

# TALK OF THE TOWN

**LUTON TOWN v SOLIHULL MOORS**

SATURDAY 3rd DECEMBER 2016 | EMIRATES FA CUP ROUND 2 | KICK OFF 3pm

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME | ISSUE 14 | PRICE £2.50

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### OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

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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.

[WELCOME TO LUTON TOWN v SOLIHULL MOORS]

# WELCOME TO KENILWORTH ROAD



NATHAN JONES  
The boss welcomes Solihull Moors to Kenilworth Road



FROM THE BOARDROOM  
With Hatters director Mike Herrick



## WELCOME SOLIHULL MOORS

All you need to know about the boys from the National League



FAREWELL TO PAUL FUTCHER  
Club historian Roger Wash pays tribute to a Luton legend

## LOOK OUT FOR OUR NEW SIGNING!

The latest addition to the Luton Town club shop is hidden somewhere in today's Talk of the Town. Can you find the Hatters' Team Elf?



The Salvation Army will be playing Christmas carols at today's game, at the Kenilworth Road end of the ground before the match and on the pitch during half-time. They will be holding a collection, so please donate in support of them if you are able to do so.

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**[MANAGER'S NOTES]**

## THE MANAGER NATHAN JONES



Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for this Emirates FA Cup second round tie against Solihull Moors.

I would like to welcome everybody from our visitors – supporters, directors, staff, manager Liam McDonald, head coach Keith Bertschin and their squad – and I hope they have a safe trip back to the Midlands this evening.

I'll especially look forward to seeing Keith and having a catch-up with him. He was a top player in his day with the likes of Birmingham, Norwich and Stoke City, and is now a very experienced coach who I know well from us completing our UEFA Pro Licence together.

The FA Cup gives us a little bit of respite from league action after three big games in a week, but this is a really important competition for us. Everyone knows how romantic and lucrative the Cup can be once you get to the third round and beyond, and that is the carrot this afternoon.

We know the same applies for Solihull too, and after the draw was made I went to watch them beat my old club Yeovil in the first round replay, so I saw first-hand that they will be dangerous opposition.

Today's game is the first of a real important month for us, in which we

are going to be competing on three fronts in the league, the Cup and the Checkatrade Trophy. We are going need everyone in the squad fit and firing.

### ELECTRIC

Unfortunately we couldn't build on an excellent win at Morecambe when we hosted Portsmouth last Tuesday, although there were several positives to take from the night. The atmosphere inside Kenilworth Road was electric, with our biggest home crowd of the season so far watching both teams going for the win in an open encounter that was a great advert for League Two.

Then it was another long trip down to Exeter last Saturday, and the backing we received from almost 650 of you down there was unbelievable considering it was the second trip to St James Park many would have made in the space of three weeks. Even more so considering Morecambe was sandwiched in between.

Unfortunately we couldn't return with the same kind of winning scoreline as the one that earned us today's tie, but a fourth clean sheet in five league

matches and another point to our tally were real positives.

Now it's a case of finding a balance between being really fluent going forward, as we were more towards the beginning of the season, and maintaining that stubborn streak at the back.

On that note, at both ends of the pitch I should congratulate our goalscoring midfielder Cameron McGeehan on clocking up his 100th appearance for Luton last Saturday, and Johnny Mullins on passing under the radar in making his 500th career appearances recently against Accrington. At the ages of 21 and 31 respectively, both are great achievements by players with much, much more to come.

As there is from us as a team, starting this afternoon. Please get behind the lads as you always do, and enjoy the game.

Nathan Jones is sponsored by: Thompsons Accountants and Country Properties (Hitchin) 01462 452951



# FROM THE BOARDROOM

## WITH DIRECTOR MIKE HERRICK

Firstly, a very warm welcome to the supporters, players, staff and directors of Solihull Moors in this second round tie in the Emirates FA Cup.

Solihull Moors is a young club, being formed in 2007 from the merger of Solihull Borough and Moor Green and, not surprisingly, this is the first time we have played one another.

To reach the second round of the cup is a magnificent achievement for them and their victory over Yeovil Town over two games in round shows just what they are capable of. To have climbed up the football pyramid to Conference Premier level – now, of course, known as the National League – in such a short time speaks volumes for their organisation.

### DELIGHTED

They are a very well-run club with enthusiastic support, and we are delighted to be able to host them at Kenilworth Road this afternoon.

When I was in the first flush of following Luton Town, the FA Cup was something extra special. The first cup tie I remember was the third round tie at home to Leeds United, which we won 5-1 and was the start of the magical run to the first of our major finals in 1959.

We've had some fabulous times over the years since then.

Two years later was the fourth round game against Manchester City in which we led 2-0 before going behind to six goals from Denis Law. The abandonment meant we tried again four days later and beat them 3-1!

### EPIC

Two epic matches against Nottingham Forest in 1971 also spring to mind, even though four goals from Malcolm Macdonald in the tie were not quite enough to secure victory.

Much more recently, who can forget the fourth round against Norwich City where we became the first Non-League side to beat a Premier League team.

It's rather strange, however, that I've absolutely no recollection of the second round defeat away to Hillingdon Borough in 1969 with a team which included such stalwarts as Chris Nicholl, Graham French, Mike Keen and Malcolm Macdonald. Similarly, I don't remember us losing at home to Corby Town in 1965.

It all goes to show that you can take nothing for granted in the Cup, and I'm sure that this will give Solihull added encouragement. The

prize that awaits the winners is the anticipation of the third round draw and the chance to dream of landing a glamour tie.

Enough of these reminiscences, however. Since our last programme notes, we're delighted to have awarded a first professional contract to Arthur Read. Just 17, he is the first of his age group to have signed pro forms and this is the reward for many outstanding displays over the last years.

### PROGRESS

The progress of the whole of our academy is testament to the great work being done by Andy Awford, Paul Driver and the rest of their staff.

When we dropped out of the Football League and lost our funding several years ago, the decision to maintain the academy was something we all felt strongly about.

It's so pleasing to feel that we have been able to realise the potential and provide a pathway to so many talented youngsters.

Can we also offer our congratulations to Cameron McGeehan in reaching



Denis Law of Manchester City scores one of his six goals at Kenilworth Road in January 1961, but they did not count in the record books as the game was abandoned!

the milestone of his 100th appearance for Luton at such a young age.

It is with great sadness, though, that we learnt of the recent passing of Paul Futcher. Arriving with his twin brother Ron from Chester in 1974, he was a footballing central defender of the highest quality.

Barely 18 years old, he gave us four years of sterling service in 142 games before moving on to Manchester City. We send our condolences to his family as we reflect on his time here with great fondness.

Earlier this week the board met with the committee of Trust in Luton. They were brought up to date with

the current status of the various developments. Things are progressing well, though patience is still required whilst the applications are being determined.

### COMPLETION

The new training ground at the Brache is nearing completion and we hope to move in early in the new year when the pitches have had a little more time to mature.

The changing rooms and office space will be a welcome improvement to our facilities, and everyone is excited at the prospect of moving to the new training ground.

It would be remiss of us not to pay our respects to the Chapecoense

club in Brazil. It is difficult to imagine a disaster of such proportions as practically the whole club was wiped out at a stroke.

It is at times like this that we should put our own lives into perspective and recognise our own good fortune.

It will take a long time to rebuild their club, but we hope that they will be heartened by the good wishes that will be sent from the whole world of football.

*Mike*



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# GREAT SCOTT

## THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

Welcome back to Kenilworth Road for what for myself and the vast majority of our squad is the first home FA Cup tie at home since we joined the club.

We were drawn away at Crawley and Peterborough in the competition last season, so this game against Solihull Moors will be a first for most of us – and in terms of a new opponent to be ticked off. I'd like to welcome everybody from Solihull to Bedfordshire.

I don't have any links with the Moors personally, but I watched Mark O'Brien playing against them in a live TV game for Southport recently. Mark even ended up wearing their away kit with his loan club's shirts clashing with Solihull's yellow and blue!

They won the National League North last season and they beat Southport 4-0 that night, so we know they will be dangerous opponents this afternoon.

Of course, what both clubs want is to get through today to be in with a chance of claiming the scalp of one of the country's footballing giants in the third round.

The boot is on the other foot today though, and Solihull will come to Kenilworth Road and raise their game, as do most teams when they come here. It's up to us to make sure we aren't making the second round headlines for the wrong reasons.

I missed the recent trip to Morecambe having caught a sickness bug off my little girl.

Me, my wife and Belle were ill for three days, so there wasn't too much to smile about in our house – apart from seeing the final score come through from the Globe Arena.

Then we had the Portsmouth game on the Tuesday. I thought Portsmouth played very well but looking back, if we had defended our box and attacked theirs a bit better, we could have come away with a result. It was fine margins at both ends.

Next came the long trip to Exeter to finish off a tough week, and I thought it was a good point – and another clean sheet – against a team coming off the back of a midweek win at Leyton Orient. When you've done a long trip on the Saturday, played against promotion rivals on the Tuesday in front of a near sell-out crowd at home, then another long trip on the Saturday, it certainly takes its toll.

But that's why we've got such a deep, quality squad, and people are ready to come in for certain games if it needs freshening up. We also have the added bonus of your backing. More than 500 travelling to Morecambe and nearly 650 at Exeter is phenomenal, and we'll need your support again this afternoon.

Finally, the whole football world has been shocked by the news of the



Brazilian team Chapecoense flying off to play a big match, but never getting there with almost the whole club – and many other passengers, including airline staff and journalists – killed in a plane crash.

Travelling to matches ourselves, even though the distances are short by comparison, makes you aware of the tragedies that can transpire. The thoughts of all our squad are with everyone affected by the disaster.

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## READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Shortly before the Portsmouth match on 22nd November, youth team player Arthur Read became the latest Luton Town academy prospect to be tied down long term after signing his first professional contract at Kenilworth Road.

The 17-year-old put pen to paper on a three-year deal five days after playing a starring role in the Under-18s' FA Youth Cup second round comeback win over Dagenham & Redbridge.

Skilful midfielder Read scored the late equaliser that took the game into extra-time, during which the Town again had to come from behind to win 4-3 and book a trip to Hillsborough to take on Sheffield Wednesday in the third round this coming Friday (1pm kick-off).

The Leighton Buzzard-based youngster, who can play either side of midfield or off the strikers, has been with the club since under-nines and started his scholarship this summer.

He made his senior debut as a late sub in the Checkatrade Trophy against Millwall last month, and Hatters boss Nathan Jones said: "From the moment Arthur came into the building, we could see that he had something a little bit different about him.

"I spoke to Andy Awford a while back to say we'd like to get him in training with the first team as soon as possible, because he's a player we're excited about. He's got a great left foot, terrific dribbling and passing ability and he fits into how we want to play.

"As people who came to the Youth Cup game saw, he can come up with a goal. Apart from Jack Snelius' hat-trick, he was one of the brightest things about that win.

"It's not just from that game though. The way he plays is a little bit different, he's got good character about him and it's the way he's been around the place. We have high hopes for him, but he has to continue working hard and learning as he has been, because this is just the start for him."

Academy and development manager Awford added: "This contract is just reward for Ready's attitude and performances since he joined us in the summer.



"He's done really well in the games he's played for the youth team and development squad, and progressed quicker than anyone expected.

"We'll continue to push him and hopefully that will result in him spending more and more time with the first team in the not-too-distant future."

Congratulations Arthur and here's to a long and successful career with the Town!

## UP FOR THE CUP

If the scores are level today after 90 minutes, there will be a replay at Solihull Moors' Automated Technology Group Stadium the week after next, with the most likely date being Tuesday 13th December with a 7.45pm kick-off, dependent on TV selections.

The draw for the third round of the Emirates FA Cup will take place this Monday live on BBC2 and BT Sport,

with the programme starting at 7pm and draw kicking off at approximately 7.10pm.

Don't forget that we are in action next on Tuesday night, as the knockout stages of the Checkatrade Trophy commence with a trip to League One Swindon Town for a 7.45pm kick-off.

Anyone wanting to get to the County Ground with the Bobbers Travel Club

can call 01234 856542 to book a seat on the coach leaving Luton at 3.30pm. Prices: adults - £23, concessions - £20.

Please note that for the league trip to Blackpool on Saturday 17th December, the coach will depart Luton at 8am - 30 minutes earlier than scheduled. Prices: adults - £30, concessions - £27

# UPNEXT

## CARLISLE UNITED

FORMED: 1904 | NICKNAME: CUMBRIANS | LAST SEASON: 10TH LEAGUE TWO  
 FOLLOW THEM ON TWITTER: @OFFICIALECUFC | COLOURS: BLUE SHIRT, WHITE SHORTS  
 GROUND: BRUNTON PARK | MANAGER: KEITH CURLE

**WHO?** One of League Two's high-flyers this season, Carlisle have been sitting in the automatic promotion spots for the past couple of months, having gone unbeaten in the league in their first 15 matches. Managed by Keith Curle, they suffered their first defeat as they were toppled 2-0 by Newport County three weeks ago. They face Rochdale in the FA Cup today after they defeated St Albans City away in the first round with a 5-3 win. The Cumbrians were playing in League One having won automatic promotion from the fourth tier in 2006, finishing top of the table, until they were relegated in the 2014/15 season.

**TICKETS** Usual prices apply for a Category C match, but there is a special offer on for season ticket holders, who can purchase up to two additional tickets at just £5 each (see page 4 for details).

**HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?** Town have taken on the Cumbrians 26 times, defeating them in 11 matches. Carlisle have won ten, and the sides have contested five draws. The most recent match between the two ended in an away victory for the Hatters as Josh McQuoid and Joe Pigott netted a goal each in a 2-1 win back in April. The Hatters' biggest ever win over United was a 6-1 victory in September 1973, as Tommy Finney and Peter Anderson netted a brace each.

**IN CHARGE** Former England international Keith Curle has been in charge at Carlisle since September 2014. He began his playing career with Bristol City before having spells with the likes of Manchester City, Wolverhampton Wanderers and Sheffield United. He has spent time as both a manager and a coach, having worked with Neil Warnock



Alex Gilliead during his spell for the Cumbrians

at QPR and Crystal Palace and bossed Mansfield, Chester, Torquay and Notts County.

### PREVIOUS FORM

Keeping pace with Plymouth at the top of the table after their blip against the Exiles, Carlisle bounced back in incredible fashion against Exeter City a fortnight ago, coming from two behind to beat the Grecians 3-2 with goals in the 89th and 97th minutes to seal the three points. They backed that result up by thrashing Mansfield Town last weekend 5-2, as Charlie Wyke netted a hat-trick.

**KNOWING ME, KNOWING YOU** A regular in the Hatters side since signing from Walsall in the summer, Jordan Cook joined Carlisle United on loan from Sunderland back in 2012 and netted four goals in 14 League One appearances. More recently, our current loanee from Newcastle, Alex Gilliead, spent the majority of last season on a similar deal arrangement at Brunton Park, scoring five times in 35 appearances.

### HATTERS V CARLISLE

LUTON WINS: 11 | DRAWS: 5 | CARLISLE WINS: 10

### LAST MEETING

CARLISLE 1-2 LUTON TOWN, 19TH APRIL 2016

WE'RE AT SWINDON TOWN IN MIDWEEK IN THE CHECKATRADE TROPHY, BUT NEXT SATURDAY WE WELCOME PROMOTION RIVALS CARLISLE UNITED TO KENILWORTH ROAD...

# GET YOUR TICKET



## SWINDON TOWN

### CHECKATRADE TROPHY ROUND TWO TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER | 7.45PM

We have received an initial allocation of 100 tickets for the Checkatrade Trophy away match at Swindon Town. Tickets are now on general sale for the fixture, which will also be available on the night. Away Season Tickets will not be actioned for this fixture. **Prices:** Adults: £10.00, Over 65: £5.00, Student (not available on the day): £5.00, Under 21: £5.00, Under 18: £2.00, Under 11 (max 2): FREE (with full paying Adult), Wheelchair Disabled: £5.00 (with Carer), Ambulant Disabled: £5.00, Carer: FREE.



## COLCHESTER UNITED

### SKY BET LEAGUE TWO MONDAY 26TH DECEMBER | 3PM

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



## BARNET

### SKY BET LEAGUE TWO SATURDAY 31ST DECEMBER | 3PM

Tickets are now available from the ticket office for this category B game.



## CARLISLE

### SKY BET LEAGUE TWO SATURDAY 10TH DECEMBER | 3PM

Tickets are now available from the ticket office for this category C match. Season ticket holders can purchase up to two additional tickets for just £5 each (see p4 for details)



## PORTSMOUTH

### SKY BET LEAGUE TWO MONDAY 2ND JANUARY | 3PM

We have received an initial allocation of 1,623 tickets for the trip to Portsmouth. These tickets are on sale to diamond season ticket holders until close of business today. One ticket will be allocated unless otherwise advised to ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk. Away season ticket holders will be actioned on 5th December. One ticket will be allocated unless otherwise advised to ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk. They will then be available to Season Ticket holders on Monday 5th December at two per person until close of business on Saturday 10th December. Any remaining tickets will go general sale online at 6pm on Saturday 10th December, and over the phone and in person from the ticket office as of Monday 12th December. Tickets will remain on sale until 3pm Friday 30th December.

**Prices:** Adult £20, Senior (62+) £15, Unaccompanied U18 £10, Accompanied U18 with a full paying adult/senior £5, Wheelchair and Carer £12, Ambulant disabled £12, Ambulant disabled Junior £10, Carers (require to be on highest rate of DLA).



## BLACKPOOL

### SKY BET LEAGUE TWO SATURDAY 17TH DECEMBER | 3PM

The Hatters have received an initial allocation of 1,030 tickets and nine pairs of wheelchair spaces for their match against Blackpool. More tickets are available on request. Remaining tickets are available on general sale from the Ticket Office from now until 2pm on Friday 16th December. Subject to availability, tickets will be available on cash turnstiles on the day, with no price increase. **Prices:** Adults: £22, Senior (60 plus): £18, Under 19: £10, Under 11: (with adult/senior): Free of charge. Disabled/Carer tickets are available at relevant price band with a Carer free of charge.

# SPEAKING COMMERCIALLY

## MATCH SPONSOR: SSANGYONG MOTOR UK LTD



Today's match sponsors SsangYong Motor UK Ltd are the exclusive importer and distributor of SsangYong vehicles in the UK. Fans will already be familiar with them as the main shirt sponsors for the next two seasons and some may have already visited their head office / show based near Luton Airport. Their workforce includes a number of Hatters fans, some of whom will be amongst the crowd this afternoon. For those interested in finding out more about their brand and the vehicles they have on offer please visit their website directly at [www.ssangyonggb.co.uk](http://www.ssangyonggb.co.uk)

## HATTERS PLEDGE SUPPORT TO WHITE RIBBON CAMPAIGN

Bedfordshire Police were at Kenilworth Road last week raising awareness of White Ribbon Day to mark the national 16 days of action campaign against domestic abuse.

Police and partners from the IDVA service and Luton Council's Solutions team were at the Portsmouth game asking men, women, children, families and friends to join in the pledge never to commit, condone or remain silent against domestic abuse.

Fans signed the pledge before the match, and support continued on the pitch at half-time when vice-chairman David Wilkinson and senior operations manager Kevan Platt signed the pledge football on behalf of the club (see picture on the page opposite).

Boss Nathan Jones and his squad had already done so at the training ground the previous week, when they all took part in a video filmed by Beds Police to show their support for the campaign.

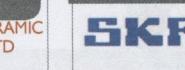
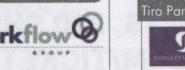
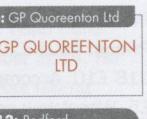
On behalf of the Hatters, Platt added: "We are delighted to be in a position to help Bedfordshire Police raise awareness

of the fact that domestic abuse can happen to anyone. When we explained the campaign to them, the whole playing squad and manager Nathan Jones were only too happy to take part in the video.

### MESSAGE

"We were really pleased that the night of action promoting the White Ribbon campaign and our signing of the pledge coincided with our biggest crowd of the season, so the message could be reinforced to as many people as possible that victims should always speak out."

More pictures can be viewed by typing 'White Ribbon Pledge – LTFC' into a search on Facebook, while the video can be found by searching 'White Ribbon Campaign' on [lutontown.co.uk](http://lutontown.co.uk)





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KEY

H: HOME | A: AWAY | G: GLOVES

# WELCOME SOLIHULL MOORS

The Hatters would like to extend a warm welcome to today's visiting staff, players and fans of Vanarama National League side Solihull Moors.

After winning the National League North last season at a canter, Solihull Moors have settled into life in the fifth tier fairly well, sitting 16th in the table following last Tuesday night's goalless draw against Southport.

Solihull won their division last season with 86 points, nine better than second place, under the watchful eye of Marcus Bignot, but the former QPR, Kidderminster Harriers and Millwall defender moved on last month to take charge of Grimsby Town.

Liam McDonald now patrols the technical area for the Moors, and at 31 years old, he is the joint youngest manager in the top five tiers of English football, alongside fellow National League boss Luke Garrard of Boreham Wood.

McDonald began his playing career at Worcester City, amassing nearly 100 games, before turning out for Hednesford, Barwell, Kettering Town and Tamworth, where he was a member of the Lambs' run to the FA Cup third round proper in 2011-12, when they lost 2-0 at Everton.

When asked about his new role with the Moors, he said: "The opportunity to manage Solihull was just too good to turn down. I'm a young, ambitious manager who's excited to carry on the good work Marcus Bignot has done over the years, because he's transformed this club."

Where he might lack experience, Solihull have Keith Bertschin as head coach. The former Birmingham, Norwich and Stoke striker has previously been Steve Bruce's assistant boss at Premier League clubs including Hull City and Wigan Athletic.



Harry White



Manager Liam McDonald

This is the first time the Moors have reached the second round of the FA Cup, but considering this is only their ninth year in existence, it's hardly bad going. They came into existence in 2007

with the merger of Solihull Borough and Moor Green. They started off in the National League North, and maintained that level until last season, where their top place finish bettered any other previous final finish by six places.

The club's route to this stage began with a 3-1 win over Kettering Town in the final qualifying round, a result that rewarded them with a tie against League Two side, Yeovil

Town. They came back from 2-0 down to draw the initial tie at Huish Park 2-2, before taking them into extra-time at Damson Park and beating them 4-2 on penalties to progress.

Alongside Bignot, the club has provided a springboard for other young talent also, as current Grimsby hitman Omar Bogle had three seasons with the Moors, before leaving for the Cleethorpes-based side in the summer of 2015. Bogle scored over 60 goals in that spell, and he has continued in that vein of form for his new side with 16 goals so far this season already.

It seems that the Moors won't have missed the forward too much though, as their current top scorer Akwasi Asanti netted 21 goals in total last season, and is on 12 for this term.

## TEAM PROFILE:

NICKNAME: THE MOORS | GROUND: THE AUTOMATED TECHNOLOGY GROUP STADIUM | LAST SEASON: 1ST NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH | MANAGER: LIAM MCDONALD | LAST LEAGUE MATCH: SOUTHPORT 0-0 SOLIHULL

## MEET THE VISITORS

### THE BOSS

#### LIAM MCDONALD

The 31-year-old is considered one of Non-League football's brightest young coaches and joined last month from Hednesford Town, where he had guided the Pitmen to the play-off positions in the Evo-Stik Northern Premier League.

### BETWEEN THE STICKS

#### DANNY LEWIS

The keeper joined Moors last year from Kidderminster Harriers where for the previous five years he had been the number one choice. He made over 200 appearances for Kiddy, having joined them from Redditch United.

### IN DEFENCE

#### CONNOR FRANKLIN

A summer signing from Nuneaton Town in 2015/16, the left sided defender was an apprentice at Leicester City and had a previous spell at Nuneaton Borough before their liquidation in 2008.

The winger was part of the Birmingham City Academy until 2012. The 23-year-old made 22 appearances for Cheltenham last season, joining the Moors in the summer when his contract with the Robins expired.

#### JORDAN FAGBOLA

A summer signing from Colwyn Bay, the defensive midfielder was an apprentice at Rochdale before moving onto Stockport County.

#### LIAM DALY

Liam first joined Moors in 2008 from Redditch, having previously been at Birmingham City as a youngster. He

21-year-old has played for Reading

re-joined Solihull in time for the start of the 2014/15 season after spells with the likes of Evesham, Corby and Barwell.

#### JORDAN GOUGH

Gough signed for Solihull Moors in the summer of 2013. His former sides include Derby County and Gresley Rovers.

#### JOEL DIELNA

In 2014 he decided to follow his brother, Claude Dielna of Sheffield Wednesday, to England and signed a one-year deal with Blackpool in the Championship, making two league and one cup appearance. Last season he played for CD Gerena in Spain, signing in January.

at U21 level. An adaptable midfielder who can also play at wing back.

#### RYAN BESWICK

The vice-captain has made over 200 appearances for the Moors since he joined in 2009 after leaving Kettering Town. In his first match for Solihull, he scored an 89th minute winner against Harrogate.

#### JACK BYRNE

The 27-year-old joined Solihull in the summer after a five-season spell with Kidderminster Harriers. He made 164 appearances for the Harriers, scoring 28 times.

#### UP FRONT

#### ANDY BROWN

A proven goalscorer at Non-League level, the 30-year-old has netted over 100 goals in his career. His former sides include Nuneaton Town and AFC Telford.

#### AKWASI ASANTI

The Moors top scorer last season, the striker came through the ranks at Birmingham City, where he made his debut in a Europa League play-off game. He has also played for Shrewsbury Town, Kidderminster Harriers and Northampton Town.

#### DARRYL KNIGHTS

The 28-year-old made his debut for Ipswich Town at the age of 16, before moving on to Yeovil Town and then Kidderminster. He is now in his fifth season with Solihull.

# FROM THE OAK ROAD

WITH BOB BENNETT

Bob Bennett, a Solihull Moors supporter of more than 15 years, gives us his thoughts on what lies in store for his team this season in the FA Cup and this afternoon on their visit to Kenilworth Road...

## ► THE SEASON AHEAD

Since winning promotion by a fair distance last season, how have the Moors settled into life in the National League?

After losing some of our best players from last season we had to rebuild the side again, but against the odds have made a strong start to the campaign. We have since been up and down with our league form, currently lying just below half way, and now have a new management team in place in the last few weeks after former manager Marcus Bignot was offered the vacant Grimsby Town job.

This is the first time you have reached the second round of the FA Cup, was the win over Yeovil Town the biggest in the club's short history?

Yes, by far as Solihull Moors was only formed in 2007 and we have never even reached the first round. We are definitely due a cup run!

As you say, Bignot recently departed Solihull to become manager of Grimsby. How has Liam McDonald settled in since taking over the reins? We now have a strong looking management team in place with both youth and experience. Liam McDonald, aged 31, is probably the youngest manager in our league with his two assistants, Nick Green and David Bridgewater. But our new coach is Keith Bertschin, who has many years experience both as a top Football League centre-forward and also as assistant manager to Steve Bruce for a number of years.

Which of the new signings for this season have you been most impressed by so far?

It has to be Jamey Osborne and Omari Sterling-James.

Which member of the National League North title winning squad were you most disappointed to see leave in the summer?

There were two I was particularly disappointed to see depart, defenders Gaz Dean and Michael Nottingham.

There must be a couple you are really pleased you kept hold of, who were you most pleased to see stay at Damson Park?

As an ex striker myself, it has to be Akwasi Asante and Andy Brown. But in fairness to the other players we had such a strong unit I was happy that the nucleus of the team stayed.

Which of the new signings for this season have you been most impressed by so far?

It has to be Jamey Osborne and Omari Sterling-James.



## ► SEASONS PAST...

Tell us about you. Why do you support Solihull Moors? Where did it all begin? What was your first game? What do you remember about it? I used to play semi-pro football in the southern-based Isthmian league, retiring in the mid 1980s when a job promotion prompted a move from Hertfordshire to Birmingham, and a new house in Solihull in late 1987. After a couple of years I started going to watch both Solihull Borough and Moor Green, and since their merger in 2007, I have followed the Moors both home and away.

What do you love most about Damson Park?

It's a small Non-League type ground that can generate a lot of atmosphere. Crowds are now growing for both home and away support.

Who's your favourite Solihull Moors player of all time?

It's got to be Junior English – a no-nonsense 100 per cent midfield player who played nearly 300 games, chipping in with 38 goals, for Moor Green and Solihull Moors. A one-club man up until this season when he

moved to Worcester City. Junior was the sort of player that would always be the first player on your team sheet

What has been your favourite season following the Moors?

That's a no brainer – last season, when we won the league by a country mile, losing only one away game all year.

If you could invite five former Solihull players and managers to a dinner party, who would they be?

That's a tough one! Marcus Bignot and players Omar Bogle, Junior English, Gaz Dean and Michael Nottingham.

## ► LUTON AND SOLIHULL...

There isn't too much to say as we have never played each other! So where does this match sit in terms of the biggest games Solihull have played?

It's definitely the biggest after beating Yeovil in the first round, drawing away and winning on penalties at home. That was the first time Solihull Moors had played a Football League side in the FA Cup.

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

A 1-1 draw and always with the Moors fans in the away end.

Who should the Hatters defence be most wary of in this afternoon's match?

Jamey Osborne

## ► QUICK-FIRE:

Terrace or seats? Terrace

Who are your rivals? Probably Tamworth, but currently in different leagues

Predict your player of the season?

Liam Daly

If you could bring one player from the past back in the Solihull team, who would it be? Omar Bogle

Most treasured Moors piece of memorabilia? None, but just being part of last season

What league will Solihull Moors be in next season? National League

Who will win the FA Cup this season? Chelsea

## FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS PROFILES TEN BIG-NAME SOLIHULL MOORS PLAYERS NOT USUALLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE CLUB



### KEN BARNES

Wing-half Ken Barnes gave Manchester City lengthy service after beginning his career with Moor Green. He did National Service in the RAF and moved via Stafford Rangers to Manchester City in May 1950, appearing in two consecutive FA Cup finals including their 1956 Wembley triumph. He represented the Football League and became Wrexham's player-boss in May 1961, plotting their 1961-62 promotion success. Later managing Witton Albion and Bangor City, he rejoined Manchester City as trainer-coach in August 1970 and was also their chief scout and youth team coach. He died in July 2010. His son Peter was an England international with City.

### GEOFF SCOTT

Left-back Geoff Scott played in the top-flight for three different clubs after leaving Solihull Borough. A former Aston Villa apprentice, he had spells with King's Heath, Solihull Borough and Highgate United before joining Stoke City in April 1977. He starred in their 1978-79 promotion success, then moved to Leicester City in February 1980 and helped clinch the Second Division title that season. Returning to the top-flight in a move to Birmingham City in February 1982, he later played for Charlton Athletic, Middlesbrough, Northampton Town and Cambridge United before injury ended his career, eventually returning to Highgate United as manager.

### ALAN SMITH

Striker Alan Smith (pictured above) was capped 13 times by England after leaving Solihull Borough. He moved via Alvechurch, gaining England Semi-Pro international recognition, to Leicester City in June 1982 and was twice leading marksman, starring alongside Gary Lineker in their 1982-83



promotion success. Sold to Arsenal for £800,000 in March 1987, he topped the Gunners' goalscoring charts in four successive seasons, starring in their 1988-89 and 1990-91 League Championship triumphs. Also helping win the FA Cup in 1993, he scored in Arsenal's 1994 ECWC final success but a knee injury curtailed his career in July 1995. He has since worked in the media.

### ANDY WILLIAMS

Midfielder Andy Williams made almost 300 League appearances after leaving Solihull Borough. Previously with hometown club Dudley, he impressed with Solihull in the Midland Combination while an accountant before joining Coventry City for a club record £30,000 in July 1985. He moved to Rotherham United with Gareth Evans in an exchange deal involving Dean Emerson in October 1986, becoming Howard Wilkinson's first signing for Leeds United at £170,000 in November 1988. Helping win the Second Division title in 1989-90, he later played for Notts County, Rotherham again, Hull City, Scarborough, Gainsborough, Matlock and Guiseley.



### JOHN GAYLE

Much-travelled striker John Gayle played in the top-flight after leaving Solihull Borough. He had spells with Alvechurch, Highgate United, Tamworth, Stratford Town, Solihull, Sutton Coldfield, Mile Oak Rovers, Bromsgrove Rovers and Burton Albion prior to joining Wimbledon with Steve Cotterill in March 1989. Sold to Birmingham City for £175,000 in November 1990, he helped them win the Leyland/DAF Cup in 1991 and promotion in 1991-92, then had spells at Coventry City, Burnley and Stoke City before winning promotion with Northampton Town and Scunthorpe United. He later played for Shrewsbury, Torquay United and Moor Green.

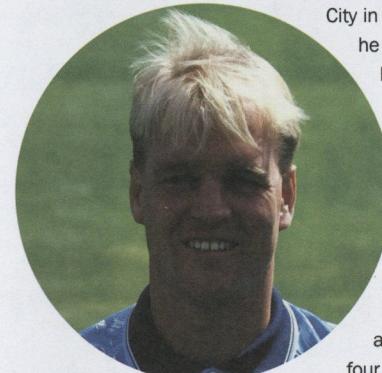
### IAN TAYLOR

Former Moor Green midfielder Ian Taylor scored in Aston Villa's 1996 League Cup final triumph. Born in Birmingham, he played for Shirley Crusaders before joining Moor Green in August 1988. He featured in two Midland Floodlit Cup successes and was top scorer in 1991-92. Sold to Port Vale for £40,000 in July 1992, he helped them win the Autoglass Trophy in 1993 and promotion in 1993-94, moving to Sheffield Wednesday for £1,000,000 in July 1994. Joining Villa for a similar fee five months later, he was an FA Cup finalist in 2000 and moved to Derby County in July 2003. He was leading scorer in 2003-04, then played for Northampton Town.

### DAVID BUSST

Central defender David Busst appeared regularly in the top-flight after leaving Moor Green. He impressed with Moor Green in the Southern League while working in insurance, helping to win the Midland Floodlit Cup in

1991. Moving to Coventry City in January 1992, he was given his Premier League debut in their 1-1 draw at Norwich City a year later. He replaced Andy Pearce in the heart of defence and netted four goals in 50



Premier League games until his career was ended by a badly broken leg at Manchester United in April 1996. Given a testimonial match against United in May 1997, he later managed Solihull Borough and Evesham United.

### KEITH BERTSCHIN

Former England U-21 striker Keith Bertschin helped Solihull Borough to clinch the Southern League Midland Division title in 1991-92. Starting with Barnet, he joined Ipswich Town in October 1973 and scored twice in their 1975 FA Youth Cup final triumph. He moved to Birmingham City in July 1977 and was top scorer in their 1979-80 promotion success, repeating the feat with Norwich City in 1981-82. Joining Stoke City in November 1984, he topped their goalscoring charts in 1985-86 and later played for Sunderland, Walsall, Chester City, Aldershot, Solihull Borough, Evesham United, Barry Town, Worcester City, Tamworth and Stafford Rangers.

### BARRY POWELL

Former England U-23 midfielder Barry Powell briefly played for Moor Green during the 1991-92 season. Signing professional for Wolves in January 1972, he featured in their 1974 League Cup final triumph and moved to Coventry City in September 1975. He joined Derby County in October 1979 and moved via Bulova to Burnley in July 1984. Reuniting with John Bond at Swansea in February 1985, he then played for South China back in Hong Kong before brief spells at Cheltenham Town and Moor Green. He rejoined Wolves as a coach, then became community officer back at Coventry and has since held various coaching and managerial posts.

### PAUL DYSON

Former England U-21 central defender Paul Dyson ended his playing career with Solihull Borough. Signing professional for Coventry City in June 1977, his first goal for the Sky Blues defeated Liverpool in January 1980 and he starred as they were League Cup semi-finalists in 1980-81. He joined Stoke City in July 1983, then played for West Brom and Darlington before moving to Crewe Alexandra in August 1989. Helping them take Chelsea to an FA Cup third round replay in 1989-90, he made over 350 League appearances. Later playing for Telford United and Solihull, he then ran a sports shop and has since been a prison officer at HMP Woodhill.

*Give new meaning to*

# **FAMILY TIME**

*in Dubai*

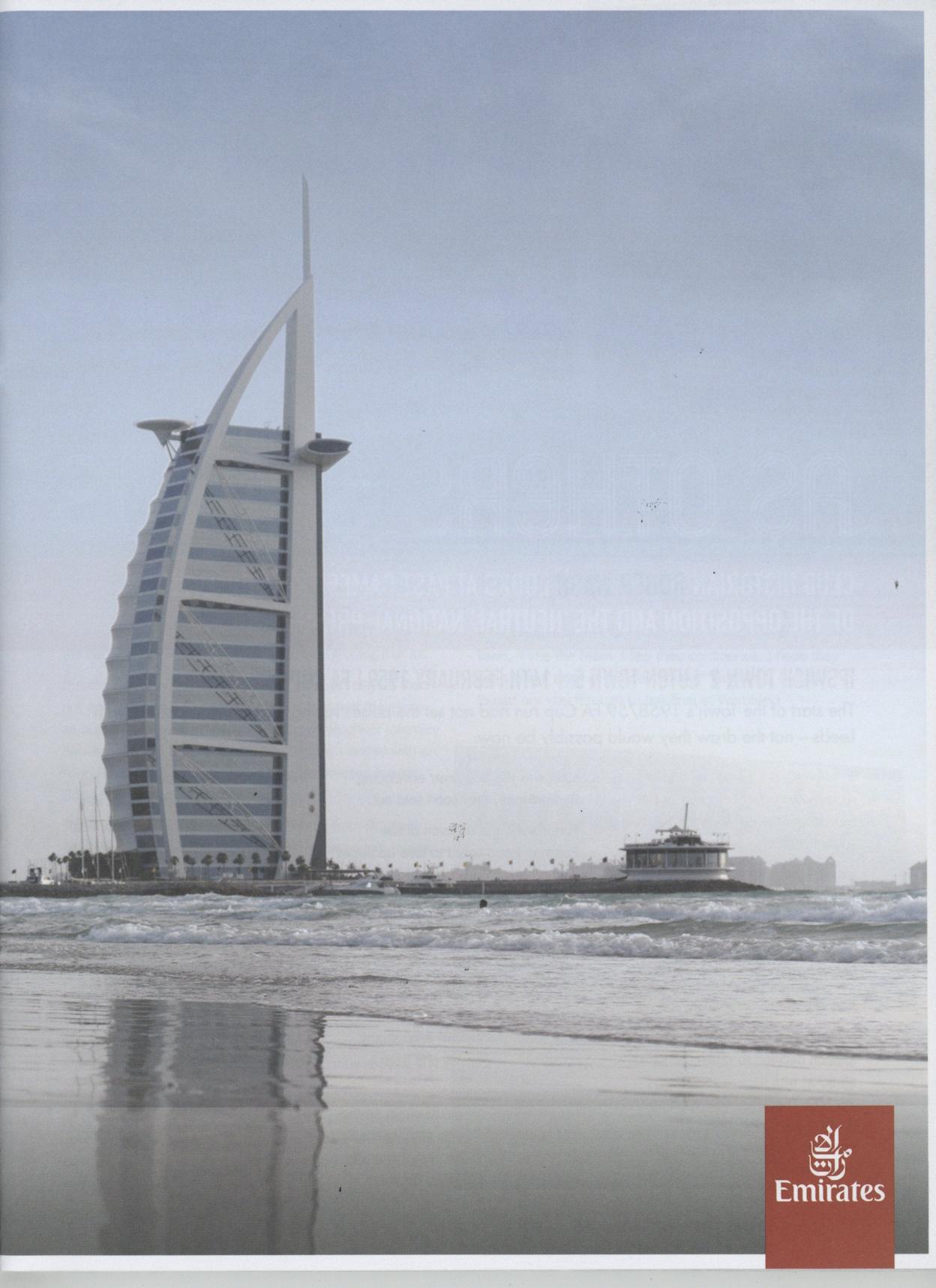


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**Hello Tomorrow**







# PICTURE THE PAST

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES  
INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVES

Ricky Hill fires the Town into a first half lead during the FA Cup semi-final against Everton at Villa Park in 1985. Everton levelled following a hotly disputed free-kick just before the end, and then stole the winner in extra-time, leaving the thousands of Luton supporters close to tears at the injustice of it all.

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## LUTON MESSAGE HITS LONG BEACH!

The allure of Luton Town hits people far and wide – as this picture from Long Beach, California clearly shows!

American music mogul Ian Montone has become a Hatters fan since being introduced to the club by his friend, Town vice-president and chairman/CEO of Columbia Records, Rob Stringer.

Ian, a musician himself, is producer and manager of well-known artists such as the White Stripes, Jack White, The Raconteurs, LCD Soundsystems and Vampire Weekend, and he flew over with Rob last week to pay his first visit to Kenilworth Road for the Portsmouth game.

After a drink in the Brickies and a curry before the game, he was given a stadium tour by chief executive



Gary Sweet – including seeing the quirky away terraced house turnstiles in the Oak Road End – and met manager Nathan Jones and his staff. He also sampled the Kenilworth Road catering and visited the club shop,

where he bought young son Gianluca a bundle of gifts including the scarf he is seen wearing proudly on Long Beach!

Once home, Ian emailed to say: "After the past few years of listening to matches online, it was great to actually be at Kenilworth Road and take in the history. Really felt like being welcomed into a family. Despite the result, a lot to feel good about."

He added: "Please thank whomever made that Shepherd's pie. It was very good."

One message passed on to head chef Michelle Nixon...and the most important one taken across the Pond to young Gianluca!

## CUTHBERT'S A DIAMOND CUT!

Congratulations to Hatters captain Scott Cuthbert on winning the Diamond Season Ticket holders' player of the month award for October!

After Danny Hylton won the prize for the first two months of the season with his fantastic performances up front, Scott has smuggled the award from the striker's hands.

The centre-half picked up the award as the Town went unbeaten for the whole of October, with the former Leyton Orient, Swindon Town and St Mirren man winning 39% of the votes, just beating goalkeeper Christian Walton, who finished in second place.

Mick Higgins was drawn from the hat to present the trophy to the 29-year-old, as well as winning two hospitality tickets!

Diamond Season Ticket holders can now vote for their player of the month for November by emailing [diamond@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:diamond@lutontown.co.uk) with their entry.

The winner will be informed soon after the closing date on 10th December.

If an adult wins, they will receive two seats for an Eric Morecambe Hospitality package and a junior winner will receive a Diamond Mascot package.



# TOWN 1 : PORTSMOUTH 3



TUESDAY 22ND NOVEMBER | KENILWORTH ROAD | ATTENDANCE: 8,808 | AWAY: 975

**TOWN GOAL:** HYLTON 7 | **PORTSMOUTH GOALS:** SMITH 11, EVANS 45+2, NAISMITH 85

**TOWN:** WALTON, JUSTIN (MACKAIL-SMITH 86), REA, MULLINS, SHEEHAN ©, LEE, MPANZU, GILLIEAD (COOK 58), MCGEEHAN, HYLTON, VASSELL (MARRIOTT 79). SUBS NOT USED: O'DONNELL, SMITH, CUTHBERT, KING (GK) | **YELLOW CARDS:** SHEEHAN, LEE

**PORTSMOUTH:** FORDE, DOYLE ©, BURGESS, CLARKE, STEVENS, ROSE, EVANS, BENNETT (WHATMOUGH 88), BAKER, ROBERTS (NAISMITH 74), SMITH (HUNT 90) SUBS NOT USED: O'BRIEN, TALBOT, LINGANZI, LALKOVIC | **YELLOW CARDS:** EVANS, STEVENS, ROSE, HUNT



## JONES:

### My players gave me everything, fair play to them

"I'm disappointed with the result, but I thought they deserved it on the night."

"We started really well. The offside goal, which I need to see again, was maybe a big turning point."

"But to be fair, they came here, they worked hard and they pressed us. It was a good game, a real good advert for League Two."

"I thought they defended quite well and I felt we were just a little bit short. In both boxes I felt they got a few too many headers on it, that's where the second goal came from."

"The real turning point was just before half-time when they got the second goal, because it gave them a real lift. But they had the better chances, they hit the bar, they've gone wide with a chance and I think they probably edged it."

"We had two penalty shouts. One was a handball, one was a foul, so we had two opportunities really. You get some, you don't, so we can't really gripe about that."

"But my players gave me everything, fair play to them. I'm disappointed with the result, but we dust ourselves off because we've got to go on another run now."

## STORY OF THE MATCH:

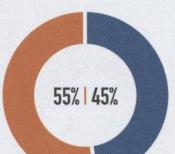
The Hatters' nine-match unbeaten run came to a halt at Kenilworth Road as Pompey leapfrogged the Town into fourth place in the Sky Bet League Two table with a 3-1 win.

The Town took an early lead as things started brightly, with Danny Hylton netting his 12th goal of the season with a textbook header on seven minutes as the biggest home crowd of the season, 8,805, produced an electric atmosphere.

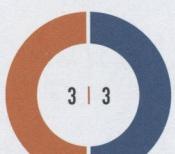
The former Oxford United striker thought he had doubled his tally for the night two minutes later as he fired in from close range, but the assistant referee flagged the forward for offside.

The visitors were soon level when striker Michael Smith rolled the ball in from 20-yards in the 11th minute, then Pompey took the lead on the stroke of half-time as right-back Gareth Evans smashed in from close range as the Hatters could only half clear a corner.

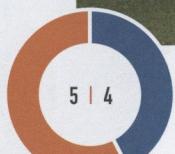
The victory was secured for the Hampshire side with five minutes of normal time remaining when substitute Kal Naismith fired in an effort from the edge of the box that flew across Walton and into the bottom left corner of the Hatters net.



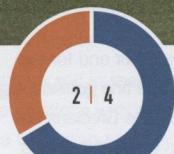
POSSESSION



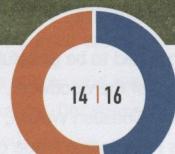
SHOTS ON TARGET



SHOTS WIDE



CORNERS



FOULS

# EXETER 0 : TOWN 0



SATURDAY 26TH NOVEMBER | ST JAMES PARK | ATTENDANCE: 3,823 | AWAY 634

**EXETER:** PYM, WOODMAN, JAMES, WATKINS, WHEELER (SIMPSON 87), MOORE-TAYLOR, MCALINDEN (OAKLEY 64), TAYLOR, SWEENEY (AMPADU 71), REID, BROWN. SUBS NOT USED: HARLEY, GRANT, STACEY, OLEJNIK (GK)

**TOWN:** WALTON, JUSTIN, MULLINS, CUTHBERT ©, SHEEHAN, REA, MCGEEHAN, COOK (GILLIEAD 72), LEE (MPANZU 67), HYLTON, VASSELL (MARRIOTT 83). SUBS NOT USED: O'DONNELL, SMITH, MACKAIL-SMITH, KING (GK) | YELLOW CARDS: CUTHBERT, REA, MPANZU

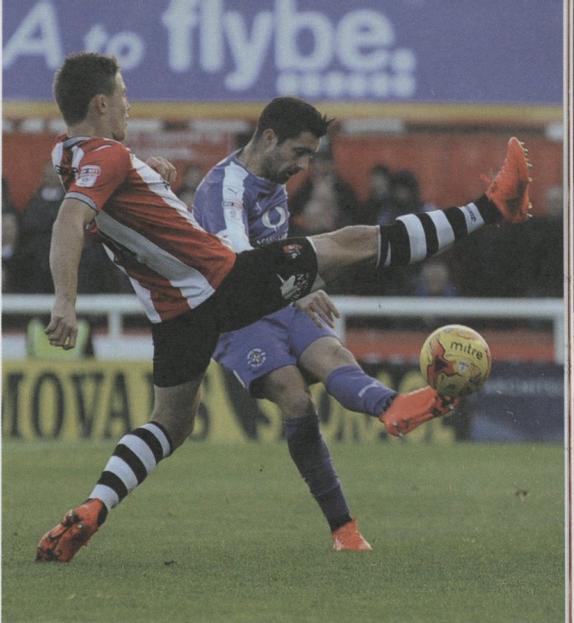


## STORY OF THE MATCH:

The Hatters recorded a fourth clean sheet in five league games to strengthen the best defensive record in the division at St James Park last Saturday, but couldn't repeat their potent performance of three weeks previous when they left Exeter with a comfortable FA Cup victory.

For only the second time this season, the Town were involved in a goalless draw – following the stalemate at Notts County in later October – with Olly Lee and Alan Sheehan coming closest to breaking through the hosts' defence in the second half.

They had to be grateful at the other end for the help of the woodwork, and some fine goalkeeping from Christian Walton, to keep the Grecians out as Paul Tisdale's side created some dangerous openings.



**PAUL HART:**  
We are still  
in there



"It's a clean sheet again, that's four in five, and we possibly could have won it. We are pleased with the performance, it was a tough game. I thought we created enough for us to score from."

"We are away from home, and Exeter isn't an easy place to come. I did think we ought to have had a penalty on Hylton, but overall I am delighted with the team's performance."

"Isaac Vassell's pace is frightening to anybody. With a little bit of luck we get a goal – those chances are few and far between. Exeter did defend very well today. We didn't have a host chances, but enough to have won it I thought."

"The keeper made a great save from Alan Sheehan's free-kick. It's going into the top corner and he saves it, it was a great save."

"We are still in there. We are still around the top positions with a great chance. Christmas is a very important period, and with the squad we have, we will see the benefit after Christmas."

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PROUD TO PRINT THE LUTON TOWN MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

[CAMERON MCGEEHAN ON EXETER]

# CAMERON THE CENTURION

## MIDFIELDER ON HIS 100TH TOWN APPEARANCE AT EXETER

An unremarkable 0-0 draw last weekend at Exeter City was actually quite a big day for one Hatter in particular, as Cameron McGeehan made it a century of appearances in a Town shirt.

After two loan spells with the club, the 21-year-old joined Town permanently at the beginning of last season and has been an ever present in the side since.

The former Norwich City midfielder was pleased with the landmark, as he has enjoyed life in Luton since the moment he arrived.

McGeehan said: "I am very proud to play for a massive club like Luton. Since the first day I came here I have loved every minute.

"The fans have warmed to me and helped me a lot. I have met a lot of good friends, good players, good people behind the club and staff. It's been great ever since John Still took the gamble and put trust in me as an 18-year-old.

### BUILDING

"It's flown by and slowly we are building something here under the new manager and hopefully we can push on now, the transition has come at the right time for the club. I am proud to be a part of it with Nathan Jones into the future."

McGeehan arrived as a defensively minded midfielder, but he has seen his role develop since he arrived, and

now has an impressive goalscoring record of 29 in 100 appearances.

"I think I took a while to get going [scoring goals]. I came in as a defensive midfielder when we were in the Conference and did a different job and played a different side of the game," McGeehan continued.

### GOOD

"But I have built on that over the years and Nathan and John got me playing a bit further forward, which allowed me to show that side of my game. Obviously, it's good for me and good for the team."

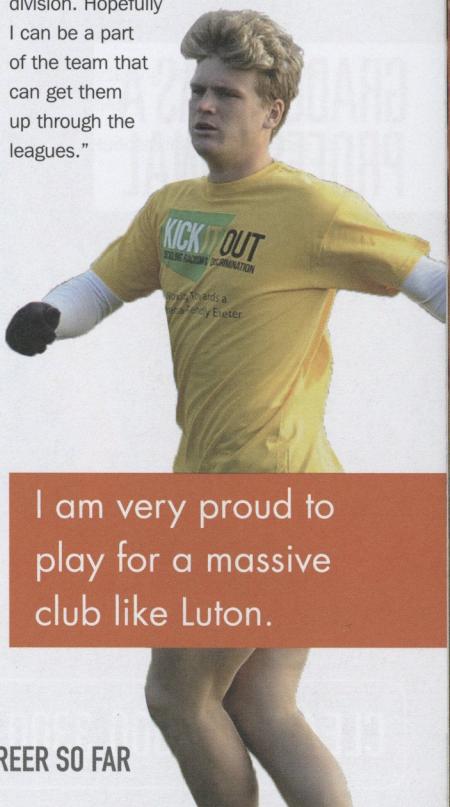
Signed by Chelsea as a ten-year-old from Fulham, McGeehan scored against the Blues in the 2013 FA Youth Cup final for Norwich.

The midfielder is now looking to see his career grow with the Hatters, having already been promoted from the conference.

McGeehan, who has also had a loan spell with Cambridge United, said: "I believe in myself, it was just a case of going out and trying to show I can push on and play as high as you can. You want to play at the highest level and the best way to do it is to go and play games.

"To sign for a big club like Luton, it was good for me and it was lucky. They were in a bit of a precarious position when I joined. They shouldn't have been as low as they were.

"But it suited me being a young player coming in and playing in the Conference and being part of the team that got them out of that division. Hopefully I can be a part of the team that can get them up through the leagues."



I am very proud to play for a massive club like Luton.

NEXT WEEK: CAMERON PICKS THE FIVE HIGHLIGHTS OF HIS TOWN CAREER SO FAR

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[OBITUARY BY ROGER WASH]

## PAUL FUTCHER.

25TH SEPTEMBER 1956 – 24TH NOVEMBER 2016.

Everyone at Kenilworth Road was shocked to hear of the death of Paul Futcher at the age of only 60.

No sooner had promotion back to the top-flight been achieved in 1974 when Luton manager Harry Haslam announced that the club's transfer fee record was about to be broken with the signing of 17 year old Paul Futcher from Chester City.

The eventual fee agreed was £100,000 for a teenager who, according to the Chester manager Ken Roberts, was a certainty to play for England. Even so this was a massive price to pay for a virtually untried teenager who had played only 20 League games.

Harry Haslam, in snatching Paul from under the nose of Manchester City, declared that he was buying for the future and was confident that the youngster would be worth three times the amount paid in 12 months.

Soon after the signing it was announced that Paul's twin brother Ron would be joining the Town for £25,000 in order 'to keep him company', although supporters knew that Haslam was not daft and that he had other reasons for the signing which were eventually shown with the almost telepathic understanding between the brothers on the pitch.

Paul made his debut in central defence for a struggling Hatters side at Chelsea in December 1974, where he played with a maturity which belied his tender years, stroking the ball around like a veteran.

He was joined by his brother for the Christmas games and the fun then really started as all balls played out of defence by Paul seemed to home in on Ron.

The Town almost escaped the drop that season and although wise with hindsight, fans were left wondering what would have happened had the Futcher twins been given their chance earlier.

Paul continued to earn rave reviews in Division Two (now the Championship), and became a regular in the England under-21 set-up. This brought about continued transfer speculation, which ended in June 1978 when Manchester City finally got their man in exchange for £350,000.

After two years at Maine Road, Paul went on to Oldham, Derby, Barnsley, Halifax and Grimsby before managing a



number of Non-League clubs, including Southport, who he took to the FA Trophy final in 1998.

Latterly, Paul was working at a Huddersfield college close to his home in Holmfirth.

Our condolences go out to all his family and friends, and there will be a period of applause before kick-off today for supporters to pay their respects to Paul.

----

Thanks to Hatters fan **PHIL BASSILL**, who got in touch with Talk of the Town to remind us of what he wrote in the programme a few years ago about Paul when asked to 'select his Hatters Dream Team':

'I'll sit on the fence with this one. Paul was the best player I have ever seen in a Town shirt. He exuded class. Always in the right position, fantastic distribution and impeccable timing. Good in the air, fantastic on the ground. I will never forget him lobbing the ball between the fearsome Joe Jordan and Duncan McKenzie and then hitting a perfect 50-yard pass to John Aston. I was privileged to see him perform for Luton for four years. Whenever he returned to Kenilworth Road he still couldn't put a foot wrong.'

# THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES  
INTO HIS PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVES



'Look what I've done', says Tony Thorpe (left) after netting for the Town at Newcastle in an FA Cup fourth round tie in 1994. The game finished 1-1, but we won the replay against our top-flight opponents before going on a fantastic run which only ended against Chelsea at Wembley at the semi-final stage.

# Don't forget...

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COME ON YOU HATTERS! COME ON YOU HATTERS! COME ON YOU HATTERS! COME ON YOU HATTERS! COME ON YOU HATTERS!

# JUNIOR HATTERS

## NUMBER PUZZLER

Using the list of squad numbers on the back of this programme, can you work out which of the players pictured is the answer to the following riddles? Here's an example to get you started:

Cameron McGeehan (8) + Jack Marriott (14) - Christian Walton (1) = Jack Senior (21)

- 1) Johnny Mullins x Stephen O'Donnell + Jake Gray = ???
- 2) James Justin ÷ Jonathan Smith = ???
- 3) Zane Banton + Dan Potts + Josh McQuoid = ???
- 4) Glen Rea ÷ Cameron McGeehan + Craig Mackail-Smith = ???
- 5) Isaac Vassell + Isaac Vassell - Danny Hylton = ???



## CREST TEST



## FACT FILE

The Hatters have made it to the final of the FA Cup once in their history, when they met Nottingham Forest at Wembley on Saturday 2nd May 1959. Unfortunately, the famous match ended as a 2-1 defeat for the Town with Dave Pacey on the scoresheet for Luton.



## SOLIHULL MOORS FC

Today we welcome Solihull Moors FC to Kenilworth Road. Their nickname is 'The Moors' and they play their home matches at Damson Park. The Moors are currently 16th in the Vanarama National League after they were promoted from the National League North last season as champions.

## SEND US YOUR PICS

Want to see your face in print? Send us your Junior Hatters pics and you could appear on this page! Email [info@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:info@lutontown.co.uk)

# YOUTH TEAM KIT SPONSORS 2016/17



1 HARRY BEAN  
H: Middleton Bespoke Joinery  
A: AVAILABLE



2 SCOTT BELGRAVE  
H: AVAILABLE  
A: AVAILABLE



3 KAVAN COTTER  
H: Andrew J Finch  
A: Loyal Luton Supporters Club



4 GEO LUCA CRAIG  
H: Jane Davies  
A: AVAILABLE



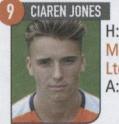
6 CIARAN GORDON-STEARN  
H: AVAILABLE  
A: AVAILABLE



7 FREDDIE HINDS  
H: Jacqui Peacock  
A: Bobbers Travel



8 JACK JAMES  
H: M J Sites Services Ltd  
A: Les & Sue Miller - Miller & Company



9 CIAREN JONES  
H: Groundcare Machinery Services Ltd  
A: AVAILABLE



11 JOE MEAD  
H: AVAILABLE  
A: AVAILABLE



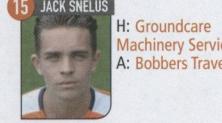
12 GEORGE MURRAY  
H: Andrew J Finch  
A: Football 262



13 ARTHUR READ  
H: COYH  
A: Dave Baker



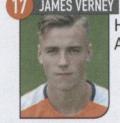
14 MICHAEL SHAMALO  
H: DM Specialists  
A: AVAILABLE



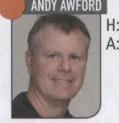
15 JACK SNELUS  
H: Groundcare Machinery Services Ltd  
A: Bobbers Travel



16 KITAN SORUNKE  
H: AVAILABLE  
A: AVAILABLE



17 JAMES VERNEY  
H: Ben Wright  
A: AVAILABLE



ANDY AWFORD  
H: AVAILABLE  
A: AVAILABLE



PAUL DRIVER  
H: Doug Knight  
A: AVAILABLE



TEAM ELF  
H: Club Shop, Kenilworth Road  
A: Club Shop, The Mall

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NEXT UP: FRI 9TH DEC – SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (A) FA YOUTH CUP  
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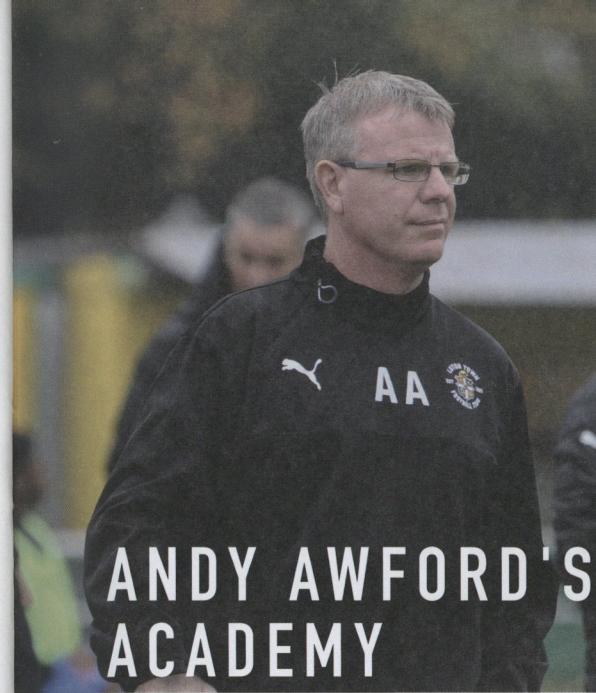
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ANDY AWFORD'S  
ACADEMY

# UPDATE

Good afternoon and welcome to today's FA Cup game v Solihull Moors.

## U21S

The U21s travelled to Reading last week and returned with a 2-2 draw in a highly entertaining game. With there being a first team game the same evening, the side we fielded was very young and I was delighted with the overall performance.

We created a host of chances, although a combination of some good goalkeeping and us needing to be more clinical in front of goal saw us draw a game that in all honesty we should have won comfortably.

Unfortunately, we were guilty of the same issues away at MK Dons last Tuesday, which saw us go down 2-1. Some of our play was very good, but again we did not take enough of the numerous chances we created.

Both fixtures allowed us to give our younger players more game time against higher level opposition, and our experienced pros vital match minutes to ensure that they are ready for the manager as and when he needs them.

## U18S

The Youth Team travel to Sheffield Wednesday on Friday for the FA Youth Cup third round tie at Hillsborough.

The experience of playing at such a historical stadium will again develop their overall knowledge.

After last year's Youth Cup away victories at Leyton Orient, Oldham Athletic, Notts County and Preston North End, and this year's win at Barnet, the boys are thoroughly looking forward to the game and hoping to provide an upset as we go up against a Category 2 Academy.

We take on Gillingham today in the league, which will again provide a great platform for our U16 players to gain match minutes against older boys.

## U12S

The U12s returned back from their recent tour to Germany last Friday after taking on Borussia Dortmund, Hamburg SV, Wolfsburg & Werder Bremen, amongst others.

The staff were delighted with our boys' attitude and fine play which saw them comfortably reach the final.



The final saw us come up against another English club in Brighton & Hove Albion, who ran out deserved winners.

Although we were disappointed to lose in the final, our boys will have enjoyed a great experience, playing against different styles, formations and cultures that will only enhance their overall development. Well done to everyone.

Enjoy today's game.

COYH!!

ANDY



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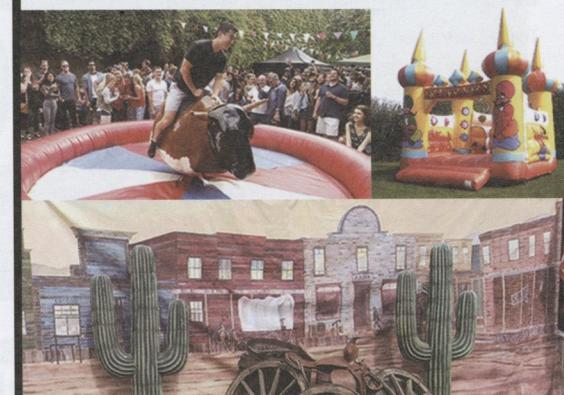
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# LUTON TOWN IN THE COMMUNITY

BY KEVIN THOBURN, HEAD OF THE HATTERS COMMUNITY TRUST

## HATTERS FOOTBALL YOUTH MENTORING PROJECT

The Community Trust have teamed up with the Avenue Centre for Education (ACE) in Luton for the second year running to provide our seven-week intervention programme for Luton High School boys and girls who are either at risk of, or are already, excluded from mainstream schooling and at risk of further being involved in anti-social behaviour.

The mentoring programme comprises six three-hour sessions that uses the power of football and Luton Town FC to try and affect behaviour and discipline sufficiently enough to allow ex pupils the possibility of re-admission into mainstream education.

Community Trust staff deliver lessons divided equally between PE and classroom based workshops and participants take part in football coaching, learn about Luton Town FC as a community club and explore factors affecting community participation.

The boys and girls involved also explore the factors associated with anti-social behaviour, school exclusion and benefit of staying in school, their aspirations, their life experiences, the importance of role models while also linking this into the importance of education in later life.

The need to stay away from crime and the consequences of becoming involved in anti-social behaviour activities is also explored.



new opportunity, a new start in life.

Football is one tool that can potentially make a difference and if you can show how disciplined professional football is with rules, codes of conduct and team discipline an essential part of everyday life for a professional player, then we hope that behaviour can be managed and influenced sufficiently to offer a better pathway for some of our younger community members.

## COMMUNITY COACHING PROGRAMME

### ARE YOU A POTENTIAL COMMUNITY CHAMPION! FREE FA LEVEL 1 COURSE

The Community Trust are searching for Luton's 'community champions in 2017' and have again teamed up with Luton Adult Learning and the Skills Funding Agency to provide another 18 free spaces on an FA Level 1 coaching courses for local adults aged over 19 to learn coaching skills through successful completion of our coach mentoring programme.

Our champions will then be able to

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

The course will include the new FA Level 1 coaching certificate as well as First Aid and Safeguarding qualifications and aims to provide training to new coaches to enable them to deliver football and multi-sport activities which will improve



their health and activity levels as well as offering them genuine future work opportunities with the Trust through formal sport qualifications gained on the project.

To achieve this aim, the overall project is looking to increase awareness of the benefits of sporting activity together with the benefits of increased physical fitness and healthy lifestyle choices and also deliver this message over a period of time through local coaches for local communities becoming role models for their local communities.

In particular (but not exclusively) we are looking for our 'community champions' from specifically targeted estates in Dallow and Biscot, Marsh Farm, Lewsey Farm and South Luton to work in areas which have large pockets of social deprivation with

hard to reach young individuals, and particularly have significant issues around crime and anti-social behaviour.

These estates already benefit from our weekly late night coaching sessions as part of our PL KICKS community integration project and the community learning project will look to feed coaches into this project to increase the club's presence on the estates as we look to increase the sport provision and integration activity at a very local level.

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

**Get into Football Coaching with Luton Town FC**

**FREE ADULT COURSES IN LUTON**

If you are aged 19 years and over and live in Luton and would like to get into Football Coaching - then here is your opportunity!

Luton Town FC Community Trust are looking for enthusiastic adults who would like to train as community coaches to work with young people in Luton. The course commences start as February 2017 and will be held every evening on 2nd, 4th and 7th evenings from 6pm to 8pm. The course will consist of 10 sessions and will teach you the skills including football qualifications and will include:

- getting FA Level 1 Award in Coaching Football & Sports Leaders award
- the chance to work with young people in Luton
- the chance to develop existing and new skills, confidence, and motivation
- the chance to work with Luton Town FC
- ongoing support from Luton Town FC during the programme
- the chance to work with the Prince's Trust
- opportunities to volunteering and employment projects with the Hatters Community Trust
- the opportunity to receive a bursary from the BME community and females as they are under-represented in this area

To register your interest or for more information call: Daniel on 01582 737568 or email: [learning@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:learning@lutontown.co.uk)

community operations manager  
[daniel.douglas@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:daniel.douglas@lutontown.co.uk)?

The course will run through February and March next year and is open to both men and women and we particularly welcome applicants from BME individuals as they are under-represented in this area.

## PLAYERS SUPPORT CHILDREN IN NEED AT WOODLANDS SEN SCHOOL

What a great day first teamers Jordan Cook and Liam Gooch had at Woodlands Special Educational Needs School in Marsh Farm on Children in Need Day a couple of weeks ago!

Jordan and Liam spent over three hours with our community coaches and pupils and staff joining in with basketball matches, spot the ball, bowling competitions and an activity assembly that saw all pupils presented with 'Hatters' teddy bears by shirt sponsors Ssangyong.

The pupils and staff at Woodlands raised several hundred pounds for CIN and the club would like to congratulate everyone for their efforts and for inviting us along on the day.

Through our free school visit project we now visit Woodlands SEN School



every Friday afternoon to coach the Year 10 and 11 school football team and have got to know a very special school and all of its staff and pupils really well. They are all a credit to Luton and thanks to PE teacher Ryan Cameron for all of his work.



# LEAGUELOOK

Carlisle stormed to the top of League Two last Saturday as a Charlie Wykes hat-trick made easy work of Mansfield in a 5-2 victory for the Cumbrians.

Morecambe won for the first time at home since mid-August, defeating former league leaders Plymouth Argyle 2-1, with Derek McAdams' side now left licking their wounds after a third successive defeat after a blistering start.

Colchester put in one of the performances of the season, firing four past Crewe and getting just as many players in the Football League Paper's League Two team of the day. Blackpool scored an equal amount against Newport County, but Graham Westley's side who are bottom of the table managed to reply with one.

Crawley and Barnet defeated Grimsby and Notts County 3-2, but it didn't stop Mariners striker Omar Bogle from snatching top spot as the division's top scorer by one goal, overtaking the Bees' John Akinde who sits on 15 for the season. Grimsby's loss also marked new boss Marcus Bignot's first defeat at the helm.

After defeating the Hatters last week, Portsmouth fell at home to Stevenage, with Boro netting twice in four minutes

in the later stages of the match leaving Pompey only above Town on goal difference.

Wycombe made it five league wins in a row as Scott Kashket put two past the Monkey Hangers, which put Gareth Ainsworth's side firmly in the play-off places.

Rommy Boco continued his fine form in front of goal, as he salvaged a point for John Coleman's Accrington Stanley with a late goal against Yeovil, after Otis Khan had given the Grovers the lead just after the break.

Finally, Doncaster and Cambridge put three past Leyton Orient and Cheltenham Town, as Donny maintained their place in the final automatic promotion spot, whilst the O's are now only out of the relegation places on goal difference.

Cambridge on the other hand continued their excellent run having had a slow start to the season in which they were rooted to the bottom of the league. The U's, however have now picked up 19 points from their past ten matches to push them up into the top half of the table.

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### TODAY'S LEAGUE 2 FIXTURES

Stevenage v Doncaster Rovers  
 Yeovil Town v Crawley Town

### LAST WEEK'S LEAGUE 2 RESULTS

Accrington 1-1 Yeovil	Carlisle 5-2 Mansfield	Exeter 0-0 Luton
Barnet 3-2 Notts County	Colchester 4-0 Crewe	Morecambe 2-1 Plymouth
Blackpool 4-1 Newport	Crawley 3-2 Grimsby	Portsmouth 1-2 Stevenage
Cambridge 3-1 Cheltenham	Doncaster 3-1 Leyton	Wycombe 2-0 Hartlepool

### THIS WEEKEND'S FA CUP 2ND ROUND TIES:

FRIDAY	SUNDAY
Macclesfield v Oxford	Bolton v Sheffield
SATURDAY	Bristol Rovers v Barrow
Blackpool v Brackley	Cambridge v Coventry
Carlisle v Rochdale	Curzon Ashton v AFC W'don
Charlton Athletic v MK Dons	Eastleigh v FC Halifax
	Millwall v Braintree
	MONDAY
	Lincoln City v Oldham Athletic

# FIXTURES SPiLE-UP

WHO, WHEN AND WHERE THE HATTERS ARE PLAYING THIS SEASON

KEY: • First Substitute | ♦ Second Substitute | ▲ Third Substitute | ■ Sent off | GOALSCORER

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY	POS	STARTING XI	SUBS																
<b>AUGUST</b>																									
Sat 6	3.00pm	A	Plymouth Argyle	W 3-0	9,761	1,019	1	Walton O'Donnell	Mullins	Cuthbert	Potts	Rea	Mpanzu	McGeehan	Cook	HYLTON 1	MARRIOTT 1	SMITH 1	Lee	Gray	Justin	Vassell	McQuoid	King	
Wed 10	7.45pm	H	Aston Villa (EFL Cup 1)	W 3-1	7,412	1,487	-	Walton O'Donnell	Mullins	Rea	Justin	Lee	Mpanzu	McGEEHAN 1	GRAY 1	Hylton	Marriott	Smith	Cuthbert	Cook	Vassell	McQuoid	King		
Sat 13	3.00pm	H	Yeovil Town	D 1-1	7,800	303	1	Walton O'DONNELL 1	Mullins	Cuthbert	Potts	Rea	Cook	McGEEHAN 2	Ruddock	Hylton	Marriott	Smith	Smith	Vassell	McQuoid	King	Justini		
Tue 16	7.45pm	H	Newport County	W 2-1	7,058	115	1	Walton O'Donnell	Mullins	Cuthbert	Potts	Lee	Mpanzu	McGeehan	Cook	Hylton	Marriott	Famewo	Gray	Smith	Gray	McQuoid	King		
Sat 20	3.00pm	A	Stevenage	L 1-2	3,517	1,674	3	Walton O'Donnell	Cuthbert	Rea	Potts	Lee	Gray	McGEEHAN 1	Cook	Hylton	Marriott	Mpanzu	Vassell	McQuoid	King	Justini			
Tue 23	7.45pm	H	Leeds United (EFL Cup 2)	L 0-1	7,498	1,510	-	Walton O'Donnell	Mullins	Rea	Potts	Lee	Smith	McGeehan	Gray	Hylton	Marriott	Cook	Mpanzu	Vassell	McQuoid	King			
Sat 27	3.00pm	A	Cambridge United	W 3-0	5,606	1,690	2	Walton O'Donnell	Mullins	Rea	Potts	Lee	Mpanzu	McGeehan	Cook	HYLTON 1	MARRIOTT 1	Cuthbert	Smith	Gray	McQuoid	King	Justini		
Tue 30	7.45pm	A	Gillingham (EFL Trophy)	W 2-1	2,128	137	-	King Cotter	MUSONDA 1	Famewo	Justin	Bakinson	SMITH 1	Gray	Banton	Vassell	McQuoid	Smith	Vassell	Gray	Hinds	King	Justini		
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>																									
Sat 3	3.00pm	H	Wycombe Wanderers	W 4-1	8,097	530	1	Walton O'Donnell	Mullins	Cuthbert	Potts	Lee	Mpanzu	McGeehan	COOK 1	HYLTON 3	Marriott	Smith	Vassell	Famewo	Gray	Gillhead	King		
Sat 10	3.00pm	H	Grimsby Town	L 1-2	8,005	539	3	Walton O'Donnell	Mullins	Sheehan	Potts	Lee	Mpanzu	McGeehan	Cook	Hylton	Marriott	Vassell	Gillhead	Smith	Cuthbert	Gray			
Sat 17	3.00pm	A	Crawley Town	L 0-2	2,904	1,052	7	Walton O'Donnell	Mullins	Sheehan	Potts	Lee	Smith	McGeehan	Cook	Vassell	McQuoid	Hylton	Marriott	Gillhead	Gray	Mpanzu	King		
Sat 24	3.00pm	H	Doncaster Rovers	W 3-1	7,917	554	3	Walton Justin	Mullins	Cuthbert	Potts	Lee	Mpanzu	McGEEHAN 2	Cook	HYLTON 1	MARRIOTT 1	Sheehan	Gray	Gillhead	Smith	Vassell	McQuoid	King	
Tue 27	7.45pm	A	Hartlepool United	D 1-1	3,533	311	2	Walton Justin	SHEEHAN 1	Famewo	Potts	Lee	Gray	McGeehan	Gillhead	Mpanzu	Marriott	Vassell	Smith	O'Donnell	Smith	Gillhead	Musonda		
<b>OCTOBER</b>																									
Sat 1	3.00pm	A	Cheltenham Town	D 1-1	3,660	923	4	Walton Justin	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Potts	Lee	Mpanzu	McGeehan	Cook	HYLTON 1	Marriott	Smith	Vassell	Famewo	Gray	Gillhead	King		
Tues 4	7.30pm	H	West Brom (EFL Trophy)	W 2-0	1,441	89	-	King O'Donnell	Musonda	Famewo	Senior	Bakinson	GRAY 1	McGeehan	GILLIEAD 1	Hylton	Marriott	Vassell	Gillhead	Smith	Cuthbert	Gray	Cuthbert		
Sat 8	3.00pm	H	Crewe Alexandra	D 1-1	7,716	254	5	Walton Justin	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Potts	Lee	Gray	McGEEHAN 1	Mpanzu	HYLTON 1	Marriott	Rea	McQuoid	Gillhead	O'Donnell	Smith	Vassell	King	
Sat 15	3.00pm	A	Leyton Orient	W 2-1	5,471	1,341	4	Walton O'Donnell	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	Cook	McGEEHAN 1	Gillhead	HYLTON 1	Marriott	Smith	Mullins	Gray	Banton	Smith	Mackail-Smith	King	
Sat 22	3.00pm	H	Mansfield Town	D 1-1	7,787	295	4	Walton O'Donnell	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	Gray	McGeehan	Gillhead	Cook	Marriott	Vassell	Smith	Lee	Potts	Mullins	Smith	Gray	
Sat 29	3.00pm	A	Notts. County	D 0-0	6,313	2,033	4	Walton O'Donnell	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Mullins	Rea	Cook	McGeehan	▲	Gillhead	Hylton	Marriott	Lee	Mpanzu	Vassell	Smith	Smith	Smith	King
<b>NOVEMBER</b>																									
Sat 5	3.00pm	A	Exeter City (FAC1)	W 3-1	2,972	310	-	Walton Justin	Cuthbert	Sheehan	REA 1	Lee	Mpanzu	McGeehan	Cook	HYLTON 2	Gillhead	Smith	Mackail-Smith	O'Donnell	Gray	Potts	Vassell	King	
Tue 8	7.30pm	H	Millwall (EFL Trophy)	L 1-3	2,251	370	-	King O'Donnell	Musonda	Famewo	Senior	Bakinson	GRAY 1	McGEEHAN 1	McQuoid	Hylton	Marriott	Banton	Hinds	Read	Cotter	Bean	Gooch		
Sat 12	3.00pm	H	Accrington Stanley	W 1-0	8,008	101	5	Walton Justin	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Rea	Cook	McGEEHAN 1	Gillhead	HYLTON 1	Marriott	Rea	McQuoid	Smith	Mullins	Gray	McQuoid	Mackail-Smith	King	
Sat 19	3.00pm	A	Morecambe	W 2-0	1,507	520	4	Walton Justin	Mullins	Sheehan	Rea	Mpanzu	McGeehan	Gillhead	▲	Hylton	Vassell	Marriott	Smith	Gray	McQuoid	Mackail-Smith	Cuthbert	King	
Tue 22	7.45pm	H	Portsmouth	L 1-3	8,808	975	5	Walton Justin	Mullins	Sheehan	Rea	Mpanzu	McGeehan	Gillhead	HYLTON 1	Vassell	Marriott	McQuoid	Smith	Lee	Smith	Smith	Mackail-Smith	King	
Sat 26	3.00pm	A	Exeter City	D 0-0	3,823	634	5	Walton Justin	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Rea	Cook	McGeehan	Mullins	Hylton	Vassell	Marriott	Gillhead	Smith	McQuoid	Smith	Smith	Mackail-Smith	King	
<b>DECEMBER</b>																									
Sat 3	3.00pm	H	Solihull Moors (FAC2)																						
Tues 6	7.45pm	A	Swindon Town (EFL Trophy)																						
Sat 10	3.00pm	H	Carlisle United																						
Sat 17	3.00pm	A	Blackpool																						
Mon 26	3.00pm	H	Colchester United																						
Sat 31	3.00pm	H	Barnet																						
<b>JANUARY</b>																									
Mon 2	3.00pm	A	Portsmouth																						
Sat 7	3.00pm	H	Cheltenham Town																						
Sat 14	3.00pm	A	Crewe Alexandra																						
Sat 21	3.00pm	A	Wycombe Wanderers																						
Sat 28	3.00pm	H	Cambridge United																						
<b>FEBRUARY</b>																									
Sat 4	3.00pm	A	Grimsby Town																						
Sat 11	3.00pm	H	Crawley Town																						
Tue 14	7.45pm	H	Hartlepool United																						
Sat 18	3.00pm	A	Doncaster Rovers																						
Sat 25	3.00pm	H	Plymouth Argyle																						
Tue 28	7.45pm	A	Newport County																						
<b>MARCH</b>																									
Sat 4	3.00pm	A	Yeovil Town																						
Sat 11	3.00pm	H	Stevenage																						
Tue 14	7.45pm	A	Carlisle United																						
Sat 18	3.00pm	H	Exeter City																						
Sat 25	3.00pm	A	Colchester United																						
<b>APRIL</b>																									
Sat 1	3.00pm	H	Blackpool																						
Sat 8	3.00pm	A	Barnet																						
Fri 14	3.00pm	H	Leyton Orient																						
Mon 17	3.00pm	A	Mansfield Town																						
Sat 22	3.00pm	H	Notts. County																						
Sat 29	3.00pm	A	Accrington Stanley																						
<b>MAY</b>																									
Sat 6	3.00pm	H	Morecambe																						
<b>LEAGUE TABLE 2016/17</b>																									
<b>PLAYER STATS 2016/17</b>																									
LEAGUE</																									

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## LATE TACKLE

CHRIS DUNLAVY

IT'S FAIR TO SAY THAT IF FOOTBALL WAS A DEPARTMENT STORE AND MAURICIO POCHETTINO HAD KEPT THE RECEIPT, MOUSSA SISSOKO WOULD CURRENTLY BE ON A TRUCK BACK TO NEWCASTLE.

The 27-year-old has started just four Premier League games since his eye-watering £30m move from Newcastle and on Saturday failed to make the matchday squad at all.

"You sign a player and you expect something, and you don't find what you expected," explained the Spurs boss. "It is not about money, it is about football. Sissoko needs to work hard and to show in future that he deserves to be on the team."

Given that most Newcastle fans would have paid £30m just to be rid of Sissoko, a player who fought relegation like Silvio Berlusconi fought corruption, it's hard to imagine what Pochettino was expecting.

So, just to make sure the Argentine doesn't feel too silly, here are a few other cases when a manager dipped into the Championship only to find the reality didn't quite match the sales pitch.

### WILFRIED ZAHA

**CRYSTAL PALACE - MAN UNITED £15M (2013)**

Signed on the back of several audacious displays for Palace, Zaha was essentially Alex Ferguson's parting gift to successor David Moyes – a skilful wing wizard to fill the boots vacated by David Beckham and Cristiano Ronaldo.

Only problem was, Moyes wasn't having it. Informed that he "wasn't ready" for the Premier League, Zaha made just four appearances for United – at a cost of £3.75m each.

So scarcely was the teenager seen that rumours soon swirled, one that he'd slept with Moyes' daughter and another that he had a big-time attitude.

In truth, the risk-averse Moyes simply didn't fancy a maverick winger who preferred tricks to tracking. Nor did Louis van Gaal and Zaha was returned to Palace, at a £12m loss, in February 2015.

### CONNOR WICKHAM

**IPSWICH - SUNDERLAND £8-12M (2011)**

Most observers felt Sunderland had beaten the pack when Wickham arrived from Portman Road in June 2011. This, after all, was an 18-year-old physical colossus who'd already won caps for England Under-21s and netted 13 Championship goals.

Alas, a combination of tougher defenders and the mistrust of Martin O'Neill saw Wickham's meteoric progress burn out on Wearside. Fifteen goals in four seasons provided scant return on Sunderland's investment and he was eventually flogged to Palace for a knockdown £6m in July 2015.

### AFONSO ALVES

**MIDDLESBROUGH - AL SAAD £10.2M (2009)**

The most remarkable aspect of Alves' transfer to Qatar is that Boro almost made their money back on a man widely regarded as the worst flop in their history.

Signed for £12.8m on the back of a prolific season with Heerenveen, the leaden-footed Brazilian scored just four times as Boro were relegated to the Championship. Quite what Al-Saad were hoping for is anyone's guess but the result was predictable – 12 games, two goals and a swift move elsewhere.

### DAVE KITSON

**READING - STOKE £5.5M (2008)**

Deadly for Reading, Kitson's club-record move to newly-promoted Stoke was a disaster from the outset. Unsettled and unhappy at Tony Pulis' style of play, he scored just three goals in 34 games before bailing out to join Portsmouth.

"I'd been bought for a lot of money but I wasn't sure I was being utilised in the way I thought I was going to be," he said later. "But I hold my hands up – it was my fault. I made the decision to go to Stoke, I didn't have to, no-one forced me to go, and it was a bad decision."



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# TEAMS



- 1 Christian Walton
- 2 Stephen O'Donnell
- 3 Dan Potts
- 4 Jonathan Smith
- 5 Johnny Mullins
- 6 Scott Cuthbert
- 7 Jake Gray
- 8 Cameron McGeehan
- 9 Danny Hylton
- 10 Jordan Cook
- 11 Danny Green
- 12 Craig Mackail-Smith
- 14 Jack Marriott
- 15 Alex Gilliead
- 16 Glen Rea
- 17 Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu
- 18 Zane Banton
- 19 Olly Lee
- 20 Isaac Vassell
- 21 Jack Senior
- 23 Josh McQuoid
- 27 Tyreeq Bakinson
- 31 Craig King
- 36 James Justin
- 37 Frankie Musonda
- 38 Alex Atkinson
- 39 Akin Famewo
- 42 Liam Gooch
- 44 Alan Sheehan

- 1 Danny Lewis
- 2 Shepherd Murombedzi
- 3 Connor Franklin
- 4 Liam Daly
- 6 Jordon Gough
- 7 Akwasi Asante
- 8 Jack Byrne
- 9 Andy Brown
- 10 Ryan Beswick
- 11 Darryl Knights
- 12 Eddie Jones
- 14 Jean Koue
- 15 Jordon Fagbola
- 17 Curtis Obeng
- 19 Harry White
- 20 Jamey Osborne
- 22 Omari Sterling
- 23 Nathan Vaughan
- 24 Lewis Hayden
- 26 Joél Dielna

## MATCH OFFICIALS

- CHRISTOPHER SARGINSON
- ANDREW NEWBOLD
- MICHAEL WEBB
- ADAM CRYSELL