

TALK OF THE TOWN



LUTON TOWN v
SHREWSBURY TOWN

THURSDAY 8th JANUARY 2015

KICK-OFF 7.45PM

easyJet

FILA @ JD

SKY BET
LEAGUE 2

GOTCHA

FROM £34.99

london luton to
basel, geneva and lyon

from
£34^{.99*}
one way pp
based on
2 people flying

This is generation **easyJet**

europe by
easyJet

*Flight price one way based on 2 people travelling on the same booking. Additional charges for credit card payment and baggage. 528 seats for Basel (BSL), 2,221 for Geneva (GVA), 235 seats for Lyon (LYS) at £34.99 or less for travel between 17 November 2014 to 18 April 2015.
Availability and price correct as at 17 November 2014. See [easyJet.com](#)

Welcome

TO KENILWORTH ROAD



“ Happy New Year and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for the first time in 2015!

2014 was good to us, wasn't it? A return to the Football League as Conference champions, the Hatters ended the year just two points off top spot...in League 2!

While there was disappointment to the first game of the New Year at Cambridge last Saturday, we have a cracking first home match of 2015 as we welcome promotion-chasing Shrewsbury and the Sky Sports cameras to Kenilworth Road this evening for what is a rare Thursday night kick-off for us. It's the second time Sky have had their cameras here this season, and here's hoping for a positive result tonight...our last three televised matches on home soil have all ended in defeat!

Inside tonight's first Talk of the Town of 2015 we have the first notes of the New Year from chief executive Gary Sweet, John Still and Stephen McNulty plus we hear from Luke Rooney, Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu and Michael Harriman.

There's plenty more besides inside to keep you occupied, including a review of the year from our youth team and ladies sides – so happy reading and enjoy the game! #COYH ”

4 THE BOSS

John Still looks ahead to tonight's game



10 AROUND TOWN

A round-up of the news at Kenilworth Road

18 SHREWSBURY TOWN

All you need know about our visitors from Greenhous Meadow



24 LOOKING BACK

Photographs and reaction from the games with Wycombe, Portsmouth and Cambridge

40 AND IF YOU KNOW YOUR HISTORY...

Club historian Roger Wash delves into his archives



51 HATTERS ACADEMY

All the latest news from the Luton Town academy

72 FIXTURES AND RESULTS

Follow the Hatters' progress throughout 2014/15

LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 2020 LTD

Kenilworth Road Stadium, 1 Maple Road,

Luton, Bedfordshire LU4 8AW

Switchboard: 01582 411622

Ticket office: 01582 416976

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

CLUB OFFICIALS

CHAIRMAN: Nick Owen

VICE CHAIRMAN: David Wilkinson

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Gary Sweet

DIRECTORS: Paul Ballantyne, David Blakeman, Bob Curson.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS: Stephen Browne, Mike Herrick, Mick Pattinson

FINANCE DIRECTOR: Roger Bannister

VICE PRESIDENTS: Richard Banks, Doug Knight, Cliff Bassett, Jack Sapsworth, Rob Stringer, John Butt (Honorary)

FIRST TEAM MANAGER: John Still

ASSISTANT MANAGER: Terry Harris

FIRST TEAM COACH: Hakan Hayrettin

GOALKEEPER COACH: Kevin Dearden

FITNESS COACH: Dave Richardson

PHYSIOTHERAPIST: Simon Parsell

KIT MAN/MASSEUR: Darren Cook

YOUTH TEAM MANAGER: Paul Driver

HEAD OF YOUTH: Wayne Turner

HEAD OF YOUTH OPERATIONS: Dan Walder

CLUB SECRETARY: Kevan Platt

COMMERCIAL MANAGER: David Hoskins

STADIUM MANAGER: Peter Kemp

HEAD GROUNDSMAN: Richard Bird

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER: Ed Smith

RETAIL & MERCHANDISING MANAGER: June Walsh

TICKET OFFICE MANAGER: Mike Hooker

CATERING MANAGER: David Romans

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER: Tania Buonpane

PRESS OFFICER: Andrew Barringer

CLUB DOCTOR: Dr Paul Dealey

CLUB CHAPLAIN: Alan West

SAFETY OFFICER: Leon Blackburn

SUPPORTER LIAISON OFFICER: John Miller

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

EDITOR: Andrew Barringer

PHOTOGRAPHY: Gareth Owen

CONTRIBUTORS: Andrew Barringer, Roger Wash, Tom Skinner, Kevin Harper, Simon Pitts and Leigh Edwards.

PRINT: Bartham Group

DESIGN: Heather Ellis - Relish Design

Additional artwork by Paine Proffitt.

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



JOHN STILL

Good evening and welcome back to you all for this first game of 2015 at Kenilworth Road and our first fixture in Sky Bet League 2 of the New Year.

I'd like to welcome our visitors from Shrewsbury: Micky Mellon and his staff and players plus the directors and supporters of the Shrews.

We were on the end of a very one-sided game back at their place in late August and since that match Shrewsbury have gone onto enjoy a very good home record where they are currently unbeaten.

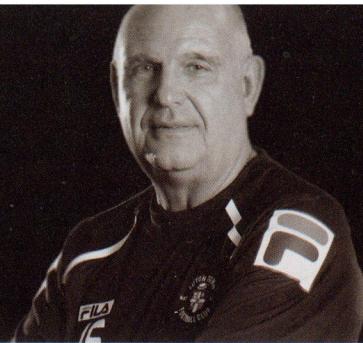
They even ran a full-strength Chelsea close in the League Cup so it goes without saying that tonight's match will be a tough one.

Pleased

Tonight's game has also been chosen especially for live television coverage and it is great that Sky Sports have earmarked this particular match. I hope the game is as good as we are all anticipating. The standard of football at League 2 level has been incredible and I am pleased to say I include ourselves in that category – although perhaps not at Shrewsbury earlier in this campaign.

I last wrote my notes for this column prior to Christmas and New Year, so I hope you all had a wonderful time over the festive period. Naturally we were busy on the pitch with matches against Wycombe and Portsmouth.

I've already touched on the good quality of football at this level and I thought the match at Wycombe was a prime example of this. It was a thoroughly entertaining match played in pretty atrocious conditions. We were disappointed to concede early on but the players' reaction to



falling behind was excellent and there were a lot of pats on the back for Jonathan Smith following his very special equaliser.

We thought we should have won the game but I think, given the conditions, it would have been harsh had one side finished the game with nothing.

A couple of days later we were held to a draw against a very competitive Portsmouth side and last week we exited the FA Cup after the defeat to Cambridge United.

We were obviously disappointed to lose that tie but I think the performance in the circumstances was very good.

We were without the likes of Steve McNulty, Nathan Doyle and Scott Griffiths but I thought the display was hugely encouraging.

We created plenty of chances but could not find what I thought would have been a deserved equaliser.

The loss means we now have just the League to concentrate on, starting this evening against Shrewsbury and I hope we will be able to call upon Steve and a number of the lads who missed last weekend's game. We gave 30 minutes to Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu at Cambridge and after he had 45 minutes in the development squad in the week he could be in contention to feature again in some capacity soon. Paul Benson, Alex Lawless, Luke Guttridge and Curtley Williams are all making steady progress and I hope to be able to give you a better update on their injuries in my next set of notes.

Welcome

This month is also the transfer window and yesterday we were able to confirm the loan signing of striker Jayden Stockley from AFC Bournemouth for an initial month. Jayden is a very good player who I think will fit into the way we play very well – hopefully beginning tonight. Welcome, Jayden.

STILL PLEASED

“LAST YEAR
WAS A VERY
GOOD ONE FOR
US SO, TURNING
ATTENTION
BACK TO THIS
EVENING’S GAME,
MAKE SURE YOU
GET BEHIND
YOUR TEAM IN
OUR FIRST
MATCH OF 2015.”

Last year was a very good one for us so, turning attention back to this evening's game, make sure you get behind YOUR team in our first match of 2015. The backing you have given the team has been simply magnificent and it is one of the main reasons for our success over the past 12 months. One of my old sayings is “the stronger the team, the stronger the team” – so please stick with us through the good times and bad. Enjoy the game.

BOARDROOM

WITH CHIEF EXECUTIVE GARY SWEET



Good evening and welcome one and all to a floodlit, televised Kenilworth Road for what promises to be a thrilling encounter between two sides vying for automatic promotion to League 1.

Special greetings go to our visitors this evening, the players, staff and, most importantly, the supporters of Shrewsbury Town. We hope those of you that made the 250-plus mile round trip from Shropshire will have been made welcome and you enjoy the atmosphere from the Oak Road end. Your Thursday night visit to Bedfordshire is appreciated in light of the temptation of remaining in in front of Sky's coverage this evening.

But really there's nothing like the first-hand experience of a live match under floodlights, is there?

As this is the first home game of 2015 it gives me pleasure to wish every one of you a very Happy New Year on behalf of everyone at Luton Town Football Club.

It wasn't a difficult decision to choose a topic for these programme notes given the eventful year we've all just experienced. 2014 will be a year that will be positively carved into every Hatter's memory bank.

It wasn't just a promotion. It was THE promotion; the one promotion that we had so narrowly missed out on in four of the previous five seasons; the one promotion that we all wanted, given the narrow opportunity for success and competitiveness of the Conference Premier; it was the one promotion every director, employee, player and supporter realised would elevate our Club to another level enabling us to be the progressive and ambitious Club we all want to support. 2014 re-instated the long-term hope and faith that the previous five years had sternly tested.

Despite this stern test, our stay in the Conference should be warmly remembered. Not only shall we fondly remember the friendliness and respect the clubs and members of the competition gave us, but I firmly believe that this phase in the Club's history will be acknowledged as the time we, collectively, re-defined Luton Town Football Club as a significantly better and healthier establishment than the one we had previously belonged to.

No matter how tough it was for us, I'm thankful of our Conference years. It was a harsh but enlightening haven for us to rehabilitate after a catastrophic era of a downward

spiral that seemed the inevitable conclusion would be terminal for our football club.

Thankfully, we're in a happier place now and who could have believed that by the turn of this year we'd be in the running for another automatic promotion spot? The squad that John and his staff have built – and continues to build – has quickly established a competitive team one division up and has put us ahead of schedule.

So, on the pitch we enjoyed 2014. What about off the pitch? Well that one promotion has enabled us, as a board, to have more optimism and confidence in investing in the foundations for our longer-term future. Last year saw us further stabilise our finances, invest in the behind-the-scenes infrastructure at Kenilworth Road, invest in and accelerate the project to relocate and implement a number of positive initiatives that gained national media attention.

In the spring, we handed the right to veto changes to the Club's image rights to our supporters trust – Trust In Luton. Last month, we became the first professional club to implement the Living Wage to our permanent staff which is also being rolled out to all direct and third-party matchday staff and which has subsequently encouraged a number of other clubs to think about following suit.

Also last month, we wanted to encourage our staff and players to charitably contribute to the Luton Foodbank – such a worthy and much-needed organisation – and I'm delighted to be able to announce that every single Luton Town professional player now donates a small sum towards this much needed cause along with our coaching and administration staff.

Another milestone was hit last autumn when the Luton Town Community Trust began to coach 3,000 children and special needs footballers per week across the county. This is a wonderful achievement, led admirably by Kevin Thoburn and James Hatch, which is having a hugely positive impact in our local communities.

By the start of the new season in Football League 2, we had surpassed 5,600 season ticket holders – the highest number on record (rather a sad indictment on historical record keeping prior to our custodianship than performance I hasten to add) – a number which keeps rising; currently at 5,800, thanks to Mike Hooker and his helpful team.

In August, we opened our first ever retail store in the Mall in Luton. Having never done this before, it took a leap of faith in our supporters, community and in our brand to believe it would be a risk worthwhile. Spearheaded by June Walsh, the results have been astonishing with a fourfold (400%) increase in retail business in the last three months of the year versus the previous year.

I may have just mentioned a small number of heroes who have helped reconstruct our great Club but these notes shouldn't be written without the acknowledgement of every member of staff who have worked tirelessly (and continue to do so with renewed optimism) to reignite the pride we all feel. The players are our obvious heroes but every member of staff is also a hero to me. Thank you!

So, where do we go from here; what does 2015 bring us? Well, as previously touched upon, the project to find a new stadium is more than well underway. Land is in the process of being acquired, plans are being drawn and engagement with the Council is very encouraging. Whilst the magnitude of the task shouldn't be underestimated by any means, I fully expect significant steps closer to the realisation of this project during 2015. This will be our major focus of attention off the pitch.

On the pitch, we're in a splendid position and, whilst we are ahead of schedule, we certainly won't be shying away from the opportunity presented in front of us but will welcome the chance to accelerate plans to strengthen our squad.

Let's contrast our current position in the league against previous promotion seasons. Currently, with all clubs having played 23 games, we were two points behind the leaders averaging 1.83 points per game (a win tonight and will put us on 1.88). In 2001/02 in the old Division Three, we were five points behind the leaders, averaging 1.87 points per game. Last season, at the same time, we were four points behind the leaders averaging two points per game – and nobody needs reminding of the outcome. Not only do we tend to get stronger as the season progresses but within days we'll welcome back Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu and Alex Lawless – which will feel like two new signings – and with Paul Benson's recovery ahead of schedule, this month will be an ideal time to begin another run.

We've boosted the front line this week with the loan signing of Jayden Stockley (welcome to Kenilworth Road, Jayden!) and we're happy to continue to back John Still in the market should the right opportunity arise for the right player.

We can't promise a repeat of 2014 but there's plenty to be encouraged by which all bodes well for an exciting second half of the season and a fascinating 2015.

Enjoy the game and please raise your hats and your voices to make this a hair-raising encounter!

COYH!

Gary



HONOURS

Littlewoods Challenge Cup:
Winners 1988, Runners-up 1989

FA Cup:

Runners-up 1959
Semi-finalists 1959, 1985, 1988, 1994

Johnstone's Paint Trophy:

Winners 2009

Simod Cup:

Runners-up 1988

Football League Division Two:

Champions 1981/82
Runners-up 1954/55, 1973/74

Football League Division Three (South):

Winners 1936/37
Runners-up 1935/36

Football League Division Three:

Runners-up 1969/70

League One:

Champions 2004/05

Football League Division Four:

Champions 1967/68

Football League Division Three:

Runners-up 2001/02

Skrill Premier Champions:
2013/14

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



Call us now on
01582 LUTON
870870


Pictons
SOLICITORS | LLP

LUTON
01582 870870

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
01442 242441

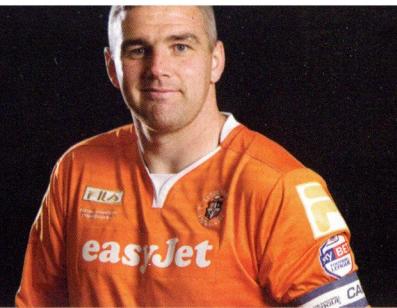
TRING
01442 825566

MILTON KEYNES
01908 663511

MACCA

THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SPEAKING

FROM THE DRESSING ROOM WITH STEPHEN McNULTY



Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all on behalf of all the lads in the squad.

Last year was a great one for us as a group and there was no better feeling than winning the Conference title last season. We've carried our form on so far throughout this campaign and I think we can all be happy with our performance at the midway point in the season.

I wrote my last notes before the Wycombe match which was a good game of football between two decent sides. The conditions made it difficult for both sets of players but I thought we coped with them better and I thought we should have a nicked the win. However, a point wasn't too bad in the overall scheme of things against a team who have been in and around the top three all season.

It was disappointing to concede from a set piece but we fought back well and Smudger scored a great equaliser. He's made a superb comeback from his broken leg which happened on Boxing Day last season and he has been one of the driving forces behind our success again this time round.

We followed that result with another point in the draw against Portsmouth. Another excellent goal, this time from Roons, got us on our way but we couldn't build on that early momentum and Pompey equalised with a scruffy goal which we were again none too pleased with.

The gaffer and I have said many times before that there is going to be highs and lows this season and I am sure that will be the case between now and May. It goes to show how far we have come to come away from an away fixture at the league leaders frustrated with a point, and another draw with the biggest club in the division in Portsmouth.

"To end 2014 two points off the top of the table is a fantastic achievement and I must put on record my congratulations to everyone involved in the club for an excellent last 18 months."

This time last season we were playing in the Conference so to end 2014 two points off the top of the table is a fantastic achievement and I must put on record my congratulations to everyone involved in the club for an excellent last 18 months. That's in the past now and we now have 23 matches ahead of us to emulate last season's success and we will be going all out to ensure we are smiling come the end of the campaign once more.

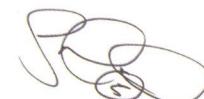
Last Saturday we suffered a narrow defeat at Cambridge in the FA Cup. I missed the game with a toe injury but should be okay to return tonight but watching in the stands among the 1,400 of you in the away end it was really frustrating not to see our second half dominance pay off. Going forward I thought it was only a matter of time before we scored but in the end we couldn't find an

equaliser. Cambridge drew out Manchester United in the fourth round and fair play to them. It's a good old cliché but we'll concentrate on the league now!

Tonight we have a big game in front of the television cameras. Our record on the telly isn't great – especially at home! – so we hope to be able to put that right. One of our most disappointing performances of the season so far was at Shrewsbury back in August. It's something we've not forgotten so we'll be aiming to correct that too tonight.

A big thank you to those of you who have come out to support us over the Christmas and New Year period. The Wycombe match was almost like a home match and the Portsmouth game had an unbelievable atmosphere.

Get behind us once more tonight and enjoy the game.



FREE HEALTH CHECKS FOR HATTERS

The Christmas and New Year period is past us for another year, and if you're feeling a little jaded after a month of excess, now's the time to start thinking of your health.

As of Tuesday free health checks have been available in the John Moore Suite here at Kenilworth Road.

This service is available to people who live in Luton or have a Luton GP and are between 40 and 74 years old.

Health checks will look at your height, weight, waist measurement, body mass index, cholesterol and glucose levels, blood pressure and pulse rate.

All results given on the day and advice will be given on

lifestyle issues including alcohol, smoking, exercise and diet.

LiveWell Luton held the first clinic at the ground this week and will be followed by a clinic on the first Tuesday of each month.

Town fans who would like to book an appointment and see if they qualify should contact Live Well Luton directly by phone on 01582 757 635, by email on info@livewell-luton.org.uk, or text LIVEWELL to 60066.

Please note that it is not possible to make appointments via the Club. LiveWell Luton also have other free services available, adult or child weight management, smoking cessation and personal health plans.

For further information about this service, visit <http://livewell-luton.org.uk>.

Diamond Juniors Christmas Party

Over 50 Hatters-mad children attended the first Diamond Christmas Party at Go Bowling in Dunstable shortly before Christmas.

The youngsters were joined by a selection of first team players, Father Christmas and Happy Harry for an enjoyable evening, as shown in these photographs!



Last chance for diamond voting

Voting for the Diamond Player of the Month award for December is now open – but hurry, voting closes tonight.

Diamond season ticket holders have until tonight to vote for their player. The player with the most votes will be presented with the award at a forthcoming home fixture.

All diamond season ticket holders voting for the eventual winner will be entered into a draw. The adult diamond season ticket holder who is drawn out will

receive two tickets for hospitality and the opportunity to present the award. The junior winner will receive the diamond mascot package.

Midfielder Nathan Doyle won the award for November, and he was presented with his trophy by junior diamond season ticket holder Scott Wilson after our game with Newport.



Online disabled supporters' survey

The government have launched an initiative giving disabled supporters of all sports the opportunity to take part in a national survey about their experiences as disabled spectators.

It also encourages people who aspire to attend sporting events as spectators. If you currently don't attend but wish to, please complete this survey as your answers will make a difference.

Luton Town are a member of Level Playing Fields, the national charity who help and support disabled football supporters across the UK. We would like to give you the opportunity to have your say by asking you to access the survey and give your views.

The survey contains just 10 questions and will only take a moment of your time to complete. The survey is also totally anonymous. The survey can be reached online at: <http://survey.dwp.gov.uk/index.php?sid=18657>

The deadline for entries is 28th February 2015, so please don't miss out. Remember if you're interested in finding out more about our very own Luton Town Disabled Supporters' Association, drop us an email at ltds@lutontown.co.uk.

Dearden joins as goalkeeper coach

The Hatters were pleased to officially announce the arrival of Kevin Dearden as goalkeeping coach on Christmas Eve.

Luton-born Dearden, 44, arrives at Kenilworth Road following his departure from Leyton Orient in December, where he has been on the coaching staff since 2008.

As a player, Dearden was best-known for his spells between the sticks for Brentford and Torquay, and played 512 senior matches in a career spanning over 12 years.

Happy Birthday Ted!

A very happy birthday to loyal Town supporter of 50 years Ted Connew who celebrates his birthday on 11th January.



Ted has been a season ticket holder for many years, firstly in the main stand and now in the Kenilworth Road end.

Ted is pictured here on the left at our last game of the season at Hyde. Many happy returns Ted!

New date for Mansfield trip

The Town's Sky Bet League 2 fixture away to Mansfield Town has been rearranged for Tuesday 17th February, kick-off 7.45pm.

The match was originally scheduled for Saturday 3rd January, but was postponed due to the Hatters' involvement in the FA Cup.

It will be the Town's first trip to the One Call Stadium since a 2-2 draw in November 2012 in which Andre Gray scored twice.

Ticket information for this fixture will be released in due course.



let's go

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR KENILWORTH ROAD EXPERIENCE TONIGHT AS IT WON'T BE FOR ANOTHER THREE WEEKS BEFORE THE TOWN PLAY HERE AGAIN. AWAY TRIPS TO PLYMOUTH AND CHELTENHAM FOLLOWS. HERE'S OUR QUICK TRAVELLERS' GUIDE

PLYMOUTH ARGYLE



WHO? Plymouth Argyle, aka the Pilgrims, aka one of the sides also pushing for promotion from League 2 this season. Argyle, now managed by John Sheridan, have already beaten the Hatters this season when

they triumphed 1-0 in a match televised by Sky Sports back in early September.

HOW THEY DOING? Not bad at all. Argyle lie in seventh place in the division, four points behind the Hatters but just a point ahead of eighth and ninth placed Bury and Exeter waiting to pounce in the positions outside the Play-Offs.

HOW TO GET THERE. The journey to Home Park is the Hatters' second longest of the season, a mere 506-mile round-trip, which should take you about four hours in the car. To get there, take the M1 south, M25 anticlockwise, M4 west and M5 south. At the end of the motorway continue onto the A38. On entering Plymouth, turn left onto the A386, towards Plymouth. When this road splits into two, keep on the left hand side (again signposted Plymouth) and after about a mile you will see the ground on your left. The ground is well signposted. If you don't fancy driving all that way, take the Bobbers, who depart Luton train station at 8am. The fare is £33 for adults and £30 concessions.

HOME COMFORTS. Plymouth have enjoyed a strong home record so far this season, winning eight of their 12 matches, losing just twice and conceding just five times. It will be the Hatters' first visit to Home Park since a 1-0 defeat in the Championship in November 2006. Overall the Town's record at Plymouth reads pretty appallingly: just seven wins from 46 visits! The Hatters' last win in this part of Devon came in a 2-1 victory in April 2006 with Rowan Vine and Calvin Andrew on target.

CHELTENHAM TOWN



CHELTENHAM TOWN FC

WHO? Cheltenham Town, aka the Robins, aka the team who have a former Luton manager now in charge. Paul Buckle, who left Kenilworth Road for America in February 2012, took up the post at Whaddon Road in November following the dismissal of Mark Yates.

HOW THEY DOING? They say the league table doesn't lie, so in three words: not very well. The Robins sit in 17th place in the table having taken 28 points from 24 games. That's 10 points off the top seven but six points from the final relegation place. Buckle's boys ended a run of nine games without a win in their last match, a 2-1 win at Oxford which was also the manager's first victory in charge.

HOW TO GET THERE. The journey across to Cheltenham from Luton is one that navigates cross-country, going via Aylesbury, Oxford, Witney and Burford on the A40. It'll take you a good two-and-a-half hours to make the 110-ish mile trip west. If you're driving it's best to use the satnav, so type in GL5 5NA into your system. The Bobbers are, as ever, also making the trip and they leave the Luton train station at 11am. Their fares are £20 for adults and £18 for concessions. Whaddon Road, the Robins' ground, has been turned into smart little stadium with two new stands on two sides of the pitch – one of which Hatters fans have been allocated.

HOME COMFORTS. The Town will be aiming to record their first win at Whaddon Road after failing to win on their previous three visits. The two sides last met on Gloucestershire soil in December 2007 when the Robins ran out 1-0 winners in a League 1 meeting. The Hatters have drawn the previous two matches at Whaddon Road, drawing 1-1 in January 2002 and 2-2 in April 2003. So far this term the Robins have won just four of their 12 home games, scoring 13 and conceding 13.

tickets please



PLYMOUTH ARGYLE v LUTON TOWN

SKY BET LEAGUE 2



SATURDAY 17th JANUARY 2015, KICK-OFF 3PM

We have been initially allocated 1,116 standard seating tickets and 112 family tickets for this fixture these are allocated in the Barn Park Stand.

Standard tickets are now on general sale priced at: £20 adults, £15 over-65s and students, £7 under-18s. Family ticket prices are: £20 adults, £15 over-65s and students, £5 under-18s.



CHELTENHAM TOWN v LUTON TOWN

SKY BET LEAGUE 2



SATURDAY 24th JANUARY 2015, KICK-OFF 3PM

We have received an allocation of 995 seats in the Hazelwoods Stand for this fixture.

Further tickets may be available dependant on sales

Tickets are now on sale to season ticket holders until close of business on Tuesday 13th January.

These tickets will be available from the ticket office via phone or in person.

Any remaining tickets will be available on general sale at 10am on Wednesday 14th January online and from the ticket office, up until 3pm on Friday 23rd January.

Away Season ticket holders' tickets will be dispatched on Friday 9th unless we have been advised a ticket is not required.

Prices: £23 adults, £17 over-65s, £9 under-18s and full-time students, under-11s free.

Wheelchair disabled: £17 one ticket covers disabled and helper.

Ambulant (middle and higher rate DLA): £17 with a carer free of charge.



LUTON TOWN v CAMBRIDGE UNITED

SKY BET LEAGUE 2



SATURDAY 31st JANUARY 2015, KICK-OFF 3PM

Tickets for this match are now on sale at normal matchday prices. £20 adults, £15 seniors and young adults, £12 golden seniors, £8 youths, £5 juniors.



OXFORD UNITED v LUTON TOWN

SKY BET LEAGUE 2



SATURDAY 7th FEBRUARY 2015, KICK-OFF 3PM

We are currently awaiting ticket details from Oxford. Once received selling arrangements and prices will be announced.



LUTON TOWN v YORK CITY

SKY BET LEAGUE 2



TUESDAY 10th FEBRUARY 2015, KICK-OFF 7.45PM

Tickets for this match are now on sale at normal matchday prices. £20 adults, £15 seniors and young adults, £12 golden seniors, £8 youths, £5 juniors.

SPEAKING Commercially

WITH COMMERCIAL MANAGER DAVID HOSKINS

Welcome back to Kenilworth Road and Happy New Year to all our corporate guests and sponsors who are present here for this televised fixture against Shrewsbury Town.

MATCH SPONSOR - LEA MANOR HIGH SCHOOL



Lea Manor High School have invited 25 lucky students to attend a game at Kenilworth Road, giving them the opportunity to sit in the directors' box to watch live sport, experience a matchday game, enjoy a tour of the stadium and receive a signed football shirt from the team.

This initiative is now in its fifth year and was set up by the school, in collaboration with Luton Town, as part of its reward system for high achievers and those particularly interested in sport.

Students attending tonight welcomed the opportunity and are excited to observe a live game and participate in what will be a memorable day for them. As part of the programme, Lea Manor High School is also sponsoring the game today and would like to thank Luton Town for the opportunity.

TODAY'S MASCOTS



Please give a warm welcome to our mascot this evening who is Brooke Allen from Dunstable. Brooke celebrates his birthday on Saturday so this evening acts as a very special surprise.

Brooke has been a Luton supporter all his life – thanks to the help and persuasion of his granddad and his nephews Stephen and Andrew. His favourite players include Stephen McNulty, Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu and Luke Rooney.

Brooke will get to meet all the players in the dressing room before the match before leading the team out onto the pitch prior to kick-off. We hope you have a great evening with us tonight Brooke – happy birthday!



EXECUTIVE BOX HOLDERS

10: Fascel Group Ltd



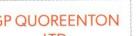
5: Gibbs and Dandy Ltd

GIBBS & DANDY LTD



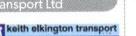
6: GP Quoreenton Ltd

GP QUOREENTON LTD



7: Keith Elkington Transport Ltd

KEITH ELKINGTON TRANSPORT LTD



8: Just Lets

JUST LETS



9: Pictons Solicitors

PICTONS SOLICITORS LLP



16: Prestige Design

PRESTIGE DESIGN



17: Fanfare Ltd

FANFARE LTD



18: CME Heating Ltd

CME HEATING LTD



19: Markyate Precision Machining

MARKYATE



20: Vauxhall

VAUXHALL



21: Automated Technology Group

AUTOMATED TECHNOLOGY GROUP





UNDISPUTED SALE

UP TO 50% OFF*



* Selected items only. While stocks last.

Available at your local **JD** Arndale & Luton Airport

INSTORE | ONLINE | JD APP

JDSPORTS.CO.UK



FILA @ JD
PROUD KIT SUPPLIERS TO LUTON TOWN

KIT SPONSORS

1 MARK TYLER H: Tim Fordham A: Whosh G: Elliot Prentice	2 FRASER FRANKS H: Emma Banks A: Nigel, Ben & Sam Martin	3 DANNY FITZSIMONS H: Available A: Available	4 JONATHAN SMITH H: Holly Kemp A: SolYD Gold Hatters
5 STEPHEN McNULTY H: Simon Cowlard A: Whosh	6 ALEX LACEY H: Peter & Linda Little A: In memory of Billy Lacey	7 ALEX LAWLESS H: David Goodge A: Gill, Julie & Yvonne	8 ANDY DRURY H: Raj Koyes A: Key Holder Lettings
9 PAUL BENSON H: Ben & Richard Banks A: Mad Hatter	10 ALEX WALL H: Ben & Richard Banks A: The Coles Family	11 JAKE HOWELLS H: Neil Ehrenzweig A: Sports262 & Lutontownfans.co.uk	12 SCOTT GRIFFITHS H: CME Heating A: Matthew Crossland
13 MARK CULLEN H: Peter & Linda Little A: Kelly Knight	14 ANDY PARRY H: R S Robinson Heating A: Available	15 LUKE ROONEY H: SIXT Rent-a-car A: Available	16 ELLIOU JUSTHAM H: Les Miller Miller & Company A: Available G: Mark Francombe
17 PELLY RUDDOCK MPANZU H: David Alexander A: Ben Gray	18 ROSS LAFAYETTE H: Jacqui Peacock A: Maddie Knight	19 RICKY MILLER H: Tom A: Tommy Lennon	20 SHAUN WHALLEY H: G Owen Ceramic Tiling Ltd A: G Owen Ceramic Tiling Ltd
21 LUKE GUTTRIDGE H: Luton Outlaws A: Richard & Zak Tilley	23 MATTHEW ROBINSON H: COYH A: Whosh	24 CURTLEY WILLIAMS H: St Neots Cakes A: Available	26 NATHAN DOYLE H: Paul Watmuff A: Available
28 JIM STEVENSON H: CME Heating A: Liz Herrick Informatic Computing Ltd	29 PAUL CONNOLLY H: Re-Markit A: Bobbers Travel Club	30 LUKE WILKINSON H: Tommy Lennon A: Dean Kemp	32 BRETT LONGDEN H: Available A: Available
33 MARK ONYEMAH H: Available A: Available	34 ZANE BANTON H: Loyal Luton A: Mad Hatter	35 CHARLIE WALKER H: Jonathan Perry of JP Life Therapy A: Mad Hatter	36 CHARLIE SMITH H: Available A: Available
37 KYNAN ISAAC H: Available A: Available	39 IAN REES H: Available A: Mad Hatter	LUKE TROTMAN H: Available A: Bobbers Travel Club	M JOHN STILL H: Thompsons Accountants A: Country Properties
AM TERRY HARRIS H: Doug Knight A: Colne Consultants Ltd	C HAKAN HAYRETTIN H: Luton Town Supporters Club of Scandinavia A: Available	<p>To sponsor an available player's kit contact the commercial department: commercial@lutontown.co.uk</p>	

H: HOME | A: AWAY | G: GLOVES

Welcome

SHREWSBURY TOWN



It gives us great pleasure to welcome all associated with Shrewsbury Town as the first visitors to Kenilworth Road of 2015.

The Shrews make their first visit here since the Town ran out 3-1 winners in February 2009. Since that last meeting both clubs have tasted their fair share of ups and downs.

Shrewsbury enjoyed two seasons in League 1 until their relegation last term but manager Micky Mellon, who was appointed in the summer, has galvanised the Shropshire outfit and made them one of the favourites for an immediate return to the third tier.

Mellon's side arrive at Kenilworth Road this evening in third place in the League 2 table – just two points ahead of the Hatters in the standings. Last Saturday the Shrews were beaten 1-0 at Burton – only their second defeat in their last 13 matches in League 2.

A major factor behind the Shrews' success this season has been their phenomenal, almost perfect, home record. At Greenhous Meadow this term, Mellon's side are unbeaten, winning 10 and drawing just twice. The Shrews have conceded just three times in their 12 home matches this season and only lost 2-1 to a full-strength Chelsea side in the League Cup.

While their away form has been indifferent – just three wins and three draws from 12 matches, that record has improved drastically in recent weeks. Mellon's side have won three and drawn one of their last seven matches on the road. Three recent defeats on their travels – at Burton, Exeter and Plymouth – have, however, all been by the odd goal.

The Shrews are, without doubt, one of the form sides in the division having won nine of their last 13 matches, drawing twice and losing twice.

Mellon has built a strong squad in the Shrews' bid for promotion with a solid defence including the talented Nat Knight-Percival. In midfield there aren't many teams in League 2 that can boast the likes of Andy Robinson and Liam Lawrence among their squads, while in attack James Collins leads the lines and has nine goals to his name. Andy Mangan, who was at Kenilworth Road briefly last season, has six goals.

While the Shrews will know that a victory tonight could send them top of the league, what they won't know (perhaps until they read this) is that only one Shrewsbury team has ever left Kenilworth Road with all three points – and that came back in a 7-2 win in 1965! The Town have won the last four meetings on home soil and you can read more about that on page 22.

in opposition

OUR AT-A-GLANCE GUIDE TO THE MEN FROM GREENHOUS MEADOW



► MANAGER

MICKY MELLON. Appointed in May last year. Made almost 500 appearances as a player, his first job came at Fleetwood, who he guided to the Football League with promotions from the Conference and Conference North.

► GOALKEEPERS

MARK HALSTEAD. Summer arrival from hometown club Blackpool, who once played in the Premier League for the Tangerines. Spent time out on-loan at Hyde, Kettering, Barrow and Stockport.

JAYSON LEUTWILER. Swiss stopper who signed in June from Middlesbrough. Capped at youth level for Switzerland he was restricted to just three games for Boro having signed in 2012 at the Riverside.

► DEFENDERS

JERMAINE GRANDISON. Popular right-back or centre-half who returned following a successful loan spell from Coventry. Missed long periods last season through injury but penned a new deal in the summer.

CAMERON GAYLE. Young, versatile defender who joined the Shrews this summer following a successful trial. Birmingham-born, he began his career at West Bromwich Albion.

MICKEY DEMETRIOU. England C international left-back who signed for the Shrews at the start of the season from Kidderminster. A graduate of the Glenn Hoddle academy, he also played for Eastbourne.

MARK ELLIS. Former Crewe and Torquay centre-half who arrived at Greenhous Meadow in the summer. Helped Crewe win promotion in 2012, but began his career as a youngster at Bolton.

NATHANIEL KNIGHT-PERCIVAL. Highly-rated centre-back who joined the Shrews from Peterborough, where he had played in the Championship. Started his career at Histon before moving to Wrexham.

CONNOR GOLDSON. Academy graduate who has come through the ranks to become a first team regular. Able to play in a variety of positions but most at home in central defence.



► MIDFIELDERS

LIAM LAWRENCE. Former Republic of Ireland international midfielder who joined the Shrews this summer. The experienced former Sunderland, Stoke and Portsmouth man is the club captain.

AARON WILDIG. Midfielder who helped the Shrews win promotion in 2012 while on loan from Cardiff but returned permanently in May the same year. A skilful player with an eye for goal.

RYAN WOODS. Highly-rated midfielder who has risen through the Shrewsbury academy to become an integral part of the Shrews squad since making his debut in 2013.

JAMES WESOLOWSKI. Combative Australian midfielder who rejected League 1 football with Oldham to join the Shrews this summer. Started his career in the UK with Leicester and also spent a spell with Peterborough.

JORDAN CLARK. The scorer of two goals against the Town earlier in the season, the attacking midfielder joined the Shrews after his release from Barnsley. Spent last season on-loan at Hyde.

ANDY ROBINSON. Hugely experienced midfielder who also signed this summer. Made his name at Swansea before moves to Leeds United and Tranmere followed.

ASHLEY VINCENT. Micky Mellon's first signing who joined from Cheltenham who he spent two spells with. Helped Port Vale to promotion and has also played for Colchester.

► STRIKERS

JAMES COLLINS. Popular centre-forward in his second spell with the Shrews, rejoining two years after leaving the club for Swindon. Initially signed for the Shrews from Aston Villa in January 2011.

SCOTT VERNON. Experienced striker who joined the Shrews this summer following four seasons as a regular for Aberdeen. Started his career at Oldham before moves to Blackpool and Colchester.

JEAN-LOUIS AKPA AKPRO. French forward who joined in July after two years with Tranmere. Moved to England in 2008, playing for Grimsby and Rochdale before his move to Prenton Park.

ANDY MANGAN. Liverpool-born striker who spent a short spell with the Hatters last season. Made his name at Forest Green and Wrexham as a prolific marksman and also won the Conference with Fleetwood.

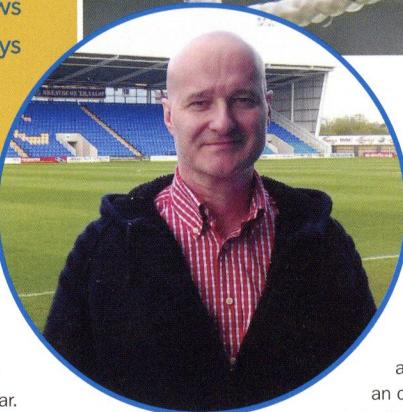
FROM THE OAK ROAD

After last term's 'ill-fated' League 1 campaign, Shrews supporter **Martin Wild** says there's now no messing with Micky Mellon and his men as they march towards promotion...

TALK OF THE TOWN: While Carlisle and Tranmere have struggled following relegation last term, Shrewsbury have been among the front runners from the off. Tell us about your season so far. What's been the secret to your success?

MARTIN: A couple of things really. There was a huge clear-out over the summer and predominantly these were loan players that we had an over-reliance on in that ill-fated League 1 campaign. It didn't take a genius to work out that very few of the players we 'signed' were even remotely close to proving successful. Most of them have disappeared and there aren't that many that are ripping up trees now – Adam Reach at Middlesbrough being the one noticeable exception. Secondly, we also brought in a new manager, new chief executive, new ticket office manager, new fitness coaches and analysts - probably even new tea ladies! The communication between club and fans has improved hugely so gradually the rift that perhaps existed is slowly ebbing away. There was despair at the end of the last campaign. It needed a sweep through and the results speak for themselves really.

TOTT: What do fans make of the job Micky Mellon has done at the club since taking over?



MARTIN: You couldn't possibly find anything not to like about the guy really. He's level-headed, speaks well with the media lads, and has bought very well. He has said several times that he doesn't have a first team. He has a squad that are all capable of playing in the first team and that they must all be ready for the challenge if an opportunity comes along. We actually have a team to be proud of

and the gaffer is quick to sing the praises of the fans which always helps. The home record is high on flawless and the team have played some excellent football both home and away, in league and cup. Our results haven't quite matched the performances on our travels, but Mellon is bang on track to succeed in his first season in charge.

TOTT: Who is Shrewsbury's star player and why?



MARTIN: Most would say Ryan Woods in centre midfield and it's hard to argue with that as he's a top talent and will go a long way. Only the goals are missing from his all-round game. But he retains possession well, has a wide range of passing abilities and it's fair to say he usually pulls the strings in the centre of the park. But Connor Goldson has blossomed at centre-back and alongside him, Nat Knight-Percival has been a colossus. James Wesolowski was another that was really catching the eye but since an injury forced him out of the Chelsea game, he just can't get back in the side. We've a terrific squad, no doubt about it.

Ryan Woods



TOTT: Gay Meadow was one of the most picturesque grounds in English football – tell us about your memories of it. How have fans taken to the Greenhouse Meadow? How does the atmosphere compare to the old ground?

MARTIN: Even if the Gay Meadow could have been redeveloped, there was always a chance the pitch would flood a few times a year and that always loses revenue. The Greenhouse Meadow is a well-appointed stadium but it's a tad out of the way and the atmosphere is sometimes a bit sterile. But I think that's the case with all new grounds. Bring back safe standing I say and give the game back to your average working man – make it an affordable pastime.

TOTT: What's the best Shrewsbury game you have ever seen? Tell us about why it was special.

MARTIN: Bury 0 Town 1: the second leg of a Play-Off semi in 2009. We trailed 1-0 from the home leg and they absolutely murdered us at Gigg Lane. However, Luke Daniels was in goal that day and he was unbeatable. He saved a penalty in normal time, before we squared the tie in the 88th minute. We then had a player sent-off in the first minute of extra time and Daniels must have made five or six unbelievable saves

in that additional period. Of course, we went through on penalties with Daniels saving two more from the spot to send the 2,200 away fans into dreamland. Other than that, it wasn't all that memorable!

TOTT: Today will be the first Football League game involving Luton where the referee's 'vanishing spray' will be used. If you could change one rule, add to or take away something from the modern game, what would it be?

MARTIN: I'd like to see a 35-yard line drawn across the pitch, which would mean that a player would have to be at least 34-yards from goal to be flagged offside.

TOTT: Which teams do you think will win promotion from League 2 this season? And what's your prediction for today's game?

MARTIN: I think Shrewsbury will win the title, I really do. Wycombe played well at our place last week and I've a sneaky feeling that Luton might sneak in, which would be great for the club after years in the wilderness. It's four up of course, so Plymouth, Burton or maybe Newport via the Play-Offs. As for a prediction, I'm going to play safe and say a 1-1 draw. I'd be quite happy with that.

A HATTER...

AND A SHREW

The Town have taken on a number of former Shrews in the past who have all served the club well in recent seasons.

The most recent is striker Andre Gray, who began his professional career on the books of tonight's visitors having been released by hometown club Wolves. Gray, who the Town sold to Brentford in the summer, played just five times for Shrewsbury in League 2 during 2009/10, before his release. He joined Hinckley where his talents were spotted by the Town and after scoring 57 times for the Hatters – including 30 last year – he was off to the Championship with the Bees.

Midfielder David Edwards joined the Town directly from Shrewsbury at the beginning of the 2007/08, having made 132 appearances for the Shrews. Edwards scored four times in 26 matches for the Town that season and his performances, allied with the Hatters' precarious financial situation, meant Wolves' offer of £675,000

HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?

The Town have only ever lost once at home to Shrewsbury – and that came back in March 1965.

That particular day the visitors triumphed 7-2! It remains the only time the Hatters have conceded seven or more goals in a League fixture on home soil.

The Hatters have won six of the 10 meetings at Kenilworth Road, with the Shrews also holding the Town to three draws across these matches. Overall the Town hold sway in the head-to-head record, winning 11 to Shrewsbury's six in the 21 previous meetings between the two clubs. The Town have scored 33 and conceded 30.

When Shrewsbury do beat the Hatters they usually do so in good style. As well as the aforementioned 7-2 hammering in 1965, the Shrews have also beaten the Town 5-1 at Gay Meadow in 1970.



Andre Gray

was accepted in the January transfer window.

Asa Hall, joined the Town following his release from Birmingham in 2008, but the Dudley-born midfielder had previously enjoyed a successful loan spell at the New Meadow. After leaving the Town after 75 appearances he joined Oxford and then Shrewsbury in 2012. Hall is now at Cheltenham.

Other players to have played for both clubs include Billy Cooke, who made over 200 appearances for the Hatters in the late 1940s and early 1950s as a no-nonsense full-back. He left the Hatters in 1953 for Shrewsbury but worked at Electrolux in Luton after retiring from the game. Shrewsbury also include a former Town man in their squad in the shape of Andy Mangan, who spent a short spell with the Hatters at the end of last season but never played a game.

That was Shrewsbury's last win over the Town at their old home, but tonight's visitors have won both fixtures at Greenhous Meadow, winning 3-0 in November 2008 and 2-0 of course earlier this season.

Their win over the Town in 2008 was their first since that 5-1 victory in January 1970 – a run of 10 matches that the Hatters were unbeaten in. During that sequence the Town won seven matches, including a famous 4-1 win under the lights at Kenilworth Road in 1982 that saw the Hatters clinch promotion to the top flight in front of a crowd of 14,563.

The Town were victorious in their last meeting on home soil against the Shrews, running out 3-1 winners in February 2009 thanks to goals from Tom Craddock, Sam Parkin and Asa Hall.

Tonight the Town will be aiming to record their fifth straight home win over the Shrews and increase an unbeaten run of nine matches without defeat at Kenilworth Road.

back to the future

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

► 1993/94 THIRD DIVISION CHAMPIONS

PAUL EDWARDS: Ever-present goalkeeper who made 312 League appearances before joining Telford United in July 2001. He has since become an inspection manager for the NHBC in Portsmouth.

DAVE HOCKADAY: Right-back who played 48 League games before hanging up his boots. He coached at Watford, MK Dons and Southampton, then managed Forest Green Rovers and Leeds United.

TOMMY LYNCH: Irish full-back who scored 14 goals in 234 League games before leaving in May 1996. He has since managed Waterford and Limerick, working as a locum in hostels in Limerick.

MARK TAYLOR: Midfielder who joined Hereford United in June 1998, then Nuneaton, Halesowen, Redditch, Bromsgrove and Rugby. He now works in NHS care with behavioural problem children.

MARK WILLIAMS: Northern Ireland international central defender who joined Chesterfield in August 1995, then Watford, Wimbledon, Stoke and MK Dons. Now organises golf holidays in Marbella.

DAVE WALTON: Central defender who joined Crewe Alexandra in October 1997, then played for Derby and Shrewsbury again. He is now an independent mortgage consultant in Mountford Bridge.

MICKEY BROWN: Favourite who had three spells at Shrewsbury before joining Boston United in July 2001. Later with Chester, Nuneaton Borough and Newtown, he has become a personal trainer.

WAYNE CLARKE: Striker, from a notable football family, who became Telford United's player-manager in July 1995. He worked at his father-in-law's garage and is now a sales rep for Coca-Cola.

DEAN SPINK: Leading marksman who moved to Wrexham in July 1997. He later played for Shrewsbury on loan, Chester and Telford United before running a dry-cleaning business in Birmingham.

GARY PATTERSON: Midfielder who joined Wycombe Wanderers in December 1994. The England Semi-Pro international later had spells with Kingstoneian, Farnborough, Hucknall and Sutton Town.

RAY WOODS: Experienced winger who reunited with Wayne Clarke at Telford United in July 1996. He ended his playing career with Worcester City where he has since been in charge of their Academy.

► 2003/04 PLAY-OFF WINNERS

SCOTT HOWIE: Former Scotland under-21 goalkeeper who made 40 League appearances, moving to Cambridge United in July 2005. Later with King's Lynn, he is now a self-employed tax consultant.

JAKE SEDGEMORE: England Semi-Pro international who netted five goals in 31 League games before joining Bury in July 2005, then Burton Albion, Kidderminster, Altrincham and Solihull Moors.

TREVOR CHALLIS: Ex-England under-21 left-back who scored the decisive penalty in the shoot-out. He joined Weymouth in July 2005, then Eastleigh, and is now coaching at Bristol City's academy.

MARTIN O'CONNOR: Cayman Island international who joined Kidderminster Harriers in July 2005. He was Halesowen's manager, then coached at Birmingham, becoming Walsall's assistant-boss.

DARREN TINSON: Central defender who moved to Burton Albion in July 2005, then Altrincham, Nantwich Town and Leek Town. He is studying a physiotherapy degree at University of Salford.

DAVE RIDLER: Later played for Leigh RMI, Southport, Flixton, Curzon Ashton, Prescot Cables, Winsford, Caernarfon, then managed Prescot. He is now coaching at Liverpool's academy in Egypt.

RYAN LOWE: Winger who joined Chester City in March 2005. Following spells at Crewe and Stockport, he returned to Chester before Bury, Sheffield Wednesday, MK Dons, Tranmere and Bury again.

JAMIE TOLLEY: Welsh under-21 midfielder who netted 14 goals in 160 League games, moving to Macclesfield in August 2006, then Hereford United, Wrexham, Mansfield, Kidderminster and Colwyn Bay.

LUKE RODGERS: England Semi-Pro international who moved to Crewe Alexandra in July 2005 and has since had spells at Port Vale, Yeovil Town, Notts County, New York Red Bulls and Lillestrom.

DUANE DARBY: Experienced striker who suffered injury problems before moving to Nuneaton Borough in January 2006, then played for Bromsgrove Rovers, Stourport Swifts and Hednesford Town.

SAM AISTON: Winger who netted seven goals in 143 League games prior to joining Tranmere Rovers in July 2005, then Northampton Town, Wrexham, Stafford Rangers, Hednesford and Gainsborough.

WYCOMBE 1-1 TOWN

COWAN-HALL 2

SMITH 8



Luke Rooney goes for goal



Luke Wilkinson rises highest

WHAT'S THE STORY?

A year after breaking his leg at Barnet, Jonathan Smith hit a stunning equaliser as the Hatters fought back to earn a point in a thrilling Boxing Day clash at Adams Park.

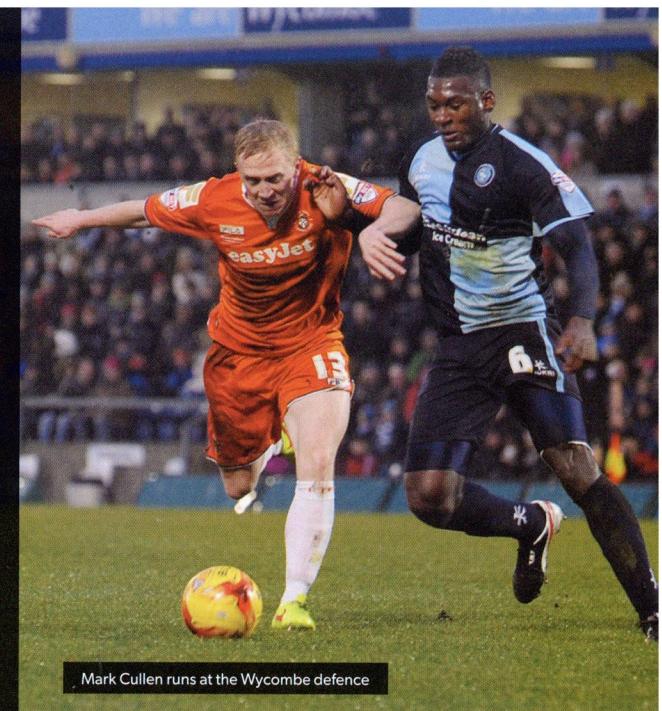
The Town got off to the worst possible start by conceding after just two minutes. Scott Griffiths was booked for a foul in the lead-up to a right-wing corner from which Paris Cowan-Hall rose to plant a header into the top corner.

However the Hatters were not behind for long as, six minutes later, it was 1-1 when Smith belted home his first goal of the season after taking Michael Harriman's pass from the right and volleying home an unstoppable shot into the corner of the net.

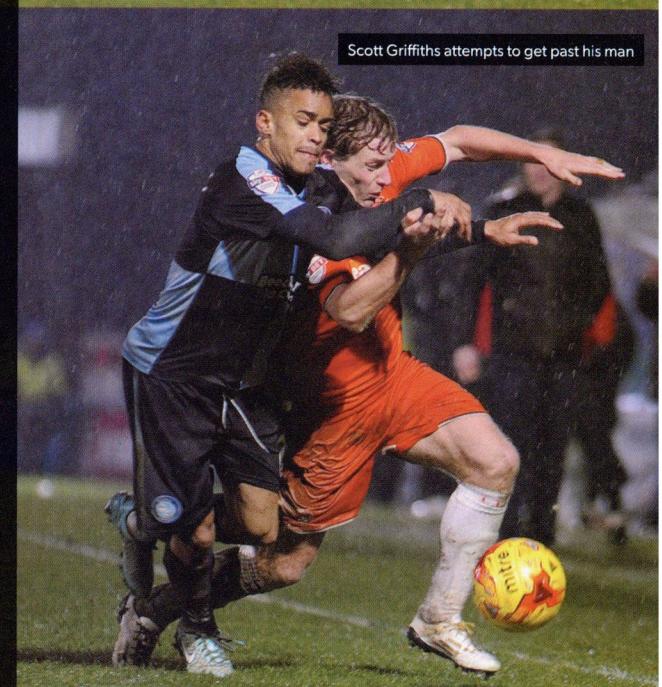
Andy Drury came close to putting the Town ahead at the end of the first half but slipped at the vital moment and after half-time the same player was denied by home goalkeeper Matt Ingham.

While the Town were searching in vain of a goal the home side spurned a glorious chance to take the lead when Paul Hayes shot wide having found time and space at the end of a passing move on 73 minutes.

Both sides traded possession in a thrilling end-to-end period in which the Hatters and the Blues went in search of a late winner, with Mark Tyler saving from Alfie Mawson right at the death to ensure the Town collected a point.



Mark Cullen runs at the Wycombe defence



Scott Griffiths attempts to get past his man

TOWN: Tyler; Harriman, Griffiths, McNulty, Wilkinson; Doyle, Smith, Drury; Whalley (Sub Miller 77), Rooney (sub Howells 60), Cullen (sub Lafayette 69). **SUBS NOT USED:** Justham, Stevenson, Connolly, Franks.

TOWN 1-1 PORTSMOUTH

ROONEY 13

TAYLOR 36



Luke Rooney watches as his strike finds the bottom corner



Andy Drury shrugs off his man

WHAT'S THE STORY?

The Hatters had to settle for a point against Portsmouth in the final home game of Kenilworth Road in 2014.

John Still named an unchanged side for third match running and after a brief bright opening from the visitors, it was the Town that took the lead on 13 minutes. Shaun Whalley poked a high pass into the box and Luke Rooney, celebrating his birthday, fired home a fine first-time, left-foot volley into the bottom corner. It was his fifth goal of the season and his third in four matches.

But slowly the visitors were passing themselves into the game and Mark Tyler's first action of the game came on 33 minutes when he did well to grasp hold of a fierce destined-for-the-top-corner shot from Nigel Atanagana.

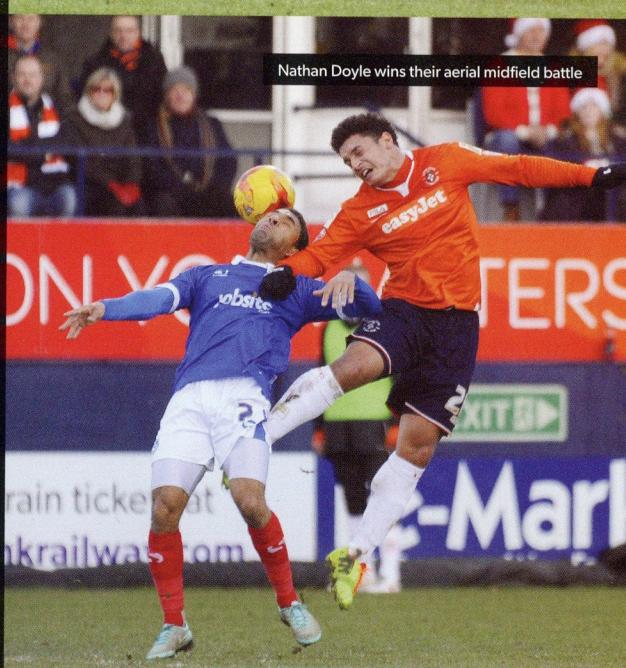
Two minutes later Tyler was at his agile best to tip over another Portsmouth effort, this time from skipper Johnny Ertl's volley from 25 yards that was about to creep underneath the crossbar.

The Pompey pressure continued, and on 36 minutes Andy Awford's side were level. There seemed little danger on when Jed Wallace's shot travelled goalwards but Luke Wilkinson scuffed an attempted clearance and Ryan Taylor was on hand to tap in from close range.

After the break the Town dominated but could not find a way through a stubborn Pompey rearguard with Andy Drury and Michael Harriman closest to find what proved to be an elusive winner.



Luke Wilkinson heads clear



Nathan Doyle wins their aerial midfield battle

TOWN: Tyler; Harriman, Griffiths (sub Howells 77), McNulty, Wilkinson; Doyle, Smith, Drury; Whalley (sub Lafayette 61), Rooney, Cullen (sub Miller 71). **SUBS NOT USED:** Franks, Justham, Stevenson, Connolly.

CAMBRIDGE 2-1 TOWN

SIMPSON 28, DONALDSON 67

HARRIMAN 75



Michael Harriman nods the Town back into contention



Mark Cullen (hidden) goes for goal in the first half

WHAT'S THE STORY?

The Town were left to concentrate on the League as their run in the FA Cup was ended at the hands of Cambridge in the sole League 2 tie of the third round.

United took the lead shortly before the half-hour mark when Mark Tyler upended Ryan Donaldson in the penalty area but the Town number one did brilliantly to save Robbie Simpson's spot-kick. However, after tipping the ball on to the post Simpson poked home the loose ball.

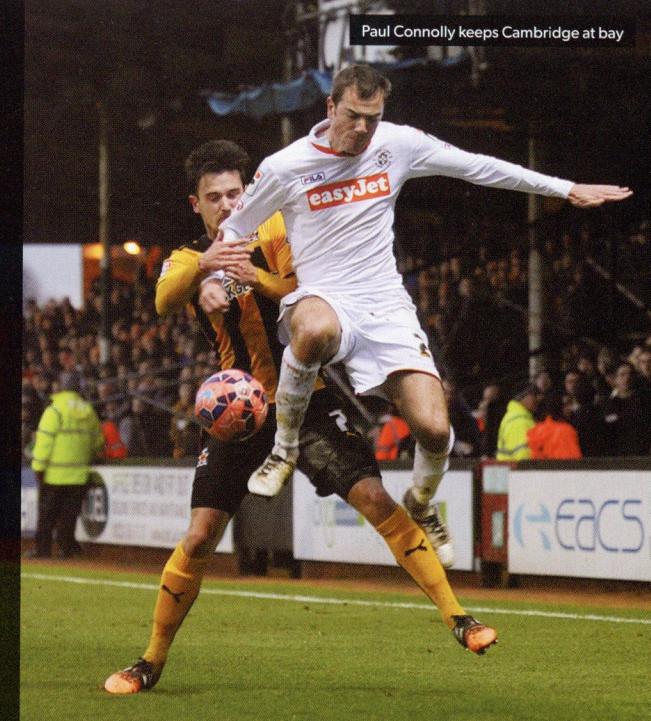
The Hatters had come close to scoring in the first half when Mark Cullen and Michael Harriman both saw efforts saved by home goalkeeper Chris Dunn and five minutes after the restart Andy Drury spurned a glorious chance when shooting wide in the six-yard box.

As the Town hunted an equaliser, the home side doubled their lead against the run of play when Donaldson ran at the Hatters defence and struck an accurate left-foot finish past Tyler.

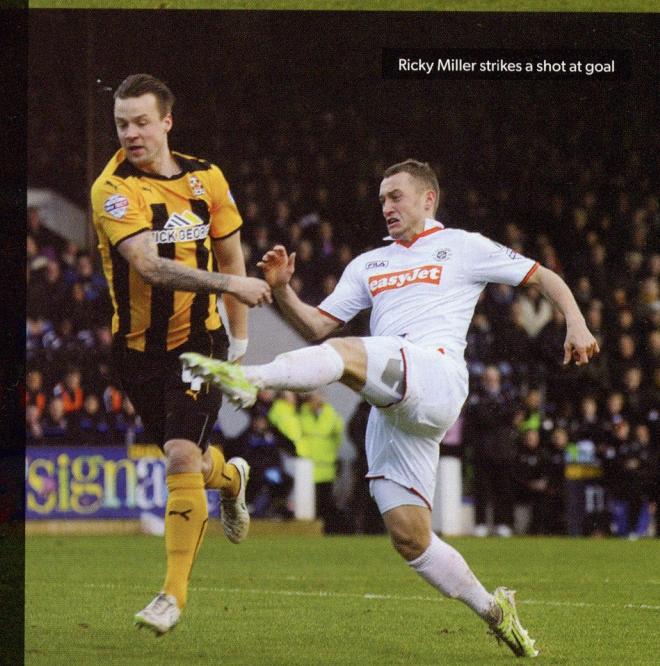
The Hatters though continued to rally and the deficit was halved with 15 minutes to play when Drury's inswinging cross from the left was nodded home by Harriman at the back post.

With just one goal behind the Town lay siege on the Cambridge goal in search of an equaliser but despite their best efforts one could not be found and the home side celebrated their place in round four.

Paul Connolly keeps Cambridge at bay



Ricky Miller strikes a shot at goal



TOWN: Tyler; Franks, Connolly (sub Ruddock 60), Wilkinson; Harriman, Howells; Drury, Smith, Stevenson; Miller (sub Walker 65), Cullen (sub Lafayette 60). **SUBS NOT USED:** Lacey, Rooney, Robinson, Justham.

INSPIRING CUSTOMERS.
PROMOTING BRANDS.
MOTIVATING SALES.



GOOD PRINT DELIVERS IMPACT. HOW'S YOURS DOING?

OUR SERVICE

Litho, digital, large format. Mailing and fulfilment. Design and artwork. Print Management... In short, we've got it covered.

OUR PROMISE

To deliver a good job, on time and on brief. To provide value for money and an outstanding service. Never to compromise on quality.

Whatever your project, from a single banner to thousands of brochures, talk to us and find out why our clients stay with us.

bartham group
media • design • print

01582 573471 • www.barthamgroup.com • info@barthamgroup.co.uk

Brochures
Flyers
Leaflets
Stationery
Manuals
Catalogues
Logos
Menus
Point-of-sale
Exhibition stands
Posters
Banners
Mailshots
Programmes
Outdoor display
Signage
Design
Calendars
Invitations
Tickets
...

STOP PRESS!

MOMENTS BEFORE WE WENT TO PRESS THE HATTERS
COMPLETED A NEW LOAN SIGNING IN JAYDEN STOCKLEY



JAYDEN FACTFILE

Age: 21 • Born: Poole • Height: 6ft 2in
Current club: AFC Bournemouth
Goals: 19 goals in 40 professional starts
Previous clubs: Dorchester, Accrington, Woking, Leyton Orient, Torquay, Cambridge

off to the perfect start with the U's when scoring twice on his debut when coming on for the final 15 minutes in Cambridge's 5-0 win over Carlisle. Both goals were headers.

After his loan spell at the Abbey Stadium was terminated early, he returned to Bournemouth and scored four times in two matches for the Cherries' development squad including a hat-trick against Cambridge.

Town boss John Still told Talk of the Town: "With Paul Benson unavailable, Jayden gives us another option in attack. He is a young striker with a lot of promise who has done well wherever he has played.

"We've watched him a number of times and we know Bournemouth think a lot of him. He had a short spell with Cambridge which didn't work out for him despite scoring twice on his first game for them."

Bournemouth assistant manager Jason Tindall said: "Hopefully, Jayden will go to Luton and play a lot more than he did in his most recent loan move. If he can get the minutes, we are confident he will score goals and do well."

DID YOU KNOW?

When Bournemouth manager Eddie Howe called a then 15-year-old Jayden up to be a substitute for the Cherries' match at home to Burton Albion in September 2009, Howe needed permission from Stockley's school to ask for him to miss a GCSE maths lesson.

See where Taz's
path took her



University of
Bedfordshire

January 2015

Find your future at Bedfordshire



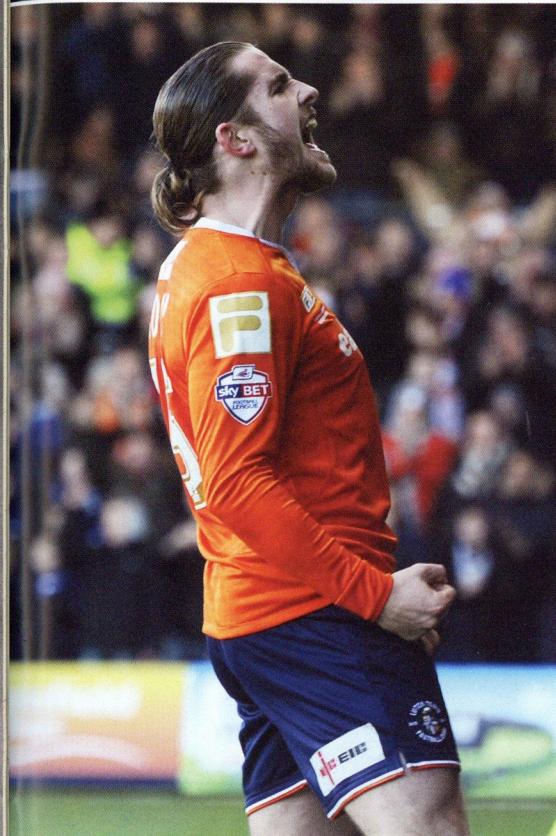
www.beds.ac.uk/janstart5
#pathtobeds
Apply now: 0800 013 0925



Ranked 1st for improving
the student experience
– National Student Survey 2014

reaction

BIRTHDAY BOY WOULD HAVE PREFERRED ALL THREE POINTS



Midfielder Luke Rooney said he would have swapped his birthday goal against Portsmouth for three points after the Hatters were denied victory in the 1-1 draw in our last home game at Kenilworth Road.

Rooney celebrated his 24th birthday with a fantastically controlled left-foot volley to give the Town an early lead, only for Pompey to hit back and pinch a point with a scrappy goal shortly after the half-hour mark.

"It's fantastic to score but I'd obviously swap that for three points on my birthday," Rooney told Hatters Player after the draw.

The draw with Portsmouth came two days after the Town had been held to the same result at promotion rivals Wycombe but Rooney believes the Hatters can keep up with the pace at the top of League 2.

"As long as we stay within touching distance of the promotion pack, teams are going to drop points in this division," said Rooney.

"To reiterate what the gaffer said in the week, we'll only get stronger as the season goes on, the same way that the side did last season in the Conference. I can't see it being any different.

"We're probably one of the fittest teams in the league and I certainly think that will show come late January and onwards."

Frustrated

Despite taking the lead against Pompey the Town couldn't build on Rooney's goal and the Hatters were left frustrated despite a second half of dominance.

"We should have got the second goal because in the second half there was only one team that was going to win it - certainly one team that wanted to win it," Rooney admitted.

But the Town thought they should have been awarded at least one penalty when Portsmouth skipper Johnny Ertl tugged Jonathan Smith and then Ricky Miller to the ground.

"It's a tough one for the referee to give them," said Rooney. "You see so much of it going on and until they all get together and start giving them you'll probably not see penalties for those sort of things."

Happy

But Rooney's goal was his third in four games and the midfielder was happy to be in the side across the busy festive period.

"I'm pleased to be playing in the team at the moment, I feel I'm the fittest I've been since I've been here and I just want to keep helping the team do well," said the former Gillingham and Swindon midfielder.

"I think playing a lot of games over the Christmas period is a good thing. It's what the fans and everyone wants. We'd rather play games."

"You see some of the Premier League managers moan about it this week but everyone knows how it is in England. It's the same for everyone."



Get on course!

Join us at Barnfield to find out more about our full-time, part-time courses. Visit us at our New Bedford Road and Enterprise Way campuses.

01582 569 569 www.college.barnfield.ac.uk

Barnfield
College

Travellers' TALES

HATTERS FAN KEVIN HARPER TELLS HIS STORY OF THE TOWN'S GAME AT WYCOMBE WANDERERS

THE JOURNEY

With the presents opened and the turkey eaten, the festive period really came alive as over 2,500 Town fans made the short journey round the M25 and M40 to Wycombe on Boxing Day. Two Bobbers coaches left Luton station just after 12.30 on a proper miserable day. We finally made it to the ground at just after 1.50.

THE GROUND

It has been a while since we've been to Adams Park but nothing much has changed. There is a huge stand to the left which was full of home fans and hospitality areas and a terrace behind the opposite goal. The Panache Stand was absolutely packed with 1,800 of us in there and we were able to create a serious noise despite the chilly day. By the time kick off came around everyone was on their feet ready to cheer the Town on to another win.

THE FOOD

A marquee was put up in the car park for the Town fans to drink in before the game and that seemed to be an option which was taken up by many. It certainly helped as the pubs are a good distance away from the ground.

One thing Wycombe's ground was good for was food kiosks. There was a big burger bar outside the area end and two more kiosks inside the ground. Sadly the queues for the food were a lot longer than the few staff working could deal with but luckily there was another stall serving hot dogs and hot drinks which was good enough with kick off closing in and from there it was into the seats ready for the big game!

THE PROGRAMME

A 64-page issue was produced for this match costing £3. It contained the usual things you would expect in a programme with the usual welcomes to all at the Town

from chairman and manager. There were four pages dedicated to our former player Gary Doherty, who recently announced his retirement while on the books of Wycombe and another four about the Town and our players.

THE MATCH

This was one of the craziest starts to a game all season. In absolutely foul conditions – with rain lashing down – the Town were behind inside five minutes when a header from a corner somehow managed to elude everyone and find its way to the top corner of our net.

But we were back on level terms almost instantly when a ball was headed out to the edge of the box where Jonathan Smith ran onto it, chested it and volleyed it into the top corner in one move.

The second half was like a cup tie. It was played at a crazy pace and with the really difficult conditions it was no surprise both sides tired visibly as the match went on. We had the first chance to go ahead when a brilliant move saw Andy Drury's shot saved. Wycombe missed a sitter towards the end of the game but we defended well throughout the second half but couldn't quite find the winner our intentions might have deserved. In the end a draw was a fair result. Man-of-the-match? An easy choice: Jonathan Smith was fantastic, 12 months to the day since breaking his leg.

SUMMARY

A good game and a good point to continue our run for promotion. Thankfully we weren't delayed in getting away from the ground for too long – although we were sat in the traffic for around 40 minutes (believe me that's not bad for Wycombe!) but once we got away the journey home went quickly and we were back in Luton just after 7pm after the 81 mile round trip so I was home in plenty of time to polish off what was left of the turkey!





Electrical

Refurbishment

Mechanical

Helping your business move forward through Facilities Services and Management.

- Building Maintenance
- Office Fit out and Refurbishment
- Electrical contractors and engineers
- Air conditioning and plumbing

- Flooring
- Site Pathway and Parking Maintenance
- Industrial Steelwork

Send us an email: service@f-p-m.co.uk Call our team today: 01582 484020



FPM Facility Services Ltd, Head Office, 35-37 Hastings Street, Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 5BE

www.f-p-m.co.uk



Travellers' TALES

HATTERS FAN KEVIN HARPER TELLS HIS STORY OF THE TOWN'S TRIP TO CAMBRIDGE UNITED

THE JOURNEY

Once again the Bobbers was my mode of transport. For our second trip to Cambridge of the season, we set off from Luton station at midday and we were in Cambridge shortly before 1.30 after a pretty smooth journey even allowing for the pelting rain. While we were on our way we heard there was a 1.15pm pitch inspection so everyone had fingers crossed that the pitch would pass and it wasn't a wasted journey. Just as we were getting parked news came through that the game was on – happy days! That left just the short journey through the field of cow muck up to the Abbey Stadium itself.



THE GROUND

Nothing has changed to the Abbey since we were there earlier in the season although unlike in the league game we didn't have any of the terrace to the left of where the Town fans sat. Instead 1,380 Town fans were sat in the new stand behind the goal which luckily had a roof after the foul weather of earlier in the day. By the time the game kicked off there was sunshine in Cambridge but the damage had been done to the pitch and it played very boggy particularly in the middle.

THE PROGRAMME

A 68-page programme was produced for this cup tie. The biggest piece of news from the programme is it seems Richard Money has remembered the name of the club that used to employ him as he managed to refer to us as Luton Town in this version unlike in the league game where he and the plot and clearly gone their separate ways! There was also a piece featuring 10 Town managers from the past which was a good read and brought back some good memories.

THE MATCH

The Town started the game on the front foot and were unlucky not to take the lead as the Cambridge keeper made saves from Mark Cullen and Michael Harriman while a Jonathan Smith shot struck the post. With the Town on top Cambridge landed a sucker punch when Mark Tyler brought down Ryan Donaldson in the box and a penalty was given. Tyler recovered to save the penalty by pushing it onto the post but sadly the ball went straight

back to Robbie Simpson who took the penalty and he buried the rebound.

As half-time came and went I couldn't help but feel this had shades of the Welling FA Cup tie from last season about it. Hoping I was wrong, those thoughts didn't go away when an excellent move saw Cullen send Harriman away down the right, his excellent cross saw Andy Drury miss from a couple of yards. To add to the Welling theme Cambridge scored their second goal against the run of play of the afternoon when Charlie Walker won a tackle only to see the ball break to Donaldson who ran into our box and put Cambridge 2-0 up. This was a sign our luck was out.

We managed to pull a goal back with Harriman heading Drury's cross home 15 minutes from time but despite huffing and puffing and throwing everything at Cambridge we couldn't get the equaliser and our cup run was over for another season.

SUMMARY

It is always disappointing to go out of the FA Cup, especially in a tie we had every chance of winning but it just wasn't our day. There were positives to take from it though, not least the return of Pelly Ruddock and also the fact we really didn't play that badly despite missing over half of what could be considered our strongest side. The journey back was an easy one and we were back in Luton around 6.45pm after the 76-mile round journey. There won't be a trip to Wembley this season (we hope!) but if we go on and get promoted not many will be complaining.

centre spot



Jonathan Smith, 12 months after breaking his leg on Boxing Day at Barnet, scores his first goal since with a wonderful equaliser at Wycombe Wanderers

PICTURE THE PAST

Club historian **ROGER WASH** delves into his photographic archive

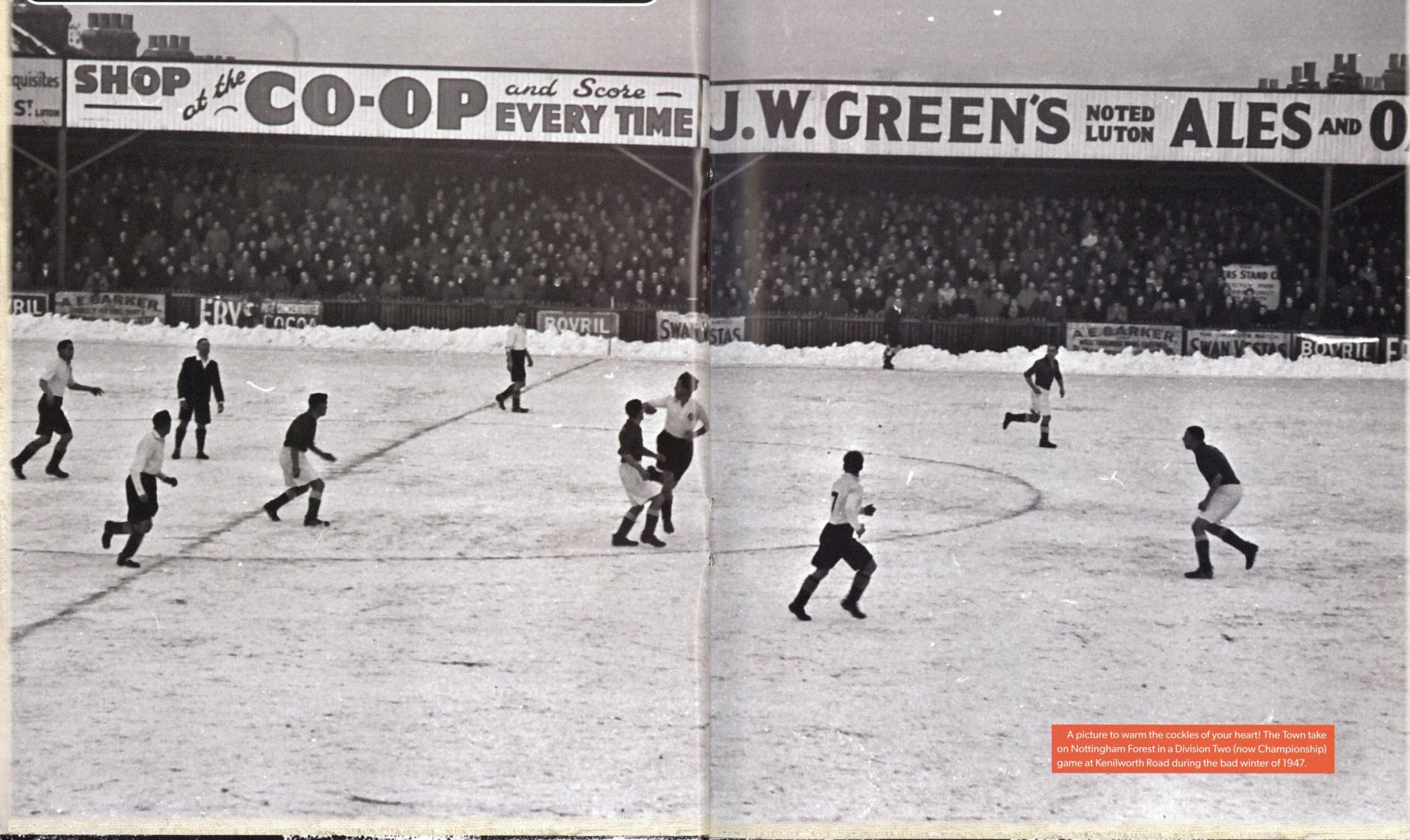


Alan Slough bravely dives in to head a last-gasp equaliser against Shrewsbury during the 2-2 draw at Kenilworth Road in September 1969. Earlier, Slough had put through his own goal to give the Shrews the lead so was desperate to atone for his mistake.



Camera Never Lies

Club historian **ROGER WASH** delves into his photographic archive



A picture to warm the cockles of your heart! The Town take on Nottingham Forest in a Division Two (now Championship) game at Kenilworth Road during the bad winter of 1947.

YESTERDAY'S PAGES

Club historian ROGER WASH looks back to the last time the Shrews visited Kenilworth Road.

Luton Town 3-1 Shrewsbury Town. 21st February 2009.

It was always going to be a tough ask. With a total of 30 points deducted at the start of the 2008/09 season the average Luton supporter had gone through all the emotions ranging from self-pity through to blind anger, often in the space of five minutes.

In the cold light of day though, the Town needed to hit promotion form just to survive in League 2. Easier said than done.

With only a handful of players left over from the previous season's relegation squad, a virtual new team needed to be assembled between the club's exiting administration on 31st July and the new season starting nine days later. Supporters at the opening day clash with Port Vale at Kenilworth Road were not sure of the team line-up until kick-off and an unprecedented eight players made their Hatters debut that afternoon. Unsurprisingly, the game was lost.

With the Town needing to throw caution to the wind and go out for a win in every game, home and away, opposition sides soon cottoned on to this and planned accordingly leading to frustration all around. We settled down to having a decent side, which in normal circumstances would have stood a good chance of reaching the Play-Offs, but the frustrations meant that it took until game 24 on 13th January before the points deficit was wiped out. 50 points to be won from the remaining 22 games to avoid relegation was, looking back, out of the question, but that did not stop us believing!

One ray of light that campaign was the progress through to the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final. Freed from the shackles of fighting for League points the players had beaten three sides from the division above with the latest, Brighton, seen off in the area final four days before the visit of promotion chasing Shrewsbury to Kenilworth Road.

Thoughts of a trip to Wembley – and a chance for the supporters to show solidarity on the big stage – transmitted itself to Kenilworth Road and a buoyant



Tom Craddock nets the first goal against the Shrews

5,661 gathered to roar the team to victory over the Shrews – the first of 2009.

Three of the Town's main central defenders were on the injured list, while loanee goalkeeper Lewis Price, the hero of the penalty shoot-out victory over Brighton, was unfit. This meant an unfamiliar back line and a return in goal for Dean Brill for the first time since the previous September.

On a badly cut-up pitch it was Shrewsbury who had the early chances which all fell to the normally lethal Grant Holt, but on this occasion he left his scoring boots at home. Taking advantage of these misses the Town took the lead on 15 minutes when an Asa Hall corner caused all sorts of problems in the Shrewsbury defence leaving Tom Craddock with a simple tap-in.

Shrewsbury did level soon after through Ben Davies and then saw Chris Humphrey hit the bar with a fierce shot before Sam Parkin put the Town back in front before half-time with a clever effort – his first goal since the end of August.

The Town had to withstand an onslaught in the second period with the defence looking jittery and it was therefore against the run of play when Hall netted the clincher to settle the nerves on 73 minutes with a shot from outside the area that deceived Luke Daniels in the Shrewsbury goal.

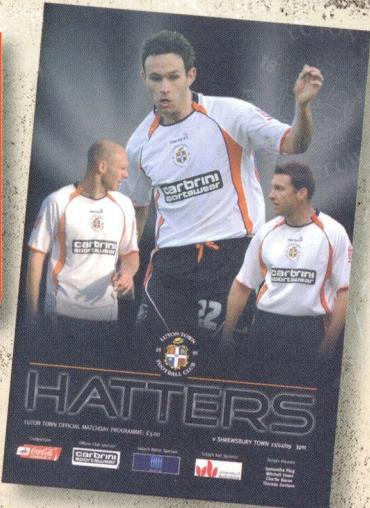
"There's 17 cup finals now with only one at Wembley," said Luton manager Mick Harford afterwards. His counterpart, Paul Simpson, meanwhile was heard to say "We should be beating teams like this!"

THE PROGRAMME

The Town produced a 68-page small-sized programme for the visit of Shrewsbury.

Naturally, a great deal of the programme was taken up with photos and comments regarding the Town's victory over Brighton in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy. Asa Hall, who had played for Shrewsbury the previous season, was featured, as was loanee goalkeeper Lewis Price whose saves against Brighton in the penalty shoot-out won us the tie.

Two pages were given over to photos of snowmen wearing Luton kit – the ultimate space filler!



ELSEWHERE IN FOOTBALL

- Manchester United concede their first Premier league goal in 1334 minutes play.
- Andre Arshavin signs for Arsenal in exchange for £15 million.
- Rushden beat crisis club Weymouth's youth team 9-0 in the Conference.

Bursting with ideas

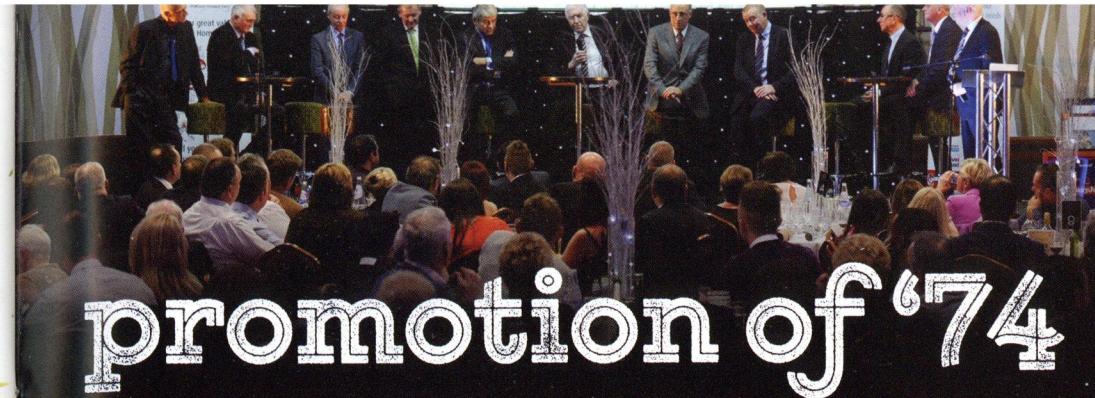


SAVE AT LEAST*
20%
ON TRAIN TRAVEL
TO LONDON

Travel by train to London and take advantage of our great value tickets. Visit firstcapitalconnect.co.uk and find heaps of ideas for free days out with all the top places to head to.

* Valid for Super Off-Peak tickets only. Terms and conditions apply. See website for details.

First Capital Connect



SHORTLY BEFORE CHRISTMAS WE WELCOMED BACK THE TOWN HEROES OF THE 1973/74 PROMOTION SEASON AT OUR CELEBRATORY DINNER AT VENUE 360. FORMER CAPTAIN ALAN WEST WAS JOINED BY JIMMY RYAN, JOHN RYAN, GORDON HINDSON, BARRY BUTLIN, JOHN FAULKNER, JIMMY HUSBAND AND ALAN GARNER REMINISCED ABOUT THE GOOD TIMES AT KENILWORTH ROAD - AND CLUB PHOTOGRAPHER GARETH OWEN WAS ON HAND TO CAPTURE THE SMILES ON THE NIGHT AS THE PHOTOGRAPHS ON THIS PAGE SHOW.



sky BET

£250,000
WINNER

NOTTINGHAM FOREST WIN
THE SKY BET TRANSFER FUND
THANKS TO SHAUN LANDER



NOW REOPENED
WIN £250K FOR YOUR CLUB
AND £5K FOR YOURSELF

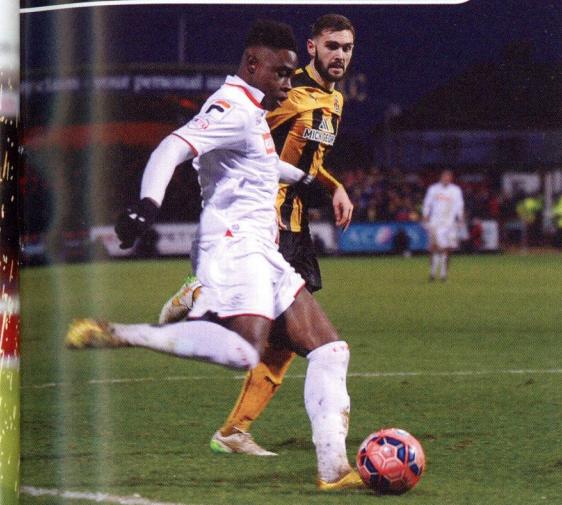
skybet.com/win

18+. T&C'S APPLY

ARE YOU IN?

reaction

RUDDOCK ON RETURN



After half-an-hour against Cambridge United last Saturday and 45 minutes in the development squad's win over Bournemouth on Tuesday, Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu is aiming to be involved in tonight's game with Shrewsbury.

The 21-year-old former West Ham United midfielder has been missing with a hamstring injury sustained in a development squad game at the beginning of December – but his last start for the Town's first team came back against Northampton in late October.

Having come through action this week, however, and following rehabilitation with fitness coach Dave Richardson, Ruddock believes he's ready to help the Hatters in their quest for promotion from League 2.

"I'm fully match fit," he said, adding: "I don't know if I'll start, it's up to the gaffer, but hopefully I can make an impact for the team and get us up the table."

"I'm back – back to my best, so hopefully I can push on in the team."

"It's been four or five weeks since I was last playing but it was good to get 30 minutes against Cambridge."

"I've been working hard with Dave Richardson strengthening my hamstring and it was important not to rush back and get injured again."

"These things happen, my injury came at a bad time but I feel fit and ready to go again now whenever the manager thinks I'm ready."

His appearance from the substitutes' bench at the Abbey Stadium last Saturday almost led to the Town pulling back a two-goal deficit, only for United to hold on to record a 2-1 win and with a place in the fourth round of the competition.

But Ruddock, who signed permanently for the Town 12 months ago after a successful loan spell from Upton Park, is now focused on helping the Hatters to back-to-back promotions.

"Promotion has always been the ultimate objective but it would have been nice to win in the FA Cup," said Ruddock.

"It was a disappointing result but the focus is now on the league and we'll hopefully move up the table."

Whisker

Ruddock came within a whisker of scoring an equaliser in the dying moments when he – and Charlie Walker – both flung themselves towards Michael Harriman's teasing cross at the Abbey, but it wasn't to be.

"It could have been 2-2, me and Chaz were inches away from Michael's ball in – the pitch was a bit bobbly and it was a matter of inches," said Ruddock. "I thought we were battled hard and could have got something from the game but it wasn't to be."

"We played well, Tyles made a great save from the penalty but it wasn't to be. We've had chances but we can't dwell on it and we just have to move on and get back up and running the league against Shrewsbury."

Manager John Still was also happy to see Ruddock's return to first team action – even if it was brought forward slightly after illness meant the boss was robbed of several players last weekend.

"Pelly coming back is a plus," said Still. "We weren't going to bring him back as we had the development game on Tuesday, but we had so many people going down with illness that we thought we'd go with him and give him half-an-hour."

"Do we miss Pelly? Of course we do. Do we miss Luke Guttridge? Of course we do. Do we miss Paul Benson? Of course we do. Did we miss Nathan Doyle and Steve McNulty? Of course we do."

"You miss your best players and biggest influences. It's not always you look on the pitch and say he's a good player, it's the influence on the team."

www.lutontown.co.uk

facebook.com/lutontown

@LutonTown

Youth Team & Development

FIXTURES & RESULTS

YOUTH

	DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	STARTING XI										SUBS	
AUGUST																	
Sat 2	11.00am	H	Milton Keynes Dons	W 3-1	King	TROTMAN 1	Hawkes	Atkinson ♦	TAMPLIN	Musonda	Galliford ♦	TAYALI 1	ALLMAN 1	Ngwala	McGhan-George	Justin ♦	
Tue 12	12 noon	A	AFC Bournemouth (LC)	W 2-1	King	Justin	Magaraushe	TAMPLIN	Musonda	McGhan-George ♦	Atkinson	GALLIFORD 1	Ngwala ♦	Tayali	Hawkes ♦	Allman ♦	
Sat 16	11.00am	H	Stevenage	D 1-1	King	Trotman	Hawkes	Justin	Musonda	Galliford	Atkinson ♦	TAYALI 1	Tayali ♦	Atkinson	AMADI 1	Allman ♦	
Wed 20	11.00am	H	Cambridge United	W 2-0	King	Trotman	Magaraushe ♦	TAMPLIN	Musonda	McGhan-George	Atkinson	GALLIFORD 1	Ngwala ♦	Tayali	Hawkes ♦	Magaraushe ♦	
Sat 23	10.30am	A	Dagenham & Redbridge	W 5-0	King	Trotman	Perry ♦	Justin	TAMPLIN	McGhan-George	Atkinson	GALLIFORD 1	ALLMAN 1	Atkinson	AMADI 1	Amadi ♦	
Sat 30	11.00am	H	Watford	W 3-0	King	TROTMAN 1	Perry	Justin	TAMPLIN ♦	Musonda	Ngwala	GALLIFORD 1	ALLMAN 1	Atkinson	AMADI 1	Craig ♦	
SEPTEMBER																	
Tue 2	12 noon	A	Dagenham & Redbridge (LC)	L 1-3	King	Trotman	Perry	Hawkes	Musonda	McGhan-George	Galliford ♦	TAYALI 1	ALLMAN 1	Ngwala	McGhan-George	Justin ♦	Gooch
Sat 6	10.30am	A	Barnet	L 2-4	King	Trotman	Magaraushe ♦	Hawkes	Musonda	McJannett	Atkinson	GALLIFORD 1	Galliford	Tayali	Hawkes ♦	Allman ♦	Craig ♦
Sat 20	11.00am	H	Northampton Town	D 1-1	King	MAGARAUSHE 1	Parry	McGhan-George	Musonda	McJannett	Atkinson	GALLIFORD 1	Galliford	Tayali	AMADI 1	Amadi ♦	Perry
Sat 27	10.30am	A	AFC Wimbledon	D 1-1	King	Magaraushe	Perry	Justin	Hawkes	McJannett	Atkinson	GALLIFORD 1	ALLMAN 1	Atkinson	AMADI 1	Bakinson ♦	Hawkes
OCTOBER																	
Sat 4	11.00am	H	Southend United	D 1-1	King	Magaraushe ♦	PERRY 1	McGhan-George	Musonda	Hawkes	Galliford ♦	TAYALI 1	ALLMAN 1	Tayali	NGWALA 1	Justin ♦	Gooch
Sat 11	10.30am	A	Leyton Orient	W 2-0	King	Magaraushe	Perry	Justin	Musonda	McJannett	Atkinson	GALLIFORD 1	ALLMAN 1	Atkinson	NGWALA 1	McGhan-George	Amadi ♦
Sat 18	11.00am	H	Gillingham	W 4-0	King	Hawkins	Perry	McGhan-George	Musonda	Fanewo	Atkinson	ATKINSON 1	ALLMAN 1	Tayali	AMADI 1	Murray ♦	Hawkes
Sat 25	11.00am	H	Dagenham & Redbridge	W 4-2	Gooch	Justin	Perry	McGhan-George	Musonda	Fanewo	Atkinson	GALLIFORD 2	ATKINSON 1	Atkinson	AMADI 2	Amadi ♦	Brown
NOVEMBER																	
Sat 1	11.00am	A	Cambridge United	W 4-3	King	Magaraushe	Perry	Hawkes	Musonda	Justin	Galliford ♦	GALLIFORD 2	ATKINSON 1	Atkinson	AMADI 1	Amadi ♦	Brown
Tue 4	7.30pm	H	Didcot Town (FAYC1)	W 4-1	King	Perry	Hawkes	Justin	Bakinson	Atkinson	GALLIFORD 1	ATKINSON 1	Atkinson	NGWALA 1	Tayali	Tayali	
Sat 8	11.00am	H	Barnet	L 0-5	Gooch	Magaraushe ♦	Perry	Hawkes	Musonda	Justin	Bakinson	ATKINSON 1	ALLMAN 1	Atkinson	AMADI 1	Amadi ♦	Tayali
Sat 15	10.30am	A	Watford	D 3-3	King	Hawkins	Perry	McGhan-George	Hawkes	McJannett	Bakinson	GALLIFORD 2	ATKINSON 1	Atkinson	NGWALA 1	Murray ♦	Fanewo
Tue 18	7.30pm	A	Oxford City (FAYC2)	L 1-2	King	Justin	Perry	McGhan-George	Hawkes	McJannett	Bakinson	ATKINSON 1	ALLMAN 1	Atkinson	AMADI 2	Amadi ♦	Craig ♦
Sat 22	11.00am	A	Northampton Town	D 1-1	Gooch	Hawkes ♦	Fanewo	McJannett	Hawkes	Fanewo	Bakinson	ATKINSON 1	ALLMAN 1	Atkinson	NGWALA 1	Snelus ♦	Harker
Sat 29	11.00am	H	Peterborough United	D 0-0	Gooch	Justin	Perry	McGhan-George	Hawkes	Fanewo	Bakinson	ATKINSON 1	ALLMAN 1	Atkinson	AMADI 2	Snelus ♦	Bakinson
DECEMBER																	
Sat 6	11.00am	A	Southend United	W 1-0	Gooch	Justin	Perry	Fanewo	McJannett	Hawkes	Atkinson	ATKINSON 1	ALLMAN 1	Tayali	CRAIG 1	McGhan-George	Murray ♦
Sat 13	11.00am	H	AFC Wimbledon	W 4-0	Gooch	Justin	MCGHAN-GEORGE 1	Fanewo	McJannett	Hawkes	Atkinson	ATKINSON 1	ALLMAN 1	Tayali	CRAIG 1	Amu ♦	King
Tue 16	1.00pm	A	Peterborough United	D 1-1	King	McGhan-George	Fanewo	McJannett	Hawkes	Atkinson	ATKINSON 1	ALLMAN 1	Tayali	CRAIG 1	Kotter ♦	Bean	
Sat 20	11.00am	A	Gillingham	W 2-0	King	McJannett	McGhan-George	Atkinson	Hawkes	Atkinson	ATKINSON 1	ALLMAN 1	Tayali	CRAIG 1	Amu	Bakinson	
JANUARY																	
Tue 6	11.00am	H	Leyton Orient														
Sat 10	11.00am	A	Milton Keynes Dons														
Sat 24	11.00am	A	Stevenage														

DEVELOPMENT

	DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	STARTING XI										SUBS
SEPTEMBER																
Tue 9	1pm	H	AFC Bournemouth	W 5-0	Justham	McNeil ♦	Brown	TAMPLIN	Williams	Smith	Rees	STEVENSON 3	Saunders	WALKER 1	LAFAYETTE 1	Trotman ♦
Tue 23	2pm	A	Portsmouth	D 2-2	Justham	Justin	Brown ♦	Perry	Andoh	Doyle ♦	Lawless ♦	WALKER 1	BENSON 2	WALKER 2	WALKER 2	Galliford
Tue 30	1pm	H	Gillingham (Cup)	W 5-2	Justham	Robinson	Brown	Lacey	Parry	Guttridge	Rees	WALKER 1	WALKER 1	WALKER 1	WALKER 1	King
OCTOBER																
Tue 28	1pm	H	Peterborough United	W 4-0	Justham	Williams	Howells	Lacey	Franks	Rooney	Stevenson ♦	Galliford	ROONEY 1	DRURY 1	DRURY 1	King
NOVEMBER																
Tue 18	1pm	A	Cambridge United	W 4-1	Justham	Ruddock	Lacey	Franks	Williams	Rooney	Stevenson	Galliford	ROONEY 1	DRURY 1	DRURY 1	Amadi ♦
Tue 25	1pm	H	Leyton Orient	W 2-0	Justham	Connolly	Lacey	Franks	Williams	Rooney	Stevenson	Galliford	ROONEY 1	DRURY 1	DRURY 1	Gooch
DECEMBER																
Tue 2	1pm	H	AFC Wimbledon	D 1-1	Justham	Robinson	Fitzsimons	Lacey	Connolly	Ruddock ♦	Howells	STEVENSON 1	ROONEY 1	DRURY 1	DRURY 1	King
Tue 9	7pm	A	AFC Wimbledon (Cup)	L 0-1	King	Fitzsimons	Lacey	Connolly	Lacey	Ngwala ♦	Robinson	STEVENSON 1	ROONEY 1	DRURY 1	DRURY 1	Gooch
JANUARY																
Tue 6	1pm	A	AFC Bournemouth	W 2-1	Justham	Collins	Connolly	Lacey	Musonda	Ruddock ♦	Robinson	STEVENSON 1	ROONEY 1	DRURY 1	DRURY 1	King
Mon 12	1pm	H	Brighton (Cup)													
Tue 20	1pm	H	Gillingham													
Tue 27	1pm	H	Milton Keynes Dons (Cup)													
FEBRUARY																
Tue 3	1pm	A	Peterborough United													
Tue 17	1pm	H	Milton Keynes Dons (Cup)													
Tue 24	1pm	A	Leyton Orient													
MARCH																
Tue 10	1pm	H	Cambridge United													
Mon 23	7pm	A	AFC Wimbledon													
Tue 31	1pm	H	Portsmouth													
TBA		A	Gillingham													
TBA		A	Cambridge United (Cup)													
AN INJURY-TIME WINNER																
The Hatters development squad their fifth win in seven league matches this season at the expense of Championship side Bournemouth on Tuesday afternoon.																
The Hatters led thanks to Ross Lafayette's fine low strike from 20 yards shortly before half-time following good work from Matt Robinson.																
But although the Cherries levelled midway through the second period, Walker won it in the dying moments when he latched onto Robinson's pass to beat the Bournemouth keeper and win it for the Hatters.																
The game also saw Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu complete 45 minutes, while there were also 90 minutes for Alex Lacey, Robinson, Paul Connolly and Alex Wall.																
Hatters coach Paul Driver said: "It was an all-round good performance. The lads showed excellent application and professionalism.																
"Matt Robinson was outstanding and Alex Lacey and Frankie Musonda formed a good partnership at centre-half.																
"Charlie Walker played in several different positions throughout and his hard work was rewarded with the winning goal."																

community

WITH HEAD OF COMMUNITY TRUST KEVIN THOBURN

The Christmas break turned out to be busier than normal as we managed to fit in development and assessment games for over 400 of our young recruited players against teams from both our own youth academy and MK Dons.



As a Community Trust we regularly coach over 2,500 children each week through our various schemes and while our main objective remains encouraging healthy lifestyles and spreading the name of the Club as far and wide as we can, we do use this reach as an important recruitment tool for the academy.

A large part of our youth academy's success lies in the fully integrated development structure at the Club, which like many other League clubs, is run by the Community

Trust. It starts with players as young as four years old who simply 'pay and play' each week through to our TIPs (Talent Identification Coaching Programme) for boys up to 16 years of age who train on our 10-week coaching programme. In total over 20 of these centres run all year around through our development programme run by the Club's Community Trust.

All of these boys, together with recruited boys, continue their journey for an academy place at our Centre of Excellence Centres in Luton, Dunstable and Kempston which have over 300 boys who we see long term development potential, plus a further 140 boys signed at our Luton pre-academy level for boys with shorter term potential.

The pre-academy boys train with the Club twice a week and remain with their local club sides while the boys at Centre of Excellence train once a week while remaining with their local club. At the same time all of the boys play around 10 games a season mostly during school holidays for the Club against other

professional sides. The boys have already held fixtures this season with Crystal Palace, Ipswich Town, Wycombe Wanderers and Northampton Town, and our under-7 to under-16 squads all played mini internal tournaments over two days this Christmas which included boys from MK Dons.

Currently around nine out of every 10 boys signed full-time to our academy come through our development system and these games are invaluable in assessing which boys are ready for progression. This season already over 40 boys from our development centres have played for the academy with around 12 having been signed. It is a huge pool of local talent supporting the academy making sure our youth talent identification programme works effectively for the academy and for local boys playing in local leagues.

We are now entering the business end of the season as we look to play Oxford United and Colchester United in February half-term swiftly followed by over 300 boys going on tour to Holland and Belgium, and a further 300 visiting Stowe School for a three-day residential training camp in April. It's a big operation involving all of our community coaches as well as most of our full-time academy staff as we look at assessing all boys who we feel are capable of playing at academy level or at the older age groups of gaining a youth scholarship with the club's youth team.

Our games programme underpins all of this talent identification work and with further games planned later in the season with Spurs and Arsenal development squads we will be keeping everyone up to date with developments and news of further signings into the academy. We hold trials for local boys all year round so if you would like to recommend anyone playing under-7 to under-16 local football please send details of the player and their next three or four fixtures to our recruitment department by email at tips.ltfc@hotmail.co.uk and we will do our best to watch them play.

HATTERS CUP

Hatters Cup 2015 sponsored by Kitchens2Go Kenilworth Stadium on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th May 2015 age group under-6s to under-12s.

Once again, the main Club are turning the Kenilworth Stadium over to the Community Trust and over three days we will be holding lots of community events. The major event is our annual six a side Hatters Cup football tournament on the pitch in May.

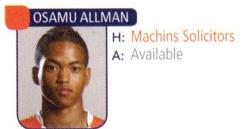
This has now become the biggest tournament of its kind in the South of England and we are calling on all of our local grass roots clubs to get their applications in quickly to avoid disappointment. Last year over 160 teams took part in the tournament but lots of local clubs missed out on the opportunity to play on the pitch through late applications.

The opportunity to play at Kenilworth Road is very exciting for many young players so we are again urging local clubs to get their applications in quickly as some groups are almost full and we can only hold places for local clubs for another couple of weeks. Once the deadline passes we will be well oversubscribed very quickly. So if you are local please either email for an entry form at ltfc.hatterscup@hotmail.com or phone the community office direct 01582 737568. We know May is a long way off but please don't wait until nearer the time as you will be disappointed!

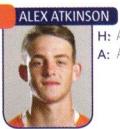


Youth Team Sponsors

H: HOME | A: AWAY



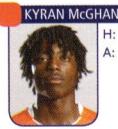
OSAMU ALLMAN
H: Machins Solicitors
A: Available



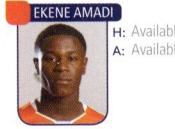
ALEX ATKINSON
H: Available
A: Available



GEORGE CRAIG
H: Available
A: Available



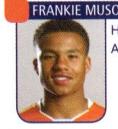
KYRAN MCGHAN-GEORGE
H: Available
A: Available



EKENE AMADI
H: Available
A: Available



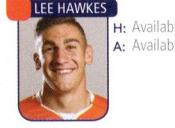
LIAM GOOCH
H: PJ.R.Bacon Builders
A: Available



FRANKIE MUSONDA
H: Available
A: Available



ISAAC GALLIFORD
H: Available
A: Available



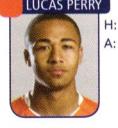
LEE HAWKES
H: Available
A: Available



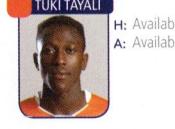
CRAIG KING
H: Mike Tearle
A: Available



DARIL NGWALA
H: Available
A: Available



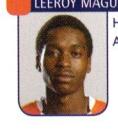
LUCAS PERRY
H: Available
A: Available



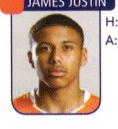
TUKI TAYALI
H: Available
A: Available



HARRY TAMPLIN
H: Allianz
A: NPA Commercial



LEEROY MAGURAUSHE
H: Available
A: Available



JAMES JUSTIN
H: Available
A: Available

BUILDING THE FOUNDATION OF FOOTBALL

Since 2000 the Football Foundation and its funders have invested in £1 billion worth of grassroots projects. This is providing quality playing surfaces and changing rooms for communities across the country – helping to increase participation and supporting player development.



[@FootballFoundtn](https://twitter.com/FootballFoundtn)
[Youtube.com/Footballfdn](https://www.youtube.com/Footballfdn)
flickr.com/footballfoundation
linkedin.com/football-foundation
www.footballfoundation.org.uk



WITH UNDER-18S HEAD COACH PAUL DRIVER

The Youth Team has nearly completed the first part of their league season with just three games left of the initial competition before teams go into the new merit league system where the top teams from the South East and South West join together.

We had originally been told that this league would be made up of the top four teams from our league and top three from the South West playing each other twice, and we had worked towards this successfully as we are in a group of four sides who have pulled away at the top of the South East but this has now been revised to the top seven from our league and five from the South West playing each other once.

While the achievement of our top four finish seems lessened, it does give us the chance to play different sides from the opposite league rather than playing certain teams four times in one season.

This top four finish is a credit to the quality of the squad as we have been greatly affected by injury this season with the long term loss of second year scholars Luke Trotman (broken leg), Harry Tamplin (anterior cruciate ligament), Osamu Allman (hamstring) and Daril Ngwala (hernia) has meant that we have been much younger as a group than expected.

However, this has given the first-year boys and a number of under-16s the chance to get plenty of game-time and they have responded well with the team remaining competitive in the league throughout the season and – to date – only Barnet, the league leaders, have defeated us. Now that qualification for the top group is ensured, we will use the remaining three games to look at some more under-16s ahead of their scholarship decisions which have to be made in January.

The only real disappointment for the group so far this season came with the second round defeat to Oxford City in the FA Youth Cup with the prospect of a home tie in the third round on the cards. We have reacted well to this as individuals and as a group and now need to kick on and perform well in the Merit League whatever side we put out.

Individually, the professional contract offered to Luke Trotman is the highlight so far and we hope that the remaining second year scholars will continue to work hard and seize their chances to impress the first team staff when they are presented to them as they seek to join him in the first team squad next season.

Still on the subject of Luke, his recovery from the broken leg has been remarkable and we expect him to return to full training and playing by the middle of January. The initial help we got from Peterborough United and the work that Jon Chatfield, our physiotherapist, and his team have done with him since the operation have all gone towards this recovery.

We have started the process of exposing the older boys to senior football, and Isaac Galliford has just completed a month with Hitchin Town and Tuki Tayali is currently with Barton Rovers. Craig King helped out Bromley from the Conference South in the FA Trophy and kept a clean sheet.

We will continue with this during the remainder of the season as we feel it is important for our players to learn early what it is like to play in the men's game against physically bigger players in "must win" games. Whether they get a professional contract with us or another club or whether they are released and have to make their way in the game on their own, it is in these leagues that they must first go and perform well to ensure that they make progress and, therefore, this early exposure to this level is priceless.

Wishing all of our supporters a Happy New Year.

LET'S GET
READY
FOR
THE
ACADEMY



Designer Brands Direct-Why Pay More Up To 75% Off Guaranteed Cheapest Prices



Visit Our eBay Shop:
Designer Brand Direct



Visit Our Website For Deals:
www.DesignerBrandDirect.co.uk

Luton Ladies

DAVE BAKER LOOK-BACK AT THE LAST YEAR WITH THE LADIES

The year began with poor weather and not much football but we did manage to fit in a county cup quarter-final tie on a 4G surface against Flitwick.

A strong performance ending in a 3-0 win saw the Town progress to the semi-final stage where we faced AFC Dunstable in February.

The semi-final between two local sides was played in excellent fighting spirit and was very open. Home side Dunstable were sitting top of the league below the Hatters who were struggling with league form at the back of 2013. After a tight game it ended 1-1 but the Town won the penalty shootout to send them into the final to defend the county cup.

March saw the Town return to league action but three straight defeats against Denham, Norwich and bottom of the league Brentwood suddenly left the Hatters propping up the table and in prime spot for relegation with just six games left.

Victories

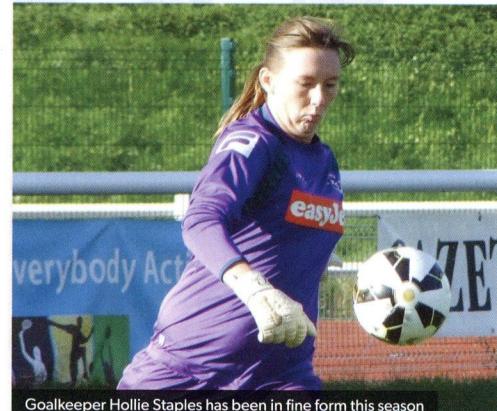
On the last day of March a hard-earned 3-3 draw at Ipswich moved the Town off bottom spot and vital back-to-back victories over Ebbsfleet went a long way to securing our league status.

A narrow defeat to Cambridge was followed up by an excellent 4-2 win over third-placed Norwich which finally killed off any relegation threat.

The final league game of the season was against eventual champions QPR at home and the visitors needed three points to secure the title. It was Luton who started the brightest and took the lead through Michelle Byrne, but the R's levelled before half-time, and took the lead midway through the second half.

During close season a number of changes were made to the squad and pre-season the revamped squad worked hard together. A reshuffle in the women's pyramid meant we were now playing in the FA Women's Premier League South East Division 1.

The first game of the season saw us travel to MK Dons and fight out a 1-1 draw. A week later we hosted the Dons in the League Cup, again ending in a 1-1 draw, with the Town again prevailing in the penalty shootout. We then travelled midweek to newly promoted Bedford Ladies. An excellent performance saw the Hatters triumph



Goalkeeper Hollie Staples has been in fine form this season

2-1 thanks to goals from Clare Howe and Jess McKay.

An unbeaten start to the season and three excellent performances left the girls feeling confident and in September we travelled to Cambridge hoping to continue the run. Back-to-back defeats to Cambridge and Plymouth Argyle had the Town squad stretched to the absolute limit with injuries biting hard.

A week later we faced Basildon at home who had heavily defeated us last season and were sitting top of the league. A very poor first half performance saw the league leaders lead 2-0 but an excellent second half from the Town saw an early goal from Rebecca Kane but several chances were wasted to get the equaliser.

Luton entertained Bedford Ladies in the return fixture at Kenilworth Road and got back to winning ways with goals from Zara Carroll and Rebecca Kane to complete a hard-fought double. A 2-1 away win against Enfield installed further confidence in the squad and there was a first goal for Remi Bains with Rebecca Kane notching the winner.

In November we drew Leighton United in the FA Cup, easing our way into the next round with a 6-1 win.

An excellent performance throughout the whole team saw the Town run out 3-0 winners over Crystal Palace with goals from Zara Carroll and a brace from Natalie Richardson.

The last game of the year was a home FA Cup tie against Cambridge and a goal from Jess McKay was enough to see the Town progress to the next round and a meeting with Lowestoft on 11th January.

Temporary Production Positions Available at the Vauxhall Luton Plant (IBC Vehicles Limited)

The Vauxhall Luton Plant (*IBC Vehicles Limited*) are looking for Temporary Production Employees to build the New Vauxhall Vivaro.

The applicant will be required to perform repetitive tasks quickly and efficiently to a high quality standard by following verbal and written instructions and will be required to use power tools to perform some job operations.

It is imperative this applicant is reliable and able to work as part of a team.

Salary: £17,052 per annum + Shift Premium

Duration: 6 months with potential to be extended.

Please e-mail ibc.vacancies@vauxhall.co.uk with a copy of your CV to be considered for an interview.

No Experience Needed. Immediate Start Required.

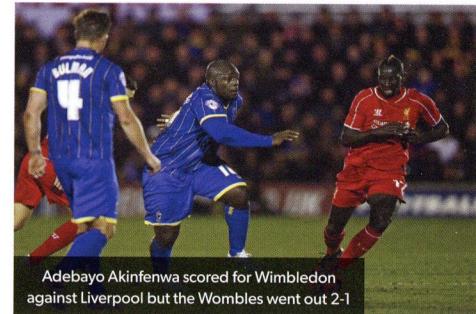


VAUXHALL

cup look



FA CUP NEWS IN BRIEF



Adebayo Akinfenwa scored for Wimbleton against Liverpool but the Wombles went out 2-1

There will be one sole League 2 representative in the fourth round of the FA Cup after Cambridge knocked the Hatters out of the competition last weekend.

The U's, who progressed thanks to goals from Robbie Simpson and Ryan Donaldson, were handed a dream fourth round date at home to Manchester United.

The two other League 2 sides in action in the FA Cup both lost to Premier League opposition on home soil.

Last Saturday Tranmere were beaten 6-2 by Swansea at Prenton Park. The Swans led at the break before racing into a 3-0 lead shortly before the hour. Max Power got Rovers back to within three goals on 70 minutes but Garry Monk's side extended their lead seven minutes later. Cole Stockton reduced the deficit for Micky Adams' side to make it 4-2 with seven minutes left but Swansea added two further late goals to ease into the fourth round.

AFC Wimbleton came close to forcing a replay in their televised Monday night clash at home to Liverpool. The Reds took a 12th-minute lead through Steven Gerrard but the Wombles levelled nine minutes before the break when Adebayo Akinfenwa poked home. The home side put the visitors under pressure in the second half with Gerrard denying Neal Ardley's side the lead when clearing Adam Barrett's effort off the line. Needing some inspiration, it was Gerrard that won the tie with a fine curling free-kick shortly after the hour to send the Reds through despite a spirited challenge from the Dons who now return to League 2 action.

Elsewhere there were no fairy tales for the five non-league sides left in the competition as they were all beaten by higher league opposition.

Blyth Spartans, of the Northern Premier League, came closest to pulling off an upset when they led Championship Birmingham City 2-0 at half-time. But three goals in six second half minutes saw the Blues overturn the deficit and spare their blushes.

Conference side Wrexham led Premier League Stoke at the Britannia Stadium but three late goals saw Mark Hughes' side progress to round four.

Former Town manager Gary Brabin was close to seeing his Southport side earn a replay at Championship promotion chasers Derby, only for an injury-time penalty from former Hatters loanee Chris Martin to break the Sandgrounders' hearts.

Dover, also of the Conference, were beaten comprehensively 4-0 at home to Crystal Palace in front of the BT Sport cameras on Sunday in what was Alan Pardew's first match in charge. And there wasn't much joy for Gateshead either, the Tynesiders blitzed 7-0 at West Brom on the Saturday at the Hawthorns with striker Saido Berahino scoring four times.

FOURTH ROUND DRAW

Southampton or Ipswich Town v Crystal Palace

Cambridge United v Manchester United

Blackburn Rovers v Swansea City

Chelsea v Millwall or Bradford City

Derby County v Scunthorpe or Chesterfield

Preston NE v Sheffield United

Birmingham City v West Brom

Aston Villa v AFC Bournemouth

Cardiff City v Reading

Liverpool v Bolton Wanderers

Burnley or Tottenham v Leicester City

Brighton & H.A v Arsenal

Rochdale v Stoke City

Sunderland v Fulham or Wolves

Doncaster or Bristol City v Everton or West Ham

Manchester City v Middlesbrough

The Sky Difference

It's knowing if you can't make it to the game,
the only place to watch the Sky Bet Football League
live is on Sky Sports.



sky

Believe in better



SPECS COMEDY AT THE ERIC MORECAMBE SUITE

January. Without doubt, the longest, darkest, coldest, wettest and least funny month of the year. Christmas is over, the New Year has come and gone yet again, and all that's left is some added weight around the middle, a gift-pack of Lynx deodorant and a Luton Town ice scraper.

Apart from the scraper, there's nothing to be happy about about. Right? WRONG! Specs Comedy is back on Friday 23rd January with yet another side-splitting line up.

Once a month, The Eric Morecambe Suite is transformed into a warm and welcoming comedy club, including delicious food and a well-stocked bar. This month, Specs Comedy introduces three nationally renowned acts in the shape of...



CHRISTIAN REILLY

ROGER MONKHOUSE

EL PURNELL

Christian Reilly uses his guitar and vocal skills to target over-the-top rock bands, musical theatre and depressing indie musicians.

Roger Monkhouse employs a combination of charm and menace to exert a masterful control over the audience. A highly original and quirky performer, Roger's trademark stage-prowling style and curious, unique manner have established him as one of the hottest names on the comedy circuit.

Finally, **El Purnell** brings his style of fiesta to the evening. The self-proclaimed "Numero Uno" comic from Ecuador has been entertaining audiences across the UK since 2009. El has built a reputation for a highly-interactive and hilarious set fusing observations of modern day life in the UK and Ecuador with high-energy and musical set-pieces to bridge the obvious language barrier.

So come along to Specs Comedy on the 23rd, and laugh in the face of those cold, dark January nights.

Tickets are just £10, or £8 for students available through the specs comedy website: www.specscomedy.co.uk, (booking fee applies) or by calling the Club on 01582 411622. Over 18's only. Facebook.com/specscomedy



ON THIS DAY

► THE RECORD

The Hatters have a decent record on this day in the history books, winning 10 of the 17 matches played on 8th January down the years. The Town have lost five and drawn two, scoring 35 and conceding 24. The first game the Hatters played on this day came in Division 2 in 1898 when they were beaten 5-0 at Walsall in what was Town's 110th match in their history. The Town's first home match on this day came in 1910 when Reading were beaten 2-1 in the Southern League.

► THE LAST TIME

The Town were last in action on this day two years ago in the Conference when Paul Buckle's side brushed aside Barrow 6-1 under the floodlights at Kenilworth Road. Jon Shaw was the Hatters' hero with a hat-trick, and he was joined on the scoresheet by Scott Neilson, Janos Kovacs and Andre Gray.

► CUP COURSE

Of the 17 matches played on 8th January, eight have come in FA Cup ties. The Town's record in that competition on this day is pretty good, too. The Hatters have progressed to the next round following five victories.

The first victory on this day in the FA Cup came with a 2-1 win over Birmingham in the first round back in 1921. Six years later the Town were dumped out at the third round stage after a 4-0 defeat away to Chelsea in front of a crowd of over 40,000 at Stamford Bridge.

The Town were then held to a 1-1 draw at Scarborough in 1938, a game watched by a Scarborough club record attendance of 11,162.

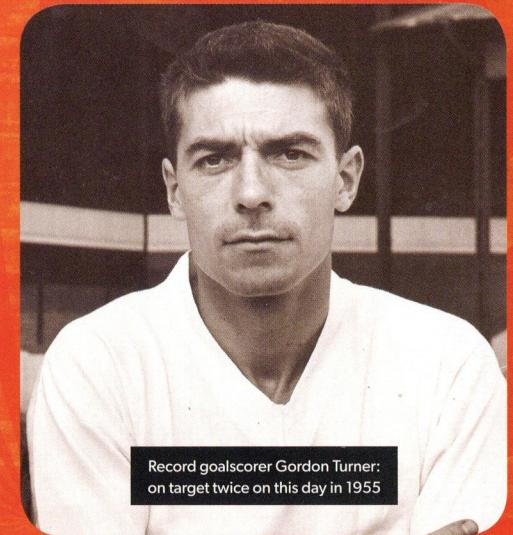
West Ham were beaten 3-1 at Kenilworth Road at the third round stage in 1949, and six years later in 1955 the Town then thumped Workington 5-0 on home soil with club record goalscorer Gordon Turner on target twice.

A solitary goal from John Aston saw the Town beat Halifax in the third round in 1977 at the Shay and it wasn't until 1983 that the Hatters would again play in the FA Cup on 8th January when running out 3-0 winners over Peterborough.

The Town's last match in the FA Cup on 8th January saw the Hatters beaten by Brentford at Kenilworth Road in 2004.

► AWAY THE LADS

The Town's game over Barrow was their first home league match on this day for 57 years – not since a 5-2



Record goalscorer Gordon Turner:
on target twice on this day in 1955

win over Chester in Division Four in 1966 (more of that in a bit).

The Town lost 3-1 away to tonight's visitors Shrewsbury in 1969 with Alan Slough on target, but three years later the same player was on target to score the only goal in a 1-0 victory away at Preston North End.

It wasn't until the year 2000 that the Town would be in action again in the League on 8th January, but it wasn't worth the wait as the Hatters went down 2-1 at Stoke – Matt Spring scoring a penalty.

Two years later, with the Hatters now in the bottom tier of the Football League, Spring was again on target – this time scoring twice in a 4-1 victory away to Kidderminster Harriers. Matt Taylor and Steve Howard also struck that night.

Most recently, in 2011, the sequence of away games in League action ended with a goalless draw away to Bath City.

► THE O'ROUKE SHOW

The Town recorded victory on this day at Kenilworth Road with a 5-2 thumping of Chester in Division Four (now League 2). Striker John O'Rourke led the way with a hat-trick, whilst wing wizard Graham French and goalkeeper-cum-forward Tony Read was also on target against the Seals.

PLAY YOUR PART @FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Have your say and keep up with all the action and official news from Football League HQ!

To follow us, go to www.twitter.com/football_league or to send us a message, Tweet @football_league





**SUPPORTING
FANS WITH
OUR MOST
POPULAR
CARD.**

Our Capital One Classic credit card
already has over 4.4 million fans.

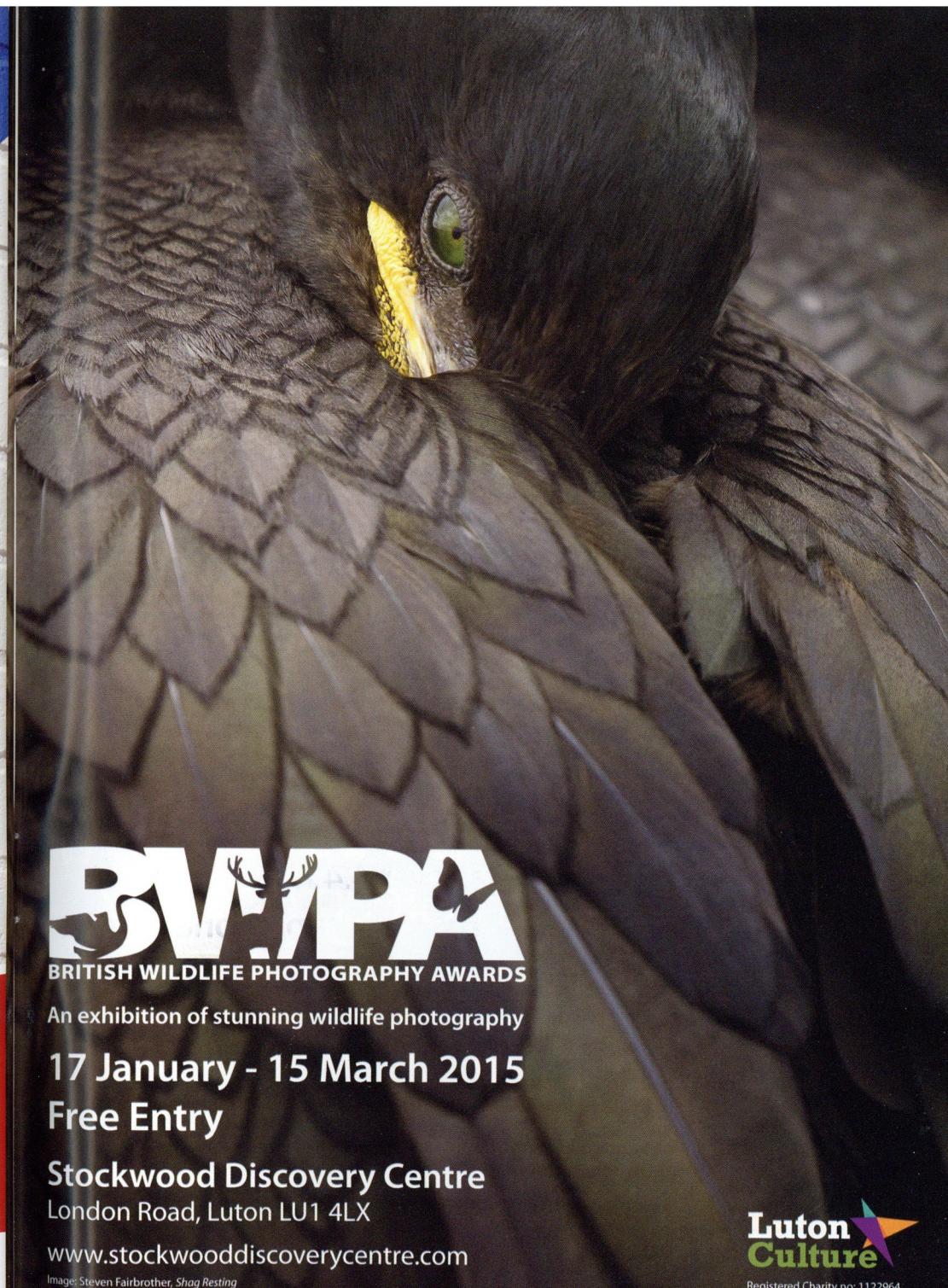
Find out more at capitalone.co.uk

CapitalOneTM



Proud Sponsors of
The Capital One Cup.

® A registered mark of Capital One (Europe) plc. Registered Office: Trent House, Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3HX. Registered in England and Wales. Company Number: 3879023. Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.



BWPA
BRITISH WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS

An exhibition of stunning wildlife photography

17 January - 15 March 2015
Free Entry

Stockwood Discovery Centre
London Road, Luton LU1 4LX

www.stockwooddiscoverycentre.com

Image: Steven Fairbrother, Shag Resting

Luton Culture
Registered Charity no: 1122964

Don't forget...

LTFC season ticket holders travel at child rate on match days. Don't worry about parking, connect with the Busway at Luton Station and get dropped right outside the ground.



arrivabus.co.uk/south-east

 ARRIVA

go on, get on!

from £5 Luton to London on Green Line 757

free WiFi on board



GREAT VALUE WAY 757

LUTON - LONDON

 /GreenLineUK

 @GreenLineUK

greenline.co.uk

greenline 757

The FOOTBALL Paper

THE ONLY PAPER FOR THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE FAN

BUY IT EVERY SUNDAY FROM YOUR LOCAL NEWSAGENT

BY CHRIS DUNLAVY

New year, new stars. As 2014 becomes 2015 it's time to forget what's gone before and – as Slade annually recommend – look to the future.

Your team may be in the doldrums. Your star signing may be warming the bench. But there's 20-odd games left yet and that's plenty of time for somebody to make themselves a hero.

Every year, we at the FLP cast our eye through the divisions and try to spot a handful of players we think will make a name for themselves in the New Year.

We'll reveal them in full in the next issue but, for now, here's a little taster of our ones to watch to in 2015:

CHARLIE DANIELS – BOURNEMOUTH

Whichever way you skin it, Bournemouth's full-backs are integral to their free-rolling forward play.

And while Simon Francis is equally deadly on the right, it's 28-year-old Daniels who seems to catch the eye game after game.

Schooled as a winger at Spurs and Leyton Orient, Daniels may play as a left-back but retains all the pace, creativity and attacking intent of an out-and-out wideman.

Can he defend? Who knows? Opposition wingers spend so much time chasing him around that he never needs to. Frequently found hitting the byline and even getting beyond the strikers, there isn't a more entertaining defender in the division.

ADAM REACH – MIDDLESBROUGH

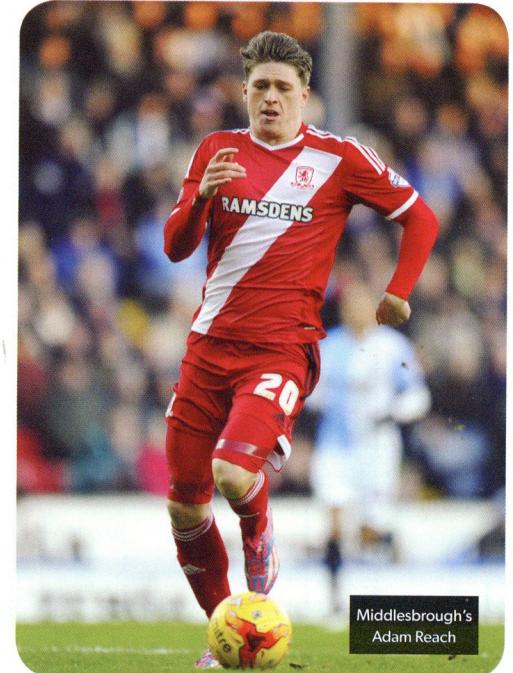
OK, so an established England Under-20 star isn't exactly under the radar but Reach has still come on leaps and bounds under Aitor Karanka.

This time last year, the 21-year-old was out on loan at Shrewsbury and being warned to "up his game" by their manager Graham Turner.

Now he is one of the Championship's most dangerous wingers – fast and direct with a savage left foot.

What's really refreshing about Reach is the simplicity of his game. Too many modern wingers start on the wrong side and try to come inside for a pop at goal. Reach isn't one of them. He puts his head down and drives at the line, utilising his fabulous pace to leave defenders trailing.

"He's the sort of lad who loves football, who always wants to learn and for this reason, he will have a very good future," said Karanka after handing Reach a new long-term deal last month.



Middlesbrough's Adam Reach

Five assists in 17 games is a good start but there's more to come in 2015.

DELE ALLI – MK DONS

Described by his boss Karl Robinson as "unique" Alli isn't even 19 until April but already has 16 goals in 55 games for the Dons.

Quick, rangy and increasingly powerful, the attacking midfielder is 6ft 2ins of rough diamond who will end up in the Premier League before long. In the meantime, best enjoy a talent Robinson believes is heading for the summit of the game.

"He's going to be up there with Steven Gerrard and Michael Owen," said the Dons manager, who played with the Liverpool duo as a youngster.

"What can't he do? He's good in the air, he's quick, he scores goals, he tackles. What much more do you want from a midfield player?"

league look



League 2 news in brief

The Town go into their first match in Sky Bet League 2 of 2015 tonight in fifth place in the table, five points behind league leaders Wycombe Wanderers – but with a game in hand, and two points behind this evening's visitors Shrewsbury.

Wycombe continued their remarkable season (remember they avoided relegation to the Conference on the final day of last season on goal difference) with a 1-0 home win over bottom-of-the-table Hartlepool on Saturday to remain in top spot. Wanderers boss Gareth Ainsworth, however, will have to maintain his side's push for promotion without the services of Paris Cowan-Hall, who has signed for Championship side Millwall.

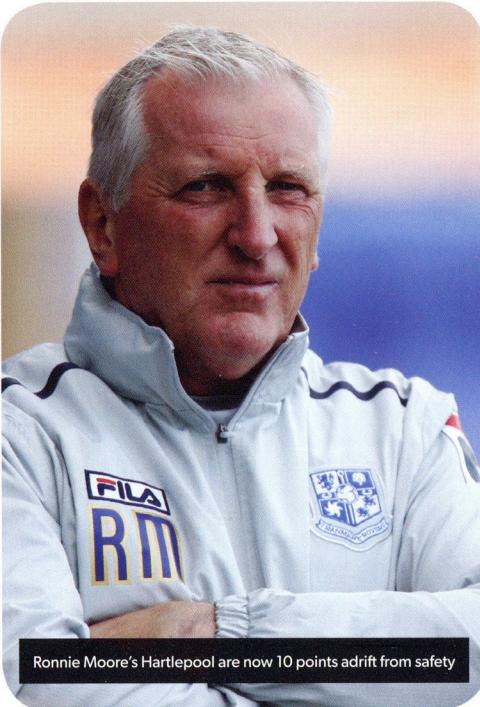
Jimmy-Floyd Hasselbaink's Burton Albion remain in hot pursuit of Wycombe as they edged out Shrewsbury 1-0 last week thanks to George Taft's solitary goal at the Pirelli Stadium. Albion are one point behind Wycombe and two points ahead of Shrewsbury, who remain in third place.

Newport County only seem to lose to the Hatters – their only two defeats since the end of August have been against the Town in the League and in the FA Cup – and Justin Edinburgh's side lifted themselves into fourth place – their highest position of the season so far – after coming from behind to beat Carlisle 2-1 at Rodney Parade.

The Town slipped to fifth as a result of not playing last weekend, but teams below the Hatters in the table failed to capitalise. Sixth-placed Southend were held to a 1-1 draw at struggling Northampton, while Plymouth, now in seventh, could not find a winner against York despite having a man advantage for three-quarters of the match at Bootham Crescent following Stephane Zubar's early sending off. The goalless draw nudged Argyle to within four points of the Hatters.

Bury lost 1-0 to Dagenham & Redbridge but despite that set-back the Shakers remain in eighth place and just one point from a top-seven berth. Exeter also missed the chance to break into the top seven, the Grecians squandering a lead at home to Accrington who scored a last-minute winner. Stanley are now just five points off the Play-Offs themselves, sitting in 13th place.

Stevenage are enjoying a good run of form – winning three of their last four matches – which has lifted Graham Westley's side into 10th place and just three points short



Ronnie Moore's Hartlepool are now 10 points adrift from safety

of a Play-Off place. Last weekend they were held to fellow Play-Off hopefuls Morecambe in a goalless draw at the Globe Arena.

At the other end of the table Hartlepool's continued struggles means Ronnie Moore's side are now 10 points adrift of safety. However just six points covers Portsmouth in 15th place (28 points) and Tranmere in 23rd – the final relegation spot. Rovers are two points from safety with a game in hand over Carlisle who lost at Newport.

Dagenham's excellent win over Bury lifted them out of the relegation zone and into 21st place, while Northampton continue to tumble down the table and now find themselves just three points above the bottom two.

As ever there are some important fixtures in League 2 this forthcoming weekend with Burton hosting Mansfield, Newport taking on Portsmouth and Wycombe at home to York. The game of the weekend, however, is sixth versus seventh as Southend host Plymouth at Roots Hall.

WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

Accrington v Bury (Friday)
Burton v Mansfield
Carlisle v Cambridge
Dag & Red v Oxford
Exeter v Northampton
Hartlepool v Cheltenham
Morecambe v Tranmere
Newport v Portsmouth
Southend v Plymouth
Stevenage v AFC Wimbledon
Wycombe v York

TOP GOALSCORERS

Richards (Northampton) 12
Tubbs (AFC W'don) 12
Hylton (Oxford) 11
Reid (Plymouth) 11
Collins (Shrewsbury) 9
Nicholls (Exeter) 9
Akinfenwa (AFC W'don) 8
Cullen (Luton) 8
Ellison (Morecambe) 8
Hayes (Wycombe) 8

AVERAGE ATTENDANCES

Portsmouth	15,299	Exeter	3,731
Luton	8,726	Hartlepool	3,573
Plymouth	7,555	Bury	3,521
Southend	5,785	York	3,501
Oxford	5,664	Newport	3,229
Shrewsbury	5,071	Stevenage	3,177
Tranmere	4,873	Burton	3,056
Cambridge	4,830	Mansfield	2,883
Northampton	4,497	Cheltenham	2,718
Carlisle	4,411	Morecambe	2,038
AFC W'don	3,977	Dagenham	1,851
Wycombe	3,920	Accrington	1,470

LEAGUE TABLE 2014/15

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Wycombe Wanderers	24	13	8	3	38	20	18	47
2 Burton Albion	24	14	4	6	33	23	10	46
3 Shrewsbury Town	24	13	5	6	33	16	17	44
4 Newport County	24	12	7	5	35	25	10	43
5 LUTON TOWN	23	12	6	5	28	17	11	42
6 Southend United	24	11	7	6	24	20	4	40
7 Plymouth Argyle	24	11	5	8	29	17	12	38
8 Bury	24	11	4	9	35	30	5	37
9 Exeter City	25	10	7	8	33	33	0	37
10 Stevenage	24	10	5	9	33	31	2	35
11 Morecambe	24	10	4	10	25	23	2	34
12 AFC Wimbledon	23	9	6	8	33	31	2	33
13 Accrington Stanley	23	10	3	10	34	37	-3	33
14 Cambridge United	23	8	5	10	34	29	5	29
15 Portsmouth	23	7	9	7	26	29	-3	28
16 Oxford United	24	7	7	10	26	31	-5	28
17 Cheltenham Town	24	7	7	10	22	33	-11	28
18 York City	24	5	12	7	26	28	-2	27
19 Mansfield Town	23	7	6	10	18	28	-10	27
20 Northampton Town	24	7	4	13	34	38	-4	25
21 Dagenham & Redbridge	24	7	4	13	26	36	-10	25
22 Carlisle United	24	7	3	14	29	45	-16	24
23 Tranmere Rovers	23	5	7	11	23	30	-7	22
24 Hartlepool United	24	3	5	16	43	47	-27	14

PLAYER STATS 2014/15

LEAGUE	THIS SEASON						LTC CARRIER TOTAL
	APPS	GLS	CUP APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS	
Zane Banton	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0	0	6 0
Paul Benson	10 (3)	1	3 (0)	1	13 (3)	2 4	0 54 20
Paul Connolly	4 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	6 (0)	0 3	6 0
Mark Cullen	22 (0)	8	5 (0)	1	27 (0)	9 1	0 63 19
Nathan Doyle	14 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	18 (0)	0 3	0 18 0
Andy Drury	17 (5)	0	4 (0)	0	21 (5)	5 0	1 0 52 8
Fraser Franks	5 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	9 (0)	0 1	0 26 0
Scott Griffiths	19 (0)	1	4 (0)	0	23 (0)	1 2	0 75 2
Luke Guttridge	9 (4)	1	2 (1)	1	11 (5)	2 1	0 49 15
Michael Harriman	12 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	16 (0)	1 1	0 16 1
Jake Howells	11 (6)	3	3 (2)	1	14 (8)	4 1	0 298 30
Elliot Justham	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (0)	0 0	0 0 0 8 0
Alex Lacey	8 (4)	0	2 (0)	0	10 (4)	4 0	0 0 0 45 1
Ross Lafayette	1 (10)	0	3 (0)	0	1 (13)	0 2	0 0 14 0
Alex Lawless	2 (1)	1	0 (1)	0	2 (2)	1 0	0 0 0 160 19
Steve McNulty	22 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	26 (0)	0 2	1 94 2
Ricky Miller	2 (6)	1	2 (1)	1	3 (8)	2 1	0 11 2
Andrew Parry	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0 0	0 0 0 26 4
Ian Rees	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0 0	0 0 0 4 0
Matt Robinson	5 (1)	0	1 (2)	0	6 (3)	0 0	1 54 3
Luke Rooney	7 (3)	3	2 (0)	2	9 (3)	5 2	1 18 5
Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu	10 (5)	1	0 (2)	0	10 (7)	1 1	0 41 3
Charlie Smith	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0 0	0 3 0
Jonathan Smith	16 (0)	1	5 (0)	0	21 (0)	1 2	0 81 4
Jim Stevenson	2 (9)	1	1 (0)	0	3 (9)	1 1	0 18 1
Mark Tyler	23 (0)	0	5 (0)	0	28 (0)	0 2	0 258 0
Charlie Walker	0 (3)	0	1 (2)	0	1 (5)	0 0	0 6 0
Alex Wall	1 (3)	1	1 (0)	0	2 (3)	1 3	0 32 7
Shaun Whalley	7 (0)	2	1 (0)	0	8 (0)	2 1	0 30 4
Luke Wilkinson	21 (0)	3	6 (0)	0	27 (0)	3 2	1 27 3
Curley Williams	3 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	3 (0)	0 0	0 3 0

HOLD THE Back Page

WITH DIVERSEFM'S SIMON PITTS

Whilst preparing for this article I read an online statistical review of 2014 that stated Luton Town were the fifth best team – by points per game – of the 94, that had played in the four main divisions of English football during the year.

I have since highlighted to the website editor that the correct statistics actually put the Hatters in third place with an average of 2.05 points per game, from the 44 league matches played.

A review of the year shows there were 51 matches played in all competitions, with 43 players combining for a total of 690 appearances and 84 goals. The year started with a 2-1 victory over Barnet, with Andre Gray and Paul Benson scoring, and who can forget that day? This was the first of 19 victories from 28 home matches.

There were just two draws at Kenilworth Road, including the last game of the year versus Portsmouth, the sixth 1-1 draw of 2014. There were seven defeats at home, albeit two of those against higher league opposition in two Cup competitions this season, compared to just four away defeats.

Mark Tyler made the most appearances, 48, missing only the two FA Trophy ties against Cambridge and the Johnstone's Paint Trophy fixture against Crawley this season. He was closely followed by Stephen McNulty with one less appearance.

Three players only featured once in a Luton shirt during the year: Zane Banton and Luke Trotman both featured against Cambridge in an FA Trophy replay, whilst Dave Martin was a used substitute against Nuneaton in a 3-0 win.



The most common scoreline was 1-0, which occurred eight times, five at home and three from away trips. Coincidentally the last game of last season was a 1-0 win away at Hyde, and the scoreline was repeated on the opening day of this season at Carlisle. Mark Cullen of course scored at Brunton Park, and he's also since netted the only goal of the game against both Cheltenham and Cambridge.

Cullen netted 13 goals during the year, and this was only bettered by last season's top scorer Andre Gray who scored 17 goals from just 20 appearances in the four months that he played. Gray netted two hat-tricks during this spell, against Nuneaton and Hereford, with Cullen also achieving this feat against Dagenham & Redbridge.

Superb

In total 18 players scored for Luton in 2014, with Paul Benson the only other player to reach double figures, 10 goals, with only four players netting just once during the year. Scott Griffiths, Ryan Inniss, Jim Stevenson and who can forget Jonathan Smith's superb goal at Wycombe exactly a year after breaking his leg at Barnet, also on Boxing Day.

The two main attendance records were both broken in the final two games of the year. Firstly the 2,566 that travelled to Wycombe on 26th December made up the biggest away support of the year, whilst the home attendance of 10,071 two days later against Portsmouth was the largest attendance at Kenilworth Road of 2014.

The Hatters played in six competitions during the course of 2014, Skrill Premier, Capital One Cup, FA Cup, FA Trophy, Johnstone's Paint Trophy and Sky Bet League 2...can they add another competition to the list in 2015?

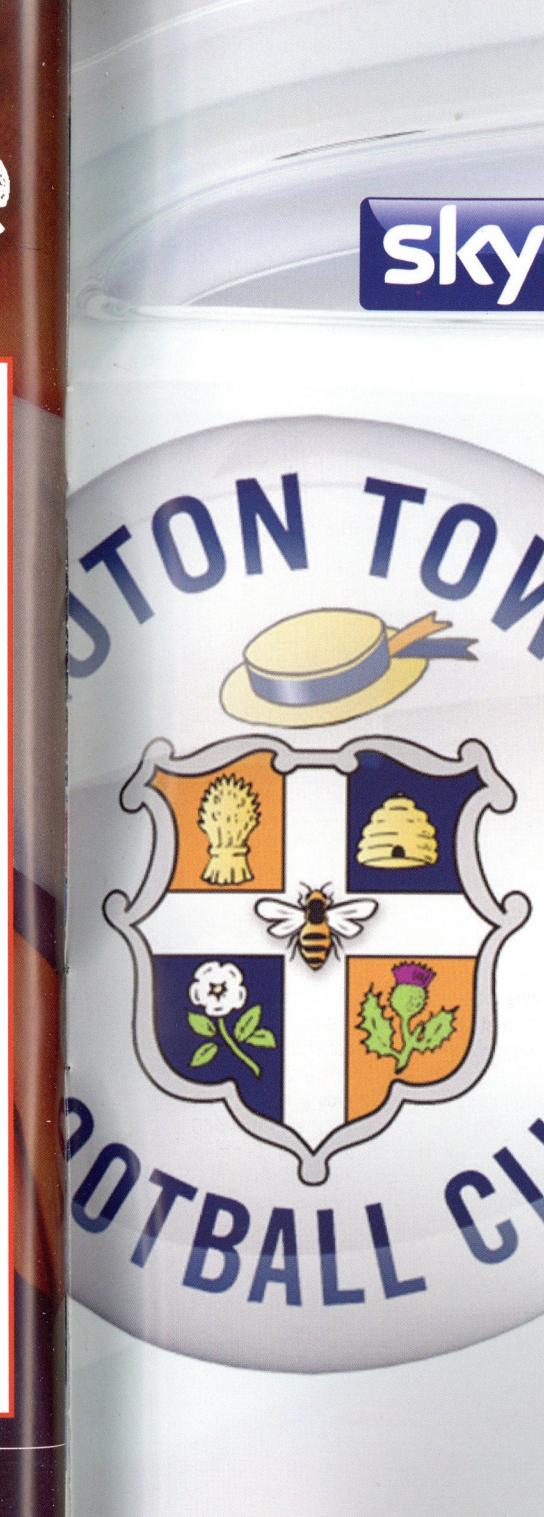


sky BET

WIN
£250,000
FOR YOUR
CLUB

SUPPORT LUTON
TOWN WITH US
THIS SEASON

ARE YOU IN?
skybet.com/luton



THE SQUADS



LUTON TOWN

1	Mark Tyler
2	Fraser Franks
3	Danny Fitzsimons
4	Jonathan Smith
5	Stephen McNulty
6	Alex Lacey
7	Alex Lawless
8	Andy Drury
9	Paul Benson
10	Alex Wall
11	Jake Howells
12	Scott Griffiths
13	Mark Cullen
14	Andy Parry
15	Luke Rooney
16	Elliot Justham
17	Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu
18	Ross Lafayette
19	Ricky Miller
20	Shaun Whalley
21	Luke Guttridge
22	Michael Harriman
23	Matthew Robinson
24	Curtley Williams
25	Nathan Doyle
26	Jim Stevenson
27	Paul Connolly
28	Luke Wilkinson
29	Brett Longden
30	Mark Onyemah
31	Zane Banton
32	Charlie Walker
33	Charlie Smith
34	Kynan Isaac
35	Ian Rees

SHREWSBURY TOWN

1	Jayson Leutwiler
2	Jermaine Grandison
3	Mickey Demetriou
4	Ryan Woods
5	Mark Ellis
6	Connor Goldson
7	Ashley Vincent
8	Dave McAllister
9	James Collins
10	Scott Vernon
11	Liam Lawrence
12	Cameron Gayle
13	James Wesolowski
14	Ross Lafayette
15	Aaron Wildig
16	Anthony Griffith
17	James Caton
18	Andy Robinson
19	Andy Mangan
20	Nathaniel Knight-Percival
21	Mark Halstead
22	Jordan Clark
23	Jean-Louis Akpa Akpro
24	Dom Smith
25	Josh Ginnelly
26	Callum Burton
27	Theo Barge

TODAY'S OFFICIALS



Darren Deadman



Adam Crysell



Thomas Ramsay



Darren Blunden

NEXT UP

vs CAMBRIDGE UNITED • SATURDAY 31st JANUARY 2015 • 3pm
SKY BET LEAGUE 2

