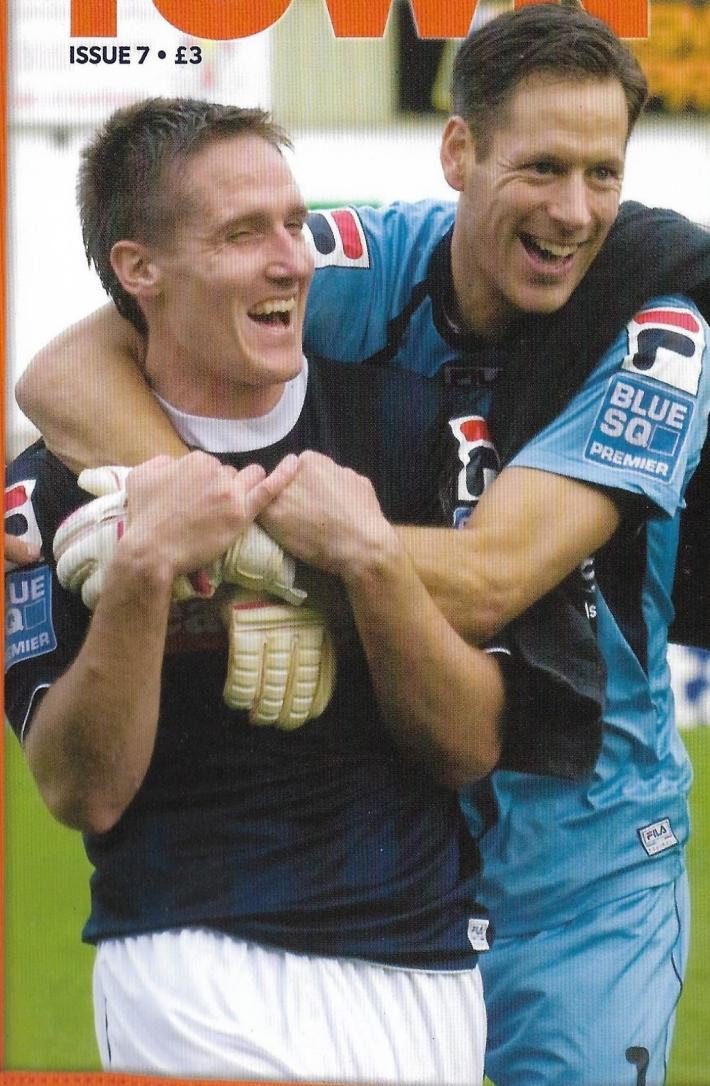




Official Matchday Programme of Luton Town Football Club

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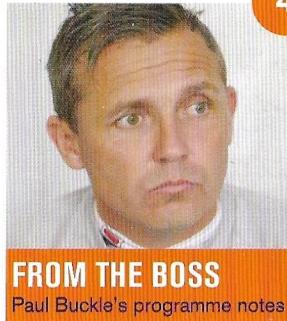
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## 6-7 BOARDROOM TALK

David Wilkinson looks ahead to tonight's game

## 13 JUST THE TICKET

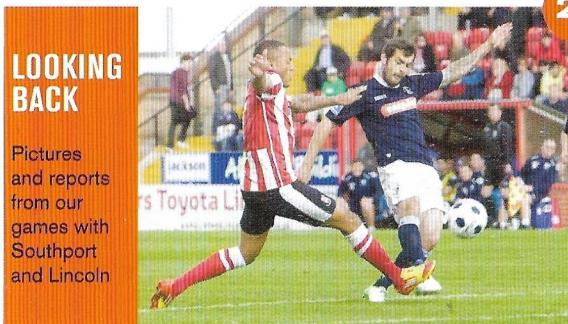
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## 18-23 WELCOME BRAINTREE TOWN

We take a look at our visitors this evening

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## 36-41 HATTERS HISTORY

Three fantastic articles from club historian Roger Wash

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Results, fixtures and statistics

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



PAUL

# BUCKLE

## Welcome back to Kenilworth Road for tonight's game against Braintree Town.

Since the defeat against Grimsby, the players have responded in tremendous fashion to win three games in succession.

In all three victories, the players have had to show different qualities. Battling back from a goal down against Tamworth, responding to being pegged back against Southport here at Kenilworth Road, before holding on to take all three points at Lincoln on Saturday.

Those results have given us a great platform to build on going into this evening's match with a Braintree side who are going to make us work very hard to make it four wins on the bounce. What I can assure you, though, is that we will be all out tonight to make sure we get that win.

## Winning mentality

While we will take great heart and confidence from the last three games, we have to look forward. We are trying to install and create a winning mentality here as well as a positive belief that we can succeed.

It was great to hold on to the points on Saturday and it highlighted the need for a strong, mental toughness that is required to succeed in this league. We were under pressure in the latter stages of the second half after they had got back into the game thanks to a wonder strike out of nothing. Our ability to cope with aerial bombardment has improved dramatically and it was another real team effort to see out the win.

Regardless of who we play, or whether it's home or away, we need to meet the challenges head on and be prepared to tackle them. I've said it before and no doubt I will say it again, but all teams raise their game against us. Fireworks greeted us onto the pitch at Lincoln which was another indication of how much of an occasion it is for clubs to play us.

For me it's all about focus, not frustration. There are going to be times when we will be frustrated – losing, drawing, conceding goals, missing chances – but the key thing is that we do not let that cloud over our focus.

We want to win the league and win promotion and if you lose your focus or let the frustration get in the way then we will all be disappointed.

## In it together

I say 'we all' because that's what it is. We're in this together. Myself, my staff, the players, the club directors and staff and you, the supporters. There was no greater feeling than at Lincoln on Saturday when we walked over to the away end to applaud and thank you for your backing. It was a celebration of three more points on the board and another hurdle jumped.

Obstacles are going to stand in our way and we will need to tackle them as the season progresses. Three points are the aim for every game and I could not be happier with the performances the players have given me in the past two weeks.

As a football manager, though, you won't be surprised to hear me ask for more. You cannot afford to rest on your laurels and it's vitally important we take all three points this evening.

The players know we can take a step further towards the top of the table tonight and there's no better place to do it than under the Kenilworth Road floodlights.

I am delighted with the way we are playing yet I know there is so much more to come. That comes by working hard on the training pitch.

I could not be happier with the progress we have made in such a short space of time and here's hoping we can continue our improvement this evening.

Get behind us once more, please. Your backing has been instrumental in our fortunes so far this season and it is greatly appreciated by everyone at the club.

Enjoy the game.



Paul Buckle is sponsored by:



# FROM THE BOARDROOM

WITH DIRECTOR DAVID WILKINSON



**Evening all.  
We wish an especially  
warm welcome to all  
the officials, players  
and supporters from  
Braintree Town.**

Some of you will remember the last time we played each other, although you will probably wish you didn't. We got a well-deserved hammering after a very poor performance. Paul

Buckle was in the stands having agreed to join, although he hadn't actually taken up his new duties. He must have wondered that day what he was getting into. The answer, though, came swiftly as we went unbeaten in the league for the rest of the season and reached the Play-Off Final.

## Good result

It is always a much more pleasant experience writing these notes after a good victory or even better a good run of victories. Saturday was a good result, not without a few heart stopping moments, but it was ever thus, and long term fans will know we never make it easy for ourselves. Brilliant and inspiring at times, disappointing and nerve wracking at others and that might be in the space of a few minutes. Maybe that's one of the things that makes us so special.

To that end what another magnificent turnout by our supporters at Lincoln. Officially recorded at 864 I wonder if that included those of us lucky enough to be in the "cheap seats". Thank you one and all for your amazing support. Personally I always find it quite moving to see the players and fans in harmony at the end of the game.

It is also remarkable how loyal and geographically spread our support is.

On Saturday Gary, Mike Herrick and I arrived in the Lincoln boardroom for lunch. After we had sat down we were introduced to a local man, who told us he had been born in Luton and been at Luton Grammar School in the

1960s. Mike discovered that he had been in the same class at the same time. This was the first time they had met in 50 years.

As I was going to my seat a steward asked if there was a David Wilkinson in the Luton contingent. I told him that was me and he said that a gentleman had asked after me, who was up in the stand and had said he had been at school with me. I looked out for him after the game and he was indeed a schoolmate I hadn't seen for 55 years.

Both of the guys in this slightly spooky coincidence had left Luton donkey's years before, but remain as committed to the Club as ever.

Today, as reported in detail later in the programme we welcome a visit from our Naples supporters, our fanatical fans from Italy. What an incredible story that is too!

As investor directors we sometimes have a different perspective on situations to those who are involved in the day-to-day running of the Club so I wanted to add to Gary's programme notes of last week about the stadium and hopes for the future.

The reaction to them has been fantastic. We have had a mass of emails, text messages and letters offering support for the proposals with only one or two being critical - and in those cases it was mostly a misunderstanding of the proposal or the motives.

As has been said many times, but can only be demonstrated over time, we are a peculiar group of investors, whose only vested interest is in the survival and future success of the Club for the benefit of its fans and the community it serves. Ever since we first became involved we have protected the Club and its heritage and looked for ways to become self-financing without sacrificing our ambition to be playing our football at the highest level.

I think it's important you all know that the long term protection of the Club was one of the cornerstones all investors fully bought into and we still feel it is just as valid now as it was when we first got involved.

Somewhat understandably, because of what has gone before, we have been treated with suspicion and distrust by many from whom we would cry out for help and guidance.

The stadium, possible relocation and training ground have been on almost every board meeting agenda since we began, but often it was to remove a negative rather than create a positive.

There cannot have been many occasions since Kenilworth Road became an all-seater stadium that the Club has made a profit so, long term, capacity has to increase or we have to move.

Gary's proposals acknowledge this and would go some way to improving our financial security without it being a hostage to longer term plans.

## Potential

We are all very excited about the potential. The stadium design and manufacturing people visited Kenilworth Road again this week and an overseas field trip is planned shortly to see the product in situ.

Gary has asked everyone to be patient and we all second that, but there is a genuine feeling that at last there might be a little movement in the right direction. There are those that will say that we have taken our time, but, as I wrote earlier, it takes a long time to demonstrate that we are for real.

We are fully behind Gary and his team in this and give whatever support we can to make things happen.

On a different note, I went to see our youth team in the FA Youth Cup last Wednesday. If you get the chance to go to any of the future rounds I highly recommend it. Not only is there some lovely football to watch, but you get a chance to see a few stars of the future.

Finally can I take this opportunity to congratulate Lynn Bird, our boardroom matchday meeter and greeter on becoming a glamorous gran for the first time and her daughter Vicky deserves a mention too.

Onwards and upwards.

Enjoy the game.

COYH

## 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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## RONNIE HENRY

Good evening and welcome to tonight's game with Braintree. We go into this fixture full of confidence having won our last three games. Nine points in the last fortnight has been a terrific return for us.

For me, our form is no surprise. I have said all along that this squad has talent in abundance and we are gradually playing in the kind of vein I expect. Slowly but surely we are realising what it takes to get results and that was evident in the 2-1 win at Lincoln on Saturday.

In the final 15 minutes we were under the cosh as Lincoln threw the kitchen sink at us but there was a resilience and a never-say-die attitude about us which is a trait that all successful teams need to show.

We did not fold under the pressure and the fact we held on and secured all three points – rather than one had we buckled in the final few minutes – gives us even more confidence going forward. It was a big step in the right direction – that kind of determination will stand us in good stead for the rest of the campaign.

That victory made it five wins out of seven matches away from home as we turn our attention tonight to the first of two home games.

I can assure you Braintree will not just roll over and hand us the points this evening. We have already found to our cost underestimating teams when Telford beat us at home earlier this season. We have to guard against complacency and, I know it's a horrible cliché, but we need to take each game as it comes. A lot of people out there will assume that because Luton play Braintree and Nuneaton at Kenilworth Road it is going to be a gimme. That certainly won't be the case.

But, we have the confidence now. We are no longer a soft touch. I have noticed in training and matches over the past month the improvement in our mindset. There is a grit and resolve there now and perhaps that was what was missing when we were turned over by Telford, Alfreton and Grimsby. The last three games have shown that. We fought back from a goal down to beat Tamworth; knuckled down to the task to see off Southport comfortably and then overcame a second-half onslaught from Lincoln to win again on Saturday.

I've said all along that winning our away games is going to be crucial and to have won five out of seven is a magnificent achievement. It's away from Kenilworth Road that three points are cherished the most.



Ronnie: Getting the job done

It's never going to be easy. Lincoln had fireworks set-up for our visit and wanted to beat us more than anyone else. It was another challenge overcome and we move onto the next one.

Our form at Kenilworth Road, on the other hand, does need improving but this is the stage where we have licence to go and express ourselves. That said, it's not about show-boating or disrespecting the opposition; the most important thing is getting the job done and winning three points.

In this league winning is the most important. There is only one automatic promotion place there for the taking and it's up to us to go and get it. It is not just going to fall into our lap. Hard work will get us there.

What gave all the lads and staff the most pleasure on Saturday was rewarding your fantastic support with three points. Almost 900 of you turned out to back us and for that we all owe you a massive thanks.

Please keep it up and get behind us this evening.



Ronnie is sponsored by **Mark Francome** and **Key Holder Lettings & Management**

# AROUND TOWN

## THE LATEST NEWS AT KENILWORTH ROAD

### SUPER JOHN RETURNS!



John Hartson

The Town's commercial department were delighted to announce last week that John Hartson will be our special guest speaker at our Christmas Dinner this December.

The evening will kick-off at 7pm on Wednesday 5th December at the Chiltern Hotel and will be compered by actor, presenter and writer Tom Watt.

John, who came through the ranks at Kenilworth Road, made 63 appearances for the Hatters and scored 13 goals before moving to Arsenal for a fee of £2.5m in January 1995.

The Welsh international striker, who went on to play for Wimbledon, West Ham and Celtic, will be looking back on a long and distinguished career.

Tickets are priced at £60 which includes a fine three-course meal. An after dinner bar will be available until midnight. The dress code for the dinner is smart casual.

Tickets are individually priced at £60 per person and tables of 10 are available. If you would like to join us for what promises to be a fantastic night, call 01582 411622 or email [commercial@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:commercial@lutontown.co.uk).

Accommodation is available at the Chiltern Hotel if you wish to stay the night. Please contact the Hotel directly on 01582 575911 stating you are part of the Luton Town FC booking if you wish to reserve a room.

Commercial manager David Hoskins told Talk of the Town: "The event promises to be a hugely popular. With a legend like John returning to the club where he made his name tickets are sure to go quickly."

"We're delighted that John has chosen to be our guest speaker and I am sure supporters will be looking forward to hearing about John's career and the hurdles he has overcome off the field."

### ESSAM EXTENDS STAY



The Town extended the loan of defender Connor Essam from League 2 leaders Gillingham for a further month last week.

The 20-year-old has appeared six times since his arrival at Kenilworth Road last month and has started the last two games at the heart of the Hatters' defense.

His loan is due to expire on 28th October but Essam will not be allowed to play in the FA Cup. The Town are due to enter at the fourth qualifying round stage on 20th October.

### QUARTET GET CALL-UP

Town four-some Andre Gray, Simon Ainge, Adam Watkins and Greg Taylor have been selected by England C manager Paul Fairclough in the Three Lions' squad to face Albania later this month.

The friendly will take place on 16th October against the Albanian Under-21s in the coastal city of Durres.

Squad: Preston Edwards (Ebbsfleet United), Paul Farman (Lincoln City), Greg Taylor (Tamworth), Aswad Thomas (Grimsby Town), Jamie Turley and Eddie Oshodi (both Forest Green Rovers), Simon Ainge (Luton Town), Lindon Mielkle (Mansfield Town), Josh Giles (Gateshead), Matthew Taylor and Kieron Forbes (both Forest Green Rovers), James Vincent and Adam Watkins (both Kidderminster Harriers), Scott Spencer (Hyde), Andre Gray (Luton Town) and Josh Wilson (Guiseley).

### OPEN TRIALS

Budding young footballers will get the chance to impress the Hatters coaching staff next month at our open trials. The trials are taking place at our academy centre in Baldock and will be held on November 1st and 2nd for players born before 1st September 1997. It is aimed at players who are currently not registered to a professional club. To apply you can either download a form from the official website or email [trials.ltfc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:trials.ltfc@hotmail.co.uk).

### TOWN STRIKE-UP DEAL WITH SUBWAY



To kick-off the 2012/13 football season, a new community fundraising initiative has been launched by local Subway stores to support the Hatters' youth department.

The club has always been central in the community and now we have joined up Subway to offer local children the opportunity they otherwise would not be able to have. Before any physical activity such as sport, nourishment is important. So it's perhaps only natural that the George Street, Galaxy and Crystal House Subway stores will be supporting the local school children by contributing 10p every time they sell from their range of selected Subs.

Subway are one of the world's most well-known brands with over 30,000 outlets around the globe. Yet each Subway is a franchise owned by an individual from the community and staffed by local people.

All the money raised will help finance budding young footballers gain access to coaches and facilities that would otherwise have been unavailable to them. Subway is working with the Hatters to create a bursary to offer places with the club's TIPS coaching course.

This is part of a special initiative by Subway to work closely with the community served by their local store, and they are pledging to put 10p from every one of their selected Subs during the next three months towards creating a special fund to pay for talented kids who cannot afford to go on the TIPS programme.

Local schools will be asked to nominate children who could not normally afford such an opportunity to access the bursary. Up till December, all local Subways will donate some of their takings towards creating a special fund to pay for talented kids who cannot afford to go on the TIPS programme when purchasing one of a number of specially selected Subs. And they'll be doing that every single day of the entire 2012/13 football season. Look out for more details in your local Subway and around the ground.

For those who love their Subway Subs, it is a unique chance to perhaps discover a future star of Luton Town

Football Club. For those who have never tasted one, it is both a chance to help local children and enjoy a fantastic Sub sandwich for the first time. James Hatch, Community Football Development Officer, told Talk of the Town: "We're so delighted that Bridge Street, George Street and New Bedford Road Subway Stores will be donating money to Luton Town.

"We'll be using the funds to create 11 places on our special TIPS course for talented kids who cannot afford to join it." He continued, "We are a community club and for those that wouldn't usually get the chance to join the TIPS course will really benefit from the support the Luton community and local parents gives us by buying the selected Subs from these Subway Stores."

### TOWN PROGRESS IN YOUTH CUP

As you will read elsewhere in tonight's programme, the Hatters' Under-18s triumphed in the FA Youth Cup with a 6-0 win over Peterborough Northern Star last week. The victory means Paul Driver's youngsters face another home tie at Kenilworth Road a week tomorrow in the third qualifying round against Barton Rovers or Rothwell Corinthians (kick-off 7.30pm).

### SOUTHPORT GOLDEN GAMBLE

The winner of our Golden Gamble at our last home game walked away with £630. Jeff Stewart was the lucky winner after his ticket number 08250 was plucked out of the barrel at half-time.

We're still on the lookout for the winner of our draw from the Macclesfield game on 1st September. Check your pockets, wallets and programmes for ticket number 04968 as it's worth a very tidy £580. Get in touch with the commercial department if you find it!

### AWAY DRAW IN FA CUP

The Hatters have been handed a trip to face Cambridge United in the fourth qualifying round of the FA Cup. The tie against the U's, who recently appointed former Town boss Richard Money as head coach, will take place on a week on Saturday, 20th October.

We hope to release ticket information for this cup tie in Saturday's programme.

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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.



### LUTON TOWN v NUNEATON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2012, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets are now on sale at usual matchday prices



### CAMBRIDGE UNITED v LUTON TOWN

FA CUP FOURTH QUALIFYING ROUND

SATURDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2012, KICK-OFF 3PM

Ticket details for this cup tie will be included in Saturday's programme.



### FOREST GREEN ROVERS v LUTON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2012, KICK-OFF 3PM

We are yet to receive ticket information from Forest Green for this fixture. Further information will be included in Saturday's programme and on the official website.



### HEREFORD UNITED v LUTON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

TUESDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2012, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

We are currently awaiting ticket details from Hereford.



LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB PRESENTS



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# COMMERCIAL BREAK

WITH DAVID HOSKINS

Welcome to the first of two games in the Blue Square Bet Premier this week as we welcome Braintree Town to Kenilworth Road.

I have the pleasure of welcoming our match sponsors Autotech to the game this evening and trust they will have a thoroughly entertaining time with us.

Last week we released details of what promises to be one of our most popular dinner dates this coming Christmas time when legendary former Town striker John Hartson returns as a special guest speaker at the Chiltern Hotel on Wednesday 5th December. More details can be found in the news section of tonight's programme.

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## COMMERCIAL MASCOT

Please give a warm welcome to our commercial mascot this evening who is 13-year-old Callum Lee from Luton.

Callum attends matches at Kenilworth Road with his dad, and his favourite Town player is striker Andre Gray.

Callum will get the chance to meet Andre and all the other players in the dressing room before the game and then lead the team out onto the pitch.

We hope you have a fantastic evening with us, Callum.

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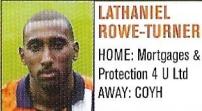
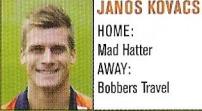
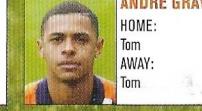
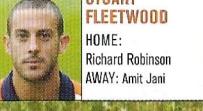
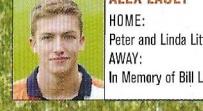
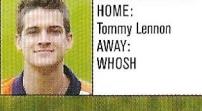
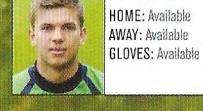
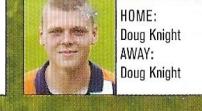
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2012/13

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# WELCOME

# BRAINTREE TOWN



**This evening the Hatters welcome Braintree Town to Kenilworth Road as the Iron seek to improve on their current position dangerously close to the drop zone.**

Braintree have struggled as of late which has culminated in this evening's visitors picking up just two points from their previous seven games. Alan Devonshire's side haven't had the rub of the green in recent weeks, a point proven as they threw away a two-goal lead on Saturday at home to Barrow to slip to their fourth defeat in their last six league games.

Despite a difficult start to the season for Devonshire's men they have had some positives they will be looking to build on. A well-fought point away at Alfreton Town a fortnight ago saw them climb a point away from the relegation zone after a run of just one point in five games.

The Essex side will be hoping new signing Luke Daley can be the catalyst in a change in fortunes for the Essex club as he will be in contention to make his first start in Iron colours this evening. The former Norwich youngster made his Iron bow on Saturday in the defeat to Barrow as an 83rd-minute substitute.

Dan Holman will look to continue his impressive form in front of goal after he netted his sixth of the season ahead

of tonight's clash. Braintree will need all of their big-game players to be up for the challenge ahead of a congested fixture list that sees them entertain high-flyers Wrexham at Cressing Road with trips to Hereford and Lincoln either side of the Dragons clash.

The Hatters will be looking to right their wrongs of last season against tonight's visitors as a lacklustre performance saw them beaten 3-1 by Devonshire's men in front of newly appointed Paul Buckle who was due to take control the following Monday. That day Andre Gray had put the Hatters back on level terms inside 10 minutes after Adam Bailey-Dennis gave the home side an early lead. Sean Marks headed home to restore the Iron's lead before Billy Gibson wrapped up the points.

This result came after the exact same score line was matched earlier on in the campaign here at Kenilworth Road with Amari Morgan-Smith's brace securing the points for the Hatters. Former Town loanee Ben Wright was on the scoresheet for Braintree whilst Jake Howells was on hand to convert the Town's third.

Braintree will be looking to emulate last season's heroics as they look to turn their fortunes around, but with Buckle's men looking to finally be hitting top form will they be given the chance?

# THE IRON

## AN AT-A-GLANCE GUIDE TO THE BRAINTREE SQUAD

### ALAN DEVONSHIRE

The boss. Spent 14 years as a player at West Ham, making over 350 league appearances in the process. Managed Hampton & Richmond Borough and Maidenhead prior to taking the Braintree job in May 2011. Guided the Iron to a 12th-place finish last season.

### NATHAN MCDONALD

England C international goalkeeper who signed in the summer of 2009 from Southend United. Was ever present in the side that won the Blue Square South title in 2010/11.

### RYAN PETERS

Former Brentford and Margate right-back who also arrived in 2009.

### SAM HABERGHAM

Young defender capable of playing at left-back or centre-half who signed from Tamworth this summer. Began his career as a scholar at Norwich.

### ADAM BAILEY-DENNIS

Commanding centre-back who signed from Essex neighbours Colchester in 2009. Has made over 100 appearances for the club.

### MATT PAIN

Central defender or midfielder who signed from Thurrock, for whom he had played over 100 times for. Another player in the ranks that started out as a youngster at Colchester.

### BRAD QUINTON

The Iron's longest serving player, Brad has played almost 550 times for the Essex outfit after making his debut in January 2000. Has twice tasted title success with the club.

### NICKY SYMONS

Strong, competitive midfielder with an eye of goal. Scored a 55-yard goal against Woking in August. Joined the club from Aveley and was a youngster at West Ham.

### KENNY DAVIS

Midfielder and captain who signed in 2010 from Grays Athletic. An England C international, Kenny was a product of the Chelsea youth academy.

### SEAN MARKS

Prolific goalscorer who signed from Heybridge Swifts in 2008. Scored 25 goals as the Iron won the Blue Square South title in 2010/11, before hitting 15 last season in the Premier.

### JOSH DAWKIN

Former Norwich winger who signed this summer. A Welsh Under-17 and Under-19 international he enjoyed loan spells at Kettering and Cambridge last season.

### DANIEL SPARKES

Left-sided midfielder signed this summer on a two-year deal from Histon.

### KAINE SHEPPARD

Young forward on loan from Leyton Orient - scored on his Braintree debut.

### PAT O'CONNOR

Defender who has twice played under Alan Devonshire at Hampton & Richmond. Started his career with Millwall, turning professional, before spells with Hampton and then Lewes.

### JAMES MULLEY

Former Hayes & Yeading and AFC Wimbledon attacker with bags of pace. Joined the Iron this summer.

### DEAN WELLS

Influential centre-half signed last season from Staines and another with experience of playing under the current manager at Hampton & Richmond.

### DAN HOLMAN

Goalscoring forward who arrived this summer from Histon. Finished as the Stutes' leading marksman last term with 29 goals.

### JOEL APPIAH-KUBI

A Coventry university student who travels back on a Tuesday night train and again on Wednesday to play for the Iron reserves.

### DANIEL NAISBTT

Experienced goalkeeper who joined the Iron this summer from Cambridge. Now 33, he began his career with Walsall before subsequent moves around the Football League to Barnet, Carlisle, Wimbledon and Brighton.

### PETER HAXELL

Promising young goalkeeper who has impressed the coaching staff with performances for the reserves.

### LUKE CLARK

Exciting youngster who has forced his way into the first-team squad having impressed in the reserves.

### SIMON EASTHAUGH

A product of the Iron youth system who has progressed to the first team this season.



Established: 1898

Nickname(s): The Iron

Stadium: The Amlin Stadium

Capacity: 4,222 (Avg. attendance '11/12 - 896)

Manager: Alan Devonshire (1 year, 4 months)

Final league position '11/12: 12th BSBP

#### DID YOU KNOW?

- The average age of Braintree's expected line-up today is just 23.8.
- There have been seven penalties scored in Braintree games this season: three for Braintree and four against them.

**Braintree** surprised everyone in the Blue Square Bet Premier last season by surviving comfortably and finishing up in 12th place despite being a newly-promoted side with one of the tightest budgets in the division.

However, the loss of three star players over the summer appears to have had a detrimental effect on the team's performance this campaign. 15-goal striker Ben Wright left for Forest Green Rovers, 11-goal Jai Reason dropped down a division to sign for Eastleigh and left-back Aswad Thomas headed to Grimsby Town. Although it is still early days, Alan Devonshire's men look as if they could struggle this season having only picked up three wins so far – five less than they managed by this point last term.

#### A closer look at Braintree's season so far

The Iron are currently in 18th position with 13 points from the same number of games having recorded three wins, four draws and six defeats. They are bottom of the BSBP form table with no wins in their last six games and have suffered four defeats in that time. Rather worryingly, the Essex-based side have struggled for goals this campaign and are the joint third-bottom scorers in the league. In fact, before Saturday's 3-2 defeat to Barrow, the Iron had not scored a goal in open-play in 523 minutes of action. However, there is hope among fans that 22-year-old striker Dan Holman, who has scored five in nine appearances, can fire in the goals to pull his team up the table. Contrastingly, faith in Holman's strike partner Sean Marks is not as strong. Marks netted 14 goals last season, but has managed just one so far this term.

#### How will they play? Who are their key men?

Braintree are expected to line up in a flat 4-4-2 when they visit Kenilworth Road. There is a chance Devonshire will drop a striker in favour of having an extra man in midfield, but 4-4-2 has been his preferred formula this season and it is likely he'll keep faith with that. Devonshire has come in for criticism recently, and the common view amongst fans seems to be that his side are playing an unattractive, direct game. The team are reportedly turning



Probable line-up (4-4-2)

over possession continuously in matches with long balls being pumped out from the back and no attempts being made to play through midfield. Therefore, it is very likely the Hatters will dominate possession for large spells of the game.

Braintree possess one of the youngest squads in the Blue Square Bet Premier and the defence they are expected to field tonight has an average age of just 22. Patrick O'Connor will play at right-back and 20-year-old Samuel Habergham, who has done a fine job in replacing the aforementioned Aswad Thomas this season, will play on the left. In the centre of defence, Matt Paine may be partnered by the dominant figure of Adam Bailey-Dennis, or, if experience is deemed crucial, 27-year-old Dean Wells could start.

In midfield, wingers Josh Dawkin and ex-AFC Wimbledon man James Mulley will be a threat if given the chance to run at Town's full-backs in one-against-one situations. Nick Symons will be joined in central midfield by club captain Kenny Davis who has missed games this season with shin splints.

In attack, target-man Sean Marks will be joined by the young, stocky Dan Holman who has terrific strength to hold the ball up and also has a dangerous long strike on him.

# THOUGHTS FROM THE OAK ROAD

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

#### WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

Andy Grade

#### HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SUPPORTING YOUR CLUB?

All the way from the Ryman League!

#### HOW'S YOUR SEASON GONE SO FAR?

We've seen some great performances and some less so. I enjoyed the four goals at Woking (Braintree won 4-1 in late August). As I said early in the second half when Nicky Symons lobbed the keeper from the half-way line: "You can't score from there Symo ... aah!"

#### WHO'S YOUR PLAYER TO WATCH?

For me, you cannot ask for much more than that given to our club by midfielder Brad Quinton.

#### OUT OF THE TEAM'S YOU'VE SEEN BRAINtree PLAY SO FAR THIS SEASON, WHICH ONE HAS IMPRESSED YOU THE MOST?

Newport County looked well organised when we played them earlier in the season. Having a new chairman that has recently won £45 million might also help!

#### BRAINtree AWAY WAS DEFINITELY A BAD DAY AT THE OFFICE FOR THE HATTERS LAST YEAR. WHY DO YOU THINK LUTON HAVE STRUGGLED TO GET OUT OF THIS DIVISION?

In this division we're all non-league. Too many former Football League clubs think they have some sort of pre-determined right to get back into the League. We're all here because we deserve to be. We at Braintree have won two championships in the past six years – like many, we've earned the right to be here - while the reasons for Luton's points deductions and subsequent relegations in recent years have been well-documented.

#### WHAT DO YOU THINK OF YOUR MANAGER?

Arguably the best we've had. Alan Devonshire is a shrewd judge of a player and the game in general. He works really hard for the club and also gets excellent support from Keith Rowlands.



#### WHAT'S YOUR CLUB'S FAVOURITE SONG?

It used to be: "Five years and you still can't win" – sung to our neighbours Bishop's Stortford when we took our usual six points off them at Christmas and New Year. In the five years before promotion, we played

them ten times, won nine and drew the 10th. Alas, when we moved up, they got switched to the North Division, despite being located near the end of London Stansted Airport runway!

#### WHAT'S THE BEST BRAINtree MATCH YOU'VE WITNESSED SINCE YOU'VE BEEN SUPPORTING THEM?

Last season's 5-0 home victory over Grimsby Town was entertaining. It was our first home game in this division, they turned up giving it large and we then scored five cracking goals, without reply. It did make me smile when their fans were throwing their season tickets and shirts on the pitch at the end of the game.

#### WHO'S BRAINtree'S ALL-TIME HERO?

Alex Stewart – former club chairman who kept the club going during dark times in the 1970s. We will never forget him.

#### WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS FOR YOUR CLUB THIS SEASON?

I hope to see further consolidation as the club work towards relocation to the new stadium. This will provide the club with the infrastructure to push on again.

#### WHAT'S THE SCORE GOING TO BE TODAY?

Being full time and having average attendances 10 times that of Braintree, Luton really should embarrass Braintree tonight. I suppose it should be men against boys, but football's a funny old game. I just hope that the match officials are consistent.

# CLASSIC CAMPAIGNS

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

## 1983/84

New manager Chris Symes guided Braintree Town to the Eastern Counties League title in 1983/84. The title race became a two-team affair, with Braintree having games in hand and a better goal difference than leaders Wisbech Town during the closing weeks. A last-minute goal gave Braintree a crucial 4-3 win at Wisbech at the end of April but that was the last match they won and the title was decided on goal difference. Chris Guy, Ian Gooday, John Bibby and Gus Jennings scored 87 goals between them as Braintree netted 125 in the Eastern Counties League, hitting seven past Bury Town, Newmarket and Thetford and six past Stowmarket and Tiptree.

## 1984/85

Braintree Town retained the Eastern Counties League title in 1984/85. Chris Symes' side finished five points ahead of runners-up Sudbury Town but didn't clinch the title until the last week of the season after widespread postponements during the winter months led to many clubs playing a third of their Eastern Counties League games in the final six weeks. Chris Guy was leading scorer with 30 goals as Braintree netted 100 in the Eastern Counties League, losing just six matches. The Iron won 5-2 at Stowmarket and slammed four goals past seven other clubs. They also reached the Eastern Counties League Cup semi-finals but were defeated 2-1 by Histon.

## 1986/87

Braintree Town were Eastern Counties League runners-up in 1986/87. Chris Symes' side scored 106 goals as they finished just two points behind champions Sudbury Town in an exciting title race, suffering their heaviest defeat of the season against their rivals. Only Sudbury gained more than their 28 wins in the Eastern Counties League and the Iron crushed bottom club Thetford Town 7-0 at Cressing Road, also scoring five times against Chatteris Town, Clacton Town, Histon, Soham Town Rangers, Wisbech Town and at Thetford. They were beaten 2-1 at Wisbech in the Eastern Counties League Cup second round. John Bibby was captain and 'Player of the Year'.

## 1987/88

Gary Hollocks and Chris Guy scored 45 goals between them as Braintree Town went close to achieving the Eastern Counties League and Cup double in 1987/88. The Iron defeated Watton United, Chatteris Town and Sudbury Town en route to the Eastern Counties League Cup final, beating Haverhill Rovers 1-0 after extra-time to lift the trophy for the first time in their history. They were the highest scorers in the Eastern Counties League with 96 goals but finished runners-up, three points behind champions March Town United who clinched the title with a 5-0 win at Chatteris in May. The Iron failed to gain promotion to the Southern League due to ground grading regulations.

## 1990/91

Gary Hollocks and Kevin Newbury scored 16 goals apiece as Braintree Town were Eastern Counties League runners-up for the fourth time in five seasons in 1990/91. The Iron won just five of their opening 14 games but soared up the table with only one defeat in their last 26 matches, finishing six points behind champions Wisbech Town. Kevin Newbury netted five times as Braintree triumphed 7-2 at Thetford Town in late April. They were accepted into the Southern League at the end of the season. The FA Cup second qualifying round defeat at home to Barnet was watched by 1,411 and appeared in the BBC's Match of the Day 'Road to Wembley' feature.

## 1996/97

Wade Falana and Gary Bennett netted 56 goals between them as Braintree Town won promotion and were Isthmian League Cup finalists in 1996/97. Despite scoring the most goals, 99, in the Isthmian League Third Division and suffering fewest defeats, Braintree finished runners-up, one point behind champions Wealdstone. The Iron gained a record 11-1 victory at Clapton and hammered East Thurrock 7-1, also netting six goals at home to Clapton, Flackwell Heath, Hertford Town, Lewes and Wingate & Finchley. They beat Tring, Aylesbury United, Carshalton, Billericay, Bedford and Sutton in the Cup before losing 1-0 to Boreham Wood in the final.



The Iron celebrate winning the Conference South in 2010/11

## 1997/98

Gary Bennett scored a club record 57 goals as Braintree Town won promotion for the second consecutive year in 1997/98. The Isthmian League Second Division title race went to the wire and Braintree's shock 1-0 defeat at home to bottom club Cheshunt enabled Canvey Island to pip them on goal difference after they won at relegated Tilbury. Both clubs finished on 98 points, 15 ahead of third-placed Wealdstone. The Iron were top scorers with 117 goals but had an inferior defensive record. Braintree's only other defeat was 1-0 at home to Wealdstone and they were the only team not to lose an away match. Tony Hall's side swept to a 7-0 win at home to Met Police.

## 2000/01

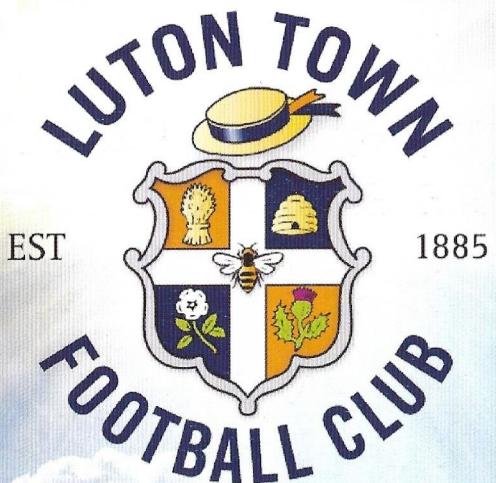
Robbie Reinelt was leading marksman with 37 goals as Braintree Town won promotion to the Isthmian League Premier Division in 2000/01. The Iron were top scorers with 112 goals but finished third in the Isthmian League First Division behind Boreham Wood and Bedford Town. Ben Embrey's side made an inconsistent start but then scored 11 goals without reply in their two mid-season matches against Bromley before losing four out of five games in February. They recovered to lose just three of their last 17 games, annihilating Romford 10-0 at Cressing Road and clinching promotion in third place with a 3-0 victory at Barton Rovers on the final day.

## 2005/06

Braintree Town won the Isthmian League Premier Division title in 2005/06. The Iron lost two of their opening five games but completed an early double over Heybridge Swifts. George Borg's side had the best defensive record, remaining unbeaten at home and losing just four away games. The 2-1 win at home to Chelmsford on Boxing Day heralded an unbeaten 23-match finish to the season. Alex Revell, Eugene Ofori and Carl Griffiths netted 43 Isthmian League goals between them. Braintree gained 94 points, finishing seven above runners-up Heybridge. They reached the FA Cup first round for the first time in their history but lost 4-1 at Shrewsbury.

## 2010/11

Sean Marks was top scorer as Braintree Town stormed to the Blue Square South title in 2010/11. Rod Stringer's side began with a 3-0 victory at Maidenhead and were unbeaten in their opening six games before losing 2-1 at home to Dover. The Iron then won six consecutive matches without conceding a goal until their only other home defeat, 2-0 to Bromley. Following a 4-4 draw at Staines, they gained another six straight wins and remained in pole position after November. Braintree lost 2-1 at rivals Farnborough in March but eventually won the title by a seven-point margin, with 89 points. They won 27 matches and lost only seven, with the best defensive record.



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## TOWN 3-1 SOUTHPORT

### RENDELL DOUBLE SINKS SANDGROUNERS

**Boss Paul Buckle**  
was delighted with  
his side's second-half  
performance as the  
Town moved up to third  
in the table with a 3-1  
win over Southport at  
Kenilworth Road.

Stuart Fleetwood had the  
Hatters ahead inside four  
minutes but the visitors  
levelled things up on the  
stroke of half-time through  
Andrew Parry.

But, as Buckle revealed  
to Hatters Player, stern  
words at the break had  
the desired effect as the  
Hatters scored twice  
through Scott Rendell in  
the opening six minutes of  
the second half to secure  
victory.

Rendell's first came after  
fine skill from Fleetwood released JJ O'Donnell down  
the left flank and the youngster's low pin-point cross  
was finished by the striker on the stretch.

Five minutes later Rendell scored again, this time  
from the penalty spot – the Town's first spot-kick of  
the season – after Fleetwood was tripped in the box  
by Parry.

"I'm happy now, but at half-time I wasn't," Buckle  
said. "The important thing was that we won and,  
because you're greedy, you want a performance to go  
with it and in the second half that's what we got.

"We made a good start in the first half and I was  
thinking, like most people in the ground, here we go,  
we'll march on from here, but that wasn't the case.

"We allowed Southport back in the game, maybe we  
thought it was too easy. Allowing them back into it was  
hugely frustrating and at half-time I gave them a bit of  
rocket and told them to get their tackles in and to get  
on the front foot. It worked and once we got our noses  
ahead there was no looking back.



Scott Rendell slides home his first against Southport

"The second half was where we need to be. We are  
continually making it hard for ourselves but we've got  
to be patient.

"You've got to remember we're still building a team –  
today we fielded two centre-halves who hadn't played  
with each other before.

"The bar has been raised but there is still room for  
improvement, we all know that. We're improving all the  
times and we're up there in the top three now. We just  
need to get that consistency and slowly it's getting  
there."

Two-goal hero Rendell said: "It's great to score twice  
but we've picked up three vital points and kept the  
momentum going after the Tamworth win.

"The manager got into us at half-time and rightly so  
because we ended the half very sloppy and conceded  
a soft goal. In the second half though, we were  
unstoppable and in the end we could have scored  
more. We're doing well and there's more to  
come from us – it's up to us to keep it going."



# TOWN 3

Fleetwood 4, Rendell 47, 51 (pen)



# SOUTHPORT 1

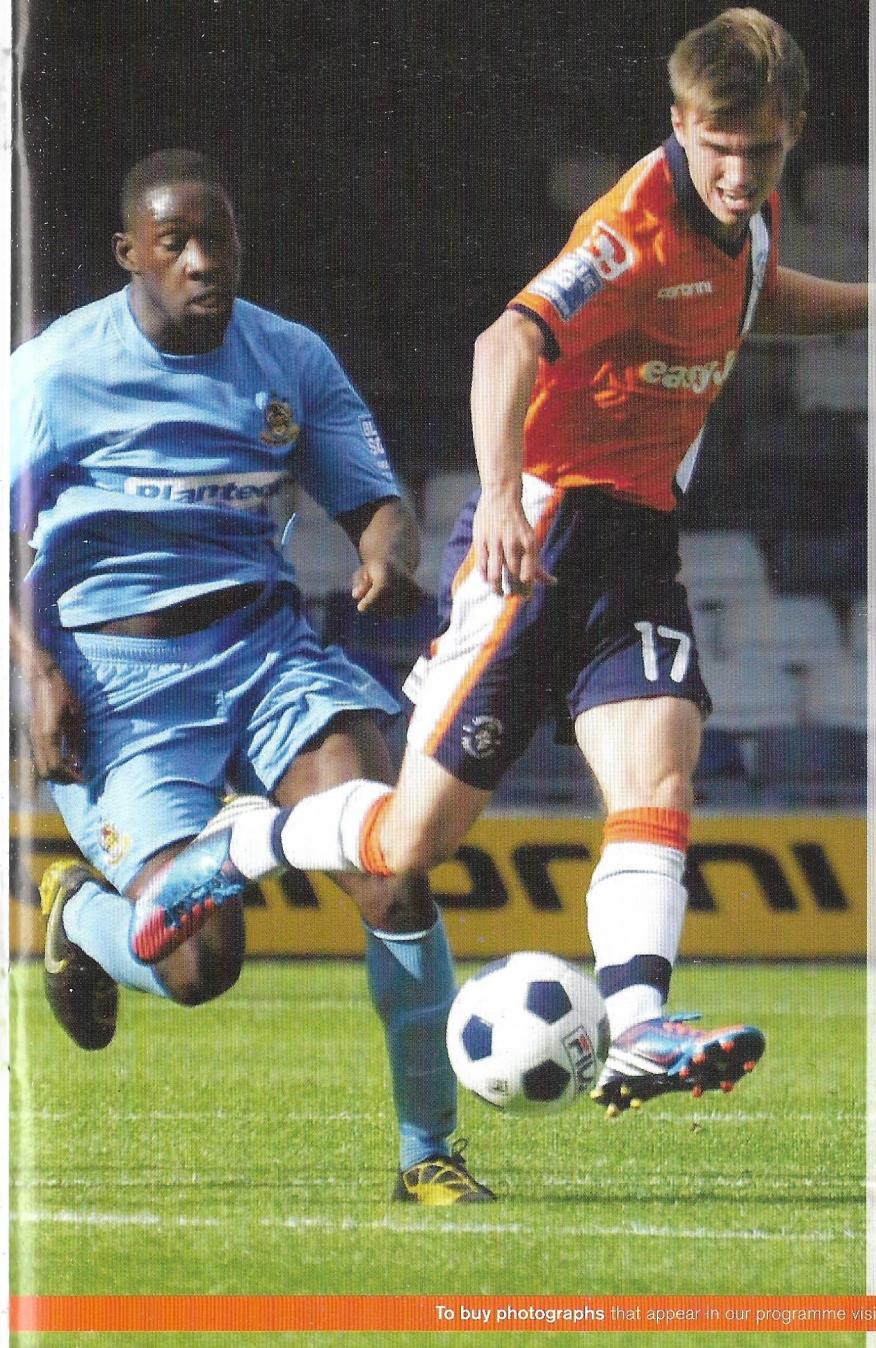
Parry 45

Mark Tyler punches clear



Stuart Fleetwood fires  
the Hatters ahead

JJ O'Donnell passes forwards as former  
team-mate Godfrey Poku watches on



#### POSSESSION

55%	45%
CORNERS	
3	5
OFFSIDES	
5	5
SHOTS ON TARGET	
8	1
SHOTS OFF TARGET	
2	3
FOULS	
9	5
YELLOW CARDS	
2	1
RED CARDS	
0	0

#### TOWN:

Tyler  
Henry

Ainge

Essam

Howells

Kasim

(sub Rowe-Turner 72)

O'Donnell

Lawless

Gray

Rendell

(sub Robinson 85)

Fleetwood

(sub Shaw 79)

Subs not used:

Walker

Brill

**SOUTHPORT:**

McMillan

Smith

(sub Tames 46)

Lever

Parry

Grand

Whalley

Ledsham

Almond

(sub Benjamin 71)

Moogan

(sub Willis 63)

Lynch

Poku

Subs not used:

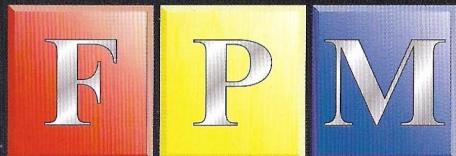
Akrigg

Hibbert

**ATTENDANCE:**

5,696 (77 Southport)

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## LINCOLN 1-2 TOWN

Stadecoach

Substitute Yaser Kasim  
gets stuck in at Sincil Bank



### THREE ON THE BOUNCE

**Boss Paul Buckle** was “thrilled to bits” as his side registered a third win on the spin to put them within three points off the top of the Blue Square Bet Premier after a 2-1 victory at Lincoln.

“We’ve come here and achieved what we’ve set out to do – win the game,” Buckle told Hatters Player afterwards. “I’m absolutely thrilled to bits. We were on the front foot, played the better football and created several chances.

“Credit to Lincoln they scored a wonder goal to get them back into a game in which we should have been well away with. But we showed the other side of our game: defending superbly and today you certainly didn’t see a soft Luton side.

“We spoke in the hotel before the game and we were all agreed that we haven’t been at our best yet this season but that’s three wins out of three now and the players really deserve a big pat on the back.”

Andre Gray’s cross led to Lincoln goalkeeper Paul Farman punching the ball into his own net on 27 minutes to give the Town the lead and the boss was adamant that the striker should be given the goal. “Andre was causing problems down their right and you

never see him just clip the ball in, he really strikes the ball with power,” he said. “Yes, we expected the keeper to save it but with the power behind it it’s dropped in and Andre’s got his reward. If you look back on the season so far we haven’t had much luck.”

Buckle made two changes at half-time with Jon Shaw and Lathaniel Rowe-Turner introduced at the break and it took the former just two minutes to double the Town’s advantage.

And the manager paid tribute to his frontman after his second goal of the season. “We’ve been working hard on those set-pieces in training – everyone knows their jobs and it worked perfectly,” Buckle said.

“Jon’s a proven goalscorer and you could see how much the goal meant. The delight was on the faces of everyone on the bench and his team-mates. He’s the real deal and is fully committed to Luton Town.”

Lincoln pulled a goal back shortly before the hour mark through a fine strike from forward Jamie Taylor but some excellent defending enabled the Town to see out their fifth away victory of the season in just seven games.

Last season it took the Hatters until December to reach that particular landmark.



# LINCOLN 1

Taylor 58

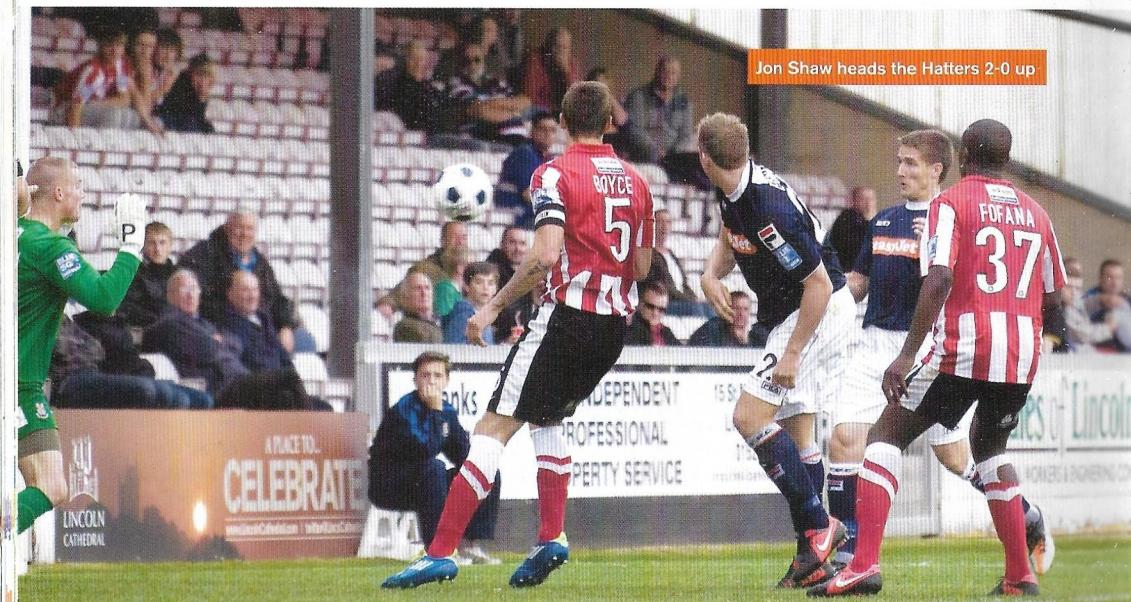


# TOWN 2

Farman (og) 27, Shaw 47



Alex Lawless goes for goal



Jon Shaw heads the Hatters 2-0 up



Stuart Fleetwood keeps his eyes on the ball

**POSSESSION**

51%	49%
<b>CORNERS</b>	
9	2
<b>OFFSIDES</b>	
4	7
<b>SHOTS ON TARGET</b>	
2	4
<b>SHOTS OFF TARGET</b>	
6	4
<b>FOULS</b>	
9	11
<b>YELLOW CARDS</b>	
0	3
<b>RED CARDS</b>	
0	0

**LINCOLN:**

Farman  
Boyce  
Miller  
(sub Sheridan 90)  
Gilbert  
Gray  
Nicolau  
Bore  
(sub Robinson 79)  
Morgan  
Fofana  
(sub Larkin 60)  
Smith  
Taylor  
Subs not used:  
Turner  
Hutchinson

**TOWN:**

Tyler  
Henry  
Howells  
Ainge  
Essam  
Lawless  
O'Donnell  
J. Robinson  
(sub Rowe-Turner 46)  
Rendell  
(sub Shaw 46)  
Gray  
(sub Kasim 76)  
Fleetwood  
Subs not used:  
Brill  
Walker

**ATTENDANCE:**

2,970 (864 Luton)



# GUEST SPEAKER EVENING

with

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# THE 150 MARK

Town goalkeeper Mark Tyler spoke to Hatters Player after the Southport game on racking up 150 games for the Hatters between the sticks.

Mark, a landmark day for you, your 150th appearance, time flies when you're having fun I guess?

"Yes, it's brilliant. It's my fourth year here now so really delighted, and a win to boot as well, so it makes the day worth while."

No clean sheet, I suppose that's the only disappointing thing?

"Yes, it was a sloppy goal from our point. I think it could have been cleared and then we didn't shut him down outside the box and he's put it in the bottom corner. The gaffer gave us a kick up the backside at half-time but we raised our game in the second half and I thought we deserved the win."

If we had gone in 1-0 up, it would have been all smiles despite ending the half a little bit sloppy, but conceding the goal probably gave us a kick up the backside which was needed was it not?

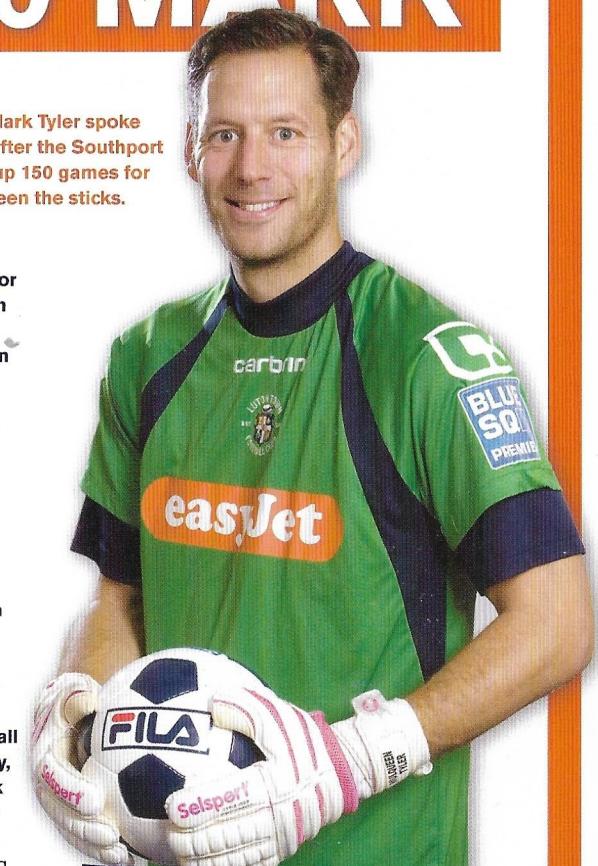
"It was strange because we got off to a great start but then we dropped our tempo and it was frustrating. We spoke all week about starting fast and getting a goal and perhaps it came too easy because I think we got too sloppy as the first half wore on. The gaffer then gave us the rocket we needed and we could have had more in the second half."

That's 150 up for you now. Do you remember your first game?

"Yes I do. We were away to AFC Wimbledon and Shane Blackett got sent off and it was a penalty that drew the game. It's great being here, though. I wanted to come here because I'd spent two years not playing at Peterborough and I've been delighted with the way it's gone since."

Seeing the amount of managers come and go, did you envisage you'd be here for this length of time?

"Well every manager has their favourites so you have to work hard to show the manager how good you are



FACT – Mark Tyler is the only Hatters player to have played in every minute of every game for the Town this season.

FACT – Mark has appeared against Wrexham more times than any other Luton player (seven times).

FACT – Mark has only been cautioned twice in his Luton career.

and why they should keep you. So yeah, it's been frustrating, we haven't had a manager for a long stretch of time but that's the ambition of this club and we want to get out of this league. Hopefully now we have the right man at the helm and we will be pushing up the leagues."

# CENTRE SPOT

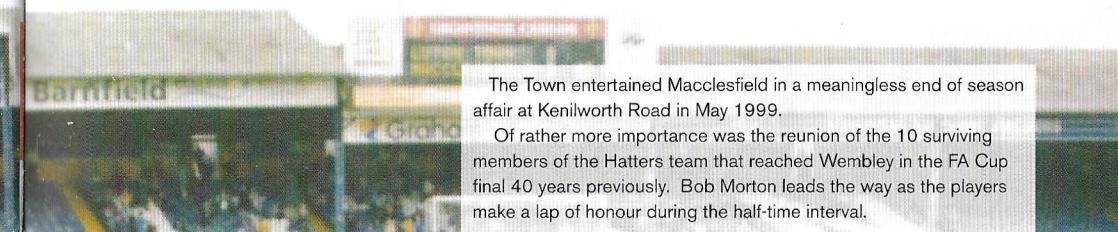


Andre Gray is mobbed by his team-mates after his cross led to the Town's opening goal at Lincoln on Saturday

PICTURE

# THE PAST

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES  
INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE



The Town entertained Macclesfield in a meaningless end of season affair at Kenilworth Road in May 1999.

Of rather more importance was the reunion of the 10 surviving members of the Hatters team that reached Wembley in the FA Cup final 40 years previously. Bob Morton leads the way as the players make a lap of honour during the half-time interval.

# TOWN TREASURES

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

A rare photo showing the Town team in 'full colour' for the first time in print. Sadly, the illustrator has got the colour wrong as the Town played in more of a sky blue at the time. I am also sure the goalkeepers played in green jerseys rather than grey!

LUTON TOWN F.C., 1908-9.



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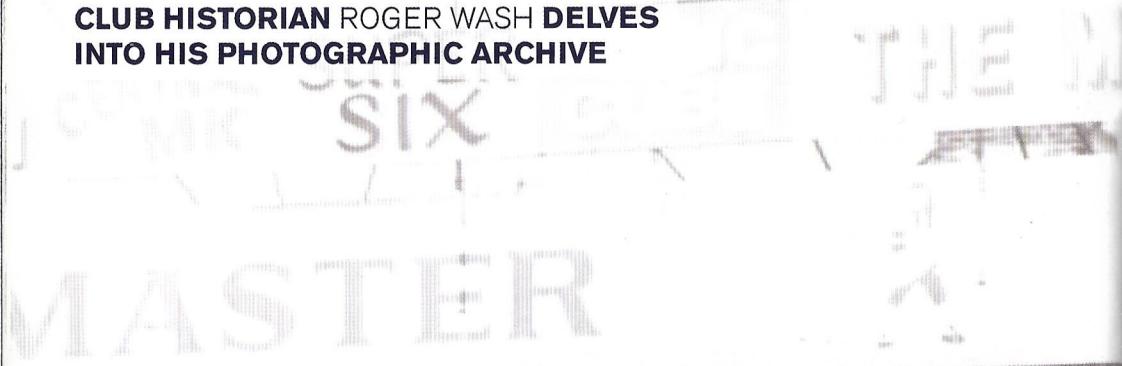
C. GREEN (Secretary).  
I. JOHNSON.

SPECIAL  
IDEAS  
SUPPLEMENT

Photo by W. H. Cox, Luton.

# THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES  
INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE



Another rare shot this week, of David Moss actually scoring a goal with his head – against Brighton at Kenilworth Road in 1982.

Moss, one of the best wingers ever to play for the Town, was renowned for letting his feet do the talking but he will remind anyone who cares to ask that he did net with his head from 30 yards at QPR in 1980!

# LTFC ITALIA

## A VERY SPECIAL WELCOME THIS EVENING...

Support for our club comes from far and wide. Mostly this is because people from the local area move away but retain their passion for the Hatters. There are others, however, who have never had this local connection but whose passion is just as intense. One such person is with us again today - Claudio Mazzuccolo, who lives in Santa Maria la Carita, a village in the shadow of Mount Vesuvius just outside Naples.

Claudio's obsession with all things Luton started back in 1988. He was in bed, very bored, with a serious bout of man flu when a local TV station was showing live coverage of the Littlewoods Cup Final. As we all know, we famously defeated Arsenal 3-2 in what was widely recognised as one of the best games ever to take place at Wembley. This was a watershed moment for the young Claudio.

From that moment on, he was hooked and tried for a long time to get hold of a Luton Town replica shirt. Soon afterwards, he founded the LTFC Italia Supporters Club

and gradually drew in many others - mostly from his locality but also from other parts of Italy. His enthusiasm was as contagious as his flu and he has infected many others in the village over the years to the point where LTFC Italia now has over 400 members. (I'm not sure how many of these also caught the flu but I don't think it was a requirement for joining!)

### The English man

He has plastered his village with Luton Town stickers and many members wear Luton Town t-shirts. The entire youth of the village know all about Luton Town and locally, Claudio is known as 'the English man'. During matches they meet in a local bar and listen to commentary on DiverseFM via the internet. They also have a Facebook page, on which results and other comments are posted on a daily basis.

For special occasions, such as birthdays and anniversaries, Claudio organises visits to games at Kenilworth Road. He spent part of his honeymoon at

The LTFC Italia Flag



Kenilworth Road (well, where else would you go?), along with his and Maria's first wedding anniversary and, for tonight's match, their second anniversary. In all, they have taken in about 10 games in the last few years - the most memorable of which he feels was the 2-1 win against Wrexham in 2011, which

secured our place in that year's Play-Off Final. Last year they chose to come to Wembley for the Play-Off Final against York - quite a difficult decision as it meant missing the Italian Cup final where Napoli - his other love - were to play (and beat) Juventus on the same day. Like the rest of us, he was surprised and devastated to find that the normal offside rule had been relaxed for the occasion.

For this year's anniversary visit, a few LTFC Italians are here for tonight's game against Braintree and Saturday's match against Nuneaton (who needs Juventus anyway?). Look out for them in the front row of the Lower Kenilworth, and look out for their LTFC Italia banner which may be proudly displayed somewhere in the ground.

### Presentation

At half-time this evening, we shall be making a pitch-side presentation to Claudio of a certificate recognising the LTFC Italia Supporters Club. This will take pride of place in their club room amongst all their other memorabilia.

To Claudio and the LTFC Italia Supporters Club, we thank you for your fantastic support and your enthusiasm. It is our great hope that you will be able to celebrate your next anniversary with us at a match in the Football League. Nothing would give us all greater pleasure!

*Felice anniversario di matrimonio a Claudio e Maria. Forza Hatters.*



Claudio has the badges of LTFC and Napoli tattooed one on each calf. Here's a fine example of part of his left leg



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# ON THIS DAY

OCTOBER 9

## THE RECORD

The Town have a mixed record on this day in history having won eight and lost seven of the 18 games played. There have been just three draws. The Town have scored 33 and conceded 30, which works out, on average, that 3.5 goals are scored in each game.

## LAST TIME OUT

Seven goals were scored the last time the Hatters featured on this day as the Town went down 4-3 to Gillingham in a Johnstone's Paint Trophy tie at Priestfield in 2007. Two goals from Paul Furlong and a Matthew Spring penalty wasn't enough to see the Hatters progress. This defeat, however, remains the last time the Town have lost in this competition, having gone onto lift the Trophy in the following campaign.

## GAP

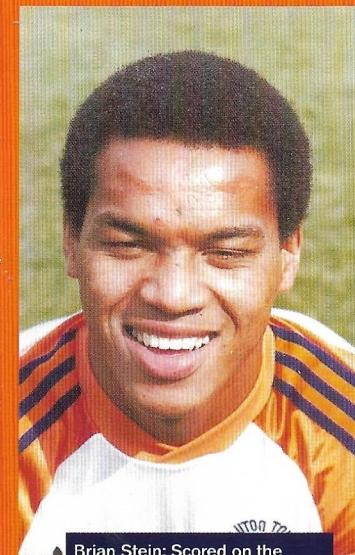
Prior to that defeat against Gillingham, you have to go all the way back to 1999 for the previous game involving the Town on this day when Lennie Lawrence's side went down 2-1 to Oldham Athletic at Boundary Park. On-loan striker Neil Midgely scored the Hatters' goal.

## TELLY TRIUMPH

In 1994, the Town recorded a fine victory at the Victoria Ground against Stoke City in front of the Sunday ITV cameras, thanks to goals from Dwight Marshall and David Preece. Former Hatters defender John Dreyer was red carded as the Town clocked up their third away win in four games. At that point in the season, David Pleat's side had yet to register a home victory.

## HOME COMFORTS

Tonight is the first time in 28 years that the Town play hosts on this day. Orient were the last visitors to Kenilworth Road way back in 1984 for a League Cup second round second-leg tie.



Brian Stein: Scored on the night the Town last played at home on this day 28 years ago

Goals from Frankie Bunn, Brian Stein and Steve Elliott secured a 3-1 win on the night and a 7-2 aggregate victory. The Hatters were knocked out in the next round by Sheffield Wednesday at Hillsborough.

## TOP-FLIGHT TRIUMPH

The Hatters were dazzling punters in the top division in 1982 after their promotion from the Second Division. A week after holding Manchester United to a 1-1 draw at Kenilworth Road, goals from Brian Stein, David Moss and Paul Walsh secured a 3-2 win at St Andrews against Birmingham City.

## GOALS GALORE

In 1965, the Town were scratching around in Division Four, a season after their relegation from the third tier, but were pushing for an instant return. Having recorded a 4-3 win over Doncaster three days earlier, the Town beat Barnsley 5-4 at Kenilworth Road. Two goals from goalkeeper Tony Read (who was also employed as a striker – he would later go on and score a hat-trick against Notts County a month later) plus further strikes from John O'Rourke, Ray Whittaker and Billy Stark secured victory in a nine-goal thriller against the Tykes.

## UNBEATEN RECORD

The Hatters are defending an unbeaten record at Kenilworth Road on this day, tonight. The Town have won six of the nine matches played, scoring 20 goals in the process.

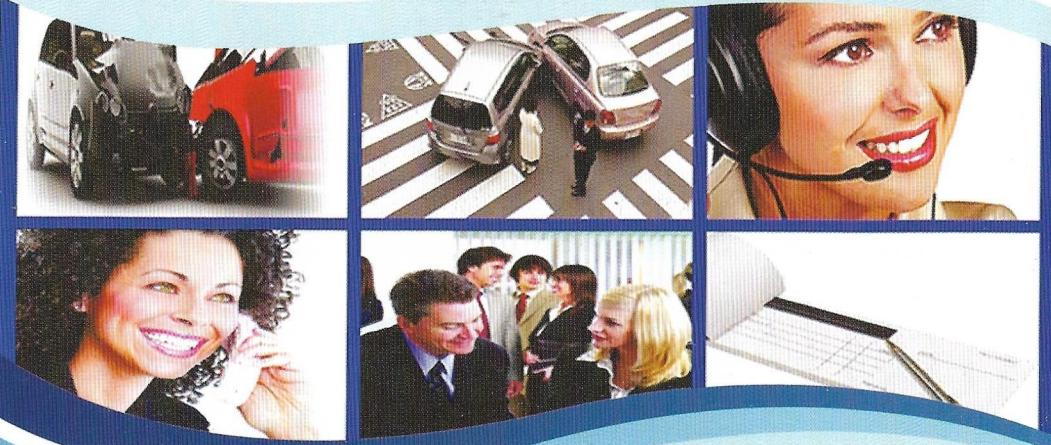
## GUNNED DOWN

The Town's first recorded match on this date was a 3-0 defeat at Woolwich Arsenal back in 1897, in Division Two. The Hatters had lost 2-0 to the Gunners the week before at Kenilworth Road.

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## THE NLP VIEW WITH STUART HAMMONDS

It will forever be known as the **Rory McIlroy** method – the pre-match warm-up where you arrive at the venue late, grab your kit and go out and perform.

The Northern Irish golfer's play – after getting to Medinah Country Club just in time to tee-off in his singles match – will go down in Ryder Cup folklore.

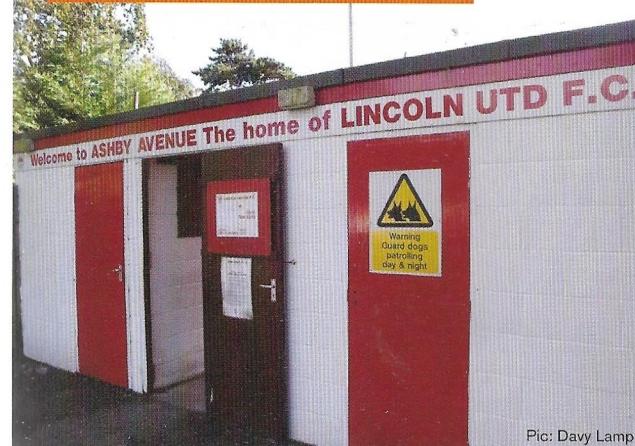
He was hurriedly driven to the Chicago course in the front of an unmarked police car, then smiled at the locals' banter about needing a new alarm clock before going onto beat Keegan Bradley and help Europe achieve a historic comeback.

It blew the old 'Fail to Prepare, Prepare to Fail' mantra right out of the window – and there have been many examples in football, including a couple from my own non-league career.

In October 1997, I recall boarding the Arnold Town team coach for a trip to Winsford United in the FA Cup third qualifying round.

We were making good time on the M6, so the management ordered a stop-off at Keele Services, but while we were inside, the coach (the vehicle carrying us, not the gaffer Iain McCulloch) was impounded by motorway police. Apparently, several wheels were looser than our marking at set-pieces, with bolts missing left, right and centre.

Wrong venue: Lincoln United's Ashby Avenue home



Pic: Davy Lamp

A replacement was summoned, but after a while it emerged that the coach company were sending one from their depot in Nottingham and it wouldn't be with us until gone 3pm.

We were on the road to Wembley – potentially two wins from the first round proper – and couldn't be diverted like that. So a fleet of taxis were booked and we arrived at the Barton Stadium at 2.55pm.

We made our way around the dog track, laughed at mercilessly by the gathered home fans, got changed as quickly as we could and kicked off not long after 3pm.

Despite the rush, and playing for an hour with ten men after Gary Richefond got a straight red card, we drew 1-1 and forced a replay, though we lost that on penalties.

At Sutton United, I remember turning up at Billericay for a Ryman Premier game about 2.50pm. Again, we had no warm-up or team talk, just went out there, played and found ourselves 5-0 up by half-time.

It works for others, too. Ryan Jackson signed for Fleetwood on loan from AFC Wimbledon one Friday morning last October and was told he'd be making his debut that night at Lincoln City.

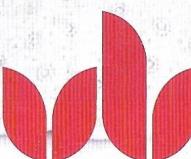
The Londoner went home from the Dons' Kingsmeadow HQ so his dad could drive him north from Streatham. After a nightmare six-hour journey, he found what he thought was the ground – only to discover the dimly-lit car park he was sitting in was at Ashby Avenue, home of Lincoln UNITED.

Another quick dash across a city later, he was arriving in the away dressing room at Sincil Bank five minutes before the 7.45pm kick-off.

But Jackson proved the 'McIlroy Method' has long been in existence – introducing himself to his new team-mates in the best possible way by scoring twice from the right wing in a 3-1 win.

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# SIMON AINGE

## NEW SIGNING OUT FOR PROMOTION

**New Hatters loanee Simon Ainge spoke to Talk of The Town after his move from Guiseley prior to the Southport game.**

The former Bradford man spoke of his ambitions for the season and on making that transition from the day job back to full-time football.

**Simon, welcome to Kenilworth Road, how does it feel to be a Luton Town player?**

"I'm delighted. The move went through pretty quickly but I'm glad to be here and now to push on and try to get us up the league."

**When did you first hear about the move?**

"I first heard on Thursday at 2pm and by 7pm I was making my way down here. I then trained the next day and it's all gone well since."

**You made your debut for Bradford against Luton, is that right?**

"Yes, I played full-back in League 2 against them at Valley Parade, we drew 1-1. I remember the Luton fans, they brought a big following that day and I knew they were a big club in the wrong league."

**You've joined a club with big ambitions, which in recent years has had its fair share of heartache, the same could be said for yourself at Guiseley, however, could it not?**

"Absolutely. The last couple of seasons we've done really well and we've progressed season-on-season. But we lost in the Play-Off Final to a 93rd-minute goal against AFC Telford the season before last, and then last season we lost in the semi-final to Nuneaton. They were both disappointing results but now I'm really focused on this season, and I'm buzzing about this move."

**You're back to full-time football now after being full-time at Bradford, before making the transition to part-time with Bradford Park Avenue and Guiseley. How did that affect you?**

"I was at Bradford, and for whatever reason it didn't work out for me. I think when you're not playing, or you're in the reserves, or if you think you're training well, it's hard when you find yourself sitting in the stand on a Saturday. When you're playing and everything's going right it's then hard work if you find yourself not playing – you just don't really know what to do to get in the team. Sometimes I think you have to take a step

back to go forward, and I think I've done that. The first season at Guiseley we won the league, and each year we've progressed and I feel this year coming to Luton it's a brilliant move for me and hopefully we can push on for promotion here."

**Has this move seen the end of your day job?**

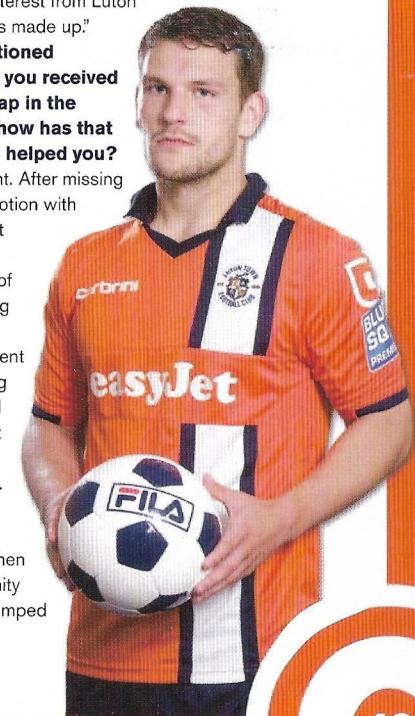
"I've been working for the last couple of years in an office as a recruitment consultant, but thankfully they've always been understanding about my football. They knew that if the offer came about I might be leaving within a couple of hours, so I told them the news. They weren't too happy but they wished me well and wanted me to come here and do well."

**So the main ambition during your time here is to help the club win promotion?**

"That's it. In my mind, while I'm here, I want to succeed and I want to win the league, that's why I've come here. I had interest from other clubs in this league and the league above but as soon as I knew there was interest from Luton my mind was made up."

**You mentioned England C, you received your first cap in the summer – how has that experience helped you?**

"It's brilliant. After missing out on promotion with Guiseley last season the call up kind of took the sting out of that disappointment a little. Going away with all the guys just makes you want it more. I've been hungry ever since and when the opportunity came up, I jumped at it."



# FROM THE PRESS BOX

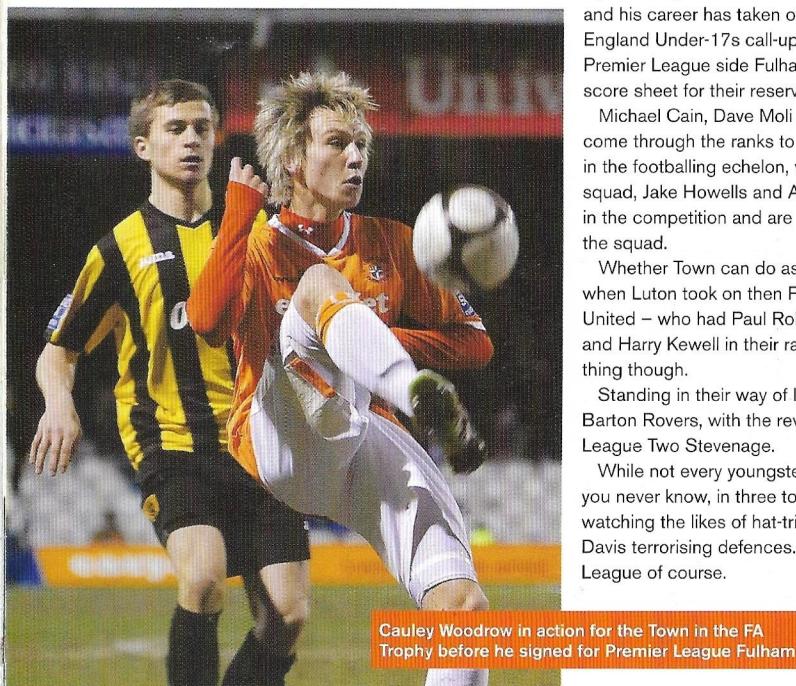
WITH LUTON NEWS' MIKE SIMMONDS

**It may have slipped under the radar somewhat, with Town not running away with it at the top of the Conference, but under Paul Buckle, the club are enjoying their best ever start to life outside the Football League.**

With 26 points on the board from the opening 13 games, Hatters are handily placed to mount a consistent title challenge this campaign, something that has rather disappointingly passed them by in recent seasons.

It's not a bad tally when you look back at previous champions since Luton's time at this level either as Fleetwood had 27 points at the same stage, while Crawley were on 29, with Stevenage a little behind, managing only 24.

They used to say that to get promoted you need to earn two points a game, but that has rather gone by the wayside with the quality at this level getting better and better, as Wrexham in particular found out the hard way last season.



Cauley Woodrow in action for the Town in the FA Trophy before he signed for Premier League Fulham

Another impressive stat for Town was that the victory at Lincoln on Saturday was their fifth away win of the campaign thus far, in a mere seven matches.

Last year it took the Hatters until 17th December and 13 matches in to register five victories on their travels as they won 3-1 at Tamworth. So, despite Luton not quite topping the pile just yet, it's safe to say that signs are promising.

Away from the first team, it was enjoyable to spend an evening watching the next generation of Town's players in FA Youth Cup action last Wednesday night, as they eased into the next round with a 6-0 victory over Peterborough Northern Star.

Names like Zane Banton, Jordan Davis, Jemelle McKenzie-Lowe and Charlie Smith may not be on the tip of the supporters tongues currently, but Town have always shown they is a clear path between youth and first team.

Just two years ago, Cauley Woodrow was netting six against Cogenhoe United in an 11-2 Youth Cup triumph, and his career has taken off remarkably since, with an England Under-17s call-up and a big money move to Premier League side Fulham where he is a regular on the score sheet for their reserves.

Michael Cain, Dave Moli and Michael Richens have all come through the ranks to earn transfers to clubs higher in the footballing echelon, while in the current Hatters squad, Jake Howells and Adam Watkins have both played in the competition and are now fully fledged members of the squad.

Whether Town can do as well as they did in 1996/97, when Luton took on then Premier League giants Leeds United – who had Paul Robinson, Jonathan Woodgate and Harry Kewell in their ranks at the time – is another thing though.

Standing in their way of landing such a plum tie are Barton Rovers, with the reward for the winners a trip to League Two Stevenage.

While not every youngster will make it to the first team, you never know, in three to four years time, we might watching the likes of hat-trick hero Banton or pacy winger Davis terrorising defences...hopefully in the Football League of course.

# THE PRESS OFFICE PICTURE

WITH ANDREW BARRINGER

## AWAY THE LADS

Win your home games and draw your away games, they say, and you're on course to win the league. Doing the maths quickly, that equates to 92 points. In this league? The toughest, most unforgiving of all? No chance.

Saturday's away win at Sincil Bank saw the Town clock up their fifth away win in seven games to put them within touching distance of top spot. Okay, there might have to be one all-mighty goal difference swing for that to happen tonight, but – as we enter Autumn – the Hatters have the top in their sights.

The Town have got to where they are so far thanks to their terrific away form and that's taking into consideration two heavy defeats at Alfreton and Grimsby.

But it got me thinking of the times when the Town were last a real force on the road. In the successful seasons of more recent times, in 2001/02 and 2005/06, the Hatters played with an air of invincibility and it was a feeling that the supporters were swept along the way with up and down the motorways.

It's easy to look back on those heady days where thousands of Town fans would travel to Carlisle, or Barnsley, or Hull and return back to Bedfordshire late on Saturday nights still beaming with happiness during our times in Leagues 1 and 2.



Got a question for Andrew? Email [andrew.barringer@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:andrew.barringer@lutontown.co.uk)

On Saturday 864 Hatters fans were in the away end at Lincoln. Passion and loyalty knows no bounds in the fifth tier of English football. In fact there were three attendances smaller than that figure in the Blue Square Bet Premier at the weekend.

Sheer numbers never guarantee the points or success. Everyone knows that. Indeed, if the truth be told, the weight of expectation in recent years has only served as the opposite.

But, as Paul Buckle told the press after the 2-1 victory on Saturday, this team isn't a soft touch. Last season the boss watched on in horror as his soon-to-be-side rolled over against tonight's visitors.

It's a different Luton now. A new Luton. Nobody said it was going to be easy but there was that distinct feeling of a job well done on Saturday when the Town players wandered towards the away end and applauded the travelling faithful. The support clapped back and toasted their heroes' success.

Togetherness and belief is a powerful thing and an even more powerful thing to stop...

## APPY DAYS – AT LAST!

Typically, an hour after submitting and signing off this page for the Southport match – where I said the mobile version of our website would be live by the time the match took place – I received an email from the Football League informing me of another delay.

However, thankfully, as some of you may know, this version of the official website is now live and can be accessed by visiting [mobile.lutontown.co.uk](http://mobile.lutontown.co.uk).

As for the main site itself, improvements and tweaks are being continually made on an on-going basis by the developers.

You may have noticed the home 'landing' page has disappeared from popping up and annoying you but I must inform you this will be back but in a (hopefully) less frustrating and intruding way. As ever I'll continue to update you on the changes in future columns.

# 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](http://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 MATT STANNARD

It's now been two months since my move to Luton Town. It was a deal that happened very quickly, as most things do in football, and one that I am really pleased worked out. It is clear to see that I have joined a very progressive, ambitious football club and this was a strong factor in me accepting the offer back in July.

The transition over the last two months hasn't been without its challenges, as adapting to life at another club is never easy.

There is a lot to take in, a new culture and philosophy to adapt to and lots of names to learn! I would like to share my sincere gratitude to the staff at the club for helping me through this process, in particular the full-time lads in the academy, Lee Cowley, Joe Deeney, Jordan McCann and Scott Smith.

Without their full cooperation and support, my life would be a lot harder!

As has been stated in previous articles here, the season has started very well for the Academy and it is clear that the programme has been set up and run very well in the past.

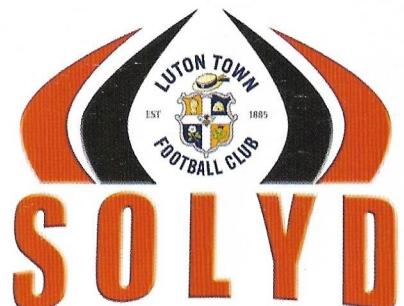
In recent weeks we have produced some fantastic performances against very strong academy teams, pulling off some great results along the way at all age groups.

It is now our job to not only make sure we continue the good work that is currently in place, but develop our methods and be open minded to changes that are on the horizon, with the Elite Player Performance Plan (EPPP).

We are under no illusions that the next six months is going to be tough in preparation for auditing next year. However, the club and its investors have been fantastic in their support for our department. For this we are eternally grateful and now need to ensure that their trust is repaid by either putting players in the first team or preparing to sell them to the bigger clubs. The EPPP will force us to raise our standards again and will set us up nicely to maintain the stream of young talent that has previously been produced by this club.

This is without doubt, a very exciting time for the Academy and I look forward to updating you throughout the year.

## SOLYD SCORE GOALS FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



Once more Supporters of Luton Youth Development (SoLYD) have helped out the youth development department, this time by providing the funds to purchase goals for the Barnfield College site. Training's so much easier if you have goals and nets!

SoLYD started fundraising for the youth development department when the club dropped out of the Football League.

In just over three seasons they have raised more than £51,500 which is all for the exclusive use of the youth development department.

In addition to the department's core funding, this has enabled many of the young players to experience overseas tournaments, to train and play with Luton Town as visitors at Premier League academies, and to have the equipment and coaching they need to succeed.

Every Luton Town supporter who has donated to SoLYD, or attended one of their events, has contributed to this amazing fundraising total.

The youth development department appreciate every penny that has been donated.

# 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
Sat 25	Stevenage	A	W 3-2
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>			
Sat 01	Peterborough United	A	W 2-0
Wed 18	AFC Kempston Rovers	A	W 4-0
Sat 22	Milton Keynes Dons	A	D 2-2
Sat 29	Northampton Town	H	11.00am

### OCTOBER

Wed 03	P'boro Northern Star	H	W 6-0
Sat 06	Stevenage	A	L 2-3
Sat 13	Northampton Town	H	11.00am
Sat 20		H	11.00am
Sat 27	Peterborough United	H	11.00am

### NOVEMBER

Sat 03	Milton Keynes Dons	H	11.00am
Sat 24			Puma YA Cup 5 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



There had been caretaker managers and player managers before but this was the first time anyone had tried a mascot manager

# YOUNG STARS



Nick Burtenshaw: Thinking positively

**NAME:** Nick Burtenshaw

**AGE:** 18

**POSITION:** Central midfielder

**TIME SPENT WITH LUTON TOWN/WHEN**

**JOINED:**

Two years. I joined as a first-year scholar.

**WHAT PART OF YOUR GAME DO YOU CONSIDER THE BEST?**

My fitness and passing.

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

To play more positively and my shooting.

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

The big fan-base.

**WHO ARE YOUR FOOTBALL IDOLS?**

Steven Gerrard.

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

My mum and dad.

**WHAT DO YOU WANT TO ACHIEVE?**

To become a professional footballer.

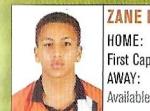
**WHO IS YOUR FAVOURITE ALL-TIME PLAYER?**

Dennis Bergkamp.

**WHAT TARGETS HAVE YOU SET YOURSELF THIS SEASON?**

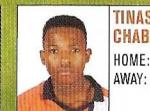
To be consistent week in, week out, and to achieve a professional contract come the end of the season.

## 2012/13 YOUTH TEAM KIT SPONSORS



**ZANE BANTON**

**HOME:** First Capital Connect  
**AWAY:** Available



**TINASHE CHABATA**

**HOME:** Available  
**AWAY:** Available



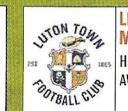
**CHISOLM AMADI**

**HOME:** Available  
**AWAY:** Available



**AREL AMU**

**HOME:** DW Sports  
**AWAY:** Available



**LEEROY MAGURAUSHE**

**HOME:** Available  
**AWAY:** Available



**BEN MCFARLANE-BARNES**

**HOME:** Available  
**AWAY:** Available  
**GLOVES:** Available



**JEMALE MCKENZIE-LOWE**

**HOME:** Available  
**AWAY:** Available



**IAN REES**

**HOME:** Available  
**AWAY:** Available



**CHARLIE SMITH**

**HOME:** Peter Mitchell  
**AWAY:** 2MB



**NICK BURTENSHAW**

**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



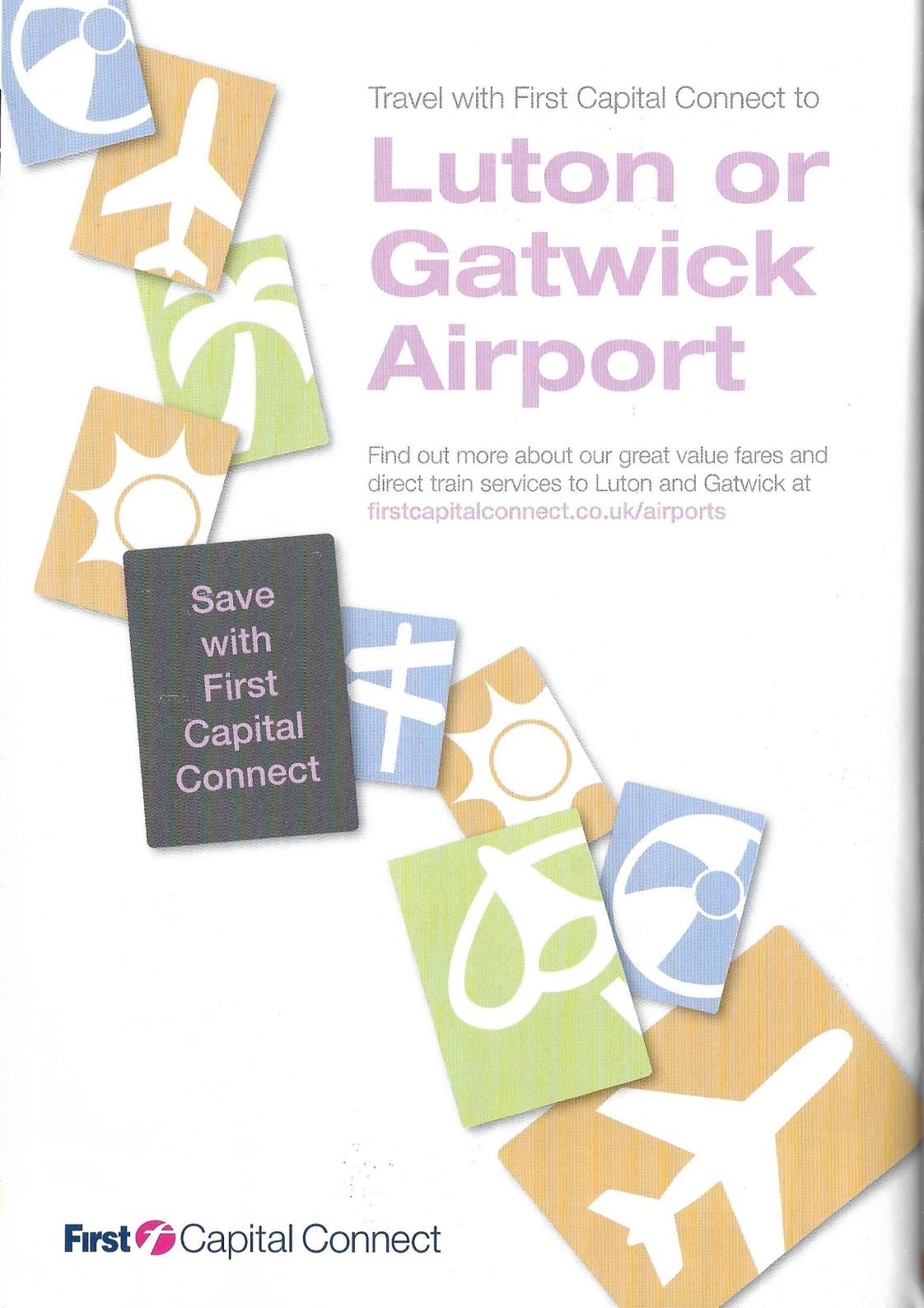
**JERRY NASH**

**HOME:** Moira Spain  
**AWAY:** Available



**ZAK STEPHENS**

**HOME:** Available  
**AWAY:** Available



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YOUTH

# LATEST

## SIX OF THE BEST FOR YOUNGSTERS

**The Town Under-18s eased into the third qualifying round of the FA Youth Cup with a comfortable 6-0 win over Peterborough Northern Star at Kenilworth Road.**

Paul Driver's side were 4-0 to the good at half-time with two goals from Zane Banton and one each from Arel Amu and Jemale McKenzie-Lowe.

Substitute Luke Trotman fired the fifth goal before Banton completed his hat-trick a minute later to make it six.

Peterborough arrived at the ground late having been stuck in traffic and the Town took full advantage early on when Banton struck twice in the first four minutes when capitalising on poor defending from the visitors.

It was 3-0 on 11 minutes when Amu finished smartly on the turn after Banton and Jordan Davis has combined well down the right flank.

Chances continue to rain down on the visitors goal as the Town bossed proceedings and it was no surprise when they added a fourth goal two minutes before the break when McKenzie-Lowe found the bottom corner having latched onto Brett Longden's perfectly-weighted throughball.

It was almost 5-0 42 seconds into the second half when Banton sent Davis clean through on goal but after his shot was stopped by Daniel George, the visiting goalkeeper, McKenzie-Lowe fired the rebound wide with the goal gaping.

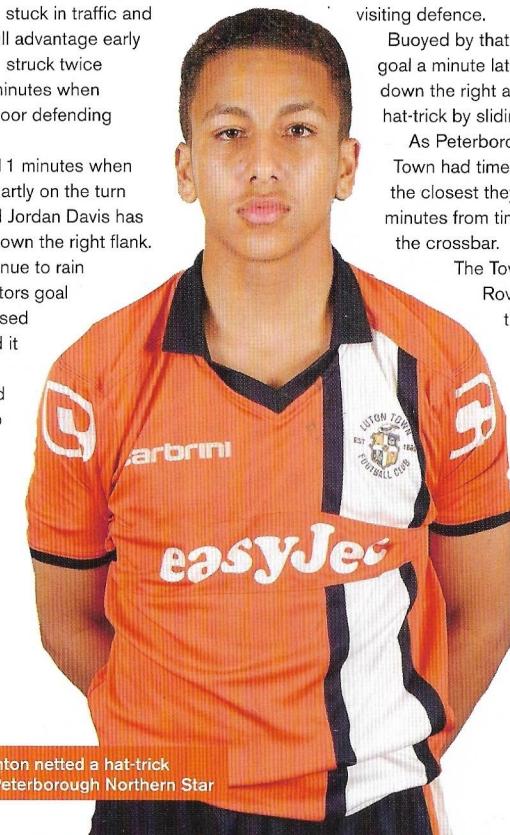
Amu and McKenzie-Lowe both went close shortly before the hour and George denied Davis again in a one-versus-one battle on 63 minutes.

However, the Town did get their fifth goal on 70 minutes when Trotman arrowed a shot past George after his initial shot was blocked in the box by the visiting defence.

Buoyed by that goal the Hatters got their sixth goal a minute later when McKenzie-Lowe's raced down the right and crossed for Banton to seal his hat-trick by sliding home from close range.

As Peterborough pushed for a consolation the Town had time and space to add to their tally but the closest they came to a seventh came three minutes from time when Ian Rees' header struck the crossbar.

The Town will now face with Barton Rovers or Rothwell Corinthians in the third qualifying round at Kenilworth Road a week tomorrow.



Zane Banton netted a hat-trick against Peterborough Northern Star

**Town:** Barnes, Longden, Galliford, Rees, Jibodu, Chabata, Davis (sub Trotman 63), Smith, McKenzie-Lowe (sub Ngwala 80), Banton (sub Stanley 80) Amu. **Subs not used:** Carpenter, Cole.

To sponsor Zane Banton email [commercial@utontown.co.uk](mailto:commercial@utontown.co.uk)

# Luton Fireworks

Saturday 3 November 2012

Popes Meadow, Old Bedford Road

FREE ADMISSION

6.30pm Rides and refreshments

7.30pm Firework display starts

[www.lutonculture.com](http://www.lutonculture.com)



Parking only at Town Centre | No parking at the site except for disabled parking - call 01582 878 100 for details | Road Closure - Old Bedford Road - 5-9pm | Please do not bring any fireworks, including sparklers | No animals to be brought to this event | This event is subject to weather conditions | Noise and nuisance please call 07796 586 585 | Donations are welcome to support the work of Luton Culture.

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Delivering Cultural Services on Behalf of Luton Borough Council

# LUTON LADIES

This week we focus on our Under-18 squad which competes in the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire League.

This new addition to the club set-up is regarded as vital to the Ladies' future prospects and will hopefully provide a steady stream of footballers equipped for progression into the senior squads going forward.

The main group of players emanates from what was once a St Martins team who had proved their credentials over five years in both the County League and the Home Counties League.

Last season the squad were league runners-up for the second consecutive season, and overcame the League champions Flitwick Eagles in the cup final.

## High standard

The current Town Under-18 squad has seen the merger of that successful squad with a number of returning Luton Town players and a selection of high standard players from the rest of the county.

It has taken no time at all for the team to gel as a unit as they are currently top of the table, boasting a 100 per cent record. However, it is important that the

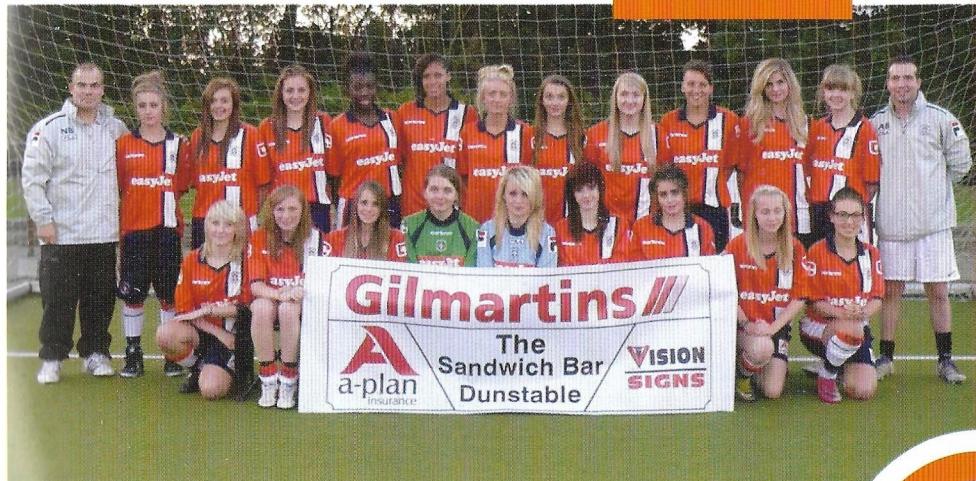
players are stretched on a regular basis so there is an ongoing search for competitive friendly fixtures to maintain conditioning and to ensure all squad players retain their match fitness.

## Sternest test

The latest fixture saw the Town take on senior team Bishop's Stortford who are leaders of their division. This was the sternest test of the season to date but the Hatters were more than equal to it, competing strongly all over the field. It was 1-1 at the interval with Shannon Pratt on target for the Town, but two fine second half finishes from Henny Horsler brought a well-deserved 3-1 victory.

Team captain Tia Fleming recently made her senior debut putting on an impressive display at the heart of the defence and midfielder Shannon Pratt has produced the most stunning statistic of the season so far bagging herself a hat-trick in one match all direct from in-swinging corners. Speedy striker Shona Leo currently tops the scoring charts and there are many more promising players who are likely to perform at first team level in the future.

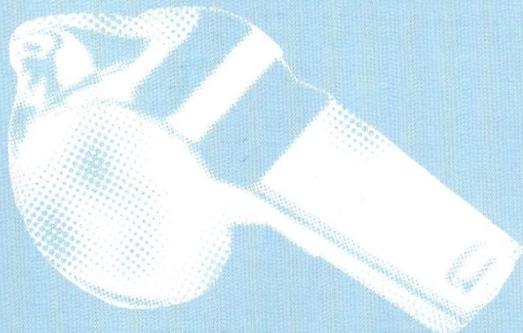
The Town's Under-18 side



For more information on the Ladies visit [www.lutontownbelles.com](http://www.lutontownbelles.com)

#NONSENSEINFOOTBALL

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



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SAID.  
JUST  
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LEAGUE

# LOOK

JOE FLEMONS ROUNDS-UP  
THE LATEST IN THE BSBP

Newport stretched their lead at the top of the Blue Square Bet Premier to two points with a 2-1 win over seventh placed Tamworth on Saturday.

Former Hatter Aaron O'Connor's 63rd-minute winner, which took his tally into double figures for the season, saw the Exiles capitalise on Forest Green's slip-up.

Rovers had previously sat top of the pile after their 3-0 triumph against David Holdsworth's Lincoln City the previous Friday but failed to build on their lead at the top against fellow promotion rivals Wrexham on Saturday. Adrian Cieslewicz's brace for Andy Morrell's men gave the Welsh Dragons an invaluable three points to hoist them up to third, just three points from the summit, level on points with the Hatters.

Dartford continued their impressive start to life in non-league's top flight with a 2-0 away triumph at Grimsby. The Mariners' defeat saw a 10 game unbeaten run ended, as goals from Tom Champion and Adam Birchill secured a third successive win for the Darts who occupy the final Play-Off spot.

Alfreton Town stunned the home crowd at Moss Rose as they ran out 2-1 winners over Macclesfield Town lifting them up to 16th. Dan Bradley hammered home from 25 yards inside the opening minute to silence the home fans before Matthew Barnes-Homer converted from the spot for his eighth of the season to level at half-time. However, when Nathan Arnold drilled past Stewart in the Silkmen goal to secure the three points for Nicky Law's men.

Stockport's re-emergence continues as Craig Hobson's double defeated Hereford as County extended their unbeaten run to four games.

Meanwhile former Hatters boss Richard Money's first game in charge at Cambridge came with an emphatic result against Mansfield Town. The Stags headed into last Saturday's mid-table clash off the back of a three-game unbeaten run but, after Michael Gash gave the U's the lead inside 10 minutes, the result was never in doubt. Luke Berry, Tom Elliot and former Town midfielder Rossi Jarvis were also on the scoresheet for Money's men as he got off to a dream start at the Abbey Stadium.



Adrian Cieslewicz: On target twice for Wrexham against Forest Green

Tonight's visitors Braintree Town were pegged back from 2-0 up as they lost out at home to Barrow, who sit one place behind the Iron in 19th. Sean Marks and Dan Holman gave the Iron the lead inside 12 minutes before Louis Almond netted twice to level the score before Danny Rowe snatched the points in the dying seconds.

Bottom club Hyde picked up a valuable point at home to Gateshead when Josh Giles cancelled out Scott Spencer's early strike to take a share of the spoils at Ewen Fields.

Kidderminster's point against 23rd placed Ebbsfleet was enough to lift the Harriers out of the bottom four at Lincoln's expense. Former Town trialist Nathan Elder notched the Fleet's goal. Nuneaton, who are Saturday's visitors to Kenilworth Road, currently sit 22nd as they were well beaten 3-1 by Liam Watson's Southport.

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

ALFRETON v GRIMSBY

BARROW v SOUTHPORT

DARTFORD v AFC TELFORD

FOREST GREEN v TAMWORTH

GATESHEAD v MACCLESFIELD

KIDDERMINSTER v HYDE

MANSFIELD v LINCOLN

NEWPORT v EBBSFLEET

NUNEATON v HEREFORD

WOKING v CAMBRIDGE

Playing tomorrow:

STOCKPORT v WREXHAM



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

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

## IN THE COMMUNITY

### OCTOBER SOCCER CAMPS

The youth football season is now well under way and we are planning loads of our soccer camps all through the October half-term in Luton, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire for all of our young aspiring footballers who want to both learn and improve their game.

Our popular courses are designed to cover all aspects of the game, including shooting, passing, heading and dribbling, and offer well-organised, fun programmes for boys and girls to include small-sided

matches, competitions and fun games to practice ball techniques. Our venues and dates are listed below, and parents can either book children for an entire course or individual days by phoning or sending a text to James Hatch on 07725 172345 or by email at [ltfc.soccerschools@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ltfc.soccerschools@hotmail.co.uk).

Prices start from just £10 per day and all children attending receive a special Luton Town medal and ticket voucher for a home game. All courses run 10am to 3pm and we do offer sibling discounts.

#### BARTON

Venue: Arnold Academy, Hexton Road  
Dates: Wednesday to Friday 31st October to 2nd November

#### BEDFORD

Venue: Newnham Middle School, Polhill Avenue  
Dates: Monday to Wednesday 29th to 31st October

#### BIGGLESWADE

Venue: Edward Peake Middle School, Potton Road  
Dates: Monday and Tuesday 29th and 30th October

#### BROMHAM

Venue: Bromham Lower School, Grange Lane  
Dates: Thursday and Friday 1st and 2nd November

#### CADDINGTON

Venue: Caddington Village School, Five Oaks  
Dates: Thursday and Friday 1st and 2nd November

#### DUNSTABLE

Venue: Creasey Park Stadium, Creasey Park Drive  
Dates: Thursday and Friday 1st and 2nd November

#### FLITWICK / AMPHILL

Venue: Flitwick Leisure Centre, Steppingley Road  
Dates: Monday to Wednesday 29th to 31st October

#### HARPENDEN

Venue: Sir John Lawes School, Manland Way  
Dates: Monday to Wednesday 29th to 31st October

#### LINSLADE

Venue: Cedars Academy, Mentmore Road  
Dates: Monday to Wednesday 29th to 31st October

#### LUTON

Venue: Barnfield College, New Bedford Road  
Date: Wednesday to Friday 31st October to 2nd November

Venue: Barnfield Academy West, Leagrave High St  
Date: Monday and Tuesday 29th and 30th October

Venue: Barnfield Academy South, Rotherham Ave  
Date: Thursday and Friday 1st and 2nd November

Venue: Playfootball.net, Stopsley, St Thomas' Road  
Dates: Monday and Tuesday 29th and 30th October

#### SHEFFORD / HENLOW

Venue: Digswell football pitches (next to Sub Police station)  
Dates: Wednesday to Friday 31st October to 2nd November

#### WOBURN SANDS

Venue: Fulbrook Middle School, Weathercock Lane  
Dates: Thursday and Friday 1st and 2nd November



# FIXTURES AND

# RESULTS

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY	POS	STARTING XI	
<b>August</b>									
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***	
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**	
TV	Fr 17	19:30	A	Hyde	W 2-1	1,141	477	3	Tyler Henry Taylor Rowe-Turner Kovacs Kasim Lawless O'Donnell 1 Rendell Shaw
Sat 25	15:00	H	AFC Telford United	L 0-1	5,970	111	9	Tyler Lawless Howells Rowe-Turner Kovacs Kasim** Watkins** O'Donnell Rendell 1 Gray* Shaw	
Mon 27	15:00	A	Ebbesfleet United	W 3-1	2,018	1,246	5	Tyler Lawless Taylor Rowe-Turner Beckwith Howells O'Donnell** Rendell 1 Gray* Shaw	
<b>September</b>									
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 1**	
Tue 4	19:45	H	Cambridge United	W 3-2	6,742	622	2	Tyler Rowe-Turner Taylor Beckwith 1 Kovacs* Lawless O'Donnell Howells Rendell Gray 1	
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. Robinson	
TV	Sat 15	15:00	H	Wrexham	D 0-0	6,675	319	5	Tyler Henry Howells* Beckwith Kovacs Lawless O'Donnell Rendell Fleetwood** Gray***
Tue 25	19:45	A	Grimsby Town	L 1-4	4,074	125	6	Tyler Henry** Howells Beckwith Kovacs* Lawless O'Donnell Rendell 1 Fleetwood*** Gray	
Sat 29	15:00	H	Tamworth	W 2-1	1,137	393	5	Tyler Henry* Rowe-Turner** Beckwith Essam Lawless O'Donnell Howells Gray Rendell	
Sat 29	15:00	H	Southport	W 3-1	5,696	77	4	Tyler Henry Howells Essam Ainge Lawless O'Donnell Kasim* Rendell 2*** Gray	
<b>October</b>									
Sat 6	15:00	A	Lincoln City	W 2-1	2,970	864	4	Tyler Henry Howells Essam Ainge Lawless O'Donnell Rendell* J. Robinson** Gray***	
Tue 9	19:45	H	Braintree Town						
Sat 13	15:00	H	Nuneaton Town						
Sat 20	15:00	A	Cambridge United (FAC4Q)						
Sat 27	15:00	A	Forest Green Rovers						
<b>November</b>									
Tue 6	19:45	A	Hereford United						
Sat 10	15:00	H	Dartford						
TV	Thu 15	19:45	A	Mansfield Town					
<b>December</b>									
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	Ebbesfleet United						
<b>January</b>									
Sat 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						
<b>February</b>									
Sat 2	15:00	A	Barrow						
Sat 9	15:00	H	Forest Green Rovers						
Tue 12	19:45	A	Dartford						
Sat 16	15:00	H	Newport County						
Sat 23	15:00	H	Mansfield Town						
Tue 26	19:45	A	Braintree Town						
<b>March</b>									
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						
<b>April</b>									
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						

Ronnie Henry and JJ O'Donnell congratulate Scott Rendell on his penalty against Southport

## SUBS

Fleetwood 1	Brill	Beckwith	Lawless**	Watkins***	Shaw 1
Fleetwood* 2	Brill	Beckwith	Walker	Gray*	Robinson**
Fleetwood** 1	Brill	Beckwith	Howells*	Gray**	Robinson***
Fleetwood 2	Brill	Beckwith	Taylor*	Gray**	Woolley
Fleetwood 1**	Brill	Lacey	Watkins**	Kasim	Woolley*
Fleetwood 1	Brill	Essam***	Watkins*	Woolley**	Walker
Fleetwood**	Brill	Essam*	Watkins	Woolley**	Kasim
Fleetwood 1*	Brill	Essam**	Kasim*	Fleetwood***	Rowe-Turner
Fleetwood	Brill	Essam*	Kasim***	J. Robinson	Walker**
Fleetwood*** 1	Brill	Essam*	Kasim**	J. Robinson***	Walker
Fleetwood 1** 1	Brill	Essam** 1	J. Robinson*	Kovacs	Walker
Fleetwood 1**	Brill	Rowe-Turner* Shaw**	Kasim***	Robinson***	Walker
Fleetwood*	Brill	Rowe-Turner** Shaw 1*	Kasim***		

## LEAGUE TABLE 2012/13

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Newport County AFC	13	9	2	2	26	13	13	29
2 Forest Green Rovers	13	8	3	2	24	12	12	27
3 Wrexham	13	7	5	1	20	8	12	26
4 Luton Town	13	8	2	3	24	18	6	26
5 Dartford	13	8	1	4	24	14	10	25
6 Grimsby Town	13	5	6	2	18	9	9	21
7 Tamworth	13	6	1	6	19	18	1	19
8 Macclesfield Town	12	6	1	5	22	22	0	19
9 AFC Telford United	13	4	6	3	21	18	3	18
10 Stockport County	13	4	5	4	17	16	1	17
11 Gateshead	13	4	5	4	17	17	0	17
12 Hereford United	13	5	2	6	22	26	-4	17
13 Mansfield Town	12	5	2	5	21	25	-4	17
14 Cambridge United	13	4	4	5	26	26	0	16
15 Woking	13	5	1	7	23	25	-2	16
16 Alfreton Town	12	4	4	4	17	21	-4	16
17 Southport	13	4	4	5	17	22	-5	16
18 Braintree Town	13	3	4	6	15	20	-5	13
19 Barrow	13	3	4	6	16	26	-10	13
20 Kidderminster Harriers	13	2	6	5	14	15	-1	12
21 Lincoln City	13	3	3	7	15	21	-6	12
22 Nuneaton	13	2	5	6	20	29	-9	11
23 Ebbesfleet United	13	2	4	7	20	30	-10	10
24 Hyde FC	12	1	4	7	15	22	-7	7

## PLAYER STATS 2012/13

	THIS SEASON				CAREER			
	LEAGUE APPS	CUP APPS	TOTAL APPS	DISCIP	Y	R	APPs	GLS
Simon Ainge	2	0	0	0	2 (0)	0	0	2
Dean Beckwith	7	1	0	0	7 (0)	1	2	18
Connor Essam	3 (4)	0	0	0	3 (4)	0	1	0
Stuart Fleetwood	11 (2)	9	0	0	11 (2)	9	1	60
Andre Gray	10 (3)	2	0	0	10 (3)	2	3	25
Ronnie Henry	10	0	0	0	10 (0)	0	0	10
Joe Howells	11 (1)	1	0	0	11 (1)	1	0	195
Yaser Kasim	5 (5)	1	0	0	5 (5)	1	2	10
Janos Kovacs	8	0	1	0	8 (0)	1	2	69
Alex Lawless	12 (1)	0	0	0	12 (1)	0	4	89
JJ O'Donnell	13	0	1	0	13 (0)	1	0	22
Scott Rendell	12	0	5	0	12 (0)	5	1	12
Joe Robinson	2 (3)	0	0	0	2 (3)	0	0	5
Matt Robinson	0 (2)	0	0	0	0 (2)	0	0	2
Lathaniel Rowe-Turner	8 (3)	0	0	0	8 (3)	0	0	11
Jon Shaw	7 (3)	2	0	0	7 (3)	2	1	10
Greg Taylor	7 (1)	0	0	0	7 (1)	0	1	31
Mark Tyler	13	0	0	0	13 (0)	0	0	151
Dan Walker	0 (1)	0	0	0	0 (1)	0	0	21
Adam Watkins	2 (3)	0	0	0	2 (3)	0	0	54
Jake Woolley	0 (3)	0	0	0	0 (3)	0	0	8

# UP NEXT

NUNEATON TOWN



**There's no rest for the wicked as the Hatters are back in town on Saturday when they entertain Nuneaton Town here at Kenilworth Road.**



## NUNEATON TOWN

**Who?** Where do we start? Well – in a nutshell – they were originally formed as Nuneaton St Nicholas but changed their name to Nuneaton Town in 1894. The club was disbanded and two days later re-formed as

Nuneaton Borough FC. In 1991 they renamed themselves Nuneaton Borough AFC but in 2008 they hit problems again and re-formed once more, reverting to Nuneaton Town.

**Sounds complicated.** You're telling me. What's even more confusing is that the club are still known as the Boro even though the word Borough isn't in their name anymore.

**Rolls off the tongue.** The club, like many these days, have their ground – Liberty Way – sponsored by a local firm. Commentators and reporters beware: it's the Triton Showers Community Arena, okay?

**The long road back.** Liquidation in 2008 saw the club drop two divisions to the Southern League Division One Midland league but in the past four seasons Boro have won promotion three times to return to the non-league top flight.

**Lessons learnt.** After three successive failures in the Play-Offs, the Town could learn a thing or two from Nuneaton. All three of their promotions (2008/09,

2009/10 and 2011/12) have all come via the Play-Offs. Last season saw the club finish fifth in the Blue Square North and would have finished third if it wasn't for a six-point deduction for fielding an ineligible player. But it mattered not, they beat Guiseley in the semi-finals before overcoming the much-fancied Gainsborough Trinity in the final to seal promotion.

**How are they fairing so far?** Inconsistently. As these words were written before the weekend's matches, Nuneaton lie in the bottom four in the table having won 11 points from their first 12 matches. There have been some notable results. A 3-0 win at Alfreton has been their biggest victory, whilst they have also held high-flying Wrexham and Macclesfield at Liberty Way.

But there has also been the not-so-good. They were hammered 6-1 by Woking at the start of September and were on the wrong side of a nine-goal thriller against Ebbsfleet on the opening day of the season, losing 5-4. Prior to their trip to Southport on Saturday, they hadn't won in five games.

**One to watch.** Keep tabs on midfielder Adam Walker. The youngster is the club's leading scorer so far this term with six goals to his name. A product of the Coventry City youth set-up he joined Boro on a permanent basis this summer.

**The Luton link:** David Pleat started his managerial career with Nuneaton Borough, as they were then known, before he took control of the Town in 1978. Pleat brought defender Kirk Stephens with him to Kenilworth Road and the rest, as they say, is history. The Town won promotion to the top flight in 1982 under Pleat and 'Basher' Stephens went on to make 248 appearances in all competitions for the club in six years.

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# TONIGHT'S TEAMS



## LUTON TOWN

Mark Tyler	1
Lathaniel Rowe-Turner	2
Greg Taylor	3
Garry Richards	4
Dean Beckwith	5
Janos Kovacs	6
Alex Lawless	7
Danny Spiller	8
Jon Shaw	9
Scott Rendell	10
Jake Howells	11
Simon Ainge	12
Stuart Fleetwood	13
Adam Watkins	15
Alex Lacey	16
JJ O'Donnell	17
Yaser Kasim	18
James Dance	19
Jake Robinson	22
Matt Robinson	23
Connor Essam	24
Ronnie Henry	25
Andre Gray	27
Dan Walker	29
Dean Brill	33

## BRAINTREE TOWN

1	Nathan McDonald
2	Ryan Peters
3	Sam Habergham
4	Adam Bailey-Dennis
5	Matt Paine
7	Nicky Symons
8	Kenny Davis
9	Sean Marks
10	Josh Dawkin
11	Daniel Sparkes
14	Kaine Shephard
15	Bradley Quinton
16	Pat O'Connor
17	James Mulley
20	Daniel Holman
21	David Stevens
22	Danny Naisbitt
24	Dean Wells

## MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: L. Swaby

ASSISTANT: G. Sprague

ASSISTANT: D. Appleby

FOURTH OFFICIAL: J. Burridge

## HERE NEXT

### NUNEATON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2012

KICK-OFF 3PM

