurt teams because we know we have the quality.

We have shown in our previous two home games how dangerous our attacking play is having scored seven goals in the matches against very good teams in Macclesfield and Cambridge.

In those games we conceded three goals and shipped another three on Saturday. I have been brought up on keeping clean sheets, giving nothing away cheaply and defending well and it frustrates me that we have only had one clean sheet to show for our efforts this season. We know that this is something we must improve on if we are to be successful.

I feel as though I keep repeating myself in my notes when I say this, but our continual hard work on the training ground needs to be taken into matches. Clean sheets are vital to our success – it is all well and good scoring lots of goals, but there will be occasions when we will need to nick a 1-0 win here and there. Those kind of results are ones which champions look back on at the end of the season knowing how important it was.

Your support at Alfreton was terrific. It is incredible to go to places like Alfreton and see that half of the crowd are there to support you. It is when you lose like we did last Saturday that you feel so low because we knew we had let you all down.

Wherever we play we know we are lucky that we have such a passionate and loyal support. In the last two home games we have shown what a tough place it is for teams to come here and your noise can play a major part.

Against Cambridge we were a goal down yet your backing was unwavering and in the end it turned out to be real night to savour under the Kenilworth Road floodlights.

Thank you for your support so far this season, it has been truly unbelievable. We hope to repay you once more this afternoon so get behind us.

AROUND TOWN

THE LATEST NEWS AT KENILWORTH ROAD

WELCOME JAKE



The Hatters signed Northampton Town striker Jake Robinson on a month's loan a day before last Saturday's game at Alfreton.

The 25-year-old arrives at Kenilworth Road to bolster the Town's attacking options fresh from scoring a sensational winning goal for the Cobblers in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy.

Robinson began his career as a youngster with Brighton, making the grade with the Seagulls to make 123 league appearances with the Sussex club. He became the club's youngest ever goalscorer when scoring in an FA Cup tie against Forest Green as a 16-year-old.

Having also enjoyed two separate loan spells with then-Conference Aldershot, he left Brighton in 2009 and signed for Shrewsbury Town.

Whilst with the Shrews he netted 11 goals in 35 Football League starts but, having fallen out of favour at the New Meadow, it was Paul Buckle who took him on loan to Torquay in January 2011.

At Plainmoor, Robinson was a revelation, scoring seven goals in 22 games under Buckle, including twice against parent club Shrewsbury in a 5-0 win.

After being released by Shrewsbury last summer he joined Northampton and scored his first goal for the club only last week.

Buckle told Talk of the Town: "Jake is another exciting player and one who will bring pace, skill and goals to the team."

"He can play on either wing or as a striker and, like a lot of the players we have, he is very versatile."

"He's direct and has a great work ethic. That's why he's right for us. He's going to fit in very nicely."

CARNEY HAS CONTRACT CANCELLED

On Wednesday the club cancelled, by mutual consent, the contract of first year professional Newman Carney.

Carney, 18, who was included in the squad's pre-season training camp in Portugal as a first-team player, was subsequently not included in the team's first pre-season fixture at Hitchin on July 16th, before absenting himself from training without permission in the days following this fixture.

An unsuccessful trial at a Football League club followed – undertaken with the club's permission at his request – before another period of absences from training followed.

The club tried to resolve the situation by asking Newman to commit fully to playing and training for the club, but this offer was rejected and despite other attempts to loan Newman out to various clubs, no resolution could be found to the dispute, culminating in the decision to cancel Newman's professional playing contract.

Luton Town are extremely disappointed in the actions of such a young player who has come through the club's Academy since the age of 12, but the club has tried everything in its power to resolve the dispute to allow Newman to pursue his career at Luton Town with the potential of an initial loan spell at another club to further his experience, but it was not to be.

Therefore, reluctantly, the club has been left with no option other than to terminate Newman's contract with immediate effect.

Luton Town would like to wish Newman a successful future career.

GOLDEN GAMBLE

Our half-time draw continues to be a success, as proven by the recent prizes supporters have been walking out of Kenilworth Road with.

Philip Francis was the most recent beneficiary after scooping £580 after his ticket 04051 was plucked out of the barrel at half-time against Cambridge United.

We're still on the lookout for a winner of our Macclesfield prize with another £580 waiting to be claimed. If you have ticket number 04968 please call the club on Monday or make yourself known to a member of staff this afternoon.

JANOS YOU DIAMOND!

At our last home game, defender Janos Kovacs picked up the inaugural diamond player of the year award after he came out on top winning the monthly award the most times last season.



And it now means that voting for the August award is now open so if you're a diamond season ticket holder you can now vote for your best August performer. Voting closes next Wednesday, 19th September.

The player with the most votes wins, obviously. But those supporters who have voted for that particular player go into a draw, and one lucky supporter will get the chance to present the trophy to the winner after a home game in the Eric Morecambe Suite.

Remember, if you'd like to become a diamond season ticket holder there are plenty of exciting benefits each season, including two tickets into an executive box, five adult guest tickets, five junior guest tickets, a first-team shirt and, for children, and a matchday experience.

To cast your vote simply email diamond@lutontown.co.uk. For further information on diamond season tickets please contact the ticket office.

TOWN ON TV

Remember, the Town are in action away from home next Friday when the Premier Sports TV cameras follow us at Grimsby Town. If you can't make it, or haven't got access to the channel, then the Eric Morecambe lounge will be open from 6.30pm. Food and drink will be available. To find out more, or to subscribe to Premier Sports, visit www.premiersports.tv.

FA YOUTH CUP DRAW

The Hatters Under-18s have been drawn away to AFC Kempston Rovers in the first qualifying round of the FA Youth Cup.

The tie is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 18th September with a 7.45pm.

However, in the event of AFC Kempston's first team needing an FA Vase replay then the game will be switched to Thursday 20th (also 7.45pm kick-off).

Admission will be £2 for adults and £1 for concessions.

CALL OF DUTY



Town striker Andre Gray came off the bench to fire England C to victory over Belgium on Wednesday night.

Paul Fairclough's side took the lead in the first half when Hyde forward Scott Spencer scored from the penalty spot but the Belgians levelled

things up when Arne Naudts made it one apiece.

Adam Watkins was the first Hatter to join the fray shortly before the break but it was Gray who won it for the Three Lions, 11 minutes from time.

Greg Taylor became the third Town man to join the action in the final few minutes as England held on to record a vital victory in their quest to qualify for the International Challenge Trophy.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



A happy 12th birthday to Town supporter Alex Browne who is here today celebrating his birthday as our Junior Hatter mascot. Everyone at Luton Town, including sister Viv, who works in the commercial department, hope you have a day to remember.

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FROM THE TICKET OFFICE



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HOME TICKET PRICES

Adults (22-64) £18, Young Adults (17-21) and Seniors (65-75) £13, Golden Seniors (over 75s) £10, Youths (10-16) £8, Juniors (under 10s) £5.



GRIMSBY TOWN v LUTON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

FRIDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 2012, KICK-OFF 7.30PM

Please note the change in date and kick-off time for this match. This game will be screened live by Premier Sports TV. Town supporters can pay on the night at Blundell Park or can ring Grimsby direct on 01472 605050 for Earlybird discounts. Prices: Adults £18 (£16 EB), 1-14years £8 (£6 EB), 15-21s and Over 65 £12 (£10 EB).



TAMWORTH v LUTON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

TUESDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2012, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

We have been allocated 850 terrace tickets and 88 seats for this game at the Lamb. Terrace tickets are available on the day only. Seats, however, will only be available to buy direct from Tamworth on a first come, first served basis.

You can do this by phoning 01827 65798 and selecting option three between 10am and 4pm on weekdays. Prices: Terrace: £14 adults, £9 over 65s and 16-17-year-olds, £4 6-15-year-olds and free for under fives.

Seats: £16 adults, £11 over 65s and 16-17-year-olds and £4 for under fives.



LUTON TOWN v SOUTHPORT

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2012, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets are now on sale at usual matchday prices.



LINCOLN CITY v LUTON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2012, KICK-OFF 3PM

We are awaiting ticket information from Lincoln for this match.



LUTON TOWN v BRAINTREE TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

TUESDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2012, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets are now on sale at usual matchday prices



COMMERCIAL BREAK

WITH DAVID HOSKINS

Welcome to Kenilworth Road for what promises to be our busiest home match of the season so far.

Ever since the fixtures were released in July, this game immediately caught prospective guests' attention and it is with great pleasure we have four mascots and a match and matchball sponsor with us today.

We are also crossing the t's and dotting the i's on our annual Christmas event and details on this exciting event – the who, where and what – will be released over the coming weeks.

It's another two weeks until we are back at Kenilworth Road when we host Southport but don't forget, if you want to see that fixture in style we have a fine array of hospitality to suit your needs. Just get in touch!

Enjoy the game.

MATCH SPONSOR

SPORTS 262

Sports 262 is a sports forum on the net and can be accessed at www.sports262.com.

It was originally called extra-time, which originated following the demise of the BBC Sport 606 website.

Luton Town have the largest following of any club on this site, whether in the Premier League, Championship or Leagues 1 or 2, with over 450 members.

The main attraction is the Bobberman Prediction League which has 102 players taking part in three divisions. It is these fans who donate each year, to sponsor a player and hopefully a match, they also donate to various special events held by SoLYD, from time to time.

Many of the members have supported the Hatters for well over half a century, and many of them are living and working all over the globe. The site brings them all closer to home, and closer to Luton Town.

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COMMERCIAL MASCOTS

We have the pleasure of welcoming four commercial mascots to Kenilworth Road for this afternoon's game.

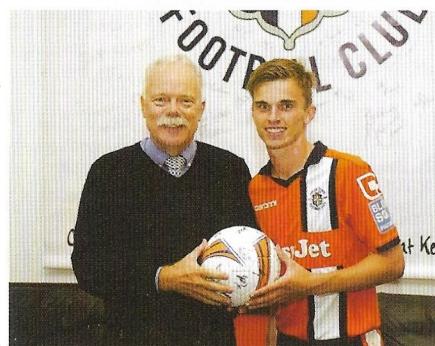
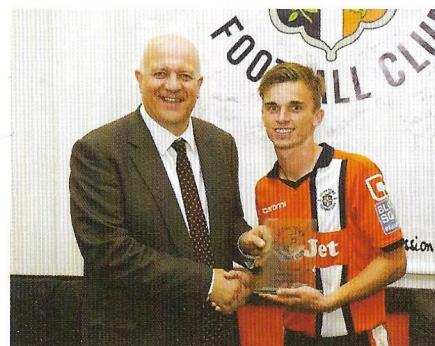
First up is nine-year-old Matthew Joyce from Luton. He attends matches here with his dad and brother James and his favourite player is Stuart Fleetwood.

Next is six-year-old Mason Gomm. Mason attends Maple Grove Primary School and enjoys playing football and computer games. His favourite Hatter is also Stuart Fleetwood.

Stuart is sure popular, and he also be meeting another mascot who is his favourite player in Morgan Watts. Morgan is nine and enjoys cycling and street dancing, as well as football.

Last but by no means least, our fourth mascot is eight-year-old Brandon Dalton. Brandon's favourite player is goalkeeper Mark Tyler and apart from football he enjoys swimming and fishing.

We hope you all have a fantastic day with us.



EXECUTIVE BOX HOLDERS

BOX 6:

G.P QUOREENTON

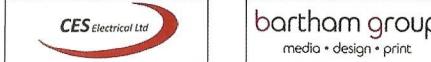
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BOX 11: **CES ELECTRICAL**



BOX 13: **BARTHAM GROUP**



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BOX 15: **PICTONS SOLICITORS/ DOT GROUP INTERNATIONAL**



BOX 16: **PRESTIGE DESIGN**



BOX 17: **SHALLOWFORD UK**



BOX 18: **CME HEATING**



BOX 19: **MARKYATE PRECISION MACHINING**



BOX 20: **GILMARTINS**



BOX 23: **LONDON ELECTRONICS**



BOX 25: **MIDDLE EAST CHEMICALS**



BOX 26: **ROB & GREG HALL**



BOX 27: **SKF**



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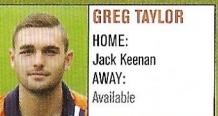
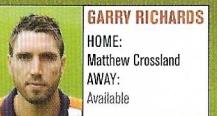
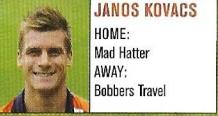
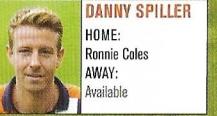
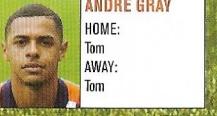
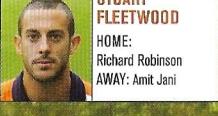
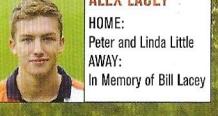
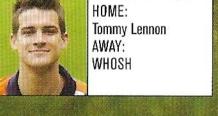
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WELCOME WREXHAM



Today's visitors to Kenilworth Road are no strangers to making the journey from across the border to Bedfordshire.

Wrexham found their demise and subsequent relegation to the Blue Square Bet Premier in the season before our own drop. The relegation came after 87 years in the Football League and, since that fateful day, the Dragons have been on a courageous mission to bring League football back to the Racecourse.

Current player-manager Andy Morrell re-joined Wrexham in 2010 after his first spell at the club came to an end in 2003.

Since his return, the Dragons have endured a tale of mixed fortunes but last season Morrell guided his side to a second-place finish - just five points behind champions Fleetwood Town.

After last season's Play-Off semi-final defeat at the hands of the Hatters, Wrexham will be looking to get revenge. In the Play-Offs, strikes from Andre Gray and Stuart Fleetwood gave the Hatters a 2-0 aggregate lead to sit on going into the second leg. Those goals eventually proved to be enough to see Wrexham lose out once more as, despite a second-leg comeback, it was the Town who progressed to the final.

Other fixtures between today's giants include another Play-Off semi-final meeting when the Hatters pulled off a wonderful 3-0 away win at the Racecourse in 2011. Wrexham had boasted a good home record heading into

the clash but goals on the night from Claude Gnakpa, Ed Asafu-Adjaye and a wonderful 35-yard drive from current Hatter Alex Lawless gave Town a historic result, leaving Wrexham with a mountain to climb in the return fixture which they were unable to overturn.

Morrell's men currently sit firmly in the title picture in third spot, two places above Town, and just a single point off top spot. They are no strangers to the top half of the table, having finished there in their last three successive seasons, and will be looking to build on a competent start to the campaign which has seen them rack up 17 points from eight games.

They got off to the perfect start with a 3-1 home win against Woking but, after tasting defeat to current league leaders Macclesfield Town on day two of the Blue Square Bet Premier campaign, they earned successive draws against Ebbsfleet and Grimsby.

Morrell's side are now one of the form sides in the division, though, having won their last four games, and will prove to be a real test for the Hatters this afternoon.

TOWN v WREXHAM

HEAD2HEAD RECORD

12	LEAGUE WINS	17
7	LEAGUE DRAWS	7
4	CUP WINS	1
0	CUP DRAWS	0

THE RED DRAGONS

AN AT-A-GLANCE GUIDE TO THE WREXHAM SQUAD

ANDY MORRELL

Player-manager. In his second spell at the club, Andy returned to the Racecourse for the second time in 2010 before becoming manager last season following Dean Saunders' move to Doncaster. Also enjoyed spells as a player with Coventry, Blackpool and Bury.

JOSLAIN MAYEBI

Cameroon-born goalkeeper who signed in December 2010 after impressing on trial. Also counts Metz, Larnaca, Hakoah Ramat Gan and Maccabi Ahi Nazareth as his former employers.

ANDY COUGHIN

Young goalkeeper signed this summer having been released by League 1 side Tranmere Rovers.

NEIL ASHTON

Experienced left-back with over 200 senior appearances under his belt. Joined Wrexham in January 2010 and was last season's Player of the Year.

DECLAN WALKER

Right-sided defender who came through the youth ranks at the Racecourse and has been called up for the Republic of Ireland Under-19s squad in the past.

CHRIS WESTWOOD

Vastly experienced centre-half who arrived last summer from Wycombe Wanderers. He started his career with Wolves before moving to Reading and then Hartlepool where he made almost 300 league appearances. Has also enjoyed spells with Peterborough and Walsall.

MARK CREIGHTON

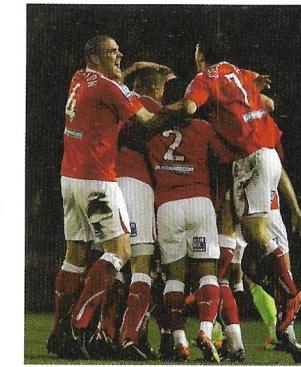
Towering central defender currently sidelined with knee ligament damage. Signed in January 2011 from Oxford.

MARTIN RILEY

Centre-back who arrived this summer from Mansfield. Another player who began life at Wolves, before spells with Shrewsbury, Kidderminster and Cheltenham prior to his switch to Mansfield last year.

STEPHEN WRIGHT

Experienced former Liverpool and Sunderland defender who signed for the Red Dragons last March. A right-back by trade, he has also enjoyed spells with Coventry, Brentford and Hartlepool.



DEAN KEATES

Central midfielder who has won promotion six times with three clubs. He began his career with Walsall and then played for Hull, Kidderminster, Lincoln, Walsall again, Peterborough and Wycombe prior to his arrival at the Racecourse in 2010.

JAY HARRIS

Former Accrington Stanley and Chester midfielder who signed for Wrexham in the summer of 2010. Began his career as a youngster with Everton.

ADRIAN CIESLEWICZ

Lightening quick Polish Under-19 international winger who signed for the Red Dragons in 2009 after three years at Manchester City.

GLEN LITTLE

Another experienced midfield man who arrived at the Racecourse last season. Glen began his career with Crystal Palace but then joined Glentoran in Ireland. He moved to Burnley in 1996 before playing in the Premier League with Bolton, Reading and Portsmouth. Signed for the Red Dragons after his release from Aldershot.

JOHNNY HUNT

Young Liverpool-born midfielder who has progressed and impressed in the Wrexham reserve side to earn a new contract this year.

DANNY WRIGHT

Centre-forward who shot to prominence with Histon before he made the short move to Cambridge United in 2010. He left the Abbey Stadium last summer and joined the Red Dragons soon after being released.

BRETT ORMEROD

Experienced striker who has played in all four divisions above the Conference. The 35-year-old joined the Red Dragons this summer and has clocked up over 500 senior appearances for Accrington Stanley, Blackpool, Southampton and Preston.

ROB OGLEBY

Former Coventry trainee who left the Ricoh Arena for Hearts in 2001. Having failed to make the breakthrough in Edinburgh, the Welsh Under-21 striker signed for Wrexham in January 2011.

ANDY BISHOP

Experience forward who joined the Red Dragons on deadline day on loan from League 1 side Bury.



Established: 1864

Nickname(s): The Dragons, The Reds

Stadium: Racecourse Ground

Capacity: 15,500 (Avg. attendance '11/12 - 3,806)

Manager: Andy Morrell (11 months)

Final league position '11/12: 2nd BSBP

DID YOU KNOW?

Wrexham lost their top two goalscorers from last season this summer: Jake Speight (21 goals) to Mansfield and Mathias Pogba (13 goals) to Crewe.

Wrexham were again amongst the front-runners for the Blue Square Bet Premier title in the majority of people's minds at the start of the season. Some doubters believed, however, the club would suffer a comedown effect after last season's gargantuan effort, which saw them earn a mammoth 98 points but end in failure. However, eight games into the 2012/13 season, it appears as though the Dragons are going to be just as fierce this time around.

How have they started this season?

Wrexham sit nicely poised in third position with 17 points in the Blue Square Bet Premier after recording five wins, two draws, and one defeat. The Reds have found form by winning their last four matches including excellent wins over Newport, who had won five out of five in the run up to that fixture, and Cambridge, who they beat convincingly with a 4-1 scoreline. Andy Morrell's men boast the best defensive record in the division having only conceded five goals (an average of 0.62 goals per game). However, a closer look offers a reason to be positive; four of those five conceded goals have come on the team's travels. There may be cause for concern at the other end of the pitch, though, when you consider that Wrexham have scored first in six of their eight games as the Hatters have conceded first in five games.

Target man Danny Wright is the club's top scorer with three goals followed by player-manager Andy Morell, who has netted twice. Although the Dragons do not seem to possess a free-scoring forward at the moment, they have in fact produced nine different scorers already this season - perhaps proving they are dangerous from all areas.

How will they play? Who are their key men?

Morrell's team will no doubt line-up in their regular 4-3-3 system here at Kenilworth Road. Joslain Mayebi, who has only had to make an average of 3.5 saves per game due to the watertight defence ahead of him, will line up in goal. Injuries to Chris Westwood and the vastly-experienced Mark Creighton have forced Wrexham to adjust at the back



slightly. Declan Walker will operate on the right-hand side of the defence with regular right-back Stephen Wright moving inside to centre-back to partner Martin Riley. Neil Ashton will play in his usual left-back role where he earned the Wrexham Player of the Season 2011/12 award.

In midfield, Dean Keates' fine range of passing may enable him to dictate the game and find killer passes if he is given too much space in his deep-lying playmaker role. Keates' creativity is complimented by the tenacity of Jay Harris and the energy of youngster Johnny Hunt, who has been converted from left-back. Harris, predominantly a ball-winner, is known for his unfavourable disciplinary record - last season he collected 13 yellow cards and this term he has already picked up three. Wrexham's front three is likely to consist of the perfect combination for counter-attacking; pace out wide with a target man through the middle. Adrian Cieslewicz and Rob Ogleby will look to get in behind the Hatters defence from wide positions, whilst Danny Wright will not only hold the ball up well, but also work hard to chase down any long balls. On the bench, 37-year-old player-manager Andy Morrell will be confident of coming on to make an impact after he scored two against Cambridge, or he could call on former Blackpool forward Brett Ormerod.

THOUGHTS FROM THE OAK ROAD

TALK OF THE TOWN GETS THE INSIDE WORD FROM THE VISITORS' CAMP

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

Mark Griffiths

AGE?

Old enough! I'm at an age where footballers all look young to me.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SUPPORTING YOUR CLUB?

Since 1978

HOW'S YOUR SEASON GONE SO FAR?

We couldn't expect a repeat of last season, but we're shaping up well and seem to be picking up momentum.

YOU RAN FLEETWOOD INCREDIBLY CLOSE TO THE TITLE LAST SEASON. CAN YOU RECAPTURE THAT FORM AND CHALLENGE FOR THE TITLE AGAIN?

Last season's performance was phenomenal and it would be quite an achievement to match it. However, we wouldn't need to match it to challenge for the title this time, as there isn't a financially-driven side like Fleetwood to contend with. For me, the bottom line is that if you can finish above Luton this season, then you've almost certainly won the title.

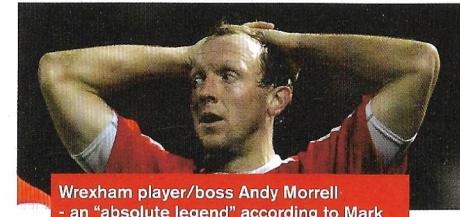
WREXHAM HAVE HAD THE BETTER OVER LUTON QUITE A FEW TIMES IN RECENT SEASONS - APART FROM OF COURSE IN THOSE MEMORABLE PLAY-OFF GAMES. WHAT WENT WRONG FROM YOUR POINT OF VIEW ON BOTH OF THOSE OCCASIONS?

Two seasons ago it looked to me like we froze completely at the start of the first match, which was inexplicable as it was a very experienced side. Once the tie was gone we relaxed and, in the second leg, performed admirably.

Last season our form had dipped in the closing stages of the season and we didn't perform as well as we could in the first match. Again, I thought we showed character in the second match, but we left ourselves too much to do.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF YOUR MANAGER?

An absolute legend. Andy Morrell is still a fine player, and he has successfully built on the solid foundations Dean Saunders established. That shouldn't really be a surprise though, he's an intelligent guy and has already made some astute calls. Finding someone who could take us forward who was already at the club was a huge bonus.



Wrexham player/boss Andy Morrell - an "absolute legend" according to Mark

HAVE YOU BEEN TO KENILWORTH ROAD BEFORE?

Plenty of times. Coming from 3-0 down to win (Town 3-4 Wrexham, October 2000), and putting five goals past Andy Dibble (Town 2-5 Wrexham, September 1997) stick in my mind as memorable visits. I always enjoy the idiosyncratic nature of the ground - it has plenty of character compared to the identical grounds that are so common these days, although I appreciate it also has its drawbacks. There's usually an impressive atmosphere, too.

YOU'VE HAD FINANCIAL PROBLEMS IN RECENT SEASONS - YET REMAINED VERY COMPETITIVE ON THE PITCH. WHAT'S MADE THIS POSSIBLE?

The good fortune of a cup run and a couple of judicious sales last season, to be honest. In terms of size, I'd argue only Luton are bigger than us in the Conference, so hopefully we can maintain our status as a result.

WHO'S YOUR PLAYER TO WATCH?

Dean Keates is a quality midfielder who keeps things ticking, although in many ways the side's organisation is the key to our success.

WHAT'S YOUR CLUB'S FAVOURITE CHANT/SONG?

We've got a good one about sheep, funny enough.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE MATCH INVOLVING YOUR CLUB WHILE YOU'VE BEEN SUPPORTING THEM?

The obvious answer is the Arsenal match (Wrexham won 2-1 in the FA Cup Third Round in 1992), but I have to say watching a very weak Wrexham side which finished the season in the bottom half of Division Four knock Porto out of the European Cup Winners Cup was amazing.

WHO DO YOU MOST WANT TO BEAT THIS SEASON?

You in the Play-Offs.

CLASSIC CAMPAIGNS

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS SELECTS 10 POST-WAR WREXHAM 'CLASSIC CAMPAIGNS'

1952/53

Wrexham narrowly failed to win promotion to the Second Division in 1952/53. Peter Jackson's side lost 2-0 at Grimsby on the opening day but won their first three home games, slamming four goals past Barrow and five past Stockport. They maintained their promotion challenge throughout the season and the main reason for Wrexham's success was the forward-line of Glyn Hughes, Ron Hewitt, Tommy Bannan, Tommy Tilston and Billy Tunnicliffe. Wrexham narrowly lost 2-1 at Stoke in the FA Cup third round and hammered rivals Chester 7-0 in their penultimate match, finishing only three points behind champions Oldham Athletic.

1961/62

New player-boss Ken Barnes guided Wrexham back to the Third Division at the first attempt in 1961/62. He introduced a new spirit and signed Ron Barnes from Rochdale, with Wrexham winning seven of their first nine games including a 5-0 demolition of Mansfield. Kevin Keelan arrived from Kidderminster in November and Wrexham remained among the leaders with a 12-match unbeaten run, securing five-goal wins over Darlington and Chesterfield. They gained a record 10-1 victory over Hartlepools shortly before top scorer Wyn Davies moved to Bolton and finished in third position, also reaching the Welsh Cup final.

1969/70

Brian Kinsey scored 27 goals as Wrexham won promotion under John Neal in 1969/70. New signings included Dave Gaskell and Bobby Park, with Wrexham storming to the top of the Fourth Division after losing just three of their opening 21 matches. They lost 2-0 at Manchester United in the League Cup third round and took the lead before losing 3-1 at Liverpool in the FA Cup fourth round. Wrexham overcame a lean spell to end the campaign in fine style, beating Darlington 6-2 and hitting four goals past Workington and Bradford PA. They clinched the runners-up slot with a 3-0 victory at home to Northampton.

1973/74

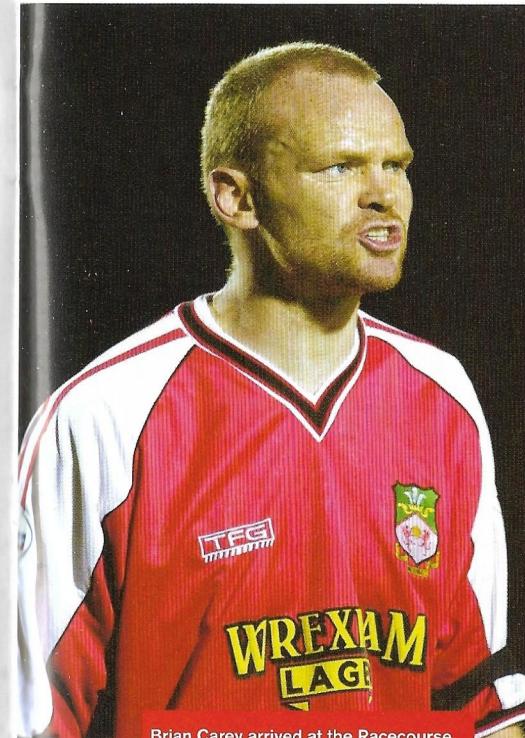
John Neal managed Wrexham to the FA Cup sixth round in 1973/74. They won their opening three Third Division matches but then went six games without a victory before trouncing Southend 5-1. Geoff Davies arrived from Chester and Arfon Griffiths grabbed a hat-trick in a 5-0 win over Hereford, with Wrexham rising to fifth place by New Year after five successive wins. They beat Shrewsbury 1-0, Rotherham 3-0, Crystal Palace 2-0, Middlesbrough 1-0 and Southampton 1-0 in the FA Cup before losing 1-0 at Burnley in the sixth round. Wrexham lost only two of their last 12 games and finished fourth in the Third Division.

1975/76

Wrexham reached the European Cup Winners' Cup quarter-finals in 1975/76. John Neal's side had won the Welsh Cup the previous season and they defeated Swedish side Djurgardens 3-2 and Polish team Stal Rzeszow 3-1 in the European Cup Winners' Cup to earn a third round tie against leading Belgian side Anderlecht. They narrowly lost 1-0 in Brussels and were held to a 1-1 draw in the second-leg, losing 2-1 on aggregate to the eventual-winners. Bill Ashcroft was the leading marksman as Wrexham lost only three of their last 17 League matches and finished sixth in the Third Division, four points adrift of a promotion slot.

1977/78

New player-manager Arfon Griffiths guided Wrexham to the Third Division title in 1977/78. Replacing John Neal in charge, he signed Dixie McNeil to replace Bill Ashcroft and also recruited Les Cartwright and Dai Davies. Wrexham won only one of their opening seven League games but soared to the top of the table with a 13-match unbeaten run, also reaching the League Cup fifth round before losing 3-1 to Liverpool and the FA Cup sixth round before losing 3-2 to Arsenal. Graham Whittle, Bobby Shinton and Dixie McNeil starred as Wrexham clinched promotion with a 7-1 win over Rotherham and also won the Welsh Cup.



Brian Carey arrived at the Racecourse in 1996 and went onto make 288 League appearances for the club

1991/92

Wrexham made headlines with their epic FA Cup run of 1991/92. Brian Flynn's young side had finished bottom of the Football League the previous season and Mickey Thomas returned from Stoke, while Gordon Davies arrived from Fulham. They won only four of their opening 17 Fourth Division games but defeated Winsford 5-2 and Telford 1-0 in the FA Cup before goals by Mickey Thomas and Steve Watkin clinched a sensational 2-1 third round win at home to champions Arsenal. Despite not having won an away League match for 15 months, Wrexham drew 2-2 at West Ham in the fourth round before losing 1-0 in the replay.

1992/93

Steve Watkin and Gary Bennett scored 34 goals between them as Wrexham won promotion in 1992/93. Brian Flynn's side kicked off with a 3-1 victory at home to Rochdale and Gary Bennett netted a hat-trick in the 4-2 win over Bury. Mike Lake was signed from Sheffield United in November and Wrexham soared into the promotion frame with six straight victories including a thrilling 5-4 win over Chesterfield. Karl Connelly and Barry Jones were ever-present as they finished runners-up after losing just two of their last 19 matches, including a 2-0 defeat by rivals Cardiff in the top of the table clash at the Racecourse Ground.

1996/97

Brian Flynn managed Wrexham to the FA Cup sixth round in 1996/97. The major summer signing was Brian Carey from Leicester and Wrexham were among the early leaders after losing just one of their opening 17 Second Division matches, drawing 4-4 at home to Plymouth. They defeated Colvyn Bay 2-0, Scunthorpe 3-2, West Ham 1-0, Peterborough 4-2 and Birmingham 3-1 in the FA Cup before losing 1-0 to fellow giant-killers Chesterfield in the sixth round. Gary Bennett returned from Preston in February but Wrexham finished four points adrift of the play-off places after winning only three times in 17 matches.

2002/03

Wrexham regained Second Division status at the first attempt under Denis Smith in 2002/03. Newcomers included Andy Dibble from Stockport and Paul Edwards from Swindon, with Wrexham unbeaten in their first four games. Andy Morrell starred as they won 4-0 at home to both Swansea and Exeter, maintaining their promotion challenge with four victories in five matches. Scott Green arrived from Wigan and made a significant contribution as Wrexham ended the season with eight successive wins, trouncing Carlisle 6-1 and Cambridge 5-0, to clinch promotion in third position. Andy Morrell was leading scorer with 34 goals.





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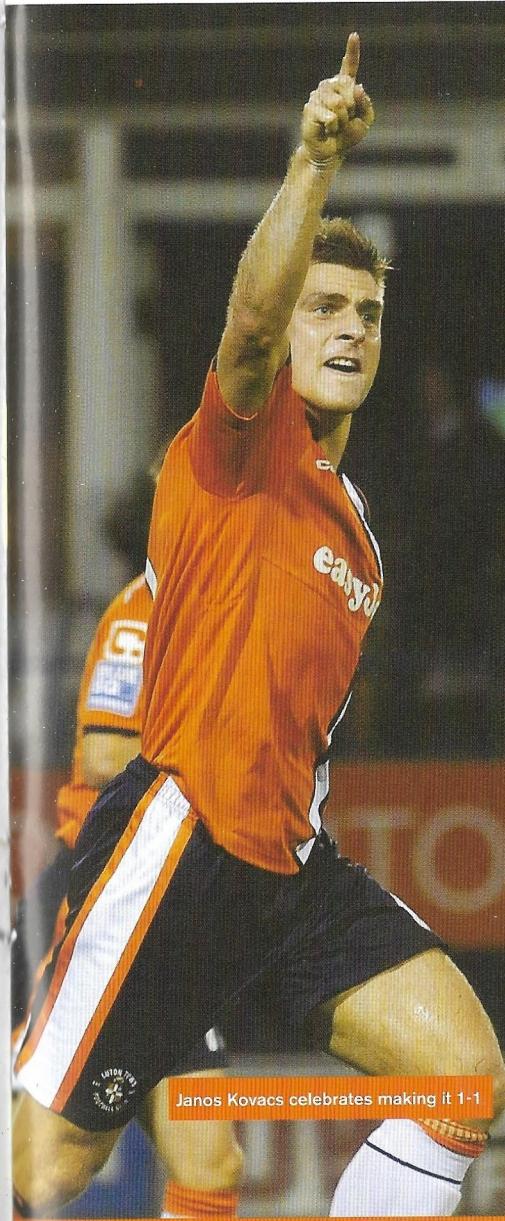
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TOWN 3-2 CAMBRIDGE

TOWN ON TOP IN FIVE-GOAL THRILLER



Janos Kovacs celebrates making it 1-1

A delighted Paul Buckle thought his side couldn't have given him any more after their 3-2 victory over Cambridge lifted them into second place in the table.

The Town had trailed to Ricky Wellard's rocket of an opener for the U's 13 minutes in but defender Janos Kovacs equalised five minutes later.

However, the second half was a different story as the Town turned on the style. Andre Gray and Dean Beckwith had the Hatters 3-1 to the good shortly after the hour and, although Cambridge pulled a goal back with two minutes left, Buckle was full of praise for his side's performance.

"The players couldn't have given me any more," he told Hatters Player afterwards. "They gave us everything.

Test of character

"We fell behind and to come back again was a real test of character for the players. It was a good atmosphere and the game was played on a good pitch and obviously it wasn't the plan to go behind but we had to accept it. It was a good strike but the thing that pleased me was that we came back and the manner in which we scored our goals – we were really aggressive when attacking our set-pieces and, perhaps we could have scored four or five."

Indeed it could have been a greater margin of victory but the manager was keen to point out that the hard work on the training ground and in matches is beginning to pay off. "We've been practising the set-pieces on the training ground and it's been paying dividends," Buckle continued. "We've been putting in some fantastic deliveries which are really hard to defend against, especially at the Kenilworth Road end.

"Tonight I thought we played with our tails up and although they got one back towards the end I was always confident we'd see the game out.

"It's another three points that gets us closer to where we want to be at the top of the table and the only way we're going to get there is to keep winning and keep working hard. We were really on song tonight but we mustn't take our eye off the ball.

"Nobody said we would be the finished article at this stage of the season – and we will continue to work hard. Tonight, though, we were excellent and thoroughly deserved the win."



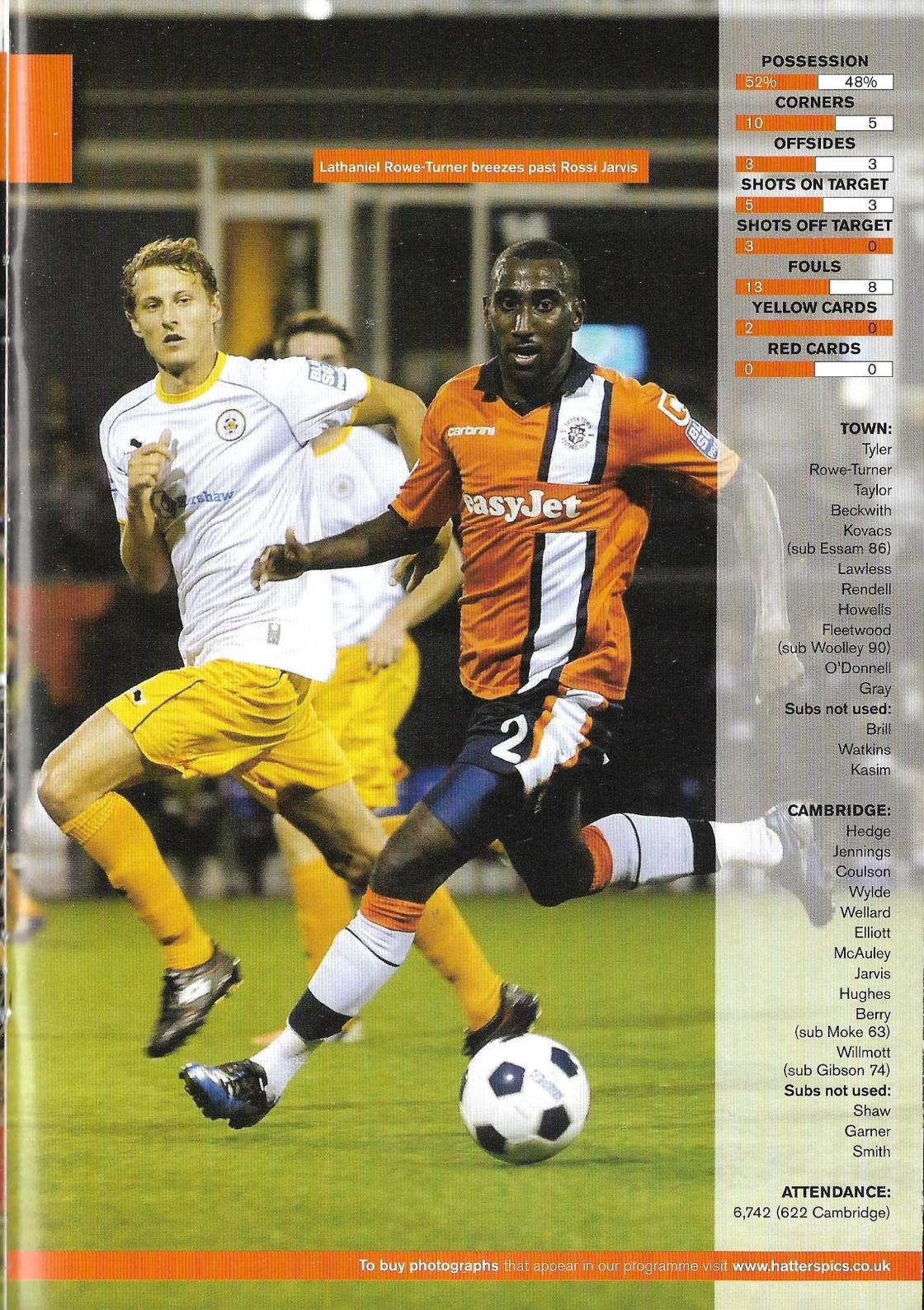
TOWN 3

Kovacs 18, Gray 53, Beckwith 61



CAMBRIDGE 2

Wellard 13, McAuley 88



POSSESSION

52% 48%

CORNERS

10 5

OFFSIDES

3 3

SHOTS ON TARGET

5 3

SHOTS OFF TARGET

3 0

FOULS

13 8

YELLOW CARDS

2 0

RED CARDS

0 0

TOWN:

Tyler

Rowe-Turner

Taylor

Beckwith

Kovacs

(sub Essam 86)

Lawless

Rendell

Howellis

Fleetwood

(sub Woolley 90)

O'Donnell

Gray

Subs not used:

Brill

Watkins

Kasim

CAMBRIDGE:

Hedge

Jennings

Coulson

Wyld

Wellard

Elliott

McAuley

Jarvis

Hughes

Berry

(sub Moke 63)

Willmott

(sub Gibson 74)

Subs not used:

Shaw

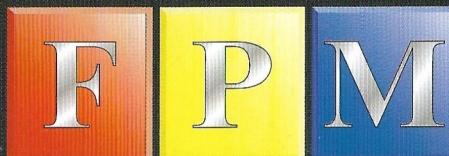
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ALFRETON 3-0 TOWN

BAD DAY AT THE OFFICE

Manager Paul Buckle apologised to the Town supporters after the 3-0 defeat at Alfreton – and admitted his side were second best.

The Hatters were on the receiving end of a 3-0 defeat thanks to two goals from Anthony Wilson and one from Dan Bradley.

Alfreton took the lead as early as the second minute when Nathan Arnold's cross eluded the Hatters defence allowing Wilson to sweep home from six yards.

It got worse for the Town on 23 minutes when the hosts doubled their lead from the penalty spot. Arnold was again the Hatters' tormentor and, after he was wrestled to the floor in the penalty area, Bradley confidently blasted past Mark Tyler.

Andre Gray almost reduced the deficit before half-time with a left-foot shot on the turn that bounced wide before Buckle made a triple substitution at the break.

However, despite an improved second-half showing, they couldn't find a goal to bring them back into the game and Alfreton made the game safe when Wilson netted his second, benefiting from a rare mistake from Tyler.

And afterwards the Town boss was at a loss to describe his side's performance as they lost their 100 per cent record away from Kenilworth Road. "I didn't see that coming," said Buckle. "I have to apologise to the fans who have come here in their numbers.

"We need answers and quick, because it was not good enough. The biggest thing for me is that we watch the DVD and see who was responsible for the goals. I have a pretty good idea who but we'll be in for training on Sunday.

"We conceded an early goal which put us in an awkward position and from there it just got worse.

"In the second half we made a terrible error but sometimes players under pressure make mistakes and Mark Tyler is a fantastic professional.

"But I trust the players – they know how bad they've been today. We weren't at it and now it's up to us to do something about it.

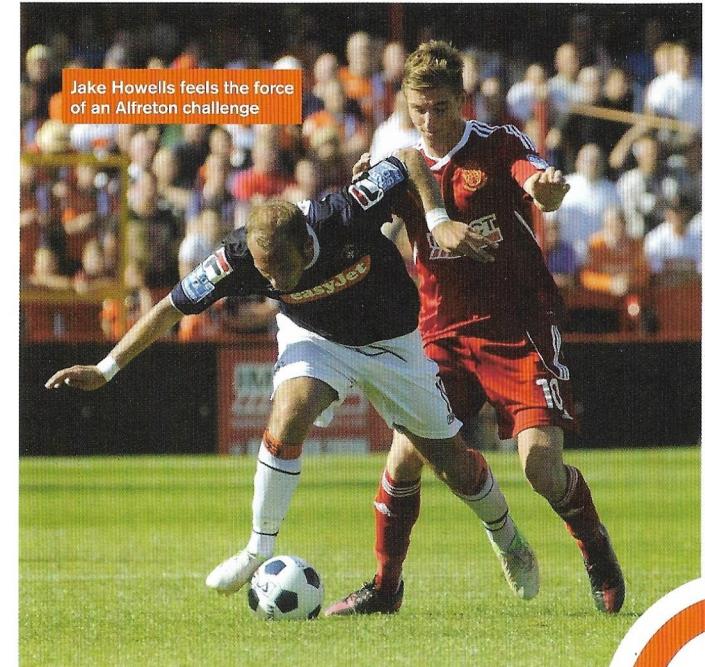
"We won't panic, though. We won't be the first team to put on a bad performance and we won't be the last. We need to get back on track as soon as possible, starting in training tomorrow.

"In fairness to the players their performance levels have been good – hopefully this is just a one-off.

"You have to come out the traps, the first goal is vital – they got it, it gave them something to hold onto, but we contributed massively to our own downfall.

"The players have been brilliant on the road but today we've come crashing down on the back of a poor performance.

"We've got good players and good players don't turn bad overnight."



Jake Howells feels the force of an Alfreton challenge

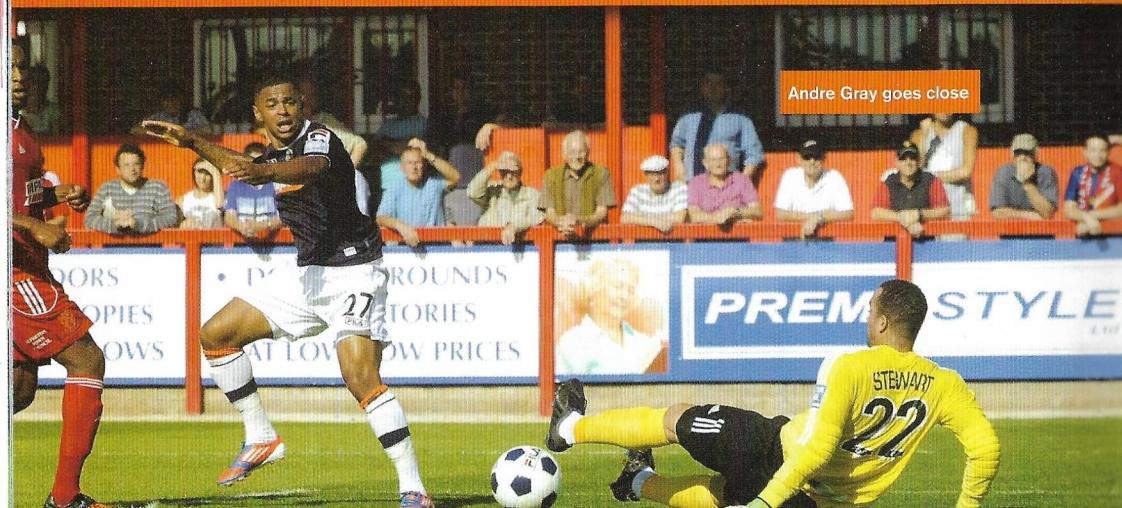


ALFRETON 3

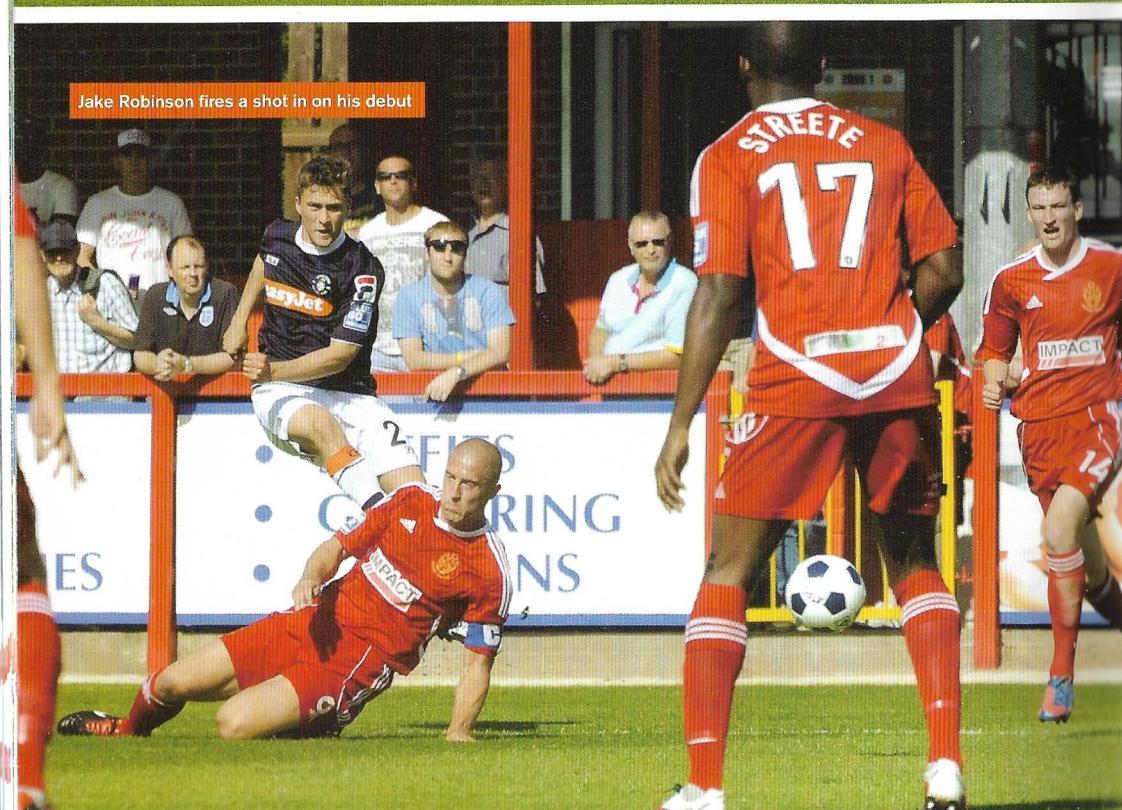
Wilson 2, 66, Bradley 23 (pen)



TOWN 0



Andre Gray goes close



Jake Robinson fires a shot in on his debut



JJ O'Donnell wins this aerial battle

POSSESSION

50% 50%

CORNERS

3 7

OFFSIDES

5 5

SHOTS ON TARGET

5 7

SHOTS OFF TARGET

5 6

FOULS

10 3

YELLOW CARDS

2 2

RED CARDS

0 0

ALFRETON:

Stewart

Law

Franklin

Kempson

Bradley

Franks

Streete

Brown

Meadows

(sub Russell 82)

Arnold

(sub Tomlinson 88)

Wilson

(sub Clayton 67)

Subs not used:

Taylor

Worsfold

TOWN:

Tyler

Henry

Taylor

(sub Kasim 46)

Beckwith

Kovacs

(sub Essam 46)

Lawless

Howells

O'Donnell

Watkins

(sub Fleetwood 46)

J. Robinson

Gray

Subs not used:

Brill

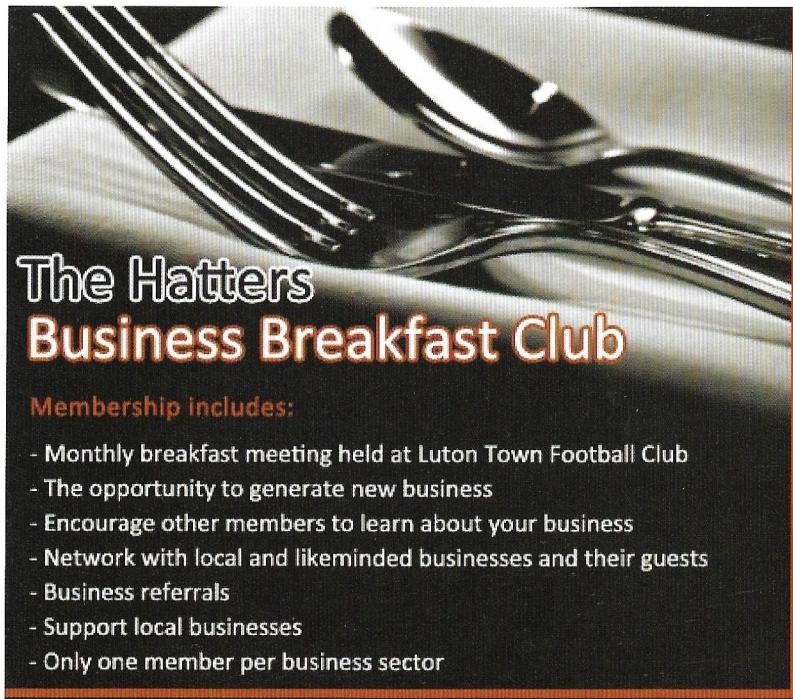
Rowe-Turner

ATTENDANCE:

1,392

(768 Luton)

To buy photographs that appear in our programme visit www.hatterspics.co.uk

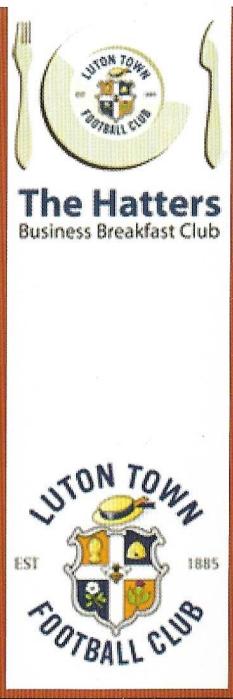


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REACTION

JAN THE MAN!

After an enthralling 3-2 victory over Cambridge United, Talk of The Town caught up with stand-in skipper Janos Kovacs on his thoughts about three points in a well contested local rivalry at Kenilworth Road.

After leading the Hatters out that evening with the armband strapped to his bicep, the goalscoring centre-half spoke of his pride in being in temporary charge of Buckle's army but insisted the return of skipper Ronnie Henry will bolster the side further.

"It's always a great honour to be a captain, I'm very happy if I can wear the armband," said the Hungarian. "But our skipper is Ronnie Henry and we need him back big time, he's a leader on the pitch and off the pitch so it will be another strong thing for him to be back for the next game."

Since Henry's dismissal in the defeat against AFC Telford, the Hatters went on a three-match winning run which saw the partnership of Kovacs and fellow goalscorer against the U's Dean Beckwith stand in for the suspended skipper.

And the 26-year-old expressed his delight at himself, and his defensive partner, both getting on the score sheet and their role in helping secure another three points. "The Cambridge result was great. Along with that I'm very happy for Dean Beckwith for his goal. After a long time out of the team he's come back in and done brilliant, and he scored a great side-foot goal today so I'm very happy with the result, which is another three points."

Despite three points for the team and a goal for himself, the Hungarian was, however, very wary of the defensive frailties that saw Town concede two goals on the night.

"I'm very happy with the result but on the other side I'm very disappointed that we conceded two goals," he said. "The first one you cannot do too much about, it was a great strike and it happens in football, but the second half was sloppy and then we conceded from a set piece so we need to keep working on those ones and get a clean sheet."

The mark of champions and success, as seen many times week in week out in football, is to pick up points when the performances are not on show and the former Hereford skipper was delighted in the reaction his fellow team mates showed since the disappointing 1-0 defeat to Telford less than a month ago.

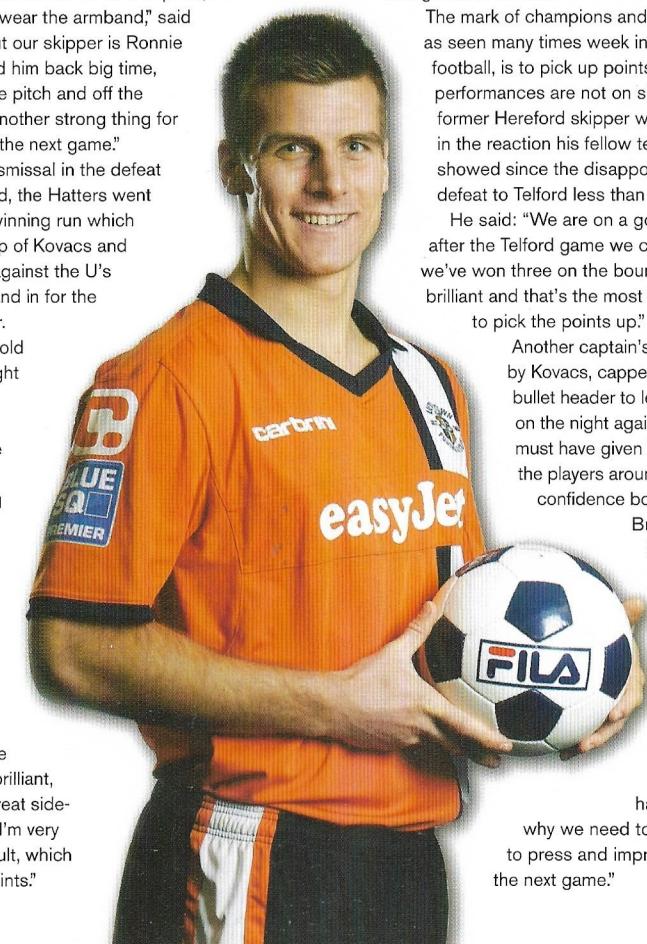
He said: "We are on a good run now, after the Telford game we came back and we've won three on the bounce so that's brilliant and that's the most important thing to pick the points up."

Another captain's performance by Kovacs, capped off by his bullet header to level the score on the night against Cambridge, must have given himself and the players around him a huge confidence boost.

But the centre-back is refusing to get complacent.

"If we just lie back and you say we picked the three points up then bad things will happen that's

why we need to continue to press and improve for the next game."



CENTRE SPOT

Yes! The players rush to congratulate Dean Beckwith on his goal against Cambridge



PICTURE

THE PAST

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH **DELVES**
INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE

As Marvin Johnson was star of the show at the recent Hatters v Aston Villa Legends game it just seemed right that he is featured today in his finest hour.

The Town were going out of the Worthington Cup to Ipswich on away goals at Kenilworth Road in September 1998 when up popped Marvin to net the winner in the final minute of extra time to send the crowd wild.



An Agreement

made the 24

day of April

1923

between Chas. Green

of

Linton

Bedford

in the COUNTY OF

the Secretary of and acting pursuant to Resolution and Authority for and on behalf of the Linton Town FOOTBALL CLUB, of (hereinafter referred to as the Club)

of the one part and of J. H. Foster

of 55 Old Rd, Linton

in the County of Bedford

Professional Football Player

(hereinafter referred to as the Player) of the other part **Whereby** it is agreed as follows:—

1. The Player hereby agrees to play in an efficient manner and to the best of his ability for the Club.

2. The Player shall attend the Club's ground or any other place decided upon by the Club for the purposes of or in connection with his training as a Player pursuant to the instructions of the Secretary, Manager or Trainer of the Club or of such other person or persons as the Club may appoint.

3. The Player shall do everything necessary to get and keep himself in the best possible condition so as to render the most efficient service to the Club and will carry out all the training and other instructions of the Club through its representative officials.

4. The Player shall observe and be subject to all the Rules, Regulations and Bye-laws of The Football Association, and any other Association, League or Combination of which the Club shall be a member. And this Agreement shall be subject to any action which shall be taken by The Football Association under their Rules for the suspension or termination of the Football Season and if any such suspension or termination shall be decided upon the payment of wages shall likewise be suspended or terminated as the case may be.

5. The Player shall not engage in any business or live in any place which the Directors (or Committee) of the Club may deem unsuitable.

TOWN TREASURES

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES DEEP INTO HIS VAST COLLECTION OF HATTERS MEMORABILIA

John Foster was a tough, no-nonsense defender who made 50 appearances for the Town in the early 1920's, following his transfer from Notts County.

Born in Wombwell in 1889, Foster was nearing the veteran stage when he signed for the Hatters but his senior status did not mean that he earned any more than his colleagues who all collected £4-10-0 (£4.50) a week in the summer and £5-10-0 (£5.50) in the playing season.



Pictured are the man himself and the two pages of John's contract

8. In consideration of the observance by the said Player of the terms, provisions and conditions of this Agreement, the said

on behalf of the Club hereby agrees that the said Club

shall pay to the said Player the sum of £4-10-0 per week from

7 May 1923 to 28 July 1923

and £5-10-0 per week from 30 July 1923

to 3 May 1924

9. This Agreement shall cease and determine on 3 May 1924

unless the same shall have been previously determined in accordance with the provisions hereinbefore set forth.

7 May 1923
Signed by the said

As Witness the hands of the said parties the day and year first aforesaid.

Signed by the said

2nd

J. H. Foster

In the presence of

(Signature) E. G. H.

(Occupation) Club

(Address) 74 Cardiff Rd, Luton

2nd

Chas. Green

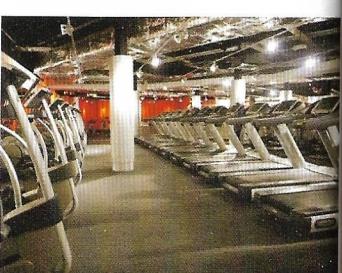
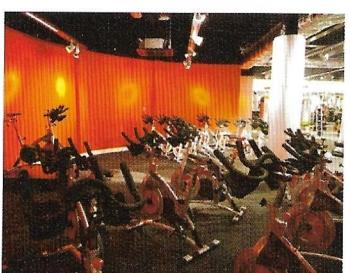
John H. Foster

THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES
INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE



It is 1974 and the Town have just won promotion to the top right. Cue the obligatory record and who better to team up with than the Leighton Buzzard based Barron Knights who were very popular at the time (ask your parents).
Alan West and Keith Barber lead the way watched by a few embarrassed team mates.



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ON THIS DAY

SEPTEMBER 15

THE RECORD

The Town have won six, lost five and drawn four of the games played on this day in history. There have been 22 goals to cheer but 24 to frown about in the 15 games, working out at an average of a smidgen over three goals per game.

LONG TIME COMING

This afternoon's game is the first the Hatters have played on this date since a 2001 trip to York City. On that day, the Town left Bootham Crescent with a 2-1 victory thanks to goals from Carl Griffiths and Ian Hillier. The Hatters have not won, or even scored, in the five subsequent visits to Bootham Crescent. Despite the win, this game will be best remembered for Steve Howard twice missing from the penalty spot after he had wrestled the ball from his team-mate to take it. Needless to say, the manager at the time, Joe Kinnear, was not happy.

45 YEARS OF HURT

That victory over York ended a 45 year wait for a Hatters win on the 15th September. No victory had been achieved in six prior attempts from 1956 onwards.

TOFFEES CHEWED

Everton were the victims when the Town tasted victory in 1956. Gordon Turner and Reg Pearce were on target as the Hatters triumphed 2-0 in a top-flight fixture in front of 18,076 at Kenilworth Road. Turner went on to net 34 goals in all competitions that season, in just 38 games.

TURNER IS TOPS

Two years before the Everton win, Turner was again amongst the goals as he netted twice against Lincoln City at Kenilworth Road in a 2-1 victory. The Hatters went on to win promotion to the top flight for the very first time, finishing second in the old Second Division behind Birmingham City. Turner ended that campaign with 37 goals in 45 matches.

PAYNE IN THE...

Another famous Hatters marksman was causing problems for opposition defences in 1937. In the Town's first season in the Second Division, after winning Division Three South, Joe Payne notched his second goal of the season in a 3-1 win over Newcastle United at St James' Park on this day in 1937. Ron Stevens and Edward Griffiths were also on target.

BEST FORGOTTEN

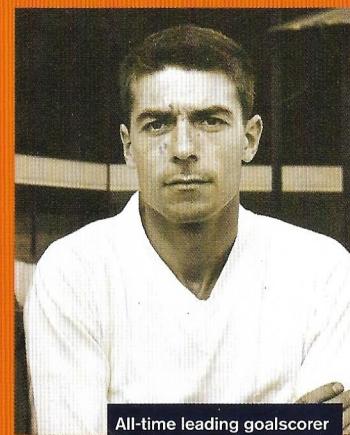
The heaviest of the five defeats the Hatters have suffered on this day came in 1990 when Queens Park Ranger inflicted a 6-1 defeat on Jim Ryan's side at Loftus Road. The Hatters were only trailing 1-0 at half-time but it was two goals from former Town striker Roy Wegerle that helped Rangers secure a comfortable win. Ceri Hughes was the scorer of the Hatters' goal – his first for the club.

THREE APIECE

Six goals were shared evenly at Kenilworth Road back in 1973 when the Town drew 3-3 with Portsmouth. The Hatters were ahead and then twice behind in a topsy-turvy encounter but a goal from Tom Finney 15 minutes from time earned the Town a point. Bobby Thomson and Alan Garner were also on target for Harry Haslam's side.

FIRST LEG DEFEAT

Elsewhere in this programme, you will see a magnificent photograph of Marvin Johnson celebrating a last-minute extra-time winner against Ipswich Town in a League Cup second round second leg tie at Kenilworth Road in 1998. It was on this day that year that the first leg between the two clubs was played at Portman Road. That night, in front of 9,032, Ipswich won 2-1 with Stuart Douglas scoring the important goal for the Hatters.



All-time leading goalscorer Gordon Turner has scored three times on this day

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REACTION

NEW BOY IN TOWN

Jake Robinson signed a month's loan deal at Kenilworth Road briefly before his debut last Saturday in the defeat to Alfreton.

Robinson joined from Northampton Town and can operate either out wide as a winger or play as a front man, which gives manager Paul Buckle another attacking option to select from.

For those of you who have been caught a little unaware of the capture of Robinson, take a minute to look up his goal for the Cobblers last week in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy clash against Milton Keynes Dons. Robinson picked up the ball after a flick on from his fellow Cobblers team mate, before lashing home a 30-yard volley, leaving Dons keeper helpless.

The 25-year-old was amongst the goals whilst out on loan to Torquay under Hatters boss Paul Buckle, and having only joined on loan for a month, Robinson did not have to wait too long to make his Hatters bow being thrust into the starting XI.

Tasting defeat on his Town debut was something of a disappointment for the forward but he insists the character of the team will depend on their recovery from the defeat, rather than the performance which cost them dearly.

"Nothing went right at Alfreton," the 25-year-old said. "The team's been doing well recently, so the sign of good teams is how you bounce back so we will be looking to do that but unfortunately there are not many positives to take from today."

Robinson has found it difficult to break into Aidy Boothroyd's plans at Sixfields so he jumped at the chance to come to Luton last Friday in a real last-minute switch. "I actually went out to train with Northampton in my training kit before being pulled to one side by the manager, and an hour later I was at Luton's training ground, in a Luton training kit," he explained. "This obviously came about really sudden, but I jumped at the chance to come to a team doing really well."



Jake on his debut at Alfreton

Perhaps, unsurprisingly, it was his former relationship with the manager that was a deal-clincher for Robinson who spoke highly of his former and new part-time boss.

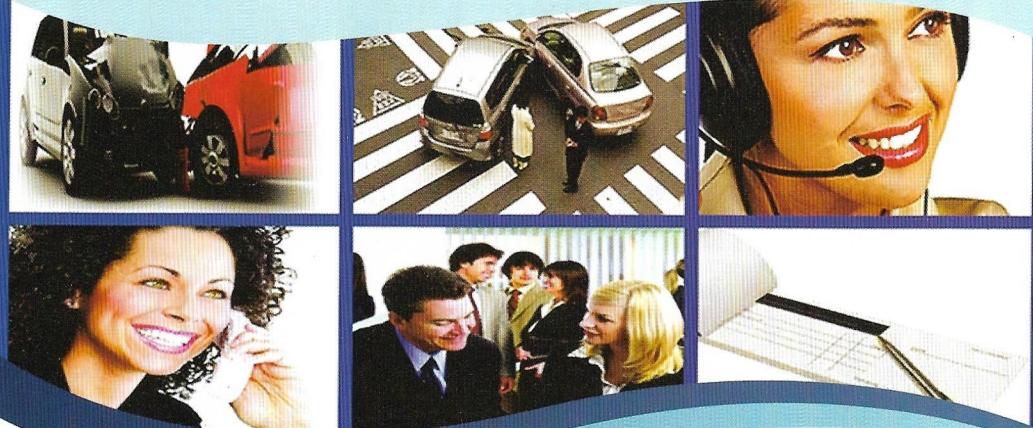
"We got on really well down at Torquay," said Robinson. "He did seem to get the best out of me when I haven't been playing to the best of my ability the last couple of years so hopefully he can get the best out of me again and I can be a real asset to Luton."

Finally, despite a debut to put behind him, Robinson has expressed his desire to do well on this initial month's loan deal and has already voiced his ambition's to make a good enough impression to earn himself an extension to that loan.

"Hopefully things go better than today and I'll be more than happy to extend it here, I just want to play games and in a team that's winning it would be ideal."

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THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER

ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

BY NLP CHIEF REPORTER STUART HAMMONDS

Sir Alex Ferguson has been telling his young Manchester United players which cars they are able to select as part of the Premier League giants' new sponsorship deal with Chevrolet.

The Scot's counterpart at Mickleover Royals, Shaun Staniford, would do well to follow suit and advise his own lads not to accept the Central Midlands League side's latest backer's freebies.

Local butcher Rob Stafford offered any Royals player scoring a hat-trick the reward of a pound of his shop's finest sirloin steak – and goal-hungry striker Kirk Francis promptly gobbled one up in the Derbyshire side's 5-4 win over South Normanton Athletic.

Harking back

It got me harking back to my own playing career, starting in the same East Midlands area with Northern Counties East side Arnold Town.

Firstly, about how our assistant-manager, Bill Brindley, told me I needed to start eating steaks and drinking Guinness to help me 'fill out'.

I was a student at Loughborough University at the time and on a Tuesday night, I'd catch the bus home to Nottingham before borrowing my mum's car to complete the journey to Gedling Road.

As well as throwing her my holdall of dirty washing, I'd ask what she'd done me for my tea and, because of what Bill had said, it would always be steak and chips.

I'm not sure he meant it as a pre-match meal – but luckily she didn't give me a pint of the black stuff or my tackles would have been even more mistimed.

While playing for the Eagles, every man-of-the-match would be rewarded with a sponsor's bottle of champagne – or should I say cheap sparkling wine to match our not-so-fizzy football.

Ginger

I then moved south to play for Sutton United, who had a sponsorship deal with broadcaster Chris Evans' TV company, though the only noticeable benefit – if you can call it that – were the hideous green, yellow

productions
ginger

Ginger Productions:
Emblazoned on the
Sutton United shirts

and blue tracksuits we got to wear with the bright orange 'Ginger Productions' logo.

That deal came about as a result of director Barry Aplin's daughter Suzi being an old girlfriend of the one-time presenter of The Big Breakfast, which leads me nicely into the most unusual sponsors' kick-back of my career.

When playing for Ware in 2007/08, we reached the FA Cup first round proper – a run that got the whole of the Hertfordshire town talking and supporting us in any way they could.

We drew Blue Square Bet Premier full-timers Kidderminster and hosted them at Wodson Park in front of a full house.

The crates of Lucozade energy drink the local supermarket manager handed to our kit man when he went in wearing his Ware top were appreciated, bearing in mind our part-time status.

Pre-match bacon and egg baps

But any positive effect they may have had was negated by the pre-match bacon and egg baps the local greasy spoon cafe had given us from their van outside the main stand.

As a Ryman One North club, we'd been on a 'roll' to get that far – but there was no getting 'pasta' the professionally prepared Harriers, who beat us 2-0!

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University of
Bedfordshire

A SEASON'S STORY

PART TWO BY DAVID CAIN

THE HARD YARDS

Summer pulls on autumn's coat and a pattern emerges. The longer you stare at it, the clearer it becomes. Top five. Fight, skill, teamwork, goals. Something is starting to stir.

True, you cannot win promotion by mid-September. All the same, you can lose it by now. For these are the hard yards you have to put in early to get your rewards.

Hard yards. We know the saying, but what does it mean?

The unseen and ugly unappreciated yards. The yards no one likes doing. The seemingly meaningless yards that are the difference between winning and losing. Only the determined dig so deep, so early, to gain nothing more than a promise of later rewards.

For in football, as in life, you get what you give. So the yards are hard and the Hatters are putting them in, but which yards are they? The 18 of the penalty area? The six-yard box? The impatient yards walked down the tunnel to the pitch?

Or, should this be measured in inches? The fingertip between save and goal. The shirts breadth of on, or off, side. Such small measures make a season. Perhaps, the hard yards are not on the pitch at all, but in the mind.

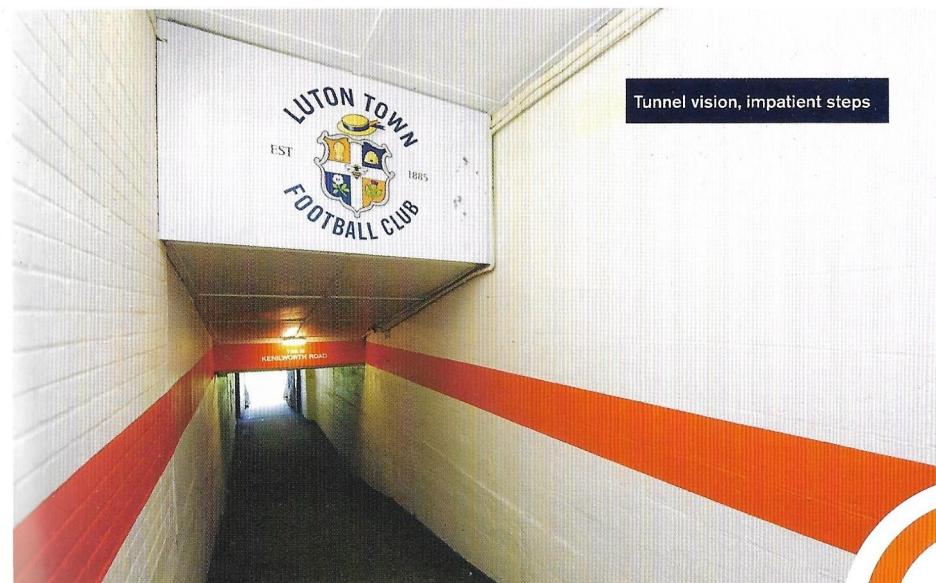
The hardest yard the will to win. We can tell when those yards are being made, and when it's good, right now, even the hardest yards become easy before our eyes. The dedication to pre-season fitness. The commitment to training ground drills. The courage to demand the ball.

The strength to stand tall, and when things don't work out, to dust yourself down and start all over again. The late comebacks. The three points gained. Hyde. Macclesfield. Cambridge.

These early, hard yards, count for us fans, too. Our hardest yard to believe. Believe we will beat Wrexham this afternoon. Believe we will sit top of the league at ten to five. Believe, that whatever happens, we will all put in those hard yards. Minute after minute.

Today. Tomorrow. To the Football League.

Tunnel vision, impatient steps



David Cain is an experienced writer, researcher and follower of the Hatters

FROM THE PRESS BOX

WITH MEDIA-VU'S GRAHAM MILLER

So there I was. With 25,000 or so other Town fans, head down, trudging away from Wembley. But then, just as the gloom descended after that defeat to York in May, I had an epiphany.

Nothing religious you understand. Just a sudden eureka moment. A gap appeared in the sky as a heavenly memory came shining through.

What triggered it? I don't know. But it was April 1988. And this time I couldn't stop smiling. We were again at Wembley and the Town had beaten Arsenal to lift the Littlewoods Cup.

As ever, I was working - on that day for Thames Television - and one memory replayed in detail.

Mick Harford rose high to meet a David Preece free-kick. Three Arsenal defenders jumped with him. It was no contest of course. The ball found its way to Steve Foster and, despite the wall of players in the box, the then Luton skipper steered it to Brian Stein. Stein; graceful, clever, a real football pro from head to toe, glided the ball beyond John Lukic. One-nil.

I listened again to how Wembley fell silent. The majority of Arsenal fans were behind me in the stands that overlooked the player's tunnel. They were stunned. This wasn't in their script.

With my TV crew, I was sitting on the grass directly behind the Arsenal goal that had been breached. In those days there wasn't even an advertising board between us and the action.

A roar then erupted like a volcano - 'Goal!'. It screamed from the opposite end of the ground first and then beneath the Royal Box to my right. It was a moment to savour. If you're an Arsenal fan look away now. For the rest of us, Luton went on to record that remarkable 3-2 victory.

Arsenal had been overwhelming favourites. My media colleagues suggested the Town would merely make up the numbers. If you look at the stats at the time, you can see why the previews favoured George Graham's team.

In April that year, Luton lost to Wimbledon in the FA Cup semi-final at White Hart Lane and managed only one league win during the month. Incidentally, I was in the Spurs press box for the semi. Right up against the player's tunnel wall. The teams came out together. Wimbledon were jumping on the spot. Shouting and yelling their excitement. Confidence oozing through the



It was a much happier result at Wembley back in 1988

entire team. The Town, I recall, looked intimidated as they lined up alongside them. Rather than staring ahead and focusing, Luton were watching the Wimbledon players. They seemed overwhelmed by Wimbledon's energy and high spirits. The result from your correspondent's position was foreseeable before a ball was kicked.

Not the victory over Arsenal, however. At the end of the game, I moved my TV crew in among the Luton players as they celebrated with the fans behind the fencing that Wembley had in place. It made great television with the supporters yelling their delight and the players responding in kind.

As a Luton fan, of course I was on cloud nine. And it meant possible European football. I interviewed manager Ray Harford by the Wembley goal where earlier keeper Andy Dibble had saved Nigel Winterburn's penalty.

We both enjoyed the euphoria of it all and my last question was about how Luton were now 'in Europe'. Ray beamed with pride and said how much he was looking forward to it and that he felt his team could hold their own.

History, of course, tells a different story. UEFA decided that English clubs should be banned for a fourth year from European competition as a result of the Heysel disaster. And so, along with Manchester United, Everton, Nottingham Forest and QPR, Luton were denied what could have been a lucrative and thrilling campaign.

I began to ponder what might have been when the cloud closed and the reality of the York game returned. In or out of the press box, it's never straightforward being a Luton fan.

THE PRESS OFFICE PICTURE

WITH ANDREW BARRINGER

WEBSITE LATEST FROM WEMBLEY

On Tuesday, the Football League invited press officers and webmasters from around the country down to Wembley (well, the new Hilton Hotel adjacent to the stadium) to give us an update on current state of the new website project.

86 clubs in the Football League Interactive (FLI) agreement were present, including some familiar faces from clubs in League 2 and the Conference I have met over the few years, to hear the thoughts from the big cheeses at FLI.

The main bone of contention with most – and one shared significantly by supporters – was the lack of a mobile site for use on phones and tablets. As I have said previously on this page, we were initially told by FLI and the new company who built the sites (an American company called Sapient Nitro) that the task of launching both a new website and new mobile site simultaneously wasn't possible because of the size and timescales of the involved.

On Tuesday, we were told that mobile sites will be live on 27th September so – fingers crossed – browsing on mobile devices will be a helluva lot easier and, of course, make the site more accessible to you all.

The new-look official website

'APPY DAYS

I brought up a separate issue at the FLI meeting about our lack of an official app for supporters to download.

I was told that, due to our relegation from the Football League, we were not included in the app-making process. But, with 10 clubs in the Blue Square Bet Premier – including ourselves – that are a part of the FLI agreement, there certainly is the demand for it.

Nevertheless, the marketing bodes at FLI Towers are currently deciding whether to include ourselves in an official app. Once given the go ahead, it could be available in four weeks. I will keep you posted.

IMPROVED MATCH COVERAGE

As a club, we are delighted to inform supporters that from today onwards all home matches will be available to purchase on DVD.

The full 90 minutes of each game will be available to buy both in the club shop and through our online shop. The DVDs will also include full-match commentary from Diverse FM's Simon Pitts.

Furthermore, highlights – and goals, hopefully – of today's game will be available on Hatters Player, our video channel side to the official website at www.player.lutontown.co.uk.

We're always striving to improve your pre, during, or post-match experience and if there's something we're not doing that you think we should then please get in touch.

Films at Luton Library Theatre



African Queen (PG)

Wednesday 5 September
2pm & 7.45pm
105 mins, 1951

Out of Africa (PG)

Friday 7 September
2pm
161 mins, 1985
(this film will have an interval)

Phantom of the Opera (12a)

Wednesday 19 September
2pm & 7.45pm
142 mins, 2004

Titanic (12a)

Friday 21 September
2pm
194 mins, 1997
(this film includes an interval)

Bel Ami (15)

Thursday 27 September
2pm & 7.45pm
102 mins, 2012

Some Like It Hot (U)

Wednesday 3 October
2pm & 7.45pm
120 mins, 1959

- ▶ £4 / £3 concessions / £2 Culture Card Members
- ▶ These films are suitable for people from adult day centres.

▶ **Box Office: 01582 547474 / 878100**

www.lutonlibrarytheatre.com

▶ Luton Library Theatre, Luton Central Library,
St George's Square, Luton LU1 2NG

Luton
Library
Theatre

Arts Libraries & Museums
Luton Culture

ACADEMY UPDATE

WITH SCOTT SMITH

So, another hectic season is in full swing for our young Hatters. A positive pre-season saw many a lesson learnt against high calibre opposition with the under-9s and under-10s competing well against the likes of Liverpool, Norwich and Southampton.

It's brilliant to be right back into the mix of a new season and the games are coming thick and fast for our academy boys. Although winning or losing is by no means the measure of success for players of such a tender age, it has been pleasing to see some great performances from our under-9s and under-10s, which has led to both teams maintaining their 100 per cent starts to the season following exciting displays of free-flowing technical football against Cambridge, Leyton Orient and MK Dons.

I am personally delighted to be taking such a talented under-9s group this season again, along with the help of Ross O'Kane. I am also pleased that our gifted under-10 group will this year be lead by Pip Davis with the support of Andy Cornwell and John Oxley - all three of which have been involved with the club for the last few seasons.

With the academy boys off to such a positive start, I'd also like to take time to mention the boys at the other tiers of our development structure in the foundation phase.

We have a combined total of over 100 boys in one of three levels at under 9/10s (academy, pre-academy and centre of excellence), thus providing the club with real strength in depth, great levels of competition for places and a clear pathway towards academy football with Luton Town.

Well done to both our under-9 and under-10 squads at pre-academy level who turned in outstanding performances to comfortably see off Charlton Athletic last weekend. Turn to page 63 to read on their success.

Fielding such talented sides at these age groups wouldn't be possible if we as a club didn't attract, recruit and keep the best local players at ages six, seven and eight.



The Town Under-10 side: due out on the pitch at half-time today

Ross and I run various under-6 to under-8 elite and development centres across Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire and are always on the look out for the next generation of young gifted footballers to become Luton Town's next academy players. Good luck to our under-8s in their upcoming fixture against Premier League opposition.

Finally, I would like to congratulate our latest academy signing in the foundation phase. Under-9 goalkeeper Alex, who has great hands and the ability to pull off spectacular saves, has recently signed for the club having previously joined our pay-as-you-play TIPS programme. Alex's talents were soon spotted and, following a successful trial, he will be signing on the pitch at half-time today so please give him a warm welcome as you always do.

Joining Alex at half-time will be our other recent signings; James - a tenacious, tough tackling under-11 with an eye for goal; and Alex - a technically excellent under-13 with a lovely left foot.

The under-15/16s have also made four new signings, all making the step up from our pre-academy. Well done to Ashton - a tough tackling, ball playing midfielder; Corey - an athletic centre-back with good composure; Adrian - an energetic midfielder who loves to run with the ball; and, finally, Connor - an electric winger with a great first touch.

Well done and good luck to all these boys in their successes with the club, and long may it continue!

YOUTH FIXTURES

PUMA YOUTH ALLIANCE UNDER-18 SOUTH-EAST FIXTURES - SEASON 2012 - 2013

AUGUST

SAT 11 LEYTON ORIENT A L 0-2
SAT 18 DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE H L 2-3 Jibodu (pen), Smith

SAT 25 STEVENAGE A W 3-2 McKenzie-Lowe, own goal, Amu

SEPTEMBER

SAT 01 PETERBOROUGH UNITED A W 2-0 McKenzie-Lowe, own goal
SAT 22 MILTON KEYNES DONS A 11.00AM

SAT 29 NORTHAMPTON TOWN H 11.00AM

OCTOBER

SAT 06 STEVENAGE A 11.00AM - PUMA YA CUP 1
SAT 13 NORTHAMPTON TOWN H 11.00AM - PUMA YA CUP 2

SAT 20 11.00AM - PUMA YA CUP 3
SAT 27 PETERBOROUGH UNITED H 11.00AM - PUMA YA CUP 4

NOVEMBER

SAT 03 MILTON KEYNES DONS H 11.00AM - PUMA YA CUP 5
SAT 24 IN SERVICE TRAINING

DECEMBER

SAT 01 PETERBOROUGH UNITED H 11.00AM
SAT 08 NORTHAMPTON TOWN A 11.00AM

JANUARY

SAT 10 MILTON KEYNES DONS H 11.00AM
SAT 19 SOUTH CUP 2
SAT 26 LEYTON ORIENT H 11.00AM

FEBRUARY

SAT 02 DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE A 11.00AM
SAT 09 STEVENAGE H 11.00AM
SAT 16 SOUTH CUP 3

MARCH

SAT 02 AFC WIMBLEDON H 11.00AM
SAT 09 AFC WIMBLEDON A 11.00AM
SAT 16 SOUTHEND UNITED H 11.00AM
SAT 23 PORTSMOUTH A 11.00AM

APRIL

SAT 06 GILLINGHAM H 11.00AM

SAT 13 CRAWLEY TOWN A 11.00AM

EXTRA TIME by Elliott Quince



This wasn't what the manager had in mind when he asked his chief scout to find someone creative to sit in the middle of the park

YOUNG STARS

NAME:

Tinashe Chabata

AGE:

16

POSITION:

Centre-back

TIME SPENT WITH LUTON TOWN / WHEN JOINED:

Four years.

WHAT PART OF YOUR GAME DO YOU CONSIDER THE BEST?

Defending in one-versus-one situations.

WHAT PART OF YOUR GAME DO YOU WANT TO IMPROVE THIS SEASON?

My heading.

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

The fans.

WHO IS YOUR FOOTBALL IDOL?

Rio Ferdinand

WHO HAS HAD THE BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR CAREER SO FAR?

My parents.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO ACHIEVE?

To play for the Luton Town first team.

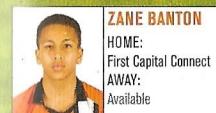
WHO IS YOUR FAVOURITE ALL-TIME PLAYER?

Maradona.

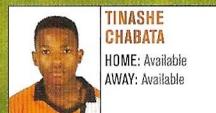
HAVE YOU SET YOURSELF ANY TARGETS FOR THIS SEASON?

To play for the first team.

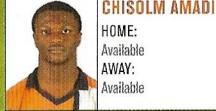
2012/13 YOUTH TEAM KIT SPONSORS



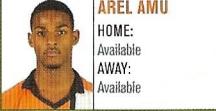
ZANE BANTON
HOME: First Capital Connect
AWAY: Available



TINASHE CHABATA
HOME: Available
AWAY: Available



CHISOLM AMADI
HOME: Available
AWAY: Available



AREL AMU
HOME: Available
AWAY: Available



JEMALE MCKENZIE-LOWE
HOME: Available
AWAY: Available



IAN REES
HOME: Available
AWAY: Available



CHARLIE SMITH
HOME: Peter Mitchell
AWAY: 2MB



NICK BURTNEHAW
HOME: Available
AWAY: Available



JOSH CARPENTER
HOME: Mike Kneafsey, Valley View Care Home
AWAY: Available
GLOVES: Available



JORDAN DAVIS
HOME: Lucy Francome
AWAY: Available



JEROME JIBODU
HOME: Doug Knight
AWAY: Doug Knight



BRETT LONGDEN
HOME: Mike Tearie
AWAY: Available



JERRY NASH
HOME: Moira Spain
AWAY: Available



ZAK STEPHENS
HOME: Available
AWAY: Available

Bursting with ideas



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First Capital Connect

REACTION

BECK-WITH A BANG!

Dean Beckwith's Luton career had been one misfortune after another. After signing last summer for the Hatters, he has made just eight league appearances under former manager Gary Brabin and current boss Paul Buckle.

The centre-half penned a deal at Kenilworth Road after his contract expired at Northampton Town in June 2011 and things started brightly for the central defender who bagged the equaliser on his debut against Forest Green just two months after joining.

However, after finding it difficult to nail down a permanent spot in the starting XI, Beckwith featured mainly for the reserves in a disappointing first season for the 28-year-old.

But, Buckle has brought Beckwith back in from the shadows for the new campaign and things are looking bright for the former Cobblers man who has impressed in his three appearances so far this season, capped off with a sublime side-footed finish at home to Cambridge United.

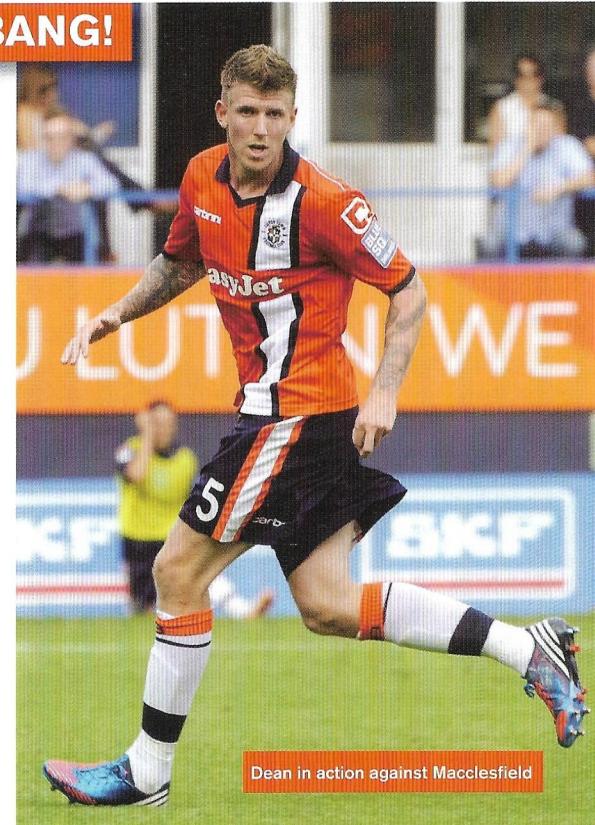
Beckwith spoke to Talk of the Town after his goalscoring exploits against the U's and he instantly revealed his delight to be back in the first-team picture.

"I'm happy to be playing at the minute, Cambridge was my third game in a row and I'm delighted with the goal that helped us get the win," he said.

"I'm happy to get a goal but more importantly for everyone - for us to get the win and for the fans who were magnificent tonight."

With the summer acquisitions of new skipper Ronnie Henry, Garry Richards and Lathaniel Rowe-Turner to add to the defensive competition for spots, Beckwith was told he was allowed to seek football elsewhere after his frustrating season.

However, Beckwith decided against a move away from Kenilworth Road and, after his efforts in pre-season brought plaudits and attention towards him again, his opportunity for a run in the side is deserving, and just.



Dean in action against Macclesfield

"I had a bad year last year," he said. "I only played about 10 games and before that I'd been playing football wherever I'd been so it was a tough year for me last year, definitely the toughest of my career so far.

"Training and not playing is the worst thing in the world as a footballer, and in the summer I was told I could leave but things didn't work out so I've come back pre-season got my head down, worked as hard as I could,

"Now at the moment I'm playing in the team and getting my rewards so I'm happy at the minute."

The commanding central defender has already racked up over a quarter of his appearance tally from last season and, after he netted against Cambridge for his second goal in Town colours, Beckwith will be looking to make the most of his good form and nail down a starting spot despite healthy competition in the Hatters changing room.



Dinomites

The A-Z of Dinosaurs, an Exhibition

31 March – 4 November 2012

Take your children to the most exciting exhibition ever held in Luton!

Admission Prices

£3.95 Adults

£2.95 Children and concessions

£12 Family ticket

LUTON LADIES

The Town Ladies halted their recent run of defeats by earning a 1-1 draw away to MK Dons, who have proved to be a bit of a bogey side over the past few seasons.

The first half showed that the Hatters had managed to tighten up their recent leaky defence as MK had much of the ball but were unable to find the killer pass or get a clean strike on goal. When they did manage a shot, Luton goalkeeper Hollie Staples was equal to it, pushing the ball onto the underside of the bar with Michelle Byrne first to the rebound to clear.

As the half progressed, Luton seemed to settle and began to put the home goal under pressure and a 20-yard volley from Jess McKay flew wide of the post.

Five minutes before the break, the Hatters took the lead when the MK keeper made a mess of a cross. Zara Carroll seized on the loose ball to fire goalwards and, although her shot was blocked by a covering defender, Nicola Henman followed up to score.

However, unfortunately, the Town were unable to hold the lead until the interval and conceded a minute before the break when a long-range strike floated high into the net to make it all square.

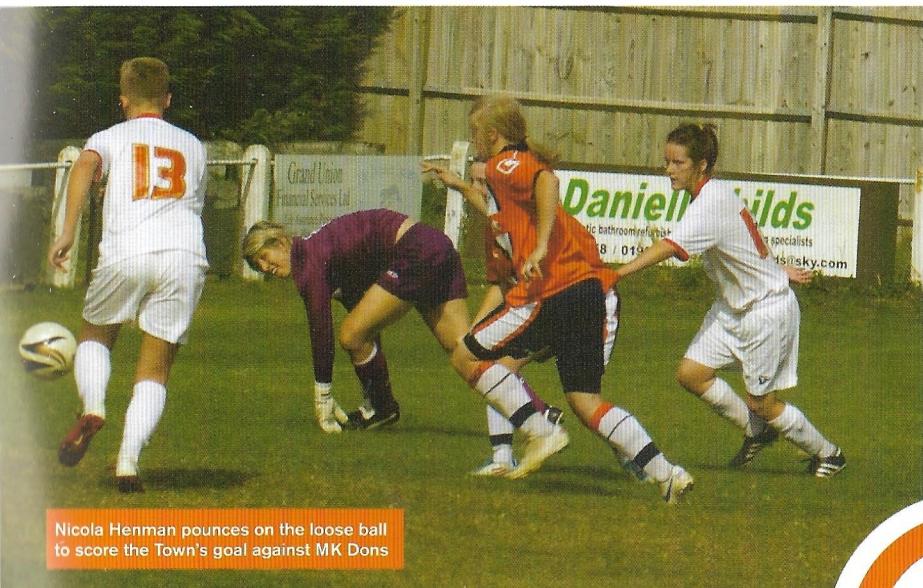
The second half was a very open affair and both sides were grateful for last-ditch defending with either side having chances to grab a winner during an open second period.

Town manager Nikki Baker told Talk of the Town: "This was an evenly contested game which might have gone either way but we defended well and fully deserved the point. At times we rode our luck but it is about time we had some good fortune and we must now press on and climb the table after a disappointing start to the season."

The Under-18s got their season off to a flyer with a 6-2 away win over Leighton United. Shannon Pratt and Shona Leo both scored twice with Charlotte George and Karis Richardson also on target.

Goals were also in evidence with the Under-14s, who began their campaign with an 8-2 away win at Langford. Phoebe Brown and Lucy Higgs fired two goals apiece with goals also coming from Tia Ashton, Chloe Harrop, Lilley Coleman and Chloe Fitzsimmons.

The Town Ladies also invite applications for the vacant Reserve Team manager post to lutontownlfc@hotmail.co.uk.



Nicola Henman pounces on the loose ball to score the Town's goal against MK Dons

#NONSENSEINFOOTBALL

"AN INCH OR TWO
EITHER SIDE OF THE POST
AND THAT WOULD HAVE
BEEN A GOAL."



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LEAGUE

LOOK

JOE FLEMONS **ROUNDS-UP**
THE LATEST IN THE BSBP

Macclesfield Town are the new leaders of the Blue Square Bet Premier after they leapfrogged Forest Green Rovers.

Rovers were beaten by a solitary Nathan Pond header for Grimsby on Saturday afternoon just days after securing top spot with a 4-1 demolition of Ebbsfleet. Macclesfield followed up their 4-3 away win at Stockport on Tuesday night by making no mistake in their tricky fixture against Braintree. The Iron conceded an 85-minute penalty against the Silkmen which former Hatter Matthew Barnes-Homer coolly dispatched to notch his fifth goal of the season. Town loanee John-Paul Kissock levelled for the home side at Moss Rose after Brad Quinton had put Braintree ahead from the spot on 21 minutes.

Today's visitors Wrexham now occupy third place after picking up six points last week with impressive performances at home to Hyde and away at Cambridge, leaving the Dragons roaring into the title picture.

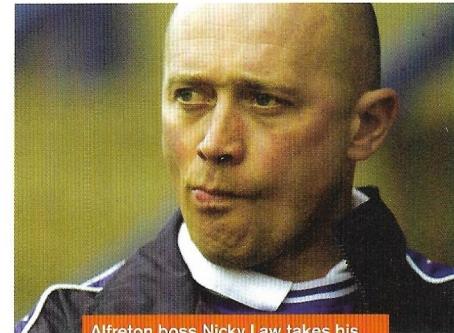
Nightmare week

Newport, however, have had a real nightmare week. This time a fortnight ago, everything seemed rosy for County who sat top of the pile with an immaculate 100 per cent record. However, a lot can change in football in the space of just two weeks and that has been put into practice by Newport, who have slumped to two defeats in their last three outings, the other result being a 0-0 draw with Stockport on Saturday.

As Newport and the Hatters flirt with the final Play-Off places, Gateshead are right on their heels as they recovered from a 2-1 defeat in midweek to beat in-form Dartford by two goals to nil at the Gateshead International Stadium.

Grimsby matched Gateshead's four-point tally in the last two fixtures with a creditable point away at Barrow, before a 1-0 triumph against high-flyers Forest Green.

Mansfield's fortunes looked to be turning around after they picked up three points at home to Tamworth in their previous midweek fixture, before they were



Alfreton boss Nicky Law takes his side to leaders Forest Green today

beaten by a clinical Ebbsfleet side last Saturday who took their chances to put three past the wounded Stags.

Alfreton were the form team this past fortnight as they picked up maximum points in their two fixtures, scoring five and only conceding one. A 2-1 win away at Lincoln was followed by their defeat of the Town on Saturday which will give Nicky Law's side confidence going into today's clash with Forest Green.

Drop zone

At the foot of the table, there was little movement with Kidderminster, Hyde, Barrow and Lincoln all still occupying the drop zone, despite Hyde's 5-2 victory over Hereford on Saturday.

The performance of the week, however, was plain for all to see at Woking's Kingfield Stadium as Bradley Bubb slammed home four as the Cardinals comfortable beat Nuneaton 6-1.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

BARROW v NEWPORT

CAMBRIDGE v AFC TELFORD (5.15PM)

DARTFORD v HEREFORD

FOREST GREEN v ALFRETON

GATESHEAD v TAMWORTH

KIDDERMINSTER v GRIMSBY

LINCOLN v HYDE

MANSFIELD v BRAINtree

NUNEATON v MACCLESFIELD

SOUTHPORT v EBBSFLEET

STOCKPORT v WOKING



IN THE COMMUNITY

PRE-ACADEMY DEVELOPMENT SQUADS

Last Saturday the all of the club's pre-academy squads from Under-9 through to Under-15/16 travelled down to London to take on Charlton Athletic's elite development squads and, with the exception of the 14s, all came back victorious.

It was a scorching day and so was some of the football played by our development boys, who were a credit to the academy and the club. Our Under-9s, 10s and 15/16s ran up big scores and, while the 11s, 12s and 13s all won by smaller margins, it was more pleasing to see the all age groups play passing football instead of resorting to a long-ball style of game.

The Under-14s played a combined 14 and 15 group and narrowly lost but again played some good football, unfortunately giving away two soft goals that changed the game. We look forward to hosting Charlton for return games later in the season.

Our youth development structure has two levels and pre-academy is our top level of development for boys who are not signed at the club's academy.

The boys train twice a week at our academy centre in Luton, at Barnfield Academy South in Farley Hill, and play a programme of 10 games per season and is the final tier in the youth development structure before the academy.

Its aim is to prepare players for academy football by replicating the coaching syllabus and methods used. In addition, the coaches who work with the academy teams also coach the pre-academy teams to ease the transition for players. All boys who train with the pre-academy still play for their local club and county sides throughout the season.

Just below pre-academy, the club also run two very important Centre of Excellence squads which has longer term aims for boys in the second tier in the development structure. The aim

is to prepare players to play pre-academy football by replicating the coaching syllabus and methods used. In addition, the coaches who work with the pre-academy teams also coach the Centre of Excellence boys once a week, and again the boys still play for their local club sides.

At both pre-academy and Centre of Excellence level, boys who are selected to play either come through our TIPS soccer centres or are invited in through our recruitment network. These centres are the lifeblood of the club's academy and currently around seven out of every 10 boys signed on have come through this system.



FIXTURES AND

RESULTS

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY	POS	STARTING XI	SUBS								
August									Fleetwood 1	Brill	Beckwith	Lawless**	Watkins***	Shaw 1			
Sat 11	15:00	H	Gateshead	D 2-2	6,743	76	11	Tyler Taylor** Rowe-Turner Henry Kovacs Kasim* Howells O'Donnell Rendell Gray**	Fleetwood* 2	Brill	Beckwith	Walker	Gray*	Robinson**			
Tue 14	19:45	A	Kidderminster Harriers	W 2-0	2,275	542	4	Tyler Henry Taylor Rowe-Turner Kovacs Kasim Lawless O'Donnell Rendell Shaw**	Fleetwood*** 1	Brill	Beckwith	Howells*	Gray**	Robinson***			
TV	Fri 17	19:30	A	Hyde	W 2-1	1,141	477	3	Tyler Henry Taylor Rowe-Turner Kovacs Kasim Lawless O'Donnell Rendell Shaw	Fleetwood	Brill	Beckwith	Taylor*	Gray**	Woolley		
Sat 25	15:00	H	AFC Telford United	L 0-1	5,970	111	9	Tyler Lawless Howells Rowe-Turner Henry Kasim** Watkins** O'Donnell Rendell Shaw	Fleetwood 2	Brill	Lacey	Watkins**	Kasim	Woolley*			
Mon 27	15:00	A	Ebbsfleet United	W 3-1	2,018	1,246	5	Tyler Lawless Taylor Rowe-Turner Beckwith Howells O'Donnell** Rendell 1 Gray*									
September									Fleetwood 1	Brill	Essam***	Watkins*	Woolley**	Walker			
Sat 1	15:00	H	Macclesfield Town	W 4-1	5,803	111	3	Tyler Beckwith Kovacs*** Rowe-Turner* Lawless Taylor O'Donnell Howells 1 Rendell 1 Gray**	Fleetwood* 2	Brill	Essam*	Watkins	Woolley**	Kasim			
Tue 4	19:45	H	Cambridge United	W 3-2	6,742	622	2	Tyler Rowe-Turner Taylor Beckwith 1 Kovacs* 1 Lawless O'Donnell Howells Rendell Gray**	Fleetwood*** 1	Brill	Beckwith	Taylor*	Gray**	Woolley			
Sat 8	15:00	A	Alfreton Town	L 0-3	1,392	768	5	Tyler Henry Taylor* Beckwith Kovacs** Lawless O'Donnell Howells Watkins** J. Ross	Fleetwood	Brill	Beckwith	Walker	Gray**	Robinson**			
TV	Fri 19	19:30	A	Grimsby Town					Fleetwood 2	Brill	Lacey	Watkins**	Fleetwood***	Rowe-Turner			
Tue 25	19:45	A	Tamworth														
Sat 29	15:00	H	Southport														
October																	
Sat 6	15:00	A	Lincoln City														
Tue 9	19:45	H	Braintree Town														
Sat 13	15:00	H	Nuneaton Town														
Sat 27	15:00	A	Forest Green Rovers														
November																	
Tue 6	19:45	A	Hereford United														
Sat 10	15:00	H	Bartford														
TV	Thu 15	19:45	A	Mansfield Town													
December																	
Sat 1	15:00	H	Barrow														
Tue 4	19:45	A	Newport County														
Sat 8	15:00	H	Alfreton Town														
Sat 22	15:00	A	AFC Telford United														
Wed 26	15:00	H	Woking														
Sat 29	15:00	H	Ebbsfleet United														
January																	
Tue 1	13:00	A	Woking														
Sat 5	15:00	A	Macclesfield Town														
Sat 12	15:00	H	Hyde														
Sat 19	15:00	A	Nuneaton Town														
Tue 22	19:45	H	Lincoln City														
Sat 26	15:00	H	Stockport County														
February																	
Sat 2	15:00	A	Barrow														
Sat 9	15:00	H	Forest Green Rovers														
Tue 12	19:45	A	Bartford														
Sat 16	15:00	H	Newport County														
Sat 23	15:00	H	Mansfield Town														
Tue 26	19:45	A	Braintree Town														
March																	
Sat 2	15:00	A	Stockport County														
Sat 9	15:00	H	Hereford United														
Sat 16	15:00	A	Wrexham														
Sat 23	15:00	H	Tamworth														
Sat 30	15:00	A	Cambridge United														
April																	
Mon 1	15:00	H	Kidderminster Harriers														
Sat 6	15:00	A	Gateshead														
Sat 13	15:00	H	Grimsby Town														
Sat 20	15:00	A	Southport														

Janos Kovacs celebrates his equaliser against Cambridge United

LEAGUE TABLE 2012/13

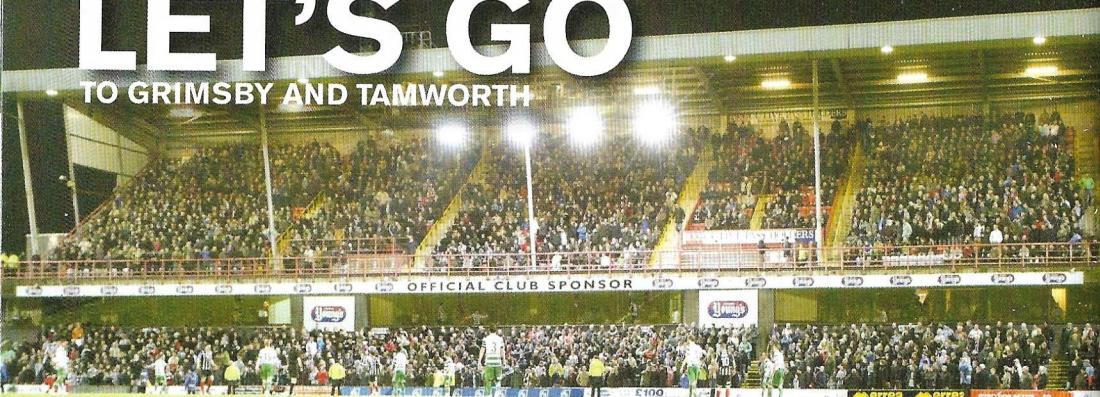
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Macclesfield Town	8	6	0	2	17	12	5	18
2 Forest Green Rovers	8	5	2	1	15	7	8	17
3 Wrexham	8	5	2	1	13	5	8	17
4 Newport County AFC	8	5	1	2	15	9	6	16
5 Luton Town	8	5	1	2	16	11	5	16
6 Gateshead	8	4	3	1	14	8	6	15
7 Grimsby Town	8	3	4	1	11	6	5	13
8 Hereford United	8	4	1	3	15	15	0	13
9 AFC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

PLAYER STATS 2012/13

	THIS SEASON				CAREER		
	LEAGUE	CUP	TOTAL	DISCP	APP GLS	APP GLS	APP GLS
Dean BECKWITH	4 0 1 0 0 0	4 (0) 1	2 0 0 1 0 0	15 2			
Connor ESSAM	0 (3) 0 0 0 0	0 (3) 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 3			
Stuart FLEETWOOD	7 (1) 7 0 0 0 0	7 (1) 7	1 0 0 0 0 0	55 23			
Andre GRAY	5 (3) 2 0 0 0 0	5 (3) 2	2 0 0 0 0 0	20 9			
Ronnie HENRY	5 0 0 0 0 0 0	5 (0) 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	1 0 1 0 0 0			
Jake HOWELLS	6 (1) 1 0 0 0 0	6 (1) 1	0 0 0 0 0 0	190 16			
Yaser KASIM	4 (1) 0 0 0 0 0	4 (1) 0	1 0 0 0 0 0	5 0			
Janis KOVACS	6 0 1 0 0 0 0	6 (0) 1	2 0 0 0 0 0	67 6			
Alex LAWLESS	7 (1) 0 0 0 0 0	7 (1) 0	1 0 0 0 0 0	84 7			
JJ O'DONNELL	8 0 1 0 0 0 0	8 (0) 1	0 0 0 0 0 0	17 1			
Scott RENDELL	7 0 2 0 0 0 0	7 (0) 2	1 0 0 0 0 0	7 2			
Jake ROBINSON	1 0 0 0 0 0 0	1 (0) 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 1 0 0 0			
Matt ROBINSON	0 (2) 0 0 0 0 0	0 (2) 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0			
Lathaniel ROWE-TURNER	7 0 0 0 0 0 0	7 (0) 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0			
Jon SHAW	4 (1) 1 0 0 0 0	4 (1) 1	1 0 0 0 0 0	5 1			
Greg TAYLOR	7 (1) 0 0 0 0 0	7 (1) 0	1 0 0 0 0 0	31 0			
Mark TYLER	8 0 0 0 0 0 0	8 (0) 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	146 0			
Adam WATKINS	2 (3) 0 0 0 0 0	2 (3) 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	54 8			
Jake WOOLLEY	0 (3) 0 0 0 0 0	0 (3) 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	8 0			

LET'S GO

TO GRIMSBY AND TAMWORTH



After this afternoon's meeting with the Red Dragons, the Hatters are on the road twice in the space of five days starting next Friday. A televised trip to Grimsby Town is first up before the Town make the journey to Tamworth the following Tuesday, 25th September.

GRIMSBY



Where? Ah, the age-old trick question. Where do Grimsby play? If you're trying to be clever and say Grimsby you are hugely mistaken. It's because they, the Mariners, as they are known, play their games in Cleethorpes, three miles down the road on the coast.

Once you're there, Grimsby play their home games at Blundell Park.

Thanks for the heads-up. So, how do I get there? By car it's roughly 190 miles, taking in the M1, M18 and M180. It might be better to take the route up the A1 and go up the A46. The ground is signposted on your arrival in Grimsby. For the sat-nav savvy, tap in DN35 7PY and that should get you there without any hassle.

Bobber army. If you fancy someone else to do the driving for you why not book a place on the Bobbers Travel Club coach instead? The fare is £24 for adults and £21 for concessions. To reserve your seat call 01234 856542. The coach leaves the Maple Road car park at 2.30pm.

Telly addicts. While we'd love thousands of you to make the journey to North Lincolnshire on a Friday evening (cough, cough, rush-hour traffic), we'd settle if you could pop along to the Eric Morecambe suite on the night of the game.

It will be the second Town match that Premier Sports TV have shown this season. Food, drink and a welcoming ambience will be available from 6.30pm.

You only sing when you're fishing. No trip to Blundell Park should go without tasting the local fish and chips. Without wanting to do the football club out of business on their burger and pie sales, it's recommended to pay a visit to one of the many chippies on Grimsby Road. Fresh, locally caught fish. Lovely stuff.

We've been here before, right? Absolutely. The Town have won six times at Grimsby in the past, including their most recent fixtures on the banks of the Humber Estuary. That game was also televised - a Tommy Wright header gave the Hatters all three points.

TAMWORTH



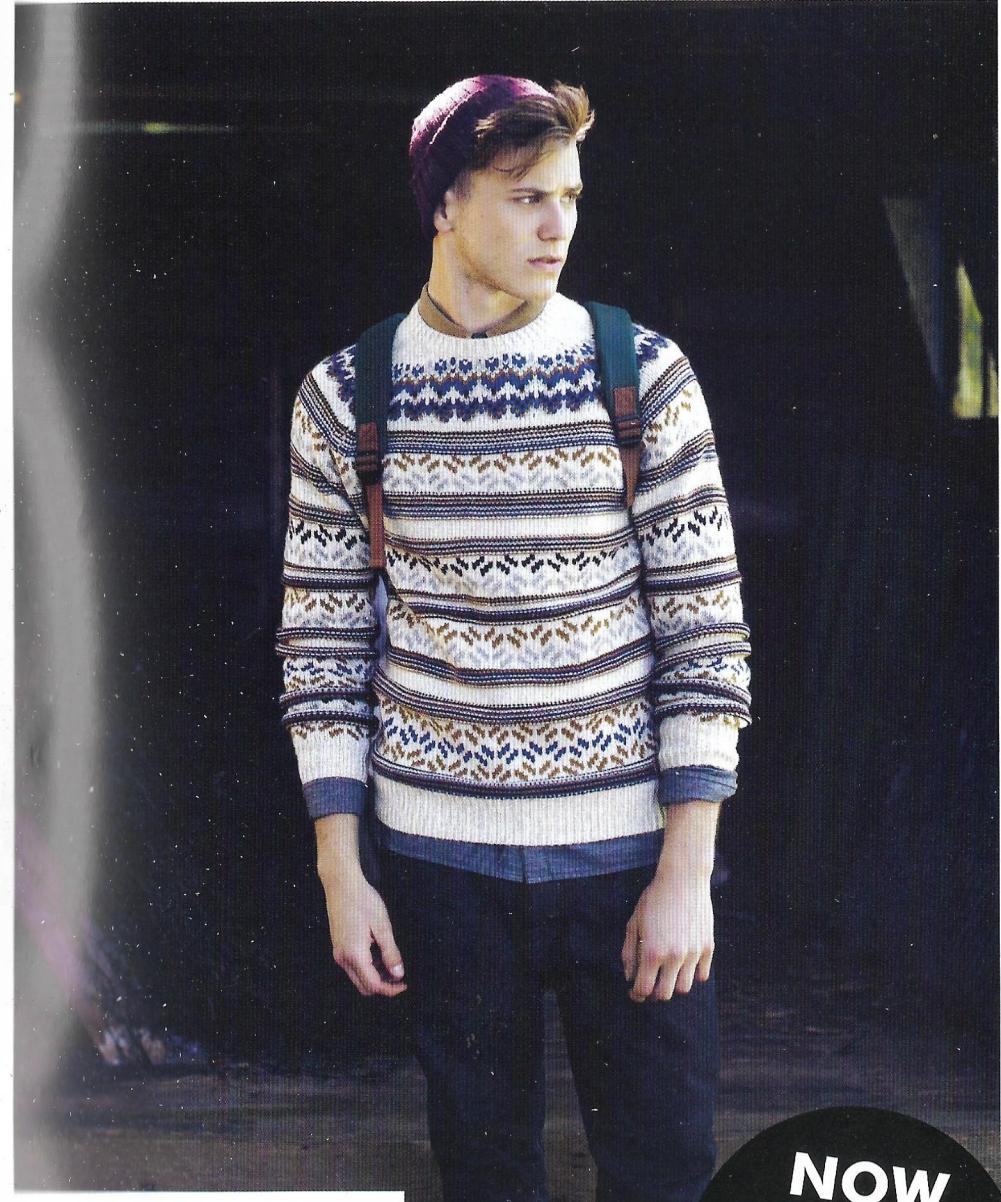
Where? Tamworth are called the Lambs and they play their home matches at, yep – you guessed it – the Lamb. Tamworth is in Staffordshire, north east of Birmingham.

How do I get there? There are a couple of ways but the best bet is to head up the M1 and come off at junction 20 for Lutterworth and pick up signs for the A5, heading north, past Nuneaton towards Tamworth.

Coach comforts. One thing you can guarantee when following the Town away from home is that the Bobbers will take coach. For Tamworth prices are £18 for adults and £15 for concessions. They'll be leaving Maple Road at 4pm.

Win lose or draw. The Town's record at the Lamb reads one win, one defeat and one draw. Two Danny Crow goals and one from James Dance helped the Hatters to record three points there last season.

That's entertainment. If you arrive in Tamworth earlier than expected, and have some time to kill, why not pop over the road to the imposing Snow Dome and brush up your skiing skills.



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TODAY'S TEAMS



LUTON TOWN

Mark Tyler	1	1	Joslain Mayebi
Lathaniel Rowe-Turner	2	2	Stephen Wright
Greg Taylor	3	3	Neil Ashton
Garry Richards	4	5	Mark Creighton
Dean Beckwith	5	6	Martin Riley
Janos Kovacs	6	7	Adrian Cieslewicz
Alex Lawless	7	8	Jay Harris
Danny Spiller	8	9	Danny Wright
Jon Shaw	9	10	Brett Ormrod
Scott Rendell	10	11	Andy Morrell
Jake Howells	11	12	Dean Keates
Stuart Fleetwood	13	13	Andy Coughlin
Adam Watkins	15	14	Joe Clarke
Alex Lacey	16	15	Rob Ogleby
JJ O'Donnell	17	16	Johnny Hunt
Yaser Kasim	18	17	Glen Little
James Dance	19	18	Declan Walker
Jake Robinson	22	19	Nick Rushton
Matt Robinson	23	21	Jay Colbeck
Ronnie Henry	25	22	Andy Bishop
Andre Gray	27	23	Chris Westwood
Dan Walker	29		
Dean Brill	33		

WREXHAM

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: C. Knowles

ASSISTANT: S. Feerick

ASSISTANT: S. Pawley

FOURTH OFFICIAL: D. Stobart

HERE NEXT

SOUTHPORT

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2012

KICK-OFF 3PM

