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# POMPEY

v LUTON TOWN

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Sky Bet League 2 | Issue 16

December '15

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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## CONTENTS

**05 Board Talk**  
A message from chairman Iain McInnes

**07 Paul Cook**  
The thoughts of Pompey's manager

**09 Michael Doyle**  
Blues skipper has his say

**12 Blues News**  
What's been happening at Fratton Park

**16 The Hatters**  
Everything you need to know about today's visitors

**26 Good Evans**  
Winger hoping for Pompey success in 2016

**35 Pompey Mastermind**  
Test your Blues knowledge

**37 Dream Team**  
Adam Webster's ultimate five-a-side outfit

**42 Poster**  
Kyle Bennett

**46 Match Action**  
Hartlepool and Northampton

**51 Team-Mates**  
Brian Murphy dishes the dirt

**55 Pompey Gold**  
A look back on the 1984/85 campaign

**58 On This Day**  
How Pompey have fared on December 28

**61 Moore's Memories**  
Why Johnny isn't a fan of festive football

**63 View From The North Stand**  
Steve Bone starts an epic Christmas countdown

**70 Academy**  
Brave Blues bow out of FA Youth Cup

**79 Stats**  
Tables and fixtures

**82 The Last Word**  
When Neil Allen met Becks



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John Kimbell, John Kirk,  
Christopher Moth,  
Mark Trapani

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Mark Catlin

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Football League First Division/  
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1949, 1950  
Football League First Division/  
Championship  
Champions: 2003  
Football League Third Division  
(South)/Football League Third  
Division Champions:  
1924, 1962, 1983  
FA Cup Winners: 1939, 2008  
FA Cup Runners-Up: 1929,  
1934, 2010

**FA Charity Shield:**

1949 (shared)  
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Champions: 1902, 1920  
London War Cup Runners-Up:  
1942  
Barclays Asia Trophy  
Winners: 2007

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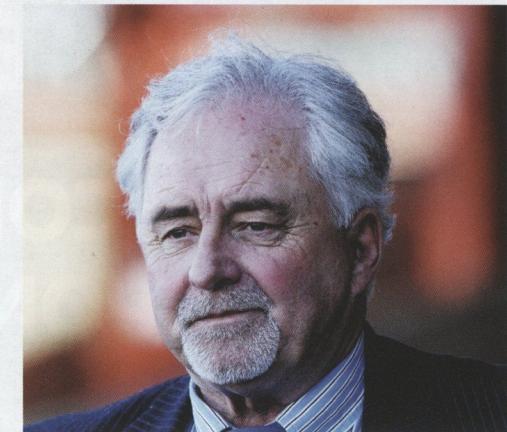
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# IAIN McINNES

WELCOME TO YOUR CLUB.

I'd like to kick off by hoping that the Christmas holidays are affording you all a great time and that Santa's sack delivered generously and to your taste. My wish list was admittedly headed by a nine-point haul from three tough fixtures against Northampton, Orient and Luton and, of course, while writing I'm only partially sure whether my request has been granted, with such an impressive and deserved win against the side sitting on top of the tree at the time.

By the time you read these notes clearly, my wish is that another cracker at Orient had produced a similar reward. But whatever the outcome, the challenge today was always going to be notable, rounding off the old year against a side, in many pundits' eyes, among the pre-season favourites for promotion.

Of course, the Hatters have fallen short of those, and likely their own, expectations thus far and have relieved the hugely experienced and much respected John Still of command. Unless a swift appointment of his permanent replacement has transpired, they will be led out here at Fratton by somebody we all know rather well... you couldn't write the book!

We recently had Teddy Sheringham virtually make his managerial bow here with Stevenage and prior to that, another ex-blue, Martin Allen, set us a stiff challenge with his competitive Barnet battlers, but I don't think any of us saw this one coming... including Andy!

Well, at a few minutes before 3pm today, a certain Andy Awford will climb those historic steps for the

umphteenth time, but on this occasion will have to remember to turn right into the dugout marked 'away team'. I'm sure that along with me, all those who owe much to Andy will serve up a pre-match reception of genuine warmth and appreciation. That's as it should be, but nobody will be more aware that once that whistle blows, a football battle will commence.

That's football as we all know and love it!

So we welcome chairman Nick Owen, chief executive Gary Sweet, Andy, the officials, players and fans of Luton Town. We would also like to extend our greetings to a Happy New Year.

This afternoon we simply want to continue the run of performances and form that sees us sitting in a very competitive position, with 2016 offering the potential to launch a strike to embed ourselves firmly into those automatic promotion places. With what looks like being a sell-out crowd roaring us on today, we have to be confident in achieving that aim.

Andy will, of course, have little trouble in finding his way to the right areas for a drink among friends after the match.

Have fun and Happy New Year.

PUP.

Iain McInnes

Pompey Chairman  
[iainmcinnes@pompeyfc.co.uk](mailto:iainmcinnes@pompeyfc.co.uk)

# Our match highlights have a new home for season 2015/16...



## Every goal. Every Saturday. Football League Tonight.

9pm on Channel 5

## MICHAEL DOYLE

WELCOME TO FRATTON PARK AS WE LOOK TO END 2015 ON A HIGH BY BEATING LUTON THIS AFTERNOON.



I'm writing this before our match at Leyton Orient on Boxing Day, but we have enjoyed a great run of form in recent weeks. Even the disappointment of only getting a draw at Carlisle last month now looks like it could be a massive point. When you're winning games you just want to keep playing, so they can't come along quickly enough for us.

It was a brilliant result at Northampton that ensured everyone was on a high going into the Christmas period. We're in an important run of games now and looking to pick up as many points as possible to put us in a strong position ahead of the little break we have for the FA Cup. We had to battle from behind at Sixfields Stadium, but we've shown plenty of character all season and whenever sides have gone ahead against us, we always seem to have a response. It's a bit disappointing that we've needed to do that so many times and hopefully that's something we can improve on. We want to control games better, rather than have to chase them.

Conor Chaplin scored the winner after coming off the bench late on and has got that striker's instinct to be in the right place at the right time. He showed plenty of composure to net with his first touch and I'm delighted for him because he's such a great lad. He's still learning the game, but always walks around with a smile on his face and is not afraid of hard work. There are young players at other clubs who might have a bit of an attitude, but he shows a lot of respect for the senior guys and wants to learn from them. He's waited patiently for his chances and makes sure that he takes them.

"WE'VE GOT A MASSIVE FOUR MONTHS COMING UP NOW AND WE'RE GOING TO NEED EVEN MORE OF YOUR INCREDIBLE SUPPORT"

There was a bit of swelling around my ankle and knee after the game and that took a while to go down. A few things were going through my mind when I hit the turf during the first half because I was in quite a bit of pain and I'm just glad that it wasn't something more serious.

We had a tough game at Luton earlier in the season that could have gone either way – and we were perhaps a bit lucky to get the winner right at the end. Back then a lot of people would probably have expected them to be up near the top of the table and I still think they've got a strong enough squad to put a decent run of results together and get into the play-offs. We know that we're certainly going to have our hands full this afternoon.

I obviously wasn't at Pompey when Andy Awford was manager, but a lot of people here speak very highly of him. They say that he's a great person, as well as being a very good coach. I'm sure that the fans will also welcome him back to Fratton Park, but we'll be doing our best to spoil his return by taking all three points.

This is our final game of 2015, so I'd like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. We've got a massive four months coming up now and we're going to need even more of your incredible support if we want to achieve our goals.

Play up Pompey!

Michael



# TICKET NEWS

## HOME



### POMPEY v CRAWLEY

Saturday, January 2  
Kick-Off: 3pm

Tickets are on general sale



### POMPEY v OXFORD

Saturday, January 23  
Kick-Off: 3pm

Tickets are on general sale



### POMPEY v LEYTON ORIENT

Saturday, February 6  
Kick-Off: 3pm

Season ticket holders/shareholders:  
Monday, January 11 (10am)  
General sale: Wednesday,  
January 13 (10am)



### POMPEY v BRISTOL ROVERS

Saturday, February 13  
Kick-Off: 3pm

Season ticket holders/shareholders:  
Monday, January 11 (10am)

## AWAY



### IPSWICH v POMPEY

Saturday, January 9  
Kick-Off: 3pm

Tickets have sold out

#### Coach Prices

Adult: £20  
Child: £15



### ACCRINGTON v POMPEY

Saturday, January 16  
Kick-Off: 3pm

Season ticket holders/shareholders:

Monday, January 4 (10am)  
General sale: Wednesday,  
January 6 (10am)

#### Ticket Prices

Adult: £15  
Senior (64+): £10  
Student (with NUS card): £10  
Junior (U17): £10  
Child (U12, accompanied): Free

#### Coach Prices

Adult: £28  
Child: £18

## CONTACTS

Phone: (023) 9277 8559  
Email: [tickets@pompeyfc.co.uk](mailto:tickets@pompeyfc.co.uk)  
Disabled Liaison Officer:  
Allison McNeil

## 2015/16 LEAGUE TICKET PRICES

Adult: £20  
Senior (61+): £15  
Young Person (17-22): £15  
Ambulant: £15\*\*  
Junior (U17,  
unaccompanied): £10  
Junior (U17, accompanied by  
adult/senior): £5\*  
Disabled Junior: £10\*\*  
Wheelchair Spaces: £10\*\*

\*Not available online  
\*\*Not available online,  
includes carer, proof of  
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## HOW TO BUY TICKETS

Online: [tickets.portsmouthfc.co.uk](http://tickets.portsmouthfc.co.uk)  
Phone: (023) 9277 8559  
In Person: Frogmore Road  
ticket office

## TICKET OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Monday-Friday: 10am-5pm  
Saturday-Sunday: Closed  
(open matchdays for  
enquiries/upgrades only)

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# BLUES NEWS

## HALL OF FAME: FOUR MORE INDUCTED



Three prolific goalscorers and a defensive rock are among the latest inductees into the Pompey Hall of Fame.

Noel Blake, Dave Kemp and Svetoslav Todorov have all been included, while there is a posthumous award for 'Farmer's Boy' Billy Haines.

Bulgarian striker Todorov will be best remembered for scoring the goal that secured promotion to the Premier League in 2003.

In front of a packed crowd, he struck in the 73rd minute against Burnley before disappearing into the Fratton End, where he was mobbed by supporters.

That was one of 26 goals that Toddy – as he was affectionately known – would bag that season to finish as Division One's top scorer.

Unfortunately, a serious knee injury on the eve of the following campaign meant that having done so much to get them to the promised land, he would make just 31 more appearances for Pompey.

Toddy remained a much-loved figure, however, and scored a total of 33 goals in 83 games before leaving for Charlton in 2007.

Jamaica-born centre-back Blake joined Pompey from Birmingham in 1984 and was part of the side, led by Alan Ball, that twice narrowly missed out on promotion to the top flight.

They were denied first on goal difference and then by three points before making it third time lucky in the 1986/87 campaign.

Blake missed just a single game that season and recovered from a knee injury to play 23 times the following year.

He chipped in with 13 goals in his 168 games between 1984 and 1988 – one a towering header in a League Cup tie against Tottenham that was settled at the third time of asking – and was twice voted 'Player of the Year' by supporters.

Despite featuring in a struggling side, Kemp was a phenomenal goalscorer, netting 38 times in 74 games during his two years on the south coast.

A financial crisis saw the side cut to the bone and his 16 league strikes in the 1976/77 season was a major factor in Pompey surviving in Division Three by a single point.

He equalled that tally in the following campaign – which saw the Blues finish bottom of the pile – despite having being sold to Carlisle in March with 12 games remaining.

This year's posthumous award goes to Haines, who struck 43 times in 1926/27 to hold the club record for most goals in a season for more than 60 years. It was finally broken by fellow Hall of Famer Guy Whittingham in 1992/93.

Arguably his most crucial strike came in the dying seconds against Preston at Fratton Park – his fourth of the match – which saw Pompey pip Manchester City to promotion by a goal average of just 0.006. It was one four hat-tricks he claimed that term.

Between 1923 and 1928, Haines found the target 129 times in 179 appearances. In 1960 he was appointed president of Portsmouth Football Supporters Club – a position he held until he passed away in 1974.

The Hall of Fame dinner will be held in the Victory Lounge on Friday, April 1 on the eve of the club's Former Players' Day, when Paul Cook's side will entertain Carlisle.

## POMPEY SPREAD FESTIVE CHEER

Pompey spread some Christmas cheer with a recent visit to QA Hospital.

The entire first team squad and coaching staff were on hand to give out presents, sign autographs and pose for photos with patients in the paediatric ward.

There were also selection boxes for the older children, which were kindly provided by 'Touchline' Tony Male.

It was a humbling experience for many of the players, including right-back Ben Davies.

He said: "Some of the stuff you see is heartbreaking – especially at this time of year. But it's nice to come down here and be able to put some smiles on the faces of the children."

"All the lads came down to give out presents because we wanted to provide some happiness to people who really need it."

Midfielder Adam Barton added: "It's very important that we do things like this and the lads are only too happy to come down."

"I was in a similar situation with my brother and his child at Christmas a couple of years ago.

"It's a difficult time of year to be in hospital and it's not just the patients that are affected – it's the whole family."

"But everyone seems to be a big Pompey fan and it's great to see the smiles on everyone's face when we go and visit them."



## DIRECTORS FOR THE DAY

Martin, Nathan, Sarah and Sam (Bowley) – following Pompey through generations and across the world.



## HARTLEPOOL SPONSORS

NA Curtain Walling were Matchball Sponsors for our last home game against Hartlepool and received a signed ball from Nigel Atangana and Rommy Boco before kick-off.

Blue Monkey Consultancy were Match Sponsors and were presented with a signed shirt, later handing a bottle of champagne to man-of-the-match Enda Stevens.

The champagne was kindly supplied by Gusto Wines – a passion for wine delivered with Gusto! Visit [www.gustowines.co.uk](http://www.gustowines.co.uk) for more details.



# NOTICEBOARD

Happy Birthday to lifelong Pompey fan Steve Beagley – have a great day!

Happy Birthday to Richard Crump – enjoy the game

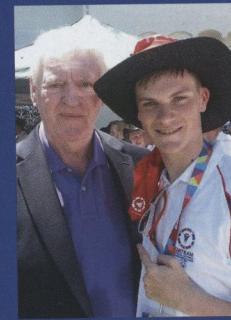
Everyone at Pompey would like to say a huge 'thank you' to our fans for their magnificent support this year and we look forward to seeing you in 2016!



Happy Birthday to Dad/Gramps Alan Fraser, a Fratton End season ticket holder. Lots of love from Karen and Kyesha



Welcome to 19-year-old Michael MacGurk, who plays for Beamish Dynamos and represented Great Britain at the World Summer Special Olympics in Los Angeles last summer. He was part of the side that beat Bangladesh on penalties in the final. Congratulations, Michael!



Happy 79th Birthday to Colin Halliday, who has been supporting Pompey since the days of Jimmy Dickinson and Duggie Reid. Best wishes from Nigel, Andy, Mark, Ann, Martin, Kerry and Lorna.



A very Happy 39th Birthday to Fawaz Almumen. Love from everyone at Pompey x

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# HATTERS

## 2015/16 FIXTURES

### August

08 Accrington (A)	D 1-1
11 Bristol City (H)	W 3-1
15 Oxford (H)	D 2-2
18 Bristol Rovers (H)	L 0-1
22 Yeovil (A)	L 2-3
25 Stoke (H)	D 1-1*
29 Pompey (H)	L 1-2

### September

01 Leyton Orient (H)	W 2-1
05 Cambridge (A)	W 3-1
12 Notts County (A)	L 2-3
19 Mansfield (H)	W 1-0
26 AFC Wimbledon (H)	W 2-0
29 Morecambe (A)	W 3-1

### October

03 Hartlepool (A)	W 4-1
06 Gillingham (A)	L 1-2
10 York (H)	D 1-1
17 Crawley (A)	L 1-2
20 Leyton Orient (H)	D 1-1
24 Plymouth (H)	L 1-2

### November

01 Dag & Red (A)	W 2-0
07 Crawley (A)	W 2-1
14 Barnet (H)	W 2-0
21 Stevenage (A)	D 0-0
24 Carlisle (H)	L 3-4
28 Newport (A)	L 0-3

### December

06 Peterborough (A)	L 0-2
12 Northampton (H)	L 3-4
19 Exeter (A)	W 3-2
26 Wycombe (H)	
28 Pompey (A)	

### January

02 Bristol Rovers (A)	
16 Cambridge (H)	
23 Mansfield (A)	
30 Notts County (H)	

### February

02 Yeovil (H)	
06 Wycombe (A)	
13 AFC Wimbledon (A)	
20 Hartlepool (H)	
27 York (A)	

### March

01 Morecambe (H)	
05 Leyton Orient (A)	
12 Crawley (H)	
19 Plymouth (A)	
25 Dag & Red (H)	
28 Barnet (A)	

### April

02 Stevenage (H)	
09 Accrington (H)	
16 Oxford (A)	
19 Carlisle (A)	
23 Newport (H)	
30 Northampton (A)	

### May

07 Exeter (H)	
---------------	--

\*Lost 7-8 on penalties

## HEAD TO HEAD



## HATTERS FACTS

### Overall

Pompey: 14 Wins  
Luton: 21 Wins  
12 Draws

### At Fratton Park

Pompey: 11 Wins  
Luton: 4 Wins  
7 Draws

### Last Meeting

Luton 1  
(Mackail-Smith)  
Pompey 2  
(Evans, Tubbs)  
League Two  
August 29 2015

**Caretaker Manager:**  
Andy Awford

**Formed:** 1885

**Ground:** Kenilworth Road

**Capacity:** 10,356

**Record Attendance:**  
30,069 v Blackpool (1959)

**Best League Finish:**  
7th in Division One (1986/87)

**Last Season:**  
8th in League Two

Matt Tubbs came off the bench to grab a late winner at Kenilworth Road back in August after Craig Mackail-Smith's spot-kick had cancelled out Gareth Evans' opener.

John Still was in charge of the Hatters that day, but there is likely to be a more familiar face in the opposition dug-out today.

The 65-year-old was sacked almost two weeks ago, with former Blues player and manager Andy Awford asked to take over on a caretaker basis.

And he led Luton to victory in his first game as boss before Christmas, with Paul Benson – who had a loan spell at Pompey during the 2012/13 campaign – securing all three points at Exeter in the 10th minute of stoppage-time.

That result left them 13th in the table ahead of a Boxing Day clash with Wycombe – 16 points clear of the bottom two and seven adrift of the play-off places.

The Hatters have won more times on the road than they have on their own patch this term, earning victories at Cambridge (3-1), Morecambe (3-1), Hartlepool (4-1), Dagenham (2-0) and then at St James Park nine days ago.

But they have been beaten on each of their last six visits to Fratton Park – a sequence that stretches back to 1987 – and the Blues will be keen to see that barren run extended.



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## POMPEY

### 2015/16 STATS

Top scorer:  
Conor Chaplin (7)



Most assists:  
Enda Stevens (6)  
Most shots:  
Gareth Evans (40)  
Most appearances:  
Kyle Bennett (26)  
Most fouls:  
Kyle Bennett (30)  
Highest attendance:  
18,190 (v Reading)

### LAST STARTING LINE-UP



INFORMATION CORRECT AS OF 25.12.15

### 2015/16 STATS

Top scorer:  
Cameron McGeehan (9)



Most assists:  
Cameron McGeehan,  
Josh McQuoid (4)  
Most shots:  
Jack Marriott (32)  
Most appearances:  
Jonathan Smith (25)  
Most fouls:  
Luke Wilkinson (30)  
Highest attendance:  
20,083 (v Pompey)



### LAST STARTING LINE-UP

### FORM GUIDE

DEC 19 Northampton (A)	W 2-1
DEC 12 Hartlepool (H)	W 4-0
DEC 5 Accrington (H)	W 1-0
NOV 28 Wycombe (A)	D 2-2
NOV 24 York (H)	W 6-0

### FORM GUIDE

DEC 19 Exeter (A)	W 3-2
DEC 12 Northampton (H)	L 3-4
DEC 6 Peterborough (A)	L 0-2
NOV 28 Newport (A)	L 0-3
NOV 24 Carlisle (H)	L 3-4



# LUTON TOWN

# THE SQUAD



## CARETAKER MANAGER



**Andy Awford**  
Former Pompey player, scout, coach, academy head and manager is – at the time of going to print – in caretaker charge of Luton following the dismissal of John Still before Christmas. He spent his entire professional playing career at Fratton Park after signing from Worcester in 1989 and was part of the side that reached the FA Cup semi-finals in 1992 before narrowly missing out on promotion to the Premier League the following season. As boss, the Hall of Fame inductee led the Blues to League Two safety in 2013/14, but departed in April and was later selected by the Hatters to lead their youth set-up.  
**Age: 43; Luton games managed/won: 1/1**



Mark Tyler

### GK Elliot Justham

Former semi-professional stopper turned out for Waltham Forest, Leyton, Redbridge, Brentwood and East Thurrock prior to his 2013 switch to Luton.

**Age: 25; Luton apps: 21**

### GK Mark Tyler

Veteran stopper started his career at Peterborough, making his senior debut back in 1996 and amassing almost 500 first team appearances. He was awarded a testimonial match against Liverpool in 2007, but left London Road to sign for the Hatters in 2009 and was part of the side that won promotion back to the Football League in 2014.

**Age: 38; Luton apps: 276**

### DF Scott Cuthbert

Versatile former Scotland under-21 international came through the youth ranks at Celtic, but left the Glasgow giants in 2009 without having made a senior appearance. He moved south of the border to join Swindon and then spent four years at Leyton Orient before arriving at Kenilworth Road last summer.

**Age: 28; Luton apps/ goals: 23/0**



Scott Cuthbert

### DF Scott Griffiths

Left-back – who has won three league titles during his career – signed for Luton in 2013 and has previously featured for Aveley, Dagenham and Peterborough.

**Age: 30; Luton apps/ goals: 132/3**

### DF Sean Long

Republic of Ireland under-21 international full-back joined the Hatters on loan from Reading in October – a deal that has since been extended until January.

**Age: 20; Luton apps/ goals: 9/0**

### DF Mark O'Brien

Dublin-born centre-back – who is also comfortable in midfield – came through the ranks at Derby and signed for Luton last summer.

**Age: 23; Luton apps/ goals: 9/0**

### DF Stephen O'Donnell

Former Scotland under-21 international began his professional career with Partick Thistle, helping them win promotion to the top flight before signing for the Hatters back in June.

**Age: 24; Luton apps/ goals: 10/1**



Luke Wilkinson

### DF Magnus Okuongha

Nigerian centre-back joined Luton from Colchester last summer, but had a spell on loan at Hartlepool earlier in the season.

**Age: 29; Luton apps/ goals: 5/0**

### DF Dan Potts

Ex-England under-20 international left West Ham for Kenilworth Road back in May and made six appearances for Pompey during a loan stint in 2013.

**Age: 21; Luton apps/ goals: 6/0**

### DF Luke Wilkinson

Pompey academy graduate was a regular in the reserve side, but failed to break into the first team at Fratton Park and was released in the summer of 2010. He signed for Dagenham & Redbridge

and was their Player of the Year in 2012/13, but only remained for one more season before departing for Kenilworth Road.

**Age: 23; Luton apps/ goals: 73/19**



Cameron McGeehan

### MF Nathan Doyle

Derby youth product – who has represented England up to under-19 level – arrived from Bradford in September 2014 and was voted Player of the Year by supporters last term.

**Age: 28; Luton apps/ goals: 45/0**

### MF Danny Green

Former Nottingham Forest trainee played for Bishop's Stortford, Dagenham, Charlton and MK Dons before signing for Luton back in July.

**Age: 27; Luton apps/ goals: 16/6**

### MF Luke Guttridge

Torquay academy graduate moved on to play for Cambridge, Southend, Leyton Orient, Colchester, Aldershot and Northampton prior to his 2013 arrival at Kenilworth Road.

**Age: 33; Luton apps/ goals: 73/19**

### MF Ryan Hall

Former England non-league international arrived from Rotherham back in January, although illness and injury disrupted the start of his Hatters career.

**Age: 27; Luton apps/ goals: 16/0**



Jonathan Smith

### MF Alex Lawless

Welshman joined Luton from York – initially on loan – in November 2010 and has previously featured for Ton Pentre, Fulham, Torquay and Forest Green.

**Age: 32; Luton apps/ goals: 172/21**

### MF Olly Lee

West Ham youth product left the Londoners without making a senior appearance, turning out for Barnet and Birmingham before moving to Kenilworth Road last summer.

**Age: 24; Luton apps/ goals: 21/1**

### MF Paddy McCourt

Northern Ireland international twice won the Scottish Premier League with Celtic and joined the Hatters from Brighton back in July.

**Age: 32; Luton apps/ goals: 13/0**

### MF Cameron McGeehan

Former Chelsea trainee turned professional with Norwich after skipping them to FA Youth Cup glory, but was unable to progress into the first team. He had two spells on loan at Charlton and Swindon. He had a spell on loan at Pompey

from the latter during the 2012/13 campaign, scoring twice in seven appearances, and joined Luton the following summer.

**Age: 20; Luton apps/ goals: 56/15**

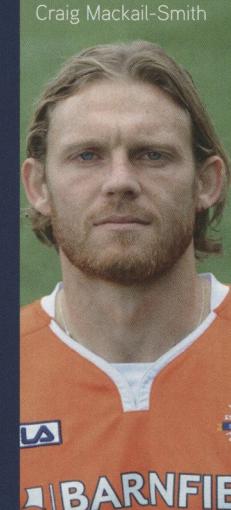


Paul Benson

### MF Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu

West Ham academy graduate made a single League Cup appearance for the Londoners, then joined Luton – initially on loan – in November 2013.

**Age: 22; Luton apps/ goals: 48/3**



Craig Mackail-Smith

### FW Craig Mackail-Smith

Scotland international played non-league football before making more than 100 appearances for Dagenham, Peterborough and Brighton. The latter signed him for a fee of more than £3 million and he netted his first Seagulls goal at Fratton Park, but was allowed to leave and sign for the Hatters last summer.

**Age: 31; Luton apps/ goals: 20/3**

### FW Jack Marriott

Ipswich academy graduate made a handful of appearances for the Tractor Boys and had several spells out on loan before joining Luton back in May.

**Age: 21; Luton apps/ goals: 22/8**

### FW Josh McQuoid

Northern Ireland international started his career with Bournemouth and returned to them following a spell with Millwall prior to signing for the Hatters last summer.

**Age: 26; Luton apps/ goals: 24/4**

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JM HOW WILL LUTON LOOK BACK ON THE FIRST  
HALF OF THE SEASON?

**JC** I don't think they'll want to look back on the first half of the season. In fact, the whole of 2015 has been one to forget. Managers don't get sacked when things have gone well, unless you're Real Madrid, but defensive frailties continued from the second half of last term and ultimately cost John Still his job. Conceding decisive last minute goals was a major feature – as Portsmouth fans will remember – and wrecked confidence early on. If there's a positive to be taken, it's that Still added plenty of goals to the team and they smashed last season's entire away tally a couple of months back.

JM WERE SUPPORTERS SURPRISED BY THE  
RATHER SLUGGISH START TO THE CAMPAIGN?

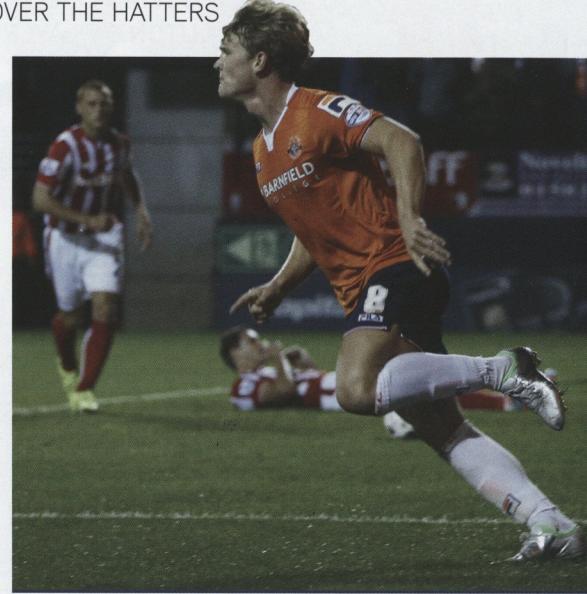
**JC** Surprise might be an understatement. With the quality of players that Still brought in during the summer, I think they were expecting fireworks, but rather than explosions they got implosions. Still repeatedly claimed that his teams always start slow, but I don't think that went down well and it seemed to seep into the players' consciousness. That, along with the usual difficulties of integrating 12 new players into a squad, has combined to their detriment. To their credit, players have, in interviews, taken some of the blame for Still getting the axe, so perhaps it can be a catalyst for change.

JM A FEW WINS COULD CHANGE THE  
LANDSCAPE – ARE FANS STILL HOPEFUL OF  
MOUNTING A PROMOTION CHALLENGE?

**JC** I think all bets are off at the moment. They got an immediate victory after John Still's exit, with Andy Awfod in temporary charge at Exeter, but they need stability and for the new boss to hit the ground running with a clear philosophy that includes a 'Plan B'. Though it was their goal at the start of the campaign, I think it would be an extremely optimistic fan still harbouring expectations of automatic promotion. I think a top three finish is out of the equation and has been for some time. Reaching the play-offs is achievable – but only if the next manager gets it right straight away.

JM WHO ARE THE IN-FORM LUTON PLAYERS  
LIKELY TO POSE POMPEY PROBLEMS THIS  
AFTERNOON?

**JC** Paul Benson has shown this month that there's still life in his 36-year-old legs, both as a poacher and a target man. He was injured for three months, but had notched five times in 11 appearances before Christmas. Danny Green provides good ammunition for the strikers with tremendous crossing ability and if the winger gets



"CAMERON McGEEHAN IS  
THE STANDOUT THREAT FOR  
TOWN BECAUSE HE JUST  
HAS A HANDY KNACK OF  
BEING IN THE RIGHT PLACE  
AT THE RIGHT TIME"

a sniff from 25 yards out then he's pretty accurate. But midfielder Cameron McGeehan is the standout threat for Town because he just has a handy knack of being in the right place at the right time, whether he plays centrally or wider. He set a goal target of between 10 and 15 goals this term and he'd netted nine before Christmas.

JM LUTON'S AWAY RECORD IS IMPRESSIVE  
THIS SEASON, SO WILL THEY BE LOOKING  
FOR MAXIMUM POINTS TODAY?

**JC** They would have gone for all three points under John Still because that was his philosophy, but it will be a while before we get a sense of what Luton's approach will be without him. If they'd employed a bit more pragmatism on occasion, they'd probably be in a better position than they are now. The only thing that Town have come to expect more than last minute drama is that if Matt Tubbs plays, he usually scores, so if he takes a bit longer to recover from his injury then I'm sure there will be a bit more expectancy of another win on the road.

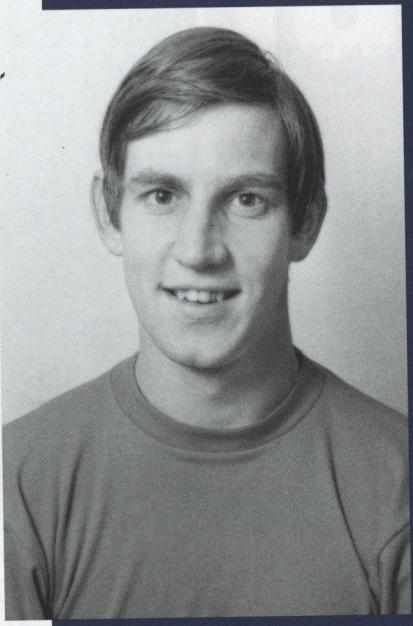
# TOP BOYS



FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS PROFILES 10 WINNERS  
OF LUTON'S PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

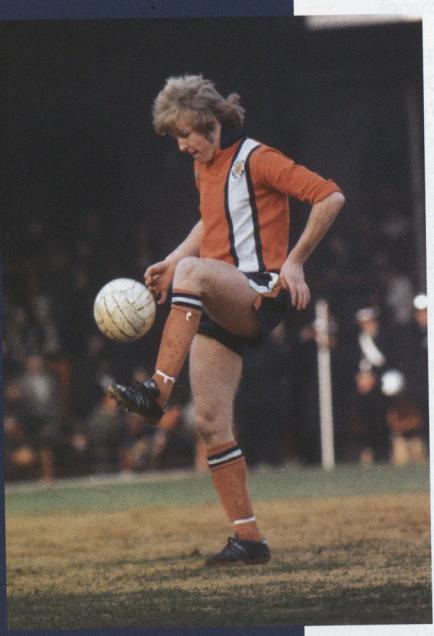
## MALCOLM MACDONALD

Striker Macdonald was capped 14 times by England after leaving Luton. Initially with Tonbridge, he joined Fulham in August 1968 and moved to Kenilworth Road in July 1969. He was twice top scorer, including for their 1969/70 Division Three promotion success when he was also Player of the Year, and netted 49 goals in 88 league games before being sold to Newcastle for £180,000 in May 1971. An FA Cup finalist in 1974 and League Cup finalist in 1976, Macdonald joined Arsenal for £333,333 in the summer of 1976 and was an FA Cup finalist again two years later before injury ended his career. He then managed Fulham and Huddersfield and now works in the media.



## PAUL FUTCHER

Former England under-21 central defender Futcher was named Luton's star man in both 1976/77 and 1977/78. He turned professional with twin brother Ron at hometown club Chester in January 1974, moving to Kenilworth Road in a joint £100,000 deal in June 1974 and scoring once in 131 league outings. Sold to Manchester City for £350,000 in the summer of 1978, he then had spells playing for Oldham and Derby prior to joining Barnsley in March 1984. Futcher starred as they reached the FA Cup sixth round in 1984/85, moving to Halifax in July 1990. Later with Grimsby, he managed Darlington, Gresley and Southport.



## CHRIS NICHOLL

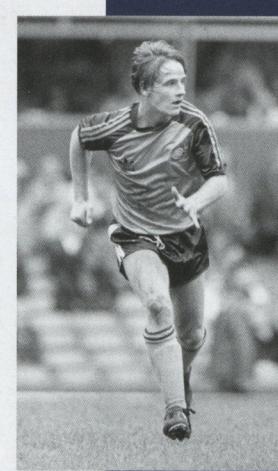
Northern Ireland international centre-back Nicholl was the Hatters' Player of the Year in 1970/71. A former Burnley apprentice, he moved, via Witton, to Halifax in June 1968 and starred in their 1968/69 promotion success. He joined Luton in the summer of 1969 and was a promotion winner in 1969/70, netting six goals in 97 league games before joining Aston Villa in March 1972. Helping them win promotion in 1974/75, as well as featuring in two League Cup final triumphs, Nicholl joined Southampton in June 1977 and was a promotion winner again in his first season, then played for Grimsby before managing Pompey's rivals and Walsall.

## KIRK STEPHENS

Attacking right-back Stephens was ever-present as the Hatters claimed the Division Two title in 1981/82. Initially with Nuneaton, he helped them finish Southern League runners-up in 1974/75 and followed boss David Pleat to Kenilworth Road in June 1978. Stephens was voted Luton's Player of the Year in 1978/79 and 1983/84, scoring twice in 227 league games before moving to Coventry in exchange for Ashley Grimes in August 1984. Later rejoining Nuneaton as player/manager after a knee injury ended his top-flight career, he also had a spell at Barnet and has since run the family building firm.

## RICKY HILL

England international midfielder Hill was Player of the Year when Luton won the second division title in 1981/82. Signing professional terms at Kenilworth Road in May 1976, he was also top man in 1980/81 and starred as the Hatters were FA Cup semi-finalists in 1984/85. Hill also featured in two consecutive League Cup finals, including the club's 1988 Wembley triumph, and netted 54 goals in 436 league games before moving to Le Havre in July 1989. Reuniting with David Pleat at Leicester in August 1990 and later as a coach at Sheffield Wednesday and Tottenham, he briefly rejoined Luton as manager in 2000.



## PAUL WALSH

England international striker Walsh was capped five times while with the Hatters. Signing professional terms at Charlton in October 1979, he starred in their 1980/81 promotion success and moved to Luton in July 1982. He was Player of the Year in 1982/83 and leading marksman in 1983/84, netting 24 goals in 80 first division games before joining Liverpool in May 1984. Helping to win the top-flight title in 1985/86, Walsh joined Tottenham in February 1988 and was an FA Cup winner in 1991. He later played for Pompey, Manchester City and the Blues again, until injury curtailed his career.

## MAL DONAGHY

Northern Ireland international centre-back Donaghy gained a club record 58 caps while at Luton. He moved to Kenilworth Road from Larne in June 1978 and was ever-present as the Hatters won the second division title in 1981/82 and were FA Cup semi-finalists in 1984/85. Voted Player of the Year in 1985/86, he was an FA Cup semi-finalist again in 1987/88 and starred in that season's League Cup final triumph. Donaghy netted 16 goals in 410 league games prior to joining Manchester United for £650,000 in October 1988, then returned on loan before moving to Chelsea in August 1992 and has since worked for the Irish FA.



## BRIAN STEIN

England international striker Stein was the Hatters' Player of the Year in 1987/88, scoring twice in that season's League Cup final triumph against Arsenal. Moving to Kenilworth Road from Edgware Town in October 1977, he was leading marksman when Luton won the Division Two title in 1981/82 and also starred as they were FA Cup semi-finalists in 1984/85 and 1987/88. Stein joined Caen in July 1988 and moved, via Annecy, back to Luton in the summer of 1991. Voted star man again in 1991/92, he netted 130 goals in 427 league games overall before joining Barnet in August 1992, while younger brother Mark also played for Town.

## MICK HARFORD

England international striker Harford was named Luton's top player in 1988/89. Initially with Lincoln, he played for Newcastle, Bristol City and Birmingham prior to joining the Hatters in December 1984. He starred as they were League Cup finalists in two successive seasons, including their 1988 Wembley triumph, and also reached the last four of the FA Cup on two occasions. Moving to Derby in January 1990, Harford returned to Kenilworth Road in September 1991. Signing for Chelsea in the summer of 1992, he then appeared for Sunderland, Coventry and Wimbledon and has since been coach and manager of Luton.



## DAVID PREECE

England 'B' international midfielder Preece was Player of the Year when the Hatters reached the FA Cup semi-finals in 1993/94. Signing professional terms with Walsall in July 1980, he helped them reach the League Cup semi-finals in 1983/84 before joining Luton for £150,000 in December 1984. Preece appeared in two consecutive League Cup finals, including their 1998 success at Wembley and was also star man in 1991/92, netting 21 goals in 336 league games while at Kenilworth Road prior to signing for Derby in August 1995. Later player/coach at Cambridge and Torquay, he died in July 2007.



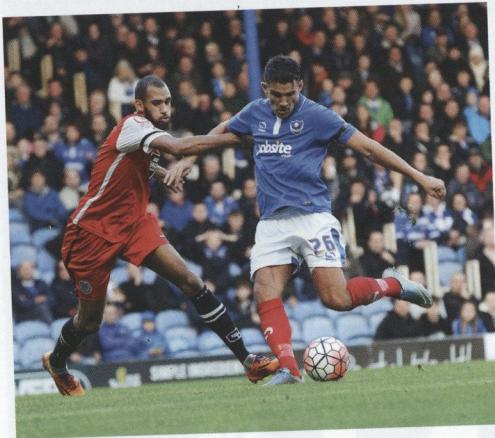
GARETH **EVANS**

WINGER HOPING FOR MORE POMPEY JOY IN 2016

# GOOD EVANS

WORDS: NEIL WELD

"IT'S GREAT IF YOU CAN COLLECT PLENTY OF POINTS AT THIS TIME, ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU'RE BATTLING IT OUT AT THE TOP OF THE TABLE"



In a few days' time, people around the world will celebrate the end of one year and the beginning of a new one.

Many will set themselves resolutions, seeing January as a chance to make a fresh start by ridding themselves of bad habits.

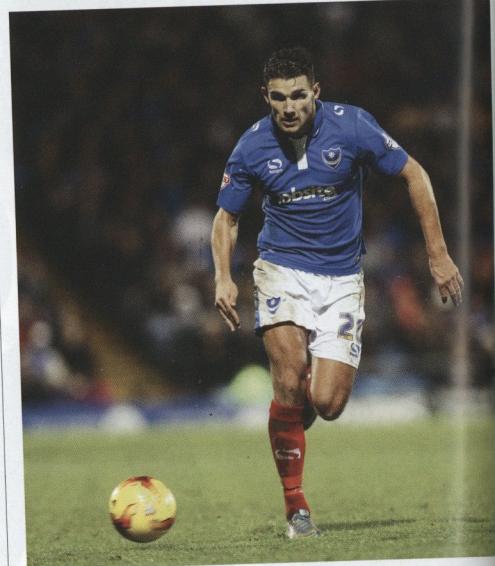
It is the same for plenty of football fans, who will be hoping to leave a run of bad results or off-field uncertainty back in 2015.

That has certainly been the case for beleaguered Blues fans over the past few seasons, with the Fratton faithful having long grown weary of first relegation battles and then League Two mediocrity.

But there is no need to wish for a vast change of fortunes this term, with Paul Cook's Pompey finally looking capable of mounting a promotion challenge.

Instead, Gareth Evans is hoping that they can take their impressive form from the first half of the campaign into 2016.

"It's been an enjoyable season so far," enthuses the 27-year-old winger. "We've really started to kick into gear the past few weeks and get a good run of results



"The Christmas period is always a crucial one in football and you have those special games on Boxing Day and then at the start of the year.

"It's great if you can collect plenty of points at this time, especially when you're battling it out at the top of the table. We're in a good position now and well placed to mount a promotion challenge."

A six-match unbeaten league run had seen Pompey rise to fourth in the table ahead of their Boxing Day trip to the capital to take on Leyton Orient.

Evans played a key role in that sequence, scoring in the Fratton thumping of Hartlepool earlier this month and then netting again to help secure victory at high-flying Northampton just before Christmas.

"I've got five goals so far, although I would have liked a few more," admits the summer signing from Fleetwood. "I've had quite a few that have been cleared off the line or hit the woodwork, so I'm

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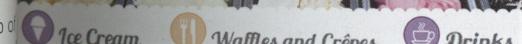
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"The weather has also been pretty decent, although there has been quite a bit of rain in recent weeks to remind me of home!"

Pompey's away form has played a big role in their lofty position, with six triumphs and only one defeat prior to their Matchroom Stadium visit, compared to just four Fratton victories.

But the Blues have scored 10 goals in their last two home league fixtures, thrashing York 6-0 before hitting four past Hartlepool.

Now Evans hopes they can continue to reward the large crowds with plenty more wins on their own patch.

"We didn't do anything different against York," he says with a shrug. "We just got the rub of the green when they had a player sent off just before half-time and then the floodgates opened.

"That will hopefully be the catalyst for much better home form from now until the end of the campaign.

"It's also pleasing that I've appeared in the majority of the games and my Pompey career got off to the perfect start when I scored against Dagenham on the opening day.

"I got sent off at Cambridge and that was disappointing. It took me a couple of games to get back into the swing of things once I'd returned from the suspension.

"But I've really enjoyed my time here overall and I settled in right away, despite never having lived outside of Manchester before. This is a nice area and, aside from friends and family, there's nothing I miss.



"We were playing really well away from home and although we weren't bad at Fratton Park, the results weren't always going our way."

"But we've scored 10 times in the last two matches here, so that tells you that things are going in the right direction and we're starting to find that consistency that we've all been striving for. That's ultimately what will separate the sides that go up from those that just miss out."

Pompey are, unsurprisingly, attracting the largest attendances in League Two for the third season in a row and Evans believes that the supporters deserve to see their side enjoy success.

"It's great playing at this ground," he declares. "We always get really large crowds and the fans are fantastic, but I expected nothing less when I came here."

"When you're walking around the club and the training ground, you get the impression that everything's set for a higher level. I truly believe that if we can get one promotion, we can quickly go on to get another – hopefully that will be the case."

That 'P' word is likely to be on everyone's lips for the remainder of the campaign and that expectancy does not intimidate Evans.

"There was a large contingent of players who arrived at Pompey last summer and we all came for one reason – to win promotion. We're not here for anything else."

"THERE WAS A LARGE CONTINGENT OF PLAYERS WHO ARRIVED AT POMPEY LAST SUMMER AND WE ALL CAME FOR ONE REASON – TO WIN PROMOTION"



"It helps that there is a good number of lads who have already got the experience of going up from League Two because they know what it takes to enjoy success at this level."

"That will really start to come into play when we reach March or April and you've got really important games where three points are vital."

Getting out of the fourth tier of English football is Pompey's priority, but they also have an FA Cup third round tie at Ipswich fast approaching.

"We're just looking at it as another game," Evans insists. "It might be different if we'd have drawn Manchester United or Arsenal. It will, however, be a good test and give us an idea of where we are as a club and a team."

"They're doing well in the Championship and will want to win promotion themselves, so we know it will be difficult. But we've played sides at their level already this season and did well against Derby and Reading in the League Cup, so we certainly shouldn't fear Ipswich."

"Those games were at the start of the season and we've improved since then, so hopefully we can give a good account of ourselves and progress to the fourth round."

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# POMPEY<sup>35</sup>

# MASTERMIND



## FIRST HALF: LUTON CONNECTIONS

- 1 Who scored in both meetings with the Hatters last season?
- 2 Which former Pompey player later led Luton to the fourth division title?
- 3 Who netted 28 times for the Hatters and then scored 28 goals for the Blues?
- 4 Which former Fratton striker is now on the books at Kenilworth Road?
- 5 Who is the most recent Pompey player to score a hat-trick against Luton?



## SECOND HALF: FESTIVE FIXTURES

- 6 Who did Pompey face on this day last season?
- 7 Which defender helped his former club in 2010 by scoring two own-goals to secure a 3-3 draw for the Blues?
- 8 Who were Pompey's opponents on this day in 2003 - their first season in the Premier League?
- 9 Which player netted twice in a 4-0 victory over Shrewsbury in 1985, leading manager Alan Ball to proclaim: "A star is born."
- 10 Where did Pompey score four goals on this day in 1992?



## EXTRA TIME

- 11 Which top-flight manager revealed that he would cry if there was no football at Christmas?
- 12 Four members of which Premier League side dressed up as the Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles for their Christmas party?



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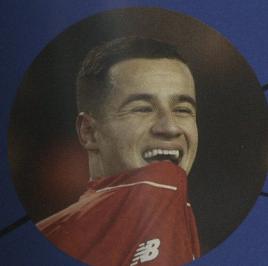
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## BLUE ARMY

I have met all of them a few times and they are really nice people, so I suppose that helps.

### Who is your favourite past Pompey player?

Again, I have a few favourite past players. If I had to choose between three it would be Jed Wallace, Sylvain Distin and Lassana Diarra, as they were hard-working, have all progressed to higher clubs and are great players now.

### What is your favourite away ground to visit?

I have only been to three away games. I know it's not a lot, but I prefer home matches. If I need to choose from the three grounds I have visited, it would have to be Adams Park, Wycombe. It is a nice stadium to go to in my opinion.

### What are your matchday superstitions or routines?

I don't really have any superstitions. I usually meet the players before home matches then when the turnstiles open, I watch them train. Before the game starts, my cousin, foster dad and I usually predict what the score is and we have a selfie before the game.

### Why do you support Pompey?

I support Pompey for loads of reasons, including the fans, the atmosphere we create, the fact the players are all nice – just everything about the club. I know we have been relegated three times and been in administration twice, but that will never change my opinion. We have saved our club and now are fan-owned. We have been in League Two for a few years, but I believe we will go up this season.

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# A KNIGHT'S TALE

ALAN KNIGHT MADE  
801 APPEARANCES FOR  
POMPEY AND IS NOW CLUB  
AMBASSADOR



It is at this time of year that I find my role as a club ambassador really comes into its own. I was recently called upon to switch on the Christmas lights in both Paulsgrove and Portchester on the same day. Fortunately, this is something I have gained plenty of experience in down the years – so much so that I used to have mates asking me to pop round to turn on their tree lights – a request I would politely decline!

The Portchester event was organised by the community association in the precinct. After opening proceedings and doing the big switch on, the Reverend Ian Meredith made an address and the occasion was made all the more seasonal by local schoolchildren singing carols and performing dances.

You would think that a relatively simple task like turning some lights on would not cause too much in the way of stage fright. But, with so many people present, there is always a slight concern that nothing happens when you press the button or that a fuse blows a few seconds later. It's completely different to doing the same thing in your living room with only a couple of other people present! The high winds – which cancelled an event in Portsmouth – added another risk factor. But, as it happened, both events ran very smoothly and the people of Paulsgrove and Portchester were given some Christmas cheer. My thanks goes to all those who organised and attended to help make it a special night.

Of course, it wouldn't be Christmas without our annual visit to QA Hospital in Cosham to visit some less fortunate children. Managers and players have come and gone over the years, but these trips are a constant and we all went along on December 15. I know that anyone who represents the club is extremely touched by this occasion and this time was no exception, with Paul Cook and the squad happy to turn up and spread a little festive happiness to those who really deserve it. It makes you realise how lucky you are to be healthy – especially at this time of year – when you see people who, for whatever reason, are unable to be at home with their friends and families. I hope that we were able to help cheer some of them up.

I hope you all enjoyed a peaceful and merry

## SUPPORTERS CLUBS



### LONDON SUPPORTERS' CLUB

This year marks the 64th anniversary of the Portsmouth FC Supporters' Club in London – 1951 being the year the original committee first met on the terraces at Cranage Cottage for a Blues away game.

We are essentially a group of like-minded souls who, although exiled from Portsmouth, like to feel attached to Pompey and their fans in some way. It doesn't matter where you live now.

Here are a few things that we do...

We run a regular draw for two free tickets to each home match, while members vote for our own Player of the Month and we run a 100 Club. We are also represented at the Conference and if you look further on in this programme you will see that we are sponsoring Kyle Bennett.

An excellent dinner is held annually at Fratton Park, with players, board members and other club staff join us at our tables and enjoy an informal meal together at a reasonable price. Our award for the best player is given at this event and there are always fantastic prizes to be won in the raffle.

And oh yes, £6,000 worth of shares are held in our name with the Trust and we have also just helped Pompey Community with a donation towards their classroom.

With all that in mind, we think it's pretty safe to say that we are working to keep the London Supporters' Club moving in the right direction – supporting Pompey.

Like other groups, we get a ticket allocation for away games which are local to us and these are distributed through our own internal system.

Our AGM is held in London, again with the Blues board, players and staff coming along. It's a very short AGM, a long evening of fun!

Do you fancy joining us and getting your free Pompey keyring? Then please get in touch by emailing [pompeymembership@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pompeymembership@hotmail.co.uk)



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# TOUCHLINE TONY



assisted with the raffle and auction, as well as John PFC Westwood. The latter was asked to shave off the hair of cancer sufferer 'Aussie Dave', who offered his locks in exchange for an additional whip-round.

Keith Thrapp came up with the idea for the event and helped bring it to life, while items for the auction were donated by Warrior Clothing, C Brewer & Sons, Brittany Ferries and The House of Commons. There were also personal donations from skinheads based in America and France. Meanwhile, Southampton lads Barrie Short and Tony Gailor brought loads of prizes with them and filled up two minibuses with supporters.

Entertainment was provided for free by The Aim – consisting of Andrew Hollins (vocals), Paul Gardner (lead guitar), Mark Skidmore (rhythm guitar/vocals), Andrew Hedger (bass/vocals) and Rob Dillan (Drums) – and DJ Zoe Snook.

The Froddington Arms – run by Arron and Natasha – was packed with Pompey and Southampton fans, as well as people from as far afield as Walsall and Essex. They raised a grand total of £2,225, which was divided equally between both charities.

Keith and his gang of helpers – including Jayne Dixon, Karen Thrapp, Pete Gover and Martin Fowler – worked very hard to organise the event and are now looking forward to planning their next one in the new year.

Visit me at [www.touchlinetony.co.uk](http://www.touchlinetony.co.uk)

## NON-LEAGUE SCENE

with Robert Cusack

The festive period is set to be an exciting one for our non-league neighbours, with local derbies galore at various levels of the semi-professional game.

Gosport and Havant & Waterlooville met at Privett Park on Boxing Day, with the return fixture at Westleigh Park taking place on Saturday.

The sides go into those games in differing form, with Alex Pike's Borough side having won four National League South fixtures in succession prior to their 1-0 defeat at Margate before Christmas. That left them fourth in the table, with only goal difference keeping them behind Whitehawk and outside of the play-off places.

Lee Bradbury's Hawks, meanwhile, were victorious for the first time in four league fixtures on December 19, with Scott Donnelly's brace securing a 2-1

triumph over Concord Rangers. They are still in the relegation places, although it is just goal difference that is preventing them from leapfrogging Weston-super-Mare.

Bognor Regis Town hosted bottom-of-the-table Sussex rivals Lewes on Boxing Day, hoping to earn a first Ryman Premier Division win in six attempts and close the gap on the top five. The Rocks will now travel to Burgess Hill on Saturday for their first game of 2016.

No games were played in the Wessex League Premier Division on Saturday, but Fareham Town and AFC Portchester meet at Cams Alders tomorrow, while Moneyfields' trip to Horndean has been postponed to make way for their twice-rearranged FA Vase replay at Brimscombe & Thrupp.



## POMPEY 4-0 HARTLEPOOL

Lavery 33, Jackson 37 (og), Evans 61, McNulty 90

December 12 2015 / Fratton Park / Attendance: 15,610

Pompey gave the Fratton faithful a welcome early Christmas present with a comfortable victory over Hartlepool.

After a slow start, it was Caolan Lavery who broke the deadlock with a fine effort from outside the box that left former Blues keeper Trevor Carson with no chance.

The hosts were then gifted a second goal moments later when Adam Jackson inadvertently turned Ben Davies' cross into his own net.

Brian Murphy had been enjoying a quiet afternoon, but was called into action just before the break with a diving save to keep out Scott Fenwick's sweetly-struck shot.

The Blues made sure of the three points just past the hour mark when Gareth Evans was on hand to slot home after Carson had done well to deny Marc McNulty.

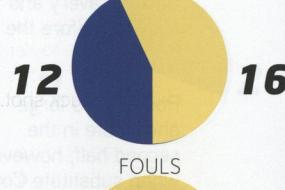
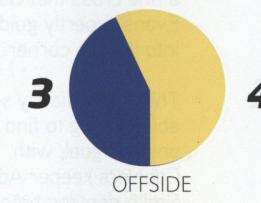
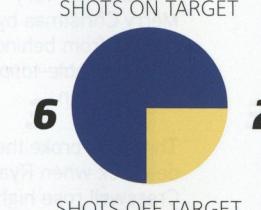
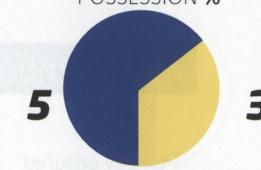
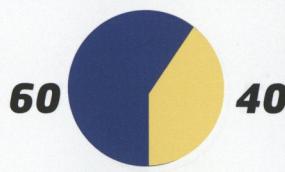
McNulty then latched onto Enda Stevens' threaded pass and coolly found the target late on to wrap up a resounding triumph.



"WHEN I FIRST CAME HERE THERE WAS A LOT OF TALK ABOUT HOW WE'VE BEEN STRUGGLING AT HOME, BUT NOW WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF BELIEF" CAOLAN LAVERY



## MATCH STATS





SKY BET  
LEAGUE 2

## NORTHAMPTON 1-2 POMPEY

Cresswell 17

Evans 32, Chaplin 86

December 19 2015 / Sixfields Stadium / Attendance: 5,859

Pompey ensured it would be a very Merry Christmas by battling from behind to win at table-topping Northampton.

The hosts broke the deadlock when Ryan Cresswell rose highest in the box to head home Joel Byrom's corner.

But the Blues levelled following good work from Marc McNulty, who shook off a challenge and stood up a fine cross that Gareth Evans expertly guided into the top corner.

They immediately set about trying to find another goal, with Cobblers keeper Adam Smith denying both Caolan Lavery and McNulty before the interval.

Pompey did forge ahead late in the second half, however, when substitute Conor Chaplin slotted home with his first touch after Smith could only parry Ben Tollitt's drive.

Dominic Calvert-Lewin almost snatched an equaliser with a header that left the crossbar shaking, but the Blues held on to secure all three points.

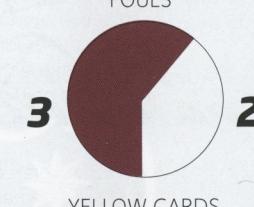
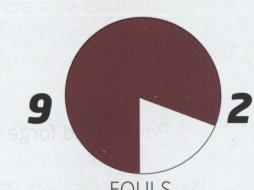
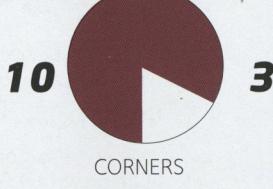
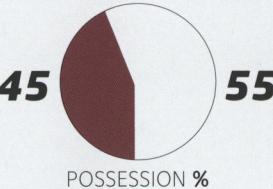


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## MATCH STATS



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## TEAM - MATES

WITH BRIAN MURPHY



**MOST SKILFUL**  
Ben Tollitt looks very good in training, so I'll give it to him over Gary Roberts.



**BIGGEST JOKER**  
I'd say that Christian Burgess is a joke, so I'll give that to him.



**MOST VAIN**  
Christian Burgess by a mile, although he's trying to be something he's not.



**WORST DRESSER**  
Rommy Boco. He tells people his clothes cost a bit, but he just gets it all wrong.



**QUICKEST**  
I haven't seen everyone in a race yet, but I think that's probably Ben Tollitt again.



**CLEVEREST**  
That's a tough one. Christian appears to be clever, but he's not. Danny Hollands has got a bit about him, though.



**HARDEST WORKING**  
All of the goalkeepers.



**MOST LIKELY TO MANAGE**  
Michael Doyle. He's angry all the time, so you can see him becoming a manager.



**LEAST INTELLIGENT**  
Christian Burgess is just daft. He's the loudest and sometimes that also means the weakest.



**LAZIEST**  
Enda Stevens. I see him floating around the place, but he doesn't seem to do anything.



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# THE SOCIAL NETWORK

WE TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT POMPEY PLAYERS AND FANS ARE CHATTING ABOUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA...

**Matt Tubbs (@MattTubbs)**  
Buzzing for you Chappy – everyone  
deserves a late winner.

**Ben Tollitt (@bentollitt)**  
Good work from the team, coming  
from a goal down to win! Well done  
Conor Chaplin – you deserved that.

**Jack Whatmough  
(@JackWhatmough3)**  
You little beauty, Conor Chaplin!

**Marc McNulty (@sparkymcnulty)**  
Brilliant win, great support from the  
fans again and well done to my mate  
Conor Chaplin – you deserved that.

**Ian Darke (@ianDarke)**  
First 45 minutes at Northampton v  
Pompey a credit to League Two. Great  
win for always dangerous Pompey,  
but suspect both clubs will go up.

**Ricky Martin (@RickyMartin247)**  
Chaplin always seems to pull things  
out of the bag.



**Portsmouth FC (@officialpompey)**  
Here's the match-winner, speaking to Pompey Player



**Christian Burgess (@burgey44)**  
Was a real honour to visit all the kids at QA  
Hospital with the whole squad. Just to see the  
slightest smile gave such an amazing feeling.



/officialpompey

**Teresa Moor**  
Great result, performance and  
victory against the leaders – it's  
always fantastic to get a victory  
when you go behind.

**Carlo Faulds**  
Paul Cook – what a manager! Three  
late subs who made the winning  
goal!

**Brian Williams**  
Best team we've seen at Sixfields  
this season. I hope we are both  
promoted before the last game of the  
season for a mutual party.

**Matt Shippam**  
Did not see that result coming when  
we went a goal down. We're back  
on track to get one of the top three  
spaces come May.

**James Aphowell**  
Whey! Get in, boys. What a great  
result. The confidence is there now,  
as well as the belief.

**Brett Anderson**  
There are many things I like about  
this Pompey side, but above  
everything, the courage to fight back  
is superb.



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# POMPEY GOLD

JOHNNY MOORE LOOKS BACK AT SOME MEMORABLE SEASONS FROM POMPEY'S PAST

It was a season that provided a fantastic Christmas cracker.

With the big day fast approaching, Santa took time off from his busy schedule in Lapland to delight Pompey fans.



He made his entrance late in a top-of-the-table Fratton clash with Oxford and with the hosts trailing by a single goal, running onto the pitch to take his bow.

In the time added on for the delay in proceedings, Alan Biley twice popped up to nod home in a dramatic finale and take home the valuable present of all three points.

While Blues fans lapped up this display of festive spirit, opposing manager Jim Smith resembled a modern-day Ebenezer Scrooge as he stood frosty-faced on the touchline at the end, awaiting referee Martin Bodenham as if he were Bob Cratchit sneaking into the office late on Boxing Day. His parting shot on leaving the ground was: "Bloody Father Christmas."

But it was Smith who had the last laugh – while Oxford were promoted as Division Two champions, Pompey cruelly missed out on promotion on goal difference.

When the going got tough, the Blues ran out of fire and successive home defeats in April to Birmingham and Manchester City sealed their fate. The former went up in second place, while it was the latter who grabbed that crucial final spot.

Success in the final three games against Blackburn (1-0), Carlisle (3-1) and Huddersfield (2-0) merely served to add the pain, pointing out just how significant that City loss had been.

It had all looked so bright at the start of the season as Pompey went the first 10 games unbeaten, winning seven of them – including consecutive away wins at Leeds and Birmingham.

And as the campaign progressed, there was little to suggest they would flounder. Their four away defeats was the fewest in the division, but losing the same number at home was the worst record among the promotion-chasing pack.

It was this, along with 14 draws, that proved their undoing – if just one of these had been converted into a victory then Pompey would have been catapulted above Manchester City in the final standings.

The costliest of these stalemates came on New Year's Day in what must surely go down as one of the most bizarre

Leading Fulham 4-0 after 39 minutes – courtesy of Alan Biley's brace and goals from Neil Webb and Malcolm Waldron – Alan Ball's side contrived to concede four times in the second half as the game ended 4-4 before a disbelieving Fratton crowd.

Indeed, it was a massively wind-assisted contest and it appeared to blow Pompey completely off course, with draws at Middlesbrough and Barnsley and a home defeat by Charlton following.

Along with the Fulham fiasco, those home losses to Birmingham and Manchester City – with a 2-1 reverse at Crystal Palace sandwiched in between – proved costly.

Pompey won 2-0 at Huddersfield on the final day – a game that saw Kevin O'Callaghan dribble from the halfway line to score a wonder goal – but City's emphatic 5-1 victory over Charlton meant there was no reprieve.

But as the thousands of Blues fans started their journey home, news was beginning to filter through about a fire at nearby Bradford City, which served to put everything firmly into context.

### Top Scorers

Neil Webb: 18

Alan Biley: 13

Kevin Dillon: 10

Nicky Morgan: 8

Vince Hilaire: 7



	P	W	D	L	F	A	GA	PTS
1 Oxford	42	25	9	8	84	36	48	84
2 Birmingham	42	25	7	10	59	33	26	82
3 Manchester City	42	21	11	10	66	40	26	74
<b>4 POMPEY</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>74</b>
5 Blackburn	42	21	10	11	66	41	25	73
6 Brighton	42	20	12	10	54	34	20	72
7 Leeds	42	19	12	11	66	43	23	69
8 Shrewsbury	42	18	11	13	66	53	13	65
9 Fulham	42	19	8	15	68	64	4	65
10 Grimsby	42	18	8	16	72	64	8	62
11 Barnsley	42	14	16	12	42	42	0	58
12 Wimbledon	42	16	10	16	71	75	-4	58
13 Huddersfield	42	15	10	17	52	64	-12	55
14 Oldham	42	15	8	19	49	67	-18	53
15 Crystal Palace	42	12	12	18	46	65	-19	48
16 Carlisle	42	13	8	21	50	67	-17	47
17 Charlton	42	11	12	19	51	63	-12	45
18 Sheffield United	42	10	14	18	54	66	-12	44
19 Middlesbrough	42	10	10	22	41	57	-16	40
20 Notts County	42	10	7	25	45	73	-28	37
21 Cardiff	42	9	8	25	47	79	-32	35



# ON THIS DAY

LEIGH EDWARDS AND ROGER HOLMES LOOK BACK AT DECEMBER 28 DOWN THE YEARS



1965

**Pompey 3 Charlton Athletic 1**  
Division Two

An early own-goal set Pompey on the way to victory against Charlton in front of 14,746 at Fratton Park. With only 25 seconds gone, Billy Bonds headed back to debut-making goalkeeper Les Surman, but the teenager allowed the ball to roll into the net. The hosts piled on the pressure and Albert McCann doubled the lead in the 41st minute with a thundering left-foot shot into the top corner, then former Addicks forward Dennis Edwards nodded home a third moments later. Mike Kenning pulled reduced the deficit on the stroke of half-time, but a Blues victory never

looked in doubt throughout a goalless second half.

**Pompey:** John Milkins, Alex Wilson, Ron Tindall, Johnny Gordon, Frank Haydock, Brian Lewis, Tony Barton, Cliff Portwood, Dennis Edwards, Albert McCann, Ray Hiron

**Charlton:** Les Surman, Billy Bonds, Peter Jenkins, Mike Bailey, John Hewie, Brian Tocknell, Mike Kenning, Roy Matthews, Ron Saunders, Peter Burridge, Len Glover

Goals from Tony Read and Graham French gave the following Luton side a 2-0 Division Four victory over Southport in front of 7,307 at Kenilworth Road: Colin Tinsley, Gordon Riddick, Fred Jardine, John Reid, Matt Woods, Bruce Rioch, Graham French, Tony Read, John O'Rourke, Billy Harber, Ray Whittaker.

1957

**Pompey 0 Preston North End 2**  
Division One

Former England Schoolboy and Youth international Colin Osmond made his debut in Pompey's defeat by Preston, watched by 31,735 at Fratton Park. The opening goal came after 19 minutes when Tommy Docherty (left) sent the ball into the middle, Phil Gunter only made a half-hearted clearance and Tommy Thompson raced in to slam home. The Blues made a spirited attempt to get back on terms after the break, but Derek Myers doubled the visitors' lead with the softest of touches in the 57th minute. Preston should even have gone further ahead as Thompson, with the goal at his mercy, blazed over from eight yards.

**Pompey:** Norman Upchurch, Phil Gunter, Alex Wilson, Johnny Phillips, Colin Osmond, Jimmy Dickinson, Peter Harris, Johnny Gordon, Derek Dougan, Mike Barnard, Ron Newman

**Preston:** Fred Else, Willie Cunningham, Joe Walton, Tommy Docherty, Joe Dunn, Frank O'Farrell, Derek Mayers, Tommy Thompson, Dennis Hatsell, Jimmy Baxter, Sammy Taylor

Allan Brown's hat-trick plus a goal from John Groves gave the following Luton side a 4-0 first division victory over Arsenal in front of 27,493 at Kenilworth Road: Ron Bayham, Shay Dunne, Ken Hawkes, Bob Morton, Syd Owen, Reg Pearce, Jimmy Adam, Gordon Turner, Allan Brown, John Groves, George McLeod.

1974

**Millwall 0 Pompey 0**  
Division Two

Pompey's final match of 1974 was a goalless stalemate with Millwall at The Den in front of 8,116. Ian St John's side, helped on by a strong wind during the first half, pounded forward time and again, with Lions goalkeeper Bryan King saving superbly from both Micky Mallows and Billy Wilson (right). The hosts also had their chances and Phil Summerill blasted a close-range volley over the bar before Barry Kitchener's header was brilliantly kept out by David Best. The Blues produced the best move of the match in the second half, as Wilson's defence-splitting pass sent Norman Piper away and the midfielder's shot was just off target.

1991

**Pompey 4 Middlesbrough 0**  
Division Two

Pompey thrashed promotion favourites Middlesbrough with a devastating performance before a crowd of 12,324 at Fratton Park. They took an early lead when Guy Whittingham spun round to hammer a left-foot shot into the top corner and, on 34 minutes, Darryl Powell cut inside and buried his first goal of the season. Darren Anderton was fouled by Stephen Pears just before half-time and John Beresford ripped the penalty into the roof of the net then, after 68 minutes, Martin Kuhl rounded things off with a right-foot drive following a shuttle of passes between Chris Burns, Warren Aspinall and Mark Chamberlain.

2002

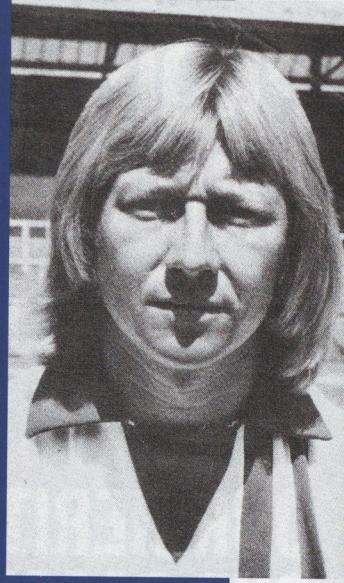
**Nottingham Forest 1 Pompey 2**  
Division One

Goals from Matt Taylor and Vincent Pericard (right) secured Pompey victory against Nottingham Forest in front of 28,165 at the City Ground. Taylor curled home a magnificent right-foot effort to open the scoring early in the second half, while Pericard knocked home the rebound when Darren Ward failed to hold Jason Crowe's blistering shot late on. Michael Dawson headed a goal back for the hosts at the death, but the Blues held out for the two minutes of injury-time to claim a maximum haul. It was three points that were thoroughly deserved and they could well have racked up more goals but for the heroics of Ward.

**Millwall:** Bryan King, Dave Donaldson, Jon Moore, Alan Dorney, Barry Kitchener, Frank Saul, Tony Hazell, Phil Summerill (Doug Alder), Tommy Baldwin, Brian Clark, Gordon Hill

**Pompey:** David Best, Phil Roberts, Eoin Hand (Ken Foggo), Norman Piper, Paul Went, Alan Stephenson, Peter Marinello, Ray Hiron, Andy Stewart, Billy Wilson, Mick Mallows

Ron Futcher grabbed a hat-trick as the following struggling Luton side gained a 3-2 first division victory over Wolves, watched by 19,642 at Kenilworth Road: Graham Horn, John Ryan, Steve Buckley, Peter Anderson, John Faulkner, Paul Futcher, Jimmy Ryan, Jimmy Husband, Ron Futcher, Alan West, John Aston.



**Pompey:** Alan Knight, Andy Awford, Chris Burns, Kit Symons, John Beresford, Warren Neill, Darryl Powell, Martin Kuhl, Darren Anderton, Mark Chamberlain (Ray Daniel), Guy Whittingham (Warren Aspinall)

**Middlesbrough:** Stephen Pears, Curtis Fleming (Mark Proctor), Jimmy Phillips, Alan Kernaghan, Nicky Mohan, Robbie Mustoe, Bernie Slaven, Andy Payton, Paul Wilkinson, Jamie Pollock (Gary Parkinson), Andy Peake

Mick Harford's goal and a John Dreyer penalty gave struggling Luton a 2-0 Division One win over Chelsea at Kenilworth Road. The team was: Steve Sutton, Julian James, Richard Harvey, Chris Kamara, John Dreyer, Trevor Peake, Paul Telfer, Brian Stein (Jamie Campbell), Mick Harford, Mark Pembridge, David Preece (Scott Oakes).



**Nottingham Forest:** Darren Ward, Matthieu Louis-Jean (John Thompson), Michael Dawson, Des Walker (Chris Doig), Jim Brennan, David Prutton, Gareth Williams, Andy Reid, Jack Lester, David Johnson, Eoin Jess (Craig Westcarr)

**Pompey:** Shaka Hislop, Linvoy Primus, Hayden Foxe, Arjan de Zeeuw, Kevin Harper (Jason Crowe), Gary O'Neil, Lassina Diabate, Nigel Quashie, Matt Taylor, Svetoslav Todorov, Dean Burton (Vincent Pericard)

Steve Howard scored twice to give the following Luton side a 2-1 second division victory over Wycombe at Adams Park: Carl Emberson, Emmerson Boyce, Sol Davis, Steve Robinson, Ian Hillier, Chris Coyne, Dean Crowe (Lee Mansell), Ahmet Brkovic (Alan Kimble), Steve Howard, Tony Thorpe (Andrew Fotiadis), Paul Hughes.

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"AS A TRADITIONALIST,  
IT IS STRANGE  
THAT I FEEL FAIRLY  
APATHETIC ABOUT  
FOOTBALL THIS  
TIME OF YEAR"

## MOORE'S MEMORIES

IT IS THAT TIME OF THE YEAR WHEN WE ARE ONCE AGAIN IN THE MIDST OF ABNORMALITY AND I'M NOT EVEN SURE WHAT DAY OF THE WEEK IT IS.

There will be those who have already returned to work and many more who have not, television is still churning out festive specials and we are all gripped in this post-yuletide hiatus, with the New Year celebrations still to come.

It was no less strange when I experienced my first ever football programme at Christmas, as Pompey played away at Crystal Palace on Boxing Day in 1967 and then hosted them four days later.

In this embryonic stage of life as a supporter, I had got used to seeing them face different sides each week. So I could not quite get my head around us taking on the same team twice in quick succession and was even more flummoxed by the fact that they both ended 2-2 draws.

As a traditionalist, it is strange that I feel fairly apathetic about football this time of year – perhaps because I typically feel apathetic about this time of year.

It might also have been fuelled a few years later in 1970 when after playing Bolton on December 19, the next game did not take place until January 2, when the Blues entertained Sheffield United in the FA Cup.

Even for a kid who craved football, this two-week break – necessitated, I believe, by the postponement of a Boxing Day clash with Bristol City – provided welcome relief from the sport in this no-man's land period.

Moving forward, I can vividly remember the December 26 home match against Southampton in

1974, which given there had been no competitive derby at Fratton Park for almost 10 years, had the most surreal of atmospheres.

It was as if everyone had been caught in Boxing Day limbo, resulting in a bit of a damp squib. I'm certain that would not have been the case had the game been played on a traditional Saturday afternoon, even accounting for the visitors' 2-1 triumph.

For some, Christmas is still the most memorable time of year for football. But how many recall a goalless draw at Gillingham on December 26 in 1997 or a 2-2 home draw with Cambridge the following day?

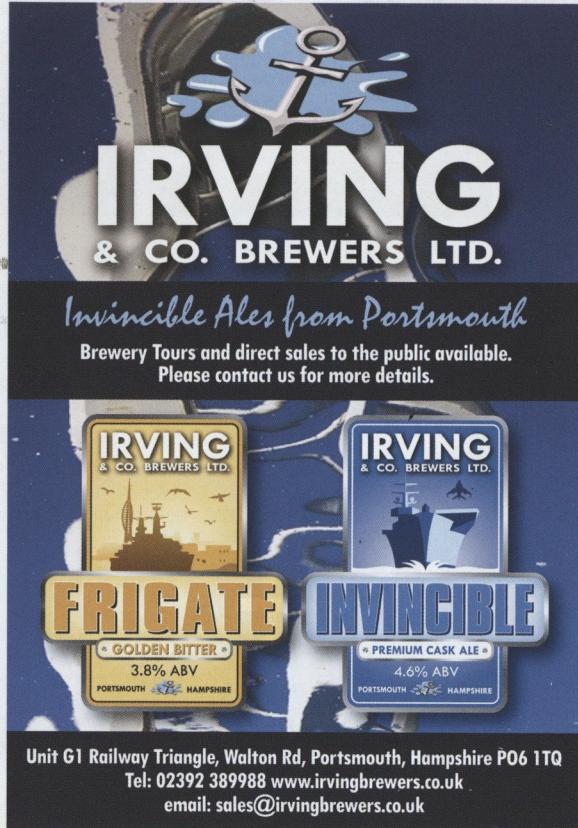
Or who remembers a couple of festive goalless draws against Reading and Millwall on successive days in 1980? Then there was the Fratton stalemate with Bristol Rovers a year later.

Of course, in the interests of fairness, there have also been some Christmas crackers for Pompey, with the 1-0 victory over Brighton in 1976, a 4-2 win at Wimbledon in 1978, the 6-1 demolition of Northampton in 1979 and a 2-2 draw at Chelsea in 1983 all springing to mind.

But even these classic encounters seemed to have a major ingredient missing at this strange time of year: I could not quite get my head around the different atmosphere – and still can't to this day.

Maybe it's just a massive bout of the post-Christmas blues.





The image is a full-page advertisement. At the top left is a large red-outlined 'L' inside a red-bordered square. To the right is a photograph of a white van and a white SUV, both with 'Hitch & Tow Training LTD' branding. Below the photo is the company name 'Hitch & Tow Training LTD' in a large, bold, black font. Underneath the company name, in a smaller black font, is the text 'Trailer Training (horse box, caravan, boat trailers) C1 Training (3.5 - 7.5ton)'. At the bottom left is a red circle containing a white stylized 'H' and 'T' logo. At the bottom right is the phone number '0330 660 0976' and the website 'www.hitchandtow.co.uk'.



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V	I	Z	E	H	C	N	A	S	U	Y	A
R	Z	O	H	N							



# WORDSEARCH

Nelson has selected the players he wants Pompey to sign when the January transfer window opens. Can he find them all in the grid?

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BALE  
COUTINHO  
HART  
MESSI  
NEYMAR  
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RONALDO  
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VARDY

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## THREE POINTER

- 1 Which side were top of the Premier League at Christmas?
- 2 Who scored Pompey's late winner at Luton earlier in the season?
- 3 True or False? Luton have not beaten the Blues since 1995.



Good luck,  
Charlie -  
hope you  
have a fab  
day! Lots of  
love from  
Granny and  
Granddad  
XXX



# ODAY'S MASCOTS

we give a warm welcome to all our mascots for this  
Sunday's match against Luton Town:  
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INGTON, OLIVER GRAHAM, JACK HORSMAN, LOGAN  
IE, JORDAN LEA, JACKSON LEE, CHARLIE PAYNE,  
HIE SIMMONS AND HARRY WOOLSTON

come also to our puppies and flag-wavers:  
TEL JENKINS, ROSIE JENKINS, ELLA LIGHTBODY AND  
LAUREN



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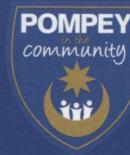
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# COMMUNITY

## FAREWELL, KIRSTY

Kirsty McGee has been a permanent member of staff at Pompey in the Community (PitC) for the past 10 years.

But now she is moving on to pursue her career as a professional footballer with Reading, having been offered a full-time playing contract.

PitC have benefitted greatly from Kirsty's knowledge and skills during her time here and she will be greatly missed by colleagues, school children and club members alike.

She has always been a popular coach with the children and has inspired many young girls in the Portsmouth area to keep on playing football.

Kirsty has also been instrumental in the delivery of the Premier League Girls Football programme and represented PitC and the Premier Skills programme on a visit to China in 2012, passing on her knowledge and expertise to budding coaches.

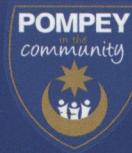
She came to football quite late at the age of 16, but represented Pompey Ladies for 10 years, winning promotion and the Hampshire Cup with the team. She says that one of her career highlights was being voted the Southern Premier Managers' and Players' Player of the Season.

But a new highlight will surely be playing in the Women's Super League One – alongside the likes of Chelsea, Manchester City and Arsenal – having skippered Reading to promotion in October. Kirsty was an ever-present for the Royals last season, making 24 appearances and scoring twice.

Everyone at Pompey in the Community would like to thank Kirsty for all her hard work and we would like to wish her all the best for her career in the top-flight.

Good luck, Kirsty!





NELSON WANTS YOU IN HIS CREW!



Pompey in the Community are offering junior Blues fans the opportunity to join Nelson's Crew for the second half of the season for just £15.

And it's even better news for season ticket holders, who can join up for only £7.50.

So if you are a Pompey fan aged 5-14 and have some spare Christmas money, then we want you to join the fun.

For details of how to become a member, visit [www.pompeyitc.co.uk](http://www.pompeyitc.co.uk) or call (023) 9272 8899 during office hours.

Members of Nelson's Crew are able to claim a 10 per cent discount on all Pompey in the Community holiday course.

They also receive a welcome letter, membership card, joining gift, birthday card and monthly e-newsletter.

You will also be included in a draw for the chance to be a mascot at a Pompey home game, while members are invited to exclusive events where they can meet the players and watch them in training.

So now is the time to join Nelson's Crew – the best place to support the Blues!



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# ACADEMY



## BRAVE BLUES EXIT FA YOUTH CUP

Pompey exited the FA Youth Cup with their heads held high following a narrow defeat to Manchester City at Fratton Park.

Watched by first team manager Paul Cook, a host of senior players and a healthy number of fans, they more than played their part in the third round tie.

The visitors took an early lead through Lukas Nmecha, but anyone expecting an avalanche of goals was to be disappointed.

Instead, the Blues were rewarded for a battling display when Harvey Bradbury came off the bench to draw them level.

But, with extra-time approaching, Brahim Abdelkader Diaz's impressive solo goal ensured it was City who would progress.

Mikey Harris kept faith with the same side that beat Plymouth and Bristol Rovers to reach this stage of the competition.



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Academy Short Sponsor

And they kept their illustrious opponents at bay in the opening stages, with Blues keeper Alex Bass not being over-worked.

They even had a good chance on the break on nine minutes, but Jez Bedford's effort drifted wide of the post.

But the hosts fell behind moments later when Nmecha latched onto Rodney Kongolo's through ball and fired home from the edge of the box.

Diaz should have doubled the advantage, only to somehow turn Javairo Dilrosun's cross wide at the far post. Aaron Nemane then flashed a dangerous ball across the face of goal that none of his team-mates could connect with.

The visitors were, unsurprisingly, looking more dangerous going forward, but Pompey did have their moments.

They enjoyed a bright attacking move midway through the first half, but Brandon Joseph-Buadi delayed his pass and Bedford's shot was blocked.

Bass did well at the other end, diving to his left to push clear a curling effort from Dilrosun that was heading for the corner. The keeper then came bursting from his line to deny Nmecha after the striker had burst through on goal.

Pompey's best chance of the half arrived on 36 minutes when, following good work from Calvin Davies down the right, Bedford's shot was smartly pushed over by Daniel Grimshaw.

Bass' impressive evening continued early in the second half when he reacted quickly after Nmecha's strike had taken a deflection off Kyle McDowell.

Diaz then did well to beat Theo Widdrington inside the box, only to curl his effort wide of the post on 56 minutes.

There was a nervy moment just past the hour mark when referee Graham Kane pointed to the spot following a challenge by Bass on Nmecha, but he had not noticed assistant David Ellis' raised flag. And the linesman rescued Pompey again moments later, with Nmecha given offside as



Academy U17s and U18s



Academy Under



he slotted the ball home.

The hosts had struggled since the restart, but levelled with their first decent chance of the half on 70 minutes.

It was substitute Bradbury who made the packed South Stand roar with delight when he steered home Bedford's low cross.

The Blues' confidence was now soaring and a crunching – but fair – challenge from skipper Davies roused the crowd further.

Dilrosun had a chance to restore City's advantage on 80 minutes, however, cutting inside and hitting a low shot that was smothered by Bass.

But the Pompey keeper was beaten soon after by a fine individual effort from Diaz, who burst past a couple of challenges before finding the target.

Bedford had a shot saved by Grimshaw as the Blues sought another equaliser, but they were unable to breach the City defence for a second time.

Academy coach Mikey Harris said: "I'm extremely proud of the boys because we faced one of the best – if not the best – academy sides in the country.

"We matched them from minute one and had a right go, although unfortunately not quite got the result we wanted.

"But we have to put things into perspective – they're a category one academy who have invested a lot of money into their youth set-up.

"They showed the talent they have by scoring two excellent goals, but we can be very proud of our performance.

"I believe that Manchester City will go on to win the competition, but we've pushed them all the way.

"The commitment and desire we displayed was excellent and I think our fans appreciated that. To have almost 2,000 people come out for an FA Youth Cup match is incredible – especially with the traffic, the weather and the delayed kick-off.

"They really got behind the lads and to hear the Pompey Chimes ringing out will have done wonders for their confidence.

"Playing at Fratton Park against a top side, can only benefit them going forward and we have to perform to that level consistently for the rest of the season."

**Pompey:** Bass; Davies (c), Saidy, Widdrington, McDowell (Scutt 87), Oxlade-Chamberlain, May; Sayers (Bradbury 57), Bedford (Woodward 87), Haitham, Joseph-Buadi

## 2015/16 FIXTURES

SAT AUG 8	Bristol Rovers (A)	D 1-1
SAT AUG 15	Swindon (A)	W 2-1
SAT AUG 22	Newport (A)	W 6-1
SAT AUG 29	Exeter (H)	W 4-1
SAT SEP 5	Bournemouth (A)	W 2-1*
TUE SEP 8	Oxford (A) (YA Cup)	D 1-1**
SAT SEP 12	Oxford (A)	W 3-0
SAT SEP 19	Plymouth (H)	L 1-2
SAT SEP 26	Cheltenham (A)	L 0-1
SAT OCT 10	Yeovil (H)	L 0-1
SAT OCT 17	Exeter (A)	L 3-4
SAT OCT 24	Bournemouth (H)	L 1-3
WED OCT 28	Plymouth (A) (FA Youth Cup)	W 3-0
SAT NOV 14	Oxford (H)	L 2-4
TUE NOV 17	Bristol Rovers (A) (FA Youth Cup)	D 3-3**
SAT NOV 21	Cheltenham (H)	L 2-3
SAT DEC 5	Yeovil (A)	W 3-0
TUE DEC 15	Man City (H) (FA Youth Cup)	L 1-2
SAT DEC 19	Bristol Rovers (H)	D 1-1
SAT JAN 9	Swindon (H)	
TUE JAN 19	Plymouth (A)	
SAT JAN 23	Newport (H)	

\*Lost 3-4 on penalties

\*\*Won 3-1 on penalties

## YOUTH ALLIANCE SOUTH-WEST LEAGUE

	PLD	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Plymouth	13	9	2	2	34	19	15	29
Cheltenham	16	9	2	5	38	27	11	29
Exeter	17	8	2	7	31	33	-2	26
Bournemouth	15	7	4	4	27	20	7	25
Oxford	17	7	1	9	31	35	-4	22
<b>POMPEY</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>20</b>
Bristol Rovers	16	5	5	6	23	26	-3	20
Swindon	14	6	2	6	22	25	-3	20
Newport	14	5	1	8	21	33	-12	16
Yeovil	15	3	1	11	16	32	-16	10

## APPEARANCES & GOALS

	A	G
Alex Bass	11	0
Jez Bedford	13(+6)	2
Harvey Bradbury	10(+7)	6
Matt Casey	0(+3)	0
Jack Chandler	0(+1)	0
Jack Collins	5	0
Calvin Davies	12(+1)	5
Kaleem Haitham	17	5
Nick Hall	3(+1)	0
Brandon Joseph-Buadi	18(+1)	6
Adam May	13	4
Kyle McDowell	15(+3)	0
Christian Oxlade-Chamberlain	18	2
Ousman Saidy	16(+3)	0
Liam Sayers	12	5
Tommy Scutt	10(+8)	1
Dan Smith	0(+2)	0
Harry Tumber	0(+2)	0
Eddie Wakley	4(+1)	0
Theo Widdrington	17(+1)	1
Sam Woodward	4(+12)	2

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# LADIES

## MIXED FORTUNES FOR BLUES

Pompey ended 2015 with mixed emotions, beating Tottenham before losing a seven-goal thriller at Basildon.

It was Spurs who broke the deadlock at Furze Lane on 18 minutes when a free-kick looped over Courtney Trodd and into the net.

Ini Umotong levelled with her 20th goal of the season before the break, although the messy finish will not be up there with her favourites.

Then, after a period of Pompey pressure, Lucy Quinn fired the hosts ahead with a fine strike late in the contest.

There was still time for them to extend their advantage further, with Sarah Kempson's strike taking a wicked deflection to deceive goalkeeper Chloe Morgan.

That was enough to secure victory, but Tottenham did grab a stoppage-time consolation when a corner flew straight into the net.

But the Blues were beaten 4-3 in their final match of the year, falling behind when Amy Nash collected a cross and slotted home.

Umotong drew them level five minutes before the break, latching onto Molly Clark's pass and chipping the keeper before nodding into the net.

And there was still time for both sides to add to the scoring before the half-time whistle. First Umotong converted Katie George's cross with a diving header, only for Basildon to hit back through Karissa Rodney.

Zoe Rushen then fired the visitors ahead from the penalty spot just past the hour mark after Trodd was penalised for a foul in the box.

The goals kept coming and this time it was Pompey who were on target, as Quinn's opportunistic effort from 35 yards sailed over the keeper. But it was Basildon who secured victory on 77 minutes when Maegan Doyle fed Rodney, who calmly slotted home her second of the afternoon.

Blues boss Perry Northeast said: "It was tough against Tottenham, who wanted the win as much as we did and put us under plenty of pressure.

"I was pleased with our response to falling behind and the only complaint was that the man in the middle was frustrating both sides by constantly breaking up the play.

"It was an end-to-end game at Basildon and any watching neutrals would have enjoyed themselves.

"Unfortunately, it wasn't quite as fun looking on from the dug-outs and we haven't been able to get the result we all wanted. It's disappointing to end the year with a defeat after a positive run of results in recent weeks.

"Not enough of the performances from our players reached the standard that is required for this level. There are no easy games in this division these days and we have to perform better than that if we want to



## 2015/16 FIXTURES

SUN AUG 16	Cardiff (A)	W 1-0
SUN AUG 30	Keynsham (A)	W 3-2
SUN SEP 6	Coventry (H)	W 5-1
WED SEP 9	QPR (H)	W 3-0
SUN SEP 13	Lewes (A)	W 2-0
SUN SEP 20	Charlton (H)	L 1-4
SUN SEP 27	Brighton (H)	L 1-3 (AET)
WED SEP 30	QPR (A)	W 1-0
SUN OCT 11	Plymouth (A)	W 5-2
SUN OCT 18	Brighton (H)	L 2-3
SUN OCT 25	Coventry (A)	D 1-1
SUN NOV 1	Charlton (A)	L 1-2
SUN NOV 8	C&K Basildon (H)	D 2-2
SUN NOV 15	AFC Stoneham (H)	W 18-0
SUN NOV 22	Tottenham (A)	W 4-0
SUN DEC 6	West Ham (H)	W 7-0
SUN DEC 13	Tottenham (H)	W 3-2
SUN DEC 20	C&K Basildon (A)	L 3-4
SUN JAN 3	Forest Green (A)	.
SUN JAN 10	Cardiff (H)	(FA Cup)
SUN JAN 17	Shanklin (A)	(Hants Cup)
SUN JAN 24	Lewes (H)	.
SUN FEB 21	Forest Green (H)	.
SUN FEB 28	Brighton (A)	.
SUN MAR 6	Plymouth (H)	.
TBA	West Ham (A)	.
	Cardiff (H)	.

## PREMIER LEAGUE SOUTHERN DIVISION

	PLD	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Brighton	17	13	2	2	41	12	29	41
Charlton	14	10	2	2	39	14	25	32
Cardiff	13	10	0	3	46	17	29	30
<b>POMPEY</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>29</b>
Coventry	13	8	3	2	34	9	25	27
Tottenham	15	7	1	7	22	23	-1	22
C&K Basildon	15	5	4	6	28	38	-10	19
West Ham	15	4	2	9	17	39	-22	14
Lewes	13	4	1	8	15	30	-15	13
QPR	15	3	1	11	17	29	-12	10
Forest Green	14	2	1	11	15	47	-32	7
Plymouth	13	1	1	11	14	50	-36	4

## APPEARANCES & GOALS

A	G
Paige Atkinson	15(+1)
Nadine Bazar	12(+4)
Michelle Beazley	0
Charlotte Benson	6
Sadie Blakely	2(+2)
Ellie Bloomfield	6
Molly Clark	4(+5)
Eilidh Currie	12(+2)
Jess Frampton	3(+1)
Katie George	13(+3)
Gemma Hillier	3(+4)
Katie James	16
Sarah Kempson	0(+1)
Lucy Quinn	14(+2)
Leeta Rutherford	16
Emma Sherwood	16(+2)
Shannon Siewright	3(+2)
Gemma Simmonds	11(+6)
Tash Stephens	5(+3)
Tiffany Taylor	1(+3)
Jemma Tewkesbury	12(+2)
	1(+5)

# ODDS & SODS

## ODDS

Please note that odds are subject to change

Pompey	5/6
Draw	5/2
Luton	13/5

### FIRST GOALSCORER

Marc McNulty	4/1
Conor Chaplin	9/2
Caolan Lavery	9/2
Gareth Evans	13/2
Craig Mackail-Smith	13/2
Paul Benson	7/1
Cameron McGeehan	17/2
Danny Green	11/1
Michael Doyle	16/1
Adam Webster	25/1

### CORRECT SCORE

Pompey 1-0	13/2
Pompey 2-0	7/1
Pompey 2-1	13/2
Pompey 3-0	17/2
Pompey 3-1	8/1
Pompey 3-2	22/1
Pompey 4-0	20/1
Draw 0-0	10/1
Draw 1-1	11/2
Draw 2-2	12/1
Draw 3-3	40/1
Luton 1-0	11/1
Luton 2-0	22/1
Luton 2-1	11/1
Luton 3-0	50/1
Luton 3-1	28/1
Luton 3-2	40/1
Luton 4-0	150/1

## ON THE ROAD

### IPSWICH v POMPEY

Saturday, December 9  
Kick-Off: 3pm



Pompey play in the third round of the FA Cup for the first time since 2012 when they travel to Suffolk to face Championship outfit Ipswich.

David Nugent scored the only goal when the Blues won at Portman Road in the same stage in 2008, en route to lifting the trophy at Wembley.

**Ground:** Portman Road

**Distance from Fratton Park:**  
158.8 miles

**Estimated drive time:**

2 hours 50 minutes

**Postcode:** IP1 2DA

**FA Cup winner odds:** 200/1

### ACCRINGTON v POMPEY

Saturday, January 16  
Kick-Off: 3pm



Pompey will face fellow promotion contenders Accrington for the third time this season when they make the long trip north next month.

They played out a goalless draw on the south coast back in September, while Adam McGurk's winner ensured it was the Blues who progressed when the sides met in the second round of the FA Cup.

**Ground:** Wham Stadium

**Distance from Fratton Park:**  
275.1 miles

**Estimated drive time:**

4 hours 28 minutes

**Postcode:** BB5 5BX

**League Two promotion odds:** 6/4

## AROUND THE COUNTRY

*Kick-off 3pm unless stated*

### TONIGHT

#### Barclays Premier League

Crystal Palace v Swansea  
Everton v Stoke  
Norwich v Aston Villa  
Watford v Tottenham  
West Brom v Newcastle  
Arsenal v Bournemouth (5.30pm)  
Man Utd v Chelsea (5.30pm)  
West Ham v Southampton (5.30pm)

#### Sky Bet League Two

Bristol Rovers v Leyton Orient  
Cambridge v Barnet  
Exeter v AFC Wimbledon  
Mansfield v York  
Newport v Plymouth  
Northampton v Accrington

### Notts County v Morecambe

Stevenage v Dag & Red  
Wycombe v Crawley  
Yeovil v Oxford

### Vanarama National League South

Hawks v Bath

### TOMORROW

#### Barclays Premier League

Leicester v Man City (7.45pm)

### WEDNESDAY

#### Barclays Premier League

Sunderland v Liverpool (7.45pm)



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# 2015/16 POMPEY SQUAD

**PAUL COOK**  
Manager



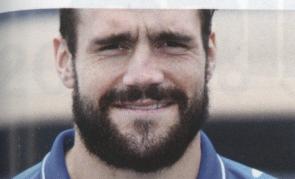
**LEAM RICHARDSON**  
Assistant Manager



**IAN FOSTER**  
First Team Coach



**JAMES DUNNE**  
Pompey apps/goals: 39/1



Mary & David Horne –  
Paulsgrove Community  
Action Board

**GARETH EVANS**  
Pompey apps/goals: 23/5



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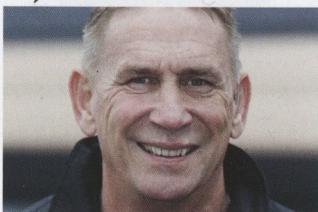
**DANNY HOLLANDS**  
Pompey apps/goals: 73/7



**SCOTT BEVAN** Goalkeeping Coach



**ALAN KNIGHT** Club Ambassador



**KEV McCORMACK** Kit Manager



**NIGEL ATANGANA**  
Pompey apps/goals: 48/1



**ADAM BARTON**  
Pompey apps/goals: 9/0



To sponsor Adam, please  
call 07803 926282 or email  
annamitchell@pompeyfc.co.uk

**KYLE BENNETT**  
Pompey apps/goals: 26/2



Portsmouth Football Supporters  
Club – London. Email  
londonpompeymembership@  
hotmail.co.uk to join

**PAUL JONES**  
Pompey apps/goals: 57/0



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Paulsgrove Community  
Action Board

**ADAM McGURK**  
Pompey apps/goals: 17/6



**MARC McNULTY**  
Pompey apps/goals: 8/5



David Irwin & Michael Tyler Project Installations Limited

**CHRISTIAN BURGESS**  
Pompey apps/goals: 23/0



**BEN CLOSE**  
Pompey apps/goals: 12/0



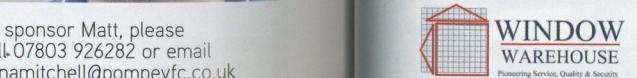
**CONOR CHAPLIN**  
Pompey apps/goals: 28/8



**BEN DAVIES**  
Pompey apps/goals: 25/1



**MATT CLARKE**  
Pompey apps/goals: 18/0



To sponsor Matt, please  
call 07803 926282 or email  
annamitchell@pompeyfc.co.uk

**ENDA STEVENS**  
Pompey apps/goals: 25/0



**JAYDEN STOCKLEY**  
Pompey apps/goals: 12/2



To sponsor Jayden, please  
call 07803 926282 or email  
annamitchell@pompeyfc.co.uk

**BEN TOLLITT**  
Pompey apps/goals: 9/1



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**MICHAEL DOYLE**  
Pompey apps/goals: 23/0



**MATT TUBBS**  
Pompey apps/goals: 40/14



**ADAM WEBSTER**  
Pompey apps/goals: 64/4



**JACK WHATMOUGH**  
Pompey apps/goals: 36/0



# VENATA



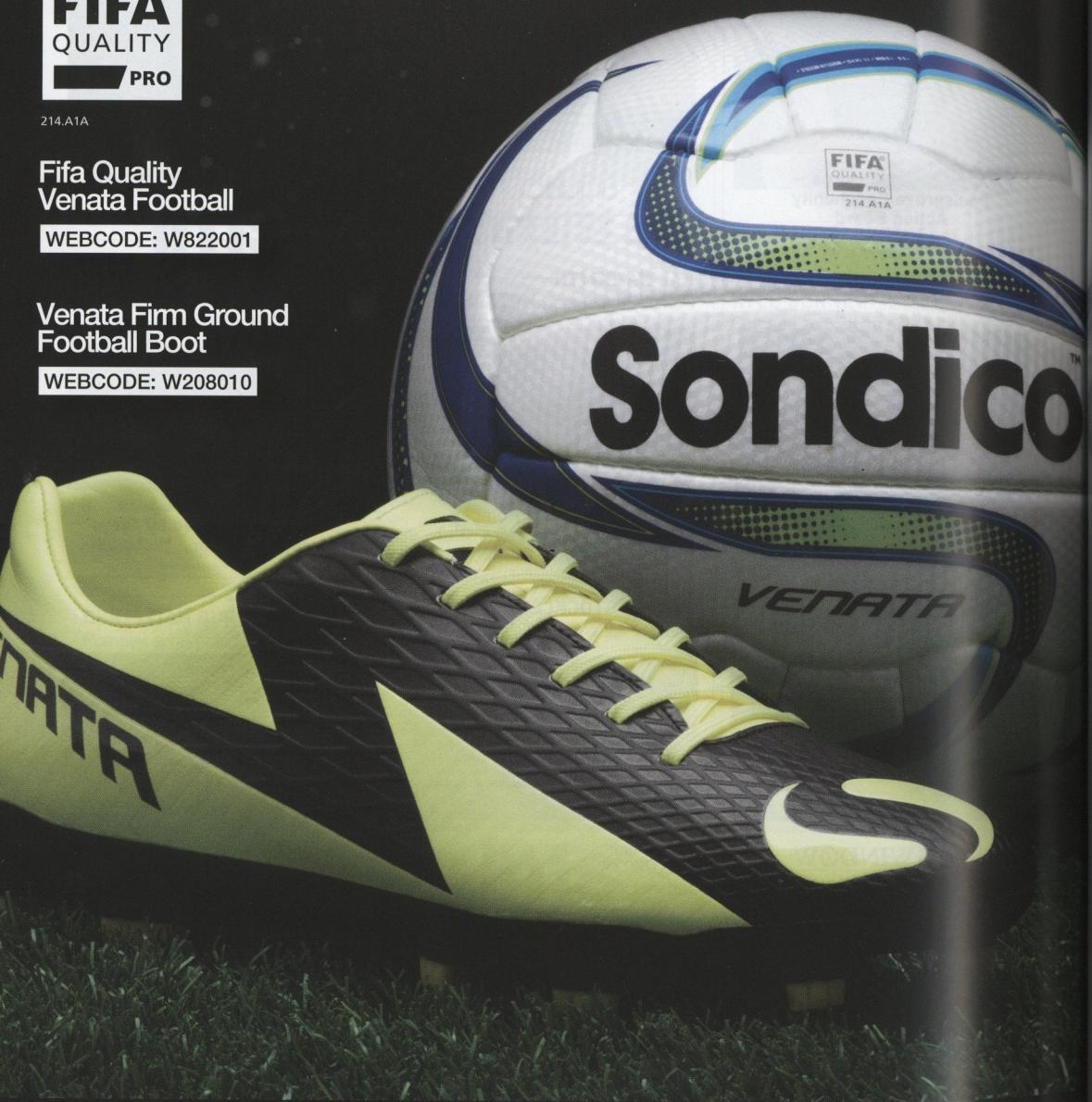
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## 2015/16 STATS



INFORMATION CORRECT AS OF 25/12/15

**HOME** **AWAY**

	PLD	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Plymouth	22	6	2	3	17	11	7	2	2	16	8	14	43
2 Northampton	22	7	1	3	17	11	6	3	2	21	17	10	43
3 Oxford	22	5	5	1	14	8	6	3	2	19	11	14	41
<b>4 POMPEY</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>40</b>
5 Carlisle	22	6	3	2	24	17	4	4	3	18	20	5	37
6 Accrington	20	4	3	2	18	15	6	3	2	17	8	12	36
7 Bristol Rovers	22	4	1	6	13	13	7	2	2	19	11	8	36
8 Mansfield	22	3	5	3	15	11	6	2	3	15	9	10	34
9 Wycombe	21	4	4	3	17	15	5	3	2	11	7	6	34
10 Leyton Orient	22	5	4	2	19	11	3	5	3	15	18	5	33
11 Cambridge	22	4	2	5	16	18	4	4	3	17	15	0	30
12 Exeter	21	4	5	2	18	14	4	1	5	12	16	0	30
13 Luton	22	3	3	5	17	17	5	2	4	21	17	4	29
14 AFC Wimbledon	22	4	2	5	14	16	3	6	2	15	14	-1	29
15 Notts County	22	7	1	3	22	16	1	4	6	11	22	-5	29
16 Crawley	22	5	2	4	13	14	3	2	6	17	24	-8	28
17 Morecambe	21	4	0	6	17	19	4	3	4	21	20	-1	27
18 Stevenage	22	4	3	4	14	18	2	5	4	16	20	-8	26
19 Barnet	22	6	2	3	19	13	1	2	8	13	26	-7	25
20 Newport	22	1	5	5	13	19	3	3	5	13	16	-9	20
21 Hartlepool	21	3	2	6	12	17	3	0	7	8	18	-15	20
22 York	22	2	3	6	15	23	1	3	7	10	22	-20	15
23 Yeovil	22	1	4	6	15	21	1	3	7	7	16	-15	13
24 Dagenham & Redbridge	22	0	4	7	8	19	2	3	6	13	21	-19	13

**APPEARANCES**

## League

## Cup

## Total

	APPS	GLS	Y	R	APPS	GLS	Y	R	APPS	GLS	Y	R
Nigel Atangana	8(+5)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8(+5)	-	-	-
Adam Barton	6(+2)	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	7(+2)	-	-	-
Kyle Bennett	21(+1)	2	3/0	4	-	-	1/0	25(+1)	2	4/0	-	-
Rommy Boco	2(+2)	-	-	-	0(+1)	-	-	-	2(+3)	-	-	-
Christian Burgess	21	-	4/0	1(+1)	-	-	-	22(+1)	-	4/0	-	-
Conor Chaplin	4(+10)	5	2/0	3(+2)	2	-	-	7(+12)	7	2/0	-	-
Matt Clarke	13(+2)	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	16(+2)	-	-	-
Ben Close	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Ben Davies	22	1	4/0	3	-	1/0	25	1	5/0	-	-	-
Calvin Davies	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Michael Doyle	20(+1)	-	0/1	2	-	-	-	22(+1)	-	0/1	-	-
James Dunne	-	-	-	-	0(+1)	-	-	-	0(+1)	-	-	-
Gareth Evans	17(+2)	5	1/1	4	-	-	-	21(+2)	5	1/1	-	-
Kaleem Haitham	-	-	-	-	0(+1)	-	-	-	0(+1)	-	-	-
Brandon Haunstrup	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Danny Hollands	10(+5)	-	1/0	4	-	-	-	14(+5)	-	1/0	-	-
Paul Jones	1(+1)	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	4(+1)	-	-	-
Brandon Joseph-Buadi	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Caolan Lavery	7(+2)	4	1/0	-	-	-	-	7(+2)	4	1/0	-	-
Adam May	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Aaron McCarey*	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-
Adam McGurk	6(+6)	2	1/0	5	4	-	-	11(+6)	6	1/0	-	-
Marc McNulty	5(+1)	5	2/0	1(+1)	-	-	-	6(+2)	5	2/0	-	-
Brian Murphy	15	-	1/0	2	-	-	-	17	-	1/0	-	-
Kal Naismith	2(+2)	-	-	-	0(+2)	-	-	-	2(+4)	-	-	-
Christan Oxlaide-Chamberlain	-	-	-	-	0(+1)	-	-	-	0(+1)	-	-	-
Gary Roberts	11(+2)	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	11(+2)	4	-	-
Enda Stevens	22	-	3/1	2(+1)	-	-	-	24(+1)	-	3/1	-	-
Jayden Stockley	4(+5)	2	2/0	2(+1)	-	-	-	6(+6)	2	2/0	-	-
Ben Tollitt	0(+4)	1	1/2	1(+2)	-	-	-	11(+9)	1	-	-	-

**LEAGUE TWO**  
**TOP SCORERS**

Jay Simpson	Leyton Orient	16
Matty Taylor	Bristol Rovers	13
Jabo Ibehre	Carlisle	12
Barry Corr	Cambridge	10
Marc Richards	Northampton	10
Josh Windass	Accrington	10
Billy Kee	Accrington	9
Rhys Murphy	Crawley	9
Kemar Roofe	Oxford	8
Liam Sercombe	Oxford	8
Chris Whelpdale	Stevenage	8
John Akinde	Barnet	7
Ryan Bird	Yeovil	7
Graham Carey	Plymouth	7
Matt Green	Mansfield	7
Jake Jervis	Plymouth	7
Cameron McGeehan	Luton	7
Paul Mullin	Morecambe	7

## FIXTURES &amp; RESULTS 2015/16

Date	Opposition	Comp.	KO/ Result	Pos.	Att.	Away Att.	Pompey Scorers	Starting XI
Sat Aug 8	Dag & Red (H)	SKY BET	W 3-0	2	16,948	279	Evans 51, Bennett 62, 74	Murphy Davies Burgess Clarke
Wed Aug 12	Derby (H)	SKY BET	W 2-1	-	11,573	1,134	McGurk 49, Chaplin 76	Jones Davies Webster Clarke
Sat Aug 15	Plymouth (A)	SKY BET	W 2-1	3	11,476	1,719	Tubbs 45+2 (pen), Roberts 86 (pen)	Murphy Davies Webster Clarke
Tue Aug 18	Crawley (A)	SKY BET	D 0-0	5	4,003	1,706	-	Murphy Davies (52) Burgess Clarke
Sat Aug 22	Morecambe (H)	SKY BET	D 3-3	6	16,052	69	Roberts 42, 65, Stockley 90+5	Murphy Davies (74) Burgess Clarke
Tue Aug 25	Reading (H)	SKY BET	L 1-2	-	18,190	2,082	Chaplin 40	Jones Evans Webster Clarke
Sat Aug 29	Luton (A)	SKY BET	W 2-1	4	9,083	1,032	Evans 8, Tubbs 90	Murphy Davies Burgess Clarke
Tue Sep 1	Exeter (A)	SKY BET	L 0-2	-	2,323	515	-	Jones C.Davies Webster Barton
Sat Sep 5	Accrington (H)	SKY BET	D 0-0	4	15,745	91	-	Murphy (46) Davies Burgess Clarke
Sat Sep 12	Barnet (H)	SKY BET	W 3-1	3	16,217	413	Chaplin 37, 90+6, McGurk 54	Murphy Davies (74) Burgess Clarke
Sat Sep 19	Oxford (A)	SKY BET	D 1-1	3	9,093	2,459	McGurk 61	Jones Davies Burgess Clarke (68)
Sat Sep 26	Bristol Rovers (A)	SKY BET	W 2-1	1	8,555	1,188	Evans 29, Stockley 71	McCarey Davies Burgess Clarke
Tue Sep 29	Exeter (H)	SKY BET	L 1-2	3	15,822	313	Roberts 90+3	McCarey Davies Burgess Clarke
Sat Oct 3	Yeovil (H)	SKY BET	D 0-0	4	17,309	612	-	McCarey Davies Burgess Clarke
Sat Oct 10	Cambridge (A)	SKY BET	W 3-1	2	6,607	1,866	Legge 67 (ogl), Tubbs 68, 87	McCarey Davies Burgess Clarke
Sat Oct 17	Newport (A)	SKY BET	W 1-0	2	3,298	1,087	Tubbs 45+2	McCarey Davies Burgess Clarke (65)
Tue Oct 20	Stevenage (H)	SKY BET	D 1-1	2	14,900	133	Chaplin 77	McCarey Davies Burgess Webster
Sat Oct 24	Mansfield (H)	SKY BET	D 0-0	2	16,210	389	-	Murphy Davies Burgess Webster
Sat Oct 31	Notts County (A)	SKY BET	L 1-2	3	6,917	2,162	Lavery 20	Murphy Davies Burgess Webster
Sat Nov 7	Macclesfield (H)	SKY BET	W 2-1	-	9,834	411	McGurk 3, 45+1	Murphy Davies Burgess Webster
Sun Nov 15	AFC Wimbledon (H)	SKY BET	D 0-0	4	15,892	794	-	Murphy Davies Burgess Webster
Sat Nov 21	Carlisle (A)	SKY BET	D 2-2	5	5,503	953	Lavery 66, McNulty 68	Murphy Davies Burgess Webster
Tue Nov 24	York (H)	SKY BET	W 6-0	4	13,616	141	Davies 49, McNulty 52, 60, 71, Tollitt 80, Chaplin 84	Murphy Davies (73) Burgess Webster
Sat Nov 28	Wycombe (A)	SKY BET	D 2-2	5	5,816	1,976	Lavery 45+2, Webster 55	Murphy Davies Burgess Webster
Sat Dec 5	Accrington (H)	SKY BET	W 1-0	-	9,258	158	McGurk 21	Murphy Davies (74) Clarke Webster
Sat Dec 12	Hartlepool (H)	SKY BET	W 4-0	4	15,610	145	Lavery 33, Jackson 37 (ogl), Evans 61, McNulty 90	Murphy Davies Burgess (85) Webster
Sat Dec 19	Northampton (A)	SKY BET	W 2-1	4	5,859	938	Evans 32, Chaplin 86	Murphy Davies Clarke Webster
Sat Dec 26	Leyton Orient (A)	SKY BET	3pm					
Mon Dec 28	Luton (H)	SKY BET	3pm					
Sat Jan 2	Crawley (H)	SKY BET	3pm					
Sat Jan 9	Ipswich (A)	SKY BET	3pm					
Sat Jan 16	Accrington (A)	SKY BET	3pm					
Sat Jan 23	Oxford (H)	SKY BET	3pm					
Sat Jan 30	Barnet (A)	SKY BET	3pm					
Tue Feb 2	Morecambe (A)	SKY BET	7.45pm					
Sat Feb 6	Leyton Orient (H)	SKY BET	3pm					
Sat Feb 13	Bristol Rovers (H)	SKY BET	3pm					
Sat Feb 20	Yeovil (A)	SKY BET	3pm					
Sat Feb 27	Cambridge (H)	SKY BET	3pm					
Tue Mar 1	Exeter (A)	SKY BET	7.45pm					
Sat Mar 5	Stevenage (A)	SKY BET	3pm					
Sat Mar 12	Newport (H)	SKY BET	3pm					
Sat Mar 19	Mansfield (A)	SKY BET	3pm					
Fri Mar 25	Notts County (H)	SKY BET	3pm					
Mon Mar 28	AFC Wimbledon (A)	SKY BET	3pm					
Sat Apr 2	Carlisle (H)	SKY BET	3pm					
Sat Apr 8	Dag & Red (A)	SKY BET	3pm					
Sat Apr 16	Plymouth (H)	SKY BET	3pm					
Tue Apr 19	York (A)	SKY BET	7.45pm					
Sat Apr 23	Wycombe (H)	SKY BET	3pm					

Fixtures & Results 2015/16											Substitutes					
Stevens	Atangana (68)	Doyle	Evans	1	Roberts	Bennett (76)	2	Tubbs (84)	Hollands (68)	Stockley (76)	Chaplin (84)	Jones	Webster	Haunstrup	McGurk	
Haunstrup (71)	Close	Hollands	Evans		McGurk (55)	1	Bennett (74)	Stockley	Stevens (55)	Chaplin (71)	Tollitt (74)	Murphy	Burgess	Atangana	Tubbs	
Stevens	Atangana (71)	Doyle	Evans		Roberts (90)	1	Bennett	Tubbs (69)	1	Stockley (69)	Hollands (71)	McGurk (90)	Jones	Webster	Haunstrup	Chaplin
Stevens	Atangana	Doyle	Evans		Roberts	Bennett (81)	Tubbs (81)	McGurk (52)	Chaplin (81)	Stockley (81)	Jones	Webster	Haunstrup	Hollands		
Stevens	Atangana	Doyle	Evans (79)	2	Roberts	Bennett	Tubbs (70)	Stockley (70)	1	Webster (74)	McGurk (79)	Jones	Haunstrup	Hollands	Chaplin	
Haunstrup	Close	Hollands	McGurk (79)	Chaplin (83)	1	Bennett (89)	Stockley	Dunne (79)	Tollitt (83)	Tubbs (89)	Murphy	Burgess	Atangana	Roberts		
Stevens	Atangana	Doyle	Evans		Roberts (82)	Bennett (75)	Stockley (73)	Tubbs (73)	1	Chaplin (75)	McGurk (82)	Jones	Webster	Haunstrup	Hollands	
Stevens	Atangana	Doyle	Evans (1)		Roberts (82)	Bennett	Tubbs (30)	Barton (46)	Hollands (82)	Bass	Yates					
Stevens	Atangana	Doyle	Evans		Roberts (46)	Chaplin (72)	2	Bennett	McGurk (80)	1	Webster (46)	Evans (68)	Tubbs (80)	Jones	Tollitt	Hollands
Stevens	Atangana	Doyle	Evans		Chaplin (30)	1	Bennett (82)	McGurk (1)	Tubbs (30)	Barton (46)	Hollands (82)	Bass	Webster	Naismith	Stockley	
Stevens	Atangana (46)	Doyle	Evans		Chaplin (68)	1	Bennett (74)	Stockley (79)	1	Roberts (68)	Naismith (74)	Tubbs (79)	Bass	Webster	May	
Stevens	Barton	Hollands	Evans (66)		Chaplin (55)	1	Bennett	Stockley	Tubbs (55)	Roberts (66)	1	Doyle (81)	Bass	Webster	Atangana	Naismith
Stevens	Barton (70)	Doyle	Evans (46)		Roberts	Bennett	Tubbs (89)	Stockley (46)	Hollands (70)	Chaplin (89)	Bass	Webster	Tollitt	Naismith		
Stevens	Barton (89)	Doyle	Evans	1	Roberts	Bennett (75)	Tubbs (2)	Webster (65)	Naismith (75)	Atangana (89)	Bass	Haunstrup	Hollands	Chaplin		
Stevens	Barton (68)	Doyle	Evans		Naismith (59)	Roberts	Bennett	Tubbs (75)	1	Boco (59)	Hollands (68)	Lavery (75)	Murphy	Clarke	Atangana	Chaplin
Stevens	Barton (79)	Doyle	Boco (71)		Roberts	Bennett	Tubbs (61)	Lavery (61)	Chaplin (71)	1	Atangana (79)	Murphy	Clarke	Hollands	Naismith	
Stevens	Hollands	Doyle	Boco (56)		Bennett	Naismith (56)	Lavery (78)	Atangana (56)	Chaplin (56)	Tubbs (78)	Bass	Clarke	Tollitt	McGurk		
Stevens	Hollands	Doyle	Evans		McGurk (67)	Bennett (76)	Lavery (80)	1	Chaplin (67)	Tollitt (76)	Bass	Clarke	Atangana	Naismith		
Stevens	Hollands	Doyle	Evans		McGurk (90)	2	Bennett (69)	Chaplin (66)	McNulty (66)	Naismith (69)	Boco (90)	Bass	Clarke	Atangana	Tollitt	
Stevens	Evans (58)	Hollands	Doyle		McGurk (66)	McNulty	Lavery (79)	Clarke (58)	Bennett (66)	Atangana (79)	Bass	Boco	Tollitt	Chaplin		
Stevens	Hollands	Doyle	Evans (64)		McGurk (64)	Bennett	Lavery (1)	Tollitt (64)	McNulty (64)	1	Atangana (74)	Bass	Clarke	Boco	Chaplin	
Stevens	Hollands	Doyle	Evans		McNulty (73)	1	Bennett (76)	Lavery	Boco (73)	1	Chaplin (73)	Tollitt (76)	Bass	Clarke	Barton	McGurk
Stevens	Hollands (46)	Doyle	Evans		McGurk (67)	McNulty	Bennett (89)	Lavery	1	Barton (46)	Evans (67)	Tollitt (89)	Bass	Clarke	Chaplin	Stockley
Stevens	Hollands	Doyle	Evans		McGurk (75)	1	Bennett (90+5)	McNulty (90+3)	Stockley (75)	Chaplin (90+3)	Burgess (90+5)	Bass	Haunstrup	Barton	Boco	
Stevens	Hollands	Doyle	Evans	1	McNulty	1	Bennett (75)	Lavery (80)	1	Tollitt (75)	McGurk (80)	Clarke (85)	Bass	Haunstrup	Close	Chaplin
Stevens	Hollands	Doyle	Evans	1	McNulty (80)	1	Bennett (76)	Lavery (85)	Tollitt (76)	McGurk (80)	1	Chaplin (85)	Bass	Haunstrup	Barton	Close



"I ORGANISED AN INTERVIEW WITH THE MIDFIELDER SO MEMORABLY COMPARED TO FRANZ BECKENBAUER BY HARRY REDKNAPP DURING A 42-GAME SPELL"



NEIL ALLEN  
THE NEWS



## THE LAST WORD

IT WAS THE RECENT IMAGE OF DAVID BECKHAM WILLINGLY POSING FOR A SNAP WITH POMPEY'S UNDER-11 SIDE WHICH STIRRED THE MEMORY.

Although my account involves the former England captain wearing only his white underpants.

Admittedly he was in the privacy of a football dressing room when the moment arose, although invited guests were also present.

Perfectly innocent, of course, and Beckham was ever the gent.

It was back in November 2009, when a friend of mine was getting married in Las Vegas and, being the best man, I opted to extend my stay and spend additional time in Los Angeles.

The wedding proved to be timely, as I had been banned from Fratton Park by then-manager Paul Hart.

Hart took exception to a match report I had written centring on a goalless draw at Hull and how Avram Grant was ready to take over as boss.

And so began a 46-day ban which ended shortly before Christmas in the B&Q cafe at Fratton. But that's another story.

Still, in the middle of that period in cold storage, I gratefully jetted off to America to take in the sights, including an LA Galaxy fixture.

Bruce Arena's team were taking on Chivas USA in the Major League Soccer Western Conference semi-final at the Home Depot Stadium, a fixture attracting a capacity crowd of 27,000.

Among those players on display for the Galaxy was

Not that I was particularly interested in a player who went on to make 115 appearances for England, my attention was instead focused on his team-mate Stefani Miglioranzi.

Sensing the opportunity to use my time in America constructively, I organised an interview with the midfielder so memorably compared to Franz Beckenbauer by Harry Redknapp during a 42-game spell.

I may have been persona non grata at Fratton Park, yet LA Galaxy welcomed me with a warm embrace, laying on free match tickets, a pass to attend the post-match press conference and the prized chance to meet Miglioranzi.

So having sat through both managers' thoughts on the result – Chivas' boss being Preki Radosavljevic for another Pompey link – the procession of media were led through into the LA Galaxy locker room.

It was a free-for-all, unfettered and unrestricted access. Speak to whoever you like, we were told.

Miglioranzi was a charming interviewee, recounting Fratton days under Alan Ball and Steve Claridge and revealing how he kept in touch with former colleagues Robert Prosinecki and Mladen Rudonja.

Of course, the bulk of the media swarmed around Beckham, still getting changed having had a shower, but politely addressing a barrage of questions while stood in his underpants.

And me, I had Miglioranzi to myself, a one-on-one exclusive.

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**PORTSMOUTH**  
MANAGER: Paul Cook

	Paul Jones	1	
	Ben Davies	2	
	Enda Stevens	3	
	Adam Webster	4	
	Rommy Boco	5	
	Christian Burgess	6	
	Adam McGurk	7	
	Michael Doyle	8	
	Matt Tubbs	9	
	Marc McNulty	10	
	Gary Roberts	11	
	Pompey Fans	12	
	Caolan Lavery	13	
	Adam Barton	15	
	Jack Whatmough	16	
	Jayden Stockley	17	
	Ben Tollitt	18	
	Conor Chaplin	19	
	Matt Clarke	20	
	Kyle Bennett	23	
	Brian Murphy	24	
	Nigel Atangana	25	
	Gareth Evans	26	
	Danny Hollands	29	
	Ben Close	33	
	Alex Bass	35	
	Brandon Haunstrup	38	

Squads correct as of midday on 22/12/15



**LUTON TOWN**  
CARETAKER MANAGER: Andy Awford

	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	
	32	Luke Trotman	
	40	Jake Howells	

REFEREE: Gavin Ward

ASSISTANTS:  Richard Hulme, Craig Hicks 

FOURTH OFFICIAL: William Bull