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LUTON TOWN v GRIMSBY TOWN | SAT 23RD DECEMBER 2017 | 3PM

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME | ISSUE 17 | PRICE £3



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[WELCOME TO LUTON TOWN v GRIMSBY TOWN]

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OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

Made in Luton. Printed by Bartham Press.
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Design by Heather Ellis, Relish Design.
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Thanks to contributors: Roger Wash, Ed Smith,
Leigh Edwards, Simon Parsell, Revd David
Kesterton, Kevin Harper, Andy Axford, Kevin
Thoburn, Nikki Baker, Kristine Green and the
media department at Grimsby Town.

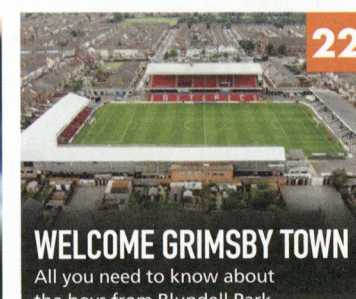
Thoughts, feedback and announcements are
welcome by post, phone or email #COYH

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

WELCOME TO KENILWORTH ROAD



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the local hospital children's wards

MERRY CHRISTMAS!
As this is our last programme of 2017, all at Kenilworth Road would like to wish
you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you
again in 2018 for the 3pm kick-off against Lincoln City on New Year's Day! #COYH



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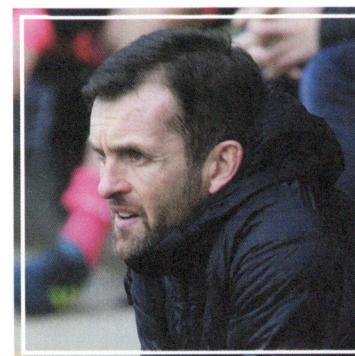
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[THE MANAGER'S NOTES]



THE MANAGER

NATHAN JONES

Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for the first of our two festive home games, against Grimsby Town.

It's the start of a really busy period of four games in ten days for us, with the trip to Swindon on Boxing Day followed by the match at Port Vale next Saturday and a return here against Lincoln on New Year's Day.

It's one of British football's traditions to have so many fixtures over Christmas and New Year, and although it's a big commitment from the players and staff to be away from their families for long periods of time, it will be worth it if we can continue the momentum we've built up over recent weeks.

We know that today's opponents Grimsby will provide another serious test. I know their manager, Russell Slade, very well having enjoyed three successful years playing under him at Yeovil, and it comes as no surprise to me to see the Mariners making their way up the table towards the play-off places.

I welcome Russell, his staff, their players and all the directors, officials and supporters who have travelled down from Cleethorpes today, and hope they have a safe journey back north this evening before enjoying their Christmas.

Since my last notes, we have had Olly Lee and Danny Hylton bring more personal awards to the dressing room with their Sky Bet Goal and PFA Player of the Month wins, so well done to both.

We've drawn 1-1 here in the top-of-the-table clash with Notts County, and although I was disappointed to see us concede our half-time advantage, County have been in the promotion places all season because they are a good side, and I have to give credit to Kevin Nolan and his men on the day.

Last Saturday, we weren't at our best down at Forest Green, but to win 2-0 having played over half-an-hour with ten men was massive, the players showing real resilience to see the game out.

We can't affect results elsewhere. We've gone two points clear because of our own results and if we concentrate on doing that, that's all we can do. We are exactly where we want to be as we aim for automatic promotion.

The Forest Green win set the players up nicely for their Christmas party in Cardiff after a great week in which they'd been out in the community,

visiting the children's wards of the local hospitals, before enjoying a turkey lunch cooked for them by our wonderful catering staff.

I'd like to thank Michelle, Maggie and their team for looking after us every day at The Brache, and also all of you supporters for the constant backing you've given us home and away this season.

It's an important Christmas period, and your gift to us at this time is that invaluable support. To have taken over 12,000 supporters with us to away games, as we now have with the 841 who were at Forest Green, is unbelievable for League Two.

To have a 10,000-plus crowd here for the Notts County match was fantastic, and we hope for more full houses as the season goes on. Please get behind the lads today as you always do, and let's finish the year off here in style by making it seven league matches unbeaten, and 11 overall.

Enjoy the game and have a cracking Christmas!



FROM THE BOARDROOM

WITH CHIEF EXECUTIVE GARY SWEET

Good afternoon and welcome to our final home match before Christmas and of 2017, so on behalf of everyone here at Luton Town I would like to wish each and every one of our fantastic supporters a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous (and winning) 2018.

I would like to offer a warm welcome, along with our good friend Russell Slade, to the directors, officials, staff, players and, most importantly, the Mariners supporters who have made the 325 mile round trip from Cleethorpes this afternoon.

We shared many a good battle in our years exiled in the Conference together, and that was renewed with two tough games last season after Grimsby followed us back up into the EFL. Their recent run of three wins and a very useful draw at Notts County, which was well received by all Hatters, has lifted them to within two points of the play-off places, so this afternoon will be no different to what has gone before.

Football is an industry apart over the festive season – most businesses slow down or else shut down completely at this time of the year, but football takes a collective deep breath and dives head-first into a frantic period which can, for some clubs, define their entire season.

Many people have called for a winter break or at least fewer fixtures at this time of year, and I can understand managers wanting to have their players at the peak of physical well-being for each game – something that is difficult when you are facing four important league games in ten days – but would supporters want it any other way? I think not – the tradition of going to matches over Christmas and the New Year holidays is firmly entrenched in English football with so many clubs recording their biggest attendances of the season as proof.

This hectic schedule always throws up its fair share of surprise results, but we go into it in great shape – four wins

and two draws from our last six league games, plus four cup victories since our last defeat here against Coventry back in October.

Last Saturday's win at Forest Green, achieved with ten men for more than half-an-hour following Jack Stacey's red card, was another excellent away-day performance and those clean sheets keep mounting up. It's 12 for Marek Stech now – ten in the league and two in the FA Cup – with James Shea chipping in with one in our last EFL Trophy game here against West Ham U21s.

CREDIT

What a goal we saw that night too, with Aaron Jarvis finishing off an 11-pass move that saw our lads move the ball around in our own half to draw the Hammers' defenders out and enable Akin Famewo to play a cracking long pass into Aaron Jarvis' path.

It certainly wasn't a "60-yard boot upfield", as some described it! It said everything about how we want our team to play, and credit to Nathan and his coaches for embedding that in the club's culture.

2018 promises to be a very exciting year for your football club, both on and off the field.

We all share the same ambition to win promotion to League One at the season's end and our FA Cup visit to Newcastle in early January should prove to be a fantastic day out for all concerned.

I know that hotel bookings in Newcastle have taken a major hit for both the Friday and Saturday nights as Hatters



We were delighted to welcome some top musical talent to our last home game against Notts County, when Steve Abbott and Cerys Matthews brought renowned composer Max Richter along as their guest. Born in Germany but raised in Bedford, Max loved the day and vowed to be back at his local club before long!

fans seek to make a real weekend of it on Tyneside – with the Kenilworth Hotel apparently being the first to sell out. I wonder why?

We took over 4,000 noisy and passionate supporters to Carrow Road in 2013 and they witnessed the first ever defeat of a Premier League club on their home patch by a non-league club.

We have already sold well over 5,000 tickets for the trip to St James' Park with scope to reach over 6,000 – wouldn't it be great if those 6,000 were celebrating after the match on January 6th.

The EFL Trophy draw may not have been quite so glamorous but a home tie against the Posh on Tuesday 9th is another game to look forward to, and it represents a terrific opportunity for us to go on a lengthy run in the competition.

We reached the semi-final last year, when we lost out to Oxford in that end-to-end five-goal thriller, and the competition gave our young players opportunity to make plenty of headlines.

It was good to see Luke Gambin shortlisted for player of the round after the West Ham game, and we'll hope to go one step further this year with a Wembley appearance a realistic ambition to help celebrate the 30th anniversary of our Littlewoods Cup win.

ACCOLADE

Our good form this season has not gone unnoticed either. You will have seen over the course of the last few weeks that Nathan has collected his second consecutive Manager of the Month accolade in addition to several individual honours, including Olly Lee's goal of the month for November and Danny Hylton's second successive PFA Fans' Player of the Month, both for November.

It was also nice to be outscoring Manchester City (... and Paris St Germain throughout Europe) for so long and becoming the first English club to score fifty league goals this season – with no fewer than sixteen of Nathan's squad finding the back of the net in our 22 league games to date, and 21 in all competitions.





There was also that amazing stat where by scoring the opener at Forest Green last week, Alan Sheehan became the 11th different scorer of our last 11 goals. A great example of teamwork if ever there was one.

Off the field, our use of the new car park at Power Court continues to prove a success. Don't forget you can download a matchday parking permit to take advantage of our special rates of £1 on Saturdays between midday and 6pm, and FREE from 5pm on Tuesday evenings when we're at home. You can download a permit by going to www.lutontown.co.uk/parking in the 'Getting To Kenilworth Road' section of the club website. All proceeds from car parking at Power Court go towards the development and maintenance of the site, so please make use of the 500 new spaces.

AMBITIOUS

However, we would prefer to be building on Power Court rather than parking on it. It may feel like an immensely frustrating wait on a planning decision, having now been in the formal process for over a year and a half – a frustration we feel too because we're ambitious and anxious to get moving.

And of course, there's little we can do – other than keep providing all the additional evidence that is asked of us – to complete the process and get to the point at which Luton Council can determine our planning applications.

That said, there is very little point in thinking anyone is to blame for this prolonged consideration other than the simple reality that there are parties out there with vested commercial interests that they will try

and protect at all costs. The Council therefore have a very difficult job to do under these circumstances and have no option but to ensure that no stone goes unturned in their review of our applications.

CHALLENGE

What is clear for me is that once they make a decision – whatever that decision may be – it will certainly be a very well thought out conclusion which will be very difficult to challenge.

There was some excellent news for the town and us this week, however. Luton's Local Plan came through the Secretary of State's review period without challenge, meaning the Local Plan is now fully adopted.

We believe this is an important step forward for everyone that cares about the future regeneration of our great town. The Planning Inspector overseeing the Local Plan made it very clear that nothing in the new Plan should get in the way of the local authority properly determining our two schemes at Power Court and Newlands Park in the normal way.

In this context we believe our applications can be said to be "in accordance with the Local Plan" thus meaning any challenges, on policy grounds, will hopefully be that bit harder to see the light of day.

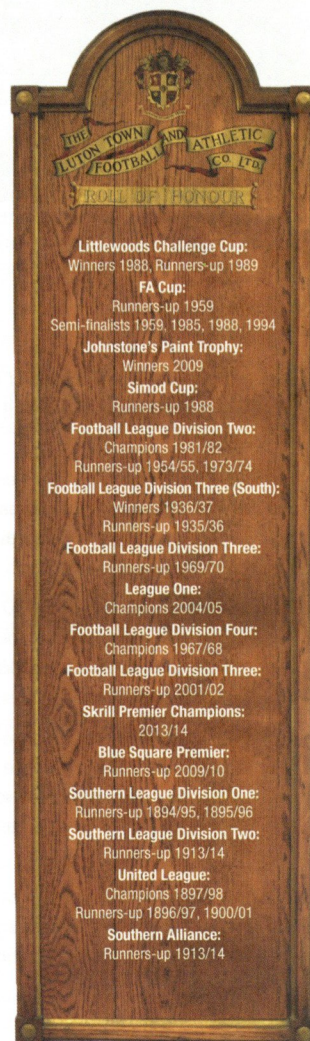
We won't hear anything for a few weeks now but patience is a virtue – a policy which is becoming more and more rewarding on and off the pitch!

I'll close how I opened, by wishing everyone a merry Christmas – starting hopefully with three points this afternoon – and a fantastic New Year, on behalf of the board and all at LFC. We'll see you back here on

January 1st when Lincoln City visit, so let's celebrate this great time of year in style by getting noisily behind Nathan and the team in all four festive fixtures here at the Kenny and on the road.

Come on you Hatters!

Gary



THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for another big match at the top of Sky Bet League Two, with Grimsby having moved into play-off contention in recent weeks.

It comes as little surprise to me as I know the manager, Russell Slade, and captain Nathan Clarke very well after enjoying some great times with them at Leyton Orient.

Russell led us to the League One play-off final and I've got a lot of time for him, so I'm looking forward to catching up with him and Nathan, who's my best mate, today when I'll be back at Kenilworth Road for the first time in a couple of weeks after undergoing surgery on my groin injury.

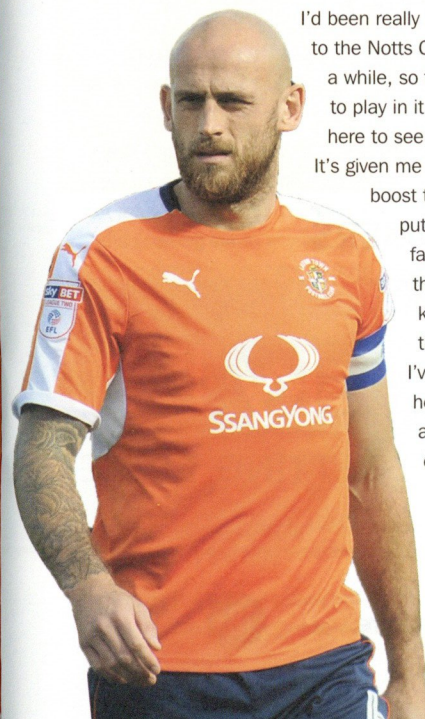
It's massively frustrating to be sidelined at this exciting time for the club, with the op forcing me to be out for longer than we had initially hoped after I suffered the injury in the 7-0 win over Cambridge.

No time is a good time to get injured, but when the team are bang in form, winning games, scoring plenty of goals and everyone is contributing, it's so disappointing to be missing out on that.

I'd been really looking forward to the Notts County game for a while, so to not be able to play in it – or even be here to see it – was gutting. It's given me a massive

boost to see the lads put together this fantastic run though, although keeping track of the score while I've not been here has been a nerve-racking experience.

We are going strong right now with just one defeat in and we just



GREAT SCOTT

need to keep it going over what is going to be a tough Christmas period, because we've got some big games in quick succession.

The Christmas period always is busy, and if we can get through this spell positively, then it's been a great start and you go into the second half of the season full of confidence, sitting top of the league.

I've got to give Johnny Mullins a special mention. I get on really well with Mully and he's had to be patient while Sheez and I have been playing regularly at centre-half, but he's emphasised the quality and depth we have in the squad by coming in since I've been injured, and from the games I've seen, he's been excellent.

He got the goal against Notts County, and I'm absolutely delighted for him because it can be frustrating sitting on the sidelines and you're itching to get involved. You want to be involved in something as good as we've got this year, and with the experience and ability that Mully has, it's no surprise that he's doing so well.

I'll close by thanking you all for such wonderful support this year. We had a full house here for the Notts County game and I'm sure we'll be there or thereabouts for these two big home games against Grimsby and Lincoln on New Year's Day.

Please give the lads your 100 per cent support as always, and on behalf of them, we hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and we'll see you back here on New Year's Day!

Scott

THINK FAST ACT FASTER

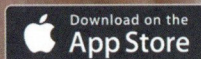


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Picture courtesy of The Diocese of St Albans

REVD DAVID KESTERTON – NEW CLUB CHAPLAIN

I'm writing this piece at the invitation of the club to introduce myself as the new Chaplain.

Alan West, our previous Chaplain, Luton legend and latterly church minister, retired from his role at the start of 2017-18 and I've been invited to be the new club chaplain, which is a great honour.

I'm the local Church of England vicar whose parish includes Kenilworth Road, a season ticket holder and regular home supporter since the 2004-05 season. My main church is All Saints on Shaftesbury Road, which is less than five minutes' walk from Kenilworth Road, and I have another church, St Peters, on the corner of Dallow and Harefield Road.

Being in a multicultural area and a place of many faiths, I spend a fair amount of time meeting with leaders of our local mosques exploring how we can work together.

Many people wonder why a club needs a chaplain at all in these days when fewer people have religious views, but in fact most clubs have a chaplain. I'm there to offer support and a listening ear to anyone no matter what their views, and I'm definitely not here to push religion.

I'm available to staff or players as another source of support when it's easier to talk to someone trusted who is not employed by the club. It involves me being around at The Brache or at Kenilworth Road from time to time. Then there are the big life and death moments when a Chaplain might be called in to offer support. I'm also happy to pray with or for people if they would like this.

It's a voluntary role and the way I'm involved is very much determined by the club.

Christmas is a time of peace and goodwill – and the Christmas fixtures are given an extra edge because of the

festive season. The weather makes its own contribution – the "underwater game" home game against Barnet on January 1st 2014 sticks in the mind!

Our third round FA cup draw at Newcastle will give a terrific climax to the Christmas and New Year fixtures in 2018.

Alongside the festivities, our thoughts turn to the needs of the less fortunate at this time of year. Many of us will give to one or other good cause that many groups raise funds for.

Jesus was born into a humble setting – away from his hometown. It reminds us especially of those who are homeless and those who will be running shelters during these weeks. I'm also very aware of those who find Christmas a really difficult time of year – and there are many who do.

The Church of England is running a media campaign – highlighting why Christians believe this is such a special time of year. Take a look at #Godwithus to find out more.

When I met briefly with the players last month, I said something about resilience – how it's not just about being tough. I like to think it's more about the capacity to bounce back from knocks or disappointments. Team spirit plays a massive part.

I especially like these words: May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary and the peace of the Christ-child be yours this Christmas.

COYH

Safe travelling to all.

www.facebook.com/allsaintsluton

LEE'S 'OLLYWOOD BLOCKBUSTER WINS GOAL OF THE MONTH!

After Alan McCormack won the August goal award for his strike against Yeovil, and boss Nathan Jones scooped two successive manager of the month awards, Olly Lee last week became the latest Hatter to pick up an official EFL monthly accolade.

The midfielder was named Sky Bet League Two Goal of the Month winner for November, receiving 47 per cent of the public vote for his near 70-yard strike in the 7-0 win over Cambridge United.

The Town were already a goal to the good when 26-year-old Lee won the ball deep inside his own half and let fly from well outside the centre circle for his third goal of the campaign on November 18th.

Visiting goalkeeper David Forde was helpless as the midfielder's ping caught him well off his goal-line and sent the majority of the Kenilworth Road crowd into raptures.

The strike earned a mention in England cricketer Alastair Cook's pre-Ashes press conference, when he avoided a sledging controversy after being asked about quotes from Aussie bowler Nathan Lyon by saying he only uses social media to check the Luton scores, adding: "They won 7-0 at the weekend, scored a brilliant wonder goal from the halfway line. You should check it out. Shame I wasn't there to see it!"

The goal has even earned the midfielder a new song, with the Town faithful signing to the tune of the Beatles' 'Let It Be': "Scoring from St Albans, Olly Lee!"

Lee beat off competition from Chesterfield's Jak McCourt and Carlisle United's Danny Grainger, and Lead Sky Bet EFL Goal of the Month judge and Sky Sports pundit Don Goodman said: "Olly must have seen the keeper way off of his line before he even won possession well inside his own half, as there was only one thought on his mind.

"It's one thing spotting an opportunity, but quite another to be able to hit a ball so well from that distance that the keeper was beaten all ends up and didn't even get a chance to put a dive in."

Lee said: "I'm delighted with it, it's great to get a bit of personal recognition but the main thing is the team doing well and hopefully we can stay top of the league.

"I just nicked the ball in midfield and looked up and saw the keeper off his line and thought 'Why not?'. It was just



instinct, I looked up and the keeper seemed to be closer to me than the goal.

"I've scored a few good ones but that's definitely the best. Rooney's wasn't bad but mine was a little bit further out so hopefully I can take that one."

We are also delighted to report that striker Danny Hylton picked up his second successive Bristol Street Motors PFA Fans' Player of the Month award, this time edging out his Hatters team-mate Dan Potts – who was also shortlisted for the Sky Bet accolade.

Hylton netted four times in November, and will be presented with his award by Town supporter Simon Darwen and the PFA's Colin Hill before today's game.

Well done to both Olly and Danny, as well as Pottsy, for his two nominations, and Luke Gambin, who was shortlisted for Checkatrade Trophy player of the round for the first knockout stage.

The Town winger, 23, was named man of the match in the 4-0 second round victory over West Ham United U21s and was up for the public vote along with Nicky Ajose of Bury, Charlton's Reeco Hackett-Fairchild, Marcus Maddison of Peterborough and Jack Sowerby of Fleetwood Town.

POSH & CHAIRBOYS DIARY DATES

There are a couple of fixture changes for you to make a note of in your new 2018 diaries with the Checkatrade Trophy third round tie against Sky Bet League One club Peterborough United due to take place on Tuesday 9th January, with a 7.45pm kick-off at Kenilworth Road.

As with all other ties in the competition, admission prices will be £5 for adults and concessions, with Under-16s £1. Tickets are now on sale, with details on page 17.

We can also confirm that the home league game against Wycombe Wanderers, originally scheduled for Saturday 6th January, when we will now travel to Newcastle in the FA Cup, has been rearranged for Tuesday 30th January with the usual 7.45pm kick-off.

HAPPY 90TH, DONALD!

Happy 90th birthday today to Donald Brooks, who has been supporting the Town since the early 1970s when the Danish Bacon Company, who he worked for, gave him a pay rise to enable him to purchase a season ticket.



Donald lives with dementia, but takes great pleasure in recounting his experiences following the Hatters over almost half-a-century with his son, daughter-in-law and granddaughter Ruth, who got in touch with This Is Our Town to wish her granpa a lovely birthday.

CHOIR KIDS' CHRISTMAS SONG FOR CHUMS

We were delighted to welcome the Harlington Lower School Choir to Kenilworth Road at our last home game against Notts County, as they took a lap of the pitch while their Christmas single played over the PA system.

'Together at Christmas Time' is a brand new Christmas song recorded by the choir of Harlington Lower school to raise money for CHUMS this Christmas. CHUMS

supports children, young people and their families through bereavement, mental health or emotional well-being difficulties.

To download or donate to the single, go to www.chums.uk.com/togetheratchristmastime. You can also donate to this single via text by texting TACT17 to 70700, followed by the amount you'd like to donate. (e.g. TACT17 £5).





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SWINDON TOWN

SKY BET LEAGUE TWO | TUESDAY 26TH DECEMBER | 3PM

The Hatters received a full allocation of 900 seats in the covered Arkells Stand and an initial allocation of 600 uncovered seats in the Stratton Bank Stand (max stand allocation 1,850) for our Boxing Day trip to Wiltshire. Remaining tickets are available on general sale until after the game this afternoon. Ambulant and Wheelchair Disabled tickets are priced at age related prices with a Carer free of charge. **PRICES.** Arkells Stand: Adult: £23, Over-65: £17, Student (with ID): £17, Under-21: £10, Under-18: £6, Under-11: £2. Stratton Bank: Adult: £19, Over-65: £15, Student (with ID): £15, Under-21: £10, Under-18: £6, Under-11: £2.



PORT VALE

SKY BET LEAGUE TWO | SATURDAY 30TH DECEMBER | 3PM

The Hatters received an allocation of 4,000 advance-sale unreserved seats in the Hamil Road Stand for this fixture. Remaining tickets are now available on general sale. These will be available online and in person or via phone from the Ticket Office until close of business on Friday 29th December. Ambulant and Wheelchair Disabled tickets are priced at age related prices with a Carer free of charge if they receive Middle or Higher rate DLA/PIR. **PRICES:** Adult (22-61): £20, Seniors (62+): £15, Young Adults (18-21): £15, Juniors (12-17): £8, Under 12 (0-11): FREE, Carers: FREE.



LINCOLN CITY

SKY BET LEAGUE TWO | MON 1ST JANUARY | 3PM

Tickets for this category A game at Kenilworth Road are now on sale from the Ticket Office.



NEWCASTLE UNITED

EMIRATES FA CUP R3 | SATURDAY 6TH JANUARY | 3PM

Tickets for the Hatters' Emirates FA Cup tie against Newcastle United are now on general sale, and due to high demand, we have received an additional allocation of tickets after our initial batch of 3,000 sold to season ticket holders. Tickets are currently available online only over the Christmas period, and sales will recommence from the Ticket Office over the phone and in person at 10am on Wednesday 27th December. Supporters will be able to purchase four tickets per person until 2pm on Friday 5th January 2018 and we thank all supporters for their patience during this busy period! **PRICES:** Adult: £10, Under-18s: £5, Over-65s: £5, Students (with ID): £5, Disabled: £5.



PETERBOROUGH UNITED

CHECKATRADE TROPHY R3 | TUE 9TH JANUARY | 7.45PM

Tickets for the third round tie at Kenilworth Road are on sale now at £5 for adults and concessions, with Under-16s £1. Home supporters can purchase unreserved seats in the Main Stand or Main Enclosure. Away supporters will be housed in the Oak Road Stand.

BOBBERS TRAVEL CLUB

For bookings telephone: 01234 856542

FARES AND DEPARTURE TIMES

DATE	MATCH	ADULT	CONC.	TIME
Tue 26 Dec	Swindon Town	£23	£20	11.00
Sat 30 Dec	Port Vale	£23	£20	11.00
Sat 6 Jan	Newcastle United	See page 16 for details		

BOBBERS TRAVEL CLUB INFORMATION: NEWCASTLE UNITED V LUTON TOWN

SATURDAY 6 JANUARY 2018

The Bobbers Travel Club will, as usual, be running coaches to the Emirates FA Cup third round tie at Premier League club Newcastle United on Saturday 6th January, but there are a few changes from the normal arrangements.

Coach tickets for this game will only be available through the Luton Town FC ticket office (in person, by telephone on 01582 416976 or online).

NO BOOKINGS WILL BE TAKEN FOR THIS GAME ON THE NORMAL NUMBER.

The Junction 11 pick-up point will be outside the Travelodge Hotel rather than on the opposite side of the road.

Unfortunately, due to the anticipated demand for coach travel, it will not be possible to provide our normal refreshment service on this journey. We will, however, stop at a service station both on the way to Newcastle and on the return journey. The length of the stop will depend on traffic conditions.

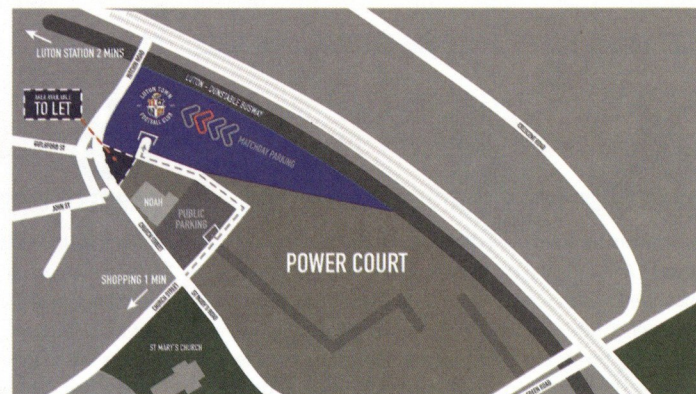
DEPARTURE TIMES

Please be at your departure point at least 10 minutes before the time shown. We cannot be held responsible if you miss the coach because you are late.

7.20am - Amptill (Cottage Bakery, Dunstable Street)

7.25am - Flitwick (Bus stop opposite Village Hall)

7.30am - Westoning (Bus stop opposite The Chequers)



7.40am - Junction 11 (By Travelodge Hotel)

8.00am - Bus interchange at Luton Railway Station (Bus stop LS12)

PRICES

£34 - Adults

**£31 - Concessions
(15 and under / 60 and over)**

Our normal membership requirement will be waived for this game.

If you wish to travel in a group, please ensure that your coach bookings are made together as we are unable to guarantee that you will all be on the same coach unless you do so. Once a booking has been made, no change can be made to your pick-up point. Payment must be made at the time of booking and is non-refundable.

No alcohol or smoking (including "e cigarettes") will be permitted on board the coaches at any time. Coach Stewards reserve the right to search passengers if they believe that this is not being adhered to.

Any child under the age of 14 must be accompanied by an adult.

Please return to your coach immediately after the game. The police will not allow us to wait for passengers who do not do so.

CAR PARKING

Car parking will be available at the club's car park at Power Court for £1 for the day on production of your coach ticket. This will be in Car Park A, as highlighted in the image above.

TWO NEW TOON HOTELS:

Thank you to Hatter Malcolm Ginsberg, the editor-in-chief of Business Travel News, for highlighting the following new hotels that may be useful for any Town supporters making a weekend of it in Newcastle:

easyHotel: Proctor House, 23-29 Side, Newcastle, NE1 3AE - www.easyhotel.co.uk

Newcastle Quayside Travelodge: Riverview Buildings Close, NE1 3BE - www.travelodge.co.uk

[OUR NEXT OPPOSITION]

WE'RE ON OUR WAY

SWINDON TOWN TUESDAY 26TH DECEMBER 2017 | 3PM

FORMED: 1879 | NICKNAME: THE ROBINS | LAST SEASON: 22ND IN LEAGUE ONE | FOLLOW THEM ON TWITTER: @OFFICIAL_STFC
COLOURS: RED SHIRT, WHITE SHORTS | GROUND: COUNTY GROUND | MANAGER: DAVID FLITCROFT

WHO? A five-year stint in the third tier came to an end last season, as the Robins finished third from bottom and dropped into League Two. Last time they climbed out of this level was with former West Ham United forward Paulo Di Canio at the helm, with players such as Alan McCormack, Paul Benson and Jonathan Smith helping pave the way to the League Two title in 2012. They aren't the only Hatters to have represented the Robins though, with Scott Cuthbert, Alan Sheehan and James Collins all being employed by the County Ground outfit at some point in their careers. Our No.2 Paul Hart was also manager there for a brief spell back in 2011.

TICKETS Ticket information can be found on the opposite page.

HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE? Boxing Day's game will be the 103rd meeting and our second this season. Our first of the campaign didn't end too well for us - Scott Cuthbert was sent off early on at Kenilworth Road for giving away the penalty that led to the opening goal, in what turned out to be a 3-0 defeat. Of the previous 102 games, the Hatters have won 46 and the Robins have been victorious in 35. Our last win against them came last season, when Josh McQuoid, with two, and Isaac Vassell were on target in a 3-2 victory in the Checkatrade Trophy.

IN CHARGE A midfielder who turned out for clubs such as Chester City, Rochdale and Bury, 43-year-old David Flitcroft already has over 200 games as a manager under his belt. He began his career as a boss in 2012, guiding Barnsley to safety in the Championship, before moving onto Bury in December 2013, turning the club's fortunes around by leading the Shakers away from the relegation zone and eventually getting them promoted to League One. He took over at the County Ground in June this year.

PREVIOUS FORM A point and a place behind today's visitors, the Robins' form has dipped recently - picking up seven



Former Hatter Matthew Taylor in Robins' red

points from their last six games. Although their away form is exemplary having picked up more points on the road than anyone else (21), Swindon have struggled at home, having picked up just 11 points in 11 games, a points total that only betters strugglers Forest Green and Port Vale in Sky Bet League Two. They play Crewe at Gresty Road today.

KNOWING ME, KNOWING YOU Combined, Sheehan, Cuthbert, Collins and McCormack amassed 294 appearances for the Robins, with the latter captaining the side to promotion. Collins netted 18 times in his 51 appearances for Swindon, whilst they were Cuthbert's first club south of the border. One notable former Hatter in the Swindon squad currently is 36-year-old winger Matthew Taylor, who started his career at Kenilworth Road - scoring 17 goals in 146 appearances - before going on to play for Portsmouth, Bolton, West Ham, Burnley and Northampton prior to signing for the Robins last summer.

MAKE A DAY OF IT!

FOR HOSPITALITY & SPONSORSHIP CONTACT THE COMMERCIAL TEAM ON 01582 411622 OR COMMERCIAL@LUTONTOWN.CO.UK

MATCH SPONSOR: RAY JANES

Leighton Buzzard-based electrical contractor Ray Janes is sponsoring today's game to celebrate 60 years since his first visit to Kenilworth Road as a nine-year-old. While watching the game with his father and grandfather from the then Oak Road terrace, Ray remembers that he was told that they would soon be moving to a new ground! (Still hopefully waiting.)

He has been through all the emotions with the club; promotions, relegations and administrations. He cannot pick any really high moments as over the years there have been many memorable games, with not enough room in the programme to mention them all. He is here today with family and friends and looking for another step on what we hope will be a promotion season.

MATCHBALL SPONSOR: JKEANE EXHIBITION SERVICES LTD

JKeane Exhibition
Services LTD

JKeane exhibition services was formed in Oct 2013. It is a successful family business providing labour to the exhibition industry, to the construction and dismantling of exhibition stands nationwide and in Europe. By ensuring and taking pride in the fact that we are providing a quality service has enabled its success and expansion. In turn, this has enabled our company to benefit the local community by providing more employment opportunities too. Much of the family business success to date is due to my son Matt and our loyal and hard-working employees with their dedication and enthusiasm.

TODAY'S MASCOTS:



ZAC WRIGHT:

AGE: 7
SCHOOL:
CHURCH END LOWER
FAVOURITE PLAYER:
JAMES COLLINS
ATTENDS GAMES WITH:
DAD AND BROTHER, SOMETIMES
MUM AND SISTER
HOBBIES:
FOOTBALL AND ANYTHING LUTON



OLLIE SHERE:

AGE: 7 – (8 ON CHRISTMAS EVE!)
SCHOOL:
HEMYOCK PRIMARY, DEVON
FAVOURITE PLAYER:
DANNY HYLTON
ATTENDS GAMES WITH:
MUM, DAD AND BROTHER
HOBBIES:
PLAYS FOR GALMINGTON
DRAGONS U8 AND TRAINS FOR
YEOVIL TOWN FOOTBALL TRUST



4: Diverse Screed & Resin
Contractors Ltd



5: Gibbs and Dandy Ltd



6: GP Quorenton Ltd



7: SCOTT MATEAR



8: Melvyn Westwood



9: Pictons Solicitors



10: Crannall



11: Crossoco Luton Ltd



12: Bedford Electrical Ltd



13: Bartham Group



14: TJ Aldridge Builders



15: Taylor French
Developments Ltd



16: Prestige Design



17: Fanfare Ltd



18: CME Heating Ltd



19: Markyate Precision
Machining Co Ltd



20: IBC Vehicles



21: Simon Litchfield &
Jensen Ltd



22: Dot Group International



23: Rob Hall



24: Workflow Group



25: Shelley Sandzer
& Tiro Partners



26: G Owen Ceramic Tiling



27: SKF UK Ltd



Wickes
TradePro

Pick from a quality line up

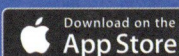
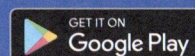


Isn't it time you joined the team?

Always cheaper on quality trade brands with Wickes TradePro.

*Wickes TradePro members get 10% off purchases in-store and online. The Wickes TradePro discount does not apply to purchases of Showroom Kitchens and Bathrooms, Gift Vouchers, or Delivery charges. For full terms & conditions please visit www.wickes.co.uk/trade/terms-conditions.

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To sign up, download the App.



[COMMERCIAL]

KIT SPONSORS 17/18

TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT KIT SPONSORSHIPS, CONTACT OUR COMMERCIAL TEAM ON 01582 411622

1: Marek Stech

H: TP Extrusions LTD
A: Les Miller – Miller & Company
G: Ryan Macbeth



2: James Justin

H: Freed (Veneers Ltd)
A: Bobbers Travel



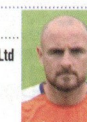
3: Dan Potts

H: Maddie Knight
A: Terry Neale



4: Alan McCormack

H: Tradeline Recruitment Ltd
A: Miss V Murray and Mr A Wilton



5: Johnny Mullins

H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE



6: Scott Cuthbert

H: WHOSH
A: Genting Casino Luton



7: Jack Stacey

H: Community Interest Luton
A: AVAILABLE



8: Olly Lee

H: Scandinavian Hatters
A: Julian & Anne Hyde



9: Danny Hytton

H: Richard Banks
A: The Mad Hatter
T: 1981 Events



10: Jordan Cook

H: @TrondheimHatter
A: Ian Corkett & Linda Thomas



11: Andrew Shinnie

H: Peter & Linda Little
A: Groundcare Machinery Services Ltd



14: Harry Cornick

H: Ben & Emma Banks
A: Maddie



16: Glen Rea

H: The Walsh Family from Spain
A: Tommy Lennon



17: Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu

H: Dean Kemp
A: WHOSH



18: Luke Berry

H: Lynn, Ben and Rhiannon
A: G Owen Ceramic Tiling Ltd



19: James Collins

H: Tim Fordham Plumbing And Heating
A: Community Interest Luton



21: Jack Senior

H: WHOSH
A: #Senior'sBarm Pots



22: Luke Gambin

H: G Owen Ceramic Tiling Ltd
A: Ben & Emma Banks
T: 1981 Events



24: Lawson D'Ath

H: AVAILABLE
A: Emma Sanders



27: Aaron Jarvis

H: Mad Hatter
A: Martin, Heather & Boo



33: Kavan Cotter

H: Andrew J Finch
A: Curly, Matt & LLSC



35: Arthur Read

H: COYH
A: DM Specialists



36: James Shea

H: Marston Vale Properties
A: AVAILABLE
G: Derek & Madison Borino



37: Frankie Musonda

H: Football262
A: AVAILABLE



38: Elliot Lee

H: Richard Tilley
A: SOLYO Gold Hatters



39: Akin Famewo

H: Bobbers Travel
A: AVAILABLE



40: Harry Isted

H: Craig Steeples
A: Selsey Properties Ltd
G: Dynamic Drainage Ltd



44: Alan Sheehan

H: Hatters Talk
A: AVAILABLE



Nathan Jones

H: Thompsons Accountants
A: Country Properties



Paul Hart

H: Doug Knight
A: Colne Consulting Ltd



Joaquin Gomez

H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE



Simon Parsell

H: Bobbers Travel
A: AVAILABLE



KEY: H: HOME | A: AWAY | G: GLOVES | S: THIRD SPONSOR



WELCOME GRIMSBY TOWN

FACTFILE:

NICKNAMES: THE MARINERS

GROUND: BLUNDELL PARK

MANAGER: RUSSELL SLADE

LAST SEASON: 14TH IN LEAGUE TWO

The Hatters would like to extend a warm welcome to today's visiting staff, supporters and players of Grimsby Town for our final home match of 2017.

Just two points off the play-offs heading into this afternoon's game, Grimsby's push for a place in the top seven this season appears to be built on slightly stronger foundations than they were last season.

In the 2016/17 campaign, the Mariners found themselves in a similar position, but were heavily dependent on the goals from striker Omar Bogle, who struck 19 times before his departure on deadline day in January to Wigan Athletic. Their form dropped off after he left and that saw the departure of manager Marcus Bignot in April.

His replacement, former Leyton Orient and Cardiff City boss Russell Slade – who is in his second stint as Mariners boss – has put together a decent side, who aren't necessarily waiting on an individual to net all the goals for them, rather a team effort with the goals spread out across the squad so far.

Strong on the road, the Mariners have picked up 17 points away from home. They certainly demonstrated what they're defensively capable of last Saturday as they held second-placed Notts County to a 0-0 draw at Meadow Lane, meaning Slade's side have now picked up ten points from their last six games.

A Championship outfit as recently as 2003, the Mariners slipped down the League and eventually into Non-League in 2010, the first time in 117 years. Six seasons spent in the National League saw three successive play-off defeats, the fourth attempt finally saw their return to the fourth tier, as an Omar Bogle brace and a late strike from Padraig Amond secured a 3-1 win over Forest Green Rovers in the 2016 play-off final.

Now in their second season back in League Two, the Mariners have a proven manager in Slade, who worked his way up the Non-League levels as a boss with Armitage, Leicester United and Scarborough before getting his first job in the EFL as manager of Grimsby in 2004.

He was at the helm at Blundell Park for two seasons, guiding them to the play-off final in his last season, but missing out promotion as they were defeated by Cheltenham Town 1-0. He then went onto manage the likes of Yeovil, Brighton, Leyton Orient and Cardiff City.

The Hatters have played the Mariners 52 times, with Luton winning 16 times and losing 19 matches. Grimsby fared better in our two meetings last term, Bogle netted twice here at Kenilworth Road in a 2-1 win, before Isaac Vassell netted the Town's goal in a 1-1 draw at Blundell Park last February.

HATTERS V MARINERS

LUTON WINS: 16 | DRAWS: 17
GRIMSBY TOWN WINS: 19

LAST MEETING:

LUTON 1-1 GRIMSBY TOWN | FEB 4TH 2017

THE MAIN MEN

IN BETWEEN THE STICKS

JAMES McKEOWN

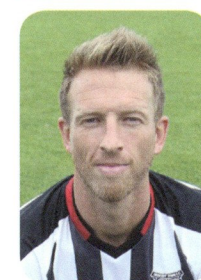


After coming through the youth ranks at Coventry City and then Walsall, the 28-year-old signed for Peterborough United in 2007, heading out on

loan to Kettering Town, Worcester City and Boston United. After a brief spell in Holland after his contract with the Posh finished in 2011, he joined the Mariners, and has been their first-choice stopper ever since. He has now played for the Blundell Park outfit over 250 times and was a part of the squad that won promotion from the Vanarama National League.

THE WALL

DANNY COLLINS

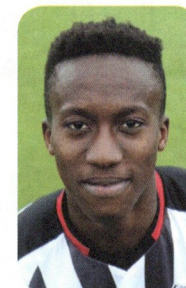


Since making his debut 16 years ago for Chester City whilst in the Conference, the 37-year-old former Wales international has spent a majority of his career plying

his trade across the top two tiers of English football. After leaving the Deva Stadium in 2004 for Sunderland, he enjoyed promotion twice from the Championship during a five-year spell, before moving onto Stoke City. Moves to Nottingham Forest and Rotherham followed before joining the Mariners in 2016.

THE MAN IN THE MIDDLE

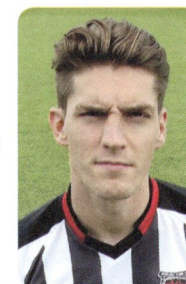
SIRIKI DEMBELE



Brother to the Celtic prodigy Karamoko, Siriki is blazing his own trail, recently picking up the EFL Young Player of the Month award for October. After starting his youth career off in Scotland with Dundee United and Ayr United, he joined the Nike Football Academy in 2016, before signing for the Mariners in May 2017. An agile player with an eye for goal, the 21-year-old is certainly well thought of by Grimsby supporters. Has four goals to his name so far this season for the Cleethorpes side.

THE DANGERMAN

SAM JONES



The attacking midfielder climbed through Non-League after his release by Leeds United as a youth player. Finding the net regularly for Heanor Town earned the 26-year-old a move to Alfreton in 2015, where he impressed in National League North. That led to a summer 2016 switch to Gateshead, where he netted nine goals in 18 starts before the Mariners swooped for him last January. The 26-year-old has continued his fine form in front of goal, bagging 13 so far in his Grimsby career.

GOALKEEPER

BEN KILLIP

AGE: 22

PREVIOUS CLUB: NORWICH CITY

DEFENDERS

BEN DAVIES

AGE: 36

PREVIOUS CLUB: PORTSMOUTH

PAUL DIXON

AGE: 31

PREVIOUS CLUB: DUNDEE UNITED

NATHAN CLARKE

AGE: 33

PREVIOUS CLUB: COVENTRY CITY

ZAK MILLS

AGE: 25

PREVIOUS CLUB: BOSTON UNITED

MIDFIELDERS

JAMES BERRETT

AGE: 28

PREVIOUS CLUB: YORK CITY

MITCH ROSE

AGE: 23

PREVIOUS CLUB: NEWPORT COUNTY

LUKE SUMMERFIELD

AGE: 30

PREVIOUS CLUB: YORK CITY

SAM KELLY

AGE: 24

PREVIOUS CLUB: PORT VALE

JAMEY OSBORNE

AGE: 25

PREVIOUS CLUB: SOLIHULL MOORS

STRIKERS

RICHARD BENNETT

AGE: 26

PREVIOUS CLUB: BARROW

SHAUN MILLER

AGE: 30

PREVIOUS CLUB: MORECAMBE

SAM COSGROVE

AGE: 20

PREVIOUS CLUB: WIGAN ATHLETIC

THE VIEW FROM THE OAK ROAD

KRISTINE GREEN, a Grimsby Town supporter of 25 years, gives us her thoughts on what lies in store for her team this season in Sky Bet League Two and this afternoon on their visit to Kenilworth Road, as well her top XI players to ever pull on a shirt for the Mariners...

GENERAL ENQUIRIES:

For the first half of last season you were certainly challenging for one of the higher places in Sky Bet League Two, but your form tailed off. This season you find yourselves in a similar position – battling for a play-off place – do you think this time though you can maintain that form?

I'd obviously like to think so – last season was very much reliant on Omar Bogle for goals and when he was sold we struggled. This season we aren't reliant heavily on one specific player to win games for us and hopefully that is something that will be beneficial as we go into the second half of the season. We had a sticky patch with scoring recently but came through that still within touching distance of the play-offs, so here's to an exciting run in!

Bogle was a man in form before his departure in January, has Russell Slade been able to find a suitable replacement over the summer?

Looking at the scoring charts and the characteristics of the strikers that we have, I'd say no. Twenty-plus goals a season strikers don't come cheap and replacing him just wasn't going to happen.

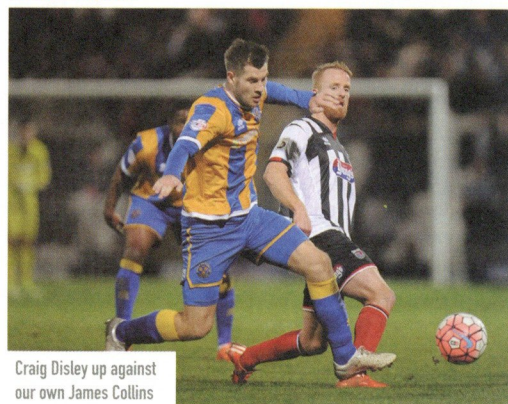
With over 800 games under his belt as a manager, how happy were you with Russell Slade's reappointment, and how do you think he has positively improved your side?

Before Paul Hurst cracked promotion out of the National League, Russell Slade was the last manager to get us anywhere near a sniff of promotion. Over recent weeks we have become more solid at the back, which initially blunted our attacking threat, but changes to those further up the pitch has made the team quicker, while creating more of a goal threat.

Who was the best summer acquisition?

100 per cent not Siriki Dembele from the Nike Academy, who will most definitely NOT be the next million-pound player for us.....

Who were you most disappointed to see leave in the most recent transfer window?



Craig Disley up against our own James Collins

I think the skip (Craig Disley) was a hard but understandable one, and the loss of Danny Andrew to Doncaster Rovers in the summer was a big one too.

How can Town supporters expect your side to play this afternoon – open and attacking? Direct football? Or neither?

Possibly direct/counter attacking football. Luton are a dangerous side who have been scoring for fun recently, so we would be crazy to go out and play an open game.



MY ALL-TIME MARINERS XI...

GK: AIDAN DAVISON

Part of our double Wembley squad and a superb keeper.

RB: JOHN McDERMOTT

Club record holder and legend, I could choose nobody else.

CB: ANDY TODD.

Didn't want to put loan players in but this guy was a proper class act

CB: PETER HANDYSIDE

A proper footballing centre-half who probably wasn't appreciated enough.

LB: TONY GALLIMORE

Regardless of the number of units consumed, 'Gally' was always a consistent performer at the top end of the football pyramid as we were when he played for us.

RM: KEV DONOVAN

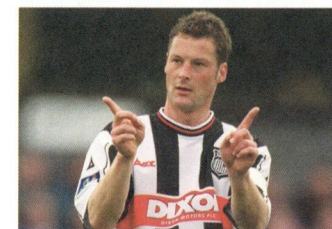


Again, part of the 97-98 squad who scored the winner to seal promotion to what was then the First Division.

CM: CRAIG DISLEY

Mr Grimsby Town who took both the club and the town to his heart. The tears at Braintree said it all.

CM: PAUL GROVES



Another midfield general captain who scored no end of goals before slotting into defence later in his career with us.

LM: NATHAN ARNOLD

For THAT goal at Wembley, he couldn't not be part of the all time XI.

ST: CLIVE MENDONCA

A real class act for us, scoring a bucket full of goals before leaving for Charlton and doing the same there.

ST: MICHAEL REDDY

Here during Slade's first stint – he had pace to burn, could dink it past a defender on the halfway line and go on to score.

QUICKFIRE:

Terrace or Seats?

Terrace.

Who are your rivals?

Scunthorpe United

Favourite all-time manager?

'Sir' Alan Buckley

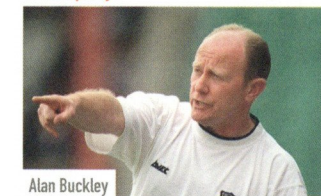
Predict player of the season?

Siriki Dembele – if he lasts the season with us

If you could bring back one player from the past back into the Grimsby team, who would it be?

Clive Mendonca

Which five current or former Mariners players or managers would you invite to a dinner party?



Alan Buckley

Alan Buckley, Craig Disley, Kev Donovan, James McKeown and Paul Groves.

Most treasured piece of Grimsby memorabilia?

97-98 squad signed shirt

What league will Grimsby be in next season?

Ask me again in March...

Who will win Sky Bet League Two this season?

Notts County



TOP BOYS

HARRY WAINMAN

Ex-England Youth goalkeeper Harry Wainman was the club's first 'Player of the Year' in Grimsby Town's 1971-72 Fourth Division title triumph. Signing professional at Blundell Park in July 1964, he made his League debut in Grimsby's 3-1 defeat at Peterborough six months later and was ever-present in 1969-70. He starred as the Mariners took Norwich City to a League Cup fourth round replay in 1971-72 and made 420 League appearances until retiring after injury in May 1982. Awarded two testimonial matches, he had a spell as youth team coach, then established a local sports shop and has since run the Saxon House Hotel in Cleethorpes.

JOE WATERS

Republic of Ireland international midfielder Joe Waters skipped Grimsby Town from the Fourth Division to Second in consecutive seasons. Signing professional for Leicester City in October 1970, he scored twice on his debut in the 2-0 FA Cup sixth round win at QPR in March 1974 but failed to secure a regular first-team slot. He moved to Grimsby in January 1976 and was 'Player of the Year' in 1976-77 and 1978-79. Ever-present in four successive years, he starred as the Mariners reached the League Cup fifth round in 1979-80 and netted 65 goals in 357 League games before joining United States side Tacoma Stars in May 1984. He later became their coach.

NIGEL BATCH

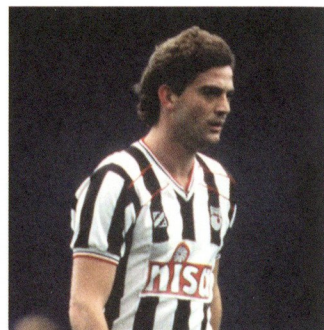


Long-serving goalkeeper Nigel Batch was ever-present for Grimsby Town on five occasions. A former Derby County apprentice, he joined Grimsby in July 1976 and starred as they won promotion in 1978-79, then the Third Division title in 1979-80. He was twice 'Player of the Year', also helping the Mariners win the League Group Cup in 1982. Making 348 League appearances, he joined Lincoln City in July 1987 and starred in their 1987-88 Conference title triumph, then reunited with Dave Booth at Darlington in September 1988. He later played for Stockport and Scunthorpe, becoming a publican, then a painter and decorator in Holton-le-Clay.

KEVIN DRINKELL

Striker Kevin Drinkell was leading marksman in Grimsby Town's 1979-80 Third Division title triumph. Signing professional at Blundell Park in June 1978, he also starred in the Mariners' 1978-79 promotion

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS PROFILES TEN WINNERS OF GRIMSBY TOWN'S 'PLAYER OF THE YEAR' AWARD



in 1982-83 and netted 89 goals in 272 League games prior to joining Norwich City for £105,000 in June 1985. Top scorer and 'Player of the Year' in their 1985-86 Second Division title triumph, he joined Glasgow Rangers in July 1988, moving to Coventry City for £800,000 in October 1989. Later with Falkirk, he managed Stirling and Montrose, since working in the media.

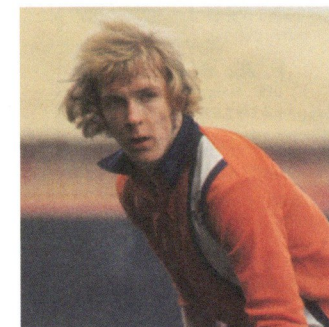
TONY FORD

England B international winger Tony Ford was Grimsby Town's 'Player of the Year' in 1983-84 and 1984-85. He was the Mariners' youngest League player at 16 years 143 days against Walsall in October 1975 and starred in their meteoric rise from the Fourth Division to Second. Ever-present as Grimsby reached the League Cup fifth round in 1984-85, he joined Stoke City in July 1986 and moved via West Brom back to Grimsby in November 1991. He netted 58 goals in 423 League

games overall for the Mariners before joining Scunthorpe United in August 1994, then assisted Steve Parkin at Mansfield Town, Rochdale, Barnsley and Rochdale again.

PAUL FUTCHER

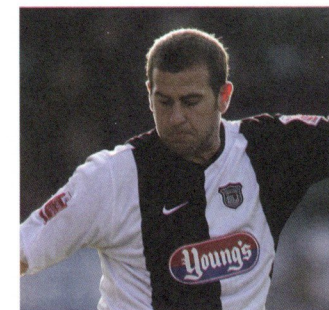
Former England U-21 central defender Paul Futchter was Grimsby Town's 'Player of the Year' in 1991-92 and 1992-93. Both he and his twin brother Ron began with home town Chester, moving to Luton Town in a joint £100,000 deal in June 1974. He joined Manchester City for £350,000 in June 1978, moving to Oldham Athletic for £150,000 in August 1980. Sold to Derby County for £100,000 in January 1983, he then played for Barnsley and Halifax before joining Grimsby in



January 1991, making 132 League appearances for the Mariners. Later managing Darlington, Gresley Rovers, Southport, Stalybridge and Ashton United, he died in November 2016.

GARY CROFT

England U-21 left-back Gary Croft was Grimsby Town's 'Player of the Year' in 1994-95. Signing professional for the Mariners in July 1992, he was their 'Young Player of the Year' in three successive seasons. He starred in Grimsby's 1995-96 FA Cup run and was sold to Blackburn Rovers for a club record £1m in



March 1996. Moving to Ipswich Town for £800,000 in September 1999, he featured in their 2000 First Division play-off final triumph and joined Cardiff City in March 2002. He returned to Grimsby in August 2005, netting three goals in 210 League games overall before joining Lincoln City in July 2007, since becoming an estate agent in Grimsby.

PAUL GROVES

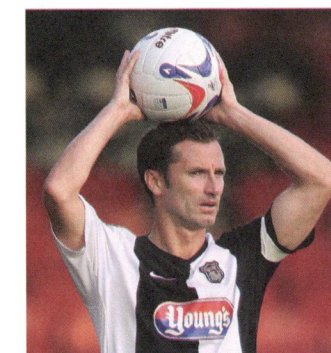
Attacking midfielder Paul Groves was twice Grimsby Town's 'Player of the Year'. Initially with Belper, he joined Burton Albion in November 1986 and scored in the 1987 FA Trophy final replay. He had a spell with Leicester City before joining Blackpool in January 1990, captaining their 1991-92 Fourth Division play-off final triumph. Moving to Grimsby in August 1992, he followed Alan Buckley to West Brom in May 1996, returning to Grimsby in July 1997. He starred in their 1997-98 Wembley 'double' success and was player-boss, netting 71 goals in 454 League games overall. Moving to Scunthorpe in February 2004, he has since held coaching posts.

DANNY COYNE

Welsh international goalkeeper Danny Coyne was Grimsby Town's 'Player of the Year' in 2000-01 and 2001-02. Signing professional for Tranmere Rovers in May 1992, he contested

a first-team slot with Eric Nixon and was ever-present in 1995-96. He joined Grimsby in July 1999 and was twice ever-present, starring as they won at Liverpool in the 2001-02 League Cup third round. Making 181 League appearances, he moved to Leicester City in July 2003 and understudied Ian Walker. He joined Burnley for £25,000 in August 2004, then had spells with Tranmere again, Middlesbrough and Sheffield United before becoming Shrewsbury Town's player-coach.

JOHN McDERMOTT



Long-serving right-back John McDermott holds Grimsby Town's all-time appearance record. Initially a trainee at Blundell Park, he made his League debut in Grimsby's 4-2 defeat at Bradford City four months before turning professional in June 1987. He starred as the Mariners reached the FA Cup fifth round in 1988-89, 1992-93 and 1995-96, also winning promotion in two consecutive seasons under Alan Buckley. Featuring in their 1997-98 Wembley 'double' success, he became club captain and was 'Player of the Year' in 2004-05, netting 11 goals in 647 League games before retiring in May 2007. He has coached at Grimsby Institute and Harrogate Town.

COVERED!

CLUB HISTORIAN
ROGER WASH
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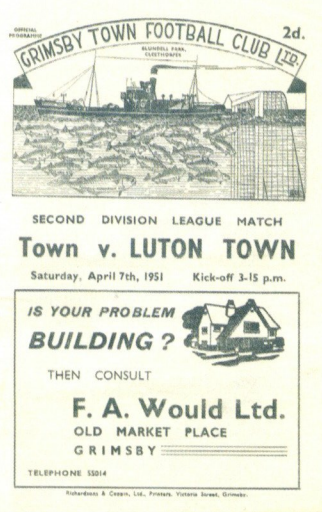


◀ NOVEMBER 1950

The Mariners are a bit of a bogey side at this time so the 4-0 win at Kenilworth Road in this Division Two (now Championship) clash comes as a relief. Jackie Whent scores two that afternoon, his last goals for the Town.

▶ APRIL 1951

The Hatters complete the double over soon to be relegated Grimsby. Jack Taylor and Jim Pemberton net the goals in the 2-0 victory at Blundell Park.

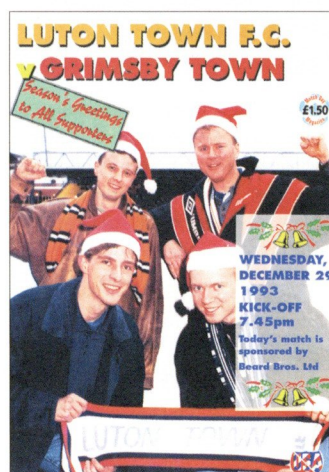


◀ OCTOBER 1981

Steve White bags four goals in a 6-0 win over the Mariners to silence his critics and cement top place in Division Two (now the Championship).

▶ DECEMBER 1993

A Ceri Hughes stunner from 25 yards seals a 2-1 win over the Mariners in this basement battle in Division One (now the Championship).

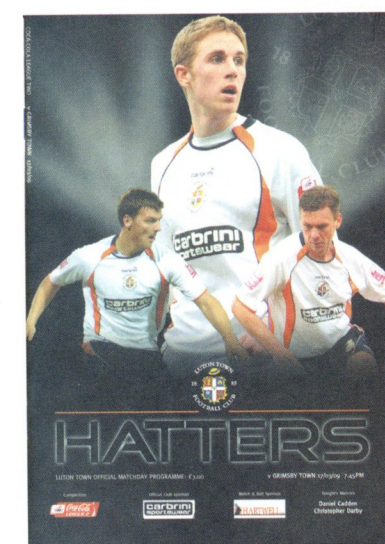


▲ FEBRUARY 1996

The Town fight back from 2-1 down to win 3-2 in a dramatic clash. Grimsby manager Brian Laws throws a plate of food at his forward Ivano Bonetti afterwards to make national headlines!

▼ MARCH 2009

A home win over the Mariners provides some light in a season of gloom as Mark Bower and Asa Hall net in a 2-1 win. The chances of clawing back the minus 30 points now look remote.



▲ APRIL 1998

The struggling Hatters gain a surprise 1-0 victory against promotion-chasing Grimsby at Blundell Park in Division Two (now League One). Super loanee Rory Allen nets the all-important goal.

▼ MARCH 2014

Fast forward five years and a 2-1 victory at Blundell Park under the lights eventually means that the Town have won back their Football League place. Matt Robinson and Paul Benson send the 410 Hatters fans wild.



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[TOWN TEAM-MATES]

LAWSON D'ATH'S TOWN TEAM-MATES

Who do you travel in with?

I travel in from Milton Keynes with Jack Senior and Aaron Jarvis. We rotate the driving day-by-day.

Who do you sit next to in the dressing room?

On a matchday I sit next to Gambo and Elliot Lee, and at the training ground I'm next to Gambo.

Who do you room with?

I've been passed around a bit this year, but it's normally Jack and he's a good roomie. He has to be because I live with him as well!

Most annoying on away trips?

Danny Hylton and Johnny Mullins! They're always up to something and you can never rest easily.

Best trainer?

Olly and Elliot Lee.

Worst trainer?

Jack Senior's up there as he's on the losing team quite a lot, so I'm going to have to put his name forward. I was going to say Glen Rea, but he's stepped it up recently. Jack Senior and Pelly-Ruddock for me.

Strongest in the gym?

Pelly, and he doesn't even try – which is a bit demoralising because I'm in there all the time and I'm still weak!

Quickest feet?

Gambo's up there. El's got a chop on him, which gets a lot of people sitting on their bums in training.

Nutmeg king?

Olly Lee and Gambo.

Biggest moaner?

There's a lot! I'm up there, Olly and Sheez too. Collo is definitely up there

and he loves a nibble as well. If you get Collo moaning, he's quite easy to wind up.

Loudest in the dressing room?

Pelly and Glen. You're always getting something from Glen and Pel's just lively all the time – constantly got something to say.

Gaffer's pet?

Danny Hylton!

Best taste in music?

I like Pel's music. I'm happy with him as the dressing room DJ.

Worst taste in music?

Jack Senior. He's 20 years old and some of the music he listens to is ridiculous. I like old school, but he takes it a little bit too far. It's like he wants to brag about it: 'I listen to old school music,' kind of thing, but he listens to Westlife! It's not my cup of tea to be honest.

Best initiation song?

Elliot Lee had a bit, he was up there.

Worst initiation song?

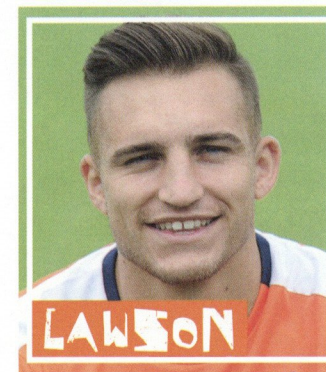
Shinnie forgot the words to Angels, so it's got to be him.

Best dressed?

Dan Potts, and I like Shinnie's gear as well. A few of the lads can have a go but maybe they're not really bothered. Those two seem to have a right go every day and take pride in it.

Worst dressed?

Gambo likes oversized stuff. It's all too big for him because he's only little, isn't he? If he wants to get something that fits him he has to go to the boys' section. It's a bit embarrassing for him.



Who spends the longest time in front of the mirror?

Having seen Olly Lee go and do his hair today for the goal of the month video, I'm going to have to say him. He was there for a long time.

Most intelligent?

Potsy just comes across as being intelligent. I reckon James Shea's up there as well.

Least intelligent?

I'm up there, I'm not going to lie. Common sense-wise, Gambo and Glen are non-existent, but I'm going to put myself forward.

Best banter?

Gambo. He's constantly on the go but I like it, he makes me laugh.

Most likely to be a manager?

Macca knows his stuff. I think he's doing his badges and he's got that authority about him. He'll definitely be a manager.

Finally, predict your player of the year?

Stechy.

Don't forget!



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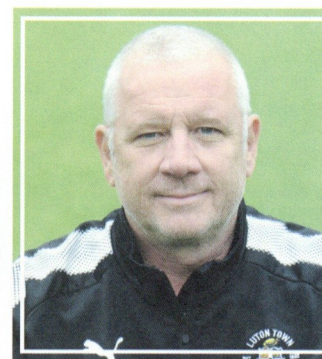
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[SIMON SAYS...]



TRICK OR TREATMENT

A HUMOROUS INSIGHT TO PHYSIO SIMON PARSELL'S WORK

Merry Christmas everyone! Hopefully Santa has received your list and you are ready for the big day, but if not, head of retail Siobhan Kos-Hodge has asked me to remind you that the club shop is open tomorrow for those final stocking fillers.

Maybe one of those Christmas jumpers the gaffer modelled? As the song goes, All I want for Christmas. Everyone is dreaming of a white Christmas, but if that runs out, just drink red.

It's been another good month for us but the best way to predict your future is to create it, so the hard work has to carry on over this busy festive period. This is a tough period as we travel Christmas Day for the game at Swindon, return home then travel again for Port Vale before a two-day turnaround for Lincoln at home on New Year's Day. So the whole squad is going to be needed.

Congratulations to Olly Lee on winning the goal of the month for November. He modestly says he looked up, saw the keeper off the line and chipped him. To be fair, that's exactly what happened.

Hylts won the Bristol Street Motors Player of the Month again. I reckon he must have bought a car from them!

We have a few more nominations for Quote of the Season. First up is groundsman Roger Osborne, who gave us an update on a youth team game: "They scored a last minute

winner in the 88th minute!" Hope Rog gets a new Casio for his present.

Next up is Danny Hylton, who announced that his friend is a scout for Fulham and guess what? "He scouts for Fulham!" Hard to believe, I know.

Last up is Luke Berry who produced an incredible stat. He stated: "That was 0.000 seconds quicker than Hylts!" That's fast.

Danny also features in our injury update. He reported that he was struggling to hear after a bang on the ear, so I phoned the Doc and handed him the phone. He promptly put it to his bad ear and complained he couldn't hear the Doc.

Scott is still recovering from a groin injury and unfortunately it won't be short term. Macca was back in training, but has strained his calf. It's been a very frustrating time for him.

Harry Cornick is back in contention having recovered from his hamstring issue. Not sure how he managed to get those three stripes cut into his hair. Hopefully we can keep a fit squad over this period.

We have been travelling a lot lately, so other than a game of cards and

the odd episode of Peaky Blinders, the only thing left is a quiz. So try this one.

Who is the only player to play in the following derbies: Fulham v Chelsea, Sunderland v Newcastle, Man Utd v Man City, Arsenal v Spurs and Liverpool v Everton? (The answer can be found at the bottom of page 74.)

Whilst on the subject of travel, we



have our coach driver Dan. Notice I used the word 'coach', as he gets upset if you call him a bus driver. But as you can see, is

he James Collins in disguise. Some of that good old football banter. Hopefully Dan gets a new Sat Nav that doesn't find so much traffic.

Due to the timetable at Christmas I decided to book a table for my wife and I, but she got upset. How did I know she didn't like snooker?

Enjoy your Christmas and thanks for your support so far this season. See you all on New Year's Day!

TOWN 1 : NOTTS COUNTY 1



SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER | KENILWORTH ROAD | ATTENDANCE: 10,063 | AWAY: 810

TOWN GOAL: MULLINS 26 | **NOTTS GOAL:** AMEOBI 61

HATTERS: STECH, STACEY, MULLINS, SHEEHAN ©, POTTS, REA, O LEE, BERRY, SHINNIE (GAMBIN 83), HYLTON, E LEE (COLLINS 79). | **SUBS NOT USED:** JUSTIN, COOK, MPANZU, D'ATH, SHEA (GK).
YELLOW CARDS: SHEEHAN.

COUNTY: FITZSIMONS, TOOTLE, DICKINSON, HEWITT, DUFFY, AMEOBI, GRANT, HAWKRIDGE (ALESSANDRA 75), BRISLEY, YATES, STEAD (SMITH 90+2). | **SUBS NOT USED:** PINDROCH, FORTE, HUNT, JONES, MILSOM.
YELLOW CARDS: DICKINSON, BRISLEY, STEAD, AMEOBI.

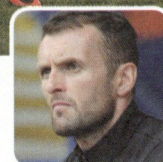


Johnny Mullins heads the Hatters in front

THE MAIN MINUTES

- 7' Great save by Marek Stech. Carl Dickinson crosses in from a free-kick on the right, Ryan Yates meets it and gets his header on target, but the keeper's outstretched palm sends it over for a corner!
- 26' **GET IN THERE MULLY!** Johnny Mullins heads the Hatters in front with his first goal of the season! Elliot Lee wins the corner out on the far side, Alan Sheehan drills it in and Mullins rises high at the back stick to head it into the bottom right corner! Great header! 1-0 #COYH
- 52' Danny Hylton runs at goal, he gets a shot away but it's blocked, his persistence sees him win it back. Andrew Shinnie plays an inch perfect pass out to Jack Stacey, who gets a cross-shot away, but it flies into the side netting.

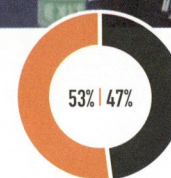
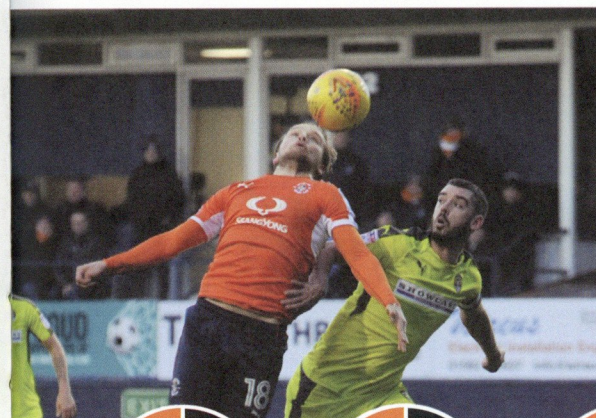
- 61' **GOAL** to Notts County. Shola Ameobi heads in from a Dickinson free-kick from 12 yards to bring the game level. 1-1 #COYH
- 72' Sheehan's corner is cleared to the edge of the box for Luke Berry who has two strikes blocked, the latter out for a corner. Sheehan takes it and the ball falls for Glen Rea, who smashes it over the crossbar from close range!
- 90+1' County goalie Ross Fitzsimons pulls off a vital save for his side as Sheehan's corner is flicked down to an unmarked Mullins, who smashes an effort at goal from close range but the keeper spreads himself well to keep it out! Very good chance gone...



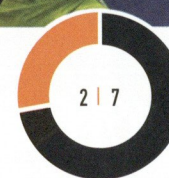
JONES:

"I think it was a fair result in the end. We were nowhere near where we have been, but let's give some credit to Notts County because they must have contributed to stopping us doing that. I thought it was a very tight game, there was very little in it.

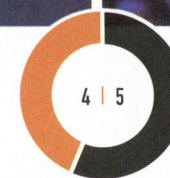
"We have been in good form and we wanted to play a certain way. We didn't quite get that and I have given credit to Notts County for that, so I couldn't berate my players for it."



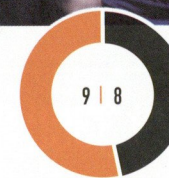
POSSESSION



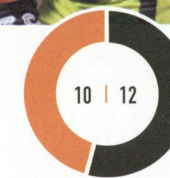
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[JOHNNY MULLINS ON NOTTS COUNTY]

JOHNNY JOINS THE GOALSCORING CLUB

MULLY BECAME THE 21ST TOWN SCORER THIS SEASON AGAINST THE MAGPIES

Johnny Mullins marked his tenth appearance of the season in the draw with Notts County by netting his first goal of the campaign – becoming the 21st different Town player to score in 2017-18!

The defender's second goal in a Hatters' shirt gave Nathan Jones' side the lead, but they were eventually pegged back by a Shola Ameobi header in the second half.

Mullins – who became the tenth different scorer of the Town's ten goals in successive games against Gateshead, West Ham and County – was pleased to get on the scoresheet, and given how clinical the Hatters have been from set-pieces, the 32-year-old felt he was due a goal.

"It's about time!" he smiled afterwards. "I have been running into the box, not getting anywhere near it. Thankfully I got the goal, it would have been a lot better though had it been a 1-0 win.

"I best say the goal was for my daughter, Ava, as it's her ninth birthday today, so if I don't say it was for her she'll tell me off! It was nice to get one on her birthday – I just wish we had gone on to win the game, which I thought we were going to do.

"In big games there are big moments, and their goal is one of those moments – where we have given the free-kick away and then to not defend it the way we should have, like we have done for the whole game. We will learn from that – you are always learning in football – and make sure it doesn't happen again."

Alan Sheehan provided his fifth assist of the league season when his corner was headed in by Mullins, with the ex-Oxford United captain impressed by his fellow centre-half's dead ball delivery.

"You make the right run and he's going to find you," Mullins continued. "His quality is exceptional, as Pottsy is proving at the moment. It's really nice to be on the end of one! It just would have been really good if I could have got another one.

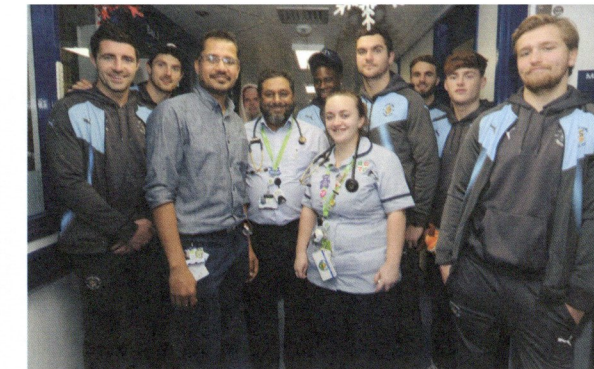


"Last season we didn't get anywhere near enough goals from set-pieces, so it was something we have looked at. We're getting goals from them at the moment and the more goals you are getting from everywhere all over the pitch, the better."

The game against the Magpies saw the biggest crowd of the season so far at Kenilworth Road, with a sell-out 10,063 supporters crammed into the Kenny.

Mullins said: "It was a really good game to play in, the atmosphere was great. I thought the fans were brilliant throughout and the more games we are winning, come May 5th, hopefully we are celebrating together.

"We really appreciate everyone coming out and making that noise. They were with us the whole game. There's a real good feel factor being top of the league. We have got four massive games coming up now and that's where we want to stay."



HATTERS BRING CHRISTMAS CHEER TO CHILDREN'S WARDS!

THE TOWN LADS VISIT THE L&D AND BEDFORD HOSPITALS TO HAND OUT LTFC GOODIES

The Hatters were out in force bringing cheer to poorly children in local hospitals last week — with the Luton & Dunstable and Bedford hospitals getting a visit from the table-topping Town lads! Nathan Jones' lads went to the two children's wards after training to hand out LTFC scarves, money boxes and teddies, and pose for pictures with the patients, parents, nurses and doctors. Alan Sheehan is one of several Town players who have children, and the Irish defender is about to spend his first Christmas with as a dad with eight-week-old daughter Willow. The 31-year-old said: "It's always good to go out on these visits to try to brighten up Christmas for some of the children who might be spending this time of the year in hospital. "I've only just become a dad so I've looked at it from a different perspective this year. Some of these babies are really sick and your heart melts for them. "It makes you grateful for your own kids' health and if we can bring a bit of cheer to their time in hospital, however small, we are glad to play our part."

FOREST GREEN ROVERS 0 : TOWN 2



SATURDAY 16TH DECEMBER | THE NEW LAWN | ATTENDANCE: 2,546 | AWAY: 841

TOWN GOALS: SHEEHAN 45+1, HYLTON 68

HATTERS: STECH, STACEY, MULLINS, SHEEHAN ©, POTTS, REA, O LEE (CORNICK 63), BERRY, SHINNIE (COLLINS 85), E LEE (JUSTIN 63), HYLTON. | **SUBS NOT USED:** MPANZU, GAMBIN, D'ATH, SHEA (GK).
YELLOW CARDS: POTTS, MULLINS. | **RED CARD:** STACEY.

ROVERS: B COLLINS, LAIRD, I COLLINS ©, FITZWATER, MARSH-BROWN (JAMES 83), SIMPSON, COOPER, STEVENS (GOMES 70), WISHART, BROWN (TRAORE 58), DOIDGE. | **SUBS NOT USED:** PICKERING (GK), BUGIEL, ROBERTS, HENDY. | **YELLOW CARDS:** LAIRD, DOIDGE.



Danny Hylton rolls in the second goal



Alan Sheehan celebrates his opener



JONES:

"I am delighted with the result and especially after going down to ten men. If I am honest I didn't think we were

anywhere near our best. Forest Green started off really well. I thought we were poor in terms of our defensive responsibilities early on and they could have taken the lead.

"Second half they had one real good chance from Doidge, and he normally puts those away. So we got slightly fortunate, but in terms of the goal we scored, we are delighted with both goals. The first one is well worked and the second one is one we actually earmarked."

THE MAIN MINUTES

118' Dan Potts has his head in his hands as he directs a header wide from Alan Sheehan's cross. It was a good chance for the Hatters and the prolific left-back was certainly disappointed not to see it at least hit the target!

40' Terrific save from Brad Collins - Luke Berry plays a perfectly weighted ball down the left for Potts who crosses in first time, Dann Hylton meets it first time with a left-footed half-volley, but the keeper dives to his right to make the save!

41' Very close from Hylton! Andrew Shinnie picks the pocket of Keanu Marsh-Brown, he runs at the defence before teeing up Hylton, who looks for the bottom right corner from 18 yards but it's just wide!

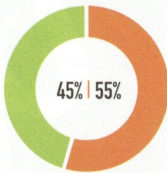
45+1' GOOOOOOALLLLLLL IT'S ALAN SHEEHAN! Another brilliant corner routine from the Hatters. Sheehan plays it short for Hylton, he runs with it before back heeling it to the

captain who smashes it in off the far post from a tight angle! That's the 11th different scorer of our last 11 goals! **FGR 0-1 LT** #COYH

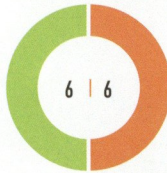
55' How on earth has Marek Stech saved that! Dan Wishart crosses in from the left, Christian Doidge meets it and you could forgive Green Devils supporters for already celebrating, but Stech somehow flies across his goal-line to keep it out!

60' RED CARD: Jack Stacey is shown a straight red for a high foot right in front of the Hatters' technical area. The Hatters will play the remaining 30 minutes with ten men.

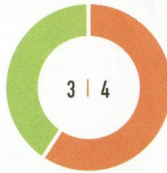
68' SUPER DANNY HYLTON MAKES IT 2-0! The ball goes back to Brad Collins from a throw in, the keeper tries to smash the ball clear but air kicks and falls over, the striker pinches it and passes it into an empty net for his 14th of the season! **FGR 0-2 LT** #COYH



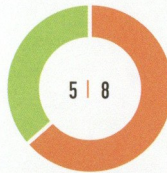
POSSESSION



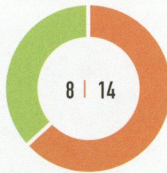
SHOTS ON TARGET



SHOTS OFF TARGET



CORNERS



FOULS



GET GAME READY



BRING IT ON!

[MAREK STECH ON FOREST GREEN ROVERS]

MAREK KEEPS MAKING HIS MARK!

LEAGUE CLEAN SHEET NUMBER 10 (12 IN TOTAL) FOR HATTERS KEEPER

Last Saturday saw Town stopper Marek Stech keep his tenth Sky Bet League Two clean sheet of the season as the Hatters extended their lead at the top of the division.

The day started off with the Hatters at the summit, separated only on goal difference from second placed Notts County – but three points for the Town and a draw for the Magpies saw Nathan Jones' side move two points clear.

Alan Sheehan gave the Town the lead before Stech pulled off a marvellous save from a Christian Doidge header to keep the Hatters ahead. That was followed by a goalkeeping error from Stech's opposite number, Brad Collins, who slipped as he went to clear a ball downfield, gifting Danny Hylton a tap in.

Stech said: "I am buzzing for us obviously, but it's not nice to see a keeper making this sort of mistake. He's young and he's got to learn. Obviously, he will learn and hopefully he won't do that again.

"You learn from your mistakes, I should have probably stayed on the line against Notts County [for Shola Ameobi's goal]. It was one of those where maybe the marking wasn't the greatest either, we didn't perform our best overall. This week we have come in and got three points, so I am absolutely delighted."

The summer arrival from Sparta Prague has been the first name on the team sheet for every league game this season – and not just because he's number one – but he believes that's because he and the rest of the squad are pushing each other to play at their maximum to ensure they are in the matchday squad.

The 27-year-old said: "We've got a massive squad, we've got 25-plus players, which I think is really important for this football club. We've basically got two XIs, and everybody is doing a brilliant job.

"There are boys playing the development squad games and the Checktrade games and they're all playing their part and adding to the competition. For this level I think it's great."

The support on the road this season has been phenomenal for the Hatters, with 841 Town supporters making the trip to Gloucestershire for the game against the Green Devils.

Stech has been thoroughly impressed by the fans since his arrival, as he continued: "It's brilliant, they are unbelievable. They travel everywhere. You don't see that following for some League One or even Championship sides to be honest. What else can you ask for?

"They're outstanding, we won the three points and got the clean sheet, that's what they deserve. Being top of the table is an early Christmas present for them.

"It's ten in the league and two in cup competitions. If we keep the ball out of the net and carry on then we will get promoted and hopefully win the league."





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[KEVIN HARPER]

TOWN TRAVELLERS

LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS' TRUST MEDIA OFFICER **KEVIN HARPER'S** VIEW FROM FOREST GREEN...

“ We were back in the open terrace down the side of the pitch this year. Thankfully there was no rain around which wasn't too bad.

The Town ran out comfortable winners in a match where we never really got into top gear, but neither did we have to. After a good save from Marek Stech early on, we grew into the first half and had a few chances to take the lead before Alan Sheehan opened the scoring from a training ground routine from a corner right on the stroke of half time.

Stech made another fantastic save early in the second half. Just as things began to look comfortable Jack

Stacey was harshly sent off for a collision with a Forest Green player.

Credit to Nathan Jones. His tactical changes worked a treat and we made it 2-0 when Danny Hylton took advantage of an absolute clanger by the home keeper! Harry Cornick missed a chance to put the game to bed, but we saw it out well to move two points clear!

A day which began badly, with England all but losing the Ashes, ended well with an excellent Town win. A good journey home meant I was back in the house in time to see that hilarious second on TV. A really good last away day before Christmas overall! ”

...AND HIS INTERVIEW WITH FELLOW TRAVELLING TOWN FAN **BARRY BRAHAM**

How long have you been a Luton fan?

I followed Luton when I was young but I didn't get to go to my first game till 1989.

What first made you start going to watch the Town?

As a mad footy fan and Luton boy I was desperate to start seeing the Hatters at Kenilworth Road, and finally got my dad to take me.

Where do you sit at Kenilworth Road?

Kenilworth Lower Block A.

Who do you go to home matches with?

On Saturdays my sister Debbie, and midweek matches with my wife Pam.

What are your favourite Luton memories?

The JPT final stands out. I was too young to go in 1988 and my Dad was too young to go in 1959, so to be there together surrounded by other family and friends just capped that magical day.

Who is your favourite Luton player of all time?

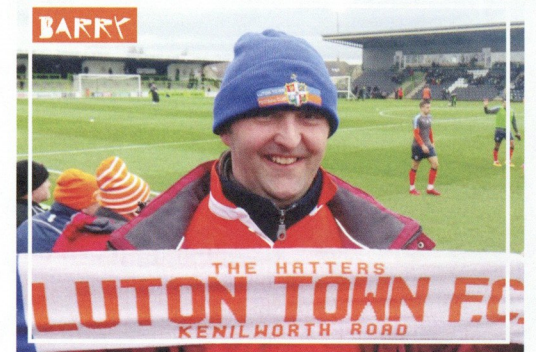
David Preece. When he shone, Luton shone.

Who is your favourite Luton manager of all time?

Mike Newell. The end of his time at Luton was heartbreaking as he was performing miracles until then.

Who is the best player you've seen at Kenilworth Road?

David Preece – the perfect playmaker. Would have been worth millions nowadays.



If you could bring one player from the past back to play in the current team who would you choose and why?

Kevin Nicholls. Perfect captain and enforcer needed for guaranteed League Two promotion.

Which five current or past Luton associated people would you invite to a dinner party?

David Pleat, Joe Kinnear, Mike Newell, John Still and Nathan Jones.

What does LTFC mean to you?

Everything! I am a fan and well aware fan is short for fanatic!

Describe LTFC in 3 words.

Home, happiness, belonging.

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SEE YOUR HOME
THE WAY WE DO
YOU'D MAKE SURE
IT WAS SAFE**

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THE POWER TO MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER

46



ELECSA



EFL MESSAGE: ACTION COUNTERS TERRORISM

[NEWS]

It's that time of the season in the football calendar when fixtures come thick and fast alongside the festive cheer. Despite a wonderful time of year for football fans across the EFL, the safety of supporters remains our number one priority.

Whilst not wanting to dampen festive feelgood factor, supporters should be reminded that the threat level for the whole of the UK from terrorism remains at Severe, meaning an attack is highly likely, and sadly we have seen from previous examples that crowded places, such as football stadiums, could potentially be a target.

As always, we are continuing to work with the police and the relevant authorities to ensure appropriate security arrangements are in place to protect supporters. We therefore encourage fans to enjoy all attended fixtures, but please remain alert and

if you see anything that gives you cause for concern, tell a steward or member of staff. In an emergency always call 999.

Why not arrive in plenty of time and soak up all of the atmosphere on offer, whether that is the pre-match pie or a singalong. At times, a search regime may be in place, so please be mindful that bags and stuffed coat pockets can cause delays. Where appropriate, minimise what you carry into the stadium.

In the event of a major incident inside the stadium, it is vital you listen to all official club announcements and follow all safety instructions, with

decisions being made for your safety.

In the event of a terrorist incident outside of the stadium, the police advice is to 'Run, Hide, Tell'.

It is important to follow this advice and move quickly away from the stadium and to allow access for emergency services. Do not wait around to film anything on your mobile.

Remember, the chance of a terrorist incident is small, but being prepared and ready to respond can help.

More information can be found at www.gov.uk/ACT

Enjoy the game!

DONATE HATS, SCARVES, GLOVES & SOCKS TO HELP THE HOMELESS

Club joins forces with local man Leeroy Jenkins to support homeless people in Luton

The snow and ice that fell recently may look festive, and can be fun for the kids to play in. It can also be an inconvenience if you're trying to use the transport network.

But for people living homelessly in Luton, the winter weather is particularly dangerous. That's why we joined forces with Leeroy Jenkins, who has been running a winter collection and distribution of winter clothes 'in the town' for the last five years.

Don't forget that you can leave any unwanted hats, scarves, gloves and

especially socks in the ticket office at Kenilworth Road, where there are collection boxes in place today.

Jenkins, who is also Vice Chair of Luton in Harmony, organises a team of volunteers who then take to the streets of Luton and the surrounding areas to hand out gift-wrapped packs containing the items directly to people living on the streets. Some packs are also distributed via Luton-based charity Noah.

All of these packs are handed out completely free of charge, with

volunteers meeting the homeless and spending some time talking to them.

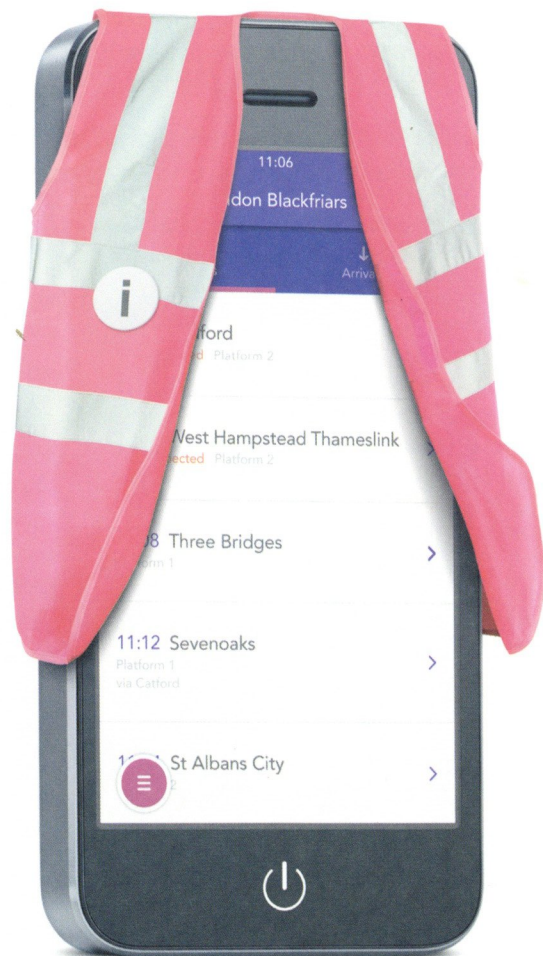
Leeroy would also be grateful for any donations of unwanted wrapping paper to wrap the packages, and if you are interested in volunteering to help the wrapping team, then you can contact Leeroy by email: nextupprom@googlemail.com

The collection box will be in ticket office until after today's game.

Our thanks in advance for all donations. #COYH



Luton Town Football Club's commitment is to promote inclusion and to confront and eliminate discrimination, whether by reason of age, disability, gender reassignment, sex, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief. People can be assured of an environment in which their rights, dignity and individual worth are respected, and in particular that they are able to work and watch football in an environment without the threat of intimidation, victimisation, harassment, bullying and abuse. Should you wish to report a specific incident, please contact your nearest steward or download Kick It Out's free, confidential reporting app on the App Store or Google Play.



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[ROGER WASH]

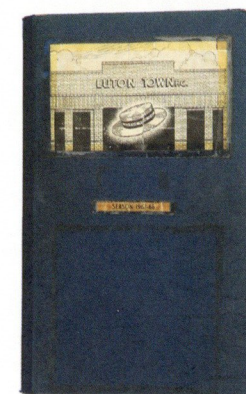
WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

PART TWELVE

In the summer of 1967, a 15-year-old Luton schoolboy decided to keep a comprehensive scrapbook of the forthcoming Division Four (now League Two) campaign.

It is easy to say now that he knew this was about to become one of the most glorious seasons in the club's history, but looking back it was merely the labours of a boy with too much time on his hands in the days before the internet, social media and mobile phones (or normal phones in his case).

Step back 50 years and let the boy who grew into club historian **ROGER WASH** remind us of the highs and lows of that ultimately successful 1967/68 season...



Less than two days after the FA Cup win over Oxford City, the Town were back at Kenilworth Road for a League clash with Wrexham, who they had drawn with on the opening day.

Winger Graham French was left out after a mediocre performance against Oxford and in his place was John Ryan, who had burst on the scene in scintillating form on his debut during the 5-0 win at Exeter two months before, but had not pulled up any trees since.

Manager Allan Brown appeared to feel that right wing was still a problem position as he had agreed a £10,000 fee with QPR for Mark Lazarus. Rangers manager Alec Stock was prepared to let him go but Lazarus hesitated, hoping for something better to turn up – which it did, and he subsequently signed for Crystal Palace.

Wrexham were in eighth position in the table with a good goalscoring record, but although not sitting with ten men behind the ball, they were not particularly adventurous in a first half which was dominated by the Town, who missed a number of chances with Keith Allen spurning two opportunities where it looked easier to score.

In the second period the deadlock was finally broken just after the hour mark from the reliable left boot of Bruce Rioch, who took advantage of a clever Allen pass before firing home.

The goal rocked Wrexham from their slumbers and the game opened up, but the Town appeared to be in control until with six minutes to go, a mix-up in the Town defence saw Steve Ingle nudge the ball into the net, helped on its way by a despairing John Moore.

The Town's 100 per cent home record now seemed in danger, but with three minutes to go up stepped skipper Terry Branston to save the day. Branston, who had missed the Oxford cup tie with an injured ankle, found the energy to charge upfield to meet a Ray Whittaker corner with a towering header, and with it the winner.

Allan Brown was seemingly still determined to buy a winger and, after the disappointment of losing Lazarus, turned his attentions to Liverpool right-sided player David Wilson,



TOWN LEFT IT ALMOST TOO LATE

LUTON TOWN 2, WREXHAM 1

MUCH of the drama in this important top-of-the-table battle at Kenilworth Road this afternoon was reserved for the last stages. For a brief spell, it seemed as if the Town's 100 per cent home record would go by the board when Wrexham, with a bare six minutes remaining, gained a fortunate equaliser as Moore put into his own goal.

That, judging from what had gone beforehand, seemed to be the end of the Town's hopes of registering their tenth consecutive home win, but we reckoned without the typical response from Terry Branston.

The skipper, who has done so much this season to rejuvenate the team, obviously was not going to be satisfied with half the spoils, and he went up ambitiously looking for the winner—and got it with a header from a corner, with just four minutes to spare.

So, the match ended on a note of high excitement, which, however, would not have been necessary or even possible, had the Town made the most of their undoubted superiority in the first half.

Faced with a team whose pre-occupation was on defence, but not so markedly as some we have seen this season, the Town were much the superior side.

However, the work in front of goal was not crisp enough, and chances were wasted during the first 45 minutes. Chief culprit was Keith Allen, who missed a couple of gilt-edged opportunities which should have put the Town in a thoroughly commanding position.

No team could have a more whole-hearted trier than Allen and it is a pity that things are just not coming off for him in front of goal.

In the end, in exactly the same minute as on Thursday night, Bruce Rioch ended the stalemate with a typically opportunist goal. That seemed to settle the issue until the final late flurry.

In between, Wrexham had shown a greater liking for some aptitude for attack, which made one wonder why they had not turned to it earlier.

Finally, this was a well-deserved victory by the Town, and it certainly strengthens their promotion hopes.

The Town can go now into their Christmas programme in a happy frame of mind, especially if they can find more accuracy in front of goal, and if the ball goes a little more kindly.

Attendance: 9,598.

GREEN UN
16-12-67

TOWN WIN

If the penalty area. The ball went straight back to Rioch who charged through on his own, beat Livsey and hit a post. But he had already been whistled off-side.

Wrexham, looking determined to win a point, attacked the Luton goal with spirit, and five minutes from the end their goal came when substitute INGLE ran into the middle, collecting a chipped pass, and nudged it past Read who was caught on the wrong foot.

In a fantastic finish BRANSTON headed Luton back into the lead from a Whittaker corner. Charging into the crowded goalmouth he stuck his head out an angle and his hard header was deflected past Livsey.

After this second set-back Wrexham flung everything they had into a fighting finish, and as the whistle went Luton were happy to boot the ball anywhere.

Attendance: 9,598.

Luton siege ends in 2-1 victory

By ROGER DUCKWORTH

Luton Town 2 Wrexham 1

TERRY BRANSTON scored Luton's second goal — and the winner — three minutes from time just two minutes after Wrexham had equalised in the match at Kenilworth Road this afternoon.

As expected Luton included right winger John Ryan for the match against a team just one place behind Luton.

VERDICT

LUTON hung on to their 100 per cent home record by the skin of their teeth against 11 fighting Welshmen at Kenilworth Road.

And after a late equaliser by Wrexham it was only a goal by centre-half Branston — three minutes from the end that clinched it for Luton.

The first half bustled to a close with Luton's long-suffering fans wailing for a goal. Throughout the first half Luton laid a constant siege on the Wrexham goal but had failed to score.

Chances were missed, and the biggest culprit was centre forward Keith Allen. But if there were no goals there was plenty of excitement, and the Luton attack looked very polished in approach if not in finishing.

Luton's half backs were outstanding in blotting out any Welsh attacks, and Luton's inside forwards combined cleverly.

The second half was equally as entertaining as the first, with Luton providing some exciting football and with Wrexham coming more into the match, especially when Luton

Also back in the Luton team was centre half and skipper Terry Branston, who missed Thursday's Cup Tie with ankle trouble.

The Luton pitch, only 48 hours after its last match, looked in good condition. The sun was shining strongly at the start.

Luton goalkeeper Tony Read got the feel of the ball in the opening seconds when Branston punted a long ball back to him.

Trouble

The first cheers for Luton came after two minutes when Rioch sent Buxton away with a long ball down the right wing but some good covering from Stacey relieved the danger.

Luton found themselves in early trouble when Weston broke through, but Branston cleared for a corner. Read failed to gather and the ball bobbed about dangerously in the Luton goalmouth before a Kinsey shot was cleared off the line by Jardine.

Less than a minute later it was Luton's turn, and after Allen had sent Whittaker away a shot by Rioch was blocked on the line and Birmingham was thankful to give away a corner.

The match swung from end to end, and when Weston chased a long ball Read rushed to the edge of the penalty area to gather.

A Dougan free kick into the

penalty upset Wrexham, and after a head after going up with a shot but

caused another penalty when a long, low shot from close range hit the bar.

When a match was held up to receive attention for Stacey, Wrexham trainer's also Moore who appeared to be a back of Buxton's

4th minute Ryan crossed with a long, low shot from close range into the feet of Livsey at the feet

ve away a corner in a shooting position, and a lovely pass from Griffiths also Moore who came into the corner

In the 4th minute Slough Luton ahead when Whittaker's pass, made it a diving

goal goal

Allen sent an open goal for Luton when Ryan got the ball straight into the goal

in a minute later Ryan got the ball straight into the goal

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in a minute later Ryan got the ball straight into the goal

post with Livsey well beaten following a smart pass from Allen.

Luton were being desperately unlucky. Their approach work was good and they could do anything but find the net.

Ryan was badly tripped by Stacey and Dougan's free kick was deflected for yet another corner.

Whittaker kicked the ball on to the roof of the stand in annoyance after referee Williams penalised him after beating Birmingham, who was full length on the ground.

Chance

It was just not Luton's day. In the 40th minute Allen, presented with a perfect chance by Buxton, smacked the ball into an advert over the goal where well placed.

Two minutes before the interval Allen was presented with another chance. This time it was not quite so easy, and under pressure from two defenders he again shot over.

Luton continued their quest for goals and after Turner had fowled Buxton, Rioch blinded a left-footed free kick inches over the bar.

HIT: Luton 0, Wrexham 0

When Wrexham came out for the second half, they were without centre-forward Smith, who was suffering from concussion following a first-half knock. He was substituted by Steve Ingle, a full-back whom Wrexham estimate to be worth £25,000.

Ryan was soon in action when he beat two men before winning a corner with a hard cross from the line.

Luton were given a fright when a hard back pass from Dougan almost set up Weston, but Read was smartly out of his goal to dive at the Wrexham player's feet.

The Wrexham goal had another escape when Stacey blocked a close range shot from Whittaker after a Ryan corner.

Luton were still at a loss for methods to penetrate the Wrexham defence.

Good centre

Wrexham looked dangerous when Kinsey chased a long throw-in and got a good centre across which would have found Weston in a scoring position if Dougan had not been alert enough to spot the move.

Luton's frustration was eased in the 62nd minute when RIOCH put them deservedly ahead. He received a good pass from Allen well out towards the left and made ground fast to shoot low past Livsey.

Wrexham were almost back on terms a minute later when full back Stacey made a 40-yard dash into the penalty area and was only foiled by a fearless save by Read, who dashed well out of his goal to dive at the full back's feet.

Allen had more bad luck in the 70th minute when his low shot from well out was only inches wide.

Luton's goal seemed to have injected more fight into Wrexham. Following a foul by Rioch on Stacey Griffiths nipped through cheekily and his side-footed flick hit the top of the crossbar.

Rioch caused a flutter when he broke through at speed, but the advancing Livsey booted the ball of his foot on the edge



Wrexham keeper LIVSEY, gets down to a shot at the foot of the post to foil another Luton raid this afternoon.

POST
16-12-67
18-12-67



Another tough heading duel.

Bruce Rioch takes on the Wrexham defence



who had featured in the 1964 FA Cup final for Preston. Following his £25,000 transfer to Liverpool, he found himself a permanent reserve given the form of the remarkably injury free Ian Callaghan.

Luton agreed a fee of £11,000 and felt that Wilson would be happy to drop three divisions to play first team football, rather than warm the bench or play reserve team football in the Central League. Wilson wasn't convinced, however, and eventually went back to Preston!

As such, Ryan kept his place in the side for the visit to Barnsley two days before Christmas in a clash between a side who boasted an unbeaten home record, and the Town, who were now sitting in second spot.

Oakwell had never been a happy hunting ground for the Hatters and this seemed set to continue when George Hamstead scored with a free header against the run of play on 19 minutes.

Before this, Ian Buxton had seen an effort cannon off the bar as the Town laid siege on the Barnsley goal, and witnessed the home side's goalkeeper Roy Ironside make a string of brilliant saves.

The Town had to wait until a minute from the interval before securing a deserved equaliser – and what a goal it was.

POWER

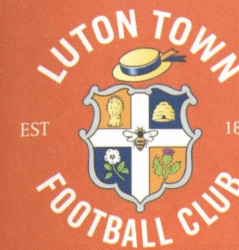
A corner from Ray Whittaker was headed out to Rioch, lurking well outside the area, who hit it on the volley with such power that the ball was bouncing out of the net before anyone realised.

I am sure there are others in the crowd today who witnessed that goal and who will confirm that the ball never rose more than six inches from the ground, and if it had been televised, would still be being shown today.

Buoyed by this wonder strike the Town came out for the second half and took the lead three minutes in when Ryan headed home his first goal for the club from a Whittaker cross. The advantage was short lived, sadly, as John Bettany levelled the scores soon after following a series of raids on the Luton goal.

From then on, the game was end-to-end and a fine advert for Division Four football which neither side deserved to lose. It seemed a shame after all their efforts that the Town dropped a place in the table.

The Luton supporters on the Bobbers coach accepted an invitation to spend the evening in the Barnsley supporters club and, as such, I did not arrive home until 4am in the days before anyone in my road had a phone. I had no way of telling my parents that I might be a little late so was not popular when I did eventually return. I didn't care though as I had witnessed that Rioch goal!



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Academy and development manager Andy Awford

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H: CME Heating Ltd
A: AVAILABLE



Andy Awford
H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE



Inigo Idiakez
H: RCP Parking
A: AVAILABLE



YOUTH PROFILE: COREY PANTER

AGE: 17 | BIRTHPLACE: HATFIELD | POSITION: LEFT BACK/ CENTRE

Year you joined the Hatters?
2007

Describe your playing style in three words:
Intelligent, composed, determined

Aspect of your game you would most like to improve on?
My end product in the final third

Your most talented team-mate?
Jake Peck and Arthur Read

Which first team player do you look up to?
Alan Sheehan and James Justin

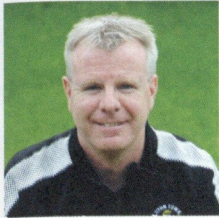
Favourite music artist:
Drake

Favourite food:
Spaghetti Bolognese

Biggest influence on your career:
Grandad

Player you used to pretend to be as a kid:
Ledley King

In ten years' time what do you hope to have achieved?
To be captain of the club and winning silverware!



ANDY AWFORD'S ACADEMY UPDATE

Good afternoon everyone and welcome to today's game versus Grimsby Town. On behalf of everyone at the Academy, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a merry Christmas.

U18S

Since my last programme notes the youth team have only had two fixtures, at home to AFC Wimbledon followed by a short trip to Stevenage, as the away game at Northampton fell victim to the recent snow and heavy frost.

We suffered a defeat in the AFC Wimbledon game, losing 4-1 on the 3G pitch at The Brache. In all honesty, the scoreline did not really reflect the game in our opinion, missed chances and poor individual errors cost us dearly in a game that was a lot tighter than the end result showed, with Michael Shamalo scoring our goal on the stroke of half-time.

Credit to the players as they bounced back with a well-deserved 2-0 victory at Stevenage on Tuesday, Connor Tomlinson and Scott Belgrove scoring second half goals to see us win comfortably in the end after a tight, even first period.

NEW YEAR FIXTURES

The players and staff will now get a little bit of downtime over the festive period, although we will need everyone firing on all cylinders in the New Year, when the games come thick and fast.

We have the following four league fixtures left to play, before we enter the Merit League in February:

Saturday January 6th - Dagenham & Redbridge (H)

Tuesday January 16th - Northampton Town (A)

Saturday January 20th - Leyton Orient (H)

Saturday January 27th - Barnet (H)

We also remain in two cup competitions, having progressed to the semi-finals in both. First up, we travel to Cheltenham Town on Saturday January 13th in the Southern Alliance Youth Cup, and then we go to Bedford Town on Tuesday February 6th in the Bedfordshire Senior Cup.

U11S TOUR TO GERMANY

The U11s flew to Germany last week to compete in The Hallenmasters tournament in Siegen. Ross O'Kane and Carl Short were thrilled with the boys' effort, discipline and ability as they qualified for the knockout stages with victories in the group stage over FC Greven 2-0, Luanseid FC 4-1, TSV Siegen 9-0 and Burbacher 4-0.

A quarter-final victory over Austria Vienna and a dramatic semi-final, penalty shoot-out win against Red Bull Leipzig saw us go up against pre-tournament favourites St. Pauli in the final.

Unfortunately, we came up just short, losing 2-0 to a very good side. Well done to the boys, the staff and the

EFL YOUTH ALLIANCE SOUTH EAST DIVISION FIXTURES 2017/18

Sat Aug 5	Dag & Red	A	L 0-2
Sat Aug 12	Leyton Orient	A	W 1-0
Sat Aug 19	Barnet	A	L 0-1
Tue Aug 22	Southend Utd	A	L 0-1
Tue Aug 29	Barnet (LGCup1)	H	W 8-1
Sat Sep 2	P'borough Utd	H	D 1-1
Sat Sep 9	Gillingham	A	L 0-2
Tue Sep 12	Plymouth (LGCup2)	H	W 2-1
Sat Sep 16	Stevenage	H	D 1-1
Sat Sep 23	MK Dons	A	L 1-2
Sat Sep 30	Cambridge Utd	H	L 0-1
Sat Oct 7	N'hampton Town	H	W 2-0
Sat Oct 14	AFC Wimbledon	A	D 1-1
Sat Oct 21	Southend United	H	L 2-4
Sat Oct 28	P'borough Utd	A	L 0-2
Wed Nov 1	Stevenage (FAYCR1)	H	L 1-2
Sat Nov 11	Gillingham	H	W 3-1
Tue Nov 21	Swindon (LGCupOF)	A	W 1-0
Sat Nov 25	Cambridge Utd	A	W 1-0
Sat Dec 2	MK Dons	H	W 4-0
Sat Dec 16	AFC Wimbledon	H	L 1-4
Tue Dec 19	Stevenage	A	W 2-0
Sat Jan 6	Dag & Red	H	

11am, Ely Way

Sat Jan 13 Cheltenham (LGCupSF) A
Tue Jan 16 N'hampton Town A

1pm, Moulton College NN3 7QL

Sat Jan 20 Leyton Orient H

11am, Ely Way

Sat Jan 27 Barnet H

11am, Ely Way

players for once again representing the club and the Academy impeccably with pride and passion.

Enjoy today's game. COYH!!

Andy



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LUTON TOWN IN THE COMMUNITY

BY KEVIN THOBURN HEAD OF THE HATTERS COMMUNITY TRUST

DISABILITY TEAMS' TRAINING TREAT FROM MACCA & LAWS

Luton Town FC Community Trust in partnership with Luton Council, and global charitable organisation 'Football for Peace', have agreed to deliver a project across the Town that uses the power of football to encourage dialogue and unite young people to create greater mutual understanding and respect across communities.

The holidays are a very busy time of the year for everyone, and especially our first team squad who have four games in ten days to prepare for, along with trying to fit in all of the other traditional Christmas player duties including visits to local hospitals and charities etc.

So, we were particularly happy to welcome Alan McCormack and Lawson D'Ath to our last Adult Disability football training session of the year at Inspire Sports Village in Stopsley last week. Both of our disability teams are currently training indoors every Friday during the league winter break, preparing with real dedication for the new season to begin in March next year.

It was great for Alan and Lawson to watch the guys train with such dedication and enthusiasm, and it was also great for all of our disability footballers who got a real kick out of showing off their skills to our first team players.

Once training was over it was also time to hand out Christmas presents to everyone to finish off a training session that everyone would remember.



We hear there was lots of singing and chanting as well, as both squads showed their appreciation to the players.

It has been a good season for the players with one of our squads winning the Beds FA Ability Counts Champions League Cup, which we presented to the squad at the Cambridge game recently.



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As always, the boys received a great reception from our supporters, but special mention to the Cambridge supporters who despite being 4-0 down, still gave our boys a great reception. A demonstration of the power of football to bring out the best in people and connect communities.

We run lots of both football and multi sports sessions during the week as part of our every player counts programme, sponsored by the EFL Trust and Wembley national Stadium Trust, and if you know someone with a learning disability who you think might like to get involved, then please give us a call at the community office on 01582 561622 or drop us an email at everyplayercounts@lutontown.co.uk



EFL KIDS CUP – PREMIER LEAGUE TROPHY VISITS THE HATTERS

EFL Trust U11 Kids six-a-side Cup – Your chance to play at Wembley Stadium and Kenilworth Road!!

We've now reached our finals stage having held our three Bedfordshire regional Kids U11 Cup qualifying tournaments.

Over 50 schools have taken part this year with Pirton Hill, Sacred Heart, Whitefields, St Josephs, St Margarets and the Meads from Luton, Alban Academy, Lincroft and Castle Newnham from Bedford, and Priory from Dunstable all making the finals to be held next month, with the two eventual winners then battling it out here at Luton Town FC for the right to represent the Hatters in the regional competition.

Our Luton qualifying tournament saw over 30 schools involved and there was great excitement when the Premier League brought along their PL Trophy to promote the work the



Trust are currently involved in through the national PL Primary Stars project.

Currently over 20 schools each week are receiving Reading, Numeracy or PSHE lessons in Bedfordshire as part of the project, which also involves our coaches improving PE delivery through our mentoring programme for school staff who may not be that confident in the delivery of the subject.

Even more excitement was topped off when Glen Rea and Luke Gambin turned up to present winners' medals to the qualifiers. The six-a-side competition for U11 school children will culminate in three finals across

the EFL play-off weekends in May. All 72 EFL clubs are first split into three divisions, and in line with our divisional status we will compete in the League Division Two, before being again split into two groups, north and south – so our local winners will progress as Luton Town FC into the Division Two South play-offs.

The winners of the Div Two North and Div Two South finals will then qualify for the chance to play before the League Two play-off final at Wembley in May.

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE! COYH!



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HATTERSLADIES

NIKKI BAKER SELECTS HER STARS OF THE SEASON SO FAR!

The 2017/18 season has been a decent one so far for Luton Town Ladies, with manager Nikki Baker believing that if one or two games had gone slightly differently, the Hatters would be sitting top of the league.

The ladies currently sit fourth in the Women's Premier League, eight points off the top. This season has seen several players taking the centre stage, with a variety of different goal scorers.

Jess McKay, who predominantly plays on the left side of midfield, is leading the goalscoring charts with 13 goals so far. Eight of these have come in the league, most memorably her magnificent hat-trick here at Kenilworth Road where she grabbed the winner in spectacular fashion from 45 yards out.

McKay has also bagged five FA Cup goals, the most recent securing a third round place for the Hatters, with another from distance in the extra-time win over Harlow Town.

Nicola Henman, who plays just off the strikers, is just behind McKay with nine league goals and one in the cup. Just like McKay, the majority of her goals have come from midfield. Between the two of them, they have added a huge attacking threat, scoring 23 goals combined so far. Both players are sponsored by Luton Town fan Kevin Harwood.

Also adding to the tally is striker Jo Rutherford, with seven, and midfielder Zara Carroll, who has six.

An example of how well the goalscoring is spread around is when the ladies beat Norwich 8-2 and had seven different goal scorers! Henman and McKay were of course

on the scoresheet, Henman with two, and this was followed up by Carroll, Rutherford, Amy Summerfield, Lisa Nixon and Tash Fensome on her return to the club.

In other areas of the pitch, new signing Lisa Nixon has been a significant presence in centre midfield, and Erica Byron – who has played much of the season out of position at left-back – has shown to be a real asset and attacking threat from deep.

Goalkeeper Kezia Hassall, who is only 18, was put between the sticks earlier in the season after both first team keepers were injured. Hassall, who has spent most of the last two seasons playing as a centre-back in the development side, showed no fear and kept two clean sheets in her first two games.

Since then she has proved that she is more than worthy of a place in the first team, showing excellent confidence and being a real presence in the box.

Manager Baker praised some of the stars of the squad so far, saying: "Jess and Henman have been absolutely superb this season and a constant goal threat. Many of our goals have come from midfield, but this isn't taking anything away from the strikers. Jo Rutherford has found herself on the bench a few times, but has come on and proved herself, scoring some vital goals so far.

"After our captain Rachel Carter was ruled out with a head injury in September, Zara has stepped up superbly as skipper and also scored her fair share of goals.

"It is great to see the younger players still adding a lot to the squad, such as Erica, Kezia and also Lucy Webster, who has now found her great form from last season. We fully believe we can beat anyone on our day and have a lot of confidence going into the New Year."

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE SOUTH EAST DIVISION ONE FIXTURES 2017/18

Sun Aug 20	Stevenage	H	W 5-2
Sun Aug 27	Enfield Town	A	W 2-1
Sun Sep 3	Leyton Orient (Cup)	H	L 2-4
Sun Sep 10	Haringey Borough	H	W 5-1
Sun Sep 17	AFC Wimbledon	A	L 1-4
Sun Sep 24	Leyton Orient	H	L 0-4
Sun Oct 1	MK Dons	H	D 2-1
Wed Oct 4	Denham United	H	W 5-4
Sun Oct 8	Maidenhead Utd (FAC30R)	A	W 1-0
Wed Oct 18	Denham United	A	W 5-1
Sun Oct 22	Gillingham (WPL Plate) (AET)	A	W 4-3
Sun Oct 29	MK Dons	A	L 1-2
Sun Nov 5	Enfield Town	H	D 0-0
Sun Nov 12	AFC Dunstable (FACR1)	A	W 0-4
Sun Nov 19	Actonians	A	W 3-2
Sun Nov 26	Norwich City	H	W 8-2
Sun Dec 3	Harlow Town (FACR2)	H	W 3-2 (AET)
Sun Jan 7	Chichester City (FACR3)	A	
Sun Jan 14	Ipswich Town	H	

*Home games are played at Stockwood Park Athletics Stadium

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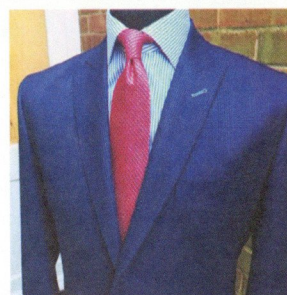
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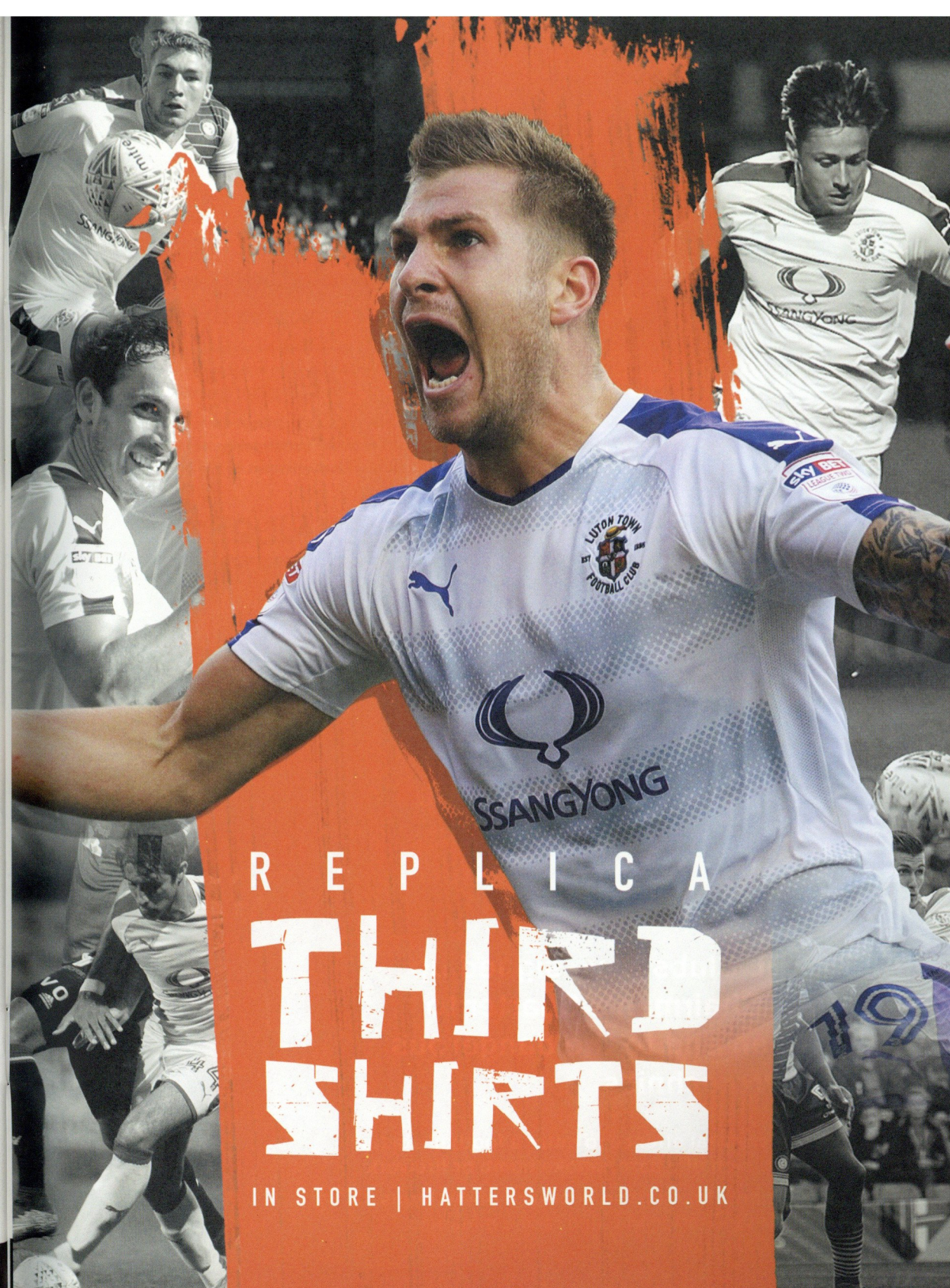
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Any supporter now found to be in breach of the terms of the Chairman's Charter will also face a minimum three-season Club ban.



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NATHAN JONES PRESSER

- The gaffer has his pre-match press conference at the Brache ahead of each game, where he discusses a range of subjects including the opposition and injuries...



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LAST WEEK:



DANNY HYLTON INTERVIEW

- Super Danny Hylton's post-Forest Green Rovers interview is there as he discusses netting his 14th goal of the season... Rovers' keeper Brad Collins won't want to see that again!



MAREK STECH INTERVIEW

- Marek kept his 10th league clean sheet of the season and he couldn't wait to be asked about it after the win!

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If you have any questions on the iFollow service, they can be answered by the following methods:

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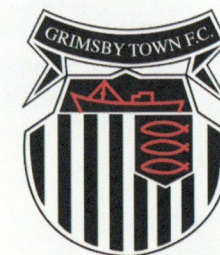
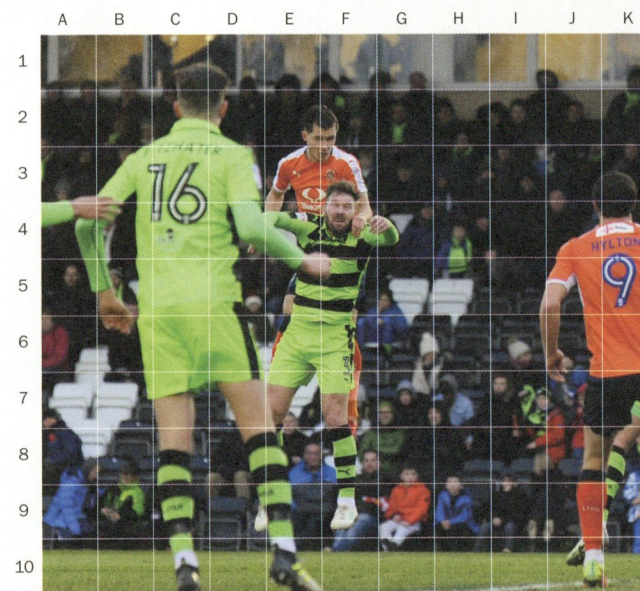
Glen Rea was in the Christmas spirit on Thursday when the lads got together for their annual festive lunch at the training ground. Pelly looked the part too!



JUNIOR HATTERS

SPOT THE BALL

The photo below shows Hatters defender Dan Potts getting up for a header on Saturday against Forest Green. We've hidden the ball though... can you work out which grid square it should be in?



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Stadium:
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Capacity:
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Manager:
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Last season
Finished 14th (Lg. 2)

**Head to head
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Draws - 17
Notts Co wins - 16

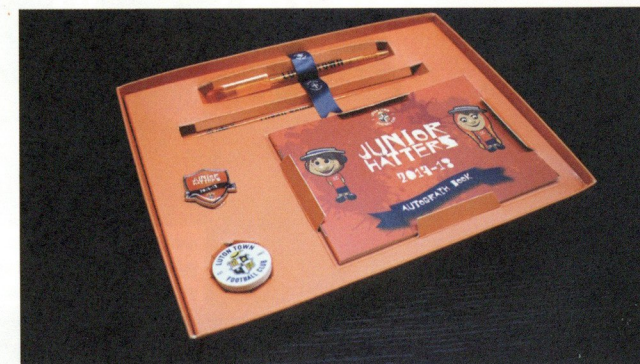
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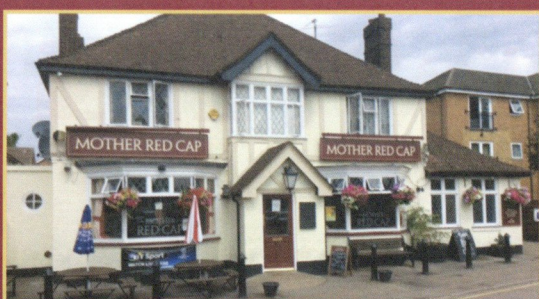
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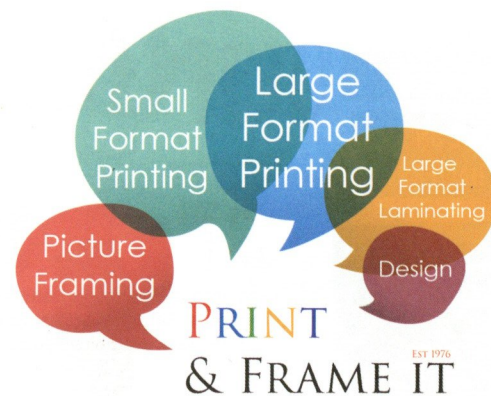


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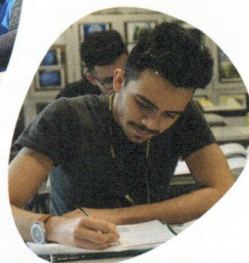
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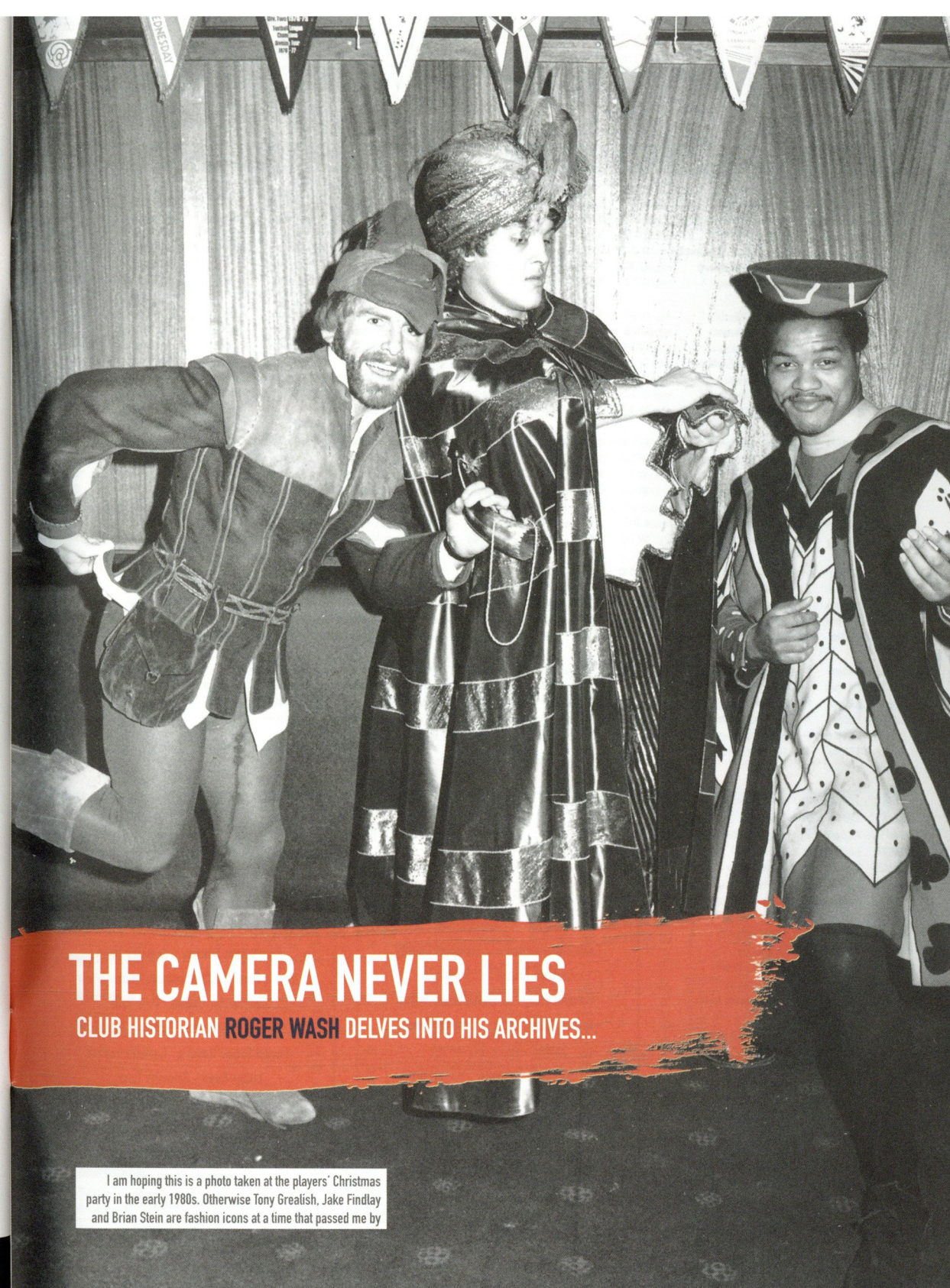
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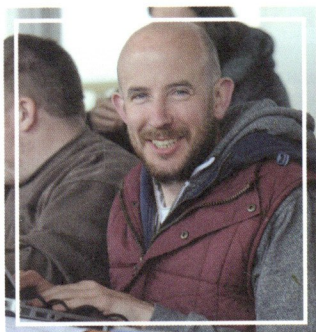


THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

CLUB HISTORIAN **ROGER WASH** DELVES INTO HIS ARCHIVES...

I am hoping this is a photo taken at the players' Christmas party in the early 1980s. Otherwise Tony Grealish, Jake Findlay and Brian Stein are fashion icons at a time that passed me by

*Score at full-time: 2-2. (Hatters won 4-2 on penalties for a bonus point) ** Score at full-time: 1-1. (Hatters won 4-3 on penalties for a bonus point)



HOLD THE BACKPAGE

WITH **MIKE SIMMONDS** LUTON NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

As the League Two season nears the midway point over this festive period, it's hard not to give Nathan Jones and his class of 2017-18 a resounding A + on their half term report card.

Top of the league, three defeats all season, one loss in 21, unbeaten in 10, eight wins in that time. Sounds pretty good.

Throw in some 51 goals scored already too, a feat bettered only domestically by that expensive private school in Manchester City, a goal difference of plus 32, 10 clean sheets in the league, 13 if you include the cups, and Town are most definitely top of the class.

It's hard to pick out the star pupils as plenty have returned excellent grades, but striker Danny Hylton is well on his way to the head boy award once more, netting 14 goals to go clear in the scoring charts.

Not too far behind him is James Collins on nine, thanks to his hat-trick on the opening day, while Elliot Lee can definitely be satisfied with his six goals to date.

Another student who not many could have seen having such a tally at this stage is full-back Dan Potts.

The ex-West Ham youngster has shown remarkable prowess in the

opposition penalty area, with other sides clearly not doing enough homework on the Hatters' set-plays, particularly when Alan Sheehan is standing over them.

Two new pupils who joined in August, Luke Berry and Harry Cornick are also proving to be excellent additions, both showing just why Luton were so keen on the pair transferring from their previous schools in Cambridge and Bournemouth.

FAVOURITE

Andrew Shinnie is enjoying his field trip from Birmingham as well, while some of the longer serving members of the form have also come to the fore too, most notably Scott Cuthbert and Sheehan.

Although Cuthbert has had to go the sick bay in recent weeks, it hopefully shouldn't be long before he is back at his desk once more

Meanwhile, foreign exchange student Marek Stech has certainly taken to his new surroundings quickly to become a firm favourite amongst his class-mates for unbelievable saves

against Yeovil, Colchester, and also on the most recent outing to Forest Green Rovers too.

There can be plenty of certificate of merits handed out as well, none more to a certain Olly Lee for his crazy goal from well inside his own half against Cambridge United recently, which was most definitely the talk of the playground.

Meanwhile, Glen Rea appears to have found his role, and is producing work that just gets better and better these days to fulfill his potential too.

School hardman Alan McCormack could still come back to play a part in the second half of term, and if so, then there won't be many players who feel they can pick on the Hatters with him in their ranks.

It all means if Luton can replicate their achievements over the second half of the school term, then there's no doubt they can go on their summer holidays in the knowledge they will be playing against the bigger boys in League One come August.

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BETTING, BETTER

Answer to Simon Parsell's Trick or Treatment trivia on p33: Louis Saha

TEAMS



MANAGER:
NATHAN JONES

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



MANAGER:
RUSSELL SLADE

- 1 James McKeown
- 2 Ben Davies
- 3 Paul Dixon
- 5 Nathan Clarke
- 6 Danny Collins
- 7 James Berrett
- 8 Mitch Rose
- 9 JJ Hooper
- 10 Sam Jones
- 11 Sam Kelly
- 12 Zak Mills
- 14 Karleigh Osborne
- 15 Harry Clifton
- 17 Harry Cardwell
- 18 Tom Bolarinwa
- 19 Luke Summerfield
- 20 Diallang Jaiyesimi
- 21 Scott Vernon
- 24 Jack Keeble
- 26 Tom Sawyer
- 27 Siriki Dembele
- 30 Ben Killip

MATCH OFFICIALS

- CHRIS SARGINSON
- STEPHEN BROWN
- ANDREW HENDLEY
- STUART BUTLER



NEXT HOME GAME:

LINCOLN CITY

MONDAY 1ST JANUARY 2018 | 3PM