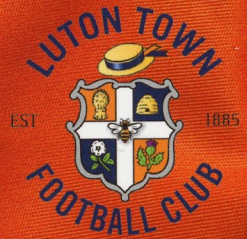


# TALK OF THE TOWN



OFFICIAL AWARD-WINNING MATCHDAY  
PROGRAMME OF LUTON TOWN  
FOOTBALL CLUB

ISSUE 4 • £3.00

## LUTON TOWN v CAMBRIDGE UNITED

MONDAY 26th AUGUST 2013  
KICK OFF 3PM

The Skril Premier

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# welcome

## TO KENILWORTH ROAD

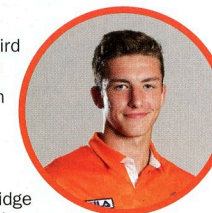
### “ They so there's no rest for the wicked.

Welcome back to Kenilworth Road for the third time already this season – just 48 hours after the Hatters were last in action at Forest Green on Saturday.

Bank Holiday Monday fixtures are always eagerly anticipated and today's game is no different – especially given our visitors Cambridge United make the short 40-mile journey to Kenilworth Road buoyed by a good start to the season.

Due to printing deadlines, details of Saturday's match with Forest Green will have to wait until our next programme but that's not to say this afternoon's issue of Talk of the Town isn't full of features.

You'll get to read the thoughts of the chairman, manager and captain; go back in time with our club historian; and look ahead to the club's future in our youth section. Enjoy! #COYH ”



### LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 2020 LTD

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Ticket office: 01582 416976  
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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.

# the manager

**JOHN STILL**

**Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for this Skrill Premier encounter against Cambridge United.**

A big welcome to all of those who have travelled from Cambridge United, including manager Richard Money and his staff and players, plus the directors, staff and supporters of the U's.

They have begun the season well and will no doubt give us a difficult match here.

These notes were written before the Forest Green match on Saturday so I can't comment on how we fared there, but it's fair to say in the three games prior to that our performances haven't been what I'd call inspiring.

After the opening game of the season at Southport I think we all had a big reality check when we lost at Haig Avenue.

## Mentality

In pre-season we were rolling teams over, but at Southport our mentality wasn't right. We have had the right mentality in the following two games – against Salisbury and Macclesfield – but without playing what we'd call good, attacking football.

Our work ethic has been key to the four points that we have obtained so far. We now need to attach a good, attacking emphasis to our game to go with the already high-energy work-rate we've got, to be able to push forward.

A lot of people have said to me "what's happened to the team we saw in pre-season?" I can only agree. It hasn't been evident in our first three games but, what pre-season did show was that we have a good level of fitness and a good level of organisation.

Having those two attributes are important because that gives you a good platform to go and play, and I know we have the quality in our squad for that to happen.

We now have to get all of those together and produce them in our league games. To do that and to be successful will only happen with hard work.

Looking further ahead, we have another tough game next Saturday when we travel to face Kidderminster Harriers.

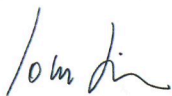
Steve Burr's side went on a great run last season so there is another stern test lurking around the corner for us. However, if we can get ourselves into the mode that I believe we can, we shouldn't hold any fear of any club.

## Consistency

Football throws up many surprises, but normally the best teams are the ones that go on and win things. We have to show that we are one of those best teams over the course of 46 games. At the start, the middle and the end of the season there are points to be won. There's no point winning all your games in August and then not winning any across November, December and January. Football doesn't work like that and we need to reach a level of consistency.

What I will say, though, is in the first three games we've played the support has been absolutely fantastic.

I can understand the frustration when results aren't what we all want, but if we can maintain the level of support I believe you will be rewarded with an attacking, fast-moving football team. So please get behind your team this afternoon.



**“ We have to show that we are one of the best teams over the course of 46 games. ”**



# boardroom

WITH CHAIRMAN NICK OWEN



**Good afternoon and a warm welcome to Kenilworth Road for our third home match of the 2013/14 season in the Skrill Premier.**

This is the second in a really tough run of five games – Forest Green, Cambridge, Kidderminster Harriers,

Grimsby and Wrexham. All in the space of about 20 days.

You've got an advantage on me – I am writing these notes before the trip to FGR, so I have no idea how we've got on.

All I can say is that I hope the side will be starting to gel by now. Two of our first three games have been disappointing, to say the least.

We never got going at Southport, even though we should still have come away with a point, and the Macclesfield game was equally mystifying.

## Relief

What a relief it was when Luke Guttridge slid the equaliser home after nearly eight minutes of added time. We have some excellent players, absolutely no doubt about it, but we were second best for much of that match - we simply haven't got into any rhythm yet. I am hoping that'll have all changed at Forest Green.

If you want to get pessimistic about our chances, let me direct you to Kidderminster's start last season.

They lost five out of five, zilch points out of the first 15, then went on a sensational run and missed automatic promotion by a whisker.

Our start hasn't been remotely as bad as theirs and I am confident that, once we settle, we'll be a formidable force in this division.

As Club chairman, I would like to welcome our contingent of new players, all of them, I know, inspired by our impressive history and our enviable support. They know we are ambitious and they are ambitious too.

## Buzz

They all comment on the buzz about the place, the fire in the bellies of our management and coaching staff, plus the terrific atmosphere that we have at Kenilworth Road, as well as the astonishingly loyal following we take on the road.

They absolutely love it – and so do we in the boardroom. As ever, thank you for your undying support.

Since the end of last season, I have had the pleasure of being invited to a ceremony to mark Eric Morecambe and Ernie Wise's supreme contribution to showbusiness.

The Heritage Foundation unveiled a blue plaque at Thames TV's Teddington studios on the banks of the Thames where many of their shows were recorded. It was interesting for me on

the day because I presented a load of sports programmes from there myself in the eighties and nineties.

There was a tremendous turnout of showbiz figures there, including Nicholas Parsons, Bernard Cribbins, Vicki Michelle, Liz Fraser, Su Pollard, Dave Berry and Bella Emberg. I am delighted to say Eric's widow Joan was also there – in fine form – accompanied by their daughter Gail.



The plaque in honour of Eric and Ernie, which was unveiled over the summer in Nick's presence

I was invited as chairman of Eric's beloved Luton Town, so I went along with my partner Vicki, while we were joined by boardroom colleague David Wilkinson and his partner Jane.

## Proud

I was so proud to make a speech as a representative of our club, recalling what joy he brought to us all as fans in the seventies by his very presence at the ground and describing the most memorable interview I've ever conducted in my 35 years in television – with Eric on breakfast television, when he spent a good two-and-a-half hours with us at TV-am.

I also related one of my favourite stories about him. A one-armed commissioner, who always used to chat to Eric at the studios, once asked him if he could have a ticket for the next show.

"Afraid not," said Eric.

"Why not?" asked the slightly downcast commissioner.

"Because you can't clap," said Eric.

I hope we'll all have reason to clap like crazy today, as we welcome Richard Money and his Cambridge United side to Kenilworth Road.

Congratulations to Richard on a terrific start to the season, they're top at the time of writing and unbeaten, and while I welcome all the Cambridge players, directors and fans to Luton this afternoon, I like to think the gap between us will have closed by the time they head off on the short journey home after five o'clock.

## Memories

This is the start of my 56th season supporting the Hatters, decades of magnificent memories, laced with an over-generous helping of downers, but I sincerely believe this one, come next spring, will bring us the success we all crave.

Bye for now



## HONOURS

### Littlewoods Challenge Cup:

Winners 1988, Runners-up 1989

### FA Cup:

Runners-up 1959

Semi-finalists 1959, 1985, 1988, 1994

### Johnstone's Paint Trophy:

Winners 2009

### Simod Cup:

Runners-up 1988

### Football League Division Two:

Champions 1981/82

Runners-up 1954/55, 1973/74

### Football League Division Three (South):

Winners 1936/37

Runners-up 1935/36

### Football League Division Three:

Runners-up 1969/70

### League One:

Champions 2004/05

### Football League Division Four:

Champions 1967/68

### Football League Division Three:

Runners-up 2001/02

### Blue Square Premier:

Runners-up 2009/10

### Southern League Division One:

Runners-up 1894/95, 1895/96

### Southern League Division Two:

Runners-up 1913/14

### United League:

Champions 1897/98

Runners-up 1896/97, 1900/01

### Southern Alliance:

Runners-up 1913/14

# Relax this summer...

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# the captain

**RONNIE HENRY**

**In our last home game here against Macclesfield we were relieved to get a point thanks to Luke Guttridge's 97th-minute equaliser.**

It was obvious we didn't play well throughout but in the first half I thought we had the better of the chances. Had Andre Gray's shot just before half-time hit the back of the net then it would have been a different game.

That's what football is all about: fine margins. We lost our way in the second half and allowed Macclesfield to take the lead with a shot scuffed into the bottom corner. However, despite our frustration, we never gave up and our endeavour was rewarded with virtually the last kick of the game. It was imperative to keep going to the very last minute. I knew we would get one last chance and when you are in those situations you just have to make it count. Luckily for us, Luke did just that.

### Important

Having performed the way we did, we will take the point. It so nearly was nothing. We must use that as a positive. We may look back at the end of the season and say just how important that point against Macclesfield proved.

In the dressing room afterwards there was no celebration, just a lot of relief at earning a point and a lot of disappointment given our level of performance. The manager always says never get too high and never get too low after results. He is level-headed and has tonnes of experience and that kind of influence on us as players is going to be vital throughout the season.

The point earned made it four points from the first three games. Not bad all things considered, taking into account our displays against Southport, Salisbury and Macclesfield. But those four points have only been won because of hard work, and not because we have played well.

That is perhaps the biggest positive of the first three games: not playing well but picking up points. There will have been some clubs that will have played well this season and got nothing. Remember this is a long, long season. After today's game there are still 41 matches to play. That's 123 points up for grabs.

We won't – and can't – win every game, and there will be matches which we will lose. The single most important thing for us is to continue to work hard.

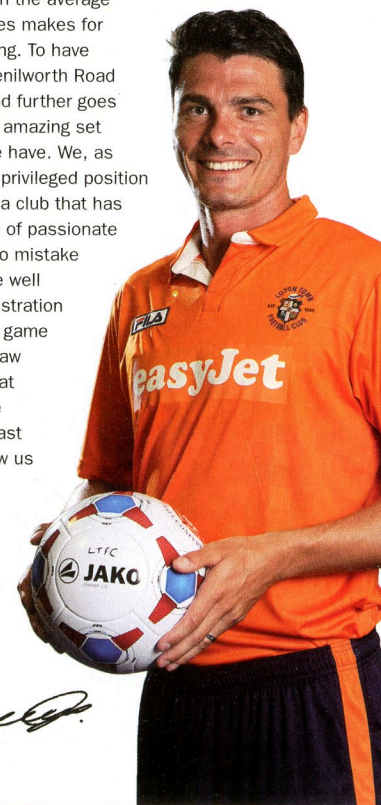
I'm writing these notes prior to our game at Forest Green on Saturday but we've had an excellent week on the training ground ahead of what is a big game.

### Atmosphere

Today, too, is another exciting game for us. Cambridge will bring a healthy following with them which will make the atmosphere inside the ground fantastic. The visitors have started well this season and will want to continue that here, so we will be well aware of how tough the game will be.

Looking through the average attendance figures makes for interesting reading. To have over 6,500 at Kenilworth Road is remarkable and further goes to show what an amazing set of supporters we have. We, as players, are in a privileged position to be playing for a club that has such a high level of passionate support. Make no mistake about it: we were well aware of your frustration at the last home game and I hope you saw us respond to that by fighting all the way to the very last minute which saw us equalise.

Thank you for support and get behind us again this afternoon.



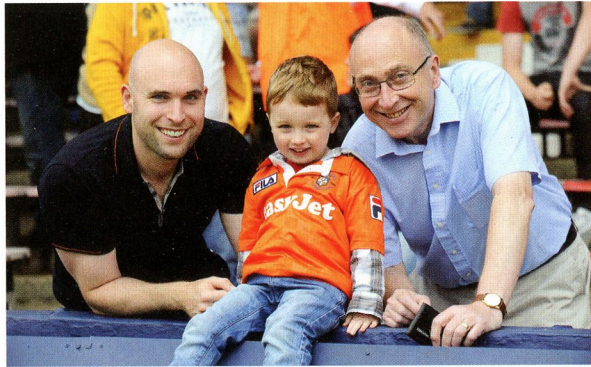
*Ronnie Henry*

# Sixth generation

Making his home debut at the recent Macclesfield game was three-year-old Stanley Wash, pictured here alongside his father Philip and grandfather Roger.

Stanley's father was a little older when he made his debut. He was seven when he attended his first home game against Wimbledon in October 1987 alongside his father and Kenilworth the Cat.

Incidentally, Stanley is a sixth generation Hatters fan, as the line can be traced back to his great, great, great grandfather Sam Wash, who was a supporter from the club's earliest days.



# Christmas is calling!

It might be (still, and only just) summer but supporters have already taken advantage of the available dates for Christmas parties at Kenilworth Road.

As part of our new internal catering at the club – which you can read more about elsewhere in tonight's programme – the Eric Morecambe suite will be opening its doors to parties over the festive period.

Boasting a 120 capacity and offering space for a dance floor and disco, the Eric is the ideal venue to

celebrate in style. A bar is provided, as well as a three-course carvery dinner and all the decorations.

The cost is just £28 per head and the available dates in December are: Wednesday 4th, Thursday 5th, Friday 6th, Saturday 7th, Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th, Thursday 12th, Friday 13th, Saturday 14th, Tuesday 17th, Wednesday 18th, Thursday 19th, Friday 20th. If you're interested in having your Christmas party at Kenilworth Road please contact our catering team on 01582 411622 or emailing catering@lutontown.co.uk.

# GOLDEN GAMBLE

The latest winner of our golden gamble scooped well over £600 last Saturday.

Town fan Doreen Beverley was the lucky recipient of £620 after her ticket number 01456 was plucked out of the barrel at half-time at our game with Macclesfield Town.

Look out for our sellers in and around the ground this afternoon – remember tickets only cost £1.

# BEDS SENIOR CUP DRAW

The Hatters have been drawn away to AFC Dunstable in the first round of the Bedfordshire Senior Cup.

The tie will take place at Creasey Park on Wednesday 13th November (kick-off time to be confirmed).



# Good will Hatters

The Hatters have been spreading goodwill and smiles to thousands of children over 5,000 miles away in the South American country of El Salvador.

Father Peter O'Neil worked in Central America for over 35 years, and it was his idea to set up AVOCA (A Voice of Central Americans) in 2002 – a three generation family-run charity locally based in Bedfordshire that supports the parishes that Father Peter worked in while in El Salvador with social and environmental projects which aim to improve the quality of life.

One such project is football coaching young and influential children from five to 18 years old, in an effort to promote self-confidence, awareness of others and the environment through sport. The intention is to give young people an alternative focus away from gang life which is so prevalent in the country. Started in 2009, the charity's football coaches have visited every Easter for the last five years.

This year with the help coaches from St Gregory's Middle School Bedford, Abbey Middle School and former Hatters youth team coach Michael Sup, the coaching was extended into a fourth community, with some fantastic results. You can see some of Michael teaching just by typing 'Michael Sup' into YouTube.

The camps take place in four neighbourhoods – El Pepeto, Montes 3 and San Jose 3, and for the first time this year Duarte Melendez. Each camp is co-organised by the parishioners and members of the local community. Each community camp consists of:

- Two days coaching for boys and girls aged five to 18
- Avoca supplies balls, cones, bibs, t-shirts for all those attending together with prizes, gifts and attendance diplomas
- Training young adults to become football coaches in their community

For both the 2012 and 2013 football coaching trips, the Hatters have donated football shirts, shorts and training bibs, which are given out as prizes at the end of each training camp.

Speaking to some of the children and local coaches is an amazing experience says Luton Fan Adam Bates.

"Some of these children have never had a new item of clothing in their life," Adam explained to Talk of the Town. "And to think that these kids are playing football in Luton shirts makes me extremely proud. So many people have donated equipment and kit. AVOCA and the children of the parishes are so grateful to the club and its supporters."



To raise funds for the charity during September, Town fan Adam along with friend Lee Gladstone will be taking part in the Tough Mudder endurance event in which participants attempt a 12-mile military obstacle course designed by British Special Forces to test mental as well as physical strength.

If you would like to donate please contact Adam via Facebook or by emailing batesabat@aol.com and Lee through Facebook or by emailing leegluton@yahoo.co.uk. Alternatively you can contact AVOCA through Facebook or on Twitter @avocacharity.

## AND FINALLY... DROPPED A CLANGER!

Having notified supporters in our last issue which end of our newly-available (and delicious) Bedfordshire Clangers contains meats and which contains fruit, the editor received another email from a Clanger aficionado last week.

Our worried emailer was concerned that the club had been selling the product against European directives, which state the clanger must have the correct slits at the correct angle in the pastry to denote which end is sweet and which end is savoury.

In a bid to make sure our emailer doesn't wake up in cold sweats at night thinking of misplaced Clanger markings, catering manager David Romans told Talk of the Town: "We have spent hours making sure that all of our Clangers meet stringent European trading standards. All of our staff are now fully trained to recognise which end is meat and which end is sweet. If in doubt – ask."

Remember, if you have any questions or feedback that you would like to tell us, just email info@lutontown.co.uk.

# let's go



**THE HATTERS HIT THE ROAD THIS COMING WEEKEND AS THEY MAKE THE TRIP TO WORCESTERSHIRE TO TAKE ON KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS AT AGGBOROUGH**



**WHERE?** Worcestershire, England. To be more precise, Aggborough Stadium, Hoo Road, Kidderminster. Typing DY10 1NB into your satnav (before you set off, please), should get you there safe and sound.

**NOT-SATNAV-SAVVY.** Not going by car? Fear not. The Bobbers Travel Club are, as ever, running a coach (or coaches, plural – if lots of you book...) to Aggborough. The fare is £20 for adults and £17 for concessions and they will be leaving the main Maple Road car park at 11am on the dot, so don't be late. To book, the friendly folk will take your reservation over the phone if you call 01234 856542.

**PLANE, TRAIN & AUTOMOBILE.** Not going by car? No going by bus? Well, Kidderminster does have a train station – a brisk 10-minute walk from Aggborough. The quickest way to get there from Luton is by heading down into London and back out again to Birmingham New Street. But that sounds like hassle, doesn't it? Alternatively you can either leave from Bedford and head to Brum from Leicester, or – better still – go from Milton Keynes. MK to Kiddy can be done in two hours.

**NO PLACE LIKE HOME.** Kidderminster must hate it – absolutely hate it – when the Town roll into Aggborough. Don't worry, it's nothing personal, it's just the fact the Hatters have won five and drawn one of their last six visits to the Worcestershire venue. Two Stuart Fleetwood goals secured a 2-0 win last season, and two 2-1 wins (one in the FA Trophy) came in 2011/12. Harriers' needed a last-minute equaliser to earn a point in a topsy-turvy 3-3 draw in April 2011. The Hatters also have a good record of coming from behind at

Aggborough. They trailed 1-0 in October 2009 before winning 2-1 thanks to two late goals and, in the first ever meeting between the two clubs, the Hatters were one down before triumphing 4-1 in January 2002. Remember that? Their keeper had a nightmare.

**KNOWING ME, KNOWING YOU.** There's one familiar face in the Harriers ranks in James Dance. The lively winger signed for the Town in the summer of 2011 and scored four goals in 32 appearances during an injury-blighted career at Kenilworth Road. Back fit after a successful loan spell at Nuneaton last season, the Birmingham-born midfielder penned a one-year deal at Aggborough this summer.

**HAUTE CUISINE.** A trip to Aggborough is the culinary visit of the season. Both sets of supporters can happily mingle in Harriers' homely supporters club bar behind the main stand (on the main road), before tasting the home-made delights once inside the ground. The cottage pies (say yes to gravy, when asked) are hailed nationwide and don't be put off by the £4 price tag. If you're a soup man or woman, then be quick to get hold of a cup of Harriers' green pea so-thick-you-need-a-straw soup.

**AS YOU WERE.** Unlike at Forest Green on Saturday there is no change to the away supporters' end at Aggborough. Town fans have the choice to stand behind the goal in the covered terrace (excellent acoustics), or in the seats in the relatively-new stand beside the pitch.

**REMEMBER, REMEMBER.** At this point in time last season, Harriers had nil/zero/zilch/zip points after five matches. They won their first point in their sixth game, and after 10 games Steve Burr's side had just five points. They finished the campaign on 93 points, lost out on the title by two points and then went out in the Play-Offs to Wrexham. Talk about a rollercoaster.

# tickets

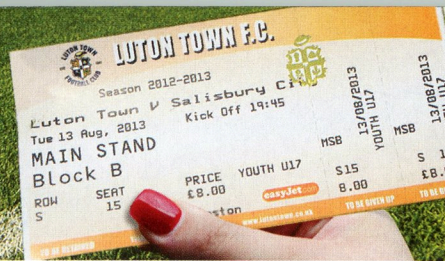
**HOME & AWAY WITH THE HATTERS**

**SEASON TICKETS AVAILABLE AT PRO-RATA PRICES**

Adults (22-64) £317, Young Adults (17-21) and Seniors (65-75) £226, Golden Seniors (over 75s) £147, Unaccompanied Youths (10-16) and Juniors (under 10s) £43. Accompanied Under-17s FREE

**HOME TICKET PRICES**

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



**KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS v LUTON TOWN**

The Skrill Premier

**SATURDAY 31st AUGUST 2013 • KICK-OFF 3PM**

This is not an all-ticket game for Luton Town supporters, however, supporters are advised to purchase tickets in advance from the Luton Town ticket office.

We have received an initial allocation of 500 terrace places and 100 seats for this match.

Prices: Terracing: £14 adults, £8 over-60s and students with ID, £5 under-16s.

Seating: £17 adults, £13 over-60s and students with ID, £8 under-16s.

Sales plan: Tickets are now on sale to diamond season ticket holders and regular season ticket holders at two per person until Thursday 22nd August.

Tickets will go on general sale from Friday 23rd August until 2pm on Friday 30th.



**LUTON TOWN v GRIMSBY TOWN**

The Skrill Premier

**SATURDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2013 • KICK-OFF 5.30PM**

Please note the kick-off time for this match.

This game will be screened live by BT Sport.

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.



**WREXHAM v LUTON TOWN**

The Skrill Premier

**FRIDAY 13th SEPTEMBER 2013, KICK-OFF 7.45PM**

Please note the date and kick-off time for this match.

This game will be screened live by BT Sport.

We are awaiting ticket details from Wrexham on this fixture.

# commercial

WITH COMMERCIAL MANAGER DAVID HOSKINS

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

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

It's almost another two weeks until we are back at Kenilworth Road when we host Grimsby Town in front of the BT Sport cameras so don't forget, if you want to see that fixture in style, we have a fine array of hospitality to suit your needs.

Already this season our commercial packages have been going like hot cakes at Kenilworth Road but there are still several packages up for grabs for matches here in the next few months. Make the most out of your trip to Kenilworth Road this season with one of the great packages we have on offer.

## THE PACKAGES AVAILABLE ARE:

### v GRIMBSY - 7/9/13

- MATCH BALL SPONSORSHIP

### v DARTFORD - 17/9/13

- MATCH SPONSORSHIP
- MATCH BALL SPONSORSHIP
- MASCOT PACKAGE

### v LINCOLN CITY - 21/9/13

- MATCH BALL SPONSORSHIP

### v HYDE - 12/10/13

- MATCHBALL SPONSORSHIP

### v SOUTHPORT - 9/11/13

- MATCH SPONSORSHIP
- MATCH BALL SPONSORSHIP

### v WELLING UNITED - 23/11/13

- MATCH SPONSORSHIP
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For more information or to book one of these great packages, contact the commercial office on 01582 411622

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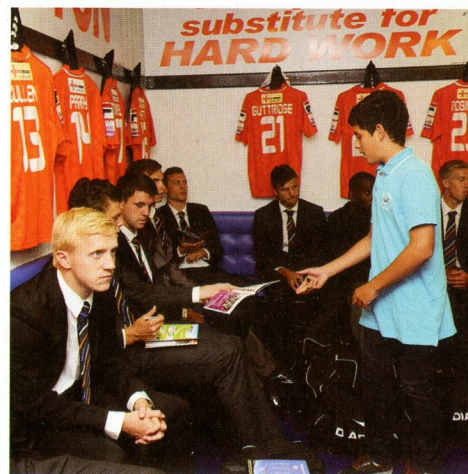
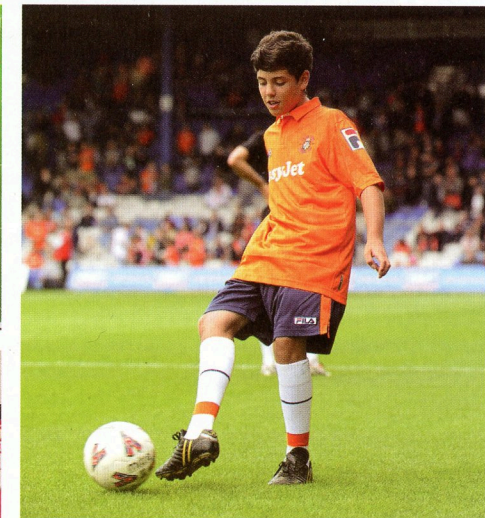
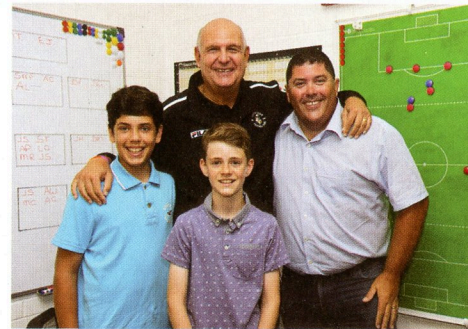
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# welcome

CAMBRIDGE UNITED



Due to Bank Holiday printing deadlines there will be plenty of talk about today's visitors.

You only have to turn to page 65 to see why. Because, as we went to press – before Saturday's games – Cambridge United were/are top of the Skrill Premier table. It might be early days, but whisper it softly: Cambridge have as a good a chance as any club in the division to be celebrating success come the end of this season – and they're quietly confident, too.

The man behind the U's' resurgence is none other Richard Money, the former Town player and, more recently, manager. As head coach Money, together with director of football Jez George, has assembled a squad with a blend of home-grown talent, experienced campaigners and freshly-plucked non-league whippersnappers that have either done the business in the Conference or below.

Adam Cunnington - prolific with Tamworth, Sam Delano-Yorke - prolific with Basingstoke, Greg Taylor - an ex-Hatter, Chris Maxwell - former Wrexham number one, and Ryan Donaldson - always a pest whilst with Gateshead - are just some of the new faces in the United ranks who have already made an immediate impression.

If the opening three games - and pre-season - is anything to go by then the Skrill Premier better wake up and get used to the U's' name appearing in and around the top five. Money's side signalled their intent from the word go by hammering FC Halifax 5-1 in their first game, which was broadcast live on BT Sport. All five goals were scored by new boys, too. Donaldson scored once whilst Cunnington and Delano-Yorke both

netted twice. Okay, okay, yes Halifax did have two men sent-off in the first half, but you can only beat what's in front of you.

A draw at newly-promoted Welling followed before a 1-0 victory at bottom-of-the-table Aldershot the Saturday before last. Reports indicated that the U's' display warranted more than the one goal, and Money was left purring at his players' performance afterwards.

United hosted Lincoln City - who had also won seven points from their opening three games - on Saturday at the Abbey Stadium, so only you will know reading this now whether or not Money's men remain in pole position in the table.

But today's visitors make the short 40-mile trip to Bedfordshire this afternoon hoping to improve a poor head-to-head record with the Hatters. Of the 26 meetings the U's have won just five times, compared to the Town's nine. Last season the Hatters won two of the three meetings, including a 3-2 Conference victory at Kenilworth Road in September and an FA Cup fourth qualifying win the following month. The U's' last win at Kenilworth Road came the season before last. Rory McAuley's second half goal gave United the points as well as their first ever league victory over the Hatters.

There's nothing like a Bank Holiday local (ish) derby to whet the appetite, especially between two sides predicted to do well this season. Throw in the first return to Kenilworth Road of Richard Money since his departure and, fingers crossed an away end filled with visiting Cambridge fans, and you've got the makings of a proper old-fashioned, 100mph, blood and thunder fixture. Let's hope it lives up the billing!

# in opposition

MEET THE CAMBRIDGE UNITED SQUAD

## THE MANAGER

**RICHARD MONEY.** No stranger to Kenilworth Road, Richard managed the Town between October 2010 and March 2012. Previously in charge at Walsall, he took over as the U's' head coach in October 2012. A defender in his playing days also at Kenilworth Road as well as with Liverpool, Fulham, Derby and Portsmouth.

## GOALKEEPERS

**CHRIS MAXWELL.** Welsh international stopper on loan from Fleetwood until January. Began his career with Wrexham, playing 85 times for the Red Dragons before his move to the Cod Army last summer. Re-joined Wrexham on loan last season who he helped win the FA Trophy.

**BEN WILSON.** Former Sunderland, Gateshead and Chesterfield keeper signed on non-contract terms on the eve of the season having impressed on trial.

## DEFENDERS

**KEVIN ROBERTS.** Dependable right-back who has since made 100 appearances for the U's since signing from Chester in January 2010 and was Player of the year in 2011/12.

**JOSH COULSON.** Centre-back and the U's longest-serving player. A local lad, Josh is a product of United's academy.

**RORY McAULEY.** England C international centre-half who has risen through the ranks at the Abbey Stadium. Also able to play at full-back or in central midfield.

**RICHARD TAIT.** Former Nottingham Forest trainee who signed this summer from Tamworth. The right-back made 160 appearances for the Lambs and was their captain.

**TOM BONNER.** Summer arrival from Dartford, the former QPR scholar was a virtual ever-present last season. Capped at Under-16 level for Scotland he helped the Darts to promotion in 2012.

**IAN MILLER.** Commanding centre-half signed a two-year deal this summer after leaving Grimsby. The experienced defender has also won the FA Trophy whilst with Darlington.

**GREG TAYLOR.** Bedford-born Taylor joined the U's this summer following his release from Kenilworth Road. Formerly with Darlington and Kettering.

## MIDFIELDERS

**HARRISON DUNK.** Left-winger and fans' favourite who signed for the U's from Bromley at the start of last summer and scored on his home debut against Telford.

**LUKE BERRY.** Midfielder who has risen through the U's youth ranks to become a first team regular. England C international and twice named young player of the year.

**LUKE ALLEN.** Former Tottenham trainee who joined the U's youth set-up before signing his first professional contract last summer. Spent last season on loan at Cambridge City.

**TOM CHAMPION.** Joined team-mate Bonner at the Abbey Stadium this summer from Dartford. Won the Conference with Barnet in 2005 before helping the Darts to Conference South Play-Off glory in 2012.

**MITCH AUSTIN.** Australian-born left-winger who arrived from Stalybridge Celtic after scoring nine goals last term. The skilful and quick-footed midfielder has also been on Rotherham's books.

**RYAN DONALDSON.** Former Newcastle trainee who signed this summer from Gateshead. The former England youth international can also play on either flank or in a central position in attack.

**LIAM HUGHES.** Another product of United's academy, the attacking midfielder has made the transition from a defender to be a vital part of the U's squad.

**NATHAN ARNOLD.** Close-season arrival from Alfreton. Skilful and quick, he scored 32 goals in 131 games for the Reds and can play on either flank or in a central role.

## STRIKERS

**TOM ELLIOTT.** Towering centre-forward signed from Stockport last summer. A former England under-18 international; came through the ranks at Leeds United.

**ANDY PUGH.** Former Welling United frontman who signed for the U's in the last January transfer window having scored 15 goals for the Wings.

**DELANO SAM-YORKE.** Summer recruit from Conference South side Basingstoke having scored 16 times for the Stoke last term. Previously on the books at AFC Wimbledon and Woking.

**ADAM CUNNINGTON.** Proven Conference goalscorer who moved from Tamworth this summer. Hit 21 goals for the Lambs last season and signed a two-year deal with the U's.

# scout report

WITH MATT AQUINO

**A familiar face in Richard Money returns to Kenilworth Road as manager of Cambridge United today.**

Money might expect a hostile reception as he walks out of the tunnel and would love nothing more than to silence the crowd with a win on his return to Bedfordshire.

Money, working with director of football and former manager Jez George, has been busy over the summer building a richly-experienced squad, complimented by a number of young talents which is why many have tipped them to gain promotion back to the Football League. The U's have certainly started well, and sit top of the Skril Premier at the time of writing, making headlines early on in the season with a 5-1 drubbing of newly-promoted FC Halifax Town in their televised season-opener.

#### How did they fare last season?

Cambridge finished 14th in the 2012/13 Conference Premier with 59 points. Money took over in October and his side ended the season as one of the league's top away scorers, netting 35 times including their two goals at Kenilworth Road early on in the campaign. However, United were rather inefficient as their six away wins meant they managed among the fewest in the division.

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

Money's side are likely to be more functional and pragmatic than attractive and enterprising today. The U's have a formula based primarily around athleticism with a mixture of powerful and pacey players in their line-up. Energy, work-rate and speed will be key to the visitors earning a victory here. It is likely Money's side will line up in a traditional 4-4-2 with a well-balanced midfield attempting to supply a target-man and pacey second striker up front.

Between the sticks Chris Maxwell, who made almost 100 league appearances for regular promotion-chasers Wrexham, will relish the challenge of keeping the Hatters' strikers at bay.

Tamworth loanee Richard Tait will start at right full-back with another familiar face in former fan favourite Greg Taylor operating at left-back. His former Town teammates will need to be wary of his lung-bursting runs and excellent contributions in the final third. In between the full-backs, Cambridge academy product



PROBABLE LINE-UP 4-4-2

Rory McAuley, who has made over 150 for the club, will start alongside former Grimsby Town captain Ian Miller.

6ft 4in Ryan Donaldson could well just be the tallest winger in the Conference and will most likely start on the right-hand side for Money's men, while Harrison Dunk could start on the left. 21-year-old Luke Berry, a box-to-box midfielder, and Tom Champion, a Watford academy graduate, will provide the drive and strength in Cambridge's midfield that should make for a fascinating battle for dominance in the centre of the pitch.

United's target-man Adam Cunningham is perhaps one of the signings of the summer having joined from Tamworth after scoring 21 goals for the Lambs last term. He will start and will probably be paired with the powerful and pacey Delano Sam-Yorke, who scored twice in the 5-1 defeat of Halifax in the opening round of fixtures.



## club data

**Established:** 1912 (as Abbey United)  
**Nickname(s):** The U's, United  
**Stadium:** R Costings Abbey Stadium  
**Capacity:** 9,617 (Avg. attendance 12/13 - 2,281)  
**Manager:** Richard Money (11 months)  
**Final league position 12/13:** 14th BSBP

# back to the future

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS TRACES WHAT HAPPENED TO TWO OF CAMBRIDGE UNITED'S GREATEST POST-WAR TEAMS

## 1972/73 PROMOTION WINNERS

**PETER VASPER:** Goalkeeper who made 136 League appearances before joining Dartford in July 1974, then St Ives and Saffron Walden. He later worked for an insurance company, settling in Bluntisham.

**JIMMY THOMPSON:** Right-back who made 118 League appearances before a knee injury curtailed his career. He settled back in Grimsby and had various jobs, including a spell at Nunsthorpe Youth Centre.

**VIC AKERS:** Left-back who moved to Tooting & Mitcham in January 1975, then Watford, Dartford, Hayes, Slough and Carshalton. He has since been manager and now general manager of Arsenal Ladies.

**ALAN GUILD:** Scottish central defender who scored once in 127 League games while at Abbey Stadium prior to joining Cambridge City in July 1974, then played for St Neots. He then settled in Dunfermline.

**TERRY EADES:** Central defender who netted five goals in 248 League outings before returning to Chelmsford City in July 1977, then was Histon's player-boss, becoming a salesman for a Mercedes dealership.

**WILLIE WATSON:** Midfielder who joined Lincoln City in September 1978, then played for Cambridge United again. He was a publican in Wilburton and Comberton, then worked for Cambridge Glasshouses.

**RONNIE WALTON:** Winger who scored nine times in 62 League games before returning to Aldershot in July 1973, then played for Dartford. He held coaching and managerial posts, notably Blyth Spartans.

**BRIAN GREENHALGH:** Leading marksman who joined AFC Bournemouth in February 1974, then Watford and Dartford. He had various coaching and managerial posts, then became Everton's chief scout.

**DAVID LILL:** Favourite who joined King's Lynn in July 1976, then reunited with Bill Leivers at Cambridge City, becoming coach. He ran a local sports shop and has managed Somersham Town and Over.

**BOBBY ROSS:** Scottish midfielder who netted 14 goals in 65 League outings before moving to Hayes in July 1974, becoming their manager. He was later QPR's youth coach and youth development officer.

**JOHN COLLINS:** Experienced midfielder who scored 16 times in 97 League outings before hanging up his boots. He coached at Watford, Fulham and Brighton, then worked in the building trade in London.

## 1998/99 PROMOTION WINNERS

**ARJAN VAN HEUSDEN:** Dutch goalkeeper who made 42 League appearances before joining Exeter City in July 2000, then Mansfield Town, Torquay United and Dutch sides FC Lisse and SV ARC.

**BEN CHENERY:** Former Hatters right-back who moved to Kettering Town in July 2000, then appeared for Canvey Island, Chelmsford City, Braintree and Needham Market. He is now Bury Town's assistant-boss.

**NEIL MUSTOE:** Versatile left-back who netted four goals in 99 League outings before moving to Gloucester City in August 2002, then Stevenage, Yeovil and Gloucester again where now player-coach.

**ANDY DUNCAN:** Ex-England Schoolboy defender who was Player of the Year in 2004/05, netting six goals in 242 League outings while at Abbey Stadium before joining Chelmsford City in June 2007.

**MARC JOSEPH:** Central defender who played 153 League games prior to joining Peterborough United in July 2001, then Hull City, Blackpool, Rotherham United, Altrincham, Kendal and Witton Albion.

**JAMIE CAMPBELL:** Midfielder who netted six goals in 103 League games before moving to Brighton in July 1999, then Exeter City, Stevenage, Woking and Havant & Waterlooville, settling back in Luton.

**PAUL WANLESS:** Midfielder who scored 44 times in 284 League outings before rejoining Oxford United in August 2003, then Forest Green Rovers. He has been player-coach at Llanelli and Oxford City.

**JOHN TAYLOR:** Striker who scored a club record 86 goals in 335 League games and was player-boss before joining Northampton Town in March 2004. He has held various coaching and managerial posts.

**MARTIN BUTLER:** Striker who moved to Reading in February 2000, then Rotherham United, Walsall again, Grimsby Town, Burton Albion and Worcester City. He has a heating and plumbing business.

**TREVOR BENJAMIN:** England Under-21 striker who moved to Leicester City in July 2000, then had spells with Northampton Town, Coventry City, Hereford United and a succession of non-league clubs.

**ALEX RUSSELL:** Midfielder who joined Torquay United in August 2001, then appeared for Bristol City, Cheltenham Town, Exeter City, Bath City, Yeovil Town, Bath again and Clevedon Town.



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# a hatter and...

...A 'U'

## TOM FINNEY

**Luke Guttridge's arrival at Kenilworth Road this summer adds another name to an ever-growing list of players who have played for both the Hatters and Cambridge United.**

In Conference football alone, Greg Taylor, Robbie Willmott, Danny Crow, Paul Carden, Dan Gleeson, Scott Rendell and Fred Murray are some of the names supporters may recognise, while fans with a longer memory will recall the likes of John Dreyer, Lil Fuccillo, David Preece, Chris Turner and John Ryan.

But perhaps the one name that sticks in the memory as far as today's visiting supporters are concerned is that of Tom Finney.

Not to be confused with Sir Tom Finney, the former Preston and England striker, this Tom was a pipefitter by trade and was playing part-time football for Crusaders in his native Belfast when he made his move to the Hatters under manager Harry Haslam over the summer of 1973.

Finney became an instant sensation for the Hatters when scoring twice on his full debut in a 6-1 win over Carlisle in September 1973 before netting

in his next three games. However, no sooner had his star risen than it started to wane, and the following summer he was transferred to Sunderland.

Tom fared little better at Roker Park but won the first of his 14 caps for Northern Ireland whilst on Wearside. It was his next move, though, where he found his niche, making over 300 appearances for Cambridge in 10 years at the Abbey.

**LUTON TOWN APPEARANCES:** 21

**LUTON TOWN GOALS:** 6

**FIRST APPEARANCE:** v Nottingham Forest (a) L 0-4 25/8/1973

**FINAL APPEARANCE:** v Aston Villa (a) W 1-0 2/2/1974

## HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?

**Today is the 27th meeting between the two clubs since the first came back in Division 2 (now Championship) in 1978.**

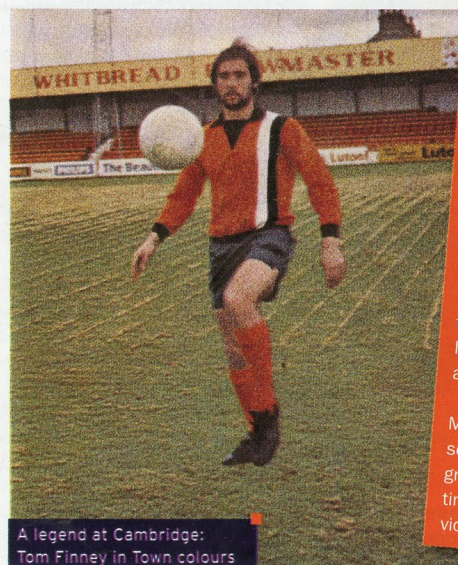
Over the years the Town have the better head-to-head record, winning nine to Cambridge's five. In league competition the Hatters have won eight to United's three, whilst 11 have ended all square.

The U's have only ever won once in the league at Kenilworth Road and that came back in September 2011 - thanks to Rory McAuley's second half goal. More often than not goals are heavily involved. Take, for example, the three games involving the two clubs last season, where there were 11 goals - seven for the Town and four for Cambridge.

In November 1992 the two sides shared six goals in a 3-3 draw at the Abbey Stadium in Division 1 (now Championship), but one game that lives in the recent memory is the Hatters' 4-3 triumph at the Abbey Stadium in 2009.

The Town were trailing 2-0 at half-time and had Liam Hatch sent-off for a second bookable offence two minutes before the break. However, in an amazing turnaround, the Hatters led 3-1 thanks to goals from Kevin Gallen, Rossi Jarvis and a first senior goal from Jake Howells.

Chris Holroyd - the scorer against the Town last week for Macclesfield - netted his second of the game to level the score at 3-3 but it was Gallen that had the last word when he grabbed his second from the penalty spot 15 minutes from time to ensure the Hatters celebrated an unlikely victory come the final whistle.



A legend at Cambridge:  
Tom Finney in Town colours

# from the oak road

## TALK OF THE TOWN GETS THE INSIDE WORD ON THE U'S

Answering our questions this week are U's fans Stuart Goode and Ryan Johnson.

**TALK OF THE TOWN:** There seems to be an air of optimism around the Abbey this season. Is this the year you get back in the thick of the promotion race for the first time since 2009?

**STUART GOODE:** One rule about being a United fan is to never, ever get carried away with pre-season optimism.

Having said that, we do seem to have put together a decent squad this year and, one that, should we remain injury free, could see us competing at the right end of the table this term.

**RYAN JOHNSON:** I'd like to think so, yes. The summer's transfer dealings have been very promising and to be top of the league after three games breeds optimism that this might, finally, be the year we get back into the Football League.

**TOTT:** Cambridge have made many summer signings – which of these players is the pick of the bunch in your opinion?

**SG:** I have to say the signing of Adam Cunnington is the most eye-catching. Signing the league's second top scorer last season is something we have not been in a position to do for a long time and shows a real sense of ambition from the club.

Ryan Donaldson also looks like a real find. Having said that, it was our defensive record that cost us last season so, I think come the end of season, it could be the signing of Ian Miller that is the campaign defining one.

**RJ:** The signings have added quality to the squad in the right areas. Players like Adam Cunnington, Delano

Sam-Yorke, Nathan Arnold and Ian Miller are certainly eye-catching signings, but I'd say Ryan Donaldson is the pick of the bunch. He's a versatile attacker, very quick, a good finisher and, is one of those players who can really get you on the edge of your seat.

**TOTT:** There's been a number of connections between Luton and Cambridge over the last few years, including current U's gaffer Richard Money. What do you make of the job he is doing?

**SG:** Ah the Richard Money question! Okay, well if managers live and die by results then this is the year for him. He has assembled a good squad and he should be given the time to make it work. Having said that, following on from the legend that is Jez George was always going to be hard for Money to win the hearts of the fans. Jez talks with so much passion about the club, is insightful and, is incredibly inspiring.

Whether talking about the under-12s or the first team, Jez will always stop and talk to you. Richard Money is cut from slightly different cloth and has had a slightly more frosty relationship with the media and fans at times. He is clearly a good coach and if he takes us to the play-offs, and possibly beyond, then all will be forgiven.

**RJ:** I must admit, at first I wasn't too sure about him.

However, now that he has had a chance to bring in his own players and get a pre-season under his belt with those players, he is doing a fine job, as the early results suggest. Let's hope he is the man to take us back where we belong in the Football League!

**TOTT:** What stands out to you as the most memorable match between Luton and Cambridge since both sides have been in Conference?



**SG:** It has to be United's 1-0 away win in 2011. A cracking game played with a pulsating atmosphere and, with the best of all football results, the nerve racking 1-0 away win!

**TOTT:** Why is Cambridge important to you as a club? What makes it special?

**SG:** I love the family feel to the club. The work they do with the academy, local schools and even local youth team coaches, puts them at the heart of the community. Likewise, the way the chairman Dave Doggett travels on the fans' coach to away matches and can often be found serving from behind the counter in the club shop.

He even held up the coach last Saturday, just to serve my son who wanted to buy a scarf for his friend's birthday!

**TOTT:** Your first game of the season against FC Halifax was televised live on BT Sport. How much of a benefit do you feel this sort of publicity will be to Conference clubs?

**SG & RJ:** I think it's crucial for Division 5 to be featured live on the telly. The standard is good and at

least on a par with the league above. With the much publicised demise of the ITV digital deal causing so much financial hardship, it is crucial to get a good deal for fifth tier clubs. Most clubs drop into this league because of financial hardship, with Luton and United being just two of many examples. It is only with good commercial exposure that clubs can hope to persuade the Football League to change the ridiculous promotion system to allow three to go up, which this league deserves.

**TOTT:** Ex-lower league journeyman turned Premier League star Rickie Lambert made an instant impact in his England debut against Scotland recently. Which player in the lower leagues do you feel could go right to the top?

**SG:** I am not sure if either player is quite ready for an England call up, but two players on show today who I feel could easily ply their trade at a higher level are United's own Luke Berry and Luton's Andre Gray.

Two very attacking and skilful players who would grace any team and will no doubt both be an influence today. Let's hope one more than the other!



Adam Cunnington



Luke Berry

# TOWN 1-1 MACCLESFIELD



Luke Guttridge equalises for the Hatters

**Luke Guttridge's equaliser seven minutes into injury time rescued the Town a point against Macclesfield at Kenilworth Road.**

The visitors looked as though they would hold on for victory after an accomplished performance following Chris Holroyd's goal mid-way through the second half.

But just when it looked as the Hatters would lose for the second time in their opening three games, Guttridge popped up to bring the score level.

The Hatters started brightly, with some eye-catching passing going forward but they failed to test Rhys Taylor in the Silkmen goal in the opening 15 minutes. Mark Tyler, meanwhile, applied the faintest of fingertips to a low shot from Holroyd to divert the ball away from goal.

The visitors were well on top and a cross-cum-shot from Andy Halls rattled the Town woodwork on 22 minutes as the Silkmen upped the pressure. Tyler again had to be alert on the half-hour keeping out Scott Boden's low effort from a narrow angle after Peter Winn's left-wing cross was floated to the back-post.

However, it was the Town who ended the first half on top and Guttridge came close to breaking the deadlock five minutes before the interval when his header was turned away by Taylor following Shaun Whalley's corner.

Andre Gray came even closer moments later. Beating Steve Williams for pace down the left, he raced into the area and unleashed a powerful shot that came back off the inside of the post and away to safety to the relief of the visitors.

It was all the Town and they probably had wished the half-time whistle hadn't blown such was their dominance and Jon Shaw tested Taylor again with a near-post effort on the stroke of half-time following Ronnie Henry's right-wing cross.

However, after the break it was Macclesfield that took the game to the Town and the visitors should

have taken the lead on 48 minutes when John Paul Kissock's effort was parried by Tyler and Boden fluffed the rebound with the goal gaping.

A minute later the Hatters had penalty claims when Whalley was sent tumbling in the box but the referee remained unconvinced. But it was Macclesfield who were enjoying the better of the play and Holroyd was denied by a sprawling save from Tyler after the striker had sped clear of the Town defence.

John Still sent on Jake Howells for Dave Martin on the hour but, after Boden crashed a shot into the side-netting, the visitors deservedly took the lead on 63 minutes. Kissock was involved, sending a low cross into the penalty area, and Holroyd mis-hit a low shot that crept into the bottom corner past the outstretched Tyler.

The Town huffed and puffed in search of an equaliser but Macclesfield should have doubled their lead on 69 minutes when Holroyd burst through again only to shoot over the advancing Tyler.

With 20 minutes left Gray saw a shot cleared off the line by Macc defender Danny Andrew with substitute Mark Cullen sniffing for the rebound, and three minutes later Guttridge sent a header straight into the hands of Taylor after Shaw had knocked down Howells' cross.

Holroyd missed what would be Macclesfield's final chance with 13 minutes left and should have done better than shooting straight at Tyler after another pass from Kissock.

Half chances fell the Town's way as time ticked down, and it looked for all the world as though the visitors would celebrate their first victory of the season, but seven minutes into stoppage time Guttridge struck. Shaw flicked on a high pass forward, Gray shielded the ball and Guttridge took over and took a touch before sliding the ball past the exposed Taylor and a point was the Town's.

# reaction

## MANAGER TAKES POSITIVES FROM POINT

**Boss John Still admitted his side's performance against Macclesfield was not good enough despite Luke Guttridge's late goal earning the Town a point.**

Guttridge brought the Hatters level in the seventh minute of injury time against the Silkmen to avoid a first home defeat of the campaign.

"It was a point gained in the end," Still told Hatters Player afterwards. "I think if you have a look at the game and the chances we had, Andre's hit the post and we've had a couple cleared off the line.

"I thought we should have had a penalty when Shaun was brought down. But, all said and done, we weren't good. If we had got beat I would have had no complaints. However, when you don't play well anything you get is a bonus. We've got to be positive. We had good periods but didn't have consistent periods.

"We've had two home games and not played well in each of them but we've got four points. Once we start playing well it'll be a different situation."

Still admitted he thought his side played with fear in the final quarter of the game, but he didn't believe that was because of the crowd's frustration with his side trailing to Chris Holroyd's 63rd-minute goal.

"In the last 20 minutes we played with a bit of fear," said the manager. "It crept in a little and we stopped crossing the ball – which was a big part of our game and where we created our best opportunities from.

"In the end Luke's goal came from a cross. The fear came at a point where we lost our way – not because of the supporters' frustration. I truly believe these players can cope mentally, I really do. But when we lost our way our confidence dropped.

"All we have to do is keep working hard. I'll remind the players of their responsibilities. It's back to work Monday and I'll be looking for a response.

"But I've been in football a long time, let's not worry. We'll work hard and look forward to the challenges we face next week."

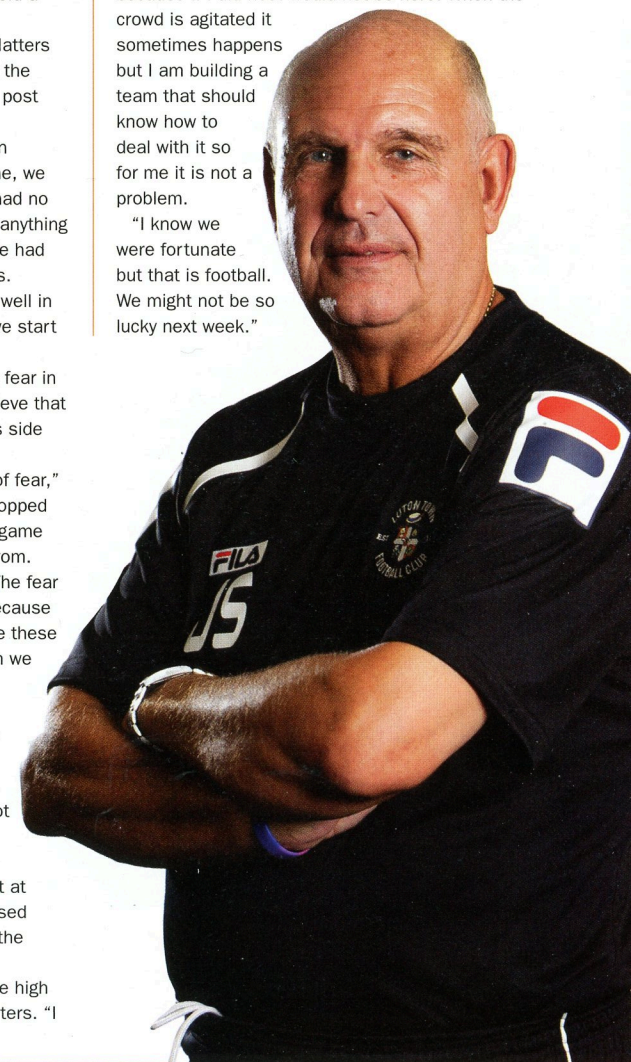
Although the Town managed to secure a point at the death the home faithful – many of who missed Guttridge's late, late goal – were frustrated by the performance.

And Still hopes his side can rise and meet the high expectations placed on his team by the supporters. "I

do not worry about that because I believe the players we have are mentally tough enough to deal with that," said the manager.

"I understand the level of expectation at this club because if I did not I would not be here. When the crowd is agitated it sometimes happens but I am building a team that should know how to deal with it so for me it is not a problem.

"I know we were fortunate but that is football. We might not be so lucky next week."



# TOWN 1-1 MACCLESFIELD

Guttridge 90+7

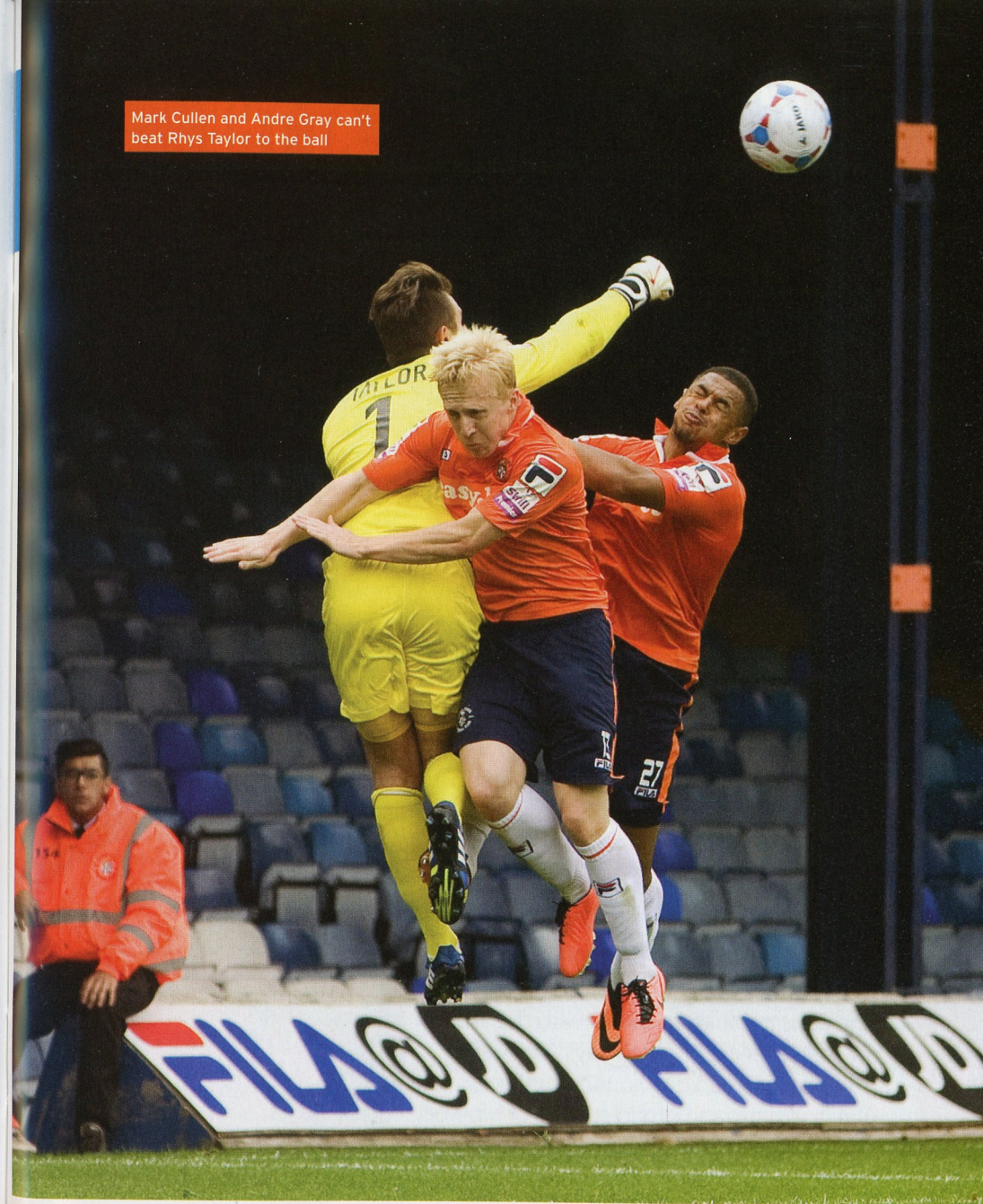
Holroyd 63



Solomon Taiwo rises highest



Macc goalkeeper Rhys Taylor saves at the feet of Mark Cullen



Mark Cullen and Andre Gray can't beat Rhys Taylor to the ball

**TOWN:** Tyler; Henry, Griffiths (sub Cullen 67), McNulty, Lacey; Martin (sub Howells 57), Taiwo (sub Smith 83), Guttridge, Whalley; Shaw, Gray.  
**SUBS NOT USED:** Parry, Justham.

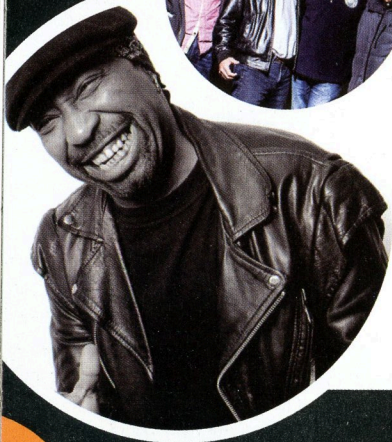
**MACCLESFIELD:** Taylor, Andrew, Bolton, Williams, Halls, Kissock, Whitaker, Kay, Holroyd (sub Lewis 90), Winn, Boden (sub Jennings 74). **SUBS NOT USED:** Mackreth, Rowe, Gnahoua.

POSSESSION	40%	60%
CORNERS	8	9
SHOTS ON TARGET	7	11
SHOTS OFF TARGET	6	11

FOULS	7	6
YELLOW CARDS	2	0
RED CARDS	0	0

ATTENDANCE: 6,216 (80 MACCLESFIELD)

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# reaction

## DUO'S DISAPPOINTMENT

Mark Tyler gets ready to make a save against Macclesfield



**Mark Tyler and Ronnie Henry admitted that the Hatters did not play to the best of their ability in the 1-1 draw with Macclesfield.**

Captain Henry, making his first appearance of the season after missing the first two games with a back strain, felt the Town's persistence paid off in the end when rewarded with Luke Guttridge's late, late equaliser.

"We didn't play well but in the first half we had the better chances," said the former Stevenage defender. "In the second half we dropped off it for whatever reason. However, we kept going and got the ball into the box and Luke's scored a good goal. Macclesfield were wasting time, but that's part of football, and in the dying seconds we've got a point. A point's better than nothing and we'll move on.

"It was important that we kept believing that one final chance would come despite the fact we knew we weren't playing very well. There was a lot of frustration inside the ground but that's understandable as we weren't playing well but to get a point when we've played like that can only be a positive, especially given how late the goal came."

Goalkeeper Tyler, who kept the Town in the game with a string of crucial saves, believes the performances will improve. "It's early days," he told Hatters Player. "We've not played anywhere near our potential yet. I see what we're capable of day in, day out in training

– we've now just got to transform that into matches. All we need is a little bit of luck. It's small margins in football. Andre hit the post in the first half and if that goes in it's a different a game.

"But overall we didn't play well. It was good to be busy but, as I've always said, I'd always rather have a quiet game like I did against Salisbury. For whatever reason, we were all over the place at the back. We couldn't clear our lines, we weren't able to get any height or distance on them and that gave Macclesfield plenty of chances.

"They are the kinds of things we'll work on in training. We'll watch the DVD and put it right because that's the only way we're going to improve."

The Hatters' frustration wasn't helped by the visitors' opener – mis-hit home by striker Chris Holroyd.

"Chris said to me during the game he was aiming for the other corner [the near post]," explained Tyler. "It was scuffed into the bottom corner and when shots are hit like that there's not much you can do which is obviously annoying. However, Luke's popped up – like he did against Salisbury – and got us a point. He's got that knack of getting in the right place at the right time and he's put it away well.

"We kept going and they'll be times this season when we'll need to dig in and score late goals. It's still early on in the campaign and, as I've said, there's plenty of improvement in us."



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# Luke Guttridge

MIDFIELDER ON TARGET ONCE MORE

## Scoring a last-gasp equaliser against Macclesfield was a bitter-sweet moment for midfielder Luke Guttridge.

The former Cambridge man was in the right place at the right time to coolly roll home a 97th-minute leveller against the Silkmen to earn the Hatters a point on an afternoon of frustration at Kenilworth Road.

Pleased with the goal, disappointed with the performance and aware that there's better to come from the team was the 31-year-old's post-match verdict.

"We're relieved to get a point," he told Hatters Player afterwards. "But we're disappointed with the performance and there's no harm in that.

### Positive

"We know it wasn't good enough because we know what is acceptable. In the end we've grabbed something from the game because we kept going right to the very end. It's a tricky start to the season but to not play well and grab a draw is a positive to take."

The experienced midfielder's late strike was his second in as many games having joined the Town in the summer following his release from Northampton Town.

Pigeon-holed as a defensive midfielder by the media and by previous managers, Guttridge believes his goals for the Hatters will help change that view of his game.

"I've played in a lot of positions, but whenever I've played in an

advanced one I've picked up goals here and there," said Guttridge who scored 17 goals in 136 league games for today's visitors. "I'm often deployed deeper and always helped the team but it's nice to score, especially important goals.

"I had a chance in the first half which I didn't get the right connection on and had another in the second half, also with my head, that I should have done better with. "For the equaliser I was hoping to ghost in. I was willing the ball to just drop. I knew their centre-half was having a good game and was winning a lot in the air but I watched the ball loop up and bounce down in the right place the other side of the defender and in the end it was an easy tap-in."

The Town began a five-match sequence against some of the Skrill Premier's most fancied teams on Saturday at Forest Green, and Guttridge hopes the pressure will, for once, be on the opponents.

### Expectation

"I think playing some of these teams will help us," he said. "I think these clubs will realise what it's like for us when the expectation is on to get a result. We just need to relax, and do the simple things right. Against Macclesfield when we were passing it around nicely we were looking dangerous. We were at our worst when we were over-playing, not doing the simple things and stopped doing the basics.

"We all understand the fans' frustration but it's early days and we're a work in progress.

Slowly, we're getting there and we all want to do better – that goes without saying. It's when

there's so much pressure and expectancy that players sometimes, for whatever reason, stop doing what they're good at."



# centre spot

Andre Gray - who hit the post in the first half - finds himself surrounded by Macclesfield defenders during last Saturday's 1-1 draw



# the big interview

HE'S SEAMLESSLY SLOTTED IN AT CENTRE-HALF THIS SUMMER AFTER BEING GIVEN HIS CHANCE BY MANAGER JOHN STILL. TOTT SPOKE TO YOUNG DEFENDER ALEX LACEY ON HIS PATH TO FIRST TEAM FOOTBALL

He's as humble as they come and a player who appreciates hard work and honesty. And now he's reaping the benefits.

Alex Lacey has had to wait patiently for his chance, but since being given that opportunity he's desperate not to lose it.

Much was expected of the young centre-half. It was thought that a man-of-the-match performance on his debut as a 17-year-old in the FA Trophy in 2010

would be the first of many appearances. But little did Lacey know he'd have to wait 32 months for his full league debut in Luton colours.

It sounds like a long wait but, not once was there a murmur of complaint from the defender who simply kept his head down and waited for his chance – even if the

Town would go on to change managers three times after his debut on that cold, grey Sunday afternoon in December against Welling. And, as Alex says, "Working hard always gets you there in the end".

## LACEY'S LOAN SPELLS

2011/12 Eastbourne Borough  
2011/12 Thurrock  
2011/12 Cambridge City  
2012/13 Eastleigh

Indeed it has, and fast forward to the present day and the 20-year-old is enjoying life at the heart of the Hatters defence, learning as he goes.

It doesn't take long during the conversation to become aware of how he appreciates playing football and how privileged he feels to be in his "dream job": playing the game he loves for a living.

And, for any aspiring young footballer, Lacey's story – and attitude – is one to take note of. No sooner had he made his debut for the Town and signed his first professional contract, was he was out on loan the following season.

"During 2011/12 I was out on loan at Cambridge City, Eastbourne and Thurrock and it was great to be able to get some games," explains Lacey.

"I'd made my debut in the FA Trophy the previous season and had been training with the first team a lot, which was great.

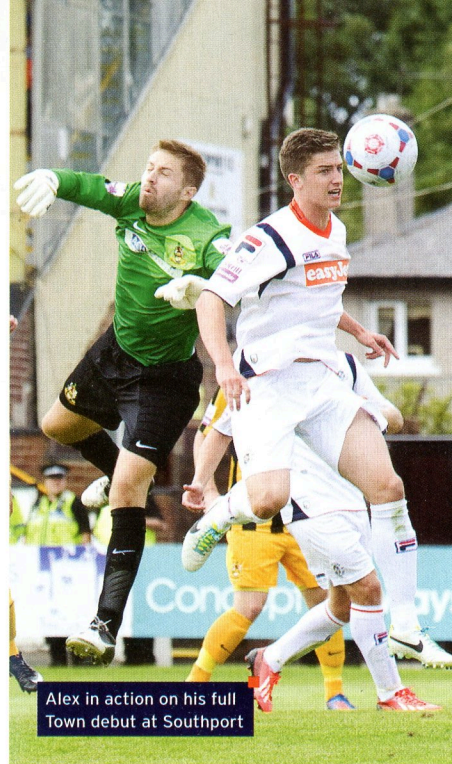
"But by going out on loan I knew I needed regular first team football to learn the game. I needed that experience because I don't think there was a chance I would be ready at 17 or 18 to play for the first team every week.

"It was a case of becoming stronger and learning my trade in a physical division against experienced players who had played at a higher level in the past in their careers. I learned a lot, and it was good for me because I didn't want to sit around and not play. You can't develop if you're not playing, and going out on loan and playing regular first team football enabled me to do that.

"It's an experience in itself. Playing at different grounds and against different teams every week. I'd come up against different types of strikers...some small, some big, some quick, some slow.

"It toughened me up and, more importantly, made me wise up: little things like managing clock if we were ahead in the final few minutes."

Having enjoyed the three spells away from Kenilworth Road, Lacey returned to Kenilworth Road at the start of last season hoping to win a place in the first team squad under Paul Buckle.



Alex in action on his full Town debut at Southport

However, a dislocated shoulder during pre-season meant he was shuffled down the pecking order, and by the time he'd returned to full fitness Lacey was unable to break into the squad – let alone starting XI.

Keen not to stand still and to aid his talent, Lacey was granted a loan spell at Conference South Eastleigh. A move which came agonisingly close to glory come the end of the campaign.

"When I joined Eastleigh they were 20th in the table," Lacey recalls. "The manager signed a few more players and we ended up finishing fourth.

### Achievement

"It was a great achievement to reach the Play-Offs but we lost on penalties in the semi-final. That loan spells in particular, however, was great because to be at a team challenging for promotion meant that every game meant so much. The disappointment when we lost in the end was huge but I was grateful for the chance."

By this time, once his loan spell with the Spitfires had ended, there was a new man at the helm at Kenilworth Road in John Still.

Lacey returned to pre-season training on 1st July hoping – like he had done the previous year – that he could impress the management enough to stake

### STILL SAYS

"Alex has been put in and, I'll be honest with you, I think he's done OK. I think he has. I think he's come into the team and acquitted himself very, very well.  
"He hasn't come into a team where everyone's at the top of their form which would help him. He hasn't done that. So it's every credit to him that I think his performances have been OK."

a claim in the first team, despite reading that the new boss had signed several new defenders over the course of the summer.

"A lot of players come and a lot of players go during the summer, it's the same every year," says Lacey. "Last season I had a chance and was amongst the first team but I dislocated my shoulder and that set me back.

"And it hasn't been easy with each change of manager because you get up to a certain level where you think that manager is considering you and when he goes you have to start all over again. It can be difficult but I like to think lots of hard work gets you in the right place eventually anyway.

"This summer, though, I came back stronger and fitter and I was happy to have made an impression on the coaching staff in Portugal. Getting experienced staff to have faith and to put trust in me was a big thing."

### Dream

Having been given the captain's armband by the boss during pre-season in a bid to improve his communication skills, Lacey's come a long way from playing Sunday football as a striker.

"Coaches and managers have gradually dropped me back!" jokes the defender. "I started as a striker, scored lots of goals when I was about 12 but, as I got bigger, the further back towards my own goal I went.

"I was picked up by the scouts quite late and I was spotted playing Sunday league football by Luton. Signing a scholarship at the club was fantastic, it was a dream come true.

"I was a bit of a late developer but as I was playing well and winning a lot of things becoming a footballer was the natural step.

"But to be where I am now I'm just thankful to everyone who has given me the chance and all I hope now is to repay those people.

"I'm still young and I still have a lot to learn but my aim is to just keep playing well and help the team to promotion."

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# #askalex

It's all well and good us asking the questions but we can't (and don't) think of them all. So Talk of the Town asked the army of followers on the club's social media channels Twitter and Facebook to submit their questions for us to put to defender Alex Lacey.

Jake Hiom @JHiom

@LTFC\_Official @alexlacey24 Being a centre-half myself, what's your best advice for me to become a cut above the average defender? #AskAlex

**ALEX:** It's an obvious answer, but just work hard. Listen to the coaches as they're bound to have a lot of experience, and when you go to watch matches try and look at the defenders and see what they're doing and how they're doing it.

Adam Driscoll @AdamDriscoll92

@LTFC\_Official You've been at the club and seen a few managers come and go. How does John Still compare to the others? #AskAlex

**ALEX:** For me personally, John has been great. He has given me a big opportunity and I like the way he has faith in young players. He's made me more involved in the squad unlike previous managers and, of course, he has masses of experience and enthusiasm. I think he's the perfect man to take this club forward.



Richard Armstrong @habbyhatter

@LTFC\_Official @alexlacey24 how does it feel to finally be given the chance in the first team? #AskAlex

T3MPZTRIGGER @kyle\_118 @LTFC\_Official what's it like to get your chance in the first team this season? #AskAlex

**ALEX:** I'm obviously delighted to be having the opportunity to be playing this season. I've spent a couple of seasons out on loan over the past few seasons and that was important. It's not easy stepping out of under-18s football into men's football. The loan spells helped me improve a lot and I'm just happy that I've got the chance now.

Adam Norman @AdamNorm

@LTFC\_Official @alexlacey24 what was the best team you played for growing up?! #AskAlex

**ALEX:** Brook End Colts. I began playing with Woburn Lions but I left them to play for Brook End where we won trophy after trophy.

Nathan Stanbridge @NathanLafc

@LTFC\_Official personally what has been your best game in a Luton shirt? #AskAlex

**ALEX:** I would have to say my debut against Welling United in the FA Trophy. I was only 17 and I was named man-of-the-match. I thought I adjusted well from playing in the youth team to playing for the first team. And I guess winning man-of-the-match wasn't a bad start.

Professor Ginge @AdamFountain14

@LTFC\_Official @alexlacey24 if you could play alongside one player, present or past would it be? #AskAlex

**ALEX:** Carlos Puyol. As a centre-back he is a player I've always looked up to. He's played and stayed at the top level and won everything going. He's an inspiration to me as a defender.

Emil Hovrud What do you think of the Scandinavian Hatters coming all the way from Norway to support you guys?

**ALEX:** I think it's huge. It shows the enormous support base of this club and shows how big a club we are. I've seen Trondheim Hatters on Twitter and when they visit for matches during the season. It's great commitment that they are showing to the club, especially coming from that far.

gemma @Gemma\_nathan\_TW

@LTFC\_Official #askalex what do you think you need to improve on as a player?

**ALEX:** Definitely the physical side of my game. In this league you need to be physical enough to cope with the demands of the game. I also think I need to improve my communication and it was a big honour for me to be handed the captain's armband for the games over pre-season. It's a responsibility that I need to step up to.

Keep your eyes peeled on our Facebook and Twitter feeds for the next opportunity to put your questions to a member of the Hatters' squad.



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# on and off...

## ... THE PITCH WITH ALEX LACEY

### ON THE PITCH

#### WHAT IS THE BEST GOAL YOU'VE SEEN SO FAR THIS SEASON?

I watched Barcelona beat Levante on Sunday 7-0. They walked the ball in around the other team seven times, so I'd have to say one of them.

#### WHO IS THE TOUGHEST OPPONENT YOU'VE EVER FACED?

Aston Villa's Christian Benteke this pre-season. He might have only just been returning from injury but you knew what a good player he was. He's started the Premier League season brilliantly.

#### WHAT DO YOU WANT TO IMPROVE ABOUT YOUR GAME?

Communication has been touched on already this season and I've been honoured to take over the captain's armband in pre-season and in the second half at Southport. I also need to improve the physical side of my game.

#### DO YOU HAVE ANY SUPERSTITIONS?

No.

#### WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST PAIR OF FOOTBALL BOOTS?

A very, very old pair of Adidas Predators. They were blue and probably a pair that David Beckham was wearing at the time.

#### HAVE YOU GOT A TIP FOR YOUNGSTERS?

To work hard.

#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE GROUND?

Ipswich Town's Portman Road. I've played there in a development game and the pitch and the facilities were excellent. The stadium is packed tight in and I can imagine it is a good atmosphere when the place is full.

#### WHO SIGNED YOU AS A PRO?

Richard Money.

#### WHO DO YOU SUPPORT?

Arsenal.

#### WHO AT THE CLUB WILL PLAY AT A HIGHER LEVEL?

Andre Gray.

### OFF THE PITCH

#### WHAT MOTIVATES YOU?

Two things: success – and wanting to play at the highest level possible; and my family and friends, especially my family, they're the ones who inspire and motivate me the most.

#### WHO IS YOUR BEST FRIEND IN FOOTBALL?

Lewis Kidd.

#### WHAT IS YOUR BEST QUALITY?

I'm hard-working and level-headed.

#### WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE TV PROGRAMME

Friends.

#### WHO IS THE LAST PERSON YOU'D WANT TO UPSET?

My parents.



#### WHAT WAS THE LAST ITEM YOU BOUGHT YOU'VE HARDLY/NEVER USED?

My ipod nano.

#### IF YOUR LIFE STORY WAS FEATURED IN A FILM, WHO WOULD PLAY YOU?

Morgan Freeman.

#### WHAT DON'T WE KNOW ABOUT YOU?

I'm undefeated in Taekwondo.

# picture the past

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE



Brian Stein heads home an early goal during the first ever League game between the Town and Cambridge United in September 1978. Former Hatter Alan Biley levelled with a penalty in the second half to ensure that United returned home with a share of the spoils. This was the first home point dropped by the Town that season as the previous three games at Kenilworth Road had seen three victories and 16 goals scored.

# camera never lies

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE



The Hatters set off to Plymouth for an opening day Division Two (now Championship) clash in August 1952. The Town went down 2-1 and only won twice in the opening nine games but went on to finish third in the table. Given the jumpers and overcoats on view the players were not expecting tropical conditions! Left to right:- Wally Shanks, Gordon Turner, Bob Morton, Bernard Moore, Seamus Dunne, Bert Mitchell, Bud Aherne, Jesse Pye, Charlie Watkins, Hugh McJarrow, Dave Sexton, Bernard Stretten and Syd Owen.

# yesterday's pages

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH LOOKS THROUGH PAST PROGRAMMES

## LUTON TOWN 1-1 NOTTINGHAM FOREST 17TH AUGUST 1985

The Town commenced their centenary season with the high hopes that their years of struggle in the top flight were now over.

Since promotion in 1982 the Hatters had survived by the skin of their teeth but an injection of capital mid-way through the 1984/85 campaign, which saw Mick Harford, David Preece, Steve Foster and Peter Nicholas move to Kenilworth Road, hopefully confirmed that the Town were here to stay.

On top of all the optimism coursing through the streets of Luton was the debut of the new artificial surface installed at Kenilworth Road which would be baptised for the opening day visit of Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest. Manufactured by En-tout-Cas at a cost of £335,000, it was said to be, thanks to advances in technology, far superior to the surface laid at QPR by Omniture in 1981.

The gates were opened early so that fans could witness a sample of the activities that could now be enjoyed on the new surface. Gaelic football, gridiron football, basketball, hockey, netball and bowls displays were put on as an appetiser for the main event.

Due to deliberate over sanding of the pitch in the bedding down process, every kick of the ball by the Luton and Forest players sent a small spiral of sand into the air but the fans seemed impressed. They were even more happy when Brian Stein became the first goalscorer on the surface when, after a sublime ball from Ricky Hill landed at his feet, he coolly chipped Hans Segars in the Forest goal.

The Town continued to enjoy the majority of the play in the first half but injuries to Foster, Hill and Tim Breacker allowed Forest to come more into the game in the second period although their equaliser came into the 'fortunate' category.

Referee John Martin, who had awarded a disgraceful free-kick against the Town in the previous seasons FA Cup semi-final leading to an undeserved Everton equaliser, did the same again, penalising an infringement that only he saw. The free-kick was squared to Neil Webb who fired home from 20 yards and after that the game petered out to a stalemate.



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Saturday August 17th

**100 Years On**

WELCOME to our Centenary season. We shall begin today our efforts at Luton to help you enjoy a special enjoyable season. It is our hope that our great game and to act as an ambassador. We have signed three new apprentices and I have concluded. I hope the damage has been responsible: managers, players, spectators, public or Government. We have a chairman and board who have remained constant. Bedford Trucks, with whom we are proud to be associated with a long and successful history. We have a chairman and board who have remained constant. Bedford Trucks, with whom we are proud to be associated with a long and successful history. We have a chairman and board who have remained constant. Bedford Trucks, with whom we are proud to be associated with a long and successful history.

Best wishes  
Roger Wash

**Vauxhall Teamcheck**

Luton Town	Nottingham Forest
1 Andy Dibble	1 Hans Segars
2 Tim Breacker	2 Jim McNally
3 Mitchell Thomas	3 Stuart Pearce
4 Peter Nicholas	4 Des Walker
5 Steve Foster	5 Ian Buterworth
6 Mal Donaghy	6 Stephen Wigley
7 Ricky Hill	7 Stephen Hodge
8 Brian Stein	8 Garry Birtles
9 Mick Harford	9 Peter Davenport
10 Emeka Nwajobi	11 Neil Webb
11 David Preece	11 Sub

Referee: J. MARTIN. Linesman: M. C. BAILEY (Red Flag). P. CROSSLEY (Yellow Flag)

**THE ROVERS' TEAM COACH**

THE NEW VAUXHALL ASTRA ESTATE  
Remember we got here first.

### THE PROGRAMME

As well as the debut of the artificial surface came the £1 programme, the first to be introduced by a League club. Promising 'more pages, more colour and more features' it was instantly panned by the football world on price alone and amongst the unkind comments were "the cost of the artificial pitch has to come from somewhere!"

I personally felt it represented excellent value as it featured another debut - the 'All our Yesterdays' column

was the first by a young (ish) supporter who, now entering his 29th season of writing, is still going strong (in his own mind). Another first was 'Girl Talk' by Gale Waller to reflect the views of the growing number of female supporters following the Town. She reported that one of the main gripes of female supporters - the Victorian toilets at Kenilworth Road - had been spruced up, "at great cost" according to Chairman David Evans.

**All our Yesterdays**

ONE of the greatest milestones in the history of Luton Town Football Club was reached on 17th August 1985. Two days before the opening of the new Kenilworth Road stadium, Luton Town Football Club celebrated its centenary.

**Familyman**

Family life has always been first place in Mal Donaghy's busy life and a family with five boys and a daughter will, his home has made many a busy day. But being a busy family man and help to any of the children and grandchildren. All my presents come from my family or my friends.

**Elsewhere in Football**

The season kicks off with no football shown on television due to an escalating row between the FA, the Football League and the TV companies. The dispute was to last until January. Crowds are down 10 per cent on the corresponding Saturday of the previous season due to increasing terrace violence.



# CHRISTMAS PARTIES IN THE ERIC MORECAMBE

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AND OFFERING SPACE FOR A DANCE FLOOR AND DISCO



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COURSE SIT DOWN  
CARVERY DINNER  
WITH ALL THE  
TRIMMINGS

\*\*\*\*\*

VEGETARIAN  
OPTION  
AVAILABLE

\*\*\*\*\*

FEEL THE HISTORY  
AND THE ATMOSPHERE  
OF YOUR FAVOURITE  
FOOTBALL CLUB THIS  
CHRISTMAS

\*\*\*\*\*

TO BOOK YOUR PARTY OR FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CONTACT OUR CATERING MANAGER

CONTACT CATERING:

TEL: 01582 411622

EMAIL: DAVID.ROMANS@LUTONTOWN.CO.UK



# numbers game

**24**

The number of Skrill Premier teams

**7,000**

Number of expected corporate guests to visit Kenilworth Road this season in league games alone

**6,368**

The average home attendance at Kenilworth Road so far this season

**8**

New players signed by the Hatters this summer

**234**

Number of appearances by Jake Howells in Luton colours before the start of this season - the club's longest serving player

**120**

Tonnes of fibreglass that has been added to the Kenilworth Road turf this summer

**1**

Number of Premier League goals scored by striker Mark Cullen



**14,000**



Luton Town FC @LTFC\_Official

The number of #tweets sent on the official club account @LTFC\_Official #COYH

Expand

**108**

Years of professional football at Kenilworth Road



**27,000**

Facebook and Twitter followers on our social media account

**4,500**

Season tickets sold

**14**

**498**

Former Football League clubs in the Skrill Premier

Round trip in miles to Gateshead - the Town's furthest away game of the season



**24.38**

Average age of the Hatters squad at the start of the season

**4**



The number of new Football Conference partners on board this season. Skrill, BT Sport, Jako and Surridge

**72**

Clean sheets kept by goalkeeper Mark Tyler in his Hatters career before the start of this season

**4**

Players with experience of winning the Conference in the Hatters' squad

**27**

**2+7=9**

Andre Gray's squad number



**28**

Pounds it costs per head for a Christmas party at Kenilworth Road

# on this day

26th AUGUST

## THE RECORD

A busy day in the Hatters' history books. The Town have played 21 times on 26th August and have won eight, drawn seven and lost six, scoring 24 and conceding 21. That works out at just 2.1 goals per game.

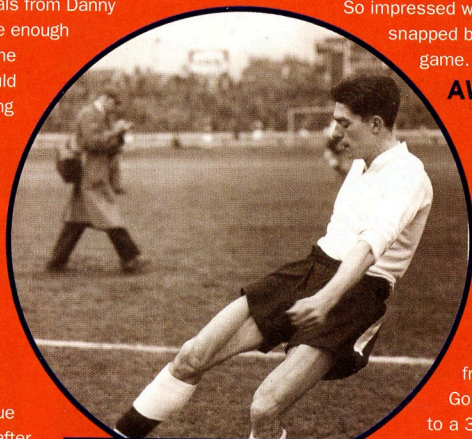
The Hatters will be aiming to secure their first win on this day since a 1-0 victory over AFC Bournemouth in 2000 thanks to a penalty from Matthew Spring in front of 5,221 at Kenilworth Road. Today is also the first time the Town have played on this day since a 5-1 defeat against Reading at the Madjeski Stadium in 2008. Ryan Charles scored the Hatters goal that evening.

## HOME COMFORTS

The Town have played 11 times at home winning four, drawing five and losing twice. That victory over Bournemouth was the Hatters' first home win on 26th August since a 2-1 win over Southampton in the top flight in 1986. That day, goals from Danny Wilson and Brian Stein were enough to give John Moore's side the points in a season that would end with the Hatters finishing seventh in what is now the Premier League.

You have to go back 54 years to find the last time the Town tasted defeat at Kenilworth Road. That day 19,095 squeezed into the ground to witness a 1-0 defeat against Blackpool. The 1959/60 season wasn't good for the Hatters: they won nine league games and were relegated after finishing in bottom place.

The Town's last taste of top flight action on this day came in 1989 when Ray Harford's side held Liverpool to a goalless draw in front of 11,124 at Kenilworth Road, in a game that marked Danish international striker Lars Elstrup's Town debut. Liverpool would finish the season as champions.



Record goalscorer Gordon Turner scored four times on this day for the Town

## CHAMPIONS ELECT

Talking of champions, the Town's all-conquering Fourth Division side of 1967/68 won their first match of the season on this day in 1967, beating Barnsley at Kenilworth Road before a crowd of 7,887. The 2-0 victory came courtesy of goals from Bruce Rioch and Keith Allen. The Town won one, drew two and lost one of their opening four games before stream-rolling their way to the title, finishing five points clear of Barnsley.

## SIGN HIM UP

On this day in 1969 the Town were held to a frustrating 1-1 draw at home to Halifax in Division 3 (now League 1). Malcolm Macdonald's early strike had the Hatters on their way before former England forward Freddie Hill levelled.

Macdonald, who would score 28 goals that season as the Town won promotion in second place, was stifled that night by the Shaymen's by Chris Nicholl.

So impressed was manager Alec Stock that he snapped by Nicholl for £35,000 after the game.

## AWAY THE LADS

Of the 10 fixtures away from Kenilworth Road on this day the Town have won four, drawn two and lost four. The Hatters' last win on the road on 26th August was a 1-0 win at Orient in 1972 thanks to Viv Busby's second half strike.

Eleven years prior, two goals from all-time leading marksman Gordon Turner inspired the Town to a 3-1 win at Home Park against Plymouth in 1961.

In 1957 the Hatters began the '57/58 campaign in Division 1 (now Premier League) on fire, winning

five of their opening six games, including a 2-1 win at Blackpool thanks to two goals from, who else?, Turner. The striker would end that top-flight season with a 33-goal haul as the Town finished eighth. Blackpool finished seventh.

# my only luton

A FAN'S TALE



**MY NAME:** Luke Gregory

**MY AGE:** 18

**MY LOCATION:** Dunstable

## MY TIME SUPPORTING LUTON TOWN

My dad first introduced me to Luton when I was six years old and decided it was a good idea to take me to Notts County away for my first ever game. We have always sat in the main stand by the away fans which is always a great atmosphere.

## MY FIRST LUTON GAME

The first game I can remember was a 2-2 draw at home to Stockport County in the 2003/04 season. I remember the own goal which was our equaliser and then the red card that came before half-time, and then who else but Steve Howard who equalised for us after we had fallen 2-1 behind.

## MY FAVOURITE LUTON GAME

It just has to be Norwich away last season. I don't think I've ever gone so crazy at a Luton goal before in my life. I just remember singing all through the game, the fans were amazing that day. Seeing JJ run down the left wing thinking we had a real chance to score, as Rendell hit that ball in it was absolute mayhem in the away end.

## MY FAVOURITE LUTON GOAL

My favourite Luton goal has to be Chris Martin's at Wembley against Scunthorpe in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final. At 1-0 down I thought we were out of the game, however, the move for this goal was amazing.

Rossi Jarvis to Tom Craddock, Craddock to Martin, one touch, goal! It was amazing. I remember every weekend when I played for my Sunday team we would always try and replicate it in the warm up.

## MY FAVOURITE LUTON PLAYER:

Only being young, my favourite player of all time has to be Ahmet Brkovic. From what I remember he was such a talent, with great feet, and obviously everyone remembers his overhead kicks. He was a brilliant all-round player and I was gutted to see him leave.

## MY MOST TREASURED LUTON TOWN POSSESSION:

My dad passed down the 1988 Littlewoods Cup final programme to me which I think would be my most treasured possession. I would of loved to of been there that day, but then again my programme from the JPT final is also another treasured possession, as it was the first ever time I saw Luton win a cup final and a game I will never forget.

## MY ALL-TIME LUTON TOWN XI

Marlon Beresford; Kevin Foley, Markus Heikkinen, Curtis Davies, Sol Davis; Carlos Edwards, Kevin Nicholls, David Bell, Ahmet Brkovic; Steve Howard, Paul Furlong.

I think if I could have these 11 back at Kenilworth Road it would be an amazing team. Paul Furlong and Steve Howard scored goals for fun whilst playing for us. There's also a passionate midfielder in Nicholls and Bell who always gave 100 per cent in a town shirt; and two very reliable attacking full backs in Davis and Foley - I would be surprised if they didn't make most peoples XIs!

## YOU ARE MY LUTON, MY ONLY LUTON... WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPIEST ABOUT FOLLOWING THE HATTERS?

Our fantastic support we have means away games are so much more enjoyable. There's nothing better than a packed out away end, out singing the home fans. There are many ups and downs supporting Luton as every fan would tell you, but when the ups happen it makes me so proud to support the club.

# in development

## BUSY MONTH AHEAD FOR YOUNGSTERS

After a week without a fixture the Town's Under-18s were back in Youth Alliance action away to Leyton Orient on Saturday.

Printing deadlines prevent us from giving you the young Hatters' result in east London, but Paul Driver's side will be hoping to build on the 4-2 victory over Dagenham & Redbridge on the opening day of the season.

The youth team are also in action again this coming Saturday when they host last season's Youth Alliance champions Portsmouth at Ely Way.

The Hatters' dropped to fifth in the Youth Alliance league table following last weekend's results, with Colchester United the only side in the section with two wins from two.

Orient, the Town's opponents 48 hours ago, had lost both of their first two fixtures; whilst Portsmouth have won one and draw one of their opening two games.

### FA Youth Cup

September will be a busy month for the Hatters youngsters.

They begin their FA Youth Cup campaign with a home game under the Kenilworth Road floodlights against Rothwell Corinthians on 25th September in the first qualifying round.



Charlie Smith

The Town are no strangers to the Northamptonshire outfit, with Driver's side recording an 11-1 victory over Rothwell at the same stage of the competition two seasons ago.

That night the Hatters team included current first team professionals Brett Longden, Jake Woolley and Jerome Jibodu. Woolley notched a brace as the Town ran riot in front of goal and now second-year scholar Charlie Smith netted a hat-trick.

### Target

This season's squad have been set a target of reaching the third round proper of the competition by manager Driver, as revealed in our big interview in last week's issue of Talk of the Town.

Kenilworth Road will be open on the night of the tie with Rothwell next month, so why not come down and support the Hatters' stars of the future? Admission to ground will be £3 for adults and £1 concessions.

For more information on the Town's youth team visit [www.ltyd.co.uk](http://www.ltyd.co.uk).

# youth team



## KIT SPONSORS 2013/14



ZANE BANTON

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available



LEEROY MAGURAUSHE

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available



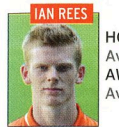
BEN BARNES

HOME: First Capital  
Connect  
AWAY: Available



JEMALE MCKENZIE-LOWE

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available



IAN REES

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available



CHARLIE SMITH

HOME: Peter Mitchell  
AWAY: ZMB



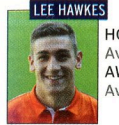
EKENE AMADI

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available



ISAAC GALLIFORD

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available



LEE HAWKES

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available



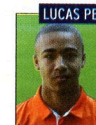
CRAIG KING

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available



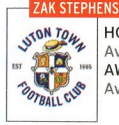
DARIL NGWALA

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available



LUCAS PERRY

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available



ZAK STEPHENS

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available



TUKI TAYALI

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available



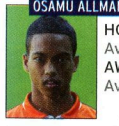
LUKE TROTMAN

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available



AREL AMU

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available



OSAMU ALLMAN

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available



HARRY TAMPLIN

HOME: Allianz  
AWAY: Available



PAUL DRIVER

HOME: Available  
AWAY: Available

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	POS	STARTING XI	SUBS																
AUG	Sat 10	11.00am	A	Dagenham & Redbridge	W 4-2	3	Barnes	Trotman	Chabata	Crilly	Hawkes	Amu	Rees	Smith 2	Galliford	Banton	McKenzie-Lowe 2	King	Perry	Tayali	Allman	Amadi	
	Sat 24	11.00am	A	Leyton Orient																			
	Wed 25	7.30pm	H	Rothwell Corinthians (FAVCIQ)																			
	Sat 31	11.30am	H	Portsmouth																			
SEP	Sat 14	11.00am	A	MK Dons																			
	Sat 21	11.00am	H	Watford																			
OCT	Sat 12	11.00am	A	Barnet																			
NOV	Sat 2	11.00am	A	Northampton																			
	Sat 9	11.00am	H	Colchester																			
	Sat 16	11.00am	A	Stevenage																			
	Sat 23	11.00am	H	Peterborough																			
	Sat 30	11.00am	H	Gillingham																			
DEC	Sat 14	11.00am	H	MK Dons																			
JAN	Sat 11	11.00am	A	Watford																			
	Sat 18	11.00am	H	Barnet																			
	Sat 25	11.00am	A	Colchester																			
FEB	Sat 8	11.00am	H	Northampton																			
	Sat 22	11.00am	H	Stevenage																			
MAR	Sat 1	11.00am	A	Peterborough																			
	Sat 15	11.00am	A	Southend																			
APR	Sat 5	11.00am	A	AFC Wimbledon																			
	Sat 12	11.00am	H	Crawley Town																			

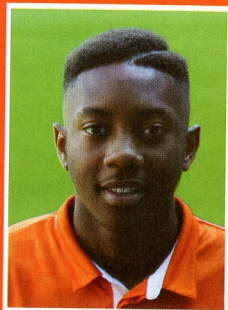


## PUMA YOUTH ALLIANCE UNDER 18 SOUTH-EAST LEAGUE 2013/14

	P	W	GD	PTS
1 Colchester United	2	2	6	6
2 Peterborough United	2	1	2	4
3 Portsmouth	2	1	2	4
4 Milton Keynes Dons	2	1	1	4
<b>5 Luton Town</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
6 AFC Wimbledon	2	1	1	3
7 Watford	1	1	1	3
8 Barnet	2	1	0	3
9 Northampton Town	2	1	0	3
10 Southend United	2	1	-1	3
11 Gillingham	1	0	0	1
12 Stevenage	1	0	-1	0
13 Leyton Orient	2	0	-3	0
14 Crawley Town	2	0	-5	0
15 Dagenham & Redbridge	2	0	-5	0

# stars of the future

TOTT GETS TO KNOW MEMBERS OF THE HATTERS' UNDER-18 SQUAD



**NAME:**  
Daryl Ngwala  
**DATE OF BIRTH:**  
21/10/1996  
**POSITION:**  
Striker/midfielder  
**YEAR JOINED**  
**LUTON TOWN:**  
2011  
**FORMER CLUB :**  
West Bromwich  
Albion

**WHICH PLAYER DID YOU PRETEND TO BE IN THE PLAYGROUND?**

Thierry Henry

**FAVOURITE TV SHOW**

Fresh Prince of Bel Air

**OTHER SPORTS GOOD AT**

Athletic and basketball

**FAVOURITE SCHOOL SUBJECT**

Physical education

**THREE WORDS TO DESCRIBE YOU**

Friendly, happy, joyful

**MOST TALENTED TEAM-MATE**

Zane Banton

**TELL US ABOUT YOU AND YOUR FOOTBALL CAREER SO FAR**

Pre-season has been tough and hard work as it always is. But I am aiming to get myself in the first team and look forward to greater achievements.

**BEST BIT OF ADVICE WHEN GROWING UP**

When you get knocked down, get back up

**BEST FOOTBALL MOMENT**

Scoring 31 goals in my under-16 season

**TEAM SUPPORTED AS A KID**

Arsenal

## Supporting the grassroots



**Football Foundation**



[www.footballfoundation.org.uk](http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk)  
[@FootballFoundtn](https://www.facebook.com/FootballFoundtn)

improving facilities • creating opportunities • building communities

Charity No 1079309 Company No 3876305

# academy update

WITH MATT STANNARD

**We are now well and truly back into pre-season at academy level with games coming out of our ears!**

For any footballer, pre-season is possibly the worst time of year. Regardless of what level you've played at, everything's a bit rusty, your lungs and heart hurt a lot and ironically, you spend most of the time not being able to feel your legs!

Times have changed for our young lads now. Roll back even five or six years and pre-season was all about running up and down hills, 'doggies' and bleep tests.

While this still has its pride of place in most setups and there are justifications for the use of such techniques, our academy players are put through their paces in slightly different ways. Everything we do, we use a ball. Don't get me wrong, the players are still put through their paces and running is certainly part of our pre-season, but we try and make it as game realistic as possible.

You may have heard people say something like, "he's not match fit yet" in the press. Match fitness provides you with the sharpness needed to play at this level of football for a sustained period of time. It's all very well being able to run for 90 minutes, but football isn't like that. It's stop-start and short bursts of 10-20 yards with the occasional 80-90-yard burst towards goal. In order to get this 'match fitness' we load our pre-season with as many games as possible. As I write, I am being watched by our under-14s taking on Crystal Palace at our training venue.

Our next two weeks are loaded with games at all ages in preparation for our first 'proper' fixture of the year. Our under-9-11s travelled to Palace on Wednesday, with the under-12 and

under-13s up at Leicester. On Friday our under-9s to under-12s compete against West Ham at Little Heath. Then, on Sunday, our 9-12s have AFC Wimbledon with the under-13/14s at West Ham. Next week all age groups have the massive challenge of an away fixture at Fulham to deal with.

This is a massively challenging period for our lads, who are coming up against some of the best players in the country. Not only will this week test their fitness levels, but they will also be challenged technically and mentally; it is the coaches that we be challenged tactically!

Weeks like this, though, are why we are all involved in football. To push and challenge ourselves against the best in the country, to develop our own skills and ideas.

From a coach's perspective, it's a great feeling to watch your team develop and compete against these sides. From a manager's perspective, it gives us a good indication as to where we are in comparison.

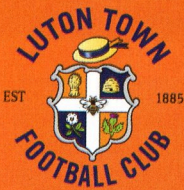
We may be a Conference club at this moment in time, but nothing about this place suggests we'll be here for much longer. If our lads keep developing how they have done, and our coaches keep working their socks off, the future will be bright for Luton Town.



The dreaded bleep test is still used up and down the country during pre-season, no matter how old you are

# NEW TERM STARTS IN TWO WEEKS

Call or text 07725 172345 or email tips.ltfc@hotmail.co.uk for full details



## TIPs - Talent Identification Programme

# Luton Town FC

Football Development for 6 to 16 year olds

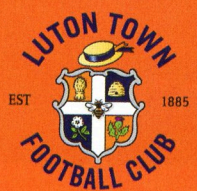
### Youth Development 2013-14

**TERM 1**  
Sept 16th -  
Nov 22nd 2013  
(9 weeks)  
**TRIAL MATCH**  
Sat 9th &  
16th Nov 2013

**TERM 2**  
Nov 25th 2013 -  
Feb 14th 2014  
(9 weeks)  
**TRIAL MATCH**  
Sat 1st &  
8th Feb 2014

**TERM 3**  
Feb 24th -  
May 9th 2014  
(9 weeks)  
**TRIAL MATCH**  
Thurs 24th April  
& 1st May 2014

**TERM 4**  
May 12th -  
July 18th 2014  
(9 weeks)  
**TRIAL MATCH**  
Thurs 3rd &  
10th July 2014



## Coaching Programme

### 9 Weeks Plus Trial Match

Soccer Centres in Bedford, Biggleswade, Dunstable, Flitwick, Harpenden, Hitchin, Hemel Hempstead, Kempston, Leighton Buzzard, Luton, Milton Keynes/Bletchley, Shefford and St Albans



#### TIPs GRADUATES

**Jack Dunn**  
Joined TIPs at U7  
Academy player U10

**Tyrelle Newton**  
Joined TIPs at U7  
Academy player U10

**Fahd Hussein**  
Joined TIPs at U10  
Academy player U12

**Joe Hankins**  
Joined TIPs at U11  
Academy player U15

# Luton Ladies

## LADIES SLIP TO LAST-GASP DEFEAT

The Town Ladies' first league game of the season was away to CK Basildon who have surged through the Leagues on the back of a huge sponsorship deal, and have now benefitted considerably player wise from the demise of ex-Premier League Colchester United.

The Hatters were not concerned at all by the pre-match hype and were in the lead in less than two minutes when Jess Nash sent Lauren Goodier clear with a fine pass. She skipped around the keeper she was brought down. The referee pointed to the spot and Rachel Kosky stepped up to smash the ball home.

A fine defensive performance followed where the Essex side were restricted to long range efforts with any through balls being well dealt with by goalkeeper Hollie Staples. The Town might have increased their lead, but two strikes from Goodier sailed wide.

Within a minute of the restart, Luton were two up as Nicky Livingstone squared a pass to Nash who struck an unstoppable shot into the bottom corner.

The Town were in the driving seat holding the hosts at bay until conceding a penalty on the hour. Staples dived the right way but was unable to keep the ball out.

Basildon poured on the pressure but the Town counter-attacked and Rebecca Kane was twice unlucky when forcing a good save from the home keeper and narrowly striking the ball wide of the post. However Basildon equalised with 15 minutes left but the points could still have gone either way with both teams wasteful in front of goal.

There was some bad news for the Hatters when substitute Maisie Wyatt broke her collarbone in a freak incident just minutes after coming on. This resulted in several minutes of injury time and it looked like the Town would go on and grab all three points but Rebecca Kane again shot fractionally wide of the post.

However, there was heartbreak for the Town when, with just 10 seconds left of seven minutes injury time, the hosts grabbed all three points on the break after Luton failed to hold onto the ball in the other half.

A hugely frustrated Nikki Baker told Talk of the Town: "It was extremely disappointing to lose the game after holding a two-goal lead with half an hour left.

"We were not worldly wise at times and initially we played very well to comfortably keep Basildon at bay.

"Their physical strength and experience counted for a lot, and it is clear that we need to improve our fitness and general game understanding as we appeared naive at times and were forced into errors far too easily.

"We were unfortunate that a number of players were unavailable or suffered injury and we were unable to effectively plug the gaps. But it's a long season and there were plenty of positives to take despite the result."

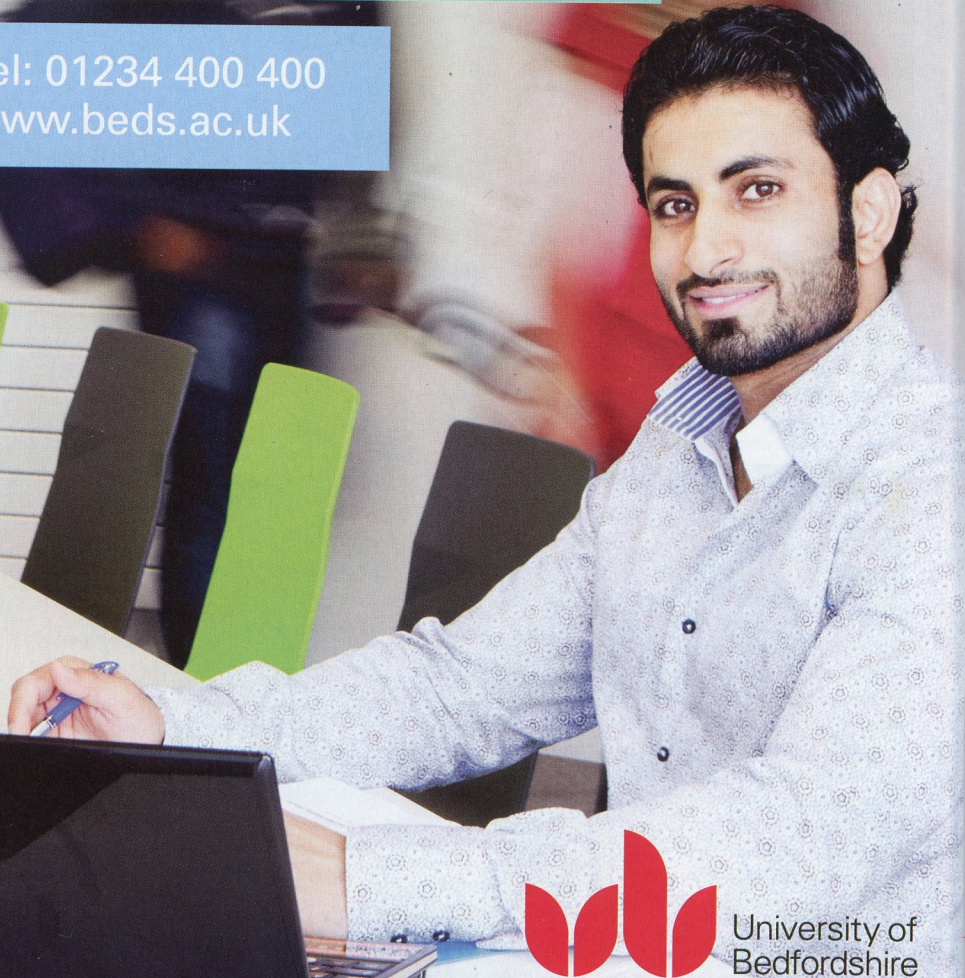


## LADIES FIXTURES 2013/14

DATE		H/A	OPPOSITION	RESULT
AUG	Sun 18	A	CK Basildon	L 2-3
	Sun 25	H	Arlesey Town	
SEPT	Sun 1	A	Enfield Town	
	Sun 8	A	Denham United	
	Sun 15	H	Q.P.R.	
	Sun 22	H	Ipswich Town (League Cup)	
	Tues 25	H	MK Dons	
OCT	Sun 29	A	Cambridge	
	Sun 6	A	Arlesey Town	
	Sun 13	H	Ebbsfleet United	
	Sun 20	H	Ipswich Town	
NOV	Sun 27	A	Norwich City	
	Sun 3		FA Cup 3QR	
	Sun 10		League Cup 2nd Round	
	Sun 17	A	Q.P.R.	
	Sun 24	H	Brentwood Town	
DEC	Tues 27	A	MK Dons	
	Sun 1		FA Cup 1st Round	
	Sun 8	H	Enfield Town	
	Sun 15	H	CK Basildon	
JAN	Sun 5	A	Brentwood Town	
	Sun 12	A	Ebbsfleet United	
	Sun 19	H	Norwich City	
	Sun 26	H	Denham United	
FEB	Sun 2	A	Ipswich Town	

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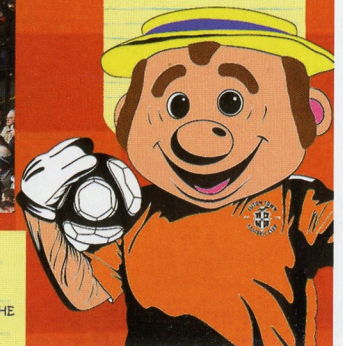
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CAN YOU RE-SHUFFLE THE FIVE ANAGRAMS ABOVE TO WORK OUT WHICH PLAYERS ARE HIDING?



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# from left midfield

BY KEVIN CROWE

**A trip to Conference Premier stalwarts Forest Green Rovers around the back of the new estate in Nailsworth on Saturday followed by a visit from squint-and-they're-Football-League Cambridge United at Bedfordshire's historic Kenilworth Road on Monday: Now THAT'S a Bank Holiday weekend of contrasts, Skrilk-seekers.**

Such was the ignorance of my first away trip in the Conference back in 2009 that I, along with many others, dutifully stuck "Forest Green" into Google maps to find out exactly where this exotic Tolkien-esque land might be. It turns out that Google maps thinks Forest Green is a charming hamlet in the Surrey Hills. "Funny little place for us to be going for a LEAGUE game, isn't it?" we smugly uttered. "Ah well, let's book the day off work."

## Adventure

Once we'd worked out that we'd need a little more petrol to get to the actual Forest Green Rovers, tucked away in a sleepy Cotswolds town, the novelty of this unusual away day for Bedfordshire's chosen few started to make the fifth tier look like a bit of an adventure. Less British Transport Police more Heartbeat, we thought. Yeah, we can handle this for a year.

Arriving in Nailsworth for the first time was a fairly humbling passage in my Luton supporting memoirs. Pulling up to the car park (field) having passed through the pretty town centre and into the new-build housing estate where the New Lawn rises modestly from the grass, we were met by a jolly looking car-park attendant, an older chap in a blazer, drink in hand, who proceeded to mock my designated driver's parking ability. His traffic-directing style would probably be

referred to as "banter" these days, but not by me.

Appropriately chastised we bid our friendly tormenter goodbye and were directed to what appeared to be the home fans' bar, but what was probably more appropriately described as The Bar. What a friendly little club we agreed, patronisingly.

Once in the ground, and having purchased the programme like all the best people do, who should we find smiling back from the opening pages beneath the words "From the Chairman"? You guessed it, that very parking attendant. Later on we spotted our blazered-boardroom-banter machine dashing across the terrace to restock the kiosk with burger baps too. It was quite a day.

Four years and a new chairman later, Forest Green are favourites for this league. And us? Well we're still making the annual trip to Nailsworth. I hope for those of you that made it down that the new Chairman is taking his car parking duties seriously.

## Familiar

Back to today's more familiar episode at Kenilworth Road: Cambridge always feels like a League game with a capital L, and no doubt there'll be one or two more United fans in the Oak Road than Forest Green have season ticket holders. A warm reception for the returning Richard Money should no doubt add to the sense of occasion.

As both sets have fans have learnt in the past decade, League pedigree counts for little in The Conference. In fact the respective followings are so sick of the taste of humble pie at this stage, that the chance to squint at the fixture list, and into the away end, and pretend for 90 minutes that it was all a dream provides welcome respite.

# THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER



ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

BY CHIEF REPORTER STUART HAMMONDS

**Not since he woke me up on a late-night Calais to Dover ferry at the end of an exhausting trip to EuroDisney with the kids have I been more surprised to see my old Ware team-mate Anthony Anstead's greying barnet.**

As I devoured last Sunday's NLP, there he was on pages 26 and 41, firing in a goal during Hertford Town's FA Cup extra preliminary round win over Colney Heath. What's unusual about that? I hear you ask.

Well, Ant used to be our goalkeeper...last seen trying to control a ball on his goal-line and flick it over an onrushing Potters Bar Townstriker's head early in the 2007/08 season, only for it to be nodded straight into our net!

## Prolific

He was always a confident lad, and I knew that after a brief spell in charge of Harlow Town four years ago, he'd been playing up front in the Herts Senior County League for Wodson Park and then at Step 5 for St Margaretsbury with prolific results.

## Goals

A summer move has seen him switch to Spartan South Midlands Premier rivals Hertford, and fair play to him - he's now banging in goals in the world's greatest cup competition at the age of 34.

It got me thinking about other big position transitions. We can all reel off a Dion Dublin or a Paul Warhurst, who would alternate between centre-half and centre-forward from one week to the next - or even within the same 90 minutes if their side were chasing a game.

Then there are the likes of Staines Town manager Marcus Gayle, who played up front in the top-flight

for the original Wimbledon, but often played centre-half under Terry Brown at Aldershot Town and AFC Wimbledon as his legs matured.

I also recall seeing Gary Hooper play right-back for Grays Athletic, although his destiny always promised to be in the opposition's penalty area - as he has proved in the Champions League with Celtic and hopefully will now in the Premier League as a £5m Norwich City striker.

The best example for me, however, involves another player who cast off the gloves to play outfield.

## Outstanding

Step forward Matty Taylor, who was so good as a Non-League goalkeeper he won the FA Trophy with Burscough 10 years ago with an outstanding display against Tamworth at Villa Park.

He also played for Matlock, Hucknall, Halifax and Guiseley, before Team Bath boss Ged Roddy - who selected him as a centre-half for English Universities - signed him for the Students' 2006/07 Southern League Premier campaign.

Taylor proceeded to step up a division virtually every season up to 2011 by moving to Exeter City and being the rock

at the heart of their defence as they rose from the Conference to League One, before captaining Charlton Athletic in the Championship.

This summer the 32-year-old has dropped back - not in position but division, to join League One new-boys Bradford City - but there can't be many who have enjoyed as successful a switch as man-mountain Matt.

Let me know via [stuarthammonds@gmail.com](mailto:stuarthammonds@gmail.com) or tweet @stuhammonds\_NLP if you can think of any others.



Marcus Gayle in action during his Brentford days

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# league look

THE LATEST IN THE SKRILL PREMIER

## GATESHEAD BOSS QUILTS

**It didn't take long - just three games into the season in fact - for the Skrill Premier's first managerial casualty when Anth Smith resigned as Gateshead manager.**

The rookie boss only took over the reins last December but after three successive defeats - including last Saturday's 2-1 loss at home to Barnet - Smith decided to leave the International Stadium.

Former Sunderland defender Smith said his decision to quit the Tynesiders was triggered by a leak of his decision to hand in his resignation to Heed chairman Graham Wood, with the news making social media channels before it officially reached the boardroom.

"The information leak has caused a real issue," Smith told BBC Newcastle. "It hasn't gone down well with the players, it has put the chairman in a funny situation."

After a number of summer signings, including marquee arrival Richard Brodie from Fleetwood, Smith admitted his frustration of losing the opening three fixtures. However, he was hopeful of continuing his spell in charge before the Gateshead board accepted his decision to stand down. "I'd knew I'd been hasty and acted immaturely, which is something I've got to learn to deal with. I wish the football club every success and I have no axe to grind with anyone."

The Tynesiders, however, won't be rushing into replace Smith.

"We are not going to rush into making a hasty appointment," said Wood "There is no need to as I'm comfortable with the strength of the off field staff."

"We have a good squad who are capable of better than they have shown in the first week of the season and we now have to move forward starting with a good display and result at Southport."

## LATEST BT SPORT SCHEDULE

**Skrill Premier broadcast partners BT Sport have added a further five live matches to their schedule across September and October.**

The Town's home game with Grimsby and away match at Wrexham had already been pencilled in by the broadcaster but fans of Kidderminster, Aldershot, Barnet, Macclesfield, Southport, Salisbury, Hereford and Cambridge will also get to see their team in action on BT Sport over the next two months.

**HYDE v GRIMSBY TOWN**, Monday 26th August

On-air 5pm, KO 5.30pm, BT Sport 1.

**LUTON TOWN v GRIMSBY TOWN**, Saturday 7th September

On-air 5pm, KO 5.30pm, BT Sport 2.

**WREXHAM v LUTON TOWN**, Friday 13th September

On-air 7pm, KO 7.45pm, BT Sport 2.

**KIDDERMINSTER v ALDERSHOT**, Friday 27th September

On-air 7pm, KO 7.45pm, BT Sport 2.

**BARNET v WREXHAM**, Sunday 13th October

On-air 1.30pm, KO 2pm, BT Sport 1.

**MACCLESFIELD v SOUTHPORT**, Thursday 17th October

On-air 7pm, KO 7.45pm, BT Sport 1.

**SALISBURY v HEREFORD**, Thursday 31st October

On-air 7pm, KO 7.45pm BT Sport 1.

**BARNET v CAMBRIDGE**, Saturday 16th November

On-air 5pm, 5.30pm, BT Sport 1.

## LEADING GOALSCORERS

Akinde (Alfreton)	3
Gregory (FC Halifax)	3
Hyde (Barnet)	3
Kelly (Forest Green)	3
Moult (Nuneaton)	3
<b>Guttridge (Luton)</b>	<b>2</b>
Bradley (Alfreton)	2
Cunnington (Cambridge)	2

## AVERAGE ATTENDANCES

<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>6,368</b>	Macclesfield Town	1,585
Grimsby Town	4,037	FC Halifax Town	1,485
Wrexham	4,011	Tamworth	1,253
Cambridge United	2,780	Dartford	1,202
Barnet	2,543	Forest Green Rovers	1,158
Chester FC	2,458	Nuneaton Town	962
Lincoln City	2,338	Salisbury City	958
Southport	2,210	Braintree Town	934
Kidderminster Harriers	2,110	Welling United	908
Aldershot Town	2,080	Gateshead	791
Hereford United	2,033	Hyde	639
Woking	1,845	Alfreton	592

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

Aldershot v Woking
Alfreton v Hereford
Braintree v Barnet
Chester FC v Forest Green
FC Halifax v Southport
Gateshead v Macclesfield
Lincoln v Wrexham
Nuneaton v Kidderminster
Tamworth v Dartford
Welling v Salisbury
Hyde v Grimsby (5.30 KO)



# fixtures and results

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

## AUGUST

Sat 10	3.00pm	A	Southport	1-0-1	2,210	839	18	Tyler	Smith	Griffiths	McNulty	Lacey	Taiwo ▲	Guttridge	Martin ◆	Whalley
Tue 13	7.45pm	H	Salisbury City	W 2-0	6,520	92	12	Tyler	Smith	Griffiths	McNulty	Charles ◆	Taiwo 1	Cuttridge 1	Martin ▲	Whalley
Sat 17	3.00pm	H	Macclesfield Town	D 1-1	6,216	80	13	Tyler	Henry	Griffiths ◆	McNulty	Lacey	Taiwo ▲	Cuttridge 1	Martin ●	Whalley
Sat 24	3.00pm	A	Forest Green Rovers													
Mon 26	3.00pm	H	Cambridge United													
Sat 31	3.00pm	A	Kidderminster Harriers													

## SEPTEMBER

TV Sat 7	5.30pm	H	Grimsby Town
TV Fri 13	7.45pm	A	Wrexham
Tue 17	7.45pm	H	Dartford
Sat 21	3.00pm	H	Lincoln City
Tue 24	7.45pm	A	Woking
Sat 28	3.00pm	A	Hereford United

## OCTOBER

Sat 5	3.00pm	H	FC Halifax Town
Tue 8	7.45pm	A	Aldershot Town
Sat 12	3.00pm	H	Hyde
Sat 19	3.00pm	A	Tamworth

## NOVEMBER

Sat 2	3.00pm	A	Gateshead
Sat 9	3.00pm	H	Southport
Tue 12	7.45pm	A	Braintree Town
Sat 16	3.00pm	A	Chester FC
Sat 23	3.00pm	H	Welling United

## DECEMBER

Sat 7	3.00pm	A	Allreton Town
Sat 14	3.00pm	A	Cambridge United
Sat 21	3.00pm	H	Gateshead
Thur 26	3.00pm	A	Barnet
Sat 28	3.00pm	H	Kidderminster Harriers

## JANUARY

Wed 1	3.00pm	H	Barnet
Sat 4	3.00pm	A	Lincoln City
Sat 11	3.00pm	A	Macclesfield Town
Sat 18	3.00pm	H	Wrexham
Sat 25	3.00pm	H	Nuneaton Town

## FEBRUARY

Sat 1	3.00pm	A	Dartford
Sat 8	3.00pm	H	Tamworth
Sat 15	3.00pm	H	Hereford United
Sat 22	3.00pm	A	Nuneaton Town

## MARCH

Sat 1	3.00pm	H	Allreton Town
Sat 8	3.00pm	A	Salisbury City
Sat 15	3.00pm	H	Woking
Sat 22	3.00pm	H	Chester FC
Tue 25	7.45pm	A	Grimsby Town
Sat 29	3.00pm	A	FC Halifax Town

## APRIL

Sat 5	3.00pm	H	Aldershot Town
Sat 12	3.00pm	H	Braintree Town
Sat 19	3.00pm	A	Welling United
Mon 21	3.00pm	H	Forest Green Rovers
Sat 26	3.00pm	A	Hyde



Shaun Whalley keeps his eyes on the ball despite the attentions of Macclesfield left-back Danny Andrew during last weekend's 1-1 draw

## SUBS

Howells ●	Cullen	Charles ◆	Parry ▲	Gray ●	Robinson	Justham
Shaw	Cullen ●	Lacey ◆	Howells ▲	Gray ●	Robinson	Justham
Shaw	Gray	Parry	Howells ●	Cullen ◆	Smith ▲	Justham

## LEAGUE TABLE 2013/14

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Cambridge United	3	2	1	0	8	3	5	7
2 Barnet	3	2	1	0	5	1	4	7
3 Nuneaton Town	3	2	1	0	5	2	3	7
4 Lincoln City	3	2	1	0	3	1	2	7
5 Alfreton Town	3	2	0	1	6	4	2	6
6 Kidderminster Harriers	3	2	0	1	5	4	1	6
7 Southport	3	2	0	1	4	4	0	6
8 FC Halifax Town	3	2	0	1	6	7	-1	6
9 Hereford United	3	1	2	0	5	3	2	5
10 Tamworth	3	1	2	0	3	2	1	5
11 Forest Green Rovers	3	1	1	1	10	3	7	4
12 Braintree Town	3	1	1	1	3	2	1	4
<b>13 Luton Town</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>
14 Wrexham	3	1	1	1	6	6	0	4
15 Welling United	3	1	1	1	4	4	0	4
16 Grimsby Town	3	1	1	1	3	3	0	4
17 Woking	3	1	1	1	2	2	0	4
18 Dartford	3	1	0	2	1	5	-4	3
19 Macclesfield Town	3	0	1	2	1	3	-2	1
20 Hyde	3	0	1	2	3	12	-9	1
21 Gateshead	3	0	0	3	3	7	-4	0
22 Salisbury City	3	0	0	3	2	6	-4	0
23 Chester FC	3	0	0	3	0	7	-7	0
24 Aldershot Town	3	1	1	1	4	2	2	-6

## PLAYER STATS 2013/14

	THIS SEASON										LTC	
	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		DISCIP		CAREER TOTAL			
	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS	Y	R	APPS	GLS		
Anthony Charles	1 (1)	0	0 (0)	0	1 (1)	0	0	0	2	0		
Mark Cullen	2 (1)	0	0 (0)	0	2 (1)	0	0	0	3	0		
Andre Gray	1 (2)	0	0 (0)	0	1 (2)	0	0	0	69	27		
Scott Griffiths	3 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	1	0	9	0		
Luke Guttridge	3 (0)	2	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	2	2	0	3	2		
Ronnie Henry	1 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	0	0	44	0		
Jake Howells	1 (2)	0	0 (0)	0	1 (2)	0	0	0	238	18		
Alex Lacey	2 (1)	0	0 (0)	0	2 (1)	0	0	0	12	0		
Alex Lawless	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0	0	124	12		
David Martin	3 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	0	0	19	3		
Steve McNulty	3 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	0	1	23	1		
JJ O'Donnell	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0	0	48	3		
Andrew Parry	0 (1)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0	0	0	1	0		
Matt Robinson	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0	0	14	1		
Jon Shaw	2 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	0	0	40	10		
Jonathan Smith	2 (1)	0	0 (0)	0	2 (1)	0	0	0	37	1		
Solomon Taiwo	3 (0)	1	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	1	2	0	12	2		
Mark Tyler	3 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	0	0	187	0		
Alex Wall	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0	0	12	2		
Shaun Whalley	3 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	0	0	3	0		

# hold the back page

WITH JON DESBOROUGH

**The two best things about last Saturday's draw with Macclesfield? The sigh of the relief at the end of the match and the PA announcing that Forest Green had lost at Lincoln.**

You've got to look for the positives in these things. I missed the first two games of the season. I had spent most of the summer on the beach. You can do that when you're freelance. But Sky summoned me to the studio and so, being in London, I couldn't miss out on the chance to get to Kennilworth Road.

## Blame

You know, if I'm ever sacked from my broadcasting career, Luton Town will be to blame. Sometimes I just can't help myself.

The Macclesfield game coincided with the much hyped start to the Premier League season. Everyone was getting just a little carried away. Most of the week the count down to the kick-off ticked away and the build-up got ever higher.

The morning of the match, the chatter about the best league in the world carried on in the studio. It reached fever pitch. "It's such an open season ahead"...new manager at Manchester United, the 'old' one back at Chelsea ... a World Cup year...so much to look forward to, etc., etc.

## Reputation

I felt the need to burst the bubble. My camera went live so I added my view. "Don't forget Luton against Macclesfield". Stuff like that has got me a reputation. But loyalty is important.

The Macclesfield game was just one of those. And there are plenty of them.

The Town had to concede a goal before they really got into the game. And Macclesfield's goal was a miss-hit as well!

The match was a curious mix of pleasure and pain. The best move of the game was the very last one. Boy was I relieved. When the referee added four minutes time allowed, one wag behind me in press box shouted: "Why? It's just prolonging the agony!"

But football's a simple game. To succeed you create space in attack and you close it up in defence. And how did we equalise? A huge hole appeared in the Macclesfield penalty box and was filled by Luke Guttridge.

## Favourite

I've got a new favourite Town player, by the way. Steve McNulty. My kind of player; no-nonsense defender. His close-cropped silver hair reminded me of the David Beckham I met in L.A when he signed for the Galaxy. Although to be fair to Becks, that's where the similarities end.

Steve is built for comfort, not speed. There have been plenty of good defenders put together like that. Not much got past him that day. I look forward to seeing much more of him.

Enjoy the game.



Steve McNulty: Jon's new favourite



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# today's teams



## LUTON TOWN

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Mark Tyler       | 16 Elliot Justham |
| 3 Danny Fitzsimons | 17 JJ O'Donnell   |
| 4 Jonathan Smith   | 18 Dave Martin    |
| 5 Steve McNulty    | 21 Luke Guttridge |
| 6 Anthony Charles  | 22 Shaun Whalley  |
| 7 Alex Lawless     | 23 Matt Robinson  |
| 8 Solomon Taiwo    | 25 Ronnie Henry   |
| 9 Jon Shaw         | 27 Andre Gray     |
| 10 Alex Wall       | 28 Jim Stevenson  |
| 11 Jake Howells    | 30 Alex Lacey     |
| 12 Scott Griffiths | 31 Jake Woolley   |
| 13 Mark Cullen     | 32 Brett Longden  |
| 14 Andy Parry      | 33 Jerome Jibodu  |



## CAMBRIDGE UNITED

- |                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Chris Maxwell   | 14 Richard Tait     |
| 2 Kevin Roberts   | 15 Andy Pugh        |
| 3 Greg Taylor     | 16 Mitch Austin     |
| 4 Josh Coulson    | 17 Liam Hughes      |
| 5 Tom Bonner      | 18 Luke Berry       |
| 6 Ian Miller      | 19 Delano Sam-Yorke |
| 7 Ryan Donaldson  | 20 Luke Allen       |
| 8 Tom Champion    | 22 Ben Wilson       |
| 9 Adam Cunnington | 24 Nathan Arnold    |
| 10 Tom Elliott    | 26 Liam Hurst       |
| 11 Harrison Dunk  | 27 Bobby-Joe Taylor |
| 12 Rory McAuley   | 28 Mitch Hancock    |
| 13 Will Norris    |                     |

Referee: **W. Barratt** | Assistant: **L. Sheridan** | Assistant: **O. Jackson** | Fourth official: **J. Burridge**

HERE NEXT

v **GRIMSBY TOWN**

SATURDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2013 • 5.30PM

SKRILL PREMIER

LIVE ON

**BT Sport**

