LUTON TOWN FC

v CARLISLE UTD

SKY BET LEAGUE TWO

Tuesday 24 November 2015

KICK-OFF: 7.45pm

Official Programme **£3**

Issue 13

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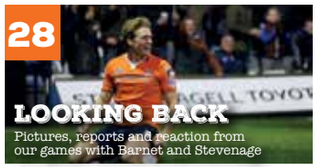

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COVER STORY

Throughout the 2015/16 season our programme covers will be a nod to the covers of yesteryear. Today's cover is based on a Carlisle fixture from March 1977. To find out more, turn to page 22.

LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 2020 LTD
Kenilworth Road Stadium, 1 Maple Road, Luton, Bedfordshire LU4 8AW
Switchboard: 01582 411622
Ticket office: 01582 416976
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OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME
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With thanks to our contributors Roger Wash, Ed Smith, Leigh Edwards, Simon Pitts, Ross Lawson and the help of Andy Hall at Carlisle United.

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 TONIGHT'S SKY BET LEAGUE 2 CLASH WITH CARLISLE UNITED.

A big welcome to all associated with our visitors who have made the long journey down from Cumbria.

They are no strangers to travelling long distances, especially on midweek games – they had to travel to Plymouth on a Tuesday earlier in the campaign – but I must pay tribute to their loyal fanbase and wish them a safe trip back home after the final whistle tonight.

I'd also like to welcome Keith Curle and his management staff and players. Keith was a terrific player with a superb career and he did a sterling job last season at Brunton Park in difficult circumstances.

TOUGH

So far this season they have done really well and are capable of scoring plenty of goals. They also took a strong Liverpool team all the way to penalties so we know we are expecting a tough game today. However, looking at the stats and the league table you see that they've also conceded plenty too – and we'll be looking to exploit their weaknesses tonight.

Since my last notes we have continued our mini-run of results with four points and two clean sheets which I'm relatively happy with.

Against Barnet in our last home match I thought we played some absolutely terrific football in the first half and deservedly went ahead at half-time thanks to a fantastic goal from Danny Green.

CRUCIAL

We could have been three or four goals in front by that stage and in the second half Barnet made it much more difficult for us but we found a way and Cameron McGeehan added a crucial second. Both goals were made by Josh McQuoid who was named the sponsor's man-of-the-match and I must say it was a really good performance from Josh and we're all delighted that he is now proving what an excellent player he is.

On Saturday just gone we were frustrated to be held by Stevenage where he also saw Paul Benson sent-off.

I won't comment on some of the referee's decisions on the day, but I thought we should have won the game.

We had the chances to score and on another day I think we would have gained three points. I don't believe in luck but what else can you say when you hit the bar twice in the second half? It was one of those days but we must not dwell on it. Tonight gives us a chance to put three points on the board and if we play to the same standards of the past four matches then I'm confident of a positive result.

IMPORTANT

Many thanks for your support over the course of the season so far. We're entering an important phase of the season as the festive period approaches and with a number of away games on the horizon – including a trip to Peterborough in the FA Cup – we need your support more than ever. To have almost 9,000 in the ground for the Barnet game 10 days ago was superb and the atmosphere was fantastic. Please get behind your team once more tonight and let's make it an evening to remember.

Enjoy the game.

John Still

John Still is sponsored by: Thompsons Accountants and Country Properties (Hitchin) 01462 452951

From the BOARDROOM

WITH FINANCE DIRECTOR **RAY WILLIAMS**

GOOD EVENING AND A WARM WELCOME TO THE OFFICIALS, PLAYERS AND SUPPORTERS OF CARLISLE UNITED.

In my last programme notes I questioned the logic of the football league computer software sending the Town on successive long away trips.

Tonight the Cumbrians make their long journey down the M6 to Kenilworth Road and we repay the compliment on a Tuesday night next April. For those Carlisle supporters that are here this evening, this highlights a true example of supporting your team and I do envisage our great support will also be at Brunton Park next year in large numbers as the season draws close to its conclusion.

Certain teams remind me of matches and slices of era from the past. In 1974 we were both promoted to the old First division. For the Town this was the first time back to the top league since the late 1950s and for me having witnessed the drop to the fourth division during the 1960s and then to witness us working our way patiently back to the top, this was an exciting time. I recall Carlisle had a great start to that season and enjoyed briefly the heady heights of topping the league. The Town had to wait 10 games for their first win which ironically was against our visitors today. Sadly, we were both relegated at the end of the season. Nonetheless it was an interesting season playing some of the big teams of the day and I often wondered what may have happened if the Futcher twins Paul and Ron had been given their first team opportunity earlier in the season rather than at the time of entering the new year. They demonstrated such great talent at a young age of 18. They immediately strengthened our defence and attacking options and we were unlucky not to beat the drop. All so easy in hindsight!

SKILL

It's been good to see us on a four-match unbeaten run and playing some lovely football. The depth of talent and skill in our squad is being enjoyed for all to see. Players are brought into the team, whether for tactical reasons or because of injury and international call ups and we remain strong. This was highlighted in last week's home game against Barnet with some brilliant passing football and then encapsulated by Danny Green's rocket shot into the top corner. We all jumped out of our seats in celebration of that one. I was surprised that last Saturday against Stevenage we did not make it four successive wins. When we got the ball down on the ground and played it around we was very much on the ascendancy and there only seemed to be one winner. Some superb efforts on goal culminating in cracking the woodwork a few times and good saves from the home goalkeeper meant that we shared the spoils at what has in the past been a happy hunting ground for the Town. Three clean sheets in a row is also a positive statistic that is worthy of mention.

It was of great pride as always to see the away stand packed with 1,900 Luton Town fans getting behind the team. I can only imagine the team itself benefit so much from this support. Unfortunately in the closing stages of the game a very small minority let the Club and themselves down by climbing over the barriers. This reminded me of another bygone era I prefer to forget when this appalling behaviour by a minority used to tarnish the game.

A big thank you for your support at our last home game against Barnet 10 days ago

I watched the game with my family, some of who live in Stevenage, and was saddened and disappointed to witness such scenes. Those few who seek to cause trouble in this way have no place in the modern game and in particular at LutonTown Football Club.

UNBEATEN

I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Paul Driver and the youth team for their excellent results to date this season. To be top and remain unbeaten in the league and also progress to the third round of the FA Youth Cup is a fantastic achievement. I watched the team play a very good Colchester side under the lights here earlier this month and was immensely impressed by the performance of our young players.

We tend to use many superlatives in the game but the standard of football they played was the best I have seen by a Town youth team. I have become very aware since joining the Club that it is a great team both on and off the pitch running the academy and it is wonderful to see these results and return from all their efforts. I have kept the home team sheet from that night and sincerely hope in the very near future a few of those lads are wearing a first team shirt.

Watching our young talented team did make me think back to some of the great players that came through the Luton academy and became legends in a Luton shirt.

There are so many to mention from the past but in my final piece of reminiscing (I promise), I go back to the black and white days of 1964.

I had been watching for just a few seasons and the team had been in a period of serious decline. A Luton Town youth player by the name of Bruce Rioch broke through the ranks and became an instant success. He had a great turn of pace often running through from deep in midfield to unleash powerful shots. I remember we used to sing on the Oak Road at the time 'Rioch for England', which was a bit bizarre because firstly we were playing in the old fourth division and secondly he of course went on to play for Scotland.

Back to tonight which promises to be another great game under Kenny lights, I hope you enjoy it.

COYH.

Ray.

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SCOTT CUTHBERT

A WORD FROM THE CURRENT CAPTAIN

We had mixed reactions to Saturday's draw at Stevenage – we were happy to keep a third successive clean sheet in the League, but frustrated we couldn't find a way through in a game we should have won.

However, as the gaffer said afterwards, it's a game we can forget about and move on to the next one tonight. We didn't lose and never really came under too much pressure. I can only remember Tyles making one save in the second half. That said, they made it tough for us – they were pumping balls forward into the box but I thought we defended solidly. To keep another clean sheet is obviously pleasing – I would say that being a defender though!

DANGEROUS

Going forward we looked dangerous and I honestly don't know how we didn't walk off the pitch at the end without scoring. Danny's free-kick was ridiculously unlucky, the bar is still rattling now. He hit it really well and was mighty close to scoring yet another spectacular goal. After Benno was sent-off – I must admit I'm not sure it was a red card but I've not seen it a second time – we didn't sit back and we could have snatched a late goal when Josh's header also came back off the woodwork. Sometimes in football these things happen and it's important we don't over-think a goalless draw. Remember it was away from home in a derby-like match. A point on the road isn't too bad all things considered and it's another point on the board.

The week before we were really pleased with the 2-0 win over Barnet on home soil and I think some of the football we played in the first half was some of the best so far this season. They just couldn't live with our passing and our first goal was a tremendous one, made by the run of Josh and finished brilliantly by Danny. We know they have that kind of quality in their locker and it's great to see both of them doing well. In the second half Barnet came at us a bit but again I don't really think there were too many anxious moments in our own penalty area and in the end Josh set-up Cam for another goal. Cam's just got that ability to be in the right place at the right time, a crucial attribute for any midfielder.

So we take our little run of form in tonight's game against a Carlisle side who I am sure won't be sitting back. They've scored plenty of goals tonight and have the players in their side to make it a real test for us tonight. They are the division's joint-top goalscorers so we'd be delighted if we can make it four clean sheets on the bounce this evening. We know that we have the firepower at the other end of the pitch and with your support too we have every confidence of a result.

Finally a word on the captaincy. The gaffer has still yet to decide on who will be the permanent successor to Steve McNulty but it goes without saying that I would love to continue the role. It's something I relish as a player and to be skipper of a club the size of this is a massive honour of me – it really is. Hopefully these aren't my last notes but we'll wait and see!

Please get behind us once more tonight, your support is simply incredible home and away. We know our home form still needs improving so with a bit of luck and your vocal backing tonight we can send you all home happy.

BE A DIRECTOR FOR A DAY

SOLYD are offering a money can't buy prize to be a Director for the Day.

The prize will enable you and a companion being guests of Town vice-Chairman David Wilkinson for the home match against Northampton Town on Saturday 12th December.

Enjoy being hosted in the Directors' lounge before and after the match and watch the game from the comfort of the Directors' Box.

So if you have ever wondered what it is like to be a Director here is your chance! All you have to do to be eligible for the prize draw is to be a regular donor to SOLYD. So why not sign up and donate to SoLYD by direct debit now?

All SOLYD's activities are focussed on raising money to support the Hatters' Youth Development programme and every penny received really does count.

If you don't already donate and would like to be entered into the next prize draw please do sign-up.

PORTSMOUTH TICKET NEWS

There's limited space on our ticket page to include the details of our trip to Portsmouth on 28th December, so here you go

PORTSMOUTH v LUTON TOWN

Sky Bet League 2
Monday 28th December 2015, kick-off 3pm

This is an all-ticket match for Luton Town supporters.

We have received an allocation of 2,689 seats in the Milton End for the fixture. Tickets are now on sale to Season Ticket holders at two tickets per person until 5pm today, Tuesday 24th November. Any remaining tickets will be available on general sale from 5pm online tonight, and from the Ticket Office in person or via phone tomorrow, Wednesday 25th November (subject to availability). Tickets will remain on sale until 11am on Christmas Eve, Thursday 24th December.

Prices: £20 adults, £15 seniors over 61, young persons 17-22 and ambulant, £10 unaccompanied under-17, £5 accompanied under-17s with paying adult/senior.

£10 wheelchair/carer, £15 ambulant concession, £5 ambulant junior, carers (higher rate DLA only) free of charge.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy early birthday wishes to ardent Hatters fan Gary Morton who turns 50 on 5th December.

Gary is present at Kenilworth Road this evening and love and best wishes come from brother Alan and all of his family and friends. We hope you have a great evening and a great birthday next week, Gary!

FEELING THE COLD?

LAMP, the official Supporters' Charity of the Year is helping the homeless this Christmas with their wish to give all young people a gift.

And you can help make a difference so please support your official charity by donating chocolate bars, sweets or selection boxes to LAMP this Christmas.

Please bring your donations to the Kenny End before our match with Northampton on 12th December.

For more information on LAMP visit their website at www.lamp.community.

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

LONG LOAN EXTENDED

The Town can confirm that defender Sean Long has extended his loan with the club until 2nd January inclusive.

The Reading full-back made his Hatters debut in the 2-1 defeat at Crawley in mid-October and has made six appearances in his first month at Kenilworth Road.

Long was an unused substitute in our 2-0 win over Barnet having played 90 minutes for the Republic of Ireland Under-21s in Lithuania the day before.

"He's settled in well and we don't want to push Stephen O'Donnell, who's had a double hernia and he's doing light training, he's not out with us at the moment," said Town boss John Still.

"He's coming on very well, but it was a no-brainer keeping Sean on, to be honest."

Furthermore, midfielder Isaac Galliford has extended his loan at St Neots until 2nd January, while defender Mark Onyemah will remain at Dartford for the same length of time.

BOND-THEMED DINNER WITH DAVID JAMES

The annual Luton Town Christmas Dinner is always an event to remember and this year's dinner is guaranteed to please as we welcome former England goalkeeper David James as our guest speaker.

The very special James Bond themed evening, sponsored by A Plan Insurance, takes place at The Auction House on Wednesday 9th December.

The night is hosted by Chairman Nick Owen you can 'ex-Spectre' a fabulous three-course dinner in the company of the Hatters management team.

So join us, From Luton with Love, for an unmissable night to get your Christmas celebrations underway. Tickets are £65 per person, including dinner.

They're already selling fast, so don't let the 'Skyfall' - book yours now by calling the Commercial team on 01582 411622, or emailing commercial@lutontown.co.uk.

CYCLE 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 – we have already got

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.

LET'S GO

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR KENILWORTH ROAD FIX TONIGHT AS THE HATTERS HIT THE ROAD IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS WITH TRIPS TO NEWPORT AND PETERBOROUGH IN THE NEXT FORTNIGHT.

NEWPORT COUNTY

WHO? This coming Saturday the Town travel to face Newport County in Sky Bet League 2. The Exiles had made an indifferent start to the season under Terry Butcher but following his departure new boss John Sheridan has guided his side away from the relegation zone.

WHERE? Newport have been playing their home fixtures at Rodney Parade since the start of the 2012/13 season. Town supporters have the choice of sitting behind the goal in an uncovered stand or beside the pitch in a newer, covered stand.

HOW TO GET THERE? It's a three-hour, 150-mile trip to Newport from Luton. Taking the M1, M25, M4 west. Leave the M4 at Junction 24 and take the B4237, signposted Newport (E). After approximately two-and-a-half miles turn left at a set of traffic lights, signposted B4237. Go under a bridge and at the next set of traffic lights turn right into Corporation Road. After passing an ATS garage on your right, you will see the away supporters' entrance on your left. The postcode is NP12 OUU.

You can also go on the Bobbers – they leave Luton train station at 9.30am and the fare is £25 for adults and £22 for concessions.

HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE? Next weekend's game will be the 58th meeting between the two clubs. The Town have won 29 to Newport's 14. The Town have lost both of their games at Rodney Parade, losing 1-0 last season and 5-2 during 2012/13. The Hatters last won in Newport on 26th November 2011 thanks to a last-minute goal from Danny Crow at the Exiles' Spytty Park.

PETERBOROUGH UNITED

WHO? Posh currently lie in mid-table in League 1 and are managed by former Stevenage boss Graham Westley. There are plenty of connections between the two clubs with John Still a former manager while Mark Tyler, Craig Mackail-Smith, Josh McQuoid and Scott Griffiths all former Posh players.

WHERE? London Road has changed since the Town's last visit with the once popular away terrace now replaced by an all-seated stand behind the goal. Seating for Hatters fans is available in this recently-opened construction, as are seats in Posh's main stand beside the pitch.

HOW TO GET THERE? A trip to Peterborough isn't particularly stressful – it should take no more than an hour to complete the 60-mile trip up the A1. Simply leave the A1 at the junction with the A15. Take the A15 towards Peterborough, you will eventually come to the ground on your right. The postcode for London Road is PE2 8AL. You can also go with the Bobbers who leave Luton train station at 11am. Their fare is £20 for adults and £18 for concessions.

HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE? The Town will be making their first trip to London Road since a 2-2 draw in League 1 in January 2005. The Hatters have only lost twice in 12 visits to Peterborough – their last win came in February 2004 when goals from Ahmet Brkovic and Steve Howard secured a 2-1 win. Only once have the two clubs met in the FA Cup, with the Hatters winning 3-0 in the third round in 1983.

To get clued up on Newport and Posh, visit www.newport-county.co.uk and www.theposh.com

TICKET OFFICE

A

NEWPORT COUNTY

Saturday 28th November 2015, 3pm

Tickets are available from the ticket office and on the day at Newport, but are cheaper if bought in advance from the ticket office. We have received an allocation of 1,066 seats, 421 in the Bisley Stand beside the pitch and 645 in the Sytner End behind the goal. Tickets are now on general sale online and from the Ticket Office in person or via phone. They will remain on sale until 2pm Friday 27th November. Subject to availability tickets will be available at Newport on the day, however there is a price increase for these tickets.

Bisley Stand advanced prices: £19 adults, £15 seniors (65+) and young adults (under-21), £9 under-16s, £7 under-12s, under-6s free.

Matchday prices: £21 adults, £17 seniors (65+) and young adults (under-21), £9 under-16s, £7 under-12s, under-6s free.

Sytner End advanced prices: £17 adults, £13 seniors (65+) and young adults (under-21), £7 under-16s, £6 under-12s, under-6s free.

Matchday prices: £19 adults, £15 seniors (65+) and young adults (under-21), £9 under-16s, £7 under-12s, under-6s free.

Those supporters under 16, 12 or six on 1st August must be accompanied by a full paying adult or senior. Ambulant Disabled tickets are available with a Carer for those receiving Higher or Middle rate disability. Wheelchair tickets need to be purchased in advance from Newport directly on 01633 674963.

A

PETERBOROUGH UNITED

Sunday 6th December 2015, 2pm

Please note the date and kick-off time for this match.

This game is all-ticket. The Luton Town ticket office has received an initial allocation of 1,623 seats for this fixture. Supporters can opt to choose beside the pitch in the North Stand, or behind the goal in the Motorpoint Stand. More seats will be available should there be demand. Selling arrangements: Tickets are now on sale to Season Ticket holders at two per person until close of business Wednesday 25th November.

Any remaining tickets will be available on general sale from Thursday 26th November online and from the Ticket Office in person or via phone. They will remain on sale until 3pm Friday 4th December.

Prices: All stands are priced the same: £15 adults, £10 over-60s and under-22s, £5 under-18s.

Ambulant Disabled tickets are available with a Carer free of charge. Wheelchair tickets can be purchased from the Luton Town ticket office.

H

NORTHAMPTON TOWN

Saturday 12th December 2015, 3pm

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

A

EXETER CITY

Saturday 19th December 2015, 3pm

The Luton Town ticket office has received an allocation of 371 seats in the Main Stand and an initial 500 terrace tickets for this match. Selling arrangements: Tickets are now on sale to Season Ticket holders at two per person until close of business Monday 30th November.

Any remaining tickets will be available on general sale from Tuesday 1st December online and from the Ticket Office in person or via phone. They will remain on sale until 2pm Friday 19th December.

Subject to availability, tickets will be available at Exeter on the day of the game – however there is a price increase on some of these tickets.

Prices: Main Stand seats: £24 adults (£25 on the day), £20 seniors (£21 on the day), £10 under-18s/students (also £10 on the day). Terracing: £16 adults, £13 seniors, £5 under-18s/students.

Ambulant Disabled tickets are available with a Carer free of charge. Wheelchair tickets can be purchased from the Luton Town ticket office.

Contact the ticket office on 01582 416976, email ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk or buy tickets online at www.eticketing.co.uk/lutontown

COMMERCIAL TALK...

WITH COMMERCIAL MANAGER **DAVID HOSKINS**

Good evening and welcome to all of our corporate guests, including our match sponsors and mascot for tonight's game against Carlisle United.

As you may have seen, earlier this month we were excited to launch our Christmas dinner event with special guest David James.

The former England international is of course a massive Luton Town fan and he will be reminiscing about his time supporting the Hatters and his illustrious career at the top level on the night of Wednesday 9th December.

Tickets are selling well for the night which are priced at just £65 per person. If you are interested in booking a ticket or a table, please do get in touch by calling our commercial team on 01582 411622 or by emailing commercial@lutontown.co.uk.

In the meantime, space remains at a premium at our League fixtures between now and the rest of the season so if you're thinking of enjoying matchday hospitality at one of our forthcoming home matches please do give us a call.

MATCH SPONSOR

SSANGYONG MOTOR UK

Tonight's match sponsors SsangYong Motor UK Ltd are the exclusive importer and distributor of SsangYong vehicles in the UK.

They are a growing business who have seen their sales quadruple in the past two years and who have their head office based in Luton. They offer a wide range of vehicles which are competitively priced and more details (including the location of your closest dealer) can be found on their website www.ssangyonggb.co.uk.

Their Finance Director Ian Anderson is a big Hatters fan and the company also provides kit sponsorship for Mark O'Brien.

MASCOT

TONIGHT'S MASCOT

We're delighted to welcome seven-year-old Lyndon Moore as our mascot this evening. Lyndon is from Dunstable and attends matches with his Dad, Aunty Emma and his cousin Ieuan.

His favourite players are Jack Marriott and Luke Wilkinson, both of whom Lyndon will get to meet in the dressing room before the match.

We hope you have a wonderful evening with us tonight, Lyndon.

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Welcome to Kenilworth Road CARLISLE UNITED

TEAM PROFILE CARLISLE

Nicknames: The Cumbrians
Ground: Brunton Park
Last season: 20th League 2
Manager: Keith Curle
Last match: Carlisle 2-2 Portsmouth

HATTERS v CARLISLE

Luton wins 10
Draws 8
Carlisle wins 6

It gives us great pleasure to welcome everyone associated with Carlisle United to Kenilworth Road this evening – especially those supporters in the away end who have made the long trip down on this Tuesday evening.

United arrive in Bedfordshire today firmly in the promotion hunt after a decent first three-and-a-half months of the campaign.

Prior to Saturday's game with fellow promotion-chasers Portsmouth, Keith Curle's side were level on points with the final Play-Off place and just five points off the final automatic promotion place.

Curle has worked wonders at Brunton Park since taking over the hotseat last season. He steered the Cumbrians away from relegation trouble and so far this season he has guided the club to within striking distance of the top seven.

The boss took over from Graham Kavanagh just over a year ago with the side struggling to come to terms with relegation from League 1 the season before. Hopes were high in Cumbria of an immediate return to the third tier but United found life difficult and were always in the bottom half of the table.

However, confidence this season is high that Carlisle can mount the kind of challenge they thought was possible last term. Curle's side have found no problem scoring goals – they are the joint-top goalscorers in the division, the problem has been conceding: they have the joint-worst defence in the division along with bottom-of-the-table Dagenham.

So far this season United have relied on the goals of summer arrival Jabo Ibehre, who has netted 10 times for the Cumbrians this season. The experienced forward scored six in his first three matches at the start of the campaign, including a hat-trick on his home debut in the 4-4 draw with Cambridge. Whenever he scores, United do not lose.

Last season the Town did the double over Carlisle, winning 1-0 on both occasions with Mark Cullen scoring the winner in both games. And the Hatters will be hoping they can continue their good run of form against Carlisle in recent history.

It will be 43 years tomorrow since United last tasted victory on Luton soil when they won 1-0 here on 25th November 1972.

The Hatters have only lost one and won six of the last nine meetings, while Carlisle have only beaten the Town twice in the last 16 attempts.

United's away record so far this season reads three wins, three draws and three defeats. Last week they were beaten at Bristol Rovers but Curle's side knocked out League 2 leaders Plymouth out of the FA Cup the week before. Victories on the road in League 2 have come at Stevenage, Leyton Orient and Hartlepool.

One of their most eye-catching performances of the season also came on their travels: United took Premier League Liverpool all the way to penalties in the League Cup, holding the Reds to a 1-1 at Anfield before bowing out 3-2 in the shootout.

LAST MEETING

Luton 1-0 Carlisle 14/2/15

Meet the VISITORS

OUR GUIDE TO THE MEN FROM BRUNTON PARK

THE BOSS

KEITH CURLE

Former England defender with over 700 senior appearances to his name, Curle took charge at Brunton Park in September last year. Started his managerial career at Mansfield before stints at Chester, Torquay and Notts County.

BETWEEN THE STICKS

MARK GILLESPIE

United number one Mark joined the club in 2010 and came through the youth ranks having previously been on Newcastle's books as a youngster. Made his senior debut aged 18 in 2010.

IN DEFENCE

DANNY GRAINGER

Captain Danny signed for United in 2014 having played the whole of his career in Scotland. Joined from Dunfermline and has also had spells at Gretna, Dundee United, St Johnstone and Hearts.

ALEX McQUEEN

Full-back capable of playing in central midfield, Alex joined United this summer having left Premier League Tottenham where he came through the academy.

TOM MILLER

Summer arrival Tom joined United after three years and over 100 appearances for Lincoln. Started his career as a youngster at Norwich before spells in Scotland, Ireland and Wales.

MICHAEL RAYNES

Towering centre-half Michael joined United in May this year following his release from Mansfield. Started his career at Stockport before spells at Scunthorpe, Rotherham and Oxford.

TROY ARCHIBALD-HENVILLE

Centre-back Troy signed for the Cumbrians in 2014 following a successful loan spell from Swindon. Started his career at Spurs and, after a loan spell at Exeter, he joined the Grecians permanently.

THE MEN IN THE MIDDLE

GARY DICKER

Dublin-born midfielder Gary joined United in the summer of 2014 from Crawley. Made his name at Brighton, where he spent four years where he helped the Seagulls win League 1 in 2010/11.

BASTIEN HERY

Former Paris Saint-Germain trainee signed for United this summer from Rochdale. Left France for Sheffield Wednesday in 2012 but failed to make the grade at Hillsborough before joining Dale.

LUKE JOYCE

Central midfielder Luke re-joined United for a second spell this summer after six years with Accrington. Made his Carlisle debut back in 2006 after originally joining from Wigan.

JASON KENNEDY

Experienced midfielder Jason joined this year after a successful loan spell from Bradford. Has enjoyed a 12-year career but made his name at Rochdale making over 175 appearances.

ANTONY SWEENEY

Hugely experienced central midfielder Antony ended a 13-year association with Hartlepool in the summer of 2014 when joining Carlisle. Made 400 appearances for Pools after coming through the ranks.

UP FRONT

CHARLIE WYKE

Talented young striker who signed for United in January this year after enjoying a number of loan spells when on Middlesbrough's books. Never played for Boro after graduating from their academy.

DEREK ASAMOAH

Experienced Ghanaian striker Derek is now with his 13th club. Started his career with Northampton in the early 2000s, but his career has taken him to Scotland, France, Bulgaria and South Korea.

JABO IBEHRE

Londoner Jabo is United's top goalscorer this season. The striker played over 200 times for Leyton Orient before then joining Walsall, MK Dons and Colchester. He signed for Carlisle in June.

HALLAM HOPE

Young striker Hallam joined United on loan from Bury this month. Came through the ranks as a youngster at Everton and is a former England youth international.

From the OAK ROAD

Having been relegated at the end of the 2013/14 campaign hopes were high of an immediate return to League 1 for Carlisle. While that never quite materialised and a season of struggle in ensued, things are different this time round, explains United fan Tim Graham.

THE SEASON AHEAD...

At the start of last season you had expectations of bouncing back to League 1 and it never materialised after a bad start. This year, what's expectation like at Brunton Park?

Better than last season, most would be happy with an improvement to upper mid-table, but when you get that close to the Play-Off spots there is always the dream there. A lot the expectation for change is off the field as well though with never-ending talk of investment and a ground move or ground improvement never far from the thoughts of the fans. Those off the field things have been on the back burner for a long time but we don't seem to be getting anywhere fast with either of them.

Keith Curle took over from Graham Kavanagh a year ago. How has his last 12 months been? Can he get United back to the third tier?

Up and down, he kept us up last season but the football we played wasn't at all pretty. This season the football has been a lot better and results have improved. We have got one of the bigger fanbases in League 2 so that helps us as far as finances are concerned, plus the quarter of a million pounds or so we banked from the Liverpool Capital One Cup match should see some money going into the transfer kitty in the New Year.

It's been a much stronger start to the season this time round and you've got eyes on the top seven. What's changed and do you think promotion is a realistic possibility?

I don't see why it can't be as I don't think League 2 is the strongest it has ever been. If we can just improve on our defensive record over the second half of the season then we could have a shot at the Play-Offs for sure. We certainly score enough goals, it's just keeping them out of our own net which is the biggest problem. There was a big turn-around in the playing squad in the summer with some good signings made, that has seen the results improve.

Who's the one player to watch this season in the Carlisle ranks?

Jabo Ibehre started the season off like a house on fire with 10 goals in his first 13 appearances but he is only just getting back to full match fitness after spending a month and a half out injured. Alex Gilliead, a Newcastle loanee has been brilliant in patches but has spent quite a bit out of time out on England Under-20 duty. Aside from that it has been pretty much a team effort all round this season,

particularly at the back and in defensive midfield where the whole of the squad gets utilised on a regular basis.

SEASONS PAST...

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

I was born in Carlisle and my father was a Carlisle fan, so I was brought up going to the games as a young boy. I can't remember the exact first game but it must have been in the late 1970s or early 1980s. I mainly remember the big metal fences at the front of the paddock as there sadly were around nearly all football grounds in those days, as you will know all too well.

United celebrate lifting the JPT in 2011

I don't remember much about the games but then my memory of my younger years is terrible.

Like ourselves, you've experienced playing in the top flight, the Conference and everything between. Which is your favourite season following United and why?

It's nearly always a promotion campaign isn't it that sticks in the memory of supporters. 1994/95 and 2005/06 were the main two for me, but I'll plump for the first one of those two given it involved a couple of fantastic FA Cup games, although in both seasons we got to the final of the Football League Trophy. We only lost two of our first 41 league games, an unbelievable effort, and then we had a fantastic FA Cup game and replay experience away to and home to Sunderland.

You've also seen United play in the Conference. What was it like to begin with and what are the things you'll miss – and not miss! – now that you're back in the Football League?

Well, it was back in 2004/05 now so it wasn't as hard to get out of as it is these days, there were fewer former Football League teams down there. It was us against Barnet all season for the one automatic promotion spot, but in an often bad tempered campaign against them we just couldn't hang on to their coat tails. It was nice to go to some different grounds, but you wouldn't want to visit too many of them again. It all ended well though with a come from behind penalty shoot-out win over Aldershot Town in the Play-Off semis, and then a memorable 1-0 win over Stevenage Borough, as they were then, at Stoke in the final.

Give us your all-time Carlisle XI

Westwood, Delap, Harte, Chester, Mountfield, Davey, Osman, Jansen, Hawley, Reeves, Bridges.

LUTON AND CARLISLE

What are your best and worst memories of Carlisle v Luton clashes? Do any games in particular stick out?

Well, there aren't that many games to choose from really are there considering we have only played each other eight times since 1977, and given we have only won one of them I'm guessing it has to be the third tier match in March 2008 when we won 2-1 at Brunton Park.

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?

I have to be honest here and say that the supporters who I know who go to every game every season don't rank Luton up there as one of their favourite away trips. Given it's very rare that there are never any goals in our matches, and that we are away from home, I'll plump for a 1-1 draw.

QUICKFIRE

Terrace or Seats? Terrace

Who are your rivals? Preston

Paul Simpson or Mick Wadsworth? Paul Simpson

Fav Football League Trophy win – 1997 or 2011? 1997

Guess your player of the season

Jabo Ibehre

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

Peter Beardsley

Most treasured United piece of memorabilia?

Too many to choose from.

What league will Carlisle be in next season?

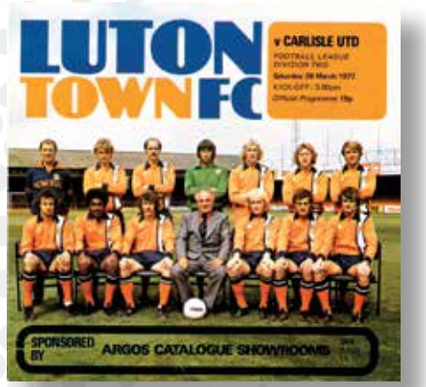
League 1 obviously.

Who will win promotion from League 2?

Oxford, Plymouth, Portsmouth and then us in the Play-Offs!

COVER STORY

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



LUTON TOWN 5 CARLISLE UNITED 0

26th March 1977

The 1976/77 campaign was proving to be one of glorious inconsistency. Harry Haslam's side enjoyed wins such as at Burnley (2-1), Wolves (2-1) and Notts County (4-0) and then follow them up with lacklustre single goal defeats at the likes of Plymouth, Blackburn, Bolton and Orient.

On New Year's Day 1977, only three days after a thumping 4-0 home win over promotion challengers Chelsea, the Town went down 1-0 at Bristol Rovers with Jimmy Husband missing a last-minute sitter. This defeat put the Hatters in 12th spot and we all felt that the season would eventually peter out to one of mid-table mediocrity.

What then happened has been debated time and time again since as the Town then embarked on a long unbeaten run, with the same players, which saw them rise up the table.

The run started with a 3-0 win at Sheffield United in front of the Match of the Day cameras. Armchair viewers probably thought the result was just a flash in the pan but the next two games, at home to Hull and Burnley, were also won and when Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest were overturned at the City Ground stay-away Hatters fans sat up and started to notice.

Home crowds started to rise with Blackburn next in line. Rovers had been losing 2-0 at Kenilworth Road early in the New Year but then conned the ref by slipping and sliding all over the pitch and forcing an abandonment. In football cheats quite often prosper but not on this occasion as the same score, 2-0, was recorded.

Next up were highly-fancied Charlton but two goals from Ron Futcher settled the fiercely contested match and when Fulham were swept aside at Craven Cottage the winning run had extended to seven.

Win number eight came at the expense of promotion favourites Wolves who were themselves on a long unbeaten run. A Kenilworth Road crowd of 19,200 saw Husband and Lil Fuccillo score within two minutes of each other and when substitute David Geddis, on loan from Ipswich, netted the only goal of the game in the 86th minute against Oldham at Kenilworth Road the following mid-week a top three spot was within reach.

Sadly, the winning run came to an end when Plymouth escaped from Kenilworth Road with a fortunate point in the next game but the unbeaten run was extended at struggling Hereford when a late header from Ron Futcher secured both points and with it a place in the top three for the first time that season.

Carlisle, the next visitors to Kenilworth Road, were struggling at the wrong end of the table although they had won 4-3 at Bolton in their last game. A crowd of 11,735 turned up on a miserable day to see the Town play within themselves in the first period but still go in at the interval 2-0 ahead.

Both goals came from lax defending with Carlisle's Phil Bonnyman allowing a long ball from Paul Futcher to pass under his foot with Fuccillo snapping up the opportunity to shoot a 19th minute opener. Twenty minutes later, slack marking allowed Futcher to jab in a second.

ROARED

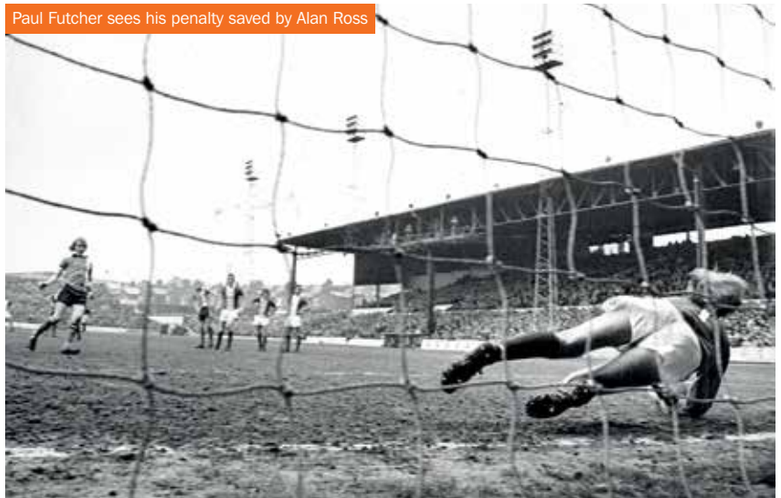
After the interval both Paul Futcher and Alan West started spraying long balls about as the Town upped their game and roared into action. Husband made it 3-0 on the hour mark with a clever turn and shot, West shot number four from distance and John Aston became the fifth Luton player to score with a remarkable last minute goal.

He robbed Carlisle goalkeeper, and ex-Hatter, Alan Ross on the by-line eight yards out and his shot rolled along the line into the net.

It could have been more though in that second period, as Paul Futcher saw a weak penalty saved, Aston hit the post and Husband shot over an open goal.

Manager Harry Haslam confirmed afterwards that his game plan was to contain Carlisle in the first half while playing against the wind and then crush them in the second. The plan worked perfectly!

Paul Futcher sees his penalty saved by Alan Ross



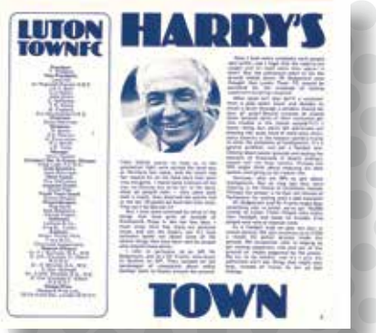
THE PROGRAMME

The Town produced a 16-page programme for the visit of Carlisle priced at 15p.

This season saw the first venture into colour although the team photo on the front cover remained unchanged throughout the campaign.

In his column Harry Haslam made light of the Town's current run but entered into a rant about local MP Brian Sedgemore who had wanted to see the ground closed down and the Hatters relegated because of damage caused to local property after the Wolves game. Haslam reminded the MP that Luton Town had 10,000 regular supporters who voted at election time.

In the adverts it is noted that you could buy a new home in Leighton Buzzard for £8,300 or buy a Colt Celeste car, which ran on two star petrol, for £3,349. Take your pick!



DEFINING MOMENTS

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN **LEIGH EDWARDS** SELECTS EIGHT KEY MATCHES AND MOMENTS THAT HAVE SHAPED CARLISLE UNITED'S POST-WAR ERA

1962 FIRST PROMOTION SUCCESS

Carlisle United clinched promotion for the first time with a 2-0 Fourth Division win over Chester watched by 12,660 at Brunton Park on 1st May 1962. Carlisle had kicked off with a 2-1 victory over Aldershot and later surged up the table with five straight wins. They beat Darlington 4-0 and Barnsley 2-1 before losing 3-1 at Wolves in the FA Cup third round. Billy Stark arrived from Crewe and Geoff Martin from Darlington, helping Carlisle to remain in the promotion race. Ivor Powell's side triumphed 2-1 at Doncaster, then defeated Chester on the final day of the season with goals from Barry Brayton and George Walker to finish in fourth position.

1965 THIRD DIVISION CHAMPIONS

United clinched the Third Division title with a 3-0 victory over Mansfield Town in front of 18,764 at Brunton Park on 20th April 1965. The Cumbrians had lost 2-0 at promotion rivals Mansfield the previous day and the return match was make or break night. Alan Ashman's side attacked from the start and took the lead on 14 minutes when Jimmy Blain crossed for Frank Large to head in off the post. Carlisle maintained the pressure and added further goals from Johnny Evans and Large to reach the Second Division for the first time. Defeat would have seen Mansfield finish top and Carlisle miss out on promotion in third place behind Bristol City.

1974 TOP OF THE LEAGUE

Newly-promoted Carlisle United sat proudly on top of the First Division after winning their opening three games in 1974/75. The Cumbrians began life in the top-flight with a visit to Chelsea on 17th August 1974 and triumphed 2-0 with goals by skipper Bill Green and Les O'Neill in front of the new East Stand at Stamford Bridge. O'Neill scored twice in Carlisle's 2-0 win at Middlesbrough three days later and Chris Balderstone's first-half penalty gave Alan Ashman's side a 1-0 victory over Tottenham Hotspur in front of 18,426 at Brunton Park on 24th August 1974. Carlisle were destined to then plummet to the bottom of the table and were relegated.

1982 POP CHAMPAGNE CORKS

The Cumbrians clinched promotion back to the Second Division with a 1-0 victory over Chester at Sealand Road on 19th May 1982. The Cumbrians had narrowly avoided relegation to the Fourth Division the previous season. At one point during the closing weeks of the 1981/82 campaign Carlisle, leaders for a long time, had dropped to fifth place and looked out of contention.

The penultimate match saw Bob Stokoe's side needing just a point to gain promotion but they surprisingly lost 2-1 at home to Bristol Rovers. Pop Robson scored the decisive goal against bottom club Chester as Carlisle finished runners-up, with Burnley winning the title on goal difference.

1995 FIRST VISIT TO WEMBLEY

United made their first visit to Wembley Stadium in the Auto Windscreens Shield final on 23rd April 1995. Third Division leaders Carlisle faced Second Division high-fliers Birmingham City in front of 76,663 and Mick Wadsworth's side were unlucky not to score an early goal through Rod Thomas, then had penalty appeals ignored when Paul Conway was brought down in the box. The match went to extra-time after a goalless draw and Paul Tait scored in the 103rd minute to clinch Birmingham's 1-0 sudden-death victory. Carlisle secured the Third Division title six days later as leading scorer David Reeves netted in their 1-0 win at Colchester United.

1997 CARLISLE AT THE DOUBLE

Mervyn Day – who once played on-loan here at Kenilworth Road – guided Carlisle to a promotion and Auto Windscreens Shield 'double' in 1996/97. They had been relegated the previous season but swept to the top of the Third Division after losing just once in their first 12 games. Allan Smart arrived from Preston and Carlisle maintained their title challenge with a ten match unbeaten run but eventually finished in third place after winning only three of their last 11 matches. Carlisle clinched promotion with a 0-0 draw at Mansfield Town on 11th April 1997 and won the Auto Windscreens Shield nine days later, beating Colchester United 4-3 on penalties after a 0-0 draw at Wembley Stadium.

1999 CARLISLE'S GREAT ESCAPE

Goalkeeper Jimmy Glass earned a place in Carlisle folklore when he scored an injury-time winner against Plymouth Argyle on the last day of the 1998/99 season to secure the club's Football League status in dramatic fashion. There were just 10 seconds of the Third Division match at Brunton Park remaining when keeper Glass, who had come up for a corner, volleyed home after Scott Dobie's header had been parried. That goal, coupled with David Brightwell's earlier strike, clinched a 2-1 win that was enough to earn the Cumbrians the three points they needed to avoid the drop as Scarborough were relegated to the Conference instead.

2006 LEAGUE 2 CHAMPIONS

United were League 2 champions and Football League Trophy finalists in 2005/06. Paul Simpson's side had regained Football League status at the first attempt the previous season and won five of their first nine matches, then top scorer Karl Hawley netted consecutive hat-tricks against Stockport and Torquay. Newcomers Keiren Westwood and Michael Bridges helped Carlisle go top of the table with a 5-0 victory over Chester in February and they lost just one of their last 16 matches, clinching promotion with a 1-1 draw at Mansfield on 22nd April 2006. The Cumbrians lost 2-1 to Swansea in the Football League Trophy final three weeks earlier.

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Numbers GAME

CARLISLE AND THE HATTERS IN NUMBERS

DID YOU KNOW?

The Hatters did not win any of the first eight meetings against Carlisle, drawing four and losing four. In five of those matches the Town failed to score, but did draw one game 3-3 at Kenilworth Road in November 1970.

2 The Town have only lost two of their last 16 matches against Carlisle, winning 10.

1 The Hatters' more recent record has seen them lose just one of the last nine meetings, winning six and drawing twice.

1-0 Last season the Hatters completed the double over the Cumbrians by winning both matches 1-0 with Mark Cullen scoring the winner on each occasion. The first came on the opening day of the season at Brunton Park while the win at Kenilworth Road followed on Valentine's Day.

43 It has been 43 years since Carlisle last won at Kenilworth Road – in fact it will be 43 years ago tomorrow! United recorded a 1-0 win here on 25th November 1972 with Bobby Owen scoring the Cumbrians' winning goal.

HEAD 2 HEAD

24 PLAYED
10 LUTON WINS
8 DRAWS
6 CARLISLE WINS
36 LUTON GOALS SCORED
23 CARLISLE GOALS SCORED
1964 YEAR OF FIRST MEETING

1st October 1964 to be precise. The two sides played out a 1-1 draw at Kenilworth Road with John O'Rourke on target.

FIVE ALIVE

The joint biggest margin of victory for the Town also saw the Hatters run out 5-0 winners at Kenilworth Road in 1977. On that occasion five different players were on target for the Town: Lil Fuccillo, Ron Futcher, Jimmy Husband, Alan West and John Aston.

SIX OF THE BEST.

The Hatters biggest win over the Cumbrians came at Kenilworth Road in September 1973 when the Town triumphed 6-1.

20 Between 1973 and 1988 the Hatters won all five meetings with Carlisle at Kenilworth Road, scoring 20 goals and conceding just four. The Town won 3-2 on the final day of the 1997/98 season with a late winner from loan star Rory Allen.

14,837

The biggest attendance to watch a Luton versus Carlisle fixture came at Kenilworth Road in a 3-3 draw in October 1970. Jim Ryan, Alan Slough and Malcolm Macdonald were on target for the Hatters.

CARLISLE UNITED TROPHY CABINET

OLD SECOND DIVISION – THIRD PLACE	1974
OLD THIRD DIVISION CHAMPIONS	1965, RUNNERS-UP 1982
OLD FOURTH DIVISION RUNNERS-UP	1964
THIRD DIVISION CHAMPIONS	1995
LEAGUE 2 CHAMPIONS	2006
FOOTBALL LEAGUE TROPHY WINNERS	1997, 2011
FOOTBALL LEAGUE TROPHY RUNNERS-UP	1995, 2003, 2006, 2010

TOWN 2 0 BARNET

ATTENDANCE 8,497
612 BARNET

WHAT'S THE STORY?

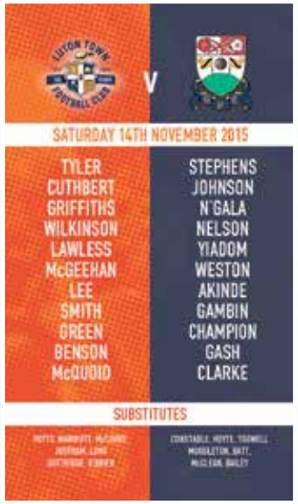
Goals from Danny Green and Cameron McGeehan gave the Hatters a third successive victory in all competitions thanks to a 2-0 win at home to Barnet.

Green opened the scoring on 25 minutes with a thunderbolt from the edge of the penalty area after Josh McQuoid, who delivered a man-of-the-match display, had tricked his way through the Bees defence.

The Town had numerous chances to double their lead, with McQuoid, McGeehan and Jonathan Smith all going close.

And it wasn't until the 67th minute when McGeehan scored his eighth goal of the campaign that the three points were made safe. McQuoid was the creator again, racing down the right wing to deliver a low cross into the box that was eventually swept home by McGeeehan in to the net.

Danny Green, head down, fires the Town in front against the Bees



SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2015

TYLER	STEPHENS
CUTHBERT	JOHNSON
GRIFFITHS	N'GALA
WILKINSON	NELSON
LAWLESS	YIADOM
McGEEHAN	WESTON
LEE	AKINDE
SMITH	GAMBIN
GREEN	CHAMPION
BENSON	GASH
McQUOID	CLARKE

SUBSTITUTES

[illegible]	CONSTABLE, HOYTE, TOWNELL, MIDDLETON, BATT, McCLEAN, BAILEY

7	CORNERS	6
4	SHOTS ON TARGET	1
7	SHOTS WIDE	2
16	FOULS	6
1	OFFSIDES	0

STILL SAID:

"You always want to produce your best stuff at home. Our away form is exceptional, we're scoring plenty of goals away from home, but we have scored two here and could have scored more.

"It was a good performance, a strong performance and first half I thought we were very, very good, better than the scoreline as well.

"Second half we said it would be bit more difficult, we needed to play the ball a bit shorter due to the conditions as the ball going forward went all over the place.

"It probably took 10-15 minutes to get into it, but give them their due, they gambled, threw men forward without creating chances, as Mark Tyler hasn't had much to do.

"Jonathan Smith should have put it out of sight with a good effort, he's got to hit the target from there, but when we got our second one, I thought we were comfortable."

STEVENAGE 0 0 TOWN

V

SATURDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 2015

DAY	TYLER
HENRY	CUTHBERT (C)
FRANKS	WILKINSON
WELLS	GRIFFITHS
OGILVIE	LAWLESS
WHELPDALE	GREEN
SCHUMACHER	SMITH
LEE	LEE
PETT	McGEEHAN
KENNEDY	McQUOID
GNANDUILLET	BENSON

SUBSTITUTES

Cameron McGeehan battles for possession with ex-Hatter Fraser Franks

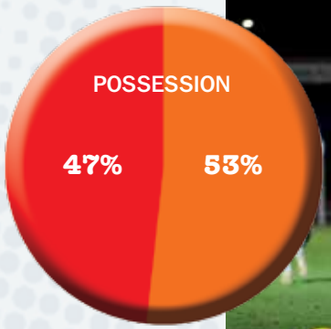
STILL SAID:

"I know we had a sending off, but how their man wasn't sent off, as last man, for handball? It was a crazy decision, absolutely crazy decision. But we've had some crazy decisions haven't we with the Ryan Hall situation, what can you do?

"We'll do the same as we normally do, we'll write off, they'll come back and say 'yes it should have been' and we'll be back where we are, but nothing I can do about that now.

"We had chances to win the game, we've had two really good efforts hit the bar and on another day they go in and we win the game. I thought we played well enough and had the chances so overall I'm happy. We didn't lose, we kept a clean sheet and we'll move onto the next game."

3	CORNERS	1
3	SHOTS ON TARGET	5
5	SHOTS WIDE	4
9	FOULS	14
2	OFFSIDES	4



WHAT'S THE STORY?

Paul Benson's red card soured a strong second-half performance as the Hatters were held to a 0-0 draw from their trip to Stevenage.

The Town striker lunged in on Tom Conlon close to the touchline, and despite making no contact with the player, Benson's intent was enough for him to see red in the final 10 minutes.

Backed by almost 2,000 supporters, the Hatters came close to opening the scoring in the first half with Danny Green and Josh McQuoid going close – with both players denied by home goalkeeper Chris Day.

In the second period the Hatters hit the bar twice, firstly through Green's free-kick and then, in the closing stages when McQuoid's header came back off the woodwork.

But the Town, although keeping their third successive clean sheet in League 2, couldn't force the winner and claimed just a share of the spoils at the Lamex Stadium to keep in touch with the League 2 Play-Off places.

ATTENDANCE
4,782
1,892 LUTON

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 DRAW AT STEVENAGE

The journey

Buoyed by three wins in a row, two Bobbers Travel coaches embarked on the small journey to Stevenage to join up with the other 1,800 Town fans who had tickets for the game.

I always find Stevenage games strange ones. Given the locality of it I feel that it should have a derby meaning to it but I can't bring myself to treat it as such. I woke up on Saturday morning quite confident about the day ahead rather than being hit by nerves and butterflies that a true derby would bring.

We left Luton interchange at 1pm and were in Stevenage just before 1.30 and safely parked up in the car park opposite the ground on a sunny but very chilly day. Given how cold it was I sat on the coach until 2 watching sport on my iPad before making the walk over to the away end.

Rating: ⚽⚽⚽⚽⚽

The ground

Nothing has changed at the Lamex since we were last there. Town fans were given the entire stand behind the goal and a couple of blocks of the side stand which was meant to be the family stand.

Both stands had a roof over them which was handy with snow on the forecast but luckily that stayed well away. The view was ok in the side stand but I wouldn't say the place was anything to write home about. It was a bog standard football ground really.

Rating: ⚽⚽⚽

The food

One thing about Broadhall Way was the food inside the ground. If you hadn't been tempted by Pizza Hut and the other offerings in the Roaring Meg retail park you had plenty of options inside the ground ranging from burgers, hot dogs and pies to chips, bacon rolls, Cornish pasties and sausage rolls.

As well as the hot food there was the usual hot and cold drinks and regular confectionary that most refreshment places offer. You could also have a cupcake for £1.50 which had Luton's badge on top which was a nice touch. It was all fairly reasonably priced and very handy on a freezing cold day.

Rating: ⚽⚽⚽⚽⚽

The programme

I guess somewhat predictably the 68-page programme had a full size picture of Fraser Franks on the front cover.

The Town got the usual welcomes from Teddy Sheringham and the Stevenage chairman who also seemed to spend most of his column moaning that the game was all-ticket. Not sure what he was expecting!

There were also three pages dedicated to the Town where Cameron McGeehan was labelled the main man. Unlike some programmes at least this one picked someone who actually played! That aside there wasn't much of interest in it even allowing for the local aspect of the game.

Rating: ⚽⚽

The match

In terms of events this one was very much one of two halves. The first half took an absolute age to get going and most of it was spent waiting for my pal 'Part-time Pete' to turn up after thinking he could do Manchester to Stevenage that morning and failing miserably. He turned up 40 minutes after kick off – epic fail!

Stevenage had the better of the early stages without ever really threatening but we were closest to taking the lead when their keeper made two great saves late on and a Josh McQuoid shot was cleared off the line.

The second half caught fire much quicker and was actually one of our better 45 minutes of the season. It was certainly the most eventful!

Our first chance came when Paul Benson loitered with intent in an offside position only for the header to head it straight to him and play him onside. He was one-on-one with the keeper but scuffed his finish disappointingly. Stevenage had a chance where Mark Tyler saved from Franks but then it was all us.

The second half was full of key decisions and with 15 minutes left the ref, who failed to send a Mansfield defender off when awarding us a penalty for a professional foul earlier in the season, surpassed himself. Substitute Jack Marriott was chasing a long ball through and as he was getting there the last man, Dean Wells, clearly punched the ball away from him. Amazingly only a yellow card was shown.

Danny Green belted the resulting free kick against the bar. It would have been a worldy. As was our next chance. Olly Lee ran into what looked like trouble but then produced an amazing pirouette turn to leave two defenders for dead and force a top draw save out of home goalkeeper Chris Day from distance with the outside of his right boot. That would've ended all goal of the season competitions!

Five minutes from time came the big decision. Paul Benson went in strong on the right wing. He clearly won the ball and touched nothing else but a Stevenage player fell to the ground. Everyone jumped in and made it look bad and amazingly Benson was dismissed. Given what went earlier all hell predictably broke loose.

Even with 10 men we nearly won the game when McQuoid saw a header hit the bar in the final minute of normal time. From the rebound he was taken out but by then nobody expected the referee to notice such an obvious infringement so we were left to settle with a 0-0.

Rating: ⚽⚽⚽

Man-of-the-Match

Defensively we were sound and the two centre halves were very much big features of that. I thought Luke Wilkinson had a really good game. He kept their gangly striker quiet for the most part and took care of the lively sub when he came on. He was a big factor in our third successive league clean sheet.

Summary

We deserved more than we got from the day but at least we didn't lose and we are making good progress. Another positive was we were back in Luton by 5.45pm with the whole evening left to enjoy.

OVERALL RATING
18 out of 25

MILES TRAVELLED THIS SEASON
2,370.3

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REACTION

BENSON HOPES INJURIES BEHIND HIM

Paul Benson would have been as relieved as anyone to see his name in the starting line-up for the Town's 2-0 victory over Barnet in our last home match.

The striker made his first start since the end of August, helping the Hatters secure a third successive win in all competitions despite not getting on the scoresheet.

But Benson feels his contribution to a victory and an injury-free game was more important than getting a goal for the Hatters.

"It's a fantastic feeling to be back," Benson told Hatters Player. "It's always frustrating when you're not playing, but you've got to stick in there and make sure that when you do come back that you are ready to play.

The 36-year-old was kept off the park with a slipped disc injury, making every day actions and events all the more difficult to undertake.

It was an injury which could have potentially kept him out for longer had it not been down to the medical team at Kenilworth Road, with Benson full of praise for the staff.

"It's been a horrible injury," he said. "It's one of those ones where it effects your whole day, you come into training, it hurts when you stand up, hurts when you sit down and the only thing you can really do is lie down.

"Then you go home with three kids to look after, and sometimes all you can do is lie down and that ruins your quality of life.

"I thought I was going to be out longer when I heard the news of the injury, but they've got me back really quickly and it's been a good team effort."

Benson conceded that it was difficult for him to adjust to time on the sidelines, but the support and praise from manager John Still in current weeks has given him a boost as he looks to regain his place in the Hatters' first team.

"It's always nice to hear when someone speaks highly of you, none more so than when it's the manager of the club you play for," Benson said.

"You feel like you're letting people down when you're not playing, but we've got a great team of physios and masseuses.

CONTRIBUTE

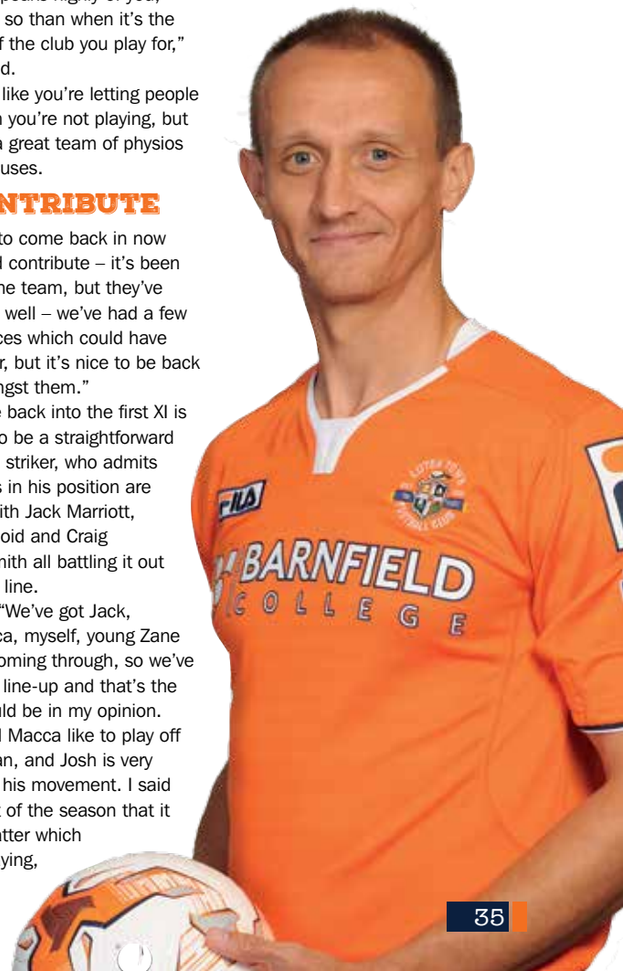
"I've got to come back in now and try and contribute – it's been tough for the team, but they've done really well – we've had a few performances which could have been better, but it's nice to be back there amongst them."

The route back into the first XI is not going to be a straightforward one for the striker, who admits the options in his position are plentiful, with Jack Marriott, Josh McQuoid and Craig Mackail-Smith all battling it out to lead the line.

He said: "We've got Jack, Josh, Macca, myself, young Zane [Banton] coming through, so we've got a good line-up and that's the way it should be in my opinion.

"Jack and Macca like to play off the last man, and Josh is very clever with his movement. I said at the start of the season that it doesn't matter which two are playing, you're going to get a good pairing of players.

"I don't think any are better or weaker, some of the combinations may work better together, but we've got a lot of talent in the striking areas, it's just keeping us all fit now."



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REACTION

WINGER BUZZING AFTER BARNET TRIUMPH

Danny Green particularly enjoyed a positive afternoon as his first league start of the campaign helped the Hatters to their 2-0 victory over Barnet.

The winger managed to get on the scoresheet for his third goal of the season, unleashing a powerful drive following a superb burst forward from Josh McQuoid.

And now the 27-year-old is looking to add to his game in a bid to get more game time at Kenilworth Road.

"It's been a good Saturday!" Green told Hatters Player. "We played really well in that first half, passing the ball around nicely. The second half was a bit of a grind, not pretty to watch, but we had to stand up tall and be brave, and we did that.

"I feel I can play better than that as well. It's my first start in the league which is disappointing for myself.

"The gaffer told me I needed to work harder and get my running up, and I've been doing that and hopefully I can get a run in the team now."

All of Green's goals this campaign have been strikes to remember, but the man of the moment feels that the hard work during and after training sessions is at forefront of that feat.

"I pride myself on my goal-scoring, I work on it after training with Cameron McGeehan, working on my one-touch finishing and things like that, and hopefully it can get me more starts and that can lead to more goals and more assists.

Having moved down a division from League 1, Green admits he's had to give his game an extra dimension to cope with the challenges in English football's fourth tier, with his defensive duties coming more to the forefront.

The midfielder remains keen, however, to show his prowess in front of goal, and is looking to strengthen his relationship with one striker in particular.

He added: "I had to come on and work hard against Crawley. I like to play attacking, but football is more athletic and you have to do some of the dirty work which is what I'm looking to put in the game.

"I can play in most formations, but a lot of managers have seen crossing as my strength. It helps if Benno plays because we used to play together at Dagenham, so I know his runs well and I can set him up for goals."

While the size and quality of the Hatters' squad has been a leading factor in Green's limited appearances so far, the former Charlton man sees it as a benefit more than a hindrance for the Town, particularly as the season develops over the next few months.

"Not many squads have so many good players in each position like we do – it's really unheard of in the league," he said.

"That's definitely going to be one of our strengths going forward through the season. If one of our players gets injured or is out of form, then we can easily bring someone in just as good or perhaps even better to take over that role.

"With the three game winning streak, we can hopefully keep going that and I can be a part of that. We'll have another hard week of training, and I'll be trying to keep my place in the team and keep on winning."

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2015-16 STAT PACK

sky BET LEAGUE 2

LEAGUE TWO TOP FIVES

GOALS

1	SIMPSON	11
2	CORR	8
3	IBEHRE	8
4	RICHARDS	8
5	WINDASS	8

ASSISTS

1	DEVITT	10
2	NICKY ADAMS	9
3	COX	7
4	AKINDE	6
5	FRANCOMB	6

SHOTS ON TARGET

1	CAREY	30
2	ROOFE	27
3	SIMPSON	21
4	CORR	19
5	BINGHAM	18

MINUTES PER GOAL

1	IBEHRE	96
2	MULLIN	96
3	MARRIOTT	105
4	CORR	124
5	MILLER	131

% OF GOALS INVOLVED IN

1	AKINDE	48
2	KEE	46
3	SIMPSON	41
4	CAREY	41
5	SERCOMBE	39

MINUTES PER CHANCE CREATED

1	DEVITT	105
2	COX	151
3	NICKY ADAMS	154
4	WEBSTER	176
5	KEE	188

FOULS

1	GREEN	45
2	HARROLD	36
3	AKINFENWA	35
4	HYLTON	33
5	AKINDE	30

MINUTES PER GOAL CONCEDED

1	JORONEN	47
2	SAM BEASANT	48
3	DAY	48
4	ROCHE	50
5	O'BRIEN	51

LEAGUE TWO SPOTLIGHT

Mansfield have won their last five home games in a row on a Tuesday, after failing to win the previous seven (D1 L6).

LEAGUE TWO SPOTLIGHT

York are unbeaten in 10 away Football League games on a Tuesday (W3 D7), last tasting defeat in September 2003 away at Bury.

*Data doesn't include games played on Nov 20-22

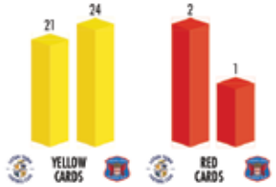
opta OFFICIAL DATA

2015-16 STAT PACK

LUTON TOWN v **CARLISLE UNITED**

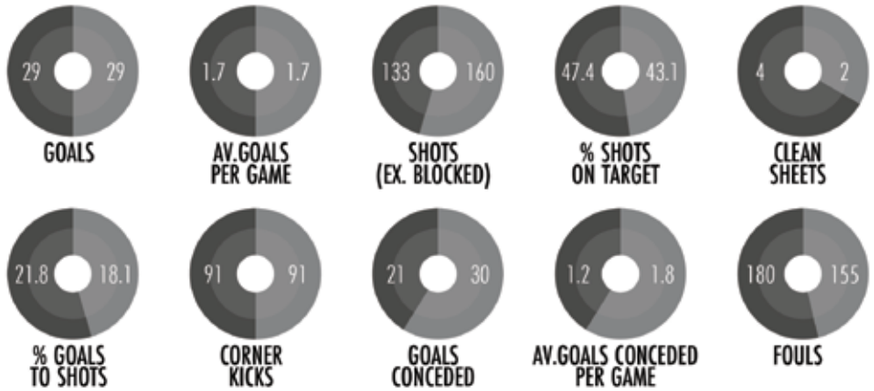
MATCH FACTS

The Hatters are unbeaten in eight home games against Carlisle (W6 D2), not losing to them at Kenilworth Road since November 1972.

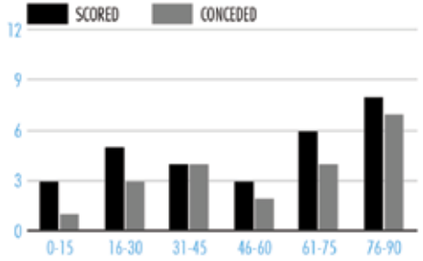


MATCH FACTS

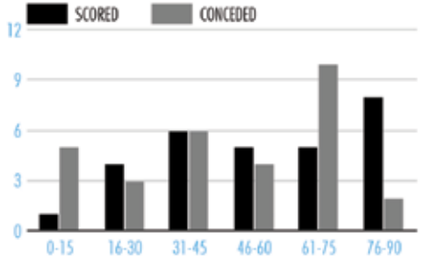
The Cumbrians have won only one of their last 14 games against Luton (D4 L9).



GOAL TIMES



GOAL TIMES



*Data doesn't include games played on Nov 20-22

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Hatters through the GENERATIONS

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

JAMIE CASTLE

DATE OF BIRTH: 23/8/1996
FAVOURITE GAME: Norwich 0-1 Luton 26/1/2013
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Steve Howard
FIRST GAME: Luton 3-0 Bristol Rovers 19/2/2002

It's never easy growing up being a Luton Town supporter, especially those who have caught the Hatters bug in more recent times.

Town-supporting teenagers of this day and age can't brag about watching their team beat the likes of Liverpool, Arsenal and Manchester United, unlike those who were raised on the 80s success on the plastic pitch, the skills of Ricky Hill and the force of Mick Harford up front.

Take Jamie Castle for example. The 19-year-old was introduced to the Town in 2002, aged just five. In the 13 years that have followed, his formative years have seen him witness three promotions, three relegations and five long seasons in the Conference which included two heart-breaking Play-Off final defeats.

"It's been a massive rollercoaster," Jamie tells us. "There haven't been many seasons when it's not exciting. It's never boring – we're either always fighting to go up or battling to stay up.

"And I probably wouldn't want it any other way."

For some, in this day and age, the lure of supporting a successful Premier League is too easy. The pressure of pinning your allegiance to a mega-rich top-flight club can be difficult for the schoolchildren of today. Manchester United, or Chelsea, are winning most things…so just support them.

But not for Jamie. It helped that his father, Steve, was a Hatter – and by the time he'd grown up to make a decision on who to support it was too late. He was a Luton fan and there was no turning back.

"My dad took me to my first game when I was five," says Jamie, who grew up in Hitchin as a young boy. "I don't remember too much about the game – we beat Bristol Rovers 3-0 – but gradually I showed more and more interest.

"Soon I realised that you supported the club your dad supported and that was it. Luton were my club and I knew nothing would change that.

"It is easy to be pressurised at school into supporting a Premier League side, but I feel you miss out on so much if you do.

"Supporting a lower league team gives you so much more. You feel part of the club, you feel closer to it. Not many of my mates who support Liverpool and Arsenal don't even get to go, usually because it's so expensive.

"Of course when you're growing up it's difficult because people are asking you 'why do you support Luton?' But I tell them I feel part of a family, I feel as though I know the club, it's staff and the players more intimately than I would if I supported a team from the top flight."

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"Steve Howard's record was just fantastic for us, he would always rely on him to score goals," says Jamie on the striker who he names as his favourite all-time player.

Jamie believes the Town's drop through the divisions, from the Championship to the Conference in three seasons, made him even more determined to support the Hatters through thick and thin.

"I didn't see the interest in Premier League clubs," he says. "There are clubs in the top flight who just sit happily in mid-table for seasons on end with a limited chance of success.

"It's different being a Luton fan. The Conference years certainly opened my eyes. I remember turning up at places like Alfreton and thinking 'well the hell am I?' It's an experience, I find it's always an adventure following Luton. I think you'd certainly miss out on that aspect in the Premier League.

"When we went down to the Conference it was a struggle year after year to get used to the disappointment – the expectation for success was always so high. Growing up at that time wasn't the best and there was plenty of banter at school.

"However, I felt as a club we learned from those Conference days – and I did too. I eventually realised there was a lot more to being a well-supported club with a big history playing at that level."

The vast majority of supporters who filled out their *Hatters through the Generations* survey explained that their first taste of the Town came through their father.

Jamie is no different – and he thinks their mutual love for the Hatters has brought them closer together.

"It's a father-son thing," he says. "It's brought us closer, no doubt about that. I think it helps that Luton is a family club because. I am a Luton Town fan because my dad is. That bond is important to me and as I've grown up I feel my love for the club has rubbed off on other people. Now I've got a friend of mine who wants to go to Peterborough with me to see what it's like to support Luton."

With the Hatters running through his veins – his survey answers reveal that his dad says he "bleeds orange" – Jamie's passion for the Town is showing no sign of stopping as he embarks on University life at York where he is studying a degree in Economics and Finance.

"I said to myself that this could be the last season in a while that I will get to follow us around the country," explains Jamie. "So I'm aiming to go to as many games as I can. The original plan was to get to all of them but circumstances have meant I've missed two midweek games already.

"I just felt being in my first year at University there wouldn't be so much pressure on my studies than there will be in the next couple of years. I worked a lot last year to help fund this season and it was a case of 'now or never'."

Midweek games down south have been tricky for Jamie. Ironically when we told Jamie we were writing this piece for the Carlisle programme he admitted he won't be at Kenilworth Road tonight. We'll just have to blame the fixture computer for that one.

"I've basically planned my studies around our fixtures," jokes Jamie – but he's being serious. "I didn't actually know which university I was going to when the fixtures came out in June.

PLANNING

"I worked out how many miles I would have to travel but I have a travelcard on the train which gets me around. When I found out the fixtures I started planning my trips. Luckily my first away game at Uni was Hartlepool away which was a very easy journey for me."

While, for the time being, the Town sit ahead of his studies in Jamie's list of priorities, he knows his backing will have his limits.

"My mum and dad certainly wouldn't be happy if I missed a lecture to swan off and watch Luton," he laughs. "But I know my dad helps me out, he knows how much Luton means to me.

"Thankfully a lot of our games along the south coast – Exeter, Portsmouth and Bristol Rovers – fall over Christmas, while Plymouth falls during the Easter holidays, so it's worked out perfect in that respect."

The one big, final question, however, remains: if the Town are involved in a big end-of-season midweek clash down south, would he miss a lecture in order to secure his seat in block B of the Kenilworth Road end?

"Without a doubt," he says.

That's the attraction of Luton Town isn't it? You just have to be there no matter what…

PICTURE the PAST

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

John Seasman nets for the Town during the 1-1 draw against Carlisle at Brunton Park in October 1975.

THE CAMERA never LIES

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

Luton manager George Martin lectures some of his squad in this early post-War shot taken before the Oak Road end was extended to its current height.

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Luton Town in the COMMUNITY

BY KEVIN THOBURN, HEAD OF THE HATTERS COMMUNITY TRUST

COMMUNITY COHESION

Last week the Hatters Community Trust reached a bit of a landmark by adding another two centres to our various community cohesion projects based in Luton, Dunstable and Bedford.

A new Doorstep Club in Houghton Regis and a further KITs centre in Dallow Road in Luton will bring the number of 14-22 year-olds who play football at our late night centres to over 200 a week for the first time.

Increasingly, over the last two years the Club's Community Trust have partnered with agencies such as Active Luton, Bedford Borough Council and the national charity Streetgames to deliver football coaching sessions using sport to engage and influence the lives of largely disaffected young men and in the Marsh Farm, Lewsey Farm and Farley Hill areas of Luton as well as parts of Dunstable, Houghton Regis and Bedford.

We initially started partnering with Active Luton through a scheme funded by the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) via Sport England called Community Integration Through Sport (KITs). The initial scheme was so successful that after the DCLG funding ran out our own Beds Police Commissioner's Office stepped in to help fund further activities and to build on the initial success of the project.

KITs now delivers football activities and games in specific areas as an anti-social diversionary tactic seeking to educate and raise awareness of the dangers of anti-social behaviour, gang and gun crime and give young men an opportunity to experience sport in a safe environment. We also work alongside local sports clubs to attract members and identify talent and also identifying young leaders for coaching, training, mentoring and employment opportunities. In fact, the Trust have recently employed two apprentices from the Marsh Farm project who we hope will be part of a sustainable legacy as community members we will equip with the skills to teach and deliver sporting activities in the future.

Every May our highlight is bringing all the Luton boys together for a tournament at Kenilworth Road, proving that sport has the power, like nothing else, to bring supposedly disparate communities together. But the chance to play on the pitch is a reward only for boys who attend our weekly sessions and they run every Thursday at Lea Manor Recreation Centre in Marsh Farm from 8pm and on Fridays at Barnfield West in Lewsey Farm at 6.30pm and at Barnfield South in Farley Hill from 6.30pm. Boys aged 14-19 can simply turn up and join in for £1 each and from tomorrow boys can also attend Dallow Community Learning Centre every Wednesday at 7pm.

Our Doorstep Sports Clubs in Dunstable and Houghton Regis aim to give as many young people exactly what they're seeking – the chance to enjoy sport, give back to their communities and aspire to greater things. The enthusiasm these clubs creates we try to use to increase sports participation. Our Doorstep Sports Clubs are funded by Streetgames who are a national charity set-up to bring sport close to the home in disadvantaged communities at the right time, for the right price, to the right place and in the right style and aims to set up sustainable sports clubs that eventually become part of the fabric of the community.

Again, the aim is to build stronger and safer communities, increase social action and volunteering, as well as improving health and wellbeing. Our first new Doorstep Club starts up again this week at All Saints Academy in Houghton Regis every Monday at 7pm in the sports hall with a six-a-side football tournament. It is open to all abilities over 14 years of age and is only £1 per session.

Our Bedford session has now been running for almost a year as part of the Borough Council's 'just turn up' programme of sports activities which is held at the Bunyan Centre every Thursday evening at 9.30pm for over 14s. It does what it says on the tin – you just turn up, pay just £1 and play! Again all abilities are welcome and you don't need to be in a team as we sort them out on the evening.

If you want to get involved, or know someone who would like to, then you can simply turn up at any of our centres and join in straight away. If you want any information just give us a ring at the Community Office on 01582 737568. These centres all belong to the boys and young men taking part each week – we only run them – so don't miss out if you live near one!

PLAYER VISITS WITH THE PFA

Every season as members of the Football League, the Community Trust receives central funding from both the Football League Trust and the Professional Footballers Association as part of their commitment to see Community Player Engagement at the heart of all professional Club's social responsibilities work.

Last season our player visits over the whole Club totalled a magnificent 580 separate appearances with over 150 of them on specific Community Trust projects and events.

This season the Trust have clocked up further impressive player appearances with Alex Lawless and Mark O'Brien recently officially opening the magnificent 4G pitch along with the Deputy mayor, Sameera Saleem, at Lea Manor Sports Centre in Marsh Farm. The Trust use this facility three times a week and we were thrilled to be part of the opening ceremony!

Our popular soccer camps also enjoy regular visits from both the first team and our scholars and current captain Scott Cuthbert recently took along scholars Tyreeq Bakinson and Kyran McGhan-George to give out medals and sign autographs at our Barnfield College centre.

Our most recent player appearance was a special one only last week and involved Stephen O'Donnell and Pelly Ruddock-Mpanzu visiting Woodlands Special Educational Needs School to hand out a match kit to the school team which the Trust's coaching staff had donated.

The boys and staff really enjoyed meeting Stephen and Pelly and receiving their new shirts and we were amazed to learn that the staff and pupils had also raised £400 on the day for BBC Children in Need – incredible stuff and what player engagement is all about!

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ACADEMY UPDATE

WITH DEVELOPMENT & ACADEMY MANAGER ANDY AWFORD

Good evening everyone, quick update on the Under-18s since the first team deservedly beat Barnet 2-0 here 10 days ago with a great display.

The big news is that our Under-18s have progressed to the third round proper of the FA Youth Cup having beaten Leyton Orient 1-0 away at Brisbane Road early last week.

The game was a very tight affair, both teams going at it hammer and tongs. Credit goes to Orient, who had obviously done their homework, and gave us as good a test as we've had all season.

Thankfully Freddie Hinds' first half goal was enough to see us through to face Notts County in another away tie, at a date to be confirmed.

The large majority of the league fixtures have been relatively comfortable this season, the latest a 4-1 away win at AFC Wimbledon.

In all that is now 18 games unbeaten this season, however during this cup tie we witnessed other important characteristics, within the team and individuals, as we had to dig deep for the win. The display was full of discipline, organisation, hunger and desire – all vital traits required for any young player trying to progress through the choppy waters to earn a career in the professional game.

The boys are on a fine run and they deserve the accolades they are rightly receiving at the moment. However, me, Paul Driver and the staff are constantly reminding them that football has a nasty habit of surprising you, when you least expect it.

We now look forward to a run of league fixtures before the Notts County game, including a rescheduled home game this morning versus MK Dons. They will all bring different challenges both mentally and physically.

Hopefully we enter the Youth Cup fixture at Meadow Lane still unbeaten, in confident mood and get the job done to get in the hat for the round four draw.

YOUTH ALLIANCE LEAGUE TABLE SOUTH EAST

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	LUTON TOWN	14	12	2	0	47	8	39	38
2	Southend United	16	12	0	4	38	24	14	36
3	Leyton Orient	15	9	3	3	38	15	23	30
4	Barnet	15	9	1	5	36	24	12	28
5	Stevenage	14	7	1	6	28	30	-2	22
6	Gillingham	14	6	2	6	30	29	1	20
7	AFC Wimbledon	14	6	1	7	25	29	-4	19
8	Northampton Town	13	6	0	7	24	20	4	18
9	Milton Keynes Dons	14	4	1	9	26	46	-20	13
10	Peterborough United	15	3	1	11	16	42	-26	10
11	Dagenham & Redbridge	13	3	0	10	21	38	-17	9
12	Cambridge United	15	2	1	12	19	44	-25	7

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 W 5-0
Fri 30 Leyton Orient (Cup) H W 4-3 pens

NOVEMBER

Mon 2 Colchester Utd H (FAYC1) W 3-1
Sat 7 A.F.C. Wimbledon A W 4-1
Mon 16 Leyton Orient A (FAYC2) W 1-0
Sat 21 Gillingham A D 1-1
Tue 24 Milton Keynes Dons H
Sat 28 Stevenage H

DECEMBER

Sat 5 Cambridge United H
Sat 12 Leyton Orient A
Tue 15 Notts County A (FAYC3)
Sat 19 Dagenham & Redbridge A

JANUARY

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

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Youth PROFILE

JAMES JUSTIN

Name: James Justin

Date of birth: 23/2/1998

Birthplace: Luton

Position: Central midfield or right-back

Year joined Luton: 2005

WHY DID YOU JOIN LUTON TOWN?

It's my hometown club.

WHAT WAS THE BEST BIT OF ADVICE WHEN GROWING UP?

Have no regrets at the end of your career.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BEST MOMENT IN FOOTBALL SO FAR?

Winning the Aarau Masters in Switzerland, beating Bayern Munich in the final as an Under-11.

WHICH TEAM DID YOU SUPPORT AS A KID?

Arsenal.

WHICH PLAYER DID YOU PRETEND TO BE IN THE PLAYGROUND?

Thierry Henry.

WHAT OTHER SPORTS ARE YOU GOOD AT?

Badminton, cricket and tennis.

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVOURITE SCHOOL SUBJECT?

English.

WHO IS YOUR MOST TALENTED TEAM-MATE?

Jack Snelus.

WHICH MEMBER OF THE FIRST TEAM DO YOU LOOK UP TO THE MOST?

Luke Guttridge.

WHAT IS YOUR DREAM JOB APART FROM BEING A FOOTBALLER?

Pilot.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE TYPE OF MUSIC?

Hip-hop.

WHAT'S YOUR AMBITION FOR THIS SEASON?

To get a pro contract and to have a good run in the FA Youth Cup.

WHAT THE COACH SAYS

Under-18s boss Paul Driver on James:

"James has been with us for a long time and it's always pleasing to see a Luton lad come through the system and end up with a professional contract.

"He has shown a tremendous attitude and has great desire, and it's those kind of mental attributes which often stand players out from the rest. A good attitude when you get to senior level is what young players need most and James has both the talent and the attitude.

"James first came into the Under-18s as an under-16, we needed some cover at right-back and gave him an opportunity in that position which he did really well. Primarily he is a central midfielder but he is flexible to play in both of those positions.

"That's what you get with James – you can throw anything at him and he will knuckle down, work hard and step up to the challenge."

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YOUTH UPDATE

The Town Under-18s fought back to earn a point at Gillingham to stretch their unbeaten run this season to 19 games on Saturday.

Paul Driver's side had a goal six minutes from time from midfielder Tyreeq Bakinson to thank to cancel out Gillingham's first-half goal.

The Gills took the lead three minutes before the break in a first half that the hosts dominated.

However the Town did rattle the woodwork in the opening 45 minutes when Bakinson struck the bar with a shot from inside the area.

Behind at the interval the Hatters upped the ante in the second half. James Verney and George Murray were denied by the Gills keeper while Kyran McGhan-George hit the bar.

But just when it seemed the Town's unbeaten run would come to an end, Bakinson fired home the leveller on 84 minutes after the home side failed to clear their lines from a Hatters set-piece.

Tyreeq Bakinson

TREMENDOUS

Under-18s boss Paul Driver told lutontown.co.uk: "We played poorly first half but in the second we were absolutely tremendous.

"Even had we not got a point I still would have been chuffed.

"Both sides did well against a strong wind but we battled well, the character of the boys has shone through yet again."

The Town extended their lead at the top of the table after Southend lost at AFC Wimbledon.

Meanwhile the FA Youth Cup third round tie away to Notts County has been scheduled for Tuesday 15th December. The tie will take place at Meadow Lane and kick-off at 7pm. Entry is £3 for adults and £1 for concessions.

Town: Jones, Bean (sub Hinds 81), McJannet, Musonda, Famewo, McGhan-George, Justin, Cotter, Atkinson, Bakinson, Verney (sub Murray 68). Subs not used: Gooch, Brown, Snelus.

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League set for re-brand NEXT SEASON

The Football League is to be re-named the English Football League as part of a comprehensive corporate and competition re-branding.

The new title, which will come into use at the conclusion of the current season and ahead of the 2016/17 campaign, will be shortened to EFL for everyday use across the game.

The EFL name will be accompanied by a stunning new visual identity featuring a dynamic circular arrangement of 72 balls in three swathes of 24, representing each of the League's member clubs and the respective divisions they play in.

The new logo is just the fourth in the 127 year history of the world's original league football competition and, for the first time, each club will be presented with its own bespoke version in its individual playing colours, ahead of the new season, for it to retain in perpetuity.

The Football League's Chief Executive, Shaun Harvey said: "The new EFL name rightly emphasises the central role our clubs play at the heart of English professional football.

"In an increasingly challenging global sports market, it is absolutely essential that sports properties can project a modern identity that not only resonates with their regular audience but is also easily recognisable to a broader audience of potential fans, viewers and commercial partners.

"We believe the EFL name and brand will give our competitions an identity that is new and distinct, while at the same time retaining our unique heritage. As such, it will be something that all fans can identify with - whether they be young or old, at home or abroad.

Harvey also confirmed that the League would be retaining the three existing divisional titles, "The Championship, League One and League Two divisional titles have proven popular with fans since their introduction in 2004 and have since been used by leagues in other countries and in other sports. It is therefore our intention to incorporate them into the new EFL brand," he said.

Shaun Harvey, the Football League's Chief Executive

The introduction of the EFL name follows a thorough process of consultation that included detailed surveys, interviews and focus groups with clubs, stakeholders, commercial partners and more than 18,000 football supporters.

Consultees included the Football Association, the Premier League, the Professional Footballers Association, the Football Supporters Federation, the League's competition sponsors (Sky Bet, Capital One and Johnstone's Paint), its broadcast partners (Sky Sports, Channel 5 and Pitch International) and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

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JUNIOR HATTERS

PLAYER PROFILE

PAUL BENSON

DATE OF BIRTH: 12 OCTOBER 1979
FROM: SOUTHEND-ON-SEA
HEIGHT: 6ft 2
POSITION: STRIKER

HATTERS STRIKER PAUL BENSON ORIGINALLY JOINED LUTON ON LOAN FROM SWINDON TOWN IN AUGUST 2013, WITH JOHN STILL BRINGING HIS FORMER DAGENHAM PLAYER TO THE CLUB. BENSON MADE A BIG IMPACT ON THE TEAM IN THE CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP WINNING SEASON, SCORING 17 GOALS AND MAKING 14 ASSISTS. HE WENT ON TO SIGN A PERMANENT CONTRACT IN JULY 2014. THE STRIKER HAS HIT THE MARK TWICE THIS SEASON SO FAR, AGAINST YEOVIL AND BRISTOL CITY.

SPOT THE BALL

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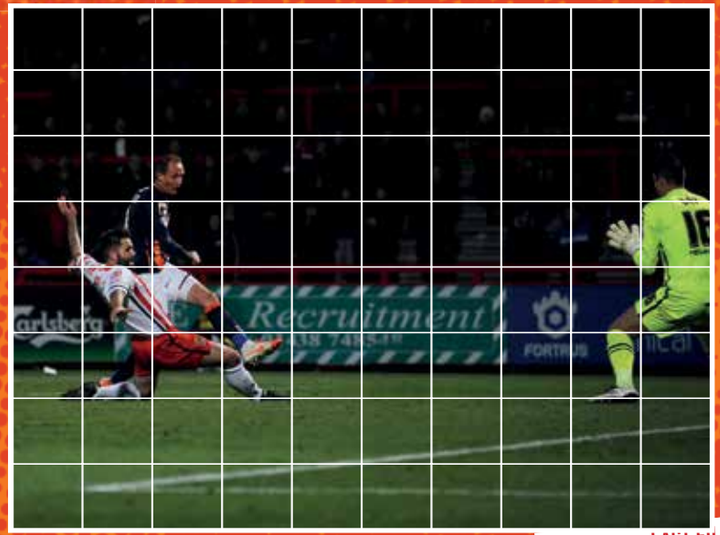

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Sean LONG

DEFENDER ON CONTRACT EXTENSION

Hatters right-back Sean Long is looking to make the most of his extended stay at Kenilworth Road, having lengthened his loan until 2nd January.

The 20-year-old last week extended his loan spell from Reading into the New Year having impressed in his early stages with the Town.

And now Long, who is also part of Ireland's Under-21s plans, is looking to get the most out of his stay while contributing to as many victories as possible after a busy start with the club.

Long said: "I'm delighted to have that deal done. It was a bit hectic at the start, but the managers, staff and players have been great and helped me to fit in really well, so I'm just looking to play as many games as I can.

DEVELOP

"I think I've learned a lot in a short space of time, which has helped by being thrown in at the deep end, but the manager and staff have been great with helping me develop.

"The lads have been great, I feel I know them all already! Everyone here is great, get you involved and make you feel part of the team."

The Irishman has featured six times in all competitions for the Hatters so far, despite signing just over a month ago, and has also found time to represent his country in European qualifiers.

While his side's first performance, a 2-1 defeat at Crawley, left areas of improvement, the full-back has seen better things on the pitch from a personal and team perspective, conceding just one goal in the last three games he has played, winning two of those fixtures.

"The whole game against Crawley wasn't good enough, but since then we've really seen a lot of improvements, with clean sheets in our last two league games as well as being getting through in the cup. We just need to keep that going now," said Long.

"I feel like I've done alright. You can always do better and you never have that perfect performance, but I think I've been steady enough.

"In the last few weeks our performances have been a lot better, and we're heading up the table."

Long was also given a place on the Hatters' bench for last Saturday's victory over Barnet, just 24 hours after playing a European Under-21 qualifier in Lithuania.

His desire to play for the club has so far come across as faultless, as the youngster looks to repay John Still's faith after giving him a chance at Kenilworth Road, battling with Alex Lawless and for a spot at right-back.

"I wanted to give myself every chance of playing, even after the Lithuania game," he said.

"You never know if someone's going to get sick or injured so I was desperate to help out the gaffer just in case, and he put me on the bench so it's still nice to be involved.

MOMENTUM

"We want to carry on our momentum and play our normal game, pass the ball about, score goals and put the ball in the net.

"The Luton fans have been great since I've been here, and hopefully they can steer us to the three points.

"I just need to train as hard as I can and get myself into that first team."

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A WORD FROM
The Football League Paper

BY CHRIS DUNLAVY

Norway's teen startlet Martin Odegaard couldn't prevent his side crashing out of the Euro 2016 play-offs at the hands of Hungary.

Still just 16, the Real Madrid midfielder was subbed off at half-time as the Scandinavians lost 2-1 in Budapest.

Still, he hasn't done badly so far. Having trained with the Stromsgodset first team from the age of 13, Odegaard became Norway's youngest-ever player when he made his debut against the UAE in August last year, at just 15 years 253 days.

He's certainly a swift developer but, incredibly, he's only 38th on the list of youngest-ever internationals. Here's a selection of the men (or boys) above him.

Lucas Knecht
Northern Mariana Islands
14 years, 2 days

Who says defenders mature later? Not in the Northern Marianas, a group of islands marooned way out in the midst of the Pacific Ocean.

Knecht's voice had barely broken when he was played the full 90 minutes against Guam in 2007, thus becoming the youngest international in post-war history.

Other team-mates not exactly enjoying their peak years were Kyle Cabael, 15, and 48-year-old Wes Bogdan. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the 'Blue Ayuyus' were turned over 9-0.

Stephen Appiah
Ghana
14 years 223 days

When a scrawny 14-year-old kid came on for the great Abedi Pele during a friendly against Sierra Leone in October 1995, nobody realised a legend on the wane was being replaced by one on the rise.

Appiah would go on to play for Udinese, Parma and Juventus in Serie A, win 67 caps for the Black Stars and, in 2006, became the first person ever to captain Ghana to a World Cup. He retired earlier this year, widely regarded as his nation's greatest-ever skipper.

Clint Marcelle
Trinidad & Tobago
15 years, 7 days

Best remembered as the man who sent Barnsley to the Premier League, Marcelle was a striker who so loved living in Yorkshire that he spent his final years playing for the likes of Ossett Town, Gainsborough Trinity and Armthorpe Welfare.

Before that, however, he won 23 caps for Trinidad and Tobago, the first coming in a 3-0 defeat to Sweden in November 1983, just days after his 15th birthday. The last arrived some 17 years later.

16-year-old Martin Odegaard in action for Real Madrid

Aníbal Zapicán Falco
Uruguay
15 years, 9 days

South American football can be brutal at the best of times, but in 1908 it was basically undisguised thuggery. Yet that didn't stop Uruguay chucking a wet-behind-the-ears right-back into a game against bitter rivals Argentina. An assured performance and 1-0 victory appeared to herald the start of a bright career but Falco would win only four more caps before a serious injury suffered whilst playing for Nacional forced his retirement at the age of just 16. He later became president of the club.

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LEAGUE LOOK

Plymouth Argyle saw their lead at the top of League 2 cut to two points after the Greens were beaten 2-1 in the Devon Derby by Exeter at Home Park.

Argyle had led the table by five points but Oxford kept up their impressive run of form to close the gap following their narrow win at bottom-of-the-table Dagenham & Redbridge. The U's have only lost twice all season and Kemar Roofe was their match-winner with a late goal.

BUSINESS

Northampton may have off the field problems, with a proposed takeover of the club stalling, but Chris Wilder's Cobblers continue to do the business on the pitch. Saturday's 2-1 win at Notts County kept the Cobblers in third place – it was their fourth win in five League 2 games and are now four points behind Plymouth.

Our visitors this evening scored an injury time equaliser against Portsmouth at Brunton Park to lift them to ninth place and that 2-2 draw saw Pompey drop to fifth and Accrington jump to fourth after Stanley recorded a 3-2 win away at Cambridge. John Coleman's side have won six of their last 10 games and already have a five-point buffer ahead of eighth-placed Wimbledon.

Mansfield ended a run of two successive defeats to stay sixth after a 3-1 home win over Hartlepool while Leyton Orient occupy the final Play-Off spot after beating lowly York 3-2 at Brisbane Road with League 2's leading marksman Jay Simpson scoring twice.

UNBEATEN

Outside the top seven AFC Wimbledon stretched their unbeaten run to five games thanks to a last-minute equaliser against Wycombe Wanderers at Kingsmeadow.

At the other end of the table, Dagenham stay bottom on nine points while Yeovil remain in the bottom two following their goalless draw at Newport – where the Town head on Saturday.

County sit in 21st place but are unbeaten in five games – although their last three matches have all been draws.

There's a full League 2 programme this evening with leaders Plymouth hosting Orient while second placed Oxford can go top if they beat Newport and Argyle slip-up.

TONIGHT'S FIXTURES

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

Kemar Roofe's arrival at Oxford has made the U's serious promotion contenders

LEADING SCORERS

Simpson (Orient) 13
Corr (Cambridge) 9
Windass (Accrington) 9
Ibehre (Carlisle) 8
Richards (Northampton) 8
Roofe (Oxford) 8
Taylor (Bristol Rovers) 8
Bird (Yeovil) 7
Carey (Plymouth) 7
Jervis (Plymouth) 7

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	McGeehan	Benson◆	Marriott▲	Ruddock ●	Guttridge
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**	**Lawless**	**Hall**	**Griffiths ◆**	**Guttridge**	**McQuoid ▲**	**Doyle ●**
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 ◆**	**Justham**	**Lawless**	**Ruddock ●**	**Potts**	**McQuoid**	**Smith ▲**	**Marriott ◆**
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**	**Mackail-Smith ▲**	**Potts**	**Smith ●**	**Lawless**	**Ruddock ◆**	**Marriott ▲**	**McQuoid**	**Justham**
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	O'Donnell	Lawless ◆	McCourt ▲	Ruddock	McQuoid	O'Brien ●	Justham
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 ●**	**McQuoid ▲**	**McNulty**	**Hall ●**	**McGEEHAN1 ◆**	**Benson ▲**	**Guttridge**	**Mackail-Smith**	**Tyler**
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 ▲**	**McQuoid**	**MACKAIL-SMITH 1 ◆**	**Tyler**	**McNulty**	**Green**	**Marriott ◆**	**McCourt**	**Ruddock ▲**	**Lee ●**
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 ◆**	**Justham**	**Okuonghae ●**	**Mackail-Smith**		**McQuoid ▲**	
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 1	McQuoid	GUTTRIDGE 1	Mackail-Smith	McNulty	Hall	Justham	Ruddock	Okuonghae	Williams	O'Brien
Sat 12	3.00pm	A	Notts County	L 2-3	5,820	1,689	20	Tyler	O'Donnell	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Cuthbert ▬	Lee	SMITH 1	Green ●	McQuoid	Guttridge ◆	Mackail-Smith	McNulty ▲	McGEEHAN 1 ◆	Hall ●▲	McCourt	Ruddock	Williams	King
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 ◆**	**MACKAIL-SMITH 1**	**Lawless ▲**	**Hall**	**Green ●**	**Marriott**	**Williams**	**O'Brien ◆**	**Justham**
Sat 26	**3.00pm**	**H**	**AFC Wimbledon**	**W 2-0**	**8,415**	**588**	**16**	**Tyler**	**O'Donnell ●**	**Griffiths ▲**	**Wilkinson**	**McNulty**	**Lee**	**Smith**	**McCourt**	**Guttridge ◆**	**McGeehan**	**Mackail-Smith**	**Potts**	**Lawless ●**	**Hall ▲**	**Green**	**MARRIOTT 2 ◆**	**O'Brien**	**Justham**
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	Mackail-Smith ▲	Potts	Lawless ◆	Green	Marriott ▲	Guttridge	Doyle ●	Justham
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 ●	Potts	Lawless	Hall	Green	MARRIOTT 2 ●	Doyle ◆	Justham
Tue 6	7.45pm	A	Gillingham (JPT2)	L 1-2	3,428	193	-	Tyler	Lawless	Potts	O'Brien	Okuonghae	Lee ●	Doyle	Guttridge ◆	McQuoid	McGEEHAN 1 ▲	Marriott	Hall ●	Green ◆	Griffiths ▲	Wilkinson	Justham		
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 ◆**	**Hall**	**Green**	**Marriott ●**	**Ruddock**	**Doyle ▲**	**Justham**
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 ◆	Mackail-Smith	Lawless	Hall	McCourt ●	Ruddock	McQuoid ◆	O'Brien	Justham
Tue 20	**7.45pm**	**H**	**Leyton Orient**	**D 1-1**	**8,022**	**638**	**12**	**Tyler**	**Long**	**Potts**	**Wilkinson**	**Cuthbert**	**Lee ●**	**Smith**	**McCourt ◆**	**McGeehan**	**MARRIOTT 1**	**Mackail-Smith ▲**	**Lawless**	**Ruddock**	**Guttridge ◆**	**McQuoid ▲**	**O'Brien**	**Doyle ●**	**Justham**
Sat 24	**3.00pm**	**H**	**Plymouth Argyle**	**L 1-2**	**8,703**	**745**	**15**	**Tyler**	**Long ◆**	**Potts ●**	**Wilkinson**	**Cuthbert**	**Doyle**	**Smith**	**McGeehan**	**Ruddock ▲**	**Guttridge**	**Marriott**	**Lawless ●**	**Hall ◆ ▬**	**McCourt**	**Lee**	**McQUOID 1 ▲**	**O'Brien**	**Justham**
NOVEMBER																									
Sun 1	2.00pm	A	Dagenham & Redbridge	W 2-0	2,773	1,083	13	Tyler	Long	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	Doyle	Smith	LAWLESS 1 ◆	McQuoid	GUTTRIDGE 1	Marriott ●	Potts	McGeehan ◆	Green	McCourt	Lee	Mackail-Smith ●	Justham
Sat 7	3.00pm	A	Crawley Town (FAC1)	W 2-1	1,929	487	-	Justham	Long	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	Lee	Smith	Lawless ◆	McQUOID 2	Guttridge	Marriott ●	Potts	McHeeham	Benson ●	Green ◆	McCourt	O'Brien	Tyler
Sat 14	**3.00pm**	**H**	**Barnet**	**W 2-0**	**8,497**	**612**	**10**	**Tyler**	**Lawless**	**Griffiths**	**Wilkinson**	**Cuthbert**	**Lee**	**Smith**	**McGEEHAN 1**	**GREEN 1 ◆**	**McQuoid ▲**	**Benson ●**	**Potts**	**Marriott ●**	**McCourt ▲**	**Long**	**Guttridge**	**O'Brien ◆**	**Justham**
Sat 21	3.00pm	A	Stevenage	D 0-0	4,782	1,892	10	Tyler	Lawless	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	Lee ▲	Smith	McGeehan ●	Green ◆	McQuoid	Benson ▬	Marriott ●	McCourt	Long ◆	Guttridge	Mackail-Smith	O'Brien ▲	Justham
Tue 24	**7.45pm**	**H**	**Carlisle United**																						
Sat 28	3.00pm	A	Newport County																						
DECEMBER																									
Sun 6	2.00pm	A	Peterborough United (FAC2)																						
Sat 12	**3.00pm**	**H**	**Northampton Town**																						
Sat 19	3.00pm	A	Exeter City																						
Sat 26	**3.00pm**	**H**	**Wycombe Wanderers**																						
Mon 28	3.00pm	A	Portsmouth																						
JANUARY																									
Sat 2	3.00pm	A	Bristol Rovers																						
Sat 9	**3.00pm**	**H**	**Yeovil Town**																						
Sat 16	**3.00pm**	**H**	**Cambridge United**																						
Sat 23	3.00pm	A	Mansfield Town																						
Sat 30	**3.00pm**	**H**	**Notts County**																						
FEBRUARY																									
Sat 6	3.00pm	A	Wycombe Wanderers																						
Sat 13	3.00pm	A	AFC Wimbledon																						
Sat 20	**3.00pm**	**H**	**Hartlepool United**																						
Sat 27	3.00pm	A	York City																						
MARCH																									
Tue 1	**7.45pm**	**H**	**Morecambe**																						
Sat 5	3.00pm	A	Leyton Orient																						
Sat 12	**3.00pm**	**H**	**Crawley Town**																						
Sat 19	3.00pm	A	Plymouth Argyle																						
Fri 25	**3.00pm**	**H**	**Dagenham & Redbridge**																						
Mon 28	3.00pm	A	Barnet																						
APRIL																									
Sat 2	**3.00pm**	**H**	**Stevenage**																						
Sat 9	**3.00pm**	**H**	**Accrington Stanley**																						
Sat 16	3.00pm	A	Oxford United																						
Tue 19	7.45pm	A	Carlisle United																						
Sat 23	**3.00pm**	**H**	**Newport County**																						
Sat 30	3.00pm	A	Northampton Town																						
MAY																									
Sat 7	**3.00pm**	**H**	**Exeter City**																						

*Lost 8-7 on penalties

The Town clear their lines during our last home fixture here against Barnet 10 days ago

MEET THE REF
LEE SWABEY

Devon official Lee Swabey makes his first visit to Kenilworth Road since April 2014.
Lee's last game here was the Town's 3-2 home defeat to Braintree when the Hatters missed the chance to clinch the Conference title.
So far this season Lee has booked 29 players and sent five off in his 29 matches. Please give a warm to all of our officials this evening.

LUTON TOWN
1885-PRESENT DAY THE FULL RECORD

PLAYED: **5285**
WON: **2110**
DRAWN: **1285**
LOST: **1890**
GOALS SCORED : **8393**
GOALS CONCEDED: **7602**

LEAGUE TABLE 2015/16

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Plymouth Argyle	18	12	2	4	28	14	14	38
2	Oxford United	18	10	6	2	29	15	14	36
3	Northampton Town	18	10	4	4	29	22	7	34
4	Accrington Stanley	18	9	5	4	29	21	8	32
5	Portsmouth	18	7	9	2	25	16	9	30
6	Mansfield Town	18	8	5	5	25	15	10	29
7	Leyton Orient	18	8	5	5	30	25	5	29
8	AFC Wimbledon	18	7	6	5	25	24	1	27
9	Carlisle United	18	7	6	5	31	32	-1	27
10	LUTON TOWN	18	7	5	6	29	21	8	26
11	Wycombe Wanderers	16	7	5	4	21	14	7	26
12	Bristol Rovers	17	8	2	7	22	20	2	26
13	EXETER CITY	18	7	5	6	25	26	-1	26
14	Crawley Town	18	7	4	7	23	27	-4	25
15	Morecambe	17	7	3	7	31	29	2	24
16	Notts County	17	6	4	7	22	25	-3	22
17	Barnet	18	6	3	9	23	28	-5	21
18	Cambridge United	18	5	5	8	23	28	-5	20
19	Hartlepool United	18	6	2	10	19	28	-9	20
20	Stevenage	18	3	7	8	21	32	-11	16
21	Newport County AFC	18	3	6	9	17	28	-11	15
22	York City	18	2	6	10	21	31	-10	12
23	Yeovil Town	18	2	5	11	19	31	-12	11
24	Dagenham & Redbridge	17	1	6	10	17	32	-15	9

PLAYER STATS 2015/16

	THIS SEASON										LTFC CAREER TOT	
	LEAGUE			CUP			TOTAL			DISIP			
	APPS		GLS	APPS		GLS	APPS		GLS	Y	R	APPS	GLS
Zane Banton	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	0	6	0
Paul Benson	5	(1)	1	1	(2)	1	6	(3)	2	0	1	71	22
Scott Cuthbert	16	(0)	0	4	(0)	0	20	(0)	0	0	1	20	0
Nathan Doyle	6	(4)	0	1	(1)	0	7	(5)	0	2	0	43	0
Danny Green	6	(1)	2	2	(2)	1	8	(3)	3	2	0	11	3
Scott Griffiths	14	(0)	0	3	(2)	0	17	(2)	0	0	0	110	3
Luke Guttridge	6	(1)	2	3	(0)	0	9	(1)	2	1	0	73	19
Ryan Hall	2	(3)	0	0	(3)	0	2	(6)	0	0	1	14	0
Elliot Justham	2	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	4	(0)	0	0	0	27	0
Alex Lawless	3	(6)	1	2	(0)	0	5	(6)	1	2	0	183	22
Olly Lee	11	(1)	1	4	(0)	0	15	(1)	1	2	0	16	1
Sean Long	4	(1)	0	1	(0)	0	5	(1)	0	1	0	6	0
Craig Mackail-Smith	14	(1)	3	0	(0)	0	14	(1)	3	0	0	15	3
Jack Marriott	4	(10)	5	4	(0)	2	8	(10)	7	0	1	18	7
Paddy McCourt	7	(3)	0	0	(0)	0	7	(3)	0	2	0	10	0
Cameron McGeehan	14	(2)	6	2	(1)	2	16	(3)	8	2	0	52	14
Steve McNulty	9	(1)	0	2	(0)	0	11	(1)	0	3	0	125	2
Josh McQuoid	12	(3)	1	3	(2)	2	15	(5)	3	0	0	20	3
Mark O'Brien	1	(4)	0	3	(0)	0	4	(4)	0	1	0	8	0
Stephen O'Donnell	7	(0)	0	3	(0)	1	10	(0)	1	0	0	10	1
Magnus Okuonghae	0	(0)	0	1	(1)	0	1	(1)	0	0	0	2	0
Dan Potts	4	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	6	(0)	0	1	0	6	0
Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu	1	(4)	0	3	(0)	0	4	(4)	0	0	0	50	3
Jonathan Smith	16	(2)	4	3	(0)	0	19	(2)	4	4	0	121	9
Mark Tyler	16	(0)	0	3	(0)	0	19	(0)	0	0	0	285	0
Luke Wilkinson	18	(0)	3	3	(0)	0	21	(0)	3	3	0	69	7

Key: ● First Substitute | ◆ Second Substitute | ▲ Third Substitute | ▬ Sent off | GOALSCORER

HOLD THE BACK PAGE

WITH SIMON PITTS

I'd like to start with a welcome to those Carlisle fans who have made the trip to Kenilworth Road for this evening's match, especially to those that have travelled the full 275 miles from Brunton Park.

Who knows how, or why, the fixture computer manages to pick these long midweek fixtures each year, especially given that us Luton fans will be doing the reverse journey on a Tuesday night in April!

I once worked out that I travelled over 10,000 miles a season to watch Luton home and away, and I know there are fans out there with even more mileage under their belts between August and May.

For 90 minutes of football tonight some of our visiting fans will probably spend over nine hours of travelling via seemingly never ending motorways, and all in the hope and expectation that they'll witness an away win.

For quite a few seasons now the Hatters have had an excellent away following, not only in respect to the division they have played in, but also in comparison to a league above, and sometimes even two or three leagues higher.

In the nine away League games played so far the combined away attendance of Town supporters is 10,197 – an average of 1,133. At Accrington Stanley on the opening day Luton fans made up 49.8 per cent of the attendance, and in fact on average the Hatters following accounts for 30 per cent of an attendance.

Compare this with the nine league fixtures at Kenilworth Road prior to tonight, and there has only been a total of 5,433 visiting fans, an average of 604. Portsmouth fans accounted for 11.4 per cent of the 9,083 crowd back in August, a highest attendance of the season at Kenilworth Road. Overall though away fans make up just 7.1 per cent on average of the attendances here.

CREDIT

My opening paragraph looked at mileage, and of course back in late September/early October we had that eight days that included three away games and over 1,000 miles travelled, and certainly credit is due to any of you who travelled to Morecambe, Hartlepool and Gillingham!

More recently it's been shorter trips, Crawley (twice), Dagenham & Redbridge, and then of course Stevenage on Saturday…so it's no real surprise that the longer trips are ahead of us, with Newport, Exeter, Portsmouth and Bristol Rovers in the next four away league games.

With the Hatters back into the top half of the league and aiming for those promotion places once again, we can be confident that those impressive numbers of fans travelling and supporting the side will surely continue over the next few months and beyond.

With more goals scored away from home in just eight matches then the Hatters managed in 2014/15 it's clear to see that the support is clearly having a positive effect on the players.

I started by welcoming the Carlisle fans here tonight, and I'd like to finish by wishing them a safe journey home again, albeit though hopefully without the points!

Simon is our official match commentator on Hatters Player at every Hatters match home and away

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TEAMSHEET

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

CARLISLE UNITED

1 Mark Gillespie
2 Tom Miller
3 Danny Grainger
4 Luke Joyce
5 Michael Raynes
6 David Atkinson
7 Jason Kennedy
9 Charlie Wyke
10 Bastien Hery
11 Patrick Brough
12 Antony Sweeney
13 Dan Hanford
14 Jabo Ibehre
15 Courtney Meppen-Walter
16 Gary Dicker
17 Alex Gilliead
18 Kevin Osei
19 Angelo Balanta
20 Troy Archibald-Henville
21 Steven Rigg
22 Matt Douglas
23 Joe Thompson
24 Hallam Hope
25 Derek Asamoah
26 Macaulay Gillesphey
27 Mark Ellis
44 Alexander McQueen

TODAY'S OFFICIALS

Lee Swabey
Nicholas Cooper
Neil Hair
4 Neil Davies

Back cover photograph taken from behind the Kenilworth Road end turnstiles.
Email us your Kenilworth Road pictures info@lutontown.co.uk