



Official Matchday Programme of Luton Town Football Club

TALK OF THE TOWN

ISSUE 20 • £3



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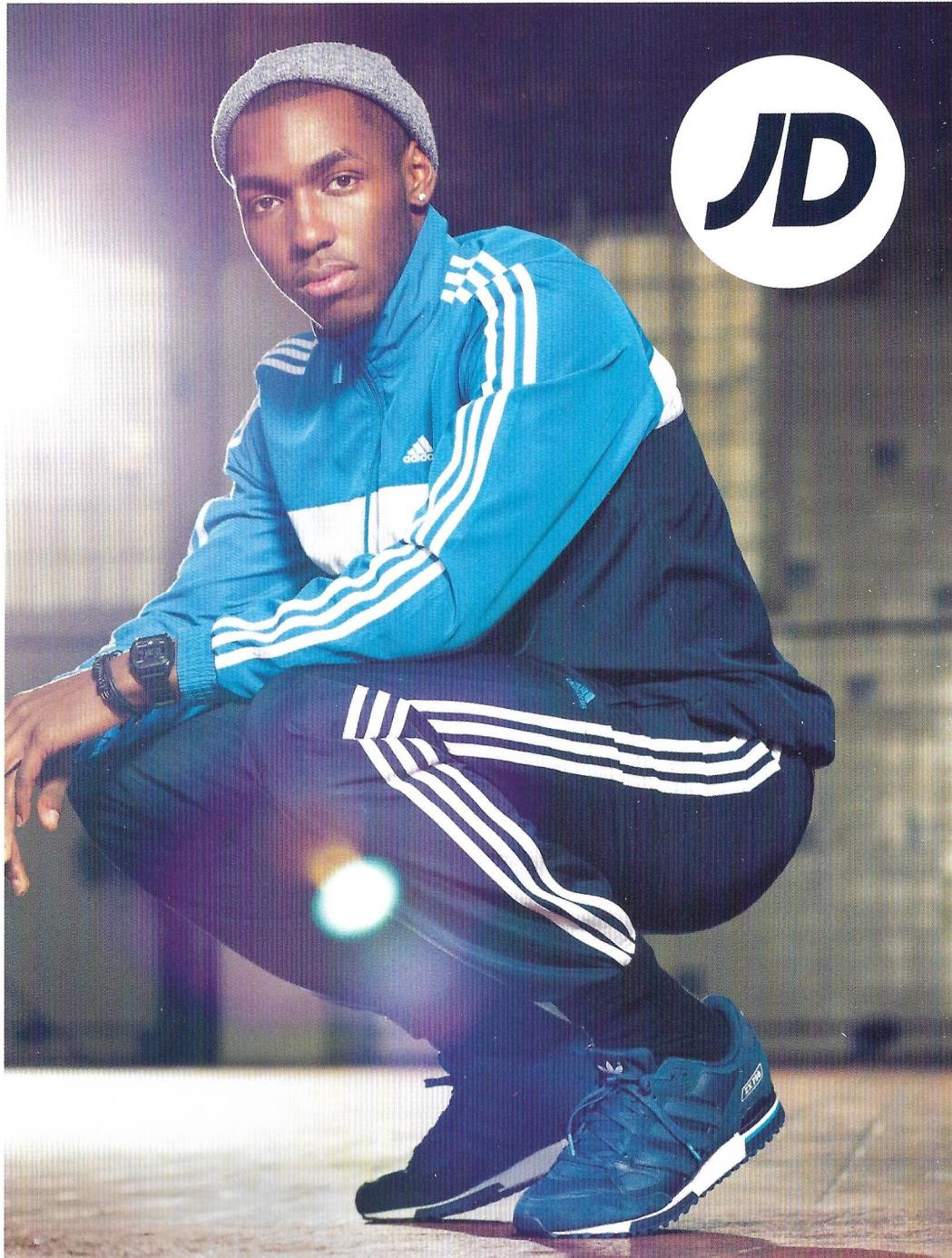
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SATURDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2013 • 3PM



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LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 2020 LTD

Kenilworth Road Stadium, 1 Maple Road, Luton, Bedfordshire LU4 8AW

SWITCHBOARD: 01582 411622

TICKET OFFICE: 01582 416976

info@lutontown.co.uk www.lutontown.co.uk

CLUB OFFICIALS

CHAIRMAN: Nick Owen

MANAGING DIRECTOR: Gary Sweet

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PHYSIOTHERAPIST: Simon Parsell

TEAM MASSEUR & KIT MAN:

Darren Cook

HEAD OF YOUTH: Wayne Turner

CLUB SECRETARY: Kevan Platt

PRESS OFFICER: Andrew Barringer

CLUB DOCTOR: Dr Paul Dealey

CLUB CHAPLAIN: Alan West

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

Editor: Andrew Barringer

Photography: Gareth Owen

Contributors: Andrew Barringer, Final Third Sports Media, Roger Wash, Joe Flemons, Mark Wood, Tom Skinner and Leigh Edwards.

Design and print: Barham Group

Additional artwork: Elliott Quince

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 for the first time in a while as we look back to return to winning ways in the Blue Square Bet Premier.

We come into this match with just under half of the season remaining. There are 20 league matches to play for and 60 points up for grabs so success is still within our grasp. It certainly is all to play for and we still have the FA Cup tie with Millwall to look forward to.

In the space of a week we have enjoyed a massive high and a terrible low following the contrasting results and performances against Norwich and Barrow.

The victory at Norwich was fantastic but once we got back down from that high we failed to switch on when it came to a vastly more important fixture at Barrow. We weren't alone either. A number of other clubs suffered from FA Cup hangovers but that is no excuse. We did everything right to prepare for the Barrow game but were ultimately punished following one mistake.

We know mistakes shouldn't happen and it has been a case of attempting to put that right with hard work in training this week.

Consistency

The most frustrating thing is that we have shown we can beat a Premier League team and a Championship team but then go and lose at Barrow. Making silly mistakes has been our achilles heel all season and it simply has to stop. We seem to be taking one huge step forward before taking another big one back and we really need to up our consistency if we are to be successful this season. Results, bar last Saturday, have shown we are more than capable.

After travelling over 1,000 miles in the last week it was good to have a free midweek and be able to prepare for this afternoon's home match with a Forest Green side who have promotion aspirations themselves.

The past two weeks has been tough, physically, mentally and emotionally. We have done our fair share of travelling and had to come down from the buzz of beating Norwich so to have a free Tuesday has given us some much-needed breathing space.

Collectively we were able to dissect the Barrow performance and claim responsibility for what happened. It is always easier for people to look at the negatives rather than the positives but I want people to know that there are a lot of good things happening at the moment.

Including today, we have a number of big games on the horizon, and with so many matches left to play now is an exciting time to be a part of Luton Town.

Welcome

On that note, I would like to welcome our three newest recruits, Dave Martin, Steve McNulty and Wayne Thomas, who have joined us since we were last at Kenilworth Road.

Dave will add an attacking and direct edge to our play whilst Steve and Wayne will add their experience and voice to the defence. It is in defence where I felt we were lacking players with those kinds of attributes and I believe we are very lucky to have them. I wish all three players the best of luck in their careers at Kenilworth Road.

Lastly I would like to thank you, the supporters, for your backing in recent weeks. I would like to feel as though the Norwich result made the whole town proud and I hope you enjoyed the occasion as much as everyone at the club did.

We need your support now more than ever and, while I've said the Barrow result was a major step backwards after the Norwich game, it's important we kick on from here on in and don't slip up any more.

We'd like to think the Norwich result put us back on the map but I think winning promotion would do just as much.

Now's the time to bounce back from last Saturday and enter this hectic schedule between now and the end of the season full of confidence.

Thank you for continued support, especially those who made it to Norwich, Grimsby and Barrow.

Get behind us this afternoon.

Paul

Paul Buckle is sponsored by:



FROM THE BOARDROOM

WITH MANAGING DIRECTOR GARY SWEET



What a wildly peculiar week that was! Our beloved Club has an uncanny knack of repeating the same rollercoaster ride.

From the Cup memories etched on one joyous Saturday in Norfolk, to the League disillusionment in Cumbria a week later.

It rather felt like getting married one week and being divorced the very next!

We must applaud our astonishing support over the last two games. It was an impressive wall of sound at Carrow Road – a support which spurred the players on to that outstanding victory – and was conducted throughout the day with good grace and impeccable conduct. A word of gratitude, also, for those who spent their afternoon in the bars of Kenilworth Road to watch the live beam-back, courtesy of Blue Square Bet.

Special days

What's most pleasing about this so-called giant-killing, particularly for those that obtained tickets, was the fact that it gave us of those special days to remember and to be proud of – a positive Wikipedia entry for a change. I'm particularly pleased for our younger supporters who aren't able to cast their minds back to 1988 or even 2005. Days like this will help the next generation of Hatters remain life-long.

Supporters attending the contrasting pair of performances of the FA Trophy tie at Grimsby on Tuesday and Saturday's League match up at Barrow, deserve our full gratitude. It's a pity our Cup success didn't carry over to our League performances as well as it did after the Wolves victory, for which we are all genuinely regretful.

In contrast to Tuesday irrelevance, Saturday's performance hurt us all deeply and will be recognised as the nadir of our league performance this season.

In case there is any doubt in anyone's mind, achieving promotion remains the clear priority this season and even though recent results have been poorer than wanted or expected we must remain positive about our chances,

having now strengthened the squad and with so many games in hand over our competitors.

I'd like you to join me in welcoming our January recruits to Kenilworth Road; Jonathan Smith, Scott Neilson, Dave Martin, Steve McNulty and Wayne Thomas. We certainly consider that in the last month our squad has been added to in terms of experience and character as well as ability – and we truly believe this consolidation will improve results in the League.

Busy week

It has been a busy week at Kenilworth Road. No sooner had the warm glow of being a victorious underdog started to subside we began the process of organising next Saturday's tie against Millwall the minute the draw was announced. In many ways, it will be just another big game for us, which we are very capable of arranging to ensure a safe and sound environment. However, with live television,



Steve McNulty: one of five new signings for the Hatters in January

the heightened media interest and the perception of a rivalry between the two clubs we have needed to ensure that no stone remains unturned.

We had a very productive meeting with executive delegates from Millwall on Tuesday, which highlighted a number of similarities between our two clubs. Not only were we originally founded in the same year but upon examination of the two clubs future ambitions and directions, especially in terms of community engagement and youth football, there were many encouraging connections.

Community initiatives

One of the many community initiatives we have adopted recently is an association with the Forces Recruitment Services – an organisation that helps to get ex-military servicemen and servicewomen back into employment. We are looking to employ the services of these candidates on match-days wherever possible – something that Millwall are also now looking to initiate.

Since Millwall have been working enthusiastically to establish a new image and substance to the club in order to encourage new supporters, we even discussed the potential of staging a pre-season friendly between us in the not too distant future.

Back to the present; suffice to say that, other than for a handful of tickets to sell, we are now as ready as we'll ever be to create yet more FA Cup history next Saturday at 12:45.

Last, but by no means least, it is with pleasure that I welcome Trust in Luton as one of our sponsors today. To mark this occasion, and as TIL are shareholders in Luton Town we have offered the Trust a more regular feature in the matchday programme, starting today. We hope this will establish improved communications to supporters regarding some important issues – share ownership and supporter engagement, for example.

Enjoy the game, and may I ask you to join me in welcoming the players, officials and supporters from Gloucestershire for today's crucial League match.

Gary

HONOURS

Littlewoods Challenge Cup:
Winners 1988
Runners-up 1989

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

Johnstone's Paint Trophy:
Winners 2009

Simod Cup: Runners-up 1988

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

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

Football League Division Three:
Runners-up 1969/70

League One: Champions 2004/05

Football League Division Four:
Champions 1967/68

Football League Division Three:
Runners-up 2001/02

Blue Square Premier:
Runners-up 2009/10

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

Southern League Division Two:
Runners-up 1913/14

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

Southern Alliance: Runners-up 1913/14

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HENRY

It's been a week of contrasting fortunes for us following the unbelievable result and performance against Norwich.

To go into the record books as the first team from non-league to beat a Premier League club was a hugely satisfying achievement but, in arguably the most important competition to us – the league – we were massively disappointed to lose at Barrow last Saturday.

The win at Carrow Road proved that this group is good enough. It proved we are capable of beating a team full of internationals playing at the highest level. It was a great day for everybody associated with the club, from the players and management to the directors, staff and supporters.

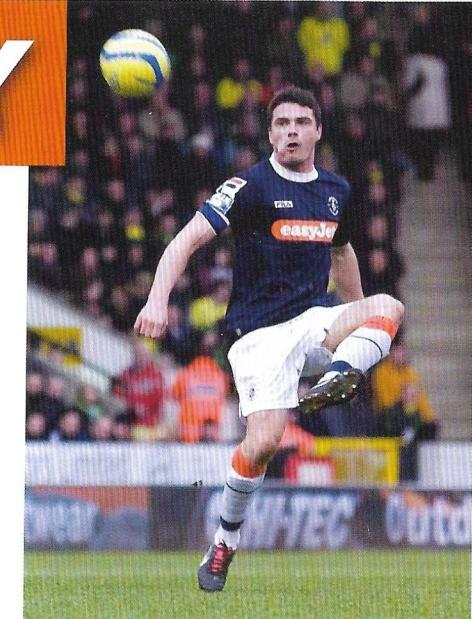
For me, it was a great feeling to go to a game expecting not to win. The pressure was off and we went there firmly as underdogs. We went to Norwich with the intention of enjoying ourselves, and to express ourselves and we came out with a result that made the news in all corners of the globe and the front and back pages of the national papers.

To follow that with a defeat at Barrow just goes to show you can take nothing for granted in football. They had only won once at home all season yet managed to rise to the occasion to beat us fair and square. It goes without saying it was a bad result but it highlighted, just like our victory at Norwich, that if a team can raise their game anything can happen.

Barrow celebrated the win like they'd won the cup and that is what we have to deal with week in week out. I've been saying this in my notes all season and it's something I am sure to repeat, but we need to be dealing with these challenges if we are to achieve what we want this season.

However disappointing the Barrow result was, we need to move on, starting this afternoon against a Forest Green side who like ourselves are pushing to win promotion this season. They are enjoying a very good season and lie above us in the table so the game takes on significant importance today.

We won at their place earlier in the season, coming from a goal down to win 2-1. It is sure to be a close game again this afternoon and they will no doubt be confident of coming to Kenilworth Road and getting a result.



Our home form has been excellent recently, though, and that has been something we were desperate to address earlier in the season when we struggled to get results here. Slowly we have turned Kenilworth Road into a fortress, a place teams do not enjoy coming to. Our results here over the past few months have been a testament to that and we need to continue that this afternoon.

Busy and exciting

It's hard to believe we're in February and we still have 20 league matches to play. Personally I think that is perfect for us. It will be a busy and exciting period for everyone involved in the football club and when the games come thick and fast as they will, it can give you the opportunity to really build momentum.

That can only happen if we start winning so it's vital we begin to string wins together and become more consistent. However, we've got to stop talking about it and actually go and do it.

Your support can help us achieve that. You only have to look back and see how it influenced our victories over Wolves and Norwich.

Get behind us and stay positive and, on behalf of all the lads, thank you for your continued support.

Enjoy the game.

AROUND TOWN

THE LATEST NEWS AT KENILWORTH ROAD

WELCOME BACK

It's been almost a month since we last saw action here at Kenilworth Road and to say that a lot has happened since Skelmersdale were the visitors would be an understatement.

The Town have since had one game called off, against Lincoln, exited the FA Trophy at Grimsby and, of course, made history by becoming the first non-league team to knock a Premier League side out of the FA Cup after the 1-0 win at Norwich City two weeks ago.

The prize for that victory is a home tie in the fifth round against Championship side Millwall, which takes place next Saturday with a 12.45pm kick-off. Our issue of Talk of the Town for that tie will reflect fully on our exploits at Carrow Road.

MILLWALL TICKET INFORMATION

LUTON TOWN V MILLWALL

Saturday 16th February 2013, kick-off 12.45pm
FA Cup fifth round

PRICES:

£22 adults (22-64), £16 seniors (65-75) and young adults (17-21), £12 golden seniors (over 75), £8 youths (10-16), £5 juniors (under 10).

SALES PLAN:

Season ticket holders' seats will be reserved until close of business Saturday 9th February.

From Thursday 31st January, diamond season ticket holders will be able to purchase their own seat and one additional seat. Season ticket holders will be able to purchase their own seat.

From Monday 4th February, until close of business on Saturday 9th February, season ticket holders will be able to purchase their own seat if not already purchased and one additional seat.

Supporters who purchase, or have previously purchased, a five-game booklet voucher this season will be able to buy one seat. (Five-game booklet vouchers are available to purchase online).

Tickets will be available in person, over the phone on 01582 416976, or by emailing ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk with details for a call back.

From Sunday 10th February tickets will be available online to any supporter on the club database. Tickets will also be available from the ticket office and in person from Monday 11th February. However, any sales to supporters not on the database will be refunded and the tickets cancelled. Automatic Cup Authorisation forms will be actioned and tickets posted as requested.

REST IN PEACE

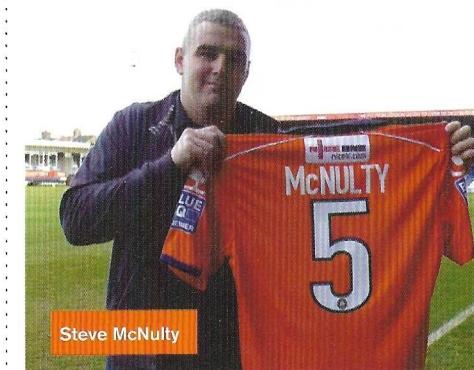
The club was saddened to hear of the death of long-standing supporter Alan Bailey who recently passed away at the age of 81. Alan moved to Luton in 1959 shortly after FA Cup final and was a keen supporter from then on, until in recent years his health prevented him from attending. He still kept renewing his season ticket though as he wanted to feel he was still there, sitting next to his son, Steve, in the Main Stand, who he first took along in 1968. Our thoughts are with Alan's family and friends at this time.

NEW FACES

Since we were last at Kenilworth Road, the Town have welcomed three new players to the squad.

Manager Paul Buckle has strengthened his options at the back with the signings of experienced defenders Steve McNulty and Wayne Thomas.

McNulty, who made his debut at Barrow last Saturday, lifted the Blue Square Bet Premier as captain of Fleetwood last term and has penned an 18-month contract.



The BAM Nuttal contractors who helped shift the pitch of snow

Following an 18-month spell in Greece, former Southampton, Burnley and Stoke man Thomas has agreed a deal until the end of this current campaign.

Prior to the FA Trophy tie at Grimsby, the club also confirmed the signing of former Crystal Palace, Derby and Millwall winger Dave Martin. The 27-year-old has clocked up over 100 appearances in the Championship and arrives on an 18-month contract having been at League 2 Southend for the past year.

Everyone at the club would like to wish all three players the very best of luck at Kenilworth Road.

Meanwhile, winger James Dance has been loaned to Nuneaton Town, Alex Lacey is out on loan with Eastleigh and Alasan Ann and Jake Woolley are both on loan to Hitchin Town.

THANK YOU 1

The club would like to thank those supporters who donated a total sum of £1,500 towards SoLYD from purchasing tickets ahead of the FA Cup fourth round tie at Norwich. Donations were even forthcoming from Norwich supporters who felt the Hatters deserved to receive more revenue from the tie.

The Hatters gave fans the opportunity to make the charitable donation towards Supporters of Luton Youth Development's (SoLYD) fund after receiving emails from supporters unhappy with the Canaries' pricing structure for the cup tie at Carrow Road.

Town managing director Gary Sweet told Talk of the Town: "It's a great figure and I must thank those supporters who took the time to email in their thoughts to us and, of course, to those who donated - including those from Norwich."

"We are pleased that SoLYD will receive a sizeable donation, and it further underlines our supporters' feeling towards our highly-acclaimed youth academy."

For those supporters wishing to donate to SoLYD please do so by visiting www.solyd.co.uk.

THANK YOU 2

It may have all been in vain following the postponement of our fixture here with Lincoln, but the club would also like to thank the volunteers who helped clear the pitch of snow on the Monday and Tuesday leading up to the proposed match with the Imps.

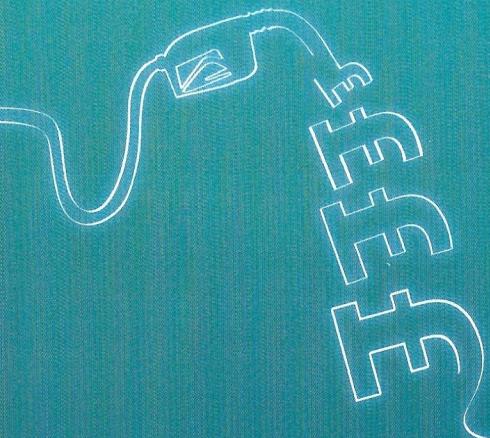
That includes a 50-strong army of Busway contractors Bam Nuttal, whose work was put on hold by the deluge of snow, as well as a number of supporter volunteers who helped head groundsman Richard Bird clear the surface. All of your efforts were much appreciated.

FIXTURE UPDATE

All of the Hatters' matches this season have now successfully been placed into the diary.

Club secretary Kevan Platt has had his work cut out with the myriad of rearrangements due to the Town's FA Cup and FA Trophy exploits and because of the bad weather. Turn to the fixtures and results page on pages 64 and 65 to catch-up with all of the new dates.

Meanwhile, two of the Hatters' home fixtures have been chosen for live broadcast by Premier Sports TV. The games against Grimsby and Newport will be both screened by the channel. For subscription offers visit www.premiersports.tv.



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FROM THE TICKET OFFICE



SEASON TICKETS AVAILABLE AT PRO-RATA PRICES

Adults (22-64) £159, Young Adults (17-21) and Seniors (65-75) £114, Golden Seniors (over 75s) £74, 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.



DARTFORD v LUTON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

TUESDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2013, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

This match is all-ticket for Town supporters.

We have received 750 terrace places for this match.

Prices: £15 adults, £8 over-65s and 12-17-year-olds, £3 juniors under 11.

Tickets are available to diamond and season ticket holders until close of business on Thursday 7th February. Tickets will go on general sale on Friday 8th February until 3pm on Tuesday 12th February.



LUTON TOWN v MILLWALL

FA CUP FIFTH ROUND

SATURDAY 16TH FEBRUARY 2013, KICK-OFF 12.45PM

This match will be screened live on ESPN.

Please note the change in kick-off time for this match.

For full ticket details turn to page 10.



MACCLESFIELD TOWN v LUTON TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

TUESDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2013, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

Admission is pay on the night for Town supporters

Seating: £18 adults, £14 concessions, £1 under-18s (with proof of ID)

Terracing: £14 adults, £10 concessions, £1 under-18s (with proof of ID)



LUTON TOWN v MANSFIELD TOWN

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 23RD FEBRUARY 2013, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices



COMMERCIAL BREAK

WITH COMMERCIAL MANAGER DAVID HOSKINS

This afternoon we have the pleasure of welcoming a match sponsor, matchball sponsor and two mascots to what is a busy game off the pitch and an important one on it.

There is no rest for the wicked with an even bigger game on the horizon next Saturday when we welcome Millwall to Kenilworth Road for a televised FA Cup fifth round tie.

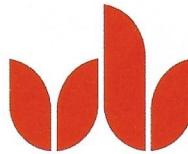
Hospitality is still available for that game, as well as a number of our remaining home league fixtures, so if you are interested please get in touch on the email address or phone number below.

After this afternoon's game we have 11 matches left here – 10 of which are in the Blue Square Bet Premier – so games will be coming thick and fast.

We still have match sponsorship and our popular mascot packages available for these games but be quick they are sure to go soon as the season reaches its climax.

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University of
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The University of Bedfordshire is delighted to be a sponsor of today's match. The University has been a proud sponsor of the club for many years as part of its community engagement initiative.

The University has a growing, global reputation and is committed to welcoming students from across the UK and around the world. Today, the University has more than 24,000 students.

Bedfordshire graduates enjoy excellent employment rates, with some 90 per cent in work or further study within six months of graduating (Destination of Leavers from Higher Education Survey 2010).

As a successful business, the University contributes some £300m annually to the local economy (according to Universities UK). In July 2011, the University was presented with the Queens Award for Enterprise: International Trade.

MATCHBALL SPONSOR

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luton town supporters' trust
www.trustinluton.info

All supporters of Luton Town Football Club can join Trust in Luton whether they are adults (£10 per year) or children (£5 per year)

You can also make additional donations that are gratefully received.

Trust in Luton use the money raised to support both activities within the football club, such as the Girls Academy, and Supporters of Luton Youth Development. For further information visit www.trustinluton.info.

TODAY'S MASCOTS



We're pleased to welcome two matchday mascots this afternoon, Liam Phelps and Tara Adams.

Nine-year-old Liam has come all the way from Chepstow in South Wales to be here today. His favourite player is Janos Kovacs and he comes to games with his dad.

Tara, meanwhile, is 10 and comes from Hemel Hempstead. Her favourite Hatter is Jake Howells and she comes to games at Kenilworth Road with her mum, nan and great granddad.

We hope you both have a wonderful day with us.



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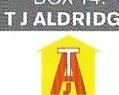
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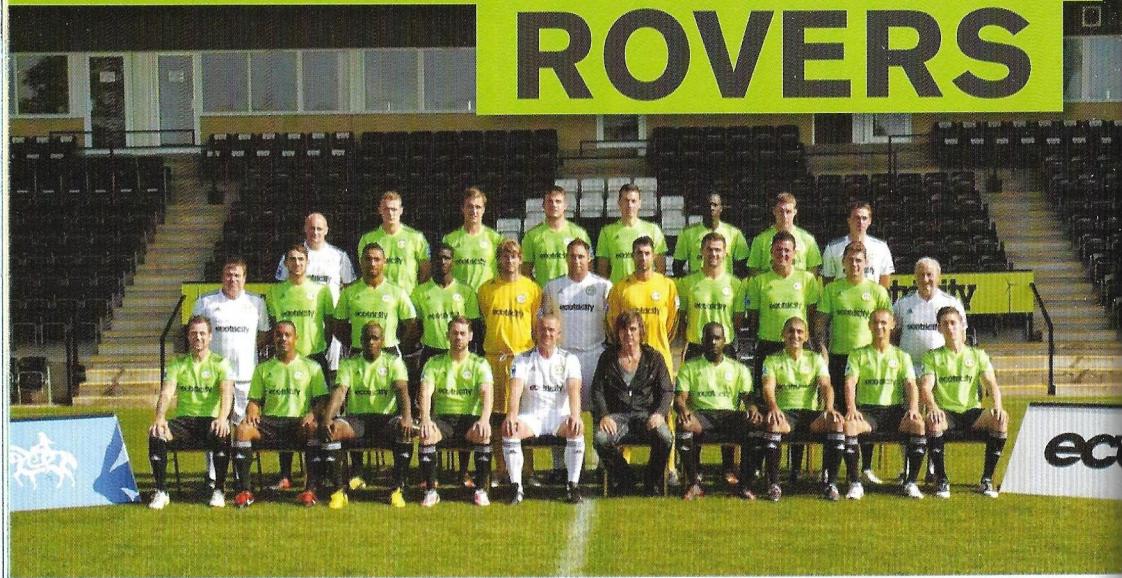
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	DAVE MARTIN HOME: Ronnie Coles AWAY: Available		WAYNE THOMAS HOME: Available AWAY: Available		ALAN NEILSON HOME: Glenden Plant Sales AWAY: Ben Gray		CARL EMBERSON HOME: Available AWAY: Available
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WELCOME FOREST GREEN ROVERS



This afternoon the Hatters put their cup aspirations on hold as Blue Square Premier action is welcomed back to Kenilworth Road.

There was recent disappointment for the Town in their last league outing away at Barrow whilst Rovers' stalemate against Wrexham provides the perfect platform for a battle between two sides battling for promotion.

Forest Green lie firmly in the promotion picture just six points behind league leaders Grimsby and six points ahead of the Hatters.

Their home form has been amicable with Dave Hockaday's side picking up points in 10 of their 13 home games. Their away form has been somewhat inconsistent with eight wins from their 16 outings.

There are a couple of Hatter connections in the squad this afternoon with former Town men Ed Asafu-Adjaye and Ben Wright lining up for Hockaday's men. Asafu-Adjaye spent seven years with the Hatters after progressing through the youth ranks and earning himself a slot in the first team. The enthusiastic full-back notched up over 50 appearances for the Hatters including the Johnstone's Paint Trophy win over Scunthorpe at Wembley.

Wright's stay at Kenilworth Road was somewhat shorter. The sought-after front man was snapped up by

Peterborough and loaned out to the Hatters in 2009 where he made five outings scoring just the once.

Hockaday will head to Bedfordshire encouraged by the signing of Dale Bennett who joined from Watford shortly before the transfer window slammed shut. Another former Hornet settled in Gloucestershire is Al Bangura who featured in Watford's Premier League campaign.

Midst the quality that today's visitors boast also lie joint top scorers Yan Klukowski and James Norwood. Both have netted 11 times so far this campaign. Klukowski netted against the Town back in late October briefly after the half-time interval to give Forest Green the lead, but goals from Stuart Fleetwood and a stoppage time spot kick from Scott Rendell secured all three points for the Hatters.

Rovers have never won at Kenilworth Road although their last visit last season they earned a point in a 1-1 draw in what was the Hatters' opening match of the campaign. The Town have won 2-1 and 6-1 when the teams have previously met on Bedfordshire soil.

The record books indicate a tough afternoon for the Hatters and with today's visitors heading to Kenilworth Road with just one defeat in six matches, including a 5-0 demolition away at fellow promotion chasers Newport County, an entertaining afternoon is promised.

THE ROVERS

AN AT-A-GLANCE LOOK AT THE FOREST GREEN SQUAD

DAVE HOCKADAY

Appointed Rovers boss in 2009 for his first venture into management. Enjoyed a successful playing career as a full back which saw him held in high regard at former clubs such as Swindon Town and Blackpool.

SAM RUSSELL

30-year-old ever present between the sticks began his career at Middlesbrough. Made over 150 appearances for Darlington during two stints spanning five years before penning with Rovers last year.

JARED HODGKISS

Signed for Hockaday's men in 2009 after being released from West Bromwich Albion where he made just nine appearances. Spent time on loan at Aberdeen in the SPL and Northampton Town of League Two.

CHRIS STOKES

Bolton Wanderers academy product and former youth of the side was released in 2010 before being quickly snapped up by Rovers. Has represented England at Under-17 level on six occasions.

AL BANGURA

Former Sierra Leone International made over 60 appearances for Watford during a four-year stint. Played for Azerbaijan side FC Gabala before signing for Forest Green in 2011.

JAMIE TURLEY

England C International beginning his career at Wycombe Wanderers before joining Salisbury City. A regular in the first team at just 23 since joining in 2011.

OMAR KOROMA

Gambian international signed for Rovers in the summer. Previously with, then Premier League, Portsmouth and Norwich City.

YAN KLUKOWSKI

Penning a deal with Rovers in 2010 and has gone on to average just under a goal every three games. The club's second highest goal scorer this season the 26-year-old spent time in the US after signing a scholarship with Central Connecticut State University.

REECE STYCHE

Joined Rovers in 2010 from Chasetown after scintillating form saw the frontman notch 13 goals in 15 games. The 24-year-old has also represented his country at England C level.

MAGNO VIEIRA

Made his name at this level as he helped Fleetwood Town to promotion last campaign where he bagged 31 goals in 61 appearances. The Brazilian forward began his career with Wigan Athletic and signed for Rovers in the summer.

KIERON FORBES

Former Watford academy product signed for Forest Green in 2010. Quickly established himself as a first team regular and has since been capped by England C.

MATT TAYLOR

22-year-old front man has made more appearances for Rovers this campaign than anyone slamming home 10 times in the process. Has been capped at England C after being thrust into the limelight whilst at North Leigh where his prolific form saw him net 80 times in two seasons.

EDDIE OSHODI

Talented defender who has represented England at Under-16, 17 and C team level. Began at Watford before penning with Forest Green in 2011.

ED ASAFU-ADJAYE

Former Hatters full back who spent seven years at the club. Made over 50 appearances for the Hatters before joining Forest Green Rovers in the summer. Hugely popular during his time at Kenilworth Road and started in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final against Scunthorpe in 2009.

JAMES ROWE

Southampton youth product signed by Reading but was loaned out to Lewes and Basingstoke Town during his tenure at the Madjeski. Snapped up by Forest Green last summer and has since been capped at England C level.

JAMES NORWOOD

22-year-old represented England at school level and more recently C team level. Highly-rated prospect currently Rovers' leading scorer.

PAUL GREEN

Former Aston Villa youth product spent four years with Lincoln City before moving to Tamworth in 2011. A solitary season with the Lambs then brought about a move to Rovers where he penned a deal in the summer.

YEMI ODUBADE

Joined Rovers in January on loan from Gateshead. Scored for the Heed in the 2-2 draw against the Hatters in August at Kenilworth Road.

STEPHEN BROGAN

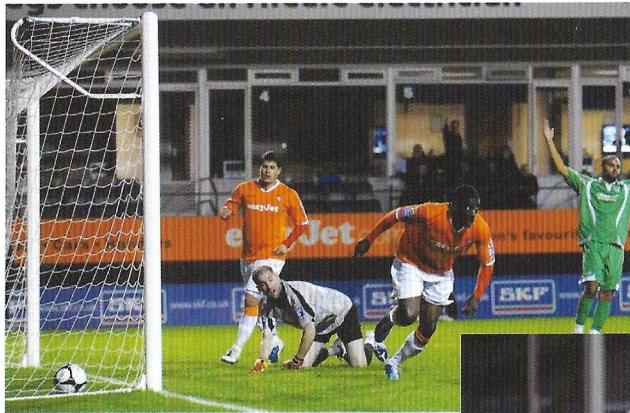
24-year-old started at Rotherham United before departing after eight years to join Stalybridge Celtic for a two-year stint. He then moved to Guiseley before signing for Rovers in 2012.

GREAT GAMES

A CLASSIC ENCOUNTER BETWEEN THE TOWN AND ROVERS

TOWN 6-1 FOREST GREEN 19/10/2010

The Town were battling with Crawley Town and AFC Wimbledon at the top of the Blue Square Bet Premier when lowly Rovers visited Kenilworth Road in October 2010.



Boss Richard Money had pieced together a side blessed with attacking intent, aided by the displays from midfield maestro Andy Drury, a summer signing from the previous season's Conference champions.

And it was Drury who has the Hatters ahead as early as the sixth minute, stroking home from the edge of the box, and eight minutes later Amari Morgan-Smith made it 2-0 with an effort from close range.

As the Town continued to boss proceedings it was no surprise when they added a third 11 minutes before half-time when striker Danny Crow curled a shot past James Bittner in the Rovers goal.

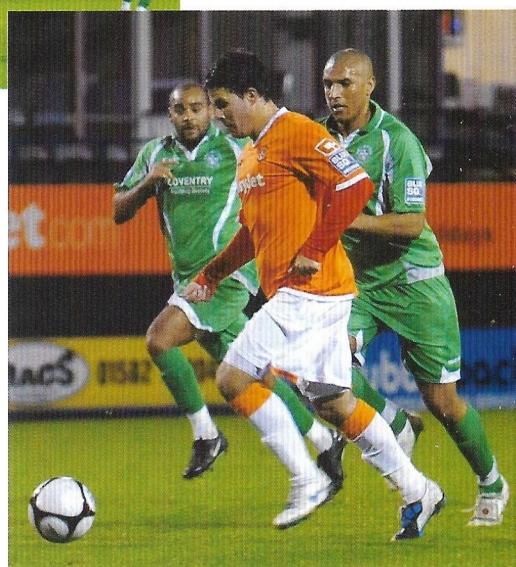
Rovers had barely a sniff in the Hatters' half such was the hosts dominance, but Reece Styche seized on a mistake from Mark Tyler to shoot home from 40 yards to cut the deficit on 39 minutes.

Town: Tyler, Gleeson, Kroca, G. Pilkington, Murray, Howells (sub Poku), Keane, Drury (sub Gnakpa), Morgan-Smith, Barnes-Homer, Crow (sub Walker). Subs not used: K. Pilkington, Asafu-Adjaye.

However, that was as good as it got for the visitors, and four minutes after the restart, Crow grabbed his second to restore the Hatters' three-goal cushion.

It took the Town until nine minutes from the end to make it five when Matthew Barnes-Homer finished well before substitute Dan Walker notched his first senior goal in stoppage time to make it 6-1 with the goal of the night – a sweetly-hit 25-yard drive.

The win lifted the Hatters into third place at the time and five points off the top of the table behind Wimbledon, who they would eventually lose to on penalties in the Play-Off final seven months later.



Forest Green: Bittner, Hodgkiss, L. Jones, Caines, McDonald, Norwood (sub Kamara), Mills, Klukowski, Flood, Styche (sub Fowler), Enver-Marum (sub Head). Subs not used: Z. Jones, Armstrong.

THOUGHTS FROM THE OAK ROAD

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

WHAT'S YOUR NAME? Phil 'Pitchfork' Butterworth
AGE? 60

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SUPPORTING YOUR CLUB?
16 years - I am a former Bury fan.

WHAT'S IT LIKE TO BE IN THE THICK OF A PROMOTION RACE AFTER SO MANY YEARS OF BATTING AGAINST RELEGATION?

Unreal! Survival in this league has always been a challenge for FGR - we have been used to perpetual struggle. This season we set our sights on a Play-Off place and we have been in the top positions all season. It's a great feeling going to ex-Football League clubs like Luton with a fighting chance of getting something from the game. The club is run very professionally these days and we have the chairman, manager, players, backroom staff and stadium to progress.

YOU BROUGHT IN SEVERAL PLAYERS OVER THE SUMMER, INCLUDING SEASONED CONFERENCE PERFORMERS LIKE MAGNO VIEIRA. DID YOU PERHAPS THINK YOU MIGHT BE LEADING THE PACK, OR WAS THAT TOO MUCH TO EXPECT?

We're doing fine. We have improved our squad, not by paying transfer fees, but by offering decent contracts. First and foremost we wanted an improvement on last season with more goals and wins and this has been delivered. We are a young side and learning all time. This division gets tougher every year and any of the top eight could seal promotion and do well in League 2.

WHICH PLAYER HAS BEEN YOUR STAND-OUT PERFORMER THIS SEASON?

It's been a better squad performance and there is not one stand-out player. First names on my team sheet would be Sam Russell, Chris Stokes and James Norwood but we have no weak links.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF YOUR MANAGER DAVID HOCKADAY?

Dave kept the club in this division and has built up the squad year on year. He has a great eye for talent and is well respected as a coach and manager. He will undoubtedly lead the club into League football.

CHAIRMAN DALE VINCE WANTS TO MAKE FGR THE MOST SUSTAINABLE CLUB IN BRITAIN. COW MANURE IS SPREAD ON YOUR PITCH, WHICH IS CUT BY AN ELECTRIC 'MOW BOT'

AND ONLY VEGETARIAN FOOD IS SERVED TO FANS. ARE YOU EXCITED BY HIS VISION?

It's a terrific vision and League football is a great platform to spread the eco message. Sustainability and FGR are mutually supportive - it's exciting to belong to a club that is breaking the traditional football mould in so many ways.

WHAT ARE YOUR MEMORIES FROM FACING LUTON?

Bury versus Luton was my first ever league game way back in August 1962. Bury won 1-0 and we ended up the season eighth, sadly Luton were at the bottom of the table come May. FGR have had some cracking Conference games against you and I always consider our fixtures with you the toughest in the football calendar. One of my closest friends is Bill Church, a fanatical Luton fan, who rarely misses a Hatters match.

HAVE YOU BEEN TO KENILWORTH ROAD BEFORE?

Yes, I've been a couple of times with Bury and twice with FGR - it's always strange being outnumbered 100 to one but the atmosphere is always good, unless we take the lead!

WHAT'S YOUR CLUB'S FAVOURITE SONG?
"Forest Green"!...repeat 10 times!

WHAT'S THE BEST FOREST GREEN MATCH YOU'VE EVER SEEN?

Derby County in the third round of the FA Cup in 2009, but the 5-0 win at Newport last month was also very special.

IF THERE WAS ONE ASPECT OF MODERN FOOTBALL YOU COULD CHANGE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

The hype, money and arrogance of the Premier League and their disrespect to the lower leagues. We all support Luton in the FA Cup.

DO YOU THINK YOU WILL GO UP THIS SEASON? WHAT ABOUT LUTON?

I think we will be in the Play-Offs with Luton. I think we'll go up in 2014, as will you. I hope our fans are as patient as yours have been!

WHAT'S THE SCORE GOING TO BE TODAY?

2-2 with Styche and Klukowski scoring for us and Fleetwood and Lawless for you.

Good luck against Millwall - all FGR fans will be wishing you well!

CLASSIC CAMPAIGNS

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS SELECTS 10 POST-WAR FOREST GREEN ROVERS CLASSIC CAMPAIGNS

1981/82

Forest Green Rovers achieved an FA Vase and Hellenic League double in 1981/82. Bob Mursell's side beat Worrall Hill 5-1, Ledbury Town 2-1, Chippenham Town 4-1, Almondsbury Greenway 2-1, Odd Down 3-1, Shortwood United 1-0, Willenhall Town 2-1 and Blue Star 4-2 in the FA Vase en route to the final. Two goals by Andy Leitch plus another from Kenny Norman gave Forest Green a 3-0 win over Rainworth MW at Wembley.

1996/97

Frank Gregan managed Forest Green Rovers to the Southern League Southern Division title in 1996/97. They kicked-off with a 0-0 draw at Erith & Belvedere and overcame an early injury crisis to emerge as pace-setters with Havant Town. Leading marksman Paul Hunt and Karl Bayliss netted hat-tricks as Forest Green hammered Fareham 8-0 in mid-December, then beat rivals Havant 3-2 a month later and went top of the table for the first time with a 4-0 victory at home to Bashley in late January. They remained in pole position with a club record 19-match unbeaten run and secured the title with a club record 91 points.

1997/98

Paul Hunt was leading marksman and Player of the Year with 25 goals as Forest Green Rovers won the Southern League Premier Division title in 1997/98. Frank Gregan's newly promoted side raced to the top of the table, dropping just two points in their opening nine matches, with Paul Hunt grabbing a hat-trick in a 5-1 victory at Gresley Rovers. They won only one of their next eight games but remained in the top three and underlined their title challenge with nine successive wins. Captained by Gary Smart, Rovers responded to pressure from Merthyr Tydfil and won seven of their last 10 games to clinch the title with 89 points.

1998/99

Frank Gregan guided Forest Green Rovers to the 1999 FA Trophy final. They kicked off in the Conference with a 2-0 defeat at home to Rushden & Diamonds and failed to win any of their opening six matches. The club's first Conference victory was 1-0 at Doncaster and results improved after this, including a run of just one defeat in 13 games as they finished mid-table. Forest Green defeated Boreham Wood 4-1, Witney Town 4-0, Weymouth 2-1, Hitchin Town 2-1, Southport 4-1 and St Albans City 4-3 before losing 1-0 to Kingstonian in the Wembley final. Marc McGregor and Alex Sykes scored 30 goals between them.

1999/00

Forest Green Rovers reached the FA Cup second round for the first time in 1999/00. Frank Gregan's side lost all but one of their opening nine Conference matches, but then Marc McGregor scored four times in a 5-1 demolition of Northwich Victoria. Ex-England winger Tony Daley arrived from Walsall in October and Forest Green trounced Guiseley 6-0 in the FA Cup first round before losing 3-0 at home to Torquay United. Dennis Bailey grabbed a hat-trick in a 5-2 Conference win over Telford United and they beat FA Trophy finalists Kingstonian and Kettering during the closing weeks, the latter to avoid relegation on the last day.

2000/01

Forest Green Rovers reached the FA Trophy final again in 2001. Notable newcomers included former England goalkeeper Nigel Spink and defender Rob Cousins from Yeovil Town. They defeated Barton Rovers 6-1, Matlock Town 3-1, Rushden & Diamonds 2-0, Worksop Town 2-1 and Hereford United 6-3 in the FA Trophy before losing 1-0 to Canvey Island in the final: Steve Perrin, Adam Lockwood, Rob Cousins, Billy Clark, Tony Daley, Jason Drysdale (Frankie Bennett), Martin Foster, Stuart Slater, Chris Burns, Adrian Foster (Paul Hunt), Alex Meechan. They also reached the FA Cup first round again.



The New Lawn: Rovers' home since 2006

2001/02

Forest Green Rovers took Macclesfield Town to an FA Cup first round replay in 2001/02. Nigel Spink was appointed manager and Forest Green lost just five of their opening 21 Conference matches. Goals by Alex Meechan and skipper Mark Cooper gave them a 2-2 draw at Macclesfield in the FA Cup first round and they were unlucky to lose 11-10 on penalties after a 1-1 draw in the replay. Forest Green also defeated Aldershot and Worksop en route to the FA Trophy fifth round but they slipped down the Conference table during the second half of the campaign. Ace penalty-taker Mark Cooper was leading scorer with 19 goals.

2002/03

Forest Green Rovers achieved their best-ever Conference position of ninth in 2002/03. They lost their opening five Conference matches and Colin Addison replaced Nigel Spink as manager in September. He plotted a significant improvement in results and Forest Green took Exeter City to an FA Cup first round replay. A 4-1 victory at home to Leigh RMI in December heralded the start of a thrilling run of just one defeat in 16 games before they lost 2-1 to Havant & Waterlooville in the FA Trophy quarter-finals. Alex Meechan grabbed a hat-trick in a 6-1 hammering of Nuneaton Borough and Neil Grayson was top scorer.

2003/04

Neil Grayson was leading marksman for the second consecutive season as Forest Green Rovers retained Conference status in 2003/04. After conceding five goals at both Hereford United and Dagenham & Redbridge early in the campaign, Forest Green climbed the table with wins over Accrington Stanley, Leigh RMI, Farnborough Town, Stevenage Borough and Tamworth. Sam Bowen grabbed a hat-trick on his debut in a 4-0 victory at Northwich Victoria in mid-December and Forest Green remained clear of the relegation places during the closing weeks of the season, beating title-chasing Chester 2-1 and Scarborough 4-0.

2004/05

Forest Green Rovers took AFC Bournemouth to an FA Cup first round replay in 2004/05. They gained just one point from their opening 11 Conference matches, a 1-1 draw at home to Farnborough, before climbing off the bottom of the table with a 1-0 victory at Woking. Charlie Griffin grabbed a hat-trick in a 3-1 win at York City that sparked a run of only one defeat in 11 games and Forest Green drew 1-1 at home to AFC Bournemouth in the FA Cup first round before losing 3-1 in the replay. The solitary win in their last 19 Conference matches was 1-0 at Carlisle United and they narrowly avoided relegation on a technicality.



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GRIMSBY 3-0 TOWN

TROPHY EXIT

After Saturday's FA Cup heroics, the Town couldn't progress in the FA Trophy as they were beaten in the quarter-finals at Grimsby.

On a blustery evening at Blundell Park, the hosts nosed in front on eight minutes. Janos Kovacs was harshly penalised 22 yards out and, from the resultant free-kick, Mariners' winger Jamie Devitt's cross caught in the wind and arched over everyone past Dean Brill in the Town goal.

Hurt, the Hatters were almost level two minutes later with a free-kick of their own when Stuart Fleetwood's low effort from 25 yards crept through the Grimsby wall and was turned away by home goalkeeper James McKeown.

Grimsby were looking dangerous as they searched for a second, especially in wide areas, and Brill had to be at his best to prevent the Mariners from doubling their lead on 19 minutes. Left-back Aswad Thomas was on the end of a neat passing move to drive a fierce low shot that the 'keeper did well to keep out.

As the Hatters continued to search for an equaliser they were refused a penalty on the half-hour mark when Fleetwood went down in the 18-yard box under Grimsby challenge but referee Rob Whitton waved the Town's appeals away.

There were more anxious glances towards the referee from the home defence on 35 minutes when a fine move instigated by Jake Howells resulted in Scott Rendell being bumped to the floor in the area, but once again the referee was having none of it.

As half-time approached, the Town were playing the better football, and they fashioned a great opportunity seven minutes before the break when Fleetwood sent Alex Lawless free down the right, but his low cross failed to pick out an unmarked Rendell waiting for a chance in the six yard box.

The Hatters returned to the field early for the second half and, after the restart, Fleetwood forged a chance having sped clear of the home defence before being crowded out.

A minute later, the Town did well to defend two dangerous Grimsby corners before a tidy break involving Rendell and Lawless almost engineered a chance for an equaliser.

The Hatters spurned an even better chance on 57 minutes when Fleetwood saw a direct free-kick hit the head of a Grimsby defender before Arnaud Mendy sliced over from eight yards following Lawless' cross.

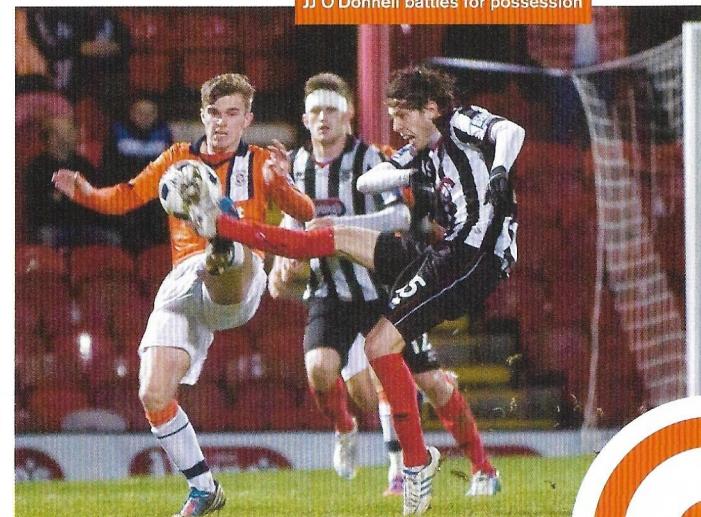
However, the Mariners missed a super chance themselves three minutes later on the hour when goalscorer Devitt fired over when unmarked at the back post having seized onto a deflected effort from Craig Disley.

Fleetwood and Smith both came close for the Town but Grimsby came agonisingly close to making it 2-0 when Andy Cook volleyed against the crossbar as the Hatters failed to clear their lines.

However the Mariners, and Cook, did get the elusive second goal 15 minutes from time. Ronnie Henry fouled Richard Brodie on the edge of the penalty area and Cook stepped up and blasted a low free-kick that scuttled past an unsighted Brill.

Then, three minutes later, it was 3-0 when substitute Simon Ainge deflected a Marcus Marshall effort past Brill to leave the Town staring a Trophy exit in the face.

JJ O'Donnell battles for possession



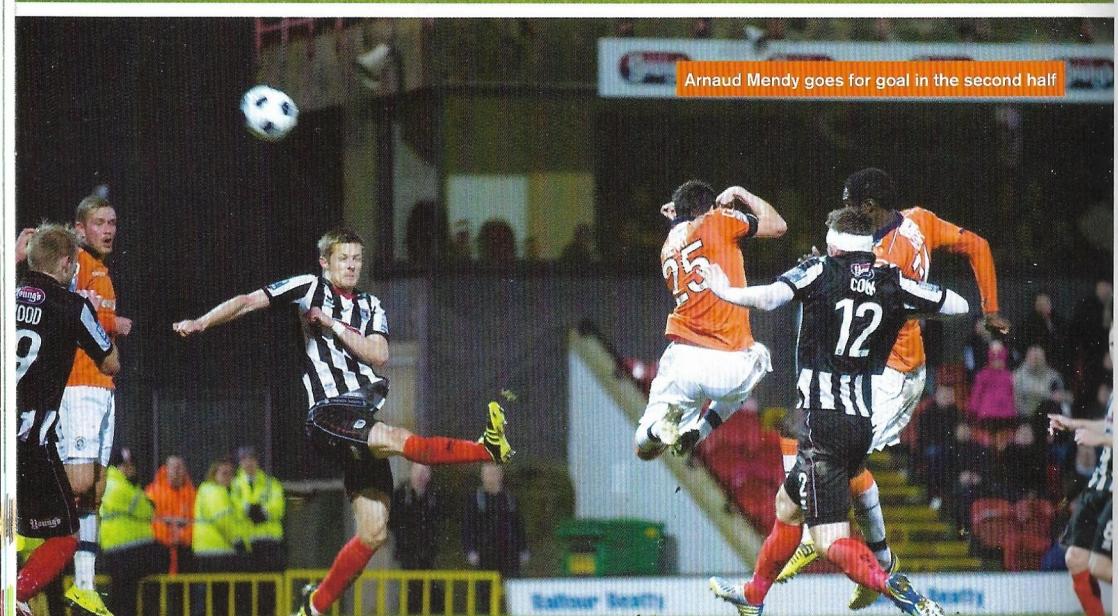
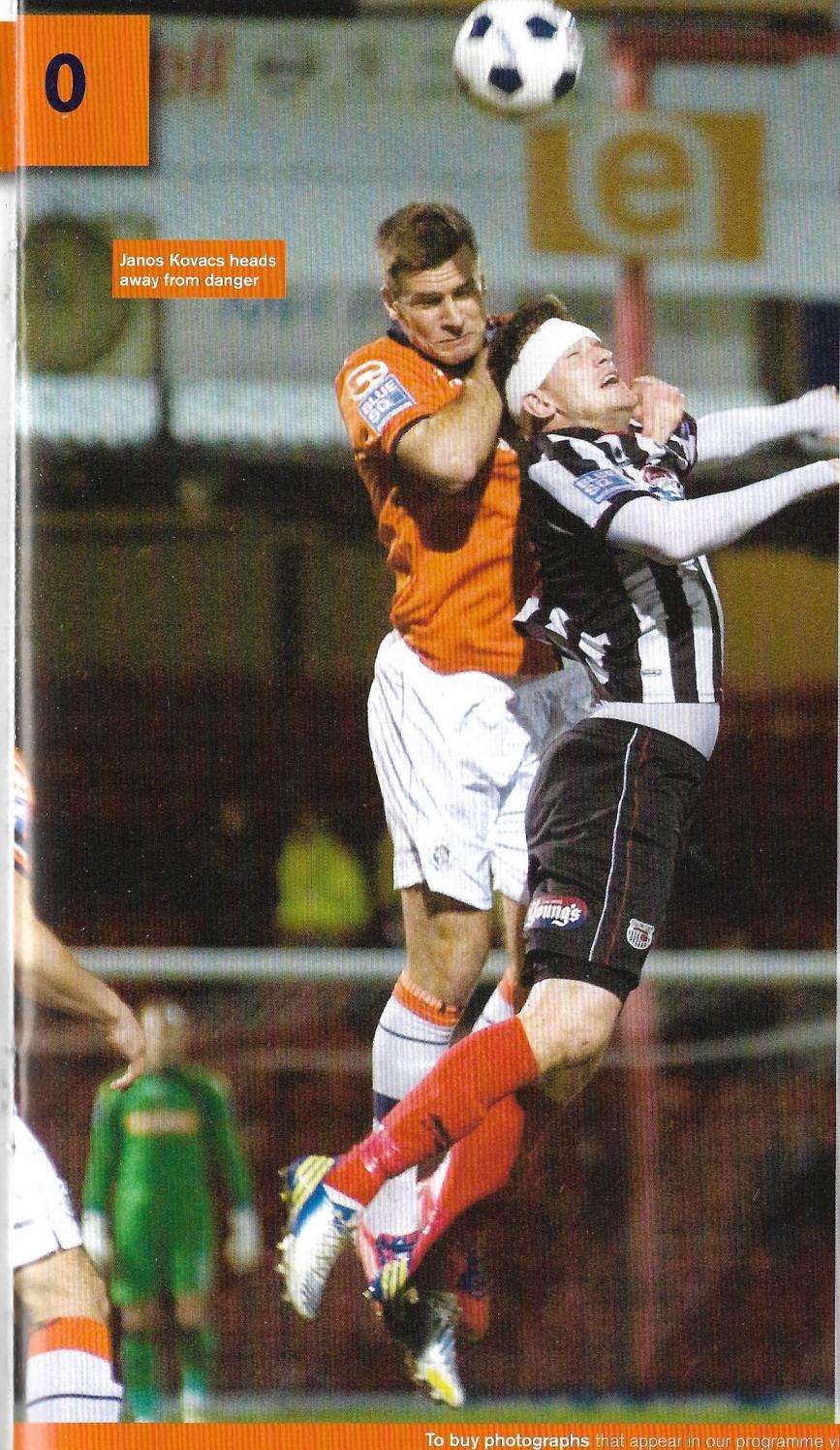
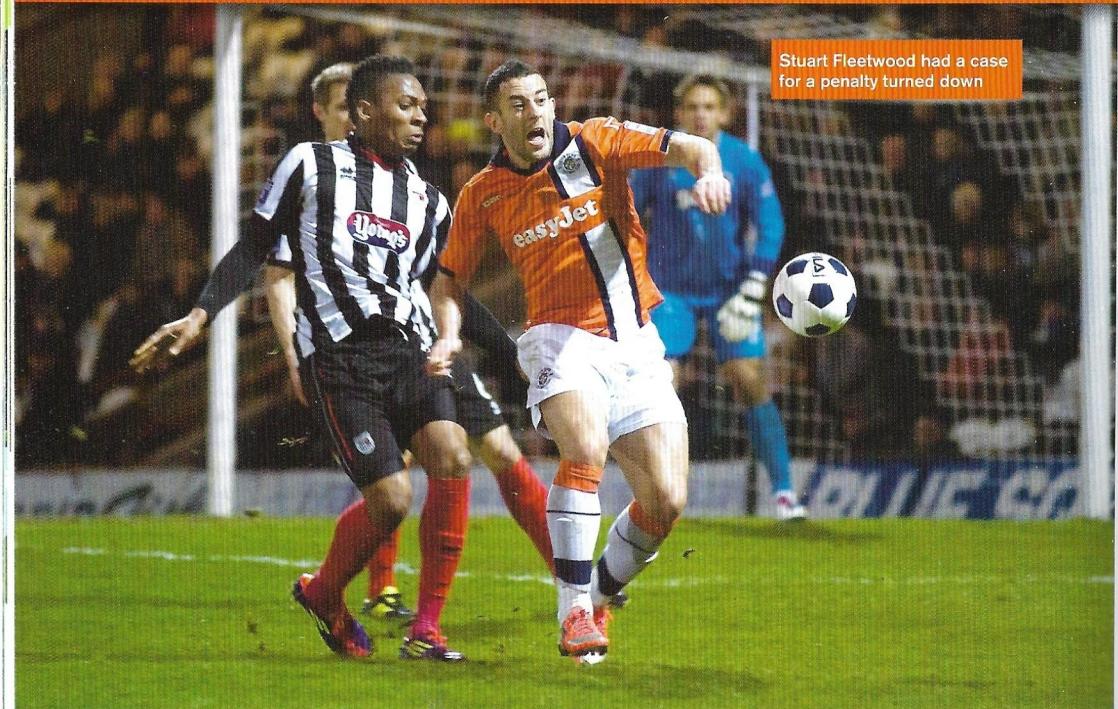


GRIMSBY 3 TOWN 0

Devitt 8, Cook 75, Marshall 78



TOWN 0



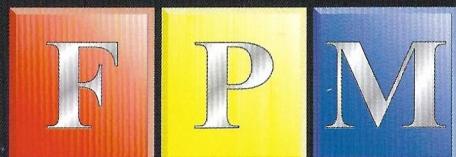
GRIMSBY:
 McKeown
 Thomas
 Pearson
 Miller
 Disley
 Cook
 Devitt
 (sub Colbeck 63)
 Wood
 Thanoj
 (sub McNiven 86)
 Hannan
 (sub Brodie 71)
 Marshall
 Subs not used:
 Ford
 Southwell

TOWN:
 Brill
 Henry
 Howells
 Kovacs
 Rowe-Turner
 Lawless
 Mendy
 (sub Ainge 70)
 O'Donnell
 (sub Watkins 84)
 Smith
 Rendell
 (sub Shaw 69)
 Fleetwood
 Subs not used:
 Tyler
 Gray

ATTENDANCE:
 2,791 (75 Luton)

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POSSESSION	45%	55%
CORNERS	5	4
OFFSIDES	4	4
SHOTS ON TARGET	5	5
SHOTS OFF TARGET	4	7
FOULS	13	7
YELLOW CARDS	0	2
RED CARDS	0	0



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BARROW 1-0 TOWN

Andre Gray looks for a way through at Holker Street



BOSS ANGERED BY BARROW DEFEAT

Town boss Paul Buckle vented his frustration after seeing his side lose 1-0 at Barrow.

Adam Boyes' fifth-minute goal was enough to earn the Bluebirds all three points, the home striker seizing on a misplaced back header from Greg Taylor.

The error led to what turned out to be the only goal of the game and the manager pulled no punches afterwards.

"It's a carbon copy of our season so far - individual errors," said Buckle afterwards. "You can't afford to have a weakness in your back four and today Greg's mistake has helped Barrow take the lead."

"It's not good enough, and we know we've got to be better than that. In professional football you can't afford to make these mistakes but yet again we are and it has cost us."

"The goal was poor and pathetic and that's angered me more than anything."

The early strike made life difficult for the Town, who came close to equalising mid-way through the first half when captain Ronnie Henry's drive was saved by the home goalkeeper.

The Hatters had Mark Tyler to thank for two key saves shortly before the break from goalscorer Boyes

and Danny L Rowe, to ensure the hosts didn't extend their lead.

Shortly after the break, Andre Gray hit the outside of the post from an extremely tight angle but despite piling on the pressure they could not find an equaliser to the disappointment to the boss.

"We gave them something to hold on to and in the end they held on to it," continued Buckle. "We threw everything at them. They made blocks and we couldn't get the equaliser."

"I feel sorry for the forwards as they've always got to score two goals. I said to the players we might as well go out with a 1-0 mentality to the bad, because at least we've got a chance to recover."

"We put some good balls in second half, but we just couldn't break them down."

"They got in some excellent blocks on shots that looked like they were going to go in, but in professional football you can't gift goals, if you do that its going to be a tough day."

In stoppage time, it got worse for the Town when Lathaniel Rowe-Turner was shown a straight red card for an off-the-ball incident – a decision appealed by the club earlier this week.



BARROW 1

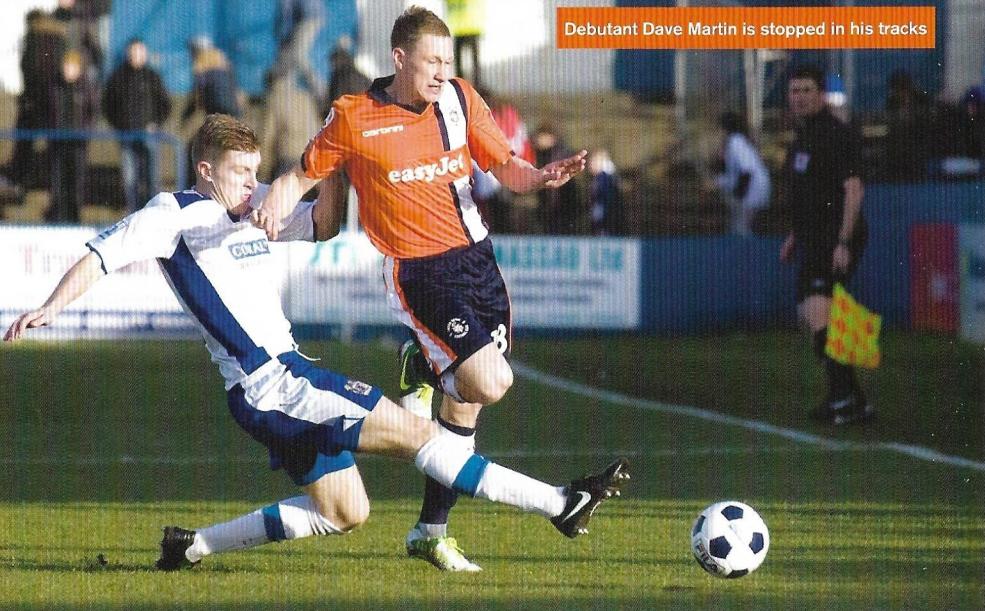
Boyes 5



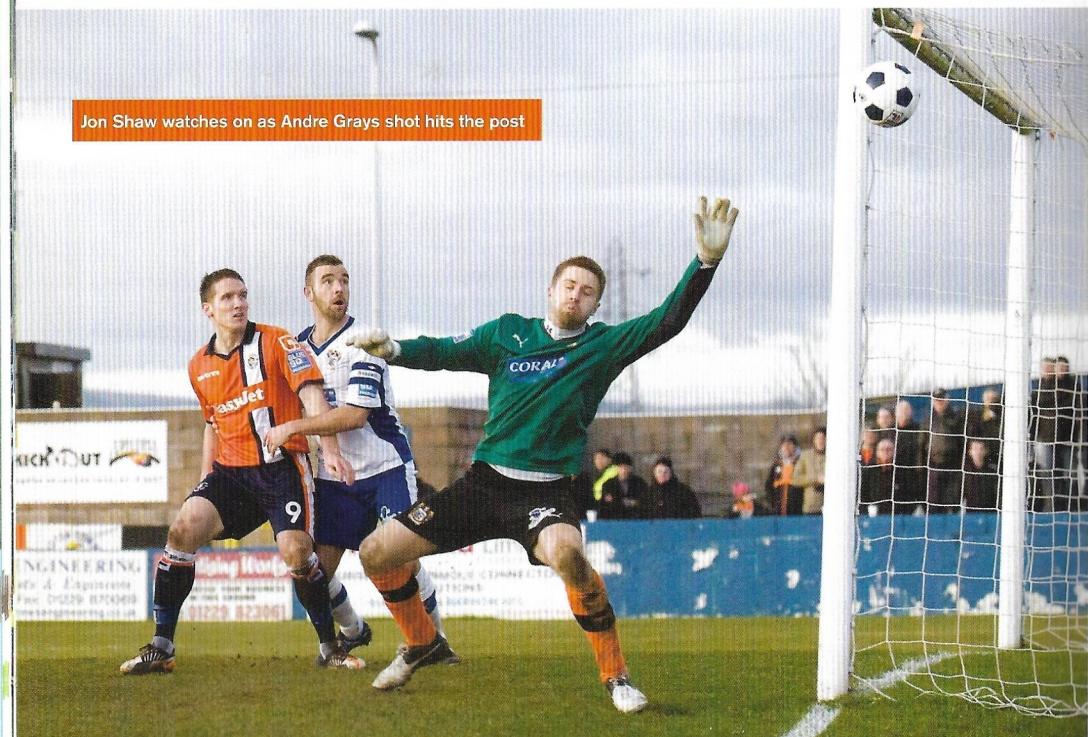
TOWN 0

Jonathan Smith gets stuck in

Debutant Dave Martin is stopped in his tracks



Jon Shaw watches on as Andre Grays shot hits the post



POSSESSION

51% 49%

CORNERS

4 3

OFFSIDES

3 3

SHOTS ON TARGET

6 4

SHOTS OFF TARGET

3 4

FOULS

11 13

YELLOW CARDS

1 1

RED CARDS

0 1

BARROW: Hurst, Flynn, Skelton, Pearson, O'Donnell (sub Hessey 40), Owen, Rutherford, Baker, D. Rowe (sub McConville 75), Boyes, D.L. Rowe (sub McEvilly 89). **Subs not used:** Pearson, Harvey.

TOWN: Tyler, Henry, Taylor (sub Howells 81), McNulty, Rowe-Turner, Smith, Mendy (sub Neilson 46), Lawless, Martin, Shaw (sub Rendell 70), Gray. **Subs not used:** O'Donnell, Fleetwood.

ATTENDANCE: 1,188 (188 Luton)

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WAYNE'S WORLD

The Hatters captured the signature of Wayne Thomas this week as he heads back to English football after a two year stint in Greece.

The 33-year-old defender has had spells with Stoke City, Burnley and Southampton. Prior to his inclusion in today's squad the Hatters newest addition spoke to Talk of the Town about his Kenilworth Road arrival.

WAYNE, WELCOME BACK TO ENGLAND. AFTER A WHIRLWIND WEEK ARE YOU PREPARED TO HELP THE HATTERS BACK INTO THE LEAGUE?

"Yes hopefully, it's a plan that I've bought into. This is a club that's pushing in the right direction, with the fan base and history the club has got I see no reason why they shouldn't be fighting for the automatic promotion spot, let alone the Play-Off spots."

WHAT HAS BEEN SOLD TO YOU? WHAT HAS THE MANAGER SAID TO YOU?

"I knew the gaffer from my days at Torquay. It was a pretty easy decision as I know Paul well. I came in and met him and Gary Sweet and they spoke about the direction the club was pushing in, their aims, their goals, and what they want to achieve this season and next season and the season after. I thought it was a good club moving in an upwards direction that I would like to get involved with and felt I could add to and help them on their way."

YOU MUST HAVE BECOME ACCUSTOMED TO SEEING LUTON IN THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE HOW ARE YOU RELISHING THE OPPORTUNITY TO HELP THE CLUB BACK INTO THAT SITUATION?

"I'm looking forward to it. I've not played in the Conference so I'm not too sure what to expect. I presume it's going to be more or less like League Two, and maybe the bottom of League One. I'm sure games are going to be tough. Our opponents will have a lot of energy, a lot of aerial threats and balls into the box so hopefully those are things I can help with, a bit of mettle and leadership if I can earn myself a place in the team and push on from there."

DO YOU THINK THERE IS A STIGMA ATTACHED WITH THE CONFERENCE THAT SOME PLAYERS DISMISS WHEN DECIDING WHETHER OR NOT TO PLAY IN THIS DIVISION?

"There could be. Obviously players always want to play in the highest division they can. I think there is still a lot of quality in the Conference. You often find teams that go up from the Conference then bounce straight up from League Two as well so hopefully that will be something we can try to emulate."



SINCE THE MANAGER'S ARRIVAL HE HAS TRIED TO TEMPT WINNERS AND LEADERS TO THE CLUB, YOU CERTAINLY FIT THAT BILL.

"I hope so. I've been captain at every club I've been at some point or another so that is one of my qualities and one of my attributes, but I'm at the age now where it doesn't matter if I wear a captain's armband or not. I would still give the same information, the same instructions and play the same whether or not I wear the armband. It isn't really an issue for me I will still try and help the younger players along and work with the younger players and some of the older players and hopefully that can rub off and as a team we can push in the right direction."

LOOKING AT OUR FIXTURE LIST I ASSUME YOU WILL WANT TO GET INVOLVED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BECAUSE WE HAVE SO MANY LEFT?

"Yes, the thing is there are only 11 weeks left until the end of the season but there is almost half a season's worth of fixtures left. Probably a lot of that is due to the great FA Cup run the club is on at the moment, but it's a great opportunity to play against all the clubs, and I think the team that can hopefully put together the most consistent run together in the last half of the season. A run of wins with a couple of draws can really make a difference and that momentum is what we need."

FINALLY, HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOURSELF?

"I don't know, I suppose aggressive but now, as I've matured, I'm a controlled aggressive. I'm a strong leader, very vocal and a bit of an organiser. Since my time in Europe I would say I am more composed on the ball than maybe I was in my younger years. Hopefully the biggest thing will be the experience for the younger players and I can get us through a few games with that."

CENTRE SPOT

Thank you! A huge thanks to the 4,000 of you that cheered the side onto victory at Norwich two weeks ago. All of the photographs and reaction from this game will be included in next Saturday's programme against Millwall.



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PICTURE

THE PAST

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES
INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE



Record appearance holder Bob Morton and record goalscorer Gordon Turner combine to put pressure on the Chelsea defence during the 3-3 draw at Stamford Bridge in March 1959.

The game was played a week before the F A Cup semi-final against Norwich with the Canaries having objected to the use of Stamford Bridge as the venue due to the Town having supposed intimate knowledge of the ground!

TOWN TREASURES

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

As the 1965/66 season drew to a close the Hatters needed two points from two away games to secure promotion from the old Division Four (now League 2) but before the penultimate game, at Newport, a row broke out over promotion bonuses as reported in the Saturday Telegraph.

The upshot was that several players went through the motions in a 3-1 defeat and a much changed side drew 1-1 at Chester in the final game which meant promotion was missed on goal average. The fall-out from this player revolution was far-reaching and following a dismal 1966/67 campaign the headline shown on this Luton News poster is self explanatory. Little did we know that this awful period in the club's history would soon be overtaken by four glorious years of almost total success.

TOWN F.C. TO PART WITH EIGHT PLAYERS

THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES
INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE



Hatters fans queue patiently at the Kenilworth Road end before a game in the 1940s

TRUST IN LUTON

GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR CLUB - WITH TRUST IN LUTON

Trust in Luton - that's TiL to you and me! - are proud to be sponsoring today's match ball, and to be the fan's representatives and stakeholders at Luton Town.

Trust in Luton are the supporters' trust at Luton, and part of the nationwide Supporters Direct initiative. We're your official voice, working closely with the 2020 directors to ensure that fans' interests are represented and upheld at every level.

That's easy here at Kenilworth Road, of course, because every one of the Luton Town directors and investors is a devoted fan like you and all of us. Our share-holding is fully formalised and we're delighted to announce that the club are now looking to get committed fans even more involved, through a series of proposals that are now in progress...

- TiL are now holding quarterly in-depth meetings and consultations with the club. They're an opportunity for the board to share news and updates about developments on important issues, both on and off the pitch. We are able to express any concerns on behalf of our members, see how we can help the club in practical ways and report back to fans. Some of the information is confidential of course, but when you become a TiL member you'll be one of the first to be 'in the know' about what's going on behind the scenes.
- 2020 are also looking at various options which will enable new shares in the Club to be sold via the Trust. The project is not quite ready to be put into action yet, but it's an idea both 2020 and TiL are really keen on - watch this space and the TiL website www.trustinluton.info for details. This is your chance to be a part of a very exciting future for the club.



trust in luton
luton town supporters' trust
www.trustinluton.info

We're also excited by the possibility of a pitch-ownership plan for fans, again through TiL. This has been much discussed in the past as a way of protecting the club's future against aggressive takeovers by property developers and the like (we're well aware of what has happened elsewhere, and has in the past been a potential danger for us here at Luton). This is dependent, of course, on developments at Kenilworth Road or any other future site for the club - but whatever happens, 2020 have expressed a clear intention to safeguard LTFC for future generations this way.

SO HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

Well, that's easy - membership of TiL is open to all true Town fans, and costs just £10 a year for adults, or £5 for under 16s/over 65s.

You can join today at www.trustinluton.info - simply click on Sign Up and fill in a short form. If you want to know more, feel free to email info@trustinluton.info.

Not only will you have a say in the future of your club - you could also win one of our regular Prize Draws and win hospitality tickets for the game, like our 3 lucky winners and their guests today, who are joining us as match ball sponsors.

Don't put it off, get involved and join the Trust today!



For more information on Trust in Luton visit www.trustinluton.info

FROM THE PRESS BOX

WITH THE LUTON NEWS SPORTS EDITOR MARK WOOD

It's almost impossible to avoid football clichés sometimes.

No-one would truly have predicted our phenomenal 1-0 win at Premier League Norwich City in the FA Cup fourth round two weeks ago.

Disciplined defensively and opportunistic going forward, the Hatters richly deserved victory and the nationwide media attention that followed.

Glory, shocks and excitement

That unlikely triumph was further endorsed with the winnable home draw against Championship Millwall - giving Luton the chance to become the first non-league team since the Second World War to progress to the quarter-finals.

Glory, shocks and excitement are what the FA Cup are all about - and let's hope we're all talking about this for some time to come.

But, and here are the clichés, a week's a long time in football and she can be a cruel mistress. It's a funny old game and you have to take it one game at a time...

Defeat at Grimsby Town in the quarter-finals of the FA Trophy ended the Hatters' hopes of a fairytale run to Wembley, while last week's disappointing defeat at lowly Barrow came as a real body blow.

Conference giants

With Luton's heritage, history and indefatigable support it is easy to see why they remain the highest profile name in the Conference.

Theirs is the scalp that everyone in the division still dreams of taking and Town's success has once again raised their profile.

The Hatters remain the team to be shot at, the Conference giants to be slain. Until we finally earn promotion we will always be the team that everybody wants to beat.



But would we have it any other way? There is no other club that can offer the rollercoaster ride that Luton continue to provide.

This low of the Conference may be a long way from the heights of 1959 and 1988, but perhaps this FA Cup can mean even more than the semi-final of 1994 - a sign that perhaps we are finally starting to ride the rails back up.

What's in a name?

The fact that we are there to be targeted by all in the Conference and that we can still make the fronts and backs of almost every national newspaper and command airtime on all of the major TV channels means the name that Luton Town Football Club still means something.

Our history and exploits of the past are what make us recognisable, and this season could yet bring us some of our most important ever chapters.

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ON THIS DAY

FEBRUARY 9

THE RECORD

The Hatters have a good record on this day in history, winning seven of the 12 games played. The Town have only lost three times and drawn twice. In the dozen fixtures, the Hatters have scored 22 and conceded 12, which works out an average of just under three goals a game.

MOMENTUS MOMENT #1

The last time the Town played on this day came in 2010 when two injury-time goals saw off Oxford in a dramatic Blue Square Bet Premier fixture at Kenilworth Road. Trailing in the first minute of added time, captain George Pilkington rose to head home the equaliser and, at that point, most inside the ground would have taken a draw. However, amid frenetic scenes, the Hatters unbelievably won it when Keith Keane's left-wing corner seven minutes into stoppage time swung in and nestled into the corner to seal a quite breathtaking turnaround.

MOMENTUS MOMENT #2

The Town had earned a replay against big-spending Newcastle United following a 1-1 draw at St James Park in the FA Cup fourth round in 1994. Back under the floodlights Kenilworth Road and in front of the Sky Sports cameras, the Hatters booked a place in the fifth round with a stunning 2-0 win over Kevin Keegan's expensively-assembled Premier League side thanks to goals from John Hartson and Scott Oakes.

TOP FLIGHT TRIUMPH

The Hatters' were victorious on the sole occasion they have played in the top flight on this day when beating Leeds United at Elland Road in 1957. 25,646 witnessed a 2-1 win for the Town thanks to goals from Allan Brown and George McLeod.

FOUR ON THE SPIN

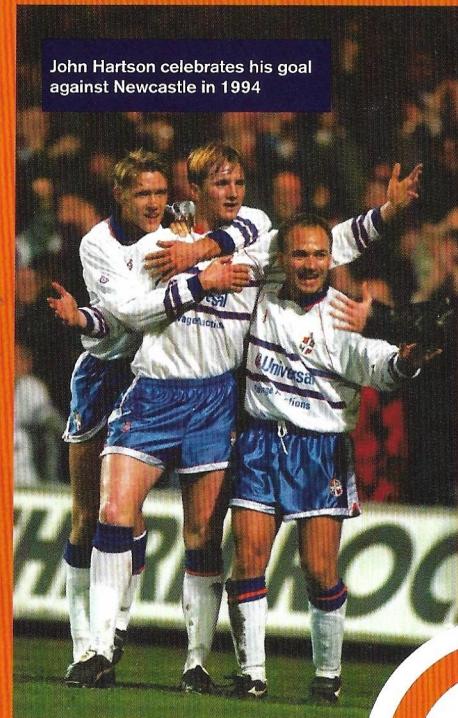
Between 1921 and 1935, the Hatters won all four of their matches played on this day, scoring 13 and conceding twice. All of the victories came at Kenilworth Road with the first a 6-0 romp over Reading in a Division 3 fixture in 1921. Ernie Simms scored four of the six goals in front of a crowd of just 5,000. QPR were

then beaten 2-0 three years later thanks to two goals from Andy Kerr. Brentford were seen off 2-1 in 1929 in Division 3 (South) before a 3-1 win over Torquay followed in 1935 that sparked a run of six straight wins that season. The sequence was ended when Hull City held the Hatters to a draw at Kenilworth Road in 1952 – Bernard Moore on target in a 1-1 draw.

NOTHING TO SHOUT ABOUT

Two of the Town's last three fixtures on this day have ended in defeat. In 2008, the Hatters were soundly beaten 4-1 by AFC Bournemouth at Kenilworth Road. Lewis Emanuel scored the Town's sole goal on an afternoon to forget. In 2002, the Hatters were defeated 1-0 at Rochdale in a game best remembered for Dave Bayliss' harsh red card. The other defeat came on this day in 1980 when, despite a goal from David Moss, the Town lost 2-1 against Oldham at Boundary Park.

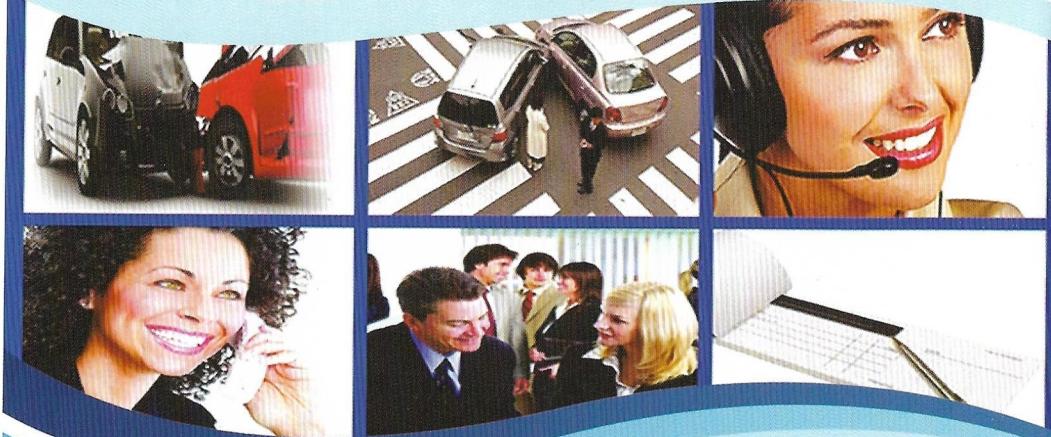
John Hartson celebrates his goal against Newcastle in 1994



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THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER

ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

BY NLP CHIEF REPORTER
STUART HAMMONDS

Clearing out my wife's old bedroom at her dad's house recently was like stepping back in time.

Not because of the décor or the dust. It was only in the summer of 2005 that we moved out to start married life in the home we'd spent the previous year renovating, after all.

But I came across a load of stuff from my final season playing for Bracknell Town – 2005/06 – and it reminded me of a football age long forgotten.

The best was the fines list, and this wasn't an official one issued by the club, but a set of rules enforced by squad committee – current joint-managers of Godalming Town, Neil Baker and Jon Underwood, and yours truly.

Now, football – even at a semi-professional level – has moved on in the last seven-and-a-half years. In terms of fitness, diet and refuelling methods, the difference between now and when I started playing senior football in the mid-1990s is unreal.

Where today the dressing rooms are full of water, energy drinks, Haribo and post-match pizzas, I didn't feel in the right frame of mind unless I'd had a cup of tea and a Mars bar before the game, and a few beers afterwards.

Some of my best memories come from alcohol-fuelled sing-songs on long coach journeys back from places like Gretna, after we'd been in the clubhouse and shared a couple with the opposition and supporters, of course.

I still remember the feeling of getting paid for playing football for the first time at Arnold Town. Little brown envelopes would be handed out and I'd pull my £10 note out – or four pound coins if I'd got a booking to pay for – and it would soon be back in the club coffers through the bar till.

One of the most common complaints I hear about modern football revolves around this; that players are so keen to shoot off after a game that they don't stay for a beer.

Even in 2005 we were enforcing this at Bracknell. As well as fining each other £1 a time for the standard

dirty boots, not wearing flip flops in the shower and mobile phones ringing, we had several that as well as boosting our players' pool, helped improve the clubhouse profits.

'Leaving before 6pm after a home game' cost you a fiver, while being caught drinking your pint 'using your left hand at home, and right hand away' incurred another pound in the pot.

Gambling was encouraged too, with £3 paid weekly to me for two numbers in our National Lottery-based 'Bonus Ball' fundraiser, while another couple of quid was pillaged by Bakes before a game for the 'First Goalscorer' draw.

You may be wondering how we fared on the pitch with all this going on off it.

Well, 'Respect' was encouraged long before the Football Association jumped on the Bracknell bandwagon. 'Using the F word' on matchday and 'receiving a caution' cost £1, as did arguing with the management team.

'Receiving a red card for anything other than foul and abusive language or violent conduct' cost £2, while the more serious offences cost £10.

"The game's gone," I often hear football people say. That was true of us in the Ryman and Southern Leagues, but our game went as far as Europe – which is where we'd head to spend the profit each May after winning our annual relegation battle!



Respect in football has been around much longer than the FA's own 'Respect' campaign

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THE PRESS OFFICE PICTURE

WITH ANDREW BARRINGER

WHERE TO START?

Well what a few weeks it's been, eh? The Luton Town rollercoaster was once doing its best loop-the-loop formation as the Hatters went from becoming the first non-league side to beat Premier League opposition in the FA Cup to losing at Barrow – a team who had only won once at home prior to their 1-0 win last Saturday.

In between those games you can throw in an FA Trophy exit at Grimsby which ended our run in that competition and looking at the fixture list between now and April 20th – the last game of the season at Southport – that looks like a blessing in disguise.

The fun really does start now with 21 fixtures still to squeeze in 11 weeks. 20 of those are in the Blue Square Bet Premier and one of course comes a week today when Millwall are the visitors in the FA Cup.

It's Saturday-Tuesday from here on in so bring it on and enjoy the ride because there's a helluva lot of football still to be played.

AND I WOULD DRIVE 1,000 MILES

Over the past two weeks, Town supporters who have travelled to Norwich, Grimsby and Barrow have clocked up over 1,000 miles to watch the team.

From the Maple Road car park at Kenilworth Road to each of the three grounds, it's 1,084 miles – a distance in one go that is the equivalent of travelling all the way down to Madrid in Spain, or to Warsaw in Poland.

While there were 4,000 at Norwich, there were 75 at Grimsby and 188 at Barrow so a huge thanks to those supporters who made it to all three games, your backing was greatly appreciated.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Readers of this column, and that of my journalist colleagues, especially at the Luton News, will be well aware of our love for food on our travels.

At Norwich the plush press facilities included a help-yourself selection of pies, pasties and jacket potatoes which went down a treat. Whether or not Canaries director and TV chef Delia Smith was involved in the menu I'm not sure, but it were the best grub tasted this season.

Compare that to Grimsby, where commentator Simon Pitts has now twice been refused entry to

Blundell Park this season with his fish and chips purchased from a shop close to the ground. Maybe the Mariners' catering is missing a trick because local fish and chips inside a football ground would definitely go down well.

BACK TO WORK

On more work related matters we're pleased to now be able to offer the Norwich victory on DVD thanks to the ITV and Football Association's permission to sell the game in the club shop.

Together with full commentary and all the camera angles and post-match celebrations, it can be bought in the shop at Kenilworth Road and, of course, on our new-look online shop at www.hattersshop.co.uk.

Remember, all DVDs from home matches this season are available to purchase, as are all past issues of Talk of the Town.



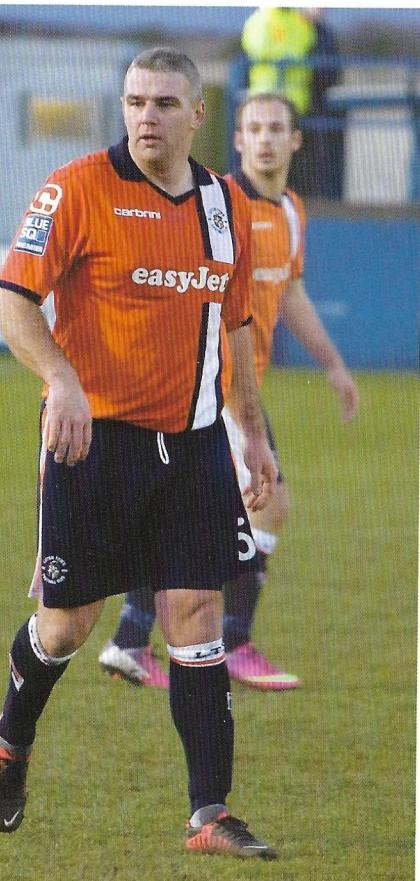
Programme and pies at Norwich

TITLE AMBITION

NEW SIGNING STEVE MCNULTY WON THE TITLE LAST SEASON - AND NOW HE WANTS TO DO IT AGAIN

New signing Steve McNulty is hoping he will win the Blue Square Bet Premier title for a second successive season after his deadline day transfer from Fleetwood Town.

The 29-year-old skippered the Cod Army to a record breaking season last year which saw Micky Mellon's side notch over 100 points, and 100 goals, to drive them into the Football League.



Having agreed a conditional 18-month deal, the Town's latest signing told Hatters Player he is desperate to add another promotion to his already impressive CV.

"Hopefully come the end of the season I'll be lifting the cup again," said the Town's new recruit on deadline day.

"The league is very tight this year, no-one has run away with it and if we put a good run of games together now we can win the league.

"I think there is eight matches this month so I will be happy to get involved and get in the mix. We just need to win our games in hand, go joint top and kick on from there."

Having won two promotions in three seasons at Highbury, McNulty played 19 times this term for the Cod Army before he was frozen out of the side following Mellon's departure.

And while he was disappointed that new boss – former Hatter Graham Alexander – left him out of the side, McNulty knows he stands a great chance of success at Kenilworth Road.

Massive

"It's a massive club," he said. "I've played here three times and obviously it's a hostile crowd, quite intimidating, so I'm glad they're all on my side now."

"It was a no-brainer, it's a massive club steeped in history and I've been keeping an eye on the cup run so, glad to be a part of that now."

"I've been asked about dropping out of the Football League before, but I'm dropping down to a massive league club so it was an easy decision to make. This club is rich in history so I didn't have to think twice about it."

"Circumstances change, though, and while I captained Fleetwood to two promotions, they've been a good club for me so for that I have to thank them. We move on and I'm a Luton Town player now."

The Liverpool-born defensive general joined up with his new team-mates for training for the first time on Thursday, before the Barrow match, and was impressed with the enthusiasm and talent in the squad.

"Training was great," McNulty said beaming. "It was very lively, there are so many great players here at Luton so it was really good and lively, I really enjoyed it."



"They're all good lads, I've played against a few of them before and kicked them up in the air a bit so they're all good lads and full of banter."

McNulty's Cod Army were comprehensively beaten by the Hatters on the final day of the season last time around, as the Town marched into the play-offs on a scintillating run of form following the appointment of Paul Buckle.

Favourites

Like many, McNulty spoke of his surprise that the Hatters did not go onto win promotion last season – but has his eyes set firmly on grasping that trophy for his season successive season.

"Every time I've played them they looked a great team," he said. "Every season of the Conference, Luton are always up there as favourites. I'm surprised they are still in this league because they have had some great managers and some great teams, so hopefully Paul can put his finger on it this year and we will get promoted."

"I've always said there should be three up and three down because there are so many big clubs in the Conference - but we're looking forward to the chance and getting up there so I'm very confident of doing that."

The 29-year-old has had an illustrious career so far but has grafted his way back into the Football League after being released from Anfield as a youngster.

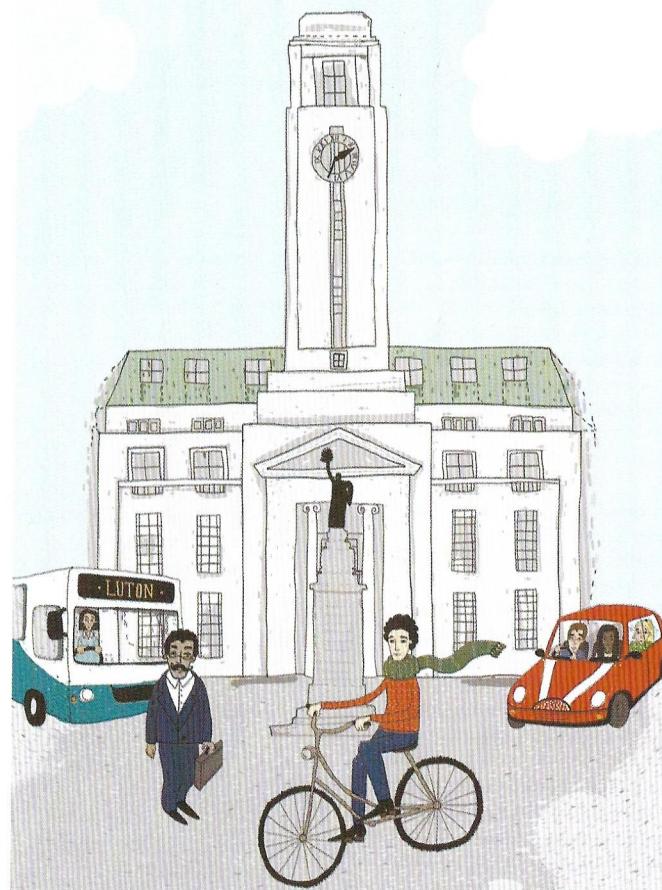
"I was a trainee at Liverpool, I signed when I was eight and left when I was 21."

"I stopped playing for a year and then dropped into non-league and worked my way back up from there. I played for Vauxhall, then went to Barrow and Fleetwood signed me from there."





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YOUTH UPDATE

YOUNGSTERS FIGHT BACK TO EARN POINT

The Hatters Under-18s, desperate for some competitive football, switched their Youth Alliance game against Leyton Orient their opponents' venue on Saturday and they fought back in the second half to force a very creditable 2-2 game draw with goals from Zane Banton and Charlie Smith.

With Jerome Jibodu injured and Tinashe Chabata only just back to the group after a bout of chicken pox, Brett Longden partnered Zac Jules in central defence with Kyle Davison taking Jibodu's left-back slot.

A lively start saw both sides doing well going forward but it was Orient who took the lead in the 12th minute with a strike from 10 yards past Josh Carpenter in the Hatters goal. Previously, a smart reflex save from the Orient keeper as Leeroy Maguraushe burst into the box had denied the Hatters an early lead.

Dangerous

The Hatters continued to look dangerous going forward and their best chance came when Smith fed Maguraushe wide and his teasing cross eluded everyone including Arel Amu's late run at the far post.

However, Orient doubled their lead as the half entered its final 15 minutes with a good strike from outside the box.

Maguraushe had an excellent chance to halve the arrears just before half time as he burst into the box but he dragged his shot wide of the post.

With the aid of the wind, the Hatters were the stronger side in the second period and almost pulled a goal back in the 61st minute from Jemale McKenzie-Lowe but the striker blasted his effort just wide. Almost immediately, they did get back into the game when Banton ran clear of the Orient defence to finish neatly into the corner of the net.

Luke Trottman and Chabata replaced McKenzie-Lowe and Davison respectively as the game entered its last quarter and the equaliser followed in the 79th minute when Smith burst into the box to poke the ball home at the end of a flowing move.

The Hatters continued to push for the winner and Amu had a close range heading opportunity but his effort looped into the keeper's hands and the game finished all square.

Manager Paul Driver told lutontown.co.uk: "Firstly, we'd like to thank Orient for agreeing to swapping the fixture and for getting the game on as we were desperate to get some competitive football after all the bad weather. I was really pleased with the game. We didn't deserve to be two goals down at half-time and we were superb in the second half as we worked our socks off to get something from the game. Given the length of the break, our fitness levels were excellent."



Charlie Smith notched up the equaliser to earn the Town a point against Orient

Town: Carpenter, Burtenshaw, Davison (sub Chabata 72), Rees, Jules, Longden, Amu, Smith, McKenzie-Lowe (sub Trottman 69), Banton, Maguraushe.
Subs not used: Barnes, Hawkes.

YOUTH FIXTURES

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

AUGUST

Sat 11	Leyton Orient	A	L 0-2
Sat 18	Dagenham & Redbridge	H	L 2-3
Sat 25	Stevenage	A	W 3-2

Jibodu (pen), Smith
McKenzie-Lowe, (og), Amu

SEPTEMBER

Sat 01	Peterborough United	A	W 2-0
Wed 18	AFC Kempston Rovers	A	W 4-0
Sat 22	Milton Keynes Dons	A	D 2-2
Sat 29	Northampton Town	H	D 1-1

McKenzie-Lowe, own goal
McKenzie-Lowe 2, Amu 2
Amu, Smith (pen)
Davis

OCTOBER

Wed 03	Phoro Northern Star	H	W 6-0
Sat 06	Stevenage	A	L 2-3
Sat 13	Northampton Town	H	D 0-0
Wed 17	Barton Rovers	H	W 3-1
Sat 20	Watford	H	L 0-3
Sat 27	Peterborough United	H	L 2-6
Tue 30	Stevenage	H	L 0-3

Banton, Amu
McKenzie-Lowe, Trotman
Smith 2 (1 pen)

NOVEMBER

Sat 03	Milton Keynes Dons	H	L 2-4
Sat 17	Watford	A	W 2-1
Sat 24			In Service Training

DECEMBER

Tue 04	Peterborough United	H	W 2-0
Sat 08	Northampton Town	A	W 3-0

Jibodu, Banton, Amu

JANUARY

Sat 12	Milton Keynes Dons	H	L 2-3
Sat 19			South Cup 2

South Cup 2

FEBRUARY

Sat 02	Dagenham & Redbridge	A	11.00am
Sat 09	Stevenage	H	11.00am

South Cup 3

MARCH

Sat 02	AFC Wimbledon	H	11.00am
Sat 09	AFC Wimbledon	A	11.00am
Sat 16	Southend United	H	11.00am

South Cup 3

APRIL

Sat 06	Gillingham	H	11.00am
Sat 13	Crawley Town	A	11.00am

YOUNG STARS

NAME: Devante Stanley

AGE: 16

POSITION: Right-back

TIME SPENT WITH LUTON TOWN / WHEN JOINED:

I joined as an Under-13.

WHAT PART OF YOUR GAME DO YOU CONSIDER THE BEST?

My enthusiasm.

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

My heading.

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

Training every day.

WHO IS YOUR FOOTBALL IDOL?

Dani Alves.

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

My mum.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO ACHIEVE?

To become a professional footballer.

WHO IS YOUR FAVOURITE ALL-TIME PLAYER?

Lionel Messi.

WHAT ARE YOUR EXPECTATIONS THIS SEASON? HAVE YOU SET YOURSELF ANY TARGETS?

To try and get myself another contract at the end of the season.

2012/13 YOUTH TEAM KIT SPONSORS



ZANE BANTON
HOME: First Capital Connect
AWAY: Available



TINASHE CHABATA
HOME: Available
AWAY: Available



CHISOLM AMADI
HOME: Available
AWAY: Available



AREL AMU
HOME: DW Sports
AWAY: Available



JEMALE MCKENZIE-LOWE
HOME: Available
AWAY: Available



IAN REES
HOME: Available
AWAY: Available



CHARLIE SMITH
HOME: Peter Mitchell
AWAY: 2MB



NICK BURTENSHAW
HOME: Available
AWAY: Available



JOSEPH CARPENTER
HOME: Harborough Town Football Club
AWAY: Available
GLOVES: Available



JORDAN DAVIS
HOME: Lucy Francome
AWAY: Available



JEROME JIBODU
HOME: Doug Knight
AWAY: Doug Knight



BRETT LONGDEN
HOME: Mike Tearie
AWAY: Available



JERRY NASH
HOME: Moira Spain
AWAY: Available



ZAK STEPHENS
HOME: Available
AWAY: Available



Whilst he didn't want to lose any of his players in January, the boss didn't quite grasp the concept of a transfer window

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ACADEMY UPDATE

WITH MATT STANNARD

Firstly, allow me to take this opportunity to welcome you to Kenilworth Road for this fixture against Forest Green and thank you for braving this cold weather to support the lads in the quest for promotion.

We are very lucky to have this game going ahead following the recent cold snap and a big thank you to all those who have made this possible.

We have not been so lucky in the Youth Department however, with all games and training being called off last week, and very much looking the same this week.

I stated in my previous notes that this is always a frustrating time of year for coaching staff as we are forced into a winter break by the league, to avoid games being called off for inclement weather. Ironically we could have played in December!

The lads have had one weeks training since December 19th, not exactly ideal but nonetheless travelled to Cobham on January 12th and 13th to play in a round robin festival against, Chelsea and Pompey.

It was a fantastic experience for the boys, not only because of the incredible facilities, but also the opportunity to test themselves against a top class Premier League outfit.

We played two x 50-minute games, one against Chelsea and one against Portsmouth. In the majority of age groups, we were much better than Portsmouth and the results reflected this. The Chelsea games were a much bigger test for our lads though, but we certainly held our own.

It wasn't only a learning curve for the players. As a coach you learn a lot about your players when they are under stress and pressure against a good opposition. In fact, you learn more in defeat than you do success, at times. Winning games week in, week out, is great but it can paper over the cracks in some players. We

have to remain consistent in our emotions, not getting too excited when we win but also not getting angry when we lose. This is not an easy thing to learn as we are all passionate people who want success, not only for ourselves, but for this fantastic football club and all our players that are associated to it.

Games against top opposition, in the short term, may have their frustrations but in the long term, the learning that we gain from these games will only make us stronger as staff, players and in turn, a club.

It is our jobs in the second half of the season to maintain the good work that is currently being done and also develop in certain areas that will move us onto the next level.

In order to do so, we will encounter challenges along the way but we have great staff in place who are all pulling in the same direction so I am confident we can achieve our goals.

If you would like to get involved and help us reach our targets, please contact SoLYD directly. They are always looking for new and fresh faces and work very closely with me to help develop and support the programme. Something for which we are extremely grateful.

Youth team players helped clear snow off the pitch prior to our postponed game with Lincoln



Matt Stannard is the Hatters' Head of Youth Operations

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Photo: Neil McIntyre - Red deer stag in pine forest

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LUTON LADIES

LADIES SEMI-FINAL BOUND

The Town's Ladies moved into the semi-finals of the Bedfordshire FA County Cup with a comfortable 4-1 away win at Arlesey Town.

The Hatters were dominant from the first whistle creating numerous chances but were denied by some superb goalkeeping which kept the scores level. It was a route one attack that broke the deadlock after 15 minutes of trying when Michelle Byrne leapt to flick-on a long ball, and Laura Day raced onto the loose ball before rounding the goalkeeper to open the scoring.

Chance after chance went begging for the Town but the home side almost equalised on the break and Hatters were grateful to Hollie Staples who pulled off a fine diving stop to keep Arlesey at bay. However, Luton paid the price for several missed chances just before half-time when conceding a converted penalty to ensure the score was level at half-time.

The Hatters stepped up the tempo straight from the restart, though, when Day was given the opportunity to drift inside and she struck a 25-yard shot which sailed into the roof of the net.

Confidence

With confidence flowing, Day was proving a real handful, and another run down the left saw her cut inside and send in a near post cross which forced an Arlesey defender to knock the ball into the net off the post.

The tie appeared over at that stage as the Town began to take a firm grip on proceedings but again and again the home goalkeeper pulled a string of excellent stops to keep the scores close.

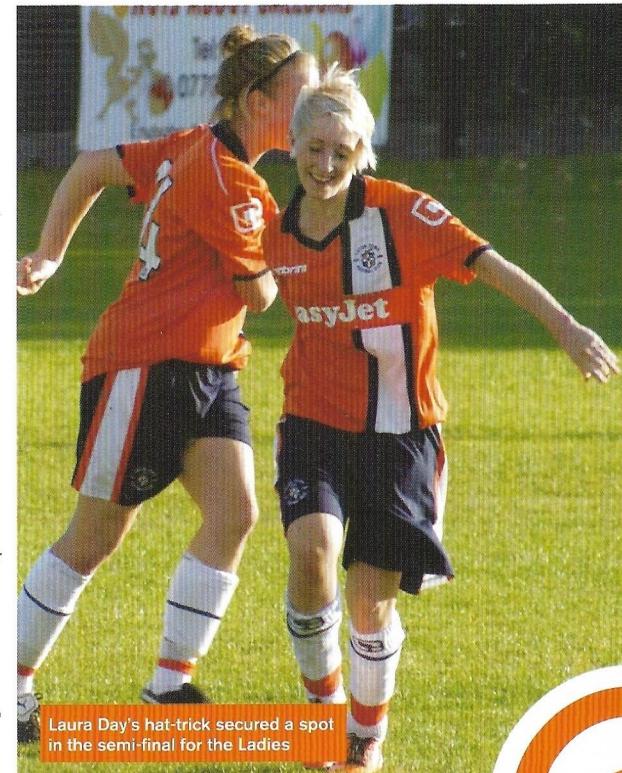
However, Day was not to be denied and she completed a well-deserved hat-trick in the final minute breaking clear and this time slotting the ball home past the keeper to make it 4-1.

Manager Nikki Baker told Talk of the Town: "Although it was a comfortable win in the end the amount of chances we created should have resulted in a far bigger victory but the keeper, Becky Scott, produced an outstanding performance pulling off some remarkable saves."

Meanwhile the Under-18s got past Leighton United in their Cup semi-final with a 2-1 victory. Henny Horsler gave Town the lead early on with a fine strike before the home side replied soon after. But Steph Hettle smashed the winner late in the second half as Town reached the League Cup final.

Also in cup action were the Under-14s who breezed into the semi-final of their League Cup competition with an 8-1 win at Stotfold. Phoebe Brown (4), Lilley Coleman (2), Chloe Fitzsimmons and Aimee Esser were on target.

Following an enforced weather break the Under-13s returned at last to action and notched a 2-1 win away to Garston. Rebecca Ferris scored, as did Nicole O'Brien to complete a player of the match performance.

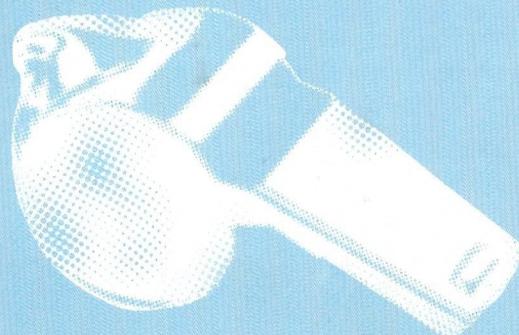


Laura Day's hat-trick secured a spot in the semi-final for the Ladies

For more information on the Ladies visit www.lutontownbelles.com

#NONSENSEINFOOTBALL

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



ENOUGH
SAID.
JUST
BET

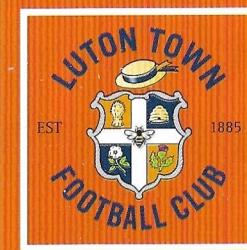
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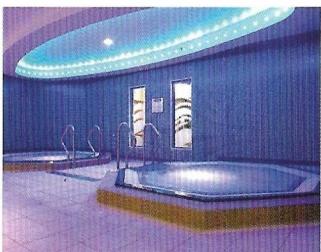
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LEAGUE

LOOK

JOE FLEMONS ROUNDS-UP THE LATEST IN THE BSBP

Finally the weather disruptions relieved us all and allowed all but two Blue Square Bet Premier fixtures to take place last weekend.

Newport County's home game with fellow high-fliers Kidderminster Harriers fell victim to the weather along with Braintree Town's home game with Lincoln City as 10 of the 12 fixtures were completed.

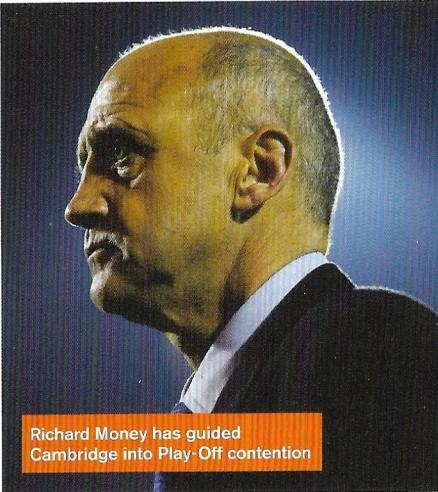
Those 10 did more than make up for the two that were missing as a staggering 33 strikes were seen across the two days including a Friday night treat for Macclesfield Town.

Kicking proceedings off the Slikmen took very little time to adapt to their surroundings in Ebbsfleet as Kieran Murtagh rifled home a 25-yard free-kick to give Steve King's side an early lead. Wade Fairhurst then joined the scorers list before a brace from Jack Mackreth sealed all three points for the travelling Town fans who inflicted yet more misery on Ebbsfleet - who are now without a league win since November.

Grimsby Town took advantage of Newport's weather problems as they stretched their lead to three points at the summit of the division. Dan Bradley slammed home early on for Alfreton as a real upset seemed on the cards. However Jamie Devitt then dispatched from the spot to square it up for the Mariners. Richard Brodie then coolly slotted home to give the league leaders the advantage before Andy Cook put the clash beyond the visitors. Brief hope was installed when Alfreton's Paul Clayton reduced the deficit to just one, but when Craig Disley slammed home the points were wrapped up and the Mariners were again set to lead the league.

Wrexham remain the current closest contenders to top spot, but a 0-0 stalemate against today's visitors Forest Green prevented the Red Dragons making up ground.

Mansfield Town continued their resurgence into the forefront of the promotion picture after they cruised to a 5-0 win over the Hatters' mid-week opponents Dartford. There were five different scorers for the Stags, including former Hatter Adam Murray who lashed home from range to set the scoring flush early on.



Richard Money has guided Cambridge into Play-Off contention

Richard Money continues to restore the footballing pride to Cambridge United ranks as they climbed to the lofty heights of eighth place after their third win in five games. Goals from Andy Pugh and Michael Gash ensured Money's men left with the riches and AFC Telford's new interim manager Mark Cooper was left penniless.

It was not all bad news for the new boys in suits, however, as new Stockport County chief Darije Kalezic began his reign as County boss with a 3-2 win over relegation threatened Nuneaton. Connor Jennings, Danny Hattersley and Jon Nolan cancelled out Andy Brown's double to seal maximum points and hoist County further away from the relegation zone.

TONIGHT'S FIXTURES

ALFRETON v WOKING

BRAINTREE v HEREFORD

EBBSFLEET v GATESHEAD

GRIMSBY v AFC TELFORD

HYDE v MACCLESFIELD

KIDDERMINSTER v CAMBRIDGE

LINCOLN v DARTFORD

MANSFIELD v BARROW

NEWPORT v TAMWORTH

NUNEATON v SOUTHPORT

WREXHAM v STOCKPORT (1PM)

FIXTURES AND RESULTS

DATE TIME H/A OPPONENT SCORE ATT AWAY POS STARTING XI

August

Sat 11	15:00	H	Gateshead	D 2-2	5,743	76	11	Tyler	Taylor**	Rowe-Turner	Henry	Kovacs	Kasim*	Howells	O'Donnell	Rendell	Gray***	Fleetwood 1	Brill	Beckwith	Lawless**	Watkins***	Shaw 1	
Tue 14	19:45	A	Kidderminster Harriers	W 2-0	2,275	542	4	Tyler	Henry	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs	Kasim	Lawless	O'Donnell	Rendell	Shaw**	Fleetwood 2	Brill	Beckwith	Walker	Gray*	Robinson**		
TV Fri 17	19:30	A	Hyde	W 2-1	1,141	477	3	Tyler	Henry	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs	Kasim**	Lawless	O'Donnell 1	Rendell	Shaw	Fleetwood*** 1	Brill	Beckwith	Howells*	Gray**	Robinson***		
Sat 25	15:00	H	AFC Telford United	L 0-1	5,970	111	9	Tyler	Lawless	Howells	Rowe-Turner	Henry	Kasim*	Watkins**	O'Donnell	Rendell	Shaw	Fleetwood	Brill	Beckwith	Taylor*	Gray**	Woolley	
Mon 27	15:00	A	Ebbesfleet United	W 3-1	2,018	1,246	5	Tyler	Lawless	Taylor	Rowe-Turner	Beckwith	Howells	O'Donnell**	Rendell 1	Gray*	Shaw	Fleetwood 2	Brill	Watkins**	Kasim	Woolley*		

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**	Fleetwood 1	Brill	Beckwith	Lawless**	Watkins***	Shaw 1		
Tue 4	19:45	A	Cambridge United	W 3-2	6,742	622	2	Tyler	Rowe-Turner	Taylor	Beckwith 1	Kovacs**	Lawless	O'Donnell	Howells	Rendell	Gray 1	Fleetwood 2	Brill	Beckwith	Walker	Gray*	Robinson**		
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	Fleetwood**	Brill	Beckwith	Kasim*	Woolley**	Robinson***		
TV Fri 21	19:45	H	Wrexham	D 0-0	6,675	319	5	Tyler	Henry	Howells*	Beckwith	Kovacs	Lawless	O'Donnell	Rendell	Fleetwood**	Gray***	Shaw	Rowe-Turner*	Essam	Beckwith	Kasim***	J. Robinson	Walker**	
Tue 25	19:45	A	Grimsby Town	L 1-4	4,074	125	6	Tyler	Henry	Howells	Beckwith	Kovacs*	Lawless	O'Donnell	Rendell 1	Fleetwood**	Gray***	Shaw	Rowe-Turner*	Essam	Beckwith	Kasim**	J. Robinson	Walker	
Sat 29	15:00	H	Southport	W 2-1	1,137	390	5	Tyler	Henry	Rowe-Turner*	Beckwith	Essam	Lawless	O'Donnell	Howells	Gray	Rendell	Fleetwood*** 1	Brill	Rowe-Turner*	Shaw**	Watkins***	Walker		

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***	Fleetwood	Brill	Rowe-Turner**	Shaw 1*	Kasim***	Walker		
Tue 9	19:45	H	Braintree Town	L 2-3	5,523	55	4	Tyler	Henry	Howells	Essam**	Ainge 1	Lawless	O'Donnell	Rendell	J. Robinson*	Gray	Fleetwood	Brill	Rowe-Turner	Lacey	Kasim*	Walker 1**		
Sat 13	15:00	H	Nuneaton Town	W 2-0	6,148	264	3	Tyler	Henry	Rowe-Turner	Essam*	Ainge	Lawless 2	O'Donnell	Rendell	Gray**	Shaw	Fleetwood	Brill	Kovacs**	J. Robinson	M. Robinson	Walker*		
Sat 20	13:00	A	Cambridge United (FACAO)	W 2-0	3,221	601	-	Tyler	Henry	Howells	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs	Lawless*	O'Donnell	Mendy	Gray 1***	Shaw 1	Fleetwood**	Brill	M. Robinson*	J. Robinson**	Beckwith*	Walker		
Sat 27	15:00	A	Forest Green Rovers	W 2-1	2,112	1,002	2	Brill	Henry	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs	Ainge	Howells	Mendy	Rendell 1	Gray	Shaw	Fleetwood 1*	Essam	O'Donnell*	M. Robinson	J. Robinson	Walker		

November

Sat 3	15:00	H	Nuneaton Town (FACT1)	D 0-1	3,089	355	-	Brill	Henry	Howells	Kovacs	Rowe-Turner*	O'Donnell	Mendy	Rendell 1	Gray	Walker	Fleetwood**	Tyler	Lacey	Longden	Watkins**	Dance	M. Robinson	J. Robinson*		
Tue 6	19:45	A	Hereford United	L 0-1	2,108	372	3	Brill	Henry	Rowe-Turner***	Kovacs**	Ainge	Smith	Mendy	Howells	Gray*	Rendell	Fleetwood	Tyler	Lawless**	O'Donnell**	J. Robinson*	Walker	Walker 1**			
Sat 10	15:00	H	Dartford	L 0-2	5,657	484	6	Brill	Lawless	Howells	Henry	Ainge	Smith	Mendy*	O'Donnell	Rendell	Gray	Fleetwood	Tyler	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs	Watkins*	Walker*				
Tue 13	19:45	A	Nuneaton Town (FACT1)	W 2-0	1,598	471	-	Tyler	Rowe-Turner	Henry	Howells	Mendy	Lawless	O'Donnell***	Walker*	Rendell 2	Gray**	Fleetwood	Brill	Beckwith	Lacey	Longden	Dance***	Robinson*	Woolley**		
Sat 17	15:00	A	Mansfield Town	D 0-2	2,619	522	6	Tyler	Henry	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs	Ainge	Mendy	Smith	Lawless	Howells	Rendell	Gray 2*	Fleetwood	Brill	Beckwith	O'Donnell	Robinson	Fleetwood*	Dance**		
Tue 27	19:45	A	Dorchester Town (FAT1)	D 0-2	688	163	-	Tyler	Henry	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs	Ainge	O'Donnell	Smith	Lawless**	Howells	Rendell	Gray*	Fleetwood 1*	Brill	Beckwith	Walker	Fleetwood 1*	Dance**			

December

Sat 1	15:00	H	Dorchester Town (FAC2)	W 2-1	3,287	458	-	Tyler	Henry	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs	Beckwith*	Lawless 1	Howells	Smith	O'Donnell***	Rendell	Gray 1**	Fleetwood	Brill	Lacey*	Mendy***	Watkins	Dance	Shaw	Fleetwood**		
Tue 4	19:45	H	Dorchester Town (FAT1)	W 3-1	897	16	-	Brill	Lawless	Lacey*	Ainge	Smith	Mendy	Howells	Gray*	Rendell	Walker 2	Fleetwood**	Brill	Rowe-Turner	O'Donnell 1***	Watkins	Robinson	Dance**	Walker			
Sat 8	15:00	A	Alfreton Town	W 3-0	5,648	58	5	Tyler	Henry	Rowe-Turner	Ainge	Kovacs	Smith 1***	Smith 1	Howells	Lawless	Rendell**	Gray 1*	Fleetwood	Brill	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs	Watkins	Walker*				
TV Tue 11	19:45	A	Newport County	L 2-5	2,247	177	5	Tyler	Henry	Rowe-Turner	Ainge	Beckwith	O'Donnell**	Mendy*	Howells	Lawless	Rendell	Gray 1*	Fleetwood	Brill	Beckwith	Lacey	Longden	Dance***	Robinson*	Woolley**		
Sat 15	15:00	A	Matlock Town (FAT2)	W 2-1	823	1bc	6	Tyler	Henry	Howells	Ainge 1	Kovacs	O'Donnell***	Mendy	Lawless	Rendell	Gray	Shaw 1	Fleetwood	Brill	Beckwith	Walker	Fleetwood 1*	Dance**				
Wed 26	15:00	H	Woking	W 3-1	6,744	235	4	Tyler	Henry	Howells	Kovacs 1	Lawless	Mendy	Smith	Rendell 1	Fleetwood	Gray**	Shaw 1	Fleetwood	Brill	Robinson**	O'Donnell*	Rowe-Turner	Taylor				

January

Tue 1	13:00	A	Woking	L 1-3	2,961	989	5	Tyler	Henry	Howells***	Ainge	Kovacs	Lawless	Mendy*	Neilson	Rendell	Gray 1	Shaw**	Fleetwood	Brill	Lacey*	Mendy***	Watkins	Dance	Shaw	Fleetwood**			
Sat 5	15:00	H	Wolves (FAC3)	W 1-0	9,638	1,500	-	Tyler	Henry	Taylor	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs	Lawless 1	Mendy	Smith	O'Donnell*	Shaw	Gray**	Fleetwood	Brill	Lacey	Robinson	Rendell**	Fleetwood*	Walker	Woolley			
Tue 8	19:45	H	Barrow	W 6-1	5,165	31	5	Tyler	Henry	Taylor	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs 1	Lawless	Mendy	Smith*	Neilson 1	Shaw 3***	Gray 1***	Fleetwood	Brill	Howells*	Fleetwood***	Rendell**	Walker	Ainge				
Sat 12	15:00	H	Shelburne United (FAT3)	W 2-0	2,479	220	-	Brill	Lawless	Jibodu***	Ainge	Rowe-Turner	Robinson	Mendy	Howells	Dance*	Walker**	Gray 1*	Fleetwood	Brill	Watkins**	Fleetwood	C. Smith	Longden					
Tue 15	19:45	A	AFC Telford United	D 0-0	1,606	1bc	6	Tyler	Henry	Taylor	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs	Lawless	Mendy	Smith	Neilson	Shaw	Gray**	Fleetwood	Brill	Howells*	Fleetwood**	Rendell	Ainge					
Sat 26	15:00	A	Norwich City (FAC4)	W 1-0	28,521	4,000	-	Tyler	Henry	Taylor	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs	Lawless	Mendy*	Smith	Howells	Shaw**	Gray***	Fleetwood	Brill	Watkins***	Gray	Ainge*	Shaw**					
Tue 29	19:45	A	Grimsby Town (FATQF)	L 0-3	2,791	75	-	Brill	Henry	Howells	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs	Lawless	Mendy*	Smith	O'Donnell***	Fleetwood	Rendell**	Brill	Howells***	Neilson*	Fleetwood	Rendell**	O'Donnell					

February

Sat 2	15:00	A	Barrow	L 0-1	1,188	188	7	Tyler	Henry	Taylor***	Rowe-Turner	McNulty	Lawless	Mendy*	Smith	Martin	Shaw**	Gray	Fleetwood	Brill	Lacey*	Mendy***	Watkins	Dance	Shaw	Fleetwood**		
Sat 9	15:00	H	Forest Green Rovers	W 1-0	15,000	1,500	-	Tyler	Henry	Taylor	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs	Lawless 1	Mendy	Smith	O'Donnell*	Shaw	Gray**	Fleetwood	Brill	Howells*	Fleetwood***	Rendell**	Walker	Woolley			
Tue 12	19:45	A	Dartford	W 12:45	4,111	551	24	Tyler	Henry	Rowe-Turner	Kovacs 1	Lawless	Mendy	Smith*	Neilson 1	Shaw 3***	Gray 1***	Fleetwood	Brill	Howells*	Fleetwood***	Rendell**	Walker	Woolley				
Sat 23	15:00	H	Mansfield Town	W 1-0	1,300	1,300	1	Tyler	Henry	Rowe-Turner	Ainge	Beckwith	O'Donnell**	Mendy*	Smith	Howells	Shaw	Gray 1*	Fleet									

LET'S GO

DARTFORD



It's Saturday-Tuesday from here on in for the Town and next up is a midweek trip to Dartford in the Blue Square Bet Premier.



DARTFORD

Where? Dartford play their home games at the plush surroundings of Princes Park. Opened in 2006, this modern football ground not only has the facilities to accommodate 4,000 raucous football fans but also has the pristine interior to hold up-market conferences...no expense spared there then!

Princes postcode It's one that should be fairly simple to remember...DA11RT – clever, eh?

Royal Regiment It is not just the name of the ground that oozes majestic stature but since its £7 million construction, Princes Park has also produced a neat nine-hole golf course on location and hire-able astroturf facilities fit for a king.

It's going to be (enviro) mental! Princes Park comes fully kitted out to fulfil the environment's needs! Low-energy lighting is provided, solar panels on the roof generate communal energy and there is a water recycling system that serves the stadium.

To the away end Roughly 700 travelling Hatters will pack out the away section. It'll be time for the Hatters to up their singing voices from the... Car Park End – the none-too-majestic name of the away end.

Orbital For those of you religious away travellers this one is a walk in the park. Just under 60 miles separates the two grounds which should see you reach your destination in just over an hour. Actually, scrap that, the M25 is never straight forward, is it? Especially during a midweek rush hour, so leave in plenty of time.

Catch the Coach... Bobbers will of course be providing travel coaches to and from the ground for those of you who would rather avoid the agony of driving. It's £18 for adults and £15 for concessions and the coach departs the Maple Road car park at 4.30pm.

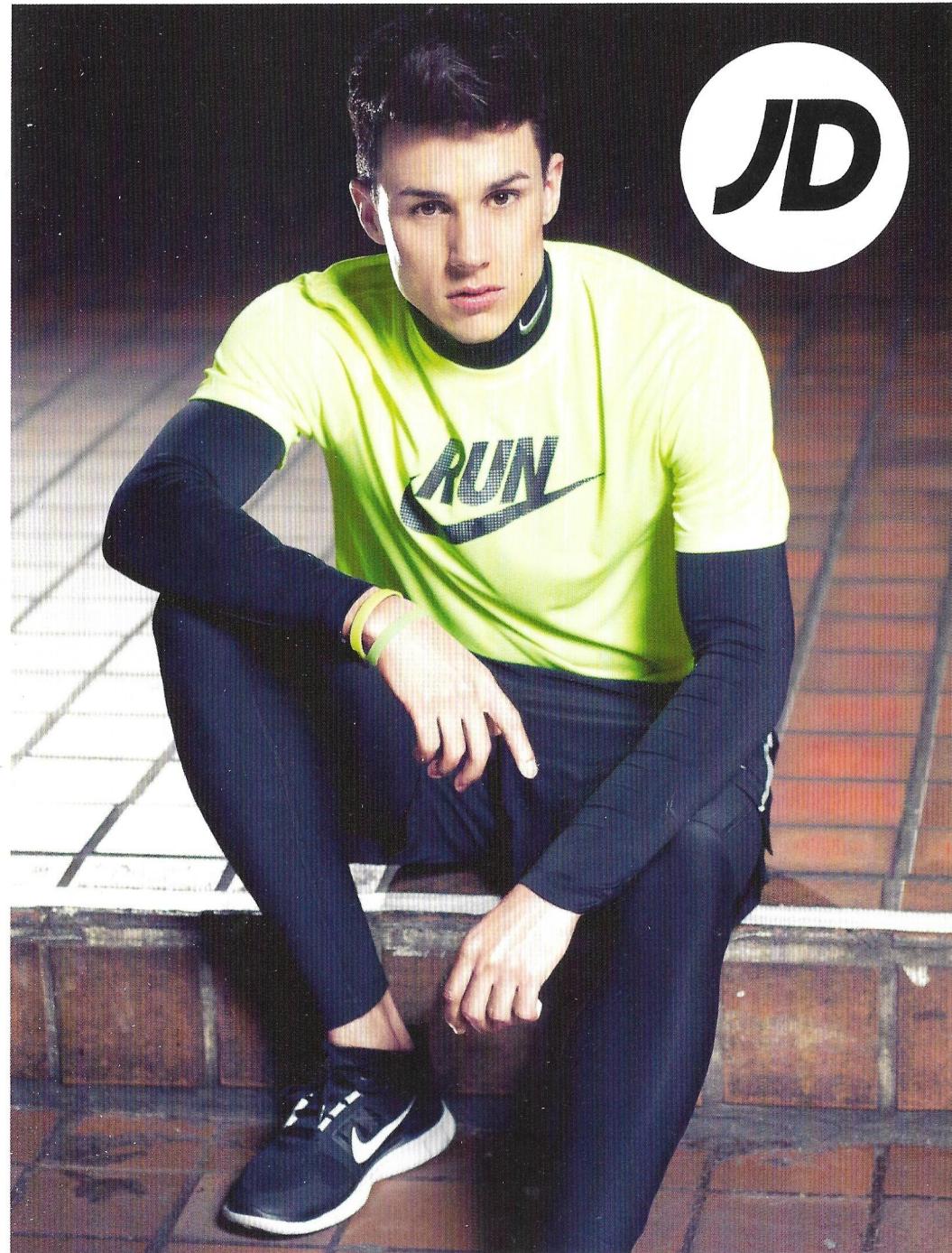
Ground Bingo Enough of the talk about the modern maintenance that has seen Princes Park erected, for many, including the Hatters starting XI, it will be the first visit to Kent as the teams meet for only the second time.

Take Two It will be the second meeting between the sides this season with the Hatters out to rectify the blemish put in place by the Darts in November. That day saw the Darts pierce through the Hatters defence and steal a 2-0 win and leapfrog them into the Play-Off places.

Ladies and Gentlemen...Let's...Play...Darts! Not quite a six-pointer but a firm victory for the Hatters could prove the catalyst for a continuous run of form. The Town are still playing catch-up due to their cup exploits and every game is important.

Home or Away? Dartford have found their feet in the Blue Square Bet Premier this season and their rise to the top half of the table has been largely due to their success at home which has seen them ruthless in front of goal, netting over 30 times already this campaign. Forgive the darting pun but let's hope their finishing is off.

One Hundred and Eighteeeeen! For those of you looking for a tenuous link between the sides, there is one. Single 18 required for the Hatters after winger Dave Martin spent two years in Kent bagging 14 goals in just under 70 appearances prior to his move to the Championship with Crystal Palace.



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TODAY'S TEAMS



LUTON TOWN

Mark Tyler	1	1	Matt Bulman
Lathaniel Rowe-Turner	2	2	Jared Hodgkiss
Greg Taylor	3	3	Chris Stokes
Garry Richards	4	4	Al Bangura
Steve McNulty	5	5	Jamie Turley
Janos Kovacs	6	6	Dale Bennett
Alex Lawless	7	7	Omar Koroma
Danny Spiller	8	8	Yan Kukowski
Jon Shaw	9	9	Reece Styche
Scott Rendell	10	10	Magno Vieira
Jake Howells	11	11	Kieron Forbes
Simon Ainge	12	12	Jamie Collins
Stuart Fleetwood	13	13	Rob Brown
Arnaud Mandy	14	14	Matty Taylor
Adam Watkins	15	15	Eddie Oshodi
Alex Lacey	16	16	Ed Asafu-Adjaye
JJ O'Donnell	17	17	Ben Wright
Dave Martin	18	18	James Rowe
James Dance	19	19	James Norwood
Scott Neilson	20	20	Arran Racine
Wayne Thomas	22	22	Paul Green
Matt Robinson	23	23	Sam Russell
Jonathan Smith	24	24	Ashley Brown
Ronnie Henry	25	25	Yemi Odubade
Andre Gray	27	27	Stephen Brogan
Jake Woolley	28		
Dan Walker	29		
Dean Brill	33		

FOREST GREEN ROVERS

1	Matt Bulman
2	Jared Hodgkiss
3	Chris Stokes
4	Al Bangura
5	Jamie Turley
6	Dale Bennett
7	Omar Koroma
8	Yan Kukowski
9	Reece Styche
10	Magno Vieira
11	Kieron Forbes
12	Jamie Collins
13	Rob Brown
14	Matty Taylor
15	Eddie Oshodi
16	Ed Asafu-Adjaye
17	Ben Wright
18	James Rowe
19	James Norwood
20	Arran Racine
21	
22	Paul Green
23	Sam Russell
24	Ashley Brown
25	Yemi Odubade
26	
27	Stephen Brogan
28	

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: N. Kinseley
ASSISTANT: G. Kane
ASSISTANT: J. Pike
FOURTH OFFICIAL: S. Lea

HERE NEXT

MILLWALL
FA CUP FIFTH ROUND
SATURDAY 16TH FEBRUARY 2013
KICK-OFF 12.45PM