

TALK OF THE TOWN



LUTON TOWN v
TRANMERE ROVERS

SATURDAY 15th NOVEMBER 2014

KICK-OFF 3PM



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welcome

TO KENILWORTH ROAD



“ Welcome back once more to Kenilworth Road for the second successive Saturday as we entertain Tranmere Rovers in Sky Bet League 2.

Last weekend the Hatters marked the remembrance weekend with a victory to remember against Newport County, which booked the Town's place in the second round, taking place in two weeks time.

In last Saturday's issue of Talk of the Town we paid tribute to those associated with the club who served in World War I and the remembrance theme continues throughout the pages today as chairman Nick Owen pens his thoughts at this poignant time of year.

We also have an exclusive piece with Hans Mensasse, a former Austrian international forward who rubbed shoulders with the best in the world, but played for the Luton Town colts teams as a teenager after he was evacuated to Dunstable as a child prior to the start of World War II.

And there's plenty more in this afternoon's programme as we catch-up with cult hero Enoch Showunmi, who also spent time as a player with our visitors this afternoon, Tranmere.

Enjoy your reading and the game! #COYH ”

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John Still looks ahead to today's game



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Follow the Hatters' progress throughout 2014/15

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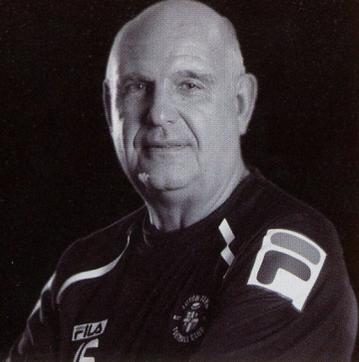
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With thanks to Tim Roberts at Tranmere Rovers.

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

JOHN STILL



Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for the second successive Saturday as we entertain Tranmere Rovers in Sky Bet League 2.

A particular welcome to their manager Micky Adams. Micky is someone I've known for a long time. He comes under the heading of a 'proper football manager'. If he doesn't know it, it hasn't happened...his football knowledge is unrivalled. He's a top class manager so welcome, Micky.

Looking back at last weekend's FA Cup tie, what an entertaining game that was.

The second half was probably the most entertaining match we've seen this year. Both teams were intent on attacking. The caginess of the league was not there as both teams went all out to get their name in the next round.

Excellent

Overall our performance was excellent and we scored four goals, two of which were especially good goals. Luke Guttridge's effort was probably one of the goals of the round, on his left foot and into the top corner.

Jake Howells scored the fourth goal following a great run and shot. What impressed me most about that goal was the way Jake used his body to move past the opponents.

It was also great to see Ricky Miller off the mark, and for Paul Benson to get on the scoresheet. Paul had a difficult start to the season but now I think he is back to his best. It was a terrific performance from him, which included a typical Paul Benson goal, and I am sure there will be more to come from him.

Last Saturday's victory put us in the hat for Monday's draw, where we were handed an away tie against Bury. People asked me if I was happy with it or not, but the truth is I don't care who or where we play.

"WE WILL BE CONFIDENT BUT FACE A FORMIDABLE OPPONENT. THE EDGE WILL BE ON THE TERRACES. PLEASE GET BEHIND YOUR TEAM LIKE YOU HAVE DONE ALL SEASON. I THINK THE LUTON SPIRIT WE HAVE ON AND OFF THE PITCH WILL MAKE IT TOUGH FOR ANY TEAM TO BEAT."

All I know is we have to go there and do our best to get a result. Would I have preferred an 'easier draw'? There is no such thing.

Just ask Southend and Coventry supporters if they thought that before their games against Chester and Worcester. It's the magic of the FA Cup...you never know what the results can be.

Talking of cup ties, we had a Beds Senior Cup match with Dunstable on Tuesday where some of the lads

STILL PUSHING

on the fringes of the first team won through on penalties. Although the result might not have suggested it, the performance was a very pleasing one, according to Hakan. The attitude and the application of the players was spot on and games like that are never easy so well done to all those involved.

Training

On the injury front we have welcomed back Pelly Ruddock to training, as well as Scott Griffiths after he picked up a knock at Exeter. Alex Lawless has trained towards the end of this week and we hope he can return soon. Ross Lafayette is back in training after his hernia operation, whilst Alex Wall has a problem with his leg and it shouldn't be too long before he's back too.

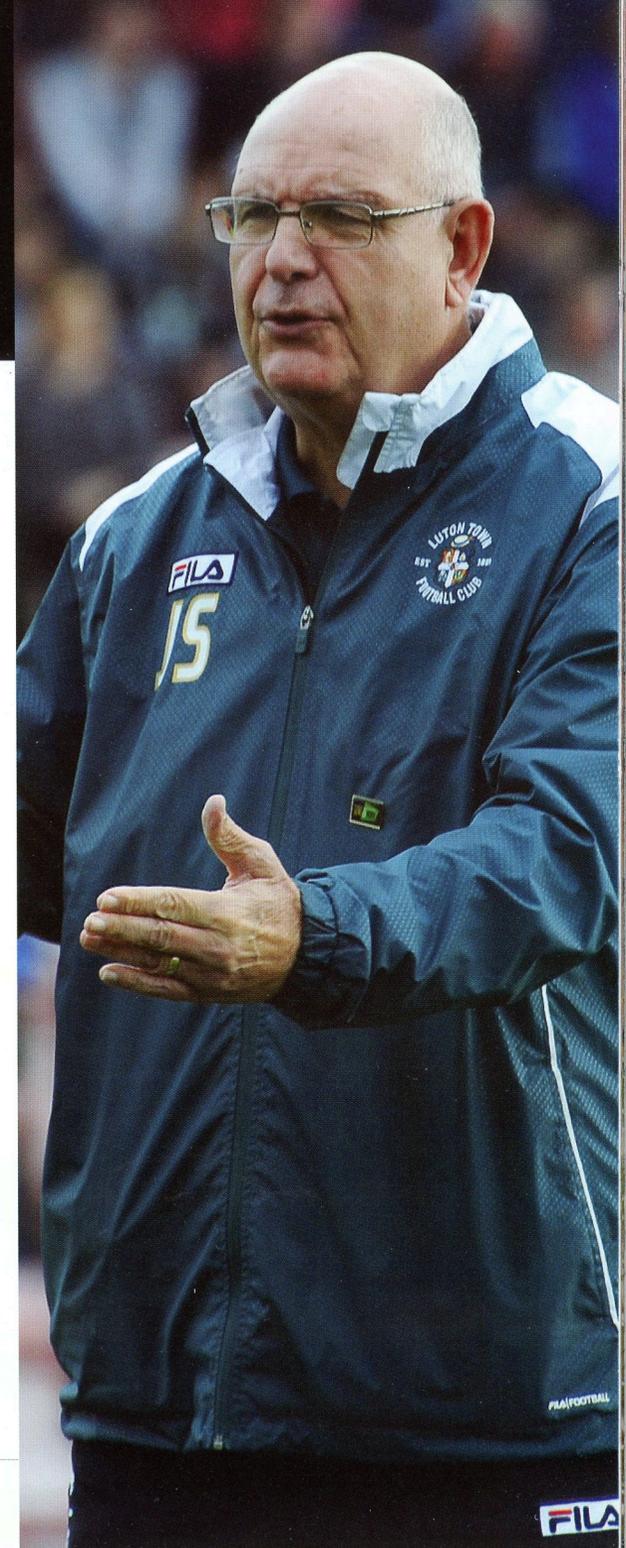
Tough

But back to this afternoon, and what can I say? It's another tough game – just as tough as our last game and one which will be that little more difficult now our opponents have a new manager. Micky will have installed new ideas and you only have to see how they did against Bury in the week to understand the effect he has had on them.

We will be confident but face a formidable opponent. The edge will be on the terraces. Please get behind your team like you have done all season. I think the Luton spirit we have on and off the pitch will make it tough for any team to beat.

Enjoy the game and here's to toasting three points come quarter-to-five.

John Still



BOARDROOM

WITH CHAIRMAN NICK OWEN



Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for our latest League Two match against our visitors from Merseyside, Tranmere Rovers.

Tranmere is a club with a long and proud history. Formed in the late 19th century, as we were, they came within a whisker of reaching the Premier League in the 1990s, reaching the Play-Offs in three successive seasons. They've also enjoyed some illustrious cup runs and reached the final of the League Cup in 2000, only to lose to Leicester City in the last major final to be played at the old Wembley.

While welcoming the whole Prenton Park contingent this afternoon, I would like to give a special welcome to manager Micky Adams who only took over in late October. I have known Micky for many years, particularly during his time as manager at Leicester, Coventry, Brighton and Port Vale. I'd like to wish him all the best in his new post with Tranmere Rovers.

We both got through to the second round of the FA Cup, but I am sure we are both equally disappointed not be drawn at home next time – Rovers travel to Oxford and we head north west to Bury, a really tough one, to say the least. Bury were excellent when they came here earlier in the season and we did well to snatch a very late equaliser. Mind you, that was before we got into our stride!

I thought last weekend's cup tie against Newport County was terrific entertainment, particularly for the neutral, with some cracking goals and excellent end-to-end play.

I would also like to mention how the minute's silence was so beautifully observed before that match to remember those who have lost their lives in the service of their country in the last hundred years.

It seems to me that we are all, young and old alike, more respectful than ever these days of the servicemen and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice so that the rest of us can enjoy our freedom to live and speak as we wish without fear.

Remembrance Week has a particular resonance for me personally and my family. My maternal grandfather Wilfred Burton was a Derbyshire postman and a useful footballer for Buxton. In fact, Manchester United (then Newton Heath) wanted him to go for trials but his parents wouldn't let him go, as it was too far away – about 30 miles!

He signed up with the Royal Artillery in the First World War and survived the Somme and Passchendaele. I still have a Christmas card he sent from the front in 1917.

Before he went to the front, he was billeted with a Belgian family who had two girls called Esme and Yvonne. He told them that, if he too had daughters, he would call them Esme and Yvonne. Which he did. Esme later became my mother and died only six months ago, aged 92. Yvonne, now 90, is still going strong.

A generation later, my father Bertie was a young teacher in Berkhamsted when he joined up with the Royal Army Service Corps at the beginning of World War Two. He was part of the British Expeditionary Force pushed back by the Germans to the beaches of Dunkirk.



He saw such horrors all around him there that he never spoke about them until one highly emotional family lunch some 55 years later when he opened up. On the 60th anniversary of Dunkirk, I was privileged to take him back to the beaches for the first time since May 1940 and make a film for the BBC.

So I am sure you will understand that, for me, Remembrance Day and all the poignant events around this time is also about giving thanks for those that survived, those who managed to come through two dreadful world wars and create the generations that followed. Obviously, my family and I are eternally grateful that my grandfather and father were spared.

A post script about dear old Wilfred from a century ago: When he came home from the Western Front, you'd have thought he could relax and enjoy his home comforts once again. But no! He was apparently so good at football that he had to stay in the military and play for the Army of Occupation team based in Germany! He was away for another year!

Perspective

There's no doubt that the appalling events of war and conflict, both today and over the last hundred years, do put some of our day-to-day anxieties into perspective. It is good that we all take time to pause and reflect at a time like this.

It was humbling to read in last week's Talk of the Town about our players who served, and either lost their lives or were seriously injured; and I was particularly intrigued by the story of our striker Ernie Simms. An inspiring character. If you haven't read the articles in last weekend's programme, then I certainly recommend doing so.

So, with a thoughtful week behind us, let's turn our attention to the matter in hand this afternoon, and the joys of supporting a football club that's risen from a depressing period in our distinguished history and is now riding high in League 2. It's a great feeling, isn't it?

I can do nothing more than say well done to John Still and all the squad for continuing such a magnificent run, in league and cup. It makes us all extremely proud to be Hatters and, as ever, our following home and away is simply astonishing. The way the tickets fly off the shelves is just breathtaking. It means so much to the players. Thank you.

Here's to a superb game against Tranmere Rovers, culminating we hope, on this side of the fence, in three points for the Town.

Enjoy the game,
Bye for now.



HONOURS

Littlewoods Challenge Cup:
Winners 1988, Runners-up 1989

FA Cup:
Runners-up 1959
Semi-finalists 1959, 1985, 1988, 1994

Johnstone's Paint Trophy:
Winners 2009

Simod Cup:
Runners-up 1988

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

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

Football League Division Three:
Runners-up 1969/70

League One:
Champions 2004/05

Football League Division Four:
Champions 1967/68

Football League Division Three:
Runners-up 2001/02

Skrill Premier Champions:
2013/14

Blue Square Premier:
Runners-up 2009/10

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

Southern League Division Two:
Runners-up 1913/14

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

Southern Alliance:
Runners-up 1913/14

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MACCA

THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SPEAKING

FROM THE DRESSING ROOM WITH STEPHEN McNULTY



Last Saturday was a typical FA Cup tie, an exciting one for the supporters, end to end and full of goals, and it was good for us to eventually run out winners to book our place in the second round.

The only disappointing aspect of the game was the fact we conceded two goals which is very unlike us, it was only the fourth time we've conceded that many goals in a game and the first since we lost 2-0 at Shrewsbury at the end of August.

That defeat seems a long time ago now as we have since gone 10 matches unbeaten in League 2 and got through in the FA Cup. At the moment everything would appear to be going well but we are under no illusions of how tough it is going to be to maintain this level of form.

Confidence

Against Newport last week, though, we played some terrific football and scored some fantastic goals which showed that our current level of confidence is pretty good at the minute. The gaffer also made a few changes, tweaking the formation back to including three centre-halves and two wing-backs and again I thought it worked very well. People might point the finger at the fact we conceded two goals because of the change in formation but that couldn't be anything further from the truth – we just switched off on those two occasions and were punished.

Some of the goals we scored were excellent, though. I was right behind Gutts' and if that doesn't win goal of the round I don't know what will.

Ricky scored his first for us which he will never forget and it was great to see Benno back on the scoresheet – we hope he can go on a run in front of goal now. And last but not least Howellsy's great solo effort near the end to wrap up the win.

"I'm not sure if we'll ever truly appreciate how hard John works because he's always so immersed in football, watching games and players nobody would ever dream of."

The second round draw has paired us with Bury, who we have played already here this season and the tie at their place is going to be a toughie. But we have nothing to fear and I'm sure it's going to be a good game with both clubs eyeing a place in the third round for a potential tie with the big boys.

Bury were on the receiving end of a defeat to our visitors on Tuesday night in the JPT, so despite Tranmere's position in the table today's match is going to be a lot more difficult than the league table might suggest. Micky Adams is an experienced manager

who has enjoyed a fair amount of success and since he's arrived at Prenton Park they've not lost. They will want to keep that run going this afternoon at our expense so we must guard against their threats but keep doing the things we've been doing right.

Since my last notes, both the manager and Cully have won manager and player of the month for October and my congratulations goes to both. We won every game in that time so it was no contest that the gaffer should win. I'm not sure if we'll ever truly appreciate how hard John works because he's always so immersed in football, watching games and players nobody would ever dream of. As for Cully, he scored some great goals last month, including a super hat-trick against Dagenham. He's done brilliantly to deal with the pressure laid on him following Andre's departure and full credit to him for doing so well.

Finally – again – I must end these notes by paying tribute to you, the fans. I heard we sold out the Burton allocation last week which is truly unbelievable – that game is really going to be like a home game for us so thank you.

Please get behind us once again this afternoon and help push us further forward. We're in this together! Enjoy the game.

Duo scoop monthly prizes

The Hatters were delighted to announce that John Still and Mark Cullen won the Sky Bet League 2 manager and player of the month awards respectively for October.

The Town won all five of their League 2 games during the month, with Cullen grabbing five goals in four matches, including a hat-trick in the 3-1 win over Dagenham & Redbridge.

Sky Sports' Football League pundit Don Goodman said: "John Still has invigorated Luton Town as a club and they have carried all of their momentum from last season into the Football League.

"The man from Essex continues to use his tried and tested methods to great effect."

On Cullen's prize, Still added: "Although Mark has hit the headlines with his goals in October, his overall performances so far this season have been terrific.



"A lot was made of Andre Gray's departure in the summer, but I knew that in Mark we had a natural goal-scorer.

"He is capable of scoring any kind of goal, and obviously his hat-trick against Dagenham saw him highlight that, with goals with both feet and his head."

GIGG LANE GIG IN SECOND ROUND

The Hatters have been handed an away tie with fellow League 2 side Bury in the FA Cup second round.

The tie will take place over the weekend of 6th December. The two clubs have only met once in the competition - way back in 1923 in a first round tie at Gigg Lane which the Shakers won 2-1.

HARRIMAN EXTENDS LOAN

The Hatters extended the loan of defender Michael Harriman from Premier League side Queens Park Rangers for a further month on Friday last week.

The 22-year-old right-back has impressed manager John Still in the five games during his first month's loan from the West London club. His loan expires on Saturday 6th December.

Town boss John Still told lutontown.co.uk: "Michael is happy to be here, we're happy he's here, QPR are more than happy he's here, so everyone's a winner.

"With Michael staying I hope it will see us continue the good run of form we're on.

"I think when he first came and we talked about if we needed to extend the loan that it wouldn't be a problem.

"Curtley Williams isn't too far away and Paul Connolly has been at St George's Park working on his fitness, but we'll worry about what we do next with Michael when those two come back. We'll wait and see."

MARK OVENDALE MEMORIAL CUP

A group of Hatters fans will take part in a very special match in December to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support and SoLYD.

The game will contest the Mark Ovendale Memorial Cup on Sunday 7th December, in memory of the former Town goalkeeper who died from the disease aged just 37 in 2011.

A number of Mark's former clubs, including the Town, have donated various raffle prizes, and the game itself takes place at Gorefield Playing Field, Wolf Lane, in Gorefield, near Wisbech (PE13 4NE).

REST IN PEACE: ALAN EVANS

It is with sadness we report the death of staunch Hatters supporter Alan Evans.

Luton-born Alan passed away unexpectedly on 21st October, aged 63 - the night of the Town's match with Dagenham & Redbridge.

Alan was a lifelong, passionate and very optimistic Luton fan. He watched his first game at Kenilworth Road in the late 1960s and was a season ticket holder in the main stand.

Everyone at Luton Town would like to offer their sincere condolences to Alan's family and friends.

MATCH-WORN POPPY AUCTION

A big thank you to everyone who placed a bid in a special silent auction last week for the match-worn poppy shirts, which were worn during last Saturday's FA Cup tie with Newport.

Hundreds of bids were received, the highest of which will win captain Stephen McNulty's jersey which has been signed by the whole Hatters squad.

Every penny raised from the auction will be donated to the Royal British Legion, and we will notify the winners of all the shirts next week.



THANK YOU!

Talking of raising money, a huge thank you on behalf of the East Anglian Air Ambulance following their bucket collection at the home fixture with Southend United on 11th October.

A magnificent £1,039.96 was raised, which will go to towards keeping the EAAA in operation - the average cost of each mission stands at £2,448. For more information on the EAAA, visit www.eaaa.org.uk.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Andy Nolan, a lifelong Hatters fan, who is getting married to Natalie Higgins on 29th November 2014. Best Wishes from Eddie, Phil, Westy, James and Steve.



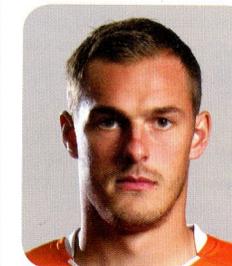
TOWN ON TV

The Hatters' Sky Bet League 2 match at home to Shrewsbury Town has been selected for live television coverage by Sky Sports.

The game against the Shrews has been brought forward to Thursday 8th January 2015, and will kick-off at 7.45pm.

DIAMOND VOTES

Voting for the Diamond Player of the Month award for October is now open.

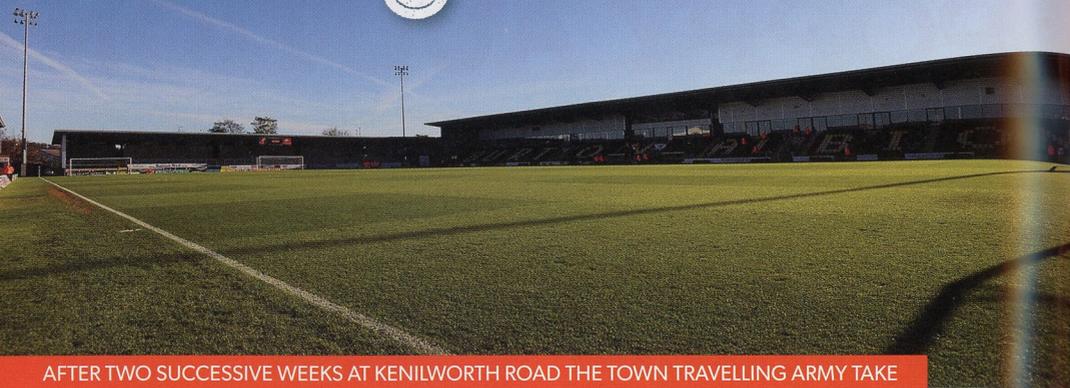


Diamond season ticket holders have until Tuesday 18th November to vote for their player.

The player with the most votes will be presented with the award at the Mansfield game 29th November. Defender Luke Wilkinson, pictured, won the award for September.

All diamond season ticket holders voting for the eventual winner will be entered into a draw. The adult diamond season ticket holder who is drawn out will receive two tickets for hospitality and the opportunity to present the award. The junior winner will receive the diamond mascot package at the same game.

let's go



AFTER TWO SUCCESSIVE WEEKS AT KENILWORTH ROAD THE TOWN TRAVELLING ARMY TAKE TO THE ROAD NEXT WEEK WHEN THEY MAKE THEIR FIRST EVER VISIT TO THE PIRELLI STADIUM

BURTON ALBION



WHO? Burton Albion Football Club, also known as the Brewers. Established in 1950, the club won promotion to the Football League in 2009. The Brewers have reached the League 2 Play-Offs in the last two seasons.

WHERE? Burton play their home games at the Pirelli Stadium in Burton-upon-Trent, the place they have called home since 2005 after vacating Eton Park. The stadium cost just £7.2m to build and holds 6,912, of which 2,034 is seated. The Pirelli's record attendance stands at 6,192 for a game against Oxford in the Conference the year the Brewers won promotion.

HOW TO GET THERE. The trip to Burton is, according to Google Maps, precisely 100 miles. Take the M1 north, and leave the M1 at junction 22 and join the A511 towards Coalville/Burton. Turn right at the junction of the A5121, towards Burton North. As you come into the outskirts of Burton you will pass a McDonalds on your right. Just before the next roundabout you will see the stadium on your right. Turn right at the roundabout into Princess Way. A short distance along Princess Way on the right is the entrance to the club car park. There is a large car park at the ground which costs £2. For the sat-nav savvy, the ground's postcode is DE13 0AR.

BOB IT. If you'd rather somebody else did the driving for you, why not consider going with the Bobbers Travel Club? They leave the Luton train station at 11.30am.

The fare is £22 for adults and £19 for concessions. To reserve your seat give them a buzz on 01234 856542.

AWAY THE LADS. All 1,911 tickets available to Hatters fans were, incredibly, all snapped up and sold out last Monday. The game is all-ticket with no tickets available on the day at Burton. Town supporters who are standing up will have the East Terrace to themselves behind the goal, whilst those sitting down beside the pitch will be afforded unobstructed views in the main stand. Burton's average attendance this season is 2,583.

HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE? Ummm, no, no we haven't. This will be the first meeting between the two clubs, although the Hatters have played one side from Burton many moons ago. The town had Burton Swifts playing in the Football League in the late 1800s, with the Hatters playing the Swifts six times between 1897 and 1900. The record is a straightforward one of two draws and two wins apiece.

HOW THEY DOING? The Burton Albion class of 2014/15 aren't doing too badly at all. Earlier this month the Brewers saw highly-rated boss Gary Rowett move to Birmingham City. As we went to press, Burton appointed Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink as their new manager. Albion lie in fifth place in League 2, just two points behind the Town but they are not in action until Monday when they travel to leaders Wycombe. Last weekend the Brewers were thumped 5-0 at Barnsley in the FA Cup, but in recent weeks their form has been patchy, as their record of four wins, five defeats and one draw from their last 10 games testifies.

tickets please



BURTON ALBION v LUTON TOWN

SKY BET LEAGUE 2

SATURDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 2014, KICK-OFF 3PM

This match is all-ticket for Luton Town supporters and all 1,911 tickets for this fixture have now been sold.



LUTON TOWN v MANSFIELD TOWN

SKY BET LEAGUE 2

SATURDAY 29th NOVEMBER 2014, KICK-OFF 3PM

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



BURY v LUTON TOWN

FA CUP SECOND ROUND

SATURDAY 6th DECEMBER 2014, KICK-OFF 3PM

This match is not all-ticket, and Hatters supporters can pay on the day at Gigg Lane. We have been allocated 2,000 seats for this tie. Prices: £15 adults, £10 senior citizens, students, under-23s, disabled and unemployed, £5 under-11s, free for under-5s. Family prices, available from the Bury ticket office on the day: £15 one adult, one child, £20 one adult, two children.



MORECAMBE v LUTON TOWN

SKY BET LEAGUE 2

SATURDAY 13th DECEMBER 2014, KICK-OFF 3PM

Although this game is not all-ticket, the Luton Town ticket office has received an initial allocation of 600 terrace tickets, 567 seats and 10 wheelchair bays for this match.

Supporters are advised to purchase in advance to avoid disappointment.

Tickets are available now to diamond and regular season ticket holders until close of business on Saturday 22nd November.

Tickets will go on general sale from 24th November, subject to availability, until 3pm on 12th December. Away Season ticket holders' tickets will automatically be sent their tickets in the seating area unless the ticket office are or have been advised otherwise, these tickets will be sent out on Thursday 20th November. Prices: Seating - £21* adults, £17* over-65s and students with ID, £6 under-19s. Terracing: £17* adults, £14* over-65s and students with ID, £5 under-19s.

*Up to three under-14s can enter for free with these categories.

This offer will only be available from the ticket office when advised how many under-14s are required.



LUTON TOWN v NEWPORT COUNTY

SKY BET LEAGUE 2

SATURDAY 20th DECEMBER 2014, KICK-OFF 3PM

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



SPEAKING Commercially

WITH COMMERCIAL MANAGER DAVID HOSKINS

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Please contact our office for more information, to arrange an appointment or follow us on Facebook and Twitter @johncobbands to see examples of previous projects.

We are proud to sponsor today's match and wish the club continued success.

MATCHBALL SPONSOR ALAN RICKARD



I am extremely proud to be match ball sponsor today on my 59th birthday as I have supported the Town for 48 years, first with my father and now with my son. I remember my first game was in the old Division 4 against Stockport County.

We won 2-0 and although my memory is a little hazy I can remember watching John O'Rourke outpace the defence to score a blinder at the Kenilworth Road end.

Over the years I have seen many great and a few not so great games and some good times as well as the bad, but my support has never wavered. Over the years I have sat and stood in every area of the ground.

Today I fulfil my dream of sitting in the directors' box. I would like to thank all at Kenilworth Road past and present for being a major part of my life and making today possible.

TODAY'S MASCOTS

Today we welcome two mascots to Kenilworth Road who will get to meet their favourite players before the game in the dressing room and warm-up with them before kick-off. They will then lead the team out onto the pitch and pose for photographs with the captains. We hope you have a fantastic afternoon with us!

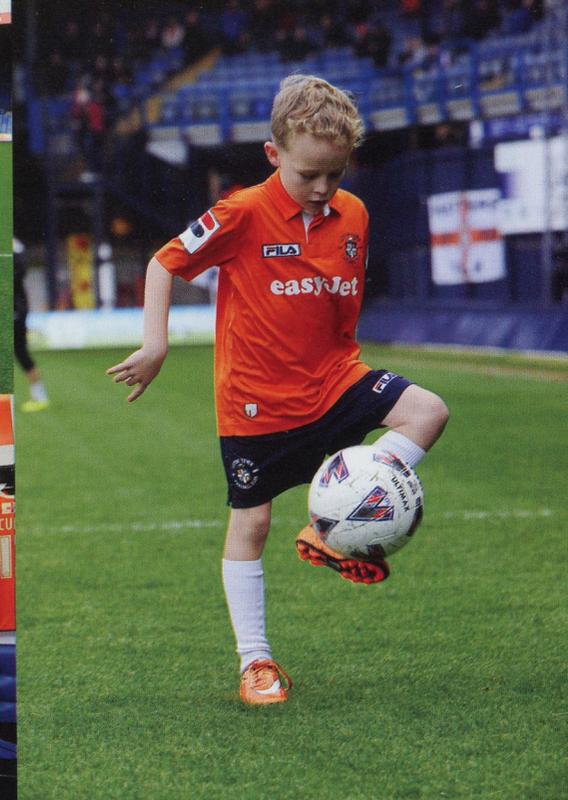
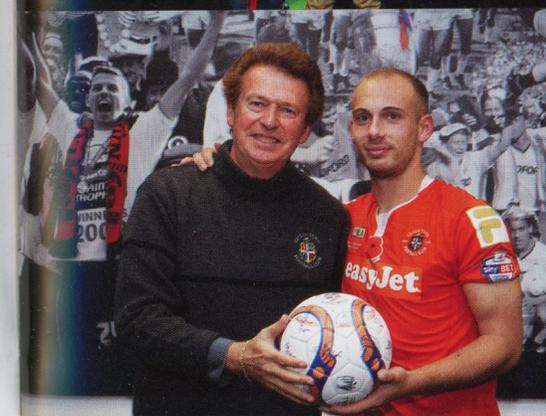
James is from Ampthill and is seven tomorrow! His favourite player is Mark Cullen. Six-year-old Ben Newbould is from Luton and his favourite player is Stephen McNulty.



JAMES BARRON



BEN NEWBOULD



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KIT SPONSORS

1 MARK TYLER



H: Tim Fordham
A: Whosh
G: Elliot Prentice

2 FRASER FRANKS



H: Emma Banks
A: Nigel, Ben & Sam Martin

3 DANNY FITZSIMONS



H: Available
A: Available

4 JONATHAN SMITH



H: Holly Kemp
A: SolYD Gold Hatters

5 STEPHEN McNULTY



H: Simon Cowlard
A: Whosh

6 ALEX LACEY



H: Peter & Linda Little
A: In memory of Billy Lacey

7 ALEX LAWLESS



H: David Goodge
A: Gill, Julie & Yvonne

8 ANDY DRURY



H: Raj Koyes
A: Key Holder Lettings

9 PAUL BENSON



H: Ben & Richard Banks
A: Mad Hatter

10 ALEX WALL



H: Ben & Richard Banks
A: The Coles Family

11 JAKE HOWELLS



H: Neil Ehrenzweig
A: Sports262 & Lutontownfans.co.uk

12 SCOTT GRIFFITHS



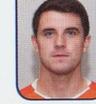
H: CME Heating
A: Matthew Crossland

13 MARK CULLEN



H: Peter & Linda Little
A: Kelly Knight

14 ANDY PARRY



H: R S Robinson Heating
A: Available

15 LUKE ROONEY



H: SIXT Rent-a-car
A: Available

16 ELLIOT JUSTHAM



H: Available
A: Available
G: Mark Francome

17 PELLY RUDDOCK MPANZU



H: David Alexander
A: Ben Gray

18 ROSS LAFAYETTE



H: Jacqui Peacock
A: Maddie Knight

19 RICKY MILLER



H: Tom
A: Tommy Lennon

20 SHAUN WHALLEY



H: Available
A: Available

21 LUKE GUTTRIDGE



H: Luton Outlaws
A: Richard & Zak Tilley

23 MATTHEW ROBINSON



H: COYH
A: Whosh

24 CURTLEY WILLIAMS



H: St Neots Cakes
A: Available

26 NATHAN DOYLE



H: Paul Watmuff
A: Available

28 JIM STEVENSON



H: CME Heating
A: Liz Herrick Informatic Computing Ltd

29 PAUL CONNOLLY



H: Re-Markit
A: Bobbers Travel Club

30 LUKE WILKINSON



H: Tommy Lennon
A: Dean Kemp

32 BRETT LONGDEN



H: Available
A: Available

33 MARK ONYEMAH



H: Available
A: Available

34 ZANE BANTON



H: Loyal Luton
A: Mad Hatter

35 CHARLIE WALKER



H: Jonathan Perry of JP Life Therapy
A: Mad Hatter

36 CHARLIE SMITH



H: Available
A: Available

37 KYNAN ISAAC



H: Available
A: Available

39 IAN REES



H: Available
A: Mad Hatter

LUKE TROTMAN



H: Available
A: Bobbers Travel Club

M JOHN STILL



H: Thompsons Accountants
A: Country Properties

AM TERRY HARRIS



H: Doug Knight
A: Peter Mitchell

C HAKAN HAYRETTIN



H: Luton Town Supporters Club of Scandinavia
A: Available

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PROUD KIT SUPPLIERS TO LUTON TOWN



It gives us great pleasure to welcome everyone associated with Tranmere Rovers to Kenilworth Road this afternoon.

Rovers arrive in Bedfordshire this afternoon aiming to lift themselves out of the relegation zone in a bid to kick-start their season under newly-installed manager Micky Adams.

The former Brighton, Leicester, Fulham and Port Vale boss took up the reins at Prenton Park last month with Rovers bottom of the Football League. Since he arrived on the Wirral, Rovers have gone three games unbeaten in League 2 – drawing three matches against Mansfield, AFC Wimbledon and Stevenage. Last Saturday our visitors booked their place in the second round of the FA Cup following a 1-0 win over Bristol Rovers at Prenton Park.

Victory today could lift Tranmere out of the drop-zone – something Rovers fans would never have thought possible following relegation from League 1 last term. Hopes were high of an immediate return to the third tier this season but manager Rob Edwards paid the price for a poor run of form that saw Rovers win just two games from 13 League 2 fixtures and was axed last month.

Last term Rovers finished 21st in League 1, ending a run of 13 successive seasons in the third tier. Prior to their time in League 1, Rovers also spent over a decade in what is now the Championship and, in 2000 the club reached the League Cup final, only to lose 2-1 to Leicester at Wembley. The club also got through to the quarter-finals of the FA Cup three times.

But the Prenton Park faithful are now experiencing fourth tier football for the first time since Rovers won promotion from Division Four back in 1988/89.

This season began with a 1-1 home draw against York but after losing 2-1 at Shrewsbury they won 2-0 at Wycombe – the only club to currently beat the league leaders at Adams Park so far this season.

Depressing

However, after a 2-1 win over Morecambe on 30th August – which put them 11th in the table at the time – Rovers haven't won in League 2, a run stretching a depressing 11 matches without victory. During the sequence they have also found goals hard to come by, scoring just seven times in 11 games.

That record in front of goal improves drastically when you take into consideration their last two matches – both under Adams – have seen them score four times in two 2-2 draws, at home to Stevenage and away to AFC Wimbledon.

Two of those four goals have come from loan star Armand Gnanduillet, the French striker hit two on his debut in that draw against the Wombles. The Ivory Coast Under-20 international has already proved a handful for League 2 defences having helped Chesterfield win the title last season.

The Hatters defence will need be wary of the rangy frontman as they eye a place at the top of the table. Only once have Rovers won at Kenilworth Road in League competition – back in 1993.



OUR AT-A-GLANCE GUIDE TO THE MEN FROM PRENTON PARK

► THE MANAGER

MICKY ADAMS. Hugely experienced manager who is now in his 10th managerial role. Took over at Prenton Park last month and has won four promotions in his career with four different clubs: Fulham, Brighton, Leicester and Port Vale.

► GOALKEEPERS

OWAIN FON WILLIAMS. Former Welsh under-21 international stopper who arrived on the Wirral in July 2011. Began his career at Crewe before joining Stockport where he made 90 appearances.

PETER BREZOVAN. Experienced Czech-born goalkeeper who joined Rovers this year after leaving Portsmouth. Arrived in England in 2006, signing for Swindon before signing for Brighton.

► DEFENDERS

DANNY HOLMES. Right-back who came through Rovers' youth ranks to make his first team debut in November 2008. Left for TNS in Wales but returned after two years away and won Young Player of the Season in his first season back.

LIAM RIDEHALGH. Left-back who signed from Huddersfield on a three-and-half year deal last season after impressing hugely during a spell on loan.

MICHAEL IHIEKWE. Young centre back who signed a contract with Rovers earlier this summer. The former Wolves defender spent time on loan at Cheltenham Town in 2013/14.

MARCUS HOLNESS. Club captain who made the switch to Prenton Park from Burton Albion after two successful campaigns with the Brewers, both of which ended with appearances in the Play-Offs.

DANNY WOODARDS. Versatile and experienced defender who was Rovers' seventh signing this summer. Began his career as a youngster at Chelsea before spells at Crewe and Bristol Rovers.

JANOS DONACIEN. Former Hatters academy graduate who left Kenilworth Road in 2010 for Tottenham. Joined Aston Villa and signed on-loan for Rovers in August.

JOSH THOMPSON. Commanding defender on-loan from Colchester who started his career at Stockport but moved to Celtic in 2009. Left Scotland for Portsmouth in 2012 but joined Colchester a year later.

► MIDFIELDERS

MAX POWER. Graduate of the Prenton Park academy who has been with the club since the age of eight. Broke

into the side in 2012 and has been a permanent fixture ever since, winning Young Player of Year last season.

JASON KOUMAS. Former Welsh international midfielder who began his career at the club before moving to West Brom for £2.5m in 2002. Joined Wigan for £5.3m in 2007 but rejoined Rovers in July 2013.

ABDULAI BELL-BAGGIE. Sierra Leone-born youngster who signed for Rovers in the summer of 2012 following a successful trial. Came through the youth ranks at Reading.

JAMES ROWE. Another former Reading academy graduate who arrived at Prenton Park in July 2013, also after an impressive trial. Joined Tranmere from Forest Green.

MARC LAIRD. Experienced midfielder who signed for Rovers this summer from Southend. Started his career at Manchester City before spells at Millwall and Leyton Orient.

JAKE KIRBY. Third-year pro who came through Rovers' youth setup. Made his first team debut at the end of the 2011/12 season. Penned an extended deal last term.

STEVE JENNINGS. Experienced midfielder on-loan from Port Vale who started his career at Prenton Park. Left the Wirral for Motherwell in 2009 before joining Coventry. Rejoined Rovers for a short spell last term but then signed for Port Vale.

► STRIKERS

KAYODE ODEJAYI. Imposing, experienced centre forward who joined Rovers this summer. Began his career at Bristol City before spells at Cheltenham, Barnsley, Colchester, Rotherham, and, most recently, Accrington.

ELIOT RICHARDS. One of the first summer signings this year who began his career at Bristol Rovers as a teenager. The former Wales under-21 international finished last season on Exeter's books.

COLE STOCKTON. Highly-rated striker who has progressed through Rovers' academy. Top scorer for the reserves and youth teams in 2011/12 he made his first team bow in 2012.

GEORGE DONNOLLY. Centre-forward who once spent a short time on-loan at Kenilworth Road. Shot to prominence with non-league Skelmersdale before joining Plymouth. Joined Rovers from Rochdale.

ARMAND GNAUDUILLET. Quick and powerful frontman who signed on-loan at Prenton Park late last month from Chesterfield. French-born striker started at Le Havre before joining Poissy.

FROM THE OAK ROAD

Tranmere supporters haven't enjoyed life in League 2 so far: a grim cocktail of stop-start matches, physical battles and too many defeats means they're still suffering a hangover from relegation last year. Rovers fan **Sam Robinson** is hoping new boss Micky Adams can help kick start their campaign...

TALK OF THE TOWN: After being relegated last season, were Tranmere fans expecting to bounce back at the first attempt? How has the season panned out so far from your perspective? Is League 2 a tougher test than you imagined?

SAM: I think, generally, most of us expected a tough test in League 2 but we thought we'd have enough to be competing at the right end of the table. A fair few fans have been surprised with the physical nature of the league and the manner in which teams have played against us, time-wasting and making matches very stop-start so that we can't get into our rhythm.

We've not won a league game since the end of August, which ultimately cost Rob Edwards his job a month ago, and we find ourselves stuck in the relegation zone - a position we became all too familiar with last season. All is not lost, though: York were 22nd in the league going into the New Year last season and ended up making the Play-Offs, so it can be done.

TOTT: Rob Edwards paid the price for your poor start to the season - what do supporters make of the appointment of Micky Adams?

SAM: The general consensus is that we couldn't have got a better manager for our situation than Micky. He has a proven track record for this division and has often done well at clubs where he has been faced with adversity.

He did an excellent job at Port Vale in getting them promoted from League 2 and then finishing in the



Kayode Odejavi

top 10 of League 1 a season later. Hopefully he can emulate that success at Prenton Park.

TOTT: Who is Tranmere's dangerman that Luton need to keep close tabs on today?

SAM: On-loan striker Armand Gnanouillet has come in from Chesterfield and added a fresh impetus to our attack. He scored twice in our 2-2 draw at Wimbledon and hopefully will get himself another couple of goals today.

TOTT: What's the best game involving Tranmere you've ever seen?

SAM: It would have to be a toss-up between two FA Cup ties. Beating Everton 3-0 at Goodison Park was an amazing day but perhaps even more special was coming



Prenton Park

from 3-0 down at half-time to beat Southampton, who were in the Premier League at the time, 4-3. Paul Rideout's hat-trick and Stuart Barlow's late winner will remain in the memory for the rest of every Tranmere fan's life.

TOTT: Ten years ago the teams were promotion rivals in League 1 - what do you remember about that season? Can you believe that Hull City, who finished second that year, are now an established Premier League side?

SAM: The thing that sticks out above all is that we were unfortunate not to win automatic promotion as our points tally that season would have been enough for a top two spot in most other campaigns.

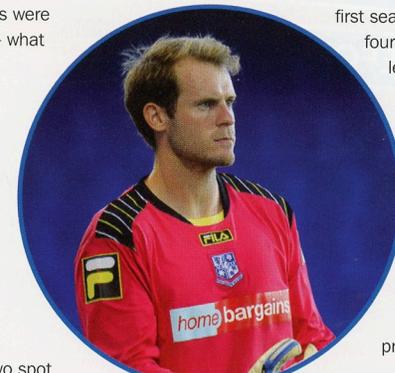
As for Hull, they clearly had ambition to play at the highest level given the quality of the KC Stadium, but I'm not sure I could have envisaged them in the Premier League, never mind an FA Cup final and then the Europa League a decade ago.

TOTT: Former Hatters fans' favourite Enoch Showunmi went on to ply his trade at Prenton Park - did he achieve a similar cult status on the Wirral?

SAM: He did amongst some fans but others weren't too keen on him. He performed admirably in his first season, scoring 13 times despite going four months without a goal, but a broken leg towards the end of his first season with us meant that he didn't reach that level again the following campaign and he left to join Notts County on a free transfer upon the expiry of his contract.

TOTT: What are Tranmere's ambitions for the rest of the season? Where do you think they will finish? And what's your prediction for today's game?

SAM: I don't think that the Play-Offs are out of reach for us but, realistically, I think a top-half finish would probably be acceptable now given how bad our start to the season has been. I'd be happy to take a point back up north but unfortunately I can't see it happening. We'll battle hard before falling to a 2-1 defeat.



Owain Fon Williams

A HATTER...

AND A ROVER

A number of players have played for both the Town and Tranmere down the years, mostly notably Enoch Showunmi, who we talk to later on inside this issue.

Another player that served both with distinction was midfielder Paul McLaren. High-Wycombe born Paul joined the Town as a trainee before making his debut in a 2-2 draw at Stoke on the final day of the 1993/94 season.

A strong tackling midfielder, able to make telling forward runs, he suffered knee ligament injuries early in his career but bounced back to star in a poor Luton side that eventually dropped to what is now League 2 in 2001.

Paul took the opportunity, after 201 appearances for the Town, to move to Sheffield Wednesday on a Bosman free transfer. After moving to Rotherham in 2004 he then joined Tranmere in 2006, making 85 Football League appearances in two years. One season at Bradford followed before he rejoined Rovers for another season in 2009/10,

making a further 44 appearances. McLaren finished his career at Oxford.

Other players to have played for both include three goalkeepers: Alec Chamberlain, Ian Feuer and Dino Seremet. Chamberlain and Seremet both spent time on loan at Prenton Park.

Stephen O'Leary also spent time on loan on the Wirral, whilst George Donnolly, now with Rovers, spent a short spell on loan at Kenilworth Road in 2009.

More recently midfielder Arnaud Mendy played for both, while our visitors this afternoon include a former Town academy star in Janoi Danocien in their ranks, who is currently on loan from Aston Villa.



Paul McLaren

HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?

The two clubs meet this afternoon for the 28th time with the Hatters holding the upper hand when it comes to the head-to-head records... just.

The Town have won 13 to Rovers' 10, with just four matches ending in draws. In total 75 goals have been scored across the previous 27 matches, with the Hatters netting 42 of those.

At Kenilworth Road the Town have won nine of the 14 of the meetings. Three have finished draws while Rovers have won twice on Bedfordshire soil.

The last time the two clubs met came in the 2007/08 campaign when both clubs were plying their trade in League 1.

The Town won in the last meeting, at Kenilworth Road in December 2007, triumphing 1-0 courtesy of a sole Dave Edwards goal. That win was the Town's first over

Tranmere in five attempts, stretching back to a 3-1 home win in October 2003.

Tranmere's last win at Kenilworth Road came in an FA Cup fourth round tie in January 2004. Rovers have only ever won once in the League here, and that came in a Division One (now Championship) game in December 1993 with John Aldridge netting a fine winner.

The Town have never scored more than three goals in a game against this afternoon's visitors, but have triumphed when scoring three or no less than six occasions. Three of the Hatters' last four victories over Rovers have been when scoring precisely three goals: 3-1 home win in 2003; 3-1 win at Prenton Park in 2002 and a 3-2 victory at Kenilworth Road in 1995.

Only two Town players have scored two or more goals in a game against Tranmere, too. The prolific Hugh Billington notched a brace in the first-ever meeting between the clubs in 1938 - a game that Hatters won 3-2. And Dwight Marshall scored twice in the 3-2 win in 1995.

back to the future

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

► 1990/91 PLAY-OFF WINNERS

ERIC NIXON: Goalkeeper who joined Stockport in August 1997, then Wigan, Tranmere again and Sheffield Wednesday. He has since been a goalkeeping coach and salesman for Last Room Extensions.

DAVE HIGGINS: Hard-tackling right-back who netted 12 goals in 347 League games in two spells at Prenton Park before moving to Barrow in June 1997. He has since become a postman in Liverpool.

GED BRANNAN: Attacking left-back who joined Manchester City in March 1997, then played for Motherwell, Jim Harvey's Morecambe and Vauxhall Motors. He has since been a publican in Southport.

NEIL McNAB: Former Scotland Under-21 midfielder who netted six goals in 105 League games before moving to Ayr United in July 1993. He has since held various coaching posts and briefly managed Exeter.

MARK HUGHES: Central defender who moved to Shrewsbury in July 1994 where injury ended his career. He helped run his parents' guest house in Blackpool and has become a social worker in Coventry.

SHAUN GARNETT: Central defender who moved to Swansea City in March 1996. Later playing for Oldham Athletic, Halifax Town, Morecambe and Harrogate, he is currently Tranmere's head of youth.

JOHN MORRISSEY: Ex-England Youth winger who netted 50 goals in 470 League games before hanging up his boots in May 1999. He has since joined his father's property company based in Liverpool.

DAVE MARTINDALE: Versatile midfielder who helped Tranmere to also reach the First Division Play-Offs in 1992-93, then played for Glentoran and Altrincham. He has settled in his native Liverpool.

JIM STEEL: Big striker who scored in the 1991 Leyland/DAF Trophy final, netting 29 goals in 174 League games. He left in May 1992 to join Merseyside Police and is often on duty at Prenton Park.

STEVE COOPER: Much-travelled striker who moved to York City in August 1993, then played for Airdrie and Ayr United. He tragically died aged 39, at his home in Warley, West Midlands, in February 2004.

TONY THOMAS: Versatile winger who netted 12 goals in 257 League games before joining Everton in August 1997, then Motherwell where his career was ended by injury. He is now a taxi driver in Huyton.

► 2000 LEAGUE CUP FINALISTS

JOE MURPHY: Republic of Ireland Under-21 goalkeeper who made 63 League appearances, moving to West Brom in July 2002. He has since played for Sunderland, Scunthorpe United and Coventry City.

REUBEN HAZEL: Young right-back who scored once in 42 League outings before joining Torquay United in January 2002, then Kidderminster, Chesterfield, Oldham Athletic and Shrewsbury Town.

GARETH ROBERTS: Welsh international left-back who helped Tranmere to reach the League One Play-Offs in 2004-05 and moved to Doncaster in July 2006, then Derby County, Bury and Notts County.

NICK HENRY: Experienced midfielder who scored twice in 89 League games before becoming Scarborough's player-coach in July 2002, then manager. Now head chef at The Albert pub in Scarborough.

CLINT HILL: Central defender who netted 16 goals in 140 League games while at Prenton Park before joining Oldham Athletic in July 2002. He has since played for Stoke City, Crystal Palace and QPR.

DAVE CHALLINOR: Ex-England Youth central defender, noted for his long throws, who moved to Stockport in January 2002. He then played for Bury and since managed Colwyn Bay and AFC Fylde.

ALAN MAHON: Republic of Ireland international midfielder who joined Sporting Lisbon in July 2000, then played for Blackburn Rovers, Wigan Athletic, Burnley and Tranmere again until July 2011.

ANDY PARKINSON: Midfielder who moved to Sheffield United in July 2003, then played for Grimsby Town, Cambridge United, Gateshead, Accrington Stanley, Aberystwyth Town and Prestatyn Town.

BARY JONES: Versatile striker who joined Nottingham Forest in July 2000, then played for Tranmere again and Grimsby Town. He has since assisted Neil Young at Colwyn Bay and hometown Chester.

DAVID KELLY: Republic of Ireland international striker who scored 21 times in 88 League games, moving to Sheffield United in July 2000. He has held various coaching posts, recently Nottingham Forest.

SCOTT TAYLOR: Striker who moved to Stockport County in August 2001, then Blackpool, Plymouth Argyle, MK Dons, Grays Athletic, Lewes and Staines Town. He has become an electrician in Staines.

TOWN 4-2 NEWPORT

GUTTRIDGE 40, BENSON 58, MILLER 77, HOWELLS 86

KLUKOWSKI 51, O'CONNOR 64



Luke Guttridge fires the Hatters in front

WHAT'S THE STORY?

The Hatters got their name in the hat for the second round draw of the FA Cup after a hugely entertaining six-goal thriller against Newport County at Kenilworth Road.

The Town twice led but on both occasions Luke Guttridge and Paul Benson's goals were met by equalisers from the visitors. But the Hatters put the tie to bed and booked their place in the second round with two goals in the final 13 minutes from substitute Ricky Miller and man-of-the-match Jake Howells.

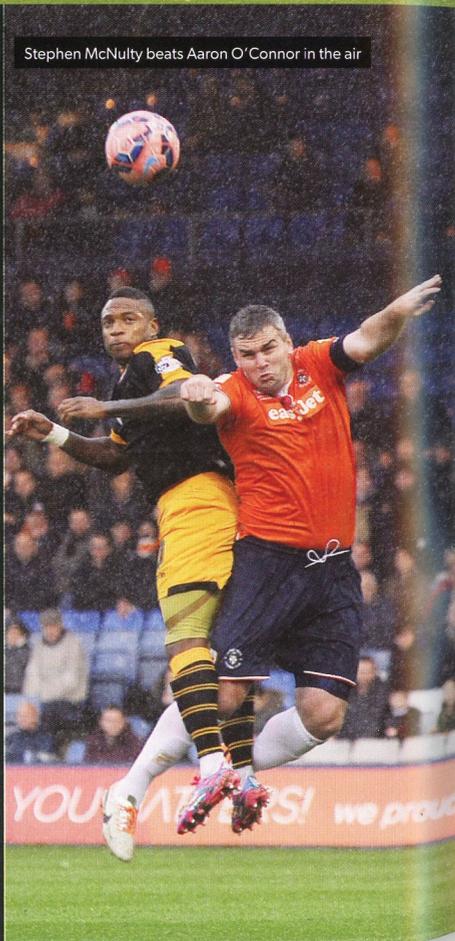
The Hatters led thanks to Guttridge's sensational opening goal, firing home from 25 yards five minutes before the break.

County, eighth in League 2 and with just one defeat in their last 10 games, levelled six minutes after the interval when Yan Klukowski volleyed home from just inside the box.

Back came the Hatters, Benson poking home from close range on 58 minutes after visiting goalkeeper Joe Day had parried Mark Cullen's fierce shot. The Town's lead, though, lasted just six minutes as former Hatter Aaron O'Connor stole in to nod past Mark Tyler to make it 2-2.

However the Hatters weren't to be denied their place in the second round for the first time in two years, when Miller and Howells struck. Miller, introduced as a substitute on 71 minutes, restored the Town's advantage on 77 minutes he connected with Jake Howells' right-wing corner. It was his first goal for the club.

With Newport in search of a third equaliser, which left them prone on the break, Howells capped a man-of-the-match display with a fine solo goal four minutes from time, weaving past four Newport men to rifle home into the bottom corner.



Stephen McNulty beats Aaron O'Connor in the air



Ricky Miller battles for possession



Paul Benson contests this aerial battle

TOWN: Tyler; McNulty, Wilkinson, Lacey; Harriman, Howells; Doyle, Smith, Guttridge; Cullen (sub Miller 71), Benson. **SUBS NOT USED:** Franks, Griffiths, Rooney, Whalley, Walker, Justham.



John Still leads the post-match discussion

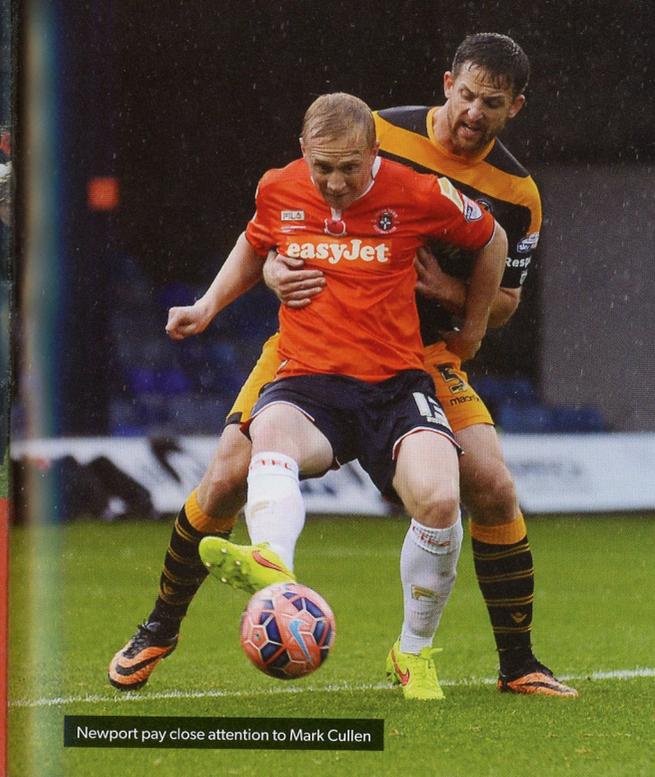


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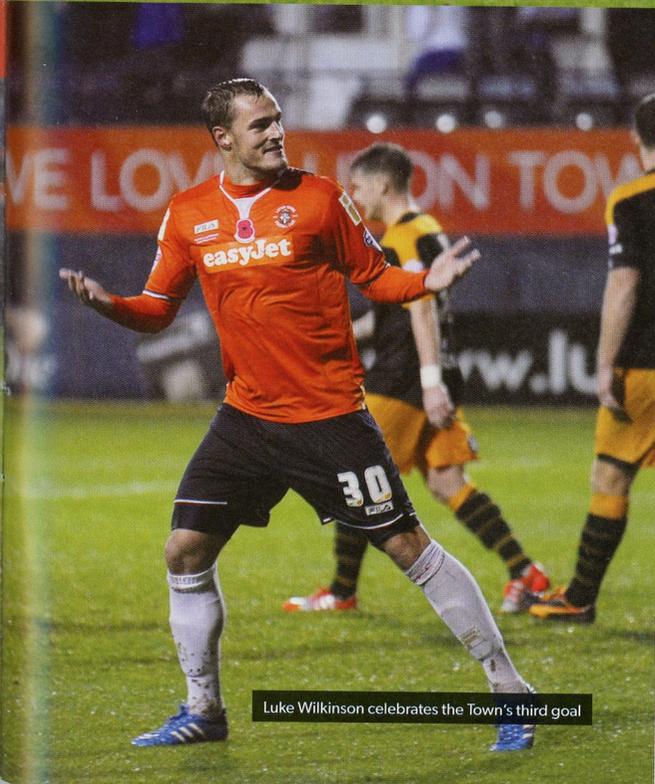
“It was a proper cup tie, I loved it, the weather, conditions. We changed our system, played three centre halves, we've messed around with it a little bit, so it's another step further forward when we need to do it. We need to iron some things out with it, but as we know in the FA Cup from Exeter, you've just got to win. We've scored four goals at home, next round of the FA Cup, I've got to be pleased with that. I want to win all the games and I'm not devaluing any competition. This year the league is vital as it was last year, but the FA Cup is very very, very, very, very important.”



Paul Benson finds himself surrounded



Newport pay close attention to Mark Cullen



Luke Wilkinson celebrates the Town's third goal

ATTENDANCE 3,656
334 Visitors

HOW IT HAPPENED

Minute's silence impeccably observed #COYH

1' And we're off as the Town get us off and under way, shooting towards the Oak Road end in this first half #COYH

39' SCREAMER! Guttridge from mid-way in the Newport half. WHAT A GOAL. Luton 1-0 #COYH

That's Luke's second goal in as many home games and what a strike it was too. Day no chance. Left-foot ping into the top corner. 1-0 #COYH

50' Goal to Newport. Cross from Flynn converted by Klukowski. Luton 1-1 Newport #COYH

57' GOAL BENSON! Luton 2-1 Newport #COYH

Benson bundled the ball in on the line after Cullen draws a save from the Newport keeper. #COYH

64' GOAL Town 2-2 Newport (O'Connor)

64' County level, left-wing cross clipped into the box and nodded home powerfully by the on-rushing O'Connor. 2-2 #COYH

77' GOAL TO THE HATTERS! Corner from Howells converted by substitute Miller #COYH

80' Ten to go in this thrilling cup tie. Hatters in front for a third time. Can they hold onto the lead this time? #COYH

86' It's another one to the HATTERS! Jake Howells sends a left-footed shot low into the bottom right hand corner. Luton 4-2 up #COYH

87' GREAT SAVE TYLER. Palms a shot from O'Connor narrowly over the bar #COYH

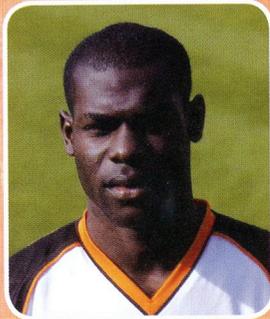
FT Hatters 4 Newport County 2. The Town go through to the next round of the FA Cup #COYH

Town keep up their unbeaten record against Newport on home soil with this afternoon's 4-2 win (W 20, D 8) #COYH

Enoch

HE MADE HIS NAME AT KENILWORTH ROAD PLAYING FOR EXPENSES BEFORE GOING ONTO TERRORISE DEFENCES FOR A NUMBER OF CLUBS. ENOCH SHOWUNMI TELLS HIS STORY TO TALK OF THE TOWN.

Enoch Showunmi was a teenager at University studying business when he told his friends the three things he wanted to achieve in life: become a professional footballer, play for Nigeria, and have Barcelona bid for him by the time he turned 28.



in administration and under a transfer embargo. It meant that Enoch was only paid expenses, and his first foray into the world of professional football consisted of him travelling to and from London every day. It was something that began to take its toll.

"It was a bit of culture shock joining Luton though full-time," admits Showunmi. "Previously I was training once a week and playing on a Saturday and now all of a sudden I was training every day. At the beginning I was

jumping on trains, coming to training, going home again, eating, sleeping and then waking up to do it all over again the following day. I was knackered. All I seemed to be doing for the first few weeks was getting the train.

"A week after I graduated I was due to start a job with o2 but I had to tell them I couldn't take it because I was off to train with Luton Town. The job was lined up but I never took it.

"I remember telling Brian Stein that I might have to stop coming because I couldn't afford to be getting the train every day. Eventually the club agreed to pay my expenses, which was working out at about £40 a week. I signed on non-contract terms, all that I took home was expenses.

"I was a bit down and I did think about packing it in. I kept thinking 'do Luton want me?' But I just kept coming for training until they said 'don't come any more', but they didn't."

With the Town down to the 'bares bones', to quote Newell himself, Enoch was unexpectedly given his professional debut in the Town's Division 2 (now League 1) match at Plymouth on 13th September. It didn't go well...

"I remember my debut because I was taken off in the first half because the referee said he was going to send

me off otherwise," explains Enoch. "I kept going into challenges too quickly. I wasn't used to the speed of the game.

"It took a bit of time for me to get confident about my ability but playing in that game, and because Mike Newell showed trust in me gave me confidence, as did training every day with senior pros.

"But looking back I don't think I was really ready for that Plymouth game. I was told the day before that I was playing because there were a few players out injured. I was well and truly thrown in at the deep end. That game gave me an idea of where I needed to get up to in terms of fitting in."

If anything Showunmi's infamous debut raised his profile and it wasn't long before his story of playing for nothing in a bid to win a contract began to pull on the heart strings of the Hatters faithful.

A group of supporters began an online website named Enoch's Army, and soon Showunmi was having to cope with his new-found fame.

"Enoch's Army was funny," he laughs. "It boosted my confidence massively, especially on the pitch, knowing that I was getting the support. It felt a bit strange at the time because I was new and nobody had heard much about me.

"In all honesty I didn't think I deserved the support I got because I hadn't done anything. I remember one day walking back to the train station after a game and I was approached by a guy who asked me if I could come to the pub for a drink.

"I met the people behind the website and thanked them for their support. I was still getting used to people recognising me and but I knew there was plenty of work to do so I kept knuckling down and trying to improve."

And improve he did. When February came around, as the Hatters began to eye a place in the Play-Offs, Showunmi's performances were the talk of the town.

ENOCH IN NUMBERS

- 114 GAMES FOR LUTON
- 16 GOALS FOR LUTON
- 1 HAT-TRICK
- 8 CLUBS
- 379 CAREER APPEARANCES
- 64 CAREER GOALS

THE BIG INTERVIEW



Enoch celebrates his winner at Bristol City

A hat-trick during the 4-1 win over Brentford on 21st would properly change his life.

"The defining moment of my career came after I scored that hat-trick," Enoch says. "I will never forget it. "At the time Luton were in administration and they got special dispensation to sign me. February was a big month, I remember coming off the bench against Stockport, and starting against Brighton and setting up two goals in that match which really boosted my confidence. After the hat-trick I was offered a contract and that was a moment in time that defined by life, I was now a professional footballer."

That season saw the Town finish in 10th place with Enoch scoring eight goals in all competitions, but the following season saw the Hatters romp to the League 1 title.

However, despite the champagne moments, the 2004/05 campaign – his first full season as a professional – was a tough campaign for Showunmi, even though he will be best remembered for the crucial late winning goals in three victories away from home at Bristol City, Chesterfield and Bournemouth. ▶▶▶

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Enoch hits the late winner at Bournemouth in 2005

"I came back at the start of that season after earning two caps for Nigeria and felt I should be able to push on and establish myself," says Enoch. "But I was soon a bit deflated because a week before the season started Mike Newell signed Rowan Vine on loan for the season.

"I thought it was the time for me to break into the side but I had to be happy with a place in the squad and I was used a lot as a substitute. I didn't play enough but when I did, I felt I did well.

"We started the season so well it was really difficult to break into the team and we went onto have a fantastic season.

"Happily for me I was contributing when called upon, and I learned that season that football was not all about individual success, and learned the importance of the success for the team as a whole.

"The promotion season saw me score some vital goals and it was great to be a part of. I came off the bench a lot, and I always felt as though I was improving. I think coming on as a substitute meant that the manager trusted me a lot and that did give me something to be proud of. That was part of the manager's plan, to perhaps give me 20 minutes at the end to go and get the winner."

Promotion in 2005 meant the Town and Enoch were now rubbing shoulders with the likes of Leeds, Crystal Palace and Southampton in the Championship.

However, the frontman's third season with the Hatters saw him used 27 times as a substitute and it was time for Showunmi to move on.

"At the end of the first season in the Championship I thought that I now needed to be playing regularly in a first team somewhere," he says. "I looked at Steve Howard as an example because he was a regular goalscorer.

"My game had changed, and improved, and over the two years I felt that I had adapted well as a striker.

"When I was spotted for Luton I was a central midfielder so I always retained the mentality as a midfielder in that I had to set up goals rather than score them which was new for me.

"I think I had gradually grown into that striker's mindset. My height and presence always meant that I was used as a target man, certainly later in my career."

After leaving Kenilworth Road, Enoch took in spells with Bristol City, Leeds United, Falkirk, Notts County and two seasons with today's visitors Tranmere.

"I enjoyed my time at Tranmere. I captained the team for a while, scored a few goals and was player of the year there."

These days, however, Enoch is enjoying investing his time in what he knows best: money and finance, while he currently remains on the books at Conference South side Wealdstone.

His story of opportunity is something he is keen to pass on to the younger generation – and his affection for the Hatters for giving him that chance is something that will never leave him.

"I know that it takes a lot to be a professional. You have to make a lot of sacrifices. Some people don't have the right attitude," says Showunmi. "It was a long road to turn pro but worth it.

"Having spent the time I did at Luton I always look back at my time there and look out for their results.

"I was proud to have played for Luton and I'm pleased they are now back in the Football League and doing well. I've never been back since, but would love to return one day."

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reaction

BENSON OFF THE MARK THIS SEASON



Paul Benson opened his goalscoring account for the season after the Town progressed through to the second round of the FA Cup with victory over Newport County.

The Hatters emerged as 4-2 winners and Benson netted his first goal of the campaign on the 58th minute after bundling his effort over the line.

"It's really pleasing for me to get my first goal of the season," Benson said. "I'm glad that we got the win first and foremost but scoring when you win is an added bonus. Hopefully I can continue to contribute more goals to the team."

Benson was alert to find his first goal of the season after Mark Cullen's effort was parried. The striker was in the right place at the right time to nod home from five yards out.

"I like to score my goals by being in the right position when the chances come," Benson told Hatters Player.

"I don't tend to score 30 yard screamers, I'll leave that to Luke Guttridge and I'll score the ones from two yards out."

The striker admitted that it has been frustrating to have not found the back of the net on a regular basis this season, despite scoring goals regularly when featuring for the development side.

"It's always frustrating when you're not in and amongst the goals," said the former Dagenham man. "I don't think there is a forward who wouldn't be frustrated if he wasn't scoring goals. You can work hard as a striker but at the end of the day you're in the team to score goals."

"It's frustrating that I haven't been able to contribute goals to the team but I have to keep being positive and work hard until the goals come, hopefully today is the start of that."

Pressure

Benson believes that it is time for the rest of the strikers at the club to start chipping in with more goals in order to take the pressure off leading goalscorer Mark Cullen, who has eight league goals to his name this season.

"Hopefully we can all start chipping in and helping out Cullen," said Benson, who netted 18 goals for the Town last term. "For the first three or four months he's been doing it all on his own so it would be nice for the rest of us to contribute."

The victory over the Exiles stretches the Town's unbeaten run to six games in all competitions, a record which Benson is delighted and hopes it will continue much longer.

"It's going in the right direction for us," said the forward. "We made a couple of changes formation and personnel-wise against Newport and still came away with a victory, winning is a good habit to have and hopefully it can continue."

BENSON IN NUMBERS

- 18 goals last term
- His goal v Newport ended run of 17 games without one
- Two of his 19 goals for the Town have come in the FA Cup

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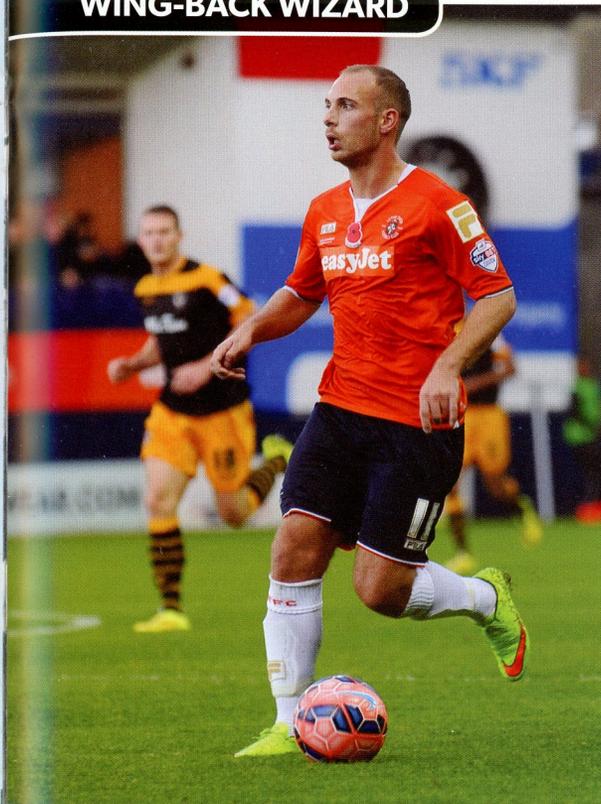
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reaction

WING-BACK WIZARD



Jake Howells was on hand to wrap up the tie following a superb solo goal which secured the Hatters' place in the second round of the FA Cup at the hands of Newport County last Saturday.

The midfielder skipped past numerous challenges before driving the ball low and hard into the net to send the Hatters through to the second round of the FA Cup with a 4-2 victory.

Howells was understandably thrilled that the Town progressed in the competition and was pleased with how his side performed on the day.

"As a team we showed very good resilience," Howells told Hatters Player. "Newport came back into the game on two occasions.

"That's football for you but we showed very good character to go on and score four goals which won us the game."

The midfielder was part of the side that progressed to the fifth round of the FA Cup under manager Paul Buckle. During the cup run the Hatters defeated sides such as Wolves and Norwich to progress further in the competition, in the end the magnificent run fell short with a defeat to Millwall in the fifth round.

Howells admitted that the clash against Newport was just as good of a tie as previous FA Cup encounters he has featured in.

"It was a good tie," said the midfielder. "If that's the way all the games are going to be then I'll be happy, especially if we win. We are in the hat for the next round and hopefully we can progress even further."

Howells featured in a slightly different position during the tie, as he was able to play as a left-wing back to great effect in the victory, scoring a vital goal for his side along the way.

Proven

"It's a new position for me but it's not unfamiliar to me," Howells said. "I think it suits me as I can play as a left-back and a winger so it's in the middle. Both the gaffer and myself feel I can do a job there and I think I have proven that."

The 23-year-old was unfortunate not to have had an assist to his name as well as a goal, when his cross found Benson's head but for the striker to narrowly miss out.

"It was unlucky," said Howells. "It was a great ball from Guttridge to play me in and I found Benson's head but he was unlucky to put it just past the post. We created enough chances to score a lot more goals but we got four and more importantly got the win."

Howells admitted that it hasn't been an easy ride for himself this campaign, having been kept out through a number of injuries and illnesses adding to the frustration of not finding many goals.

"I've had quite a hard time," Howells told Hatters Player. "I've missed quite a lot of games through illness and picking up little injuries here and there. Everything seems to be going wrong for me and it meant a lot for me to score a goal."



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DUO ON MONTHLY PRIZE



Striker Mark Cullen says he will work even harder in his bid to fire the Town to glory season after scooping two awards following his performances in October.

The 22-year-old won the Sky Bet League 2 Player of the Month for October, and an award from the Professional Footballers' Association in a vote polled by supporters online.

Cullen, who struck five goals in four games last month – including the 'perfect' hat-trick against Dagenham & Redbridge – was understandably delighted to be recognised.

"I'm over the moon," said the former Hull forward. "I didn't really expect it to be honest, but it's pleasing to be rewarded individually after such a good month.

"I always knew I could make the step-up and I think I've now shown I can capable of scoring goals at this level.

"Now it's up to me to continue it. I'll work harder. I want more personal success and team success."

Cullen was joined in the monthly honours by his manager, as John Still scooped the Sky Bet manager of the month award to as the Town triumphed in every single League 2 fixture 1 October.

"Whenever you win anything it matters, of course it does, but I'm not stupid, that award is for the players, for the staff, because we all worked together," the boss said on his award.

"Winning an award means you've done okay, and we've done okay. We had a great month, so I'm really, really pleased for everybody.

Delighted

"I'm absolutely delighted and let's hope we have another good month."

And the manager had praise for Cullen on his double award.

Still said: "It's an award that is so, so well accepted by everyone here for everything that he's done – not just for the goals he's scored, but his team ethic has been terrific.

"So everyone is absolutely delighted, they really are."
"But will the awards be a jinx for the Town going into this afternoon's game?"

"I don't believe in all that," said Still. "I've won manager of the month before and won the next game; I've won it before and lost the next game.

"It immaterial – as long as we do things the right way then we have nothing to worry about."

centre spot



Paul Benson nods home his first goal of the season to put the Town back in front against Newport during last Saturday's 4-2 FA Cup win

PICTURE THE PAST

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

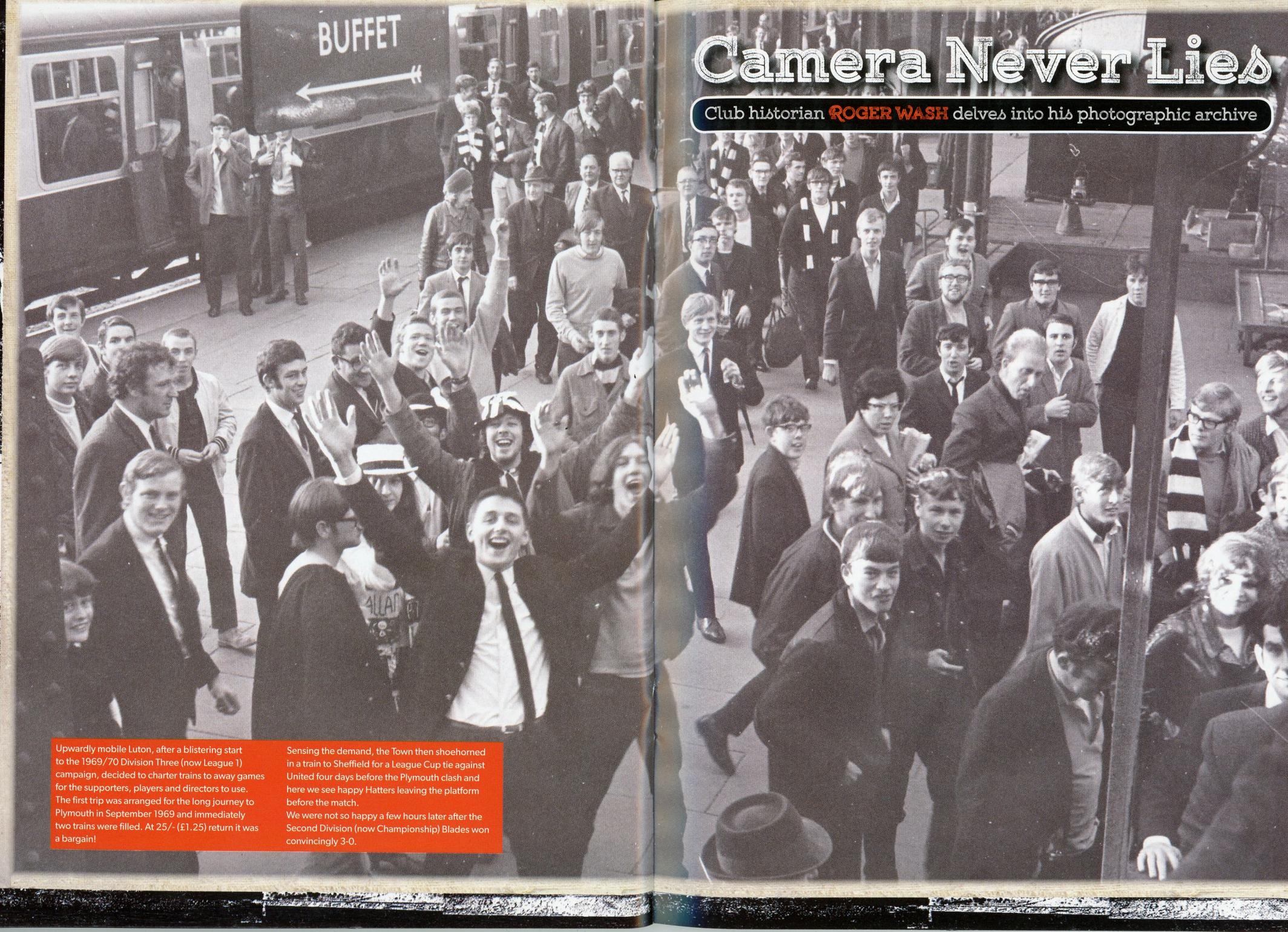


Reserve goalkeeper Dino Seremet, making his full league debut, saves Ryan Taylor's penalty at Tranmere in October 2004 only for the Rovers man to net from the rebound. Unbeaten Town, on their way to the championship of League 1, had conceded a penalty when Taylor was brought down by Curtis Davies.

With Taylor off the pitch receiving treatment, Iain Hume saw his spot-kick saved but a re-take was ordered as Seremet was judged to be off his line. Taylor returned to take the second kick much to the annoyance of the Hatters players. Justice was restored when Chris Coyne headed a leveller after 76 minutes.

Camera Never Lies

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



Upwardly mobile Luton, after a blistering start to the 1969/70 Division Three (now League 1) campaign, decided to charter trains to away games for the supporters, players and directors to use. The first trip was arranged for the long journey to Plymouth in September 1969 and immediately two trains were filled. At 25/- (£1.25) return it was a bargain!

Sensing the demand, the Town then shoehorned in a train to Sheffield for a League Cup tie against United four days before the Plymouth clash and here we see happy Hatters leaving the platform before the match. We were not so happy a few hours later after the Second Division (now Championship) Blades won convincingly 3-0.

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Hans Menasse

THE AUSTRIAN STANLEY MATTHEWS

When the Town were crowned champions last season a former Austrian international striker with a link to Kenilworth Road was one of the first people to send his congratulations. Talk of the Town travelled to Vienna in the summer to hear Hans Menasse's fascinating story.

The ambience of the café in a bustling Viennese street was typically Austrian; the sideshow of begrudging service played second fiddle to the sweet scent of cakes and coffee that filled the room.

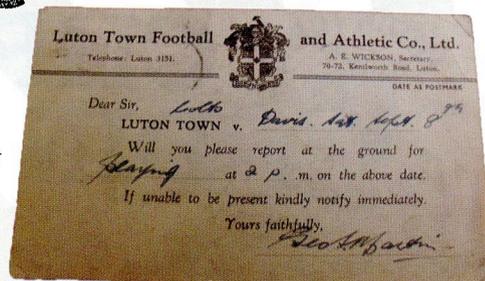
And on this unusual occasion, the locals' summer air would have an altogether different sound, as two men talked fluently in English about football and, poignantly so, war.

Hans Menasse is 84. He, along with his brother Kurt, was one of nearly 10,000 children from predominately Jewish families from Austria, Germany, Poland and Czechoslovakia that were placed into English foster homes as part of the *Kindertransport* rescue mission that took place nine months prior to the outbreak of the Second World War.

His association with Luton Town and the story of his journey from Vienna to Bedfordshire as an eight-year-old came to light at Kenilworth Road just days after the Hatters lifted the Conference trophy when he sent the Town's top brass a congratulatory email.

For Hans, the link with Luton first began in September 1938. As part of the *Kindertransport* operation, Hans and his brother were shipped across the English Channel to Harwich but, after the pair were split following Hans' short bout of scarlet fever, Hans moved to Chiltern Road in Dunstable where he would live with the Cooks, his English Foster family.

Hans had already kicked a football around the streets of Vienna in his youth, and with



English boys' staunch love of the game just as strong, he was soon playing regularly for the Pioneer Boys' Club in Dunstable.

"Menasse played his usual good game and scored three goals," one local newspaper printed rather modestly in its sports section, which detailed reports and results from the youth fixtures from around Bedfordshire.

Exploits

The headlines from the newspaper clipping that Hans had kept, and treasured, spoke for themselves and soon the Austrian boy's exploits for the Pioneers were making more headlines. And that's what led to four matches for the Luton Town Colts as a 16-year-old – the equivalent of the modern day youth team.

"I don't remember the games, only the fact that I didn't play very well," explained Hans as he continued to sift

through his cherished clippings.

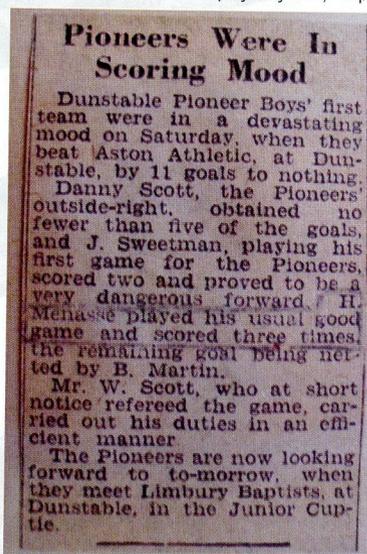
"I didn't score and it was a rather unusual experience.

"We were told to turn up at 2.30pm at the main ground and we'd be off somewhere to play. I didn't know any of the other players and they didn't know each other either.

"Everyone plays badly every now and then but all I can remember was that I didn't play well and that we didn't win.

"It was tough to make an impression but I had no regrets."

The young Menasse might have thought he hadn't made much of an impact, but the Town boss at the time, George Martin, certainly believed he had seen a player with star quality.



Dunstable Pioneer Boys' Club football team, photographed before the Beds Minor Cup final, which they lost to Bedford Corinthians by 3-2 on Luton Town Ground. Left to right, back row: R. Stevens, A. Grogan, N. Warwick, H. Morris, D. Simmons, A. Bowers (manager), H. Newsom (trainer). Centre row: D. Furnell, D. Horne, B. Martin. Front: D. Haley, H. Menasse, D. Scott, T. Groom, H. Johnson. 1907/8

Martin, who was in charge at Kenilworth Road between 1944 and 1947, wrote to Hans in a letter. It contained glowing reference.

It read: "I'm sorry you are leaving, as you showed great promise and were one of the few players that showed great football intelligence. If you ever come back just ask the doorman that George Martin sent you."

However, in those days young players from overseas were never allowed to be taken on by professional clubs but Hans, despite his own self-deprecation of his performances in Luton colours, was still impressing enough to warrant trials with Derby and Arsenal.

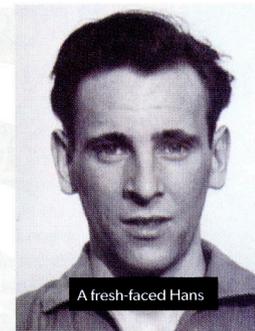
Epic

Meanwhile, he remained in Dunstable and continued to play for the Colts. All of a sudden he vividly recalled the time the Town beat Newcastle United in an epic encounter in front of 25,000 at Kenilworth Road in September 1946.

"I went to see Luton several times," Hans remembers. "In one game Luton trailed 3-0 but won 4-3, it was an amazing match. I remember a prolific striker named Hugh Billington, and whenever I came to watch Luton he seemed to score." Our attentions turned to Menasse's return to Austria, a time when he came back to the Viennese playgrounds as a 17-year-old, and where his football career would go on to flourish.

But before going on to enjoy the stardom of professional football came the realisation that he could return home an orphan as a result of the conflict.

"My parents could have been killed," says Hans. "I would have never have known. When I left it was like an adventure.



A fresh-faced Hans

"When I returned home my parents were both alive, thank god, but life was much different.

"My sister had died of pneumonia aged 21 in Canada and my parents would never talk about the effects the war had on our family. My father was Jewish, but my mother was Catholic. The Nazis would ask my mother to divorce my father – if they had done he would have been sent immediately to a concentration camp. It was a terrible, unimaginable time, especially for my parents.

Tough

"Vienna was a tough place to live. My brother joined the British Army and the first time he saw my parents he arrived dressed in British Army Uniform. He helped them with food – cans of meat, coffee, sugar – anything to help

because it was difficult in Vienna to get those kinds of things."

Football was Hans' release – it was what he knew. But first he had to learn to speak his mother tongue again.

"I returned to Vienna and couldn't speak a word of German!" laughs Hans. "I came back and I had no idea how good at football I was, I just played. Nobody knew

how I was playing in England but within three years, and at the age of 20, I was in the First Vienna starting XI.

"I came through the youth ranks and the game was so different to the English game. Every match I saw in England it was all kick and rush – playing the long ball to a big centre-forward. That style of play never suited me, but in Austria it was different.

"In Vienna the style was so-called *Wiener Schule*, it was football played on the ground with a passing game that suited me much better."

Enjoying his football with First Vienna – who he helped win the Austrian league title in 1955 – his performances alerted the attentions of the national team. Hans had forged a reputation as a fleet-footed outside right and the first of two caps for Austria came in 1953 – against none other than the then mighty Hungary, who included, in their team, Ferenc Puskas, arguably the greatest player of his generation.

"I only placed twice for Austria, unfortunately," says Hans, melancholically. "Before the World Cup of 1954 I came ill.

"We once played Hungary in a training game and lost 5-3. That was 60 years ago but it was reported that Puskas said I was the best player on the pitch!" ▶▶▶



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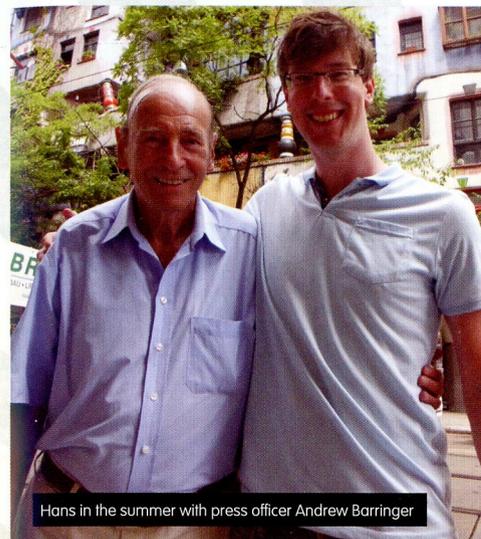
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Hans in the summer with press officer Andrew Barringer

Hans returned to England whilst still a player with First Vienna, playing against Sunderland, Burnley and Wolves – at which point he was likened to a certain Stanley Matthews.

"In the friendly at Wolves I was playing on the right wing. I was quite fast and liked to dribble past players and I remember one of their supporters shouting 'he plays like Stanley Matthews!' It was a big compliment."

Career

Matthews went on to play until his 50s. That wasn't quite the age in which Hans ended his career, which included a spell with Austria Vienna, where he would go on and become a director for the best part of a decade.

Those halcyon football days are times you can tell Hans still dreams and longs to be a part of. With his bright blue eyes, sharp footballers' wit and spring in his step, you could almost imagine the octogenarian running rings round League 2 defences if he got half a chance.

Instead, Hans settles for a seat in front of his computer and the opportunity to reconnect with the world; on and off the pitch – at home and at Kenilworth Road.

Aghast

And, one day, when he switched on his shiny new computer, he was aghast. The Hatters were no longer the top-flight club that he had left behind for Vienna in the mid-1940s.

"When I left Luton they were one of the top clubs in England," he says. "All of a sudden I turned on the computer and I realised they were in the fifth league."

The exclaimed look of astonishment was probably one we all shared back in 2008. "What happened?" Hans asked. Well that is a story for another day...

But, comfotingly and unbeknownst to us, Hans followed the fortunes of the Hatters over the past four seasons.

"Points deductions and losing in the Play-Offs twice, beating Norwich in the cup," reeled off Hans, enthusiastically, impressively.

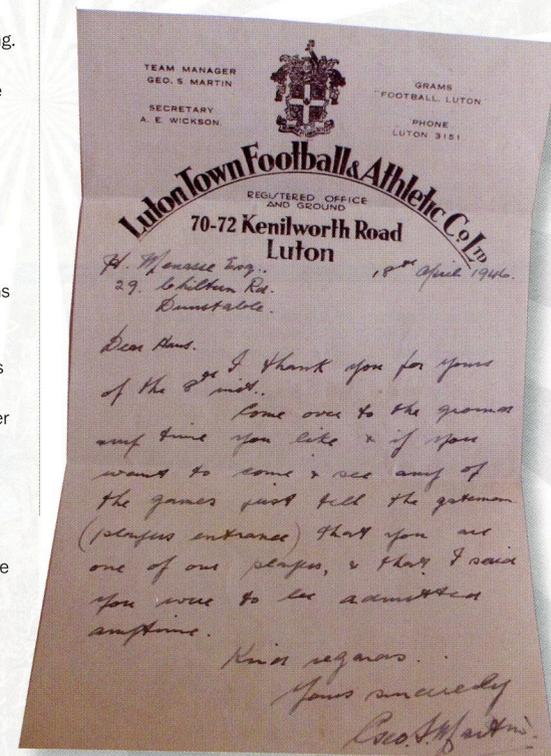
Congratulations

"I thought they were never going to get up, but when I saw that they were promoted last season I just had to get in contact to offer my congratulations. I told the club that I was probably the only supporter of Luton Town on the continent but was told there are supporters in Italy and Scandinavia.

"I eagerly await the results every week."

Hans admits that he does want to return to Kenilworth Road one day – he did a bad job of secretly admitting he hopes the Town secure another promotion this season and use it as an excuse to make it over to England for any celebrations.

And if he does, you'll be sure he'll be clutching that letter from George Martin – and don't be surprised if he brings his boots either.



Youth Team & Development

FIXTURES & RESULTS

YOUTH

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	STARTING XI
AUGUST					
Sat 2	11.00am	H	Milton Keynes Dons	W 3-1	King
Tue 12	12 noon	A	AFC Bournemouth (LC)	W 2-1	King
Sat 16	11.00am	H	Stevenage	D 1-1	King
Wed 20	11.00am	H	Cambridge United	W 2-0	King
Sat 23	10.30am	A	Dagenham & Redbridge	W 5-0	King
Sat 30	11.00am	H	Watford	W 3-0	King
SEPTEMBER					
Tue 2	12 noon	A	Dagenham & Redbridge (LC)	L 1-3	King
Sat 6	10.30am	A	Barnet	L 2-4	King
Sat 20	11.00am	H	Northampton Town	D 1-1	King
Sat 27	10.30am	A	AFC Wimbledon	D 1-1	King
OCTOBER					
Sat 4	11.00am	H	Southend United	D 1-1	King
Sat 11	10.30am	A	Leyton Orient	W 2-0	Gooch
Sat 18	11.00am	H	Gillingham	W 4-0	King
Sat 25	11.00am	H	Dagenham & Redbridge	W 4-2	Gooch
NOVEMBER					
Sat 1	11.00am	A	Cambridge United	W 4-3	King
Tue 4	7.30pm	H	Didcot Town (FAYC1)	W 4-1	King
Sat 8	11.00am	H	Barnet	L 0-5	Gooch
Sat 15	10.30am	A	Watford		
Tue 18	7.30pm	A	Oxford City (FAYC2)		
Sat 22	11.00am	A	Northampton Town		
Sat 29	11.00am	H	Peterborough United		
DECEMBER					
Sat 6	11.00am	A	Southend United		
Sat 13	11.00am	H	AFC Wimbledon		
Sat 20	11.00am	A	Gillingham		
JANUARY					
Tue 6	11.00am	H	Leyton Orient		
Sat 10	11.00am	A	Milton Keynes Dons		
Sat 24	11.00am	A	Stevenage		
TBA			Peterborough United		

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	STARTING XI
SEPTEMBER					
Tue 9	1pm	H	AFC Bournemouth	W 5-0	Justham
Tue 23	2pm	A	Portsmouth	D 2-2	Justham
Tue 30	1pm	H	Gillingham (Cup)	W 5-2	Justham
OCTOBER					
Tue 28	1pm	H	Peterborough United	W 4-0	Justham
NOVEMBER					
Tue 18	1pm	A	Cambridge United		
Tue 25	1pm	H	Leyton Orient		
DECEMBER					
Tue 2	1pm	H	AFC Wimbledon		
Tue 9	TBA	TBA	AFC Wimbledon (Cup)		
JANUARY					
Tue 6	1pm	A	AFC Bournemouth		
Tue 13	1pm	H	Brighton (Cup)		
Tue 20	1pm	H	Gillingham		
Tue 27	1pm	H	Milton Keynes Dons (Cup)		
FEBRUARY					
Tue 3	1pm	A	Peterborough United		
Tue 24	1pm	A	Leyton Orient		
MARCH					
Tue 10	1pm	H	Cambridge United		
Mon 23	7pm	A	AFC Wimbledon		
Tue 31	1pm	H	Portsmouth		
TBA		A	Gillingham		
TBA			Cambridge United (Cup)		

DEV SQUAD THROUGH TO QUARTER-FINALS

A Hatters development squad booked their place in the quarter-finals of the Beds Senior Cup with a penalty shootout victory over Dunstable Town on Tuesday night.

The game itself ended 1-1 with the Hatters coming from behind to equalise thanks to Ricky Miller's shot on the turn just before half-time.

The Hatters began on the front foot with Charlie Walker, Charlie Smith, Miller and Luke Rooney having shots blocked in the opening 15 minutes.

SUBS

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community

WITH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER JAMES HATCH

HATTERS LAUNCH DISABILITY FOOTBALL TEAMS WITH LUTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

There was a special event at the Club's training ground last week with the official launch of our two local Luton Town men's disability football teams as part of a campaign to raise awareness of disability sport and the opportunities available for those who take part.

The two teams had a unique opportunity to watch the first team train before taking part in a game with the players and meeting John Still and Terry Harris for lots of autographs and photographs.

The Community Trust has been working in partnership with the Council's New Horizons project to form the teams which is a Luton Borough Council-led scheme which supports adults with learning disabilities to meet their full potential and develop independence skills through work, training and leisure opportunities. The scheme aims to ensure that adults with learning disabilities are able to live fulfilling lives and make a positive contribution to their communities. The two football teams have been formed with people on the scheme and will be known as the 'Hatters' and the 'Boaters'.

Disability football is a growing sport and the two New Horizons teams will play all of their games in official Luton Town kit donated by the Club and Kevin Thoburn, Head of the Community Trust, said: "We want to raise awareness of disability football in Luton as it's a sport which is growing in popularity across the UK.



"We have been fortunate enough to get to know the players really well over the last few weeks and are really impressed with their enthusiasm and commitment. The launch day was a huge success and we are all looking forward to more exciting games during the season."

Cllr Mahmood Hussain, Portfolio Holder for adult social care, said: "It is vital that all members of our community have the opportunity to participate in sport and we are delighted that Luton Town Football Club has been able to offer a pathway into regular football for adults with learning disabilities.

"We are committed to increasing the numbers of disabled people participating in sport which is so beneficial to their health and wellbeing; and having full support from Luton Town sends a very positive message to the whole community."

If you have a learning disability or know someone who has and they are interested in joining our new teams, then please call us direct at the community office on 01582 737568. The staff at New Horizons and our community coaches will be happy to welcome any new players into the team.

(TIPS) TALENT IDENTIFICATION PROGRAMME 2014/15

Last week we held our trial assessment games for over 175 eager young footballers who are now coming to the end of their first nine-week Term 1 training programme.



It was cold and very wet at times but there was lots of talent on display from the boys who are all looking to progress to our centres of excellence in Luton and Dunstable and from there ultimately to our youth academy. Our TIPs programme continues to be our most effective recruitment tool for the academy through all age groups from under-7s to under-16 and our latest recruit, under-16 Kit Brown from Hitchin, having been signed by the academy, is hoping to graduate from TIPs to scholar in just under a year! Good luck Kit!

Next week we start our Term 2 search for young talent through the TIPs coaching programme at our 12 regional football development centres. They are open to all youngsters aged from school year 2 up to year 11 and are open to all abilities. Whether you are an ambitious player wanting to progress towards becoming a professional, or a new-comer wanting to develop the basics, the programme has something to offer you.

The Club's youth section prides itself on the high calibre of its coaching team and by signing up you will receive the same standard of coaching that has helped produce players such as Curtis Davies, Leon Barnett, Kevin Foley, Matthew Taylor and Jack Wilshire. No other football club in our region can claim the same level of success in terms of youth development, which has seen four England youth Internationals in the last three years: Dave Moli, Cauley Woodrow, Jay DaSilva and Lewis Baker. In addition, over 70 players in the last five years have been signed by our Academy through our TIPs programme.

The cost is £45 per term, which includes nine practical sessions and one assessment. In addition to the trial match, players will receive a report on their personal development during the nine-week programme and if your coach feels you have shown the right levels of ability and attitude during the term you will be given the opportunity to progress to the centre of excellence/pre-Academy. Players who display talent can be moved through the

programme after only a few weeks if appropriate. Our Venues are Luton, Bedford, Biggleswade, Dunstable, Flitwick/Amptill, Shefford, Harpenden, Hitchin, Kempston, Leighton Buzzard, Bletchley and St Albans and if you want further details you can either download our TIPs leaflet from the main website at www.lutontown.co.uk or to book a place from next week you can simply email tips.lfcd@hotmail.co.uk or call us direct at the Community office on 01582 737568.

KINDER+SPORT UNDER-13 GIRLS SIX-A-SIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP

The chance to play at Wembley Stadium really hots up today with our half-time final between the two winning semi-finalists from our girls' tournament held yesterday afternoon at Redbourne Upper School in Amptill.

Sixteen very enthusiastic teams from Luton and Bedfordshire took part in the Football League Kinder+Sport Girls' Cup competition which is a national six-a-side competition for Under-13 girls that culminates in a grand final prior to the Johnstone's Paint Trophy Final (done that!) at Wembley Stadium in March.

Before that, today's winners then proceed to an area final to play the winning school from Charlton Athletic, Dagenham, Leyton Orient, Millwall, Southend, Gillingham and Watford with the overall winners proceeding to a regional North v South final with the eventual final to be played at Wembley Stadium before the Johnstone's Paint Trophy Final on Sunday 22nd March. So good luck today girls.

By the way, today's talented girls will not be the only girls team we may be cheering on at Wembley. The year 11 girls' team from Barnfield South Academy have gained a place

in the Football League's Female Football Development (FFD) plan tournament at Wembley Stadium before the upcoming England versus Scotland Women's International game. The girls will be representing the Hatters on the day and have been receiving coaching over the last few weeks from super community coach, Matty Collett - so good luck girls, have a great day out - no pressure - that's all on Matt!



easyJet



Youth Team Sponsors

H: HOME | A: AWAY

 <p>OSAMU ALLMAN H: Machins Solicitors A: Available</p>	 <p>ALEX ATKINSON H: Available A: Available</p>	 <p>GEO CRAIG H: Available A: Available</p>	 <p>KYRAN MCGHAN-GEORGE H: Available A: Available</p>
 <p>EKENE AMADI H: Available A: Available</p>	 <p>LIAM GOOCH H: P.J.R. Bacon Builders A: Available</p>	 <p>FRANKIE MUSONDA H: Available A: Available</p>	 <p>ISAAC GALLIFORD H: Available A: Available</p>
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BUILDING THE FOUNDATION OF FOOTBALL

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



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BY ROSS O'KANE FOUNDATION PHASE LEAD COACH

Last Saturday, 8th November saw our under-7s and under-8s host Southampton Football Club. These games are excellent to see the skills learnt in training over the week and months transferred into 'the game'.

A really important aspect of what we do as a club is create the environment for players to be innovative and creative and not feel under pressure to get everything right straight away. Having said that all our players showed great bravery and courage on the ball in tight areas and expressed their personalities on the pitch while effecting the game.

Attitude

Ball mastery and learning to love the game in the foundation phase is our main agenda. We look to develop a positive attitude on the ball working on close control ball manipulation and face to face/side to side skills that can create space or lose a defender.

When out of possession players must work hard to regain possession. These traits are what makes an academy player at the end of the under-8s season.

In addition, our under-10s went down to play Futsal against Queens Park Rangers on the Saturday and continued to be individually creative.

We have further games lined up against Arsenal and Chelsea in the coming weeks which I know all the players are eagerly anticipating as it's a great chance to play against Category 1 clubs.

For more information about the Hatters' academy, check out the newly-update Academy section, which gives insight to the Academy's philosophy, culture, values and vision. Visit www.lutontown.co.uk/team/academy



THE ACADemy



Luton Ladies

The Town Ladies' were involved in a five-goal thriller with Enfield Town but this time came out on the wrong side going down 3-2 to their visitors.

Luton looked the more likely to open the scoring during the first half but were guilty of missing good opportunities as Zara Carroll and Rebecca Kane narrowly missed the target.

However, it was the visitors who took the lead through a direct inswinging free-kick that dipped just under the crossbar. Town were rocked by the reverse but things got worse in the 40th minute when a corner was bundled in off an Enfield player's shoulder to put Town two goals down at the break.

Town came out for the second half all guns blazing but were unable to just get the final shot off or the final pass just kept going astray. Luton were presented with an opportunity to get back in the game when Zara Carroll was pulled down in the box but Erica Byron's penalty struck the foot of the post and as the ball rebounded to her she tucked the ball into the net only to have the goal ruled out as no other player had touched the ball.

The Hatters then laid siege to the Enfield goal and a cross from Jael Muzzi was met at the far post by Lilley Coleman making her first team debut and her first touch almost resulted in the elusive goal but the Enfield keeper dived to her left to claw her header out.

The Town kept pressing and the goal finally arrived when Rebecca Kane went on a mazy run beating two players before tucking the ball away into the bottom corner.

The much-deserved equaliser finally arrived in the 90th minute when Kane was brought down through on goal and the referee again pointed to the spot. This time there was no mistake as Carroll smashed the ball into the bottom corner.

There looked to be only one winner but the visitors turned the tables when a long cross-field ball was tucked away on the volley to break Town's hearts. There was still time for one further chance as Kane tested the Enfield keeper but a desperate challenge was just enough to put her off.

Manager Nikki Baker told Talk of the Town: "It is a disappointing result but there were some real plusses with three more players making their first team league debuts, and it really was a spirited fight back.

"We will continue to work on cutting out the silly mistakes at both ends and I'm certain that this group of players are capable of great things in the next 18 months."

The reserves were also out of luck going down 2-1 to Fulham in a disappointing performance where Henry Horsler scored Town's goal.

The Under-16s took part in a 10-goal old style shootout with rivals AFC Kempston.

A superb first half hat-trick from Town's Phoebe Brown put Luton in control with a 4-2 half-time lead with Chloe Fitzsimmons also on target. The visitors pulled level in the second half but a deadly strike from Brown restored the lead and a further strike from Fitzsimmons rounded off a superb spectacle of attacking football to round off a 6-4 win.



For more information on the Ladies visit www.lutontownladiesfc.co.uk

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THE SOCIAL NETWORK

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As you may have read across pages 28-31, Enoch Showunmi relished his chance to break into the professional game with the Hatters as a raw, unknown 21-year-old almost a decade ago.

The striker has plenty of memories during his time with the Town but what we also wanted to know was what your favourite moments of Enoch were. So we asked our Facebook and Twitter followers and here's what they said...

- James Croft** @James_Egg_Croft
@LutonTown Boxing Day 2004, Late winner at Chesterfield. Pandemonium in the wooden shack of an away end.
- Steven Manfredi** @sman3d
@LutonTown debut at Plymouth, subbed off before sent off, and the winner at Bristol City, was pretty much when I knew we'd win the league
- Graham Taylor** @GPATaylor
@LutonTown Bristol city away 2004. Late winner. Celebrated by spending the small hours in a hot tub in Swindon @amcgrath10
- Lewis Blenkin** @bulablenks
@LutonTown Enoch's late winner at Bournemouth after being down to ten men after Russell Perrett's first half red #EnochTheDaddy
- Julian O'Dell** @agencytrainer
@LutonTown Late winner v Bournemouth. Magic moment.
- Scott Clark** @ScottLTFC_
@LutonTown Bristol City away on the 18th December 2004. Enoch scored the winner in the 90th minute, which earned us a 2-1 away win.
- Dave O'Flanagan** @LTFC_Dave
@LutonTown Trying not to laugh at the pronunciation of his name by PA operators at away games, and Jeff Stelling on Sky Sports etc
- Matt Storey** @StoreyMatt
@LutonTown late equaliser at QPR in my first ever away game as a 9 year old! #enoch #enoch

- Richard Hardy** @richyhardy
@LutonTown Bournemouth away, April 05 #greattimes
- Shepltfc** @shepltfc
@LutonTown Enochs Army
- Martin Wright** @MartinWright85
@LutonTown qpr away, and Brentford home
- bunyday** @Ironman_LTFC
@LutonTown Enoch popping up with a late late winner away at Bournemouth (where are they now?) when we'd played most of the match with 10 men
- David Trevillion** @ProFitChesham
@LutonTown Bristol City away!!!
- Michael Dowling** Hat-trick v Brentford when he just ran at the defence like a locomotive and mad dog Allen's face!
- Garry Attwell** Walking past him down Beech Path while he was on his way to the players' entrance and I was walking to the Whitehouse. A thoroughly polite young man.
- Barrie House** All the times he ran at the opposition like Bambi on ice and scared their defence.
- Andrew Collon** The whole Enoch story is good, going from a parks player playing for petrol money and looking way out of his depth to a full-timer who played professionally for the best part of 10 years. Enoch's Army!
- Tommy Ripz** Hat trick against Brentford. Coldest game of football I went to ever!
- Josh Brian Duffy** Remember away at Bournemouth when he scored the winner and just before he scored I turned to my grandad and said "can we go now" Glad we stayed now!
- Kelvin Ripley** His full debut away at Plymouth, got booked and had to be taken off before he got sent off, happy to say he had better days to come.
- Eamonn Boylan** Chatting to him on the train after he scored a hat-trick against Brentford, he showed us the match ball signed by his team mates. He was like a kid on Christmas morning.
- Heather Robinson** Chesterfield away Boxing Day 2004 - very late winner.

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MEMBERSHIP



TOWN FANS GET UNITED!

LTSC merge with Trust in Luton...to give supporters one official voice

After lengthy discussions between the two committees, the long-established Luton Town Supporters' Club has joined forces with Trust in Luton, the official fans' shareholder in our club – bringing fans closer together and giving us one voice as we all pull together to help Luton Town move forward off the pitch as well as on it.

"It's a great move for all concerned," said Trust in Luton chairman, Tony Murray.

"We have seen the Trust grow massively since the club made us guardians of its image for future generations – and now our numbers have been further boosted by a large group of fans, many of whom have been committed to the cause for decades. LTSC bring a range of strengths and skills to the Trust, which will help us broaden our social activities and our support for the club we all love."

Look out for news of upcoming events.

YOUR TRUST NEEDS YOU

The rapid growth of Trust in Luton in recent months means that we really need to upgrade our website, database and other online functions - and we're sure

there's a tech-savvy Luton fan out there who can help us out.

If that's you, don't just sit there - drop us a line at info@trustinluton.info and tell us what skills you have and we'll be in touch.

The Trust committee are all volunteers – and we're a bit stretched at the moment!

We would welcome input from dedicated fans who feel they can commit time and energy to help us take the Trust forward – not just with our online presence but in a variety of ways.

Please email if you are interested.

91 CLUB STATUS IS GOING FOR A BURTON!

If you're an LTSC or Trust member and one of those dedicated fans whose trip to Burton next weekend will take you to the final ground needed to make you a member of the '92 Club' (that's fans who have seen Luton play at all the 92 current league clubs for the uninitiated!) please get in touch by contacting info@trustinluton.info.

Plus, if you know someone who qualifies but who is too shy or modest to come forward, please let us know about them too, preferably before next Saturday.

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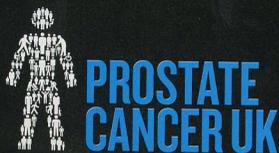


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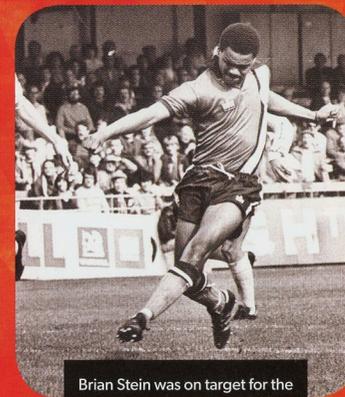
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15th NOVEMBER

ON THIS DAY

► THE RECORD

The Town's record on this day in the history books isn't a bad one, with nine wins, three draws and four defeats from the 16 matches on 15th November. In total 58 goals have been scored across these matches, which works out at 3.625 goals per game. The Town have been responsible for 38 of these goals. Only four times have the Hatters failed to score a goal on this day, whilst the Town have kept five clean sheets.



Brian Stein was on target for the Town on this day in 1986

► LAST TIME

It's been six years since the Hatters last played on 15th November when, in League 2 during the minus-30 season, the Town beat John Still's Dagenham & Redbridge at Kenilworth Road. A rare goal from Sol Davis had the Hatters ahead and while the Daggers levelled, Paul McVeigh netted the winner in front of a crowd of 5,402.

► COMEBACK KINGS

The 2-1 win over Dagenham came five years after the Town's last match on 15th November when the Hatters came from two goals down to beat Wrexham in Division 2 (now League 1) in 2003. The comeback started with Adrian Forbes pulling one goal back before Steve Robinson hit the equaliser. The Town completed the turnaround thanks to Lee Mansell's strike as the majority of the 5,502 inside Kenilworth Road went home happy.

► CUP UPSET

In 1997 the Hatters were dumped out of the FA Cup by Third Division Torquay at Kenilworth Road – the first time the Town failed to get beyond the first round stage since 1929. Tony Bedeau won a penalty following Graham Alexander's foul and Paul Gibbs beat Ian Feuer to send the Gulls through in front of just 3,446.

► TOP FLIGHT TOWN

Twice on 15th November have the Town taken part in matches in the top flight. The last time the Hatters played in the top division, Nottingham Forest were comprehensively beaten 4-2 at Kenilworth Road in 1986.

Two goals from Mark Stein – the first in the opening minute – and one from Steve Foster had the Hatters in control at half-time. Brian Stein made it 4-1 after Forest had pulled one back and in the end the Town triumphed 4-2 despite Gary Birtles' late consolation.

The Town's previous game in the top flight on this day came back in 1958 to lose 2-1 at home to Tottenham Hotspur in front of 23,592 at Kenilworth Road. Billy Bingham scored the Hatters' goal.

► BACK IN THE DAY

The Town's first match on 15th November took place in the FA Cup when Lowestoft Town were beaten 5-1 at Dunstable Road in the fourth qualifying round in 1902. 11 years later, in the Hatters' second game on this day, Welsh outfit Ton Pentre were beaten 4-0 in 1913 in the Southern League Second Division.

► SIX OF THE BEST

Jesse Pye was the hero for the Hatters with a hat-trick – the only time a Luton player has hit a treble on 15th November – on this day in 1952 as the Town thrashed Blackburn Rovers 6-0 at Kenilworth Road in the Second Division.

► WE'RE ON OUR WAY

Back in 1967 the Town were on their way to winning the Fourth Division title and on this day that season the Hatters beat Swansea Town 4-0 at Kenilworth Road. Strangely enough all four goals came in the second half and score was still goalless with 14 minutes left. But goals from Graham French, two from Ian Buxton and one from Bruce Rioch won the points.

► BEST OF THE REST

The Hatters have won 3-2 on three occasions on this day – the most common scoreline involving the Town on 15th November. As well as the win over Wrexham in 2003, the Hatters have beaten West Ham (at Kenilworth Road in 1980) and Boreham Wood (in the FA Cup) in 1998.

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FROM LEFT Midfield

BY KEVIN CROWE



11 CROWE
LEFT MID

KNOWING WHERE YOU STAND

"You G Block or Block F these days, mate? Moved back to the old Oak Road? Kenny Ender? I could tell by your scarf... Oh, you shout from The Enclosure do you, hoping for good grace from the grey skies or have you shuffled down past the tunnel to J Block to look the visiting hoards in the whites of their eyes?"

Seeing Coventry fans rattling around on their rightful return to the Ricoh Arena, one of England's many concrete bowls on out of town roundabouts with no souls, got me thinking about our own home and what we might have to face should we ever leave.

It's not only Coventry fans who have seemed all-at-sea in their new build footballing arena: the list of teams whose fans have never quite settled-in is as long and grey as their modern match day but safe to say it's got the Arse and 'Boro and Citeh on it, innit.

Faithful

The fact that the atmosphere suffers when you move from your old ground is unsurprising really. Architecture and materials and location can never replace or replicate the thing that made your old faithful sing while the floorboards creaked beneath the stamps of tastefully Adidased feet.

In the new grounds you get nowadays, no one knows where they stand; or where they sit; or where they sing; or where they can swear with impunity from the wrath of the tiny rucksack-Fruit Shoot-autograph book crew. They have to start again.

The various nooks and crannies of Kenilworth Road, as is the case the world over, have been historically

claimed by singers and standers and sitters and packed-lunchers through 100 years of trial and Saturday error.

The subtle subcultures of Luton gravitate to their rightful weekly place like my Granddad approaching his living room chair. Whether you once stood in short trousers in the Maple or on the Oak Road, or spent your teens in the walk-ways of the Main stand raising your shoes to the sky at the drop of a hat; Whether you're a keeper-botherer of the Kenilworth Road End or force your kids to climb the steps to the David Preece, there's a place for everyone and for everyone a place.

Remnants

I've heard about these new grounds. They have horrific things like pre-defined singing sections, designed to kettle the remnants of football-gone-by far away from the free spending football consumers of the future.

In these new grounds the corporate club plays their "audience" goal music and waves big on-brand flags with fire safety certificates when they score in case they are unsure of what to do when Stadium Cam lands on their perma-tanned perfectly white toothed grin.

They'll do official tifos beneath your seat that spell out the watered down passion of the time before the new ground, held up above the heads of the new supporters; New supporters who don't know why it matters where they sit, so long as everyone is in the correct seat, and that no one gets in the way of their big screen replay.

Meanwhile outside, the people who knew where to stand in the old ground have forgotten why they left the house.

They are wandering, aimlessly sullen, into the IKEA.

Don't forget...

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



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The FOOTBALL LEAGUE Paper

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BY CHRIS DUNLAV

You can't blame the 18 Championship clubs who voted to change Financial Fair Play regulations last week.

Some are deeply in debt, others are funded by rich owners. Unable to comply with a maximum loss of £8m per season, it is no surprise that they grasped at the lifeline when it was offered.

Now, instead of being assessed on a season-by-season basis, clubs in the second tier will have their finances monitored over three years – the same system used by the Premier League.

So far, so sensible – at least if clubs and their owners are, which hasn't always been the case.

More troubling is the increase in allowable losses. Before, clubs were permitted to lose £3m per season, rising to £8m with an injection of equity (as opposed to the interest-free loans often used by owners).

Now, they will be allowed to lose an 'aggregate' of £39m over the three-year period, equivalent to £13m per season.

These rules come into force at the start of the 2016-17 season and were voted through 18-6, just enough to achieve the 75 per cent majority required.

Unsurprisingly, they were 'encouraged' by the Premier League, whose sole aim is to encourage the kind of lavish spending that has made their brand so lucrative. Again, you can understand their motivation.

But you can't help thinking this is a backwards step. For many years now, players and their agents have commanded eye-watering wages that Championship clubs can't afford but must pay in order to remain competitive.

In recent seasons, we've seen clubs (primarily QPR) where wages accounted for more than 100 per cent of turnover, a crazy situation that cannot possibly be sustained.

Yet with regulation in place – sides who fall foul of the FFP rules are subject to fines and transfer embargoes – the power was finally moving back in the hands of the clubs.

No longer could a prospective signing sit down with the CEO and call his bluff by claiming he'd been offered a king's ransom elsewhere. The budget limitations were there in black and white, the same for everyone. Over time, wages would have to drop or players would end up on the dole.



QPR celebrate promotion last season from the Championship

Now, with budgets ratcheted back up, that power has been wilfully ceded. As one Championship official told me: "All that's going to happen now is that a left-back who should have cost you £10,000 a week is now going to cost you £20,000 a week. And he's still going to be the same player. It isn't a very sensible way of doing business."

Craziest of all, however, is the emphasis on losses in a game that is swimming in cold, hard cash.

In January, the Premier League will sit down with broadcasters to negotiate a new three-year TV deal. Industry insiders expect the Battle between Sky and BT to drive the price above £4 billion, or £7m per game. That would guarantee every club in the Premier League at least £100m per season.

If even a fraction of that money was funnelled into the Football League, we could stop talking about losses completely. As it is, those clubs not in receipt of parachute cash receive just £2.3m in the form of a 'solidarity payment'.

Of course, the Premier League is under no obligation to give handouts. They have worked hard for their money.

But given their vested interest in protecting clubs who drop out and encouraging those who come up to spend, it would surely make sense for them to increase revenue rather than encourage losses.

Unfortunately, clubs at the top have no appetite to see their financial dominance threatened. And those who supposedly govern them have no appetite to act in the best interests of the game.

THE DEATH

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league look



LEAGUE 2 NEWS IN BRIEF

The Town's winning streak came to an end but the Hatters undefeated run stretched to five games following the 1-1 draw with Exeter City a fortnight ago.

The Town dropped to second in the league standings following the draw and Wycombe Wanderers moved to top of the league after they managed a 2-1 win away at Oxford United thanks to second half goals from Paul Hayes and Peter Murphy.

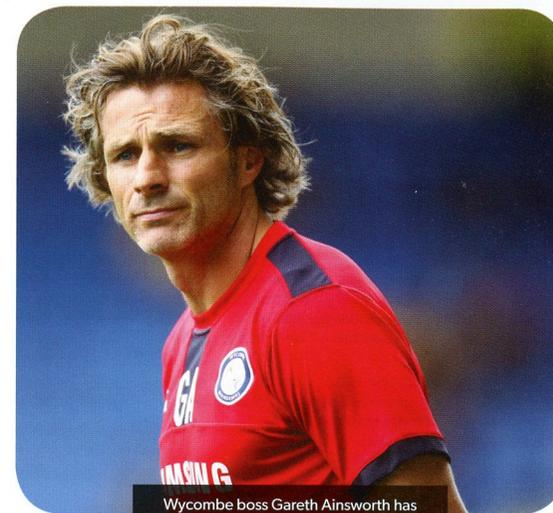
It remains fairly tight at the top end of the table with just three points separating first from fifth. Shrewsbury Town, Bury and Burton Albion currently occupy third, fourth and fifth position respectively.

Shrewsbury moved up to third position after a 2-1 win away at Dagenham & Redbridge. The Shrews came from behind and won the game late into stoppage time following a penalty from Republic of Ireland international Liam Lawrence. Shrewsbury have now recorded five straight league wins on the bounce.

Meanwhile, Bury recorded their first victory in three games to move up to third in the league standings. It was a comfortable 2-0 win for the Blues who seen off Cambridge United and in turn pushed the U's down to 14th position.

In fifth place lies Burton Albion. The Brewers have slipped up in recent weeks and a 1-1 draw with Plymouth, following a defeat to Stevenage has meant that Burton have moved down to fifth in the league standings. They will be looking for a victory today to end a run of back-to-back games without victory.

Plymouth Argyle are one of the leagues form sides, and they are now on a run of six unbeaten games in League 2, conceding only two goals along the way. A draw away at Burton was enough to keep Argyle inside a playoff spot and a win today could move them as high as third.



Wycombe boss Gareth Ainsworth has guided the Chairboys to the top of League 2

Despite their FA Cup loss to the Town last weekend, Newport County are on an unbeaten run which stretches to five games following a 2-2 draw away at Hartlepool United. County lie just outside the Play-Off places and a win today could see them move into a promotion spot.

At the other end of the table Hartlepool remain bottom of the league following the draw with County. Just above them on the same amount of points (12) lie Tranmere

Rovers, who are unbeaten in five games in all competitions but are without a league win to their name since the end of August (12 games ago). The Hatters face Tranmere today and will be hoping for a win at Kenilworth Road against a side who have only managed to pick up five points away from home this season.

Carlisle and Dagenham sit in 21st and 22nd place respectively. Both sides tasted defeat in the last set of league fixtures but still linger just outside the relegation zone.

SATURDAY FIXTURES

Plymouth v Portsmouth

Morecambe v Bury

Wimbledon v Dagenham

Carlisle v Accrington

Shrewsbury v Mansfield

Southend v Hartlepool

Stevenage v Cheltenham

York v Oxford

THE SEASON

Fixtures & Results

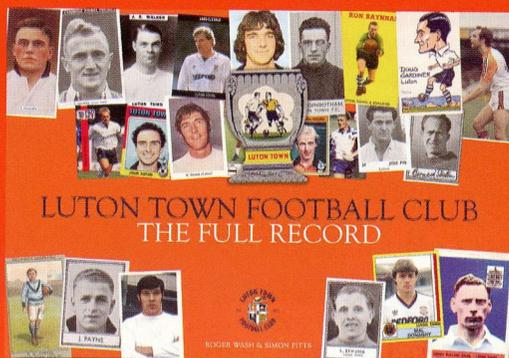
DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY	POS	STARTING XI							
AUGUST															
Sat 9	3.00pm	A	Carlisle United	W 1-0	6,760	1,088	6	Tyler	Connolly	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Lacey	Robinson	
Tue 12	7.45pm	H	Swindon Town (C1 C1)	L 1-2	4,410	436	-	Tyler	Connolly	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Franks	Robinson	
Sat 16	3.00pm	H	AFC Wimbledon	L 0-1	9,101	690	14	Tyler	Franks	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Robinson	Drury	
Tue 19	7.45pm	H	Bury	D 1-1	7,890	289	14	Tyler	Franks	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Robinson	Drury	
Sat 23	3.00pm	A	Accrington Stanley	D 2-2	1,562	586	12	Tyler	Connolly	HOWELLS 1	McNulty	Wilkinson	Lacey	Robinson	
Sat 30	3.00pm	A	Shrewsbury Town	L 0-2	5,888	1,037	18	Tyler	Connolly	HOWELLS	McNulty	Wilkinson	Robinson	Stevenson	
SEPTEMBER															
TV Sat 6	12.15pm	H	Plymouth Argyle	L 0-1	7,864	527	19	Tyler	Connolly	Griffiths	McNulty	Lacey	Ruddock	Drury	
Sat 13	3.00pm	H	Cheltenham Town	W 1-0	7,793	221	18	Tyler	Williams	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Lacey	Smith	
Tue 16	7.45pm	A	York City	D 0-0	3,649	445	18	Tyler	Williams	Griffiths	Lacey	Wilkinson	Smith	Ruddock	
Sat 20	3.00pm	A	Cambridge United	W 1-0	6,533	2,050	13	Tyler	Williams	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Lacey	Ruddock	
Sat 27	3.00pm	H	Oxford United	W 2-0	9,101	868	10	Tyler	Lacey	Griffiths	McNulty	WILKINSON 1	Smith	Doyle	
OCTOBER															
Sat 4	3.00pm	A	Stevenage	W 2-1	5,236	1,897	7	Tyler	Lacey	Griffiths	McNulty	WILKINSON 1	Smith	Doyle	
Tue 7	7.45pm	H	Crawley Town (JPT2)	L 0-1	2,186	125	-	Justham	Lacey	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Smith	Doyle	
Sat 11	3.00pm	H	Southend United	W 2-0	9,238	1,033	4	Tyler	Harriman	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Smith	Doyle	
Sat 18	3.00pm	A	Hartlepool United	W 2-1	4,225	525	4	Tyler	Harriman	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Smith	Doyle	
Tue 21	7.45pm	H	Dagenham & Redbridge	W 3-1	7,746	166	3	Tyler	Harriman	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Smith	Doyle	
Sat 25	3.00pm	H	Northampton Town	W 1-0	10,040	1,018	1	Tyler	Harriman	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Smith	Doyle	
NOVEMBER															
Sat 1	3.00pm	A	Exeter City	D 1-1	5,400	1,043	2	Tyler	Harriman	GRIFFITHS 1	McNulty	Wilkinson	Smith	Doyle	
Sat 8	3.00pm	H	Newport County (FAC1)	W 4-2	3,656	334	-	Tyler	Harriman	HOWELLS 1	McNulty	Wilkinson	Lacey	Doyle	
Sat 15	3.00pm	H	Tranmere Rovers												
Sat 22	3.00pm	A	Burton Albion												
Sat 29	3.00pm	H	Mansfield Town												
DECEMBER															
Sat 6	3.00pm	A	Bury (FAC2)												
Sat 13	3.00pm	A	Morecambe												
Sat 20	3.00pm	H	Newport County												
Fri 26	3.00pm	A	Wycombe Wanderers												
Sun 28	3.00pm	H	Portsmouth												
JANUARY															
Sat 3	3.00pm	A	Mansfield Town												
TV Thu 8	7.45pm	H	Shrewsbury Town												
Sat 17	3.00pm	A	Plymouth Argyle												
Sat 24	3.00pm	A	Cheltenham Town												
Sat 31	3.00pm	H	Cambridge United												
FEBRUARY															
Sat 7	3.00pm	A	Oxford United												
Tue 10	7.45pm	H	York City												
Sat 14	3.00pm	H	Carlisle United												
Sat 21	3.00pm	A	A.F.C. Wimbledon												
Sat 28	3.00pm	H	Accrington Stanley												
MARCH															
Tue 3	7.45pm	A	Bury												
Sat 7	3.00pm	H	Morecambe												
Sat 14	3.00pm	A	Portsmouth												
Tue 17	7.45pm	A	Newport County												
Sat 21	3.00pm	H	Wycombe Wanderers												
Sat 28	3.00pm	A	Northampton Town												
APRIL															
Fri 3	3.00pm	H	Exeter City												
Mon 6	7.45pm	A	Tranmere Rovers												
Sat 11	3.00pm	H	Burton Albion												
Tue 14	7.45pm	A	Dagenham & Redbridge												
Sat 18	3.00pm	H	Hartlepool United												
Sat 25	3.00pm	A	Southend United												
MAY															
Sat 2	3.00pm	H	Stevenage												

SUBS															
Drury	Howells	CULLEN 1	Benson	Franks	Wall	Rooney	Ruddock	Guttridge	Stevenson	Justham					
Drury	ROONEY 1	Cullen	Benson	Lacey	Wall	Howells	Ruddock	Guttridge	Lafayette	Justham					
Guttridge	Howells	Cullen	Benson	Lacey	Wall	Williams	Ruddock	Stevenson	Lafayette	Justham					
Guttridge	Rooney	Cullen	Benson	Lacey	Wall	Howells	RUDDOCK 1	Stevenson	Lafayette	Justham					
Drury	ROONEY 1	Cullen	Benson	Franks	Wall	Guttridge	Ruddock	Stevenson	Lafayette	Justham					
Guttridge	Rooney	Cullen	Benson	Lacey	Wall	Williams	Ruddock	Stevenson	Miller	Lafayette	Justham				
Guttridge	Howells	Rooney	Cullen	Smith	Lawless	Wall	Lafayette	Stevenson	Wilkinson	Justham					
Ruddock	Guttridge	CULLEN 1	Lafayette	Drury	Wall	Howells	Ruddock	Stevenson	Walker	Justham					
Drury	Guttridge	Howells	Cullen	Wall	Rooney	Lafayette	Whalley	Stevenson	Connolly	Justham					
Stevenson	Guttridge	CULLEN 1	Wall	Drury	Lafayette	Whalley	Robinson	Stevenson	Doyle	Walker	Justham				
Ruddock	Whalley	HOWELLS 1	Cullen	Drury	Lafayette	Stevenson	Robinson	Guttridge	Walker	Justham					
Ruddock	Drury	Cullen	Benson	Howells	WALL 1	Stevenson	Robinson	Guttridge	Walker	Justham					
Guttridge	Howells	Wall	Benson	Walker	Robinson	Stevenson	Lawless	Tyler	Walker	Justham					
Drury	Ruddock	LAWLESS 1	CULLEN 1	Lacey	Benson	Wall	Guttridge	Stevenson	Walker	Justham					
Drury	Ruddock	Miller	CULLEN 1	Lacey	Benson	Wall	Guttridge	Stevenson	Walker	Justham					
Drury	Ruddock	Miller	CULLEN 3	Lacey	Benson	Wall	GUTTRIDGE 1	Stevenson	Walker	Justham					
Drury	Ruddock	Lawless	Cullen	Lacey	Benson	Wall	GUTTRIDGE 1	Stevenson	Walker	Justham					
Drury	Howells	Cullen	Benson	Lacey	Miller	Rooney	Guttridge	Stevenson	Whalley	Justham					
Smith	GUTTRIDGE 1	BENSON 1	Cullen	Franks	Griffiths	MILLER 1	Whalley	Rooney	Walker	Justham					

HATTERS COMPLETE RECORD SET FOR BOOKSHELVES

Club historian Roger Wash and statistician and commentator Simon Pitts have been busy updating and revising their book, first published in 2010.

Luton Town Football Club – The Full Record will be available for purchase from the two club shops from 24th November. With over 40 new pictures, and with the last four seasons' matches and player statistics added, there's something for everyone in over 300 pages of Luton Town related facts, figures and photos.



LEAGUE TABLE 2014/15

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Wycombe Wanderers	16	9	5	2	23	12	11	32
2 LUTON TOWN	16	9	4	3	19	11	8	31
3 Shrewsbury Town	16	9	3	4	25	12	13	30
4 Bury	16	9	3	4	26	17	9	30
5 Burton Albion	16	9	2	5	21	20	1	29
6 Plymouth Argyle	16	8	3	5	18	9	9	27
7 Southend United	16	7	4	5	16	14	2	25
8 Newport County	16	6	6	4	20	16	4	24
9 Portsmouth	16	6	5	5	18	16	2	23
10 Morecambe	16	7	2	7	18	17	1	23
11 Exeter City	16	6	5	5	19	19	0	23
12 Accrington Stanley	16	7	2	7	24	27	-3	23
13 Cheltenham Town	16	6	4	6	15	18	-3	22
14 Cambridge United	16	6	3	7	26	20	6	21
15 Northampton Town	16	6	3	7	25	23	2	21
16 Stevenage	16	6	3	7	21	24	-3	21
17 AFC Wimbledon	16	5	5	6	22	25	-3	20
18 Mansfield Town	16	5	4	7	14	19	-5	19
19 Oxford United	16	4	4	8	18	23	-5	16
20 York City	16	2	9	5	14	20	-6	15
21 Dagenham & Redbridge	16	4	3	9	19	27	-8	15
22 Carlisle United	16	4	3	9	20	30	-10	15
23 Tranmere Rovers	16	2	6	8	15	22	-7	12
24 Hartlepool United	16	3	3	10	12	27	-15	12

PLAYER STATS 2014/15

	LEAGUE		THIS SEASON CUP		TOTAL		DISCIP	Y R	CAREER TOTAL
	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS			
Zane Banton	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0	0	6
Paul Benson	7 (3)	0	3 (0)	0	10 (3)	0	3	0	51
Paul Connolly	4 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	5 (0)	0	3	0	5
Mark Cullen	16 (0)	8	2 (0)	0	18 (0)	8	0	0	54
Nathan Doyle	7 (0)	0	2 (0)	0	9 (0)	0	2	0	9
Andy Drury	12 (3)	0	1 (0)	0	13 (3)	0	1	0	42
Fraser Franks	2 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	3 (0)	0	1	0	20
Scott Griffiths	14 (0)	1	2 (0)	0	16 (0)	1	1	0	68
Luke Guttridge	7 (4)	1	2 (1)	1	9 (5)	2	1	0	47
Michael Harriman	5 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	6 (0)	0	1	0	6
Jake Howells	8 (2)	2	2 (0)	1	10 (2)	3	0	0	288
Elliot Justham	0 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	0		

HOLD THE Back Page

WITH BILL COLE

So, it's back to league action this afternoon after that cracking FA Cup tie last Saturday.

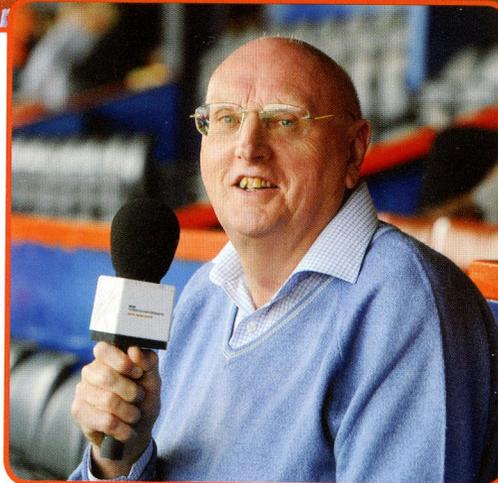
Town now have a difficult fixture in prospect in the second round. We know what a good side Bury are from their showing here in August and their home form is excellent. But, today's opponents proved that can be overcome by winning 2-1 at Gigg Lane in the JPT on Tuesday. This afternoon may provide a form line for our visit there next month.

Victory of course can bring big rewards with the entry of the top boys in the third round. You will remember that we have been paired with one before and only last year. What a result! Around a century since a non-league team had beaten a top flight outfit on the opposition's cabbage patch.

Incidentally, about playing areas, I couldn't help noticing amongst the excellent BBC coverage of the first round proper last weekend, the muddy goalmouths on the pitches of some of the lower league clubs. It wasn't too long ago that that was the norm at even the most prestigious venues.

In those days, at the end of the season on most grounds, there was just a narrow strip of grass down the wings and in the corners. I vividly remember Hatters skipper at the time Terry Branson, upon attempting to stamp down a raised mud patch just outside the penalty area at the Oak Road end, putting his foot right through the top, having encountered a collapsed drain.

There are no such happenings now with the huge advances in drainage technology and grass husbandry keeping an entire unified sward, including in the goalmouths. Those of you who do not rush away after home games will have seen how quickly, head groundsman 'Dickie' Bird, gets a row of growing lights across the goal areas as soon as the players have left the arena, to restore the most used part of the grass to its pristine best.



With the vast improvements of traditional pitches, it was no surprise that the Football League clubs didn't vote to allow full all-artificial playing areas in the tied vote last week, despite the improvements in those since the Town controversially played on their, far from perfect version, from 1985 to 1991.

Controversial because visiting teams thought it offered Luton an unfair advantage. I seem to remember the Liverpool manager at the time, one Kenny Dalglish, being particularly critical of the surface, but only after Alan Hansen, Mark Lawrenson, Ian Rush and co. were soundly beaten here 3-0 in an FA Cup second reply. The away dug-out was re-christened 'Kenny's whine bar' in his honour as a result of his protestations, which one publication described as "an attempt to devalue the win with a myriad of excuses".

Those were the days of a seventh place finish in top flight football, which we love to see back here at the Kenny again.

But one step at a time and another vital game today to hopefully keep our fine unbeaten league run going. COYH.

sky BET LEAGUE 2



Jonathan's
scorecast prediction:

NEWPORT COUNTY 3
EXETER CITY 1

WITH ANDREW HUGHES
TO SCORE FIRST - 200/1*

*subject to change

OCTOBER FAN OF THE MONTH JONATHAN BELCHER

Newport County fan Jonathan Belcher has been named the Sky Bet League 2 Fan of the Month for October.

Jonathan has followed Newport with his father since the club's non-league days at Somerton Park.

It wasn't enough for Jonathan to go to the football with only his father - so he decided that he would take his partner Janine to a Newport game for their first date!

Jonathan said: "I am thrilled to win the award! Janine nominated me - which was a surprise - she must have enjoyed the date!"

"Funnily enough my father took my mother to a County game on their honeymoon. They were in London and the surprise of the trip was to go and see Watford play Newport!"

Newport Chief Executive Dave Boddy said: "We as a club have many loyal supporters that do a lot for the football club and we're delighted to see Jonathan being rewarded by Sky Bet with the Fan of the Month award."

To Nominate a Mate for November's Sky Bet Fan of the Month visit - www.SkyBet.com/Fan

If Jonathan won the £250,000
Sky Bet Transfer Fund,
he would buy Joe Day!



WIN £250,000
FOR YOUR CLUB

SUPPORT YOUR TEAM WITH
US THIS SEASON

ARE YOU IN?
skybet.com/win

18+. T&Cs apply.

THE SQUADS



LUTON TOWN

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



TRANMERE ROVERS

- 1 Owain Fon Williams
- 2 Danny Holmes
- 3 Liam Ridehalgh
- 4 Max Power
- 5 Michael Ihiekwe
- 6 Marcus Holmes
- 7 George Donnelly
- 8 Jason Koumas
- 9 Kayode Odejayi
- 10 Eliot Richards
- 11 Abdulai Baggie
- 12 James Rowe
- 14 Marc Laird
- 15 Jake Kirby
- 16 Cole Stockton
- 17 Danny Woodards
- 18 Antonie Boland
- 19 Janoi Donacien
- 20 Sam Ramsbottom
- 21 Liam Davies
- 22 Steve Jennings
- 25 Matt Hill
- 26 Peter Brezovan
- 30 Armand Gnanduillet
- 31 Danny Johnson

TODAY'S OFFICIALS



Lee Collins



Dumitru-Ravel Cheosiaua



Geoffrey Russell



4 Neil Hair

NEXT UP

v MANSFIELD TOWN • SATURDAY 29th NOVEMBER 2014 • 3pm
SKY BET LEAGUE 2

