



Official Matchday Programme of Luton Town Football Club

TALK OF THE TOWN

ISSUE 8 • £3



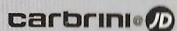
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SATURDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2012 • 3PM

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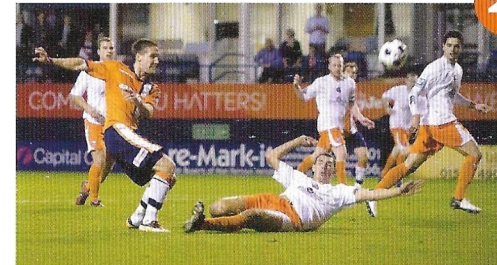
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The views in this programme are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the editor and/or Luton Town.





PAUL

BUCKLE

Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road once again just a few days after our dramatic defeat to Braintree Town.

The game was the strangest football match I have ever been involved in. I won't touch on the incidents that happened over the course of the 90 minutes but what I will say is I was incredibly proud of the performances on the pitch by the players and from you, the supporters in the stands.

Your support was absolutely first class and it encouraged the team to almost pull off what would have been a fantastic victory. The players gave their all and they came ever so close to achieving a result that seemed almost impossible at one stage. They gave me everything having been reduced to 10 men and it goes without saying that it's never easy when you're faced with the task of playing two thirds of a match a man light.

However, the spirit and determination they showed epitomised what I am trying to instil into the squad we have here. I spoke to the players about precisely that on Thursday morning. What I want here is a team – a strong team – willing to fight tooth and nail for success for this football club. It's not about individuals or heroes, it's about sticking together as a group. We need a togetherness come rain or shine, and whether we play good, bad or indifferent.

Naturally I was devastated to lose on Tuesday but in football the most important thing is to accept things and move on. Dwelling on what might have been or mulling over frustrations isn't what I am about and that's something I have told the players.

In training since the Braintree game, the players have responded magnificently. You would never have thought that we had lost our last game, such was the enthusiasm and atmosphere up at the training ground.

I've said it before and I'll continue to say it: we're in this together. Fans, staff, players, management, directors, anybody connected to this club. This club has so much passion and so much history behind it that I know can be a huge force if everybody is pulling in the right direction.

Togetherness

Our aim is to win promotion and it's something we all still believe in. We are fourth in the table and today we play only our 15th game of the season. It's a long, hard slog of a campaign and if we're to succeed we need to be prepared to stick together between now and May.

On Tuesday that togetherness was there for all to see. I must thank all of the supporters who were present because to receive the applause we did at half-time and full-time was unbelievable. We almost pulled it off because your backing gave us the momentum and belief. Looking back on the atmosphere on the night, it gave me great pleasure to be the manager of this great club.

As I said right at the beginning of these notes, it was a strange game. Football's a funny old game, someone once said. Never a truer word spoken, and this afternoon I will be crossing my fingers we don't have a repeat of Tuesday and hope come 5pm we're celebrating three points.

Now, as Autumn takes hold and the weather begins to change, our appreciation of your support heightens. Thank you for your backing and please get behind us once more this afternoon. It really is appreciated. Just remember how much your noise had an effect on the team on Tuesday.

Enjoy the game.

Paul

FROM THE BOARDROOM

WITH DIRECTOR DAVID BLAKEMAN



Welcome to today's game. I very much hope that we can put the disappointment of Tuesday night's result behind us today, and recommence our ascent up the league. To my mind, the result was a classic illustration of the fact that there are no easy fixtures in this league,

and that every team is capable of springing what might be regarded as a surprise result.

Pleasingly, and notwithstanding the disappointing result, I felt that the team played some really excellent football. We passed the ball highly effectively, and created masses of chances. On another day, the ball would have fallen more kindly and we would have taken the three points. I make no comment about the refereeing, though I have a personal viewpoint.

We thought it would be a good idea for us to talk about some of the detail that lies behind what Gary Sweet said in his last but one set of programme notes. As Gary said, we are discussing with the local authority the possibility of purchasing the freehold of the stadium from them. In order to purchase Kenilworth Road, we first need to reach a deal with the local authority.

Whilst we are confident that that is achievable, there will, inevitably, be a series of discussions (probably not just as to price) before a deal acceptable to all parties is reached. If and when a negotiation is concluded, it will then be necessary for the legal work to be undertaken.

That will include checking that the title to the stadium is good, that all parts of the various buildings that comprise the stadium are transferred to us and that there is nothing that has burdened the property since we sold it to the council in 1989 that could damage our interests and prevent us from dealing with the stadium as we would wish to deal with it.

As you will have read, we are also considering development to the stadium itself. If we are to undertake work there are a whole series of matters that need to be looked at. By way of example, we might need to apply to the planning department of the local authority for consent to undertake the work we would wish to do. Similarly, we have to be sure that all health and safety and ground safety requirements are complied with before any works occur.

If we do choose to enter into building, architectural or civil engineering contracts, we need to be sure that those documents are in a form we are satisfied with, and that no loopholes exist in them that could result in us becoming subject to onerous liabilities, obligations or financial payments.

Eventually, of course, it may be the case that we will choose to leave Kenilworth Road and move to a new stadium. It might be argued by some that to fulfil our future ambitions, we have to move. We, however, have reached no definitive decision on the point at present, as

we need to conclude the feasibility process promised as part of the manifesto issued when 2020 took over the Club.

The decision of whether or not to move is very complicated. The feasibility process is of vital importance, as it will help to identify the potential sites that could be available for any new stadium. It will help us to be sure, for example, that the nature of the terrain upon which a stadium could be sited is appropriate. If, for instance, the site is too hilly, it may result in major ground works being increasing heavily in cost. We need to be sure, of course, that the site is big enough to accommodate the size of stadium we think we will need. In that respect, we have to design in the potential for increasing the size of the ground, as the capacity appropriate in the Conference or League One is unlikely to be great enough if we progress to the Championship, or beyond. Most importantly, we want to be sure that we have not overlooked any potential sites which could be perfect locations but which we haven't, ourselves, considered.

Obviously, there are many other issues and factors, many of an extremely technical nature, which will need to be considered as the process progresses.

Equally, we will wish to secure supporter input into the process, that can be achieved without sacrificing the confidentiality that will, inevitably, sometimes be needed to ensure that we can achieve the best possible result for the Club.

This is, of course, a very short and simple explanation of just some of the processes that we will need to consider as we progress with our plans. None of it is, as I have said repeatedly, straightforward, but we are confident that we will find the best solution for the Club going forward, whether that means improving the existing stadium or, potentially, moving to a new stadium.

We welcome, it goes without saying, any comments or suggestions you may have.

Enjoy the game.

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

FROM THE BOARDROOM

WITH MANAGING DIRECTOR GARY SWEET

It is with this little book today that we are bringing you a series of programme notes. As Gary said, we are discussing with the local authority the possibility of purchasing the freehold of the stadium from them. In order to purchase Kenilworth Road, we first need to reach a deal with the local authority.

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Runners-up 1913/14

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

Southern Alliance: Runners-up 1913/14

Gary Sweet revealed the plans in the Southport programme

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RONNIE HENRY

One day later this season, I hope I will be able to write these notes waxing lyrical about our consistency but it is with huge frustration I pen these after our 3-2 defeat against Braintree on Tuesday night.

I have already written half a dozen times this season about our need to go on an unbeaten run so it was with huge disappointment that we were unable to make it four wins on the spin on Tuesday. Even now I still cannot believe we didn't win the game, let alone pick up a point but, in the end, sloppy defending cost us. We know we just can't afford to concede silly goals like we did on Tuesday - it simply wasn't good enough.

It really was one of those nights when it seemed the world was against us but in the end we just fell short of completing what would have been a thoroughly deserved fight-back against the odds.

Sometimes it is all too easy to blame the officials. It wasn't the referee's fault we conceded three goals. However, myself, the lads, the management and you, the supporters, could not believe Stuart Fleetwood's sending off. From my position I thought it was a penalty, but that was the referee's interpretation and we had to live with it.

It was incredible really. We were 2-0 down and a man down yet throughout the 90 minutes we created more chances and bossed possession. But, as I have said, we let ourselves down defensively three times and paid the price. Make no mistake it was three points lost, and our defending cost us a chance to really force ourselves into a strong position close to the top of the league table.

In training over the past couple of the days, though, the feeling around the place has been as though we didn't lose the game. In our minds we knew we should have won. In football, though, chances and possession count for nothing unless you have the goals, results and three points to show for it.

As ever, we have been working hard on the training pitch. Everyone realises how disappointing the result was and the lads have kept their heads high because the excitement has been building ahead of this afternoon's game with Nuneaton.

Like Braintree, Nuneaton have been struggling of late so we need to guard against complacency. Any team that comes to Kenilworth Road are going to raise their



Ronnie: confident that normal service can be resumed

game massively. Our stadium, our support, our pitch - the whole environment - is exhilarating for them. But we must learn to deal with teams who find that little bit extra when they play here.

A victory this afternoon will go a small way towards putting the Braintree game behind us. That seems to be something I often state in my notes, but already this season we have always responded to a bad result by picking up three points in the next game. Everyone is confident that normal service can be resumed and we can right the wrongs of the Braintree game today.

The importance of this afternoon's game takes on added significance because we take a break from league action for a fortnight when we travel to Cambridge next week in the FA Cup. All the lads are focused on securing three points today so we can go into the cup tie brimming with confidence.

Finally, on behalf of all the lads, I must say a huge thanks to each and every one of you who backed us against Braintree. You again turned out in huge numbers and roared us on in the face of adversity.

Here's to three points today to put Tuesday night behind us.

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

AROUND TOWN

THE LATEST NEWS AT KENILWORTH ROAD

ITALIAN SUPPORT RECOGNISED

The thriving LTFC Italia Supporters group were at Kenilworth Road to help us share our frustrations in the match against Braintree on Tuesday.

The group now boast over 400 members and are based near Naples, in the little village of Santa Maria di Carita, just downwind of Mount Vesuvius. We caught up with them at half-time and presented them with a certificate for their clubhouse – presented by Town winger James Dance and directors David Wilkinson and Mike Herrick.

They will also watch today's match from their favourite spot on the front row of the Kenilworth Stand before returning to Italy tomorrow. Look out for their LTFC Italia banner and give them a wave.



Pictured are (left-to-right) David Wilkinson (director), Marco Sicignano, Daniele Di Ruocco, Maria Mazzuoccolo, James Dance, Claudio Mazzuoccolo, Simona Knox, Mike Herrick (director).

REST IN PEACE STAN

The Hatters lost one of their oldest and longest serving supporters at the weekend when Stan Hewitt died at the age of 91.

He had loyally supported the Town since 1927 and was at all the club's greatest days and lowest points.

A season ticket holder since the 1970s, he hardly missed a home game until March this year when his health deteriorated. If you asked him his favourite match



Stan pictured with John Moore

he was hard pressed to chose one having been at Maine Road, the Baseball Ground and at all our Wembley appearances.

He also witnessed Joe Payne's 10 goals in 1936. He had his favoured players – Syd Owen, Frank Soo and John Aston – but his all time favourite was John Moore who became his close friend and presented him with a commemorative photo two years ago this month when Stan celebrated his 90th birthday. The family send their thanks to all those who shared the front rows of Block D of the Main Stand and especially to the Steward who always watched out for him during the last few years.

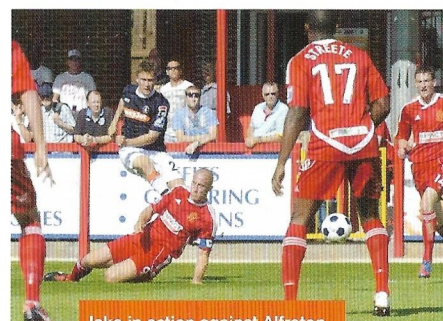
ROBINSON EXTENDS STAY

The Town extended the loan of striker Jake Robinson for a further month from League 2 side Northampton Town this week.

The 25-year-old will remain at Kenilworth Road until 6th November inclusive and has been given the go-ahead by the Cobblers to play in the FA Cup.

Robinson has made five appearances for the Hatters since joining the club last month.

Paul Buckle told Talk of the Town: "I'm delighted to have Jake here for another month. We've not really seen a lot of him since he was given his debut in the game at Alfreton, but he's a good lad and a great character to have around the place.



Jake in action against Alfreton

"With loan players, you know they are coming to you having not played a lot of competitive football but Jake has worked very hard on his fitness since he has come here and he deserved to start in the last game against Lincoln. "It was unfortunate that I decided to switch things around on Saturday by taking him off at half-time, but he's a great player and it's fantastic we can work with him for another month."

EARLY CUP KICK-OFF

The Town's FA Cup fourth qualifying tie against Cambridge United has been made all-ticket and has been switched to a 1pm kick-off on Police advice.

The tie will take place at the Abbey Stadium next Saturday, 20th October with a potential replay played on the following Tuesday, 23rd October, with a 7.45pm kick-off. No tickets will be available on the day at the Abbey Stadium. For full ticket information for this match turn to page 13.

BRAINTREE GOLDEN GAMBLE

The winner of our Golden Gamble at our last home game walked away with £565. Dennis Wilmot was the lucky winner after his ticket number 10566 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!



John Hartson (centre)

SUPER JOHN RETURNS!

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

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."

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Adults (22-64) £248, Young Adults (17-21) and Seniors (65-75) £176, Golden Seniors (over 75s) £111, Youths (10-16) £24, Juniors (under 10s) £24.

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.



CAMBRIDGE UNITED v LUTON TOWN

FA CUP FOURTH QUALIFYING ROUND

SATURDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2012, KICK-OFF 1PM



This match is all-ticket for Luton Town supporters. Please note the early kick-off of this match. We have been allocated 1,400 seats and 300 terrace places for this match.

Tickets are now on sale now to all season ticket holders. We apologise but due to time restraints we are unable to offer priority to diamond season ticket holders on this occasion. All season ticket holders can purchase two tickets each until kick-off on Saturday 13th October. Tickets will go on general sale after the game today and will remain on sale until 2pm on Friday 19th October.

Prices: Terracing - £15 adults, £10 concessions, £5 under-16s.

Seating - £18 adults, £12 concessions, £8 under-16s

IF WE NEED A REPLAY...

If we draw with Cambridge, the replay will take place at Kenilworth Road on Tuesday 23rd October (kick-off 7.45pm). Prices £15 adults, £11 65-75 & 17-21 year-olds, £7 20-16 & over-75s, £4 under-10s



FOREST GREEN ROVERS v LUTON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2012, KICK-OFF 3PM



We have been allocated an initial 300 seats and 300 terrace tickets. A larger allocation is available should this sell-out. Town supporters must purchase tickets in advance from the ticket office.

Tickets are now on sale to diamond season ticket holders at three per person and season ticket holders at two per person. They will remain on sale to diamond and season ticket holders until the close of business on Monday 15th October. Tickets will then go on general sale on Tuesday 16th October and remain on sale until 1pm on Friday 26th October.

Prices: Seats - £16 adults, £12 seniors, £8 16-21-year-olds, £5 under-16s.

Terracing - £14 adults, £10 seniors, £7 16-21-year-olds, £4 under-16s.



HEREFORD UNITED v LUTON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

TUESDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2012, KICK-OFF 7.45PM



We are yet to receive ticket information from Hereford for this match

COMMERCIAL BREAK

WITH DAVID HOSKINS

Welcome to the second of our double-header of home games here in the Blue Square Bet Premier this week as we welcome Nuneaton Town to Kenilworth Road.

In our last programme, 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 today's programme.

This afternoon I also have the pleasure of welcome a match sponsor, in the shape of CME Heating, a matchball sponsor and five commercial mascots.

Remember, a whole host of matchday hospitality and player and match sponsorships are available throughout the season at Kenilworth Road. If you're interested in sponsoring an available player, turn to page 17 for details of who is up for grabs.

This is potentially our final home game here until 10th November so please, in the meantime, if you wish to find out about our range of corporate hospitality then do get in touch.

Enjoy the game.

MATCH SPONSOR



CME HEATING

CME Heating is a young and progressive local company who provide an extensive range of industrial and commercial mechanical services and carry out design and build and pre-designed mechanical contracts including heating, air conditioning, ventilation, maintenance and plumbing for all types of projects. They are accredited members of CHAS, Constructionline, ISO 9001 & 14001, the Gas Safe Register and OFTEC.

Operating with a 20-strong staff of fully-trained registered heating engineers, they offer a friendly, professional and caring service to all customers. CME Heating work predominantly within local authorities, schools, health authorities, builders and building services consultancies, completing projects all around the UK and Northern Ireland.

CME heating are proud to be associated with Luton Town and wish Paul Buckle and the team all the very best for today and the rest of the season.

MATCHBALL SPONSOR



HAMPSHIRE HATTERS

Brenda, Chesney, Chris, Simon, Kate and Alex - aka the Hampshire Hatters - are proud to sponsor today's matchball against Nuneaton and wish the boys all the best for three points.

COMMERCIAL MASCOTS

Please give a warm welcome to our five commercial mascots this afternoon. The quintet will all get to meet the players in the changing room before the match, prior to leading the Hatters onto the hallowed turf.

Our first three mascots are all grandchildren of Tom Shanley, who turned 60 in September.

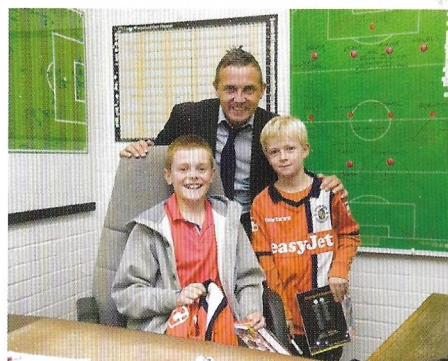
Patrick Fahy, William Johnston and Maisie Johnston are three, 11 and nine respectively and are all big Luton supporters. Patrick's favourite player is Mark Tyler, William's is Andre Gray and Maisie's is Stuart Fleetwood.



Harry Wright is our fourth mascot and has travelled all the way from Upwell in Norfolk to be here this afternoon. Harry is eight and his favourite player is Jon Shaw.



Lastly, but by no means least, is 11-year-old Luke Corsie from Luton. Luke enjoys football and rugby and his favourite player is midfielder Danny Spiller.



EXECUTIVE BOX HOLDERS

BOX 6:

G.P QUOREENTON

BOX 7:

EURODRIVE



BOX 10:

F&S PIPEWORKS



BOX 12:

EASYJET



BOX 8

BILLINGTON & LAWRENCE

BOX 9: M&S WATER SERVICES



BOX 11:

CES ELECTRICAL



BOX 13:

BARTHAM GROUP



BOX 14:

T J ALDRIDGE



BOX 15: PICTONS SOLICITORS/ DOT GROUP INTERNATIONAL



BOX 16:

PRESTIGE DESIGN



BOX 17:

SHALLOWFORD UK



BOX 18:

CME HEATING



BOX 19: MARKYATE PRECISION MACHINING



BOX 20:

GILMARTINS



BOX 23: LONDON ELECTRONICS

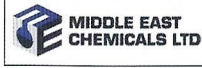


BOX 24:

ROB & GREG HALL



BOX 25: MIDDLE EAST CHEMICALS



BOX 26:



BOX 27:



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WELCOME NUNEATON TOWN



Today's visitors to Kenilworth Road lie precariously close to the foot of the table after a winless run stretching to seven games. Nuneaton currently sit in 22nd place, three points from safety after a 0-0 draw on Tuesday evening at Hereford.

Boro travel to Bedfordshire this afternoon looking to improve their poor away record this season since their promotion last season. Since their campaign begun in August the Boro have only recorded one win in their seven away outings scoring eight times but conceding 17. With their away record in need of drastic improvement and just two wins in their previous 10 Blue Square Bet Premier games, perhaps their visit this afternoon will come at the right time after Town's defeat in midweek.

Nuneaton boast Stephen O'Halloran in their ranks, a former Republic of Ireland international, who signed for the Boro in the summer from Carlisle United. O'Halloran who represented Ireland twice in 2007 came through the ranks at Aston Villa before spending time at Leeds, Swansea and Southampton among others before joining the Conference new boys after their promotion.

In addition to O'Halloran's higher level experience, forward Kyle Patterson's track record is another that catches the eye. English-born Patterson moved to the United States and represented David Beckham's LA

Galaxy and on his debut for the American giants set up former Everton and Bayern Munich hitman Landon Donovan for the equaliser against DC United.

Despite the high profile names that grace the Warwickshire club's dressing room it is current top scorer Adam Walker who is hitting the headlines having already notched up seven goals this campaign. The 21-year-old former Coventry City midfielder has been in prolific form so far this season and Nuneaton will be looking for Walker to continue his rich vein of form this afternoon.

Nuneaton Town who were reformed in 2008 after the former club Nuneaton Borough AFC went into liquidation is led by former player Kevin Wilkin. Wilkin lead Nuneaton to promotion last season as they snuck into the Conference through the Play-Offs, beating Gainsborough 1-0 in the final.

This will be Nuneaton's first ever visit to Kenilworth Road and will be looking to ensure the record books read in their favour come quarter-to-five. With tough but winnable fixtures ahead against Barrow, Mansfield and Kidderminster, Wilkin will be looking for his side to produce a performance that can kick-start some momentum ahead of a pivotal run of games as his side look to clamber away from danger.

THE BORO

AN AT-A-GLANCE GUIDE TO THE NUNEATON SQUAD

KEVIN WILKIN

The boss. Made his name as a player with Northampton and also had a spell playing with Nuneaton. Returned to Boro as player/assistant in 2004 before taking full charge in 2006. Since then he has guided the club to three promotions in four seasons.

NEIL COLLETT

Goalkeeper who began his career at Coventry before signing on loan in 2009/10. Joined Mansfield before again signing on loan for Boro prior to his permanent capture last term.

NEIL CARTWRIGHT

Experienced right-back who signed in February following his release from Worcester. Can also play left-back and is Hinckley United's record appearance holder.

GAVIN COWAN

Centre-half in his fourth spell with Boro. Rejoined the club this summer having left Gainsborough Trinity. Has also enjoyed a spell with AFC Telford.

GAZ DEAN

Vice-captain and centre-back who graduated from the Boro youth set-up in October 2008. At just 22, he has clocked up almost 200 appearances for the club.

ADAM WALKER

Left-sided winger or central midfielder and Boro's current top goalscorer who joined from Coventry in 2010 having previously been on loan.

WES YORK

Teenage winger or striker who signed from Anstey Nomads last November. Performances caught the eye of Football League scouts last season before injury curtailed his campaign.

MARK NOON

Former Coventry midfielder who played in the Premier League for the Sky Blues. Current club captain who has now clocked up 300 appearances for Boro.

KYLE PERRY

Powerful target man who joined this summer following at spell with Lincoln last season. Has also played for AFC Telford, Tamworth, Port Vale and Mansfield.

ANDY BROWN

Striker who scored the Boro winner in last season's Play-Off final win. Currently in his second spell with the club having also played at AFC Telford.

JOHN ADAMS

Summer signing from AFC Telford who can play across the midfield or in attack. Also an England futsal international.

JAMES ARMSON

Attacking midfielder by trade but has played for Boro in every position, including in goal. Came through the club's youth system.

DANNY SLEATH

Summer signing from Boston United. A central midfielder who has played for Mansfield in the Football League.

SIMON FORSDICK

Last season's player of the year who operates at Left-back or in left midfield. Lists Halesowen and AFC Telford as his former clubs.

DELROY GORDON

Versatile and dependable defender who can play anywhere across the back four. Joined from Corby in the summer where he picked up a host of end of season awards.

BEN FORD

Teenage midfielder signed this summer from Kettering. Has Blue Square Bet Premier experience following his time with the Poppies.

DANNY NEWTON

Another summer signing who scored 13 times for Hinckley last season. Can play down either wing or as a striker.

TOM JAMES

Left-back who was released by Watford in the summer. Originally joined the Hornets from Stratford Town.

BEN MCNAMARA

Australian goalkeeper who signed for Boro this summer. Began his career in his homeland with Newcastle Jets.

ROBBIE THOMPSON-BROWN

Young winger signed from Kidderminster on a one-year deal. Enjoyed a successful loan spell last season with Solihull Moors.

STEPHEN O'HALLORAN

Former Republic of Ireland international left-back who has played for Aston Villa and Coventry. Still only 24, he joined Boro this summer after his release from Carlisle.

KYLE PATTERSON

Former team-mate of David Beckham at LA Galaxy. A striker who began his career as a youngster at West Brom before spells with Tamworth and Hednesford.



Established: 1889 (Reformed most recently 2008)
Nickname(s): The Boro, Boro
Stadium: Trinity Showers Community Arena
Capacity: 4,500 (Avg. attendance '11/12 - 1,077)
Manager: Kevin Wilkin (5 years, 10 months)
Final league position '11/12: 5th BSBN (Play-off winners)

DID YOU KNOW?

- Nuneaton would have finished third and not fifth in the BSBN last season had they not been deducted six points for fielding an ineligible player.
- Boro have kept double the amount of clean sheets Luton have this season.

After reforming as **Nuneaton Town** in 2008, the Boro have achieved three promotions in four years under long-serving manager and former player Kevin Wilkin to find themselves in the Blue Square Bet Premier this season. But even though there is great upwards momentum with the Warwickshire club, expectations remain in check and the primary aim held by staff, players and fans alike is to survive in this division.

Life in the Conference Premier has proved tough for the Boro so far this season, but heads are not dropping just yet and a blockbuster game at Luton, as Braintree proved, can be just the sort of test a struggling team needs to drag itself back on track.

A closer look at Nuneaton's season so far

The Boro currently sit in 22nd position with 12 points after earning just two wins, drawing six times and losing six. Wilkin's team, just like Braintree when they visited here, are at the wrong end of the form table having failed to win in seven games. They have picked up a mere four points in the last six matches and are only above Ebbsfleet and Gateshead in that regard.

The 2012/13 season may have been going a lot more positively for the newly-promoted team if they were more effective holding onto leads. Nuneaton have dropped 10 points from winning positions this season after slumping to two draws and two defeats having been in front. However, perhaps the most alarming facet of Nuneaton's play this season has been the side's poor defensive record. Only Ebbsfleet have a poorer defence than Boro who have conceded 29 goals in 14 games (an average of 2.07 goals per game). Their away record makes for even bleaker reading: 17 goals have been conceded away from the Trinity Showers Community Stadium (an average of 2.48 goals per game). Interestingly, even though Nuneaton have failed to score in 35 per cent of their games this term, they have a few players with very respectable goalscoring records: Adam Walker has netted seven goals in 14 appearances from midfield, striker Andy Brown has scored five and another midfielder, James Armson, has tallied four goals.



How will they play? Who are their key men?

Kevin Wilkin has readily switched between a 4-4-2 and 3-5-2 system this season, but if recent games are anything to go by, the team will line up in a 3-5-2. Boro fans have bemoaned the lack of quality service the frontmen have been receiving this season and, given the rigid nature of the 3-5-2, it is no surprise they have also questioned the amount of creativity within the team.

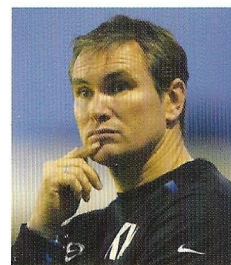
First-choice goalkeeper Neil Collett is injured with knee ligament damage so No.2 Ben McNamara will make his eighth appearance of the season in goal.

6ft 4in defender Gavin Cowan will feature in a back three with Delroy Gordon and 22-year-old captain Gareth Dean, who has already made over 200 appearances for Nuneaton. Jon Adams, an England Futsal international, will operate as a right wing-back with the energetic Simon Forsdick on the opposite flank.

In the centre of midfield, tough-tackling former Scotland international David McNamee (a right-back by trade) will sit in front of the defence, whilst the more attack-minded Armson and Walker will be a goal threat with runs from deep. The pace of Wes York will be complimented up front by the unrelenting work-rate of Brown who will not give the Hatters centre-backs a moment's rest.

THOUGHTS FROM THE OAK ROAD

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



Kevin Wilkin has done a fantastic job, says Mark

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

Mark Axon - Nuneaton Town Supporters Co-Operative

AGE?

26

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SUPPORTING YOUR CLUB?

Since 1993

HOW'S YOUR SEASON GONE SO FAR?

Despite currently being third from bottom in the table, it is going better than I had expected. I think overall the players are starting to find their feet in the league. The step up in quality from Conference North seems massive from a supporter's point of view.

OUT OF THE TEAMS YOU'VE SEEN NUNEATON PLAY SO FAR THIS SEASON, WHICH ONE HAS IMPRESSED YOU THE MOST?

Newport County and Wrexham stood out for me. Our first away game was against Newport and they took us 4-0 - men against boys and all that. Wrexham looked very good at our place too.

WHO'S YOUR PLAYER TO WATCH?

There's three I'd pick out. Wes York is raw, fast and has lots of potential. Andy Brown, who scored in our Play-Off semi and final victories in the Conference North last year. He's our Messiah! Finally, Adam Walker is doing really well in midfield and scoring often too.

LUTON HAVE EXPERIENCED FINANCIAL TURMOIL ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION, BUT FORTUNATELY NEVER HAD TO SUFFER LIQUIDATION. WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO HAVE TO START AGAIN AFTER NUNEATON BOROUGH WENT BUST IN 2008?

After being reformed in 1991, I imagine lots of our older supporters felt a sense of déjà vu. It seemed to happen quite quickly and there was not much the fans could do to stop it. It was worrying times to start with but, looking back on it, the adventure of going through the leagues and to new grounds was quite good fun.

IS IT RIGHT THAT FORMER LUTON LEGEND KIRK 'BASHER' STEPHENS HAD SOME CONNECTION WITH NUNEATON TOWN?

He was on the board for a time last season but stepped down. He's still seen at the ground a bit and is full of stories from back in the day.

TODAY IS THE FIRST MEETING BETWEEN LUTON AND NUNEATON. ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO THE GAME AND VISITING KENILWORTH ROAD?

Very much so! I did not think I would ever see the Boro playing against Luton and the likes of them, so it's fantastic.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF YOUR MANAGER KEVIN WILKIN?

He's done a fantastic job - we've achieved three promotions in four seasons. He's probably not recognised enough for his achievements from certain quarters though.

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

'Close To You' by The Carpenters gets sung quite often, not entirely sure how that came about but it's definitely stuck.

WHAT'S THE BEST NUNEATON MATCH YOU'VE WITNESSED SINCE YOU'VE BEEN SUPPORTING THEM

Last time we were in the Conference we beat Kidderminster Harriers 2-1 away from home. It was a brilliant atmosphere and the game had everything. Coincidentally, it was also the first ever game to be officiated entirely by women.

WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT YOUR CLUB?

It's never boring. Something is always happening on or off the pitch.

WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS FOR YOUR CLUB THIS SEASON?

We're going to be in a relegation battle and I'll be chuffed if we stay up. I think we'll finish third from bottom.

WHAT'S THE SCORE GOING TO BE TODAY?

Luton Town 1-2 Nuneaton Town

CLASSIC CAMPAIGNS

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

1949/50

Nuneaton Borough reached the FA Cup third round in 1949/50. The Birmingham Combination side overcame Bedworth Town 3-1, Moira United 7-1, Atherstone Town 2-1, Gresley Rovers 3-2 and Wellington Town 4-3 to reach the FA Cup first round proper for the first time in their history. Ken Plant scored twice to give Nuneaton a 2-1 victory over unbeaten Eastern Counties League leaders King's Lynn in front of a then record 12,554 crowd at Manor Park. Injury-hit Boro drew 0-0 at home to Mossley in the second round, then won 3-0 in the replay, but lost 3-0 at Exeter City in the third round. Leading marksman Ken Plant moved to Bury shortly afterwards.

1953/54

Nuneaton Borough defeated Football League opposition in the FA Cup for the first time in 1953/54. The Birmingham League side beat Lockheed Leamington 1-0, Rugby Town 2-1, Burton Albion 3-1 and Gresley Rovers 4-1 to reach the FA Cup first round proper for only the second time. Two goals by Geoff Wright plus another from Billy Jessop gave Nuneaton a thrilling 3-0 victory over Watford in front of a then record 12,673 crowd at Manor Park. Eddie Davies scored against his former club to give Nuneaton a 1-1 draw at QPR in the second round before they lost 2-1 in the replay watched by another record 13,062 attendance at Manor Park.

1962/63

Nuneaton Borough won promotion and were Southern League Cup finalists in 1962/63. The Boro beat Burton Albion 8-2, Rugby Town 1-0, Kettering Town 3-1, Wisbech Town 5-0 and double-chasing Cambridge City 2-0 to reach the Southern League Cup final for the first time. Fred Badham's side drew 0-0 at home to Guildford City in the first leg but lost 2-1 in the second leg. Centre-forward Ken Satchwell arrived from Coventry City in January and was a key figure as Nuneaton regained Southern League Premier Division status. They were one of three clubs that finished level on 52 points, pipping Tonbridge to fourth place on goal average on the final day.

1966/67

Nuneaton Borough were Southern League Premier Division runners-up and took Rotherham United to an FA Cup third round replay in 1966/67. Dudley Kernick's side beat Amateur Cup holders Wealdstone in the FA Cup first round, then won 2-0 at home to Swansea through Tommy Crawley's strike and Denis Coughlin's own goal to reach the third round for the first time in 17 years. Paul Cutler scored to give Boro a 1-1 third round draw with Rotherham United in front of a record 22,114 crowd at Manor Park before they lost 1-0 in the replay. The title race went to the final day and although Nuneaton beat rivals Weymouth 2-0, they were pipped by Romford.

1981/82

Graham Carr guided Nuneaton Borough to the Southern League Midland Division title in 1981/82. The Boro slammed five goals past Bridgend Town and Redditch United, losing just four games as they finished three points ahead of runners-up Alvechurch. Bob Stockley was captain and Tommy Robson was leading marksman as they scored the most goals in the Midland Division and had the best defensive record. Nuneaton's local derby against Bedworth United in late February was watched by a crowd of 5,127. They lost to Southern Division champions Wealdstone on penalties after a 2-2 aggregate draw in the Southern League Championship Play-Off.

1983/84

Paul Culpin scored 41 goals as Nuneaton Borough finished as Alliance Premier League runners-up in 1983/84. Graham Carr's side were early pace-setters, winning all but one of their opening 10 games. The Boro lost just three times before Christmas and ace marksman Paul Culpin scored hat-tricks against Bath City, Kettering Town, Frickley Athletic and Scarborough. They remained in pole position after late January as an exciting title race went to the final day, with Maidstone United finishing one point ahead of Nuneaton. Goalkeeper Andy Poole was ever-present and other stars included skipper Richard Dixey, Willie Gibson and Trevor Morley.



Last season's player of the year Simon Forsdick

1992/93

John Barton steered Nuneaton Borough to the Southern League Midland Division title in 1992/93. Goalscoring favourite Paul Culpin returned to Manor Park from Hereford United and was leading marksman with 39 of their 102 Southern League goals. The Boro hammered Redditch United 8-1 and Grantham 6-1, also netting five goals against Forest Green Rovers and Hinckley Town before a 2,703 crowd saw them trounce Evesham United 5-1 to clinch the title on the final day. Nuneaton won 29 of their 42 Southern League matches and finished five points above runners-up Gresley Rovers. They reached the FA Cup first round and won the Birmingham Senior Cup.

1995/96

Nuneaton Borough achieved the Southern League Midland Division title and Southern League Cup double in 1995/96. Brendan Phillips' side lost their opening match at home to Sutton Coldfield but then stormed to the top with seven straight wins, with Robert Straw grabbing a hat-trick in a 6-3 demolition of Evesham United. The Boro remained in pole position, winning 30 of their 42 Southern League games and finishing 11 points ahead of runners-up King's Lynn. They beat VS Rugby 6-3, Atherstone United 3-1, Buckingham Town 3-1, Gresley Rovers 4-1 and Moor Green 3-1 in the Southern League Cup before defeating Baldock Town 5-2 in the final.

1998/99

Nuneaton Borough stormed to the Southern League Premier Division title in 1998/99. Brendan Phillips' side started with six successive wins and were never threatened. They were leading scorers with 91 goals, trouncing Merthyr Tydfil 6-1 and Bromsgrove Rovers 6-0, also conceding just 33, including 19 clean sheets. Nuneaton won 27 of their 42 Southern League games and finished an incredible 23 points ahead of runners-up Boston United. Their win at home to Gresley Rovers was watched by a crowd of 2,945. Key players included goalkeeper Richard Williams and England semi-pro defensive trio Steve Prindiville, Wayne Simpson and Barry Williams.

2005/06

Nuneaton Borough took top-flight Middlesbrough to an FA Cup third round replay in 2005/06. The Conference North side beat Telford United 3-1, Chelmsford City 2-1 and Tiverton Town 1-0 before winning 2-0 at home to Ramsgate in the FA Cup first round. Nuneaton won 2-1 at Histon in a second round replay, after a 2-2 draw, to reach the third round for the first time in 39 years. Gez Murphy's last-gasp penalty gave Nuneaton a 1-1 draw at home to Middlesbrough in front of a 6,000 crowd before they lost 5-2 in the replay watched by 26,255 at the Riverside. They also finished third in the Conference North but lost 1-0 to Droylsden in the Play-Off semi-finals.

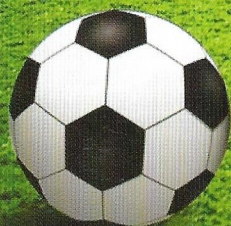




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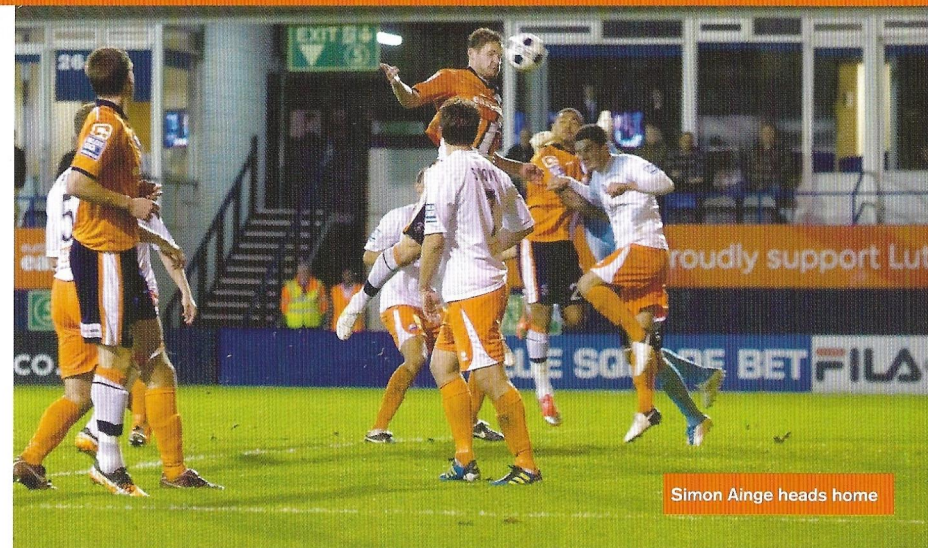


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TOWN 2-3 BRAINTREE



10 MEN FALL TO DRAMATIC DEFEAT

Town boss Paul Buckle felt his side were robbed of three points after his 10 men went down to Braintree at Kenilworth Road on Tuesday night.

The Hatters were two goals down and a man down after half an hour against the Iron following the dismissal of top goalscorer Stuart Fleetwood for two bookable offences.

And, despite hauling themselves level thanks to goals from defender Simon Ainge and second-half substitute Dan Walker, it was Alan Devonshire's side that left with the points to leave Buckle thinking what might have been. "I'm proud of everyone's efforts," said the manager afterwards. "We've been robbed in many ways. I know we've fallen behind but it was a game where I thought we never looked like we were going to struggle.

"The conditions were perfect, we looked bright and like a team that had won three matches on the spin. However, the evening has been spoilt, in my opinion, and unnecessarily so."

Buckle's main bone of contention was the dismissal of Fleetwood, who had picked up a first yellow card having gone to ground in the box in an attempt to win a penalty. "Once Stuart's got inside the defender, the defender's in trouble," explained the boss. "He's got his arms everywhere and is definitely bumping Fleetwood

— end of story. Fleets has gone down and he's not a cheat. Later in the game Andre Gray's taken a whack in the box and he stayed on his feet. We play football and try to do things the right way.

"To not give a penalty and to then book Fleetwood just poured salt into the wound and at that point we should have realised it wasn't going to be our night. We certainly didn't show it because we drove on and created chance after chance but couldn't find the back of the net.

"We were brave and went 4-3-2 and not 4-4-1 and in many ways it was one of our best performances but we can't change what's happened - we need to dust ourselves down and come out fighting against Nuneaton on Saturday and go on another winning run."

Walker's strike — just minutes after arriving on the field — was one of the bright spots, and Buckle was delighted with the substitute's impact.

He said: "Dan has got an incredible attitude. It's really top class. He's waited patiently for his chance, he works hard in training and never sulks.

"I'm so pleased for him and it was a really good finish. It's a big plus for us because with Stuart suspended and Scott Rendell struggling with injury, we're going to need him."



TOWN 2

Ainge 37, Walker 58

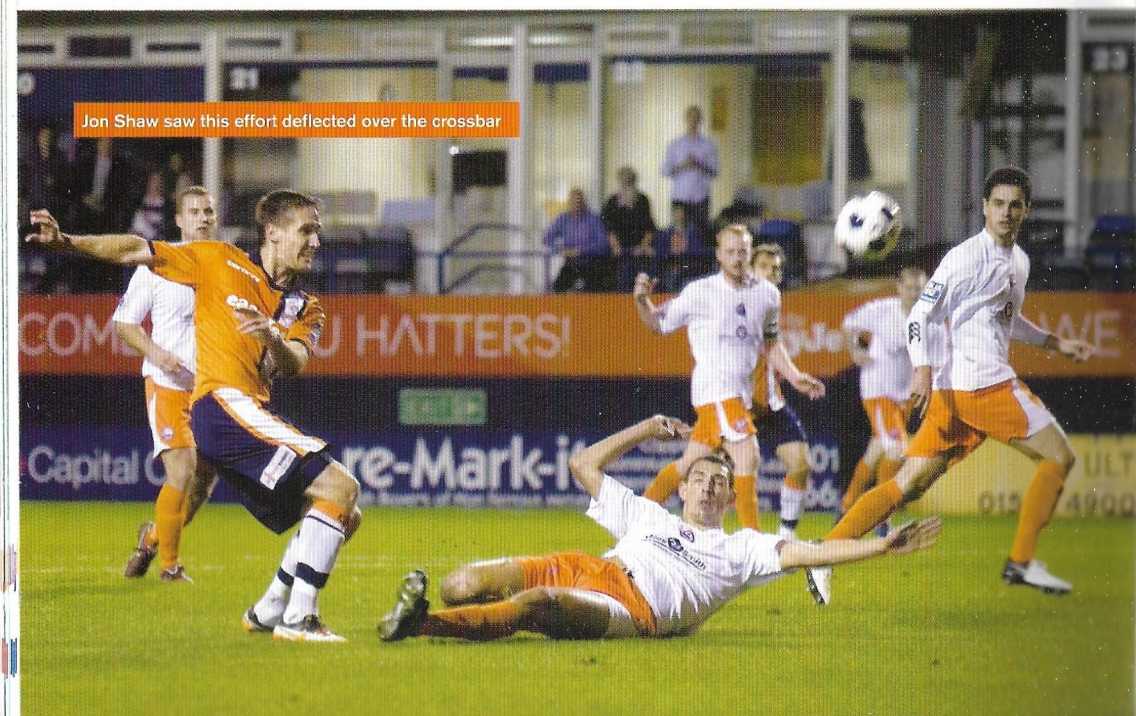


BRAINTREE 3

Holman 6, Marks 32, Paine 67



Dan Walker's strike made it 2-2



Jon Shaw saw this effort deflected over the crossbar

Braintree keep tabs on Jake Robinson



POSSESSION

53% 47%

CORNERS

11 1

OFFSIDES

6 4

SHOTS ON TARGET

5 6

SHOTS OFF TARGET

11 4

FOULS

11 13

YELLOW CARDS

1 1

RED CARDS

1 0

TOWN:

Tyler
Henry
Howells
Ainge
Essam
(sub Walker 57)
Lawless
O'Donnell
Gray
J. Robinson
(sub Kasim 56)
Fleetwood
Shaw
Subs not used:
Brill
Rowe-Turner
Lacey

BRAINTREE:

Naisbitt
Habergham
Bailey-Dennis
Paine
O'Connor
Quinton
Symons
(sub Sparkes 46)
Davis
Mulley
Marks
Holman
(sub Sheppard 90)
Subs not used:
McDonald
Daley
Dawkin

ATTENDANCE:

5,523 (55 Braintree)



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DAN

WALKER

GOAL TINGED WITH DISAPPOINTMENT

Goals are usually moments to cherish – and indeed, at the time on Tuesday, that's exactly what Dan Walker thought when he struck his second goal of his Hatters career against Braintree.

But, after the visitors snatched a winner nine minutes later, the joy soon evaporated for the 22-year-old striker.

The former Bedford Town frontman had levelled within 45 seconds of replacing Connor Essam to bring the Hatters level at 2-2 after the visitors had raced into a two-goal lead inside the first 30 minutes.

So it was mixed reactions – but mostly disappointment – for the 22-year-old who notched his first goal in Luton colours in almost two years.

"I'm annoyed and frustrated that we didn't win," Walker told Hatters Player afterwards. "Before the game we were all raring to go believing we could win and I'm still coming to terms with the fact we haven't – I don't know what to say.

"It's nice for me personally to go get a goal but it means nothing. I was pleased with the finish but I would have taken me not scoring and us winning over us losing and me scoring. I'm so disappointed.

"The manager told me to go on and make something happen – score or create one – and I did that straight away.

"It was difficult because we had 10 men and they obviously had a man advantage, but it was all a bit of a blur. I still can't understand how we didn't win because we had so many chances.

"We wanted it so much but it just didn't fall for us. I must say the supporters were fantastic throughout the game and we're annoyed we couldn't reward them with at least a point."

With Stuart Fleetwood suspended and Scott Rendell nursing a dead leg, Walker

could play a role this afternoon having impressed the manager with his cameo against the Iron.

And the striker, who admitted his left-foot finish was something he had been working hard on in training, will just continue to be patient to wait his turn for a chance.

"I respect the manager's decision whatever he decides to do," said Walker.

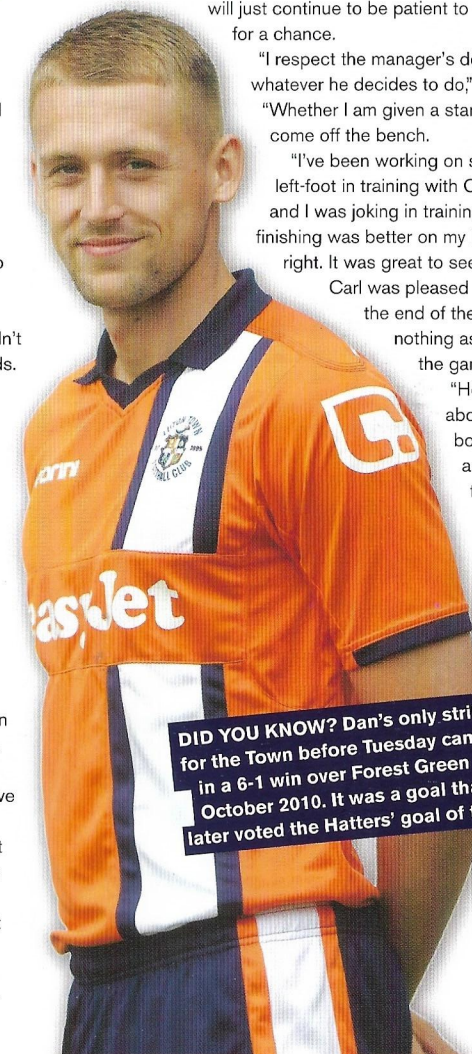
"Whether I am given a start or have to come off the bench.

"I've been working on shooting on my left-foot in training with Carl Emberson and I was joking in training that my finishing was better on my left than my right. It was great to see it go in and

Carl was pleased too, but at

the end of the day it meant nothing as we didn't win the game.

"However, it's about how we bounce back and we've got to learn from our mistakes and put it right against Nuneaton."



DID YOU KNOW? Dan's only strike for the Town before Tuesday came in a 6-1 win over Forest Green in October 2010. It was a goal that was later voted the Hatters' goal of the season.

ONE SHAKIN' STEPHENS

HAVING SPENT SIX YEARS WITH NUNEATON AND SIX GLORIOUS YEARS AT KENILWORTH ROAD, LEGENDARY RIGHT-BACK KIRK STEPHENS HAS SPLIT LOYALTIES THIS AFTERNOON...DOESN'T HE?



Kirk Stephens is one of the good guys. After all, he's scored a 90th minute winner at Vicarage Road.

That strike is something that 'Basher' believes all of the star-studded names he has played with over the years would swap for their international caps for,

as he reminisces to Talk of the Town about the good times at Kenilworth Road.

This afternoon, Kirk will be back in familiar surroundings, surrounded by familiar faces, as he watches two of his former clubs go head-to-head in the Blue Square Bet Premier for the very first time.

The Kirk Stephens story began when he was released as a youngster by hometown club Coventry. Undeterred, a trial at Peterborough followed where he was spotted by a certain David Pleat, the then manager of Nuneaton. Posh offered him a full-time deal but Stephens, only 16 at the time, was so enthused by Pleat's persuasion he rejected League football in favour of a part-time contract in Warwickshire.

And the rest, as they say, is history. After six years with Boro, he was snapped by Pleat who had since moved to take the managerial hot-seat at Kenilworth Road.

248 appearances

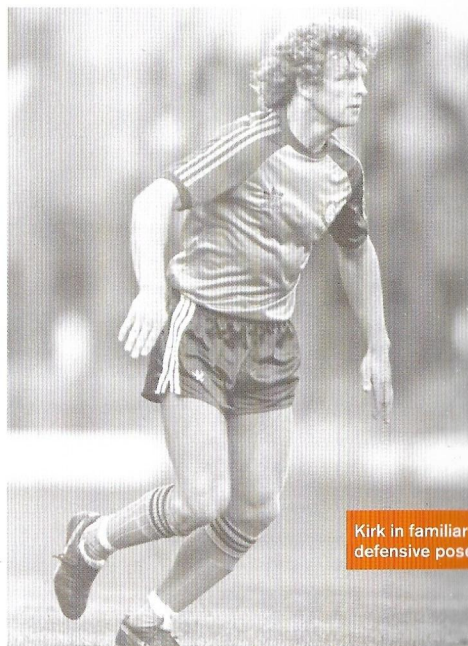
248 appearances and two goals – including that one at Watford – later, Kirk could look back on a career, which would eventually go full circle when re-signing for Coventry, with fond memories – and thank a certain Mr Pleat for making it all possible by keeping a six-year promise. "I owe everything to David," Basher, as he is affectionately known, tells Talk of the Town. "He was my mentor and took a chance on me and I must thank him for the opportunity he gave me in football.

"I was released as a kid by Coventry and I was devastated but David saw me in a trial at Peterborough and wanted to sign me.

"What sticks out for me though is when David left Nuneaton, it's something that I'll never forget. I had just got ready for training when I asked him where he was going and he told me that he had terminated his contract with the club. He then said if he ever went onto manage a Football League club I would be his first signing. Six years later, he was true to his word and he signed me for Luton."

At Nuneaton, Stephens was quietly going about his business as a dependable right-back as Boro came close a number of times to winning promotion.

"I had six great years at Nuneaton – I absolutely loved it," he says. "We had a good team in the Conference then. Wimbledon and Kettering were our main rivals for the title and we had some great games down the years. Wimbledon pipped us to the title and won promotion to the Football League but when Luton and David came in for me there was no way I was going to turn that chance down.



Kirk in familiar defensive pose

"Originally the Nuneaton chairman rejected the offer and I read about it in the local paper. I couldn't believe it and demanded to see him about it. He wasn't prepared to let me go but I couldn't blame him. I told him I had never asked for anything and had given him six years of service, and by the next morning, the situation had been solved. "I remember coming home from work and was told somebody had called for me but nobody knew who it was – only that the person calling would call again later. Eventually the phone did ring again and it was David Pleat. 'Do you want to come and play full-time for me at Luton?' he said. 'Yes!'.

"It was great because I never forgot what he had told me all those years before at Nuneaton and he kept his promise. I was one of his first signings when he took over. I was about to jump to the Conference to what now is the Championship with Luton – and I couldn't wait.

And what a time to join the Town. It was the summer of 1978 and Pleat was piecing together a side that would go on to lift the Division 2 title in 1981/82 with Kirk ever-present at right-back.

"When I joined Luton there were so many good players and it was a privilege to be a part of the team that did so well," says Kirk. "I was 23 when I signed for Luton and over the next six years I was living the dream. They were the happiest years of my life.

"To have met and had the chance to play with the likes of Ricky Hill, Paul Walsh, Tony Grealish, Jake Findlay, Brian Horton and David Moss was unbelievable.

"To win the Division 2 title and then stay up in the way we did the following season by beating Manchester City at Maine Road on the final day of the season is something I will never forget.

Fantastic club

"It was a great time to be at Kenilworth Road and I was enjoying my football. I can't stress enough how much of a fantastic club Luton is.

"They might not be a Manchester United or Chelsea but it's such a family friendly club – I don't think there are much better. It's one of the only clubs I know that a large group of ex-players want to keep returning to."

However, all good things have to come to an end and Kirk, who once donned the gloves and went in goal at the Kop End in a thrilling 3-3 draw at Liverpool in 1982, rejoined Coventry in 1984 to fulfil a childhood dream of playing for the Sky Blues.

Fast forward to 2012 and Basher, content at realising his dream as a professional footballer, will now watch on as the Hatters and Boro face each other for the first time in a competitive game.



Jake famously dons the goalkeeper's gloves at Anfield

Nuneaton, who have had their fair share of off-field problems in recent times, have won three Play-Off finals in the past four seasons to get back where Kirk feels they belong – in non-league's top flight.

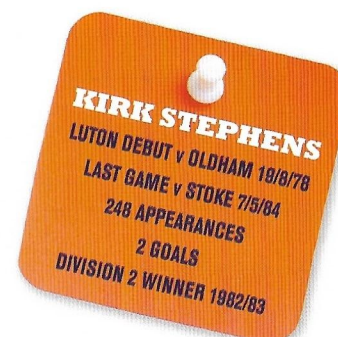
And it's for that reason that Kirk will be backing the Hatters this afternoon.

"Nuneaton have done really well," says Stephens.

"When they had their problems they were relegated down several leagues and I've always said Nuneaton belong in the Conference, or higher.

"Luton don't deserve to be in this league – they belong in the Football League and that's why my allegiance will lie with Luton.

"Nuneaton have achieved their ambition of returning to the Conference. Luton, though, need the points to get them in a position to challenge for the title and I believe they can do it."



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SIMON AINGE

FRUSTRATION REIGNS SUPREME

Talk to any of the Town players involved in Tuesday night's 3-2 defeat to Braintree and the one word they'll come back to you with will be "frustrating".

The Hatters had gallantly battled back from two goals down having been reduced to 10 men with one of those goalscorers, Simon Ainge, particularly frustrated after the final whistle.

The defender, on-loan from Guiseley, had kick-started the Town's revival with his header eight minutes before half-time to make the score 2-1.

But, as any centre-half knows, conceding goals is the most disappointing, and the 24-year-old's goal ultimately proved in vain as Braintree snatched the points with a goal from a set-piece 23 minutes from the end.

"We were all kicking ourselves in the dressing room because we'd done so well to get the score level after we'd been 2-0 down," Ainge told Hatters Player.

"Before I came here we had been conceding goals from set pieces and we're hugely disappointed to have done it again.

Started well

"We came into the game wanting three points after the win at Lincoln and I thought we started well, but the first goal we conceded was bad, even though it was a good finish from their player."

The defender thought the reaction of the Town faithful after they had seen their side fall a man and two goals down was the reason behind their comeback.

He said: "It's a cliché but the crowd really were the 12th man. We wanted the first half to go on for another 10 minutes because we were absolutely battering them and the noise the fans were making was unbelievable. We came off the pitch and the fans were cheering and it gave us all a lift. We were in dressing room buzzing believing we could complete the turnaround."

Ainge's 37th-minute header was his first for the club and it paved the way for the Town to level the score when Dan Walker hit his first goal in two years a minute after coming on as a substitute.

"I was happy to get a goal but it doesn't mean anything now," said the Bradford-born man. "It was a great ball in from Jake Howells and it gave us the momentum to go forward.

"Obviously it's good to score from a set-piece as we've been working hard on attacking those, but we've shot ourselves in the foot and conceded from one which is disappointing.

Bounce back

"We've got to make sure we learn from games like this and try and bounce back against Nuneaton.

"We'll have been thinking about this game all week in the lead up to the Nuneaton match – we'd probably want it to come around sooner to try and get what happened against Braintree out of our system."



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CENTRE SPOT

Goalscoring substitute Dan Walker challenges
Braintree captain Kenny Davis during the 3-2 defeat



PICTURE THE PAST

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



Showing perfect poise, Kirk 'Basher' Stephens puts in a shot against Norwich at Kenilworth Road in 1982 as the Town push forward to promotion to the top flight.

Kirk was signed from Nuneaton in 1979 by another 'old boy', manager David Pleat, and for six seasons was almost ever-present in the Hatters side as an all action overlapping full-back.



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

The Town were preparing to enter into their second season as a Football League club and these pages from an early 'Luton News' handbook show some of the players about to do battle with Newton Heath (Manchester United), Small Heath (Birmingham City) as well as the likes of Glossop North End.

The novelty of League football dropped off that season, not helped by conceding 95 goals in only 34 games, and the Town limped to a position of fourth bottom.

Fortunately there were worse teams than the Town, including Darwen - who finished bottom, and were even more generous in defence, letting in 141 goals including eight at Dunstable Road against the Hatters.

Tuton Town Football Club Fixtures, 1898-9.

Tuton Town Football Club Fixtures, 1908.		Date		Opponents.		Port.	Appt.
						1	D
1898.				Wellingborough (b)		0	1
Sept. 1	3	Woolwich Arsenal (a)				0	1
"	5	Tottenham Hotspur (a)				1	2
"	10	Barnley St. Peter's (a)				1	2
"	17	Leicester Fosse (a)				1	2
"	24	Tottenham Hotspur (b)				1	2
"	29	Dorset (b)				0	3
Oct. 1	6	Gillingborough Trinity (a)				0	3
"	13	Manchester City (b)				0	3
"	20	Woolwich Arsenal (a)				0	3
"	27	Gillingborough Trinity (b)				0	3
"	3	Gillingborough Trinity (a)				0	3
"	10	Gillingborough Trinity (b)				0	3
"	17	Brighton (b)				0	3
"	24	Wellingborough (a)				0	3
"	31	Wellingborough (b)				0	3
Nov. 7	7	Small Heath (a)				0	3
"	14	Southampton (b)				0	3
"	21	English Cup, Fourth Round				0	3
"	28	Kettering (a)				0	3
"	5	Blackpool (a)				0	3
"	12	Nelson City (a)				0	3
"	19	Grimsby (b)				0	3
"	26	English Cup, Fifth Round				0	3
"	3	Newcastle (a)				0	3
"	10	Reading (a)				0	3
"	17	New Brighton (a)				0	3
"	24	Lincoln City (a)				0	3
"	31	Barton Swifts (a)				0	3
"	7	Woolwich Arsenal (a)				0	3
"	14	Woolwich Arsenal (b)				0	3
"	21	Woolwich Arsenal (a)				0	3
"	28	Woolwich Arsenal (b)				0	3

Luton Town F.C.

Date.	Home.	Away.	Result.
1896.			
Jan. 7	Barnesley St. Peter's (B)		0 8 L
14	Southampton (A)		1 2 L
Feb. 11	Leicester Fosse (A)		1 2 W
18	Darwen (A)		1 2 L
25	Rushden (A)		4 2 W
Mar. 4	English Cup, First Round, Competition Proper		0 2 L
11	Gainsborough Trinity (A)		1 2 L
18	Manchester City (A)		0 2 L
Feb. 11	Glossop North End (A)		1 2 L
18	Brighton (A)		1 2 L
25	Walsley (A)		1 2 L
Mar. 4	Kettering (B)		1 2 L
11	Bristol City (A)		1 2 L
18	Barnesley (A)		1 2 W
25	Small Heath (A)		1 2 L
Apr. 1	Loughborough (A)		1 2 L
8	Blackpool (A)		1 2 L
15	Milwall (A)		1 2 L
22	Loughborough (A)		1 2 L
Apr. 29	Grimsby (A)		1 2 L
May 6	Parton Heath (A)		1 2 W
13	Newton Heath (A)		1 2 W
20	New Brighton (A)		1 2 L
27	Lincoln (A)		1 2 L
May 24	Milwall (A)		1 2 L

19. READING (A)

NOTE.—The League End Division Matches are those which stand out full. Those indicated are United League Fixtures.

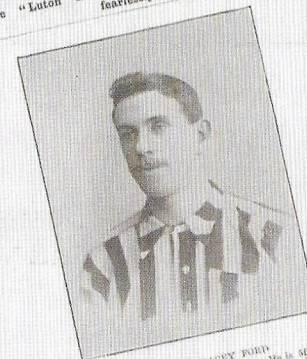
22 Lincoln
24 Millwall (a)
19. **READING (A)**
Note.—The League 2nd Division Matches are those which stand out full. Those indented are United League fixtures.

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North County, was Glasgow Killbuckin, in
played in the final for
for the team, was in 1894 came into the English Cops. Subsequently he joined
for where he continued to play until 1906 when he was fortunate enough
to secure his services. He is a Scotch International, Height 5
ft., weight 16 st. 21 lbs.

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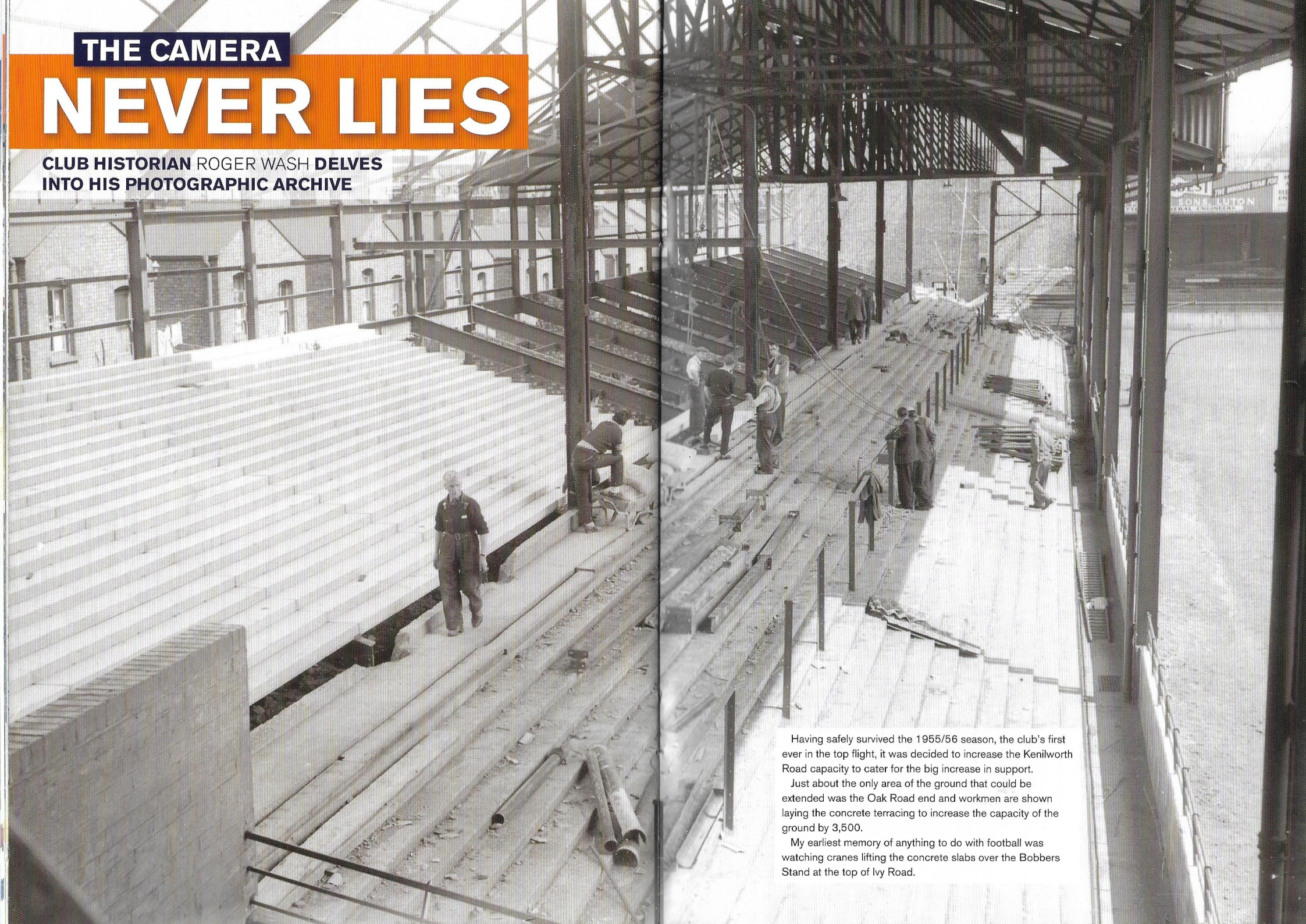
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CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES
INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE



Having safely survived the 1955/56 season, the club's first ever in the top flight, it was decided to increase the Kenilworth Road capacity to cater for the big increase in support.

Just about the only area of the ground that could be extended was the Oak Road end and workmen are shown laying the concrete terracing to increase the capacity of the ground by 3,500.

My earliest memory of anything to do with football was watching cranes lifting the concrete slabs over the Bobbers Stand at the top of Ivy Road.

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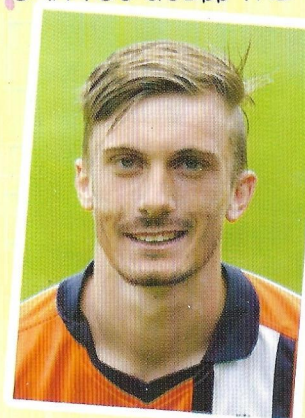
HAPPY HARRY

CAN YOU
FIND THE
NAMES OF
AREAS
AROUND
KENILWORTH
ROAD?

S	E	L	I	T	S	N	R	U	T	O	E
T	E	L	N	O	D	D	R	Y	I	P	C
E	I	X	G	N	F	P	I	T	C	H	E
U	E	N	O	T	M	N	T	O	K	L	E
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D	M	C	C	B	B	W	E	I	T	E	P
R	A	N	A	L	M	Q	F	F	O	V	D
I	O	A	K	R	O	A	D	I	F	E	I
R	R	E	W	R	O	S	A	S	F	S	V
S	H	G	H	K	A	Q	U	M	I	O	A
D	B	O	S	C	A	B	G	R	C	R	D
K	A	R	E	K	E	N	N	Y	E	N	D

TURNSTILES	TICKET OFFICE
BOXES	OAK ROAD
PITCH	ENCLOSURE
DAVID PREECE	
KENNY END	

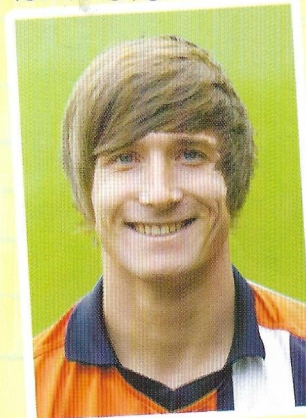
CAN YOU GUESS THE THREE PLAYERS IN EACH PHOTO?



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ON THIS DAY

OCTOBER 13

THE RECORD

Games played on this day in history are few and far behind with only 11 matches involving the Town on 13th October.

The Hatters have won six, lost four and drawn just once in these fixtures, scoring 13 and conceding nine. That totals to 22 goals scored in 11 games and it doesn't take a mathematician to work out that is precisely two goals scored in each of those matches.

LAST TIME OUT

It's been 11 years since the Town played on this day and, under manager Joe Kinnear, they ran out 2-0 winners at Scunthorpe United on their way to finishing runners-up in Division 3 (now League 2) in 2001/02. After a goalless first period, second half strikes from Adrian Forbes and Russell Perrett secured the victory. Interestingly, World Cup and Premier League referee Howard Webb was the man in the middle that afternoon. Furthermore, the game saw Ahmet Brkovic make his Luton debut as a second-half substitute.

BAD START

The season before, over 2,000 Town fans made the short trip to Cambridge on a Friday night and went home disappointed after seeing United comeback from a goal down to win 2-1. Mark Stein fired the Hatters ahead but, after Matt Spring was sent off, the U's hit back with two second-half goals. The defeat marked the worst start to a Town season after 12 games.

OWLS-THAT

The Town have twice played Sheffield Wednesday on this day in history – and both took place at Kenilworth Road in the top flight. The most recent was a 2-1 home defeat in 1984 that saw Frankie Bunn on target for the Hatters. However, 28 years prior, in 1956, the Hatters celebrated a 2-0 win thanks to a Roly Legate strike and a penalty from Gordon Turner before a crowd of 19,202.

MAGIC MOSSY

Wing hero David Moss scored twice as the Hatters cruised past Sunderland at Kenilworth Road in 1979. The Rokerites twice hit the crossbar but Moss' cool chip and tap-in was enough to earn the Town the points in the Second Division (now the Championship) before a crowd of 13,504.

ROB THE ROBINS

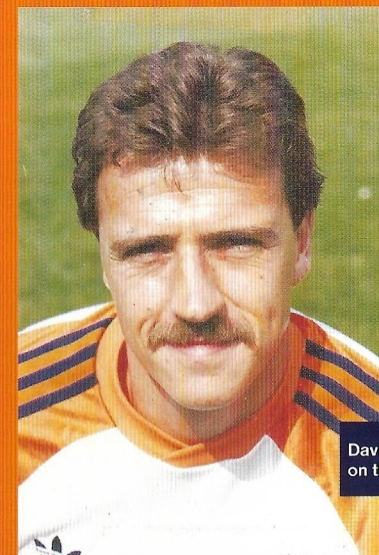
The Hatters had overcome a disastrous start to the 1973/74 season – losing 4-0 at Nottingham Forest on the opening day – to move up to second in the Second Division table after a 2-1 victory at Kenilworth Road over Swindon Town. A John Aston penalty had the Town ahead before Swindon struck back two minutes later, but a goal a minute after the interval from Peter Anderson won it.

FIRST WINS FIRST

The Town's first game on this day came back in 1923 when a solitary goal from Ralph Hoten was enough to beat Exeter City in front of 8,125 at Kenilworth Road. The Hatters ended the campaign seventh in Division Three (South).

TAKE A SHOT

The Town's only other win on this day came in 1934 when a George Stephenson goal was enough to win 1-0 at Aldershot in Division Three (South). The Hatters finished in fourth place that season – a season in which a certain Joe Payne made his debut...as a centre-half.



David Moss: Hit two on this day in 1979

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THE **NON-LEAGUE** PAPER

ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

THE NLP VIEW WITH MATT BADCOCK

I have now seen it all. A stadium packed with 70,000 supporters on their feet whooping and hollering does not sound that unusual.

That is until you consider who they were cheering for – referees.

I was in America watching the NFL clash between the Baltimore Ravens and the Cleveland Browns. For the first three weeks of the season, NFL (American Football) matches were being run by replacement officials drawn from their third tier. The regular referees had been locked-out by the governing body over a pay and benefits dispute.

Of course, any mistakes made by the replacements the season's opening games were going to be jumped on. But the tipping point came in a Monday night game.

A bad call on the last play cost the Green Bay Packers an important win against the Seattle Seahawks. Even President Barack Obama had his say. "NFL fans on both side of the aisle hope the refs' lockout is settled soon," he tweeted. It really was that big a deal.

And so the following Thursday, the real men in black and white stripes were back much to the crowds delight at the home of the Ravens. "Good evening, men. It's good to be back," said referee Gene Steratore as he turned on his microphone for the pre-match coin flip.

The front cover of magazine Sports Illustrated featured iconic ref Ed Hochuli – famed for his bulging biceps – with the headline 'Oh, Now You Love Us'.

Maybe they do need to be shown more affection. In every sport officials, referees, judges, umpires - call them what you will - are under huge scrutiny and pressure.

When they do make bad decisions you can bet your bottom dollar it will be brought up by managers, players and fans.

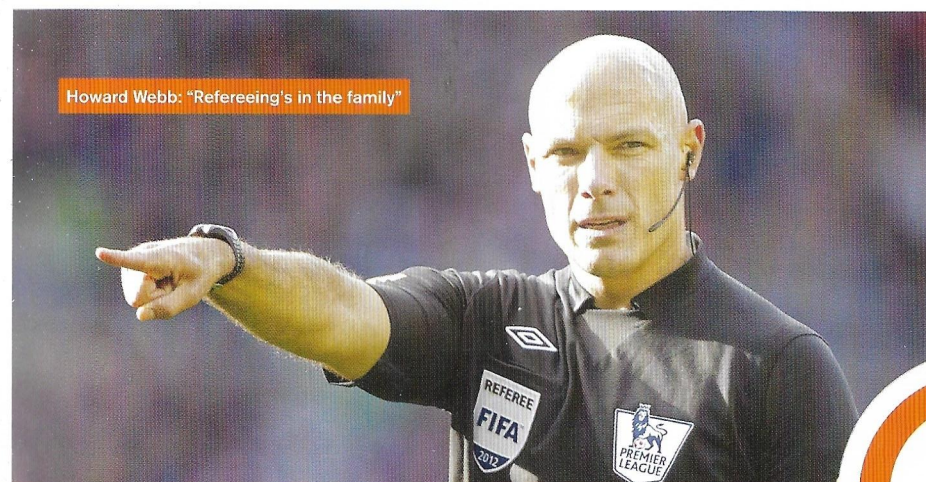
Sometimes it goes too far. Just take the disgusting abuse dished out to Mark Halsey after the recent Liverpool versus Manchester United game.

No referee goes out on a Saturday afternoon to make a bad decision. They do it because they love the game and want to do well. Some had ambitions to make it to the top and it has to be accepted that non-league level is where they are learning their trade.

That's why it is good to see that the Football Association are launching national referee awards. The awards aim to highlight the good work they do at all levels, as well as keep referees in the game and attract more aspiring whistle-blowers.

Nominations can be made to your local FA between November 5th and February 2013.

As our current top referee, Howard Webb, who took charge of the World Cup final, says: "Refereeing was in my family with my father who was a referee for 35 years and over my career I've progressed from the local Rotherham leagues to refereeing the biggest matches and top players in world football."

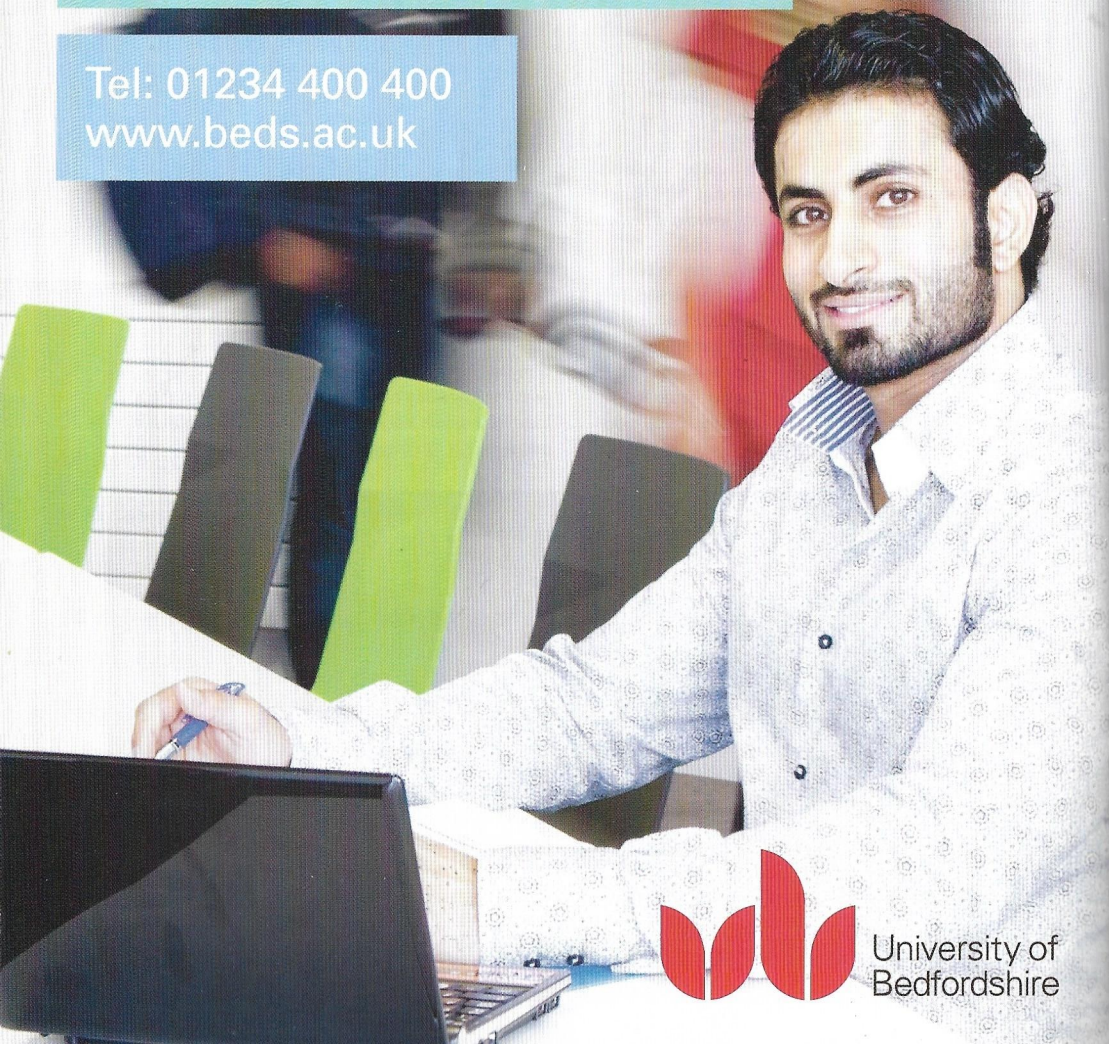


Howard Webb: "Refereeing's in the family"

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JON SHAW

STRIKER BACK IN THE GOALS

When you haven't scored since the opening day of the season, chances seem harder to score than they used to.

For Jon Shaw, however, his second goal in Hatters colours was an opportunity not to be missed as his header proved decisive in last Saturday's 2-1 win at Lincoln City.

With the Imps defence nowhere to be seen the striker, who notched 35 goals for Gateshead last season, was delighted to be able to double his tally for the Town after coming on as half-time substitute.

"It was weird because they were marking zonally at a certain stage and that's what I thought they were going to do," said the 28-year-old who became a father for the second time last week. I came on and I heard them saying to each other pick up a man. So they all started to pick men up and as I took a step back thinking I'll see who's marking me, nobody came with me.

"All I then thought was hopefully the ball's going to come over to the back post, unbelievably it did and landed right on my head five yards out.

Happy

"It was strange to be in such an amount of space. I was told to go around the back, fully expecting somebody to be there. As I drifted, nobody came and the ball seemed to take an age to get across, I was just happy to see the goal go in.

"It nearly put me off, possibly because I haven't scored for a while. I wouldn't say there wasn't an element of doubt but you do start thinking about it and I always say the same thing: as a forward you want to be instinctive.

"I think Stuart Fleetwood set me up with my goal against Gateshead as well.

"That's the thing with Stuart, he plays on the shoulder and will always get in behind and create chances. We've had him on set pieces as

he has been putting in some great corners and I was just happy to see it go in."

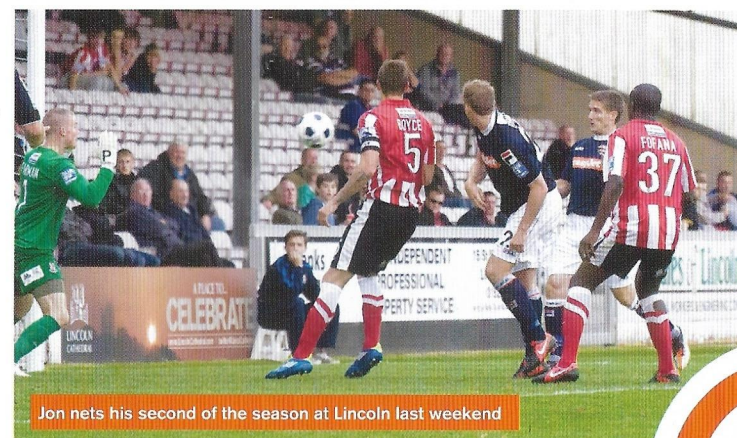
Despite the weight of expectation surrounding the former Sheffield Wednesday ace after his prolific spell on Tyneside, the striker is more than comfortable with sharing the goals around as the Town push for promotion. "When I first came I did say that scoring all of those goals last year doesn't necessarily mean it's going to be exactly the same this year," said Shaw.

"We play a different system, we play different players and I'm playing in a different role to last year. When you are playing you want to score as many goals, give the manager food for thought and get yourself in the starting line-up because when you do play more minutes, inevitably you get more chances to score goals and that's what happened last year.

"There were times when I possibly needed a rest but I still got a chance in the 80th or 90th minute to score and the goals mounted up. You want to be on the pitch, but this is a tight-knit group. It's a great squad with great ability and we all genuinely believe we're here to win this league, no matter who plays, no matter who scores.

"Over the last few weeks when we've been losing, the team's been changed, we've come on and won.

"On Saturday we've had to take Scott Rendell off at half-time and I've come on and scored. We've got class in abundance in the changing room so I don't really mind as long as we're winning games."



Jon nets his second of the season at Lincoln last weekend

FROM THE PRESS BOX

WITH DIVERSE FM'S STEVE MOORE

This is already a season of contrasts. We let Aaron O'Connor go, who despite his numerous qualities, would never be classed as an out and out finisher. Then he goes to Newport and already has 10 goals.

We have already lost four games this season, a hugely worrying sum. Yet, in terms of points, we have had our best ever start to a non-league season.

Braintree turn us over at home, something that would be considered completely unacceptable by most supporters. Yet as far as our commentator, Simon Pitts, is concerned, for the first 70 minutes at least, it was one of, if not the, best performance the Hatters have produced this season.

Anyway, the contrasts go forward even further. Whereas, in the previous two seasons, the club with the high powered budget has been primed to hit the front by this stage, never to be removed from that perch, this year is different. Mansfield however, seem as dazed and confused as the Led Zeppelin song, trapped in mid-table with no plan or understanding about their starting line-up, tactics or plan of action. It is Newport, a team built up of mainly outcasts and the rejects of other clubs that seem primed to potentially run the rule over the division.

As a result, whereas the next six league fixtures looked season defining because of trips to Forest Green and Mansfield in pre-season, they now look that way because of the home game against Dartford, as well as that trip to the New Lawn and the Hatters first ever game at Rodney Parade. No doubt, the combination of Blue Square Bet Premier football, as well as two Rugby Union sides' home games, will have turned the South Welsh ground into a bog by the time we get there.

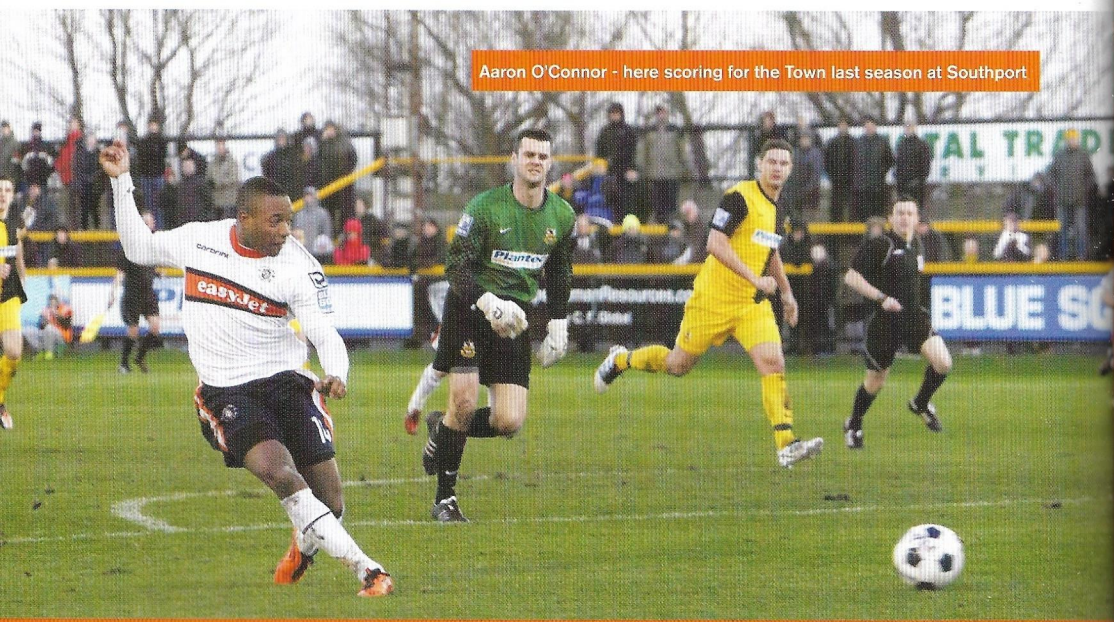
Must win

First though, Nuneaton, a game that we surely must win to keep in touch with both Forest Green and the two Welsh clubs before the big games over the next month. It's also a potentially new era for us at Diverse as we will be presenting the show live from Kenilworth Road.

Now probably isn't the best time to say that in all my time watching Luton from the press box in competitive fixtures we have scored no goals and accrued one point (two if you count the Chester game that was wiped out).

Keep the Faith.

Aaron O'Connor - here scoring for the Town last season at Southport



THE PRESS OFFICE PICTURE

WITH ANDREW BARRINGER

Last week saw national poetry day and, knowing the number of budding poets that sit amongst the Kenilworth Road crowd each week, I decided to ask via the power of social media for supporters to send in their Hatters poetry.

A number of excellent entries winged their way into my inbox including this one penned by Tom Caldon which, I'm sure you agree is a great piece of writing.

A big thanks to all of those who took time to email in - it's just a shame I can't publish those who contain the odd profanity or criticise clubs in the surrounding area! Anyway, enjoy the below and congratulations Tom!

Evening Euphoria

0-0,

*The ninetieth minute at Kenilworth road,
Unfulfilled expectant groan*

The referee bemoaned:

*For this fractious affair,
His skimpy black attire
And lack of hair.*

Chanting for one last attack

Like the trains behind the bobsbers,

Rattling,

"Steaming in"

Leaning forward intently as hope wears thin,

As do our nails,

We won't vote with our feet if the ball game fails.

Always back when the Kenny calls.

A hopeful chip forward,

The ball plummets,

A rebounding resonance of seats slamming back.

The pentagon's spin and grace the turf

The noise could notch up to no greater girth.

Or yet,

A divot in the net

From the leather sphere,

I've heard no better atmosphere

"I've witnessed a thieving",

"Daylight robbery"

Preferably in the evening,

When floodlights illuminate the away fans leaving.

"Cheerio"

REDIRECTION

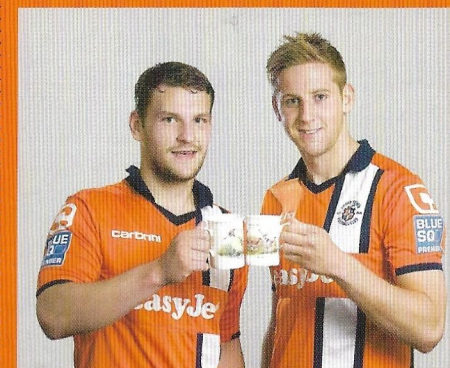
In my last notes I revealed that our mobile website is now up and running after finally being developed and released.

I'll have to apologise for the shameless plug but you will be pleased to know that the site's redirection problem has been corrected. Any attempts to access the official site on a mobile device will now automatically re-route to the mobile version of the site. So no more frustrating fumbling around clicking on links!

PAIR OF MUGS...

The photograph was a huge hit on our social media platforms so I thought I would share the story behind the photograph of defenders Simon Ainge and Connor Essam pictured with two wildlife mugs.

The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire got in touch to ask if the Hatters could help promote their forthcoming 'mug shot' campaign.



With star names like Stephen Fry and Michael Fish already taking part we - or rather captain Ronnie Henry - thought it would be a fine idea with the Town's central defensive partnership posed with the mugs to show their support to the Trust.

The PR Trust's full PR campaign will begin later this month so keep your eyes peeled for Connor and Simon sharing page space with Mr Fry!...

Films at Luton Library Theatre



African Queen (PG)

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

Out of Africa (PG)

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

Phantom of the Opera (12a)

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

Titanic (12a)

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

Bel Ami (15)

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

Some Like It Hot (U)

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

- ▶ £4 / £3 concessions / £2 Culture Card Members
 - ▶ These films are suitable for people from adult day centres.
 - ▶ **Box Office: 01582 547474 / 878100**
- www.lutonlibrarytheatre.com
- ▶ Luton Library Theatre, Luton Central Library, St George's Square, Luton LU1 2NG

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ACADEMY UPDATE

WITH PAUL DRIVER



Having had an excellent pre-season, with a very beneficial tour to the Gothia Cup in Sweden, the youth team are now well into their season with six league games and two early rounds of the FA Youth Cup under their belt.

Difficult opening games against Leyton Orient and Dagenham and Redbridge resulted in narrow defeats to teams who remain towards the top of the Youth Alliance league but encouraging wins away to Stevenage and Peterborough United followed, before the disappointment of conceding late on in draws against MK Dons and Northampton Town.

In addition to these games, the squad has successfully negotiated two of the tricky three qualifying rounds of the FA Youth Cup to set up a local derby with Barton Rovers in the final round before the league clubs enter the fray. A trip to Stevenage awaits the winners.

Coach Paul Driver told Talk of the Town: "The six league games we've had were all of a high standard and very close and competitive so, although we are all disappointed with the late goals against in the last two games denying us four points, the Stevenage win was a bit smash and grab for us with two goals at the end and they would be equally disappointed not to collect all three points that day.

"As we have a younger squad this season – we regularly use at least seven

first-years and under-16 lads – it is going to take time to get consistency in our performances but, with the quality in the group particularly going forward, I fully expect us to kick on well after Christmas and achieve a top-six finish.

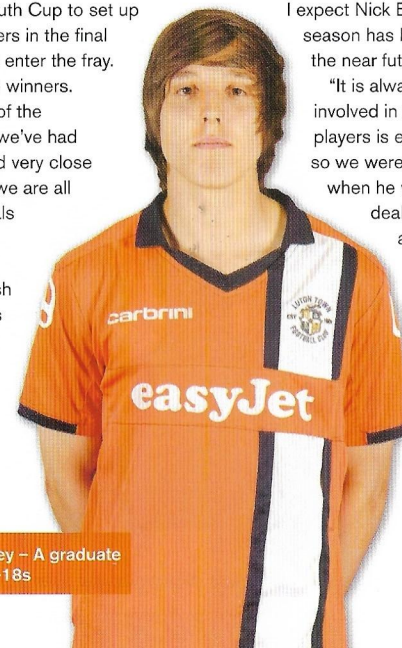
"What has to be remembered at all times with our young players is that it is all about their development towards being a professional footballer and, with the exception of the FA Youth Cup, results are of no significance. From our point of view therefore, with the Elite Player Performance Plan system now seeing a move to under-21 development games as opposed to the reserve league as previously, the improved chance for the youth team lads to get involved with Carl Emberson in these games is essential to their progression and all of them have benefited as individuals from the experience against a very good level of opposition in Peterborough and Crystal Palace.

"In addition to this, we will still send the boys out into the appropriate level of senior football at the right time on work experience, as they progress in their second year. Jerry Nash has just gone to Leighton Town and

I expect Nick Burtenshaw, whose progress this season has been tremendous, to follow him in the near future.

"It is always a good feeling for everyone involved in the youth set up when one of our players is elevated to the first-team squad, so we were all delighted for Jake Woolley when he was awarded his first professional deal recently. Jake's attitude and application are things that should not go amiss with our current crop of young players as they are as important as technical ability in the transition from youth to first-team level."

For a chance to see these up-and-coming lads first hand, their FA Youth Cup game against Barton Rovers is at Kenilworth Road on Wednesday 17th October at 7.30pm.



Pro deal: Jake Woolley – A graduate of the Town's Under-18s

Paul Driver is the Hatters' Under-18s coach

YOUTH FIXTURES

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

AUGUST

Sat 11	Leyton Orient	A	L 0-2	
Sat 18	Dagenham & Redbridge	H	L 2-3	Jibodu (pen), Smith
Sat 25	Stevenage	A	W 3-2	McKenzie-Lowe, (og), Amu

SEPTEMBER

Sat 01	Peterborough United	A	W 2-0	McKenzie-Lowe, own goal
Wed 18	AFC Kempston Rovers	A	W4-0	McKenzie-Lowe 2, Amu 2
Sat 22	Milton Keynes Dons	A	D 2-2	Amu, Smith (pen)
Sat 29	Northampton Town	H	D 1-1	Davis

OCTOBER

Wed 03	P'boro Northern Star	H	W 6-0	Banton 3, Amu, McKenzie-Lowe, Trotman
--------	----------------------	---	-------	---------------------------------------

Sat 06	Stevenage	A	L 2-3	Smith 2 (1 pen)
Sat 13	Northampton Town	H	11.00am	Puma YA Cup 2
Wed 17	Barton Rovers	H	7.30pm	FAYC
Sat 20			11.00am	Puma YA Cup 3
Sat 27	Peterborough United	H	11.00am	Puma YA Cup 4

NOVEMBER

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

DECEMBER

Sat 01	Peterborough United	H	11.00am	
Sat 08	Northampton Town	A	11.00am	

JANUARY

Sat 10	Milton Keynes Dons	H	11.00am	
Sat 19			South Cup 2	
Sat 26	Leyton Orient	H	11.00am	

FEBRUARY

Sat 02	Dagenham & Redbridge	A	11.00am	
Sat 09	Stevenage	H	11.00am	
Sat 16			South Cup 3	
Sat 23	Aldershot Town	A	11.00am	

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	

YOUNG STARS

NAME: Zane Banton

AGE: 16

POSITION: Central midfielder/attacking midfielder

TIME SPENT WITH LUTON TOWN/WHEN

JOINED:

Six years.

WHAT PART OF YOUR GAME DO YOU CONSIDER THE BEST?

Dribbling, creativity and skills.

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

The defensive side of my game.

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

The opportunities this year.

WHO ARE YOUR FOOTBALL IDOLS?

Dennis Bergkamp, Lionel Messi and Neymar.



Zane Banton: Aiming straight for the top

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

Joe Deeney, my mum and dad and brother.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO ACHIEVE?

To play at the highest level.

WHO IS YOUR FAVOURITE ALL-TIME PLAYER?

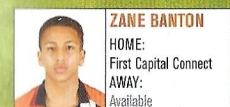
Lionel Messi.

WHAT TARGETS HAVE YOU SET YOURSELF THIS SEASON?

To make a first-team appearance.

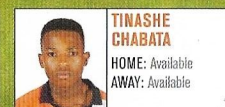
2012/13 YOUTH TEAM

KIT SPONSORS



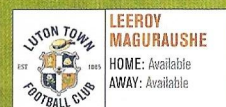
ZANE BANTON

HOME: First Capital Connect
AWAY: Available



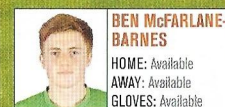
TINASHÉ CHABATA

HOME: Available
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: ZMB



NICK BURTENSHAW

HOME: Available
AWAY: Available



JOSH CARPENTER

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



JORDAN DAVIS

HOME: Doug Francome
AWAY: Available



JEROME JIBODU

HOME: Doug Knight
AWAY: Doug Knight



BRETT LONGDEN

HOME: Mike Tearie
AWAY: Available



JERRY NASH

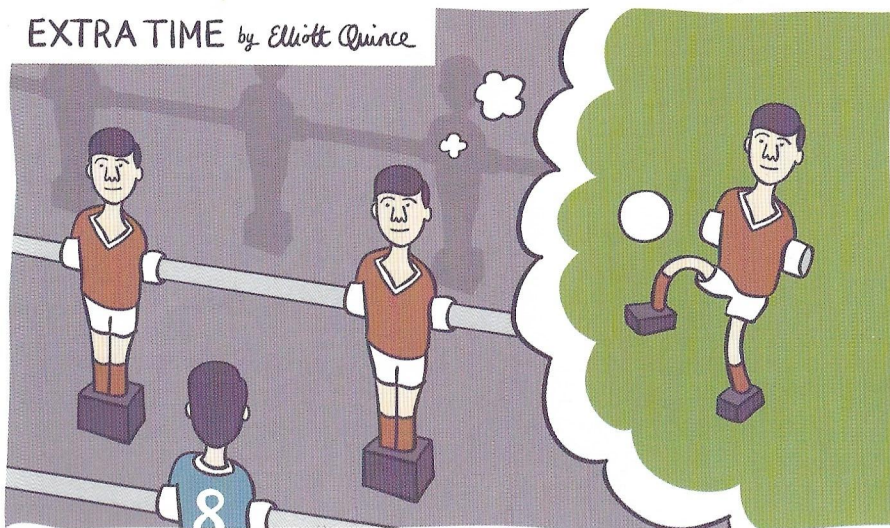
HOME: Moira Spain
AWAY: Available



ZAK STEPHENS

HOME: Available
AWAY: Available

EXTRA TIME *by Elliott Quince*



Dave longed to break free from the shackles of the traditional 3-5-2 and taste the freedom of playing in the hole behind the front two

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YOUTH LATEST

The Town Under-18s conceded a late goal to go down 3-2 to Stevenage on Saturday.

The Hatters made an excellent start to the first half as they created a number of chances and took the lead in the fourth minute when Brett Longden was upended in the box and Charlie Smith despatched the penalty.

Good efforts by Jemale McKenzie-Lowe, Arel Amu and Ian Rees continued the strong start but, having failed to take the chances, Stevenage drew level on 16 minutes following a neat move and smart finish from 15 yards.

Undeterred, the Hatters continued to play well going forward and the lead was restored on 26 minutes. Amu cut in from wide and his shot was not held by the Stevenage keeper and Smith was on hand to stab the ball home from close-range.

Smith's corner deliveries were causing problems for the home defence and Ryan DeBattista had a header cleared off of the line from one in the 32nd minute in what proved to be the best chance for either side in the remainder of the half.

Stevenage started the second half the stronger after making a couple of changes to personnel and got an equaliser in the 52nd minute from a corner of their own which wasn't fully cleared and a strike from the edge of the box sneaked inside Josh Carpenter's post.

Both sides continued to be positive in their approach and each had chances to gain the lead with another Smith corner being cleared from the line when a goal seemed certain.

As in the previous encounter between the sides in September, the last 15 minutes were lively and full of incident. The first saw Stevenage take the lead for the first time on 85 minutes when the ball wasn't cleared and a slip at the back allowed the hosts' striker to poke the ball home.

Zane Banton then had two great chances - the first being blocked and the second getting tipped onto the post by the keeper. Two more corners caused problems for the opposition but the Hatters couldn't get the equaliser that their performance warranted.

Boss Paul Driver told lutontown.co.uk: "I thought we were excellent going forward and, although we won here a few weeks back, we got lucky in all honesty because they were way better than us that day and we nicked it at the end.

"This time, we were much more in the game - especially in the first half and towards the end - and it shows we are moving in the right direction. Once we get Zak Stephens back to strengthen the defence, we'll be much stronger at the back, too."



Charlie Smith's two goals weren't enough for the Under-18s

Town: Carpenter, Longden, Jibodu, Rees, Chabata, DeBattista, Davis, Burtenshaw (sub Banton 70), McKenzie-Lowe (sub Ngwala 80), Smith, Amu. **Subs not used:** Barnes, Galliford, Stanley.

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LUTON LADIES

With the first team receiving a bye in the League Cup, the reserve team entertained Leyton Orient who had climbed to third in the table and were likely to be tough opponents.

The Town began brightly but were pegged back as Orient produced a series of attacks which brought a string of saves from goalkeeper Hollie Staples but there was nothing she could do to prevent a curling strike into the top corner to give the visitors the lead.

Superb tackle

As the Town fought back, striker Amber Charlton was denied an equaliser as she prepared to shoot following a superb tackle from a covering defender.

The second half was similar to the first with Staples continuing to deny the O's a further goal but again visitors scored when a Town defender failed to hold off an attacker and she headed home from six yards out.

Amy Nash continued to look lively down the right flank and her crosses just eluded the Town strikers.

She was denied a deserved goal late on as her 30-yard strike was tipped onto the post and away by the Orient keeper.

The Hatters continue to rebuild a new reserve squad with a new mixture of players and there is no doubt that they will improve as the season goes on but as the only reserve team at this level there are tough times ahead.

The Under-14s had no such problems retaining their 100 per cent start to the season defeating Flitwick Eagles 10-2. Phoebe Brown scored four whilst Chloe Fitzsimmons netted a hat-trick. Lilley Coleman, Eireann O'Donoghue and Joanna Weaver were also on target.

Clean sweep

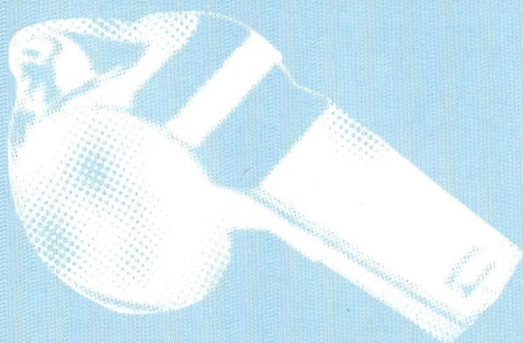
It was a clean sweep of wins for the youth teams as the Under-13s worked hard for a 5-2 victory over St Albans City to progress into the next round of the Hertfordshire League Cup. Natalie Case bagged a hat-trick with Jodie Brooks scoring the other two.



Pippa Lewis in action against Orient

#NONSENSEINFOOTBALL

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



ENOUGH
SAID.
JUST
BET

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LEAGUE

LOOK

JOE FLEMONS ROUNDS-UP
THE LATEST IN THE BSBP

Newport County extended their lead to three points at the summit of the Blue Square Bet Premier with a 1-0 win over struggling Ebbsfleet.

Ishmael Yakubu nodded home Andy Sandell's corner for his fifth goal of the season to capitalise on Forest Green's slip-up. Rovers went down 2-1 to an Adam Cunningham brace against Tamworth to inflict a first home defeat of the season on Dave Hockaday's men.

Another team to benefit at Rovers' expense was Andy Morrell's Wrexham, who had 24 hours to ponder their opportunity after their televised game with Stockport, and they triumphed 3-2 to jump into second place.

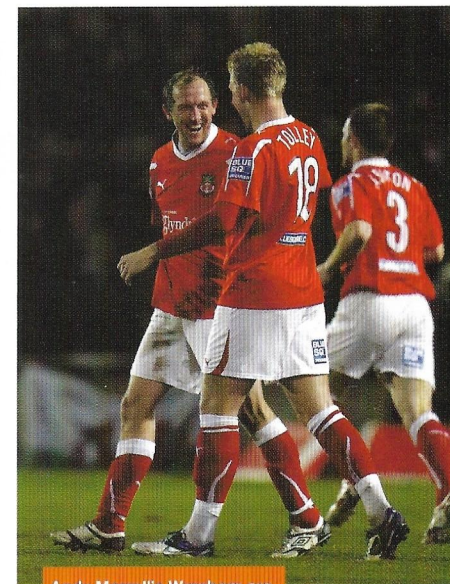
Dartford's impressive recent run was brought to an abrupt end at the hands of AFC Telford who emphatically put four past the Essex side to dent their promotion bid. Steve Jones scored twice for the Bucks rose to eighth after the win.

Grimsby closed the gap on the Darts in fifth to a point as they lurk in the shadows awaiting their opportunity to pounce into the promotion picture after a 2-0 away win at Alfreton. Alfreton had previously gone six games unbeaten before Crawley loanee Scott Neilson put the Mariners in front five minutes before the half-time. Ross Hannah secured the victory for Grimsby, who travel to Telford today.

Matthew Barnes-Homer's ninth goal of the season helped Macclesfield Town recover from 2-0 down to secure a point at the Gateshead International Stadium. Barnes-Homer's overhead kick 20 minutes from time revived the Silkmen and the comeback was complete with five minutes remaining when Hatters loanee John Paul Kissock's cross was headed home by Jack Mackreth to earn a share the spoils.

Woking were the biggest climbers in the table this week as they leapt from 15th to 10th after their 2-1 win over Richard Money's Cambridge United. Money's honeymoon period lasted just one solitary game and after their 4-1 demolition of Mansfield last Saturday.

Kidderminster Harriers comfortably beat bottom club Hyde 3-0 to give themselves a bit of breathing space from the relegation zone. Ryan Rowe scored twice for



Andy Morrell's Wrexham are up to second in the table

Harriers as they opened up a two-point gap between them and 21st placed Lincoln City who won a point away at Mansfield.

Today's visitors Nuneaton fought to their fourth draw in six games on Tuesday evening as they travelled to mid-table Hereford and played out a 0-0 stalemate at Edgar Street. Chances were few and far between for either side as Nuneaton's winless run continues to seven outings.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

MACCLESFIELD v NEWPORT (12.30)

AFC TELFORD v GRIMSBY

BARROW v DARTFORD

EBBSFLEET v ALFRETON

GATESHEAD v CAMBRIDGE (5.15)

HEREFORD v BRAINTREE

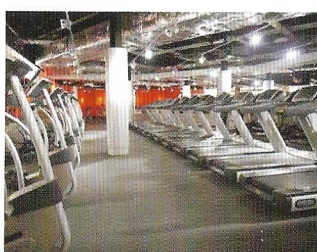
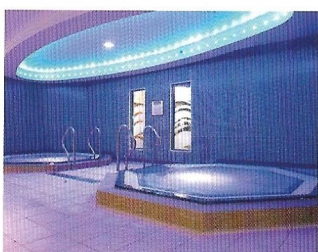
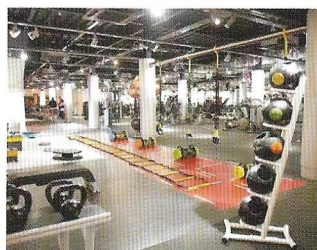
HYDE v TAMWORTH (6.30)

MANSFIELD v FOREST GREEN

STOCKPORT v KIDDERMINSTER (3.30)

WOKING v SOUTHPORT

WREXHAM v LINCOLN



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IN THE COMMUNITY

OCTOBER SOCCER CAMPS

The youth football season is now well under way and we are planning loads of our 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 lfhc.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, Pottton 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

FITZWICK / AMPHILL

Venue: Fitzwick 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
Dates: Wednesday to Friday 31st October to 2nd November

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

Venue: Barnfield Academy South, Rotherham Ave
Dates: 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: Digsweil 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										
August																			
	Sat 11	15:00	H	Gateshead	D 2-2	6,743	76	11	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	Fri 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	Henry	Kasim*	Watkins**	O'Donnell	Rendell	Shaw	
	Mon 27	15:00	A	Ebbw Vale United	W 3-1	2,018	1,246	5	Tyler	Lawless	Taylor	Rowe-Turner	Beckwith	Howells	O'Donnell**	Rendell 1	Gray*	Shaw	
September																			
	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*1	Lawless	O'Donnell	Howells	Rendell	Gray	
	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***	
	Fri 21	19:45	A	Grimsby Town	L 1-4	4,074	125	6	Tyler	Henry**	Howells	Beckwith	Kovacs*	Lawless	O'Donnell	Rendell 1	Fleetwood***	Gray	
	Tue 25	19:45	A	Tamworth	W 2-1	1,137	390	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	
October																			
	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	L 2-3	5,523	55	4	Tyler	Henry	Howells	Essam**	Ainge 1	Lawless	O'Donnell	J. Robinson*	Gray	Shaw	
	Sat 13	15:00	H	Nuneaton Town															
	Sat 20	13:00	A	Cambridge United (FAC4Q)															
	Sat 27	15:00	A	Forest Green Rovers															
November																			
	Tue 6	19:45	A	Hereford United															
	Sat 10	15:00	H	Dartford															
TV	Thu 15	19:45	A	Mansfield Town															
December																			
	Sat 1	15:00	H	Barrow															
	Tue 4	19:45	A	Newport County															
	Sat 8	15:00	H	Alfreton Town															
	Sat 22	15:00	A	AFC Telford United															
	Wed 26	15:00	H	Woking															
	Sat 29	15:00	H	Ebbw Vale United															
January																			
	Tue 1	13:00	A	Woking															
	Sat 5	15:00	A	Macclesfield Town															
	Sat 12	15:00	H	Hyde															
	Sat 19	15:00	A	Nuneaton Town															
	Tue 22	19:45	H	Lincoln City															
	Sat 26	15:00	H	Stockport County															
February																			
	Sat 2	15:00	A	Barrow															
	Sat 9	15:00	H	Forest Green Rovers															
	Tue 12	19:45	A	Dartford															
	Sat 16	15:00	H	Newport County															
	Sat 23	15:00	H	Mansfield Town															
	Tue 26	19:45	A	Braintree Town															
March																			
	Sat 2	15:00	A	Stockport County															
	Sat 9	15:00	H	Hereford United															
	Sat 16	15:00	A	Wrexham															
	Sat 23	15:00	H	Tamworth															
	Sat 30	15:00	A	Cambridge United															
April																			
	Mon 1	15:00	H	Kidderminster Harriers															
	Sat 6	15:00	A	Gateshead															
	Sat 13	15:00	H	Grimsby Town															
	Sat 20	15:00	A	Southport															

Alex Lawless is first to congratulate Dan Walker on his goal against Braintree on Tuesday



Alex Lawless is first to congratulate Dan Walker on his goal against Braintree on Tuesday

SUBS

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

LEAGUE TABLE 2012/13

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Newport County AFC	14	10	2	2	27	13	14	32
2 Wrexham	14	8	5	1	23	10	13	29
3 Forest Green Rovers	14	8	3	3	25	14	11	27
4 Luton Town	14	8	2	4	26	21	5	26
5 Dartford	14	8	1	5	25	18	7	25
6 Grimsby Town	14	6	6	2	20	9	11	24
7 Tamworth	14	7	1	6	21	19	2	22
8 AFC Telford United	14	5	6	3	25	19	6	21
9 Macclesfield Town	13	6	2	5	24	24	0	20
10 Woking	14	6	1	7	25	26	-1	19
11 Gateshead	14	4	6	4	19	19	0	18
12 Hereford United	14	5	3	6	22	26	-4	18
13 Mansfield Town	13	5	3	5	21	25	-4	18
14 Stockport County	14	4	5	5	19	19	0	17
15 Cambridge United	14	4	4	6	27	28	-1	16
16 Braintree Town	14	4	4	6	18	22	-4	16
17 Southport	14	4	4	6	19	25	-6	16
18 Alfreton Town	13	4	4	5	17	23	-6	16
19 Barrow	14	4	4	6	19	28	-9	16
20 Kidderminster Harriers	14	3	6	5	17	15	2	15
21 Lincoln City	14	3	4	7	15	21	-6	13
22 Nuneaton Town	14	2	6	6	20	29	-9	12
23 Ebbw Vale United	14	2	4	8	20	31	-11	10
24 Hyde FC	13	1	4	8	15	25	-10	7

PLAYER STATS 2012/13

	LEAGUE		THIS SEASON CUP				TOTAL		DISCIP		CAREER TOTAL		
	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS	Y	R	APPS	GLS			
Simon AINGE	3	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	
Dean BECKWITH	7	0	1	0	0	0	7	0	1	2	0	18	
Connor ESSAM	4	(4)	0	0	0	0	4	(4)	0	1	0	8	0
Stuart FLEETWOOD	12	(4)	9	0	0	0	12	(2)	9	1	1	61	25
Andre GRAY	11	(3)	2	0	0	0	11	(3)	2	3	0	26	9
Ronnie HENRY	11	0	0	0	0	0	11	(0)	0	0	1	11	0
Jake HOWELLS	12	(1)	1	0	0	0	12	(1)	1	0	0	196	16
Yaser KASIM	5	(6)	1	0	0	0	5	(6)	1	2	0	11	1
Janos KOVACS	8	0	1	0	0	0	8	(0)	1	2	0	69	6
Alex LAWLESS	13	(1)	0	0	0	0	13	(1)	0	4	0	90	7
JJ O'DONNELL	14	0	1	0	0	0	14	(0)	1	0	0	23	1
Scott RENDELL	12	0	5	0	0	0	12	(0)	5	1	0	12	5
Jake ROBINSON	3	(3)	0	0	0	0	3	(3)	0	0	0	6	0
Matt ROBINSON	0	(2)	0	0	0	0	0	(2)	0	0	0	2	0
Lathaniel ROWE-TURNER	8	(3)	0	0	0	0	8	(3)	0	0	0	11	0
Jon SHAW	8	(3)	2	0	0	0	8	(3)	2	1	0	11	2
Greg TAYLOR	7	(1)	0	0	0	0	7	(1)	0	1	0	31	0
Mark TYLER	14	0	0	0	0	0	14	(0)	0	0	0	152	0
Dan WALKER	0	(2)	1	0	0	0	0	(2)	1	0	0	22	2
Adam WATKINS	2	(3)	0	0	0	0	2	(3)	0	0	0	54	8
Jake WOOLLEY	0	(3)	0	0	0	0	0	(3)	0	0	0	8	0

LET'S GO

CAMBRIDGE & FOREST GREEN

With the Town drawn away in the FA Cup fourth qualifying round, Paul Buckle's side face two successive fixtures away from Kenilworth Road. A week today it's the short trip to Cambridge in the cup before returning to Blue Square Bet Premier action at Forest Green a week later.



CAMBRIDGE

Where? The Abbey Stadium, Cambridge – or, to please the sponsors, the R Costings Abbey Stadium. The ground, which will be no doubt familiar to Town fans, is on Newmarket Road. The Abbey has been home to the U's since 1931.

How do I get myself there? Plane, train, automobile, or, as they like to do in Cambridge, bicycle. It's a smidgen over 40 miles from the Maple Road car park to the away end turnstiles which should take about an hour as you head in a north-easterly direction from Luton on the A505 to Hitchin towards Royston and then Cambridge. For the sat-nav savvy, the postcode is CB5 8LN.

Be warned. Remember, following Police advice, the game is kicking off at the earlier time of 1 pm. So set those alarms and don't forget!

Bobber Army. If you don't own a car or don't feel like biking your way to Cambridge you can take the Bobbers who are, as ever, running a coach to the Abbey. They will be departing the Maple Road car park at 10am. The fare is £15 for adults and £13 for concessions.

Manager Reunited. The U's recently instated former Town boss Richard Money as head coach after an inconsistent start to the campaign. It will be the first time Money, also a former Hatters player, will come up against his former employers since his departure from the Kenilworth Road hot seat in March 2011.

Players reunited. A whole host of players and management staff will be familiar to this fixture with former United loanee Scott Rendell making his first return to the Abbey Stadium after a prolific spell with the club. The U's also have ex-Hatters Robbie Willmott and Rossi Jarvis in their ranks.

We've met before, haven't we? Oh yes. Remember last month? The Town ran out 3-2 winners in a thrilling game at Kenilworth Road. That was the Hatters' eighth win in 24 meetings between the two sides.



FOREST GREEN

Where? Rovers are affectionately known as the 'little club on the hill', given their location at the top of a hill in the sedate surroundings of the quaint, small Gloucestershire town of Nailsworth.

Sorry, where? You're right to ask a second time. Nailsworth only has a population of 6,600. It's a few miles south of Stroud. Don't be put off though, it's a picture-postcard location in the Cotswolds. You never know, you might score some brownie boys with a loved one by doubling it up with a romantic weekend.

Good idea. So how do I get there? You can take the scenic route and go via Aylesbury and Oxford and across to Cirencester or go M1 south, M25 and M4 coming off the M4 at Swindon and taking the A419. Or, punch in GL6 0ET and get the sat-nav to do it for you.

If you still can't manage that, give the Bobbers a call on 01234 856542 and book a place on the coach. It's £20 for adults and £17 concessions, with the coach leaving at 10am.

Green army. FGR are the greenest club in the country. And it's not just their new lime green shirts. They're powered (sorry...) by chairman Dale Vince OBE who has made his way in business in green energy.

Food frenzy. Vince's green revolution goes further than generating the club's electricity from solar panels... he's also banned red meat at the ground. So forget ordering a double cheeseburger and make sure you opt for the halloumi and falafel.

Familiar face. Rovers have Ed Asafu-Adjaye among their number this season. The defender made 82 appearances in Town colours after coming through the ranks at Kenilworth Road.



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PROUD KIT SUPPLIERS TO LUTON TOWN

TODAY'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



NUNEATON TOWN

1	Neil Collet
2	Neil Cartwright
4	Gavin Cowan
5	Gaz Dean
6	Adam Walker
7	Wes York
8	Mark Noon
9	Kyle Perry
10	Andy Brown
11	John Adams
12	James Armson
13	Danny Sleath
14	Simon Forsdick
15	Delroy Gordon
16	Ben Ford
17	Danny Newton
18	Tom James
19	Ben McNamara
20	Robbie Thompson-Brown
21	Stephen O'Halloran
22	Kyle Patterson

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: M. Bull
 ASSISTANT: A. Dale
 ASSISTANT: C. Pearce
 FOURTH OFFICIAL: M. McIntyre

HERE NEXT

DARTFORD

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2012

KICK-OFF 3PM

