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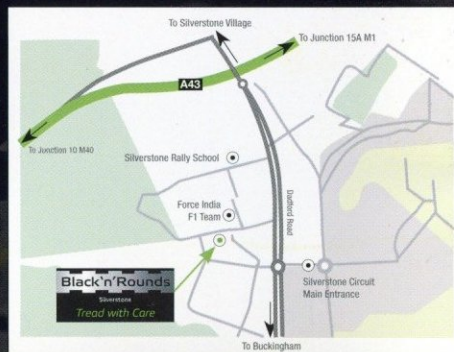
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MATCHDAY MAGAZINE

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INSIDE TODAY'S MAGAZINE



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

15 & 17 League 2 round-up
We look at all the deadline day comings and goings in League 2

18-19 On the Road to Stevenage
Relive the win at the Lamex through the eyes of the media team

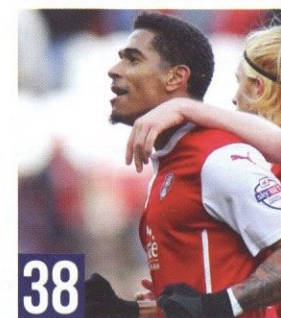
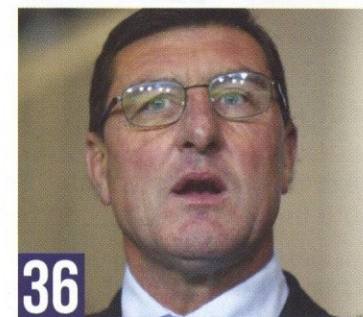
24-29 Luton Town
Our full round-up of today's opponents, including who's played for both and all the stats

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United's former striker recalls the U's promotion push of 1995/96

Cover star: Jake Wright
- United's skipper led the defence superbly as they kept a clean sheet at Stevenage last week



Hidden throughout the programme are some pictures of Black 'n' Rounds tyres for you to find.

Count the tyres and email programme@oufc.co.uk with your answer. If you're correct you could win a signed copy of Alan Hodgkinson's autobiography.





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DARRYL EALES

WELCOME TO TODAY'S GAME AGAINST LUTON TOWN. IT IS A PLEASURE TO HOST THEIR FANS, PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS THIS AFTERNOON. LUTON ARE ENJOYING A FINE SEASON TO DATE AND THEY ARE SURE TO PROVIDE A STERN TEST AS WE SEEK BACK-TO-BACK VICTORIES AND AN IMPROVEMENT IN OUR HOME FORM.

Oxford against Luton is a rarity in the football calendar: it is the only fixture that has been played at every level from the top flight right through to the Conference. As a result of some fantastic games in recent years a passionate rivalry has developed which should provide for a fantastic atmosphere this afternoon.

Last Saturday we travelled to another club that were huge rivals during those Conference years, Stevenage. It was a highly competitive game on a challenging pitch but our resilience and commitment provided the back bone for a clean sheet and a well-deserved victory. Once again, the away supporters really were the 12th man and were in fine voice throughout the game.

Immediately after the game, I had to leave for Asia on business and missed the Oxford United Women who were in action for the first time this season against Coventry City Ladies. Despite the result, there were many positives from the game and I look forward to a further season of progress. As I said in my notes for that game, the Women's team is an integral part of how we wish to take the club forward and I am sure we wish them success in the season ahead.

Over the past couple of weeks, much of the focus has been on the transfer window. We wanted to strengthen the squad and are delighted with the arrival of Alex MacDonald and Joe Skarz on long-term contracts, together with Richard Brindley on an initial one-month loan and Jamie Ashdown, who joined on Tuesday. All are experienced players who have achieved success at this level and will bring much-needed competition for places.

Whilst on-the-pitch success is our ultimate yardstick, we have made it a clear priority to bring the club closer to the community on as many fronts as we can.

The last two games have seen us welcome the

young players from the Oxford Mail Youth League to receive their medals and trophies. It is fantastic to see so many young footballers coming together from across the county to celebrate achievement. Let's hope that some of the youngsters go on and emulate the seven local lads who were in the first team squad for the last home game against Exeter City!

We were also delighted to participate in the 'United we Achieve' initiative this week, which seeks to support individuals who have been looking for employment since leaving school but have found it tough going. By involving the football club and inviting guest speakers not only from within the club but also from the army and local businesses we hope we have offered some advice and guidance to help them along their career paths. I had the pleasure of giving a short speech around 'keys to success' and I very much hope that the experience allows them to gain their first break in the job market.

Around the club generally, I am delighted that we are making positive changes and are heading in the right direction. There is always more to be done and we continue to encourage feedback as to the key issues which concern fans.

Clearly and understandably, our league position is one issue which weighs on the minds of all of us. There is absolute focus across the playing and coaching staff on improving results which will enable us to look up the table rather than down.

With 18 games to go, there is still a huge amount to play for as the table is very congested and a couple more good results will change the outlook.

Today's game will be tough but I hope we can build on last week and deliver another three points.

Best wishes

Darryl



MICHAEL APPLETON

AFTER WORKING SO HARD TO GET ALL THREE POINTS AT STEVENAGE LAST WEEKEND, IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE CARRY THAT ON TODAY AND PUT IN ANOTHER POSITIVE PERFORMANCE AGAINST A LUTON SIDE WHO HAVE ADAPTED VERY WELL TO BEING BACK IN THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

I was delighted with the attitude and application we showed last weekend. There was snow throughout the morning and we knew the pitch wasn't going to be the best but the way that we stuck to our gameplan, fought for every ball and played to our strengths in those conditions was excellent. We brought back Andy Whing, Danny Rose and Michael Collins into midfield and asked them to use their experience and I thought they all played very well.

"YOU STAYED PATIENT AGAINST EXETER AND THAT PLAYED A PART IN OUR LATE EQUALISER, THEN YOU WERE TREMENDOUS IN THE COLD AT STEVENAGE LAST WEEK."

All three have missed games recently and then come back in. It's the same for Josh Ruffels and Josh Ashby, who both did well against Exeter in our last home game but missed out at Stevenage. It is about using the whole squad and picking the side to win a particular game. The players know that; there will always be someone disappointed not to be playing but we are always very honest when discussing who will be playing and what we expect. That is where togetherness truly comes in and the whole squad will play a part in the remaining games.

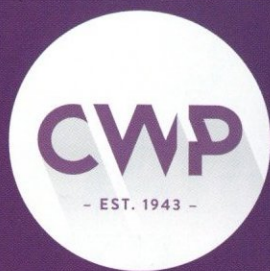
We have added to it with some very experienced players over the last couple of weeks. Joe Skarz and Richard Brindley were both excellent on their debuts at Stevenage. They have played at this level and know the league, but they have also both played in higher divisions. Alex MacDonald joined us on Monday and will be a very good addition. He has plenty of energy, is a goal threat and has a real hunger for success. We have also brought in Jamie Ashdown, a vastly experienced goalkeeper. He will push Clarke all the way for that position but as I said above, it is all about competition and players needing to play well to stay in the team. Jamie's arrival may well mean that Max Crocombe can go out on loan and play matches, which is precisely what he needs right now. He remains very much a part of our plans but hasn't had enough chances to show what he can do in competitive games this season.

We said goodbye to Tareiq Holmes-Dennis, Wes Burns and David Hunt this week and wish them well for the future. Those departures may clear the way for one or two new faces when the loan window reopens next week. There is still plenty to play for this season and we are constantly on the lookout for players, who we think will improve us as a squad.

Finally, a big thank you for your support in the last two games. You stayed patient against Exeter and that played a part in our late equaliser, and then you were tremendous in the cold at Stevenage last week. There will be a big atmosphere again today so get behind us from the first whistle and let's get another three points on the board, together.

Get behind us,

Michael Appleton



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THE CAPTAIN



TIME TO TURN THE HOME FORM AROUND

WE HAVE HAD SOME TRULY MEMORABLE GAMES AGAINST LUTON IN RECENT YEARS AND TODAY IS A MATCH THAT I AM SURE BOTH SETS OF SUPPORTERS HAVE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO.

Luton fans will remember the game at their place a few years ago where they scored two in injury time to win it, while Oxford fans will remember Jamie Cook's great goal here in the same season. Sadly the game at Kenilworth Road earlier this season didn't go to plan but we are very determined to put that right this afternoon.

If we are to do so, then we need to show the same spirit and determination that we have in the last couple of games. I thought we dominated most of the home game against Exeter and yet we came in at the break level at 1-1 when they hadn't been inside our penalty area. Hylts had scored a good goal and we should have built from there but instead we then somehow found ourselves 2-1 down with time running out. Two sloppy goals from our point of view, but we threw everything at them and Robbo's last-minute goal at least got us a point.

It should have been three points, we know that, but you look for little turning points and that draw was an important one because we know the home form over the last couple of months hasn't matched the away form. We need to rectify that, starting this afternoon.

We carried on that good away form with another excellent win at Stevenage last

weekend. It was cold and horrible and the pitch wasn't the best; proper football conditions! Stevenage play the game in a particular way and you know that when you go there you have to stay focussed and play your own game. I thought we did that brilliantly. We defended well, Clarke made a couple of good saves, the midfield won their battles and the front three were different class on the day. I thought Callum fully deserved his goal although Hoobs was very unlucky with his header that led to it. It was good to see Mulls back on the scoresheet, although it had been so long since he got a goal that he had forgotten how to celebrate and ran to the home fans. I'm sure he was just as happy with the clean sheet as the goal.

Celebrating with the away fans at the end was a great moment and we truly appreciate the support you gave us. The only feeling that beats it is celebrating with everyone after a home victory. It's not going to be easy but we are in good form, the news faces have given us a lift and we know we will have fantastic support in what should be a wonderful atmosphere.

Get behind us,

Jake Wright



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FROM THE EDITOR

HELLO AND WELCOME TO A LONG-AWAITED FIXTURE. THE LARGE AWAY CONTINGENT HAVE PROBABLY BEEN WAITING OVER FIVE YEARS FOR THIS ONE AND THE OPPORTUNITY IT AFFORDS THEM TO PUT TO REST THE 'HIGH TO LOW IN 45 SECONDS' AFTER THEIR LAST VISIT HERE.

As far as I'm concerned they had their payback in the return game at Kenilworth Road, when they overturned United's 1-0 lead with two rather fluky goals in stoppage time. That's not to say that there won't be a lot riding on this encounter, with both teams desperate for points for different reasons. Luton are on the coat tails of the leading pack in the division and won't want the gap to get any bigger, while Oxford are looking to pull away from the danger area and look to push on in the remainder of the season. Both sides have brought in some high-profile January signings, so let's sit back and look forward to what promises to be an entertaining afternoon's football.

Hopefully United can replicate the result from last Saturday's game at Stevenage. Due to a severe bout of flu (proper, not just the man variety) that was the first game I've missed for many years (the last match I missed also turned out to be an away win, so I'm rather worried they might not let me go any more). Thankfully I was able to read about our exploits in the On the Road article on page 18 of this edition. It's nice to know I was missed.

Despite my suffering, I nevertheless dragged myself from my sickbed to edit today's magazine,

a task made easier by the timely contributions of all your regular writers and even by Chris Williams, who was almost sympathetic.

Of course, almost everything in the magazine was submitted by email, using information drawn from the internet and with digital photos, and then all designed and finally printed using sophisticated software. It makes this editing lark a lot simpler than it was in pre-computerised days, which in this business means anytime over 25 years ago.

This was brought home to me when I heard about Jim Hunt's death earlier this week. Jim was club secretary during the 1980s and before that he was United' programme editor. In Jim's day, articles would be typewritten and submitted via the Royal Mail. The finished manuscript, complete with photos developed from negatives, would then have to be couriered to the printers with little or no scope for last-minute changes.

Jim was an Oxford United stalwart, and for his efforts on the club programme alone I salute him. Enjoy the game.

Martin Brodetsky
mbrodetsky@oufc.co.uk



17.01.15 - KO 3PM
KASSAM STADIUM
SKY BET LEAGUE 2
ATT: 7,207

U'S LOSE TO BLUES



UNITED 2

O'Dowda (13), Long (45)

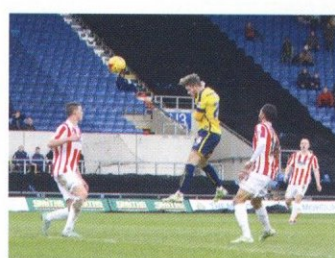
R Clarke
J Mullins
C Dunkley (P Hoban, 45)
J Wright
A Whing
T Holmes-Dennis
S Long (J Meades, 70)
C O'Dowda
M Collins
W Hoskins (W Burns, 54)
D Hylton



SOUTHEND 3

Worrall (25), Pigott (48),
Corr (82)

D Bentley
J White
J Binnom-Williams
A Thompson
B Coker
W Atkinson
R Leonard
G Deegan (s/o 33)
D Worrall (J Payne, 76)
J Cassidy (M Timlin, 61)
J Pigott (B Corr, 61)



THE MATCH

Goals from local lads Callum O'Dowda and Sam Long counted for nothing as Oxford United were beaten by ten-man Southend United at the Kassam Stadium. First half goals from the two promising youngsters were cancelled out by strikes from David Worrall and Joe Pigott before Barry Corr's effort won it for a Southend side reduced to ten men after the dismissal of midfielder Gary Deegan in the first half.

THE HIGHLIGHT

O'Dowda's right-footed effort would have gone in but for the fingertips of Bentley, but that led to a corner and from that United restored their

advantage. It was a homegrown goal and underlined the potential of the crop of youngsters coming through at the club. O'Dowda swung the ball in, Long got in front of his man at the near post and his header flashed past Bentley to make it 2-1.

HE SAID

We just didn't do the basics right. You've got to give a lot of credit to Southend: to go behind and down to ten men just before half-time at 2-1... We tried to be really positive in the second half and stay on the front foot but we got killed by a silly goal after a couple of minutes, started sloppily and brought a little bit of anxiousness to our play.

Michael Appleton

14

Shots for Oxford
(eight for Southend)

SEVEN

Shots on target for the U's

NINE

Corners for each side

SEVEN

Fouls committed by
Oxford (11 by the visitors)

48%

Possession for United

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LEAGUE TWO ROUND UP

"HOPEFULLY WE
CAN GET THE
STADIUM DONE AND
START PUTTING
IN SOME PROPER
TOILETS,"

LIAM BALDOCK LOOKS AT THE LAST COUPLE OF HECTIC WEEKS ACROSS LEAGUE TWO

If you haven't read the news, League Two outfit Cambridge United were the lowest-ranked team to make it to the FA Cup fourth round against none other than Manchester United. Holding the Red Devil's to a 0-0 draw at home, it was the League Two counterpart that seemed more like the side who had won 20 English titles.

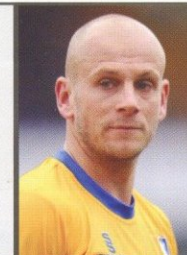
Earning a replay at Old Trafford meant that over £1 million will be generated Cambridge's way, more than the club normally makes in a single year. So what will the U's spend their grand total on? "Hopefully we can get the stadium done and start putting in some proper toilets," chairman Dave Doggett told the Sunday Mirror.

After becoming familiar with the Vanarama Conference, Cambridge's impressive step-up to the Football League has since seen them desperate to upgrade their 8,000 capacity stadium. Doggett insisted, "Some toilets and tea bars and more hospitality - that's what we will do."



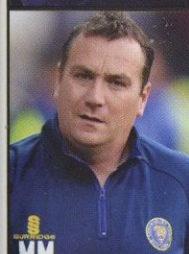
WYCOMBE WANDERERS

For the first time in 2015, the Chairboys are no longer top of League Two. Ainsworth's men picked up their third draw in a row at home to Portsmouth, with neither side troubling the onion bag. The damage? Falling to third spot.



MANSFIELD TOWN

The Stags fell victim to a late Carlisle comeback to see themselves slip into the bottom two alongside Hartlepool. Two goals in the last 20 minutes left boss **Adam Murray** devastated: "Disappointment would be an understatement. I don't know how we've lost it."



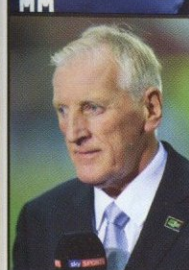
SHREWSBURY TOWN

Ten-men Shrewsbury showed "grit and determination" according to manager **Micky Mellon** in their late 1-0 victory over Newport on Saturday. Climbing to the pinnacle of the division, Mellon had substitute John-Louis Akpa-Akpro to thank, as his late goal sealed the three-points.



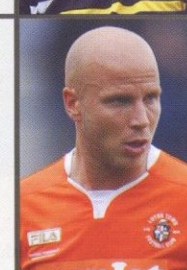
NORTHAMPTON TOWN

It was a magic five for ten-men Northampton as they thrashed Accrington 5-1 away from home. Goals from D'ath, Cresswell, Richards (2), Holmes left **Chris Wilder** happy but not as happy as their defensive record: "We've conceded two goals this month and one of those was a penalty."



HARTLEPOOL UNITED

They may still be bottom, but the gap at the foot of the table is decreasing. **Ronnie Moore's** men were part of a five-goal thriller at Victoria Park, running out 3-2 winners over mid-table Plymouth. That's seven points in the last four games for the Pool.



LUTON TOWN

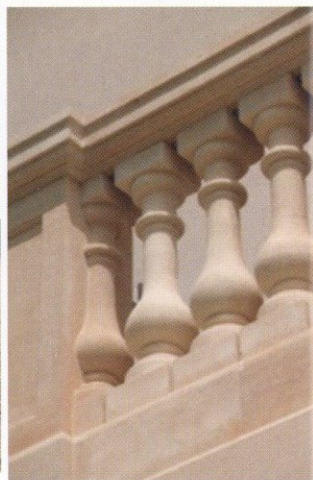
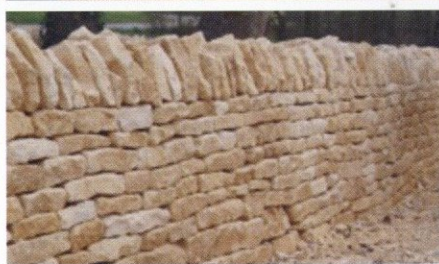
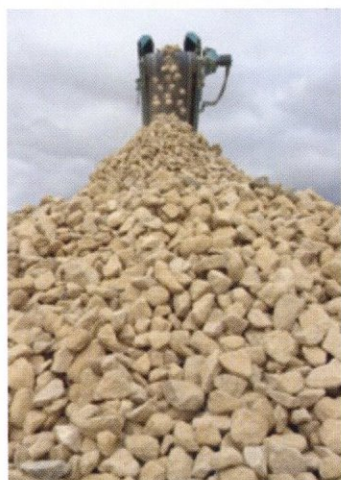
It's good news for the Hatters as midfielder **Luke Guttridge** made a goalscoring return for Luton's reserve team after a serious foot injury he picked up in November. Stotfold were on the receiving end of his comeback, as Luton progressed to the last four of the Bedfordshire Senior Cup.



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Above: Ryan Hall has joined Luton's promotion push from Rotherham United

FILE: TRANSFER

...And breathe. The hectic January transfer window has ended, and no more clubs will be making any permanent transfers until the summer. It's been a tough window to keep up with, so here's the lowdown on the final week of busy business.

Luton capped off a great week after their 3-2 home victory over FA Cup specialists Cambridge, as they added winger Ryan Hall to their ranks. Hall signed an 18-month deal from Championship outfit Rotherham United and has joined to enhance the Hatters' promotion push. Hall, who netted only once for The Millers in the Championship, was presented to the Luton faithful at half-time in their weekend victory.

Plymouth have been busy too, capturing Chesterfield's utility man Drew Talbot on loan until the end of the season. Enforcing the loan system, they've given Talbot the perfect chance to regain his sparkling form on return from a long-term injury sustained at his previous club. The 28 year-old heads to Home Park to use his experience and versatility to earn the Pilgrims a well-earned play-off place.

Adding to the squad

Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink bolstered his promotion-chasing Burton side earlier this week with the signature of Derby midfielder **Tom Naylor**. The Englishman signs on loan until the end of the season, but is no stranger to League 2, having already played in the competition earlier this season on loan at Cambridge. The Brewers' boss had only good things to say about his new man: "Tom can also play at centre-half and he has played at full-back." He then added: "He's someone that brings good experience."

On the way out, Accrington Stanley defender Tom Aldred has joined Championship side Blackpool on an emergency loan deal to help the struggling Tangerines. A permanent deal is to follow for the young starlet, who has made an impressive 92 consecutive starts for Stanley. Aldred joins Blackpool coach Paul Stephenson, whom he knew well when he worked with him at the Crown Ground. There's only one intention for this move, as Aldred stated: "After having various moves as a young player I definitely need to stabilise my career."



ON THE ROAD

OPPONENTS: STEVENAGE

THE DATE: SATURDAY 31ST JANUARY 2015

THE COMPETITION: SKY BET LEAGUE 2

THE GROUND: THE LAMEX, BROADHALL WAY

THE JOURNEY: 70 MILES

AWAY FANS: 522



THE MEDIA TEAM



CHRIS WILLIAMS

- Match report
- Gallery
- Video



JULIAN HITCHMAN

- Twitter
- Gallery
- Dietary advice



DARRELL FISHER

- Pictures
- Doughnuts
- In-car entertainment



OLLIE WILLIAMS

- Cameraman
- Away end view
- Youthful enthusiasm

YOUR EVER-WILLING WEB TEAM HIT THE ROAD FOR STEVENAGE...

THE GROUND

CW: The Lamex is one of those places we seem to have been visiting for years. This year we were shown what used to be a study support centre and had a little look around behind the scenes and you could see the improvements that have been made since the games we used to have with them in the Conference. In the home end there is a clearly designated disabled supporters' area and I liked the fact that in the away end they were selling Oxford United cupcakes. Little things like that make a big impression.

DF: Very friendly. I sit by the side of the pitch and it was very boggy because of the snow storm in the morning.

JH: It was probably my fourth visit. It's a kind of old school, Conference type of stadium but everyone was very friendly and it's one of the easier ones to get to.

OW: There is always a decent atmosphere when we go there. As away end reporter I can say that the Oxford fans were brilliant again. It wasn't sold out but we made a lot of noise and the low roof on that end keep that noise in. One of the best atmospheres of the season.



AWAY SUPPORT

FOOD AND DRINK

OW: Best ever. I ordered a hot dog which she gave me and my mate took it away when I wasn't looking. She came back with a drink for me and said 'Oh, didn't I give you a hot dog?' I just smiled and she gave me another. So we ended up with two. Cupcakes were £1.50, which was steep but had to be done.

DF: Bacon double cheeseburger in Burger King. We only went because Martin was absent ill so we didn't have a vegetarian with us.

CW: Same as Darrell, but was left parched by Mr J Hitchman not returning with a cuppa at half time despite specific instructions.

JH: Being an athlete I avoided the burgers, unlike the others, but there was no salad in stock in Burger King. Chicken Nuggets are healthy, right? Frighteningly, I spotted that a Bacon Double Cheeseburger XL has 1335 calories on its own, without the drink or fries. Wow. I'm not having addictive drinks this year so I had a cup of coffee.

MAN OF THE MATCH

OW: Johnny Mullins. The whole defence played well but he got a goal as well.

DF: Johnny Mullins was superb and scored as well.

CW: Patrick Hoban. Best game so far and would have scored but for a wonder save.

JH: I'm struggling because I thought everyone was fantastic. I agree that Hoban was fantastic but because it was his debut I'll go for Joe Skarz. Did everything very well and played to the conditions.

CW: So Mullins wins it with two

JH: Is that how it works? I'll say Hoban.

MOMENT OF THE MATCH

DF: Patrick Hoban's disbelieving reaction to the keeper saving his header, while Callum was off celebrating his goal.

JH: The Stevenage fans beside us moaning at the ref for Oxford time wasting. Genius.

CW: Callum O'Dowda smashing a defender in the first challenge as the Stevenage man tried to put an early marker down.

MOMENT OF THE DAY

CW: Me to the tea lady before the game: "It's cold out there."

Tea lady: "Not us, we have a blanket to put over our legs."

Me: "Can I borrow it?"

TRAVEL NOTES



MOMENT OF THE MATCH

THE FOOD - CW: "I LIKED THE FACT THAT IN THE AWAY END THEY WERE SELLING OXFORD UNITED CUPCAKES. LITTLE THINGS LIKE THAT MAKE A BIG IMPRESSION."

Tea lady: "Well you can if you like bit it's a Disney one and you may look silly."

Me: "A Disney blanket? You will look 'Frozen!'"

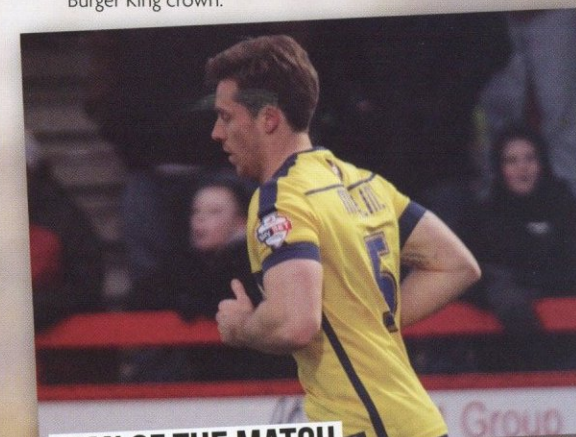
Tea lady: "Very good. Just Let it Go."

Also the sad little voice on the phone when Martin Brodetsky called me to say he was too ill to travel. Heartbreaking stuff. We are banning him from all away games from now on.

OW: Very special celebrations with a fellow Oxford fan in the away end.

DF: Sending Chris a text on 30 minutes saying 'Drinks break in a minute. Get me a Kit Kat'. We had a drinks break on 31.

JH: Seeing Nick Harris, the voice of BBC Oxford, wearing a Burger King crown.



MAN OF THE MATCH

25% OFF

ALL REPLICA SHIRTS & SHORTS



Replica shirts start from £27.00
Shorts start from £12.50



OBITUARY - MARCUS KENT

Marcus Kent, known as Mickey M and twin brother to Glenn, died on 29th December aged just 17 years.



Marcus was born in France on 24th February 1997 to Oxford fan Stephen and his wife Susan. They would travel over the day before a game, along with older brother Stephen Robert, to watch their favourite team. Marcus's favourite players were Danny Hylton and James Roberts. We would like to pass our condolences to all Marcus's family.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy birthday to Janet Eales, with best wishes from Darryl, who sends her many happy returns from Melbourne. Lots of love from Darryl, Harriet, Georgie and Barrie



TRANSFERS - IN AND OUT

Oxford had a busy few days towards the end of the January transfer window. Here is a brief run-down of our activity.

Joining the club were defenders Joe Skarz and Richard Brindley, both from Rotherham. Alex MacDonald signed from Burton Albion on a two-and-a-half year deal, while goalkeeper Jamie Ashdown joined on Tuesday until the end of the season.



Leaving United with our best wishes were Tom Newey, who has since joined Northampton, and David Hunt, while Tareiq Holmes-Dennis has returned to Charlton Athletic and Wes Burns went back to Bristol City before joining Cheltenham on loan.

NEWS

OBITUARY JIM HUNT

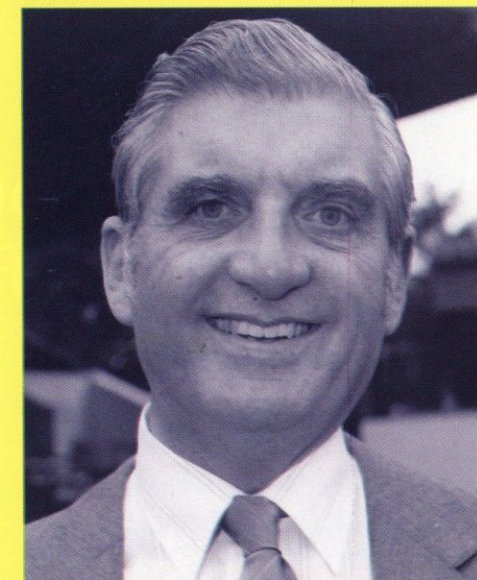
Everyone at Oxford United has been saddened to hear the news that former Club Secretary Jim Hunt passed away earlier this week, aged 91.

Jim joined the club in 1976 to help in the Supporters Club, and soon after became Club Secretary. He was part of the backroom team throughout the club's golden years in the 1980s. One of the game's unsung heroes, Jim edited the matchday programme for many years and was a familiar figure to the United supporters, joining the Board as a director after retiring as secretary in 1989.

Mick Brown, who succeeded Jim as Club Secretary in 1989, led the tributes.

"Jim was a fantastic servant to the club. Not only was he a massive supporter of the team but he was also extremely supportive of everyone behind the scenes.

"He was very knowledgeable and had so many friends throughout football, not just at Oxford United. He moved up to Scotland after his retirement but I know he still followed our results. Our thoughts are with his son James and daughter Paula and their families."



THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE
AWARDS
2015
10TH ANNIVERSARY

Capital OneSM

SUPPORTER OF THE YEAR

Nominate your supporter of
the year at FLAwards.com

#FLAwards



ACCRINGTON STANLEY

Sky Bet League 2, Tuesday 10th February 2015, kick off 7.45pm, The Store First Stadium

This fixture is pay on the night only.

Prices for this match are:

Adults: £20.00
Over 65/students: £15.00
Under 18: £10.00
Under 12: £5.00
(accompanied)

LONDON ROAD CLUB COACHES

Depart stadium: 1.30pm

Fares:

Adult member: £20.00
Adult non-member: £22.00
Under-18 member: £18.00
Under-18 non-member: £20.00



BURTON ALBION

SkyBet League 2, The Pirelli Stadium, Saturday 14th February, kick off 3pm

Tickets are on sale now for our away
game at Burton Albion in Sky Bet
League 2 on Saturday 14th February.

This game is not all ticket and on
the day prices are...

TERRACE

Adult: £15
Over 65 and 17-22 year olds: £13
16 and under: £5
SEATS

We have been allocated a number
of seats along the side of the pitch,
which are prioritised for family groups
where possible.

Adult: £18

Over 65 and 17-22 year olds: £16
16 and under: £8

All supporters buying a concession
tickets will need to produce ID as they
enter the ground.

DISABLED SUPPORTERS

The above prices apply, with a PA
ticket free. Wheelchair fans should
contact Burton Albion on 01283
565938 while ambulant disabled
fans should contact the Oxford
United ticket office on 01865 337533.
Ambulant tickets, with PA, are for the
seats only.

LONDON ROAD CLUB COACHES

Depart stadium: 10.30am

Fares: Adult member: £15.00

Adult non-member: £17.00

Under-18 member: £13.00

Under-18 non-member: £15.00



PORTSMOUTH

Sky Bet League 2, Saturday 28th February, 3pm kick off, Fratton Park

This game is ALL TICKET with none
available on the day of the match.
These will go on GENERAL SALE on
Tuesday 10th February at 9.30 from
the Oxford United ticket office
(01865 337533) or online at www.oufctickets.co.uk.

Adult: £20

Over 60: £15

17-22 year old: £15

Unaccompanied junior under 17: £10

Accompanied junior (with paying

adult or senior): £5

DISABLED SUPPORTERS

Wheelchair and carer: £10

Ambulant over 60/17-22: £15

Ambulant under 17: £5

• Carers are required to be on the
highest rate of DLA.

• Wheelchair supporters are located
among the home wheelchair section
in front of the Fratton End.

• Supporters are advised not to travel
unless tickets have been purchased
in advance as there will be none
available on the day of the match.

LONDON ROAD CLUB COACHES

Depart stadium: 11.15am

Fares: Adult member: £14.00

Adult non-member: £16.00

Under-18 member: £12.00

Under-18 non-member: £14.00

To book your coach tickets please call 01865 337533.

Under 14s must be accompanied by a responsible adult on the London Road Coaches

TICKETS & TRAVEL

NEXT UP AT HOME FOR UNITED...



MANSFIELD TOWN

Sky Bet League 2

Saturday 21st February

After today's game there is a gap of
two weeks before Mansfield Town
visit the Kassam.

The Stags have had a tumultuous
season and last weekend found
themselves dropping into the
relegation zone for the first time
after a 2-1 defeat at fellow strugglers
Carlisle United.

The season began quite steadily for
Mansfield, with the team standing in
eighth place after 20th September,
but a run of eight games without a
win, which included four consecutive
draws, saw them plummet down
the table. A 1-0 win over Plymouth
temporarily halted the slide but
wasn't enough to save manager Paul
Cox, who was replaced by former
United midfielder Adam Murray.

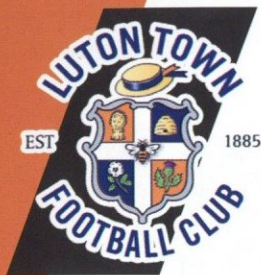
He picked up his first (and so
far only) win at Wimbledon but
Mansfield have failed to win any
of their last six as they fell into the
drop zone. The Stags host Stevenage
today and will also play today's
visitors Luton before their date at the
Kassam.

HOME GAMES

Tickets are now on general
sale for this forthcoming
fixture at the Kassam
Stadium:

- Mansfield Town -
Saturday 21st February, KO 3pm
- Morecambe -
Tuesday 3rd March, KO 7.45pm

To book match tickets for
the above fixtures please visit
www.oufctickets.co.uk (24/7),
telephone 01865 337533 or call in
person at the ticket office during
normal office hours.



IN OPPOSITION

MAD HATTERS

LUTON TOWN VISIT US TODAY RIDING HIGH IN THE TABLE ON THEIR FIRST SEASON BACK IN THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE FOR FIVE YEARS.

The Hatters were relegated to the Conference in 2009 after suffering a draconian deduction of 30 points that meant they were virtually relegated before a ball had been kicked in anger. They followed Oxford as a previous League Cup winner to suffer demotion out of the league and their exile took a year longer than United's to overcome.

Luton reached the play-offs three times in their first four seasons in non-league football before eventually winning the title last season under the experienced guidance of manager John Still.

Despite winning their first game of the season, away at Carlisle, Luton didn't find the adjustment in level initially an easy one as, after being knocked out of the Capital One Cup at home by Swindon, they failed to win any of their next five league games, including home defeats to Wimbledon and Plymouth.

The tide was turned with a 1-0 win over Cheltenham, after which Luton lost just one of their next 12 league matches, at promotion-chasing Burton. A 3-0 defeat at Morecambe ended

the run and, after an FA Cup win at Bury and an emphatic 3-0 victory against Newport, they won just one of their next six matches, which included elimination from the FA Cup by Cambridge, who went on to earn a lucrative tie against Manchester United.

Luton's last game saw them gain a measure of revenge against Cambridge as they won 3-2 at Kenilworth Road, although they were 3-0 up at half-time.

This has left today's visitors very handily placed in fourth, just three points adrift of Wycombe in the last automatic promotion place, with a game in hand. Luton are not resting on their laurels though and they signed three new players at the end of the January transfer window, with Rotherham winger Ryan Hall the pick of the trio. They also brought in England under-18 striker Nathan Oduwa on loan from Tottenham on deadline day, having earlier in the window signed promising striker Jayden Stockley on loan from Bournemouth.

Luton are hoping to go through the division in one go, the same way they exited it six years ago.

JOHN STILL

JOHN STILL JOINED THE HATTERS IN MARCH 2013, HAVING ENJOYED A HUGE SUCCESSFUL 10-YEAR SPELL AT DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE, WHERE HE GUIDED THE DAGGERS TO THE CONFERENCE TITLE AS WELL AS PROMOTION TO LEAGUE 1.

In his first season in the Hatters' hot-seat he guided the club to the Conference title with 101 points. It was the third time he had won the division in his career.

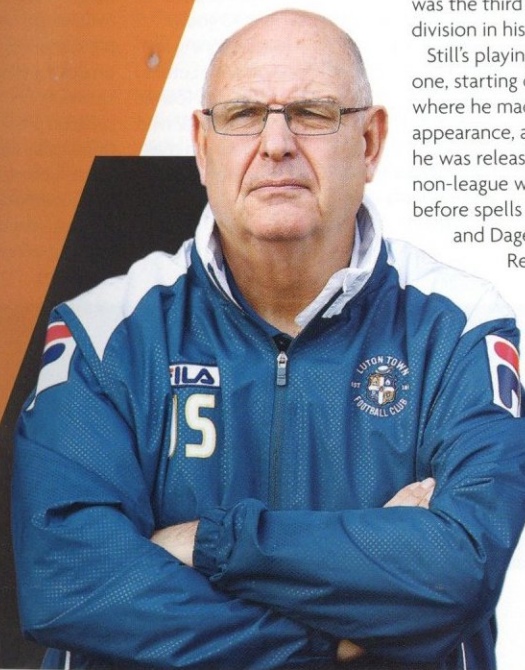
Still's playing career was a brief one, starting out at Leyton Orient where he made just one league appearance, against Torquay, before he was released. He moved into non-league with Bishop's Cleeve before spells with Leytonstone and Dagenham (in their pre-Redbridge days).

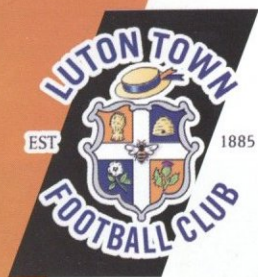
Still started in management with Leytonstone, guiding them to the Isthmian League title in 1982. He then won the Southern League title with Dartford before guiding Maidstone to the Conference

title and into the Football League in 1989. Still then dropped down to the Isthmian League with Redbridge Forest, with whom he won promotion to the Conference in 1991. He was with the club as they merged with Dagenham to become Dagenham & Redbridge.

In August 1994 he accepted the role of manager of Peterborough, where he was sacked the following year before taking over at Barnet in 1997. He took the Bees to the play-offs twice in three years before becoming director of football, although he became manager again after Tony Cottee's departure.

Eventually Barnet were relegated to the Conference and in 2002 Still joined up with Ray Graydon as assistant manager at Bristol Rovers. In 2004 he dropped to the Conference to become Dagenham's boss where he pipped Oxford to the Conference title in 2007.



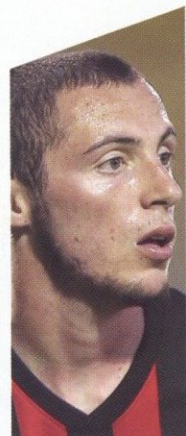


THE LAST XI...



GK MARK TYLER

A hugely experienced goalkeeper who was the Hatters' first signing in their first season in the Conference in 2009. Before his move to Kenilworth Road, Mark had made almost 400 appearances with Peterborough United. The 2013/14 season was Tyler's fifth at Luton and he crowned it by playing every match in the 46-game title-winning campaign.



DF MICHAEL HARRIMAN

Republic of Ireland under-21 international full-back who signed on loan from QPR in October. He made his R's debut as a teenager before joining Wycombe on loan for the 2012/13 campaign. The Hatters have twice extended the loan and in mid-January the defender penned a loan deal for the rest of the season.



DF LUKE WILKINSON

A centre-half who previously played under John Still while at Dagenham. The former Bristol City and Portsmouth defender enjoyed a successful spell on loan at Dartford before nailing down a place with the Daggers and was voted their player of the year two seasons ago. Signed a one-year deal with Luton Town in July 2014.



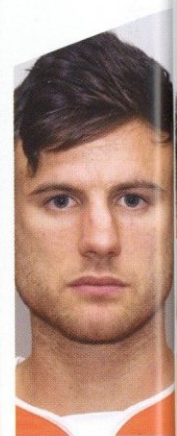
DF SCOTT GRIFFITHS

Left-back who signed at the end of the 2012/13 season following his arrival on a short-term deal. A former Dagenham & Redbridge man, the experienced defender joined the Hatters in March 2012 following his release from former club Peterborough. Scott was an ever-present for Luton in the title winning campaign of 2013/14.



MF SHAUN WHALLEY

Attack-minded midfielder who joined Luton on a two-year deal from Southport. Whalley was in inspired form for the Sandgrounders throughout 2012/13, scoring 10 goals. After beginning last season with Luton, Whalley was loaned to AFC Telford, who he helped win the Conference North title.



MF JONATHAN SMITH

Signed from York in January 2013 for £50,000 following a successful loan spell. Smith enjoyed a terrific first half of 2013/14 but his season looked to have been over following a broken leg sustained on Boxing Day. However, his progress was tremendous and he made a comeback as a substitute in the final match of the title-winning campaign.



MF NATHAN DOYLE

Defensive central midfielder Nathan Doyle penned a one-year contract with the Hatters in September 2014 after leaving Bradford City in the summer. Derby-born, he came through the Rams' youth ranks before signing for Hull and then Barnsley. Joined Bradford in 2012 and helped the Bantams win the League 2 Play-Offs.



MF JAKE HOWELLS

The young winger came through the ranks at Kenilworth Road and made his first-team debut in May 2008. Capped at under-21 level by Wales, Howells signed a three-year contract extension in the summer of 2012. During the 2012/13 season he surpassed the 200-appearance mark for the club as a 21-year-old.



FW ANDY DRURY

Andy Drury is a creative midfielder player who returned to Kenilworth Road on a two-year contract in the summer of 2014, signing from Crawley Town. First signed for the Hatters from Stevenage in 2010, his performances from midfield caught the eye of Ipswich Town who signed him in January 2011.



FW JAYDEN STOCKLEY

Local Bournemouth lad joined Luton on loan from the Cherries last Saturday. This is the latest in a series of loan deals for the young striker, who has also served time at Dorchester Town, Accrington Stanley, Woking, Leyton Orient, Torquay and Cambridge United. He has also played 22 times for Bournemouth's first team.



LUTON TOWN'S STAR MAN

STEVE McNULTY

STEPHEN McNULTY IS AN EXPERIENCED CENTRE-HALF WHO SIGNED FOR LUTON TOWN IN FEBRUARY 2013.

The Liverpool-born defender led Fleetwood Town to the Conference title in 2011/12, lifting the title as the Cod Army captain. The Liverpoolian has also played for Barrow, Vauxhall Motors and Burscough.

McNulty enjoyed a fantastic season at the heart of the Hatters defence and was an ever-present as the Hatters lifted the Conference title. He walked away with a whole host of end-of-season awards, including Player of the Year and goal of the season.

BEST OF THE REST

DF FRASER FRANKS

D.O.B: 22/11/90
Place of Birth: Hammersmith
Last club: Welling United

MF ALEX LAWLESS

D.O.B: 26/03/85
Place of Birth: Tonypandy
Last club: York City

FW ALEX WALL

D.O.B: 22/09/90
Place of Birth: Thatcham
Last club: Maidenhead United

FW MARK CULLEN

D.O.B: 21/04/92
Place of Birth: Ashington
Last club: Hull City

GK ELIOT JUSTHAM

D.O.B: 18/08/90
Place of Birth: Thurrock
Last club: n/a

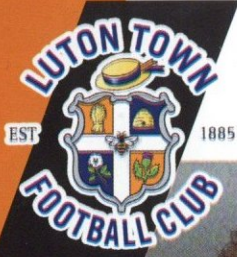
MF LUKE GUTTRIDGE

D.O.B: 27/03/82
Place of Birth: Barnstaple
Last club: Northampton Town

MF MATT ROBINSON

D.O.B: 01/06/94
Place of Birth: Leicester
Last club: n/a





PLAYED FOR BOTH



LEE NOGAN

LEE NOGAN JOINED OXFORD'S YOUTH TRAINING SCHEME IN 1985, TURNING PROFESSIONAL IN MARCH 1987. AFTER SIGNING HE IMMEDIATELY WENT OUT ON LOAN TO BRENTFORD.

Nogan had another loan spell at Southend United in September 1987, after which he established himself as reserve striker behind Dean Saunders. He became United's first YTS recruit to figure in the club's first team when he made his debut in a 1-0 Simod Cup defeat at Reading in January 1988. Nogan figured three times for United in the First Division as they suffered relegation from the top flight. Even after Saunders was sold to Derby in October 1988, Nogan had to wait until September 1990 for a sustained run in the first team, but he never really convinced as a first-choice striker and it came as a surprise to almost everybody when Watford paid £300,000 for him in December 1991, having scored 12 goals in 77 games.

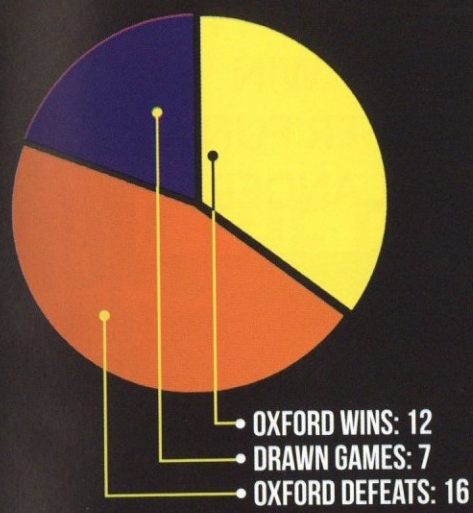
Nogan scored 30 goals for the Hornets in 115 games, plus he had another loan spell at Southend in March 1994, before he moved to Reading for £250,000 in January 1995. Reading finished runners-up in the Second Division in his first season at Elm Park but lost to Bolton in the play-off final at Wembley, in which Nogan scored the first goal. Nogan had a loan with Notts County in February 1997 before he was sold to Grimsby for £170,000 in August 1997. In his first season at Blundell Park the Mariners won the Division Two play-offs. Nogan moved to Darlington on a free transfer in July 1999.

In November 2000 Nogan joined today's visitors Luton Town, where he scored twice in 11 games before moving to his final professional club, York City, in February 2001. Nogan was at Bootham Crescent for over five years, and became player-coach, but the Minstermen were relegated to the Conference in 2004 and in March 2005 he moved to Harrogate Town, scoring on his debut, having left York the previous month. In September 2005 he joined Pickering Town, playing in midweek while still registered with Harrogate, leaving in June 2006 to become player-manager of Whitby Town. However, in October 2007 Nogan resigned following some poor results but he remained registered as a player with Whitby and in March 2008 he rejoined them. He later turned up at AFC Halifax as a player in January 2011 and is now their assistant manager.

OXFORD UNITED V LUTON TOWN - HOW THE STATS LINE UP...

YOUR AT A GLANCE GUIDE TO PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND FACTS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES TODAY.

WIN, LOSS AND DRAW PERCENTAGES

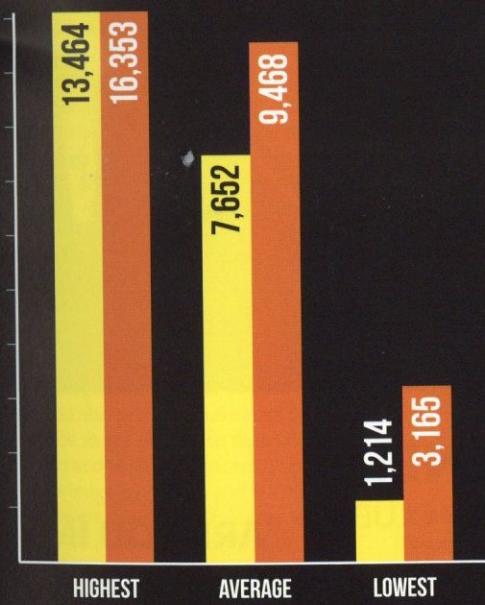


PLAYED FOR BOTH

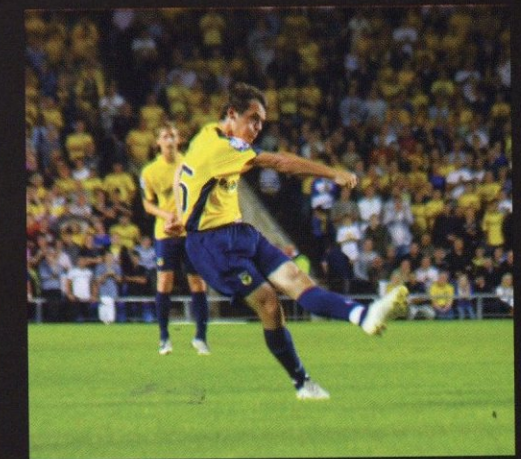


STEVE FOSTER, PHIL GRAY, MILIJA ALEKSIC, JOHN DREYER, DARREN PATTERSON, GAVIN JOHNSON, JOHN SIMS, CRAIG McALLISTER, TREVOR AYLOTT, BRIAN LEWIS, MARK STEIN, DAVID OLDFIELD, IMRE VARADI, WAYNE BIGGINS, COLIN TODD, CHRIS ALLEN, LEE NOGAN, COURTNEY PITT, PAUL McLAREN, STUART DOUGLAS, CHRIS WILLMOTT, STEVE BASHAM, ALAN JUDGE, TOM CRADDOCK, CRAIG NELTHORPE, SCOTT RENDELL, JUDE STIRLING, ADAM MURRAY, ANDY BURGESS, ASHLEY CAIN, ASA HALL, HARRY WORLEY, LEE MANSELL, SIMON HESLOP, JAMIE HAND, DEAN MORGAN

ATTENDANCES - HIGHEST, LOWEST AND AVERAGE HOME AND AWAY CROWDS



PREVIOUS MEETING - CONFERENCE CALL



THE LAST TIME LUTON VISITED THE KASSAM WAS ON 8TH SEPTEMBER 2009 IN THE CONFERENCE. JAMES CONSTABLE MISSED AN EARLY PENALTY FOR UNITED BUT MADE UP FOR IT JUST 30 SECONDS LATER WHEN HE STROKED HOME MATT GREEN'S CROSS. JAMIE COOK SCORED THE SECOND WITH A SPECTACULAR 25-YARD STRIKE.

ON 5TH MAY 1987, UNITED SECURED FIRST DIVISION SAFETY WITH A 3-2 WIN AT KENILWORTH ROAD. OXFORD WENT INTO A 2-0 LEAD BUT THE HATTERS HIT BACK TO EQUALISE BEFORE DEAN SAUNDERS' LAST-MINUTE HEADER WON THE GAME FOR THE U'S.

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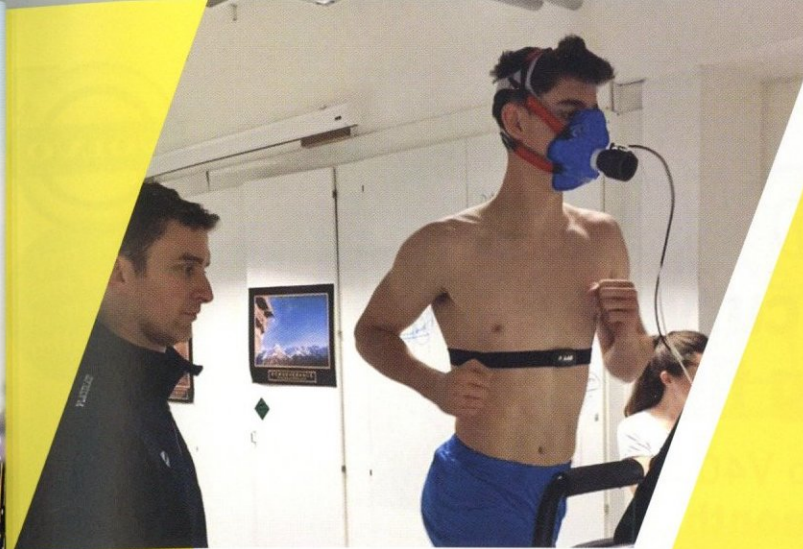
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18+. T&C'S APPLY

ARE YOU IN?

INJURY UPDATE

In association with



FROM THE PHYSIO'S ROOM

THROUGHOUT THE SEASON WE TEST, EVALUATE, REVIEW AND RE-TEST THE PLAYERS' PHYSICAL CONDITION TO ENSURE PEAK PERFORMANCE.

Players are tested physically using the VO2 Max test and have their fat percentages taken as well.

A big thank you must firstly go to Martyn Morris at Oxford Brookes University. Alasdair Lane has developed an excellent relationship with Martyn and the sports science team at the uni to allow regular VO2 max testing through the season. The test measures the amount of oxygen each player can use during maximal physical exertion. It also gives Al the players' maximal heart rate and time to fatigue, so he can monitor awning loads through the season. This information is vital for me as well as it allows us to monitor if the injured lads are training hard enough to work to projected heart-rate levels. The university facilities are world class and it is great to have such a great department on our door step.

Each player also has his fat percentages recorded every eight weeks. Ed Tooley (Ed Tooley Nutrition Ltd) visits the training ground to conduct these tests, so we have regular updates and can evaluate each player's progress or changes through the season. Ed also provides nutritional plans and advice to the players, so their physical condition and ability to perform is optimal. Ed's knowledge is priceless and is a big help to the players in achieving fantastic results. Our highest score at present is 9 per cent, with the lowest being 5.4 per cent. These scores are a credit to the players' dedication and hard work on the training pitch, gym

and, away from football, following excellent diet plans and nutritional advice from Ed.

On the injury front, Will Hoskins had a minor operation on his groin region last week after a small set back. Will had trained for three weeks and played a couple of games looking fit and sharp, but some irritation reappeared and we decided to go with a small operation. He was back training with the squad after five days and should be fit for inclusion for the development game next week, with a view for inclusion in the first team the following week. An excellent result post-operation and pleasing for everyone in the sports medicine team.

Matt Bevans continues to make great progress and is stepping up his running and ball work daily. He is lifting some heavy weights now to build his muscle bulk around the knee as we look to build him up to more physical pitch-based training.

Today sees four new faces make their first appearances at the Kassam, so make some noise to support the new signings and rest of the squad in what should be a great game! #oufc #together

Cheers! #COYY
#together

Andrew Proctor
BSc MCSP SRP
Head of Physiotherapy

In association with





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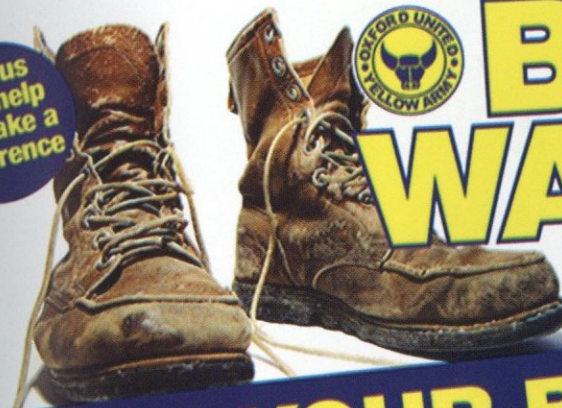
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BIG WALK 2

21/02/15

GET YOUR BOOTS ON!

THE 'BIG WALK' IS COMING

THE YELLOW ARMY HAS LAUNCHED ITS NEXT 'BIG WALK' AND IS APPEALING FOR FANS TO TAKE PART FOR TWO SPECIAL CAUSES.

Proceeds from the 'Big Walk 2D' will be split between the Oxford United Youth and Community Sports Trust and Oxford Domestic Abuse Services.

It will consist of four different routes all taking place simultaneously on Saturday 21st February and ending at the stadium ahead of the home game against Mansfield Town.

Yellow Army walkers will set off from Woodstock, Cholsey, Eynsham and Thame.

Each walk is around 12 miles and more details on timings will follow. Volunteers are also required to help on the day with gathering donations via bucket collections.

A number of staff from ODAS have signed up to take part in the Big Walk 2 and are "delighted" by the Yellow Army's backing.

Oxford Domestic Abuse Services supports women, men and children who have been affected by domestic and sexual violence.

Pam Vasir, Group Director of Supported Housing at A2Dominion, which runs ODAS, said:

"Our heartfelt thanks go to the Yellow Army and Oxford United for their support - a number of our team are Oxford United fans, so it's a perfect partnership.

"We'll be fully supporting the Yellow Army's Big Walk 2 and look forward to taking part ourselves and cheering on Oxford United afterwards.

"Our service is facing funding cuts of 40 per cent next year, so it has really lifted our team's spirit to know

"PROCEEDS FROM THE 'BIG WALK 2' WILL BE SPLIT BETWEEN THE OXFORD UNITED YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SPORTS TRUST AND OXFORD DOMESTIC ABUSE SERVICES."

Oxford United fans care and back our work.

"Every penny raised really will make a difference and help us help vulnerable members of our communities, so we hope as many people as possible get involved in the walk."

Last year, United Milk Cup winners Les Phillips and Alan Judge joined the successful Yellow Army Big Walk which raised thousands of pounds which was split 50/50 between the Oxford United Youth and Community Trust and local hospice Helen and Douglas House.

Please email yellowarmybigwalk2@gmail.com to register your interest in taking part in this wonderful community event. You can also make a donation to the fundraiser via the Yellow Army website.

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THE NAME GAME

BBC Radio Oxford is the official broadcast partner of Oxford United – with live commentary on every game home and away on 95.2FM and digital radio.

Here their team match up namesakes from United teams of old as you can decide who wins the name game.

PHIL GRAY

Despite being in the twilight of his career by the time he joined United, Phil Gray showed glimpses of the class that saw him capped 26 times by Northern Ireland and combined transfer fees of almost £1.5 million.

His career began with Spurs, but he came to prominence with Luton Town, and he continued to score goals with Sunderland. Spells in France and Holland followed, before a return to the Hatters, who he helped to inspire to a memorable League Cup comeback against United.

Gray would arrive at the Manor two years later, after a short time with Burnley. His debut, in November 2000, was eventful as United

won away for the first time that season.

He scored the first of his 13 United goals the following week in an FA Cup win at Macclesfield. Those two away wins on the spin offered hope to David Kemp's beleaguered side, but it didn't last long and they were relegated to the basement for the first time in 35 years.

The new season coincided with the move to the Kassam Stadium but Gray, not helped by injuries, was unable to hold down a regular place under either Mark Wright or his successor Ian Atkins, who would release the striker at the end of the season.

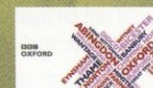
MARTIN GRAY

A midfielder who was never fully given the credit he deserved during his time at the Manor, he arrived from Sunderland to play an important part in the final few games of the promotion season of 1996.

Lacking the finesse of Trevor Hebbard, and without the passing range of Jim Magilton, Gray's job was to break up play and move the ball to someone who could get United going. Alongside the equally combative David Smith they continued to protect the back line, as United spent the next three seasons in Division One. Gray was signed by Denis Smith, after Smith left United, Gray remained a trusted lieutenant of Malcolm Shotton, before leaving at the end of the 98/99 season.

He made 128 appearances for the club, scoring four goals. He was also sent off as United were trounced 4-0 at Leeds in the FA Cup in 1998. Such was his disgust at the two

yellow cards, he took out his frustration on the dressing room door. Coincidentally, the referee that day was Mike Reed, the man at the centre of the penalty storm against Chelsea the following season. After leaving The U's he returned to the North East with Darlington, who he would later take caretaker charge of for three separate spells, before the taking the reins full time with the successor club Darlington 1883, where he remains today.



THIS WEEK - KEEP TAKING THE MEDS

IN THIS SERIES WE LOOK AT OXFORD UNITED CONNECTIONS AROUND THE GLOBE. THIS WEEK WE TURN OUR ATTENTIONS TO THE MEDITERRANEAN ISLANDS OF CYPRUS AND MALTA.

The lovely islands of Cyprus and Malta have been strategically significant for thousands of years. Not quite as strategically significant are those Oxford United associations with these isles.

There have not been many Oxford players who have a connection with Cyprus, but one who made the move to one of the Med's finest tourist destinations from United was midfielder **Paul Tait**. The Black Country lad joined United from Birmingham City, where he had progressed through the youth ranks, in January 1999. He had already earned himself a notorious reputation for showing a rude t-shirt after scoring against Aston Villa in the 1995 Auto Windscreens Shield final at Wembley. Tait's two years with United included the last season at the Manor and the first at the Kassam Stadium and saw him complete exactly 100 starts for the U's, in which he scored three goals. After leaving Oxford at the end of the 2001/02 season, Tait played for Cypriot Division A side Nea Salamis, but his short stay ended in November 2002 following a disagreement with coach Takis Antoniou about being played out of position. He had a brief stint with Banbury United before retiring to run his own soccer school.

Former United manager **Brian Talbot** left the club on 14th March 2006, having started with Oxford the previous summer. Initial signs were positive and by the start of October the side were sixth in League 2. However, this could not be maintained and by the time of Talbot's dismissal Oxford were just one point

above the relegation zone. In April 2006, Talbot received a phone call from Mark Sciriha, chairman of Maltese club Marsaxlokk, offering him the manager's job. Talbot accepted, and in his first season he led the club to the Maltese championship for the first time. In December 2008 Patrick Curmi was appointed coach of Marsaxlokk, with Talbot becoming technical director and adviser to the club's president. He remained with the club until February 2011, when he became a scout for Fulham.

Peter Hatch was an apprentice at United, earning promotion to the senior squad on his 17th birthday, in October 1966. Over the following seven years Hatch made just 20 appearances for the U's and in December 1973 he moved to Exeter for £8,000. In 1981 Hatch joined Maltese side Ħamrun Spartans in a move that caused a number of disputes with the island's Immigration Division, who initially refused to issue work permits, as he became one of the first foreigners to play in Malta for some time. He then returned to Devon to play for Bideford, and after a spell with Taunton he returned to Exeter to become a postman.

Other Oxford players who have played in Cyprus are Lucas Cominelli (Ayia Napia and Ethnikos Achna) and Kristaps Grebis (AEL Limassol).

Those who have played in Malta include George Lawrence (Hibernian), Carl Saunders (Sliema Wanderers and Hibernian) and Onome Sodje (Floriana), while midfielder Mark E'Beyer was of Maltese descent, even though he was born in Stevenage.

3,572 & 121

3,572 SQ MILES (CYPRUS),
121 SQ MILES (MALTA)

1,045

MILES BETWEEN
CYPRUS AND MALTA

1.14M & 411,277

1.14 MILLION PEOPLE (CYPRUS)
411,277 PEOPLE (MALTA)



PAUL TAIT

Born: 31/07/71

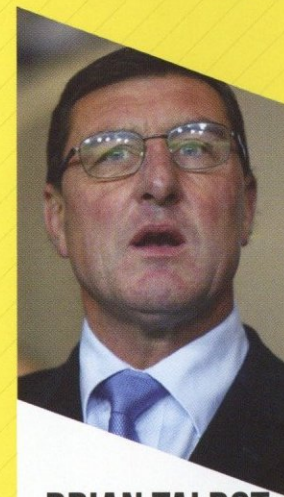
Place of Birth: Sutton Coldfield

Teams Played for: Birmingham City, Millwall (loan), Northampton Town (loan), Oxford United, Nea Salamis (Cyprus), Banbury United

United Apps: 100+5

United Goals: 3

Currently Doing: Head coach at Midlands Soccer Coaching



BRIAN TALBOT

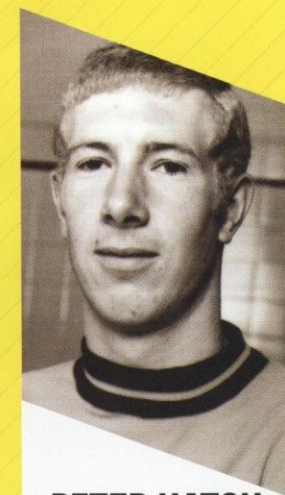
Born: 21/07/53

Place of Birth: Ipswich

Teams Played for: Ipswich Town, Toronto Metros (loan), Arsenal, Watford, Stoke City, West Bromwich Albion, Fulham, Aldershot, Sudbury Town

Teams Managed: West Bromwich Albion, Aldershot, Hibernians (Malta), Rushden & Diamonds, Oldham Athletic, Oxford United, Marsaxlokk (Malta)

Currently Doing: Scouting for Fulham



PETER HATCH

Born: 22/10/49

Place of Birth: Wargrave

Teams Played for: Oxford United, Exeter City, Hamrun Spartans (Malta), Bideford Town, Taunton Town

United Apps: 16+4

United Goals: 2

Currently Doing: Postman



"I HAD A CHANCE TO GO ABROAD AND SEE WHAT IT WAS LIKE OVERSEAS, SO I THOUGHT THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN IT FOR MY FOOTBALL LEAGUE CAREER. **I STUCK AT IT AND THIS CAME ALONG AND IT'S PERFECT.**"

Jamie Ashdown

Oxford United's most recent signing was that of goalkeeper Jamie Ashdown, who put pen to paper on a deal until the end of the season on Tuesday.

Originally with Reading, the six foot four keeper made his name at Portsmouth, where he spent eight seasons and collected an FA Cup winner's medal as well as playing in the Premier League, before joining Leeds United and then Crawley Town.

We caught up with him on his first day at a snowy training ground and asked him if he was happy to be at Oxford.

"I've been looking for a club for a couple of months now and Oxford United fit the bill," he tells us. "After leaving Crawley I had a chance to go abroad and see what it was like overseas, so I thought that might have been it for my Football League career. But I stuck at it and this came along and it's perfect."

Move abroad

Looking out at a snow-covered training pitch, with an Arctic wind rattling the windows, we had to ask the obvious question: why NOT go overseas?

"I chose to stay in England because of the backing of the PFA and things like that," Jamie explains. "It's a massive help and one of the things you find out when you go abroad is that it's not as easy as it looks and you need a lot of help to do it. It became a bit confusing and there were a lot of time issues and I just wanted to get going again."

Jamie joins an Oxford side that boasts Ryan Clarke as the incumbent goalkeeper and with Max Crocombe as an able deputy. Is this the kind of competition that Jamie thrives on?

"You need good people to base yourself on and we'll see what happens," he says, modestly. "I'm physically fit; it's just getting back into the goalkeeping side of things. The cold weather doesn't help as I just need to get back training properly now."

"It's been a couple of months since I've been diving around in English soil I've been overseas and trained there quite a bit, but it's not the same."

Enthusiasm

Over the years do you lose the enthusiasm for training in the cold and the wind, we wonder. Who are the people who keep you sharp?

"You never lose the enthusiasm for it, it's instilled in you from day one and I've never lost it. When I was younger it all started from Phil Parkinson who is now the Bradford manager. He took me to my first training session and then got me started. Then Nicky Hammond who was a Reading coach and player and there have been a lot of players. Also your family; your dad sticks with you all the time and takes you everywhere. They're the main people where it all starts from."

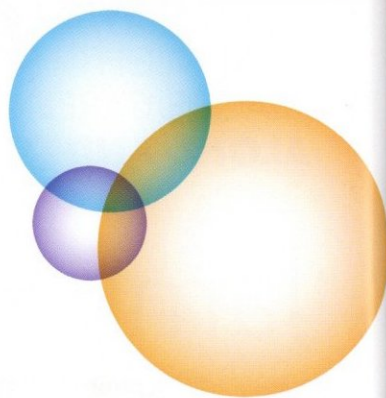
"I've really enjoyed it. It's always been a challenge everywhere I've gone and it's always difficult to oust players like Shaka Hislop and David James, who have had great careers."

So how ready is Jamie to challenge Ryan for the number one shirt?

"For me it starts on Saturday to see where we can push on together as a team." ■

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ACHIEVING MORE TOGETHER



THE NEW MEN

"I'VE PLAYED IN LEAGUE 2 BEFORE, I'VE PLAYED IN LEAGUE 1, I'VE PLAYED IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP, SO **I KNOW WHAT I'M CAPABLE OF** AND I LOOK FORWARD TO BRINGING THAT TO THIS SQUAD."

Richard Brindley

ANOTHER PLAYER WHO HAS JOINED UNITED SINCE OUR LAST HOME GAME IS RIGHT-BACK RICHARD BRINDLEY.

Brindley began his career at his hometown club Norwich City before catching the eye during a spell at Chelmsford City. The 21-year-old defender attracted interest from a number of Football League clubs and joined Chesterfield in January 2013.

The following season he moved to Rotherham United, signing at the same time as Joe Skarz. Having spent time on loan at Scunthorpe United in December 2014, Richard returned to Rotherham in time to play, and score, in their recent FA Cup game against AFC Bournemouth.

Feeling good

We caught up with Richard at a training session and asked him how it feels to be at Oxford United. "It feels good," he smiles. "I'm glad to be here and to get the opportunity to play games."

Richard isn't a total stranger to some in the Oxford squad, which can only help the youngster to settle in. "Danny Hylton and Joe Skarz I know very well

from being at Rotherham," he reveals, "and I know they're two very good players so I'm happy to come here and play alongside them."

Regular games

Despite his youth, Richard has played a good number of games at different levels in the League, which he hopes to add to while at Oxford, as he explains. "The loan option is all about me getting regular games. I'm still very young but I've got a lot of experience now. I've played in League 2 before, I've played in League 1, I've played in the Championship, so I know what I'm capable of and I look forward to bringing that to this squad."

Finally, what qualities does Richard bring to the Oxford team? "I like to get forwards a lot and I like to create things," he tells us, "but I've got two jobs to do and I have to defend as well. I don't like to concede goals so I'll be looking to do both sides of the coin." ■

“THE WAY I AM I NEED TO TRAIN AS WELL AS PLAY. I DO LOOK FORWARD TO TRAINING AND IT’S PART AND PARCEL OF THE JOB.”

Alex MacDonald

Deadline-day signing Alex MacDonald joined from Burton Albion for an undisclosed fee, having passed his medical on Monday morning. The Scottish under-21 international joins the U’s on a two-and-a-half year deal, with an option for a further year.

Originally with Burnley, Alex gained experience with loans at Falkirk, Inverness and Plymouth before a successful loan spell at Burton was followed by a permanent deal in the summer of 2013.

Able to play all along the front line, he has scored seven times for the Brewers already this season.

When we spoke to him after he signed, he pointed out that this wasn’t his first time at the Kassam Stadium this season, having played for Burton in their opening-day victory back in August.

“Last time I was here was with Burton and we took three points that day,” he smiled apologetically. “It was a bit of a smash and grab but I’m looking forward to being on the other side of the coin now I’m an Oxford United player.”

Positive feedback

We asked Alex how much he knew about Oxford before he signed.

“I’ve spoken to pretty much everyone about the club and connected with the club and experienced players and old managers, everything has been positive,” he said. “It’s a massive club, one that’s on the up and one that I’m looking forward to being part of.”

With Burton riding high in the automatic promotion places and Oxford having a disappointing season so far, it couldn’t have been easy to make the switch.

“It was a hard decision to come away from something that was looking so positive in terms of the league position,” he agreed, “but this was an opportunity for me that I thought was very good -

too good to turn down - and I’m very much looking forward to the future now.

“I’m very much a family man and the main thing in my life is looking after my fiancée and my little girl, who is two and a half and a bit of a handful now. The way I work, I always give my all whether it be in training, matches, whatever and that’s part and parcel of me.”

New kid on the block

Does Alex know anyone already at the club or is it a question of meeting everyone for the first time?

“I’m literally the new kid at school. I’ve got friends of friends who play here, so the first few weeks I’ll just keep my head down and get to know the boys.

“The way I am I need to train as well as play. I do look forward to training and it’s part and parcel of the job. The target now is just to get in the side, hopefully.

“We had a good result on Saturday so let’s hope we’re looking up now and be very positive and take it on into the end of the season.”

Alex’s first involvement may well be in today’s game, against a Luton side gunning for promotion. A team that Alex already knows about first-hand.

“I was speaking to the chief executive who’s expecting a very big crowd, so it should be a very good game against a good Luton side. I’ve played them already this season with Burton; they were a good side that day and it will be another hard task I’m sure but we’ll be ready for them.” ■



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OXFORD UNITED WOMEN 0 COVENTRY CITY LADIES 3

OXFORD UNITED WOMEN WERE BEATEN 3-0 AT HOME BY WPL NORTH LEADERS COVENTRY CITY IN THE THIRD ROUND OF THE FA WOMEN'S CUP.

It meant United's first competitive match of 2015 ended in defeat, with the U's now having to wait more than six weeks for their next taste of meaningful action.

Manager Les Taylor named a strong side, with every player having featured for the U's during the 2014 WSL season. Teenagers Demi Lambourne, Ella Franklin-Fraiture and Laura Nichol all started, with the experience of captain Sahara Osborne-Ricketts, Kayleigh Hines and Kat Nutman providing a strong backbone. But United got off to the worst possible start, falling behind inside a minute when former Oxford trialist Amber Hughes darted up the right wing and crossed for Destiny Toussaint to poke the visitors in front with just 30 seconds on the clock. Shellshocked United soon found themselves facing an onslaught with further chances from the lively Hughes, Toussaint and striker Helen Dermody.

Straight red

The visitors doubled their lead after 15 minutes when Dermody beat the offside trap before squaring for Toussaint to slide in for her second of the afternoon. Toussaint's match was about to come to an end, however, as just five minutes later she was shown a straight red for kicking out at Sahara Osborne-Ricketts as the United captain lay prone on the ground. That proved just the spark to fire Oxford into life and the home side dominated the remainder of the half. Katie Stanley and Holly Pickett both saw efforts blocked by some desperate Coventry defending and Kayleigh Hines headed a corner just wide as the U's pressed forward in search of a way back into the match.

Oxford again enjoyed the lion's share of possession after the break, but struggled to break down the Coventry backline and were mostly restricted to shots from distance. Hines went close with one such

effort shortly after the restart, firing narrowly over from 25 yards out. Osborne-Ricketts came even closer from an even greater distance soon after, unleashing a stunning 30-yard strike which was just tipped over by Coventry goalkeeper Susan Wood. Wood was again on hand to stop Hines' effort after the U's midfielder had found space to let loose a shot inside the Coventry area and when the ball rebounded to Laura Nichol she was desperately unlucky to see her strike hit the edge of the post.

High pressing game

With United pressing ever higher up the pitch as time began to run out, they left themselves vulnerable to the counter-attack as the visitors made it safe in the 73rd minute. A simple ball over



the top set Dermody away to fire in the third past the defenceless Demi Lambourne in the Oxford goal. There were still chances for the U's in the closing stages, with Lauren Allison seeing her header cleared off the line after Rosie Lane had knocked the ball back across a crowded goalmouth for her. Substitute Gemma Simmonds then headed straight at goalkeeper Wood when picked out by Osborne-Ricketts in the final moments of the match.

United: Lambourne, Nichol (King 68), Chivers, Osborne-Ricketts, Lane, Hines, Stanley, Nutman, Allison, Pickett (Low 68), Franklin-Fraiture (Simmonds 68). Subs not used: Cox, Tierney, Pinker.

Attendance: 154.

Report by Matt Bruce



WOMEN IN WSL ACTION

OXFORD UNITED WFC FIXTURES 2015

DATE	OPPONENT	KICK OFF
01.02.15	Coventry LFC (FAWC)	LO-3
19.03.15	Watford LFC	7:45pm
29.03.15	Durham WFC	12:00noon
05.04.15	Yeovil Town	2:00pm
19.04.15	Aston Villa	2:00pm
23.04.15	Reading FC	7:45pm
10.05.15	Durham WFC	12:00noon
17.05.15	London Bees	2:00pm
24.05.15	Everton LFC	2:00pm
31.05.15	Aston Villa	2:00pm
12.07.15	London Bees	2:00pm
19.07.15	Doncaster Belles	2:00pm
23.07.15	Yeovil Town (CC)	7:45pm
26.07.15	Millwall	2:00pm
30.07.15	Notts County (CC)	7:45pm
09.08.15	Reading FC	2:00pm
16.08.15	Birmingham City (CC)	2:00pm
23.08.15	Watford LFC	2:00pm
27.08.15	Bristol Academy (CC)	7:00pm
30.08.15	Aston Villa (CC)	2:00pm
06.09.15	Millwall	2:00pm
27.09.15	Yeovil Town	2:00pm
04.10.15	Doncaster Belles	2:00pm
18.10.15	Everton LFC	2:00pm

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JACK JOHNSON

THE WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY

WELL, THE JANUARY TRANSFER WINDOW HAS BEEN AND GONE BUT WHAT BENEFIT DOES IT OFFER CLUBS?

After the drama of Monday, it's probably with relief that game day has come around so quickly and it's time for

business on the pitch rather than off it.

I think it's fair to say that bringing in the new faces that we have done, on top of the squad we already had here, will have pleased head coach Michael Appleton. He said last week how he had not planned to take it to Monday but as it turned out, he had to.

So is there any benefit at all to the January transfer window?

If you go all the way up to the Premier League, some would argue that it is an opportunity for the heavyweights to flex their financial muscle. Another argument is that it hinders the development of academy players at the top clubs, and I tend to agree with this.

Strengthening and ambition

However, at our level I'd say this transfer window is important for strengthening and ambition - not that Chelsea and Manchester City lack any of that but I think you know where I am coming from. I recall at the beginning of the season Appleton talking about how important January could be and hopefully he was right.

The squad has developed over the season, the younger players are prospering and I truly believe we're getting there. **Joe Skarz** and Richard Brindley showed glimpses of what they can offer against Stevenage last weekend, while Alex MacDonald is a great addition. Stuart Beavon stole the show when Burton were here back in August but the fact I can remember MacDonald from that afternoon goes to show he played a big part that day.

Exits

Obviously there were also exits, with Alfie Potter, Michael Raynes, Tom Newey, Junior Brown and David Hunt all leaving the club. Also, loanees Tareiq Holmes-Dennis and Wes Burns returned to their parent clubs and I'm sure I'm not alone in wishing all these players the best for the future.

So make sure to enjoy today's game. Judging by our last couple of matches against Luton it should be a cracker.

Oh and don't forget, the loan window opens next week.



RUSH TO PROMOTION

IT WAS OUR GREAT PLEASURE TO HAVE ONE OF THE HEROES OF 1996 AS OUR GUEST AT THE TRAINING GROUND LAST WEEK WHEN DAVID RUSH POPPED IN TO SAY HELLO.

A terrifically hard-working striker, David joined the U's from Sunderland where he had been part of Malcolm Crosby's FA Cup final side of 1992. He became a cult hero to the Manor Ground fans, sealing his status with a goal in the decisive 4-0 win over Peterborough United at the Manor to clinch promotion. His celebration, placing his shirt on the corner flag and waving it towards the fans, remains an iconic image from the old ground. Now 43, we asked him what he is up to these days.

"I'm head of football at Sunderland College, which I thoroughly enjoy," he told us. "We have 60 kids there in three teams and they are all top of their leagues so we are doing fantastically at the moment. I'd not really thought about coaching; I think as a player you are just in the bubble, but you start thinking about it when you come to the end of your career. Other people told me it was a natural step. I've always been enthusiastic and passionate about my football and I think that comes across."

Natural enthusiasm

That natural enthusiasm was what endeared him to the Oxford fans...

"Whatever shirt I put on I wore my heart on my sleeve as a player. I think the fans at Oxford could see that and that's why I enjoyed my time here so much."

'Rushy' recalls his arrival at Oxford with great fondness.

"When I signed Denis Smith said to me 'I've bought you for two things. The first is your ability but the second is to get the dressing room going. We haven't got someone like you' and I didn't know what he meant! I was just being myself, like I always have done. I guess I was the joker in the dressing room but Stuart Massey was the one really. I didn't get him at first when I came down but we are still very good friends even now."

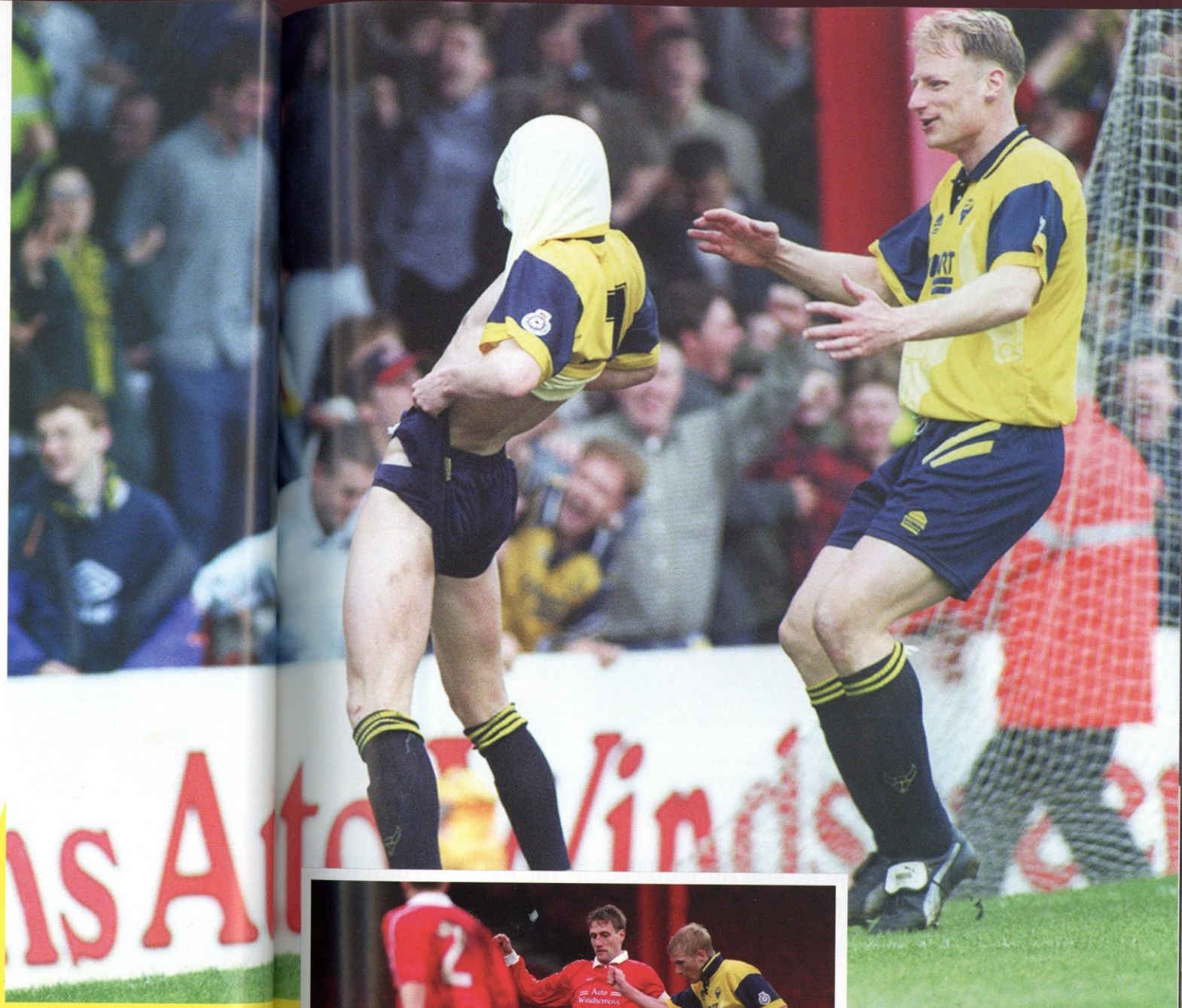
Key role

Both players were to play a key role in the promotion run that saw United go 19 games unbeaten in 1996 to clinch promotion to the second tier of the Football League.

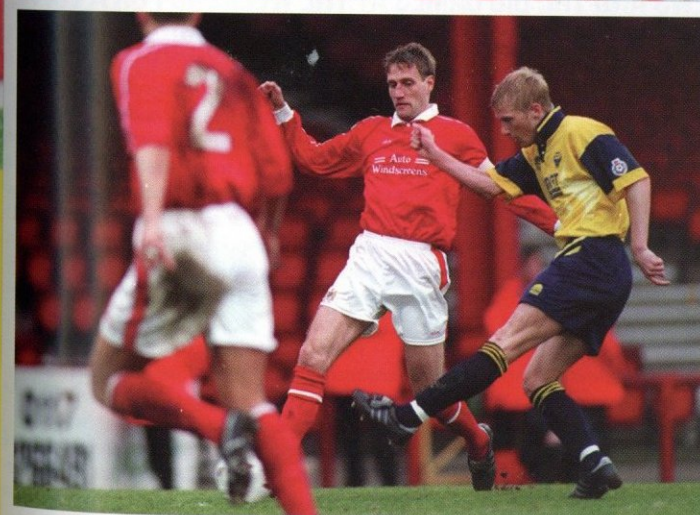
"The momentum was key," David says. "We just got on a roll and couldn't be stopped. Denis Smith encouraged us, confidence built with every game we played and if we didn't win we didn't lose."

That run finished with the crunch game at home to Peterborough. Nervous days for all concerned.

"Definitely a few nerves. I think you could tell in my performance, looking back. I missed a left-foot sitter in the first half that I know was down to nerves. At half time we were 0-0 and Blackpool, our closest rivals, were winning so we knew we had to focus and do a professional job in the second half, which we did. It's unbelievable that it was 19 years ago. I'm



Right and above: David scores the first against Bristol City in 1996 and celebrates with Paul Moody

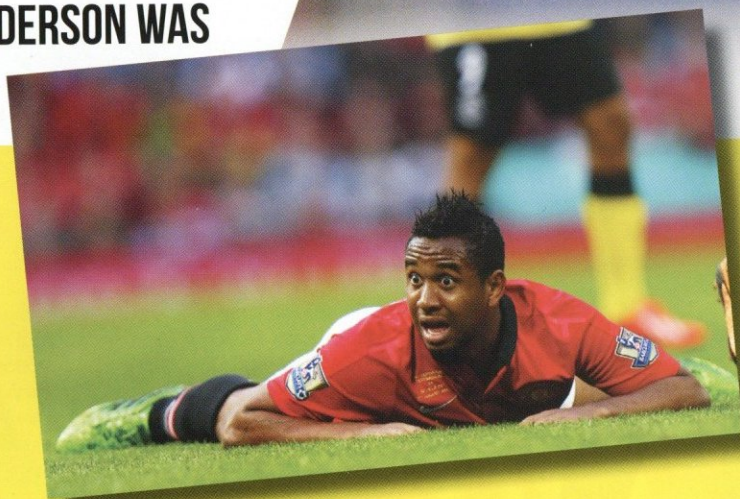


trying to get a reunion together to mark the 20th anniversary and have spoken to a few players and people at the club so I hope we can make that happen."

We'll make that happen, and David knows he is always assured of a warm welcome back.

"I see it as my second home," he smiles. "I have so many friends in Oxford still and am always back here. Chrissy Allen and Micky Lewis are still here from that 96 team and even if they weren't then the club is in my heart. Always will be." ■

"MANCHESTER UNITED'S ANDERSON HAS BEEN RELEASED BY THE CLUB AND SPOTTED AT BURGER KING NEAR THE KASSAM. REPORTS HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM WHAT SIDE OF THE SERVING COUNTER ANDERSON WAS STANDING."



WITH ONE EYE ALWAYS ON THE NEWS AND THE BIG GAMES AT THE WEEKEND FOR A TOPIC, IT WAS A REAL NO-BRAINER THIS WEEK WITH THE PRINT DEADLINE COINCIDING WITH THE FUN AND GAMES OF DEADLINE DAY.

Jim White is dusting off his deadline-day suit, managers have been grabbed leaning out of their car window leaving the training ground and the most obscure rumours you can imagine come out of the woodwork. Will players be left sitting in parking lots? Does your cousin's boyfriend's hairdresser have some inside information on a game-changing star coming to your team? These tales have become the best thing about deadline day. My favourite so far has to be a text received this morning:

"Manchester United's Anderson has been released by the club and spotted at Burger King near the Kassam. Reports have not been able to confirm what side of the serving counter Anderson was standing."

Love it or hate it, the January window is an integral part of the English footballing calendar. English football was initially behind the plans when they were proposed in the early 1990s, in the

hope that it would improve teams' stability, but by the time it was eventually introduced they had to be persuaded that it would work. One positive that can be taken from the window is that it limits the amount of influence and bargaining power that money-hungry agents have in manipulating new lucrative deals for clients by using press or self-generated speculation throughout the season.

Plucking prize assets

You won't find too many managers that like the January window for many reasons. It favours bigger clubs with more money that can pluck a prize asset away from a rival in the same league halfway through the year. Emerging talents who might not have shown quality before the start of the season are snatched away: something that happens a lot to lower-league and smaller top-flight clubs.

DEADLINE DAY MADNESS...

Arsene Wenger has been a long-term hater of the winter window for this very reason. While still a big player in the Premier League, the lack of silverware at Arsenal has led to many a big name moving on in search of greener pastures, such as Cesc Fabregas and Thierry Henry. The Frenchman has changed his dislike of big-name signings in recent times in the pursuit of trophies, yet he remains in opposition to the window, as does Manuel Pellegrini at Manchester City. One of his main complaints was demonstrated when Juan Mata moved from Chelsea to Manchester United. The two teams had already played each other twice so the Spaniard would not have the opportunity to inflict damage on his former employers yet would get the chance to perform against the London club.

Ridiculous window

Current Swansea manager and former Oxford player Garry Monk is also not a fan of the January window:

"It can be a bit ridiculous at times. It's a cattle market and everyone's selling all their cows and they're overpricing the cows - some of them are bad. If the valuations are wrong, which they normally are in this window, you can't do the deal."

All managers want to do the deals for the right price and the

shortened nature of the winter window dramatically inflates the market value of all players as clubs and agents strive to take advantage of desperation. Understandably, clubs don't want to be taken for a ride so look around at the many possibilities to secure the best deal, resulting in the traditional last-minute rush that also comes when the summer window shuts.

Alternatives

The alternatives would be to have no second window at all or limit the amount of transfers a club is permitted but this may be disastrous for a team that doesn't have a youth system and is crippled by injuries and only able to sign the maximum quota on loan.

Love it or hate it, the two deadline days are part and parcel of the money-hungry modern game as fans gather in front of the box to watch Jim or scour the internet for news that the one signing that can change their season is about to be presented to the press. While it looks as though the window as a whole was a calm one this time around, that doesn't mean to say that there wasn't a whole lot of intrigue and negotiations going on behind the scenes, out of sight of Jim White and the Sky cameras.

Enjoy the game



"I SCORE AND WE DRAW 1-1 I'M NOT HAPPY; I WANT TO WIN GAMES AS A TEAM AND I THINK WE ARE HEADING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION TO DO THAT A LOT HERE AT OXFORD."

PATRICK HOBAN

HOBAN HAPPY TO BE HERE

In the latest in our in-depth interviews, Chris Williams talks with Patrick Hoban...

The first time I met him, on a cold November afternoon, I wanted to confirm the pronunciation of our new striker's name. "It's Patrick, not Pat or Paddy," he laughed that day, "and you say it as Hooban. But it'll stay that way until the first training session I reckon..."

And sure enough, as we sit down for a chat at the training ground, correct pronunciation went out of the window pretty quickly.

"It lasted about ten minutes and then I was Paddy or Pat or Hoobs," he smiles. "I kind of go along with it! To be fair there is plenty of banter around here. They are saying 'potato' to me all the time but I haven't gone to the PFA to report it just yet!"

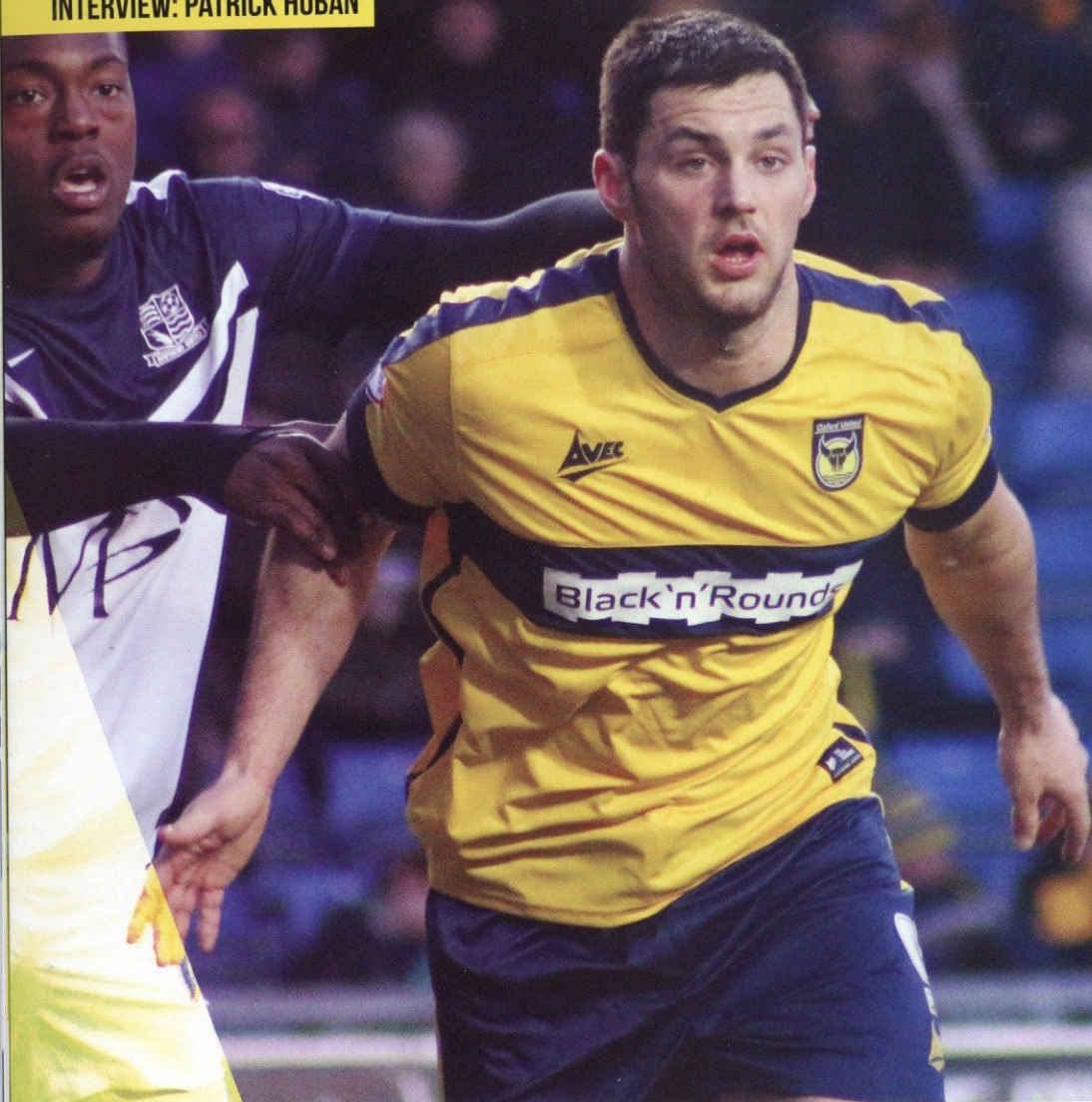
Make no mistake though. Behind Patrick's smile is a steely determination to succeed at the U's. The Irish striker was let go by Bristol City the first time he came over from Ireland and he is determined to make up for lost time

during his time in Oxford:

"Last time I was over I was 19 and here as a central midfielder and it just didn't work out," he says. "Obviously I came out of that with experience but it was frustrating because I knew I was good enough and being let go was a bitter pill to swallow. It just made me more determined to succeed. I went back to my old club, worked hard in the gym and came back as a number nine."

"Johnny Glynn of Mervue United used to play me in every position but then I went to centre-forward and scored 14 goals which got Dundalk looking at me. Rather than play everywhere I settled in one position, up front. It's about playing for the team and winning games together. Win games and everyone does well."

"I want to score goals – everyone does – but if I score and we draw 1-1 I'm not happy; I want to win games as a team and I think we are heading in the right direction to do that a lot here at Oxford. ▶



That determination has been evident even during his short time at Oxford, bouncing back from an injury in his first training session to lead the line in the last two matches.

"No-one likes being injured," he says, "but in a way the timing was perfect because I couldn't play until January anyway. If I got it now there'd be more head loss! I was back quicker than I thought from the injury, so I didn't miss too much football. Being back so quickly was down to everyone in the background who did a fantastic job. In a way it was a blessing because I don't know how we'd have managed it because there was no point throwing me straight into one season after another without a break. I did a lot of gym work and was very surprised in myself how fit I was when I came back. I have played two tough 90 minutes and done a lot of running, although I

always think I can get fitter. I always think I can be sharper, train harder or whatever, but hopefully it all clicks together."

Is that part of his character, I ask, the perfectionist who broods over missed chances?

"No. There's absolutely no point letting things like that sit in your mind. It will only affect you the next time you have a chance so get up straight away, dust yourself down and the next time hopefully the ball goes in the back of the net. I have always been like that; there's no point dwelling on it. Be disappointed for one second then just get on with it. If you don't do that you put too much pressure on yourself and there's no point doing that when you're playing football. It's a game I love to play, and I want to score goals, but I have always thought to myself just let it flow and the goals will come. Luckily that happened at



PATRICK HOBAN

BORN: 28/07/91

PLACE OF BIRTH: Galway, Ireland

TEAMS PLAYED FOR: Mervue United, Bristol City, Clevedon Town, Dundalk, Oxford United

UNITED APPS: 2+1

UNITED GOALS: 0

• Hoban played for Irish non-league sides Lakeside Celtic and Ballinasloe Town before he joined Mervue United, where he won promotion from the A-Championship to the Airtricity League in November 2008

• **He was Dundalk's leading scorer in the last two seasons, with 22 goals in 2013 and 20 goals last year**

• Patrick was selected in the 2013 PFAI's Premier Division Team of the Year.

Dundalk, with 42 goals in two seasons."

The Irish league's top scorer, did the goals flow right from the very first game at Dundalk?

"No. It was a step up from the first division to Premier. I thought I did OK in the first three games but it was more intense and the manager dropped me for six games after that and we went through video analysis where we looked at my game, my hold up play, my runs and so on. The manager showed me things in training and I was getting better and better all the time. Then I came on and scored my first goal against Cork and that triggered a run of 12 goals in 11 games. The next season I had a run of nine goals in a row, but I scored fairly consistently throughout..."

Which had clubs this side of the Irish Sea monitoring his progress. Was it easy to block that out? •

"I was aware but you can't let it affect you. Dwell on your chances and they won't happen. When I was told that Oxford were interested I looked them up and went 'Wow, that's a big club'. I thought it was great but we were going for the league with Dundalk and I had to concentrate on that."

If you think it's a big club against Exeter and Stevenage wait until you see us against Luton, I say, with a fantastic atmosphere and 2,000 away fans...

"That's good because they are going to be going home disappointed," he replies.

I hesitate, but have to ask how the standard over here compares with the League of Ireland?

"I get asked that all the time. I can't really answer after only two 90 minutes, can I? Maybe the best way to do it is that back home there are five teams who are competing at the top but with respect there are other clubs who you feel you should be beating. I don't see that in this division. It is much tighter."

Last week's win at Stevenage, where Patrick was excellent, was typically tight. I wasn't alone in spotting him put his head in his hands when his bullet header was pushed on to the bar by Stevenage keeper Chris Day, with Callum O'Dowda scoring the rebound

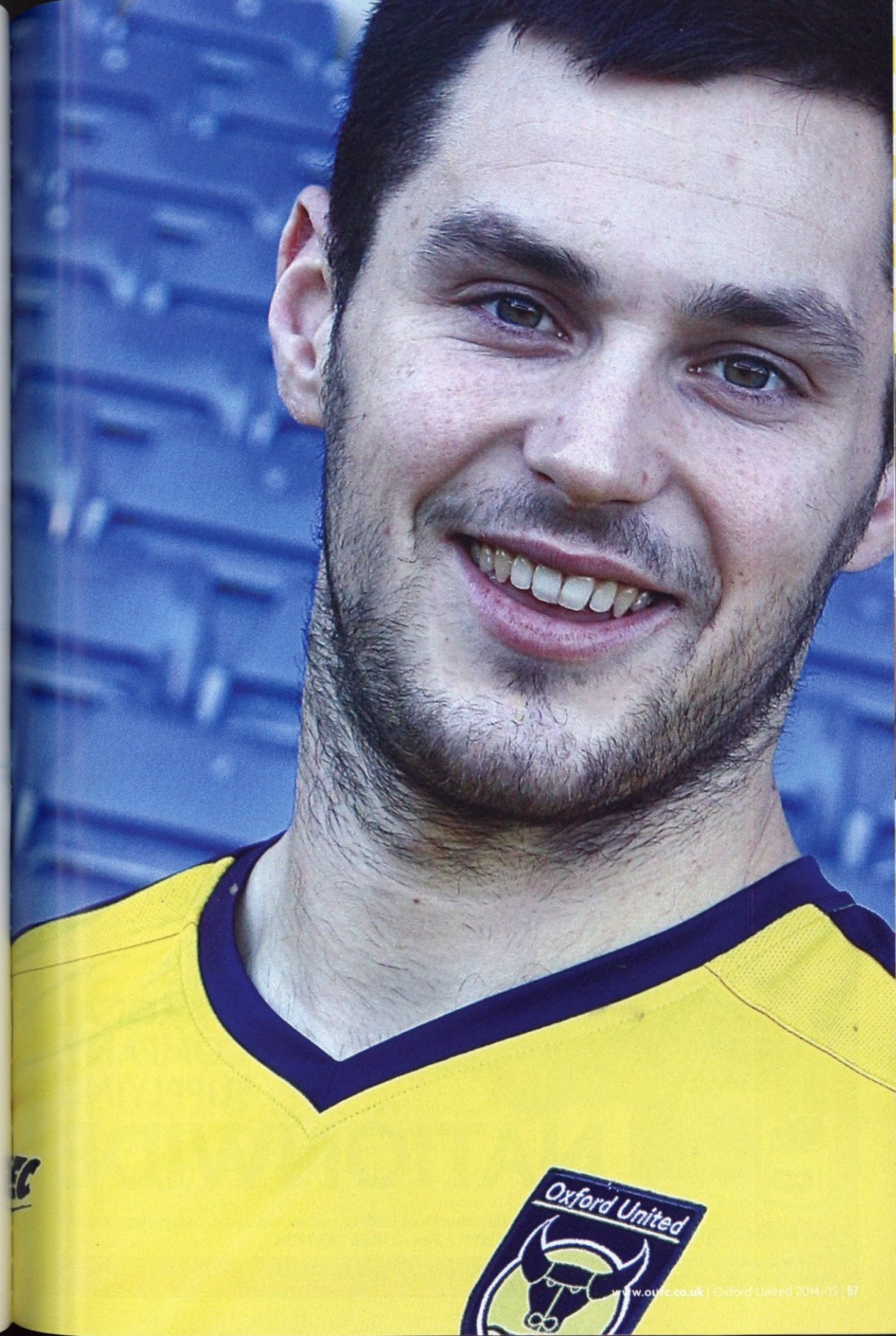
rather than Patrick celebrating his first Oxford goal.

"No, I'm glad you asked that because I want to clear it up," he says laughing. "That's not me being Mr Greedy – anyone back home will tell you I am 100 per cent a team player. But it was me saying 'How has he saved that?' I was bamboozled by it. I don't think I've ever met a header so well but somehow he kept it out! I was delighted that we scored and won. We had a good game plan and that second goal settled the game really."

After a draw with Exeter and a win at Stevenage United are on the up, and Patrick is looking to play a big part in an improved second half of the season.

"I think we are looking more solid with each game and gelling really well," he says. "Defensively we look solid and we have picked up four points from two games, so that's something to build from. I'm definitely not used to losing. I think I have been on the losing side about six times in two years, so I'm not used to it but when I do I am not a happy loser. You need that competitiveness. I think I see plenty of it here and would love to be part of a successful side. I know I have a great opportunity here and want to give it my all." ■

"I'M DEFINITELY NOT USED TO LOSING. I THINK I HAVE BEEN ON THE LOSING SIDE ABOUT SIX TIMES IN TWO YEARS, I'M NOT USED TO LOSING BUT WHEN I DO I AM NOT A HAPPY LOSER. YOU NEED THAT COMPETITIVENESS."



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TRANSFER DEADLINE DAY HAS DOMINATED THE WEEK SO I THOUGHT I WOULD TRY AND GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE WAY A TRANSFER WORKS FROM THE MEDIA POINT OF VIEW.

I think there are a few misconceptions, possibly fuelled by Jim White and his yellow-tied cronies, so let's try and walk you through last Monday step by step.

8am – a phone call between me and Mark Ashton. He has been working all weekend on bringing new players in and letting others leave. He confirms who we are after and where we are with it all. We talked on Saturday and Sunday and have constant dialogue once signings are close, but my involvement only usually begins when a release needs writing; so don't keep asking me who we're signing would you? I never know!

8.30am – Alex MacDonald arrives at the stadium. Paperwork is checked and discussed and he pops out for a coffee to read it over with his advisers.

9am – I'm on the phone to Burton. There is a gentleman's agreement among we press people not to hang the other club out to dry. If we announce a signing first the other club looks daft. I need little help in that department but am always appreciative when my counterpart co-operates. I call Charlton and Bristol City so we can confirm the departures of Tareiq Holmes-Dennis and Wes Burns. It gets complicated – Cheltenham are bringing in Burns so now there are four clubs involved in a timed release. I know that David Hunt is joining Barnet but it is not a transfer, so no need to talk to them. I text Huntly and tell him we will release his story at the same time as the others. He wishes me all the best and offers to sell me some coffee, his new business!

9.15am – Ross Heaton of the BBC is doorstepping us. Rather than make him wait outside he comes in to the warm and spends the day trying to find out all my secrets. I resist his advances. The morning is spent checking progress. Inevitably the transfers and releases are now all over twitter but that is modern football and you cannot stop it. We NEVER comment on speculation and will only release stories when they are all signed, all parties are happy and everything is official.

12.30pm – Official stories go out from all clubs about the players leaving.

1pm – Plenty of speculation about Alex Macdonald joining but the forms are still being checked. He's looking bored so we do our interviews to save time later. I have interviewed a number of players who subsequently never signed for us, but in that case the interview is binned and never mentioned again.

3pm – Burton calling. They've got a slight problem getting their release signed off so can we talk at 4?

4pm – Shrewsbury calling – you'll never guess...

4.30pm – Another call. All in order. Forms signed and ratified. Player registered. Can we wait an hour though as Burton may have a player in by then?

5.30pm – Bombs away. Story goes live, press release goes out. We briefly rule the Twittersphere.

There were plenty of discussions and chats through the day - it's no secret there were other players on the radar, but I'd fill a whole programme instead of a page if I went through all that. Hopefully you can see enough from the above to gain a tiny insight into the mechanics. I've not even mentioned the hours that the club secretaries, Chief Execs, lawyers and accountants put into it. It's complex and bewildering but next time you are sitting there hitting refresh and demanding signings on Twitter, spare a thought. We will ALWAYS bring you the news first when players sign, I promise, but nothing is ever simple.

CHRIS WILLIAMS

OFF THE BALL



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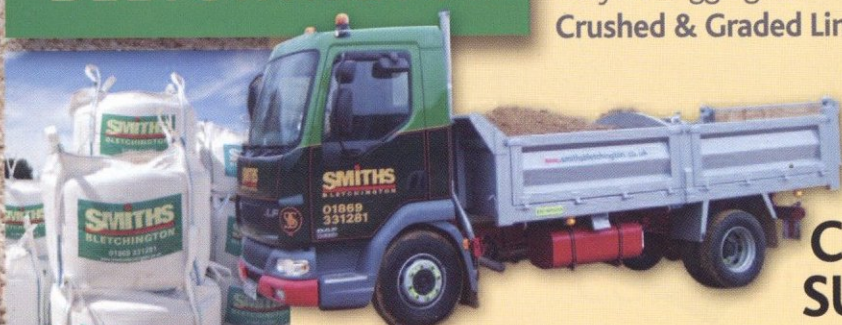
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COMMUNITY SEASON TICKETS

OXFORD UNITED are at the centre of the community and always looking to build exciting new programmes in Oxford and across Oxfordshire.

This season has seen the launch of the Community Season Tickets initiative.

The individuals, groups and businesses named below have sponsored tickets for local schools and charities to come to games.

These cost £400 and the tickets are personalised and communicated to the relevant school/charity as we look to encourage greater, more active participation in the club.

Anyone buying a ticket has their name or company logo in each matchday magazine throughout the season and will be invited to an end-of-season reception where the club can thank you for your support and commemorate it with a unique piece of memorabilia. To be part of this great initiative, just email Deales@oufc.co.uk.

Today's guests are the pupils and staff of South Stoke and Crowmarsh Gifford primary schools, who join us in the Family Stand, along with children from the John Watson School, Wheatley and the Oxfordshire Hospital School. We hope they all enjoy their day.



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VENUE: Bicester Sports Centre **AGES:** 4-11 years **COST:** £45
DATES: Friday 16th January - 27th March **TIMES:** 5.30pm-6.30pm

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TODAY'S MASCOTS

We have four mascots for
 this afternoon's game.



GRACE LIGHT

Grace comes
 from West
 Sussex. She is
 10 years old and
 attends Our
 Lady of Sion

School in Worthing. Her hobbies
 include playing football and
 netball and listening to music.

CHLOE AND CHARLOTTE REYNOLDS

Sisters Chloe and Charlotte
 live in Abingdon and attend
 Carswell Community Primary
 School. Chloe (left) is 12 and
 enjoys karate, playing guitar and
 watching and playing football.



Her favourite player is Ryan
 Clarke. Ten-year-old Charlotte
 (right) likes to play the ukulele,
 dance, and watch ice hockey and
 football. Her favourite player is
 skipper Jake Wright.

NOAH CLUTTERBUCK

Noah was five years old on
 Wednesday. He
 lives in Didcot
 and goes to
 Ecchinswell
 Primary School.
 Noah enjoys
 playing football
 and watching
 Oxford United
 and when he
 grows up he wants to be Oxford
 United and England captain! His
 favourite Oxford players are Josh
 Ruffles and Danny Hylton.



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COMMUNITY

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GOOD AFTERNOON EVERYONE. WE HOPE YOU ARE LOOKING
 FORWARD TO THE GAME TODAY AS WE TAKE ON LUTON TOWN.

On Wednesday 28th January 2015 we
 ran regional qualifiers for the kids'
 cup at Tilsley Park, Abingdon. We had
 seven schools from the Oxfordshire
 region attend; Windmill Primary School,
 Headington; Edward Feild House
 Primary School, Kidlington; Southstoke
 Primary School, Wallingford; North
 Kidlington Primary School, Kidlington;
 Barley Hill Primary School, Oxford;
 John Henry Newman, Oxford; and
 Crowmarsh Gifford, Crowmarsh. The
 winners of the tournament were
 Windmill School who beat Edward
 Feild in the final in what was a thrilling
 game. It was a great tournament
 to watch and every team put in 100
 per cent. A big thank you to all the
 teams who participated and made
 the day enjoyable, despite the poor
 weather throughout. South Stoke and
 Crowmarsh Gifford are here today in
 the family stand for their efforts. We
 want to wish Windmill all the best
 in the next stage of the competition,
 where they will be representing Oxford
 United Football Club.

Half term is just around the corner
 and we are running two courses over
 the week. We are running one course
 at the Oxford Academy School, Oxford
 and the other at Bicester Community
 College, Bicester. The courses will run
 from the 16th-20th February at £20
 for the day or £60 for the week. Both
 courses are for children aged 5-13 years
 old. If this is something you would be
 interested in then email rayton@oufc.
 co.uk to get signed on or if you require
 further information.

The community team will be
 running ALL NEW Evening Community

Development Football Courses for
 4-11 year olds. This is a new idea we
 are trying in which we will be focusing
 on improving the children's skills in
 the following areas: passing, dribbling,
 defending, shooting and attacking
 play. For more details contact us on
 the number or email address below;
 you can see the nearest community
 development courses on the opposite
 page.

We are getting out into the local area
 and working with our partner clubs; if
 you are a local grassroots football club
 and would like to find out more about
 working with the community team,
 please get in contact by the using the
 numbers at the bottom of the page.

If you are an Oxfordshire school
 or group and would like the Oxford
 United community team to visit, please
 contact Chris: CLowes@oufc.co.uk.

Let's hope for a thrilling match and
 three points for Oxford today!

COME ON YOU YELLOWS!

For more information and to
 sign up on a course please
 call the community office
 on 01865 337525 or email
 Community@oufc.co.uk

For anyone with twitter give
 us a follow for up-to-date
 news regarding courses and
 other community-related
 events at
 @OUFCcommunity

Chris and Ross



ON THIS DAY - 7TH FEBRUARY

UNITED HAVE PLAYED ON THIS DATE JUST EIGHT TIMES SINCE TURNING PROFESSIONAL IN 1949, WINNING THREE AND DRAWING THREE. THEY ALSO PLAYED ON 17TH JANUARY FOUR TIMES BEFORE BECOMING PROFESSIONAL, WITH GREATER SUCCESS.

THE OLDEN DAYS

United's first fixture on this date wasn't until 1929, when Douglas scored Headington's consolation in a 5-1 defeat to Brackley at the Manor in the Oxfordshire Senior League. In 1935 United suffered another home defeat in the same competition, going down 2-1 to MG Sports from Abingdon, with E Webb scoring for the U's.

Headington had better fortunes in 1946, when they visited Benson, still in the OSL. Headington beat the RAF team 6-2.

THE SOUTHERN LEAGUE

United had three games on this date during the club's Southern League days. In 1953 they visited Tonbridge, where a Johnny Crichton goal earned United a 1-0 win. Six years later their visit to Cheltenham ended in a 5-1 defeat, with Billy Rees scoring the side's consolation goal.

In 1962, Oxford United welcomed Clacton Town to the Manor for a Southern League Premier Division game that ended 2-2, with Bud Houghton notching both of Oxford's goals.

INTO THE LEAGUE

United's first Football League match on this date was a home game against Hull City in the second division in 1970. The game



ended goalless. Six years later, Chelsea were the visitors to the Manor for another Division Two fixture. A crowd of 11,162 saw Mick Tait score Oxford's goal in a 1-1 draw.

The U's were in Division Three the following season and a trip to Mansfield proved fruitless as the Stags won 3-0. Fortunes failed to improve by 1981, when Newport County came to the Manor and won 1-0.

TO INFINITY, AND BEYOND

Oxford's last five matches on this date have all been away from home. In 1987 United were in the top flight and a visit to West Ham yielded all three points as David Leworthy scored the only goal of the game (main pic).

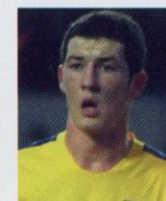
United were in FA Cup action in 1996, with a visit to Nottingham Forest in the fourth round. Stuart Massey scored a late equaliser for Oxford to bring Forest back to the Manor

for a replay after a 1-1 draw. The following season Oxford's visit to Stoke was live on TV but the U's were unable to rise to the occasion, with Paul Moody's late goal a consolation in a 2-1 defeat.

In 1998 United had a 7th February game for the third consecutive season. However, Sheffield United won 1-0 at Bramall Lane in a second-tier fixture. The last time Oxford had a match on this date was in 2004, when a League 2 visit to Leyton Orient ended in a 1-0 defeat.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Gordon McDonald (1932) *top left*
Billy Simpson (1932) *top middle*
Alan Gibbs (1934) *top right*
Jamie Hand (1984) *bottom left*
Ross Perry (1990) *bottom right*



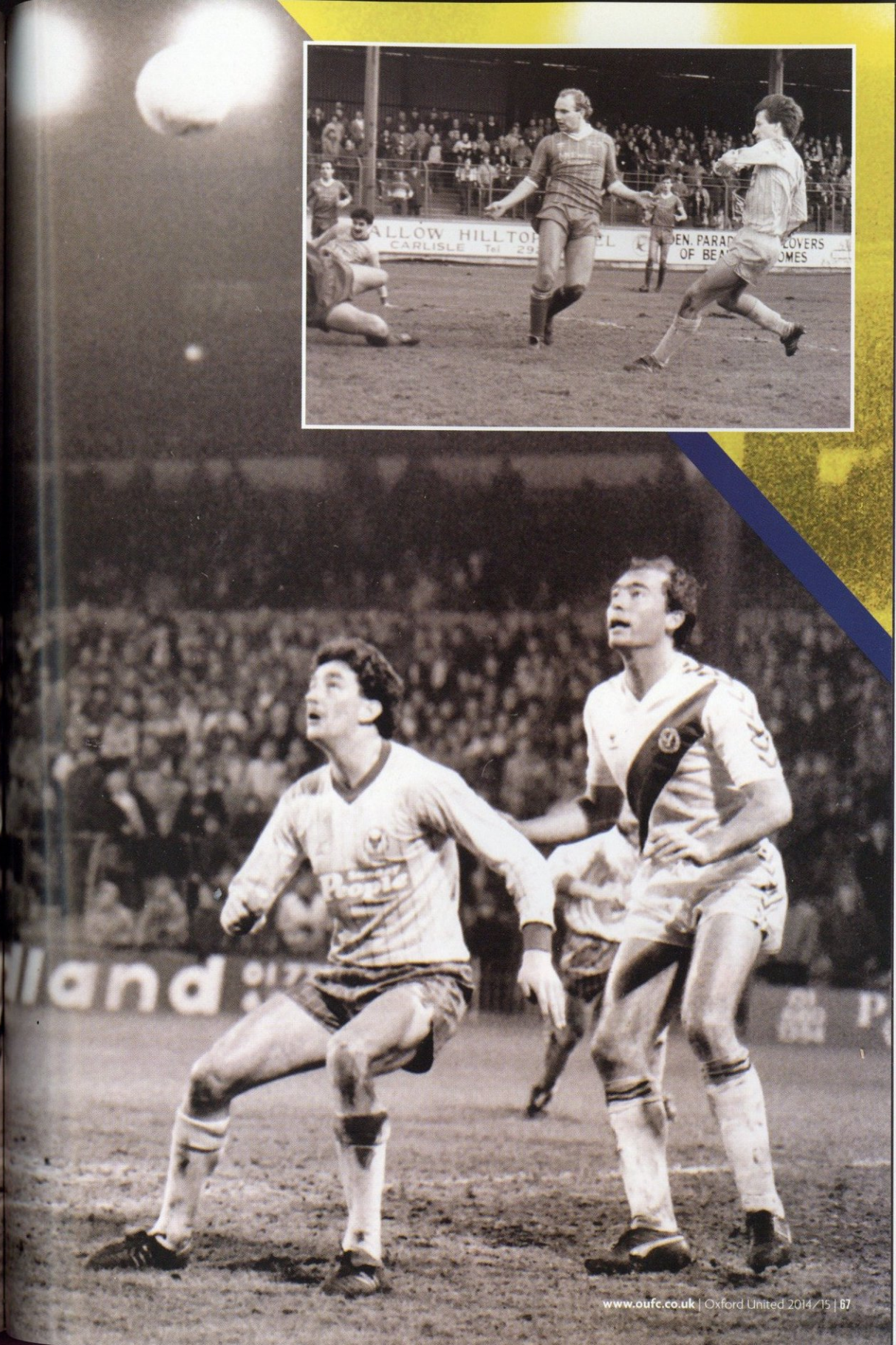
30 YEARS AGO

United followed the disappointment of their FA Cup exit to Blackburn with a 1-0 win at Carlisle, where Kevin Brock scored for the U's (inset). Unfortunately, Bobby McDonald blasted a penalty over the bar.

This was the first of four successive away games in which Oxford started to stutter as injuries took effect.

Next up was a visit to Selhurst Park in which Crystal Palace avenged their earlier thrashing with a 1-0 win (main pic).

Oxford remained top of Division Two on goal difference, but were one of four clubs on 49 points, with Blackburn, Manchester City and Birmingham City right on their tail, with a seven-point gap over Portsmouth. However, Oxford had the advantage of having played fewer games than their immediate rivals.





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The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results obtained through laboratory testing. These are provided for comparability purposes only and may not reflect your actual driving results.

Retail sales only, subject to vehicle availability for vehicles registered between 02.01.14 and 31.03.14 at participating dealers. T&C apply. *0% finance available on all all-new Mazda3 models with a **minimum 50% deposit** required. Finance subject to status. 18s or over. Guarantee/Indemnity may be required. Mazda Financial Services RH1 ISR. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction. Model shown: all-new Mazda3 120ps SE, OTR from £16,995. Model shown features optional Soul Red Metallic paint (E660). OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, first registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European roadside assistance. Test drives subject to applicant status and availability. Not available in conjunction with any other offer unless specified. Details correct at time of publication and may vary, e.g. if list price changes. Johnsons Cars Ltd is an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Limited which is Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Registered Office: Empire Court, Albert Street, Redditch B97 4DA. United Kingdom. Registration No. 3716766 VAT Registration No. GB927551606.

OLLY THE OX FUN PAGE

(IN ASSOCIATION WITH BLACK 'N' ROUNDS)

ROUNDS ANAGRAMS

RSSUEPER

YRTES

DAERT

ROUNDS CROSSWORD

ACROSS:

3. THE TYRES ARE THE TWO NEAREST THE BOOT

5. THE MATERIAL A TYRE IS MADE OF

7. A TYRE THAT DOESN'T HAVE AIR IN IT

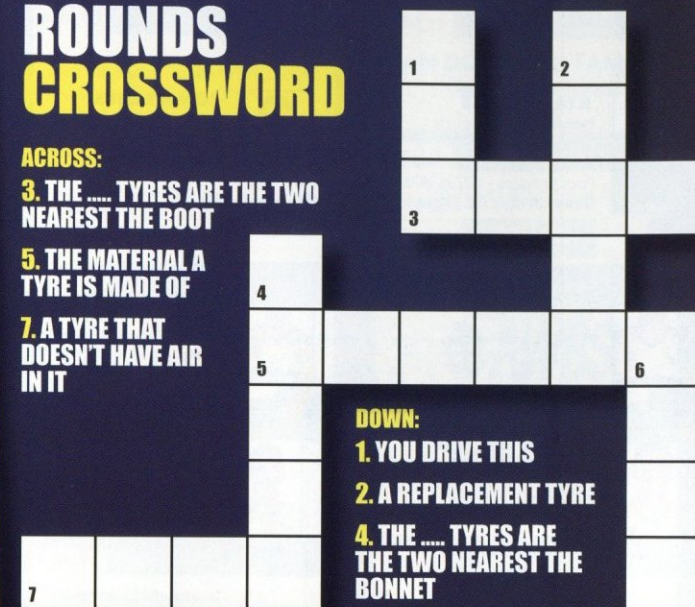
DOWN:

1. YOU DRIVE THIS

2. A REPLACEMENT TYRE

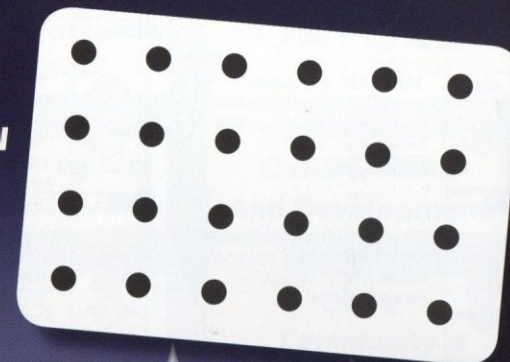
4. THE TYRES ARE THE TWO NEAREST THE BONNET

6. THE SURFACE YOU DRIVE ON



ROUNDSGRIDGAME

PLAY AGAINST A FRIEND: TAKE TURNS TO DRAW A LINE BETWEEN TWO DOTS. THE OBJECT IS TO COMPLETE A SQUARE BUT WITHOUT LETTING YOUR OPPONENT COMPLETE ANY. THE WINNER IS THE ONE WHO IS ABLE TO COMPLETE THE MOST SQUARES.



FIRST TEAM KIT SPONS



MICHAEL APPLETON
Full Kit:
Maximus & Megan
Babington - Come on you
yellows!



DEREK FAZAKERLEY
Home: Available
Away: Available



MICKY LEWIS
Full Kit:
John & Willy Willmot



RYAN CLARKE
Home: Release Sports
Therapy
Away: Joe Bennett - Avalon
Pool Services - 07795 187678
Gloves: Midget Pub (Abingdon)



JON MEADES
Home: Pam Keen & Karen
Randell
Away: Artesii Ltd



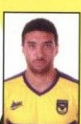
ALEX MacDONALD
Home: Pam Keen
Away: Clive Payne,
CP Associates
www.cpassociates.co.uk



JOHN MULLINS
Home: Proudly sponsored
by Callum Glenny
Away: Ox Vox



JAKE WRIGHT
Home: Proudly sponsored
by Julie Coles
@ the-researchworks.co.uk
Away: Advanced Electricals



DANNY ROSE
Home: John Boyd Motors
01865 400413
Away: Jimmy Gamage



DANNY HYLTON
Home: DS Joinery, Box 27
Away: Joe Bennett - Avalon
Pool Services - 07795 187678



JOHN CAMPBELL
Home: Joe Bennett - Avalon
Pool Services - 07795 187678
Away: Proudly sponsored
by Clare Manning, Andrew
Ransley and Shyami Ransley



SAM HUMPHREYS
Home: Available
Away: Available



JOSH RUFFELS
Home: TP
Decorators Oxford Ltd
Away: Gary Bryant .. B& M
engineering



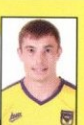
CALLUM O'DOWDA
Home: Oxford & District
Building Services
Away: 0333 444 0003
family first
SOLICITORS



ANDY WHING
Home:
axiom
Away: Gav, Nick, Stu Andy,
Mark & Deadly Dave



MICHAEL COLLINS
Home: Wheatley Car Centre
01865 874046
Away: 01865 311807
TEXTURES
FLOORING



AIDAN HAWTIN
Home: Bicester Premier
Roofing Co.
01869 249327
DRD ROOFING LTD
Away: Available



MAX CROCOMBE
Home: Joe Bennett - Avalon
Pool Services - 07795 187678
Away: Darbys Solicitors
DARBYS



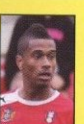
JOSH SHAMA
Home: Jimmy Gamage
Away: Available



JOSH ASHBY
Home: Friends of
Away: North Oxford
Conservative Club, New
Members Welcome



JAMES ROBERTS
Home:
yellowsforum.co.uk
Away: Friends of

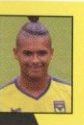


RICHARD BRINDLEY
Home: Available
Away: Available

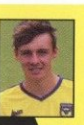


JAMIE ASHDOWN
Home: Available
Away: Available

UNITED: YOUTH TEAM - KIT SPONSORS



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ROBBIE CUNDY
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J L O'Rourke & Sons Limited
Carpentry Contractors

ORSHIP



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Home: Available
Away: Available



CHEY DUNKLEY
Full Kit:
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07985 842 824
Away: Available



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Roofing Co.
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DRD ROOFING LTD



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Home: Karen Randall
Away: Sue Lynn Box 26



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Full Kit:
Dave and Caroline Cook

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Austin Naylor Family 07875 577815

BOX: 08

BUILDBASE

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Austin Plater Fabrications Ltd
Paul Smith and friends

BOX: 12

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& COMPANY
Chartered
Surveyors
020 7224 0101

BOX: 14

Sheehan Contractors
GFK Mystery Shopping
Oxford Marquee

BOX: 18

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and Friends"

BOX: 19

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BOX: 20

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BOX: 22

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'Getting behind
the U's'

BOX: 23

OATHILL QUARRY
SMITHS
BEECHINGTON

BOX: 24

AWBS

BOX: 25

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Newtrim (UK) Limited

BOX: 26

Sue Lynn

BOX: 27

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BOX: 15/16

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BOX: 28

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In memory of
Alan Hayden



HARRY PEARSON
Full Kit:
R W Armstrong
01256 851089



24.01.15 - KO 3PM
KASSAM STADIUM
SKY BET LEAGUE 2
ATT: 6,791



UNITED STRIKE LATE TO RESCUE POINT



UNITED 2

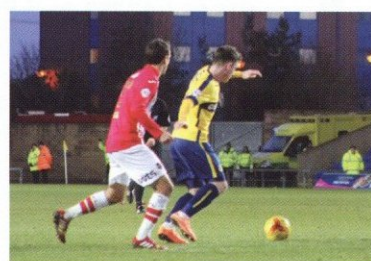
Hylton (18),
Roberts (90)

R Clarke
J Mullins
J Meades
S Long
J Wright
C O'Dowda (J Roberts, 66)
D Rose
J Ashby
J Ruffels (W Burns, 89)
P Hoban
D Hylton

EXETER 2

Davies (37),
A Nicholls (88)

J Hamon
M Oakley
J Moore-Taylor
C Woodman
S Bennett (C Ribeiro, 21)
L Sercombe
D Noble (D Butterfield, 82)
A Nicholls
A Davies
T Nicholls
G Cummins (D Wheeler, 70)



TEN

Corners for the U's
(three for Exeter)

56%

Possession to United

ZERO

Cards shown to Oxford

SIX

Shots from both sides

TWO

Shots on target for
United

THE MATCH

Oxford United and Exeter shared the points in a dramatic late ending at the Kassam Stadium. A goal from leading scorer Danny Hylton was cancelled out by an Arron Davies strike just before the break, before Alex Nicholls and James Roberts exchanged goals in the final three minutes to leave it a breathless 2-2.

THE HIGHLIGHT

To lose a fourth straight home game would have been unthinkable but Roberts was once again the man for the moment. Last minute, edge of

box, dipping, deadly effort and the ball in the far corner to earn his side a point. Five goals for the young striker and reward for that trust in youth in the line-up.

HE SAID

I suppose it was a draw that felt like a victory with us scoring as late as we did but I think we would have been terribly unlucky not to get something out of the game. I felt the players played well and the young players really contributed to the game: we had quite a few Oxford graduates playing.

Michael Appleton

Oxford Mail

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SUPPORTING OXFORD UNITED

MY FIRST MY LAST MY ALWAYS WITH JOE SKARZ



MY FIRST

First team you played for: Netherton FC as a kid.

First coach to have a major influence: Gerry Murphy the Academy director at Huddersfield. I think he is something



to do with the Irish FA now. And Mark Dobson who was my first coach at Netherton.

First car: Ford Fiesta and I was very proud.

First person you call after a game: My mum usually.

First goal you can remember: Ever? I scored from a corner for my local team and I meant to do it! I set it out there in the wind hoping it would bring it in.

First football hero as a boy: Alan Shearer.

Last time you paid to watch football: Wembley with Rotherham. I bought about 20 tickets for my family for the play-off final and I think I've had the money back off 16, so basically I paid to play at Wembley!



MY ALWAYS

Tell us a superstition you always do: Porridge at about 10am on matchday.

Were you always a left back: No, I was a winger when I started but I have played a few positions now.

Are you always number 3? No, I've been number 31 quite a lot but it's not that important.

Are you always the quiet one or always the life and soul of a party? Bit of both. I like to enjoy my football but I also work hard. On a night out Michael Collins is much wilder than I am.

Were you always going to be a footballer? Yes, always my initial plan but I am doing my coaching now as well as a personal training course and a nutrition course too because those are areas I'd like to go into when I finish playing.

MY LAST

Last person you called: My fiancée.

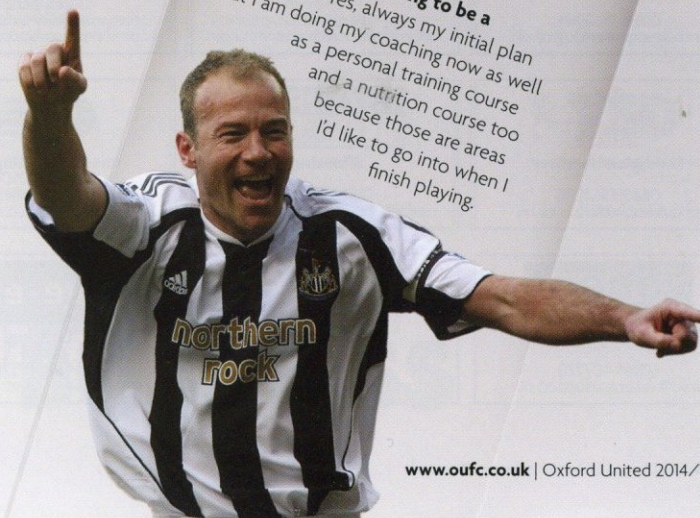
Last film you watched: American Sniper, it was very good.

Last app you downloaded:



Rightmove because I'm looking to move down this way at the moment.

Last song you downloaded: I don't tend to download songs, just listen on Soundcloud.



 123Settled.com Building Insurance Claims 0845 450 3772 bill.turnbull@123settled.com	 a-plan Insurance Broker 01865 595157 paul.walls@aplan.co.uk	 ACORN TIMBER Timber Merchant 01865 821168 rg@acotim.co.uk	 APHIS Safety and Security Training 0800 6127107 info@themis-st.co.uk
 British Gas Gas Supplier customerservice@britishgas.co.uk	 carbon:colour Printers and Designers 01235 438 938 info@carbon.co.uk	 CARIS Facilities Management 01865 373 888 carterbros@btconnect.com	 CHAZ Photographer 07930 324 414 hello@chazsnell.com
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 Chris Lewis FIRE & SECURITY Fire and Security Services 01865 782 444 oxford@chrislewisfs.co.uk	 CLARKHOWES Accountants 01295 207683 info@clarkhowes.com	 clear&creative BRANDING FOR BUSINESS Business Branding 01865 204200 simon@clearandcreative.co.uk	 CMD CERAMIC Ceramic Tiling 0777 234 0586 cmd_ceramics@hotmail.co.uk
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 NUK Automotive, Bar and Restaurant Interiors 0845 4560589 or 01865 873617 sales@newtrim.co.uk	 North Oxford Golf Club 01865 554924 bob@northoxfordgolf.co.uk	 OXFORD DISTRICT BUILDING SERVICES Building Services 01865 823127	 City Council 01865 249811 bjenkins@oxford.gov.uk
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0800 783 5724



OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL

TABLE 2014-15

SKY BET LEAGUE 2 TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1. Shrewsbury	28	16	6	6	40	18	22	54
2. Burton	28	16	6	6	38	26	12	54
3. Wycombe	28	14	11	3	40	21	19	53
4. LUTON	27	14	8	5	33	20	13	50
5. Southend	28	14	8	6	30	23	7	50
6. Newport	28	13	7	8	36	33	3	46
7. Bury	28	13	5	10	39	33	6	44
8. Stevenage	28	12	5	11	39	37	2	41
9. Exeter	29	11	8	10	39	41	-2	41
10. Plymouth	28	11	7	10	32	22	10	40
11. Morecambe	28	10	8	10	28	26	2	38
12. Northampton	28	11	4	13	45	39	6	37
13. Wimbledon	27	10	7	10	38	38	0	37
14. Cambridge	27	10	6	11	42	33	9	36
15. UNITED	28	8	9	11	32	36	-4	33
16. Accrington	27	10	3	14	36	48	-12	33
17. Tranmere	27	7	9	11	29	32	-3	30
18. Portsmouth	27	7	9	11	28	33	-5	30
19. Dag & Red	28	8	6	14	30	39	-9	30
20. Carlisle	28	9	3	16	35	50	-15	30
21. Cheltenham	28	7	9	12	25	40	-15	30
22. York	28	5	13	10	27	33	-6	28
23. Mansfield	27	7	7	13	22	35	-13	28
24. Hartlepool	28	5	6	17	22	49	-27	21

OUFC ROLLCALL 2014-15

	2014-15 APPS(sub)	Gls	All-time OUFC APPS(sub)	Gls
1. Clarke, Ryan	21	0	253 (1)	0
2. Meades, Jon	7 (3)	0	7 (3)	0
3. Skarz, Joe	1	0	1	0
4. Brindley, Richard	1	0	1	0
5. Mullins, Johnny	31 (2)	1	79 (2)	8
6. Wright, Jake	32	0	227 (2)	0
7. Rose, Danny	22 (4)	1	92 (23)	8
9. Hoban, Patrick	2 (1)	0	2 (1)	0
10. Hylton, Danny	30 (3)	14	30 (3)	14
14. Ruffels, Josh	17 (4)	0	43 (13)	1
15. O'Dowda, Callum	14 (13)	3	20 (20)	3
16. Whing, Andy	17 (1)	0	95 (11)	2
17. Bevans, Matt	0	0	11 (1)	0
19. Collins, Michael	24 (2)	2	24 (2)	2
21. Crocombe, Max	2	0	6	0
22. Long, Sam	3	1	6 (3)	1
23. Shama, Josh	0	0	0	0
24. Ashby, Josh	1	0	1	0
30. Humphreys, Sam	0	0	0	0
31. Roberts, James	6 (8)	5	6 (8)	5
32. Hawtin, Aidan	0	0	0	0
33. Dunkley, Cheyenne	4 (2)	0	4 (2)	0
36. Campbell, John	1 (2)	1	1 (2)	1
44. Hoskins, Will	3 (3)	0	3 (3)	0
Barnett, Tyrone	12 (2)	6	12 (2)	6
Brown, Junior	9 (6)	0	9 (6)	0
Burns, Wes	6 (3)	1	6 (3)	1
Holmes-Dennis, Tareiq	17	0	17	0
Howard, Brian	8	0	8	0
Hunt, David	3 (2)	0	56 (2)	0
Jakubiak, Alex	2 (8)	1	2 (8)	1
Long, George	11	0	11	0
Marsh, Tyrone	0	0	3 (12)	1
Morris, Carlton	7 (3)	1	7 (3)	1
Newey, Tom	15	0	62	1
Potter, Alfie	13 (7)	3	135 (60)	28
Raynes, Michael	4	0	77 (4)	2
Riley, Joe	28	0	28	0

STATISTICAL UNITED

SIX

GAMES UNBEATEN ON THE ROAD

OUFC STATS

GOALS

Hylton	14
Barnett	6
Roberts	5
O'Dowda	3
Potter	3
Collins	2
Burns	1
Campbell	1
Jakubiak	1
Long	1
Morris	1
Mullins	1
Rose	1
Own Goal	1

YELLOW CARDS

Hylton	7
Wright	5
Collins	4
Rose	4
Whing	4
Barnett	3
Mullins	3
Riley	3
Holmes-Dennis	2
Hoskins	2
Crocombe	1
Hoban	1
Howard	1
Long G	1
Long S	1
Morris	1
Ruffels	1

ASSISTS

Hylton	5
Riley	5
O'Dowda	4
Rose	3
Holmes-Dennis	2
Hoskins	2
Howard	2
Newey	2
Brown	1
Burns	1
Collins	1
Dunkley	1
Hoban	1
Mullins	1
Whing	1

RED CARDS

Barnett	1
Brown	1
Meades	1

GOALS SCORED

HOME			
East end	F 7	A 11	
West end	F 12	A 9	
AWAY			
For			22
Against			26

PENALTIES

F 6 (scored 5)	
A 2 (scored 1)	

DATE	OPPONENT	VENUE	KO	ATT	REFEREE	THE STARTING XI					
Sat 9 Aug	Burton Albion	H	L0-1	5,370 (395)	D Handley	G Long	Riley	Raynes	Wright	Newey	Collins
Tue 12 Aug	Bristol City CAPI	A	W2-1	6,145 (512)	L Collins	Crocombe	Hunt	Mullins	Wright	Newey	Ruffles
Sat 16 Aug	Mansfield Town	A	L1-2	3,042 (405)	R Clark	G Long	Hunt	Mullins	Wright	Newey	Meades
Tue 19 Aug	Morecambe	A	L0-1	1,615 (176)	T Harrington	G Long	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Newey	Collins
Sat 23 Aug	Portsmouth	H	L0-1	6,852 (2,136)	D Bond	G Long	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Newey	Collins
Tue 26 Aug	WBA CAP2	A	D1-1*	10,939 (1,925)	J Adcock	Crocombe	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Newey	Collins
Sat 30 Aug	Dagenham & Redbridge	H	D3-3	4,391 (158)	G Sutton	Long	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Newey	Collins
Tue 2 Sep	Cheltenham JPT1	A	L0-2	1,424 (261)	B Malone	Long	Riley	Raynes	Wright	Newey	Meades
Sat 6 Sep	Southend United	A	D1-1	5,315 (424)	A Davies	Long	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Newey	Rose
Sat 13 Sep	Exeter City	A	D1-1	3,076 (434)	J Linington	Long	Hunt	Mullins	Wright	Newey	Collins
Tue 16 Sep	Accrington Stanley	H	W3-1	4,111 (68)	C Breakspear	Long	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Newey	COLLINS
Sat 20 Sep	Stevenage	H	D0-0	4,658 (263)	C Kavanagh	Long	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Newey	Collins
Sat 27 Sep	Luton Town	A	L0-2	9,101 (868)	M Haywood	Long	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Newey	Collins
Sat 4 Oct	Newport County	H	W1-0	5,072 (643)	D Sheldrake	Clarke	Riley	Raynes	Mullins	Newey	MORRIS
Sat 11 Oct	Cambridge United	A	L1-5	4,435 (493)	A D'Urso	Clarke	Riley	Raynes	Mullins	Newey	Collins
Sat 18 Oct	Tranmere Rovers	H	W2-0	4,748 (459)	K Johnson	Clarke	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Holmes-Dennis	Collins
Tue 21 Oct	Northampton	A	W3-1	4,577 (932)	P Gibbs	Clarke	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Holmes-Dennis	Collins
Sat 25 Oct	Carlisle United	A	L1-2	4,392 (362)	M Russell	Clarke	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Holmes-Dennis	Collins
Sat 1 Nov	Wycombe Wanderers	H	L1-2	7,552 (1,690)	T Robinson	Clarke	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Holmes-Dennis	Rose
Sat 8 Nov	Grimsby Town FAC1	A	W3-1	3,241 (193)	C Kavanagh	Clarke	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Holmes-Dennis	Potter
Sat 15 Nov	York City	A	W1-0	3,363 (468)	S Duncan	Clarke	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Holmes-Dennis	Whing
Sat 22 Nov	AFC Wimbledon	H	D0-0	5,443 (520)	T Kettle	Clarke	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Holmes-Dennis	Rose
Sat 29 Nov	Cheltenham Town	A	D1-1	3,002 (774)	P Miller	Clarke	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Holmes-Dennis	Rose
Sat 6 Dec	Tranmere Rovers FAC2	H	D2-2	4,681 (725)	M Haywood	Clarke	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Holmes-Dennis	Whing
Sat 13 Dec	Bury	H	W2-1**	6,912 (215)	S Martin	Clarke	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Holmes-Dennis	Whing
Tue 16 Dec	Tranmere Rovers FAC2r	A	L1-2	3,296 (196)	M Russell	Clarke	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Holmes-Dennis	Rose
Sat 20 Dec	Hartlepool Utd	A	D1-1	4,070 (297)	T Kettle	Clarke	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Holmes-Dennis	Whing
Fri 26 Dec	Shrewsbury Town	H	L0-2	7,502 (624)	L Probert	Clarke	Riley	Mullins	Wright	Meades	Rose
Sun 28 Dec	Plymouth Argyle	A	W2-1	11,020 (392)	A Davies	Clarke	Long	Dunkley	Wright	Holmes-Dennis	Whing
Sat 3 Jan	Cheltenham	H	L1-2	5,360 (499)	K Hill	Clarke	Meades	Mullins	Dunkley	Wright	Holmes-Dennis
Sat 10 Jan	Dagenham & Redbridge	A	D0-0	1,892 (551)	D Drysdale	Clarke	Meades	Mullins	Dunkley	Wright	Holmes-Dennis
Sat 17 Jan	Southend United	H	L2-3	7,207 (631)	C Sarginson	Clarke	LONG	Mullins	Dunkley	Wright	Holmes-Dennis
Sat 24 Jan	Exeter City	H	D2-2	6,791 (512)	G Horwood	Clarke	Long	Mullins	Wright	Meades	Rose
Sat 31 Jan	Stevenage	A	W2-0	3,146 (552)	T Robinson	Clarke	Brindley	MULLINS	Wright	Skarz	Whing
Sat 7 Feb	Luton Town	H	15.00								
Tue 10 Feb	Accrington Stanley	A	19.45								
Sat 14 Feb	Burton Albion	A	15.00								
Sat 21 Feb	Mansfield Town	H	15.00								
Sat 28 Feb	Portsmouth	A	15.00								
Tue 3 Mar	Morecambe	H	19.45								
Sat 7 Mar	Bury	A	15.00								
Sat 14 Mar	Plymouth Argyle	H	15.00								
Tue 17 Mar	Hartlepool United	H	19.45								
Sat 21 Mar	Shrewsbury Town	A	15.00								
Sat 28 Mar	Carlisle United	H	15.00								
Fri 3 Apr	Wycombe Wanderers	A	15.00								
Mon 6 Apr	York City	H	15.00								
Sat 11 Apr	AFC Wimbledon	A	15.00								
Tue 14 Apr	Northampton	H	19.45								
Sat 18 Apr	Tranmere Rovers	A	15.00								
Sat 25 Apr	Cambridge United	H	15.00								
Sat 2 May	Newport County	A	15.00								

*Lost 6-7 on penalties **Own Goal

SKY BET LEAGUE 2 FIXTURES

SATURDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2015

Wimbledon v Newport	15:00
Bury v Exeter	15:00
Cambridge v Wycombe	15:00
Cheltenham v Burton	15:00
Mansfield v Stevenage	15:00
Northampton v Morecambe	15:00
United v Luton	15:00
Plymouth v Accrington	15:00
Portsmouth v Hartlepool	15:00
Shrewsbury v Southend	15:00
Tranmere v Carlisle	15:00
York v Dag & Red	15:00

SUBSTITUTES

Ruffles	Potter	Rose	Brown	Morris	Mullins (44), Hylton (70), O'Dowda (77), Meades, Hunt, Crocombe, Roberts
Meades	Riley	Potter	Brown	MORRIS	Collins (19), HYLTON (73), Rose, O'Dowda, S Long, Roberts, Cavanagh
Collins	Riley	Potter	Brown	Morris	Jakubiak (61), Ruffles (71), HYLTON (76), Raynes, Rose, O'Dowda, Crocombe
Ruffles	Rose	Morris	Brown	Hylton	Potter (82), O'Dowda (82), Jakubiak (70), Meades, Raynes, Hunt, Crocombe
Ruffles	Rose	Hylton	Brown	Morris	O'Dowda (73), Potter (84), Jakubiak (84), Meades, Raynes, Hunt, Crocombe
Ruffles	Rose	HYLTON	Brown	Morris	Hunt (46), Jakubiak (70), Hoskins (81), Meades, Raynes, Potter, Stevens
Ruffles	Potter	HYLTON2	JAKUBIAK	Morris	Hoskins (56), O'Dowda (79), Meades, Raynes, Rose, Hunt, Crocombe
Ruffles	Potter	Hylton	Brown	Hoskins	Rose (63), Morris (76), O'Dowda (86), Hunt, Crocombe
Ruffles	Jakubiak	HYLTON	Brown	Hoskins	Hunt (32), O'Dowda (41), Potter (78), Raynes, Morris, Crocombe, Ashby
Ruffles	Riley	Hylton	O'DOWDA	BARNETT	Jakubiak (60), Rose (77), Brown (88), Raynes, Morris, Potter, Crocombe
Ruffles	HYLTON	Howard	O'Dowda	BARNETT	Brown (65), Jakubiak (67), Morris (81), Raynes, Rose, Potter, Crocombe
Ruffles	Hylton	Howard	O'Dowda	Barnett	Brown (82), Raynes, Rose, Morris, Potter, Crocombe, Jakubiak
Ruffles	Hylton	Howard	O'Dowda	Barnett	Rose (25), Brown (68), Jakubiak (76), Raynes, Morris, Potter, Crocombe
Rose	Hylton	Howard	O'Dowda	Barnett	Morris (58), Ruffles (72), Brown (86), Whing, G Long, S Long
Rose	Brown	Howard	O'Dowda	HYLTON	Whing (57), Jakubiak (69), Roberts (85), Morris, Ruffles, G Long, S Long
Whing	Rose	Hylton	O'Dowda	BARNETT	POTTER (65), Ruffles (84), Roberts (88), Meades, Raynes, Morris, G Long
Whing	Rose	HYLTON2	POTTER	Barnett	Roberts (83), Ruffles (89), Meades, Raynes, Morris, O'Dowda, G Long
Whing	Rose	HYLTON	Potter	Barnett	O'Dowda (61), Roberts (78), Meades, Raynes, Ruffles, G Long, Jakubiak
Collins	Whing	Potter	HYLTON	Barnett	Roberts (68), O'Dowda (77), Meades, Raynes, G Long, Jakubiak, Howard
ROSE	Whing	O'Dowda	Howard	ROBERTS2	Meades (75), Barnett (85), Brown (85), Ruffles, Collins, Crocombe, S Long
Rose	Hylton	Howard	Potter	ROBERTS	O'Dowda (73), Meades, Raynes, Ruffles, Collins, Crocombe, Barnett
Whing	Hylton	Howard	Potter	Roberts	Barnett (61), O'Dowda (70), Meades, Ruffles, Collins, Crocombe, Dunkley
Whing	Potter	Hylton	O'Dowda	BARNETT	Collins (79), Meades, Ruffles, Crocombe, Howard, Dunkley, Campbell
Rose	Hylton	Collins	O'Dowda	BARNETT2	Potter (83), Meades, Ruffles, Crocombe, Ashby, Howard, Humphreys
Rose	Hylton	Collins	Burns	BARNETT	Potter (83), Meades, O'Dowda, Crocombe, Howard, Dunkley, Campbell
Ruffles	POTTER	Collins	O'Dowda	Hylton	Meades, Whing, Crocombe, Ashby, Howard, Humphreys
Rose	Burns	Collins	HYLTON	Campbell	Dunkley (30), Meades (55), Potter, Ruffles, O'Dowda, Crocombe, Ashby
Whing	Burns	Collins	Holmes-Dennis	Hylton	Potter (17), Dunkley (55), Roberts (79), Ruffles, O'Dowda, Crocombe, Campbell
Ruffles	Hylton	Collins	Burns	ROBERTS	Mullins (46), O'Dowda (46), CAMPBELL (67), Rose, Crocombe, Ashby, Humphreys
Whing	Ruffles	BURNS	Hylton	Roberts	Rose (72), Campbell (75), O'Dowda (82), Collins, Crocombe, Long, Ashby
Whing	Ruffles	Burns	Hylton	Roberts	O'Dowda (34), Hoskins (74), Rose, Collins, Crocombe, Long, Campbell
Whing	Collins	Hylton	O'DOWDA	Hoskins	Hoban (46), Burns (54), Meades (70), Ruffles, Crocombe, Ashby, Campbell
Ashby	Ruffles	HYLTON	O'Dowda	Hoban	ROBERTS (66), Burns (89), Whing, Crocombe, Humphreys, Dunkley, Campbell
Rose	Collins	Hylton	O'DOWDA	Hoban	Roberts (87), Burns (89), Ruffles, Crocombe, Long, Ashby, Dunkley

DISCRIMINATION: Oxford United does not tolerate any form of discrimination. If you encounter any form of discriminatory behaviour please report it to your nearest steward and help make this stadium a safe and welcome environment for everybody. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

SMOKING: We would like to remind supporters that no smoking is permitted anywhere within the stadium.

STANDING: Please could supporters remain seated during the game in order to ensure that other spectators do not have their views obstructed.

Answers for Quiz on page 82
 Oxford United • (1) Johnny Mullins • (2) Ron Atkinson • (3) Jim Smith • (4) Nobby • (5) After Barry Sheen, for turning up at training on a motor scooter
 Luton • (1) Steve McNulty • (2) The Eric Morecambe Trophy • (3) Watford • (4) Mal Donaghy • (5) Odense Boldklub
 Denmark
 General Football • (1) Diafra Sakho • (2) Lee Fowler • (3) £225 million in 2011 • (4) Prince Ali of Jordan, Luis Figo and Michael van Praag • (5) Australia 2 South Korea 1 (aet)
 General • (1) Aberdeen • (2) Synza • (3) Charles Dickens • (4) 1996 • (5) Grenada
 Picture Quiz • Dean Whitehead

QUIZ TIME



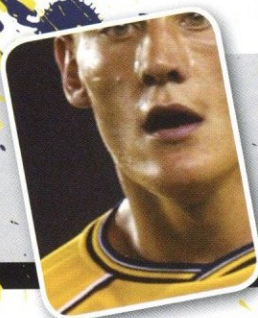
WIN WITH... BLACK RIVERS!

Black Rivers release their self-titled debut album on February 9th on Ignition Records. To win a copy of Black Rivers, send your answer to the question below to programme@oufc.co.uk by Wednesday 11th February.

Which of the following Oxford players doesn't share his name with a river?



- 1 • Peter Leven
- 2 • Bill Calder
- 3 • Ron Rivers

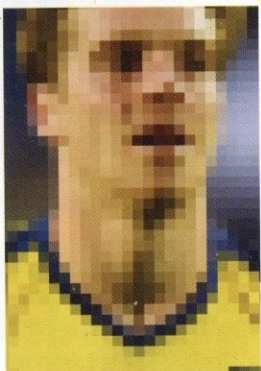


PICTURE QUIZ

WHO IS THIS FORMER UNITED MIDFIELDER?

OXFORD UNITED

1 • Which Oxford player is nicknamed Magnet?



2 • Which Oxford player was nicknamed Tank?

3 • Which Oxford manager was nicknamed Bald Eagle?

4 • What was Colin Clarke's nickname?

5 • Why was Malcolm Shotton nicknamed Sheenie?

LUTON TOWN

1 • Who is Luton's captain?

2 • What trophy is awarded to the winners of Luton v Morecambe fixtures?

3 • Which team is considered Luton's main rivals?

4 • Who is Luton's most capped player?



5 • From where did Luton buy their most expensive player, Lars Elstrup?

GENERAL FOOTBALL

1 • Which West Ham striker is at the centre of a FIFA investigation that could see the Hammers expelled from the FA Cup?

2 • Which former Oxford player joined Crawley recently?



3 • What is the record amount spent by Premier League clubs on a January transfer deadline day?

4 • Which three people are contesting the Fifa elections against Sepp Blatter in May?

5 • What was the score in the 2015 Asian Cup final?

GENERAL TRIVIA

1 • Where was recently awarded the accolade 'most dismal town in Scotland'?

2 • Which left-wing party won the recent Greek general election?

3 • Which famous English author was born on this day in 1812?



4 • Russian composer Boris Tchaikovsky died on this day in which year?

5 • Which country celebrates its independence from the UK today?



OXFORD UNITED v MANSFIELD TOWN

SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 3PM
SKY BET LEAGUE 2



#TOGETHER
OUFCTICKETS.CO.UK

**OXFORD
UNITED**
HEAD COACH Michael Appleton
COLOURS Yellow & Blue



Ryan CLARKE	1	□ □
Jon MEADES	2	□ □
Joe SKARZ	3	□ □
Richard BRINDLEY	4	□ □
Johnny MULLINS	5	□ □
Jake WRIGHT	6	□ □
Danny ROSE	7	□ □
Patrick HOBAN	9	□ □
Danny HYLTON	10	□ □
Alex MacDONALD	11	□ □
Josh RUFFELS	14	□ □
Callum O'DOWDA	15	□ □
Andrew WHING	16	□ □
Matt BEVANS	17	□ □
Jamie ASHDOWN	18	□ □
Michael COLLINS	19	□ □
Max CROCOMBE	21	□ □
Sam LONG	22	□ □
Josh SHAMA	23	□ □
Josh ASHBY	24	□ □
Sam HUMPHREYS	30	□ □
James ROBERTS	31	□ □
Aidan HAWTIN	32	□ □
Cheyenne DUNKLEY	33	□ □
John CAMPBELL	36	□ □
Will HOSKINS	44	□ □



**LUTON
TOWN**
MANAGER John Still
COLOURS Amber & White

□ □ 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	Jayden STOCKLEY
□ □ 26	Nathan DOYLE
□ □ 27	Ryan HALL
□ □ 28	Jim STEVENSON
□ □ 29	Paul CONNOLLY
□ □ 30	Luke WILKINSON
□ □ 31	Nathan ODUWA
□ □ 32	Brett LONGDEN
□ □ 33	Mark ONYEMAH
□ □ 34	Zane BANTON
□ □ 35	Charlie WALKER
□ □ 36	Charlie SMITH
□ □ 39	Ian REES

OXFORD UNITED **NEXT UP** **MANSFIELD TOWN**
21.02.2015 • at the Kassam Stadium • Sky Bet League Two • KO 3pm
OFFICIALS
REFEREE Richard Clark
ASST REFEREES Christopher Husband & Mark Mellor
FOURTH OFFICIAL Kevin Johnson