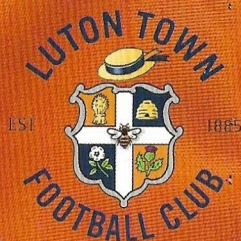


# TALK OF THE TOWN



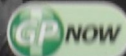
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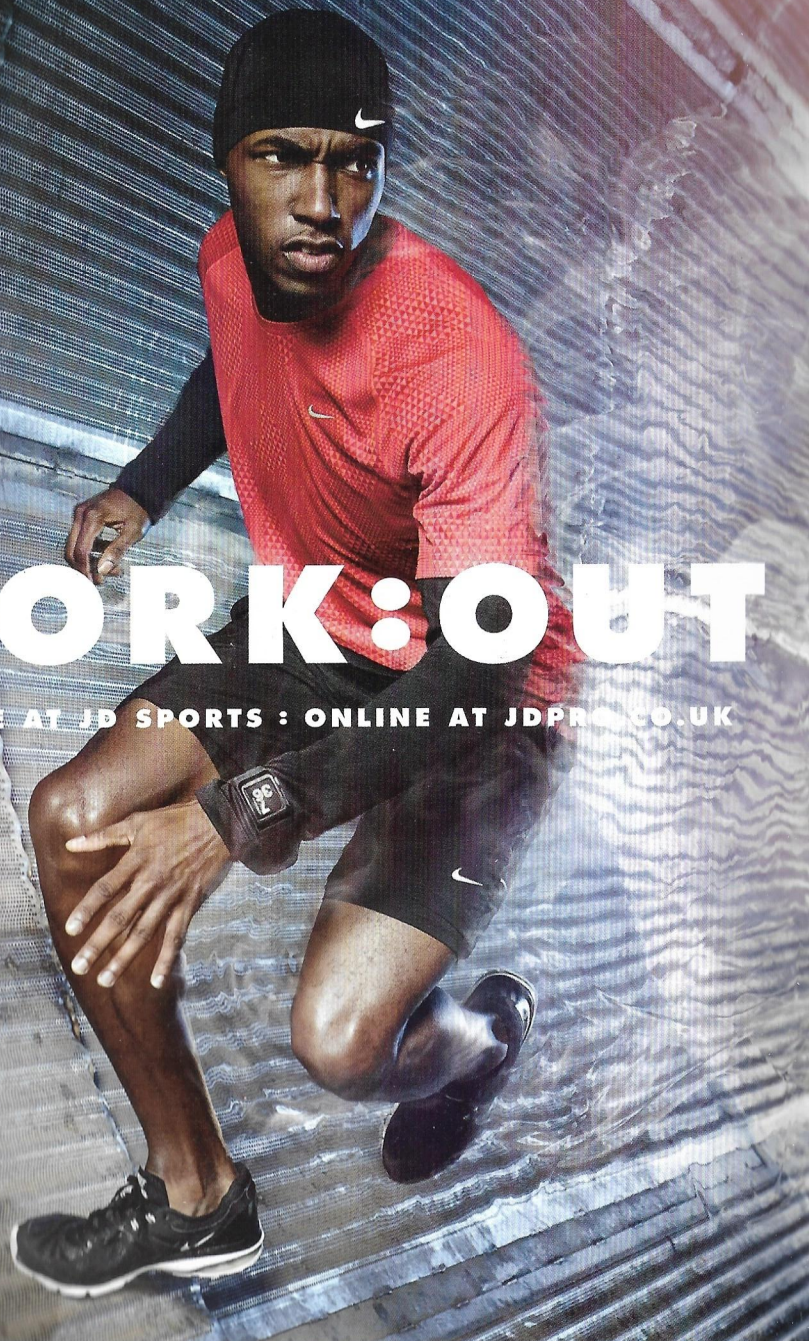
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# welcome

TO KENILWORTH ROAD

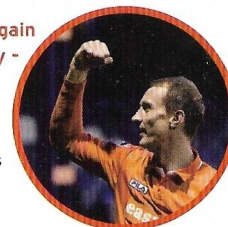
“ Welcome back to Kenilworth Road once again for the first time in what seems an eternity - 25 days to be precise!

It seems a while since our last home league fixture on home soil but who can forget that game against Barnet where both sets of players battled manfully in the elements? It can't have been easy but it was the Hatters of course that came out on top.

A goalless draw with Lincoln and then two FA Trophy ties against Cambridge have followed since and all the news, views, reports and reaction from those games are neatly presented to you throughout these 68 pages.

Last weekend's home game with Wrexham was unfortunately the victim of the wet weather but programmes were still printed for that match. So, if you want to keep your collection going, make sure you visit the club shop today or after the game to get hold of that elusive copy.

Enjoy the game today! #COYH ”



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John Still looks ahead to today's game

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With managing director Gary Sweet

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Report, reaction and photographs from our games with Barnet, Lincoln and Cambridge

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Fixtures and results for 2013/14



### LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 2020 LTD

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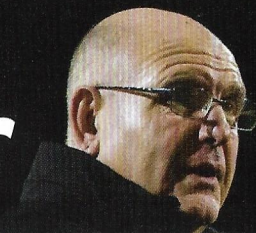
**DESIGN:** Heather Ellis - Relish Design

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 the first time in a league match since New Year's Day.**

Today we entertain Nuneaton Town in the Skrill Premier and I wish a warm welcome to Kevin Wilkin and his staff and players plus the directors and the supporters who have made the trip to Bedfordshire.

We're back in league action this afternoon for the first time in three weeks after the postponement of the Wrexham game and the two matches in the FA Trophy against Cambridge. Sadly, we were edged out of the replay against Cambridge after a heavily deflected goal, but what can I say about that performance? It was a fantastic effort from the team that we selected. Three of the back four were under 19 and it goes without saying how satisfying their performances were against a full-strength Cambridge team.

## Proud

The displays by the team selected in those two matches have shown me a lot about the group of players we have at this football club. We have a strong squad of senior players but equally we have a number of promising youngsters who have done themselves and the club proud when called upon this season.

Cambridge came back strongly after we had led 2-0 in the first game but the draw allowed us the opportunity to give those players yet another match. In front of a good crowd in a competitive cup tie, the game was a better platform for them rather than a behind-closed-doors development match.

I know for a fact how much those younger players especially, loved playing at Kenilworth Road. That experience and know-how will stand them in good stead. Luke Trotman, Ryan Inniss, Brett Longden, Ian Rees and Zane Banton will learn greatly from games like that and all of their performances I thought were first class.

As well as the younger players' performances were the professional displays of the senior players, including Jon Shaw, Solomon Taiwo and Anthony Charles. Those three have endured a frustrating season so far on the sidelines through injury but never have they complained. I have nothing but admiration for their efforts and I hope their professionalism and discipline can also help the likes of Luke, Zane, Ian and Brett in the long-run.

It is nice to see many players coming back into the squad following injury, and between now and the end of the campaign we are under no illusions that we are going to need every single one of those players.

## Strengthen

Over the last few weeks we have completed the signings of Kane Ferdinand and Cameron McGeehan on loan and Fraser Franks permanently. These three additions strengthen us further and I would like to take this opportunity to welcome them all to Kenilworth Road.

Between now and the end of the January transfer window there may well be some more ins and outs. It is important that some of our players get some competitive football under their belts, other than development games, and last week we were able to send a number of players out on loan to other clubs in this division.

This afternoon we face a Nuneaton side who are enjoying an excellent season. We are fully aware of the threats they will pose to us and we will make sure that we do everything in our power to keep the three points here today.

Please get behind us once again this afternoon. Remember this is a team game and that includes you, too. I look forward to your continued support between now and the end of the season. Encourage the players like you always do and enjoy the game.

*John Still*

“Remember this is a team game and that includes you, too.”



# hold the back page

WITH BBC THREE COUNTIES RADIO'S SIMON OXLEY

**I agree with Richard Money. There, I've said it, and to some of you that may mean you turn straight to the back page, but please read on.**

The FA Trophy needs to change. I'll make no apologies, I'm glad Luton went out last Tuesday night. Let Cambridge reach the final - which they should do by the way - or certainly the semi-finals, and let them have to re-arrange three or four more Conference matches.

The future of the Trophy and clubs' treatment of it has provoked much debate on online forums, and in non-league circles generally. Those lower down the pyramid feel some Conference clubs are taking it too lightly, much as League 1 and 2 clubs look critically at the teams fielded in the FA Cup by Premier League and Championship teams.

I'll admit I am looking at the present position through "Luton Town eyes" but should qualify this with praise of the competition, and how it has been covered by BBC 3CR down the years. I also believe that many Premier League teams' treatment of the FA Cup does them no credit, and is against the wishes of their supporters.

We have focussed on the Trophy whenever the need has arisen. Stevenage won the first final of any sort at the "new" Wembley in 2007, and Ronnie Henry skippered the side who came from 2-nil down to win 3-2. Great occasion. Before that Stevenage had strived for many years to reach Wembley and suffered heartbreak in 1997 losing a semi-final replay to Woking.

Back then there was only one promotion place from the Conference, and with no play-offs the Trophy was a real goal for many teams who were stuck in mid-table from November onwards. Also since those days the strength of the Conference has grown with more teams dropping down from the Football League, and others such as Crawley and Fleetwood emerging with new financial backers.



BBC 3CR's Simon Oxley

That means there have been more Conference teams progressing in the FA Cup as well. Crawley at Manchester United, and Luton's exploits last year come to mind, and this season Grimsby, Macclesfield and Kidderminster made it to the third round. Conference fixtures are scheduled to clash with the FA Cup from the first round onwards.

But let's just consider if Zane Banton hadn't been ruled offside late on last Tuesday, and Mark Cullen's shot hadn't been saved by John Sullivan.

Luton would have been favourites to reach Wembley, and had they done so the games at Dartford and Nuneaton, and at home to Hereford and Chester would have been re-arranged, and we haven't had a cold snap yet. At what stage would John Still have reverted

to the first team? Could we have played a semi-final with the "development side" given the financial considerations of reaching Wembley?

Those league fixtures would have been fitted in of course, but isn't there a duty to season ticket holders of all clubs to play as many Saturday home league games as possible?

So what is the solution? Well in fairness the FA have moved the Trophy final forward so it doesn't clash with the play-offs. Mr Money was talking about a midweek competition with no replays when he was here. Would that work, or would teams field even weaker elevens?

Anyway it's not our problem any more, and hopefully not ever again. There has never been a better chance to return to the Football League, and the Hatters are better placed now than at any time in their Conference campaigns. Good luck to all those left in the Trophy, but I left Kenilworth Road last Tuesday relieved that Wembley on March the 23rd was no longer a possibility. It was a relief re-inforced when the rain forced Saturday's postponement of the league fixture with Wrexham.

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# boardroom

WITH MANAGING DIRECTOR GARY SWEET



**A warm welcome back to Kenilworth Road to one and all for this Skrill Premier encounter against a Nuneaton Town side we have yet to face at all this season.**

We especially welcome those loyal followers who have made the trip

from Warwickshire to be here, as well as the people associated with the 'Boro; players, staff, management and directors who have helped today's visitors flourish in the division so far this campaign.

## Determination

This afternoon will be our first home fixture in the Skrill Premier since the televised fixture against Barnet on New Year's Day. A day that will be best remembered for the pitch conditions but one which shouldn't be forgotten, with the team's determination and adaptation to the conditions a significant factor in the resultant three points which strengthened our position in the table.

It was with obvious disappointment that last Saturday's scheduled fixture with Wrexham fell foul of the inclement weather.

The persistent rainfall in the last few weeks had made the pitch particularly soft under foot but, despite that, the surface was still in excellent, playable condition last Friday.

However, a deluge in the early hours of Saturday morning had an unfortunate effect on the surface and, with large parts of the pitch covered in standing water, the local referee's 8.30am verdict had an air of inevitability about it.

Last Saturday apart, we have been fortunate weather-wise so far this season and our summer – and indeed continual – investment in the playing surface has helped the pitch's recovery and maintenance throughout the campaign. Therefore, there should be no reason why the surface's quality should be called into question.

This afternoon we hope to see a number of new faces playing on the pitch, and on that note I would like to welcome our new arrivals who have joined our ranks over the past three weeks.

Last Friday night we confirmed the signing of defender Fraser Franks, the most recent acquisition, from Welling United. Fraser joins recent loan additions Kane Ferdinand, Ryan Inniss and Cameron McGeehan at Kenilworth Road.

## Delighted

January is always an important time of year for football clubs, and we are, of course, no different. The transfer window challenges all clubs, throughout the pyramid, but we are delighted as a board that we have been in a position to support John Still and his staff in identifying and procuring Fraser, Kane, Ryan and Cameron.

What is most refreshing is, from a budget perspective, this season's football spend – including transfer fees and player wages – is the lowest it has been since we have been playing in the Football Conference.

We have become increasingly creative with how the playing squad is shaped and then managed accordingly. John and his staff have played a major role in enabling us to be in the position we are on the pitch, in terms of league position, as well as what squad of players he is able to pick from at any certain time.

It is great to see that we are considered a good 'home' for up-and-coming young players from respectable football clubs higher in the league ladder. Short-term loans are used not only when we need to plug the gaps when injuries or suspensions arise, but also, in some cases, when we have the opportunity to evaluate a player's potential purchase value.

All the signings have been made for the long-term in mind to enable John to establish a squad befitting future success.

Yes, we want success this season – don't we all? But, as John first said when he joined us in late February last year, it is no quick fix.

It is a project, but we want our team – Luton Town – to evolve, develop and continually improve. We don't want to stand, no pun intended, still.

Meanwhile, the asset value of our squad is being increased by the success of the existing group of players. We have never been in a healthier position squad and morale-wise since we have been in this league and that has been down in no small part to the hard work and enthusiasm of John, his staff and scouting network. Working and subsequently supporting, there has been an absolute pleasure. Their encyclopaedic knowledge of the game and the players, is frightening.

Their love, passion and depth of information on players nationwide at all levels is almost scary, and as a result, it is one of the reasons why we are receiving such co-operation from other clubs.

While as a club we have always been held in high regard by others as a good home for players (our track record in developing and nurturing young talent, for example), our reputation has been boosted further by the John Still and Terry Harris factor, with their past success stories known throughout football circles in this country and beyond.

So, the transfer window closes next Friday and we are happy to report that we are in the fortunate position that, at this moment in time, we are able to retain our best talent.

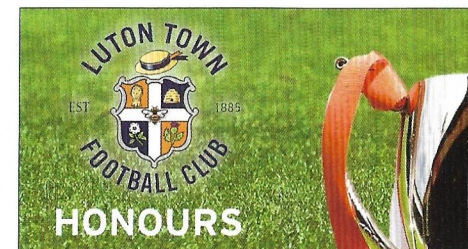
This is a different kind of challenge that John and Terry face, as this hasn't always been the case in their past. However, without wishing them to change their recruitment ethos, the squad head-count balance needs to be maintained.

We do, however, still expect to be busy behind the scenes over the next few days. And why not? This is, as I said earlier, an important time of the season. A time when clubs aim to strengthen – and we will be no different. Injuries and suspensions are sure to rear their heads. It is for this reason that John will be given the opportunity to strengthen the squad in areas he sees fit.

Thanks to his and his staff's hard work and dedication we find ourselves in a strong position – what a turnaround it's been in a year! Now's the time for us to push on, starting this afternoon.

COYH

Gary



## 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



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## the captain

**RONNIE HENRY**

**These are my first notes of 2014 and the first since the 2-1 win over Barnet on New Year's Day where we paddled through the waterlogged conditions to record a vital victory.**

Regardless of the weather it was always going to be a tough game, as we found at their place on Boxing Day, but we handled the conditions better than Barnet and took an early lead thanks to a great finish from Andre.

Everyone felt that the game should never have really started but it went on and we got on with it. When the referee stopped the game after 60 minutes we feared the worst but he decided to carry on and, even though I don't like conceding goals, I thought Barnet pulling a goal back actually did us a favour. I think those three points will turn out to be one of the most crucial this season.

### Battled

We followed that win up with a hard-fought draw at Lincoln a few days later on another heavy pitch in tricky conditions. Lincoln have a decent record on their own patch and I thought we were unlucky not to nick a win the final few moments. After we enjoyed a fine festive run of results I thought we battled well. A point from a goalless draw might not be the most exciting of results but it kept us ticking over and further extended the unbeaten run.

I didn't see either of the Cambridge matches in the FA Trophy but I saw the DVDs of both. All of the lads on duty did themselves proud, especially the younger players who were given a chance. By all accounts they took the opportunity with both hands and the experience of playing against a full-strength Cambridge side will do

wonders for their confidence. It was good to see how that team pushed one of the best teams in the league. It was a shame we couldn't get through to the quarter-finals, especially having led 2-0 in the first game, and it was cruel the way in which Cambridge scored a heavily-deflected winner.

The defeat in the replay now means we have just the Skril Premier to focus on now. It's a bit of a cliché, but all we can do now is concentrate on the league and today we entertain a Nuneaton side who we have yet to play this season. They are having a good season and are one of a number of teams chasing the Play-Off places. However, we know that if we prepare right and apply ourselves in the best way this afternoon then we have a great chance of maintaining our position at the top of the table.

Since our last home league game we have strengthened the squad with the arrival for four new faces. Fraser Franks, Kane Ferdinand, Ryan

Inniss and Cameron McGeehan. I wish them all the best in their careers at Luton Town.

The week before last we were also delighted to see Jonathan Smith for the first time since his injury on Boxing Day. It was great to see him smiling and laughing with us and he is already making great progress.

Finally, I massive thank you to you all for your support over the past weeks and months, it truly has been incredible. However, just because we're in a good position doesn't mean we still don't need your vocal encouragement. Please keep it up and get behind the lads this afternoon. Enjoy the game.







# Oak Road open for Tamworth

**The Oak Road end will solely be open to home supporters for the fourth time this season when the Town entertain Tamworth on 8th February.**

Hatters supporters have sat in the Oak for the 4-1 win over Hyde, the 3-0 victory over Southport and the 4-2 triumph against Gateshead already this season.

And Hatters fans can savour the unique atmosphere from this area of Kenilworth Road for the Lambs' visit early next month.

Manager John Still believes the atmosphere that has been created since the opening of the stand has had a positive effect on his team. "I think it does give players a lift, absolutely I do," he said. "Does it make a difference

to results? No-one knows, it's difficult to say. But I think that for all of us, knowing the support is all around you and when you're attacking one goal you're being called complimentary names and not abusive names, also when you're trying to take a corner."

Season ticket holders who wish to transfer their season ticket seat to the Oak Road end for this match must do so before the day of the game.

Contact the ticket office on 01582 411622 or email [ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk).

Matchday tickets are on sale now and tickets will be available on the door (subject to availability).

Tickets are now available in the ticket office and online.

## IT'S TIME FOR A SUB

**Luton Town Football Club and the three Subway stores in Luton are delighted to be joining forces once again to support schoolchildren for a new term on their Talent Identification Programme (TIPs).**

Created over a year ago, this unique scheme enables children who cannot afford to go on this Luton Town coaching programme to enjoy their football and improve their game. For a fourth term, the Subway Luton stores have committed funds to 11 local schoolboys.

It has become a regular match event to present these potential footballing stars to fans and celebrate Subway's generosity in supporting them. The Town's talent identification manager, Kevin Thoburn, said: "In tough times, children can miss out," says Kevin. "This fantastic bursary from Subway shows how we work with local businesses to give children opportunities to show their footballing skills." Surinder Gupta, owner of the three Luton Subways, also enjoys these celebratory matches. "The games when we announce the children selected for the TIPs programme are special for everyone involved. It's what makes Luton Town such a great community club and why we support them." So give Subway and the boys your generous applause – and then take advantage of the generous discount exclusive to Luton fans on a range of Subs at the Luton Subways!

## NEW DATES FOR WREXHAM & CAMBRIDGE

**The Town's two outstanding matches in the fixture calendar have both been found new dates in the last few days.**

Last Saturday's postponed game at home to Wrexham is now in the diary for Tuesday 25th February, kick-off 7.45pm.

Meanwhile, the away fixture with Cambridge United has also been rearranged and will take place at the Abbey Stadium on Tuesday 11th March, kick-off 7.45pm.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Many happy returns to Hatters fanatic Alex Oakhill who turns 10 on 30th January.**

Alex is an avid Town supporter who is following in the footsteps of his father Nick, who is also a life-long fan. Have a great afternoon with us Alex!

# Town welcome quartet

**Since we were last at Kenilworth Road the Hatters completed the permanent signing of Fraser Franks and the loans of Ryan Inniss, Kane Ferdinand and Cameron McGeehan.**

Defender Franks, 23, joins the Hatters from Welling United for undisclosed fee whilst Ferdinand arrives on loan for the rest of the season from Peterborough.



Fraser Franks

Young defender Inniss, 18, and midfielder McGeehan, also 18, have joined on loan for a month from Premier League clubs Crystal Palace and Norwich City respectively. Centre-half Franks has signed a contract at Kenilworth Road until 2015 and moves to the Town having been a part of the Welling team that stormed to the Conference South title last season. An England C international, the defender has also been on the books at Chelsea, Brentford and AFC Wimbledon.

Ferdinand, a Republic of Ireland Under-21 international, began his career with Southend United, rising through the Shrimpers' youth academy to make his first team debut three years ago. His form for the Shrimpers took him to Peterborough for £200,000 in August 2012 and last season he played 33 times in the Championship for Posh.

England youth international centre-half Inniss is a towering 6ft 5in 18-year-old, and joined the Town having



Kane Ferdinand



Ryan Inniss

already tasted first team football following a loan spell with League 2 side Cheltenham this season, in which he played four times for the Robins.

McGeehan, meanwhile, is a central midfielder who captained the Canaries to FA Youth Cup glory last season, scoring penalties in both legs of the final against Chelsea.

The London-born midfielder has been a regular for City's Under-21s this season and has previously been on the books of Chelsea and Fulham.

Meanwhile, in other player movement, Jim Stevenson extended his loan at Darford a further month – and scored his first goal for the Darts last week in their 1-1 draw at Welling. Lathaniel Rowe-Turner has also rejoined Alfreton on loan for a further month.

Striker Alex Wall has joined Stevenson at Darford for a month while JJ O'Donnell has signed on loan for Gateshead. Jake Woolley has joined St Neots for the rest of the season on loan whilst Charlie Smith has been loaned to Hitchin Town.

The Town also said their goodbyes to loanees Pelly Ruddock, Joe Davis and Alfie Mawson following their successful spells at Kenilworth Road as they returned to their parent clubs.

## Diamond award for Benson

**Striker Paul Benson has won the Diamond Season Ticket Holder Player of the Month award for December - polling over half of the votes.**

The 34-year-old scored four goals in four games during the month, with goals against Alfreton, Gateshead, Barnet and Kidderminster. Paul will receive his award from Diamond Season Ticket holder Mike Brooks and Junior Diamond holder Edward Hall after this afternoon's game.

If you would like further information on diamond season tickets please contact the ticket office on 01582 416976 or email [ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk).

Benson and Town boss John Still, meanwhile, will also collect their player and manager of the month awards respectively for December prior to today's game.

Skrill marketing manager Alan Alger will be on hand to do the honours just before kick-off.



# let's go



THE HATTERS HIT THE ROAD A WEEK TODAY WHEN THEY MAKE THE SHORT TRIP AROUND THE M25 TO PLAY DARTFORD AT PRINCES PARK

## DARTFORD



**WHERE?** Dartford play at Princes Park, a new stadium opened in 2006. Its capacity is 4,100 with 645 that seated. The full address is Grassbanks, Darenth Road, Dartford. The postcode's pretty cool too – DA1 1RT – which spells Dart, the club's nickname – if you discount the ones.

**ECO FRIENDLY.** Forget Forest Green, Princes Park is far from the kind of identikit stadium that springs up around the country and it's got a reputation for being one of the greenest – environmentally, not the colour in the country. Solar panels top the stands, rain water is collected and re-used, timber beams support the roofs and vegetation keeps the place warm. Oh, and there's even a big carving of a man made of wood staring out from the middle of the terrace on the side of the pitch.

**HOW DO I GET THERE?** It's just shy of 60 miles from Kenilworth Road to Princes Park. Take the M1 south, M25 clockwise. After going over the Dartford Crossing leave the motorway at Junction 1b and take the left-hand slip road for A225 Dartford. At the roundabout at the end of the slip road above the motorway turn right at the Esso garage onto the A225 towards Dartford. Go straight across the next roundabout, passing a BP garage on the right. At the next set of traffic lights turn left into Darenth Road and then take the second left into Grassbanks for the stadium.

**BUS, TRAIN OR PLANE.** Don't fancy driving? The Bobbers Travel Club are, as usual, running a coach to Princes Park. They leave at the bottom of Oak Road at 12 noon and the fare is £19 for adults and £16 for concessions. Call 01234 856542 to book your place. If

you're going by train, Dartford is served by services from Charing Cross and London Bridge. The station is a 15-20 minute walk from the ground. If you want to take a plane, well, London City airport is only 18 miles away.

**ALL TICKET.** The Hatters have been allocated 36 per cent of the overall capacity of Princes Park for next Saturday's game. That's 1,500. Tickets are on sale to everyone from now – if there's any left. Tickets went on sale to season ticket holders last week. It'll be predominately terracing for Town supporters at Princes Park with only a tiny amount of seats available. You must by a ticket before you travel, though.

**LAST VISIT.** The Town's last visit, in February last year, was pretty miserable. The Darts won 1-0 thanks to a stunning strike from Paul Hayes – the only bright moment in a drab 90 minutes on a freezing cold Tuesday night.

**HOW THEY DOING?** Not great. The Darts lie just one place off the bottom of the table and six points from safety. Tony Burman's side, who lost 3-0 against the Hatters earlier in the campaign (Paul Benson, Luke Guttridge and Alex Lawless with the Town goals), did, however record a victory on Tuesday night with an excellent 2-1 win at Kidderminster. It was Dartford's first win since 19th October.

**LOAN RANGERS.** Hatters duo Alex Wall and Jim Stevenson are both currently on loan at Princes Park but will not be available to play in the game next weekend. Wall made his debut in that win against Kidderminster, whilst Stevenson is in his second month on-loan with the Darts. He scored his first goal for Burman's side in a 1-1 draw with Welling two weeks ago.

**DO US A FAVOUR.** The Town will be hoping Wall, Stevenson and Dartford can replicate their win over Kidderminster against Cambridge at Princes Park this afternoon. The second-placed U's, who sit a point behind the Town in the standings, travel to Kent today.

# tickets

HOME & AWAY WITH THE HATTERS

## SEASON TICKETS AVAILABLE AT PRO-RATA PRICES

Adults (22-64) £142, Young Adults (17-21) and Seniors (65-75) £102, Golden Seniors (over 75s) £66, Unaccompanied Youths (10-16) and Juniors (under 10s) £20. 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.



## DARTFORD v LUTON TOWN

The Skril Premier

SATURDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2014, KICK-OFF 3PM

This game is all-ticket for Luton Town supporters.

We have an allocation of 1,500 which includes a very limited allocation of seats. These will be available on a first-come, first-served basis upon entry to the ground on the day of the match.

Prices: £15 adults, £8 over-65s, 12-17-year-olds, £3 under-12s; £8 disabled supporters with helper.

Tickets are now on general sale, subject to availability, until Friday 31st January.



## LUTON TOWN v TAMWORTH

The Skril Premier

SATURDAY 8th FEBRUARY 2014, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.

The Oak Road stand will be open for this match. Turn to page 10 for further details.



## MACCLESFIELD TOWN v LUTON TOWN

The Skril Premier

TUESDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2014, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

Tickets details for this match will be released once received from Macclesfield.



## LUTON TOWN v HEREFORD UNITED

The Skril Premier

SATURDAY 15th FEBRUARY 2014, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets are now on sale at normal matchday prices.



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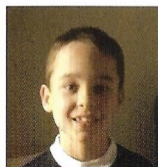
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## MATCHDAY MASCOTS



Niall Tomlinson  
Favourite player:  
Alex Lawless



Joseph Brittin  
Favourite player:  
Andre Gray



Archie Brittin  
Favourite player:  
Andre Gray



Edward Hall  
Favourite player:  
Andre Gray



Edwin Vass  
Favourite player:  
Mark Tyler



James Hannan  
Favourite player:  
Andre Gray

## MATCHBALL SPONSOR

JOHN MEAD



Ardent Town support John Mead is today's matchball sponsor. John has lived and worked in Luton all his life, as did his father and grandfather. John is a family man with two daughters, a son and seven grandchildren, and with Diane his second wife, he has four step children and five step

grandchildren. John has been a Hatters supporter since he was 10 years old when he would go to the matches with his late father. He now goes with his son Jonathan and hopes to take his youngest granddaughter Megan to a Luton match in the near future. Enjoy your day at Kenilworth Road, John.



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# 2013/14

1 MARK TYLER HOME: Tim Fordham AWAY: Whosh GLOVES: Kyle McPherson	3 FRASER FRANKS HOME: Available AWAY: Available	3 DANNY FITZSIMONS HOME: Available AWAY: Available	4 JONATHAN SMITH HOME: Holly Kemp AWAY: @W9hatter
5 STEVE McNULTY HOME: Simon Coward AWAY: Whosh	6 ANTHONY CHARLES HOME: Matt Crossland AWAY: Bobbers Travel Club	7 ALEX LAWLESS HOME: David Goodge AWAY: Gill, Julie and Yvonne	8 SOLOMON TAIWO HOME: Jonathan Perry AWAY: Available
9 JON SHAW HOME: Jacqui Peacock AWAY: Maddie Knight	10 ALEX WALL HOME: Ben & Richard Banks AWAY: <a href="http://lutontownfans.co.uk">lutontownfans.co.uk</a>	11 JAKE HOWELLS HOME: Neil Ehrenzweig AWAY: Sports 262 &	12 SCOTT GRIFFITHS HOME: CME Heating AWAY: Ben Gray
13 MARK CULLEN HOME: Peter & Linda Little AWAY: Mad Hatter	14 ANDY PARRY HOME: The Walsh Family from Marbella AWAY: Richard Tilley	16 ELLIOT JUSTHAM HOME: Available AWAY: Tommy Lennon GLOVES: Zak Harford Tilley	17 JJ O'DONNELL HOME: Kelly Knight AWAY: Available
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23 MATT ROBINSON HOME: Mad Hatter AWAY: Whosh	25 RONNIE HENRY HOME: Mark Francome AWAY: Tommy Lennon	26 PAUL BENSON HOME: Ashby World Domination AWAY: The Mad Hatter	27 ANDRE GRAY HOME: Tom AWAY: Jack Keenan
28 JIM STEVENSON HOME: Luton Outlaws AWAY: Available	30 ALEX LACEY HOME: Peter & Linda Little AWAY: In memory of Bill Lacey	31 JAKE WOOLLEY HOME: Total Motion Vehicle Management AWAY: Available	32 BRETT LONGDEN HOME: Available AWAY: Available
33 JEROME JIBODU HOME: Mad Hatter AWAY: Available	34 ZANE BANTON HOME: Loyal Luton AWAY: COYH	JOHN STILL HOME: Thompsons Accountants AWAY: Country Properties	TERRY HARRIS HOME: Doug Knight AWAY: Available



# welcome

## NUNEATON TOWN



**It is with pleasure that we welcome everybody associated with Nuneaton Town to Kenilworth Road this afternoon.**

Nuneaton Town Football Club in its current guise, reformed in 2008 after the previous entity of the club went into liquidation. The club first formed in 1889 as Nuneaton St Nicholas and in recent seasons the Boro have enjoyed plenty of success.

Manager Kevin Wilkin has guided the club to three promotions since he took over in 2006 to restore Boro's status as a top-flight non-league side.

The two sides meet for the first time this season – Nuneaton are currently the only Skril Premier side the Town have yet to play and it hasn't been since 5th March that the two clubs last met in what was John Still's second game at the helm.

Last season Boro finished the campaign strongly to avoid relegation and finish in a respectable 15th place. This term Wilkin's side started the season on fire and led the table for a while after run of nine games without defeat, winning seven of those.

However, a run of nine games without a win followed to puncture their promotion chances. Four wins on the spin followed that run to reignite those hopes but since a 1-0 win at Hereford on 7th December Boro hadn't won in six games in all competitions. However, that changed last weekend as a 1-0 victory at home to Macclesfield put them back in the promotion picture. They lie 13 points behind the Town in the table.

Boro have been inconsistent on the road this season, as their record of five wins, five defeats and four draws shows. The victories have come at Macclesfield, Dartford, Herford, Welling and, most impressively, at Grimsby. The Boro, however, have lost their last two matches away from home, 1-0 at Southport and 2-1 at Gateshead two weeks ago.

Wilkin has pieced together a side with the usual mix of youth and experience. Boro's talisman this term has been striker Louis Moulton whose 12 league goals have been a huge bonus.

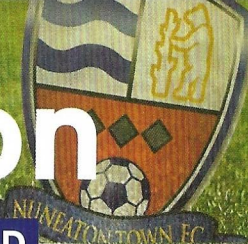
The former Northampton striker scored nine goals in his first 10 games this season as Boro led the table earlier in the campaign.

The Boro side have highly-rated goalkeeper Jelle Roos between the sticks, who has been reportedly being scouted by a host of Premier League sides, including Liverpool. The reliable defensive partnership of Gaz Dean and Gavin Cowan continued to form a mean barrier for the young stopper whilst midfielder Adam Walker chips in with his fair share of goals to help ease the pressure of Moulton and last season's top goalscorer Andy Brown who only returned to full fitness in December after almost three months on the sidelines through injury.

Today's visitors have the form in the book to beat the Town and, if they do, they will celebrate a first ever victory over the Hatters. The Town have won two and drawn two of the four meetings between the two clubs – all of which came last season.

# in opposition

## MEET THE NUNEATON SQUAD



### THE MANAGER

**KEVIN WILKIN.** The boss. Took charge on Boxing Day 2006 and led Boro to three promotions in a four years. Served Cambridge City, Rushden & Diamonds and Nuneaton in his playing days as a prolific striker.

### GOALKEEPERS

**JAMES BELSHAW.** Summer signing after a spell combining studying and playing at Duke University in North Carolina. Previously on Walsall's books, the stopper has been capped by England C.

**KELLE ROOS.** Commanding young Dutch keeper who signed for Boro this summer. Standing at 6ft in, he has been on the books at PSV, Willem II, Tilburg and NEC. Capped at Under-17 level for the Netherlands.

### DEFENDERS

**CHIMDI AKUBUINE.** Right-back who signed this season from Kettering. Began his career at Northampton before youth spells at Watford and Brighton.

**GAVIN COWAN.** Experienced centre-half and fans' favourite now in his second spell with the club. Has also served Braintree, Canvey Island, Shrewsbury, AFC Telford and Gainsborough Trinity.

**GAZ DEAN.** Boro's captain and player of the year who graduated through the youth academy to be a first team regular. Was given his debut as an 18-year-old in 2008 and has been capped by England C.

**EMMIT DELFOUNESO.** Teenage defender who arrived at Liberty Way this summer. Has previously been on the books at Birmingham City.

**SIMON FORSDICK.** Consistent performer who joined Boro from AFC Telford and was named player of the year in 2012 when the club won promotion. He has also played for Halesowen Town.

**DELROY GORDON.** Experienced defender who signed for Nuneaton from Corby after winning a number of awards for the Northamptonshire side. He has also played for Rushden & Diamonds.

**THEO STREETE.** Former Derby youth team graduate who joined this summer from Alfreton. Also able to play in central midfield, Streete has also played for Rotherham United.

### MIDFIELDERS

**JON ADAMS.** Attacking midfielder who signed at the start of last season from AFC Telford. Adams is a former England futsal international.

**JAMES ARMSON.** Versatile midfielder who has played in every position for Boro, including in goal. Came through the youth ranks at the club and has been capped by England C.

**DANIEL SLEATH.** Midfielder who signed from Boston where he had been an integral member of the Pilgrims' squad for three years. Began his career with Mansfield, playing in the Football League.

**PHIL TRAINER.** Summer signing from AFC Telford with bags of experience. The midfielder scores his fair share of goals and began his career with Oxford United.

**ADAM WALKER.** Attacking midfielder with an eye for goal who signed for Boro in 2010 having been released by Coventry City. A first team regular, he has three goals to his name so far this term.

### STRIKERS

**ANDY BROWN.** Last season's top scorer with 20 goals, Brown is enjoying his second spell with the club having previously played at AFC Telford. A real fans' favourite.

**DAVID HIBBERT.** Experienced frontman who has enjoyed a fine career with spells at Port Vale, Preston, Shrewsbury Town and Peterborough United.

**FREDDIE LADAPO.** Young striker on-loan from League 1 side Colchester United and has scored two goals in five appearances so far for Boro.

**LOUIS MOULT.** Boro's top goalscorer this season with 12 goals in 33 games. Began his career with Stoke before joining Northampton. Spent last term on loan at Boro before signing permanently in the summer.

**GREG PEARSON.** Forward with plenty of experience of scoring goals for a number of clubs including Rushden, Bishop's Cleeve, Burton and Grimsby amongst others. Signed for Boro this summer.

**CONNOR TAYLOR.** Young striker who joined Boro this summer following his release from Walsall. Capable of playing on either flank or down the middle.

**WES YORK.** Another young forward whose form last season caught the attention of clubs higher up the leagues before his campaign ended with injury. Signed from Anstey Nomads.



# scout report

WITH MATT AQUINO

After fighting their way out of an intense relegation battle last term, Nuneaton have reinvented themselves as one of the surprise packages in this season's Skril Premier.

The Boro struggled for large parts of last season before winning four of their last six games to move clear of the relegation zone and secure safety. This season, it is a different story at Sperrin Brewery Stadium as Kevin Wilkin's side are only one point off the Play-Off places, although Grimsby do have games in hand.

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

The Boro are ninth in the league with 44 points having played 28, won 12, drawn eight and lost eight whilst scoring 35.

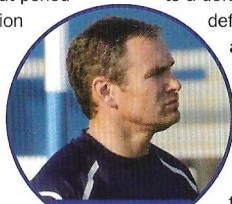
Despite being highly-placed in the table, Nuneaton's form has rather deteriorated in recent weeks with the side only winning one in their last six games and losing three of those. Even worse for the Warwickshire club is that they have only scored three goals in that period making them the lowest scorers in the division on current form.

Away from home, Wilkin's men have the seventh best record in the league. They have won five of their 14 games, drawn four and lost five earning 19 points. They have, however, lost three of their last six on the road including losses at Gateshead, Southport and Forest Green Rovers.

Interestingly, Nuneaton have the fourth best record against sides positioned in the top half at the time they faced them. The Boro have won six of those 13 games this season and have only lost four.

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

Wilkin's side will most likely line-up in a 4-4-2 here at Kenilworth Road and we could see four strikers starting in his first XI. Wilkin recently said "attack is the best form of defence" so we'll have to wait and see if his team's approach is markedly more adventurous than last season's showings. Highly sought after 21-year-old Kelle Roos will start in goal for the visitors today. 6ft 4in Gavin Cowan will form a solid partnership with youngster Gaz Dean who has already made over 200 appearances for Nuneaton. Delory Gordon could break up that partnership though after Wilkin lavished praised upon his centre-back saying he now has three defenders all worthy of a starting berth.



Boro Boss  
Kevin Wilkin



PROBABLE LINE-UP 4-4-2

Former Alfreton utility man Theo Streete will play at right-back whilst Danny Sleath, a midfielder converted to a defender will operate on the other side of the defence. Sleath initially had some reservations about his new role but his confidence has grown in recent weeks. He will still be vulnerable and therefore a key target for the Hatters attack.

Jon Adams, an England Futsal international, will sit in midfield with the more attack-minded James Armson hoping to break into the side ahead of Adam Walker who has started the majority of Nuneaton's games this season.

The pacy Wes York will start on the left-hand side of what will be an attacking front four. Top scorer Louis Mould, who has notched 12 goals this season, will play out on the right. Workhorse Andy Brown will be partnered by ex-Peterborough striker Dave Hibbert who actually retired back in April 2013 after suffering a knee injury.



## club data

Established: 1889 (Reformed in 2008)  
 Nickname(s): The Boro, Boro  
 Stadium: Sperrin Brewery Stadium  
 Capacity: 4,500 (Avg. attendance '13/14 - 1,166)  
 Manager: Kevin Wilkin (Seven years, one month)  
 Final league position 12/13: 15th BSBP

# from the oak road

Since emerging from the ashes of Nuneaton Borough in 2008, Nuneaton Town have enjoyed a remarkable rise up the divisions to get back to non-league's top table. With a "Boro legend" in Kevin Wilkin at the helm, the dangerous Louis Mould and Andy Brown upfront and a recent shutout of Cambridge United to their name, fan Mark Axon is delighted with his club's progress this season.

**TALK OF THE TOWN:** Having topped the table in the opening weeks of the season, Nuneaton still continue to surprise and are pushing for a Play-Off place. Tell us about your fantastic season so far. Why do you feel you've done so well?

**MARK:** This season has been brilliant and thoroughly enjoyable. I feel it's mainly down to having a relatively settled team/squad that has been given time to develop and grow. A lot of our players have been with us for a few seasons now, and Kevin Wilkin knows how to get the best out of them.

**TOTT:** Despite staying up relatively comfortably in the end, Nuneaton were involved in a relegation battle for much of last season. Are the fans surprised by the team's reversal in fortunes?

**MARK:** We ended last season very strongly and managed to keep our form going into the start of this season. However, the performances the lads put in and the run we have been on has been amazing. Hard work and determination is paying off.

**TOTT:** Louis Mould has been grabbing the goals for Nuneaton this season – how much of a danger will he pose today? What other players make you tick?

**MARK:** Louis has a cracking strike on him, but has been playing a slightly different position recently. Keep your eyes on Andy Brown, who is recently back from injury, Gaz Dean, James Armson, and Theo Streete.

**TOTT:** Some of your better players, including Mould, are reported as being available for transfer – is this a case of looking to balance the books – and avoid the financial difficulties of the your previous incarnation Nuneaton Borough?

**MARK:** I think it's more the case that they will be out of contact in the summer, and we want some financial return from them if at all possible. Money is always going to be tight for clubs of our size in this division and any additional income is welcome.

**TOTT:** Kevin Wilkin took the Nuneaton hot seat in 2006 and has been attracting the attention of clubs higher up the football pyramid. Describe the job he has done since taking over.

**MARK:** He has worked absolute wonders with a limited budget and a small squad. Since 2008 he's guided us from the Southern Midland division to the Skril Premier. He deserves the chance to manage higher – hopefully with Nuneaton. I'm sure all fans would wish him well if he had the chance to progress his managerial career. A true Boro legend.

**TOTT:** What are the club's ambitions for firstly, this season, and secondly, the long-term?

**MARK:** Despite our points tally and position, for me, survival will be brilliant. Long-term, to establish ourselves as a strong mid-table Skril Premier side. Given our current situation, anything else is pure fantasy.

**TOTT:** Which teams do you fancy to win promotion from the Skril Premier this season? And what will the score be today?

**MARK:** Cambridge United are by far the best side I have seen us play this season, so it's got to be them. I'm hoping for a 1-0 Nuneaton Town win. Frustrate you for 90 odd minutes, with Andy Brown scoring an injury-time winner!



Mark Axon



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# the hatter and...

...THE BORO

## TREVOR PEAKE AND KIRK STEPHENS

While there are no current connections between the Town and Nuneaton, a number of players have played for both clubs in the past.

The two most well-known are defenders Trevor Peake and Kirk Stephens. Going further back Arthur Nelson and Billy Hails played for both sides and, more recently, James Dance spent a short spell on loan with Boro last term.

Kirk William Stephens had four years on the books of his local side Coventry as a schoolboy but was told he wasn't good enough and joined non-league Nuneaton who were then managed by David Pleat.

When Pleat took over the hot seat at Kenilworth Road one of his first signing was all-action, overlapping full-back Kirk, who was soon nicknamed 'Basher' by the Town faithful.

After making his League debut on the opening day of the 1978/79 campaign, Kirk was virtually ever present over the next six seasons before returning to his first love Coventry and then having to quit the game through injury two years later.

Meanwhile, Trevor Peake holds the record as the oldest player in the Hatters' history when turning out against Wrexham in 1997 at the age of 40 years and 222 days.

Starting off at his home town club Nuneaton, Trevor first tasted League football with Lincoln, who paid £27,500 for his services. After 171 League games for the Imps a £100,000 fee took him to Coventry in 1983 where his displays at centre-half earned him legendary status plus and FA Cup winners' medal in 1987.

When David Pleat was looking for an experienced head he turned to Trevor, who went on to play 179 League games for the Town, picking up several player of the year awards along the way.

William, Billy, Hails was born in Durham and started his career at Lincoln in 1953. He moved to Peterborough and then Northampton before signing for the Hatters in 1964 in exchange for Harry Walden.

Playing only three times for a relegation-threatened Hatters, Billy went on a free transfer to Nuneaton before going onto manage Peterborough and then becoming physiotherapist at Watford.



## HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?

Today the two sides go toe-to-toe for the first time this season.

Nuneaton are currently the only Skryll Premier side the Town have yet to play. It was 5th March the last time to the two clubs met in what was John Still's second game in charge. That game ended goalless.

The Town met Nuneaton twice at Kenilworth Road last season, once in the league and once in an FA Cup first round tie.

With the score goalless two superb goals from Alex Lawless in the last five minutes helped the Hatters to a 2-0 win in the Conference meeting in early October before another late goal - this time from Scott Rendell - earned the Town a replay in the FA Cup a month later. Rendell scored twice in the replay at Liberty Way in a 2-0 win.

The Hatters side the last time the two sides met, in the manager's first game in charge, was: Tyler, Henry, Rowe-Turner, Goodman, McNulty, Howells, Smith, Mendy (sub O'Donnell), Lawless, Fleetwood (sub Rendell), Gray (sub Wall).



# back to the future

## FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS TRACES WHAT HAPPENED TO FOUR OF NUNEATON'S GREATEST POST-WAR TEAMS

### 1966/67 FA CUP GIANTKILLERS

**FRED CRUMP:** Ever-present goalkeeper who played 130 consecutive Southern League games until injury. He moved to Bedworth United in July 1971 and became a delivery driver, settling in Dowlais.

**ALAN JONES:** Long-serving right-back and captain who made a club record 545 appearances before joining AP Leamington in July 1975. Later with Tamworth and Redditch, he still lives in Birmingham.

**IAN WILSON:** Scottish left-back, previously with Dundee, who featured prominently as Nuneaton finished Southern League runners-up in 1966-67. He returned to Scotland during the following season.

**COLIN DAVIS:** Former Aston Villa, Moor Green, Banbury Spencer and Lockheed Leamington right-half who also helped Boro to finish Southern League runners-up in 1966/67. Now living in Birmingham.

**JOHNNY WATTS:** Ex-Birmingham City centre-half who reunited with Gil Merrick at Bromsgrove Rovers, then assisted Malcolm Allen back at Nuneaton. He still resides in Birmingham in retirement.

**MALCOLM ALLEN:** Favourite who had a spell as player-boss before becoming Atherstone's manager in July 1971, then rejoined Nuneaton as coach. Still living locally, he regularly attends Boro matches.

**NORMAN ASHE:** Ex-England Youth winger who was captain against his former club Rotherham United in the FA Cup third round. He later played for Falmouth Town and became a builder in Falmouth.

**PAUL CUTLER:** Top scorer who netted against Rotherham United in the FA Cup third round. He later played for Romford, Nuneaton again, Dover and Ramsgate, becoming a PE teacher back in London.

**TONY RICHARDS:** Walsall's record goalscorer, voted the Saddlers' favourite player, this experienced striker moved to Dudley Town. He later worked as a painter and decorator and died in March 2010.

**TOMMY CRAWLEY:** Striker who scored in the FA Cup second round win over Swansea. Later at Wellington and Redditch, he ran a sub post office in Coventry. His son Ian also appeared for Nuneaton.

**BILLY HAILS:** Experienced winger who became Rugby Town's player-boss, then was coach and manager back at Peterborough United, becoming Watford's physio. His son Julian played for Fulham.

### 1984/85 CONFERENCE RUNNERS-UP

**ANDY POOLE:** Goalkeeper who later played for Coventry Sporting, Worcester City, Buckingham, Kettering Town and Brackley. He has since been a lecturer in Sports Science at Daventry Tertiary College.

**EVERTON CARR:** West Indian right-back who joined Weymouth in July 1987, then had spells with Bath City, Barnet, Nuneaton again, Oadby, Lutterworth and North Kilworth. He has settled in Leicester.

**WILLIE GIBSON:** Scottish left-back who moved to Weymouth with Everton Carr in July 1987 and became their player-coach. Given a testimonial by the Terras in 1995, he later played for Portland United.

**RICHARD DIXEY:** Ex-Burnley central defender and record signing who captained Nuneaton against his former club in the 1985-86 FA Cup first round. He later played for Atherstone, settling in Littlethorpe.

**JOHN GLOVER:** Central defender who later played for Dulwich Hamlet, Maidstone, Welling United, Erith & Belvedere and Gravesend & Northfleet. He died of motor neurone disease in September 2006.

**TIM SMITHERS:** Central defender who had two spells at Nuneaton and was 'Player of the Year' in 1985/86. He moved to Atherstone in November 1987, then played for Bedworth United and VS Rugby.

**STEWART HAMILL:** Followed Graham Carr to Northampton in March 1986, then played for Altrincham, Scarborough, Boston United and Lutterworth. Now a driving instructor in Broughton Astley.

**FRANK MURPHY:** Much-travelled Scottish striker who rejoined Kettering Town in July 1986, then had a spell with Barry Fry's Barnet before playing for Kettering again, Dulwich Hamlet and Hendon.

**PAUL CULPIN:** England Semi-Pro international who joined Coventry City in June 1985, then Northampton Town, Peterborough United, Nuneaton again and RC Warwick. He is now coaching Barwell.

**TREVOR MORLEY:** England Semi-Pro international who later played for Northampton Town, Manchester City, West Ham, Brann Bergen and Reading. He has since managed various clubs in Norway.

**RICHARD HILL:** Later appeared for Northampton, Watford, Kettering, Worcester, Nuneaton again and Hinckley. He has coached at various clubs including Northampton and now manages Eastleigh.



### 1998/99 SOUTHERN LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

**RICHARD WILLIAMS:** Goalkeeper who moved to Stafford Rangers in July 1999, then had spells playing for Bedworth United, Coalville Town, RC Warwick, Atherstone United and Willenhall Town.

**LEIGH EVERITT:** Right-back who had two spells at Nuneaton before moving to Stafford Rangers in October 1999, then Bedworth United, Stratford, Gresley Rovers, RC Warwick, Atherstone and Coalville.

**STEVE PRINDIVILLE:** Former England Semi-Pro international left-back who was ever-present in 1998/99. He later had spells with Stafford Rangers, Hucknall Town, Shepshed Dynamo and Barwell.

**WAYNE SIMPSON:** England Semi-Pro international who also won the Southern League title with Hednesford in 1994/95. He rejoined the Pitmen in July 2001, then became Norton United's player-coach.

**BARRY WILLIAMS:** England Semi-Pro international central defender who became a favourite at Manor Park before moving to Burton Albion in May 2003. Later with Moor Green, he became a PE teacher.

**TERRY ANGUS:** Former Northampton Town and Fulham central defender who moved to Solihull Borough in September 2006, then Brackley Town and Stratford Town. He is now a local probation officer.

**SHAUN WRAY:** Winger who returned to Stafford Rangers in May 2001, then played for Hednesford Town, Halesowen Town and Stourbridge, finishing with Midland Combination side Wormley Athletic.

**ANDY KIWOMYA:** Ex-England Youth international, the elder brother of Chris, who joined Boston United in June 1999, then Ilkeston Town and Stocksbridge PS. He has since held various coaching posts.

**ANTON THOMAS:** Much-travelled striker previously with clubs such as Kettering Town and Worcester City. He moved to Burton Albion in June 1999, then played for King's Lynn and Atherstone United.

**IAN MUIR:** Experienced striker who scored a record 142 League goals for Tranmere Rovers. He joined Moor Green in February 2000, then Stratford Town and now has a card shop in his native Coventry.

**DAVE CROWLEY:** Hard-working midfielder who played over 250 games in seven years with Boro, moving to Hinckley United in June 2002. He now runs a building company with his brother in Coventry.

### 2005/06 FA CUP GIANTKILLERS

**DARREN ACTON:** Goalkeeper who had been an FA Trophy finalist with Tamworth. He joined Brackley Town in August 2010, then Chasetown, Bolehall Swifts and now Solihull Moors' goalkeeping coach.

**ROB ODDY:** Ex-Coventry City trainee who joined Hinckley United in June 2011, then appeared for Barwell. He has worked in the building trade, notably for the Boro chairman's Ian Neale Construction.

**MICKY LOVE:** Attacking left-back who briefly appeared in the Football League with Wigan Athletic. He moved to Hinckley United in June 2006, then Brackley Town, Stratford and Shepshed Dynamo.

**GARY FITZPATRICK:** Former Republic of Ireland Youth midfielder who joined Solihull Borough in January 2007, then played for AFC Telford United and Rushall Olympic. He has become a PE teacher.

**NEIL MOORE:** Experienced central defender who played over 100 League games with nine different clubs. The England Semi-Pro international hung up his boots in October 2008, settling in Liverpool.

**TERRY ANGUS:** Former Northampton Town and Fulham central defender who moved to Solihull Borough in September 2006, then Brackley Town and Stratford Town. He is now a local probation officer.

**MARK NOON:** Ex-Coventry City midfielder who was the last remaining member of the team still at the club. He became captain, making his 300th appearance for Boro in the 2011-12 Play-Off final triumph.

**DAVID STAFF:** Midfielder who moved to Rugby Town in March 2007, then Brackley Town, Rugby again, Banbury United and Harborough Town. He was appointed Stamford's manager in May 2013.

**MATT COLLINS:** Ex-West Brom midfielder who suffered a serious eye injury against Bury Town in January 2009, then a badly broken leg curtailed his career. He has since joined the Birmingham Police.

**GEZ MURPHY:** Much-travelled striker who had featured in Boston United's 2001/02 Conference title triumph. He joined Hinckley United in June 2007, then had another spell back at Nuneaton before retiring.

**BRIAN QUAILLEY:** St Kitts & Nevis international striker who was top scorer in 2005/06. He joined Hinckley United in January 2008, then Nuneaton again, Solihull Moors, Bromsgrove Rovers and Oadby.



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# TOWN 2-1 BARNET



Andre Gray celebrates his opener against Barnet

**The Hatters splashed their way to victory on New Year's Day with a hard-fought 2-1 win over Barnet in sodden conditions at Kenilworth Road.**

The pitch passed an inspection 15 minutes before the game but, with the Town leading 2-0 thanks to goals from Andre Gray and Paul Benson, the match looked as though it had run its course on the hour when referee Kevin Johnson called over the captains of both teams for a discussion. However, the match went on, and Barnet pulled a goal back from Jake Hyde to set-up a nervy final 20 minutes. But, roared on by 7,500 Luton voices, the Town dug in, slipping and sliding around to secure yet another victory – their 11th straight victory on home soil in all competitions.

In the opening stages it was quite clear that the pitch wasn't in the best of shape as a back-pass from Ronnie Henry held up in the first minute allowing Dani Lopez the chance to test Mark Tyler with a shot from inside the penalty.

But the Town then raced up the other end and took the lead just 90 seconds in. Luke Guttridge's fine hooked pass ran nicely for Gray and, holding off the attention of his marker, he drilled a low shot past Graham Stack.

Ahead they may have been but the Hatters' biggest threat was falling from the skies as the rain continued to fall. Groans echoed around the old ground as passes from both players held up on the wet turf but the Town, to their credit, continued to play the better football. Matt Robinson drew a fine save from Stack on 12 minutes with a left-foot shot from the edge of the box.

The Town, though, should have been 2-0 up by that point when Gray nodded a left-wing cross from Jake Howells wide of the target on 21 minutes. However, the Hatters did double their lead shortly after the half-hour mark. Howells was the architect, swinging over a

left-wing cross. Gray helped the ball onto strike-partner Benson and he finished well after taking a touch from six yards for his 11th of the goal of the season.

Two goals up the Town had barely given the Bees a sight of goal, but on 35 minutes the visitors' leading goalscorer Keanu Marsh-Brown fired a low shot across the face of goal and the Hatters could breathe easy again.

After a 15-minute break where the youth team players helped the groundsmen fork holes into the sodden turf, the conditions hadn't improved but the Town plugged away and almost scored a third goal five minutes after the restart when Guttridge's low shot on the turn was expertly tipped away by Barnet sub keeper Nick Jupp.

On the hour, though, it looked as if it was going to be all over as referee Johnson called the two captains over. After a two-minute discussion, the referee signalled play on, much to the delight of the home crowd, urged along by Henry's fist-pump. Up went the noise.

Barnet knew they needed to throw caution to the wind and the Town did well on 65 minutes to clear their lines as the Bees pressed in the Hatters' penalty area. However, the Hatters weren't so lucky on 71 minutes when the visitors did pull a goal back. Marsh-Brown raced down the right and delivered an inch-perfect cross for Hyde who tapped home past Tyler in the six-yard box.

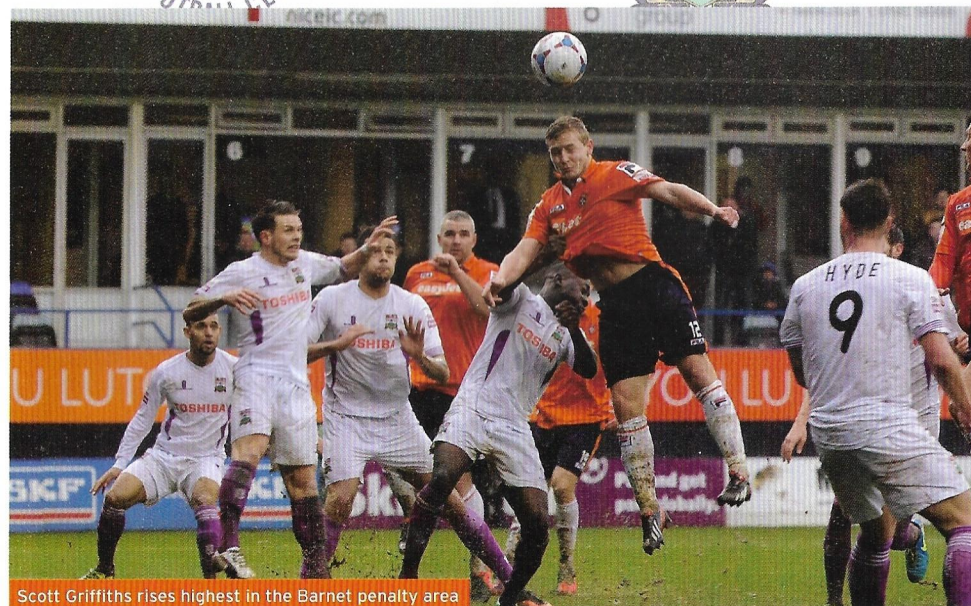
It really was all hands on deck as time ticked down but the Town were using the ball well and keeping their concentration. Indeed it was almost 3-1 with two minutes left when a sliced clearance from Jupp bounced straight to Howells but his first-time header was gratefully caught by the young keeper.

Three minutes of added time followed. The Town did the sensible thing: kept the ball and kept it simple. And that was that. The roar of the crowd at the end could have been heard for miles.



# LUTON TOWN 2-1 BARNET

Gray 2, Benson 31 Hyde 71



Scott Griffiths rises highest in the Barnet penalty area



Luke Guttridge avoids Curtis Weston's fall



Paul Benson wheels away after doubling the Town's lead

**TOWN:** Tyler; Henry, Griffiths, McNulty, Davis; Robinson, Lawless, Howells, Guttridge; Benson, Gray.  
**SUBS NOT USED:** Cullen, Wall, Mawson, Whalley, Justham.

**BARNET:** Stack, Saville, Johnson, Stephens, Marsh-Brown, Yiadom, Byrne, Weston, Villa Lopez (sub Cadogan 75), Hyde, Dani Lopez (sub Crawford 59).  
**SUBS NOT USED:** Abdullah, Acheampong.

POSSESSION	59%	42%
CORNERS	6	3
SHOTS ON TARGET	7	2
SHOTS OFF TARGET	6	3

FOULS	6	7
YELLOW CARDS	0	0
RED CARDS	0	0

ATTENDANCE: 7,543 (292 BARNET)



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## LINCOLN 0-0 TOWN

The Hatters equalled a club record 19 league games unbeaten as they ground out a goalless draw at Lincoln to stretch their lead at the top of the table to five points.

It was end-to-end stuff as both sides traded the ball on a boggy pitch only passed fit after two morning inspections. To their credit the Town were playing some eye-catching football and a fine move on 17 minutes led to Paul Benson being fouled on the edge of the penalty area but Luke Guttridge's on-target free-kick was deflected over by the Lincoln wall.

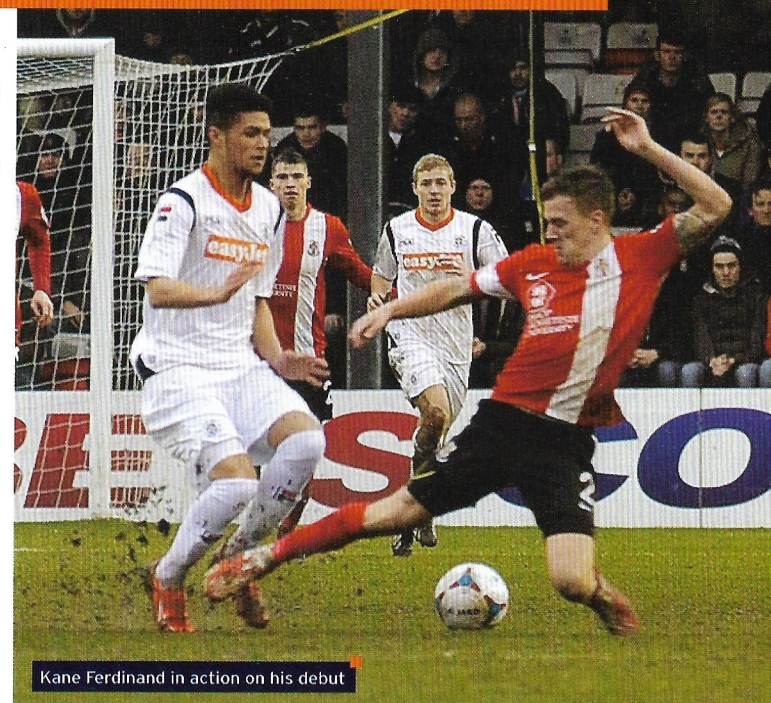
The Town defence continued to hold firm in the face of several long throws hurled in the box and, on one occasion, the Hatters broke after defending one and came close when Benson headed wide.

As the half wore on the Hatters began to get on top. Scott Griffiths came close to breaking the deadlock on 33 minutes when he raced upfield, played a one-two with Jake Howells and sent a well-hit left-foot drive narrowly over the crossbar.

Still the Town pressed. Guttridge's left-wing corner was headed over by Benson but Lincoln came close to taking the lead on 38 minutes when centre-half Nat Brown headed inches wide following a left-wing corner.

The Hatters spurned a great chance to take the lead two minutes before the break when Alex Lawless' mazy run into the penalty area enabled Ronnie Henry to cross for Andre Gray but, with the goal gaping the leading goalscorer scuffed his shot. Lincoln failed to clear the danger, though, which led to a Howells shot blocked – with Town penalty appeals waved away – before Benson headed straight at home stopper Paul Farman.

Mark Tyler needed to be alert on 51 minutes when he clung onto a header from Brown which bounced awkwardly off of the mud in the six-yard box. A minute later Griffiths then did brilliantly to clear with Mitch Austin waiting for a tap-in as Lincoln caught the Town cold at the back.



Kane Ferdinand in action on his debut

Lincoln were enjoying a good spell as the Town struggled to create a clear-cut chance and Lincoln threatened again on 53 minutes when Conner Robinson fired just over the crossbar from distance. The Town rode the Lincoln pressure and all of a sudden found a second wind after the hour mark. Lawless' throughball was perfect for Benson to pull the trigger but the in-form striker's first touch let him down and the chance was gone.

With 20 minutes to go the Town engineered another decent move, this time Griffiths' left-wing cross was kept in by Lawless and his cut-back found Gray whose shot in the box was blocked by two Lincoln defenders.

It was end-to-end stuff with seven minutes left. Lawless' run and pass found Benson whose touch let him down in the box before Lincoln broke and Joe Davis' fine clearance denied the hosts a chance to test Tyler. From that the Town almost threatened once more, Lawless cut-back for Gray but his shot was charged down.

With two minutes left Gray fashioned a chance on his own, rolling his marker to race into the box but his low shot clipped the boot of home goalkeeper Farman and behind for a corner. The Hatters huffed and puffed for a late winner but couldn't quite get the breaks they needed and in the end it finished in stalemate.



# LINCOLN 0-0 TOWN



Matt Robinson battles for possession



Lincoln get to grips with Andre Gray



Alex Lawless involved in a typical midfield tussle

**LINCOLN:** Farman, Foster, Miller, Brown, Newton, Jordan, Nolan (sub Gray 90), Fofana, Austin (sub Wright 73), Robinson, Sam-Yorke. **SUBS NOT USED:** Preece, Fairhurst, Rowe.

**TOWN:** Tyler, Henry, Griffiths, McNulty, Davis; Robinson, Guttridge (sub Ferdinand 50), Howells, Lawless; Benson, Gray. **SUBS NOT USED:** Mawson, Cullen, Wall, Justham.

POSSESSION	53%	47%
CORNERS	5	7
SHOTS ON TARGET	1	6
SHOTS OFF TARGET	8	9

FOULS	6	11
YELLOW CARDS	1	3
RED CARDS	0	0

ATTENDANCE: 2,928 (974 LUTON)



# centre spot

Player of the month for December Paul Benson fends off Barnet's David Stephens during the Town's last home league fixture







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## TOWN 0-1 CAMBRIDGE

A young Town side bowed out of the FA Trophy as Cambridge progressed to the quarter-finals with a narrow win at Kenilworth Road.

The average age of the Hatters' starting XI was just 23 and for long spells the Town impressed against a strong United side.

However, it was a heavily deflected goal six minutes before half-time that did the damage. Ashley Chambers' shot looked destined to reach the gloves of goalkeeper Elliot Justham until Ryan Inniss deflected the effort into the back of the net.

The Hatters made three changes to the side that drew 2-2 on Saturday with teenagers Luke Trotman, 16, and Ian Rees, 17, given starts along with Jon Shaw.

The winning goal, on 39 minutes, came when Chambers was allowed time and space to get a shot away but Inniss' intervention diverted the ball away from its intended path and it rolled agonisingly over the line past a stranded Justham.

It was harsh on a young Town side who were helped by senior pros Anthony Charles, Solomon Taiwo and Shaw throughout the 90 minutes.

### Quest

The first half had seen the Hatters test visiting goalkeeper John Sullivan with Brett Longden and Rees both going close.

After the restart the Town continued to huff and puff in their quest for an equaliser. Shaw's towering header from Shaun Whalley's left-wing corner was pawed away by Sullivan on 64 minutes in the pick of the chances for the hosts.

Cambridge were threatening on the counter with Chambers and Nathan Arnold's searing pace causing the Town defence plenty of problems, but the Hatters were aggrieved with 10 minutes to go when substitute Zane Banton tucked home Mark Cullen's cross from six yards only for the linesman's raised flagged to rule the goal out for offside.



Alex Wall in an aerial duel

Undeterred, the Hatters plugged away as the rain teemed down on an already boggy Kenilworth Road turf. And the Town thought they'd forced extra-time in the dying moments when Cullen's first-time curling effort seemed for all the world it would find the top corner, only for Sullivan to fly to his left to keep the shot out. And that was that.

It was a first home defeat of the season and the Town's first at Kenilworth Road in the FA Trophy. Disappointment and frustration maybe but there are bigger sights for the Hatters to concentrate on now.



# TOWN 0-1 CAMBRIDGE

LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Chambers 39

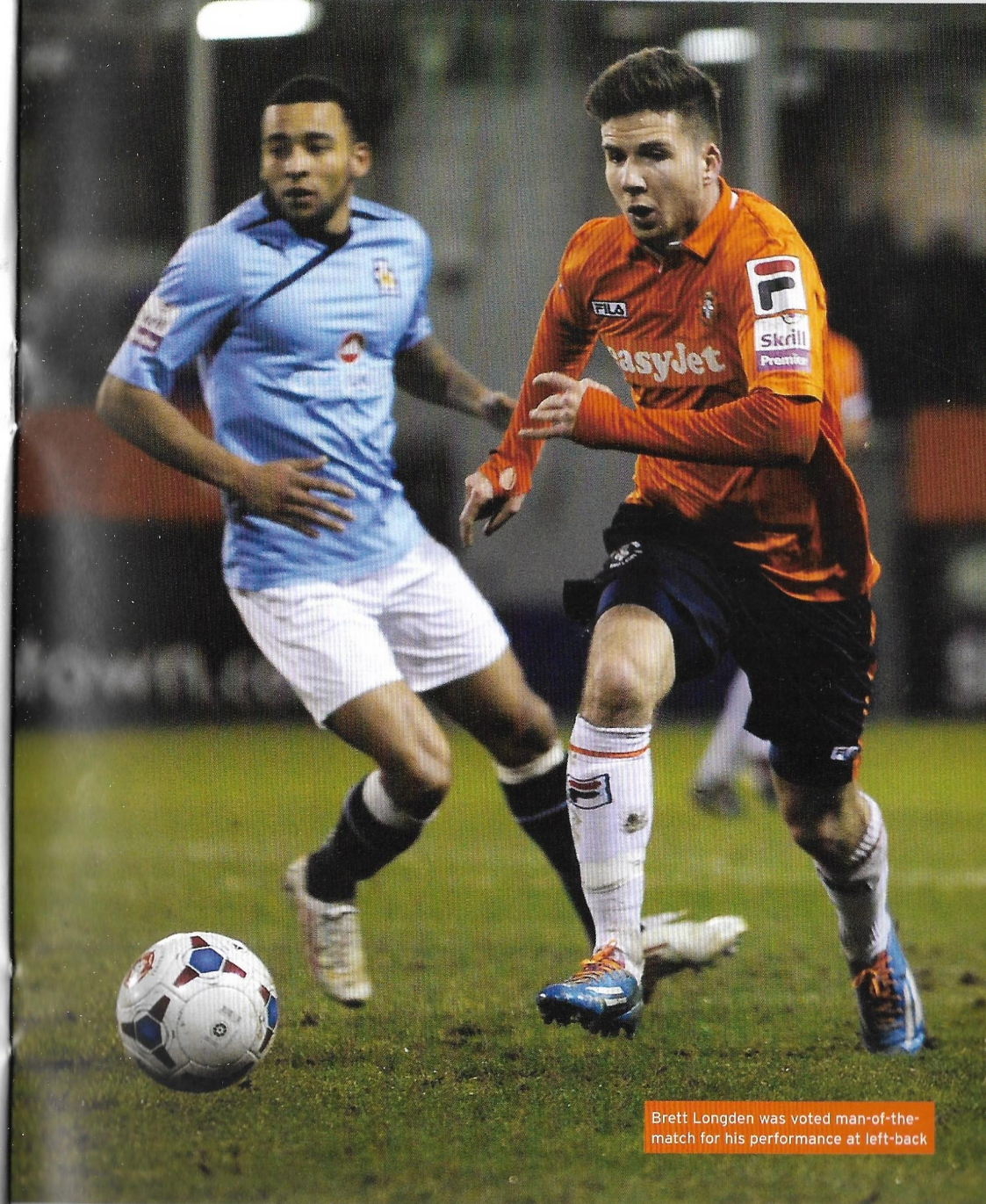
Mark Cullen heads at goal



Zane Banton saw his late effort ruled out for offside

**TOWN:** Justham; Longden, Trotman, Charles, Inniss; Taiwo, Rees, Whalley (sub Viana 68); Shaw, Wall (sub Banton 63), Cullen. **SUBS NOT USED:** C. Smith, Chabata, King.

**CAMBRIDGE:** Sullivan, Taylor, Coulson, Miller, Donaldson (sub Spillane 75), Champion, Tait, Hughes (sub Roberts 68), Berry, Chambers, Arnold. **SUBS NOT USED:** Norris, Horne, Akintunde.



Brett Longden was voted man-of-the-match for his performance at left-back

POSSESSION	45%	55%
CORNERS	8	5
SHOTS ON TARGET	5	3
SHOTS OFF TARGET	6	7

FOULS	11	11
YELLOW CARDS	1	1
RED CARDS	0	0
ATTENDANCE: 2,132 (326 CAMBRIDGE)		



757

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Town fans have the opportunity to have their name etched into the fabric of Kenilworth Road following the creation of the Hatters Walk of Fame.

For many years, supporters have wanted to leave a lasting impression of the loyalty that passes from one season to the next at Kenilworth Road and we believe this is a great way to do that.

This is a great opportunity for several reasons. It is a chance to give an incredible gift to a friend or family member. It provides the chance to leave a lasting memory of a loved one on the wall. Or you could even show us your own personal loyalty and treat yourself to a place on the Hatters Walk of Fame.



The Wall will be located outside main reception and will enable supporters to purchase single or double bricks with a personalised message of their choice. We feel this is the perfect location as it provides all fans with the chance to come and visit the wall on a regular basis.

With bricks starting from £50 and available in black or gold ink, the Wall can serve as a great gift for a friend, family member or loved one.

We welcome all supporters to take part in joining the Wall and look forward to seeing some great memories made and shared through its creation.

Please visit [www.hatterswall.co.uk](http://www.hatterswall.co.uk) for a full price list of the products and to buy a brick online.

**Simply complete this order form and return it with your method of payment to: Luton Town FC Club Shop, Kemilworth Road Stadium, 1 Maple Road, Luton, Bedfordshire. LU4 8AW.**

## BRICK DETAILS

The bricks are 215mm x 65mm, engineering strength. The lettering is professionally engraved and then coloured with a long-lasting black or gold infill and start from £50. Double bricks (215mm x 140mm) are also available at a starting price of £95.

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- Standard brick = 2 lines.
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LETTERING COLOUR:**

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# picture the past

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE



Goalscoring winger Bert Mitchell puts over a cross during the 6-0 home thumping of Barnsley in March 1953.



# camera never lies

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVE



Hatters players plus Eric Morecambe act up to the camera whilst showing off the Division Two championship trophy in 1982.



# yesterday's pages

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH LOOKS THROUGH PAST PROGRAMMES

## LUTON TOWN 2-0 CHELSEA

### FA CUP THIRD ROUND REPLAY 16th JANUARY 1935

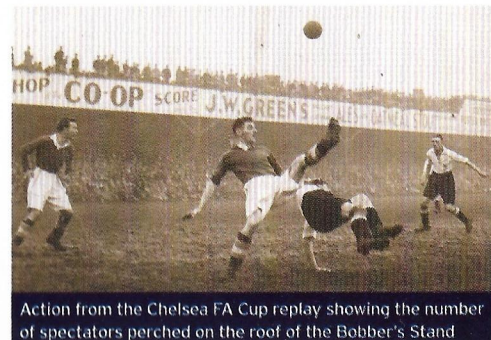
In 1934/35 the Town received an exemption to the third round of the FA Cup competition based on their previous season's efforts when they went down narrowly to Arsenal and drew another plum tie in the shape of Division One (now Premiership) side Chelsea at Stamford Bridge.

The Town were going through one of their wonderfully inconsistent periods where they would win by four goals one week then lose by the same scoreline the next. Chelsea were in a comfortable mid-table position in the top flight.

A crowd of 46,492 gathered to see the Town put in one of their better performances against strangely lacklustre opponents and it was no real surprise when Sam Bell forced the ball home, following a corner, five minutes before the interval. The goal was hotly disputed, as many in the ground felt that the ball had not crossed the line.

Despite all the protests the goal stood and it was not until the last 10 minutes that Chelsea decided to make a game of it and push everyone forward in an effort to score an undeserved equaliser. This they did when James Argue shot through a crowd of players to take the tie back to Luton.

In the days before floodlights cup tie replays had to be fought out in midweek afternoons which in turn would normally affect the attendance.



Action from the Chelsea FA Cup replay showing the number of spectators perched on the roof of the Bobber's Stand

To say that there was unprecedented interest in the game is an understatement as realised by the town's major employers who faced a major display of downing tools on the afternoon of the match.

The gates were closed 30 minutes from kick-off but such was the weight of numbers outside anxious to see the game that the Kenilworth Road end gates were forced open and many hundreds gained admission without paying, which added to the crush inside.

A deputation of police officers had to force a way through the throng to allow the Chelsea players and directors in, while hundreds of spectators lined the roof of the Bobbers Stand.

The official attendance was 23,041 which smashed the previous record by over 4,000 but this figure did not account for the non-payers. The ground was dangerously overcrowded and it is a minor miracle that no-one was badly injured or even killed.

The Town were forced into a couple of changes from the first game with Tom Mackey suspended and Billy Thayne injured. Harry Reece and Hugh McGinnigle took their places.

Again Chelsea did not seem to have much stomach for a fight and their attempts to play 'first division football' were doomed to failure against a fired up Luton side that fought for every ball as if their lives depended on it.

The game remained scoreless until 25 minutes from the end when a throw-in from Charlie Fraser to Fred Roberts saw the latter hook the ball into the goalmouth where Chelsea goalkeeper Jackson could only parry the ball to Jack Ball who shot into an empty net.

The second goal came soon after when Bob MacAuley was dispossessed by Jack Ball who played the ball inside to Fred Roberts who smashed it home.

With 20 minutes left the injured Reece became a passenger on the wing but even then Chelsea could not raise themselves from their torpor and at the final whistle Luton supporters raced on to the pitch to chair off their heroes.

Sadly, the story does not have a happy end as the Town went out at Burnley in the next round, but the cup run had put a few more pennies into the pot which was added to when several honest supporters sent in postal orders to pay for their illegal entry to the Chelsea tie.



## THE PROGRAMME

After many years of bland issues at Kenilworth Road, season 1934/35 saw the birth of a much more up-to-date programme which included facts, figures and much reading material.

In the 'Club Notes' section it was reported that 10,000 Luton supporters went to Stamford Bridge the previous Saturday with 8,000 of them going by train, standing 18 to a compartment and filling the corridors.

It was reported that Tom Mackey would not be able to play in the Chelsea replay as he had been banned for two weeks following his dismissal (a rare occurrence in those days) at Southend at the end of December. Full-back Tom Smith was also doubtful as he was also a schoolteacher but in the event he did turn out, no doubt triggering mass truancy. Some things never change with the comment "Isn't it peculiar the number of 'disputed' goals given against London teams?"

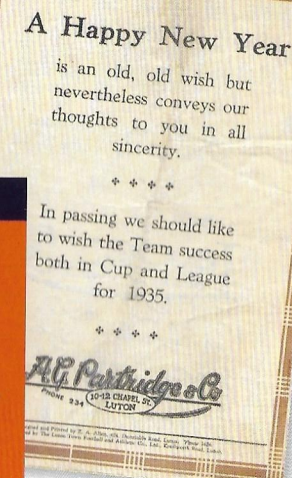


## ELSEWHERE IN FOOTBALL

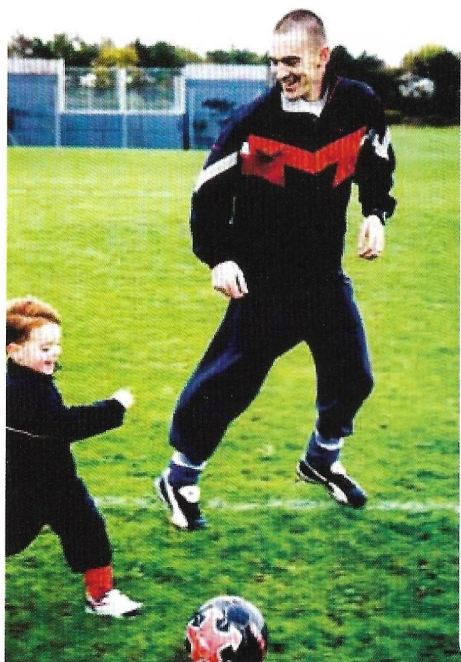
The main talking point was the trial of a 'two-referee' system in a game between a Football League XI and West Brom. The game would be played without linesmen in the first half with the proviso that they could be introduced after the interval.

In the event no linesmen were called upon as by proper positioning the referees were able to handle the game without problem. Naturally, the proposal that the system be adopted was voted out!

It is interesting to note that £1,879 was taken in gate receipts for the Chelsea replay from a crowd of 23,041 while £3,005 had been taken from a crowd of 18,626 when Arsenal were in town for an FA Cup tie in 1934. Ramping up the prices accounts for the difference much to the disgust of the Luton supporters at the time.







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

# on this day

**25th JANUARY**

## THE RECORD

The Town have a mixed record on this day of eight wins, six defeats and just one draw from the 15 matches played on this day. The Town have scored 19 and conceded 19 in these matches but have kept seven cleans – including three in the last three matches. The Town conceded six in one match the last time they were defeated on 25th January. That came in a 6-2 loss at Bolton in an FA Cup third round replay at Burnden Park. Dwight Marshall and Tony Thorpe had put the Hatters 2-1 up at one stage.

## 100 YEARS OF HISTORY

Take out that defeat to the Trotters – and a 2-0 FA Cup replay defeat to Blackpool at Bloomfield Road in 1954 and a 2-1 Cup defeat at Manchester City – and the Town haven't lost in a league match on this day for 101 years. The Hatters were playing what was at the time was the eighth tier of English football – the Southern Alliance – in 1913, and went down 3-1 away to Croydon Common.

## SOLE HOME DEFEAT

Today will be the Town's 10th home game on this day and the Hatters have lost just once – in their first match played on 25th January – back in 1902. John Still will like this: West Ham triumphed 3-0 against the Hatters in the Southern League at Dunstable Road. The Hammers also beat the Town in the same competition four years later, winning 1-0.

## THE ROAD TO WEMBLEY

Goals from Mick Harford and Ricky Hill helped the Hatters reach the semi-final of the League Cup on this day in 1989 as their strikes saw off Southampton at the Dell in a League fifth round replay.

The two sides drew the first game 1-1, with Hill scoring in the tie at Kenilworth Road. 18,872 squeezed into the Dell to witness the Town triumph. The Hatters would go on and beat West Ham 5-0 on aggregate in the semi-final before losing to Nottingham Forest in the final.

## HOME COMFORTS

Since that defeat to West Ham 101 years ago, the Town have won seven of their last eight matches played on this day at Kenilworth Road, with an aggregate scoreline of 13-1.

The Hatters were last in action on this day two years ago when they were held to a goalless draw against Mansfield in the Conference, a

game screened live on Premier Sports.

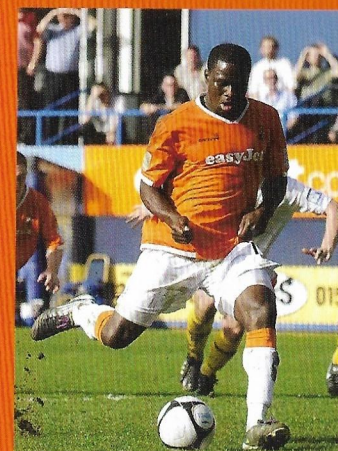
Of these eight matches, six have been in league competition. The Hatters' last victory on this day also came in the Conference: a Claude Gnaka goal secured a 1-0 win over Grimsby Town at Kenilworth Road in another match screened by Premier Sports.

Prior to that game, a solitary strike from Matthew Spring sealed another 1-0 win, this time against Wycombe Wanderers in Division 2 (now League 1).

In 1986 the Hatters thumped Bristol Rovers 4-0 in an FA Cup fourth round tie at Kenilworth Road – the first time in 17 years that the Town have played a game on this day since a Bruce Rioch goal

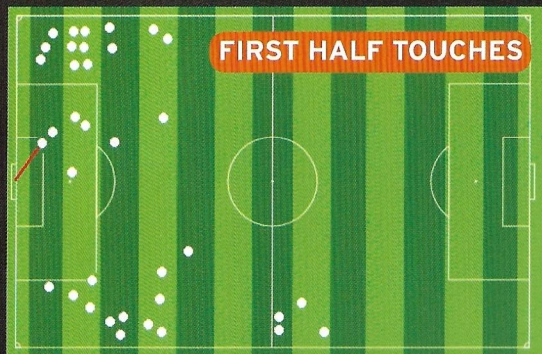
gave the Town a 1-0 victory over Walsall in Division 3 (now League 1) in 1969.

The Town have also beaten Colchester 3-1, in 1964, Swansea – in the FA Cup – in 1947 and Bournemouth – in Division 3 (South) – in 1930.



Frenchman Claude Gnaka scored the winner for the Town the last time they played on 25th January





Prior to kick-off today, Paul Benson will receive his Skrill Premier Player of the Month award for December following a devastating month in front of goal that saw the Town striker score four times in four games. The 34-year-old got off to the perfect start in 2014 when scoring against Barnet at a rain-soaked Kenilworth Road.

The former Dagenham & Redbridge frontman put in another influential display against the Bees as both sides battled in the elements in front of the BT Sport cameras.

PERCENTAGE OF TOUCHES IN THE FIRST HALF

73%

TOUCHES IN PENALTY AREA

7

TOTAL MINUTES PLAYED

90

GOALS

1

PERCENTAGE OF TOUCHES IN PENALTY AREA

12.5%

TOTAL TOUCHES

56

SHOTS ON TARGET

2

SHOTS OFF TARGET

1

HEADERS WON

10

HEADERS LOST

3

GOALS/SHOT ON TARGET RATIO

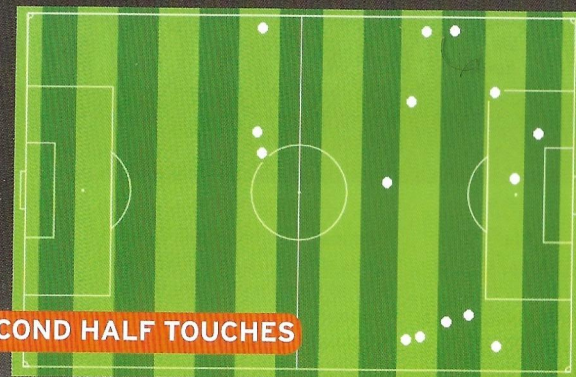
50%

PERCENTAGE OF HEADERS WON

77%

PASSES COMPLETED

6



Benson's ability in the air was again evident, winning 77 per cent of his aerial battles with the Barnet defence, only losing out on three duels with the Bees back-line.

It's interesting to note that of Benson's 56 touches, 41 came in a first half that saw the Town take command in the game and lead 2-0. That works out at 73 per cent. The striker only touched the ball 15 times in the second half but still came close to adding a second in the dying minutes of the match - a shot on target that Barnet goalkeeper Nick Jupp did well to keep out. That effort was from only two touches in the Bees penalty area in the second period.

Benson misplaced five passes during the game - but two of those - one in each half - came as a result of the ball holding up on the wet Kenilworth Road turf.

# Benson





# in development

## ROYAL VICTORY FOR DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

A strong Hatters development squad came from behind to earn their 11th win in 14 matches with a 4-1 victory over Reading.

Gozie Ugwu had the young Royals ahead inside the first five minutes before the Town stormed back to record a comfortable victory thanks to goals from Alex Wall, Shaun Whalley, Alfie Mawson and substitute Jon Shaw.

After Reading's opener, David Viana came close to an equaliser when his shot came back off the post on 20 minutes, but three minutes later Kane Ferdinand capitalised on a mistake in the Royals defence to set-up Wall to level the score with a low drive.

The Hatters, who also fielded Solomon Taiwo and Anthony Charles, kept the hosts at bay, with a series of Elliot Justham saves keeping the score level, and, just before the interval, the Town took the lead when Whalley's deflected effort found the target.

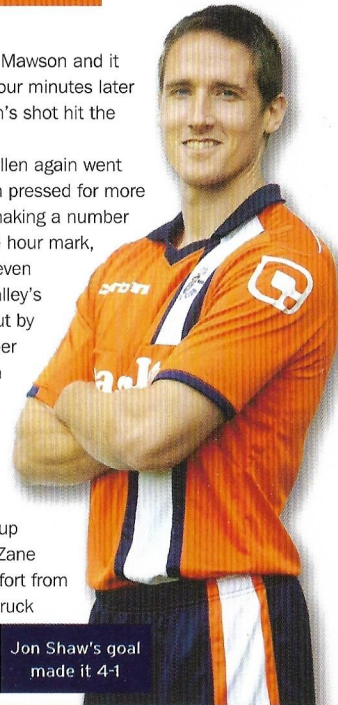
It took the Town just six minutes after the half-time break to extend their lead when Whalley's corner was

headed home by Mawson and it was almost 4-1 four minutes later when Mark Cullen's shot hit the post.

Whalley and Cullen again went close as the Town pressed for more goals but, after making a number changes after the hour mark, it was 4-1 with seven minutes left. Whalley's effort was kept out by the Reading keeper and Shaw was on hand to gleefully knock home the rebound.

As the game entered its final stages Shaw set-up fellow substitute Zane Banton but his effort from an acute angle struck the post.

Jon Shaw's goal made it 4-1



### TOWN DEVELOPMENT

Justham (sub King); Longden, Charles, Trotman (sub Chabata), Mawson; Taiwo (sub Rees), Ferdinand, Whalley, Viana; Wall (sub Shaw) Cullen (sub Banton).

	DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	POS	STARTING XI
AUG	Sat 10	11.00am	A	Dagenham & Redbridge	W 4-2	3	Barnes
	Sat 24	11.00am	A	Leyton Orient	W 3-1	6	Barnes
	Sat 31	11.30am	H	Portsmouth	W 4-2	3	Barnes
SEP	Sat 14	11.00am	A	MK Dons	W 1-0	2	Barnes
	Sat 21	11.00am	H	Watford	L 0-1	3	Barnes
	Wed 25	7.30pm	H	Bohemian (FAC1Q)	W 6-0	-	King
	Sat 28	11.00am	A	Leyton Orient (LC)	L 1-3	-	King
OCT	Sat 5	11.00am	H	MK Dons (LC)	D 2-2	-	King
	Wed 9	7.30pm	H	Corby Town (FAC2Q)	W 5-1	-	Barnes
	Sat 12	11.00am	A	Barnet	W 4-1	2	Barnes
	Sat 19	11.00am	A	Dagenham (LC)	W 2-1	-	King
	Tue 22nd	7.30pm	H	Leighton Town (FAC3Q)	W 3-0	-	Barnes
	Sat 26	11.00am	H	Northampton (LC)	L 0-1	-	King
NOV	Sat 2	11.00am	A	Northampton	W 2-1	2	King
	Wed 6	7.30pm	A	Boston United (FAC1)	W 4-0	-	Barnes
	Mon 18	7.00pm	A	Gateshead (FAC2)	W 2-1	-	Barnes
DEC	Sat 23	11.00am	H	Peterborough	W 1-0	2	Barnes
	Sun 8	2.30pm	A	Huddersfield Town (FAC3)	L 1-3	-	Barnes
	Thu 19	2.00pm	H	MK Dons	W 2-1	2	King
JAN	Sat 25	11.00am	A	Colchester	-	-	-
FEB	Sat 1	11.00am	A	Stevenage	-	-	-
	Tue 4	12 noon	A	Watford	-	-	-
	Sat 8	11.00am	H	Northampton	-	-	-
	Tue 11	12 noon	H	Barnet	-	-	-
	Sat 15	11.00am	H	Gillingham	-	-	-
	Sat 22	11.00am	H	Stevenage	-	-	-
MAR	Sat 1	11.00am	A	Peterborough	-	-	-
	Sat 8	11.00am	H	Colchester	-	-	-
	Sat 15	11.00am	A	Southend	-	-	-
APR	Sat 5	11.00am	A	AFC Wimbledon	-	-	-
	Sat 12	11.00am	H	Crawley Town	-	-	-

Key: • First Substitute | • Second Substitute | • Third Substitute

# youth team



## KIT SPONSORS 2013/14

<b>BENJI CRILEY</b>  HOME: Fascel AWAY: Available	<b>LEEROY MAGURAUSHE</b>  HOME: Available AWAY: Available	<b>BEN BARNES</b>  HOME: First Capital Connect AWAY: Available	<b>JEMALE MCKENZIE-LOWE</b>  HOME: Available AWAY: Available
<b>IAN REES</b>  HOME: Mike Tearle AWAY: COYH	<b>CHARLIE SMITH</b>  HOME: Peter Mitchell AWAY: ZMB	<b>EKENE AMADI</b>  HOME: Available AWAY: Available	<b>ISAAC GALLIFORD</b>  HOME: Available AWAY: Available
<b>LEE HAWKES</b>  HOME: Available AWAY: Available	<b>CRAIG KING</b>  HOME: Available AWAY: Available	<b>DARIL NGWALA</b>  HOME: Available AWAY: Available	<b>LUCAS PERRY</b>  HOME: Available AWAY: Available
<b>TUKI TAYALI</b>  HOME: Available AWAY: Available	<b>LUKE TROTMAN</b>  HOME: Available AWAY: Available	<b>AREL AMU</b>  HOME: University of Bedfordshire AWAY: Available	<b>OSAMU ALLMAN</b>  HOME: Machins Solicitors AWAY: Available
<b>HARRY TAMPLIN</b>  HOME: Allianz AWAY: NPA Commercial	<b>TINASHIE CHABATA</b>  HOME: Available AWAY: Available	<b>PAUL DRIVER</b>  HOME: Available AWAY: Available	

	DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	POS	STARTING XI
Barnet	McKenzie-Lowe 2	King	Perry	Tayali	Allman	Amadi	Amadi
Barnet 1	McKenzie-Lowe	King	Hawkes	Tayali	Allman	Maguraushe	
Barnet 1	McKenzie-Lowe	King	Amadi	Banton	Allman	Perry	
Tayali	McKenzie-Lowe	King	Amadi	Alderson	Allman	Perry	
Tayali	McKenzie-Lowe	King	Amadi	Banton	McKenzie-Lowe	Chabata	
Ngwala	McKenzie-Lowe 1	Barnes	Amadi	Amadi	Tayali	Hawkes	
Barnet 1	McKenzie-Lowe	Barnes	Amadi	Galliford	Tayali	Allman	
Barnet 2	McKenzie-Lowe 1	King	Amadi	Galliford	Tayali	Allman	
Barnet	McKenzie-Lowe	King	Allman	Criley	Amadi	Allman	
Barnet 2	McKenzie-Lowe 1	King	Amadi	Amadi	Amadi	McKenzie-Lowe	
Tayali	McKenzie-Lowe 1	King	Barnes	Amadi	Amadi	McKenzie-Lowe	
Barnet	McKenzie-Lowe 1	King	Perry	Allman	Ngwala	Tayali	
Barnet	McKenzie-Lowe 1	King	Hawkes	Galliford	Allman	Tayali	
Barnet 1	McKenzie-Lowe	King	Hawkes	McMonagle	Allman	Tayali	
Barnet 1	McMonagle 1	Hawkes	K. Smith	Allman	Amadi	Whybrow	

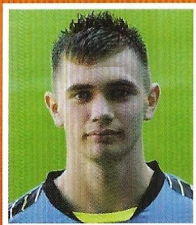
## PUMA YOUTH ALLIANCE UNDER-18 SOUTH-EAST LEAGUE 2013/14

	P	W	GD	PTS
1 Colchester United	10	8	14	24
2 Watford	11	7	10	22
3 Portsmouth	10	7	10	22
4 Luton Town	8	7	11	21
5 Peterborough United	10	5	12	17
6 Gillingham	8	5	8	17
7 Southend United	10	5	1	16
8 Barnet	11	4	-3	13
9 AFC Wimbledon	10	4	-4	13
10 Stevenage	10	4	-10	13
11 Milton Keynes Dons	11	3	-4	11
12 Northampton Town	10	3	-7	11
13 Leyton Orient	10	3	-7	9
14 Crawley Town	10	1	-12	4
15 Dagenham & Redbridge	9	0	-19	1



# stars of the future

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



**NAME:** Craig King  
**DATE OF BIRTH:**  
 22/10/1996  
**POSITION:** Goalkeeper  
**YEAR JOINED LUTON TOWN:** 2008  
**FORMER CLUBS:**  
 Hemel Town

**BEST BIT OF ADVICE WHEN GROWING UP**  
 Success isn't given, it's earned.

**BEST FOOTBALL MOMENT**  
 Beating Borussia Dortmund.

**TEAM SUPPORTED AS A KID**  
 Everton

**WHICH PLAYER DID YOU PRETEND TO BE IN THE PLAYGROUND**  
 David Beckham

**FAVOURITE TV SHOW**  
 French Prince of Bel Air

**OTHER SPORTS GOOD AT**  
 Basketball

**FAVOURITE SCHOOL SUBJECT**  
 PE

**THREE WORDS TO DESCRIBE YOU**  
 Hard-working, athletic, dedicated

**MOST TALENTED TEAM-MATE**  
 Zane Banton

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

I played for Hemel Town and then moved to sign for Luton when I was 12. I've been at the club ever since and I really enjoy being part of the youth team.

# academy update

WITH HEAD OF YOUTH  
WAYNE TURNER



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THE LUTON TOWN ACADEMY

**This week we had some great news for my youth department. After having our monthly meeting with SoLYD, I requested a £15,000 donation for our youth fund and they immediately obliged. Absolutely fantastic of them!**

Since SoLYD's inception four years ago, they have now, incredibly, provided the youth department £75,000! With their help, and others, we are getting towards our running target. The club has budgeted £300,000 for us to run the youth set-up. £200,000 of this has, unbelievably and thankfully, come from the shareholders. The other £100,000 is being raised by the youth department.

With player sales, and sells ons, along with sponsors, we are only a few 'bob' short of our target. A massive well done to everyone so far. Special thanks must go to the University of Bedfordshire and Gibbs & Dandy amongst other, along with them personal gifts of two minibuses; one from Hartwell Ford, Fiat and Peugeot, and the other from Kevin Wright of KJW Drylining, who has donated a bus for our college schemes.

Also, while I am thanking people, we are lucky to have the best training and match facilities possible in the local area, they are Barnfield South, Venue 360, St. Christopher's School, Challney School, Luton Sixth Form College and Cedars and Baldock respectively, where our colleges schemes work from. A big thanks must go to Mark Burke, who continues to supports us with the 16s-18s group, whether it be on matchdays or training.

Last week I popped into the training ground and spent one hour with the John, the gaffer, Terry and Hakan. What a buzz. The knowledge, the work ethic, the organisation, the balance and the banter was brilliant. In my opinion there is only one way the club is going to go. With that mix, plus the present squad of players, and the ambitious board, we have a great chance of being in the right place on 26th April.

With all that, however, you still need that magic four-letter word, L-U-C-K!

At vital times, whether it be in split seconds in games, does the ball hit post and go in or come out? Does the referee and linesman make the right decisions that will help or hinder our progress? Also, with injuries and suspensions, if things do drop our way we have a real

chance. But, if you are fit, organised and focused, and on the same planet, you can make that word – luck – really happen for you.

In our youth world the Under-18s have been doing really well. The scholars have just finished on a fine run in the FA Youth Cup, and are sitting pretty in the league. More importantly, though, the players have been noticed by the management team, and it is now up to them to show they deserve a professional contract. For me, very rarely, I think all the second years, have a chance. However, in the coming months, whether they go out on loan, or stay and play in the development squad, they need to excel in all games and in training. If we could see two or three of them in the first team next season it would be absolutely brilliant. Remember, though, that when you play for LTFC, you not only have to play well, but for the most part you have to win!

Further down the age groups, we are at a critical stage for the Under-16s. Decision time is fast approaching, whether they will be themselves scholars for next year. We have hopefully – weather permitting – many games coming up in the next two months that will help with that decision.

Thereafter, from the 9s right up to the 15s, we are making weekly decisions on all the players, gauging their progress to see who needs to do what to maximum their chances in the future.

It sounds a little bit harsh and intense, but we have to keep producing players that are the envy of other clubs and when themselves reach the age of 16 or 17 they are ready to be viewed by the manager. How else can we justify all the help and financial backing we receive?

Let's hope the momentum that the first team has built keeps going and we end up with a great finale.

My last note is about Matt Stannard, my operations manager, who is moving on to pastures new. Thankfully he has agreed to see out his notice, which I and the club really appreciate.

May I say to Matt, on behalf of all the staff, good luck in the future and many thanks for all your help in the last 18 months. It's been hard for all of us, but the most difficult job has been Matt's, as he has to bring everything together on a weekly basis.

Thanks again Matt and good luck.

## Supporting the grassroots



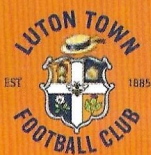
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# Luton Town FC The Hatters Cup Youth Football Tournament May 2014

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# Luton Ladies

**LADIES ARE CUP SEMI-FINAL BOUND**

The Town Ladies eased their way into the County Cup semi-final last Sunday with a 3-0 win over Flitwick Ladies.

Against a team that is three levels below the Hatters this always had the possibility of a banana skin as Flitwick had a number of experienced players in their ranks that had played at a higher level.

Putting aside for a week their battle against relegation, the Town played like a team that had the shackles removed. On an unfamiliar 3G pitch they soon settled and started to play some good passing football and created several good opportunities. But on an afternoon where there were many positives, the one negative was, some poor finishing.

Rachel Kosky had an early chance, but her effort hit the post and bounced straight back into the arms of Flitwick keeper Becky Scott. Erica Byron and Natalie Richardson both squandered decent opportunities, before The Town eventually took the lead after 20 minutes. Byron played a through ball for Kosky, and this time her shot just crept just inside the post.

On the half hour a fine save by Scott denied Kosky, and from the resulting corner Lauren Goodier blazed the ball over the crossbar from close range. But five minutes later Goodier made amends in fine style. Following some good work by Amy Nash, she found Goodier some 25 yards out, and Goodier hit a magnificent shot into the top corner to give The Town a 2-0 halftime lead.

Town were very nearly caught cold in the opening minute of the second half. Former Town player Nicola Henman fired a shot across the face of the goal, but Grace Shiels another ex-Hatter just failed to steer the ball into the net.

The Hatters were unlucky not to go 3-0 up on the hour when Byron's effort following a corner hit the crossbar. But five minutes later a pin point cross from Goodier found Byron unmarked 10 yards out, and she swept the ball into the net for her first goal in senior football.

In the latter stages of the game Town could have added to the score.

## SOUTH EAST WOMENS COMBINATION LEAGUE

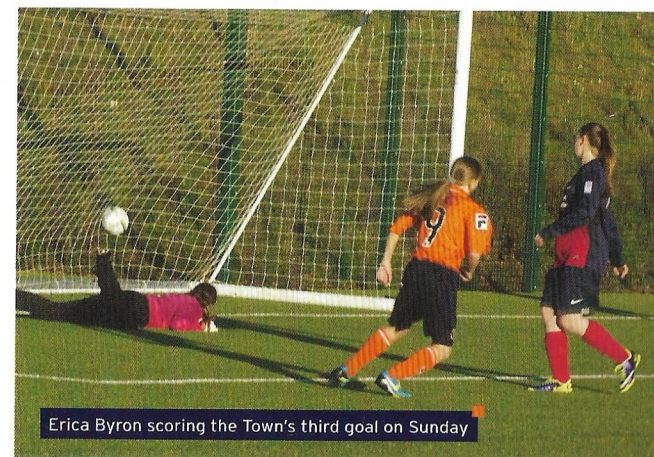
		P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	C&K Basildon	7	6	0	1	8	18
2	Norwich City	7	5	0	2	8	15
3	QPR	6	4	1	1	11	13
4	Denham	8	3	2	3	0	11
5	Enfield Town	7	3	1	3	3	10
6	Ebbsfleet United	7	3	1	3	2	10
7	Milton Keynes Dons	6	2	3	1	1	9
8	Cambridge Women	8	2	2	4	-1	8
9	Ipswich Town	8	1	3	4	-8	6
10	Luton Town	4	1	0	3	-4	3
11	Brentwood Town	6	0	1	5	-20	1

Richardson forced Scott into a fine save, Kerry Stratton missed the target from close range and Byron just failed to get on the end of cross from Kosky.

Town will now face AFC Dunstable in the semi-final. Tomorrow it is back to league action when Denham United are the visitors to Stockwood, kick-off is at 2pm

The Under-15s reached their County Cup semi-final with a 6-1 win over Leighton United. Aimee Esser (4) Phoebe Brown and Scarlett Pattenden scored the goals.

In league action the Under-14s defeated Watford Hearts 8-0 with Rebecca Ferris (3) Jodie Bellingier (2) Natalie Case, Charlotte Motto and Leila Palmer scoring for the Town.



Erica Byron scoring the Town's third goal on Sunday



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# my only luton

## A FAN'S TALE

**MY NAME:** Stephen Peters

**MY AGE:** 27

**MY LOCATION:** Luton

**MY TIME SUPPORTING LUTON TOWN:** I have been supporting the Hatters all my life. My dad, granddad, nephew and brother have all supported the club and there was no doubt that I would ever support any other team!

**MY FIRST LUTON GAME:** It was a 2-2 draw against Southend at Kenilworth Road in 1993. I don't remember much, except I seem to recall Ricky Otto's wild hair. I'd have to look it up but I'm sure he also scored a wonder goal too. Southend played in yellow too...seems I have a soft spot for the Shrimpers!

**MY FAVOURITE LUTON GAME:** Plenty to choose from. The Johnstone's Paint Trophy final is definitely up there for me, but for sheer unbelievable and unexpected joy was the 2-1 win over Oxford in our first season in the Conference. I think a lot of people would have taken a point at that stage but for Keith Keane to curl that corner in was just truly indescribable. It was pandemonium!

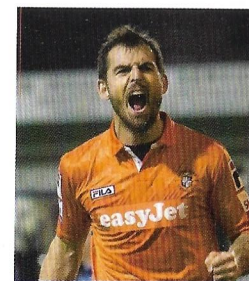
**MY FAVOURITE LUTON GOAL:** Scott Oakes' goal against Derby County at home in 1994. This is a game that stands out because I remember Mr Blobby being present, as well as my granny. Oakes was my favourite player at the time and he ran the full length of the pitch, leaving the Derby defenders for dead before sending a screamer into the top corner.

**MY FAVOURITE LUTON PLAYER:** I'd have to maintain Scott Oakes as he was probably my first favourite player. Matt Taylor is a close second. The season we won promotion under Joe Kinnear he was unplayable.

**MY MOST TREASURED LUTON TOWN POSSESSION:** I was mascot for an away game at Portsmouth in 1994 and the photographs from that game I will treasure forever.

**MY ALL-TIME LUTON TOWN XI:**

**Goalkeeper:** Ian Feuer. The big American was a big crowd favourite and could pull off some incredible saves, using his height and agility to great use.



Alex Lawless gets centre stage in Stephen's All-time Town XI

**Right-back:** Julian James. He always gave 100 per cent and was as consistent as they come.

**Left-back:** Matt Taylor. I'd play Matt at full-back because I want Valois in the team!

**Centre-back:** George Pilkington. Another dependable, 7-out-of-10 every week, man.

**Centre-back:** Steve Davis. Superb captain

and leader and a centre-half that could score 10 goals. Enough said.

**Left midfield:** Jean-Louis Valois. Technically one of the best players I have seen play for the club.

**Right midfield:** Scott Oakes. That goal against Derby. The hat-trick against West Ham. I was only young at the time but those goals made an instant impression on me.

**Central midfield:** Kevin Nicholls. Nico turned from a boy into a man during his first spell with us and was the driving force behind two promotions.

**Central midfield:** Alex Lawless. One of the current crop. I think Alex can easily play at a higher level. Also able to play in a number of other positions, he is creative and can chip in with his fair share of goals.

**Striker:** Tom Craddock. A goalscorer who we were lucky enough to nab off of Middlesbrough for a cut-price. I was gutted when he left because I was certain he'd score the goals to get us up.

**Striker:** Steve Howard. A towering, old-fashioned centre-forward who scored 100 goals for the club. You can't argue with that kind of record.

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

There is only ever one club for me and that's Luton Town. The one thing I absolutely love is knowing a lot of people through following the Hatters. Also the fact you can go on holiday and strike up a conversation with somebody you've never met before, who will probably support another team, and they tell you how much affection they have for us. We are Luton Town!



# from left midfield

BY KEVIN CROWE

## STEVE McNULTY: (CULT)URED HERO

If there's one thing Luton fans love it's a cult hero; someone to sing songs about on train journeys and at chucking-out time long after the player has moved on. A man that's more than just a player, at least in the imagination of the terraces. Think the bespectacled Ian Roper or the giant Enoch Showunmi; wonderfully brief cartoon asides in the funny pages of the history books. Our Steve McNulty however, is no cult hero. He's much more than that.

January is dragging its soggy, shivering, dripping trainers; sodden-step after laboured-step towards an end of the month pay day that seems never to arrive. For almost the entire month so far England's green and pleasant pitches have been deluged in relentless rain, and nowhere was quite as soggy as the Great Lakes of the centre circle at Kenilworth Road way back on New Year's Day.

The conditions that day would make even the most pretentious, delicate Premier League star look Sunday League; they were destined to embarrass defenders and make long-ball merchants out of proper footballers.

But not Luton Town's Steve McNulty.

For 90 minutes (plus that bit when the ref picked up the ball and thought about going home for a while) he out-thought the weather and the Barnet players that were covered in it. With a calm head and by example he settled a side that could easily have descended into panic. He passed it and passed it, found the space (and the islands of grass) and with measured touches and through perfectly timed interceptions set in motion attack after splashy attack.

McNulty's been doing it all season too, a feat made all the more remarkable when you consider that he has been carrying one of the Premier League's deadliest strikers, Christian Benteke, around in his pocket since the pre-season visit of Aston Villa.

I digress. All season he's been at it: every long ball is met with a swift rebuke from Scouse forehead or instep. For every fledgling attack, an assured first touch followed by a thoughtful pass; a settling of nerves. And for every athletic young striker that looks to bully his way into the box, and for every unsure look on the face of a young Luton defender...there, reliable, focussed, assured, stands Luton Town's Steve McNulty.

Every now and then there is magic too. The stuff that makes you stop, mid-celebration and check the faces of the massed ranks of Lutonians behind you to ensure they saw it too.

### Bestseller

Here, brothers and sisters, we have a centre half who can, in the same game, evoke Beckenbauer and Cruyff with his faints and disguised turns in the middle of the park AND THEN bury a dipping first-time volley from 30 yards, calling to mind the highlight reels of Scholes and Van Basten. Bestseller is our Steve, not cult classic.

We've always been happier with a Steve at centre half, and like Davis and Foster before him, this generation's version is not only a leader at the back but his influence spreads throughout the squad, to all areas of the pitch and even into the reborn, soggy optimism of the stands.

A Steve you can build a team, nay, a little empire around.

# THE NON-LEAGUE PAPER

ESSENTIAL READING FOR FOLLOWERS OF THE NATIONAL GAME

BY NEWS EDITOR SAM ELLIOTT

These football managers, they really don't have it easy sometimes. Dealing with players playing up, demanding chairmen always expecting more and often irate supporters having a moan. And that's before the referee turn up to ruin his day!

Their career path is certainly an acquired taste, especially as 'sacking season' now seems to be a weekly event. A job forever on the edge, with your prospects in the hands of so many others.

### Endangered

But the good ones are becoming somewhat of an endangered species.

And the deadly predator? The growing trend of Football League clubs taking the quick and, ultimately cheaper, option.

Now it seems "knowing the club" beats knowing your stuff and knowing how to control a dressing room – and it's causing a serious bottleneck that is making life impossible for the experienced managers to get back in.

We've known for some time that Football League club seem to have a mental block when it comes to taking a chance on a Non-League manager. It's whispered around that the only way you'll get there is to take a team to the League yourself. Promotion without promotion? Forget it.

Clubs are now keener on appointing the inexperienced caretakers, the captain who has helped out, or the player coming to the end of his career having rushed through a coaching course rather than

someone who has earned an apprenticeship lower down the ladder.

And the problem with that? Once they get sacked, they need to find themselves another job.

With a Football League club shining bright on their CV, what chance does the likes of Liam Daish or Gary Brabin have of getting back in when you can drop in a big name?

### Trend

Terry Brown was forced to look down to the Ryman Premier and lowly Margate to find a way back into management. It's becoming a growing trend.

So how did they all feel when Andy Thorn was given the Kidderminster Harriers job last week? Thorn was appointed Coventry City manager two years back with the club in turmoil after operating as their chief scout. They were relegated and he was sacked.

Kiddy see a famous football name on his Wikipedia page and despite no knowledge of the Skrill Premier, he is selected over those with years of toe-to-toe battling under their belt.

That's not a dig at Thorn you understand, but more the system that seems to exist in the sport. As Joe Lolley's £250,000 move to Huddersfield Town represents, Football League clubs love to take a punt on the up-coming playing talent that the Non-League game has to offer.

So what exactly is wrong with our managers?



Soon in a job? Former Town boss Gary Brabin



# Bursting with ideas

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# league look

## THE LATEST IN THE SKRILL PREMIER

**The Hatters' lead at the top of the Skrill Premier has been closed to one point over the past week after Cambridge took four points from their two matches.**

Richard Money's side earned a 1-1 draw from a tricky trip to FC Halifax last Saturday and followed that up by recording their fourth away win of the campaign on Tuesday night with a 1-0 win at Tamworth on Tuesday night.

The U's travel to Dartford this afternoon before hosting fellow promotion chasers Grimsby on Tuesday, which will be their game in hand on the Hatters.

It would be foolish to write off any other team for the title at this stage of the campaign but the Town and Cambridge's nearest challengers as it stands are third-placed Alfreton, who lie eight points behind the Hatters having played two games more, and fourth-placed Gateshead who have played three more games yet lie 10 points behind. Gateshead were held to a 1-1 draw at home to Welling on Tuesday night with JJ O'Donnell making his debut for the Heed.

Grimsby, who go to Wrexham this afternoon, are in fifth place but have two games in hand over the Hatters and five in hand over Gateshead. The Mariners lie 12 points behind the Town in the table.

Kidderminster are the sole remaining Skrill Premier club involved in the FA Cup and today their reward for beating Peterborough in the last round is a trip to Premier League Sunderland. The Harriers, who dismissed Steve Burr two weeks ago, lost 2-1 at home to Dartford on Tuesday but have games in hand to cement their place in the Play-Offs.

With games postponed due to the weather and FA Cup and FA Trophy commitments, the table has a lopsided look with some teams having played significantly more than others. It has led to a bottleneck of clubs outside of the Play-Offs challenging for a spot in the top five. Macclesfield, in 11th, are four points off the Play-Offs, six points behind Gateshead in fourth and have three games in hand over the Tynesiders. Braintree, in 14th, have five games in hand over the

Heed and trail the fourth-placed club by nine points.

At the other end of the table, Chester – under new boss Burr – leapfrogged Southport out of the relegation zone thanks to a 1-0 win at Woking. Hyde remain bottom of the table on seven points. The Tigers got that first elusive win by beating Welling 10 days ago but couldn't build on that result last Saturday when they were beaten 6-2 at home by Forest Green. The aggregate scoreline between the clubs this season is 14-2 in Rovers' favour.



Alex Wall helped Dartford earn a 2-1 win at Dartford on Tuesday night

### LEADING GOALSCORERS

Williams (Aldershot)	16
Gregory (Halifax)	15
Gray (Luton)	14
Jennings (Macc)	14
Norwood (FGR)	13
Moult (Nuneaton)	12
Akinde (Alfreton)	10
Benson (Luton)	10

### AVERAGE ATTENDANCES

<b>Luton Town</b>	<b>6,708</b>	Woking	1,440
Grimsby Town	3,492	Forest Green Rovers	1,180
Wrexham	3,324	Nuneaton Town	1,166
Cambridge United	3,140	Dartford	1,085
Lincoln City	2,537	Braintree Town	1,060
Chester City	2,272	Southport	1,053
Kidderminster Harriers	2,165	Tamworth	1,046
Aldershot Town	1,977	Salisbury City	929
Barnet	1,856	Welling United	809
Hereford United	1,657	Alfreton Town	770
FC Halifax Town	1,477	Gateshead	732
Macclesfield Town	1,460	Hyde	633

### TODAY'S FIXTURES

Aldershot v FC Halifax
Barnet v Southport
Braintree v Gateshead
Dartford v Cambridge
Forest Green v Chester
Hereford v Salisbury
Hyde v Tamworth
Lincoln v Woking
Welling v Alfreton
Wrexham v Grimsby



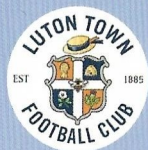
APRIL				ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk, using the code LBSCSH.	
Sat 5	3.00pm	H	Aldershot Town		
Sat 12	3.00pm	H	Braintree Town		
Sat 19	3.00pm	A	Welling United		
Mon 21	3.00pm	H	Forest Green Rovers		
Sat 26	3.00pm	A	Hyde		

<b>Benson 1</b>	Mawson	Wall	Cullen	Whalley	Justham
Benson	Mawson	Wall	Cullen	Ferdinand •	Justham
Cullen	Shaw •	Banton	Rees •	Chabata	King
Cullen	Banton •	C. Smith	Viana •	Chabata	King

	THIS SEASON										EWC CAREER TOTAL
	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		DISC R	EWC			
	APPS	GIS	APPS	GIS	APPS	GIS			APPS	GIS	
Zane Banton	0 (1)	0	1 (4)	0	1 (5)	0	0	6	0		
Paul Benson	20(0)	10	2 (0)	1	22 (0)	11	3	22	11		
Anthony Charles	1 (2)	0	4 (0)	0	5 (2)	0	0	7	0		
Tinashe Chabata	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	0	2	0		
Mark Cullen	8 (8)	4	7 (0)	2	15 (8)	6	0	23	6		
Joe Davis	5 (1)	0	3 (0)	0	8 (1)	0	0	9	0		
Kane Ferdinand	0 (1)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (1)	0	1	2	0		
Andre Gray	21(5)	14	0 (0)	0	21 (6)	14	2	93	41		
Scott Griffiths	27(0)	1	0 (0)	0	27 (0)	1	3	33	1		
Luke Guttridge	25(1)	9	1 (0)	0	26 (1)	9	6	27	9		
Ronnie Henry	25(0)	0	1 (0)	0	26 (0)	0	3	69	0		
Jake Howells	13(6)	4	6 (0)	0	19 (6)	4	2	260	22		
Ryan Inniss	0 (0)	0	2 (0)	1	2 (0)	1	0	2	1		
Eliot Justham	0 (0)	0	7 (0)	0	7 (0)	0	0	7	0		
Alex Lacey	17(1)	1	1 (0)	0	18 (1)	1	0	28	1		
Alex Lawless	14(2)	5	0 (1)	0	14 (3)	5	0	141	17		
Brett Longden	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	3	4	0		
David Martin	3 (3)	0	2 (0)	0	5 (3)	0	0	24	3		
Alfie Mawson	1 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	0	1	0		
Steve McNulty	27(0)	1	2 (0)	0	29 (0)	1	4	49	2		
Arnaud Mendi	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0	28	0		
JJ O'Donnell	0 (2)	0	0 (1)	0	0 (3)	0	0	51	3		
Andrew Parry	16(2)	3	2 (1)	1	18 (3)	4	2	21	4		
Ian Rees	0 (0)	0	2 (2)	0	2 (2)	0	0	4	0		
Matt Robinson	3 (6)	0	4 (0)	0	7 (6)	0	0	27	1		
Pelly Ruddock	4 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	7 (0)	0	0	7	0		
Jon Shaw	4 (0)	0	1 (1)	0	5 (1)	0	1	44	10		
Charlie Smith	0 (0)	0	1 (1)	0	1 (1)	0	0	3	0		
Jonathan Smith	22(1)	2	0 (0)	0	24 (1)	2	5	59	3		
Jim Stevenson	3 (2)	0	1 (0)	0	4 (2)	0	0	6	0		
Solomon Taiwo	3 (2)	1	2 (0)	0	5 (2)	1	2	16	2		
Luke Trotman	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	0	1	0		
Mark Tye	27(0)	0	0 (0)	0	27 (0)	0	0	211	0		
David Viana	0 (0)	0	2 (1)	0	2 (1)	0	0	3	0		
Alex Wall	0 (6)	1	4 (1)	1	4 (7)	2	2	23	4		
Shaun Whalley	8 (8)	1	6 (0)	1	14 (8)	2	0	22	2		



# today's teams



## LUTON TOWN

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Mark Tyler       | 17 JJ O'Donnell   |
| 2 Fraser Franks    | 18 Dave Martin    |
| 3 Danny Fitzsimons | 20 David Viana    |
| 4 Jonathan Smith   | 21 Luke Guttridge |
| 5 Steve McNulty    | 22 Shaun Whalley  |
| 6 Anthony Charles  | 23 Matt Robinson  |
| 7 Alex Lawless     | 25 Ronnie Henry   |
| 8 Solomon Taiwo    | 26 Paul Benson    |
| 9 Jon Shaw         | 27 Andre Gray     |
| 10 Alex Wall       | 28 Jim Stevenson  |
| 11 Jake Howells    | 29 Kane Ferdinand |
| 12 Scott Griffiths | 30 Alex Lacey     |
| 13 Mark Cullen     | 31 Jake Woolley   |
| 14 Andy Parry      | 32 Brett Longden  |
| 15 Ryan Inniss     | 33 Jerome Jibodu  |
| 16 Elliot Justham  | 34 Zane Banton    |



## NUNEATON TOWN

- |                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Chimdi Akubaine | 15 Delroy Gordon    |
| 4 Gavin Cowan     | 16 Wes York         |
| 5 Gaz Dean        | 17 Connor Taylor    |
| 6 Adam Walker     | 18 Greg Pearson     |
| 7 James Armson    | 19 James Belshaw    |
| 8 Jon Adams       | 20 Phil Trainer     |
| 9 Louis Moulton   | 24 Emmit Delfouneso |
| 10 Andy Brown     | 26 David Hibbert    |
| 11 Theo Streete   | 27 Freddie Ladapo   |
| 13 Daniel Sleath  | 29 Kelle Roos       |
| 14 Simon Forsdick |                     |

Referee: **A. Bromley** | Assistant: **A. Neil** | Assistant: **M. Eva** | Fourth official: **S. Fearick**

**HERE NEXT**  
**v TAMWORTH**

**SATURDAY 8th FEBRUARY 2014 • 3PM**  
**SKRILL PREMIER**

