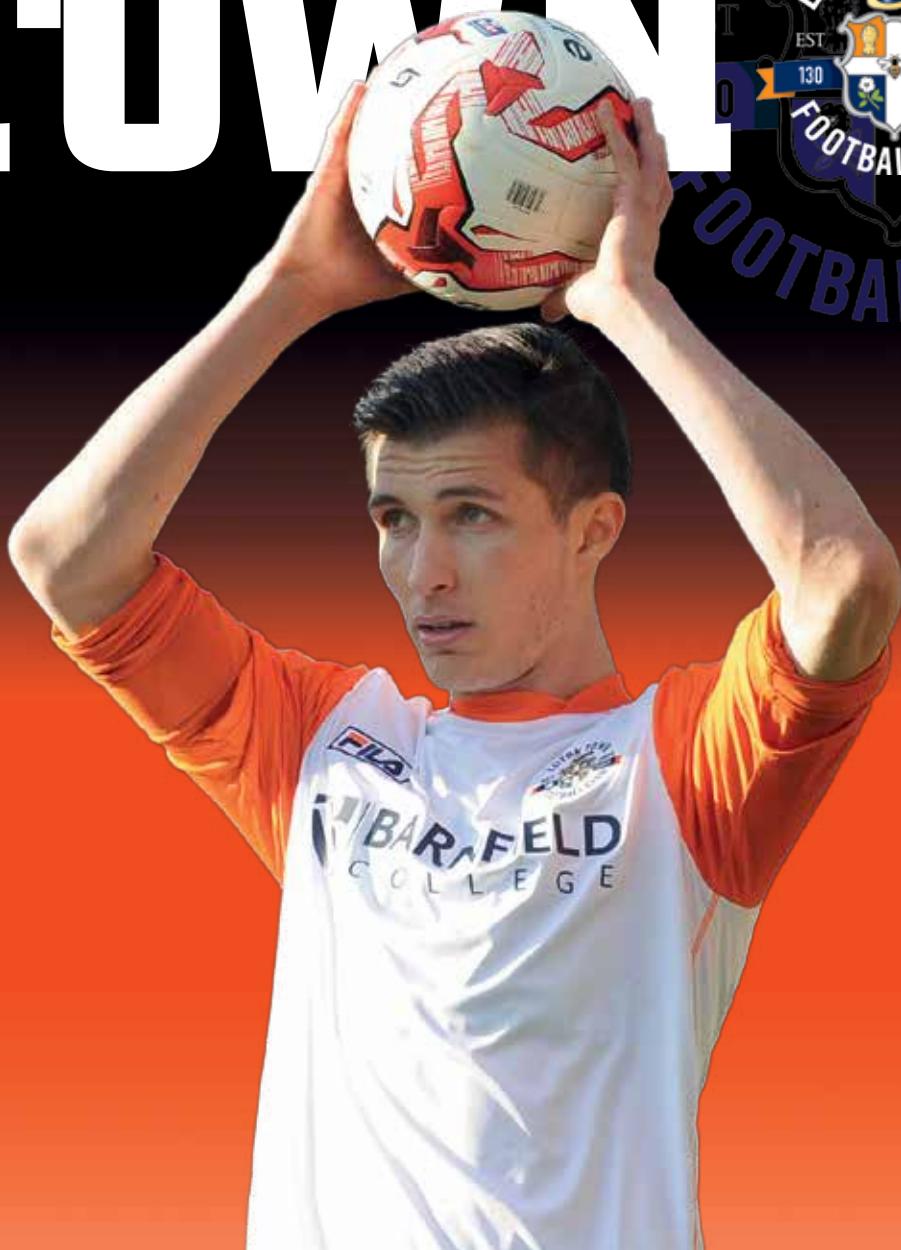


# TALK OF THE TOWN



vs CRAWLEY TOWN

SATURDAY 12TH MARCH 2016 3.00PM  
SKY BET LEAGUE TWO

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF LUTON TOWN ISSUE 21 £3.00

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April 2016

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**Official website:**

[www.lutontown.co.uk](http://www.lutontown.co.uk)

### **COVER STORY**

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



Today's cover is based on a Crawley Town fixture from September 2009. To find out more, turn to page 22.

#### **LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 2020 LTD**

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Luton, Bedfordshire LU4 8AW

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#### **OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME**

Made in Luton.

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With thanks to our contributors Roger Wash, Ed Smith, Leigh Edwards, Simon Pitts, Mike Simmonds, Ross Lawson and the help of the media team at Crawley Town.

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

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



# NATHAN JONES

## NOTES FROM THE MANAGER

GOOD AFTERNOON AND WELCOME BACK TO KENILWORTH ROAD FOR THIS LEAGUE 2 FIXTURE WITH CRAWLEY TOWN.

I'd like to begin by welcoming everyone associated with our visitors to Bedfordshire today, including their manager Mark Yates who I know well.

The past few weeks have been very productive and encouraging for us following four successive victories. I said a vital component of what we are trying to do and improve was a level of consistency and the players have certainly given me that in terms of results.

Our victory over Morecambe in our last home match was richly deserved despite the narrow scoreline, while at Leyton Orient last weekend we saw a different kind of performance where we had to dig in and defend.

### PERFORMANCE

Jack Marriott has taken the plaudits for scoring the winning goal in both of our last two matches but the team performance in these matches has been terrific. I have said it quite often after games recently, but I truly have been proud of their efforts. It shows that they have been responding to what we want from them in training and in games.

While we are happy with the progress we have made it is important to recognise that we are still taking small steps towards

where we want to get to. We might have won four matches in a row but standards are important and the levels of consistency must be maintained if we are to be successful.

### PROUD

The result and performance at Leyton Orient was obviously very pleasing but the support we received from the supporters in the away end was just phenomenal.

I told the media afterwards support like that fills me with even more passion and desire to bring success to this football club.

Thank you – I am proud to be associated with you.

This week we were delighted to reward Tyreeq Bakinson, a member of our successful youth team, with a professional contract. Tyreeq is a player we think a lot of and giving young players a chance is an important part of what we are trying to build here. I want to give talented young players a pathway to the first team. This club has a fine reputation for nurturing young players and the work the academy does is tremendous.

We want to make the most of that success and give you the supporters a team you can be proud of. Our youth team have certainly done that this season and congratulations to them on reaching the national final of the League Cup. We wish them well against Shrewsbury in April.

### EFFORT

We are now entering a really important phase of the season. After today's game we have 10 games left and we are asking for a big effort from everyone concerned at the club. Your support plays an absolutely vital role in that so please get behind us this afternoon. It has already helped us immensely over the past few weeks and long may it continue.

Enjoy the game.



# From the BOARDROOM

WITH VICE CHAIRMAN DAVID WILKINSON

GOOD AFTERNOON EVERYONE AND A VERY WARM WELCOME TO KENILWORTH ROAD.

Today we greet all the officials, players and supporters from Crawley Town.

The Reds are, like us, around mid-table at the moment. We have played them twice at their place this season, losing 2-1 in League 2 and winning 2-1 in the FA Cup. They are always a very hospitable club and we look forward to being able to repay some of that today.

My last notes were eight weeks ago for the Cambridge game – and what a change we have seen in that time. We have picked up six wins, two draws and two defeats since Nathan took over compared to only two wins in the 10 games before he arrived. This seems to me to be an amazing result bearing in mind he has been totally changing the way we play.

## PROGRESSION

Sometimes the style has not been understood, but for me the results and clear progression speak for themselves, as does the passion showed by our manager and players during and after games.

I have been away for the past week and sadly missed two league victories and a Youth team win against Swindon in the Southern Area League Cup Final. I do not enjoy listening to commentary from

afar and in my experience highlights are often not highlights, but at least I have managed to see the goals.

There have been a few changes in personnel in the past week. We have seen Mark Tyler move back to Peterborough after 297 appearances for us over six-and-a-half years. It is an opportunity for him and we couldn't stand in his way.

Mark has been a fantastic servant to our Club having been with us through all the Conference years and having helped us regain our place in the Football League and we wish him well for his future career.

I for one hope that we have a proper opportunity to say goodbye to him before the end of the season.

In a similar vein we welcome keeper Jonathan Mitchell on loan from Derby County. By all accounts he had a very impressive debut against Leyton Orient and we hope he has an enjoyable and successful time with us.

## JOY

We also congratulate 17-year-old Tyreeq Bakinson, whose performances for the Under-18s this year have earned him a three-and-a-half year professional contract. It has been a joy to watch the youth team's performances this year and Tyreeq has been a major part of their success. It is very unusual



for first year scholars to be given contracts, which demonstrates the faith the management has in his ability and future potential.

## PROUD

While I'm on the subject, what a fantastic performance the lads put in at Blackburn. Those of us who were there were immensely proud. I missed the Swindon game, but understand we were well in control and we now look forward to the Final against Shrewsbury.

The success of the youth team is particularly special to us because having made the decision to keep investing throughout the Conference years without support from central funding and despite the loss of a number of promising players to big clubs, we have managed to justify the investment and give us hope for the future.

Nevertheless, it is an ongoing battle. We are an EPPP3 academy and as such are always under



A massive thank you to the 1,400 of you who backed us at Brisbane Road last weekend

threat from clubs at a higher level, who can, if they wish, 'steal' our players for a song. In most cases when that happens it is short-lived and the player ends up on loan at a lower level – or worse is just discarded, but it is difficult to persuade parents that their son would be better off staying at Luton than moving to Arsenal, for example.

## TALENT

We also have to be aware of other clubs' attempts to muscle in on our territory and there are many examples of other clubs trying to move in to the Bedfordshire area and compete for the available talent.

We must, therefore, do our best, all of us, to make us a Club people want to play for. Nathan has said that it was David Pleat who impressed him and made him think about management. Something about Luton Town stayed with him all those years and eventually made him decide he wanted to manage us. On the other hand, it was that grounding and enthusiasm that made us decide he was the man for us.

We talk a lot about your support, the numbers who travel and the

passion you show for our wonderful football club and Saturday at Orient was another classic example. We are so proud of you all.

Recently we had a QPR supporter with his son, Feidlim aged seven, in the Boardroom with us. We gave him a brief tour and he enjoyed the game. On the way home he asked his Dad if he could support Luton as well as QPR and could he get him a shirt. There is something about us which sucks people in and doesn't let them go.

While we are on the subject of pride, can I take this opportunity to congratulate our old boy Andre Gray on his goals and performances for Burnley, who are currently sitting on top of the Championship. I always keep an eye on our ex-players at whatever level, and hope they do well, as I believe it reflects well upon us.

Enjoy the game.

**"You can do anything as long as you have the passion, the drive, the focus and the support" S. Bryan**

Come on you Hatters.





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# GREAT SCOTT

## THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

What a great past week it's been for us. Since my last set of notes we have picked up another two wins and kept two clean sheets.

The victories over Morecambe and Leyton Orient have given us a massive boost and now we really do find ourselves heading in the right direction.

Against Morecambe we dominated the game and deservedly registered back-to-back home victories thanks to Jack's finish. It was only a matter of time before we broke the deadlock in that game and I felt we were never in any serious danger on the night. Some of the football we played was excellent and Jack was unlucky not to score earlier when his shot in the first half bounced just wide.

It was another goal in the final 15 minutes of a game which once again shows we have what it takes to grind teams down and go and win matches in those important final periods of games. Good teams always keep going to the very end so it's pleasing to see that we are finishing games stronger. Earlier in the season it was the other way round.

Last weekend we continued in the same vein and collected another great win to make it four on the spin. Jack was again the man with the goal, with an absolute gem of a finish to take his tally for the season to 12.

We almost went 2-0 up in the second half when Pottsy came close to curling home with a right foot shot from the edge of the box but after that we had to defend our own penalty area as Orient threw everything they could at us. However, for all their possession

and crossing from wide positions we never felt seriously in trouble.

The game marked the debut of Jono – Jonathan Mitchell – in goal. We only met him for the first time a few hours before kick-off but he showed in the 90 minutes what a promising future he has in the game with a commanding and confident display. Not bad for a 21-year-old!

Of course the news came out this week that Tyles has left to rejoin Peterborough. He will be sadly missed on and off the pitch but I'd like to thank him on behalf of all the lads for his service both this season and for the Club in the past. He has legendary status at Kenilworth Road and we wish him all the best.

Today we welcome Crawley to Kenilworth Road. We were hugely disappointed to lose at their place in the league back in October, especially having led at half-time.

But I think we're a different team now with a different mindset. We must, however, focus on what we have done well in our past four matches if we are to make it five wins on the spin. It's a horrible, really, really over-used cliché, but we really do need to take every game as it comes and mustn't get carried away with four wins on the trot.

Finally it goes without saying a huge thank you to the support we've received recently. The backing at Orient was extraordinary.



We really got the feeling that you were there on the pitch with us in the closing stages as we kept them at bay. Please keep it up again today because there will be moments when we need you.

Enjoy the game and get behind us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'JONATHAN MITCHELL'.

## TYREEQ TURNS PRO

The Hatters are delighted to confirm that first-year youth team midfielder Tyreeq Bakinson has penned a three-and-a-half-year professional contract with the Club.

Central midfielder Bakinson, 17, joined the Town as an under-10 and only signed full-time scholarship terms last summer.

Although born in London, Tyreeq lives in Luton, walks to training every day and has been a regular for Paul Driver's Under-18s this season.

Bakinson has already been given experience in the Hatters' development squad this year and travelled with the first team for the League 2 fixture at AFC Wimbledon last month, where he was involved

in the pre-match warm-up.

He has scored six goals from central midfield this season and has been a driving force behind the youth team's successful campaign which has seen Driver's side reach the quarter-finals of the FA Youth Cup.

First team boss Nathan Jones told lutontown.co.uk: "Tyreeq fits the profile of the kind of player we like. He's got the ability, the fitness, the hunger, he's disciplined, he wants to learn and we feel he can get better.

"We're delighted and excited to have tied him down to a professional contract and believe if his development continues then he's a player who could jump into the first team and be an important player for us in the future."



"We want a pathway from the youth team to the first team here and he's been part and parcel of a fantastic youth team this season so this is also reward for that."

Academy and development manager Andy Awford said: "It's rare for a player in the first year of their scholarship to sign professional but in football you are rewarded for your efforts, and Tyreeq has played an important role in a successful season for the youth team."

## JUSTIN RECOGNISED BY THE LFE

Town youngster James Justin has been recognised for his efforts on and off the pitch this season by being named in the League Football Education's 'The 11' competition.

'The 11' recognises both football and academic progress of Under-18 players on apprenticeships at Football League clubs, assessing such factors as community and charity involvement.

Judged by LFE's team of regional officers, this award is given on four occasions in the season to celebrate the holistic development of young players, a barometer which is also applied to the Apprentice of the Year Awards later in the season.

Justin, who has been a regular for the Under-18s and development squad – and signed a professional

contract with the Hatters earlier this season – joins players from Sheffield Wednesday, Derby County and Birmingham in the '11'.

Carl Craner, the Hatters' head of academy education and welfare, told lutontown.co.uk: "James is a fantastic character to have around the building."

"Both on and off the pitch, he has excelled this season and has been able to cope with the demands that being an apprentice brings.

"James has achieved excellent grades in the classroom and is the first second year apprentice to complete the NVQ qualification. He leads by example and shows a willingness to help and support his team mates, often staying behind in order to help them progress.



"He is a popular member of the group and is well liked by staff around the club and Central Bedfordshire College, where James is completing a BTEC (Level 3) in Sports Science.

"Away from his academic progress, James was offered an 18-month professional deal and has already been a part of the matchday squad and a named substitute at Exeter in December.

"With numerous outings for the development squad, James has a bright future at the club and I am delighted that I have had this chance to work with such a level headed and hardworking individual."

Everyone at Kenilworth Road would like to congratulate James on his award and for his achievements this season.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Very many happy belated returns to Hatters fan John Francis who turned 70 on Christmas Day.

Life-long Hatter John has always wanted to watch a game in an executive box and today he will get that opportunity with friends and family as part of a birthday surprise. Although John moved to Lowestoft 40 years ago, he still gets to as many matches as he can. Pictured with John in this photograph is two-year-old grandson Rowan. Have a great day with us John!



## CHAMPIONS!

Pictured here are Trust in Luton Committee Members Colin Adamson and Kevin Harper being presented with a signed Champions banner which adorned the open-topped bus which took the players through the Town centre to St George's Square to celebrate the Club's Football Conference Championship win in May 2014.

The banner was offered by Luton Borough Council to any supporter



## TYLER DEPARTS AND JONO ARRIVES!

Goalkeeper Mark Tyler has joined former club Peterborough United on a three-month loan with a view to a permanent deal.

The 38-year-old leaves Kenilworth Road after six-and-a-half years of service for the Hatters and just three matches short of 300 appearances for the Club.

Signed by Mick Harford in the summer of 2009, Tyler went onto become a huge favourite between the sticks with the Town.

He helped the Hatters to a famous FA Cup victory against boyhood team Norwich City in January 2013 and then kept 23 clean sheets the following season as the Town finally won promotion back to the Football League.

Everyone at Luton Town would like to wish Mark the very best of luck at Peterborough and for his future career.

Last weekend the Town were able to secure the loan



signing of highly-rated 21-year-old goalkeeper Jonathan Mitchell from Derby County and made his debut in the 1-0 win at Leyton Orient.

Welcome to Kenilworth Road, Jonathan!

# LET'S GO

THE TOWN HIT THE ROAD NEXT WEEKEND WHEN THEY MAKE THE LONG JOURNEY SOUTH TO TAKE ON PLYMOUTH ARGYLE AT HOME PARK.

**WHO?** Plymouth Argyle, aka the Pilgrims, aka one of the sides also pushing for promotion from League 2 this season. Argyle, now managed by Derek Adams, have already beaten the Hatters this season when they triumphed 2-1 at Kenilworth Road back in October thanks to a late winner from ex-Hatters loanee Ryan Brunt.

#### HOW THEY DOING?

Very well. Argyle go into their game away at fellow promotion chasers Accrington in third place in the table, joint-second only on goal difference. The Greens have enjoyed a fine season to date and have been among the leaders for the much of the season. Last season they pipped the Town to the final Play-Off place but lost to Wycombe in the semi-finals. John Sheridan left in the summer and Adams took control after leaving Ross County. They hold a six-point cushion over fourth-placed Portsmouth with 11 matches of the season left.

#### HOW TO GET THERE.

The journey to Home Park is the Hatters' second longest of the season, a mere 506-mile round-trip, which should take you about four hours in the car. To get there, take the M1 south, M25 anticlockwise, M4 west and M5 south. At the end

of the motorway continue onto the A38. On entering Plymouth, turn left onto the A386, towards Plymouth. When this road splits into two, keep on the left hand side (again signposted Plymouth) and after about a mile you will see the ground on your left. The ground is well signposted. If you don't fancy driving all that way, take the Bobbers, who depart Luton train station at 8am. The fare is £33 for adults and £30 concessions.

#### TICKETS PLEASE.

As we typed these words out (Wednesday afternoon, that is) the Luton Town ticket office sold 332 tickets, but Hatters fans can purchase tickets on the day at Home Park. However the prices to increase by £2. Tickets are available from the ticket office until 3pm if you want to save a couple of quid, and you can choose to sit in the family stand or in the main away end. The choice is yours.

#### HOME COMFORTS.

Argyle have been consistent both and away this season – an obvious reason why they are one of the favourites for promotion. Only leaders Northampton (with 12) have won more games on home soil this season than Plymouth's 10. However, the Pilgrim's recent

form has been patchy: Adams' side have won three, drawn four and lost three of their last 10 games. The Greens have won three of their last six matches at Home Park, but have lost twice: to Wycombe and Northampton. The Hatters won on their last visit last season, 1-0 thanks to Andy Drury's goal. That was only the Town's eighth win in 47 visits!

#### CLUB CONNECTIONS.

Many-a-player has served both the Town and Argyle down the years. Dwight Marshall, Keith Allen, Milija Aleksić, Mike Harrison and Calvin Andrew to name just five. Brunt, who scored the winner against the Town in October played just six games while on-loan under Gary Brabin in 2011.

#### PLYMOUTH ARGYLE FACTFILE

Formed: 1886

NICKNAME: The Pilgrims

LAST SEASON: 7th League 2

FOLLOW THEM ON TWITTER: @Only1Argyle

COLOURS: Green and white

GROUND: Home Park

MANAGER: Derek Adams

To get clued up on Plymouth Argyle before Saturday visit [www.pafc.co.uk](http://www.pafc.co.uk)

# TICKET OFFICE

#### Home ticket prices for the 2015/16 season

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

#### TICKETS FOR HOME MATCHES

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



#### PLYMOUTH ARGYLE



Saturday 19th March 2016, 3pm

We have received an initial allocation of 1,116 standard tickets and 112 family tickets for this fixture. Tickets are on general sale from the Luton Town ticket office and online. The tickets will remain on sale until 2pm Friday 18th March.

**Prices:** Standard tickets: £20 adults, £15 over-65s and students, £7 under-18s. Family Zone (families or Adults accompanying children only): £20 adults, £15 over-65s and students, £5 under-18s. Ambulant Disabled tickets are available from Luton Town Ticket Office at the above prices with a Carer free of charge. Wheelchair Disabled tickets should be purchased directly from Plymouth Argyle on 0845 872 3335.

A new date has yet to be set, but one will be announced in due course.

Meanwhile the Town's Paddy McCourt has been played on standby for the Northern Ireland squad for their international friendlies against Wales and Slovenia.



#### STEVENAGE



Saturday 2nd April 2016, 3pm

Tickets are now on sale at category A prices and are available online and from the Ticket Office.



#### ACCRINGTON STANLEY



Saturday 9th April 2016, 3pm

Tickets are now on sale at category B prices and are available online and from the Ticket Office.



#### DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE



Tuesday 12th April 2016, 7.45pm

The Hatters' scheduled home fixture against Dagenham & Redbridge on Good Friday has been postponed due to the Daggers' international call-ups.

John Still has seen three of his players called up for international duty that weekend – including former Hatter Andre Boucaud for Trinidad & Tobago – meaning the Daggers have been able to successfully request for the match to be rearranged.



#### BARNET



Easter Monday  
28th March 2016, 3pm

We are still awaiting ticket information and prices for this match from Barnet. Please keep an eye on the official website for further details.



# COMMERCIAL TALK...

WITH COMMERCIAL MANAGER DAVID HOSKINS

## MATCH SPONSOR

### LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS CLUB OF SCANDINAVIA



Luton Town Supporters Club of Scandinavia was founded in 1991 by chairman Lars-Petter Rønnestad, and 26 members are today at Kenilworth Road celebrating the 25th year anniversary.

Some of them for the first time and some members have been in Luton for more than

40 times watching the Hatters. Through all these years there have been more than 300 different Luton Town supporters from Norway, Sweden and Denmark being paying members of the LTSCS.

Tonight the Scandinavians will celebrate at the Bricklayers Arms, but first we all are looking for hopefully the fifth straight win for our beloved Hatters!

## MATCHBALL SPONSOR

### BLOCK E DIAMONDS

The Block E Diamonds consist of six diamond season ticket holders: from left to right, Terry Alder, Nick Albone, Richard White, Chris Charman, Pete Gurney and Danny Clubb (not pictured).

We normally support the team from the main enclosure Block E and between us we attend all home fixtures and there is normally at least one of our group at every away fixture. Most of us have been supporting the club since the 1970s and 80s graduating from the Oak Road terrace around various areas of the ground to end up in the directors' area with our guests to sponsor today's matchball.



## TODAY'S MASCOTS



### CONNOR, MAX, KURT & ANYA

We are delighted to be able to welcome four mascots to Kenilworth Road this afternoon.

All four will get to meet their favourite player in the dressing room before the game and then lead the team out on the pitch prior to kick-off. They will then get to meet the man-of-the-match afterwards in the Eric Morecambe suite.

Please give them all a warm welcome!

Connor Clingham. Age 11. From Luton. Favourite player Cameron McGeehan. Max Ledsom. Age 10. From Olney. Favourite player was Mark Tyler!

Kurt Ledsom. Age eight. From Olney. Favourite players Craig Mackail-Smith and Jack Marriott.

Anya Ledsom. Age six. From Olney. Favourite player Olly Lee.

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# Welcome to Kenilworth Road **CRAWLEY TOWN**



## TEAM PROFILE

### CRAWLEY TOWN

Nicknames: The Reds/Red Devils  
Ground: CheckATrade.com Stadium  
Last season: 22nd League 1  
Manager: Mark Yates  
Last match: Crawley 1-1 Morecambe

It gives us great pleasure to welcome everyone associated with Crawley Town to Kenilworth Road this afternoon, including all of those in the away end who have travelled up from West Sussex.

The Reds arrive in Bedfordshire comfortably in mid-table in League 2, vastly clear of any relegation threat in 16th place, while the 11 points separating themselves and the Play-Off places seems slightly out of grasp.

Mark Yates' side are in a period of indifferent form at present, taking two wins, two defeats and the same number of draws from their last six outings, although they did lose their three League 2 fixtures prior to that.

This year marks the first term back in the fourth tier for Crawley, who were relegated from League 1 before Yates took over at the end of that disappointing campaign.

Yates enjoyed a comprehensive 3-0 victory at Cambridge in his fourth league at the helm, but it took until the end of September for Crawley to take another three

points, with another 3-0 win, this time over Newport County.

The Reds endured some difficult results in that time though, notably 4-0 and 4-1 defeats to Mansfield and Notts County, while also suffering a 3-0 home blip to Accrington Stanley.

That was followed, however, by Crawley's best league run of the season, winning four games out of five including a 2-1 success over the Hatters at the CheckATrade.com stadium back in October.

Since then, it's been a season of consistent inconsistencies for Yates' outfit, who have yet to replicate their early-season run to sit in the wrong half of the table for much of the League 2 year.

But it seems the Reds may have off-the-field developments to excite them, with the news that the club will undergo a takeover from Ziya Eren following Football League approval.

Goals have mainly been shared around Crawley's side so far this term, with Gwion Edwards and Matt Harrold boasting seven each while Rory Deacon is hot on their heels with five League 2 strikes.

Harrold was on target the last time Crawley faced the Hatters in

league action when the Town lost a Cameron McGeehan one-goal lead to surrender 2-1 to two late strikes, with Rhys Murphy also on the scoresheet.

But the Hatters prevailed in the last meeting between the two, an FA Cup meeting in West Sussex in which Josh McQuoid delivered two wonderful strikes to send the visitors to the second round.

Previous to this season, the Town and Crawley had been limited in their meetings, playing each other just five times in their history, with four of those coming in the Conference.

A George Pilkington brace helped Luton to a 3-0 in their first ever meeting in 2009, but the Reds have had the better of the meetings at Kenilworth Road since, prevailing 2-1 in a non-league clash in 2010 before the two met in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy four years later when Gwion Edwards notched the game's only goal.

## LAST MEETING

Crawley 1-2 Luton 7/11/15

## HATTERS v CRAWLEY

Luton wins: 2

Draws 1

Crawley wins 4

# Meet the VISITORS

OUR GUIDE TO THE MEN FROM THE BROADFIELD STADIUM



## THE BOSS

### MARK YATES

Former Kidderminster and Cheltenham manager Mark was appointed in May 2015. As a player he served Birmingham and Burnley but he enjoyed a success as a boss with the Robins, twice leading the Whaddon Road outfit to the League 2 Play-Offs.

## BETWEEN THE STICKS

### PAUL JONES

Experienced goalkeeper Paul returned to the club in early February on an emergency loan deal from Portsmouth. Originally signed for the Red Devils in 2012, we went onto make 105 appearances in his first spell.

## IN DEFENCE

### LANRE OYEBANJO

Summer signing Lanre only recently made his Crawley debut after returning to action after knee surgery. The attacking right-back joined the Red Devils after several seasons with York City.

### SONNY BRADLEY

Hull-born centre-half Sonny penned a two-year deal with the club in the summer of 2014 after leaving Portsmouth. After a successful first season he was appointed captain at the start of the campaign.

### JON ASHTON

Experienced central defender Jon signed a one-year deal in July 2015 after over 200 appearances for Stevenage. Helped Boro to win

back-to-back promotions and has previously played for Plymouth.

### JOSH YORWERTH

Highly-rated young defender Josh joined the Red Devils on-loan from Ipswich in September. Signed for the Tractor Boys from Cardiff and has represented Wales at under-21 level.

### CHARLES DUNNE

Left-back Charles is also on-loan, arriving at the Broadfield Stadium from Blackpool earlier this month. The London-born defender has made over 50 appearances for the Tangerines.

## ACROSS THE MIDDLE

### GWION EDWARDS

After a successful loan spell, attacking midfielder Gwion signed a permanent deal in July 2014 from Swansea. Started his career with Aberystwyth before turning pro. Has seven goals this season.

### JIMMY SMITH

Another summer 2014 arrival, Jimmy joined the Reds from Stevenage. Came through the Chelsea academy before a move to Leyton Orient who he played 150 times for in four years.

### SIMON WALTON

Experienced central midfielder Simon penned a two-year at the club at the start of the season. Spent last season at Stevenage but was previously on the books at Plymouth, Charlton, Leeds and QPR.

## LYLE DELLA-VERDE

Young midfielder Lyle joined the Reds on a short-term contract in February this year after he left Fleetwood. Began his career at Southend before joining Fulham and then Fleetwood.

## LEWIS YOUNG

Winger Lewis is also able to play at full-back and arrived at the Broadfield Stadium in July 2014 after a successful trial. Started his career at Watford before spells with Northampton and Burton.

## UP FRONT

### MATT HARROLD

Experienced frontman but only 29, centre-forward Matt joined the Red Devils from Bristol Rovers in June 2014. Scored goals wherever he's played with spells at Yeovil, Wycombe, Shrewsbury among others.

### SHAMIR FENELON

Young striker Shamir signed a one-year deal in the summer. Came through Brighton's academy and went out on loan to aid his development and has represented the Republic of Ireland at under-21 level.

### ANDY BOND

Forward Andy penned a deal until the end of the season in February. Recently on the books at Chorley he has previously enjoyed spells at Colchester, Chester and Stevenage.

### ROARIE DEACON

Former Arsenal trainee Roarie joined the Reds this summer after leaving Stevenage. Able to play centrally or wide, he was represented England internationally at under-19 level.



# From the OAK ROAD

CRAWLEY LAST VISITED KENILWORTH ROAD FOR A LEAGUE FIXTURE IN 2010 AND TWO PROMOTIONS LATER THE TWO CLUBS WERE MILES APART IN THE LEAGUE STANDINGS. TODAY, HOWEVER, THE PAIR MEET IN LEAGUE 2 FOR THE FIRST TIME FOLLOWING CRAWLEY'S RELEGATION LAST SEASON. RED DEVILS FAN CRAIG BRATT GIVES US THE INSIDE TAKE.

## THE SEASON AHEAD...

 After relegation from League 1 last season what were expectations for the season ahead at the Broadfield Stadium?

 Whilst a push for an instant return to League 1 was a wish for many fans, consolidation was always the clubs aim for the season. After an awful League 1 season, settling things down had to be done.

 Mark Yates was installed as successor to John Gregory in the summer. Have you been happy with the job he has done and what style of football are you trying to play?

 Mark has done an excellent job with the resources he's been working with. He's got us playing some much better, more enjoyable football and is also great with interacting with fans which makes a huge difference.

 It's been a bit of an inconsistent season for the Red Devils, what do you put that down to? Were you concerned that you might fall out of the League altogether?

 One thing we as a club rely on a lot is loan signings due to a

restrained budget, and I think the high volume of player turnover this season has been the main reason for inconsistency. The instability of the squad impacted results massively, but even during our bad run early on in the season nobody really feared relegation.

 You're safely in mid-table with an outside chance of the Play-Offs and well clear of the relegation scrap. What do you want to see from your team's final two months of the season? What would you think the expectation will be at the start of next season?

 Personally I think the Play-Offs are out of sight, but I want to see us put a good run of form together that we can hopefully take into next season. Play-Offs will definitely be the aim next season.

 Gone are the days of the Steve Evans, Matt Tubbs and serious money being spent at the Broadfield Stadium – what is now the long-term vision of the club going forward do you think?

 With the new Turkish owners hopefully taking over club in the next week or so, it should breathe new life into the club. They've set a realistic target of Championship



football within ten years, and this is something we should stick by.

 Who has been your stand-out performer so far this season and why should Luton be wary of him today?

 Matt Harrold has adapted well to his role as the main striker in the team, and with six goals in his last seven games, Luton should be wary of his attacking strength.

## SEASONS PAST...

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

 I first went to a game in 2007. We played Forest Green Rovers on a Tuesday night in November and drew 1-1. My dad's friend had been going to games previously and



Celebrations after Crawley secured promotion to the Football League in 2011

asked us this particular evening if we'd like to come along. I remember it was freezing cold and one of our players waved at me as I was sitting behind the dug outs.

 The back-to-back promotions between 2011 and 2012 – tell us about it. What was so special about following the club at that time? Who were the heroes on the pitch and which games in particular stood out for you?

 It was an incredible two seasons. There was such an incredible vibe around the club and the atmosphere at games was second to none. In the Conference season, the stand out games were actually the ones we lost, as we only lost three all season! We'd become so used to winning that it was the norm. In League 2, the stand out game was a 4-2 win over Cheltenham as at the time they were the team chasing us for the third automatic promotion spot. Sergio Torres and Matt Tubbs were the heroes those years. Without Tubbs' 47 goals that season, who knows where we'd be now!

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

 It'll be a really tough game for us. Our away form isn't great and you've been on a great run

 As tempted as I am to say the Manchester United FA Cup tie, it's the 2-1 win over Championship Derby County two rounds previous that was the most memorable. A Monday night, torrential rain, and one of the best cup upsets there's been. The scenes when Torres' 91st minute winner went in were incredible.



The

back-to-back

promotions between 2011 and 2012 – tell us about it. What was so special about following the club at that time? Who were the heroes on the pitch and which games in particular stood out for you?

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

 It'll be a really tough game for us. Our away form isn't great and you've been on a great run

recently so we'll do well to get a result. I'll go for a 1-1 draw. Unfortunately I can't make today's game but I'll be cheering on the boys from my Uni halls!

## QUICKFIRE

**Terrace or Seats?**  
Terrace, every time.

**Who are your rivals?**  
Brighton/AFC Wimbledon

**Favourite all-time manager?**  
Steve Evans – so much passion!

**Favourite promotion season?**  
2011/12 - League 2

**Guess your player of the season**  
Matt Harrold

**If you could bring back one player from the past back in the Crawley team who would it be?**  
Matt Tubbs

**Most treasured piece of Crawley memorabilia?**  
Ticket from Tamworth away, the game we won promotion to the Football League.

**What league will Crawley be in next season?**  
League 2

**Who will win promotion from League 2?**  
Northampton, Plymouth, Oxford and Accrington

# COVER STORY

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

**LUTON TOWN 3  
CRAWLEY TOWN 0**  
1st September 2009

Much has been written about the 'minus 30' season of 2008/09 but as the campaign wore on it became sadly inevitable that we would be relegated out of the Football League.

Surprisingly and gratifyingly the supporters remained remarkably positive and felt that our stay in non-League would be of only twelve months duration and with over 4000 season tickets sold we were all looking forward to the ride.

Many changes to the playing staff were made over the summer of 2009 with the persuasive tongue of manager Mick Harford enticing players to Kenilworth Road who we would never have thought would drop down to non-League.

The publication of the fixture list threw up many away trips to places that we had never visited before and had hardly heard of bearing in mind we were in the Championship only two years before. Where do Forest Green play? Where is Histon and is Ebbsfleet north or south of the river?

The journey into the unknown began at Wimbledon (or Kingston to be more precise) on a hot day in August where a capacity crowd saw the Town stride around like thoroughbreds against newly promoted opposition but could only come away with a point following a 1-1 draw.

The disappointment was soon put to one side when Mansfield were put to the sword 4-1 in our first home

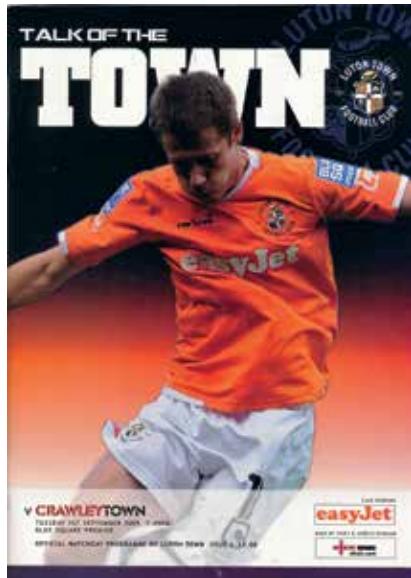


game before Gateshead returned to the north-east following a 2-1 defeat.

Next up was a mid-week trip to the depths of Gloucestershire where 869 Hatters made up half the crowd at Forest Green. The three points earned from a 1-0 victory was the only highlight of a less than inspiring performance as expectation levels failed to match the exploits on the pitch.

There then followed a 0-0 home draw with Chester in a game that was thankfully expunged later in the season and a 0-0 physical battering at Kettering where all police (and horses and helicopters) leave in a 100 mile radius was cancelled to look after the placid Luton supporters.

Kevin Gallen slides in against the Crawley defence.



The league table was now beginning to take shape with the Hatters in fifth spot, five points behind leaders Oxford who were the only other unbeaten side in the division.

Crawley came to Kenilworth Road in the following mid-week and a respectable crowd of 6389 turned up to see if the Town could put on a performance to match the previous game under floodlights when Mansfield were thrashed.

The Town started brightly and went for their opponents from

the first whistle playing a 4-3-3 system that saw wide men Adam Newton and Tom Craddock run riot. For all their enterprising play the Hatters forwards could not find the net so it was left to defender George Pilkington, celebrating his Blue Square Premier Player of the Month award, to open the scoring with a tap-in on 36 minutes in a goalmouth melee following a corner.

Pilkington then registered his second double of the campaign when he netted with a powerful header from a Kevin Nicholls corner

after 61 minutes. Four minutes later the game was put to bed when Craddock headed home a delightful Claude Gnakpa cross at the far post.

After that chances were made and spurned in a one-sided contest.

Assistant manager Kevin Watson said afterwards, "Of late I don't think we have been closing down as a group. Tonight was back to the Mansfield performance for me and I think that's as positive we have been for a while."

## THE PROGRAMME



The Town produced a 68 page programme for the visit of Crawley which, because of problems at the printers, was not available at the start of the game!



Mick Harford, in his manager's notes section, gave praise to his defence who had conceded only three goals at that stage in the season. He particularly praised the defending at Kettering where a team of giants bombarded us but could not find a way through.

Harford spoke of the mini injury crisis that had deprived us of Keith Keane and Liam Hatch in particular and announced the loan signing from Plymouth of George Donnelly (who went on to make four appearances all off the bench during his short stay).

It had been announced that under police advice the games against Eastbourne Borough had been reversed. Presumably this was to prevent an invading horde taking over Eastbourne just after Christmas!

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# DEFINING MOMENTS

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN **LEIGH EDWARDS** SELECTS EIGHT KEY MATCHES AND EVENTS THAT HAVE SHAPED CRAWLEY TOWN'S POST-WAR ERA

## 1969 CRAWLEY'S PREMIER STATUS

Phil Basey was leading marksman with 17 goals as Crawley Town won promotion to the Southern League Premier Division in 1968/69. Starting with a 3-0 win at home to Wisbech Town, they underlined their promotion credentials with an exciting 14-match unbeaten run. Crawley triumphed 5-0 at Gravesend, then Phil Basey grabbed a hat-trick in a 4-2 win at home to Corby Town. They maintained their challenge with just two defeats in 19 matches, winning a home 4-0 to Bexley United and 5-2 to Merthyr Tydfil. John Leedham, John Maggs and Derek Tharme were ever-present as Crawley finished fourth with 55 points.

## 1984 PROMOTION WINNERS

Brian Gregory was leading marksman for the second consecutive season as Crawley Town won promotion to the Southern League Premier Division in 1983/84. The Reds were unbeaten in their opening four matches, then overcame defeats at home to Poole

and Basingstoke to emerge as pacesetters with a 13-match unbeaten run, trouncing Thanet United 6-0. Brian Gregory grabbed hat-tricks in 5-0 wins at home to Woodford and Andover as Crawley finished Southern League Southern Division runners-up. Steve Breach, Rick Collier and Brian Gregory were ever-present, while Cliff Cant and Bob Glozier were also key figures.

## 2003 SOUTHERN LEAGUE CUP WINNERS

The Red Devils won the Southern League Cup for the first time in 2002/03. They overcame Sittingbourne, Hastings United, Ashford Town, Burnham, Chelmsford City and King's Lynn to reach the Southern League Cup final against Halesowen Town. Warren Bagnall scored on the hour in the first-leg at The Grove on 15th April 2003 but two late goals gave Halesowen a 2-1 lead. Crawley levelled the tie with Nigel Brake's goal after 12 minutes in the second-leg at Broadfield Stadium two weeks later and leading marksman Nick McDonnell scored on 54 minutes as Crawley won 2-0 in front of 1,049 and triumphed 3-2 on aggregate.



The Red Devils Broadfield Stadium

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Steve Evans guided the Red Devils to two successive promotions

He steered Crawley to the Blue Square Premier title and FA Cup fifth round twice, then to within touching distance of promotion in 2011/12 before resigning in April 2012 to become Rotherham United's manager.

#### 2011 CUP VISIT TO OLD TRAFFORD

The Red Devils reached the FA Cup fifth round for the first time in 2010/11. The epic run started with a 1-0 victory at Newport County and Crawley stormed to a 5-0 win at Guiseley in the first round proper. Ben Smith netted twice in Crawley's 3-2 victory at Swindon after extra-time in the second round replay, then Sergio Torres' injury-time goal clinched a 2-1 third round win at home to Derby County. Matt Tubbs scored to secure a 1-0 fourth round victory at Torquay and Crawley visited Manchester United in the fifth round. They lost 1-0 to Wes Brown's goal watched by 74,778 at Old Trafford on 19th February 2011.

#### 2011 RECORD BREAKING CHAMPIONS

Crawley clinched the Blue Square Premier title with a 3-0 victory at Tamworth on 9th April 2011. Two goals by Matt Tubbs plus another from Charlie Wassmer secured promotion to the Football League in front of 1,569 at The Lamb. Steve Evans' side started with a 1-0 defeat at home to Grimsby but lost only two more matches, 2-1 at AFC Wimbledon and 3-2 at home to Newport County. The Reds were undefeated in their last 30 games including a 7-0 win over Altrincham and won the title by a 15 point margin. Tubbs was top scorer in the Blue Square Premier with 37 goals as Crawley won the title with a record 105 points.

#### 2012 PROMOTION AT FIRST ATTEMPT

The club clinched promotion to League 1 with a 1-0 victory over Accrington Stanley at the Crown Ground on 5th May 2012. Scott Neilson's second-half winner enabled Crawley to finish third in League 2 and secure promotion at the first attempt. They had begun life in the Football League with a 2-2 draw at Port Vale and climbed to the top after losing just three of their opening 21 games. Crawley also beat Bury, Redbridge, Bristol City and Hull City en route to a 2-0 FA Cup fifth round defeat at home to Stoke City. Another 13-match unbeaten run set up promotion despite the shock departure of manager Steve Evans to Rotherham.

# TOWN 1 0 MORECAMBE

## WHAT'S THE STORY?

Jack Marriott's goal 14 minutes from time handed the Hatters a third victory on the spin.

The striker slotted home his 11th goal of the season from an acute angle following Paddy McCourt's pass to finally break Morecambe's resistance.

Marriott went close in the first half with a shot that bounced inches wide of the post but the forward made no mistake to secure the Hatters their first back-to-back home wins since September.

Goalkeeper Mark Tyler was tested in the first half when blocking Kevin Ellison's shot and then saved from Chris Doyle's header in the second.

But that was as close as the visitors came as the Town dominated possession and the chances against the Shrimps.

Craig Mackail-Smith and Marriott were both denied before the latter notched the winning goal with calm and composed finish on 74 minutes.



### JONES SAID:

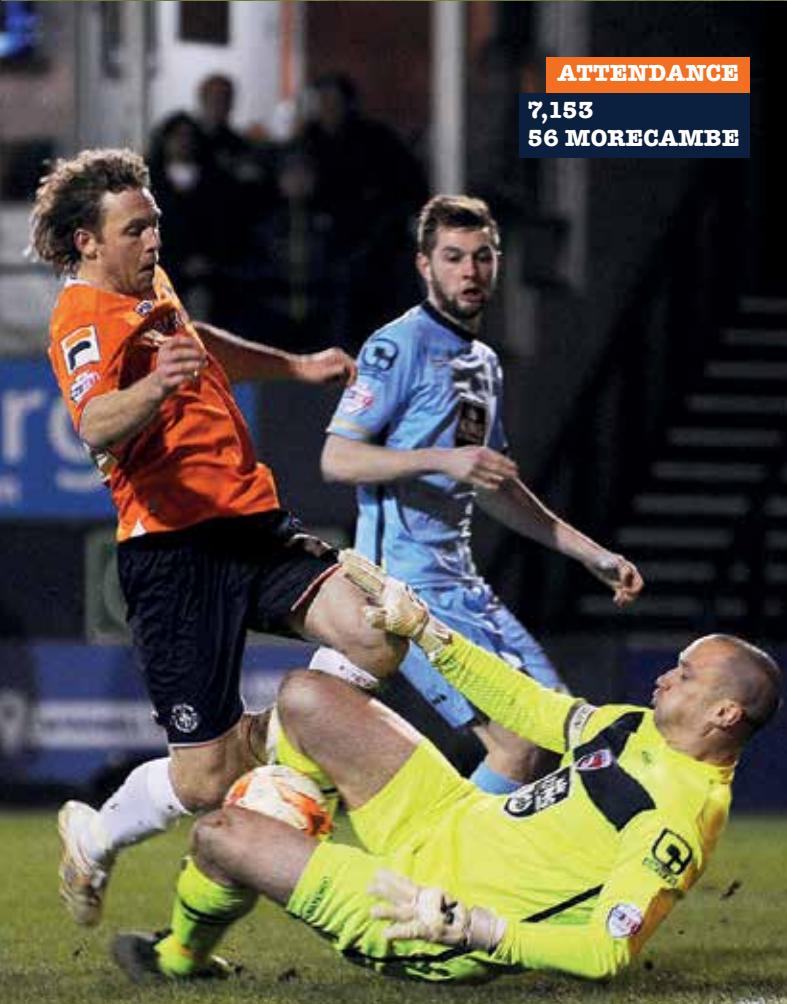
"We won 3-2 the other day and everyone was buzzing. This was a 10-times better win than it was the other day.

"There was more control, there was more fluency in our play and there was way about us. Morecambe came here, and I know they're struggling for results, but they killed the game. They killed momentum in the game and we picked it up.

"I'm really proud of them because that's a proper performance and if anyone has gone away from here and thought they were half-hearted, they've watched a totally different game to what I have – and I'll watch it again. I'm buzzing, absolutely buzzing."



Jack Marriott hits the Hatters' winner



### ATTENDANCE

7,153  
56 MORECAMBE

POSSESSION

57%

43%



10	CORNERS	5
4	SHOTS ON TARGET	6
6	SHOTS WIDE	5
10	FOULS	6
2	OFFSIDES	3

LUTON TOWN	V	MORECAMBE
TUESDAY 1ST MARCH 2016		
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O'DONNELL		BEELEY
SHEEHAN		KENYON (C)
HOWELLS		EDWARDS
SMITH		DEVITT
CUTHBERT (C)		BARKHUIZEN
McGEEHAN		ELLISON
MCCOURT		MULLIN
LEE		GOODALL
MARRIOTT		WILBIG
MACKAIL-SMITH		DOYLE
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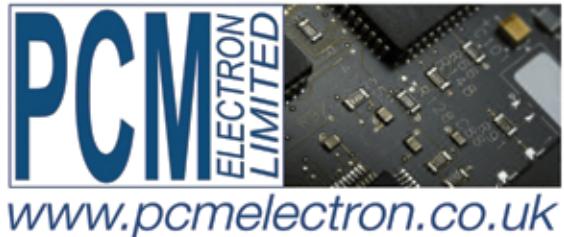
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LUTON TOWN v CRAWLEY TOWN | SATURDAY 12th MARCH 2016

# **Jack on TARGET**

Hatters striker Jack Marriott believes the partnerships he is making with his fellow front men has proved pivotal in his recent run of goal-scoring form.

The 21-year-old slotted home from an acute angle in the 1-0 victory against Morecambe in our last home games, his third goal in four games at the time.

But Marriott feels the relationships with Craig Mackail-Smith and Paddy McCourt have been just as important as sticking the ball in the net himself.

He said: "When you see Paddy running at pace, you know he's going to try for that jink or through ball, and I saw Macca was in front of me and we were both looking to get in behind the Morecambe defence.

"If it had fallen to Craig it would have been great because I trust him to finish it, but I was glad to get it too and slot it home.

"It's a very enjoyable partnership with Macca, we both have a lot of energy and are both always looking to make those runs for the team.

"With someone like Paddy in the team playing in that number 10 role, you know you're going to be getting the service in and around the edge of the area and he'll give you chances between defenders."

Marriott's midweek goal was his 11th of the campaign, a tally he bettered against Leyton Orient last Saturday.

#### **PROUD**

It could have been even more if a first-half chance was converted, but the striker is proud of his goal-scoring accolades of the season so far.

"I was kicking myself at half-time for not tucking home chance, but I was glad to get a second opportunity to make up for it and ultimately get the goal that decided the game," Marriott continued.

"My touch took me too far wide on the first one, making it a bit too hard for myself but I still backed myself to score. For the goal I was running away from goal a little bit but managed to get the angle and a bit of power and get it under the keeper."



"I'm very pleased with how it's gone so far. It's my first season as a genuine first team player so I'm glad to be amongst the goals. Hopefully I can score some more over the season."

The change in manager could potentially have led to an unsettling time for a youngster enjoying a sixth club in his young career to date.

But Marriott is thankful to both John Still and Nathan Jones for the opportunities and, humbly, is just hoping he can maintain a place in the starting line-up.

"We kept knocking at the door, thankfully we managed to get through and got the goal to get us that three points," said Marriott after the Morecambe success.

"I'm just happy to be playing, it's nice to be in the team. Scoring goals is good as well, but I just like having that place and just try to push on to go from there."

"The gaffer has been brilliant, we're all really enjoying ourselves and we're playing well on the pitch. You're always going to experience changes in the manager through the game of football, I saw that at Carlisle too, and I think loan appearances like that have left me in good stead going forward."

**FRONTMAN  
HAILS  
SUPPLY  
LINE**

## WHAT'S THE STORY?

Jack Marriott's spectacular first-half lob proved the only goal of the game as the Hatters made it four consecutive League 2 wins with victory at Leyton Orient.

Marriott made the most of Craig Mackail-Smith's flick-on to notch his 12th goal of the season, and a fourth in five outings.

But it wasn't all plain sailing for a Town side under pressure for large periods of the second half, but a fantastic defensive display ensured the side held on for a fifth win in six, moving to 50 points and to 12th in the League 2 table.

The Hatters defence – which included new loan signing in goalkeeper Jonathan Mitchell – stood firm at Brisbane Road and the victory could have been made sweeter had Dan Potts, making his first appearance since October, seen his curling shot drift inches past the post in the second half.

# ORIENT 0 1 TOWN



### JONES SAID:

"I'm massively proud in terms of what they gave me today, their endeavour, how they went about their work.

"They gave me absolutely everything today and that is all you can ask.

"There was one bit of quality in the game, Jack produced it and it won the game.

"I'm really proud of the players, I'm getting to know what they will produce. There is an equilibrium to their performances and I like that, I can work with that. It's a platform."



LUTON TOWN	
SATURDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2016	
CISAK CLOHESSEY BAUDRY (C) PALMER MOORE ATANGANA BRISLEY BINNOM-WILLIAMS SIMPSON HUNT NOLAN	
MITCHELL O'DONNELL POTTS SHEEHAN CUTHBERT (C) SMITH MC CORT MC GEEHAN LEE MARRIOTT MACKAIL-SMITH	
SUBSTITUTES GARRETT, JESSAK, MACKAIL-SMITH, PAPU, PITCHFORD, JAHIBALU, MARTIN, SHANAHAN, TAYLOR	

6	CORNERS	5
3	SHOTS ON TARGET	0
4	SHOTS WIDE	3
9	FOULS	10
0	OFFSIDES	4



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# BACK IN THE FRAME

## LEFT-BACK GLAD FOR FIRST TEAM RETURN

Town full-back Dan Potts is hoping that his performance against Leyton Orient last Saturday can lead to a prolonged spell in the Hatters first team.

The 21-year-old featured in his first game under Nathan Jones in the 1-0 victory, his first start since the defeat to Plymouth back in October.

But now the former West Ham man is looking to make himself a feature of Jones' plans having deputised for the injured Jake Howells at Brisbane Road.

"Sometimes you need those breaks. Jake was doing well, which is credit to him, but as all players tell you, you need to be ready just in case you do personally get that bit of luck", said Potts, with a croaky voice post-match.

"I want to be playing every week, I don't want to be filling gaps, I want to be the first one on the team-sheet for my position, so it's vital that when I do get those breaks, like today, that I take them.

"I felt good in myself out there and hopefully I can push on. I've felt ready for whenever the gaffer wants me in, so that transition felt smooth. I know what to expect when coming in, and that's the sort of consistency we need.

"It's been a stop-start season personally, having had a couple of niggles with my hamstring. I'm over them, so now I just need things to run smoothly within myself and I can try and clinch that position."

Potts was not the only man making his first Hatters start under the new manager, with goalkeeper

Jonathan Mitchell arriving in the week to take his place in the starting line-up.

And Potts believes the 'keeper joined the back four in being instrumental in the Town's second consecutive clean sheet and ninth away win of the campaign.

"Mitch has come in literally today, so fair play to him. He literally rocked up at the team hotel this morning! I thought he was a different class for a guy making his league debut, but all credit to him.

"They bombarded us in the second half at times, but we dealt with it and Scott Cuthbert was different class.

"It's those sorts of performances that the manager will be happy with. We'll need more of those with some tough away games coming up."

"He's come in and been different class for everyone. He's had one-on-one meetings with everyone, and got involved with training. Each manager has his own way of doing things, how they want to operate and that's his decision."



The success at Orient marked a fourth successive League 2 victory for the Hatters, prompting Potts to still harbour aspirations for a Play-Off place.

"We had three on the bounce before Orient, but all the lads knew

FEATURING SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER  
LUTON TOWN MANAGER  
NATHAN JONES

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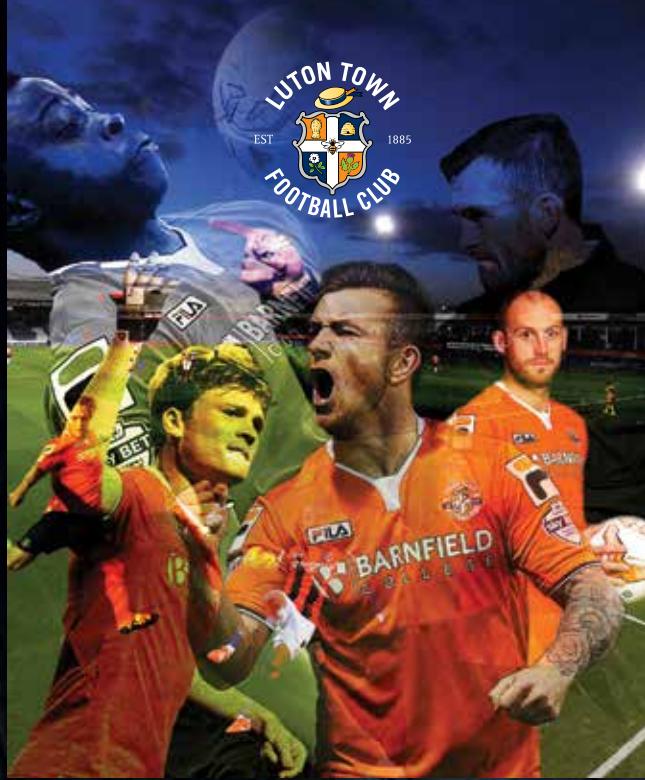
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## SEASON TICKETS 2016-17

As this season enters its final phase, we begin to look forward to 2016-17. **Season tickets for next season go on sale tomorrow, 2nd March**, so we've put together this pull-out supplement featuring our new season ticket pricing matrix and booking form.

You're reading this in the Morecambe programme, so the chances are that you're already a season ticket holder. If so, thanks once more for your loyal support in 2015-16. We hope you'll stick with us next season for more thrills and spills and what we hope will be a successful campaign.

And if you're not already a season ticket holder, **now's the time to upgrade**. Before the 26th March, you'll qualify for the Earlybird prices, and your season ticket provides loads of other great benefits besides your guaranteed seat for home league games.

Come on you Hatters!

*It's been a great privilege to take the reigns as manager of Luton Town, and with a few games under my belt I can honestly say that I'm loving being involved at the Club.*

*I'm very excited by the prospect of my first full season in charge of the team and I'm sure that with your support we can continue to improve and deliver the success that the Club deserves.*

*One thing is for sure. We can't do it without you.*

*See you in August!*

FIRST TEAM  
MANAGER:  
NATHAN JONES

Photo: Gareth Owen

ON SALE 2ND MARCH  
EARLY BIRD ENDS  
26TH MARCH

# SEASON TICKET PRICES

Our season tickets go on sale in three phases - Earlybird, Primetime and Anytime. The sooner you purchase your ticket, the cheaper it is. Plus you can spread the cost by paying in instalments (terms and conditions apply).

**EARLYBIRD:**  
2ND-26TH MARCH

Buy your ticket early - and make the most of the cheapest way to pay.

**PRIMETIME:**  
2ND APRIL- 31ST MAY

Pay a reduced rate before the end of the 2015-16 campaign

**ANYTIME:**  
FROM 1ST JUNE

Our standard season ticket price, available pro-rata throughout the season.

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RANGE**

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AND PRIMETIME ONLY  
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		League 1	League 2	League 1	League 2	
ADULT	£340.00	£390.00	£370.00	£420.00	£400.00	
OAK ROAD	£260.00	£330.00	£290.00	£360.00	£320.00	
YOUNG ADULT (18-22)*	£240.00	£280.00	£260.00	£300.00	£280.00	
SENIOR (65-74)*	£240.00	£280.00	£260.00	£300.00	£280.00	
GOLDEN SENIOR (75 +)*	£170.00	£210.00	£190.00	£230.00	£210.00	
UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH (10-17)*	£120.00	£140.00	£130.00	£150.00	£140.00	
ACCOMPANIED YOUTH (10-17)*†	£80.00	£100.00	£90.00	£110.00	£100.00	
ACCOMPANIED JUNIOR (UNDER 10)*†	£50.00	£70.00	£60.00	£80.00	£70.00	

Disabled supporters\*\* over 17 will pay one age category below their normal age band upon proof of middle or higher rate DLA

**IMPORTANT:** Please note that if you buy your ticket during the Primetime period you are committing to paying the full League 1 price if we gain promotion. Tickets purchased before promotion is decided will be sold at League 2 prices, and these will be held until the balance is paid.

**Existing season ticket holder's seats will be held until the 31st May.**

\* AGE CONCESSIONS: The date used to determine the correct age category for supporters is the first day of the 2016-17 season. If you are purchasing a concessionary priced ticket, you are required to provide proof of age by post or in person when purchasing or collecting of your season ticket.

† Accompanied youth and junior season tickets must be purchased at the same time as the accompanying adult, and seated together.

\*\* Disabled supporters are required to join the Luton Town Disabled Supporters Association (LTDSA) free of charge to qualify for concessionary price.

Please note that credit card payments are subject to a £5 surcharge.

## SEASON TICKET BOOKING FORM. ONE FORM PER PERSON.

### PERSONAL DETAILS

NAME	D.O.B		D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y
ADDRESS	Note: proof of age is required for all concessions									
	CLIENT REF (if known):									
	CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS									
	MOBILE									
EMAIL	HOME									

### SEASON TICKET

Please complete the grid below, entering the appropriate price for your age category plus any additional charges in the 'ADDITIONAL CHARGES' section.

PLEASE SPECIFY WHICH SEASON TICKET YOU REQUIRE AND HOW YOU WISH TO PAY	ADDITIONAL CHARGES	TOTAL					
FULL DEBIT	FULL CREDIT	CASH/CHQ	4 MONTH INS.	10 MONTH INS.	POST (+ £0.95)	CREDIT (+ £5)	AMOUNT
<b>EXAMPLE</b>				£340	£0.95		£340.95
ADULT							
OVER 65							
UNDER 22							
OVER 75							
UNAC U18							
ACC U18							
ACC U10							
OAK ADULT							
SEASON TICKET SEAT LOCATION	UPGRADE TO A DIAMOND SEASON TICKET						
STAND	ADULT + £150						
BLOCK	CONCESSION + £130						
ROW	SEAT	YOUTH + £50					

### TRUST IN LUTON.

Join or renew your Trust in Luton membership

TIL ADULT - £10:  TIL UNDER 16 / OVER 60 - £5:  Suggested donation - £10  Other amount: £

### TOTAL 2016-17 SEASON TICKET CHARGE:

If you are paying in 4 or 10 monthly instalments, the amount will be divided equally across the number of payment period. Eg: 340.95 / 10 = 10 payments of £34.10. The first payment will be taken on the first of the month after your application is received, followed by the next 3 or 9 months depending on the scheme you choose.

### AWAY SEASON TICKET

The Away Season ticket box should only be ticked if you wish to automatically purchase tickets for all away league games (only 6 cancellations permitted per season). One additional payment of £35 will be taken from the card provided.

DIAMOND	YES PLEASE
REGULAR	NO THANKS
INCLUDED £35	

### HOME CUP AUTHORISATION FORM

Do you want the ticket office to automatically book and forward your home cup match tickets? Please tick the appropriate box:

YES PLEASE NO THANKS

### PAYMENT CARD DETAILS

If you are paying in instalments, you MUST advise the ticket office in the event of any changes

LONG CARD NUMBER									
EXPIRY DATE				VALID FROM				LAST 3 DIGITS ON REVERSE OF CARD	
CARD HOLDER'S NAME									
CARD HOLDER'S SIGNATURE	I agree that Luton Town Football Club 2020 Ltd may use the card details provided for payment for this season ticket application. For full terms and conditions please see page 10								

Credit agreement regulated by the consumer credit act (1974)

If you wish your season ticket to be posted, please add £0.95 to the appropriate section above. Otherwise your season ticket will be held at the ticket office for collection. If posting please return all application forms to Luton Town Ticket Office, Kenilworth Road, Luton, Beds, LU1 1DH.



## BENEFITS FOR SEASON TICKET HOLDERS

As a season ticket holder - you're entitled to loads of great extra benefits:

- Guaranteed seat for all home league matches
- First option on your seat for all cup games
- **Priority booking** for all-ticket away games
- **Free entry** to all reserve and development games played at Kenilworth Road
- 10% discount on full-price merchandise in our club shops\*
- Entry to the Eric Morecambe Lounge for drinks and food before, during and after games†
- The chance to upgrade to hospitality areas for individual matches, with the cost of a match day ticket discounted†

\* On production of your season ticket

† Subject to match availability

## WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

You've chosen your ticket, filled out your form and read the terms, what's next?

Once we've received your forms, the ticket office will begin processing applications, and payment. Season tickets are then printed and we aim to have all tickets dispatched by the 1st August 2016.

### RETURN YOUR APPLICATION FORMS

Season ticket application forms can be returned in person to the ticket office or can be sent by post to Luton Town FC Ticket Office, Kenilworth Road, Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 1DH.

### SEASON TICKET POSTAGE

Season Tickets can be collected from the ticket office when advised or can be sent by post if preferred. If you require your season ticket to be posted, please tick the additional charges section for postage on the form and 95p will be added to your charges.

### FIND OUT MORE

Full details of our season ticket offer for 2016-17 are available in our season ticket booklets, and on our website. This includes information about Diamond season tickets, the away season ticket, our buy back scheme which continues next season and all terms and conditions.

[www.lutontown.co.uk/tickets/](http://www.lutontown.co.uk/tickets/)

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



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# Traveller's TALES



COULD THE TOWN MAKE IT FOUR WINS ON THE SPIN AT LEYTON ORIENT?  
OH YES THEY COULD! HATTERS FAN KEVIN HARPER TELLS HIS TALE  
OF A VICTORIOUS DAY IN EAST LONDON

## **The journey**

On a relatively sunny day two Bobbers coaches set off from Luton at around 12.15pm for the short trip to East London to Leyton Orient. You could tell that there was a bit more optimism than there was ahead of the trip to York – it is amazing what a good record at a place can do for the psyche!

The journey went well. Even on the North Circular there was little in the way of traffic and we arrived in Leyton around an hour after we set off.

**Rating:**

## **The ground**

Brisbane Road isn't the worst ground in the division by any means. It is unique in that there is a set of flats in each corner of the ground which I would imagine cost a few quid to rent!

Clearly a bit of money has gone into the ground. Three of the stands looked pretty new and while we were in the one that wasn't there was no massive complaints

**Rating:**

about the view. Actually the old stand served the Town fans well because it had a low roof which meant we could generate lots of noise.

Unlike at York the amenities were actually usable so all in all it made a nice change to go to a ground which was fit for purpose unlike the last two we visited with the first team which definitely weren't!

**Rating:**

## **The food**

With the journey short we didn't stop at the services so I grabbed something inside the ground. I got a hot dog which was really good but other options were burgers, veggie burgers, pies and sausage rolls. The usual drinks, crisps and chocolate were also available so there was plenty of choice.

Apparently the burgers wasn't up to much but everything was pretty well priced so all in all things were alright on the food front.

**Rating:**

## **The programme**

Of the 68-page programme there were six pages solely about the Town where the skipper Scott Cuthbert was labelled the star man. Sticking to what they knew there I guess as Cuthbert was returning to Orient for the first time! There was a page on club legend Bob Morton and later in the book there was a three-page interview with former Hatter, Matthew Spring which was worth a read. This was one of the better programmes we've had on the road this season.

**Rating:**

## **The match**

I had a feeling this would be a good game before it began and I wasn't wrong! The Town made two changes as Mark Tyler had moved on and in came new loanee Jonathan Mitchell for his debut. Dan Potts replaced the injured Jake Howells.

The match began fairly even. Orient seemed to be targeting our left-hand side but never created





too much in the early part while we looked to get after Orient on the counter with the pace of Craig Mackail-Smith and Jack Marriott combined with the passing skills of Paddy McCourt and Olly Lee.

We had the first chance when a cross made its way to Mackail-Smith in the box. It looked like he could have hit it on the volley but decided to chest it down. The ball ran to Marriott on the other side of the box but he was squeezed out and the chance had gone.

There was a lengthy delay soon after as a cross came in and there was a collision between Mitchell and one of the Orient defenders. You could tell by the reaction it was a nasty injury for the defender and seven minutes later he was stretchered off.

Orient had to reshuffle and by the time they did they were 1-0 down. Mitchell, exuding plenty of confidence and displaying a monster kick, belted a ball down field. Mackail-Smith headed it on and Marriott got in behind. He looked up, saw the goalkeeper off his line and lobbed it over him delightfully to send 1,400 Town fans absolutely mad!

The second half was very much a backs to the wall sort of 45 minutes. We had probably the best chance of the half, though. Pelly Ruddock came on and was played through and the ball broke to Potts on the edge of the box. He hit it first time right footed but it just went past the post.

The rest of the match saw us having to defend a barrage of balls into our box but really and truly we did it pretty comfortably. Orient barely saw our goal in the second half despite all their possession and when the full-time whistle went the Luton end erupted and erupted again when the manager came over showing plenty of passion.

**Rating:** 

#### Man-of-the-Match

They often say players play their best against their former clubs especially those with a point to prove and that was certainly the case for Scott Cuthbert here. The defender was absolutely immense under the weight of pressure we were under in the second half. There was barely a cross he didn't attack and clear

and not an opening that presented itself that he didn't close down. He was clearly motivated to play well back on his old stomping ground and he did just that. This was his best outing in a Town shirt.

#### Summary

This was one of the best away days for a while. Inside the ground the atmosphere was absolutely brilliant and outside the ground both the journey there and the one back went smooth. We were back in Luton by 6.30 which was good as I had a birthday party for my dad to get to for 7!

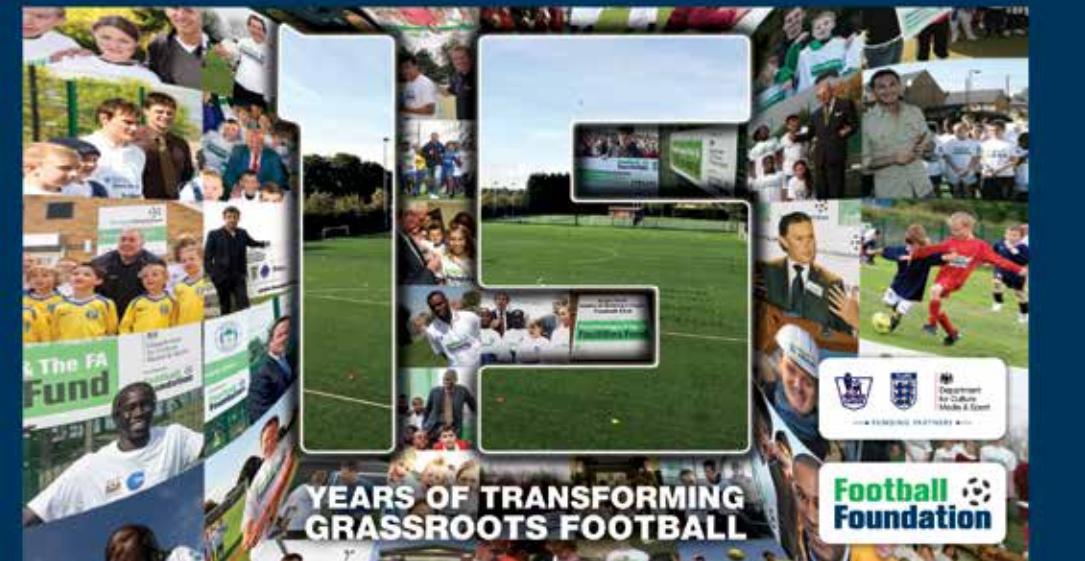
The win moved us to within three points of the Play-Offs and there was certainly plenty of talk about sneaking into the end of season lottery on the way home. A fourth win on the trot certainly felt good and made for a very good evening!

#### OVERALL RATING

**20 out of 25**

#### MILES TRAVELED THIS SEASON

**4,652.5**



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# TYLER SAYS GOODBYE

## VETERAN KEEPER CALLS TIME ON TOWN CAREER

Out-going goalkeeper Mark Tyler says it was with a heavy heart that he has agreed to leave the Hatters for former club Peterborough United.

Tyler signed for the Town in the summer of 2009 and went onto make 297 appearances for the Club across six-and-a-half years but rejoins Posh on an initial three-month loan with a view to a permanent deal.

"I wouldn't have left Luton for any other club," Tyler told [lutontown.co.uk](http://lutontown.co.uk). "It's great opportunity for me at Peterborough and I couldn't turn it down."

"The Club [Luton] have been great, the manager and board realised this was something I wanted to do and for that I'd like to thank them."

Tyler made his Town debut in a 1-1 draw at AFC Wimbledon in the Club's first game in the Conference.

He said: "I remember coming down and talking to Mick Harford – the move for me was a no brainer at the time. I came to play as I wasn't for Posh."

"I remember my first game at Wimbledon and thinking 'wow'. The fans were absolutely incredible and I can still see them going crazy when we scored. I don't think I realised what I'd let myself in for but I soon came to realise how amazing the fans were."

"The club are the fans and I think we got

on really well together. I just did the best I could and I hope that made them happy."

Tyler lost in two successive Play-Off final defeats before the Hatters finally got it right under John Still and won the Conference at a canter in 2013/14 to seal a return to the Football League.

"The season we won the Conference was incredible," said Tyler. "100 points and 100 goals, 23 clean sheets. The 27-match unbeaten run...It was a magnificent season and a special year and I won't forget the celebrations in town after the season had ended."

Through good times and bad, Tyler's seen it. A 1-0 win at boyhood club Norwich in the FA Cup was followed seven days later with a 1-0 defeat at Barrow in the Conference.

"There's been plenty of ups and downs," Tyler laughs. "For me personally the win at Norwich, with all my family there, was a dream come true. The same when I went

back to Peterborough this season. It was another thing to tick off the list.

"But I will miss the fans. They've stayed with the club through thick and thin and backed us all the way.

"I'd like to thank them and everyone at Luton and hopefully I'll be back soon to say goodbye."

"In the meantime, I wish the lads and Nathan Jones all the best for the rest of the season."



## TYLER IN NUMBERS

- 1st appearance v WIMBLEDON (a) 9/8/09
- 100th appearance v DARLINGTON (h) 10/9/11
- 200th appearance v TAMWORTH (a) 19/10/13
- 250th appearance v BURTON (a) 22/11/14
- Last appearance v MORECAMBE (h) 1/3/15

# PICTURE the PAST

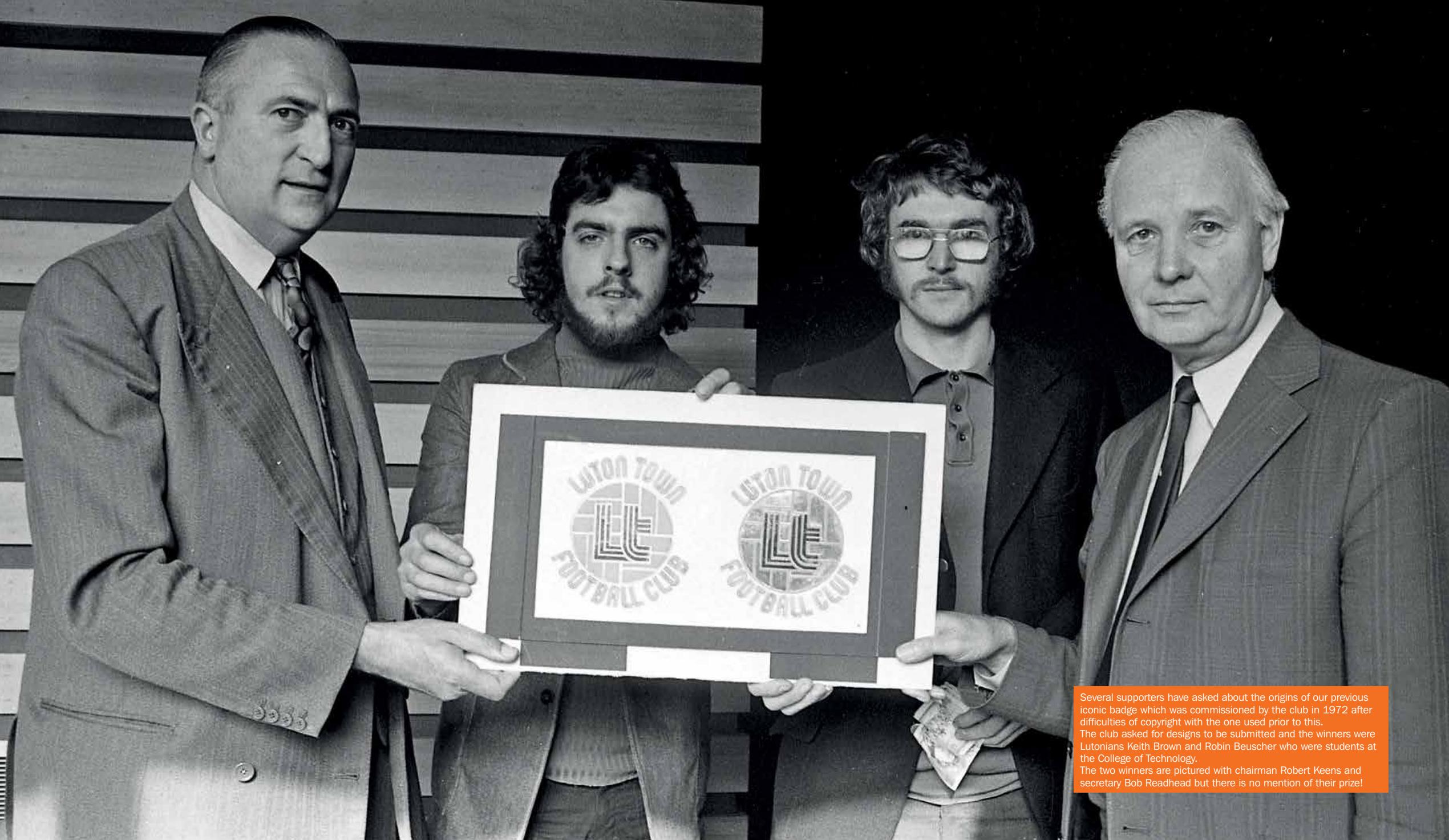
Club historian **ROGER WASH** delves into his photographic archive



Malcolm Macdonald tangles with future Hatter Bobby Thomson during the 1-1 draw at Birmingham in August 1970. This was the game when we knew that the newly promoted Town had 'arrived' in Division Two (now the Championship) as, after a tentative start to life in the new division, the football we played at St Andrews that day was eye opening. Supermac kept calm and levelled from the spot in front of over 30,000 intimidating Brummies just before the end of an enthralling clash.

# THE CAMERA never LIES

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



Several supporters have asked about the origins of our previous iconic badge which was commissioned by the club in 1972 after difficulties of copyright with the one used prior to this. The club asked for designs to be submitted and the winners were Lutonians Keith Brown and Robin Beuscher who were students at the College of Technology. The two winners are pictured with chairman Robert Keens and secretary Bob Readhead but there is no mention of their prize!

# Luton Town in the COMMUNITY

BY KEVIN THOBURN, HEAD OF THE HATTERS COMMUNITY TRUST

At the Trust we are always looking for ways to use the power of football to improve and engage with our local community and especially in all of our local schools.

Children are our future is a cliché but more importantly for us they are also our future supporters and we make sure we put lots of our resources into Bedfordshire schools to get the name of Luton Town out there and also encourage the next generation of supporters to come to a game.

Premier League Reading Stars – Hatters Literacy Double Club

While our main focus of school's engagement will always be our Free School Sport project to get as many children active as possible, one of the latest ways we are engaging with local schools is through one of our newest and exciting projects, the Hatters Literacy Double Club.

Our new programme has been designed to stimulate pupils from both a Primary and High School setting ages 9-13 who have an interest in football but lack motivation to engage with and achieve in literacy and reading. The two groups we are focusing on are those often selected from an economically disadvantaged background and boys. Hatters community operations

manager, Daniel Douglas, believes getting this project out there for every primary and high school in Luton is our first target - living in one of the most vibrant multicultural towns in the country we have over 100 different languages being spoken in the town and we need to ensure the next generation all speak and read the same language. The language of football is a universal one but we need to make sure it's in English!

The Literacy Double Club is particularly successful in narrowing the gap between those who are reading at the expected level for their age and those who are underachieving. It is also particularly effective in transforming boys' attitudes towards literacy, but as you will notice, just by looking around Kenilworth Road this afternoon, we can't forget about the girls can we! We have plenty of girls taking part in the programme who are showing just as much enthusiasm as the boys engaging their passion for football to inspire a love of reading.

Our community staff are using a wide range of resources to deliver 10 regular weekly classroom based lessons which we refer to the students as their weekly fixtures for a class of up to 20 pupils. These exciting fixtures last up to 90 minutes with the pupils then taking part in their weekly one-hour practical football session at either lunchtime or as an afterschool club. The programme has made an instant impact for a lot of the children taking part already as they cannot wait

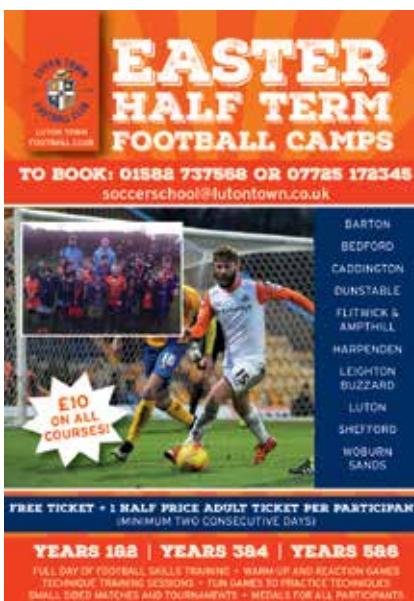


to get home to log on to their very own online 'Reading Stars' area where they get to complete challenges which involve a lot of reading comprehensions and other tasks.

The Double Club programme uses a wide range of children's texts (fiction, non-fiction and poetry) which have been highly recommended from our partners at the National Literacy Trust which the pupils get the chance to refer to and take home with them each week and many other fantastic opportunities for the young reading stars including author days at top Premier League stadiums, player reading visits and their very own 'Reading Stars' classroom equipment which includes lessons at Kenilworth Road.

Our educational team led Daniel, are keen to help as many lower achieving pupils in our town as possible and believe football can influence the way young people view reading.

If you would like your local school to be involved in the Hatters Literacy Double Club you can contact the community office on 01582 737568 or Daniel direct by email at [daniel.douglas@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:daniel.douglas@lutontown.co.uk).



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## Easter Holiday Soccer Camps

Easter is almost here! If you are one of the hundreds of youngsters who regularly attend our soccer camps during the half-term holiday, then you will already know the format and how to book and you will also probably have received all of the details of our soccer camps which this Easter are spread over three weeks.

However, if you've not tried a soccer camp before then why not come along during the Easter holiday. They are great fun, open to all abilities and run from 10am to 3pm each day. They are very competitively priced with some courses from as little as £7.50 per day and represent great value.

There is lots of skills training and mini world cup tournaments and of course, everyone receives the legendary Luton Town free medal with the chance to meet first team players on presentation days and a great match ticket deal!

Our courses run throughout the county from Bedford down to Luton, and you can download our leaflet from either the main club website or by giving us a call at

the community office on 01582 737568 or text 07725 172345 or email [soccerschool@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:soccerschool@lutontown.co.uk) for further information or to book a place. We look forward to seeing you during the Easter holidays.



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## YOUTH UPDATE

**A young Town Under-18 side went down 2-0 to AFC Bournemouth last Saturday.**

Paul Driver fielded a side containing just three full-time scholars with the rest of the team made-up of under-15 and under-16 players.

### LEARNING

And the Hatters youngsters did well for long periods but succumbed to two second half goals which gave the Cherries all three points in the Merit League.

Driver told lutontown.co.uk: "The boys played really well. Some of the passing in possession was excellent.

"It's a learning curve for them. All they need now is to start turning possession into chances and shots on target. Once they do there's no reason why this group can't be better than this year's.

"There needs to be more determination and willingness to shoot and once they have that it's then all about being clinical.

"But for a team with an average age of 16 to play like they did against a much older Bournemouth gives us a lot of confidence."

**Town:** Parker; Mead, Bean, Jones, James; Brown, Peck (sub Justin 58), Verney, Read, Sorunke; Shamola (sub Belgrave 67). **Subs not used:** McJannet, Murray (GK).



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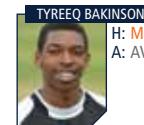
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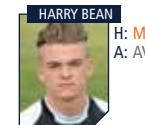
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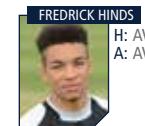
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**AKINLOLU FAMEWO**  
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**FREDRICK HINDS**  
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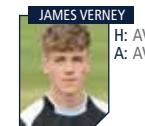
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Good afternoon and welcome to today's game versus Crawley Town.

### Under-18s

The Youth team bounced back in style last week with a fully deserved 2-0 victory over Swindon Town at Kenilworth Road in the Southern Area League Cup Final. A patient, organised, disciplined approach saw us come through as worthy winners.

Credit again to Paul Driver and the boys for picking themselves up after the FA Youth Cup disappointment at Blackburn Rovers the previous week. It would have been easy to feel down and be a hard luck story, but no, in typical Luton Town fashion Paul galvanised the team and they showed great spirit and togetherness to get the job done. It was great to see, and great for the boys to experience, a good healthy turnout in support on the evening and the lads did not let the fans down with a really spirited display - once again thank you for your continued support.

We will now play away at Shrewsbury Town in The National Final on Wednesday April 20th (7pm kick-off), and we again will be grateful to any supporters who are able to make the game and cheer us on, to hopefully, another trophy.

### Schoolboys

The under-16s, along with some selected under-15 players, have enjoyed great exposure recently in that they have represented the club in the Under-18 merit league fixtures. We have been purposely selective in which games the current under-18s play in, due to the cup successes and this has provided our younger batch with a fantastic opportunity.

Our Under-16 coach Joe Deeney and Paul Driver have been delighted with their performances both individually and as a unit. This experience will certainly stand them in good stead for the coming years as obviously they are playing up against boys who are at least two years older.

Although as yet results have not gone our way, we have been thrilled with the way all the boys have embraced the physical challenge and I am certain that this will help them in the coming months and years as they continue their own individual development. Well done everyone.

### Congratulations!

Well done to Tyreeq Bakinson who has signed his first professional contract this week. This is another small step along the journey of getting through to the first team and I, along with all the staff, are delighted that he has been given this opportunity.

May I also credit the Academy staff who have all played a part in working with Tyreeq over a number of seasons. Tyreeq joined us as an under-10, some eight years ago, and has therefore been coached and educated by a variety of different people and they all should be rightfully proud of the job they have done in helping him reach this point. Well Done lads and good luck Tyreeq!

Enjoy today's game and fingers crossed for another three points. COYH!

### YOUTH ALLIANCE FIXTURES

#### AUGUST

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

#### SEPTEMBER

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

#### OCTOBER

- Sat 3 Dag & Red (Cup) W 2-0
- Sat 10 Southend United A W 2-1

#### Sat 17 Peterborough United H W 4-1

- Fri 23 Barnet A W 5-0

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

#### NOVEMBER

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

#### Tue 24 Milton Keynes Dons H W 2-0

- DECEMBER**
- Sat 5 Cambridge United H W 3-0
- Tue 15 Notts County A (FAYC3) W 3-1
- Sat 19 Dagenham & Redbridge A L 1-3

#### JANUARY

- Sat 2 Leyton Orient A W 1-0
- Tue 12 Stevenage A W 2-0
- Sat 16 Bournemouth A (Cup) W 4-2
- Wed 20 Southend United H W 1-0**
- Sat 23 Stevenage H L 0-1**
- Wed 20 Oldham Athletic A (FAYC4) W 1-0
- Sat 30 Northampton Town H L 0-3

#### FEBRUARY

- Wed 10 Preston North End (FAYC5) A D 1-1 (W 5-3 PENS)
- Sat 13 Leyton Orient H L 0-1**
- Sat 20 AFC Wimbledon H L 1-3
- Tue 23 Blackburn Rovers (FAYCQF) A L 0-1

#### MARCH

- Thu 3 Swindon Town (LC SF) W 2-0**
- Sat 5 Bournemouth A L 0-2
- Sat 12 Gillingham H 11am**
- Sat 19 Cheltenham Town H 12 noon**
- Sat 26 Exeter City A

#### APRIL

- Sat 2 Barnet A
- Sat 9 Plymouth Argyle H 1pm**
- Sat 16 Southend United A 11am
- Sat 23 Portsmouth A

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# Luton LADIES



The Hatters returned to league action with a comfortable 3-0 victory against Denham United last weekend.

Goals from Joanne Rutherford, Natasha Fensome and Erica Byron saw Town collect all three points from eighth place Denham.

Town took an early lead after just four minutes when Michelle Byrne out battled her marker to steer a header into the path of Rutherford who slid her strike under the keeper to make it 1-0.

## SUPERB

Jessica McKay then had two opportunities to double Town's lead with a dangerous header from a Zara Carroll corner and then a superb long range effort from thirty yards that rattled the woodwork.

After the interval Luton continued to dominate and had several opportunities to add to the lead. Rutherford was denied just failing to convert a Fensome cross and Rachel Carter's header from a corner was cleared off the line with the keeper well beaten.

It was Fensome who doubled Town's advantage and extended her goal tally to seven in four games when she guided her header over the advancing Denham keeper following a brilliant cross from Kezia Hassall.

Byron then hit a dangerous ball into the box just before the hour



mark but Fensome's touch just took the ball inches wide.

The Town remained in control and Byron made it 3-0 after 77 minutes with a volley just inside the box following a short pass by Fensome.

## PLEASED

Further goals eluded the Town although Fensome twice came close to adding to the tally.

Town manager Nikki Baker said: "I am really pleased with the performance today we defended excellently and our goalkeeper

didn't make her first serious save until injury time.

"We never looked troubled defensively, dominated in the air and going forward we looked dangerous with how we played and broke in numbers at pace. I am delighted to score three goals and keep a clean sheet."

Hatters Ladies next fixture is tomorrow when they travel to title challengers Gillingham.

For more information on the Ladies visit [www.lutontownladiesfc.co.uk](http://www.lutontownladiesfc.co.uk)

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**FACT FILE**

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# Hatters through the GENERATIONS

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

Steve Abbott has enjoyed a career which has led him to living and working in some of the greatest and most iconic cities in the world.

Yet regardless of his location on the planet, his heart will always be racing for a two-hour window whenever a football match involving his beloved Luton Town is being played thousands of miles away.

"I can't imagine not knowing what's going on," says Steve, a stanch Hatter whose heart is also deeply entrenched in the music industry as a producer and A&R executive. "I fidget. A lot. I'm sure it's the same for many supporters who can't always get to Kenilworth Road."

We know the feeling. It's just that indescribable pull of Lutonia that keeps him coming back for more and flying in from around the globe to take his seat in the front row of the enclosure every other weekend.

They say home is where the heart is. Steve's love of all things Luton, including the Town, has led him to guest-curating a cultural literary festival of performance and poetry in the town which kicked off last week and will run until the start of April.

Some of Britain's best wordsmiths, musicians and actors will descend on the event which Steve has titled 'Lutonia' in honour of his hometown. It will host the likes of Dr John Cooper Clarke, his wife – and now converted Hatters fan – Cerys Matthews and Mike Garry.



"We toyed with the idea of holding a literally festival in Luton," explains Steve. "Last year we put on a Dillon Thomas poetry day. It was a great success – it sold-out straight away – I remember it well because it was the same day as Plymouth away and we won 1-0.

"The success of that got us thinking about how we could hold something authentic and dynamic that people would respond to. We wanted to host it in Luton to attract more people to town. We want people to realise there is more to Luton than meets the eye.

"We have artists attending who are recognised at the very top end

of their game. We have some of the best new talent out there and from our point of view we want to also educate people.

"That's where I see a link to football in that respect.

Being a big Luton fan and having watched so many games and worshipped the likes of Ricky Hill and Graham French, I feel as though my knowledge of the game has improved by seeing the players in close quarters. My knowledge makes the connection with the game, and with the club, stronger and that's the affect we want Lutonia to have.



# Don't forget...

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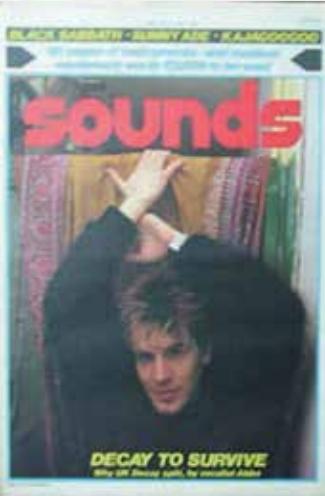
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▶▶ “It’s exciting and spontaneous – very much like Luton Town! And it’s all about perceptions. The Saturday after the Plymouth game I sat in the enclosure and it turned out a man I met at the Dillon Thomas event was sitting next to me! I know sport and art aren’t exactly bedfellows, but there are football fans who are interested in record shops and visiting the oldest pub in Halifax – and it’s all culture.”

‘Abbo’, as he is also known following his days as the lead singer of legendary Luton punk band UK Decay, believes football and culture go hand in hand – an image cultivated during the 1970s and 80s and mirrored by the Hatters’ success on the pitch in the latter decade.

“Culture defines a community,” he says. “We chose the name ‘Lutonia’ because we felt it was synonymous when growing up in Luton in the 1970s and 1980s. We had a great football team and they were entertaining 12-15,000 people every week.

“Now there is even stronger community support, the council, the fans are all making important decisions about supporting the team and backing the town.

“Swansea is a great example. They

had always been in the shadow of Cardiff, both culturally and in football terms. But Swansea is now a real creative hub. They have a saying ‘Swansea pulls together’. There are music and poetry festivals in the city and the football team are now in the Premier League playing with some panache – Swansea City are embodying the place – and that’s how we want Luton to be.”

Steve’s passion for music, culture and making a difference, however, is probably engulfed by his thirst for Luton Town. Who else would honeymoon watching the Hatters play out a goalless draw at Bath City in the Conference?

“I get to 75 per cent of the home games and probably the same amount of away games, too,” he says. “My first game was a 4-1 win over Halifax at Kenilworth Road in 1965.



“I remember getting a clout round the head from my dad, Les, for laughing at him after his coat was ripped after we’d scored one of the goals.

“There are so many amazing moments because memories in football always stay with you. I’ve been asked around the world ‘why do you support Luton?’ and the simple answer is ‘there is no choice’.

“I grew up in Farley Hill and always remember the ritual of walking down to the ground. After that I never imagined not being a Luton fan. As a young boy I hated the summer, even if there was a great holiday I’d

miss the football and missed Luton.” Like many Town supporters, the Littlewoods Cup win in 1988 over Arsenal at Wembley ranks highest on his all-time Hatters list of magical moments.

“It’s obviously a favourite,” says Steve. “It’s funny, I have five kids, the eldest is 26, and they have all been told the bed-time story of the day that Luton won the cup.

“There have been a lot of great cup moments down the years but I don’t think there have been any more dramatic. We really were the underdog that day. Even when I watch the game back I still don’t think we’re going to win!

“But there have been plenty of other incredible memories. Ricky Hill running with the ball seemingly glued to his head against Peterborough, Steve Buckley’s goal at Hereford, Wayne Turner’s winner against Watford in the FA Cup. I could go on...”

The season the Town won the Conference title Abbo and UK Decay released an EP titled ‘A Wonderful Town’ – which included a version of the famous ‘Hatters, Hatters’ hit by the Barron Knights, which helped raise in excess of £6,000 for SOLYD and the Luton Foodbank.

If you haven’t listened to it, we encourage you to get yourself a copy.

“In What a Wonderful Town one verse reads ‘how lucky I was to be born 15 minutes up the road,’ says Steve.

“I’ve been a Luton fan for over 50 years, I’ve lived around the world, and am so proud of that. I hope people support the Lutonia initiative.

“For me it is like pulling the orange, blue and white shirt on, and despite the negatives that the rest of the world may throw against us, we are Luton, we’re proud, and everything is possible for us.”

“Lutonia is now on and runs until 2nd April. For more information visit [www.lutonculture.com](http://www.lutonculture.com).

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# A WORD FROM

## The Football League Paper

BY CHRIS DUNLAVY

It's taken 11 months, 20 matches and a world of heartbreak, but Dagenham & Redbridge have finally won at home.

John Still's men beat League 2 relegation rivals York 1-0 on Saturday, their first victory at the Vic since 25th April last year.

It's been a miserable year for the Daggers, who currently sit smack bottom of the Football League, but it could have been worse. Compared to some sides, they're on a hot streak.

**San Marino**  
65 games

Still's Daggers have got nothing on these lads, a bunch of part-timers plucked from a population of just 31,000. That's roughly the same size as Bognor Regis. Since their formation in 1990, Europe's whipping boys - and there is plenty of competition for that role - have won just once, a friendly against Liechtenstein at the 65th time of asking.

Chances are, however, that record will soon be broken. Since that glorious day in 2004, the world's

196th-best team have played a further 61 games without tasting victory.

**Droylsden**  
47 games

During the 2013/14 season, Droylsden were locked in a battle with Lancashire neighbours Hyde over who could go the longest without winning a game. The Bloods won by a mile. By the time they notched a 4-3 victory over Witton Albion in March 2014, NPL side Droylsden had gone 47 matches and over 11 months without pocketing three points and - by that stage - were already relegated.

Even their long-awaited victory was hard earned, the Bloods blowing a 3-0 half-time lead before rallying to net a late winner. "I said we'd have a party when we finally won a game," said manager Dave Pace. "And that's just what we did." For the record, Conference side Hyde halted their abysmal run two months earlier, stopping the clock at 29 matches.

**Derby County**  
38 games

Promoted under Billy Davies in May 2007, the Rams were woefully

underprepared and even managed to depose Sunderland as the worst side in Premier League history.

If victory over Newcastle in the sixth game of the season appeared to signal lift off, a 5-0 drubbing at Arsenal the following week swiftly extinguished the boosters. Though Davies was replaced by survival expert Paul Jewell, the Rams failed to win any of their remaining 32 matches and finished the season with just 11 points - both top flight records.

Worse yet, their run extended a further six games into the following campaign, setting an all-time record in English football. And who knows - should Derby win promotion, there's still a chance to continue that Premier League record too.

**Tasmania 1900 Berlin**  
31 games

In 1965, during the formative years of the Bundesliga, Hertha Berlin were demoted for breaking league rules. For reasons both political and financial, it was decided that their replacement must come from the Berlin area.

Unfortunately, most of Berlin's half-decent sides wanted no part of the scheme, meaning a tiny regional outfit called Tasmania 1900 Berlin were hoisted into the top flight - with predictable results.

By the end of the campaign, they'd scored 15, conceded 108, lost 28 times, amassed just 10 points and gone on a winless streak of 31 games. All of which remain Bundesliga records.

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# LEAGUE LOOK

All of a sudden the Town are in striking distance of the top seven thanks to last weekend's win at Leyton Orient and the results in midweek.

The Hatters closed the gap on Orient to three points following the 1-0 win at Brisbane Road, while AFC Wimbledon – who occupy the final Play-Off place – were beaten 3-1 at Bristol Rovers on Tuesday night.

As the table stands today it looks as though there is just one place in the top seven for grabs for a host of sides outside the top seven. Just five points separate Exeter in 14th and Wimbledon in seventh.

Northampton look as though they won't need the Play-Offs – Chris Wilder's side are 13 points clear

at the top and 19 points ahead of fourth-placed Portsmouth. Could they lift the title the day the Hatters roll into Sixfields on 30th April?

Oxford and Plymouth drew 2-2 with each other last weekend, which allowed Portsmouth and Bristol Rovers the opportunity to close the gap on the automatic promotion places. The pair are now on 59 points, six points behind Argyle who lie third on goal difference.

At the other end, John Still's Dagenham ended their seven-month wait for a home victory last weekend when beating fellow strugglers York 1-0 at Victoria Road. The Daggers then followed that up on Tuesday with a goalless draw with Carlisle. Still's side are still six points from safety, however. York also sit in the bottom two, while Hartlepool and Stevenage have been sucked into trouble – even though Pools triumphed at Barnet last weekend.

## TODAY'S FIXTURES

Accrington v Plymouth  
Bristol Rovers v Mansfield  
Exeter v Carlisle  
Hartlepool v Dagenham  
Morecambe v Wimbledon  
Northampton v Cambridge  
Oxford v Orient  
Portsmouth v Newport  
Wycombe v Stevenage  
Yeovil v Notts County  
York v Barnet

In the pick of today's fixtures Accrington host Plymouth at the Wham Stadium knowing a victory could cut the gap on Argyle to five points. At the other end, Dagenham travel to Hartlepool.

LEAGUE TABLE 2015/16

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Northampton Town	35	24	6	5	64	34	30	78
2 Oxford United	35	18	11	6	61	34	27	65
3 Plymouth Argyle	35	19	8	8	50	30	20	65
4 Portsmouth	35	15	14	6	57	31	26	59
5 Bristol Rovers	35	18	5	12	51	36	15	59
6 Accrington Stanley	34	16	9	9	56	42	14	57
7 AFC Wimbledon	35	14	11	10	52	43	9	53
8 Leyton Orient	35	14	11	10	51	48	3	53
9 Wycombe Wanderers	34	15	7	12	37	32	5	52
10 Mansfield Town	35	14	9	12	46	41	5	51
11 Carlisle United	34	13	9	5	52	50	2	51
12 LUTON TOWN	35	14	8	13	50	48	2	50
13 Cambridge United	35	14	8	13	49	47	2	50
14 Exeter City	35	13	9	13	45	49	-4	48
15 Barnet	35	13	7	15	47	51	-4	46
16 Crawley Town	35	12	6	17	40	56	-16	42
17 Notts County	34	11	7	16	46	57	-11	40
18 Morecambe	35	10	7	18	55	63	-8	37
19 Newport County AFC	34	9	10	15	36	49	-13	37
20 Yeovil Town	35	8	11	16	35	47	-12	35
21 Stevenage	35	8	10	17	42	59	-17	34
22 Hartlepool United	32	9	4	19	33	54	-21	31
23 York City	35	6	8	21	37	66	-29	26
24 Dagenham & Redbridge	35	5	10	20	33	58	-25	25

PLAYER STATS 2015/16

LEAGUE	THIS SEASON		LTC CAREER TOT
	APPS	GLS	
Zane Banton	0	0	0
Paul Benson	12	(4)	4
Scott Cuthbert	32	(0)	4
Nathan Doyle	6	(5)	0
Danny Green	14	(2)	5
Scott Griffiths	17	(1)	0
Luke Guttridge	6	(2)	2
Ryan Hall	5	(0)	0
Jake Howells	13	(0)	0
Elliot Justham	7	(1)	0
Alex Lawless	17	(6)	1
Ollie Lee	23	(3)	2
Sean Long	7	(2)	0
Craig Mackail-Smith	25	(6)	4
Jack Marriott	14	(16)	10
Paddy McCourt	12	(9)	1
Cameron McGeehan	28	(3)	10
Steve McNulty	9	(1)	0
Josh McQuoid	15	(7)	2
Jonathan Mitchell	1	(0)	0
Frankie Musonda	0	(1)	0
Mark O'Brien	2	(4)	0
Stephen O'Donnell	19	(0)	0
Magnus Okungbowa	6	(3)	0
Joe Pigott	4	(2)	0
Dan Potts	5	(0)	2
Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu	4	(8)	1
Alan Sheehan	9	(0)	1
Jonathan Smith	26	(4)	4
Mark Tyler	27	(0)	0
Luke Wilkinson	20	(0)	3

# OUR 130TH YEAR

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY POS	STARTING XI	SUBS																					
<b>AUGUST</b>																													
Sat 8	3.00pm	A	Accrington Stanley	D 1-1	2,359	1,175	13	Justham	Cuthbert	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Doyle	<b>SMITH 1</b>	Green ▲	McCourt	McQuoid	Mackail-Smith	Tyler	Potts	McGeehan	Benson	Benson	Marriott	Ruddock	Doyle	Guttridge		
Tue 11	7.45pm	H	Bristol City (Cap One Cup 1)	W 3-1	3,948	427	-	Tyler	Cuthbert	McNulty	Wilkinson	Potts	O'Donnell	O'Brien	Ruddock	McGeehan	<b>BENSON 1</b>	<b>MARRIOTT 2</b> ▲	Justham	Lawless	Hall	Griffiths	Griffiths	Guttridge	McQuoid	McQuoid	Doyle	Guttridge	
Sat 15	3.00pm	H	Oxford United	D 2-2	8,877	781	15	Tyler	Cuthbert	McNulty	<b>WILKINSON 1</b>	Griffiths	O'Donnell	Doyle	McCourt	McGEEHAN 1	Benson	Mackail-Smith	Justham	Lawless	Ruddock	Potts	McQuoid	Smith	Smith	Marriott	Marriott	Marriott	
Tue 18	7.45pm	H	Bristol Rovers	L 0-1	8,061	553	18	Tyler	Cuthbert	McNulty	Wilkinson	Griffiths	O'Donnell	Doyle	McCourt	McGeehan	Benson	Mackail-Smith	Justham	Lawless	Ruddock	Potts	McQuoid	McQuoid	McQuoid	McQuoid	Justham		
Sat 22	3.00pm	A	Yeovil Town	L 2-3	3,830	820	22	Tyler	Cuthbert	Griffiths	McNulty	Wilkinson	Smith	McGeehan	Green ▲	Hall	<b>BENSON 1</b>	<b>MACKAIL-SMITH 1</b>	O'Donnell	Lawless	Ruddock	McCourt	McQuoid	O'Brien	O'Brien	Marriott	Justham		
Tue 25	7.45pm	H	Stoke City (Cap One Cup 2)	D 1-1*	6,099	823	-	Justham	O'Donnell	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	O'Brien	Smith	Lee	Green ▲	Ruddock	McQuoid	McQuoid	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	
Sat 29	3.00pm	H	Portsmouth	L 1-2	9,083	1,032	22	Justham	O'Donnell	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	O'Brien	Smith	McGeehan	Hall ▲	McQuoid	<b>MACKAIL-SMITH 1</b>	Tyler	McCourt	Green	Marriott	Marriott	Marriott	Marriott	Marriott	Marriott	Marriott	Marriott
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>																													
Tue 1	7.15pm	H	Leyton Orient (JPT1)	W 2-1	1,953	300	-	Tyler	<b>O'DONNELL 1</b>	Griffiths	McNulty	Cuthbert	Lee	Smith	Ruddock	<b>GREEN 1</b> ▲	Guttridge	Marriott	Hall	Justham	Okuonghae	Mackail-Smith	McQuoid	McQuoid	McQuoid	McQuoid	McQuoid		
Sat 5	3.00pm	A	Cambridge United	W 3-1	6,298	1,425	19	Tyler	O'Donnell	Griffiths	<b>WILKINSON 1</b>	Cuthbert	Lee	Smith	McCourt	<b>GREEN 1</b>	<b>GUTTRIDGE 1</b>	Mackail-Smith	McNulty	Hall	Justham	Ruddock	Williams	Williams	Williams	Williams	O'Brien		
Sat 12	3.00pm	A	Notts County	L 2-3	5,820	1,689	20	Tyler	O'Donnell	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	Lee	<b>SMITH 1</b>	Green ▲	McQuoid	Guttridge	Mackail-Smith	McNulty	McCourt	McCourt	Ruddock	Williams	Williams	Williams	Williams	King		
Sat 19	3.00pm	H	Mansfield Town	W 1-0	7,939	262	18	Tyler	O'Donnell	Griffiths	Wilkinson	McNulty	Lee	Smith	McCourt	McQuoid	McGeehan	<b>MACKAIL-SMITH 1</b>	Lawless	Hall	Green	Marriott	Williams	Williams	Williams	Williams	Justham		
Sat 26	3.00pm	H	AFC Wimbledon	W 2-0	8,415	588	16	Tyler	O'Donnell	Griffiths	Wilkinson	McNulty	Lee	Smith	McCourt	Guttridge	McGeehan	Mackail-Smith	Potts	Lawless	Hall	Green	Marriott	<b>MARRIOTT 2</b> ▲	<b>O'BRIEN 2</b>	<b>O'BRIEN 2</b>	<b>O'BRIEN 2</b>	Justham	
Tue 29	7.45pm	A	Morecambe	W 3-1	1,388	295	11	Tyler	Cuthbert	Griffiths	<b>WILKINSON 1</b>	McNulty	Lee	<b>SMITH 1</b>	McCourt	McQuoid	<b>McGEEHAN 1</b>	Mackail-Smith	Potts	Lawless	Green	Marriott	Marriott	Marriott	Marriott	Marriott	Marriott		
<b>OCTOBER</b>																													
Sat 3	3.00pm	A	Hartlepool United	W 4-1	3,876	406	19	Tyler	Cuthbert	Griffiths	Wilkinson	McNulty	<b>LEE 1</b>	<b>SMITH 1</b>	Guttridge	McQuoid	McGeehan	Mackail-Smith	Potts	Lawless	Hall	Green	<b>MARRIOTT 2</b> ▲	Doyle	Doyle	Doyle	Doyle	Justham	
Tue 6	7.45pm	A	Gillingham (JPT2)	L 1-2	3,428	193	-	Tyler	Lawless	Potts	O'Brien	Okuonghae	Lee	Doyle	Guttridge	McQuoid	<b>McGEEHAN 1</b>	Marriott	Hall	Green	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Justham	Ruddock	Doyle	Doyle	Doyle	Justham	
Sat 10	3.00pm	H	York City	D 1-1	8,612	222	10	Tyler	Cuthbert	Potts	Wilkinson	McNulty	Lee	Smith	Guttridge	McQuoid	<b>McGEEHAN 1</b>	Mackail-Smith	Lawless	Hall	Green	Marriott	Marriott	Ruddock	Doyle	Doyle	Doyle	Justham	
Sat 17	3.00pm	A	Crawley Town	L 1-2	3,335	1,412	12	Tyler	Long	Potts	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	Doyle	Smith	Lee	<b>MCCEEHAN 1</b>	Marriott	Mackail-Smith	Hall	Hall	McCourt	Ruddock	McQuoid	McQuoid	McQuoid	McQuoid	Justham		
Tue 20	7.45pm	H	Leyton Orient	D 1-1	8,022	638	12	Tyler	Long	Potts	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	Lee	Smith	McCourt	McGeehan	<b>MARRIOTT 1</b>	Mackail-Smith	Lawless	Ruddock	Guttridge	McQuoid	O'Brien	O'Brien	O'Brien	O'Brien	Justham		
Sat 24	3.00pm	H	Plymouth Argyle	L 1-2	8,703	745	15	Tyler	Long	Potts	•	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	Doyle	Smith	McGeehan	Ruddock	Guttridge	Marriott	Lawless	Hall	•	McCourt	Lee	McQuoid	McQuoid	McQuoid	Justham	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>																													
Sun 1	2.00pm	A	Dagenham & Redbridge	W 2-0	2,773	1,083	13	Tyler	Long	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	Doyle	Smith	<b>LAWLESS 1</b> ▲	McQuoid	<b>GUTTRIDGE 1</b>	Marriott	Potts	McGeehan	Green	McCourt	Lee	Mackail-Smith	Mackail-Smith	Mackail-Smith	Mackail-Smith	Justham	
Sat 7	3.00pm	A	Crawley Town (FAC1)	W 2-1	1,929	487	-	Justham	Long	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	Lee	Smith	Lawless	McQuoid	<b>MCQUOID 2</b>	Guttridge	Marriott	Potts	McHeeham	Green	McCourt	O'Brien	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	Tyler	
Sat 14	3.00pm	H	Barnet	W 2-0	8,497	612	10	Tyler	Lawless	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	Lee	Smith	<b>MCCEEHAN 1</b>	<b>GREEN 1</b> ▲	McQuoid	Benson	Potts	Marriott	McCourt	Long	<b>GUTTRIDGE 1</b>	<b>O'BRIEN 2</b>	<b>O'BRIEN 2</b>	<b>O'BRIEN 2</b>	Justham		
Sat 21	3.00pm	A	Stevenage	D 0-0	4,782	1,892	10	Tyler	Lawless	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	Lee	Smith	McGeehan	Green	McQuoid	Benson	Marriott	McCourt	Long	Guttridge	Mackail-Smith	Mackail-Smith	Mackail-Smith	Mackail-Smith	Justham		
Tue 24	7.45pm	H	Carlisle United	L 3-4	7,298	169	12	Tyler	Lawless	Griffiths	O'Brien	Cuthbert	Lee	Smith	McGeehan	<b>GREEN 1</b>	<b>MCQUOID 1</b>	<b>MARRIOTT 1</b> ▲	Hall	McCourt	Long	<b>MACKAIL-SMITH 1</b>	Williams	Williams	Williams	Williams	Justham		
Sat 28	3.00pm	A	Newport County	L 0-3	2,551	451	13	Tyler	Lawless	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Cuthbert	Lee	Smith	McGeehan	Green	McQuoid	Marriott	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	Okuonghae	Long	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	Justham		
<b>DECEMBER</b>																													
Sun 6	2.00pm	A	Peterborough United (FAC2)	L 0-2	8,379	1,740	-	Tyler	Long	Lawless	•	Wilkinson	Okuonghae	Lee	Smith	Doyle	McCourt	McQuoid	Mackail-Smith	Hall	Williams	McGeehan	Green	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt		
Sat 12	3.00pm	H	Northampton Town	L 3-4	8,792	1,032	17	Tyler	Long	Griffiths	Wilkinson	Okuonghae	Lee	Smith	Lawless	<b>GREEN 1</b>	<b>BENSON 2</b>	Mackail-Smith	McGeehan	Hall	Marriott	McCourt	Long	<b>GUTTRIDGE 1</b>	<b>MUSONDA 1</b>	<b>MUSONDA 1</b>	<b>MUSONDA 1</b>	Justham	
Sat 19	3.00pm	A	Exeter City	W 3-2	3,777	416	13	Tyler	Long	Howells	•	Cuthbert	Okuonghae	Lee	Lawless	<b>MCCEEHAN 1</b>	<b>GREEN 1</b> ▲	Mackail-Smith	Benson	Marriott	McCourt	McCourt	Long	<b>GUTTRIDGE 1</b>	<b>MUSONDA 1</b>	<b>MUSONDA 1</b>	<b>MUSONDA 1</b>	Justham	
Sat 26	3.00pm	H	Wycombe Wanderers	L 0-2	9,676	829	15	Tyler	Long	Howells	•	Cuthbert	Okuonghae	Lee	Lawless	McGeehan	Green	Mackail-Smith	Benson	Marriott	McCourt	McCourt	Long	<b>GUTTRIDGE 1</b>	<b>MUSONDA 1</b>	<b>MUSONDA 1</b>	<b>MUSONDA 1</b>	Justham	
Mon 28	3.00pm	A	Portsmouth	D 0-0	17,688	1,556	14	Tyler	O'Donnell	Howells	Cuthbert	Okuonghae	Lee	Smith	McQuoid	Marriott	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	Justham		
<b>JANUARY</b>																													
Sat 2	3.00pm	A	Bristol Rovers	L 0-2	9,131	707	15	Tyler	O'Donnell	Howells	•	Cuthbert	Okuonghae	Smith	Lawless	McGeehan	Green	Marriott	Hall	Williams	McGeehan	Green	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	McCourt	Justham	
Sat 16	3.00pm	H	Cambridge United	D 0-0	9,227	1,022	18	Tyler	O'Donnell	Howells	•	Cuthbert	Okuonghae	Smith	Lawless	<b>MCOURT 1</b>	<b>RUDDOCK 1</b> ▲	McGeehan	Marriott	Hall	Marriott	McCourt	Long	<b>GUTTRIDGE 1</b>	<b>WILKINSON 1</b>	<b>WILKINSON 1</b>	<b>WILKINSON 1</b>	Justham	
Sat 23	3.00pm	A	Mansfield Town	W 2-0	4,245	739	15	Justham	O'Donnell	Howells	•	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Smith	Lawless	McCourt	Green	Mackail-Smith	Benson	Marriott	Benson	Marriott	Long	<b>GUTTRIDGE 1</b>	<b>MUSONDA 1</b>	<b>MUSONDA 1</b>	<b>MUSONDA 1</b>	King	
Sat 30	3.00pm	H	Notts County	L 0-2	8,147	390	16	Justham	O'Donnell	Howells	•	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Smith	Lawless	McCourt	Ruddock	McGeehan	Mackail-Smith	Benson	Marriott	Marriott	Okuonghae	Long	Banton	Piggott	Piggott	Tyler	
<b>FEBRUARY</b>																													
Tue 2	7.45pm	H	Yeovil Town	D 1-1	7,538	132	16	Justham	O'Donnell	Howells	Cuthbert	<b>SHEEHAN 1</b>	Lee	Lawless	Ruddock														

# HOLD THE BACK PAGE

WITH  
MIKE SIMMONDS

It's getting to what they term now as the business end of the season and what a difference a few months have made to the Hatters once non-existence Play-Off hopes.

When Nathan Jones took over, he inherited a side low on confidence and more importantly, low on league position too, sitting 17th in the League 2 table, nine points off the top seven, and quite frankly going nowhere.

Fast forward two months, 10 games and 20 points from a possible 30 later, the latest victory coming at fellow promotion hopefuls Leyton Orient on Saturday and it's fair to say, a fair few of those with a Luton allegiance might be beginning to wish they hadn't booked their holidays in May.

Going into today's game, Hatters are up to 12th, but that's just a number, as the dotted line separating them and the magical seventh position, is down to just a mere three points away.

True, it would take an unheard of set of results to see Luton sitting above the line at 5pm this afternoon, but the very fact that they can even consider such a feat now is credit to Jones and his players.

It's raising expectations all over too, as doing a League 2 predictor table on Wednesday, I had the Hatters indeed finishing in seventh place, pipping Orient by a single point. There, in prediction, they would face Portsmouth in the Play-Offs, with Bristol Rovers and Accrington occupying fifth and sixth respectively.

That run is based on an almost exemplary home record, which thankfully is showing signs of finally improving, as apart from Exeter's trip on the final day, which ends in a draw, Hatters take maximum points from all other visitors.

They can even afford to drop points with draws at Barnet, Carlisle and Plymouth too, as despite a defeat to Oxford, Jones' side capitalise on a celebrating Northampton Town to nick the points at the champions in their penultimate clash.



Football as we all know isn't played on paper though, or computer screens for that matter, but it's nice to be in a position where such a run can even be seriously contemplated.

Finally, it's impossible to write these notes without mentioning Mark Tyler who left the club this week to return to Peterborough as goalkeeper coach.

## SERVANT

Although a shame with how the move eventually came about, a coaching role in his home town could never be turned down, and there's no denying what a superb servant the 38-year-old was for the club during his time at Kenilworth Road.

He single-handedly saved Luton more than once in his Hatters career, with his performance even this season up at Hartlepool, in what was a 4-1 away win, one that will always live long in the memory.

Mike is the sports editor of the Luton News and Herald & Post.



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# TEAM SHEET



## LUTON TOWN

- 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
- 21 Jonathan Mitchell
- 22 Craig Mackail-Smith
- 23 Josh McQuoid
- 24 Curtley Williams
- 25 Mark O'Brien
- 26 Nathan Doyle
- 31 Craig King
- 32 Luke Trotman
- 33 Mark Onyemah
- 34 Isaac Galliford
- 35 Zane Banton
- 36 James Justin
- 37 Frankie Musonda
- 40 Jake Howells
- 44 Alan Sheehan
- 45 Joe Pigott



## CRAWLEY TOWN

- 1 Paul Jones
- 2 Lanre Oyebanjo
- 3 Tom Dallison
- 4 Simon Walton
- 5 Joe McNerney
- 6 Sonny Bradley
- 7 Gwion Edwards
- 8 Jimmy Smith
- 9 Lee Barnard
- 12 Callum Preston
- 14 Lewis Young
- 15 Shamir Fenelon
- 16 Jon Ashton
- 17 Bobson Bawling
- 18 Matt Harrold
- 20 Roarie Deacon
- 21 Gavin Tomlin
- 22 Andy Bond
- 24 Frankie Sutherland
- 25 Josh Yorweth
- 30 Lyle Della-Verde
- 31 Charles Dunne
- 41 Andy Little

## TODAY'S OFFICIALS

- Michael Bull
- Thomas Ramsay
- Barry Holderness
- 4 Josh Smith