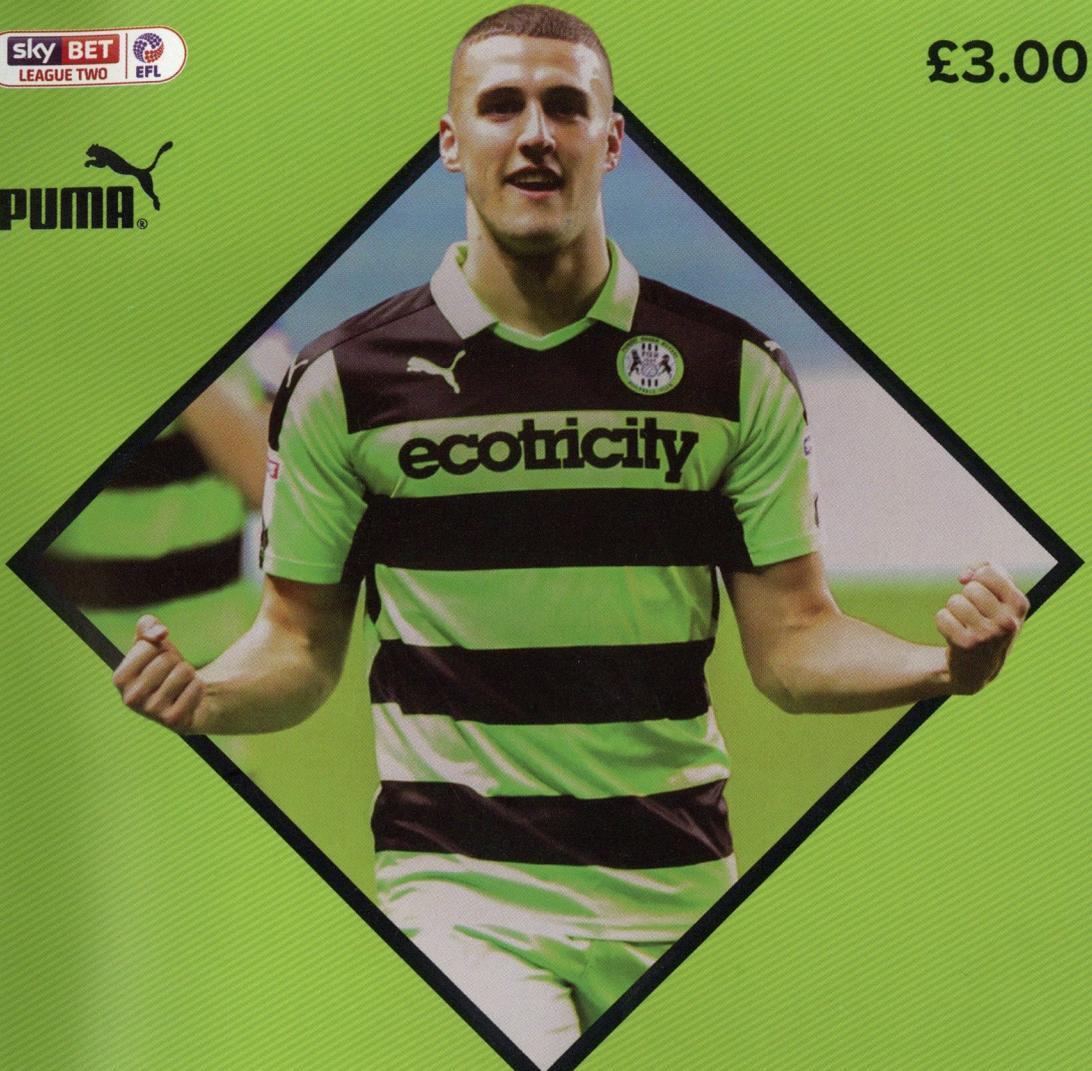


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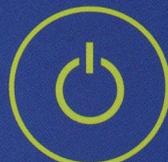
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16.12.17 FGR Matchday Programme #16

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Congratulations to Christian Doidge, who won League Two Player of the Month award for November.



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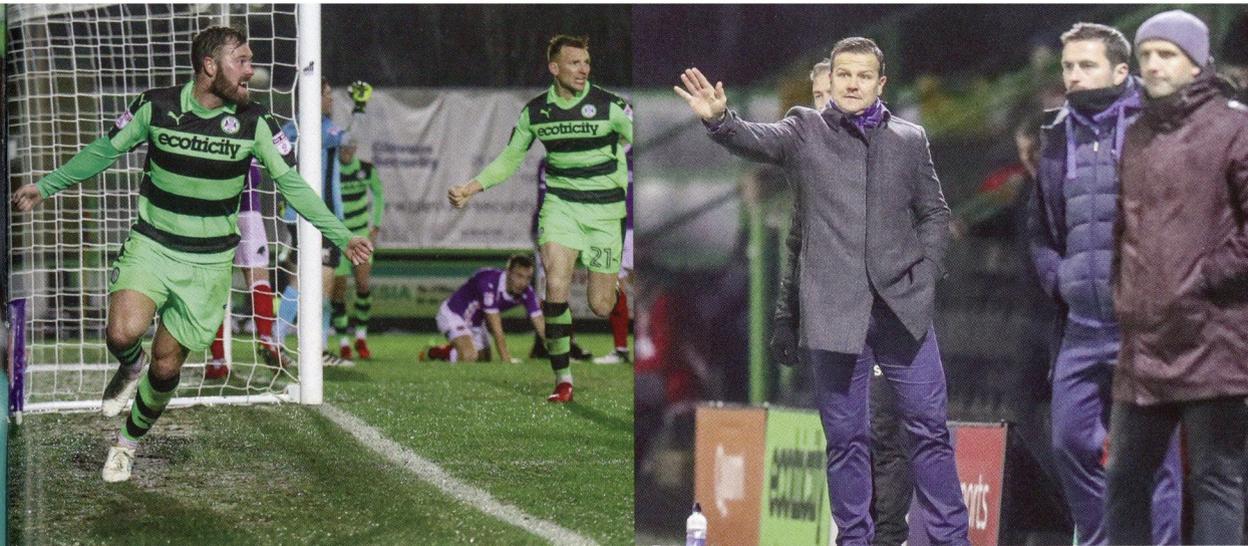


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FGR MANAGER
MARK COOPER



COOPER

Today we host Luton Town at The New Lawn and I would like to extend a warm welcome to Nathan Jones, his team and the travelling supporters.

Luton have made a fine start to this season and have had some really entertaining games with a potent attack that we will have to be at our best to nullify.

It's been a tough couple of weeks for the club on the pitch having suffered a number of injuries and suspensions as

well as falling out of the FA Cup on Tuesday night at Exeter City.

It was a difficult result to take as we performed really well for large periods of the game, playing some of the best passing football we have played this season.

Not many people gave us a chance heading down to Devon, but the younger players like Charlie Cooper, Reece Brown and Jordan Stevens really stepped up to the challenge well and we put up a good fight.

Despite taking the lead and Exeter going down to 10 men, we were unable to be clinical enough in the final third and provide Christian Doidge with the service he needs.

We didn't make the most of our spells where we were on top and as a result we were pegged back and another sending off in extra time cost us.

It was a missed opportunity with the chance of hosting Premier League side West Bromwich Albion in the third

"It was a missed opportunity with the chance of hosting Premier League side West Bromwich Albion in the third round but we must dust ourselves off quickly and turn our attentions back to the league."

round but we must dust ourselves off quickly and turn our attentions back to the league.

Hopefully we will have a few more bodies back for today's contest, with Keanu Marsh-Brown making his return from injury on Tuesday night.

We already have one eye on January and bringing in

reinforcements to help us kick on in the league and since our last home game we have already made an addition.

Dayle Grubb will join us from Weston-super-Mare in January and he is a player we are all excited to have at the club.

His goal record in the National League South is fantastic and I expect him to be able to

transfer that into League Two with us and contribute to our goals tally.

Less than a week ago The New Lawn was under several feet of snow and groundsman Adam Witchel and his team have done a fantastic job to ensure today's game is going ahead.

Enjoy the game and get behind the boys as we look to return to winning ways.

MARK COOPER
FGR MANAGER

EVENTS

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Forest Green Rovers' newest signing Dayle Grubb says he can't wait to get going after joining from Weston-super-Mare for an undisclosed fee.

The 26-year-old has joined on an 18-month contract which will come into effect on January 1, subject to a medical and league approval, with Grubb continuing to play for the National League South outfit until then.

Currently a sports teacher at Oldmixon Primary School, Grubb joins Rovers with a goal scoring record that is in the top three across the top six tiers of English football for the calendar year, not including penalties.

He has netted 29 goals since the turn of 2017, a record only

bettered by England forward Harry Kane and FGR's very own Christian Doidge.

Having played in non-league football with Weston all of his career, Grubb is now keen to test his talent at a higher level and despite interest in the summer from several clubs, he knew that Forest Green as where he wanted to play his trade professionally for the first time.

"I'm delighted to have signed. It's a step I've wanted to take for a while," said Grubb, who is not fazed by the prospect of moving up two divisions.

"I've really enjoyed where I have been playing but I feel like I need to take that next step higher up the pyramid.

"I have heard a lot of good things about Forest Green and it's somewhere I can see myself playing football.

"League football will obviously be a lot different, a lot quicker, a lot tougher, but I believe I can do it.

"I won't know until I take that step but I am confident I can do well."

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Grundon are also enormously proud to sponsor the FGR Ambassador Scheme.

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Participating in the club's Ambassador Scheme, Grundon works alongside the UK's most innovative football club engaging with local school children to raise

awareness of the positive benefits of learning life skills and how they can live healthy, sustainable lives.

Grundon are helping us achieve our ambition to recycle 100% of our waste. Currently the club recycles 95% with the final 5% being channelled into providing domestic energy through an 'energy from waste plant'.

There's another reason that the football club and Grundon work well together; Forest Green Rovers is a family-oriented club. Grundon is a third generation family business helping companies divert waste from landfill for recycling.

We are family!

MASCOT

8



Mason Wing

Mason Wing recently turned eight and is currently playing his first season with FGR within the youth team and enjoying every minute of it! His hobbies are football, science and trial-biking with his Grandad. His favourite player is Manny Monthe for the simple fact of his presence on the ball. As well as supporting FGR, he also keeps an keen eye on the fortunes of Liverpool FC. Mason has been to many games recently and cannot wait for one day when he will have the opportunity to be playing on the hallowed New Lawn turf. We hope that the youngster and his guests have a memorable day with us.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Terry Magill

We would like to wish Terry Magill a very Happy Birthday! Love and best wishes go out from all of his family and friends plus everyone here at FGR FC! Have a great day...



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12TH MAN PACKAGE

The exclusive 12th Man package invites supporters to be part of Mark's team for the day and the opportunity to get their name on the official team sheet and in the Matchday Programme as part of the team.

The experience, which is perfect for a Birthday, Christmas or Anniversary gift, includes a personalised squad shirt, which will be presented to the 12th Man after the game by the Man of the Match.

The full package includes:

- Two VIP dining tickets in the Carol Embrey Suite
- Name on the official team sheet, plus a photo and message in the Matchday Programme
- Message on the PA system and scoreboard
- Personalised squad shirt presented by the games Man of the Match
- A framed photo of the shirt presentation
- Reserved car parking space

To enquire about this new package, contact the Commercial team today on **01453-837 431** or email: jonty.welch@fgRFC.com

Make the most of your Match Day

After Tuesday night's final foray in the Emirates FA Cup we return to league action today as we welcome Luton Town to The New Lawn.

The Hatters have been in remarkable form so far this year so will provide a tough test for our lads – so they need your support from the terraces this afternoon.

We've had some great occasions in the past entertaining Luton here in Nailsworth and it's great to have them here again today in League Two.

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone who has made the trip from Luton today. Whether you are a fan, players or director, welcome to FGR and I hope you have a great experience with us this afternoon.

If you want to sponsor a game or your company wants to get involved with FGR, contact Paula and her team.

The games are coming thick and fast over the festive period which is fantastic news for us. We'd love to talk to supporters about making the last few games of 2017 extra special with one of our match day experience packages.

Whether you are looking for a day out with everything providing or a once in a lifetime experience to meet the players – we can cater for fans young and old.

Just get in touch with me or a member of the commercial team and we'd be happy to talk through all the options we have.

The club has also launched a fantastic range of new

merchandise in collaboration with AnyForty. There are new t-shirts, sweatshirts and hoodies featuring some amazing designs. The quality of the products are great too – all ethically sourced and organic. Make sure you visit the pop up shop in reception today to take a look. Stock is limited so you'll have to be quick to snap up something in time for Christmas.

Let's give Mark and the team all our support this afternoon – come on you Rovers!

PAULA BROWN
COMMERCIAL MANAGER

01453 837 431

paula.brown@fgRFC.com

Today's 12th Man winner is Mark Harvey from Minety. He is 32 years of age and has supported the club for over 20 years. His Granddad, Graham Harvey, is our oldest surviving player having graced the club in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Apparently he likes nothing more than reminding his Grandson that he once scored five goals in a game and 40 in a season!

Mark has brought close friends along with him to today's game and said: "I first watched Forest Green Rovers back at the Old Lawn in 1995 when they were then in the Dr. Martens League Southern Premier Division, playing against the likes of Havant & Waterlooville and Fareham. "I grew up watching players such as Paul 'Oggy' Hunt, Alex Sykes, Richard Ford, captain Mike 'Killer' Kilgour under the shrewd guidance of manager, Frank Gregan.

"I attended the Promotion Final at Wembley back in May along with my mate Gary and his son. I was tense and nervous but the team performed magnificently on the day to get us promoted to The Football League for the very first time.

"The goal Doidge scored was right in front of us; I was dancing in delight and the same again a few minutes later when Woolery made it 3-1 before half-time.

"I have seen a lot of players come and go over the years but my favourite has to be Keanu Marsh-Brown. His flair, pace and skill on the pitch is eye-catching; I'm always drawn to see how he performs.

"The performances this year have been brilliant and I think Mark Cooper and his backroom staff deserve a lot of credit for their hard work behind-the-scenes.

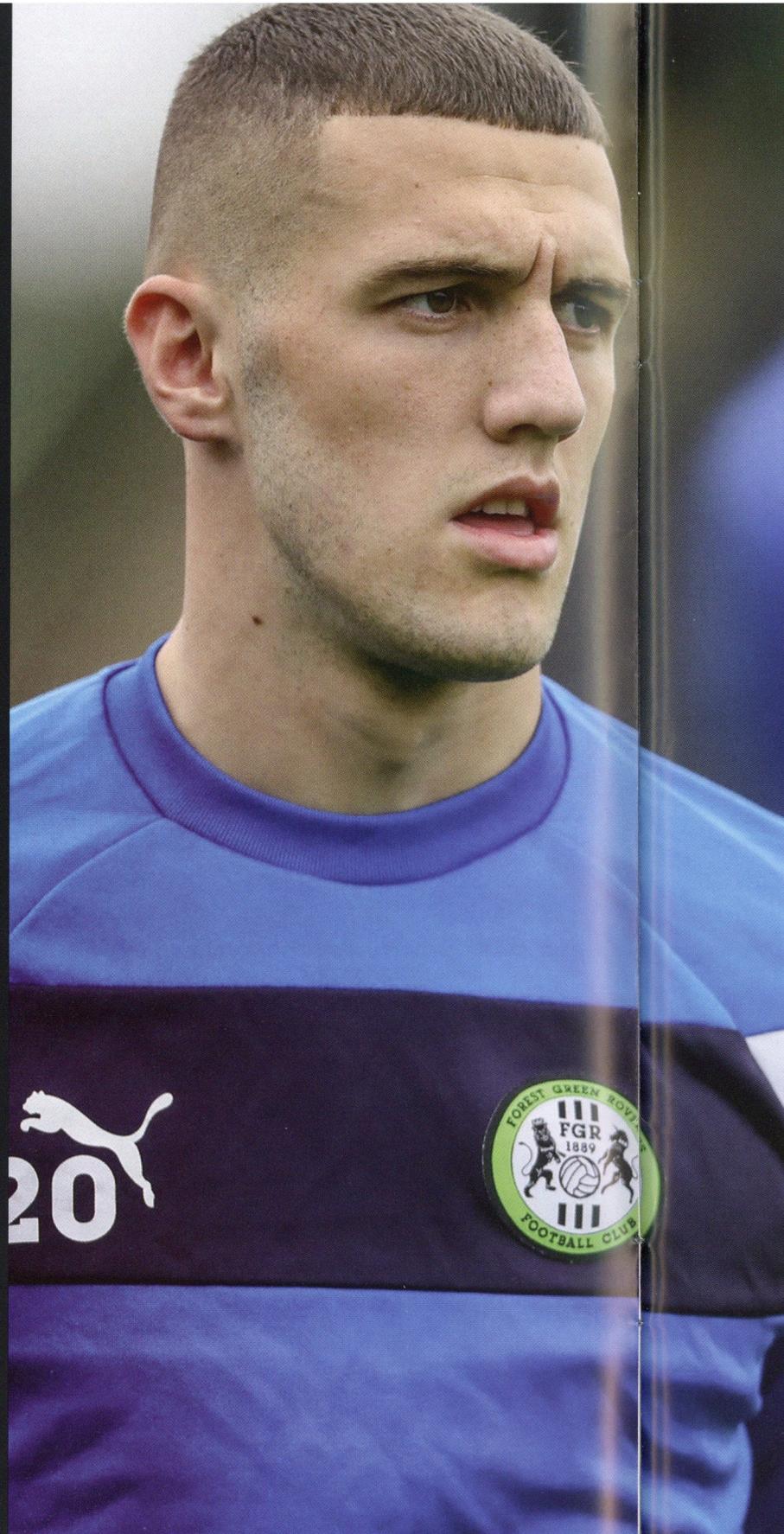
"I am looking forward to today's game as we pit our wits against one of the high-flying teams at this level."

We thank Mark most sincerely for his valued support over the years and hope that he and his guests have a memorable day with us.



IACOVITTI

FOREST GREEN'S BRAZIL-BEATER



INTERVIEW WITH
ALEX IACOVITTI



“When I came here I wanted to play as many games as I could and to help Forest Green as high up the table as possible”

Words Matt Edwards Photography Shane Healey

INTERVIEW WITH
ALEX IACOVITTI

There are few Scottish players who can claim they have beaten Brazil in an international tournament, in fact there are only 15.

Forest Green Rovers on loan central defender Alex Iacovitti is one of those 15 having played the full 90 minutes for Scotland U21s in a 1-0 success over the South Americans in the Toulon tournament last summer.

It was a unique piece of history as Scotland beat the Samba stars for the first time ever at any level.

They went on to get beaten 3-0 by England in the semi-finals but the experience will live long in the memory of the 20-year-old.

"Scotland came up to me when I was 15 and I have just stuck with them through the youth ranks," he said.

"The experience has been great. I have been to so many different countries going around the world and that is great to experience but the football is next level.

"I've played against teams like Brazil and England and you learn so much.

"The way the Brazilian team plays and the way they are brought up with football in their country is very different to what we're used to.

"The Brazil game has got to be up there as one of my best moments for Scotland.

"Making history as being the first ever Scottish team to beat Brazil and to do it with a clean sheet as well, I was very happy.

"It's been a wicked experience and I'm hoping to play many more games."

The Nottingham Forest youngster joined Rovers in the summer and had one thing on his mind, getting game time.

That has happened as Iacovitti has become an important fixture at The New Lawn and played a big part in improving results recently.

"When I came here I wanted to play as many games as I could and to help Forest Green as high up the table as possible," explained Iacovitti.

"I think I have matured a lot since my last loan move to Mansfield in myself and as a player as well.

"It's not like at academy level where I can go in there and try and barge everyone out of the way, you have to be patient and know that there are a lot of players out there who are



ALEX IACOVITTI

Age
20

Birthplace
Nottingham

Previous Club
Nottingham Forest

Squad no.
20

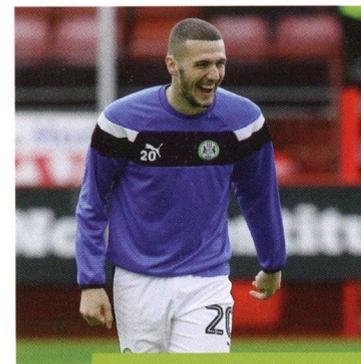
Position
Defender

Signed
21.07.17

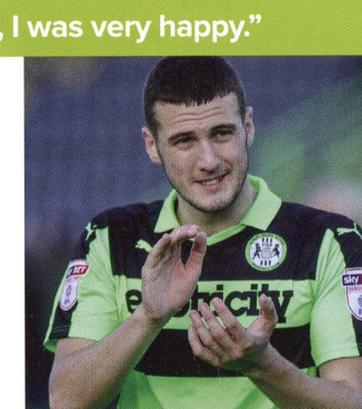
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"Making history as being the first ever Scottish team to beat Brazil and to do it with a clean sheet as well, I was very happy."



bigger and stronger than you and have played so many more games.

"I have settled in well now at Forest Green.

"At the start we were a bit hot and cold but now we are starting to find our feet and we're playing our football and the confidence in everyone as individuals and as a team is there and we've come out of our shell and there is a lot more to come."

Forest Green's style of play is often a topic of conversation, with many talking about the pressure put on the defence but it is something that Iacovitti

is not bothered by and knows how important he and the rest of the backline are to the success of the team when it works.

"I came here because the football they play suits me from head to toe," he added.

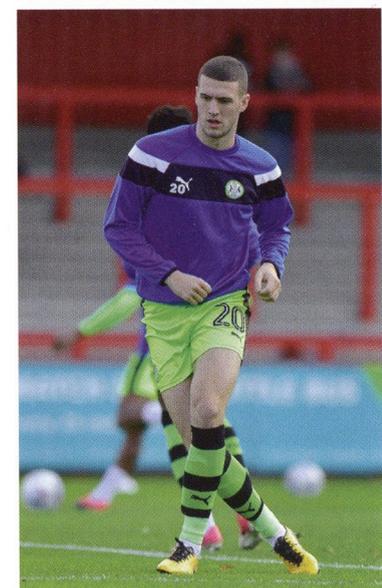
"I'm use to the passing style at Forest and with Scotland so the pressure on me, I am quite used to it.

"When it does work, we get the ball from the centre-backs and play through the thirds and we look good and can really hurt teams.

"We just need to keep the faith with the system."

COPING WITH THE PRESSURE

"I came here because the football they play suits me. When it does work, we get the ball from the centre-backs and play through the thirds and we look good and can really hurt teams."



FGR ACADEMY

Duo agree scholarships with Forest Green

I was invited to Bournemouth last weekend, where I started as a player, for two days to have a look at their academy, which is really good with a nice set of staff.

We played them just over a week ago in a friendly which was mutually beneficial to both team's programmes – they

were preparing for an FA Cup tie against Hull City and we had some boys who needed a few minutes.

They beat us 3-1 on the day but they were very strong and it was a really good experience for our boys.

We gave a good account of ourselves and on the back of that, we have agreed two scholarships with a pair of our own under 16s, Jacob Waddington and William Turner,

who have been with the club for a long time.

It's not easy being a scholar any more, the number of hours they put in per week is a lot more than what a regular student would do at college.

We ask a lot of them so we have been building up a profile and we felt we were in a position to offer these two much-deserved places in the academy for the next two years.

The good thing is that it is part

of a process, it's not just me deciding or Chris Barker - Mark Cooper and Scott Lindsey were also involved as well as club secretary James Mooney and our head of education and welfare, Vicky.

It's quite a lengthy process but we make sure we get the decision right.

I went down as a follow-up to that to see how they prepared for the game and then stayed down because we were invited

to an in-house trial game they were having which was obviously part of our recruitment.

We are building good relationships with clubs and what we want to do is identify one or two clubs and sets of people who are similar to ourselves, with a similar ethos to the club and then work well with them.

Building these relationships with other clubs is really important, everything is new to us and from what I have seen, the best

academies are the ones that open their doors and let people in.

It's great not just for me and Chris from a coaching side of thing, it's been really good for Vicky and we've looked at different policies and ways of doing things.

We're gaining quite a lot of friends and trying to go about doing things the right way.

SCOTT BARTLETT
HEAD OF FGR ACADEMY

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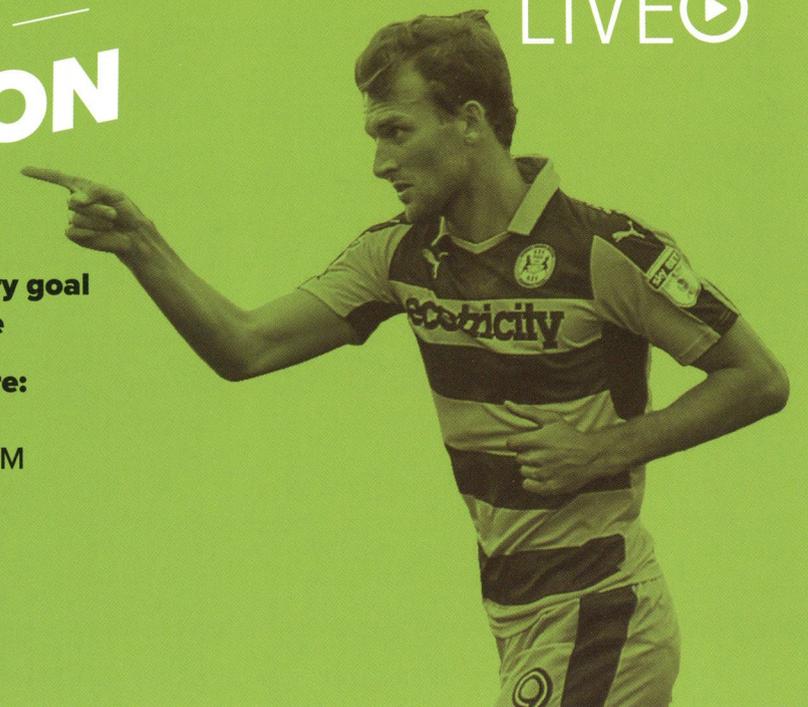
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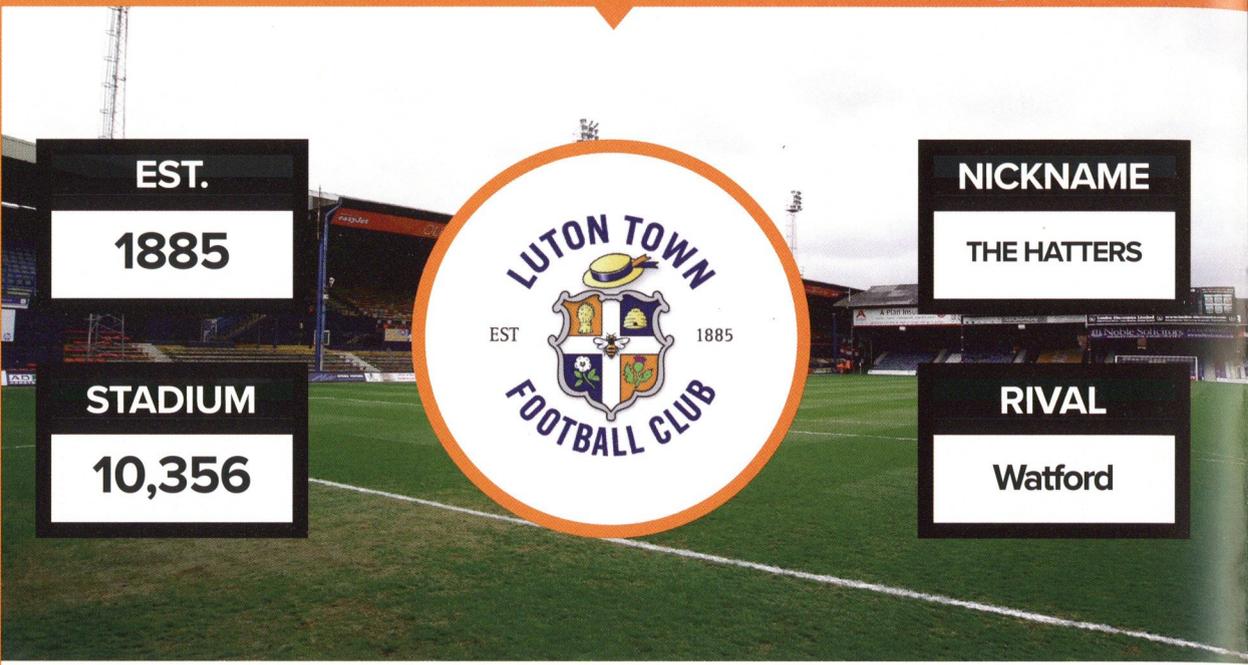
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THE HATTERS

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Luton Town

The Hatters began the season as they meant to go on – an 8-2 win over Yeovil Town on the opening day certainly highlighted the strengths Nathan Jones' side possess. On the day it appeared to be a one-off score-line, but similar results in their 7-1 win over Stevenage and 7-0 victory against Cambridge have not only helped secure their place at the top of the table heading into the weekend, but also a goal difference of 30-plus, 15 better than any other team in the division.

Summer acquisitions Marek Stech, Luke Berry and James Collins have shone for Luton

Town, but the continued form of Danny Hylton – who tops the Sky Bet League Two scoring charts – has helped maintain their promotion push. A season best of 27 goals in the last campaign saw him named in the PFA League Two Team of the Season, and with an outstanding record for the side he joined in the summer of 2016, he will be hoping to help better their finishing position of fourth for the 2016/17 campaign. That was followed by play-off heartbreak at the semi-final stage, as they were defeated 6-5 on aggregate by Blackpool.

With only one defeat in their

last 20 games and just one away league loss all season, Jones' second full term in charge at Kenilworth Road couldn't be going much better. About to celebrate two-years at the helm, the 44-year-old Welshman played across the EFL for the likes Southend United, Brighton & Hove Albion and Yeovil Town, as well as a stint in Spain with Numancia and Badajoz. A good backroom staff including ex-Leeds United and Nottingham Forest defender Paul Hart as his assistant manager, as well a new training ground, the Hatters certainly looked destined for greater things this season.

GOALKEEPER

1

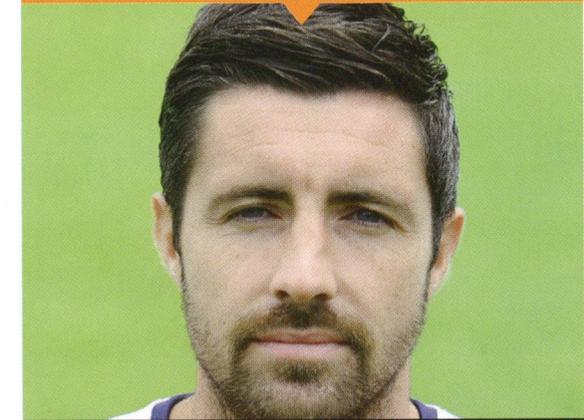


Marek Stech

The summer arrival from Sparta Prague has played every single minute of league football so far for the Hatters and has kept ten clean sheets in all competitions. The 27-year-old started his career at West Ham, before going onto play for the likes of Yeovil Town and Wycombe Wanderers. He joined the Glovers permanently and was a part of the side that won promotion to the Championship. He also has one Czech Republic international cap to his name, which he won in 2014.

DEFENDER

44



Alan Sheehan

The 31-year-old has taken up the role of captain in the absence of Scott Cuthbert, and has only missed one league game this season. Nathan Jones' first signing back in January 2016, the ex-Leicester City and Leeds United defender has made over 80 appearances for the Town, netting five times. As well as being a ball playing centre-back, he also poses a real threat from set-pieces.

MIDFIELDER

18

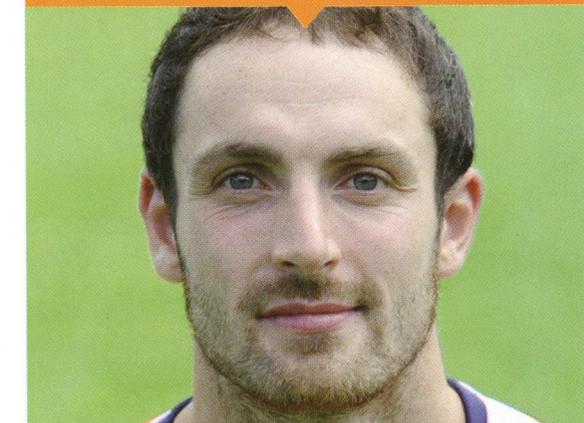


Luke Berry

Cambridge United's top scorer last season, Berry joined the Hatters for an undisclosed fee in the summer on a three-year deal. With five goals to his name already, the 25-year-old has taken on a more central role compared to the attacking one he had with the U's. One of the Hatters' standout performers so far this campaign, Berry netted a hat-trick in the 7-1 win over Stevenage, as well as scoring the all important second goal in the Town's 2-1 away win at Crewe three weeks ago.

FORWARD

9



Danny Hylton

The third top scorer in Sky Bet League Two last term, Hylton has kicked off the season in strong form, netting 12 times in the fourth tier to put himself top of the scoring charts. A free signing from Oxford United after they won promotion to League One, the 28-year-old is a fan favourite at Kenilworth Road. Known as a bit of a pantomime villain, the striker certainly knows where the back of the net is.

soccer saturday

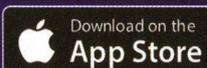
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SCOUT REPORT

LUTON TOWN

1

MULLINS 26'

61' AMEOBI

1

NOTTS COUNTY

MATCH REPORT 09.12.2017

Luton Town were held to a draw by Notts County in their top-of-the-table clash at Kenilworth Road last Saturday.

Johnny Mullins' header put the hosts ahead in the first half but Shola Ameobi hit back with a header of his own to earn a share of the spoils for County.

Ryan Yates went close early on for the visitors when his header was expertly tipped over by Marek Stech before the goalkeeper was brought into action shortly after to deny Jon Stead.

Luton took the lead in the 26th minute when Alan Sheehan's corner was headed home at the back post by Mullins for his first goal of the season.

Jorge Grant went close to an equaliser but his effort was well-saved by Stech just before the break.

Danny Hylton saw his shot blocked at the start of the second half for the hosts, while Matt Tootle's cross was headed off target by Grant and Ryan Yates also spurning another chance at the other end.

County levelled shortly after the hour-mark when Ameobi beat Stech to a Grant free-kick and headed into the empty net.

Hylton nodded over and Glen Rea scooped over from eight yards as the Hatters responded, while substitute Lewis Alessandra skied his effort over from 20 yards for the visitors.

Mullins almost won it from late on with a close-range effort but he was denied by Ross Fitzsimons as Luton remain ahead of County at the summit of the League Two on goal difference.

Match report supplied by the Press Association

TOP SCORERS

DANNY HYLTON 13

JAMES COLLINS 9

DAN POTTS 6

SEASON SO FAR

F49 A19 GOAL DIFF 30

W12 D6 L3 POINTS 42

PLAYED 21 POSITION 1

MATCH STATS

Possession

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Shots

8 / 12

On target

2 / 7

Corners

9 / 8

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10 / 12

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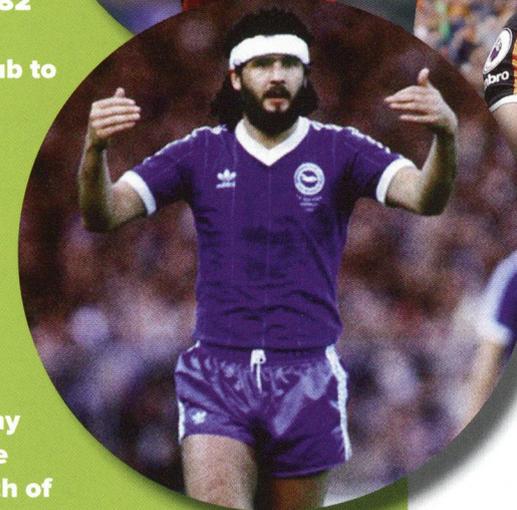
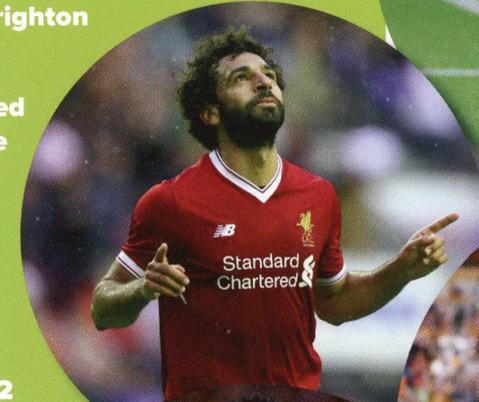
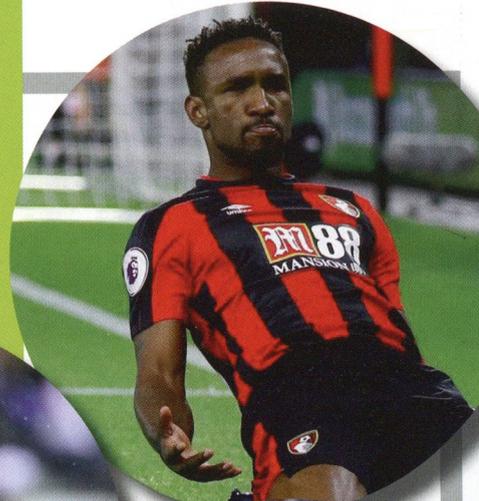


29 Lansdown, Stroud,
Gloucestershire, GL5 1BG

LET'S GET QUIZZICAL...

1. Which player recently scored his 200th and 201st Premier League goals?
2. Who is the only player to score in all six matches in a Champions League qualifying group?
3. What 'first' in competitive English football will take place in this season's FA Cup match between Brighton and Crystal Palace?
4. Who has been named as African player of the year?
5. What did Alberto Brignoli become the first goalkeeper to do in Serie A since 2001?
6. Steve Foster in 1982 was the most recent player from which club to win an England cap?
7. At which ground did Burnley record their only away League victory last season?
8. Although Chelsea made more substitutions than any other Premier League side last season which of their players who started was never substituted?
9. Which player was Hull City's top scorer last season despite being transferred in the January transfer window?
10. Name the five players who have scored 50 or more goals this year who compete in the so-called top five Leagues of European football?

THE BIG QUIZ



ANSWERS:
1. Jermain Defoe 2. Cristiano Ronaldo
3. Video Assistant Referee 4. Mo Salah 5.
Score a goal 6. Brighton and Hove Albion
7. Selhurst Park 8. Cesar Azpilicueta 9. Robert
Lewandowski 10. Kane, Messi, Ronaldo, Cavani,

17. DAN WISHART



#wearefgr

Player Signature



FIT

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FEEL

Super thin, soft leather provides the ultimate touch and feel on the ball.



FAST

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PUMAOME
PLAY PERFECT

The Supporters Club

Today we welcome all concerned with our prestigious visitors, Luton Town.

During their history they have played 15 seasons in the top-flight of English football. They have also played in the 1959 FA Cup Final, losing narrowly to Nottingham Forest and in 1988 they famously beat Arsenal to win the Football League Cup Final at Wembley.

However in 2008/09 that had 30 points deducted by The Football Association for financial irregularities which led to them being relegated to the Conference Premier.

We played them ten times in five seasons during their time in the non-League game, winning once, drawing three times and losing six.

Having picked up one point in the last three League games it would be great to improve our record against the current League Two leaders.

On the social side we are very pleased to report that the Supporters Club Quiz Night was very well attended and judging from the feedback was greatly enjoyed by all who attended.

At the time of writing, the final monies raised have not been

confirmed but we can already say that the FGR Ladies team will be receiving a very useful addition to their coffers.

We would like to thank all those supporters who gave so generously to the raffles and games on the night.

Today the Supporters Club event is the traditional Christmas raffle. We are delighted to announce that the prizes are as follows:

- First prize - £300
- Second prize - £150
- Third prize - £50

We hope that you will be tempted to have a flutter and that you pick up a very welcome pre-Christmas prize!

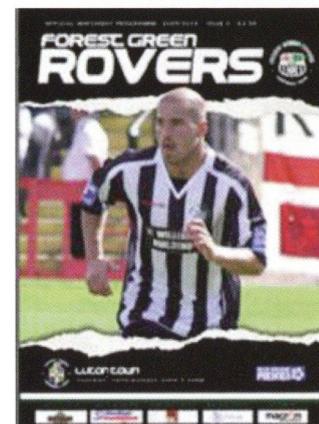
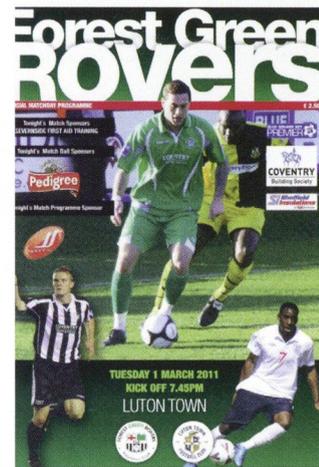
Our next away games are on the 26th and 30th of December at Exeter and Lincoln respectively.

All the support we can muster will be greatly appreciated by the players. Don't forget that there is a £5 discount on travel for Supporters Club members, which is one of the great reasons to join.

You can find details of pick-up points and timings elsewhere in today's Matchday Programme.

As ever let's get behind FGR and help create a great atmosphere!

Enjoy the match...



SUPPORTERS CLUB



Merry Christmas!

This Christmas head chef, Em Franklin, has created a series of delicious recipes to help you create vegan alternatives to classic festive food we all know and love.

Over the course of the next two programmes will be a series of recipes including heart-warming

mulled cider, rich & creamy buttered brandy and a fantastic mushroom & chestnut wellington.

We've chosen to start with a christmas pudding, so you can get that dried fruit soaking in sherry nice and early.

Christmas Pudding

Ingredients

560g mixed fruit (140g sultanas, 140g raisins, 140g currants and 140g glace cherries), 400g granulated sugar, 200ml vegan sherry, 200g vegan suet, 175g dark muscavado, 175g breadcrumbs, 140g self-raising flour, 4tbsp apple sauce, 2tbsp mixed spice, 2tbsp treacle, 1 small mandarin and 1 shot or orange liqueur

Soak all the dried fruit, in the sherry, overnight. Or for at least two hours.

Preparing your mandarin

ONE
Place the mandarin in a pan of cold water, weighing it down with a side plate, and lightly boil for 30mins. Remove the mandarin.

TWO
Measure out 300ml of the boiling water and add the granulated sugar and orange liqueur. Bring this to the boil again.

THREE
Poke holes in your mandarin, with a toothpick, and place it into the pan, weighing it down with a side plate, for 45mins.



FOUR
Combine the dry ingredients and the suet in a mixing bowl. Then add the soaked dried fruit, apple sauce and treacle.

FIVE
Grease your pudding bowl with sunflower or rapeseed oil and fill the basin 1/3 full of mixture.

SIX
Set the cooked mandarin in the centre and continue to add the rest of the mixture, surrounding the mandarin.

SEVEN
Make a circle of baking parchment to cover and sit on the pudding.

EIGHT
Then, with a pleated centre, securely cover pudding basin with tin foil (This will allow room for the pudding to rise).

NINE
Place in a saucepan, making sure it is on a biscuit cutter or jam jar lid (the bowl should not rest on the bottom of the pan).

TEN
Add boiling water to 3/4 of the way up the bowl, put a lid on the saucepan and steam for 5hrs

ELEVEN
You can eat your christmas pudding straight away or store it, feeding it more sherry or brandy for a far livelier desert!



EM FRANKLIN
HEAD CHEF AT FGR

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SHOULD GET
IN THE WAY
OF YOUR
ENJOYMENT
OF SPORT

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BETTING

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MEAN IT WHEN WE SAY

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BETTING, BETTER



My name is
Brendan Kitchen
and I am the
ambassador for
Pate's.

This is my first year of being an ambassador and I've already embraced the opportunity fully, this was my second game of programme selling. I attended a vegan cooking evening and would thoroughly recommend it.

Before the game, Forest Green were unbeaten in 5 of their last 6 games with Mark Cooper claiming in his pre-match interview that it was just another three points. On the other hand, Gary Johnson was building it up like a cup final. With a sell-out crowd and flares being lit prior to the game this was bound to be an interesting and hard-fought match.

Keanu Marsh-Brown kicks off, the match was underway. The first few

visitors, composed of a deep free-kick and a glancing header, worries the home team but quickly regains dominance. Firstly, another Marsh-Brown free-kick is deflected for a corner which was taken short but headed clear. A looping cross also ventures into the away box but escapes Doidge. With tensions building a yellow card is given out to Harry Pell, a Cheltenham player. Before too long Eisa equalises in the forty first minute with a calm shot placed in the corner beyond Collins' reach leaving the teams going in equal at the break.

When both teams returned to the field of play, the visitors now looked more powerful. A few heroic saves once again from the Rovers keeper kept Forest Green in with a chance. Substitutions start coming thick and fast with no subs left on the table for Mark Cooper in the last 15 minutes. Eisa also came off after his goal-scoring appearance.

With it still being equal going into the late stages of the game. Both teams pushing for the winner, free kicks go each way after the ever-growing frustrations gets the better of the players. The fourth official announces 4 minutes of injury time. Cheltenham rapidly start improving but fail to turn in two chances. High tackles also fly in and with the referee not wanting to blow so close to final whistle. He lets play continue but it quickly gets out of control and the players end up in an unfriendly brawl whilst Fitzwater is carried off on a stretcher. One last chance goes begging for Forest Green with the 21 remaining players all in Cheltenham's half and the referee blows for full-time nine minutes into injury time with a point going to each team. It was a thrilling game and I cannot wait for the away trip in April!

This was the one key fixture for me, the date of the first Football League 'El Glosico'.



The FGR Ambassador scheme is proudly supported by Grundon

GRUNDON

minutes of probing were shortly ended with two Cheltenham shots in quick succession, but Bradley Collins quickly got hold of the ball and booted it up the field. The ball looked as if it was going straight towards the defender but he mis-timed his kick, it caught the defence off guard... A one on one with Doidge hunting towards the goal coolly slotting it past the incoming keeper to put the Rovers in the lead with a mere eight minutes on the clock giving the striker five goals in only three games!

The Green Devils were intent on scoring again before the half-time whistle. It was almost complete domination lacking shots while Keanu kicks a free-kick into the wall. Two brief chances for the



FIT 2 LAST
with Forest Green Rovers



£20

per day and run from
8.30am until 3pm.

FOREST GREEN IN THE COMMUNITY

Forest Green Rovers have launched their Green Devil's Soccer Camp giving young fans the chance to take part in some fun activities in the run up to Christmas.

On Tuesday 19 and Wednesday 20 December the club is hosting a football camp at Nailsworth Primary School opposite FGR's home The New Lawn that offers a fun environment for kids to take part in specialist skills and coaching sessions.

The sessions cost £20 per day and run from 8.30am until 3pm with coaches leading the football sessions for boys and girls aged four and above of all abilities.

Our last camps held in October were a huge success as children were joined by first-team players Sam Russell, Dan Wishart and Jon Moran.

"It was a great afternoon and nice to see so many of our younger fans," said Russell.

"When we were all younger we all went to similar events like this put on by our local clubs and the chance to meet those players has stuck with me.

"We hope we can pass on some of our knowledge to the children and be an inspiration for them as they grow up.

"The children were fantastic and were getting involved in all the drills put on and there was some good talent on show.

"It's a fantastic week for the kids and we look forward to seeing some of them in FGR shirts in years to come."

Then, on Thursday 21 December we host our annual children's Christmas party at The New Lawn.

There will be a variety of activities throughout the day, from cake decorating to party games – and there will also be the chance to meet some of the first team squad.

"It's a great opportunity for our young fans to meet some of their FGR heroes," said club community co-ordinator Jenny Pead.

"The soccer camps are always a popular holiday session to improve your football skills and have lots of fun.

"We very often see familiar faces back at camp after camp which shows just how popular they are,

but would love to see more new faces as well."

Doors open on the day at 8.30am with the party running until 4pm. The event costs £10 per child – and everybody will go home with a goodie bag that will be given out by Santa himself.

Children must be accompanied by an adult, who will be free to attend, and are advised to bring indoor shoes and sports gear that should allow them to take part in the football activities that will be available at the party.

You can book your tickets the club shop section of our website www.forestgreenroversfc.com – just select Green Devil Soccer Camps and you can add any of the three days to your basket.

If you are looking to book a child onto all three days, just enter the code 'Green Devil' at the checkout to receive a £5 discount.

Parents and guardians will be able park in The New Lawn stadium car park for all three events free of charge.

Spaces are limited for all three days so book early to avoid disappointment.



HO HO HO

Everybody will go home with a goodie bag that will be given out by Santa himself.



4+

football sessions
for boys and girls
aged 4 and above.



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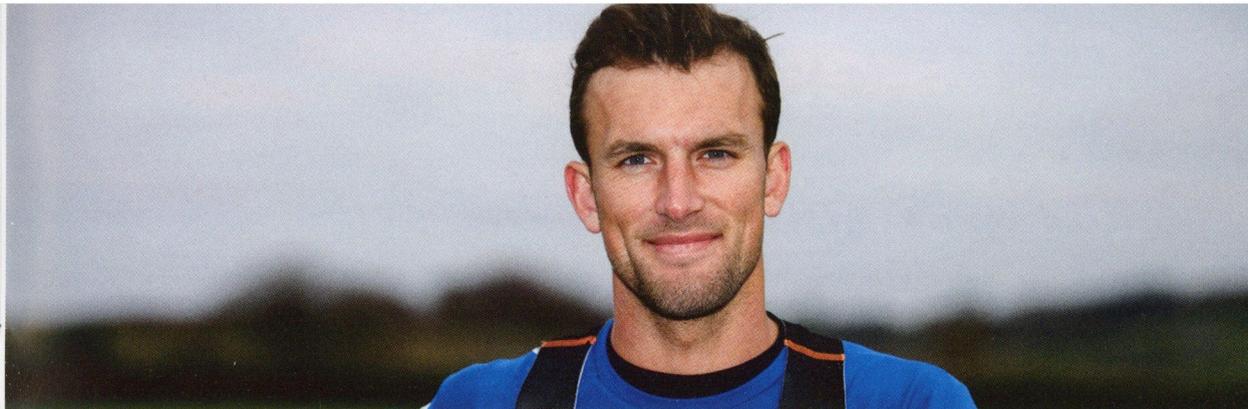


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PLAYER OF THE MONTH

DOIDGE

Forest Green Rovers hotshot Christian Doidge says he had to pinch himself after scooping the League Two Player of the Month award for November.

Having stepped away from the professional game as a teenager following his release from Bristol Rovers, Doidge pursued a career with South Wales Police as well as representing the Welsh nation basketball side.

However, he found his way back into football and hasn't looked back since joining for Rovers in 2016.

"I'm really happy with this award and didn't think I would ever achieve anything like this, I didn't even think that I would be a professional footballer if I'm honest," he said.

"I thought I was going to have to work for the rest of my life.

"So, to get the opportunity to play professional football and then to do pretty well is really good and I've got to pinch myself sometimes."

Having scored 27 goals in Rovers' promotion season last year, including a goal in the play-off final against Tranmere, Doidge still felt like he had a point to prove as he made a return to the Football League.

The 25-year-old has gone on to make a mark in League Two, scoring 15 goals in all competitions to date, with six of those coming in four League Two games in the month of November, leading to his latest gong.

With the January transfer

window on the horizon, Doidge's fine form has sparked local media speculation regarding his future, but the striker says he is more than content at The New Lawn and wants to achieve more with Forest Green.

"I'm really happy here," he explained.

"I've obviously got that little bit of security of a long-term contract behind me and I think that's really important for a footballer because it lets you be confident and really forget about that side of things and just worry about putting the ball in the back of the net.

"It's an exciting time for a lot of players but it's something I haven't really thought of because I am contracted to Forest Green."

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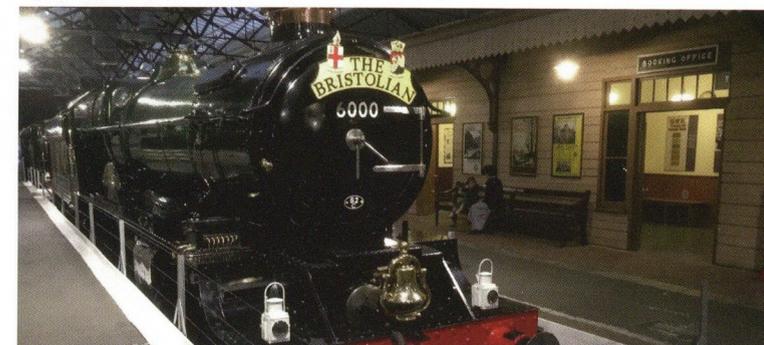
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15% off all tiles and flooring ranges in addition to all existing offers. Offer available in store and online from 19th October 2017 - 31st October 2017. 15% off discount applied at till or checkout. Cannot be used in conjunction with TradePro discounts or Opening Weekend Offers.

Rambling man

FULL STEAM AHEAD...



A glut of EFL and FA cup games meant that the Checktrade tie with arch-rivals Swindon Town would be Rovers first trip beyond The New Lawn for a fortnight. 25-30 miles to the Energy Check County Ground barely counts as an expedition into the unknown.

With Compo still exploring the Andes, Foggy tied up at the seat of Government and the Morses otherwise engaged, it was left to Sir Tomcat and me to man the Passat. A bruised Passat it has to be said, still awaiting a nose job made necessary when Rudolph the antlered terrorist assaulted the machine on our way back from Chesterfield.

Meaning no disrespect to my Wiltshire friends, Swindon does not leap into my mind when I am searching for cultural destinations. Transportation yes, fine architecture and awe inspiring street scenes maybe not. But I like a challenge, Sir Tomcat too, and I managed to find something that ticked our boxes.

So it was that we alighted at

the Swindon Outlet Centre Car Park. "Had you taken your sanity pills Rambling Man?" I hear you cry. Fear not, there is a marvel amidst the Mall, namely STEAM the museum of the GWR (Great Western Railway or God's Wonderful Railway depending on your preference). What is more, when you pay to wonder at STEAM's displays, parking at the outlet comes free.

The Museum illustrates the story of train and carriage manufacture at Swindon before leading you past Isambard Kingdom Brunel through to some gleaming period steam trains stood in reconstructed stations. Anyone who has visited the wonderful National Rail Museum at York will not feel short changed by STEAM. Consumed by retail lust we then ventured to the Outlet where Sir Tomcat found a jumper and me a pair of shoes. Swindon's economy boomed!

In truth, that was probably the best that the day had to offer. Despite 200 or so from the 5 Valleys, The County Ground mustered just 1,350 souls in total,

most of the local ones seemingly in torment. Empty and echoey withn tumbleweed blowing about. On the pitch, Rovers slumbered contentedly, the Robins disinclined to wake them up. The only entertainment was Coops' running 'Cannon & Ball' spat with a dismal referee.

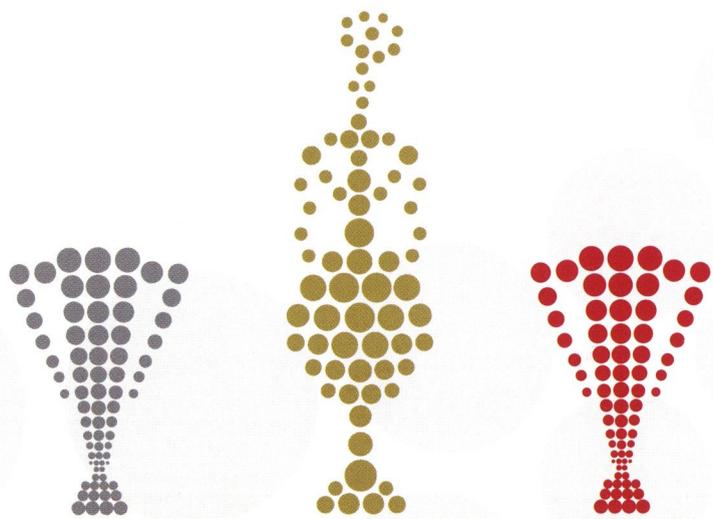
Occasionally an attack was launched by one side or the other but nothing with serious intent. Eventually though Rovers – through Jordan Stephens, Reece Brown and inevitably Christian Doidge – decided enough was enough. The latter's sharp finish won the game. Still time for the tortured official to send off Robins' Anderson then even things up by booking Dale Bennett for a second time. Dale has been wrestled by his opponent throughout the game yet somehow always adjudged the perpetrator, as Coops was quick to point out.

Nonetheless, for the second time in a few days, a weakened Rovers had shown themselves more than a match for vaunted League 2 adversaries.



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Bennett



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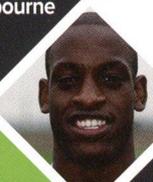
Marsh-Brown



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Stevens



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Laird



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FGR V GRIMSBY

GRIMSBY

1

ROSE 39'

0

FGR

Starting XI

Collins
James
Roberts
L. Collins
Fitzwater
Iacovitti
Laird
Cooper
Wishart
Brown
Doidge

MATCH REPORT 09.12.17

First half strike wins it for Grimsby

A first half red card and a Grimsby goal proved the difference on a frustrating afternoon at Blundell Park.

Mark Cooper made two changes to the side that won at Swindon in the week, Charlie Cooper making his return from injury and Mark Roberts also returning to the side to replace the suspended Dale Bennett and Manny Monthe.

Bench

Bugiel
Simpson
Russell
Gomes
Stevens

Grimsby continued to trouble Rovers throughout the first half and on 35 minutes they were handed a golden opportunity to take the lead.

Jack Fitzwater was adjudged to have pulled back Siriki Dembele inside the 18-yard box and he received a second yellow card and his marching orders as a result.

Brad Collins denied Jones from the spot but couldn't keep Rose's effort, the midfielder slamming on the rebound.

Reece Brown and Doidge tried to fashion an opportunity early in the second half but Doidge's shot from the side of area was charge down and didn't trouble James McKeown. From the resulting corner however, FGR did go close. A header at the back post almost found the net but was nodded clear by Jamille Matt.

The Mariners looked dangerous going forward and with 20 minutes to play they found themselves four-on-two but Wishart and Mark Roberts stood up well and prevented any real danger.

Substitute Jordan Stevens looked to make an impression on the game and he tried his luck with a few minutes to play but couldn't find the target.

The final action came deep into added time as Rovers threw every man including Collins forward into the Grimsby area but McKeown punched clear ending a frustrating afternoon for FGR.

NOAH DOUGHERTY



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Fixtures & Results



Date	Opposition	Att	Res	Goals	MoM	Pos
05.08.17	Barnet H	3,171	2-2	Doidge (2)	Doidge	13
08.08.17	MK Dons H EFL Cup 1	1,608	0-1 (AET)	-	Noble	-
12.08.17	Mansfield A	3,826	0-2	-	Collins	21
19.08.17	Yeovil H	2,615	4-3	Cooper, Brown, Bugiel	Bennett	15
26.08.17	Colchester A	3,047	1-5	Noble	Noble	19
29.08.17	Newport County H CT	1,090	2-0	Wishart, James	Wishart	-
02.09.17	Wycombe A	3,759	1-3	Doidge	Traore	22
09.09.17	Exeter H	2,909	1-3	Mullings	Traore	22
12.09.17	Lincoln City H	1,887	0-1	-	Noble	23
16.09.17	Port Vale A	3,910	1-1	Bugiel	Traore	22
22.09.17	Swindon H	3,305	0-2	-	Traore	24
26.09.17	Cambridge Utd A	3,545	0-3	-	Wishart	24
30.09.17	Accrington Stanley H	2,594	0-1	-	Traore	24
03.10.17	Cheltenham Town CT A	1,576	2-1	Brown, Stevens	Brown	-
07.10.17	Notts County A	13,267	1-1	Bugiel	Collins	22
14.10.17	Newport County H	2,864	0-4	-	Traore	23
17.10.17	Coventry A	6,366	1-0	Marsh-Brown	Fitzwater	23
21.10.17	Stevenage A	2,099	2-1	Brown, Doidge	Brown	23
28.10.17	Morecambe H	2,515	2-0	Laird, Marsh-Brown	Marsh-Brown	20
31.10.17	Swansea City (CT)	590	0-2	-	Stevens	-
04.11.17	Macclesfield (FAC1) H	1,387	1-0	Doidge	Monthe	-
11.11.17	Crawley Town A	2,149	1-1	Doidge	Brown	21
18.11.17	Crewe H	2,221	3-2	Iacovitti, Doidge (2)	Doidge	18
21.11.17	Chesterfield A	4,306	2-3	Doidge (2)	Osbourne	20
25.11.17	Cheltenham H	3,641	1-1	Doidge	Doidge	20
02.12.17	Exeter City (FAC2) H	2,250	3-3	Laird, Doidge (2)	Doidge	-
05.12.17	Swindon Town CT A	1,320	1-0	Doidge	Brown	-
09.12.17	Grimsby A	4,398	0-1	-	Collins	23
12.12.17	Exeter City (FAC2R) A	2,923	1-2 (AET)	Doidge	Cooper	-
16.12.17	Luton H					
23.12.17	Carlisle H					
26.12.17	Exeter A					
30.12.17	Lincoln City A					
01.01.17	Wycombe H					
06.01.18	Port Vale H					
13.01.18	Swindon A					
20.01.18	Cambridge Utd H					
27.01.18	Carlisle A					
03.02.18	Coventry H					
10.02.18	Newport County A					
13.02.18	Stevenage H					
17.02.18	Morecambe A					
24.02.18	Crawley Town H					
03.03.18	Crewe A					
10.03.18	Notts County H					
17.03.18	Accrington Stanley A					
24.03.18	Mansfield H					
30.03.18	Yeovil A					
02.04.18	Colchester H					
07.04.18	Barnet A					
14.04.18	Cheltenham A					
21.04.18	Chesterfield H					
28.04.18	Luton A					
05.05.18	Grimsby H					

26.12.17



106 miles

EXETER

1:58 hours

Coach travel and tickets for Boxing Day

Exeter City provide the next test on the road in Sky Bet League Two as FGR travel to St James Park on Boxing Day. You can be there to support the team by booking yourself onto an official club coach.

It's easy to secure your seat on the coach, just visit the FGR online shop to make your purchase today.

You can also call reception to buy match and coach tickets, with reception open up until 1pm on Friday 22nd December, from Monday to Friday - 9am to 3pm.

FGR fans will be able to buy match

tickets on the day at St James Park, with tickets priced £22 in advance or £23 on the day for adults, £19 or £20 for concessions and £9.50 or £10 for U18s.

FGR season ticket holders, Club Members and Supporters Club members continue to earn a £5 discount on adult and young adult tickets.

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FGR V LUTON TOWN 45

Forest Green Rovers v Luton Town

Goals

Goals

Manager - Mark Cooper

Kick Off 3:00pm

Manager - Nathan Jones

- 1 Bradley Collins
- 2 Dale Bennett
- 3 Scott Laird
- 4 Drissa Traore
- 5 Lee Collins
- 6 Manny Monthe
- 7 Keanu Marsh-Brown
- 9 Christian Doidge
- 10 Reece Brown
- 11 Omar Bugiel
- 12 Jordan Simpson
- 14 Shamir Mullings
- 15 Charlie Cooper
- 16 Jack Fitzwater
- 17 Dan Wishart
- 18 Callum Evans
- 19 Will Randall
- 20 Alex Iacovitti
- 21 Mark Roberts
- 22 Jordan Morris
- 23 Sam Russell
- 24 Harry Pickering
- 25 Toni Gomes
- 27 Tom Anderson
- 28 Jon Moran
- 29 Olly Mehew
- 33 Luke James
- 34 Isaiah Osbourne
- 35 Jordan Stevens



v



- Marek Stech 1
- James Justin 2
- Dan Potts 3
- Alan McCormack 4
- Johnny Mullins 5
- Scott Cuthbert 6
- Jack Stacey 7
- Olly Lee 8
- Danny Hylton 9
- Jordan Cook 10
- Andrew Shinnie 11
- Harry Cornick 14
- Glen Rea 16
- Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu 17
- Luke Berry 18
- James Collins 19
- Jack Senior 21
- Luke Gambin 22
- Josh McQuoid 23
- Lawson D'Ath 24
- Aaron Jarvis 27
- Kavan Cotter 33
- Arthur Read 35
- James Shea 36
- Frankie Musonda 37
- Elliot Lee 38
- Akin Famewo 39
- Harry Isted 40
- Alan Sheehan 44
- Joe Mead 46
- Josh Neufville 48
- Drew Richardson 49

Referee

Lee Swabey

Assistant Referees

Marvyn Amphlett
Ravel Cheosiaua

4th Official

Andrew Laver



Next Home Game

Carlisle United
EFL League Two
3.00pm Saturday 23 December

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