



Official Matchday Programme of Luton Town Football Club

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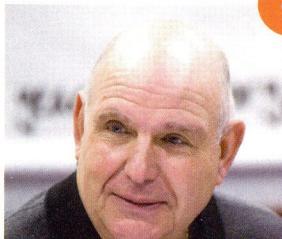
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## LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 2020 LTD

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



# JOHN STILL

**It gives me great pleasure to welcome you back to Kenilworth Road for another home fixture as we entertain Hyde.**

I'd like to wish a warm welcome to Scott McNiven, the visiting manager, plus his staff and players and everyone associated with Hyde for this evening's match which holds importance for both clubs.

Looking back on Saturday's 1-1 draw with Hereford, we saw two sides to the way the team is at the moment. In the first half we saw the not too adventurous side, the cautious and apprehensive side to the team.

That was reversed in the second 45 minutes when I thought we saw the adventurous, up-tempo and aggressive side to the team, and that culminated in a deserved equaliser.

## Heartening

At the moment it is important to focus on the positives at this very early stage in the project we have begun, but it is also just as crucial to respect those things we are not doing so well. After a disappointing first half, it was heartening to see the reaction of the players in the second period.

I saw a number of impressive individual performances in the second half and it was no surprise to me that our improvement stemmed from our quicker tempo.

You will have noted that there were a couple of adjustments to the team at the weekend, in both the starting XI and on the substitutes bench. At this juncture in the season it is the only way I am able to make an honest assessment of the squad here.

## Equal opportunity

Performances and attitudes in training give me a good indication of a player but there is no better opportunity for a player to impress me than in the reality of a competitive game.

It is important that I give all the players an equal opportunity. To do that, causing as little disruption as possible, is tough but it's the only way in which I will get the chance to see who of the squad here can take this club forward. Decisions need to be made come the end of the season and players are naturally playing for their futures.

After this evening's game we travel to Wrexham on Saturday. That will prove to be a really good test for us and probably our hardest so far.

That will mark five games that I have been in charge for and by that point I think I will have a better idea of where we are. This period will give every player a massive opportunity to stake a claim in the squad. Some, of course, are playing for their futures.

## Impressed

What also impressed me on Saturday was your support of the team. It was fantastic, especially in the second half. It was appreciated hugely by myself, the staff and the players, and I think the amount of applause you gave the team afterwards underlined how pleasing that second-half showing was. We only drew yet were giving a rousing reception off the pitch and for that, I thank you.

There are going to be many ups and downs in the future but it is imperative we always stick together, through the good times and bad. We will be stronger for it.

This evening's game is going to be tough – no doubt about that. Visiting teams relish coming to Kenilworth Road but we need to make sure that it is a place that away sides fear coming to. Hard work and a positive attitude can go a long way.

So get behind us tonight, enjoy the game and let's believe we can get all three points.

# FROM THE BOARDROOM

WITH CHAIRMAN NICK OWEN



**Good evening and welcome once again to Kenilworth Road as we play our second home game in just four days.**

A special welcome to our visitors from Hyde who'll be coming here desperate for points to keep them in the

Blue Square Bet Premier after a wretched run of six consecutive defeats. However, they have had some outstanding victories as well this season - over Grimsby and Newport, for instance - plus a hefty 7-0 thrashing of Woking.

As for us, we are now into a run-in of nine home games in the final 13, which started with the home draw against Hereford on Saturday.

Like me, I am sure you were disappointed with our first half display at the weekend, but encouraged by the second 45 minutes.

Hereford could have had more than their 1-0 lead at half time - they seemed faster to the ball, hungrier and more determined - but that all changed in the second half and we could have snatched all three points ourselves.

## Strengths

Clearly, our new manager John Still is having to find out fast what our strengths and weaknesses are. It can't be easy for a manager to pick up the reins so close to the end of the season, particularly at a club where some of the players are low in confidence after such a poor run in the league.

It has been agonising, galling and frustrating for all of us to look on and see some of the performances lately. Defeats at Barrow, Dartford, Braintree, and at home to Mansfield, have been mighty hard to stomach. It's hard to take when you care so much isn't it? John and his assistant Terry Harris are having to carry out a lot of repair work.

I have been struck by the positive, upbeat mood around the club since John arrived. I must say, while personally welcoming John and Terry, that the reaction I have had from football and journalistic friends since the appointment has been overwhelming.

John has a terrific reputation in football, as a man and a manager, and it says a lot for our ambition and the way we are now perceived by others in the game after all our off-field problems that he was willing to leave Dagenham and Redbridge to join us here at Kenilworth Road.

## Pure delight

I have seen all three of our matches since John took over. I would say our best display was at Stockport County. We dominated most of the game, scored a good goal and could have had a couple of others.

It was our first league win since early January, unbelievable for a side hoping to go up, so the sense of relief and pure delight around Edgeley Park was simply terrific.

Strange how things happen, but the trip to Stockport was my second in four days. I'd been there on the Wednesday to do some filming with comedian Peter Kay for Comic Relief. Don't ask - it was bizarre, but it may be worth having a gander this Friday!

And while we are talking television, remember to keep your eyes peeled for news of Miranda Hart's affectionate documentary about our most famous fan Eric Morecambe.

As you probably know, she spent a day filming here before and after the match against Alfreton. It's likely to go out on a Saturday night on BBC 1 in the not too distant future.

Back to John's first week here. The win at Stockport was followed by a dour battle at Nuneaton. Barcelona versus Real Madrid it wasn't!

But, grim as it was, the players showed plenty of fight, loads of determination and we could have sneaked it at the end when we were starting to get the edge. What's more, it gave John and Terry another insight into what they need to do.

Then came Hereford on Saturday. A poor first half as far as we were concerned, but we were a different side after the break and came close on a number of occasions before David Martin's screamer near the end.

Our support was magnificent during the game - very vocal - and a tremendous spur to the players when they were pressing to equalise. Thank you very much. The team really appreciate it and I know John was hugely impressed. Don't ever underestimate the power of that inspiring Kenilworth Road crescendo rocking the stadium!

## Optimistic

So, although the season has had many disappointments, there are also very good reasons to be optimistic. John is very keen to stress that we are on a long-term project, but it is still possible to achieve something short term, i.e. the Play-Offs.

I know it would be an astonishing achievement from where we are, but we can still reach a maximum 86 points by winning all our games. If we are not trying and aiming to win all our games, what is the point?

Therefore, that has to be the target, and we reached the Play-Offs last season with 81 points. York got 83.

It's a big ask, and John, the professional, understandably won't talk about it. But, if you're a fan, pure and simple, like so many tens of thousands of us, we'll inevitably cling to the dream, won't we?

Whatever happens this season, I am confident we have an exhilarating ride ahead with John Still - it's fantastic to have him here.

Enjoy the game tonight - raise the roof.

Bye for now.

## HONOURS

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**Johnstone's Paint Trophy:**  
Winners 2009

**Simod Cup:** Runners-up 1988

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

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

**Football League Division Three:**  
Runners-up 1969/70

**League One:** Champions 2004/05

**Football League Division Four:**  
Champions 1967/68

**Football League Division Three:**  
Runners-up 2001/02

**Blue Square Premier:**  
Runners-up 2009/10

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

**Southern League Division Two:**  
Runners-up 1913/14

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

**Southern Alliance:** Runners-up 1913/14

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# RONNIE HENRY

Saturday was our first home game under the new manager and, after overcoming a slow first half, I thought our second-half performance was one of our best of the season.

I thought we were really impressive and deserved our equaliser. I think it would have been a travesty had we not got at least a point and with the amount of chances we created in the second half it was a touch disappointing not to collect all three points.

We were well on top in the second half but it seemed the luck deserted us. We accepted that our first-half showing was not good enough but the manager just told us to go out and express ourselves.

He is a man that encourages us to be confident when we take to the field and our performance in the second half was much more how he'd like us to play.

He knows, and we know, that miracles aren't going to happen overnight and that success is going to take time and hard work.

As professionals we are desperately disappointed that we haven't performed to an acceptable standard, but if we play anything like we did in the second half on Saturday then there's every reason to be optimistic about the future.

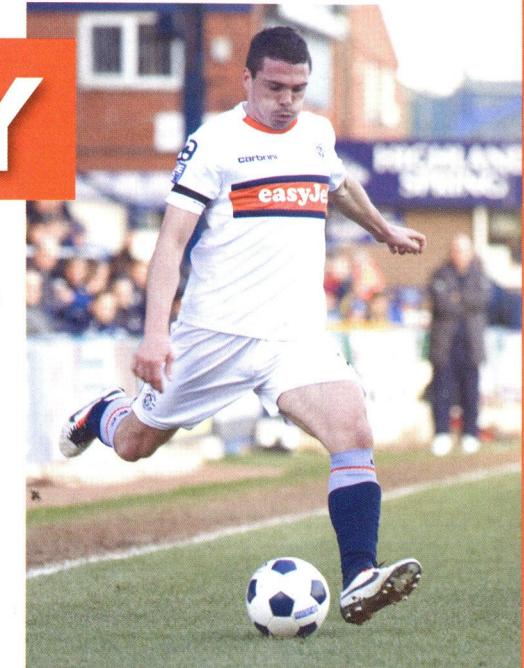
Hereford barely had a kick in the second half and our equaliser was one to cherish for Dave Martin. He grabbed his chance as a substitute and took it with both hands. He was indebted to a breathtaking finger-tip save from Mark Tyler at one end before firing home the deserved equaliser. Every player knows that it is important to impress the new manager and Dave certainly did that.

### Smiling

The draw, whilst frustrating, kept up our unbeaten record since the new manager's arrival and one of the most noticeable things around the place since John came in has been the number of smiling faces.

When he first met the players he shook everyone's hand and told everyone to smile. He wants us to enjoy our work and our working environment and there is a real buzz about the place, especially at the training ground.

Slowly but surely we are learning from him and so far it has been very enjoyable. As I've said already, it isn't going to happen straight away. One of John's sayings



is that he has never seen the man with a magic wand. Being successful takes time and hard work and that is a philosophy that we are keen to embrace.

It won't be easy but you only have to look at his success – on and off the pitch – at Dagenham and Redbridge to realise we have a man in charge who has such an excellent track record. I believe we are still a long way off where we need to be but so far the past three games have given us plenty of encouragement.

Tonight we entertain Hyde in our second home game in the space of four days. They have lost their last six matches so it goes without saying how determined they are going to be to stop that rot this evening.

Most teams are happy with a point here and they will be no different. They have adjusted to life at this level really well and have taken some notable scalps, so we know we are certainly not going to have everything our own way tonight.

Victory for us this evening would be a massive boost and that is what we'll be striving for. We are not giving up on a place in the top five and we need your support if we're going to achieve it. So often this season your backing has helped us – let that be the case again this evening and get behind us. Enjoy the game.

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

# AROUND TOWN

## THE LATEST NEWS AT KENILWORTH ROAD

### SOLOMON SIGNS

As mentioned briefly in Saturday's programme, former Dagenham & Redbridge midfielder Solomon Taiwo joined the Hatters on a contract until the end of the season last Thursday. Taiwo, 27, flourished under current Town manager John Still at Victoria Road, having been signed from Sutton United in 2007.

He won the Player of the Year award in his first full season with Dagenham, scoring six goals as Still's side finished just outside the League 2 Play-Offs in 2008/09.

His all-action performances at the heart of the Daggers' midfield won him many admirers and ultimately they earned him a move to Championship club Cardiff City in the summer of 2009. Signed by Dave Jones, Taiwo played nine games in the Championship for the Bluebirds before Jones left the club. Unable to hold down a regular place in the side, he returned to Dagenham on loan in 2010/11.

Last season, Taiwo spent a spell out on loan with League 1 side Leyton Orient prior to his release at the Cardiff City Stadium in the summer, and this season he turned out once for Mansfield in the Blue Square Bet Premier.

But now the Nigerian is reunited with the manager who helped him become one of the most highly-rated midfield players in the lower leagues.

Strong, creative, and with an eye for goal, Still was delighted to have Taiwo on the Town's books.

Still told Talk of the Town: "Solomon is a bright boy, and a strong and good passing footballer who can really compete. He is by no means fit to be included straight away, but once he's up and at it he will be a really great addition to the squad."

### HATTERS PLAYER TRIAL

New signing Solomon Taiwo gave his first interview to Hatters Player when signing last week and, as we approach a crucial period in the season, you can take advantage of our free trial on Hatters Player and get closer to the action.

All the post-match reaction from Saturday's 1-1 draw with Hereford is available to subscribers including discussion with Mark Tyler, Alex Lawless, Dave Martin and manager John Still.

Claim your 14 day free trial today and you can enjoy access to the below features:

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Many fans have already signed up to our official multimedia channel and for those that haven't, now is the perfect time!

Don't miss out, claim your 14 day free Hatters Player by visit [www.player.lutontown.co.uk](http://www.player.lutontown.co.uk). It will be the same again after this evening's game with all the reaction from those that matter.

### TYLER SIGNS FOR NORWICH

Highly-rated teenage scholar Tyler Reading has signed for Premier League Norwich City.

In a move that cements the Town's pedigree for producing young talent even further, the deal, agreed last week, sees Tyler join Norwich on a two-year scholarship agreement, for an undisclosed fee.

Head of Youth Operations, Matt Stannard, told Talk of the Town: "Whilst it is our ultimate aim to push players all the way through our development programme, we would never stand in the way of a player who is offered the opportunity to move onto a bigger club."

"Obviously, the deal has to be right for all parties and, we as a club, would always ensure the welfare and future development of the child before entering into discussions with any club. We felt in this instance that this was the right move for Tyler and Luton Town Football Club."

Tyler was one of 10 players previously offered pre-scholar agreements when the club were relegated into the Conference. These contracts are given out to players in the Under-15/16 season who the club would like to tie down until the end of their Under-18 season.

Each club running an apprenticeship scheme alongside the Football League can register up to 18 players for their youth team squads and draw funding from League Football Education.

Tyler's switch to Norwich will now open up a place for Craig King who was attracting a lot of interest from bigger clubs. Craig has since agreed to sign for the next two years.

Town Academy Manager Wayne Turner was delighted with the signing of Craig. "We were stuck between a rock and a hard place with this decision," said Turner. "They are both talented goalkeepers and we didn't want to lose either of them. We had long discussions with all the staff and felt that this was the best decision for the club. This way, we have allowed Tyler to pursue his career and gained a talented goalkeeper in Craig."

"We would like to wish Tyler every success at his new club as he seeks to pursue his career at a Premier League club."

The agreement further highlights the Town's proud history of producing young talent. The club were placed 141st in Europe, according to a report in December, when it comes to producing footballers for the top four European leagues. A feat the club wish to build on moving forward.

### REST IN PEACE



The Hatters received the sad news that season ticket holder Steven Armstrong died on 28th February.

The life-long Town fan was a regular home and away and known to many supporters. Our thoughts are with his family and friends at this sad time.

### BROTHERS REUNITED

Town supporter of 45 years, Keith Green, wrote to Talk of the Town last month ahead of our home fixture with Mansfield...

"In April 2012 I found out that I have an elder brother, Martin, that I never knew about. He is 65 now.

Born out of Wedlock in 1947 and adopted at birth, our father wasn't even allowed to see the baby. Martin set about tracing his mother, it took about two years,



and when he found her he also found his father and two full brothers.

"When we first made contact one of the first things I mentioned was my life-long support for Luton Town; in reply he explained the he is a Mansfield Town supporter of over 50 years!"

So, when the Town played the Stags at Kenilworth Road on the 23rd, Gareth Owen photographed the duo at half time. Unfortunately, Martin took the bragging rights following the 3-2 victory for the Stags.

### WINNER WANTED

One lucky supporter is missing out on a cool £650 prize after Saturday's Golden Gamble was unclaimed.

Ticket 29444 is the number you need to look for and, if it's you, then please contact the commercial department on 01582 411622 or email [commercial@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:commercial@lutontown.co.uk) to claim your prize.

The winner of our draw against Mansfield, meanwhile, has stepped forward. Sandy Humphrey (pictured) was the lucky winner and she picked up a cool £605.



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FROM THE TICKET OFFICE



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Adults (22-64) £112, Young Adults (17-21) and Seniors (65-75) £80, Golden Seniors (over 75s) £52, Youths (10-16) £18, Juniors (under 10s) £18.



**WREXHAM v LUTON TOWN**

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 16TH MARCH 2013, KICK-OFF 3PM

Admission is pay on the day for Town supporters.  
Seating only. Prices: £18 adults, £12 over-60s and under-21s, £5 over-80s and under-16s, £2 under-11s.



**LUTON TOWN v STOCKPORT COUNTY**

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

TUESDAY 19TH MARCH 2013, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.



**LUTON TOWN v TAMWORTH**

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 23RD MARCH 2013, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.



**LUTON TOWN v EBBSFLEET UNITED**

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

TUESDAY 26TH MARCH 2013, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.



**CAMBRIDGE UNITED v LUTON TOWN**

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

SATURDAY 30TH MARCH 2013, KICK-OFF 3PM

We are awaiting ticket information from Cambridge United for this match. This will be released in due course.



**LUTON TOWN v KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS**

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

MONDAY 1ST APRIL 2013, KICK-OFF 3PM

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# COMMERCIAL BREAK

WITH COMMERCIAL MANAGER DAVID HOSKINS

Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road once more for the second home fixture in four days, as we entertain Hyde.

This season our commercial packages have been going like hot cakes at Kenilworth Road but there are still several packages up for grabs.

Make the most out of your trip to Kenilworth Road this season with one of the great packages we have on offer.

The packages still available are:

**LUTON TOWN v STOCKPORT COUNTY 19/03/2013**

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**LUTON TOWN v EBBSFLEET UNITED - 26/03/2013**

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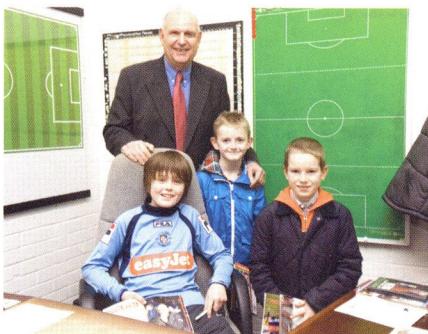
**LUTON TOWN v LINCOLN CITY - 09/04/2013**

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**LUTON TOWN v NEWPORT COUNTY - 16/04/2013**

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| <b>JON SHAW</b><br>HOME: Jacqui Peacock<br>AWAY: Maddie Knight                        | <b>SCOTT RENDELL</b><br>HOME: re-Mark-it<br>AWAY: Richard and Zak Tilley           | <b>JAKE HOWELLS</b><br>HOME: Neil Ehrenzweig<br>AWAY: Sports 262                   | <b>ANDRE GRAY</b><br>HOME: Tom<br>AWAY: Tom                          |
| <b>STUART FLEETWOOD</b><br>HOME: Richard Robinson<br>AWAY: Amit Jani                  | <b>ADAM WATKINS</b><br>HOME: The Walsh Family from Marbella<br>AWAY: Kelly Knight  | <b>ALEX LACEY</b><br>HOME: Peter and Linda Little<br>AWAY: In Memory of Bill Lacey | <b>JJ O'DONNELL</b><br>HOME: Mad Hatter<br>AWAY: Available           |
| <b>JAMES DANCE</b><br>HOME: Tommy Lennon<br>AWAY: WHOSH                               | <b>LEWIS KIDD</b><br>HOME: Available<br>AWAY: Available<br>GLOVES: Available       | <b>MATT ROBINSON</b><br>HOME: Doug Knight<br>AWAY: Doug Knight                     | <b>JAKE WOOLLEY</b><br>HOME: Total Motion Limited<br>AWAY: Available |
| <b>RONNIE HENRY</b><br>HOME: Conor Francome<br>AWAY: Key Holder Lettings & Management | <b>DAN WALKER</b><br>HOME: Peter & Linda Little<br>AWAY: Available                 | <b>ALASAN ANN</b><br>HOME: Available<br>AWAY: Available                            | <b>SIMON AINGE</b><br>HOME: Available<br>AWAY: Available             |
| <b>ARNAUD MENDY</b><br>HOME: Loyal Luton<br>AWAY: WHOSH                               | <b>SCOTT NEILSON</b><br>HOME: Formula Security Ltd<br>AWAY: Available              | <b>JONATHAN SMITH</b><br>HOME: Holly Kemp<br>AWAY: Available                       | <b>STEVE McNULTY</b><br>HOME: Simon Cowland<br>AWAY: CME Heating     |
| <b>DAVE MARTIN</b><br>HOME: Ronnie Coles<br>AWAY: Available                           | <b>WAYNE THOMAS</b><br>HOME: CME Heating<br>AWAY: Available                        | <b>ALEX WALL</b><br>HOME: Available<br>AWAY: Available                             | <b>JAKE GOODMAN</b><br>HOME: Available<br>AWAY: Available            |
| <b>SOLOMON TAIWO</b><br>HOME: Gleneden Plant Sales<br>AWAY: Ben Gray                  | <b>JOHN STILL</b><br>HOME: LTSC<br>AWAY: Country Properties                        | <b>TERRY HARRIS</b><br>HOME: LTSC<br>AWAY: Country Properties                      | <b>ALAN NEILSON</b><br>HOME: Gleneden Plant Sales<br>AWAY: Ben Gray  |
| <b>CARL EMBERTON</b><br>HOME: Available<br>AWAY: Available                            | <b>STUART CASH</b><br>HOME: Available<br>AWAY: Available                           | <b>DMITRI KHARINE</b><br>HOME: Available<br>AWAY: Available                        |  |

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# WELCOME HYDE



**The cold weather is back at Kenilworth Road as Hyde make the 300-plus mile round trip for their first ever visit to Bedfordshire.**

The Tigers have only ever met the Hatters once before, back in August when the Hatters trekked to Ewen Fields for the first time.

After a goalless first half it was the hosts who took the advantage through Matthew Blinkhorn who netted 10 minutes after the restart. But goals from JJ O'Donnell and Stuart Fleetwood over-turned the one-goal deficit for the Hatters to secure all three points on a tricky Friday night in Hyde.

Prior to that defeat Hyde were unbeaten in the Blue Square Premier since their promotion last campaign picking up two draws in their first two outings. The following four games however saw Hyde concede eight times and fail to pick up a single point.

They currently find themselves lying 21st on the Blue Square Bet Premier ladder and head into the game this evening on the back of a six-game losing streak.

Their away form has been something that needs to be addressed and rectified if they are to maintain their top

flight status for next season with 13 defeats away from home being one of the main reasons for their lowly league position.

Their form at home, however, could prove their secret weapon with just seven defeats all season at Ewen Fields. During that time they have notched up a plus two goal difference, helped largely in part by the 7-0 demolition against Woking in December. On that day Phil Jevons bagged four against the Cards.

Jevons has spearheaded the Tigers all season, and his presence will be one the Town back line will eye up with caution ahead of this evening's game. Jevons has 16 league goals to his name this campaign and the former Everton youngster will be the figurehead for the Tigers survival mission during the run in.

This evening's fixture will be one of the final away games of the season for the Tigers who only have three travels after this evening, which will leave our visitors to concentrate on their home form.

However, it goes without saying that a point or indeed all three this evening here at Kenilworth Road would be huge for the Tigers.

# THE TIGERS

## AN AT-A-GLANCE LOOK AT THE HYDE SQUAD

### SCOTT MCNIVEN

The boss. Began his career with Oldham Athletic in 1992 before an illustrious career ended at Hyde in 2011. Took the reins as boss on full-time basis in 2012.

### DAVID CARNELL

Goalkeeper formerly with Curzon Ashton, Oldham Town and Stalybridge Celtic. The 27-year-old kept 20 clean sheets last campaign for the Tigers.

### JOSH BRIZELL

21-year-old defender signed for Hyde in 2011 after being released by Rochdale.

### ADAM GRIFFIN

Highly experienced left-back with over 250 Football League appearances to his name. The current club captain joined Hyde from Stockport County in 2011.

### LUKE ASHWORTH

23-year-old defender started his footballing career with Wigan Athletic. Signed for Hyde in 2012 after a brief spell at Halifax Town.

### ALEX BROWN

Midfielder penned a deal in the summer with Hyde after impressing at Chester City in the Blue Square Bet North.

### DAVID POOLE

A product of the Manchester United academy, Poole was quickly signed up by Yeovil upon his release from Old Trafford in 2005. The now 28-year-old winger signed for Hyde in 2011.

### SCOTT SPENCER

Ex-Oldham youngster signed for Everton in 2006 but failed to make an appearance. The former England under-19 international joined Hyde in 2011.

### PHIL JEVONS

One of the league's top scorers penned a deal with Hyde in 2012. A product of the Everton youth set-up, Jevons has displayed his goalscoring touch across the four divisions below the top flight.

### STEFAN COX

Explosive winger who joined Hyde in the summer from League 2 Fleetwood Town.

### ASHLEY FRITH

Back-up goalkeeper formerly with Manchester City's and Blackburn Rovers' youth academies.

### TUNJI MOSES

Combative midfielder who previously had spells at FC United of Manchester and Salford City, before joining Hyde in 2011.

### MARK ALLOTT

A January acquisition for the Tigers, formerly of Chesterfield and Oldham Athletic where he made over 100 appearances in the Football League.

### KEVIN LOMAX

Spent seven years at Oldham Athletic before being released in 2011. He had spells with Chesterfield, Shrewsbury and Barrow before joining Hyde in the summer.

### MATTHEW CASSIDY

Made his Hyde bow against the Hatters in August. Former Bolton youngster, who represented Ireland at Under-16, 17 and 19 level.

### MATTHEW BLINKHORN

Former Blackpool youngster spent time at Kenilworth Road on loan in 2004. Made his Hyde debut against Town back in August 2012, scoring in the process.

### LIAM TOMSETT

Midfielder on loan from Blackpool. Formerly spent time on loan at Ayr United and Altrincham.

### OSAYAMEN OSawe

19-year-old striker currently on loan from Championship side Blackburn Rovers. Also spent time at Accrington Stanley this campaign.

### MATTY HARRIS

Product of Hyde's very own youth system, Harris bagged a debut hat-trick against Nantwich Victoria in November - the first player to accomplish this in over 30 years.

### CHRIS SEDGWICK

Highly experienced winger who is on loan from Scunthorpe United. Has made over 400 Football League appearances for Preston, Rotherham and Sheffield Wednesday.

### RAY PUTTERILL

Liverpool academy product who made his name at Accrington Stanley and Rochdale. Penned a deal with the Tigers in January.

### SHAY MCCARTAN

Currently on loan from Burnley, the forward has represented Northern Ireland at Under-17, 19 and 21 level.

### TOM ANDERSON

Another loan signing from Burnley, the young defender has already spent time this campaign on loan at Barrow.



**Established:** 1885  
**Nickname(s):** The Tigers  
**Stadium:** Ewan Fields  
**Capacity:** 4,073 (Avg. attendance '12/13 - 800)  
**Manager:** Scott McNiven (10 months)  
**Final league position '11/12:** 1st BSBN



**Hyde** won the Blue Square Bet North title convincingly last season under former manager Gary Lowe with a points total of 90. On their way to promotion, the Tigers scored 90 goals and had a watertight defence conceding only 36. In May 2012, though, Lowe resigned and Scott McNiven was given the job.

McNiven's aim at the start of the season was to keep Hyde in non-league's top flight division – a division they have never before reached in their entire history – but things started badly for the Tigers.

A poor start saw them earn just one win in 13 and McNiven's side were finding out just how tough the task ahead of them would be. However, a miraculous run of form from the beginning of October all the way to the end of the festive period meant they shot up the table away from relegation. In 11 matches, the Tigers won eight games and were amongst the most in-form teams in the league.

Unfortunately, for the club from Greater Manchester, though, 2013 has not been as fruitful. Hyde have plunged back into the relegation zone and are in desperate need of points in a relegation battle that looks set to go down to the very last day of the campaign with six teams currently within four points of each other.

#### A CLOSER LOOK AT HYDE'S SEASON SO FAR

Hyde are currently languishing in 21st place after 36 games. The Tigers have won 10, drawn six, lost 20, scored 47 and scored 61. The 20 games Hyde have lost is the most in the division and, at the time of writing, Hyde are bottom of the form table. McNiven's team have lost six matches on the trot and have only managed to score once in that period, and have conceded a staggering 16 goals. This desperate run actually extends further beyond six games: Hyde have lost 10 of their last 12.

Interestingly, away from home, the Tigers have actually scored more goals than the Hatters this season despite



One to watch: Scott Spencer – last season's leading goalscorer

scoring only just once in their last six. However, they have one of the league's worst defensive records conceding an average of exactly two goals per game.

The Tigers' second-half record arguably unveils the most about their season and explains why they find themselves struggling. They have the worst record in the division and have conceded 41 of their 61 in the second 45 minutes of games - many have attributed this to their part-time status and therefore lack of fitness compared with other sides.

From a Luton perspective, John Still will be hoping to make it three clean sheets in four games seeing as Hyde have failed to score in 13 games this season which is the joint most in the division.

#### ONES TO WATCH

##### Adam Griffin

An experienced left full-back who has made nearly 250 appearances in the Football League for the likes of Oldham Athletic, Oxford United and Stockport County.

##### Alex Brown

A dynamic midfielder who signed from Chester after being a stand-out player in the mid-to-lower reaches of non-league football. He will likely be one of Hyde's most enterprising players on the ball today.

##### Jamie Milligan

On loan from Fleetwood, Milligan is a vastly experienced midfielder at 33 years of age, and will be the organiser and enforcer in the Tigers' midfield.

##### Scott Spencer

The striker who led Hyde to the Blue Square Bet North title last year scoring 32 goals in 36 games. This season he has 11 and will be a threat on the break.

##### Phil Jevons

Something of a household name in the BSBP, Jevons has played in all top five divisions in English football for the likes of Everton, Grimsby and Hull. The 33-year-old has netted 15 times this season.

# THOUGHTS FROM THE OAK ROAD

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

**WHAT'S YOUR NAME?** Mark Croft.

**AGE?** I was born in 1966

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SUPPORTING YOUR CLUB?** Since 1966

**WHAT HAS IT BEEN LIKE PLAYING IN THE BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER THIS SEASON? HAVE YOU FOUND IT A BIG STEP UP?**

It's been wonderful, glorious in fact. Being the smallest eel in the biggest non-league pond has meant quite a number of changes to our 'normal' way of operating, such as the numbers of stewards required and so on. As for the team, they have not let anyone down.

**WHAT'S BEEN THE HIGHLIGHT AND THE LOWLIGHT OF YOUR SEASON?**

Beating Stockport County 2-0 at Edgley Park and not having to play against Stalybridge are highlights. The low point is not mixing with the fans due to segregation. I miss the light-hearted banter between respective fans when passing to go behind the opposite nets at half-time.

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

The captain - Adam Griffin.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK OF YOUR MANAGER SCOTT MCNIVEN?** The most mild-mannered, honest man you're likely to meet. Just don't cross him!

**WHAT'S YOUR CLUB'S FAVOURITE CHANT/SONG?** When we score: "We're Tigers, we're bouncy nah na na nah!" (complete with the bouncing).

**WHAT'S YOUR ALL-TIME FAVOURITE GAME INVOLVING HYDE?**

I have a shocking memory but winning the league last year against Boston United and the team being in its highest position in its 100-plus year history has to be the best for me.

**IF YOU COULD PICK ONE THING TO GET RID OF IN MODERN FOOTBALL, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Goal kicks being taken from the opposite side from where the ball has gone out. It's pathetic time wasting.

**WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT BEING A HYDE FAN?**

Waking up every day knowing I am not a Stalybridge Celtic fan. It makes me smile every time.



Lifelong Tiger's fan Mark Croft

**WILL HYDE STAY UP THIS SEASON?**

Yes.

**WHAT SORT OF TEST ARE YOU EXPECTING LUTON TO POSE TODAY? ARE HYDE FANS LOOKING FORWARD TO VISITING KENILWORTH ROAD?**

I will be very disappointed if you underestimate us tonight. We want to see what you have got. We are all thrilled to be playing against such a fantastic club and can't wait to see you again next season.

**WHAT'S THE SCORE GOING TO BE TODAY?**  
 Hatters 2 Tigers 1.

# CLASSIC CAMPAIGNS

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS SELECTS 10 POST-WAR HYDE CLASSIC CAMPAIGNS

## 1980/81

The club won the Cheshire Senior Cup and went close to the Cheshire League treble in 1980/81. Les Sutton's side won their first seven Cheshire League games in an 11-match unbeaten start and remained top for much of the season. But Carl Culley's absence with injury during the run-in proved costly as Hyde lost 2-1 in a title decider at Nantwich in May. The Tigers lost to Winsford in the Cheshire League Cup final but won the Cheshire League Challenge Shield. They also lifted Cheshire Senior Cup for the first time in 11 years, gaining a dramatic 3-2 semi-final replay win over Northwich, then beating Stalybridge 4-3 in an amazing final replay.

## 1981/82

Les Sutton managed Hyde to the Cheshire League treble in 1981/82. New signings included Barney Daniels and Peter Coyne and Hyde overcame a 1-0 defeat at Chorley on the opening day to lose just once more - 5-4 at home to Curzon Ashton in October - before clinching the title with a 4-1 victory at Formby in April. Kevin Glendon, later sold to Burnley, broke into the team during the closing weeks of the season and Phil Parry arrived from Horwich. The Tigers lifted the Cheshire League Cup with a 1-0 victory over Stalybridge in the final and completed the treble with a 2-0 win over second-placed Chorley to lift the Cheshire League Challenge Shield.

## 1985/86

The Tigers United won the Northern Premier League Cup for first time in 1985/86. Peter O'Brien's side defeated Worksop Town 4-2, Witton Albion 2-1 and Macclesfield Town 4-1 to reach the Northern Premier League Cup final, beating runners-up Marine 1-0 at Maine Road. They finished 10th in the Northern Premier League, drawing both matches against champions Gateshead as well as both against Morecambe and Burton Albion. John Timmons was leading scorer with 14 goals, while other key figures included skipper Glyn Chamberlain and Player of the Year Colin Jackson, Malcolm O'Connor, Terry Cook, Steve Johnson and Wayne Roberts.

## 1987/88

Hyde United finished as Northern Premier League runners-up in 1987/88. The Tigers were the highest scorers with 91 goals, trouncing Workington 6-0 and Southport 5-1 on the artificial pitch at the re-named Tameside Stadium, and winning 5-0 at Goole Town. They won 16 of their home matches and suffered just one home defeat - 3-2 against Witton Albion - finishing three points behind champions Chorley. Malcolm O'Connor was leading marksman with 34 goals and moved to Northwich Victoria for a record fee. Terry Megram was captain and Simon Rudge was Player of the Year, while other stars included Nigel Smith, Gary Walker and Russ Hooton.

## 1988/89

Peter O'Brien guided Hyde United to the FA Trophy semi-finals in 1988/89. The Tigers beat Stockton, Gretna, Windsor & Eton and Wycombe Wanderers in the FA Trophy before losing 4-0 on aggregate to eventual winners Telford United, with the semi-final first leg watched by 3,593. They were Northern Premier League runners-up for the second consecutive year, finishing seven points behind Barrow, and were Premier Inter League Cup finalists, losing on penalties to Barnet after a thrilling 3-3 draw.

## 1989/90

The club won the Northern Premier League Cup and Cheshire Senior Cup in 1989/90. Simon Rudge moved to Runcorn for a record fee in November and Jim McCluskie arrived from Mossley. Peter O'Brien's side beat Leek Town, Congleton Town, Colne Dynamos and Bishop Auckland in the Northern Premier League Cup before defeating Gateshead 1-0 in the final. The Tigers beat Macclesfield Town 1-0 in the Cheshire Senior Cup final and were also Premier Inter League Cup finalists for the second consecutive year, losing 4-2 to Bishop's Stortford. Mike Lutkevitch was leading marksman as Hyde finished fourth in the Northern Premier League.



Ewen Fields - the Tigers' home

## 1994/95

Hyde United were FA Trophy semi-finalists for second time in 1994/95. They beat Stalybridge Celtic, Telford United, Runcorn and Marine in the FA Trophy before losing 2-1 on aggregate to Kidderminster Harriers. The Tigers were 18th in the Northern Premier League at the start of December but then soared up the table to finish fourth. They reached the FA Cup first round for only the second time in 40 years and Ged Kimmings' goal gave them the lead at home to Darlington before losing 3-1 in front of 2,315. Hyde won the Manchester Premier Cup for the second consecutive year and Ged Kimmings, Colin Little and Dave Nolan scored 90 goals between them.

## 1995/96

The Tigers were FA Trophy semi-finalists for the second consecutive season in 1995/96. The club returned to grass after eight years with an artificial surface at the Tameside Stadium. They defeated Marine, Welling United, Carshalton Athletic and Stevenage Borough in the FA Trophy before losing 3-1 on aggregate to Northwich Victoria in the semi-finals. Mike McKenzie's side went close to the Northern Premier League double, beating Leek Town on penalties after a 0-0 draw in the Northern Premier League Cup final and finishing third behind Bamber Bridge and Boston United. They also completed a hat-trick of Manchester Premier Cup final triumphs.

## 1999/00

The club were Northern Premier League runners-up in 1999/00. Mike McKenzie's side were early leaders after starting with a 10-match unbeaten run and remained in the top four throughout the campaign. Simon Yeo was the leading marksman in the Northern Premier League with 23 goals, including hat-tricks at home to Blyth Spartans and Gainsborough Trinity. He scored five times in Hyde's 6-0 FA Trophy second round victory over Whitley Bay. The Tigers beat Emley 2-0 in the Unifilla Cup final and finished with seven straight wins in the Northern Premier League including a 4-3 victory over Hucknall when Lloyd Richardson netted four goals.

## 2004/05

Neil Tolson was leading marksman as Hyde United won the Northern Premier League title in 2004/05. The Tigers were unbeaten until New Year's Day, but then suffered three successive defeats at Radcliffe Borough, Burscough and Farsley Celtic. Steve Waywell's side recovered to lose only one of their last 18 matches - 4-2 at home to Farsley. They gained an important 2-0 victory at title rivals Workington and hammered Burscough 6-1. Hyde went top of the table for the first time with just two matches remaining after winning 1-0 at home to Workington with a late own goal in front of 1,301, finishing three points ahead of runners-up Workington.



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## NUNEATON 0-0 TOWN

### BLANKETY BLANK

**The Hatters had to settle for a point in John Still's second game in charge in a dour goalless draw at lowly Nuneaton.**

The manager made just one change to the side that beat Stockport on Saturday, handing loan signing Jake Goodman his debut in central defence in place of the injured Janos Kovacs.

The first half was a frustrating stop-start affair, broken up with stoppages. The first half in play came three minutes in when home winger Connor Taylor suffered what looked like a badly broken wrist. He was down for almost five minutes before play resumed.

Chances were few and far between. A left-wing cross after 10 minutes was headed behind by James Armon as the hosts looked to break the deadlock, before Jake Howells – Saturday's goal hero – saw a shot deflected for the Town after good build-up play involving Alex Lawless, Stuart Fleetwood and Andre Gray.

The Town did force their first corner on 25 minutes that captain Ronnie Henry nodded well wide, but that would be the nearest Still's side would get to goal in the first half.

Nuneaton ended the half the stronger, which was extended by seven minutes, and they spurned two chances as the half came to a close. Andy Brown was well off target with a shot from range before Louis Moult tried a spectacular volley in stoppage time following Armon's lofted right-wing cross.

As the teams emerged for the second half, the Town made a change – JJ O'Donnell replacing Arnaud Menty.

However, the Hatters needed a piece of excellent defending from Steve McNulty to snuff out a dangerous attack from the hosts that saw Armon weave his way through the Town back line into the six-yard box.

The Town reacted well to that close call by forcing their first real attempt on goal in the 52nd minute when Howells volleyed an effort a yard wide of the post from distance.

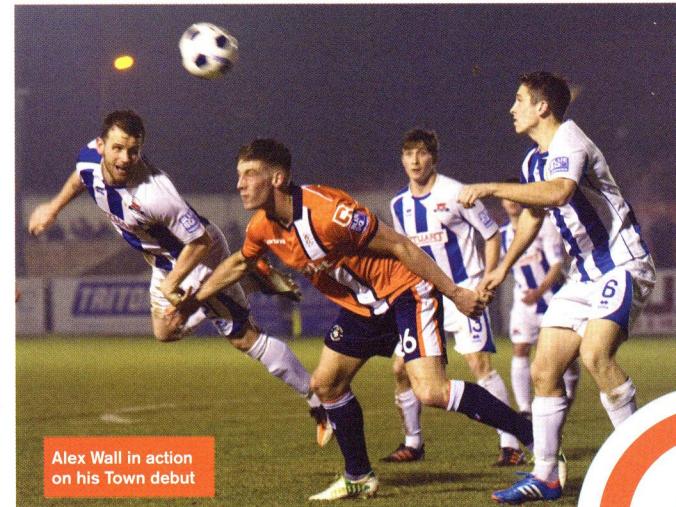
Both sides began to create chances as the hour mark approached. Home right-back Aaron Phillips drilled a shot from distance narrowly over the crossbar before Jonathan Smith did well to bravely block a fizzing shot from the hosts from outside the penalty area a minute later. That block set-up a chance for the Town to break with substitutes Alex Wall and O'Donnell combining to force a corner from which Henry headed over.

Howells then forced home goalkeeper Lee Burge into his first save of the evening on 66 minutes when he got down to keep out the midfielder's shot on the turn from the edge of the box.

As time began to tick down, the Hatters missed the chance of the game with 11 minutes left. Henry did well to work a yard of space to cross but O'Donnell, in the six yard box, could only nod a header just wide of the target with Burge beaten.

Buoyed by that, moments later Rendell flicked a shot wide of the target following another right-wing cross, this time from Lawless.

Two minutes were added at the end of the 90 in which time the Town had half a chance from a long Henry throw that Wall flicked on but just eluded Lawless, before Cowan headed straight at Tyler in the final minute as the hosts looked for a late, late winner – but that was that, and it ended in stalemate.



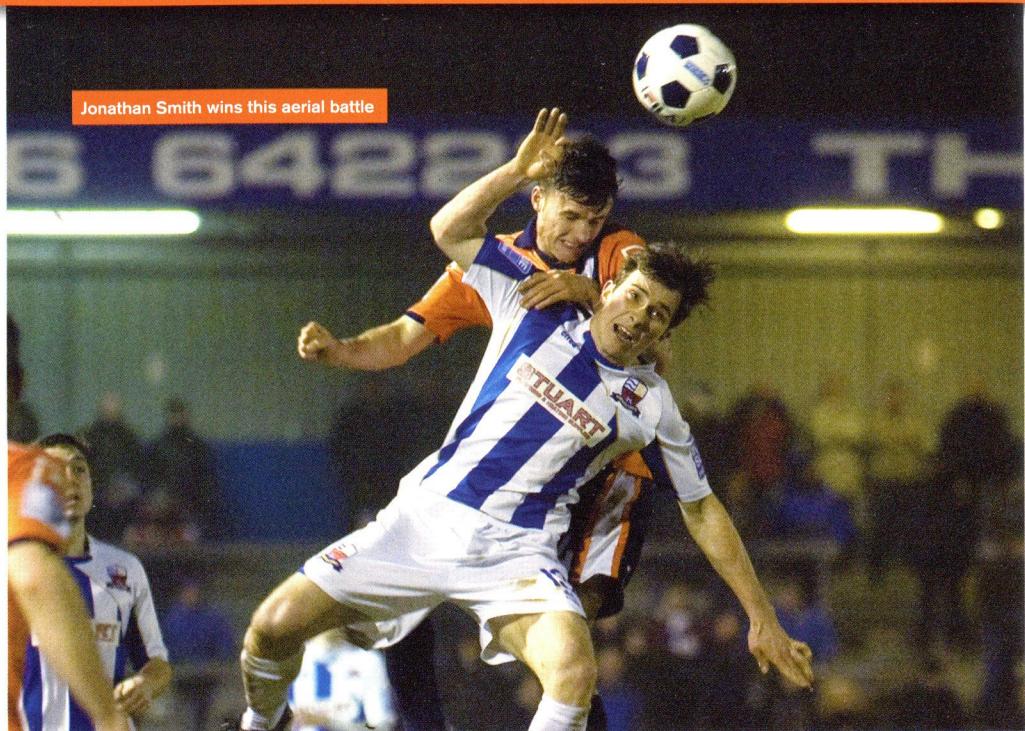
Alex Wall in action  
on his Town debut



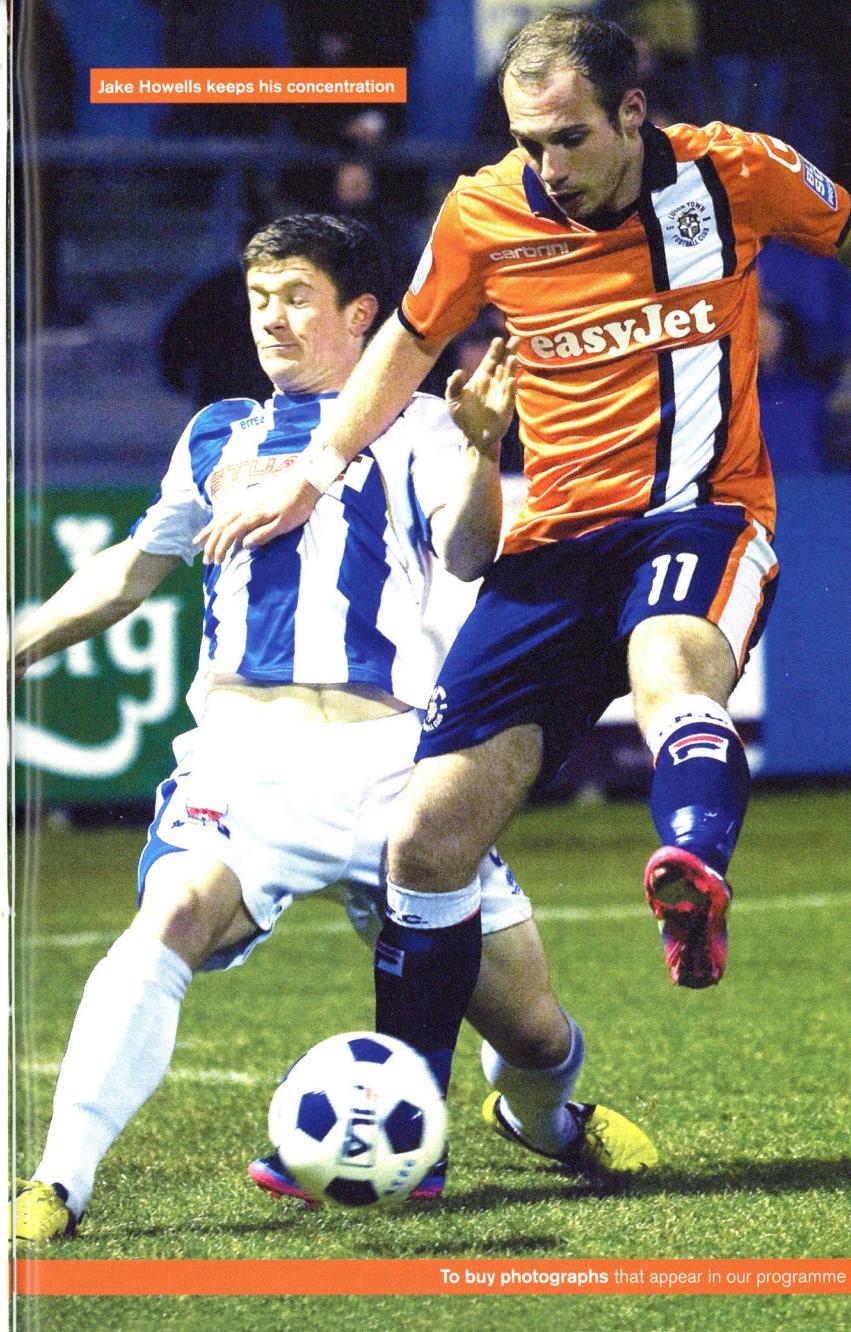
# NUNEATON 0 TOWN 0



Jonathan Smith wins this aerial battle



Jake Howells keeps his concentration



| POSSESSION       |     |
|------------------|-----|
| 51%              | 49% |
| CORNERS          |     |
| 8                | 3   |
| OFFSIDES         |     |
| 5                | 5   |
| SHOTS ON TARGET  |     |
| 1                | 1   |
| SHOTS OFF TARGET |     |
| 6                | 7   |
| FOULS            |     |
| 4                | 11  |
| YELLOW CARDS     |     |
| 0                | 0   |
| RED CARDS        |     |
| 0                | 0   |

## NUNEATON:

Burge  
Phillips  
Cowan  
Dean  
Forsdick  
O'Halloran  
Armson  
York  
Brown  
Taylor  
(sub Walker 7)  
Moult  
(sub Sleath 59)

**Subs not used:**  
Cartwright  
McNamee  
Adams

## TOWN:

Tyler  
Henry  
Rowe-Turner  
McNulty  
Goodman  
Howells  
Mendy  
(sub O'Donnell 46)  
Smith  
Lawless  
Fleetwood  
(sub Rendell 57)  
Gray  
(sub Wall 57)

**Subs not used:**  
Brill  
Taylor

**ATTENDANCE:**  
1,173 (507 Luton)

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## TOWN 1-1 HEREFORD



The players mob goalscorer Dave Martin after his late equaliser

### FIRST HOME POINT PLEASES JOHN

Town boss John Still thought his side were unlucky not to pick up all three points after an improved second-half display in his first home match in charge ended with a draw against Hereford.

The Hatters trailed at half time to a fine individual goal from Bulls striker Marlon Jackson, before a dominant performance after the break was rewarded with substitute Dave Martin's equaliser three minutes before the end.

"I was happy that we were able to raise the level of performance," Still told Hatters Player afterwards. "The level of performance in the second half deserved a win to be honest.

"I saw two sides of the team today. In the first half we were slow and ponderous, but in the second half we raised the tempo and that's key to the way we're going to play. I thought we were terrific second half. I'm fully prepared for the highs and lows but that was a 90 minutes of variation of what we've produced so far.

"I'm still sifting through the players. The objective is to get into a situation where I know what kind of performance we're going to get every week. How long will that take, I'm not sure. Sometimes you have to take

one step back to take two steps forward, but we'll get there. Both halves today were equally important for me.

"The key is to keep laying those bricks and improve. You can't move on until those bricks are solid. I didn't have any expectation for the season, all I want is to win as many games as we can and get to the end of the season knowing who can take us forward."

A crowd of 6,001 watched the manager's first home game in charge and Still admitted he spotted a few anxious performances from his players on home soil.

"There's a little apprehension in playing at home, I could sense that," he said. "I told the players, 'you can't affect what's outside of your control – you can only control the controllables'.

"It's a mindset. You can't control the supporters. If everyone's working and giving 100 per cent you've got nothing to worry about.

"The fans were great today, the players were clapped off – and we only drew. If you're poor then the fans are going to moan - that's football."

"The only way to make them happy is by putting in 100 per cent. If you're good enough and you put in 100 per cent you're going to win a lot of your games."



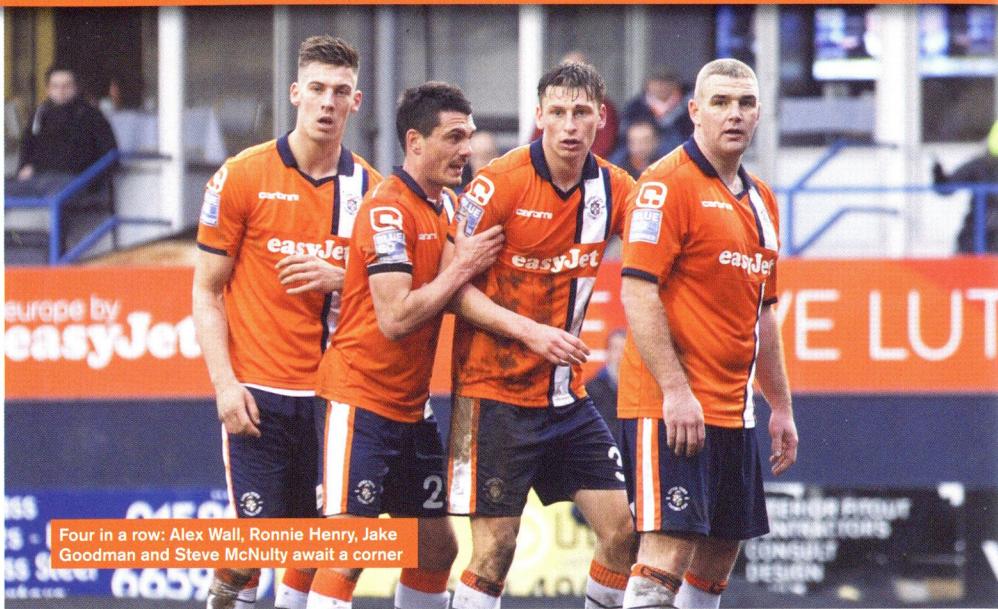
# TOWN 1 HEREFORD

Martin 87



# HEREFORD

Jackson 23



Four in a row: Alex Wall, Ronnie Henry, Jake Goodman and Steve McNulty await a corner



Andre Gray tussles for possession



Ronnie Henry clears under pressure

| POSSESSION       |     |
|------------------|-----|
| 55%              | 45% |
| CORNERS          |     |
| 10               | 6   |
| OFFSIDES         |     |
| 4                | 3   |
| SHOTS ON TARGET  |     |
| 6                | 4   |
| SHOTS OFF TARGET |     |
| 6                | 3   |
| FOULS            |     |
| 12               | 7   |
| YELLOW CARDS     |     |
| 1                | 2   |
| RED CARDS        |     |
| 0                | 0   |

#### TOWN:

Tyler  
Henry  
Taylor  
(sub Martin 73)  
Goodman  
McNulty  
Howells  
Smith  
Mendy  
(sub O'Donnell 73)  
Lawless  
Rendell  
(sub Wall 62)  
Gray

Subs not used:  
Brill  
Rowe-Turner

#### HEREFORD:

Bittner  
Graham  
Carruthers  
(sub Heath 76)  
Stam  
Musa  
Connor  
James  
Clucas  
O'Keefe  
Jackson  
Sharp  
(sub Smikle 89)

Subs not used:  
Gallinagh  
McDonald  
McQuilkin

#### ATTENDANCE:

6,001 (220 Hereford)

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For further information contact David Hoskins on 01582 411622 or email [david.hoskins@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:david.hoskins@lutontown.co.uk)

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# ON THIS DAY

## MARCH 12

### THE RECORD

It's a busy day in the Town's history books with 19 games previously played on this day. Of those the Town have the winning edge, with eight victories. The Hatters have won drawn five and lost six of the other 11 games, scoring 26 and conceding 22. All in all those figures point to an average of 2.5 goals per game. While the Town have won more than they have lost on 12th March, they have twice conceded four times but never scored more than three in a game themselves.

### LAST TIME

You don't have to go far back for the Hatters last appearance on this day – it happened just two years ago. The Town travelled to Field Mill for an FA Trophy semi-final first leg tie and left with 1-0 defeat. The Hatters came close to overturning the deficit in the second leg – leading thanks to a goal from Lloyd Owusu, but two after red cards for Alex Lawless and Claude Gnaka left them with 10 men, the Stags won it in extra-time with a late penalty.

### LAST VICTORY

In 2005 the Hatters were riding the crest of a wave, sitting pretty at the top of League One under manager Mike Newell. Swindon visited Kenilworth Road with coach Mick Harford, who had left for the County Ground earlier in the campaign. However Big Mick and the Robins would leave pointless after goals from Kevin Nicholls, Ahmet Brkovic and Peter Holmes secured a 3-1 win.

### ON A ROLL

The Town were also on the march to promotion in 2002 when the Exeter City were the visitors on a cold March evening at Kenilworth Road. The lowly Grecians were put to the sword in comfortable fashion as two goals from Steve Howard and one from Matt Taylor kept the Town on the tails of runaway leaders Plymouth.

### UP AND DOWN

Looking back on the Hatters' history it's interesting to note the results as they yo-yoed up and down the divisions. A first-half Ricky Hill strike was enough to see off Nottingham Forest in the top flight in 1983. 17 years earlier the Town beat Chesterfield 3-1 at Saltergate in Division Four (now League 2). Goals from John O'Rourke, Gordon Riddick and Freddie Jardine were enough to see off the Spireites that day.

### PROMOTION PUSH

In 1955 the Town were in the midst of another promotion campaign – this time from Division Two (now Championship). Their quest for promotion to the top flight was helped by a 3-0 home victory over Fulham in front of 17,966 at Kenilworth Road. Two goals from record goalscorer Gordon Turner and one from John Groves stunned the Cottagers.

### FORGET IT

The Hatters heaviest margin of defeat on this day is by three goals, and twice the Town have been beaten 4-1 on this day in history. The first came back in 1898 when the Hatters were thumped on Tyneside by Newcastle United in Division Two (now Championship). It was at the same level in the pyramid in 1952 that the Town lost by the same score against Doncaster Rovers in front of the lowest attendance of the season of 5,635 at Kenilworth Road. Bob Morton got the Town goal.

### SCORES ON THE DRAWS

Between 1969 and 1982 the Town drew all three of their matches played on this day. A 1-1 draw at Elm Park against Reading (Laurie Sheffield on target) came first, a 1-1 draw at home to Plymouth in 1977 (John Aston the goalscorer) followed, before a goalless draw at home to Wrexham in 1982 completed the sequence.

Record goalscorer Gordon Turner scored twice for the Town on this day in 1955

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33

# CENTRE SPOT



Mud flies as Arnaud Mendy attempts to hold off his man during Saturday's 1-1 draw with Hereford

PICTURE

# THE PAST

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



Famous son of Hyde and now Club Chaplain at Kenilworth Road, Alan West nets one of his rare goals in the 2-1 home victory over Blackburn in February 1979.

West made over 300 first team appearances for the Hatters in almost eight years with the club, many of those as skipper.

# TOWN TREASURES

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

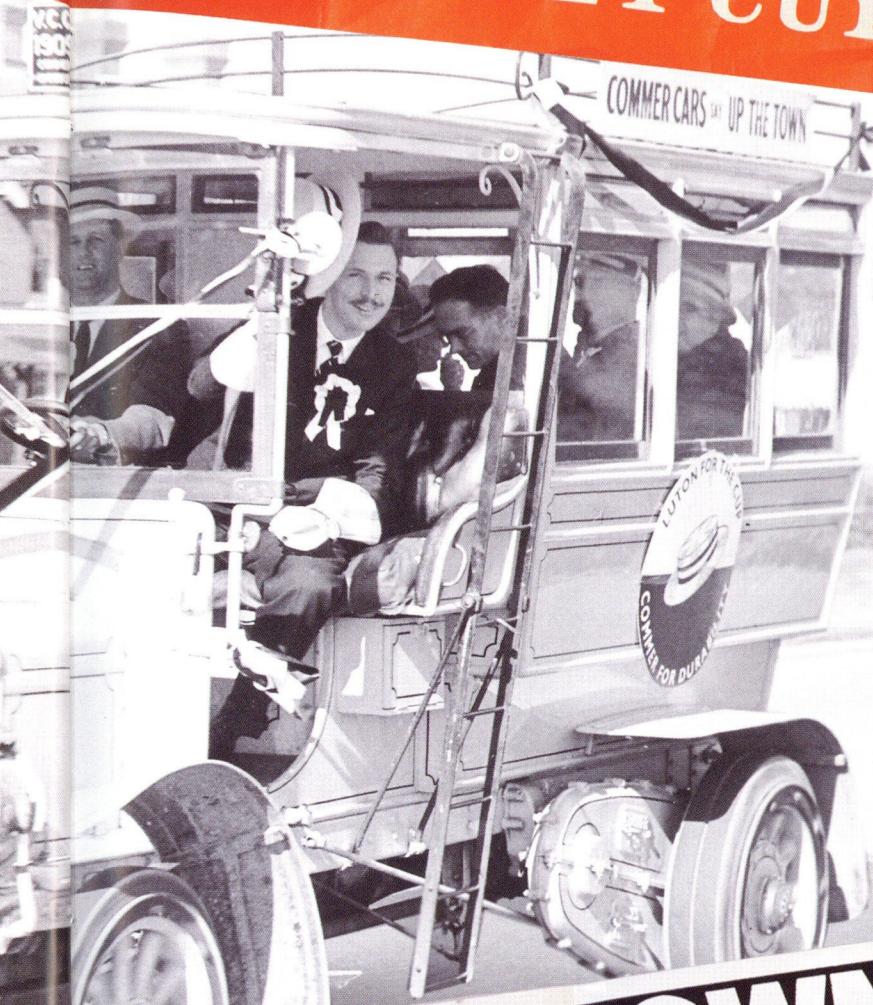


Car badges and windscreens  
stickers from a bygone age



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SUPPORTERS**

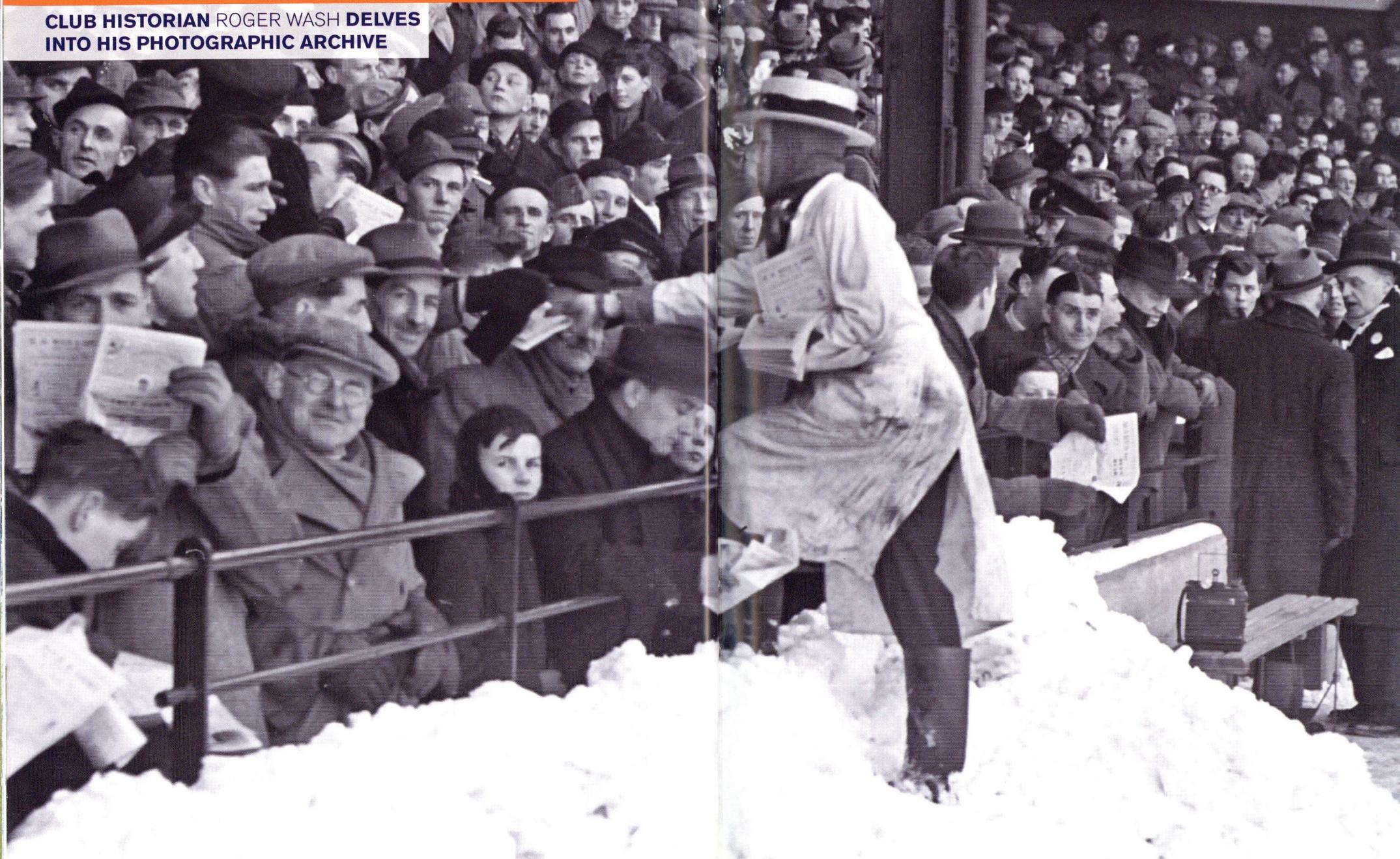
**LUTON TOWN FOR THE CUP!  
WATNEY CUP 1971**



# THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES  
INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE

When football was football! A programme seller climbs over a mound of snow to sell his wares before the Town's FA Cup clash with Burnley at Kenilworth Road in February 1947.



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## DEFENSIVE DUO

### STEVE & JAKE ON NUNEATON DRAW

The latest Town central defensive partnership of Steve McNulty and Jake Goodman got acquainted in the stalemate away at Nuneaton last Tuesday, and both were competent with their defensive displays.

"We've been conceding some sloppy goals with defensive errors so it's always nice to keep clean sheets and it shows we are doing our job at the back," said McNulty.

The pair were broken up throughout the game as Goodman was being treated continuously for a nasty gash above his eye, something that frustrated the new acquisition.

"It was frustrating being on and off a lot," said 19-year-old Goodman, who had four stitches sewn into the injury above his left eye.

"What was more frustrating, was the amount of headers I personally lost. Blood did keep dripping in my eye, but that's not an excuse - it's just one of them things you have to deal with.

#### Physical

"The Blue Square Bet Premier is more physical than the levels I've been used to playing for Millwall's development side. You get given more time in the Football League, but here it's just crash, bang, wallop - it's very physical."

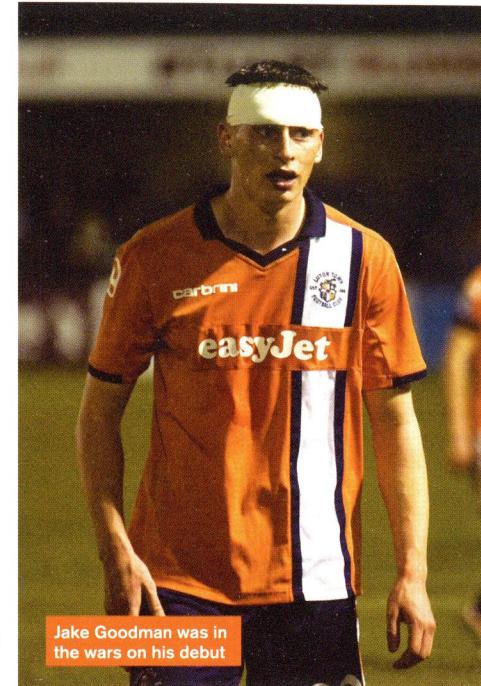
And McNulty was more than happy to see Goodman slot in beside him as his fourth central defensive partner since joining the club in February.

"They are all good players that are coming in beside me so they make my job easy," said the former Fleetwood captain.

"It's always nice to get settled with a partner and get a run of games but I thought that was going to happen with Wayne Thomas, however it didn't because he has been suspended. But in any case, every player that comes to Luton is a good player so it makes no difference."

McNulty continued to comment on the togetherness in the side and refused to take exception to the lack of fire power on the night.

"Against Mansfield and against Braintree it was defensive errors, myself included," admitted the



Jake Goodman was in the wars on his debut

29-year-old. "It's not always nice to make an error in front of goal so I'm not going to be going in there pointing fingers.

"We win together as a team and we lose together as a team, so it's just one of them nights when things didn't fall for us in front of goal.

"I don't think you can put your finger on just one thing, I don't think we have applied ourselves fully as a team."

Goodman, who enjoyed a spell out on loan with Staines Town in the Blue Square Bet South last season, has penned a loan deal with the Hatters until the conclusion of the campaign and both he and McNulty are prepared for the run-in, which now is scheduled at a gruelling Tuesday-Saturday constant fixture list.

"We're full-time footballers so that's no problem," said McNulty. "We're paid to play football so we can't be using stuff like that as an excuse. Until someone comes to us as a team and says it's mathematically not possible then we will keep believing and everyone else should do, too."

As for Goodman, he joked his loan spell could be cut short after completing his first appearance with a patched up eyebrow. "My mum probably won't let me come back!"

# SOLOMON TAIWO

John Still's third signing at Kenilworth Road, Solomon Taiwo, spoke of his past, his present and his future in an honest opening interview as a Hatters Player.

**Talk of the Town: Solomon, welcome; how does it feel to be joining us for the rest of the season?**

**Solomon Taiwo:** "It's very important to feel involved, it's very important to feel like you're loved. It's still very important to have that desire to go and make a difference and I definitely still have that; there have been opportunities that I have turned away because they haven't been right for whatever reason, but when John Still got the job and I got the phone call and it seemed perfect."

**TOTT: What has John been like for you having taken you from Sutton to Dagenham? You've gone on to play for Cardiff since, so what sort of impression has he had on your career?**

**ST:** "There are certain people you meet in your life who have an impact and John Still is one of them. He's had faith in me, he's had faith in a lot of people that others wouldn't, and he has turned them into good players.

"He's proven other people wrong when other people didn't think there was an opportunity there. I will always have a certain level of respect for him and that works both ways for us. He wants to turn things around for Luton and I want to turn things around for the club, and for myself as well. As far as I am concerned, I am only looking to go upwards."

**TOTT: Is it a win-win situation for everyone then?**

**ST:** "John will always have that man management skill and his people skills are amazing. It gives you that desire to do a bit more, that inch more, that commitment, that want to do more to succeed."

"I'm not saying I've missed it but he can certainly bring the best out of me and possibly the best out of players that have not been showing it at the club, and hopefully they will do more as well."

**TOTT: So you're a midfielder, what can you bring to the side?**

**ST:** "I am a central midfielder and I've now been playing for about 10 years so I have a level of experience and I

know the game a bit more. I've got a bit more nous about me. I like to think I can get box to box. I like to hold and play and find balls forward with both feet - short and long distance - and pitch in with the odd goal. They tend to be spectacular ones because I don't find myself in the box!"

**TOTT: You were at a host of non-league clubs before being spotted by John, before progressing to the Championship. Does coming back to non-league worry you at all or is it a case of just starting all over again?**

**ST:** "It was like a bit of a crossroads for me, was I going to be arrogant and say, 'I'm too good for this level, I've done it once I can't be bothered to do it again'? Sometimes you've got to dust yourself off and say, 'okay it's happened, I'm not the only person it's happened to'. I'm probably not going to be the last person it's happened to so there is no point feeling sorry for myself. I will lick my wounds and go again, work hard and I'm sure it will reap its rewards. I'm still young enough, still determined enough, still driven enough, so as long as I show them attributes I'm not going to turn into a bad player overnight."

**TOTT: They say a lot of footballers peak at 27 so you're at the right age now?**

**ST:** "I'm at the right age, but I need to get some games under my belt and get a couple weeks training under my belt - then you will start seeing the best of me. I'm not going to wait to be spoon fed, I am actually going to go and get it for myself. I think it's important to take advantage of the situations presented to you."

**TOTT: Before you signed for Dagenham did you ever imagine you would play in the Championship and what was that like playing weekly with international players?**

**ST:** "I think any player that goes into football at any age and gets complacent, thinking 'this is where I want to play, I don't want to get any further' doesn't realise how cut throat and hard football is. You need to have that determination, that belief in yourself. I wouldn't have even tried to play and make all the sacrifices I did, not thinking that I could go to the top. Obviously I did get to Cardiff and maybe I did go in with the mentality personally with nothing to learn. I went on with that level of hunger and



Solomon in action whilst with Dagenham & Redbridge

confidence in myself where I should have probably taken a step back, but you live and you learn from these things. As I said, I think everyone has a desire to play higher and that's not gone, that's still here now."

**TOTT: Dave Jones brought you to Cardiff and then left the club, do you think that was a reason why things didn't work out so well for you with the Bluebirds?**

**ST:** "I don't like if, buts and maybes and excuses like that. The ball was in my court, though it does play a part when there's no real stability at the club. New managers come in with their own ideas and their own players but I still like to believe it was in my own hands to change his [present Cardiff boss Malky Mackay's] mind. Although I didn't do that, in hindsight, could I have done anything better? Maybe not, but it still falls on me."

**TOTT: So the aim must be to try and get into the team for the rest of the season and try to get the team back into the promotion places?**

**ST:** "Definitely. John Still has brought me in for a reason, he hasn't brought me in to sit and watch and

I definitely want to be a part, I wouldn't have come otherwise.

I have the motivation to get fit because I definitely do need to get fit and do myself justice. I need to get fit and start contributing in every which way I can and with the experience and quality I have from being from higher level other players can learn from that and the team can push on."

**TOTT: Do you think John is getting a different player since you last played for him? How much has change in that time between?**

**ST:** "It's hard to say. I've gone to a different level of professionalism, you get to understand how important it is to do things right and to do things at the right time.

To take it literally as a job, it's fun but it's your life at the end of the day and you have got to do more than just enjoy it.

In that sense I have, but I haven't come here with the idea of, 'I'm a Championship player'.

John's the manager, he is going to tell me what to do and I am going to do it but with the quality I possess."

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# DAVE MARTIN

## WINGER SAVES THE DAY

It's been a stop-start beginning to his career at Kenilworth Road since arriving in late January but winger Dave Martin hopes his equaliser against Hereford can be the first of many goals in Luton colours.

The former Millwall man hauled the Hatters level with three minutes left on the lock to earn a deserved point against Hereford on Saturday.

And the 27-year-old admitted the goal and John Still's arrival can be the springboard for a happier spell at Kenilworth Road.

"It's been a frustrating two weeks for me," Martin told Hatters Player. "I got involved and hopefully I showed the gaffer enough to keep me involved.

"We aren't taking team selection too seriously. When a new manager comes in, if you work hard and get your head down, you know you're going to get your opportunity.

"It's a clean slate for everyone. He has said everyone will get their chance. For me, it's just to keep working hard until called upon.

"That's the case when a new manager comes in. You need to make an impression and, thankfully, I came off the bench and made an impact. In general, I'm happy with my performance."

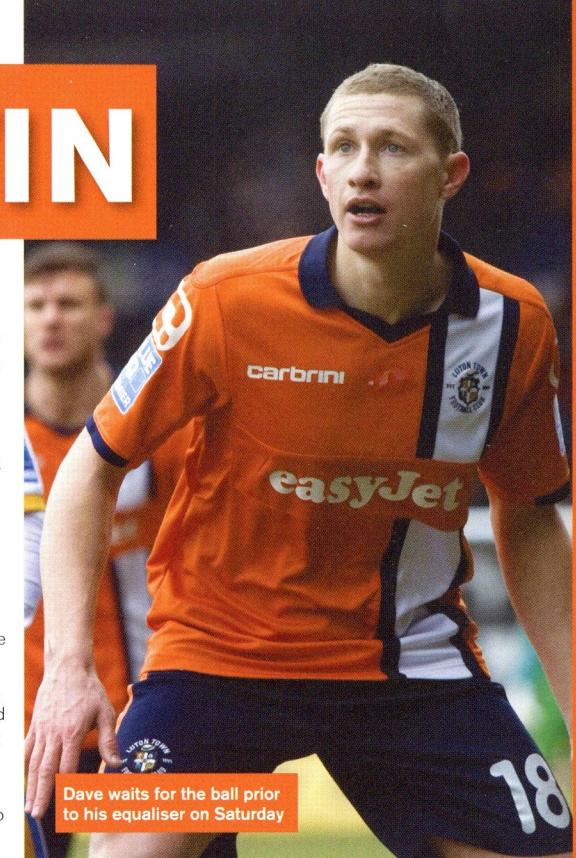
Martin came on midway through the second period but before his equaliser he had goalkeeper Mark Tyler to thank for turning his clearance onto the crossbar as it hurtled towards goal.

"The manager told me to go and enjoy myself, get at the full-back, get balls in the box, and make it happen – unfortunately, I almost had an impact at both ends.

"I saw their player running off the ball inside me so I knew I had to do something. I was right behind it and it was travelling right into the top corner so it was an absolutely brilliant save – thank you Mark. He's helped me massively."

However, the winger was celebrating on 87 minutes when his low strike found the back of the net to earn the Town a point.

"I couldn't believe the way the ball fell to me," he said. "I controlled it on my right and shifted onto my left and aimed for the far post and I was very happy to see it go in.



Dave waits for the ball prior to his equaliser on Saturday

"We were all disappointed not to win all three points as we want to catch those teams ahead of us. But the games are coming thick and fast and we'll go again on Tuesday.

"It's always good to score and it's going to give me massive confidence. I've been itching to get involved to show the new manager what I can do."

Martin's goal kept up the Town's unbeaten record under the new manager and the winger believes the club have got the right man for the job.

"The change in manager has brought all the lads closer together," he said. "We've got a solid base now. We've only conceded once in three games and we're unbeaten so we've started a little run.

"You can definitely see the changes about the place, the boys are happy and we're going to fight right until the end of the season.

"We were all disappointed not to win all three points as we want to catch those teams ahead of us. But the games are coming thick and fast and we'll go again on Tuesday."

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## MARK TYLER

John Still gave Mark Tyler his senior debut in football – and now the Town goalkeeper is hoping his new boss can give him a new contract come the end of the season.

The Hatters stopper made his 176th appearance for the club in Saturday's game with Hereford United and the 35-year-old is desperate to be a part of the club's fortunes now he's reunited with Still some 18 years later.

"John gave me my debut many moons ago," said Tyler after the 1-1 draw with the Bulls at Kenilworth Road. "He pulled me to one side as a 17-year-old and told me I'd be playing away at Birmingham – it was a bit daunting. John knows me quite well and it's great that he's here. He'll instil his way and I'm excited that he's the manager.

"I want to be a part of the success that he's going to bring here. I love it here at Luton and I want to rise up the leagues with John at the helm. I came for success and I still want to be a part of the ride.

"It's where I want to be. It's a great club and now we have a great manager. The sooner we realise the way John wants us to play the better it'll be."

The goalkeeper's latest performance underlined his importance to the Hatters. It was with the faintest of fingertip that Tyler prevented Hereford from going 2-0

up when he diverted a goal-bound clearance from Dave Martin onto the crossbar.

"To be fair to Dave, it was the only place he could have put it," said Tyler. "It was a reaction. It is something I work on in training and it was pleasing to get a little finger on it to put it onto the crossbar."

The save was the first meaningful stop the former Peterborough keeper made in three games under the new manager.

"It's good to be busy but when you're not it's a testament to the performances of the players who have been in front of you," said Tyler.

"We've had a good understanding in the last three games. We've conceded one goal and it was a bit disappointing the way in which we conceded the one against Hereford. I don't think we played particularly well in the first half but in the second half I thought we were outstanding.

"We played with a better tempo in the second half and if we play like that every week we've got a chance, and hopefully we can continue that against Hyde."

"I thought we should have won against Hereford. We had the better chances and Jonathan Smith had one really good chance saved. We'd be worried if we weren't creating chances, but we are, and we're keeping it tight at the back so it all bodes well."



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# FROM THE PRESS BOX

WITH DIVERSE FM'S STEVE MOORE

Here at Diverse FM, we have now covered over 200 games in the last four years.

In that time, we are now on manager number four in John Still (five if you include Alan Neilson's caretaker stints). That comes to around 50 games per manager, obviously a state of affairs that does not breed the stability required for success. A stability that the club were obviously fully committed to instilling through Paul Buckle.

## Differences

We are now in a situation where we have to move on again with the former Dagenham and Redbridge boss. Yet, through everything that has come across from John Still in the press conferences and post-match interviews, there are differences in the type of long-term stability being implemented.

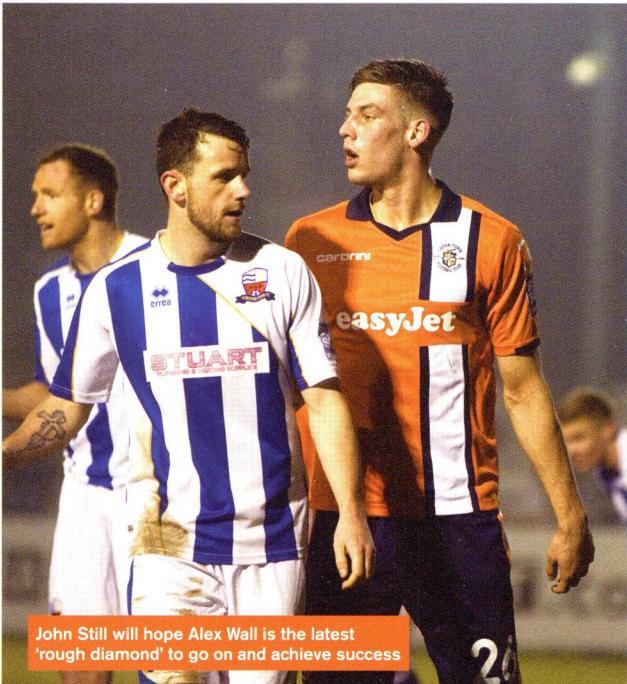
Whereas, with Buckle, there was always the short-term promotion ambitions that had to be allied with the aim of stability, with Still, nothing will be allowed to jeopardise the long-term 'project' of attempting to produce something akin to what he achieved at Dagenham, no matter how long it takes.

Part of this is that, I believe, it is likely that every single first-team player at the club will be involved in a matchday 16 for a league game between now and the end of the season. However, he has made it abundantly clear that he will only do that slightly per game in order to try and see some partnerships develop that he can take forward.

## Improvement

Despite this, John has also shown that if a player he believes can aid to the improvement of the long-term project becomes available, he will make sure he gets him. Indeed, two of the signings we have already seen are exactly the two types of player I would expect will become a calling card of the new regime.

Type Alex Wall: Plucking a player out of semi-pro football who John Still believes has the hunger and



John Still will hope Alex Wall is the latest 'rough diamond' to go on and achieve success

potential to play at a higher level than at the club he is taking him to - something Still has great success with the likes of Craig Mackail-Smith (Arlessey), Dwight Gayle (Stansted), Sam Saunders (Carshalton) and Paul Benson (White Ensign).

## Hunger

Type Solomon Taiwo: A former Dagenham player who John Still knows is a 'John Still player' having performed well for him after being signed from Sutton United and had been sold up the League, but has fallen back down the divisions since, with the hunger to restart their career.

The first of those is one that will continue throughout his time at the club while the second is one that may be lent on heavily early on, seeing as it will bring players in that have been successful bricks in Still's previous project that will give a base to start his new project.

# THE PRESS OFFICE PICTURE

WITH ANDREW BARRINGER

## TOGETHER, WE'LL SMILE

When I was introduced for the first time to John Still, he put his arm around me in embrace and said "we're a team; you me, the groundsman, the kitman, the players and supporters – everyone".

You only have to be in his company a minute before realising what he wants to achieve and how he's going to do it here at Kenilworth Road. He wants togetherness. He wants to create the kind of friendly, positive atmosphere that helped him mould Dagenham & Redbridge into winners. As he'll tell you, he got them to League One. And he got them their selling their prized assets, too.

Already those upbeat vibes are filtering through to the players. A fully deserved equaliser, scored by Dave Martin, against Hereford on Saturday will have left a lot of you smiling as you headed home. But don't just take my word for it. Read Ronnie Henry's programme notes this evening. When I spoke to the skipper on Sunday he told me of the new manager's first words: "Smile!" Still wants us all the smile and, importantly, he wants the players to enjoy their time at work.

If you have listened or watched any of the new manager's press conferences it won't be just the honest and engaging words you'll hear from Still – but also the sound of exasperated cries from players losing points at table tennis, a game they are now playing once they come in off the training field. The atmosphere at the training ground is bubbly; it feels, in a way, homely. It's good to see the players smiling for the first time in a while – and long may it continue.

## STILL-ISMS

"You can't be a little bit pregnant," has been just one of John's many sayings that have already found their way onto websites and into newspapers since he's taken charge. I don't think there is going to be a shortage of so-called Still-isms at Kenilworth Road and that certainly makes for some colourful copy and amusing radio interviews.

## WEBSITE IMPROVEMENT

Slowly but surely the number of complaints I have received about the accessibility of our website has dropped. The Football League

has continued to make major improvements on all of the 82 club websites that fall under their jurisdiction. I have a meeting with one of their representatives next month and I will report back the latest improvements.

## DVD DELIGHT

Copies of our famous FA Cup victory over Norwich City have been going like the proverbial hot cakes from the club shop with hundreds of supporters snapping up the 90 minutes of magic that made history. Our new-look online webshop is the place to go, which is also the direction to head for copies of our online programme and DVDs of all our home matches here at Kenilworth Road. [www.hattershop.co.uk](http://www.hattershop.co.uk) is the address.

## FOLLOW, FOLLOW, FOLLOW...

Talking of that win at Norwich, our social media followers on Twitter grew considerably in the wake of that history-making feat. The Hatters were trending in the UK on the social media website for a number of hours following the final whistle.

Our follower-base on Twitter has now usurped the amount of fans on Facebook, and, as we went to press, our official account had reached 12,169 followers. To monitor this I use a handy website called Folos ([www.folos.im](http://www.folos.im)), which calculates the number of followers each club in the world has. 1,780 clubs are listed in their Twitter league table which places the Town 298th in the world, and above some big clubs England, Spain and Italy. We are the 51st most followed club here in England – but we've got some way to go to catching the leaders: Premier League side Arsenal boast 2.2m followers.

| Team                           | Twitter            | Facebook |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Luton Town<br>England          | LTCOfficial        | 12,165   |
| Real Murcia<br>Spain           | realmurciatd       | 12,016   |
| Burnley<br>England             | burnleyofficial    | 11,982   |
| Peterborough United<br>England | therpoboroofficial | 11,973   |
| UD Almeria<br>Spain            | UD_Almelia         | 11,941   |
| Suwon Bluewings<br>South Korea | suwonbluewings     | 11,899   |
| Chievo Verona<br>Italy         | ACChievoVerona     | 11,882   |
| Shakhtar Donetsk<br>Ukraine    | shakhtar           | 11,769   |
| Brisbane Roar<br>Australia     | brisbaneroar       | 11,763   |
| Criciuma<br>Brazil             | CriciumaFC         | 11,709   |
| Hercules CF<br>Spain           | hercules           | 11,697   |
| Trujillanos<br>Venezuela       | trujillanos        | 11,593   |
| Watford<br>England             | WatfordFC          | 11,375   |

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



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# THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER

ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

BY MATT BADCOCK

## Interim, interim, they've all got it interim.

Rafa Benitez spoke a certain truth during his 'rant' (it wasn't a rant, more a man talking sense) last week. The Chelsea 'interim' manager, it turns out he doesn't like that label, argues that all managers are exactly that – interim. As many have found out.

None more so than those who have managed to cross the great divide between the Football League and non-league. Getting in with the elite 92 from the Blue Square Bet Premier is notoriously difficult. The bottle neck of just one automatic promotion and the other via the scenic route of the Play-Offs leaves little room for error.

For a large number of ex-Football League clubs, planned short-term stopovers turn into long-term stays from hell. But, unfortunately, it's a harsh fact of football that even success doesn't guarantee your job.

Three of the last four managers to lead their team into the promised land of the Football League have been sacked. AFC Wimbledon's Terry Brown, Fleetwood's Micky Mellon and York's Play-Off and FA Trophy double winning boss Gary Mills.

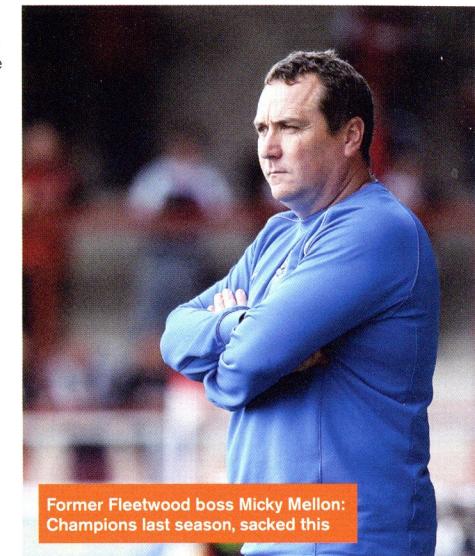
In the case of Brown and Mellon, they had taken their respective teams up from the level below as well. Mellon was axed by the Cod Army in December – just seven months after winning the Blue Square Bet Premier title – while Mills left York last Saturday after an 11th game without a win.

He left the Minstermen four points above the relegation zone but, in a division as tight as League 2, a couple of wins can change the scenario totally. Knowing the people behind the scenes at Bootham Crescent, it wouldn't have been a decision they enjoyed making.

Brown, at least, had a season in the League with the Dons before leaving earlier this season and many Wimbledon fans felt the time was right. Brown will remain a legend forever at Kingsmeadow.

As football fans on the outside, we like to live in an idealist world. When someone at a club, that is not our own, loses their job not long after the high of glory it seems unjust.

The fall out when Nigel Adkins was given the heave-ho from Southampton is a case in point. Despite taking the team from League 1 to the holy grail of the Premier League with back-to-back promotions he was still binned because the chairman had a different vision.



Former Fleetwood boss Micky Mellon:  
Champions last season, sacked this

Newspaper column inches and social media cyberspace was packed with outrage. Adkins' replacement, Manuel Pochettino, won just one of his first six games in charge, drew two and lost three. Whether Adkins would have fared any better is unanswerable.

Clubs are so desperate to progress at the break-neck speed. Slow and steady does not seem to win the race. It seems great achievement can often be the undoing.

Rightly or wrongly, expectations don't really change. It's easy to get greedy when you have grown so used to watching your team roll over opposition after opposition. Long after promotion party bubbly has run flat, the initial novelty of a new league has worn off as results really start to matter.

Maybe we need to look at it differently. Maybe the days of a manager staying in one job for a decade are coming to an end. Maybe the future is one where specialist managers will be parachuted in for each challenge. Want your team to get out of non-league – here's your man. A cup run you say? Well, you'll need this guy. Maybe we'll be seeing more 'Interim' managers from now on. But let's hope not.

# 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

### 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

### OCTOBER

Wed 03 P'boro 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

### NOVEMBER

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

### DECEMBER

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

### JANUARY

Sat 12 Milton Keynes Dons H L 2-3  
 Sat 26 Leyton Orient H D 2-2

### FEBRUARY

Sat 09 Stevenage H W 2-0  
 Tue 19 Dagenham & Redbridge A W 2-0

### MARCH

Sat 02 AFC Wimbledon H W 4-3  
 Sat 09 AFC Wimbledon A P-P

### APRIL

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

EXTRA TIME by Elliott Quince



There was nothing in the rulebook to say that being hideously ugly could constitute dangerous play

# YOUTH UPDATE

## LAWLESS STEPS INTO COACHING



The Town's Academy has strengthened their coaching staff – with the help of first team midfielder Alex Lawless.

The 27-year-old has started his coaching badges on a course that has been running throughout this season and

Lawless has used his playing experience by coaching the Hatters' Under-12s on an ad-hoc basis.

"You can't play football forever," Lawless told Hatters

Player. "It's something I've started because I want something behind me when that dreaded day comes and you can't play anymore. "I've been involved in the Under-12s and it's been great. We'll see how it goes. I've always thought about what I'd do after my playing days are over and I love football so much that coaching seems the logical choice.

"Usually the courses are run in the summer and it's sod's law they're run the week you've booked on holiday so I found a course that is run during the season. It's a couple of weeks each month and it's great.

"I'm learning a lot and coaching the young players is incredibly rewarding. Whether or not I become a manager in the future, who knows? It's early days and at the moment I'm just enjoying it.

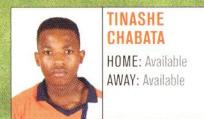
"I'm always learning and I am just keen to make sure I can stay in the game as long as possible."

## 2012/13 YOUTH TEAM KIT SPONSORS



ZANE BANTON

HOME: First Capital Connect  
 AWAY: Available



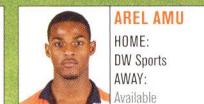
TINASHE CHABATA

HOME: Available  
 AWAY: Available



CHISOLM AMADI

HOME: Available  
 AWAY: Available



AREL AMU

HOME: DW Sports  
 AWAY: Available



LEEROY MAGURAUSHE

HOME: Available  
 AWAY: Available  
 GLOVES: Available



BEN MCFARLANE-BARNES

HOME: Available  
 AWAY: Available  
 GLOVES: Available



JEMALE MCKENZIE-LOWE

HOME: Available  
 AWAY: Available



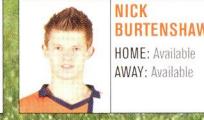
IAN REES

HOME: Available  
 AWAY: Available



CHARLIE SMITH

HOME: Peter Mitchell  
 AWAY: 2MB



NICK BURTENSHAW

HOME: Available  
 AWAY: Available



JOSH CARPENTER

HOME: 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



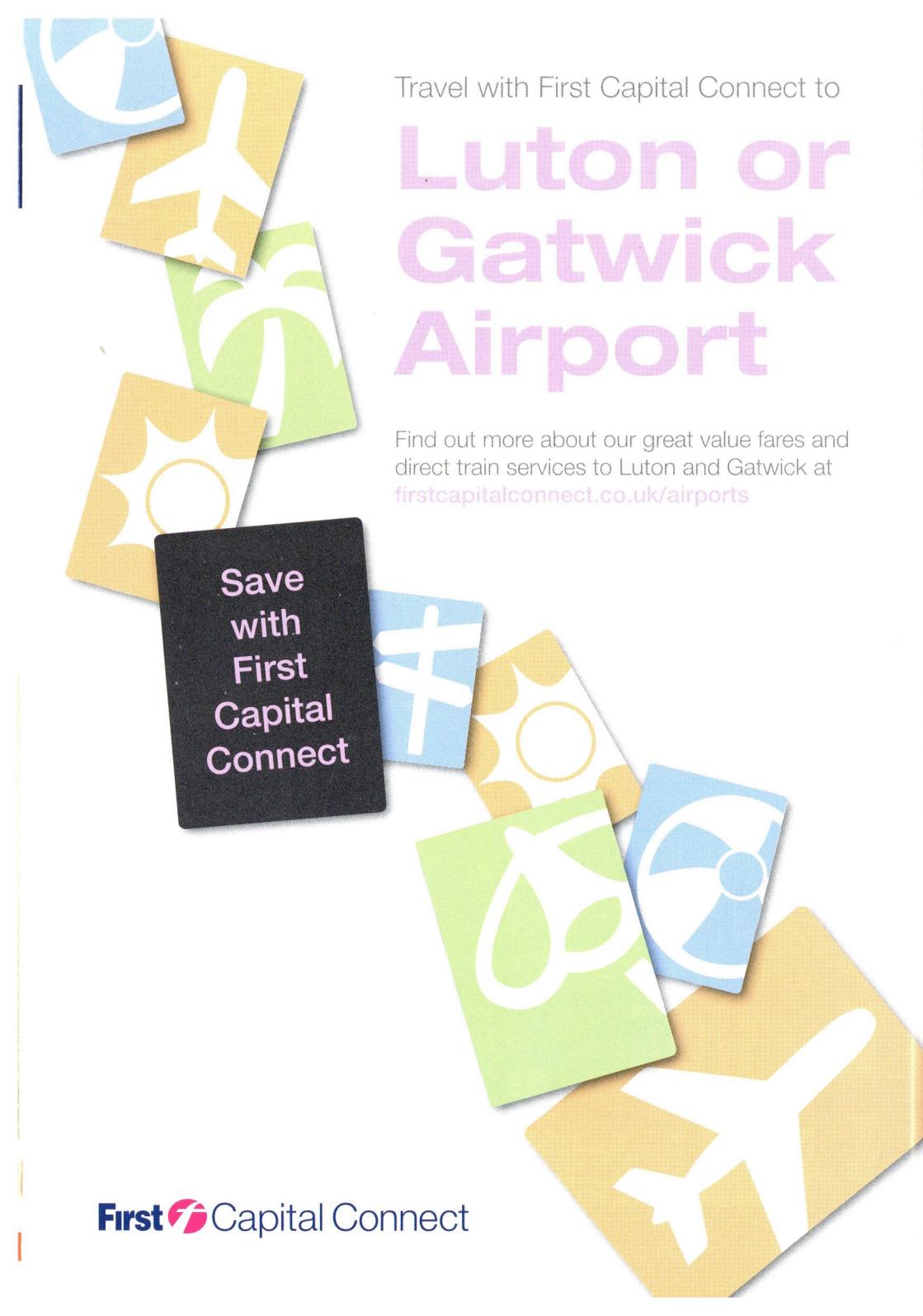
JERRY NASH

HOME: Moira Spain  
 AWAY: Available



ZAK STEPHENS

HOME: Available  
 AWAY: Available



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## ACADEMY **UPDATE**

WITH PAUL DRIVER

Despite a winter, which has been very stop/start due to the weather, the youth team's progress as a squad and individuals has been excellent and we currently sit joint top of the Football League Alliance along with local rivals Watford, with six weeks of the season to go.

After the disappointment of the exit to Stevenage in the FA Youth Cup early in November, the team has worked hard and bounced back well losing just one of the subsequent 10 games, and performances have been rewarding to watch.

Worthy of particular note are the wins away to Watford and Peterborough who are, of course, both Championship outfits and the second games against Leyton Orient and Dagenham who had both defeated us in first two league games in the season.

### Progress

It is always a good indication of your progress when you can compare how you perform in the return games four or five months later so good showings in a 2-2 draw at Orient - having been 2-0 down at half-time - and a 2-0 win on Dagenham's main stadium pitch were very encouraging.

In youth football, sides at the top of their league can be an indication that the team is made up of older, second-year players, but this isn't the case with our boys. With Jerry Nash, Jordan Davis and Nick Burtenshaw all out on work experience in senior football at local clubs, and Zak Stephens recovering from an injury in the win at Watford, the recent starting line-ups have invariably contained just two second-year scholars in Brett Longden and Jerome Jibodu - both of whom have also been involved in first team squads in the FA Cup and Trophy.

The remaining nine starters have been seven or eight first-years plus schoolboys from the Under-16 squad, so this underlines the quality of the squad going forward and we will be setting difficult goals for the group next season in terms of how the team progresses in the league and FA Youth Cup, and how individuals progress in the Under-21 development squad.

None of the Under-16 schoolboys who have played for us have looked out of place which is a big positive

### YOUTH ALLIANCE SOUTH EAST TABLE

| Team                   | P         | W        | GD       | PTS       |
|------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1 Watford              | 16        | 8        | 14       | 28        |
| <b>2 Luton Town</b>    | <b>16</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>28</b> |
| 3 Leyton Orient        | 15        | 8        | 13       | 27        |
| 4 Dagenham & Redbridge | 16        | 7        | 0        | 25        |
| 5 Southend United      | 14        | 6        | 2        | 22        |
| 6 Milton Keynes Dons   | 13        | 7        | -4       | 22        |
| 7 Aldershot Town       | 13        | 6        | 2        | 20        |
| 8 Portsmouth           | 13        | 5        | 7        | 19        |
| 9 Gillingham           | 14        | 5        | -2       | 19        |
| 10 AFC Wimbledon       | 14        | 3        | -1       | 16        |
| 11 AFC Bournemouth     | 11        | 4        | -2       | 16        |
| 12 Stevenage           | 13        | 4        | -5       | 15        |
| 13 Peterborough United | 14        | 4        | -12      | 14        |
| 14 Northampton Town    | 14        | 3        | -8       | 10        |
| 15 Crawley Town        | 14        | 2        | -11      | 9         |

and Zac Jules and Luke Trottman have both cemented regular places in the start line-up and this additional experience will be invaluable to them as they enter their two-year scholarships in July. Indeed, next year's youth squad will be made up entirely of boys who have progressed through our own system - a fact that shows credit is due to each and everyone involved in the Luton Town academy set-up.

### Education

As a club, we put a big emphasis on the education we provide to our young players and are pleased that, ahead of decision time in late March/early April, all of the second year boys will complete their sports course with good pass rates equivalent to two or three A Levels, which will stand them in good stead in the outside world if they are not successful in gaining a pro contract with us or another club. They will also complete their Level II Football Coaching Award with the PFA, which is part of the overall framework of the course run in conjunction with League Football Education (LFE).

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# LUTON LADIES



Last week was without doubt the saddest in the Club's history following the untimely death of former Luton Town Ladies player Fay Howell aged just 25.

Fay joined the Club as a 13-year-old and for 18 months was part of a very successful all conquering Under-14 squad that swept all before them latterly under Fay's captaincy.

At just 14 she made her first team debut scoring twice in a regional county cup tie against Corby Town and soon became a regular, netting a stunning goal in the cup final of the same competition later that season. The move into senior football was seamless for Fay as she used her speed and that wand of a left foot to great effect as the Ladies soon gained promotion to the Southern Region Premier League. That season proved to be a fleeting one-year visit to the top division but a young team once again gained promotion to the Combination League with Fay a leading light in the team's success. The girls again reached the cup final where the Town went down 2-1 to Reading with Fay again firing a wonder strike.

Fay was latterly part of a small group of players who raced to the South East Combination League title in 2008 and went on to represent the Town in the Women's Premier League. The demands of a successful career as an Engineer with Network Rail somewhat curtailed her football as shift work and travelling became increasingly difficult to manage which is a challenge unique to the women's game.

Not only was Fay a talented footballer and a successful career woman but, as a youth, she also excelled as a hockey

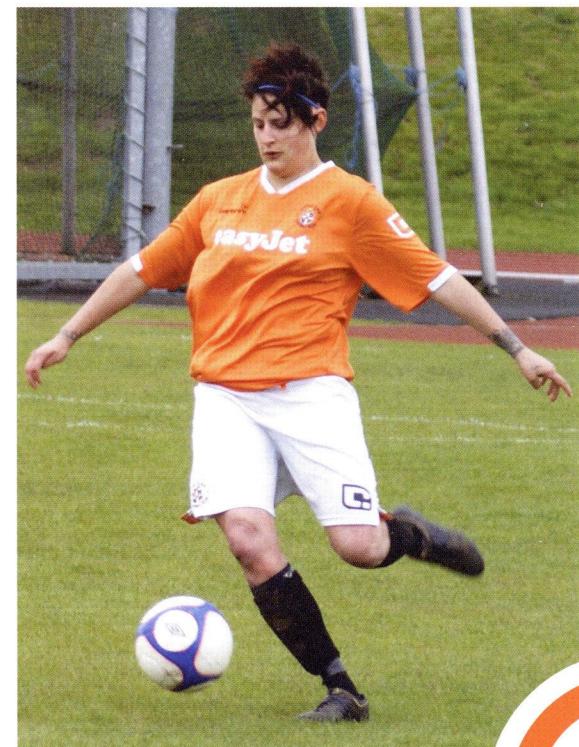
player, gymnast and musician. In recent times much of Fay's energy was channelled into her music where she was the drummer in all-girl band Rose's and Pirates. The band released their EP on 3rd March just two days before Fay's passing and are shortly to release their first album on 24th March.

Town Ladies honoured Fay's memory with a minute's silence before their last home which was attended by a number of Fay's former team-mates from past years.

Our sincere condolences go to all of Fay's family and friends and particularly her father Mick, who was first team coach for many years; Mum Theresa, sister Kelly and niece Brooke.

We will never forget Fay for just being Fay. May you rest in peace.

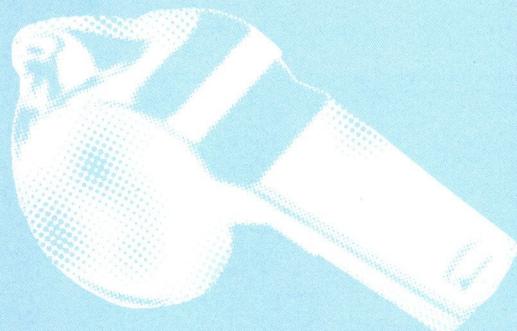
**Dave Baker and all at Luton Town Ladies**



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

#NONSENSEINFOOTBALL

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EITHER SIDE OF THE POST  
AND THAT WOULD HAVE  
BEEN A GOAL."



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## LEAGUE LOOK

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

It was a week of shock results and right-to-the-whistle finishes in this week's round of fixtures as there were four 1-1 draws in an exciting weekend at the pinnacle of non-league football.

Top-of-the-table Wrexham were beaten by Dartford as their lead at the top was cut to just goal difference by Kidderminster and Mansfield. Darts skipper Elliot Bradbrook slammed home a stoppage time winner for the hosts after Wrexham had an early lead in the first half through Danny Wright who netted for the 16th time of the campaign.

Kidderminster travelled to Grimsby Town in arguably the game of the weekend as two of the promotion front runners locked horns. Anthony Malbon and Michael Gash gave Harriers a two-goal lead at half-time before Malbon netted again in the second half to seal all three points and push Kidderminster right onto the tails of Wrexham.

#### To the wire

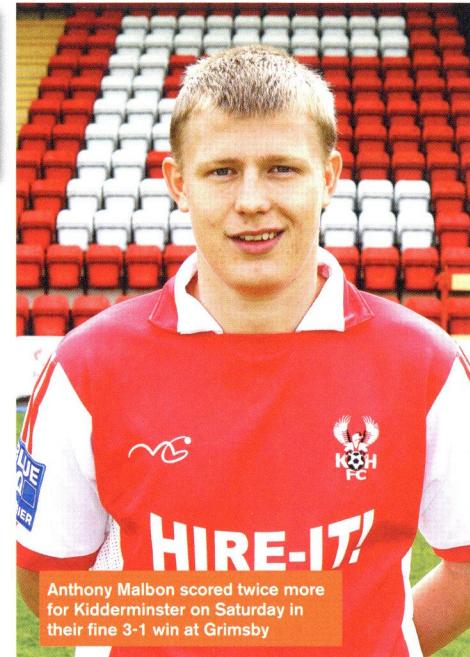
They are joined on 68 points by Mansfield who netted four times against Stockport to maintain their momentum as the run in looks set to continue right up to the wire. Adam Chapman announced his arrival to the Stags home fans as he bagged a hat-trick on his home debut in the 4-1 win.

Newport County drifted slightly off the pace as they were held to a 1-1 draw by relegation scrapers Ebbsfleet. Newport thought they were set to win the tie when Robbie Willmott was sent tumbling down in the area in stoppage time.

Andy Sandell stepped up to the responsibility but former Hatters trialist Preston Edwards guessed the right way and clung on to a priceless point for Fleet.

Macclesfield kept their brief hopes of sneaking into the Play-Offs alive with a 2-0 away win at bottom-of-the-table AFC Telford with both goals coming from former Hatter Amari Morgan-Smith either side of the half-time interval.

Cambridge United continued their climb up the table with another solid defensive performance against



Anthony Malbon scored twice more for Kidderminster on Saturday in their fine 3-1 win at Grimsby

Woking. The game seemed to be heading to a goalless conclusion when Tom Shaw popped up in injury time to poke Richard Money's men back into the top half of the table.

The biggest win of the weekend came up north at the unlikely surroundings of Gateshead. They netted three times to cruise to victory against Hyde to leave them stranded at 21st in the table prior to their visit to Kenilworth Road this evening.

### TONIGHT'S FIXTURES

ALFRETON v EBBSFLEET

BARROW v STOCKPORT

DARTFORD v BRAINTREE

LINCOLN v WREXHAM

MACCLESFIELD v WOKING

MANSFIELD v GRIMSBY

SOUTHPORT v FOREST GREEN

TOMORROW

AFC TELFORD v GATESHEAD

# FIXTURES AND RESULTS

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

**August**

|        |       |   |                        |       |       |       |    |       |          |             |             |          |         |             |             |         |        |
|--------|-------|---|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|----|-------|----------|-------------|-------------|----------|---------|-------------|-------------|---------|--------|
| Sat 11 | 15:00 | H | Gateshead              | D 0-2 | 6,743 | 76    | 11 | Tyler | Taylor** | Rowe-Turner | Henry       | Kovacs   | Kasim*  | Howells     | O'Donnell   | Rendell | Gray** |
| Tue 14 | 19:45 | A | Kidderminster Harriers | W 2-0 | 2,275 | 542   | 4  | Tyler | Henry    | Taylor      | Rowe-Turner | Kovacs   | Kasim   | Lawless     | O'Donnell   | Rendell | Shay** |
| Fri 17 | 19:30 | H | Ryde                   | W 2-1 | 1,141 | 477   | 3  | Tyler | Henry    | Taylor*     | Rowe-Turner | Kovacs   | Kasim** | Lawless     | O'Donnell 1 | Rendell | Shay   |
| 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 | Shay   |
| 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*   | Shay   |

**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      | Rendell 1    | Gray 1* |
| Tue 4  | 19:45 | H | Cambridge United  | W 3-2 | 6,742 | 622 | 2 | Tyler | Rowe-Turner | Taylor    | Beckwith 1   | Kovacs*1 | Lawless   | O'Donnell | Howells      | Rendell      | Gray 1  |
| Sat 8  | 15:00 | A | Alfreton Town     | L 0-3 | 1,392 | 768 | 5 | Tyler | Henry       | Taylor*   | Beckwith     | Kovacs** | Lawless   | O'Donnell | Howells      | Watkins***   | Gray**  |
| Sat 15 | 15:00 | H | Wrexham           | D 0-0 | 6,675 | 319 | 5 | Tyler | Howells*    | Beckwith  | Kovacs       | Lawless  | O'Donnell | Rendell   | Fleetwood*** | Gray***      |         |
| Fri 21 | 19:45 | A | Grimsby Town      | L 1-4 | 4,074 | 125 | 6 | Tyler | Henry**     | Howells   | Beckwith     | Kovacs*  | Lawless   | O'Donnell | Rendell 1    | Fleetwood*** | Gray    |

**October**

|        |       |   |                         |       |       |       |   |       |       |             |             |         |           |           |              |               |        |
|--------|-------|---|-------------------------|-------|-------|-------|---|-------|-------|-------------|-------------|---------|-----------|-----------|--------------|---------------|--------|
| Sat 6  | 15:00 | A | Lincoln City            | W 2-1 | 2,970 | 864   | 4 | Tyler | Henry | Howells     | Essam       | Ainge   | Lawless   | O'Donnell | Rendell      | J. Robinson** | Gray** |
| Tue 9  | 19:45 | H | Braintree Town          | L 2-3 | 5,523 | 55    | 4 | Tyler | Henry | Howells     | Essam**     | Ainge 1 | Lawless   | O'Donnell | Rendell      | Gray          | Shay   |
| Sat 13 | 15:00 | H | Neuneaton Town          | W 2-0 | 6,148 | 264   | 3 | Tyler | Henry | Rowe-Turner | Essam*      | Ainge   | Lawless 2 | O'Donnell | Rendell      | Gray**        | Shay   |
| Sat 20 | 13:00 | A | Cambridge United (FAC4) | W 2-0 | 3,231 | 601   | - | Tyler | Henry | Howells     | Rowe-Turner | Kovacs  | Lawless*  | O'Donnell | Mendy        | Gray 1***     | Shay 1 |
| Sat 27 | 15:00 | A | Forest Green Rovers     | W 2-1 | 2,112 | 1,002 | 2 | Tyler | Henry | Rowe-Turner | Kovacs      | Ainge   | Lawless   | O'Donnell | Rendell 2*** | Gray          | Shay   |

**November**

|        |       |   |                        |       |       |     |   |       |             |                |          |              |           |           |              |              |          |
|--------|-------|---|------------------------|-------|-------|-----|---|-------|-------------|----------------|----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|--------------|----------|
| Sat 3  | 15:00 | H | Neuneaton Town (FAC1)  | D 1-1 | 3,089 | 355 | - | Brill | Henry       | Howells        | Kovacs   | Rowe-Turner* | O'Donnell | Mendy     | Rendell 1    | Gray         | Walker   |
| Tue 6  | 19:45 | A | Hereford United        | L 0-1 | 2,108 | 372 | 3 | Brill | Henry       | Rowe-Turner*** | Kovacs** | Ainge        | Lawless   | O'Donnell | Rendell      | J. Robinson* | Gray**   |
| Sat 10 | 15:00 | H | Dartford               | L 0-2 | 6,567 | 484 | 6 | Brill | Lawless     | Howells        | Henry    | Ainge        | Smith     | Mendy*    | O'Donnell    | Gray         | Rendell  |
| Tue 13 | 19:45 | A | Neuneaton Town (FAC1R) | W 2-0 | 1,596 | 471 | - | Tyler | Rowe-Turner | Henry          | Kovacs   | Howells      | Mendy     | Lawless   | O'Donnell*** | Walker*      | Rendell  |
| Sat 17 | 15:00 | A | Mansfield Town         | D 2-2 | 2,619 | 522 | 6 | Tyler | Henry       | Rowe-Turner    | Kovacs   | Ainge        | Smith     | Lawless   | Howells      | Rendell      | Gray 2** |

**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 |           |
| Tue 4  | 19:45 | H | Dorchester Town (FAT1R) | W 3-1 | 897   | 16  | - | Brill | Lawless | Ainge       | Rowe-Turner | O'Donnell 1*** | Watkin         | Robinson    | Dance**    | Walker       | Shay    |           |
| Sat 8  | 15:00 | H | Alfreton Town           | W 3-0 | 5,648 | 58  | 5 | Tyler | Henry   | Rowe-Turner | Ainge       | Kovacs         | O'Donnell 1*** | Smith 1     | Howells    | Lawless      | Rendell | Gray 1*** |
| 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*** |
| Sat 15 | 15:00 | A | Matlock Town (FAT2)     | W 2-1 | 823   | tbc | - | Brill | Henry   | Rowe-Turner | Kovacs      | Ainge 1        | Kovacs         | O'Donnell** | Mendy*     | Lawless      | Rendell | Gray 1*** |
| Wed 26 | 15:00 | H | Woking                  | W 3-1 | 6,744 | 235 | 4 | Tyler | Henry   | Rowe-Turner | Kovacs      | Lawless        | Mendy          | Rendell 1   | Fleetwood* | Gray**       | Shay 1  |           |

**January**

|        |       |   |                            |       |       |       |   |       |         |            |             |             |           |        |            |           |          |           |
|--------|-------|---|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|---|-------|---------|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------|------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Tue 1  | 13:00 | A | Woking                     | L 1-3 | 2,961 | 998   | 5 | Tyler | Henry   | Howells*** | Ainge       | Kovacs      | Lawless   | Mendy* | Neilson    | Rendell   | Gray 1** |           |
| Sat 5  | 15:00 | H | Wolves (FAC3)              | W 1-0 | 9,638 | 1,500 | - | Tyler | Henry   | Taylor     | Rowe-Turner | Kovacs      | Lawless 1 | Mendy  | O'Donnell* | Walker    | Shay     |           |
| 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 | Shay 1   | Gray 1*** |
| Sat 12 | 15:00 | H | Skelmanstade United (FAT3) | W 2-0 | 2,479 | 220   | - | Brill | Lawless | Jibodu***  | Ainge       | Rowe-Turner | Robinson  | Mendy  | Howells*   | Dance*    | Walker*  | Shay 1    |
| Tue 15 | 19:45 | A | AFC Telford United         | D 0-0 | 1,606 | 76    | 6 | Tyler | Henry   | Taylor     | Rowe-Turner | Kovacs      | Lawless   | Mendy  | Smith      | Neilson*  | Shay 1   | Gray 1*** |

**February**

|           |       |   |                     |       |       |       |   |       |       |           |             |         |         |         |        |            |           |           |
|-----------|-------|---|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|---|-------|-------|-----------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Sat 2     | 15:00 | A | Barrow              | L 0-1 | 1,188 | 188   | 7 | Tyler | Henry | Taylor*** | Rowe-Turner | McNulty | Lawless | Mendy*  | Smith  | Watkins*** | Shay 1    |           |
| Sat 9     | 15:00 | H | Forest Green Rovers | D 1-1 | 6,374 | 110   | 7 | Tyler | Henry | Howells   | Kovacs      | McNulty | Lawless | Mendy*  | Smith  | Watkins*** | Shay 1    |           |
| Tue 12    | 19:45 | A | Dartford            | L 0-1 | 1,802 | 475   | 7 | Tyler | Henry | Howells   | Kovacs      | McNulty | Lawless | Mendy*  | Smith  | Watkins*** | Shay 1    |           |
| TV Sat 16 | 12:45 | H | Millwall (FAC5)     | L 0-3 | 9,768 | 1,530 | - | Tyler | Henry | Kovacs    | Henry       | Howells | Lawless | Mendy** | Smith  | O'Donnell* | Rendell   | Gray 1*** |
| Sat 19    | 15:00 | A | Macclesfield Town   | D 1-1 | 1,964 | 278   | 8 | Tyler | Henry | Taylor*** | Rowe-Turner | McNulty | Howells | Lawless | Smith* | Shay 1     | Gray 1*** | Shay 1    |

**March**

|        |       |   |                  |       |       |     |   |       |       |             |         |         |           |       |          |         |            |           |
|--------|-------|---|------------------|-------|-------|-----|---|-------|-------|-------------|---------|---------|-----------|-------|----------|---------|------------|-----------|
| Sat 2  | 15:00 | A | Stockport County | W 1-0 | 4,074 | 372 | 8 | Tyler | Henry | Rowe-Turner | Kovacs* | McNulty | Howells 1 | Smith | Mendy    | Lawless | Fleetwood* | Gray 1*** |
| Tue 5  | 19:45 | A | Neuneaton Town   | D 0-0 | 1,173 | 507 | 7 | Tyler | Henry | Rowe-Turner | Goodman | McNulty | Howells   | Smith | Mendy*** | Lawless | Fleetwood* | Gray 1*** |
| Sat 9  | 15:00 | H | Hereford United  | D 1-1 | 6,001 | 220 | 8 | Tyler | Henry | Taylor**    | Goodman | McNulty | Howells   | Smith | Mendy*** | Lawless | Rendell*   | Gray 1*** |
| Tue 12 | 19:45 | H | Hyde             |       |       |     |   |       |       |             |         |         |           |       |          |         |            | Gray 1*** |
| Sat 16 | 15:00 | A | Wrexham          |       |       |     |   |       |       |             |         |         |           |       |          |         |            | Gray 1*** |

**March**

|        |       |   |                   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |           |
|--------|-------|---|-------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|-----------|
| Tue 19 | 15:00 | H | Stockport County  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Gray 1*** |
| Sat 23 | 15:00 | H | Tamworth          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Gray 1*** |
| Tue 26 | 19:45 | H | Ebbesfleet United |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Gray 1*** |
| Sat 30 | 15:00 | A | Cambridge United  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Gray 1*** |
| April  |       |   |                   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Gray 1*** |

**April**

Mon 1 15:00 H Kidderminster Harriers

Sat 6 15:00 A Gateshead\*

Tue 9 19:45 H Lincoln City

TV Fri 12 19:45 H Grimsby Town

Tue 16 19:45 H Newport County

Sat 20 15:00 A Southport

## SUBS

|                |       |          |           |            |             |
|----------------|-------|----------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| Fleetwood 1    | Brill | Beckwith | Lawless** | Watkins*** | Shaw 1      |
| Fleetwood* 2   | Brill | Beckwith | Walker    | Gray*      | Robinson**  |
| Fleetwood*** 1 | Brill | Beckwith | Howells*  | Gray**     | Robinson*** |
| Fleetwood      | Brill | Beckwith | Taylor*   | Wat        | Walker      |
| Fleetwood 2    | Brill | Lacey    | Watkins** | Kasim      | Woolley*    |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Fleetwood 1 | Brill | Beckwith | Lawless\*\* | Watkins\*\*\* | Shaw 1 |




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# LET'S GO

WREXHAM



## WREXHAM

### Where?

The Racecourse Ground... Familiarity aside, Wrexham have been situated inside the plush facilities in North Wales since 1864.

### Getting there

It's a fairly familiar journey for the hardcore Hatters fans, who will have travelled to the Racecourse five times in the past four seasons. If you're unfamiliar to the trip, simply tap LL11 2AH into the trusty sat-nav.

**Pitch'er perfect** The playing surface at the Racecourse has played host to a range of sporting fixtures including the Welsh National Rugby team, the National football team and Championship Rugby League outfit North Wales Crusaders.

**Trip advisor** The journey will set you back just over 160 miles, doorstep to doorstep, and if you're sticking to the M1 route it will be just under three hours, so be sure to fill up before departing - it could be an early start.

**Boarder bound** The Hatters will cross the Welsh boarder for the second time this season after their trip to Newport in December. They'll be hoping for an improvement on the 5-2 scoreline they were on the receiving end of that night.

**Night night** For the first time in six visits, the Town will be travelling to the Racecourse for a 3pm Saturday kick-off. All previous fixtures at Wrexham have been midweek evening kick-offs.

**Recent memories...** The two sides have endured each other's gruelling company on more than one occasion in recent seasons, including four times in the last two seasons. On the Town's last visit, for the Play-Off semi-final second leg, it was Paul Buckle's Hatters that progressed to the final, despite the Dragons snatching the game 2-1.

**Home advantage** It has not been a happy hunting ground for teams this season with Wrexham being beaten just twice from 17 home games in the league.

**Town triple** The Hatters have visited the Racecourse 20 times in their history, winning just three, but one of those was a comprehensive 3-0 victory back in May 2011 in a first leg Play-Off semi-final.

**The gift of goals** One thing that is guaranteed when you visit Wrexham is goals from the home side. They have scored more goals at home this season than anyone else with the net bulging 40 times.

**Former player alert** There are not many links between the two sides but one player who is held in high esteem through both sets of supporters is Carlos Edwards. The Trinidad & Tobago International made over 100 appearances for Wrexham before joining the Hatters for a two-year spell.

**Scoring touch** The last time the Hatters beat Wrexham was last season's Play-Off home leg where goals from Stuart Fleetwood and Andre Gray gave the Town a 2-0 win. Skipper George Pilkington bagged the decisive goal away in Wales.

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PROUD KIT SUPPLIERS TO LUTON TOWN

# TONIGHT'S TEAMS



## LUTON TOWN

|                       |    |    |                   |
|-----------------------|----|----|-------------------|
| Mark Tyler            | 1  | 1  | David Carnell     |
| Lathaniel Rowe-Turner | 2  | 2  | Josh Brizell      |
| Greg Taylor           | 3  | 3  | Adam Griffin      |
| Garry Richards        | 4  | 5  | Luke Ashworth     |
| Steve McNulty         | 5  | 6  | Alex Brown        |
| Janos Kovacs          | 6  | 7  | David Poole       |
| Alex Lawless          | 7  | 9  | Scott Spencer     |
| Danny Spiller         | 8  | 10 | Phil Jevons       |
| Jon Shaw              | 9  | 11 | Louis Almond      |
| Scott Rendell         | 10 | 12 | Ashley Frith      |
| Jake Howells          | 11 | 13 | Tunji Moses       |
| Simon Ainge           | 12 | 15 | Mark Allott       |
| Stuart Fleetwood      | 13 | 16 | Kelvin Lomax      |
| Arnaud Mendy          | 14 | 17 | Matthew Cassidy   |
| Adam Watkins          | 15 | 18 | Grant Spencer     |
| Alex Lacey            | 16 | 19 | David McNiven     |
| JJ O'Donnell          | 17 | 20 | Matthew Blinkhorn |
| Dave Martin           | 18 | 21 | Liam Tomsett      |
| James Dance           | 19 | 25 | Matt Harris       |
| Scott Neilson         | 20 | 30 | Jamie Milligan    |
| Wayne Thomas          | 22 | 32 | Danny Broadbent   |
| Matt Robinson         | 23 | 37 | Chris Sedgwick    |
| Jonathan Smith        | 24 | 39 | Shay McCartan     |
| Ronnie Henry          | 25 |    |                   |
| Alex Wall             | 26 |    |                   |
| Andre Gray            | 27 |    |                   |
| Jake Woolley          | 28 |    |                   |
| Dan Walker            | 29 |    |                   |
| Jake Goodman          | 30 |    |                   |
| Solomon Taiwo         | 31 |    |                   |
| Dean Brill            | 33 |    |                   |

## MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: R. Whitton

ASSISTANT: C. Wade

ASSISTANT: C. Pearse

FOURTH OFFICIAL: P. Lavelle

## HYDE

|    |                   |
|----|-------------------|
| 1  | David Carnell     |
| 2  | Josh Brizell      |
| 3  | Adam Griffin      |
| 5  | Luke Ashworth     |
| 6  | Alex Brown        |
| 7  | David Poole       |
| 9  | Scott Spencer     |
| 10 | Phil Jevons       |
| 11 | Louis Almond      |
| 12 | Ashley Frith      |
| 13 | Tunji Moses       |
| 15 | Mark Allott       |
| 16 | Kelvin Lomax      |
| 17 | Matthew Cassidy   |
| 18 | Grant Spencer     |
| 19 | David McNiven     |
| 20 | Matthew Blinkhorn |
| 21 | Liam Tomsett      |
| 25 | Matt Harris       |
| 30 | Jamie Milligan    |
| 32 | Danny Broadbent   |
| 37 | Chris Sedgwick    |
| 39 | Shay McCartan     |

## HERE NEXT

**STOCKPORT COUNTY**

BLUE SQUARE BET PREMIER

TUESDAY 19TH MARCH 2013

KICK-OFF 7.45PM