

LUTON TOWN

**v LEYTON
ORIENT**

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME
Price £3



Sky Bet League 2

Tue 20th October 2015

Kick-off 7.45 pm

Issue 10



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COVER STORY

Throughout the 2015/16 season our programme covers will be a nod to the covers of yesteryear.



Today's cover is based on a Leyton Orient fixture from March 1974. To find out more, turn to page 22.

LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 2020 LTD

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OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

Made in Luton.

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With thanks to our contributors Roger Wash, Ed Smith, Leigh Edwards, Simon Pitts, Kevin Harper, Graham Miller, Ross Lawson and the help of Colin Munford at Leyton Orient.

Thoughts, feedback and announcements are welcome by post, phone or email #COYH

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



JOHN STILL

NOTES FROM THE MANAGER



GOOD EVENING AND WELCOME BACK TO KENILWORTH ROAD FOR THE FIRST OF TWO BIG MATCHES ON HOME SOIL THIS WEEK IN SKY BET LEAGUE 2.

I'd like to welcome everyone from our visitors Leyton Orient for what will be the second time this season already following our earlier meeting in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy. Ian Hendon, his staff and players have started the season well so, as always, tonight's match is going to be a tough match for us.

Our last home fixture here against York was a frustrating one because we fell behind to a defensively disappointing goal and had to chase the game from that point onwards. I thought, however, that we showed great patience and character to come back to earn a point.

CONTROLLED

It would usually be my intention to say how important it is scoring the first goal in games in this division – but Saturday's game at Crawley would contradict that statement. I was pleased with the first half, thought we controlled the game and deservedly took the lead through another goal from Cameron. However, as I said after the game, I thought the second half display was one of the worst

45 minutes of football we've played this season and I thought our passing was abysmal.

The most disappointing thing was at half-time we told the players what could trip them up if they weren't careful in the second half. But we were slow out of the blocks, conceded too many fouls and gave away two sloppy goals.

UNACCEPTABLE

After such a crisp and confident first half performance I honestly don't know where that second half came from. To have so many players underperforming is unacceptable and I told the players that afterwards.

Enough of that, though. Thankfully, we have a quick turnaround and a game this evening gives us the opportunity to

put things right. Playing at home has been difficult for a number of clubs already this season with other teams better suited to playing an attacking game away from home. Our home form has been disappointing but with two home games this week we have a chance to improve that record and move up the table.

This past week has also seen a few ins and outs. Yesterday we saw Stephen McNulty leave us for Tranmere, initially on loan with a view to a permanent move in January.

What can I say about him? He has been a tower of strength for us. He's been our leader and acted superbly for this club on and off the pitch. I've always said that family comes first so when we discussed his options we willingly allowed



him to talk to Tranmere so he can move near home. I'd like to thank him for his sterling service and commitment and for the success he helped us achieve in his time here.

BRIGHT

On Saturday we gave a debut at right-back to Sean Long, a player I've been watching for Reading's Under-21s for a while now. He is a bright lad and a very good footballer.

There were glimpses of his promise on Saturday and I am sure he is looking forward to a home debut tonight. Please make him feel welcome.

So, back to tonight, remember this is YOUR team so please get behind them and give them every ounce of support you can. You can make the difference.

Enjoy the game.
John

From the BOARDROOM

WITH CHIEF EXECUTIVE **GARY SWEET**

A VERY GOOD EVENING AND WELCOME TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU TO AN ATMOSPHERIC FLOODLIT KENILWORTH ROAD FOR OUR LEAGUE 2 ENCOUNTER VERSUS LEYTON ORIENT..

Please join me by giving Ian Hendon and Francesco Becchetti and their players, staff and, most importantly, supporters from East London a sample of Luton's warm hospitality, at least until 7.45.

Having been relegated into League 2, The O's have re-grouped admirably so far this season and will be challenging opponents in what should be, a high tempo game tonight – certainly more competitive than the Johnson's Paint Trophy tie earlier this season.

As we enter tonight's arena it's interesting to note that our home form and Orient's away form is almost identical (with two wins, two draws and two losses) but with a stronger recent form and a determined desire to correct a blip in current form, our confidence should remain intact.

Falling meagrely at the hands of Crawley Town on Saturday – just as Orient did the week before – made for a miserable weekend after being delighted at 3:30 having enjoyed us take control, take a goal lead



and look like we were cruising to a third successive away win. However I was as dumbfounded as anybody as we subsequently witnessed a disappointing and curious capitulation in a game which should have earned us three points.

Speaking frankly, the second half performance was a poor reflection of our teams' true ability. We lacked team cohesion, discipline and individual leadership as no player or players took the game by the scruff of the neck as we would expect when the opposition have their inevitable 15 minute push at the beginning of the second half.

With the individual quality in the side, and knowing how unhappy the players and our staff were with Saturday's performance, I'm anticipating a significant step up tonight in front of a big attendance who will get behind our players from 1 to 90.

Leadership in any team is crucial to our success. I'm sure all supporters will join me in wishing Stephen McNulty the best of fortunes as he moves on to new ventures closer to his home city. As club captain, playing a part in four seasons, including helping us to the Conference title, Macca is a very special character who epitomised our team spirit.

His name will be etched into many memories, not just for his leadership in the most important season in our history, but for his sheer class as a wonderful footballer – along with those YouTube clips of his showboating and that 30-yard volley!

Stephen will be welcome back to share in our future success as an instrumental player who kick-started our rise. The board, the staff and I see him depart as good friends and we wish him and his family our immense gratitude for his services.

Now we look towards the future we have another reliable, resilient and capable leader of men in Scott Cuthbert – just as our opponents will know all too well. While Scott will be ready and eager to make his mark at Kenilworth Road, opportunity exists for other leaders to step forward and help him organise, encourage and set new standards from tonight onwards.

The transition of change with key football personnel is not something we endorse casually, especially as we enter a period at the Club

Cap



where stability is of paramount importance. As one of the cornerstones of our very existence as custodians, it would not be wrong to possess faith in a stable foundation from which to grow and build – on and off the pitch.

Foundations continue to be put in place which will see the Club steadily re-establish itself in a new stadium, in a higher League, with first-class, enviable facilities.

From tomorrow for three days, Luton Town Football Club will be sharing an exhibition stand with Luton Borough Council at MIPIM UK, Olympia. MIPIM UK is the UK's largest trade exhibition and conference for a diverse array of property professionals at which we shall not only be promoting our future contribution to our town's ambitions but, together, we shall be proud ambassadors and advocates of Luton.

Focussing solely, at this stage, on a professionally architected scheme at the newly-acquired site at Junction 10 of the M1 motorway, we'll be seeking to attract interest in a mixed use development that will facilitate the Club's relocation in the not too distant future.

Not only do we have a wonderful opportunity to unlock our future over the next few days but we

also have a welcome duty to be influential in changing the perception of our town with such an iconic Gateway site; a role we're more than happy to accept.

Starting with the launch of over 500,000 square foot of offices (which will bring around 3000 jobs to the site) our aims for the Gateway to Luton at Junction 10 will be bold, aspirational and innovative – but also realistic and deliverable.

PROGRESSIVE

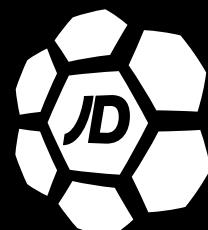
I genuinely believe we have entered a new era for Luton and Luton Town – being ambitiously and encouragingly led by a Council who have every right to be described as progressive. For the next three days we'll be standing shoulder to shoulder with the Council supporting each other and promoting our shared future.

Truly exciting times!

Let's make tonight an exciting encounter – please get behind the team and encourage them to three points and a continued climb up the table!

COYH





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MACCA

THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SIGNING OFF...

Town captain Stephen McNulty has left Kenilworth Road to join National League side Tranmere Rovers on-loan with a view to a permanent deal when the transfer window opens in January.

The 32-year-old centre-half played 125 times for the Hatters since joining from Fleetwood in February 2012 and played an influential role in our Conference title-winning team of 2013/14.

He was named player of the year at the end of that season before being named as skipper at the beginning of the last campaign.

McNulty links up with former Town manager Gary Brabin at Prenton Park and everyone at Luton Town would like to wish the defender the very best of luck with Rovers and thank him for his service during his time at Kenilworth Road.

Manager John Still said: "We've been talking to Stephen for the last couple of weeks. He's had some family issues that can't be properly resolved with him living here. Reluctantly we've agreed a deal to take him to Tranmere, nearer his home.

"I didn't want him to leave. He's a big part of Luton Town and he will be missed. This is all part of football, but family is important to us all.

"I'd like to thank Stephen for his first-class service on and off the pitch during his time here.

"He's been a leader and a top player but we understand that he has to give time to his family.

"I would like to thank him unreservedly for everything he's done for this football club."

"The king is dead. Long live the king."

McNulty, who made his debut away to Barrow in the Conference, told lutontown.co.uk: "I'd like to take this opportunity to say what an honour and privilege it was, not only to play for Luton Town, but to captain them too.

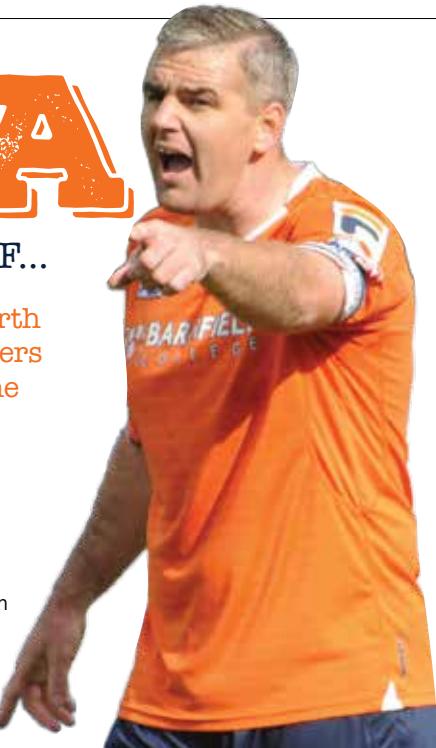
TOUGHEST

"This isn't a decision I have taken lightly. It was the toughest I've had to make in my career. However, I am a family man. For three years I have been spending more and more time away from them. Any father will tell you that is difficult so, after much deliberation, I felt the time was right to make this decision. It would have been selfish of me to carry on and not think about my family.

"There are too many people to thank individually as I have made so many friends in my time at Kenilworth Road, but I would like to thank Gary Sweet and all the board for the opportunity they gave me.

"The fans have given me great support throughout my time at Luton. We've had some ups and downs but they always are, and always will be, fantastic.

"I'd like to thank my team-mates who without none of the success would have been possible. We made some memories that nobody can take away from us.



"The fans have given me great support We've had some ups and downs but they always are, and always will be, fantastic"

"I'd like to thank all the coaching staff and everyone behind the scenes, but the biggest thank you goes to the gaffer, John Still. We had a really good working relationship. He knew how to get the best out of me and will always be a friend.

"Finally I'd like to wish Luton Town all the very best for the remainder of the season. With the fans' backing, I do believe the manager and the squad of players can achieve promotion this year."

LAMP NAMED AS SUPPORTERS' CHARITY

We are excited to announce the Luton based homeless charity LAMP will be the Supporters' Charity of the Year for the remainder of the season.

We received a massive 483 votes in total, with winners LAMP pulling in over half of the votes. They now join CHUMS and Happy Days Children's Charity as one of three official charities for this season.

LAMP Chief Executive, John Archer said: "Myself and all the team at LAMP are thrilled that we have been selected as the



Luton Town Supporters Charity for 2015/16.

"Having the loyal supporters of Luton Town getting behind our efforts to help homeless youngsters in Luton and the local area will be a fantastic boost and we look forward to a very exciting year together. Many thanks for all who voted for LAMP."

When casting their votes, supporters were asked if they wished to get involved and nearly

40 supporters have pledged to get involved and help get things going.

Hatters senior operations manager Kevan Platt said: "It's fantastic to be able to offer longer-term support to organisations such as LAMP. It's also very encouraging to have received so many votes, and to see so many loyal supporters offering to get involved. We'd encourage any other supporters who would like to lend their support to get in touch."

Officials from the Club will be meeting with LAMP in the coming days to discuss the relationship moving forward - stay tuned for more information.

BOSS SIGNS SAFEGUARDING PLEDGE

Manager John Still was on hand to mark the launch of the Luton Safeguarding Pledge by being the first community representative to sign the pledge at Kenilworth Road last week.

Luton Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) has brought community groups together to commit to a shared responsibility to protect children and young people from abuse and harm. And the Luton Safeguarding Children Board launched its safeguarding pledge at Kenilworth Road as the boss was joined by the Hatters' Head of Community Trust with Kevin Thoburn, to acknowledge the Club's and Trust's commitment to protecting children and young people.

In consultation with different communities the LSCB developed a pledge which organisations sign up to, promising to protect children and young people from:



- being groomed and sexually exploited and abused in our community and online
- physical abuse, female genital mutilation, bullying and cyber bullying
- being drawn into violent and extreme behaviour both in our community and abroad

Communities who sign the pledge will also agree to promote the emotional wellbeing of children so that they can achieve and do well and enjoy a healthy way of life.

Still told lutontown.co.uk: "I

am honoured to be signing the pledge on behalf of Luton Town. I am confident this pledge will be part of a campaign which protects all those young people who need it most - some of them may be future footballers or indeed supporters of Luton Town. I am delighted that Luton Borough Council is taking this initiative seriously in such an open and engaging way."

For more information on the pledge and the LSCB, visit: <http://lutonlscb.org.uk>.

For all the latest news at Kenilworth Road visit our official website www.lutontown.co.uk

WELCOME SEAN LONG

The Hatters strengthened their defensive options with the signing of Reading full-back Sean Long on a one-month youth loan on Friday.

Republic of Ireland Under-21 international Long has been an ever-present for the Royals' Under-21 side so far this season, playing six times including in wins over Liverpool and Tottenham.

The 20-year-old right-sided defender joined Reading from Irish side Cherry Orchard in 2012 and helped the Royals win the Under-21 Premier League Cup in 2014.

Last season Long, who has made one appearance for the Royals' first team, helped the Berkshire club's Under-21s to promotion to the Under-21 First Division.

Over the recent international break the full-back played 90 minutes in the Republic Under-21s' Euro 2017 qualifiers against Lithuania and Italy.

On Long's arrival, John Still said: "Sean's a talented young man who we've watched a few times.

"His availability gives us a touch more competition in an area where



we've been a little light. Stephen O'Donnell's had a knock and we've been playing Scott Cuthbert at right-back. Scotty's done well but we see him as a centre-half and Sean gives us some flexibility should we want to play different systems, but in a four at the back he is someone who can get forward."

Sean's loan runs until Saturday 14th November inclusive. He has been given squad number 20.

Meanwhile, the Town's Mark Onyemah has extended his loan at National League South side Dartford for a further month.

In addition, Town defender Magnus Okuonghae joined fellow League 2 side Hartlepool United on a month's loan last week.

The 29-year-old centre-half joined the Hatters this summer following his release from Colchester and made his Town debut as a second-half substitute in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy win over Leyton Orient in September.

The loan deal runs up to and including 15th November, and Magnus made his Hartlepool debut in their 1-0 win at Dagenham on Saturday.

Magnus now needs game time having got his fitness levels up since arriving - and a month in League 2 with Ronnie will do him the power of good," said manager John Still.

"Magnus has already shown us his qualities in the short time he's been here - all he needs now is some competitive minutes under his belt."

RIDE THE TOWN INTO EUROPE!

You can represent the Hatters in Europe next year by taking part in Prostate Cancer UK's annual charity bike ride to Amsterdam.

Dust off those bikes, squeeze into some lycra and get your helmet on to represent the Town and Prostate Cancer UK's Men United in Europe on 3-5 June, 2016 for a 145-mile cycle ride in conjunction with the Football League.

For the first time, the event will have two start locations with Barnsley's Oakwell aimed at those representing northern clubs and the

iconic Olympic Park in East London will once again be utilised.

Last year over £350,000 was raised for Prostate Cancer - a disease that will affect one in eight men in their lifetime - and the aim for 2016 is to double the number of riders to 500.

Please e-mail info@lutontown.co.uk to sign-up or to find out more information.

The 250-strong peloton in 2015 included former international trio Terry Butcher, Matt Holland and Luther Blissett, together with Preston North End boss

Simon Grayson. Last year we supported Prostate Cancer UK, raising £10,000 through various initiatives, including the renaming of Kenilworth Road as the Prostate Cancer UK Stadium for our game against Wycombe Wanderers.

Registration fee for the bike ride is £149. Each rider will pledge to raise a minimum of £1,000 in sponsorship to help fight back against a disease that affects one in eight men in the UK.

To find out more about Prostate Cancer UK by visiting: www.prostatecanceruk.org.

UP NEXT



THE HOME MATCHES HERE CONTINUE TO COME THICK AND FAST AS ON SATURDAY WE WELCOME PLYMOUTH ARGYLE TO KENILWORTH ROAD

WHO? Plymouth Argyle, the League 2 leaders, are the Hatters' next visitors here at Kenilworth Road. Formed in 1886, Argyle are a year younger than the Town. The Devon club pipped the Town to the final Play-Off place in League 2 last season. Argyle, however, lost out in the two-legged semi-final to Wycombe Wanderers.

HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE? Oh yes. Saturday's meeting with Argyle will be the 95th between the two clubs. Plymouth hold the advantage in the head-to-head record, winning 40 to the Hatters' 25. At Kenilworth Road the Town have won 17 to Plymouth's 11. The Greens were victorious on their last visit, winning 1-0 in September last year. The Hatters' last recorded a home win against Argyle in a League Cup tie in August 2008 with Tristan Plummer and Rossi Jarvis on target in a 2-0 win.

LEAGUE 2 RIVALRY.

Both clubs have eyes on winning promotion this season which brings back memories of the time the Town and Argyle went toe-to-toe for the Division Three title in 2001/02. Argyle raced away with a lead at the top before the Hatters' club record run of 12 straight wins closed the gap. However, with some-less than savoury words from then-Town boss

Joe Kinnear ringing in their ears, the Greens surged clear in their final three games to take the title with 102 points.

IN CHARGE. Although Argyle finished in seventh place last term, John Sheridan left Home Park in the summer but was swiftly replaced by former Ross County manager Derek Adams. The 40-year-old Scot guided unfancied Ross to the Scottish Premier League after winning the Scottish First Division title in 2012.

PREVIOUS FORM. Adams has taken little time to work his magic down in Devon as the Greens currently top the League 2 table. Tonight they travel to fellow promotion fancies Oxford aiming to stay in pole position after a fine start to the campaign. Argyle certainly won't be fazed by their game at Oxford tonight given their superb form on the road this season. They have only lost once – at Stevenage – but won four times, with excellent victories at Wimbledon, Northampton, Wycombe and, most recently, at Notts County.

ONE TO WATCH. Argyle are blessed with one of the best squads in League 2 with experienced goalkeeper Luke McCormick one of the best stoppers in the division. However, it is goals that win you games and striker Reuben Reid

is the Greens' main threat. The 27-year-old scored 18 times last season as Argyle reached the Play-Offs and is now fast approaching 100 senior goals.

DID YOU KNOW? Argyle have set the record for most championships won in the third tier, having finished first in the Third Division South twice, the Third Division once and the Second Division once.

TICKETS. Fancy coming to the game? Well, tickets for the match against Argyle are now on sale at the ticket office at category A prices, details of which can be found on page 12. Games against the Greens are always worth watching, so remember to purchase your tickets quick to avoid disappointment.

ARGYLE FACTFILE

Formed: 1886
Nicknames: Argyle, the Greens
Last season: 7th, League 2
Follow them on Twitter: @Only1Argyle
Colours: Green and white
Ground: Home Park
Manager: Derek Adams

TICKET OFFICE

TICKETS FOR HOME MATCHES

You can buy tickets for games here at Kenilworth Road in three simple ways. You can either pop into our ticket office in Kenilworth Road, or alternatively at our club shop in the Mall; telephone our ticket office on 01582 416976; or purchase tickets online at our online ticket website www.eticketing.co.uk/lutontown. Matchday tickets vary slightly depending on categorisation of matches this season. Each match will be assigned a category A, B or C and are outlined on this page and on our websites.

Home ticket prices for the 2015/16 season

	Cat A	Cat B	Cat C
Adult	£22	£20	£18
Young Adult (18-21)	£17	£15	£13
Senior (65+)	£17	£15	£13
Golden Senior (75+)	£14	£12	£10
Youth (10-17)	£10	£8	£6
Acc. Junior (U10)	£7	£5	£3

FA CUP FIRST ROUND

Saturday 7th November 2015

The draw will take place following the completion of the fourth qualifying round this coming weekend.



Saturday 24th October 2015, 3pm

Tickets for this match are now available from the ticket office and online at category A prices.



Sunday 1st November 2015, 2pm

Please note the change in date and the earlier kick-off time of this match. We have received an allocation of 1,206 seats in the Traditional Builders Stand for the match.

Tickets are now on sale to all season ticket holders at one per person until close of business today. Any remaining tickets will be available on general sale from 6pm online tonight and from the ticket office on Monday 12th October (subject to availability).

Tickets will remain on sale until 2pm on Friday 30th October.

Prices: £21 adults, £15 65 and overs, £15 students with ID, £12 10-16-year-olds, free for under-10s with a full paying adult.

Saturday 14th November 2015, 3pm

Tickets for this match are now available from the ticket office and online at category B prices.



Saturday 21st October 2015, 3pm

We are awaiting ticket information from Stevenage for this match. These will be released due course.



Tuesday 24th November 2015, 7.45pm

Tickets for this match are now available from the ticket office and online at category C prices.



COMMERCIAL TALK...

WITH COMMERCIAL MANAGER **DAVID HOSKINS**

Welcome back to our all our corporate guests and partners to tonight's game against Leyton Orient in the Sky Bet League 2, in particular our match sponsors Greene King.

It has been a hectic time at Kenilworth Road, with the phones busy with interest in executive boxes, hospitality packages and the various sponsorship deals available, including programmes, stadium and player sponsorships. We will continue to notify supporters of any availability of packages on a match-by-match basis via the official website and in forthcoming programmes. Further details of three of our popular packages are listed below.

ERIC MORECAMBE LOUNGE

Seating in the directors' box with an pre-match two-course meal, waiter service and cash bar available before, during and after each game. Team sheets and programmes are included and you'll get to meet and have photographs with the man-of-the-match.

MATCHDAY MASCOT

Treat your child to a matchday mascot experience at Kenilworth Road this coming season. The mascot package is a day to remember for any young fan wanting to meet their heroes and lead Luton Town onto the Kenilworth Road pitch.

MATCHBALL SPONSORSHIP

Matchball Sponsorship offers a unique opportunity for guests to sponsor the matchball at Kenilworth Road. Hosted in our Eric Morecambe Lounge, you will enjoy a two-course meal before being seated in the directors' box to watch the match. You will also get the chance to enjoy our post-match presentation and receive your signed ball from the man-of-the-match.

MATCH SPONSOR

GREENE KING



GREENE KING
BURY ST EDMUND

We have been making beer at our brewery in Bury St Edmunds since 1799 and, through constant innovation, we have taken the traditional art of brewing to new heights, producing what is arguably the finest range of cask ales in the country.

Despite the simplicity of the ingredients - barley, water, yeast and hops - it's in the creation of the recipe that the art and skill of the master brewer lies. And here is the real secret of our success. We can turn those basic ingredients into some of the best cask ales available today - each with its own individual flavour, aroma, colour and characteristics.

We use locally sourced barley malted just two miles from the brewery; water from the chalk wells sunk deep beneath Bury St Edmunds; hops from Kent and Worcestershire; and yeast strains descended from those used by our founder in 1799.

We are proud to be this evening's match sponsor.



EXECUTIVE BOX HOLDERS

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6: GP Quoreenton Ltd
GP QUOREENTON LTD

7: Keith Elkington Transport Ltd
KEITH ELKINGTON TRANSPORT

8: Book Keeping and Accounts
BOOK KEEPING AND ACCOUNTS

9: Pictons Solicitors



10: Fascel Group Ltd



11: Crossco Luton Ltd



13: Barham Press



14: TJ Aldridge



15: Taylor French Developments Ltd



16: Prestige Design
Prestige
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17: Fanfare Ltd
FANFARE LTD

18: CME Heating Ltd
CME
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19: Markate Precision Machining
MPM

20: Vauxhall
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21: Automated Technology Group
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22: Dot Group International
DOT group
International

25: Middle East Chemicals
MIDDLE EAST CHEMICALS LTD

26: G Owen Ceramic Tiling Ltd
G OWEN CERAMIC TILING LTD

27: SKF UK Ltd
SKF

WE'RE
MAKING
BETTING
LESS
MISSED OUT
MORE
CASHED OUT

sky BET

CASH OUT

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Welcome to Kenilworth Road **LEYTON ORIENT**



It gives us great pleasure to welcome everyone associated with Leyton Orient back to Kenilworth Road for the second time this season.

Orient were our visitors at the start of September for a Johnstone's Paint Trophy clash here that ended with the Town winning 2-1 thanks to a last-gasp goal from Stephen O'Donnell.

However it is important League 2 points that are up for grabs this evening with Orient aiming to build on their decent start to life back in the fourth tier.

Following last season's relegation, the O's turned to Ian Hendon, a man who had played over 150 times in the Orient defence in the 1990s, with hopes of an immediate return to League 1.

Five games into this season and the Brisbane Road faithful were licking their lips at a successful season with their side top of the table and boasting a 100 per cent record. They began the campaign with a 2-0 win at home to Barnet before winning 3-1 at Dagenham. A 3-0 victory over Stevenage at Brisbane Road was then followed by a 3-2 win at struggling Newport

before Hendon's side then beat Bristol Rovers 2-0.

Since those opening five games, however, it hasn't been as plain sailing with Orient winning just once since then in League 2.

Their winning run was ended with an abrupt 4-0 defeat at Exeter four days after their defeat here in the JPT.

Scoring goals hasn't been a problem for Hendon's side with 24 flying into their opponents' net after their Saturday game at home to Oxford. The issue for Orient, though, has been keeping them out as their entertaining attacking football has led to 18 goals being conceded at the other end.

Both the Town and Orient made a number of changes for the JPT tie so there could be some different faces on show tonight. One visiting player in particular was absent from that game, striker Jay Simpson. The former Arsenal and QPR forward has been in red-hot form this season and has 10 goals

TEAM PROFILE **LEYTON ORIENT**

Nickname: The O's
Ground: Brisbane Road
Last season: 23rd League 1
Manager: Ian Hendon
Last league match:
Orient 2-2 Oxford

HATTERS v ORIENT

Luton wins 30
Draws 15
Orient wins 17

to his name already this term. Simpson had begun to strike up a partnership with Paul McCallum but, after scoring three goals, McCallum suffered a knee injury which could keep him on the sidelines for up to six months.

The O's record down the years against the Hatters won't fill any of the Orient fans in the Oak Road end tonight with much confidence – the Town have won 30 to Orient's 17 – but they can take heart from the fact their team have won their last two games in the Football League against the Hatters. During the Town's downward spiral from League 1 in 2007/08, Orient won 2-1 at Brisbane Road in January 2008 before triumphing 1-0 at Kenilworth Road almost a month later.

LAST MEETING

Luton 2-1 Orient 1/9/15

Meet the **VISITORS**

OUR GUIDE TO THE MEN FROM BRISBANE ROAD

THE BOSS

IAN HENDON

Head Coach Ian was appointed in May, signing a two-year deal. Hendon had previously been first-team coach at West Ham United during Sam Allardyce's spell with the Hammers. Hendon enjoyed a four-year spell as a player with the O's and also skippered the side during that time.

BETWEEN THE STICKS

ALEX CISAK

Polish stopper Alex was Orient's ninth summer arrival when putting pen-to-paper on a two-year deal. Began his career with Leicester before a move to Oldham. An Australian under-20 international.

IN DEFENCE

SEAN CLOHESSY

Full-back Sean penned a two-

year deal with the O's in June 2015 following his departure from Colchester. Started his career at Arsenal before spells at Salisbury and Southend.

FRAZER SHAW

Young left-back joined Orient this summer having been released by West Ham, where he worked under Ian Hendon. Spent 2013/14 season with Dulwich Hamlet, earning an England C call-up.

CONNOR ESSAM

Towering centre-half Connor made the move to Orient in July 2015 following a successful trial at the Club. Started at Gillingham, spent

a short spell on loan here before joining Dover.

ALAN DUNNE

Irish defender Dunne signed a two-year deal with Orient in the summer of 2015, bringing a 23-year relationship with Millwall to an end. Made 388 appearances for the Lions.

MATHIEU BAUDRY

French centre-half Mathieu was added to the O's defensive ranks in June 2012 when he joined on a two-year contract following his release by AFC Bournemouth.

THE MEN IN THE MIDDLE

DEAN COX

Attacking midfielder Cox is now Orient's longest serving player having joined in summer 2010 from Brighton. Scored 17 goals in 2013/14, seven last year and already has three this term.

LLOYD JAMES

Former Wales Under-21 international Lloyd penned a two-year deal with the O's in the summer of 2012 after he turned down the chance to stay with fellow League 1 outfit Colchester United.

SAMMY MOORE

Midfielder Sammy joined Leyton Orient in June 2015 when he signed a two-year deal with the club. A youngster at Charlton, Chelsea and Ipswich he then served Stevenage and AFC Wimbledon as a pro.

BLAIR TURGOTT

Former West Ham United winger Blair signed a one-year deal with

Orient in June 2015. An England youth international, he has enjoyed loan spells at Bradford, Colchester, Rotherham and Dagenham.

BRADLEY PRITCHARD

Zimbabwean midfielder Pritchard signed a two-year deal with Orient in June 2014. Made his name in non-league with Hayes & Yeading and Tamworth before joining Charlton, who he helped to promotion.

JOBI McANUFF

Experienced Jamaica international Jobi signed a two-year deal with the O's in July 2014 following his release from Reading. Also served Palace, Cardiff and Watford.

UP FRONT

OLLIE PALMER

Powerful forward Ollie became Orient's fifth summer signing of 2015 when he put pen-to-paper on a two-year deal. Came to prominence with Havant & Waterlooville before joining Mansfield.

PAUL McCALLUM

Striker with three goals to his name already this term, Paul signed a two-year deal with Leyton Orient in June 2015 following his release from West Ham United.

JAY SIMPSON

Tricky forward Jay signed a three-year deal with the O's in July 2014. The O's leading scorer with 10 goals already this season, he joined Orient following a spell in Thailand with Buriram United.





From the OAK ROAD

AFTER RELEGATION FROM LEAGUE 1 LAST TERM ORIENT BEGAN THIS SEASON ON FIRE, WINNING THEIR FIRST FIVE GAMES. HAVING ENDURED PLENTY OF OFF-THE-FIELD PROBLEMS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS WHAT'S THE TRUE EXPECTATIONS OF O'S FANS? DANIEL SLAWINSKI ANSWERS OUR QUESTIONS

THE SEASON AHEAD...

Following relegation last season what were Orient fans' genuine expectations in League 2 this year?

After last season's farce on and off the pitch I think Orient fans just wanted their team back. Expectations are and will always be high but we've got a new group of players, new manager and set-up behind the scenes, so it's all about stability this season for me. I think on paper our starting 11 is as good as anyone's in League 2 though.

Ian Hendon took over in May. Given he's a former player of yours will he be given a little more time if success doesn't come immediately this season? What's he like and have you been impressed so far?

For me it's refreshing to have a manager who can actually take the team talks without the use of a translator – so instant brownie points for that. As far as I'm aware, Hendon was a well liked figure/captain at the O's but I have met him on a few occasions and he's always very outgoing and has time for the fans. Mind you I wouldn't want to get on the wrong side of him. He's brought in a tight knit unit of backroom staff and he seems like he's not afraid to give youth a chance so that's pleasing to see.



You started the season with five straight wins but it hasn't been so easy since. It's been a while since you were in League 2, so do you think the division is better than you expected?

The fixture list was very kind for those first five games and it allowed our new squad to grow and gain confidence after a very good pre season. Some of the results of late haven't gone our way but in many of the games it's momentary lapses of concentration at both ends that is costing us.

You certainly have a squad capable of mounting a strong promotion challenge. Would it be seen as a failure if you don't go up this year?

Some fans/pundits may see it as a failure, but in all honesty it's about rebuilding the team and bringing a youthful aspect to our side. If you said after last season's

shenanigans that we would make the Play-Offs this season I would bite your hand off... especially after the shipping out of deadwood that Hendon has done over the summer.

Tell us about the stars in your squad. Jay Simpson is certainly a man who knows where the goal is. Surely there aren't many better players at this level than him? Who else is there to watch out for tonight?

Jay Simpson when he is fit and raring he is far too good for this league. Last season he was injured for a good chunk of the season which didn't help our fortunes but *touches wood* if he can stay fit I think he will surpass 20 goals this season with ease.

Loyalty in football is few and far between nowadays and for Dean Cox to stay after pretty much half of the team last season who were relegated jumped sideways to other team's in the league just shows what kind of character he really is, and how he does love the football club.

SEASONS PAST...

Tell us about you. Why do you support Orient? When did it all start? What was your first game? What do you remember about it?

I live locally so it made complete sense to support the local team.



The Orient players reflect on their Play-Off final defeat in 2014

I started watching Orient about six years ago now and I haven't looked back since. It's all part of your identity and at this wonderful club I have made friends for life.

It's been a bit of a rollercoaster for Orient in the past few seasons. A defeat in the League 1 Play-Off final followed by relegated to League 2. What's the past few seasons been like supporting the O's?

My eyes have witnessed some magical moments such as a FA Cup run drawing with Arsenal at home, Play-Off final heartbreak, Swerving relegation... and of course less glamorous moments such as relegation. It certainly has been a rollercoaster of a ride.

Give us your all-time Orient XI

A bit like fantasy football so I'm going to include some famous ex-Orient names that are still plying their trade. They line up 4-5-1:

Eldin Jakupovic
Charlie Daniels
Moses Odubajo
Nathan Clarke (C)
Scott Cuthbert
Dean Cox
Andros Townsend
Stephen Dawson
Ashley Chambers
Romain Vincelot
Harry Kane

What are your best and worst memories of Orient versus Luton clashes?

We played each other in the JPT, both teams had changes in line-ups but to lose the game the way we did to a deflected goal was extremely unlucky. Think tonight's game will be a close affair though.

There are a few links between the two clubs today. Scott Cuthbert served you well for four seasons and Kevin Dearden was on the books as a goalkeeping coach. Was Scott's departure a surprise and were you sad to see him leave Brisbane Road?

I always loved Scott Cuthbert, he wears his heart on his sleeve and gives everything for the team.

Not going to lie, when I saw he moved sideways to another team in the league I was slightly annoyed but then again the club hadn't given him the assurances he needed, especially with a new born on the way. Wish him all the best here at Luton though. As for Kevin Dearden, he's fantastic professional who I can only imagine is great to have around the dressing room.

What do you expect from today's game? What's your prediction? Are you looking forward to the lack of leg room in the away end?

Hopefully the away end will be standing so shouldn't have to worry too much about that. I expect a tough game; hopefully Jack Marriot doesn't get sent off for swearing at us away fans again... I'll say 2-1 Orient because I'm optimistic.

QUICKFIRE

Terrace or Seats? Terrace
Who are your rivals? Southend
Greatest Orient hero? Kevin Lisbie or Laurie Cunningham

Guess your player of the season
Jay Simpson

Favourite Orient moment

Beating Peterborough in the Play-Off semi-finals and getting to Wembley, won't talk about what happened after though...

If you could bring one player from the past back in the Orient team who would it be?

Matt Lockwood 100 per cent, because we need someone who can take penalties and I heard he wasn't half bad a that.

Most treasured Orient piece of memorabilia? I have the crest tattooed on the inside of my arm... I guess that's memorabilia right?

Who will win promotion from League 2? It's about time Portsmouth got out of this league right?



COVER STORY

Club historian ROGER WASH tells the story of the match behind today's programme cover

LUTON TOWN 3 ORIENT 1

16th March 1974

During the 1973 close season the Luton directors formulated a five-year plan, at the end of which it was hoped that the club would have achieved promotion from Division Two (now the Championship) back to the top flight.

Had they known this objective would be achieved four years early, they might have come out in a cold sweat, because the club's finances were far from being on a firm footing.

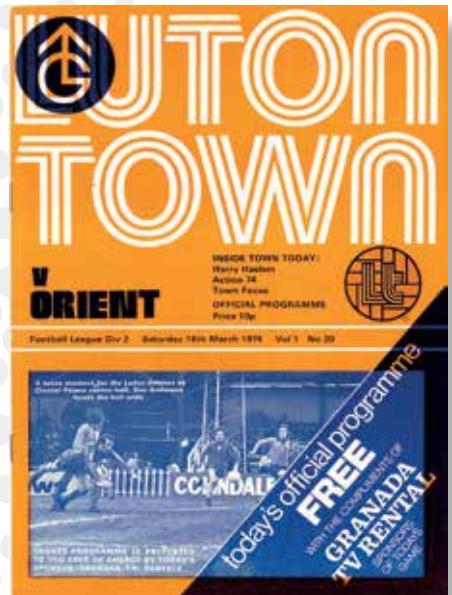
Despite all the normal pre-season hype, hopes drained away in ninety awful minutes on the opening day of the campaign as the Town went down 4-0 at Nottingham Forest. In effect, the pre-season work had to be re-started and it was back to the drawing board for manager Harry Haslam and his coaches.

Fortunately the gap of a week between the Forest debacle and the first home game was enough to right most of the wrongs with Carlisle being put to the sword as six goals in 23 first half minutes rained into their net.

The Hatters failed to repeat this devastating performance but form over the autumn months remained reasonable and the team found itself



Jimmy Husband nets his hat trick goal against the O's



fighting with a group of clubs behind runaway leaders Middlesbrough.

It was generally reckoned that we were just an average side competing in a poor division (Middlesbrough apart) as proved by a run of six games with only one win around Christmas which failed to dislodge us from second spot. It was as if everyone was trying to avoid promotion!

Despite this the Luton supporters felt that it could be our year by default and looked forward to the visit of Orient (as they were known at the time) in mid-March – a game which pitted the second and third placed clubs against each other.

A best of the season crowd, at that stage, of 17,045 gathered at Kenilworth Road on a sunny day to see the Town go straight into the attack from the start and their

barnstorming efforts were rewarded with a goal after five minutes.

Jimmy Husband had been signed from Everton for £70,000 the previous December but had arrived at Kenilworth Road, by his own admission, a little overweight and unfit and was then subsequently injured.

He had only scored one goal at that point in the season but his brilliantly taken early effort suddenly opened supporters' eyes as they realised what we had paid all that money for.

Unfortunately, Orient levelled five minutes later when defender Phil Hoadley rocketed in a long range shot into the top corner which beat Graham Horn in the Luton goal all ends up.

For the remainder of the half the game was end to end with chances

created by both sides but spurned, the wood work hit and flying saves made by Horn and his Orient counterpart John Jackson.

In the second period the Hatters gradually gained the upper hand and pushed the O's back with full backs John Ryan and Bobby Thomson being used as additional wingers in the days before wing backs.

Despite all the pressure the Town could not find the breakthrough until up popped the forgotten man Husband with his second goal after 76 minutes. John Ryan fired in two low hard crosses which were blocked before striker Barry Butlin put in a higher ball which was thumped in on the volley by new Luton hero Husband.

Husband was not finished though as four minutes later a fierce shot

from John Ryan was not held by Jackson with the ball falling nicely to him as he cheekily headed it home for his hat-trick.

Haslam had said in the past, "Once Husband starts banging them in you watch him." As has been proved so often over the years, the manager is usually right.

As it turned out, we won only two of our final nine games but still went up with Orient finishing in fourth place one point behind Carlisle who were also promoted.

Middlesbrough won the division by a country mile.

Luton Town: Horn, John Ryan, Thomson, Anderson, Faulkner, Garner, Jim Ryan, Husband, Butlin, West Aston.

Orient: Jackson, Payne, Roffey, Boyle, Hoadley, Walley, Fairbrother, Brisley, Queen, Allen, Downing.

THE PROGRAMME



The Town produced a 12-page programme for the visit of Orient and in the early days of match sponsorship Granada TV rentals have a four-page insert advertising their wares stapled in the centre.

New age colour televisions with massive 26-inch screens could be rented from Granada but no prices are given although a 12-inch black and white set was £2 per month.

Manager Harry Haslam, in his notes, was quietly confident that this would be our year and called on the supporters to give it one final push.

The player interviewed was young Nicky Sparks who sadly did not make the grade. His favourite male singer was Neil Diamond and female, Olivia Newton-John. His favourite group (no bands in those days apart from Billy Cotton) was The Carpenters.

DEFINING MOMENTS

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS SELECTS EIGHT KEY MATCHES AND MOMENTS THAT HAVE SHAPED LEYTON ORIENT'S POST-WAR ERA

1956 TITLE TRIUMPH

Leyton Orient clinched the Third Division (South) title with a 2-1 victory over Millwall in front of 22,377 at Brisbane Road on 26th April 1956. Tommy Johnston and Phil White hit the post during a goalless first-half. Orient broke the deadlock on 50 minutes when Johnny Hartburn scored direct from a corner but Millwall drew level six minutes later as Joe Tyrell crossed for Johnny Summers to score. Alec Stock's side regained the lead on the hour when the ball was headed forward by skipper Stan Aldous and Johnston smashed it into the net. Orient scored a club record 106 goals that season and gained a record 66 points.

1962 PROMOTED TO TOP-FLIGHT

Orient secured promotion to the top-flight for the first time with a 2-0 victory over Bury watched by 21,617 at Brisbane Road on 28th April 1962. Johnny Carey's side took the lead on 14 minutes when Mal Graham headed into the roof of the net following good work by Dave Dunmore and Derek Gibbs. They continued to attack and Chris Harker made several fine saves. Orient doubled their advantage with just five minutes left as Graham cut inside and scored with a low drive. Promotion was confirmed when Sunderland failed to beat lowly Swansea and skipper Stan Charlton was chaired off the pitch in an emotional climax.

1962 ORIENT LICK TOFFEES

Leyton Orient swept to a 3-0 First Division victory over eventual champions Everton at Brisbane Road on 12th September 1962. Terry McDonald's brilliant late goal had clinched a 1-0 win over Manchester United four days earlier. The O's, managed by former Everton boss Johnny Carey, went ahead against the Toffees on 53 minutes when Norman Deeley slammed the ball

home. Four minutes later, Gordon Bolland scored from McDonald's centre and Orient began to run the First Division leaders ragged. Dave Dunmore glanced in the third goal from McDonald's 80th-minute free-kick. It was Everton's heaviest defeat of the season.

1970 THIRD DIVISION CHAMPIONS

Jimmy Bloomfield managed Orient to the Third Division championship in 1969/70. The O's started with a 3-0 victory at Rochdale and emerged as early pace-setters after losing just one of their opening 13 matches. Barrie Fairbrother scored on his League debut to clinch a 1-0 win over Mansfield and Orient went top of the table by New Year as rivals Luton faltered.



Orient celebrate promotion at Oxford in 2006

Skipped by Terry Mancini, they clinched promotion with a 1-0 victory at Bradford City with three games remaining. Orient secured the title as Mark Lazarus' goal game them a 1-0 victory over Shrewsbury Town in front of 13,268 at Brisbane Road on 25th April 1970.

1978 FA CUP SEMI-FINALISTS

Jimmy Bloomfield returned and managed Orient to the FA Cup semi-finals in 1977/78. Peter Kitchen scored to give the O's a 1-1 third round draw at home to top-flight Norwich City, then netted again as they triumphed 1-0 in the replay at Carrow Road. Kitchen scored twice more in a 3-1 fourth round win at home to Blackburn Rovers, then repeated the feat in a 2-1 fifth round replay victory at Chelsea. Following a 0-0 draw at Middlesbrough in the sixth round, Kitchen and Joe Mayo scored as Orient won 2-1 at home to Boro in the replay on 14th March 1978. The O's lost 3-0 to Arsenal in the semi-final at neutral Stamford Bridge.

1989 PROMOTION PLAY-OFF WINNERS

Frank Clark plotted Leyton Orient's 1988/89 Fourth Division play-off final triumph. The O's overcame a disappointing start and lost only twice in 16 games to qualify for the Play-Offs in sixth place. They beat Scarborough 2-1 in the semi-finals and drew 0-0 at Wrexham in the final first-leg. Four days later, on 3rd June 1989, Orient faced Wrexham in the second leg watched by 13,355 at Brisbane Road. Leading scorer Alan Comfort gave the O's the lead with a 20 yard shot

just before the interval but Jon Bowden headed Wrexham level on 47 minutes. Orient clinched a 2-1 victory with Mark Cooper's shot in the 82nd minute.

1999 WEMBLEY FINALISTS

Tommy Taylor guided Leyton Orient to the Third Division Play-Off final in 1998/99. Early results were inconsistent but the arrival of former French international Amara Simba in October coincided with a 10-match unbeaten run that lifted the O's up to second place. Fellow newcomers Matthew Beall and Scott Barrett helped Orient maintain their promotion challenge with five straight wins and they qualified for the Play-Offs in sixth position. The O's beat Rotherham United 4-2 on penalties after a 0-0 draw in the semi-finals but narrowly lost 1-0 to Scunthorpe United in the Play-Off final at Wembley on 29th May 1999.

2006 PROMOTION WINNERS

Leyton Orient clinched promotion with a dramatic 3-2 League 2 win over Oxford United at the Kassam Stadium on 6th May 2006. Martin Ling's side attacked from the start and former O's keeper Billy Turley made several fine saves. Eric Sabin gave Oxford United a surprise lead on 14 minutes but Craig Easton equalised within three minutes, with the home team desperate for a win to preserve Football League status. Gary Alexander fired Orient ahead after 64 minutes but Chris Willmott levelled just two minutes later. It seemed that Grimsby might pip the O's to promotion but Lee Steele netted the winner in the dying seconds.

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Numbers GAME

ORIENT AND THE HATTERS IN NUMBERS

14 From March 1979 and up until a 1-0 defeat in 2008, the Hatters went 14 matches without defeat against the O's. Of those 14 games the Town won an impressive 12, including eight on the spin between October 1981 and August 2005.

9-0 The Town's biggest win over Orient came in an FA Cup first round tie in 1927 at Kenilworth Road. In front of 9,639 the Hatters recorded an emphatic 9-0 win with Jimmy Yardley on target four times.



FIVE OF THE BEST

When the Hatters recorded a 5-3 win over Orient in December 1935, Bill Boyd scored all five goals. Boyd only played 13 times for the Town in his career but still managed to score 11 goals.

DID YOU KNOW?

Between September 1980 and that win in 2005, the Hatters were unbeaten in 14 matches against Orient, winning an impressive 12 of those.

20 After beating Orient at Kenilworth Road thanks to goals from David Moss and Ricky Hill in March 1982 the Town wouldn't meet the O's again for another 20 years in League competition. After meeting in the League Cup and Auto Windscreens Shield the Hatters did the double over Orient in 2001/02 – a season in which they won promotion from Division 3 (now League 2).

1-6

Orient's biggest victory over the Town came when they were known as Clapton Orient. The O's put six past the Hatters in Division 3 (South) in April 1930.

HOME COMFORTS

Overall the Hatters' record at Kenilworth Road against the O's reads 21 wins from 31 games, four draws and six defeats.



21,312

The largest ever attendance to watch a game between the two clubs came at Brisbane Road when over 20,000 watched a goalless draw in April 1962. That was the season Orient were promoted to the top flight for the first time in their history.

LEYTON ORIENT TROPHY CABINET

DIVISION 3 SOUTH CHAMPIONS 1956

DIVISION 3 CHAMPIONS 1970

LEAGUE 2 THIRD PLACE 2006

TOWN 1 1 YORK

WHAT'S THE STORY?

Cameron McGeehan's second-half penalty was not enough to prevent the Town's winning league run from coming to an end following a 1-1 draw with York at Kenilworth Road.

The midfielder tucked home his sixth goal of the season following a foul on Dan Potts, but it proved a frustrating afternoon for the Hatters.

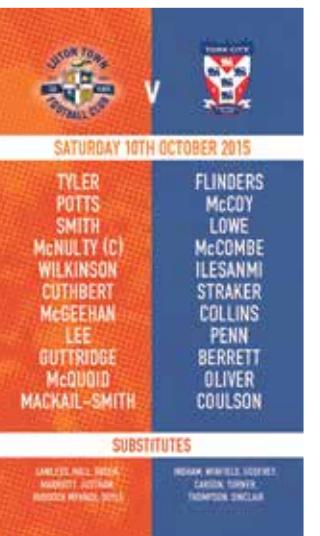
York had taken the lead when Keith Lowe slotted home from a knock-down in the first-half, as the visitors continued their strong recent form against the Hatters.

And while both teams pushed for a win, clear-cut chances were few and far between late on – Luke Wilkinson's header apart. The Town's winless run against the Minstermen now stretches to nine games.



5	CORNERS	6
3	SHOTS ON TARGET	0
4	SHOTS WIDE	4
14	FOULS	9
5	OFFSIDES	2

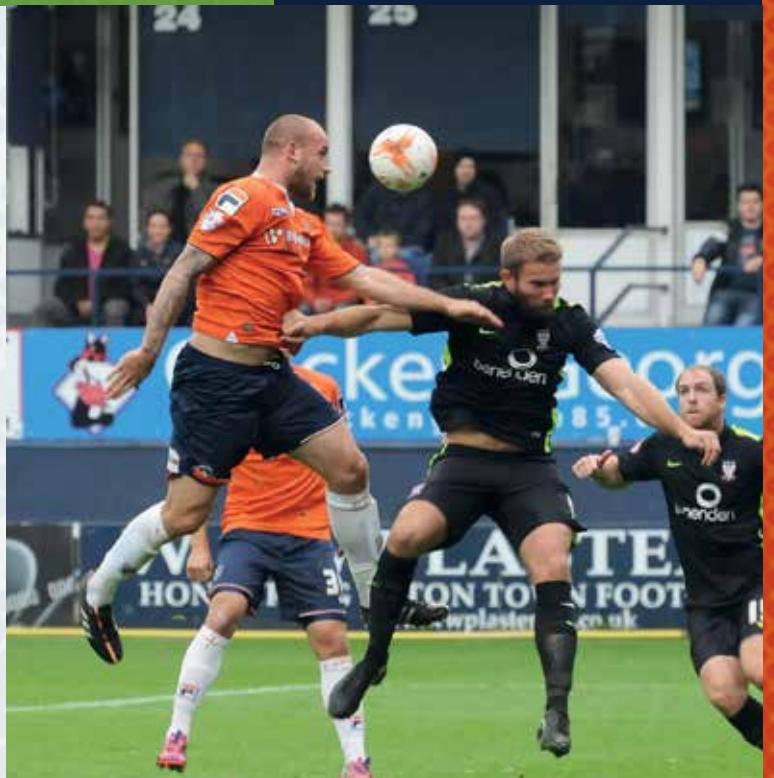
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222 YORK



Cameron McGeehan fires the Town level from the spot against York

STILL SAID:

"All in all, I'm disappointed but, at the same time, if we're not going to have a good day we've taken something from it, so I was happy with that. We've had some good performances and we're not going to be great every week but we've got to be disciplined every week and that's why we're disappointed with the goal. "We were not as sharp as we have been. We've had tough games, three away games, but if I use that as an excuse I'm doing the players a disservice. "I just felt that final ball, final cross, final pass wasn't there. We needed that key just to unlock the door, once we got the penalty, I actually thought we might, but it became pretty evident – and every respect to them for doing it as I would do it in their situation – they then tried not to get beaten and it probably worked out so I can't moan."





Herald & Post

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REACTION

DUO REFLECT ON YORK DRAW

Town duo Alex Lawless and Cameron McGeehan insist that the 1-1 draw with York was a point gained as opposed to two lost.

The Hatters had won the previous four League 2 games, but came up against a resolute Minstermen defence, coming from a goal down to rescue a point through McGeehan's second-half penalty.

But Lawless, who came on as a second half substitute, feels the draw can help continue the excellent run the Town have developed in recent weeks, while playing down the significance of going nine games without victory against York.

He said: "There's not really much of a hoodoo to be honest. You can't win every game, and we've had a good run recently, so we're better off looking at it as a point gained.

"We believe in ourselves that we can get back into games, and we're more disappointed that we haven't actually gone on to win the game.

"All the games and formations are different, but today we perhaps didn't really make the most of it, but I'm sure we'll learn from that and hopefully break it down."

McGeehan, meanwhile, shares the disappointment of his teammate, but agrees that it was more important to maintain the unbeaten record, which has now stretched to five games in the division.

He said: "We're a little bit disappointed because we've been doing so well recently, but the goal we conceded let us down. If we don't concede then we go on and win that game by two or three

goals, but we can go on and learn from that. But a point is not the worst result."

The Hatters faced some tough travels during September and October, facing Morecambe and Hartlepool on the road in the space of a week, taking six points from the two games.

And McGeehan is keen to match the form of last year, which saw the Town win seven on the spin around the same time of the season, looking to convert their freedom away from home back to Kenilworth Road performances.

WORKING

"It's mentally tiring playing these tough games, but we've had some decent results, and five games unbeaten in the league is no mean feat. We've got to keep working with that and the goals will come," McGeehan added.

"I think there's a bit of pressure on us at home, bigger fanbase and a lot of the players are still new, getting used to the Kenilworth Road. Teams who come here try and play for a draw and kill the game."

"We just need to keep the tempo high, try and get an early goal."

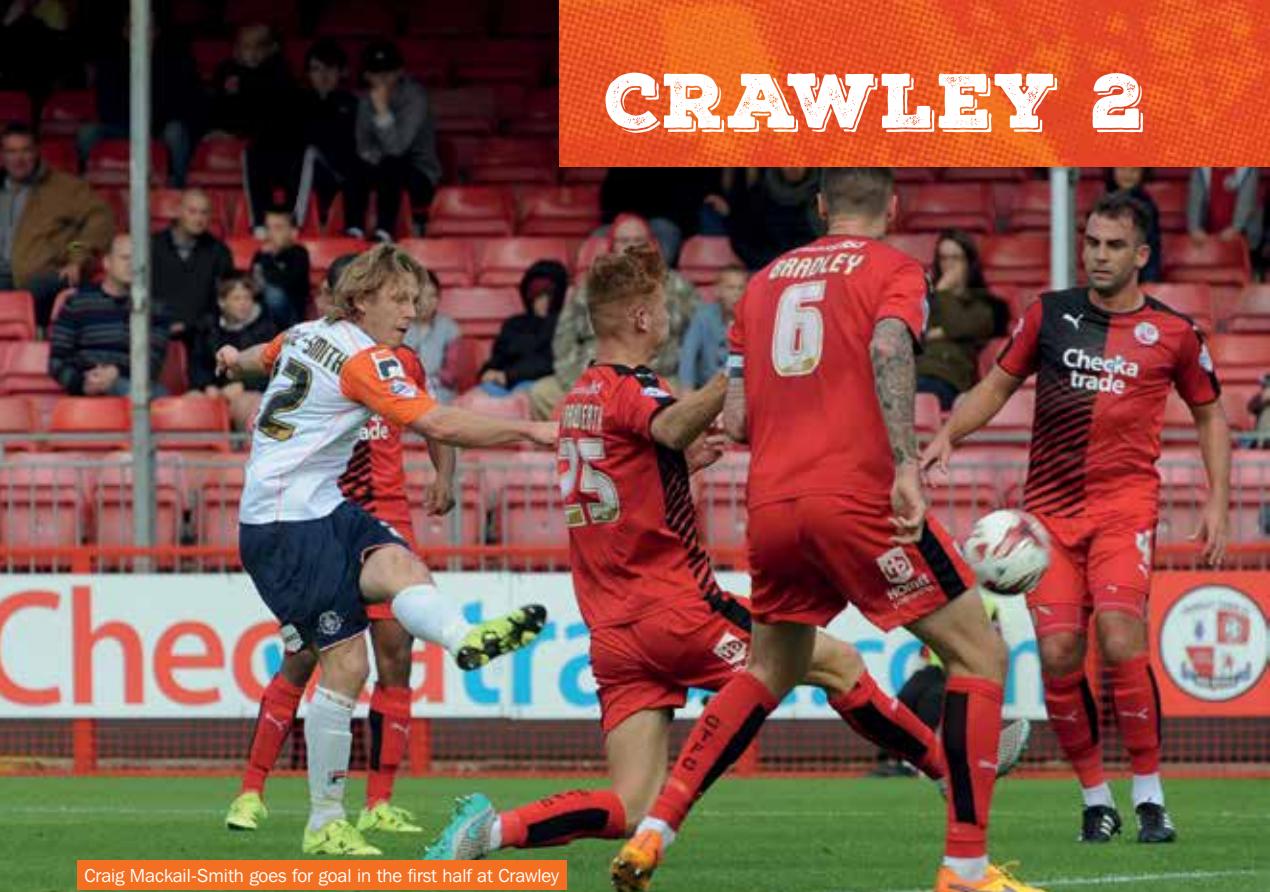
"The theme of last season was looking to grind teams down, particularly in the second half of games, looking to get two or three. The goal was a killer because then we had to go chasing and we've had some tough games recently."



McGeehan notched his sixth goal of the campaign against York from the penalty spot after Dan Potts was fouled, but is focused more on team achievements than personal accolades.

"It's all about winning the games. I'd have rather not won the game and not scored – I know it's a cliché but it's true. I'm going for 15 goals, but I've just to keep going and keep trying to score, and if I get there quicker then I'll have to re-evaluate. We've got a really strong squad, and there's boys there who are frustrated because we've got some really good players on the bench there and you feel for them a bit. That's the strength of our squad – everyone has got to be on their toes."

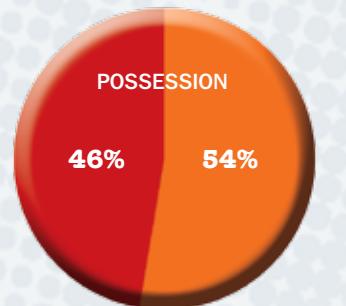
CRAWLEY 2 1 TOWN



Craig Mackail-Smith goes for goal in the first half at Crawley



ATTENDANCE 3,335
1,412 LUTON



7	CORNERS	6
3	SHOTS ON TARGET	2
5	SHOTS WIDE	6
8	FOULS	12
3	OFFSIDES	1

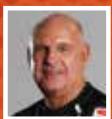
WHAT'S THE STORY?

Second half goals from Rhys Murphy and Matt Harrold consigned the Hatters to a 2-1 defeat from their trip to Crawley.

Cameron McGeehan had given the Town the lead thanks to a first-half header, but a rejuvenated home side delivered a sucker-punch display to sink the visitors.

McGeehan's goal capped off a strong first period, but Luton were perhaps guilty of not making their chances count with little goal-mouth threat after the interval.

Murphy levelled for the hosts with a close range header midway through the second period before Harrold's low strike from outside the penalty area nine minutes from time won it for the Red Devils. The defeat ended the Town's five-game unbeaten run, as well as their promising away run which had seen victories in the previous two outings on the road.



STILL SAID:

“ We said at half-time that we felt we were comfortable and their only way back in would be sloppy passing from us and giving away free-kicks. In the second half we did both.

“ We've played six games. Won four and drawn one. Am I disappointed with that? No I'm not, but I'm disappointed with the game today.

“ We have two home games now.

“ We've been good away from home. I've got no issues with playing home or away but it'll be good to be back home. ”



	V	
STARTING XI - 17TH OCTOBER 2015		
FLAHAVAN	TYLER	
WALTON	POTTS	
SMITH	DOYLE	
YOUNG	CUTHBERT (C)	
BRADLEY (C)	LONG	
HARROLD	SMITH	
EDWARDS	WILKINSON	
DEACON	LEE	
MURPHY	McGEEHAN	
YORWERTH	MARRIOTT	
HANCOX	MACKAIL-SMITH	
SUBSTITUTES		
BARNABY, BURNEY, PRESTER, FENLON, ASHTON, JENKINSON, DRAKELEY		
LAWLESS, MALL, MCINTOSH, ASHTON, BURNEY, MCINTOSH, PRESTER, DRAKELEY		



Traveller's TALES

ARDENT HATTERS FAN KEVIN HARPER CONTINUES TO DOCUMENT HIS TRAVELS AROUND THE COUNTRY FOLLOWING THE TOWN. HERE'S HIS TAKE ON SATURDAY'S GAME AT CRAWLEY.

The journey

After a good recent run of form two full Bobbers coaches left Luton Interchange shortly after the scheduled 11am departure time for a rare trip south to Crawley.

I sensed there was a good deal of positivity and expectation around those on the coaches and why wouldn't there be after two excellent away performances before this match?

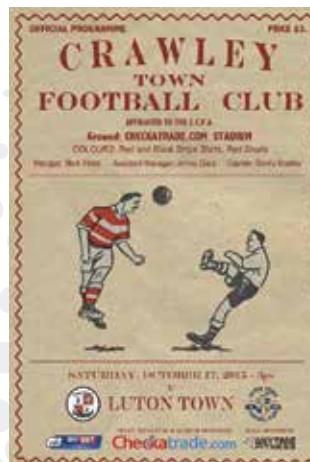
We encountered a bit of traffic on the M25 but nothing too major which was good and we were parked up outside the ground around 1.30pm with a short wait until the turnstiles opened.

Rating: 

The ground

Broadfield Stadium, or the Check-a-Trade.com Stadium to give it the correct moniker, certainly isn't anything to write home about. Town fans had the terrace behind the goal and a seated stand I'm not sure how to describe.

It was like something out of a golf tournament with a marquee held up by some metal posts over the flimsiest of temporary stands. Gaps in the steps ensured anyone who wanted to see it could see the drop awaiting them if the stand gave way



there was the chance for those who wanted to grab a pint before the game to do so which was one advantage to the place.

Rating: 

The programme

A 68-page issue which cost £3 was produced for this match with plenty of Crawley's history detailed in it. There was a couple of pages on the Town squad and another couple with our defining moments in. They were good reads but unless you were a Crawley fan the rest of it would have been of little interest.

– not for the faint hearted!

The view was nothing special and the leg room was pretty poor so it is fair to say I made the wrong decision to sit in this one.

Rating: 

The food

Again nothing special. There was the one refreshment kiosk on the way into the ground which had some hot food and plenty of confectionary and the usual array of drinks. It was moderately priced but in the main it didn't look the best in truth.

There was a bar outside the ground which let Town fans in so



found Cameron McGeehan at the back stick and the rampaging midfielder looped a header over the keeper. It looked like it might be headed away but, with the whole of Sussex to head the ball into, the Crawley defender nutted it into his own net – jolly nice chap!

A long range shot from Jonathan Smith almost doubled the lead and if anything half-time came at the wrong time with the Town well on top and only one side in the game.

I'm not sure what changed at half-time but something did because we were sloppy and Crawley took full advantage of that.

We almost bagged a goal when Jack Marriott's flash volley flew just over but that was as good as it got as Crawley came into the game more and more.

Their equaliser came on 67 minutes when a cross from the left found an unmarked Rhys Murphy and the Crawley forward headed home. Paddy McCourt came on almost immediately but

he couldn't get us back into the game and in the end the inevitable winner arrived for the home side when a cross deflected into the path of Matt Harrold and he fired home from the edge of the area. By this time we'd run out of ideas and weren't even able to muster a grandstand finish as the match fizzled out into one of our most disappointing defeats in recent times.

Rating: 

Man-of-the-match

Not an easy choice in the end here but for his industry and energy I would give it to Jonathan Smith. Smith was constantly putting the Crawley players under pressure and when he got the chance to break he did his best to get down the left and support Dan Potts. Ultimately not many jumped out in this game but Smith is one of the few who came out of the match with any credit.

Summary

A really disappointing day in the end after it promised so much at half-time. We've now got two successive home games, starting this evening, which we can hopefully use well and make up for this defeat.

The journey back was very smooth and we were back in Luton by 6.45pm and I was back home just before 7.30pm. It was nice to have a relatively short day after a couple of long journeys but I'd have swapped the lesser distance for three points.

OVERALL RATING

10 out of 25

MILES TRAVELED THIS SEASON

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REACTION

LONG LOOKING TO MAKE MOST OF LUTON OPPORTUNITY

New Hatters full-back Sean Long is determined to give a lasting impression and put in some strong performances during his time at Kenilworth Road.

The 20-year-old was signed by John Still from Championship side Reading, with the manager choosing to use him immediately for Saturday's defeat at Crawley.

Long meanwhile, who joined on a one-month youth loan from the Royals, admitted that League 2 was a world apart from his previous football experience.

He said: "I did have some expectation of what this style of football would be like, but when you're actually in there it's a lot different. It's a great experience and I'm just hoping that I can push on and contribute a bit more now.

OPPORTUNITY

"I'm looking to step on now with my game. I've played a few seasons with the under-21s at Reading but this is the next level now, heading into league football, and that's why I jumped at the opportunity to come here."

The trip to Crawley was a harsh learning curve for Long, with the Hatters going down 2-1 thanks to second-half goals from Rhys Murphy and Matt Harrold.

The Irishman is now keen for the Town to make amends in the side's next two home games – starting tonight, and then against Plymouth on Saturday, with the youngster relishing the taste of the Kenilworth Road crowd.

"I thought we did alright in the first half, but that second half performance was not good enough. We have to focus on Tuesday now

and hopefully get the result that we want," he added.

"Luton get great support from the fans, and hopefully we can put in a performance for the full 90 minutes on Tuesday to send them home with a smile on their face."

Even before the trip to Sussex, it was a turbulent week for Long, featuring for the Republic of Ireland Under-21s in a home game against Lithuania and then a trip to Italy.

Less than 48 hours later, and the full-back was training for the Hatters, with little time to bed himself into the squad before Saturday.

Long said: "It's been a mad week with Lithuania and then going to Italy on the Tuesday before getting the call to come here, but I'm not complaining – I'm playing league football so I'm happy.

"I knew a lot about the club before coming here anyway, and already knew the Irish lads Paddy McCourt and Mark O'Brien, which is always nice and helped me settle in.

"It's all happened very quickly, but all the lads and staff have been great, allowing me to settle in well after training on Thursday and Friday."

Despite the defeat, there were certainly some positives for



Long to take from his individual performance.

Long delivered the cross for Cameron McGeehan's first-half goal that put the Hatters in front, however he is insistent that the plaudits for the game's opener should go to the midfielder.

SOLID

"First and foremost I'm a defender, so I've got to make sure I'm solid at the back, but I'll also be trying to get forward, put in a few crosses like I did today," he added.

"The manager played a diamond, so it was down to me and Dan Potts to play down the wings and get the width. I just put the ball in and Cameron got on the end of it for me and made me look good.

That was a plus from the game, but we did lose so we need to do better in the next game."

CENTRE SPOT



Cameron McGeehan nods home his seventh goal of the season to give the Town the lead at Crawley on Saturday



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2015 BBC Sport PRICE OF FOOTBALL

The cost of watching football in Britain has dropped or remained the same for the majority of fans, a study by BBC Sport has found

The Price of Football, the largest study of its type in Europe, looked at costs at 230 clubs in 13 leagues across Britain.

More than 700 tickets were analysed, with 70.15% seeing a price freeze or reduction for the 2015/16 season. Some 51.91% were held, while 18.24% of tickets were reduced.

Just less than 30% of tickets surveyed were more expensive this season.

The average cost of a football shirt is £42.18 for adults and £33.66 for children. In the Premier League this rises to £49.68 and £38.42 thanks to a 4.82% increase in the average price this season.

Inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, was -0.1% in September and has been almost flat since hitting a then-record low of 0.3% in January.

The Price of Football surveys the cost of the cheapest and most expensive match day and season tickets, as well as the cost of a pie, programme, cup of tea and adult and junior replica shirts.

Now in its fifth year, the study found:

- Two thirds of Premier League tickets were frozen or reduced in price.
- However the cheapest match-day ticket now costs more than £30 on average for the first time after 11 clubs put up prices in this category.
- Conversely the Scottish Premiership's cheapest ticket now costs £20.17 on average after a 1.2% fall in price. This is less than England's Championship and League One.
- In the Welsh Premier League and Irish Premiership fans pay less than £10 per match.
- Tickets in the Women's Super League in England, which saw attendances increase by 48% after the World Cup in June and July, cost less than £5.



Ticket price highlights

- Arsenal again have the most expensive match day ticket in the Premier League at £97.
- The cheapest matchday ticket in the Premier League is offered by Leicester City at £22.
- Chelsea's cheapest match day ticket is £52, highest-priced of the Premier League's cheapest.
- Derby County, Reading and Huddersfield's £10 match day ticket is the cheapest in the top five leagues in England - only matched by Southport in the Conference.
- The average price of the cheapest match-day ticket in Scottish football's top flight now costs £20.17 on average after a 1.2% fall in price. This is less than England's Championship and League 1.
- In Women's Super Leagues One and Two, match day ticket prices average £4.94.

Season tickets

- Arsenal again have the most expensive season ticket in the Premier League at £2,013.
- Their cheapest season ticket remains £1,014, and is still the most costly in the Premier League - £249 more than the next highest.
- However both Arsenal season tickets include seven matches in cup competitions.
- Stoke City have the cheapest season ticket in the Premier League at £294.
- Reading's £135 season ticket is the cheapest in the top four divisions in England, with only Conference side Eastleigh (£120) cheaper.
- The most expensive season ticket in Scotland is sold by Celtic, at £559, but that fell in price by £41 this season.
- In the Women's Super Leagues One and Two, Notts County have the most expensive season ticket at £60, while London Bees Ladies have the cheapest at £18.



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Hatters through the GENERATIONS

IN THE FIRST IN OUR SERIES OF TALKING TO TOWN FANS OF THEIR EXPERIENCES OF WATCHING THE HATTERS DOWN THE YEARS, **ALAN ADAIR** EXPLAINS HOW MUCH OF A ROLE THE CLUB PLAYS IN HIS LIFE.

So proud of his new-born daughter and so absorbed in a life with the Hatters, Alan Adair admits to enrolling her as a Junior Hatter before he'd even signed her birth certificate.

It's just one story that encapsulates Alan's story as a Hatter, and while he's not the only Town fan with a tale or two to tell – he's the first in this series of stories inside our programme to mark our 130th anniversary season – there's an overriding sense of passion towards the Hatters that certainly makes Alan stand out.

"The club has played a huge part in my life – I might even say it's taken over my life," says Alan. "There's probably some truth in that but there's no question it has played a massive role – to the point in which if there was no Luton Town I don't know what I'd do with myself."

Alan was eight when he was first taken to Kenilworth Road by his father Allan to watch a Town team containing David Pleat beat Exeter City in an FA Cup replay in December 1966.

"The club is special to me, it was what I was brought up with," explains the 57-year-old Lutonian. "My dad and his dad, Tom, were both Scottish. They were Rangers fans. They had moved down to Bedfordshire but had chosen Luton to follow as well because they were the local team. Both of them had

gained employment in the town and felt an affection for the local area and its local club. In their eyes you had to support your local team – that was how I was brought up.

"I remember the night of my first game. It was 1966, and like a lot of children my age, the World Cup had got me interested in football. One night my dad piped up 'do you fancy going to watch a real game? I'll take you'. And off we went.

"I remember vividly the crowd going wild. We sat in the wing stand of the main stand. I was excited, looking around, thinking how fantastic it was. I remember going up the stairs to the seats, sitting down and noticing the little things: the smell of smoke and onions, for example.

"My dad explained to me that Luton were the ones playing in black and white; he bought me a programme. We won 2-0 and Pleat scored one of the goals."

Suitably hooked, Alan's love affair with Luton Town had begun.

However, still a boy, in 1972 Alan moved to the other side of the world with his parents and two sisters to Australia in 1972. It was a long way from Kenilworth Road.

ALAN ADAIR

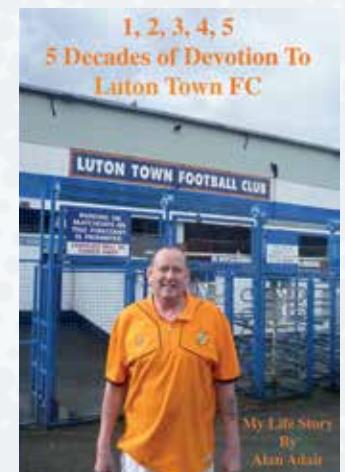
DATE OF BIRTH: 26/4/1958

FAVOURITE GAME: "The obvious one"

Luton 3-2 Arsenal

FAVOURITE PLAYER: Malcolm Macdonald

FIRST GAME: Exeter (H) 1/12/1966

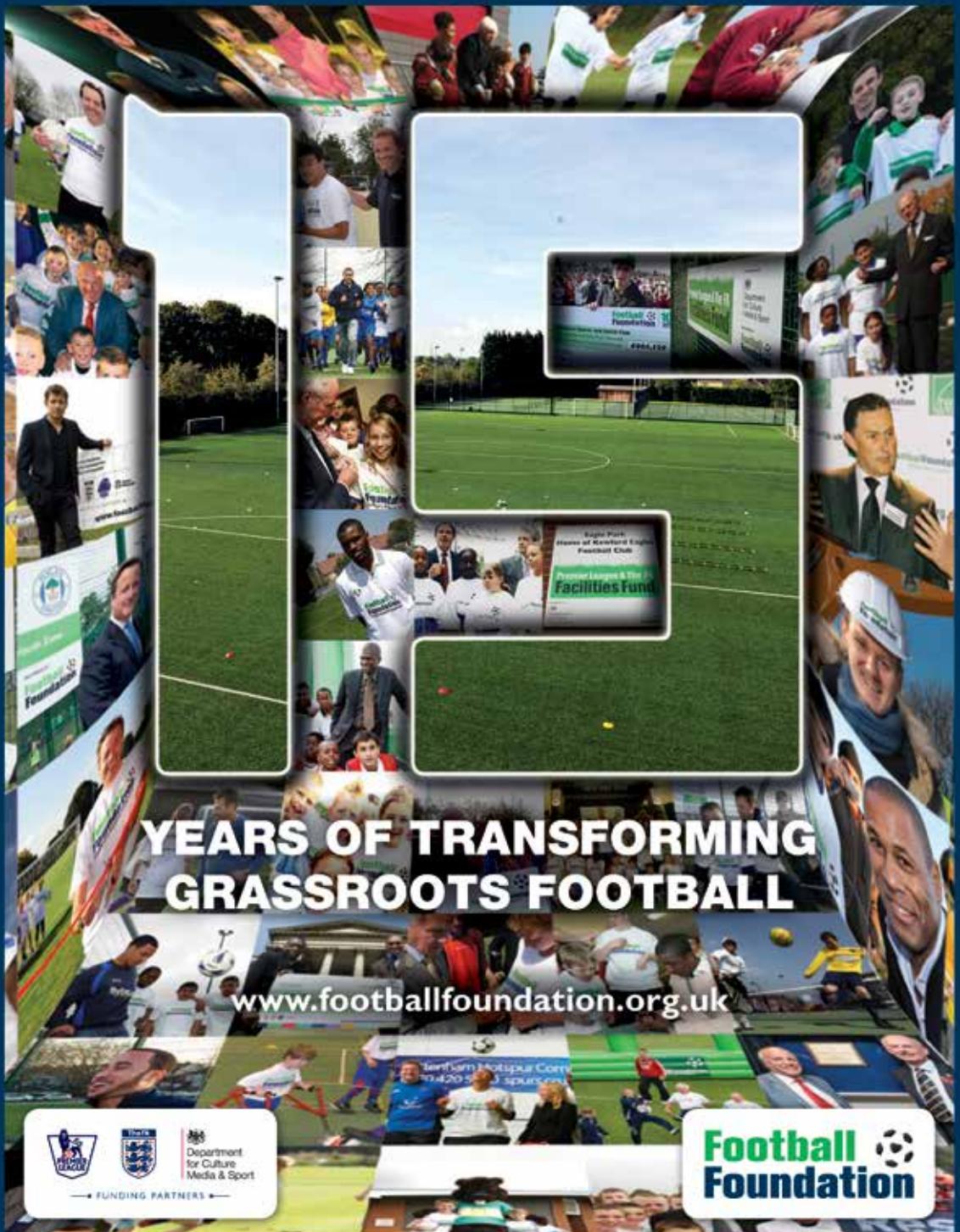


But the move down under only lasted two years. Unbeknown to him at the time, his dad fell ill and wished for a return to the UK.

Their arrival home coincided with the Hatters challenging for promotion to the top-flight. Back among the familiar sights and sounds of Kenilworth Road, Alan never looked back: for 15 years he never missed a single home game.

The importance of the Hatters in Alan's life has been documented in his memoirs -





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Alan pictured at Wembley in 1988



– he published a book, *Five Decades of Devotion to Luton Town*, two years ago.

Whether you've read the book, or reminisced about the Town's good times with him over a pint, it's clear that Alan's loyalty and desire is as strong as it was when he was taken to Kenilworth Road for the first time by his father as a wide-eyed boy.

"It's not all been glory, we've had a lot of bad times," he says. "I didn't like the plastic pitch or the away fan ban but I'm still as passionate now as I've ever been.

"Of course, having seen Luton play in the top flight, I'm going to say those days were better but I still get the same buzz watching Luton now as I did when I was younger."

Regardless of whether the Town are in League 2, the Conference or the top-flight, Alan says he'll be there. But what makes the lure of Luton so special? So important that you keep going back for more despite disappointments?

"For me it's one word: passion," says Alan. "The passion and

comradeship is important. I'm a creature of habit and you'll always see me before a home match in the Bobbers Club, sharing drinks and company.

"Whether we're supporters old or new, we all share one passion, Luton Town. For me, if you ask anyone in my family, they would probably say – apart from my daughters – that Luton Town is the most important things in my life."

UPSURGE

While his Junior Hatter-enrolled daughters Georgina and Mollie no longer yearn for the excitement of watching 11 Luton Town players kick a ball around a pitch for an hour-and-a-half, Alan is delighted to see an upsurge in young people supporting the club he loves.

"I firmly believe the club have done wonders to encourage children to watch the Hatters," he says. "I think we were lucky to convert a lot of younger fans who went to Wembley in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy. There's a new generation of

supporters and it is good to see so many children in Luton shirts these days."

And Alan hopes the Hatters' newest set of supporters can continue the trend of unwavering loyalty that has become a trademark for Town fans down the years.

"The loyalty of Luton supporters is phenomenal really," he says. "It's incredible to think that last season's average attendance in League 2 of 8,702 was higher than the season in the top flight when we won the League Cup in 1987/88."

Alan does like his numbers – a self-confessed "Statto" he has kept hand-written records, which was a handy tool when compiling his own book, which holds all the details of every football match he's witnessed.

"The York home game was my 1,695th," he says without the slightest hint of hesitation or calculation. "Hartlepool was my 590th away game."

Having watched so many matches, celebrated many, many more goals and experienced all the highs and all the lows, Alan ends our discussion perfectly.

"While I've got breath in my body I'll go to every game. I'm not one that pines for the good old days though – I love us now like I always have done."

As he states on his survey, which sat on top of the pile, to the question why do you support Luton Town? "It's what I am – a Hatter in birth, life and death."



PICTURE the PAST

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



Luton skipper Terry Branston (right) heads in the Town's first goal during the 2-1 home win over Orient in March 1969. The other Town scorer Laurie Sheffield is also pictured giving his captain a dead leg which kept him out for three games!

THE CAMERA never LIES

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



By the look of the pitch, Luton captain Bill Fellowes is about to choose, with his toss of the coin, either the swamp or the mudbath end at Maine Road before this fourth round FA Cup tie in January 1936. Third tier Town were eventually narrowly beaten 2-1 by their illustrious Manchester City rivals in front of a massive crowd of 65,978.



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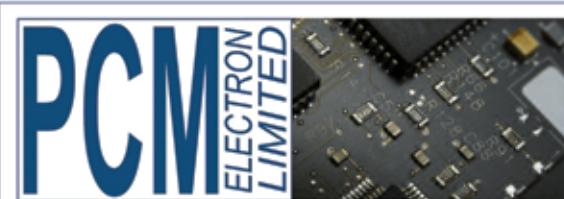
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Luton Town in the COMMUNITY

BY KEVIN THOBURN, HEAD OF THE HATTERS COMMUNITY TRUST

The Hatters Cup 2016 at Kenilworth Road

Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd May 2015

Age group Under-6s to Under-12s

Tonight we are launching the Hatters Cup 2016 and once again, the Club are handing the Kenilworth Road stadium over to the Community Trust for three days in the close season during which we will be holding lots of community events.

The major event is our annual six-a-side Hatters Cup youth football tournament in May. It is the biggest community event the Trust organises during the year. The Hatters Cup has now become the biggest grass root community stadium youth tournament of its kind in the South of England and tonight we are calling on all of our local grass roots clubs to get their applications in quickly to avoid disappointment.

Last year over 160 teams took part in the tournament but lots of local clubs missed out on the opportunity to play on the pitch through late applications. The opportunity to play at Kenilworth Road is very exciting for many young players so we are again urging local clubs to get their applications in quickly to avoid disappointment. We hope by announcing the dates exclusively to all of our local clubs who want to take part they will secure a much coveted place.

The tournament is for Under-6 to Under-12 age groups and teams can include 10 players in each squad and everyone is guaranteed a minimum of five matches on the day.

There are cups and medals for the winners and runners-up in the Under-9 to Under-12 age groups, however, in compliance with FA regulations the Under-6 to Under-8 tournaments will be non-recorded with all players receiving medals. Importantly, all Under-6 to Under-11 teams can also include both boys and girls in their team squads.

Entry fees remain unchanged this year at £40 per team or discounted rates of £30 per team for two or three teams and £25 per team for four or more teams. The entry fees contribute toward the stadium operating costs and officials' fees and each team receives ten player and two coach passes for the stadium along with two car parking spaces subject to availability. The plan this year is for Under-6, 7, 9 and 11s to play on Saturday 21st May and for the Under-8, 10 and 12s to play on Sunday 22nd May.

So if you are from Luton, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire simply email community@lutontown.co.uk for an entry form, or call the Community Trust office on 01582 737568. We know May is a long way off - but please don't wait until nearer the time as you will inevitably be disappointed!



Community Coaching Programme

Are you a potential community champion?

The Community Trust are once again searching for Luton's 'community champions' and have again teamed up with Luton Adult Learning and the Skills Funding Agency to provide 18 free spaces to local adults to learn coaching skills through successful completion of our coaching learning programme.

Our champions will then aim to deliver sports activities to members of our local community and try make a real contribution at local level to the sports provision in Luton.



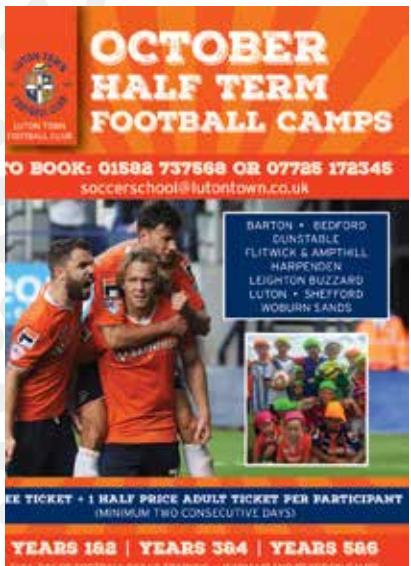
The course will include the FA Level 1 coaching certificate and Sports Leaders Award as well as First Aid and Child Safety qualifications and aims to provide training to new coaches to enable them to deliver football and multi-sport activities which will improve their health and activity levels as

well as offering them genuine future work opportunities with the Trust through formal sport qualifications gained on the project. To achieve this aim, the overall project is looking to increase awareness of the benefits of sporting activity together with the benefits of increased physical fitness and healthy lifestyle choices and also deliver this message over a period of time through local coaches for local communities becoming role models for their local communities.

In particular, but not exclusively, we are looking for our 'community champions' from specifically targeted estates in Dallow and Biscot, Marsh Farm, Lewsey Farm and South Luton to work in areas which have large pockets of social deprivation with hard to reach young individuals and particularly, have significant issues around crime and anti-social behaviour.

These estates already benefit from our weekly late night coaching sessions as part of our KITS community integration project run in conjunction with Active Luton and the community learning project will look to feed coaches into this project to increase the Club's presence on the estates as we look to support the sports provision and cohesion activity at a very local level.

So, if you are reading this and reckon you could become a 'community champion' and want to know more about our community coaching opportunities and would like to get involved, then why not give the community office a ring on 01582 737568 for a chat or email our community operations manager daniel.douglas@lutontown.co.uk.



October half-term Soccer Camps

There's only a week to go! If you were one of the over 700 youngsters who attended our soccer camps during the summer then you will already know the format and how to book and you will also probably have all of the details of our soccer camps.

However, if you've not tried a soccer camp yet why not come along next week in half-term. They are great fun, open to all abilities from 10am to 3pm each day and great value and of course everyone receives the legendary LTFC free medal and a great match ticket deal!

Our courses run throughout the County from Bedford down to Luton, and you can download our leaflet from either the main club website or by giving us a call at the Community Office on 01582 737568 or email soccerschool@lutontown.co.uk for further information or to book a place.



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ACADEMY UPDATE

WITH DEVELOPMENT AND ACADEMY MANAGER ANDY AWFORD

Good evening everyone. Here's the latest news from the academy since our previous home game against York 10 days ago.

UNDER-18S

The boys have notched up another two fine wins in the league. The first was a top-of-the-Table clash away at Southend, with us deservedly winning 2-1.

The lads had to come from behind to win this one, and showed great mental strength and courage to turn it around after conceding on the hour mark. This particular group are as close-knit a group as I've ever worked with and that spirit, trust and togetherness, that they have in abundance, certainly played a factor in gaining the victory.

It was nice to see their 'leader' Paul Driver get a little excited when the winner went in on 87 minutes - his little jig down the touchline certainly entertained me and a few others!

The second victory, a 4-1 home victory against Peterborough on Saturday, was far more comfortable. Two goals up at the break and three up after two minutes of the second half ensured that the boys remained at the top of the table.

In between those victories a lot of the boys got a taste of senior or 'men's' football when stepping up to play in the Beds Senior Cup tie at home to AFC Dunstable here at Kenilworth Road under the lights. Losing the game 1-0 was disappointing for everyone, however, the overall experience that the

young players will have got from that night will definitely benefit them on their future pathways.

The boys can and need to play better than they did on the night when making the step up, however, playing at training grounds week in, week out becomes the norm for a youth team player - and I and the staff are fully aware the change in environment can have a huge effect on individual performance. The boys are still in the learning phase of their careers and as long as they want to learn and improve they will eventually find their level.

FA YOUTH CUP

We look forward to entertaining Colchester United on Monday 2nd November (7pm kick-off) here at Kenilworth Road in the first round of the FA Youth Cup. It is a tough draw for the lads against a higher-rated Category 2 academy side, but one we hope we can win. We also hope that as many of you as possible will be able to come and support the boys on the night and cheer them on.

LEAGUE CUP QUARTER-FINAL

The League Cup quarter-final at home to Leyton Orient has been rescheduled due to our FA Youth Cup date, and has now been rescheduled to take place at the training ground on Friday October

YOUTH ALLIANCE FIXTURES

AUGUST

Sat 8 Barnet H W 4-0
Sat 15 Peterborough United A W 3-1
Tue 18 A.F.C. Wimbledon H W 5-0
Sat 22 Milton Keynes Dons A W 8-2
Sat 29 Gillingham H D 1-1

SEPTEMBER

Tue 1 Bristol Rovers (Cup) A W 2-0
Sat 5 Cambridge United A W 2-0
Sat 12 Leyton Orient H W 3-0
Sat 19 Dag & Red H W 4-0
Sat 26 Northampton Town A W 1-0

OCTOBER

Sat 3 Dag & Red (Cup) W 2-0
Sat 10 Southend United A W 2-1
Sat 17 Peterborough United H W 4-1
Fri 23 Barnet A
Fri 30 Leyton Orient (Cup) H

NOVEMBER

Mon 2 Colchester United H (FAYC1)
Sat 7 A.F.C. Wimbledon A
Sat 14 Milton Keynes Dons H
Sat 21 Gillingham A
Sat 28 Stevenage H

DECEMBER

Sat 5 Cambridge United H
Sat 12 Leyton Orient A
Sat 19 Dagenham & Redbridge A

JANUARY

Sat 9 Northampton Town H
Sat 16 Southend United H Cup 4
Sat 23 Stevenage A

30th with a 2pm kick-off. Again, it would be great to see as many of you there as possible to support our young players.

Enjoy tonight's game.
Up the Hatters!

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Youth PROFILE



KYRAN MCGHAN-GEORGE

Name:

Kyran McGhan-George

Date of birth: **9/12/1997**

Birthplace: **Luton**

Position: **Central defensive
midfield or centre-back**

Year joined Luton: **2014**

**WHY DID YOU JOIN LUTON
TOWN?**

I was born in Luton and I followed the club. When I got the opportunity to play for my local club I jumped at the chance.

**WHAT WAS THE BEST BIT OF
ADVICE WHEN GROWING UP?**

My best bit of advice given to me when growing up was just to live life.

**WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BEST
MOMENT IN FOOTBALL SO
FAR?**

When I received a scholarship at Luton Town and was assured that I would go on to play full-time football.

**WHICH TEAM DID YOU
SUPPORT AS A KID?**

Arsenal and Luton Town.

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

Yaya Toure, Patrick Vieira and Vincent Kompany

WHAT THE COACH SAYS

Under-18s boss Paul Driver on Kyran:

"Kyran's a local lad, he walks in every morning. He joined as recently as 2014 having been spotted by Kevin Thoburn playing at Barton Rovers."

"We initially looked at Kyran as a centre-half but he has all the attributes to play in a defensive midfield position. He's physically strong, quick and is a fit lad."

"Having played for the Barton youth teams, Kyran came to us with a different approach to his game. His footballing education has been suited to playing at another level but he's capable of doing a wide variety of roles on the pitch."

"As a person, Kyran is very professional and polite. He says hello in the morning, does all of his jobs, is religiously working on his game and building up his strength; and he is the same when it comes to education. He is a very driven individual and clearly has a vision of where he wants his career to go."

"Kyran has also had a taste of development squad football, as early as last season when he came on against AFC Wimbledon and did really well."

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YOUTH UPDATE

The Town Under-18s continued their storming start to the season with a comfortable 4-1 win over Peterborough on Saturday morning to make it 13 games unbeaten.

Paul Driver's side have now won 11 of their 12 Youth Alliance games, and against a struggling Posh side the Town were two goals to the good at the break.

The young Hatters went ahead on 25 minutes direct from a corner when Alex Atkinson's inswinging left-wing flag-kick flew in to the net.

In control, the Town doubled their lead on the stroke of half-time

when James Justin arrowed a low shot beyond the Posh keeper from the edge of the box.

And two became three in the first minute of the second half when Freddie Hinds scrambled home from close range following his initial run and shot.

Peterborough pulled a goal back on the hour, but the Town youngsters restored their three-goal cushion with 15 minutes left to play when Hinds grabbed his second when he lobbed home following a flick-on.

The victory, the Town's eighth successive win in all competitions, maintains the Hatters' four-point lead at the top of the table.

Boss Driver told lutontown.co.uk: "It was a regulation victory and we did all the right things.

"We had to be patient, and we moved the ball much better than we have done in the past few weeks.

"Peterborough's front two caused us a few problems which we dealt with well so overall I'm pleased."

Meanwhile the Town Under-18s have been drawn at home to Colchester United in the first round proper of the FA Youth Cup. The tie will take place at Kenilworth Road on Monday 2nd November (kick-off 7pm). Spectators are welcome to please come down and support the boys.

Town: Gooch, Bean, McJannet (sub Bakinson 84), Musonda, Famewo, McGhan-George, Atkinson (sub Cotter 46), Justin, Snelus, Murray (sub Verney 76) Hinds.

Sub not used: Petty.

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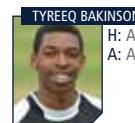
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A: AVAILABLE



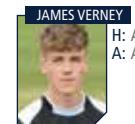
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DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

A young Hatters dev squad fell to a 1-0 defeat at Kenilworth Road in first round of the Beds Senior Cup last Tuesday – with the brother of Scott Griffiths scoring AFC Dunstable's second half winner.

The Town fielded six youth team players alongside Magnus Okuonghae, Mark O'Brien, Mark Onyemah, Matt Robinson and trialist striker Francois Zoko.

A low-key first period saw the Hatters dominate but couldn't seriously test Dunstable goalkeeper Ricky Perks.

Four minutes into the second half Town goalkeeper Liam Gooch turned Bernie Christie's rasping effort onto the crossbar.

However, shortly before the hour, AFC Dunstable took the lead when Terry Griffiths slid the ball home inside the six yard box after Newman Carney's low shot from the edge of the box rebounded off the post.

Behind, the Town upped the urgency and tempo in search of an equaliser to take the tie to penalties. Robinson saw a top-corner bound free-kick from 25 yards clawed away by Perks with

20 minutes left, before substitute Freddie Hinds sent a shot on the turn wide four minutes later.

As the Town continued to press, Zoko – who was on the books at Blackpool and Bradford last season – saw a low shot from the edge of the box strike the post on 79 minutes.

But that was the closest the Town came to finding a late leveller and AFC were left to celebrate reaching the second round of the competition.

The Hatters dev squad are next in action at Kenilworth Road on Tuesday 27th October in the Final Third Development League (1pm).

Town dev: Gooch; Justin, Onyemah, Okuonghae, Musonda; O'Brien, Robinson, Cotter (sub Murray 85), Atkinson, Bakinson (sub Hinds 67), Zoko.

Subs not used: Famewo, King, McGhan-George.
Attendance: 187.



Action from the Beds Senior Cup defeat



Follow the Final Third Development League on Twitter @FinalThirdDevLg

DEVELOPMENT SQUAD FIXTURES

SEPTEMBER

Tue 8 Gillingham H W 7-0
Tue 15 Leyton Orient A L 0-1
Tue 22 AFC Wimbledon H (Cup) W 3-0

OCTOBER

Tue 6 Southend United A (Cup) W 1-0
Tue 13 AFC Dunstable A (Beds Senior Cup 1) L 0-1
Tue 27 Southend United H 1pm

NOVEMBER

Tue 3 AFC Bournemouth A 1pm
Wed 11 MK Dons A (Cup) 1pm
Tue 17 AFC Wimbledon H 1pm

DECEMBER

Wed 2 Cambridge United A 1pm
Wed 9 Gillingham A 1pm

JANUARY

Tue 5 Leyton Orient H 1pm

FEBRUARY

Tue 9 Southend United A 12 noon
Tue 16 AFC Bournemouth H 1pm

MARCH

Mon 14 AFC Wimbledon A 7pm
Tue 29 Cambridge United H 1pm

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JUNIOR HATTERS



PLAYER PROFILE



MARK TYLER

DATE OF BIRTH: 2ND APRIL 1977

FROM: NORWICH

HEIGHT: 5ft 11 1/2

POSITION: GOALKEEPER

HATTERS GOALKEEPER MARK TYLER ARRIVED AT KENILWORTH ROAD IN 2009 AND HAS GONE ON TO MAKE 280 APPEARANCES FOR THE TOWN. PRIOR TO JOINING LUTON, TYLER WAS ON THE BOOKS AT PETERBOROUGH WHERE HE MADE AN INCREDIBLE 413 APPEARANCES! DURING THE PROMOTION WINNING SEASON OF 13/14 TYLER PLAYED EVERY MINUTE OF EVERY GAME AND SET A CLUB-RECORD 23 CLEAN SHEETS!



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Luton

LADIES



Last Wednesday we had the pleasure of entertaining local rivals Bedford here under the Kenilworth Road floodlights.

It is always a special occasion to play at Kenilworth Road knowing that a win for the Town would send them back into second position in the league.

The hosts started brightly, playing some good football in the midfield, with Shannon Pratt and Zara Carroll keeping the ball well and taking full advantage of the big pitch and its greasy surface.

It was fairly even the first 10 minutes with Tasha Fensome nearly getting in on goal against her old side but the danger was cleared. With 15 minutes on the clock Erica Byron smashed a dipping shot from 25 yards. It looked like the goalkeeper would make the save but an awkward bounce saw the ball find the net to give Town the lead. However, a switch off in midfield allowed Bedford midfielder Becca Vass to turn and hit a superb shot from 35 yards and it flew into the roof of the net to level within two minutes.

This gave the Hatters the boost they needed and five minutes later the lead was regained when captain Shanice Jiminez drove a cross into the near post which was deflected in to the net to make it 2-1.

Another long-range effort from the visitors saw the ball just dip under the bar and Hollie Staples and tipped it over the bar. Pratt then tried her own luck from distance but the goalkeeper managed to hold

onto it under the crossbar.

On the half-hour mark there was a chance to go 3-1 up when Byron played an excellent ball into the path of Fensome and she smashed her shot past the keeper but it rattled against the post and back across the goal line with no one there to convert the chance.

Pratt then had another chance as she hit another shot from distance and it took a deflection, but this time it dipped just over the bar and the resulting corner was headed away. In the final few minutes before the break Rachel Carter won the ball and played the perfect pass over the top to Fensome, who raced through on goal before pulling back her cross to Jiminez who fired into the net for the Town's third.

The second half was a much more sedate affair than the first as both teams tired and the tempo went out of the match. With the points safe the Town were able to easily withstand the visitors' attempts to get back in the game as Luton completed the league double over Bedford.

Manager Nikki Baker said: "I am delighted with the three points and the performance especially in the first half. We played some excellent football but we still need to be more clinical in front of goal. I thought the defence were superb and we need to continue this form into the coming games."

FA Women's Premier League

South East Division One

AUGUST

16 Enfield Town (H) W 3-0
23 Lowestoft Town (A) W 3-1

SEPTEMBER

2 Bedford (A) W 3-0
6 Cambridge United (A) D 2-2
13 Lowestoft Town (H) W 2-0

20 MK Dons (A) D 1-1
27 Gillingham (H) L 2-4

OCTOBER

4 Crystal Palace (Plate 1) (A) L 0-5
14 Bedford (H) W 2-1
18 Old Actonians (H) W 4-2
25 Norwich City (A)

NOVEMBER

1 Crystal Palace (H)
15 Ipswich Town (A)

22 MK Dons (H)

DECEMBER

6 Gillingham (A)
13 Denham United (H)
20 Norwich City (H)

JANUARY

3 Cambridge United (H)
17 Crystal Palace (A)
24 Ipswich Town (H)
31 Denham United (A)

FEBRUARY

21 Old Actonians (A)



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A WORD FROM The Football League Paper

BY JOHN LYONS

Football fans like to dream their team is going to have an unbelievable season or, even better, era.

But could Nottingham Forest fans ever have imagined they'd have the success they'd go on to achieve in the next five years when Brian Clough walked through the door in 1975?

First off, Forest won promotion to the top-flight in 1976/77 and then, unbelievably, they won the First Division the following year. On the domestic front, the Reds also claimed the League Cup in 1978 and 1979.

SUCCESS

But that wasn't the half of it – Forest also lifted the European Cup in 1979 and 1980. Incredible success for a club that had been going nowhere fast and had little pedigree until Clough and his trusty sidekick Peter Taylor came along to weave their magic.

Could it happen today? Could a side mid-table in the Championship, like Forest, go on to repeat their achievements from all those years ago?

I suppose there's always the chance that a billionaire could waltz in and start throwing pots of money around. But it's got to be highly unlikely as the likes of Chelsea, Manchester City and Manchester United hoover up the prizes.

Last week I had the chance to interview former Nottingham Forest star John Robertson about their glory days.

The Scot, who set up Trevor Francis' European Cup final winner against Malmo in 1979 and scored the only goal against Hamburg a year later, features in a new film, *I Believe in Miracles*, which includes previously unseen footage of games from the time and interviews with all the players. It makes for compelling viewing.

The 62-year-old believes it's virtually impossible that a club could ever again come up from the second tier to conquer Europe in a short few years.

He suggests that as soon as now-Championship players start to impress or hit the heights, they are snapped up by bigger, more powerful clubs.

"In my day we could compete wages-wise with the bigger clubs, but the big clubs have got bigger and bigger – and the gap is getting wider," he said.

Perhaps football needs another Brian Clough to make fans' dreams come true.

"Brian Clough was brilliant to work for – a genius," added Robertson. "Some people said he ruled by fear, but I thought that was crap. If you are scared, you can't perform to your best.



Legendary Forest boss Brian Clough

"I wanted his approval and when I got that my game went up 20 per cent."

Clough is one of English football's legendary managers, but do we give current day home-grown bosses the chance to show what they can do at the top level?

Gillingham boss Justin Edinburgh has taken the long road to League 1 via Billericay, Fisher Athletic, Grays Athletic, Rushden & Diamonds and Newport County.

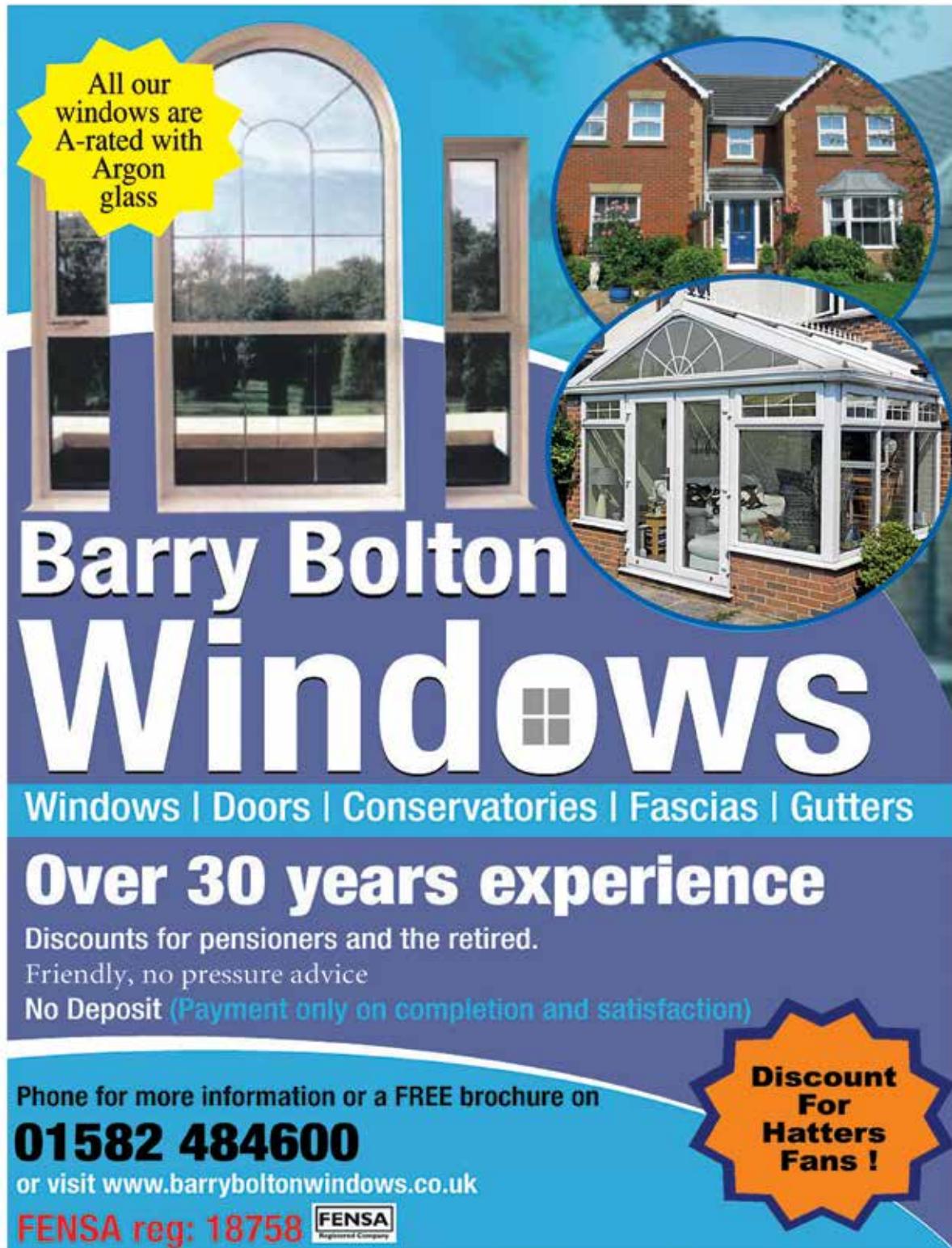
He told my Football League Paper colleague Stuart Hammonds last week: "What frustrates me more than anything is that young British managers are being overlooked for jobs in most cases."

He's got a point.

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LEAGUE LOOK

Plymouth Argyle, our visitors here on Saturday, remain three points clear at the top of League 2 after a 1-0 win over Accrington at the weekend.

Derek Adams' side are unbeaten in seven games and have won their last four games and saw off Stanley thanks to Reuben Reid's fantastic second-half volley.

Portsmouth remain on Argyle's coat tails after a Matt Tubbs strike earned Pompey a 1-0 win at bottom-of-the-table Newport.

Both Plymouth and Portsmouth's lead over the rest of the division was helped by a number of sides below them dropping points.

DEFEAT

At the other end of the division Newport's defeat to Portsmouth leaves them at the foot of the table on six points, two points behind Dagenham. The Daggers went down 1-0 at home to Hartlepool with Town defender Magnus Okuonghae playing a starring role.

Yeovil remain one place and one point above the dotted relegation line after losing 2-0 at Notts County, while York slipped to 21st place after a 3-1 defeat at Barnet.

There's a full programme of games in League 2 this midweek with the pick of the games undoubtedly third versus first as Plymouth go to Oxford.

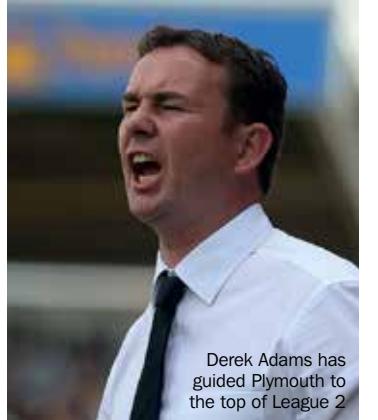
Portsmouth host Stevenage. Bottom of the table Newport travel to Wycombe while York host Dagenham.

LEADING SCORERS

Simpson (Orient)	10
Ibehre (Carlisle)	8
Corr (Cambridge)	7
Barkhuizen (Morecambe)	6
Gash (Barnet)	6
Jervis (Plymouth)	6
Reid (Plymouth)	6
Richards (Northampton)	6
Roofe (Oxford)	6
Windass (Accrington)	6

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Accrington v AFC Wimbledon
Bristol Rovers v Notts County
Hartlepool v Barnet
Morecambe v Crawley
Northampton v Carlisle
Oxford v Plymouth
Portsmouth v Stevenage
Wycombe v Newport
Yeovil v Mansfield
York v Dag & Red
Exeter v Cambridge (Weds)



Derek Adams has guided Plymouth to the top of League 2

For more information on League 2 visit www.football-league.co.uk

OUR 130TH YEAR

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY POS	STARTING XI	SUBS																																						
AUGUST																																														
Sat 8	3.00pm	A	Accrington Stanley	D 1-1	2,359	1,175	13	Justham	Cuthbert	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Doyle	SMITH 1	Green ▲	McCourt •	McQuoid ▪	Mackail-Smith	Tyler	Potts																										
Tue 11	7.45pm	H	Bristol City (Cap One Cup 1)	W 3-1	3,948	427	-	Tyler	Cuthbert	McNulty	Wilkinson	Potts	O'Donnell	• O'Brien •	Ruddock	McGeehan	BENSON 1	MARRIOTT 2 ▲	Justham	McGeehan																										
Sat 15	3.00pm	H	Oxford United	D 2-2	8,877	781	15	Tyler	Cuthbert	McNulty	WILKINSON 1	Griffiths	O'Donnell	• Doyle	McCourt ▲	MCGEEHAN 1	Benson	Mackail-Smith	Lawless	Hall																										
Tue 18	7.45pm	H	Bristol Rovers	L 0-1	8,061	553	18	Tyler	Cuthbert	McNulty	Wilkinson	Griffiths	O'Donnell	Doyle •	McCourt	McGeehan	Benson	Justham	Ruddock	McQuoid																										
Sat 22	3.00pm	A	Yeovil Town	L 2-3	3,830	820	22	Tyler	Cuthbert	Griffiths	McNulty •	Wilkinson	Smith	McGeehan	Green ▲	Hall •	BENSON 1	MACKAIL-SMITH 1	Potts	Lawless																										
Tue 25	7.45pm	H	Stoke City (Cap One Cup 2)	D 1-1	6,099	823	-	Justham	O'Donnell	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	O'Brien	Smith	Lee	Green ▲	Ruddock •	O'Donnell	McCourt	McGeehan																										
Sat 29	3.00pm	H	Portsmouth	L 1-2	9,083	1,032	22	Justham	O'Donnell	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	O'Brien	Smith	McGeehan	Hall ▲	MACKAIL-SMITH 1 ▪	Tyler	McNulty	Benson																										
SEPTEMBER																																														
Tue 1	7.15pm	H	Leyton Orient (JPT1)	W 2-1	1,953	300	-	Tyler	O'DONNELL 1	Griffiths	McNulty	Cuthbert	• Lee	Smith	Ruddock ▲	GREEN 1 ▲	Guttridge	MARRIOTT □	Hall	Okuonghae																										
Sat 5	3.00pm	A	Cambridge United	W 3-1	6,298	1,425	19	Tyler	O'Donnell	Griffiths	WILKINSON 1	Cuthbert	Lee	Smith	Green ▲	McQuoid	GUTTRIDGE 1	Mackail-Smith	McNulty	Ruddock																										
Sat 12	3.00pm	A	Notts County	L 2-3	5,820	1,689	20	Tyler	O'Donnell	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	• Lee	SMITH 1	McCourt ▲	McQuoid	Guttridge	Justham	Okuonghae																											
Sat 19	3.00pm	H	Mansfield Town	W 1-0	7,939	262	18	Tyler	O'Donnell	Griffiths	Wilkinson	McNulty	Lee	Smith	McCourt ▲	McQuoid •	McGeehan	Justham	Williams																											
Sat 26	3.00pm	H	AFC Wimbledon	W 2-0	8,415	588	16	Tyler	O'Donnell	Griffiths	Wilkinson	McNulty	Lee	Smith	McCourt	Guttridge	• MACKAIL-SMITH 1	Potts	Lawless																											
Tue 29	7.45pm	A	Morecambe	W 3-1	1,388	295	11	Tyler	Cuthbert	Griffiths	WILKINSON 1	McNulty	Lee	SMITH 1	McCourt	McQuoid	MCGEEHAN 1	Hall ▲	McNulty	Green																										
OCTOBER																																														
Sat 3	3.00pm	A	Hartlepool United	W 4-1	3,876	406	19	Tyler	Cuthbert	Griffiths	Wilkinson	McNulty	LEE 1	SMITH 1	Guttridge	McQuoid	McGeehan	Mackail-Smith	Justham	Okuonghae																										
Tue 6	7.45pm	A	Gillingham (JPT2)	L 1-2	3,428	tbc	-	Tyler	Lawless	Potts	O'Brien	Okuonghae	Lee •	Doyle	Guttridge	• McQuoid	MCGEEHAN 1 ▲	Marriott	Justham	Ruddock																										
Sat 10	3.00pm	H	York City	D 1-1	8,612	222	10	Tyler	Cuthbert	Potts	Wilkinson	McNulty	Lee	Smith •	Guttridge	• McQuoid	MCGEEHAN 1	Mackail-Smith	Lawless	Williams																										
Sat 17	3.00pm	A	Crawley Town	L 1-2	3,335	1,412	12	Tyler	Long	Potts	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	Doyle	Smith	Lee •	MCGEEHAN 1	Marriott	Hall	Guttridge	• O'Brien																										
Sat 24	3.00pm	H	Leyton Orient																	Justham																										
NOVEMBER																																														
Sun 1	2.00pm	A	Dagenham & Redbridge																	McQuoid ▲																										
Sat 14	3.00pm	H	Barnet																	Williams																										
Sat 21	3.00pm	A	Stevenage																	King																										
Tue 24	7.45pm	H	Carlisle United																	Justham																										
Sat 28	3.00pm	A	Newport County																	Justham																										
DECEMBER																																														
Sat 12	3.00pm	H	Northampton Town																	Justham																										
Sat 19	3.00pm	A	Exeter City																	Okuonghae																										
Sat 26	3.00pm	H	Wycombe Wanderers																	Williams																										
Mon 28	3.00pm	A	Portsmouth																	Justham																										
JANUARY																																														
Sat 2	3.00pm	A	Bristol Rovers																	Justham																										
Sat 9	3.00pm	H	Yeovil Town																	Okuonghae																										
Sat 16	3.00pm	H	Cambridge United																	Williams																										
Sat 23	3.00pm	A	Mansfield Town																	Justham																										
Sat 30	3.00pm	H	Notts County																	Okuonghae																										
FEBRUARY																																														
Sat 6	3.00pm	A	Wycombe Wanderers																	Justham																										
Sat 13	3.00pm	A	AFC Wimbledon																	Okuonghae																										
Sat 20	3.00pm	H	Hartlepool United																	Williams																										
Sat 27	3.00pm	A	York City																	Justham																										
MARCH																																														
Tue 1	7.45pm	H	Morecambe																	Justham																										
Sat 5	3.00pm	A	Leyton Orient																	Okuonghae																										
Sat 12	3.00pm	H	Crawley Town																	Williams																										
Sat 19	3.00pm	A	Plymouth Argyle																	Justham																										
Fri 25	3.00pm	H	Dagenham & Redbridge																	Okuonghae																										
Mon 28	3.00pm	A	Barnet																	Justham																										
APRIL																																														
Sat 2	3.00pm	H	Stevenage																	Justham																										
Sat 9	3.00pm	H	Accrington Stanley																	Okuonghae																										
Sat 16	3.00pm	A	Oxford United																	Williams																										
Tue 19	7.45pm	A	Carlisle United																	Justham																										
Sat 23	3.00pm	H	Newport County																	Okuonghae																										
Sat 30	3.00pm	A	Northampton Town																	Justham																										
MAY																																														
Sat 7	3.00pm	H	Exeter City																	Justham																										
LUTON TOWN																																														
1885-PRESENT DAY - THE FULL RECORD																																														
PLAYED: 5279 WON: 2107																																														
DRAWN: 1283 LOST: 1889																																														
GOALS SCORED: 8385 GOALS CONCEDED: 7598																																														
 <p>Olly Lee fends off the attentions of York's Russell Penn in our last home match here at Kenilworth Road</p>																																														
LEAGUE TABLE 2015/16 <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>P</th> <th>W</th> <th>D</th> <th>L</th> <th>F</th> <th>A</th> <th>GD</th> <th>PTS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>13</td> <td>9</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>21</td> <td>9</td> <td>12</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>13</td> <td>7</td> <td>5</td> <td>1</td> <td>21</td> <td>11</td> <td>10</td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>13</td> <td>6</td> <td>6</td> <td>1</td> <td>19</td> <td>11</td> <td>8</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>13</td> <td>6</td> <td>4</td> <td>3</td> <td>21</td> <td>11</td> <td>10</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</</td></tr></tbody></table>		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS	1	13	9	2	2	21	9	12	29	2	13	7	5	1	21	11	10	26	3	13	6	6	1	19	11	8	24	4	13	6	4	3	21	11	10	22	5</
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS																																						
1	13	9	2	2	21	9	12	29																																						
2	13	7	5	1	21	11	10	26																																						
3	13	6	6	1	19	11	8	24																																						
4	13	6	4	3	21	11	10	22																																						
5</																																														

HOLD THE BACK PAGE

WITH
GRAHAM MILLER

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO KNOW THE SCORE - BAD LUCK!

When I was a lad - no stay with me here - I used to come to the reserve games at Kenilworth Road to find out how the first team were getting on.

I know it's difficult to understand for most of today's fans but you have to remember that the internet, social media, even local radio coverage is a relatively new thing.

We would watch the reserves and every so often there would be a loud crackle from the PA loudspeakers as the system was switched on. We all knew the latest score was about to be announced. And there was that time stopping moment when you hoped for the best but inevitably feared the worst. Especially as the Town were not terribly good away from home for quite a while!

The crackles generally heralded the news of another goal conceded. And then that heavy feeling of disappointment until we were able to buy the 'Green Un' on Saturday night to find out exactly what happened from Eric "Chiltern" Pugh.

The newspaper style then was a paragraph by paragraph, blow by blow account, telephoned in real-time back to a copytaker at The Luton News from whichever ground was staging the fixture. And lastly Eric would write an opening paragraph and a brief opinion at the top of his front page report.

One edition I recall after a good start to a season was headlined: "Promotion? Eggs in basket."

I remember it as I never really understood it. And the reality? We were relegated that season! The eggs turned into chickens that should never have been counted.

Reporter to copytaker down a phone line was a classic formula that dominated journalism for decades. And it whetted my appetite to become a new Eric Pugh.

Nowadays of course that world has gone forever. Today's sports coverage is so different it takes your breath away just as those old PA announcements used to do.

We get to know what's happening second by second on a variety of devices, from smartphones to tablets, laptops you name it.

I was driving home from covering Crystal Palace's lunch-time win over West Brom in the Premier League the other Saturday when I was keen to know how the Hatters were doing at Hartlepool. Now I have an old car so I'm reduced to AM or FM radio coverage. But since I was in south London there was little chance of picking up the local radio signal.

However - I do have an app on my smartphone that keeps me up to date. In fact when anything happens regarding the Town's

fortunes a referee's whistle sounds to alert me to a piece of news.

So there I was sitting in the inevitable traffic jam inching my way towards the M1 when the whistle blew. Luton had gone 2-1 up. Excellent. The traffic jam became a little easier to bear.

Centimetres later the whistle blew again. I sat there transfixed. It was like the old days at those reserve games. The whistle represented the old PA crackle. What would it be? A Hartlepool equaliser? A Luton third?

I held my breath and grabbed a look. 3-1! Fantastic. And then no more than a hundred yards down the road – the traffic was appalling – the referee on my smartphone blew the whistle again.

I knew it was near full-time so I held my nerve remembering those last minute goals earlier this season...well you never know do you.

But I took another look and it was four.

The traffic jam turned into honey. A handsome victory and it tasted sweet for Hatters fans everywhere.

Technology will continue to evolve and get us ever closer to the action as it happens. But whatever comes next the emotions associated with the trials and tribulations of supporting your favourite football team will forever be the same.

Graham is a director at media consultancy media-vu.co.uk



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TEAM SHEET



LUTON TOWN

- 1 Mark Tyler
- 2 Stephen O'Donnell
- 3 Dan Potts
- 4 Jonathan Smith
- 6 Scott Cuthbert
- 7 Alex Lawless
- 8 Cameron McGeehan
- 9 Paul Benson
- 10 Ryan Hall
- 11 Danny Green
- 12 Scott Griffiths
- 14 Jack Marriott
- 15 Paddy McCourt
- 16 Elliot Justham
- 17 Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu
- 18 Magnus Okuonghae
- 19 Olly Lee
- 20 Sean Long
- 21 Luke Guttridge
- 22 Craig Mackail-Smith
- 23 Josh McQuoid
- 24 Curtley Williams
- 25 Mark O'Brien
- 26 Nathan Doyle
- 30 Luke Wilkinson
- 31 Craig King
- 32 Luke Trotman
- 33 Mark Onyemah
- 34 Isaac Galliford
- 35 Zane Banton



LEYTON ORIENT

- 1 Alex Cisak
- 2 Sean Clohessy
- 3 Frazer Shaw
- 4 Connor Essam
- 5 Alan Dunne
- 6 Mathieu Baudry
- 7 Dean Cox
- 8 Lloyd James
- 9 Ollie Palmer
- 10 Paul McCallum
- 11 Jobi McAnuff
- 14 Sammy Moore
- 17 Blair Turgott
- 18 Bradley Pritchard
- 19 Scott Kashket
- 20 Adam Chicksen
- 21 Charlie Grainger
- 23 Freddy Moncur
- 25 Sam Ling
- 27 Jay Simpson

TONIGHT'S OFFICIALS

- Tim Robinson
- Lee Venamore
- Christopher Husband
- Geoffrey Russell