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OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

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welcome by post, phone or email #COYH

The views in this programme are those of the
contributors and not necessarily those of the
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THE MANAGER

Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for this Sky Bet League Two fixture with Morecambe.

The Shrimps' manager Jim Bentley has been in his role for a length of time third only to Arsene Wenger and Paul Tisdale in this country, which is a sign of the quality of job he has done at the Globe Arena, where we had a tough encounter when we drew 0-0 at the end of September.

Today will be no different, and I welcome Jim, his assistant Ken McKenna, their staff, players and all the directors, officials and supporters who have travelled to Bedfordshire.

There's been so much going on since we were last here for the Lincoln game, and so much that I want to say, that we need extended notes for this programme!

Firstly, you will have read – and hopefully welcomed – the news that I signed a new four-year contract with the club in the build-up to the Newcastle FA Cup game.

I'm very proud to commit my future to Luton Town. We are trying to build something here and we are a couple of years into a real exciting project. I'd like to thank everyone for the welcome that my girlfriend and I have had over that time, and also the constant support that I get.

I'm proud to extend my deal here and sign a new contract. I've never

made any secret of the fact I love my job here and I was delighted to rubberstamp my commitment to the club.

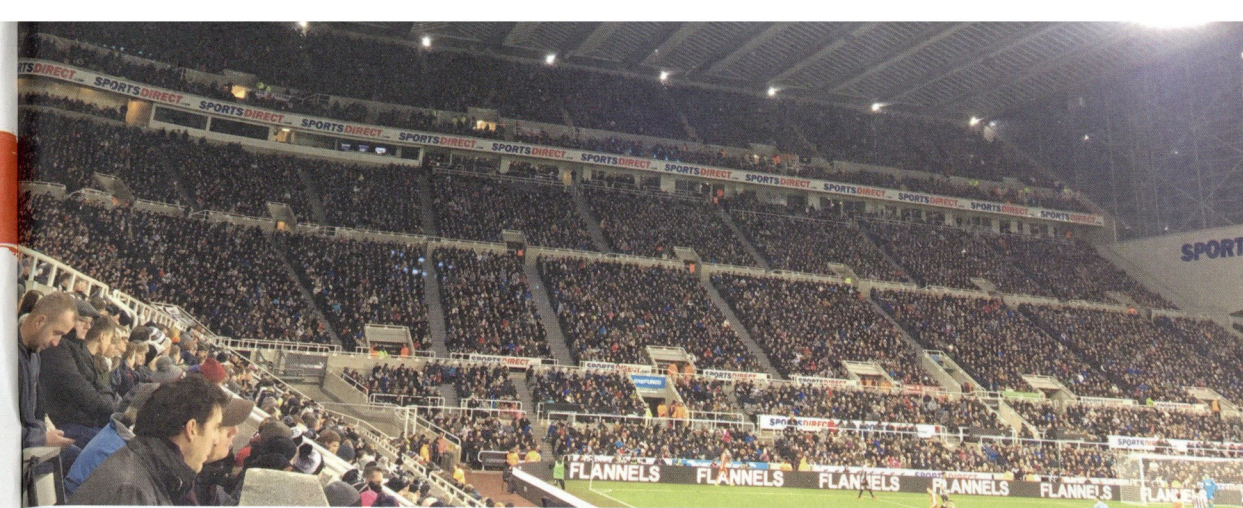
From that first game against Cambridge – when we hardly had a shot on goal, saw three players go off injured, several go down with cramp and drew 0-0 to drop to 18th – to where we are now, is worlds apart.

The position we are in now is very good in terms of the planning application for the new stadium, the training ground we have at The Brache, the quality of my staff and squad that we have, as well as our position in the league. It's a really exciting time.

We are constantly trying to improve, and the strides we have made from day one is a credit to everyone at the club. The backing I've had from Gary Sweet and the board has been first class from the very start.

My staff have supported me in every respect of the job, and obviously the players who were here when I came, but especially the ones who are still here, have taken on board how we want things done. It's been a real work in progress and we are in a wonderful place.

What a privilege it was to be associated with the club up at Newcastle. I'm not surprised by the fact we set a St James' Park record



by taking 7,500 supporters with us. I was humbled from the moment we stepped off the coach and received such a rousing reception, to the sea of orange that cheered us off the park. I'm glad we could give the fans a day like that.

On the pitch it was a massive learning curve for us. We play a certain way and we have a certain way of doing things, and we were wanting to test ourselves against Premier League opposition.

The result wasn't what we wanted, but apart from a nine-minute period we showed that we could compete with a Premier League side. We didn't try to be negative and try to stifle. We tried to go and win a game against a Premier League side in their own back garden. If Hylts' second goal had stood, as it should have, you never know what could have happened.

That's just circumstance now, but I was proud with the way that the fans turned up, the greeting we got, the response we've had since – just everything about it. We went toe-to-toe in every department with a full-strength Premier League side, and showed what strides we've made.

Newcastle are a fine club and from the welcome we had from stewards,

the people on the gate, to even Rafa Benitez himself and his staff, they were a credit to themselves. It was a real good occasion and showed Newcastle in a good light, but it also showed our club in a wonderful, wonderful light.

We came back here to face Peterborough in the Checkatrade Trophy and while we were again bitterly disappointed with the end result, losing on penalties, we could take huge positives.

For both Newcastle and Peterborough to have to play their full sides to compete with us, and overcome us, while we changed almost our entire XI, it was a massive compliment. It just shows the strength we have and that we are moving in the right direction in all areas.

The one negative came at Chesterfield last Saturday when we fell well below our standards, so we've got to rectify that. But we are still in a terrific position and with three of our next four games at home, we have a terrific opportunity to improve it.

Which brings me back to Lincoln, and the role that you supporters have played, and must continue to play, from the stands. When we went a man down and a goal down so early

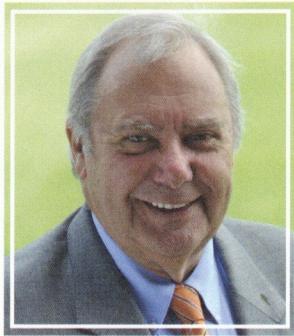
on New Year's Day, the roar that went around Kenilworth Road was amazing.

We knew that we couldn't go gung-ho and we worked our way in to the game, but there was a 30-minute period from going down to ten men, to the time that we equalised, when we gave everyone in the ground belief that we could actually win the game with ten men.

We kept the ball better than them. We created more chances than them. We pressed them and they gave the ball back to us. It showed our structure exactly how we want it to be, what we work on day in, day out – and that was the biggest thing for me because it demonstrated how far we have come in two years.

We've seen some real entertaining games here this season with more goals scored at home already than we managed in the whole of 2016-17 at Kenilworth Road.

We've got ten home games to go and we need you to rock the old place out at every single one of them to help us get to where we want to be. It'll be a rollercoaster, we know that, but please keep it going – and enjoy the ride!



FROM THE BOARDROOM

WITH VICE CHAIRMAN **DAVID WILKINSON**

Good afternoon everyone and a warm welcome to Kenilworth Road.

Today we entertain the officials, players and supporters from Morecambe. Even though the Shrimps have been in existence for almost 100 years (2020), they have only been a League Club since their promotion in 2007. Manager Jim Bentley is Morecambe through and through having joined them as a player in 2002, and is the third longest serving manager in the League behind Arsene Wenger and Paul Tisdale. They have had a difficult season so far on and off the pitch, and we wish them well.

I write this on the back of a run of disappointing away results. It is often difficult to analyse reasons for them. There are so many variables which affect the outcome of games and performances, from weather and pitch conditions to inexplicable and frustrating decisions by officials. One decision the wrong way can adversely affect the end-result.

Those of us who have watched a lot of football have learned to expect the unexpected and the inexplicable, and it is often said that as a Luton fan you will have encountered it more than most. It's an unassailable fact though, that form is temporary while class is permanent.

I will not dwell on the disappointing Port Vale performance, as it was one of those days decided by a few uncharacteristic mistakes on an awful pitch in tricky conditions.

What a fantastic day/weekend we had at Newcastle. It was almost ten years to the day since we were told by the Administrator, outside the front gates at Anfield, that we were preferred bidders for the Club. That was an amazing occasion, and this was too.

The result might even have been different and Danny might have been the first to have a goal decision changed by VAR, rather than Kelechi Iheanacho for Leicester in

midweek, if the technology was being used at that game. It is these types of decision that need to be reviewed because the financial rewards can be game changing in many ways. We all see examples every week of what we believe to be injustices and anything which can reduce them must surely be welcome.

It was a genuine pleasure going to St James' Park for the first time, and everything was done to make us welcome. The policing, stewarding and hospitality were second to none.

Gary has even taken the unusual step of writing to the Club thanking them for the way every aspect of our visit was handled, with specific emphasis on policing and stewarding.

A fan contacted him to say: "If all games were managed this way more people would watch football because the experience would be so much better."



The boardroom was five-star and we were greeted by Newcastle legend Bobby Moncur, then looked after by a highly professional and friendly staff. Gary and I were pleased to be able to meet Malcolm MacDonald in the Press room on his birthday weekend. There were many lessons in the way things were done, which we would be proud to emulate in our new stadium. They show that large crowds can be treated with respect and inclusivity.

The Board are so proud of our fans always travelling in unbelievable numbers in all weathers. Looking up to see the throngs of faithful fans before the game at Newcastle brought a lump to my throat and several of us were close to tears of pride during and after the game. You are amazing and we all thank you.

Sometimes we need to look back to see how far we've come and I was amused by a tweet this week from Andrew Barringer with a picture of Gary and I at Hinckley six years ago. They were trying to defrost the pitch with kettles of boiling water. Needless to say it didn't work and the game was postponed. When we eventually played them the following week we won 3-0 and it was the first time we had seen Andre Gray, who joined us a little while later.

We played well in the Checkatrade game against Peterborough and were unlucky not to take something from the game.

Our last disappointment was at Chesterfield. Not our day. However, a very hospitable club with a nice stadium and ostensibly professional set-up. They are underachieving, but I wonder for how long.

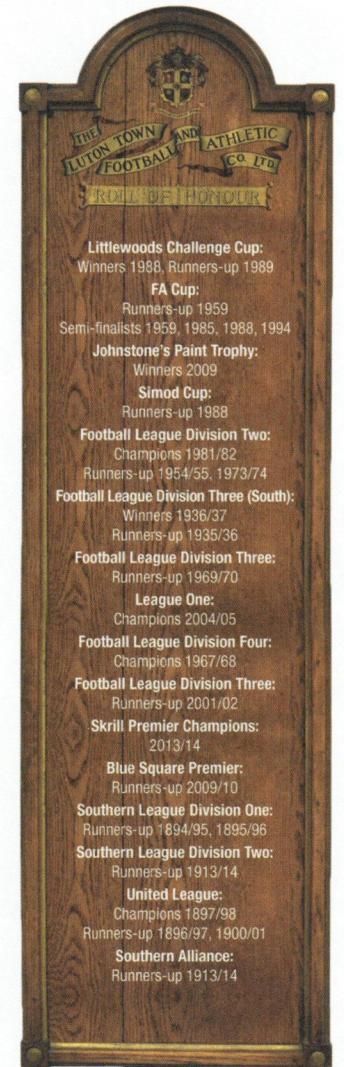
This week we had one of our regular meetings with the committee of the Supporters Trust at which we try to

keep them in touch with our status and progress. They have the chance to ask questions and, of course, give us suggestions and ideas.

I am writing this in the middle of the transfer window – a time when speculation runs riot and fear abounds. We have a reputation over our history of being a selling club and have always expected our best players to be snapped up by bigger clubs. We want to be a bigger club so this doesn't happen so often, but we're not there yet. As Nathan has said we are always looking to improve our squad where and when we can, and you can be sure that Nathan, Mick and Gary will currently be up to their eyes in it.

Last, but most definitely not least, may I add my own homage to Cyrille Regis and our former players John Faulkner, Rodney Fern and Ted Phillips, who have all passed away in recent weeks. I know Roger Wash has paid tribute to John, Rodney and Ted in today's programme, and we will celebrate their contribution to our club with a period of applause before the game, so I won't go into further detail here other than to pass on the condolences of all at the club to their family and friends.

I was privileged to see Cyrille on many occasions and he was a regular visitor to the Kenny as a scout and agent, looking after a couple of our young players. He was here last week for the Peterborough game. In reading all the tributes we are reminded of his courage against the vile racism he encountered at the time he played. It is easy today to take for granted or underestimate his influence and achievement as a pioneer for black footballers, particularly as it was done with such style, grace and humility.



In recent times he was noted for his charitable work.

Rest in Peace Cyrille, John, Rodney and Ted.

"Achievement has no colour"
Abraham Lincoln

Enjoy the game.

Come On You Hatters!

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THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

Good afternoon all and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for the visit of Morecambe, as we look to strengthen our position at the top of Sky Bet League Two.

Like me, you will have been frustrated onlookers at the last two away results in the league, but what a game we saw last time we were here for a league game on New Year's Day, when the lads showed exactly what character we have in the squad to twice come from behind to beat Lincoln.

Today is the start of a period of three of our next four league games being here on our own patch, and with our record here this season, we have a great chance to extend that three-point lead we have over second place – and eight over fourth – once again.

Fitness wise, I'm making really good progress. It's six weeks since surgery on my groin and I saw the surgeon on Tuesday for a strength test. He's happy for me to start running, so it's all positive and going in the right direction. I just need to be patient this next couple of weeks, but hopefully it won't be long before I'm back training fully.

To miss the Notts County and Lincoln top-of-the-table clashes here, as well as the FA Cup trip to Newcastle, has been gutting. I'm desperate to get back in and help the lads get over that finish line.

We know the last two away results in the league haven't been good enough, but we are in a fantastic position. I watched the lads do unbelievably well against Lincoln in difficult circumstances having gone down to ten men so early.

But the boys were absolutely outstanding that day, so we are putting in performances and there's definitely no negativity. We are massively positive. It's been a fantastic season so far and we are determined to continue in that vein.

We knew that one of our downfalls last season was that our home form wasn't good enough, and in the team meetings at the start of the season, that was one of the things that we wanted to improve on if we were going to get automatic promotion. We've certainly put that right so far.

We've had some fantastic performances at home, and you supporters are certainly buying into it and getting right

[SCOTT CUTHBERT]

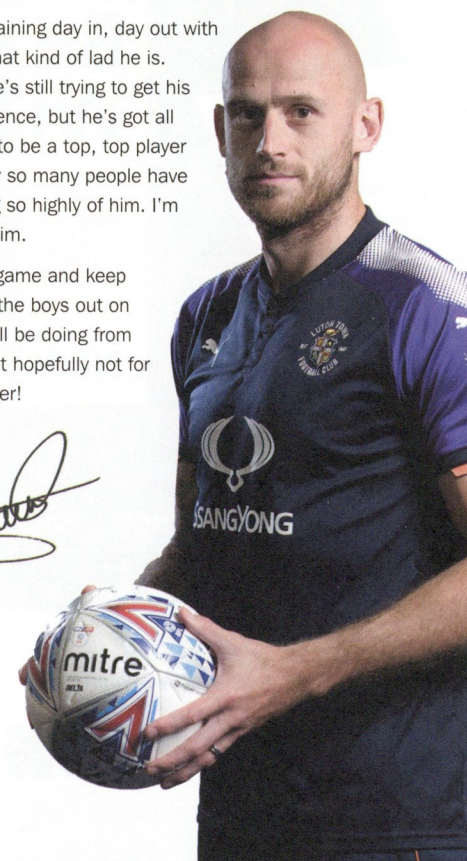
GREAT SCOTT

behind us. The atmosphere against Lincoln was different class – as the lads tell me it was at Newcastle. On behalf of the squad, I thank you for that amazing support. I'm told 7,500 was a record for away fans at the all-seater St James' Park – unreal!

Finally, we've seen again that the gaffer's not afraid to put youngsters into the team and after some excellent performances in the Checkatrade Trophy, Akin Famewo – from what I've been told – played well up at Chesterfield.

I know from training day in, day out with him exactly what kind of lad he is. He's young, he's still trying to get his League experience, but he's got all the attributes to be a top, top player and that's why so many people have been speaking so highly of him. I'm delighted for him.

Enjoy today's game and keep supporting all the boys out on the pitch, as I'll be doing from the stand – but hopefully not for too much longer!



THINK FAST ACT FASTER

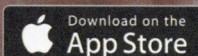


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[NEWS]

WELCOME BACK TO MIKE CULLEN!

BY ROGER WASH

A welcome guest at Kenilworth Road this afternoon is Mike Cullen, who made 126 first team appearances for the Town and remains our only Scottish international player.

Spotted while playing junior football in Glasgow by ex-Hatter Doug Gardiner, he signed on in 1949, initially as a centre-forward, but was soon converted to a winger by manager Dally Duncan.

With a unique shuffle, Mike terrorised defences as the Town won promotion to Division One (now the Premier

League) in 1955 and picked up a cap for Scotland against Austria a year later, even though he was playing for the reserves at the time.

Surprisingly allowed to move to Grimsby Town in 1958, Mike was then virtually ever present at Blundell Park over the next four years before finishing his League career with Derby County.

Mike remained in Luton after retiring from the professional game and worked at Vauxhall for many years.



WEAR A RETRO SHIRT TO GRIMSBY!



Grimsby Town are inviting all Hatters to get involved with their 'Memories' day when we visit Blundell Park for our Sky Bet League Two fixture next Saturday.

The Mariners are staging the event in conjunction with Sporting Memories – a charity that tackles dementia, depression and loneliness – and hope to welcome our former player Matt Tees, who appeared in Alan Shearer's recent documentary on the subject of football and dementia.

Grimsby would like any Hatters supporters travelling to the game to wear a retro shirt, or a shirt that holds special memories, as part of the day.

They would also like you to send a picture or video to them ahead of the game, with an explanation of what the memory is that the shirt represents for you, to supporter liaison officer Kristine Green – kskorna@hotmail.co.uk – and they could appear on the scoreboard at Blundell Park!

DO YOU KNOW KEN CRAVEN?

Paul 'Fletch' Melling has been in touch to try to track down a Hatters fan.

"A reunion has been organised for members of the RAF, specifically 231 OCU that were stationed at RAF Wyton in Cambridgeshire in 1988, the year that motions were put in place for its eventual closure. We are trying to trace an old colleague and have drawn a blank so far.

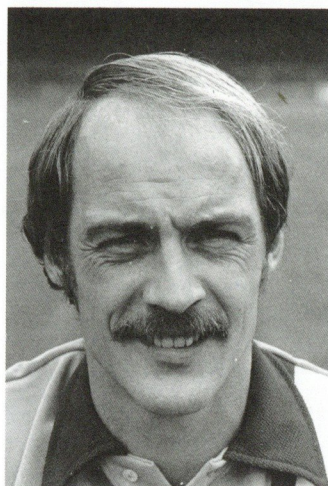
"We turn to you because he was a Luton Town fan in every sense of the word, so much so that he even sponsored them in the late 80s through to the 1990. The man that we are in desperate search of is a bubbly extrovert character that goes by the name of Ken Craven.

"He would be in his late sixties now I would guess and was living in Bedford where his wife had a business."

Please contact info@lutontown.co.uk if you can help Paul.

We have recently received the sad news of the passing of former Hatters John Faulkner, Ted Phillips and Rodney Fern. Here club historian Roger Wash pays tribute to the three men, in whose memory there will be a period of applause before today's game. Our condolences go to all of their family, friends and ex-playing colleagues.

JOHN FAULKNER: 10th MARCH 1948 – 28th DECEMBER 2017



A cult figure centre-half at Kenilworth Road, John Faulkner was an inspirational leader at the back as the Town won promotion to the top-flight in 1974 with some superhuman performances, not least the promotion clincher at West Brom, where he played whilst concussed.

After playing as a youth for Charlton Athletic, Orpington-born John decided

to forego the professional game and instead qualify as a Quantity Surveyor whilst turning out for non-League Sutton United.

During his time there, Sutton were drawn at home to Leeds in the FA Cup and although losing 6-0, John starred and was approached to join the professional ranks at Elland Road. He decided to take the gamble as Leeds were one of the top sides in the country at the time and was rewarded with a first team debut soon after joining. Sadly, on his second appearance he broke his knee cap and did not play again for a year.

When fully fit he could only manage two UEFA Cup appearances for Leeds so jumped at the chance to join the Town in 1972, where manager Harry Haslam was looking for a replacement for Chris Nicholl, who had been sold to Aston Villa.

John enjoyed six seasons at Kenilworth Road partnering, at various times, John Moore, Alan

Garner and the precocious Paul Fletcher in central defence. Promotion to the top flight in 1974 was a career highlight, as was the run-in the following season when the Hatters almost saved themselves from immediate relegation with a series of swashbuckling displays.

After leaving Luton in 1978 John joined the migration to the USA where he played for Memphis Rogues and California Surf before returning to these shores in 1981, when he resumed Quantity Surveying in Milton Keynes.

Thinking his days in the football world were over, he was pleasantly surprised to receive a call from David Pleat asking him to join the coaching staff at Kenilworth Road, where he also served under John Moore, Ray Harford and Jimmy Ryan before taking on a similar role at Norwich City in two spells. Latterly, John had carved a new career as a Sports Psychologist.

A short spell at Leyton Orient followed before he moved to Kenilworth Road in February 1965 with the Town rooted in the relegation places in Division Three (now League One). His signing brought about an improvement in fortunes as he scored eight goals in 12 games, which included four straight wins.

Ted joined Colchester in the summer of '65 in exchange for Billy Stark, before retiring a year later.



TED PHILLIPS: 21st AUGUST 1933 – 9th JANUARY 2018

Ted Phillips provided a bright spot in a season of gloom at Kenilworth Road during a short stay in 1965. Born in Leiston, Ted joined his local club Ipswich Town in 1953 and became part of a side which rose from Division Three (South) culminating in an improbable League championship in 1962. Forming a prolific spearhead with Ray Crawford, Ted scored 161 League goals in 269 appearances for Ipswich with very few of them tap-ins!

RODNEY FERN: 13th DECEMBER 1948 – 16th JANUARY 2018

Born in Burton, Rodney Fern joined Leicester City from school and was their top scorer in 1969/70.

Capable of the sublime and the not so good, often in the same game, Rodney enjoyed a barnstorming display for the Foxes at Kenilworth Road over Easter 1971 and was man of the match in Leicester's 3-1 win.

Memories of this performance were no doubt behind the Town putting in a £45,000 bid to bring the playmaking inside forward to Kenilworth Road in June 1972.

FAVOURITE

Rodney started the 1972/73 season as a regular member of the side, but as team performances dipped, he fell out of favour and was then only occasionally used over the next two years.



After 47 first team appearances and five goals, Rodney accepted a move to Chesterfield in June 1975, where his career took off again

and he became a crowd favourite at Saltergate with 54 goals in 152 League appearances.

A subsequent move to Rotherham in 1979 was equally successful and the, by now, veteran helped the Millers to the brink of promotion to the top flight in 1982.

After retiring, Rodney became a publican and also ran a fuel business.

WILF PARSONS

Lifelong Hatters supporter Wilf Parsons has sadly passed away at the age of 89. From 1938, Wilf attended many games at Kenilworth Road, and although due to his recent ill health he wasn't able to, he would always keep up to date with results. Wilf was also a former member of the Beds FA and a local amateur referee.

LIVE WELL LUTON LAUNCH #GIVEUPFORGARYCAMPAIGN

Live Well Luton have joined forces with lifelong Hatters fan Gary Hough's family at today's game against Morecambe with the aim of highlighting the dangers of smoking and supporting Luton residents to give up for good in 2018.



Gary was a born and bred Lutonian who worked at the BWI Car Plant, and he was also a lifelong Luton Town supporter. He wore a customised LTFC prosthetic leg after having his right leg amputated below the knee in 2015.

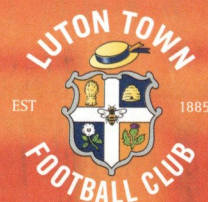
He tragically passed away aged 55 last year due to an aggressive form of lung cancer having initially come to Live Well Luton with the aim of quitting.

Before his passing, Gary said: "I wouldn't want this to happen to anybody else because you just don't realise how precious your life is. It's

hard to think about the fact I won't be able to walk my children down the aisle or that I won't get to see my grandchildren grow up."

At Live Well Luton, we offer FREE stop smoking support, and with our help, smokers are four times more likely to quit than going 'cold turkey' or going it alone.

For help and advice on quitting smoking, contact us on 01582 757635, visit our website www.livewell-luton.org.uk or see our stand at the Kenilworth Road end this afternoon.



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2018 is finally here, and with the Hatters riding high in League Two and making a push for promotion you won't want to miss a single moment of the action at the Kenny.

Part-season tickets are still available, with great prices on offer for all areas of the ground and for all age categories.

Alternatively, you can pick up a 5 match booklet for just £90.

Visit the ticket office and pick yours up today, or call 01582 416976.

JUST THE TICKET

GET YOURS: TICKET OFFICE, THE STADIUM | THE MALL | 01582 416976 | WWW.ETICKETING.CO.UK/LUTONTOWN



GRIMSBY TOWN

SKY BET LEAGUE TWO | SATURDAY 27TH JANUARY | 3PM

All remaining tickets are available now on general sale until Friday 26th January at 2.30pm. Subject to availability tickets will also be available on the day at Grimsby, but all tickets other than Juniors will be subject to a £2 price increase. Wheelchair disabled tickets are priced at £18 with a Carer free of charge these are to be booked through Grimsby Town ticket office on 01472 605 050. **Prices:** Adults (19-64): £18, Seniors (65+): £11, Students (with valid NUS card): £11, Young Adult (15-18): £11, Accompanied Juniors (14 & under): £5, Unaccompanied Junior (14 & Under): £7, Ambulant Disabled (High or enhanced Living allowance) £18, Carer £0.



WYCOMBE WANDERERS

SKY BET LEAGUE TWO | TUESDAY 30TH JANUARY | 3PM

Tickets for this category B game are now available to purchase from the Ticket Office.



EXETER CITY

SKY BET LEAGUE TWO | SATURDAY 3RD FEBRUARY | 3PM

Tickets for this category A game are now available to purchase from the Ticket Office.



STEVENAGE

SKY BET LEAGUE TWO | SATURDAY 10TH FEBRUARY | 3PM

We have received a full allocation of 1,857 seats (1,360 in South Stand and 497 in West Stand for families and concessions only) for our fixture on Saturday 10th February 2017. Tickets are on sale from 10am on Monday 22nd

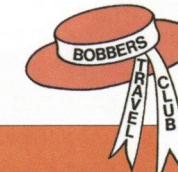
January to Diamond Season Ticket holders at one per person until close of business on Saturday 27th January. These tickets will be on sale from the Ticket Office via phone or in person only. Season Ticket holders will be able to purchase one ticket each from Monday 29th January. As tickets for this game will only be available on a like for like basis (i.e. one child Season Ticket = one child Stevenage ticket) they will only be available via phone or in person from the Ticket Office. These will remain on sale until close of business on Saturday 3rd February. Any remaining tickets will be available from 10am on Monday 5th February and will remain on sale until close of business on Friday 9th February. Supporters who have taken an Away Season Ticket will automatically receive one ticket which will be processed on Friday 26th January. If you do not require a ticket for this fixture please advise to ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk before this date.

Prices: Adults (22-59): £24, Concessions: £21, Under-22s: £16, Under-16s: £12, Under-12s: £10. Concessions are Over-60s, Students, UB40 holders, Ambulant Disabled, members of Armed Forces/Emergency Services. (Proof must be seen on purchase).

Wheelchair Disabled tickets will be available in the South Stand and can be purchased directly from Stevenage on 01438 223223 ext.62).

BOBBERS TRAVEL CLUB

For bookings telephone:
01234 856542



FARES AND DEPARTURE TIMES

DATE	MATCH	ADULT	CONC.	TIME
Sat 27 Jan	Grimsby Town	£26	£23	9.30
Sat 10 Feb	Stevenage	£13	£11	13.00
Sat 17 Feb	Coventry City	£20	£18	12.00
Sat 03 Mar	Cambridge United	£18	£16	12.00

David Lloyd

CLUBS

LUTON

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WE'RE ON OUR WAY GRIMSBY TOWN

FORMED: 1878 | NICKNAME: THE MARINERS | LAST SEASON: 14TH IN LEAGUE TWO | FOLLOW THEM ON TWITTER: @OFFICIALGTFC
COLOURS: BLACK & WHITE STRIPES | GROUND: BLUNDELL PARK | MANAGER: RUSSELL SLADE

WHO? A Championship outfit as recently as 2003, the Mariners slipped down the EFL 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 play-off final.

In the 2016/17 campaign, the Mariners found themselves fighting it out for a place in the top seven, 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, who had only taken over from Shrewsbury-bound Paul Hurst in the October. Bignot's replacement, former Leyton Orient and Cardiff City boss Russell Slade, has put together a decent side in his second stint as Mariners boss.

TICKETS Ticket information for this fixture can be found on page 15.

HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE? The Hatters have played the Mariners 53 times, with Luton winning 17 times and losing 19 matches. Our last meeting was only last month, as a fantastic 25-yard goal from Luke Berry helped the Hatters on their way to a 2-0 win at Kenilworth Road.

IN CHARGE The Mariners have a proven manager in Slade, who worked his way up the Non-League levels as a boss, 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, missing out promotion as they were defeated by Cheltenham Town 1-0. He then went onto manage the likes of Yeovil Town, Brighton, Leyton Orient and Cardiff.

PREVIOUS FORM After three successive wins towards the end of November and the beginning of the December, the Mariners have now gone seven games without victory, five of which have been defeats. They will look to get back to winning ways against Colchester United this afternoon.

KNOWING ME, KNOWING YOU One of the standout players to represent both clubs is the late Paul Fletcher, who represented the Hatters 142 times, scoring once. Matt Robinson signed for the Hatters in 2012, and one of his loan spells away from the club was with Cleethorpes based side. Kingsley Black, Arnaud Mendy, Scott Neilson and Slade's number two, Paul Wilkinson, have also played for both the Hatters and the Mariners. Brian Stein made 496 appearances for the Town in the late 1970s and 80s, and was assistant manager at Grimsby as recently as 2011.

MAKE A DAY OF IT!

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

MATCH SPONSOR: TIM PARKINS



My name is Tim Parkins and I was born and raised in Farley Hill Luton. I've been a Hatter ever since I can remember and my hero growing up was David Moss. I was lucky enough to play alongside Kingsley Black all through my school years at St Margaret's and Cardinal Newman Schools. At 16 I joined the Army [Royal Signals] where I served for 24 years, deploying on seven military Campaigns including the Gulf War, the Balkans Conflict and in Africa. I now work as a Cyber Client Director for DXC Technology and live with my wife Jan and two children, Courtney and Scott, in York. It will be an honour to be matchday sponsor today and look forward to coming back home for this special occasion. COYH!

MATCHBALL SPONSOR: ABACUS

If you are a business looking to reduce the cost of your cleaning and hygiene products and stationery and office products without compromising on quality, we can provide you with a complete professional package, designed with you, the customer, in mind. Based in Sandy, Bedfordshire, we offer a Free Next Day delivery service to customers in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire and a bespoke delivery service for other parts of the UK.



TODAY'S MASCOTS:



LEO COPPERWHEAT AGE: 9
SCHOOL: ALAMEDA MIDDLE SCHOOL
HOBBIES: PLAYING FOOTBALL AND SUPPORTING LUTON
FAVOURITE PLAYER: MAREK STECH
ATTENDS GAMES WITH: MY DAD, TONY COPPERWHEAT



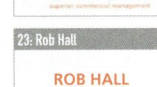
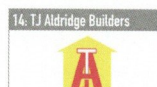
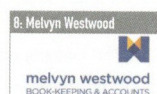
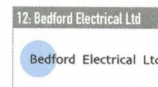
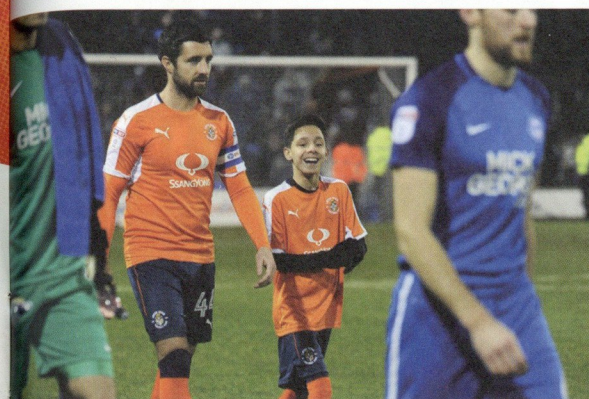
LOGAN STUBBS AGE: 7
SCHOOL: TICKFORD PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL
HOBBIES: PLAYING AND WATCHING FOOTBALL
AND PLAYING FIFA FAVOURITE PLAYER: JAMES JUSTIN AND DANNY HYLTON
ATTENDS GAMES WITH: DAD, GRANDAD AND UNCLE



KATIE SELLERS AGE: 9
SCHOOL: THE PREMIER ACADEMY, BLETCHLEY
HOBBIES: DANCE, FOOTBALL AND BOBBERS CLUB FOR AWAY GAMES
FAVOURITE PLAYER: ELLIOT LEE
ATTENDS GAMES WITH: FAMILY AND FRIENDS

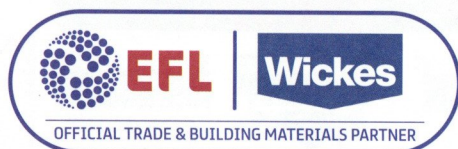


ALICIA ROSE-MORGAN AGE: 7
SCHOOL: LADY ZIA WERNHER
HOBBIES: PLAYING GAMES AND WATCHING FOOTBALL
FAVOURITE PLAYER: DANNY HYLTON
ATTENDS GAMES WITH: MUM, DAD AND FAMILY





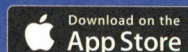
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[COMMERCIAL]

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: Mike Normal For MK
A: Mike Normal For MK



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 Hyton

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
S: Chris Nicoll



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



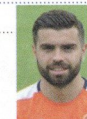
37: Frankie Musonda

H: Football262
A: AVAILABLE



38: Elliot Lee

H: Richard Tilley
A: SOLYD 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: Jon Exley & Karen Holcombe



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 MORECAMBE

FACTFILE:

NICKNAMES: THE SHRIMPS

GROUND: GLOBE ARENA

MANAGER: JIM BENTLEY

LAST SEASON: 18TH IN LEAGUE TWO

The Hatters would like to extend a warm welcome to Morecambe manager Jim Bentley, his players and staff, as well as the travelling Shrimps faithful.

After a sluggish start to the league season, the Shrimps' form picked up and they now find themselves in 19th place, six points clear of the relegation zone.

They have also found themselves in a decent vein of form, picking up two wins and a draw from their last three games. That draw came last Saturday at home against Stevenage, as the evergreen Kevin Ellison netted in the first half, but a late leveller from former Hatter Fraser Franks saw Boro take a point back to Hertfordshire.

Ellison has played over 250 times for the Shrimps, scoring 77 times since joining the summer of 2011. The 38-year-old began his career with Southport, before going onto play for the likes of Altrincham, Chester City and Rotherham United, and has been a big player in Bentley's side for several seasons now.

Bentley himself became first team manager at the Globe Arena just weeks before Ellison arrived and is now the second longest serving manager in the EFL, behind only Exeter City's Paul Tisdale.

The ex-defender – who played for the Shrimps for nine years after starting his career with Manchester City and then Telford United – has done well on limited resources, keeping the side in the league, with his highest placed finish at the club 11th in Sky Bet League Two. He recently signed a new contract at the club to keep him there until at least 2020.

During his time as manager, Bentley has often looked to experienced players to bolster his side and this season has proven no different, as he brought in the likes of Garry Thompson and Adam McGurk, who have made over 900 career appearances combined. Thompson started his career with Morecambe in 1999, playing alongside Bentley, before moving on to Scunthorpe United in 2008. He went onto play

for the likes of Bradford City, Notts County and Wycombe Wanderers, before marking his return to the Shrimps with two goals on his second debut in a 3-2 win over Cheltenham Town at the beginning of this campaign.

There have been nine meetings between the Hatters and Morecambe. The first came in League Two in 2008, when Michael Spillane netted for the Town in a 1-1 draw at Kenilworth Road. Overall the Hatters have won five times, drawn twice and lost twice to Morecambe. Last season Town took six points from a possible six against Bentley's side, winning 2-0 away in November, before a 3-1 victory here on the final day of the regular season.

This campaign saw us trek up to the Globe Arena on a Tuesday evening at the end of September, with the game in which Harry Cornick made his first start for the club, and Aaron Jarvis his professional debut as a late substitute, ending in a goalless draw.

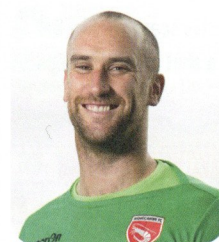
**HATTERS
V MORECAMBE**
LUTON WINS: 5 | DRAWS: 2
MORECAMBE WINS: 2

LAST MEETING:
MORECAMBE 0-0 LUTON
SEPTEMBER 26TH 2017

THE MAIN MEN

IN BETWEEN THE STICKS

BARRY ROCHE



The 35-year-old recently made his 400th career appearance for the Shrimps and will celebrate ten years at

the club this June. After spending some of his youth career at Leeds United, he moved to Nottingham Forest making 13 appearances for the Reds. After five years at the City Ground, where he played under Hatters No.2 Paul Hart, he signed for Chesterfield in 2005, becoming their number one and going onto make 140 appearances for the Spireites before joining Morecambe in 2008.

THE WALL

STEVE OLD

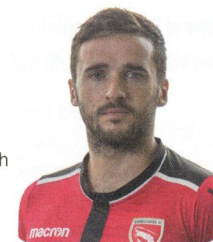


A former New Zealand international, the 31-year-old has played across the world for the likes of Wellington

Phoenix in his homeland, Shijiazhuang Ever Bright in China and Ljungskile SK in Sweden. A starter in Jim Bentley's side since his arrival, Old has not only been competent at keeping the ball out of the net at his end, but also finding it at the other, having scored four times this season. He played for his country 17 times, scoring once – the only goal in a 1-0 win against Malaysia in 2006.

THE MAN IN THE MIDDLE

AARON WILDIG



A Cardiff City academy graduate, the Hereford-born midfielder came through the youth system with the Sky Blues before signing a pro-contract in 2009. He made 13 appearances in the Championship for Cardiff, as well as heading out on loan to Hamilton Academical and Shrewsbury Town, the latter of which he joined permanently in 2012. A three-year spell at the New Meadow came to an end when he joined the Shrimps after an initial loan spell at the Globe Arena.

THE DANGERMAN

CALLUM LANG



On-loan from Sky Bet League One outfit Wigan Athletic, Liverpool-born forward Lang made three appearances for his parent club before arriving on the north-west coast for the season back in August. The 19-year-old scored his first goal in professional football in the Shrimps' 2-0 win against Coventry in December, just a minute after coming off the bench. It also set him off on a run of five goals in his last seven games, including a brace in the 4-3 win over Yeovil Town.

GOALKEEPER

DANIEL NIZIC

AGE: 22

PREVIOUS CLUB: BURNLEY

DEFENDERS

AARON MCGOWAN

AGE: 21

SHRIMPS ACADEMY GRADUATE

PATRICK BROUGH

AGE: 21

PREVIOUS CLUB: CARLISLE UNITED

DEAN WINNARD

AGE: 28

PREVIOUS CLUB: ACCRINGTON

LUKE CONLAN

AGE: 23

PREVIOUS CLUB: BURNLEY

MIDFIELDERS

ALEX KENYON

AGE: 25

PREVIOUS CLUB: STOCKPORT COUNTY

GARRY THOMPSON

AGE: 37

PREVIOUS CLUB: WYCOMBE

ANDREW FLEMING

AGE: 30

PREVIOUS CLUB: WREXHAM

ELLIOT OSBORNE

AGE: 21

ON LOAN FROM FLEETWOOD TOWN

STRIKERS

VADAIN OLIVER

AGE: 26

PREVIOUS CLUB: YORK CITY

ADAM CAMPBELL

AGE: 23

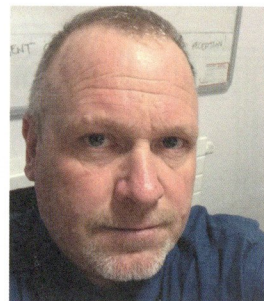
PREVIOUS CLUB: NOTTS COUNTY

KEVIN ELLISON

AGE: 38

PREVIOUS CLUB: ROTHERHAM UNITED

THE VIEW FROM THE OAK ROAD



DAVID FREEAR, a Morecambe supporter of 50 years, gives us his thoughts on what lies in store for his team this season in Sky Bet League Two and this afternoon on their visit to Kenilworth Road, as well as his top XI players to ever pull on a shirt for the Shrimps...

GENERAL ENQUIRIES:

Once again Jim Bentley has done a brilliant job on limited resources at the Globe Arena. How important is he to Morecambe?

Vital. The number of players who have signed for us seemingly on their uppers, whether injuries have ravaged them or their confidence has vanished, and he gets them playing again and they move on to bigger things is amazing. Many players sign for us because of Jim, not because of the wages and conditions, which says it all really.

Kevin Ellison continues to prove age is just a number as he continues to play regularly at 38. What does he mean to the Shrimps?

As Churchill said of Russia, Kevin is a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma. Even we the fans have written him off at times, but Jim hasn't, and just last week at Grimsby he was applauded off by the home crowd. The game needs characters in this modern day, and he has that in spades. This season he has yet again chipped in with that precious commodity of goals!!

Out of your summer signings who have you been most impressed with?



Vadaine Oliver has led the line well up front, Adam McGurk is an intelligent player who links midfield and attack, but Sam Lavelle at centre-back looks a real find. He always appears calm and assured on the ball, pretty quick and with an eye for a pass. At 21, he has a bright future if he maintains and learns – plus his dad played for us many years ago, so good luck to him. His other colleagues at the back, Steve Old and Max Muller, haven't been too shoddy either, mind!

Who were you most pleased to see remain at the club over the summer?

Michael Rose, he was vital in our survival last season, he was instrumental on the pitch with so many key moments, and he's a decent penalty taker, should we ever get one! He signed in the summer despite the off-field troubles which dogged us last term, and was immediately made captain. With his range of passing and useful dead-ball delivery on his experienced shoulders, we were lucky to keep him.

What position would you like to see strengthened during this transfer window?

Perhaps someone along the Liam Sercombe ball carrying midfielder-type? We can pass, but sometimes the ability to create space in the middle of the park by beating a man can really terrify a defence. Saying that, so can Kev's shiny head!!

The Shrimps have been strong at home this season but haven't been quite as prolific on the road, what do you put that down to?

Not taking our chances. We have been in most of the games, apart from perhaps Exeter, and we have created chances at 0-0 but failed to take them. Goals change games, and often we have started a game well and spurned opportunities, then gone on to concede and been chasing the game. Very frustrating.

What sort of style of play can we expect from your side today – a tidy passing approach, hard to beat, or neither?

If the pitch is good we will try and get it down and play, but our defence has been pretty good this season compared to recent ones. However Kenilworth Road has hardly been a happy hunting ground for us and with you scoring for fun, I would suspect we would try and be compact and stealthy on the break.

MY ALL-TIME MORECAMBE XI...

This would change weekly if you kept asking me.

GK: JOE LEWIS

On loan from Norwich in our first season in the EFL, he was immense. Now at Aberdeen.

RB: MICHAEL KNOWLES

A product of our youth system, he was a clever two-footed midfielder who made full-back his own.

CB: JIM BENTLEY

Has to be. Lifted the promotion trophy at Wembley, confirming his dream had happened.

CB: JEFF STREET

"Six foot two, eyes of blue, Jeffery Street is after you" – great song!

LB: LAWRENCE WILSON

Signed from Chester, "Willo" was a popular if a little paranoid marauding left back who scored goals from crazy angles. He was adept at staying on his feet or getting a foot in, so he gave away many corners, but hardly anyone scored from a cross.

RM: GARRY THOMPSON

Still plays for us now, but again a product of the youth system. Legend, big, quick, strong, goals!!

CM: BRIAN HEALEY

Still the best player ever to pull on a Shrimps shirt in Non-League in my humble opinion. Great vision and could drop it on sixpence with either foot.

CM: STEWART DRUMMOND

Learned as a youngster alongside Healey in the middle of the park, when Brian left he assumed his mantle and went on to score and make vital goals as well as entertaining us with his ball juggling skills. Now youth coach at the club, Top Shrimp.

LM: MICHAEL TWISS

Explosive talent, wand of a left peg, magic to watch.



ST: JOHN NORMAN

The most intelligent footballer with a delicate touch who scored a pile of goals but still set up just about every goal that.....

ST: JUSTIN JACKSON

...ever scored for us! Jacko was cocky, very fast and always hit the target, but never really did it anywhere else, as nobody else had John Norman!!

QUICKFIRE:

Terrace or Seats? Terracing every time

Who are your rivals? Accrington Stanley

Favourite all-time manager?

Jim Harvey and the current gaffer

Predicted player of the season?

Sam Lavelle

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

Michael Twiss, burst of pace and the hardest shot I've ever witnessed.

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

Kev Ellison obviously; Dave Roberts, manager of the 1974 Trophy-winning side; Tony Webber, who set both goals up that day at Wembley; Danny Carlton, who got us promoted at Wembley in 2007; and Leighton James, who left in... shall we say... mysterious circumstances!

Most treasured piece of Imps memorabilia?

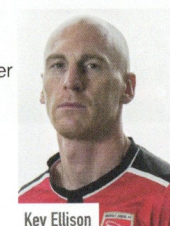
A sign from the turnstiles at Crusty Pie (Christie Park) our old ground.

What league will Lincoln be in next season?

League Two

Who will win Sky Bet League Two this season?

Yourselves or Notts County.



Kev Ellison

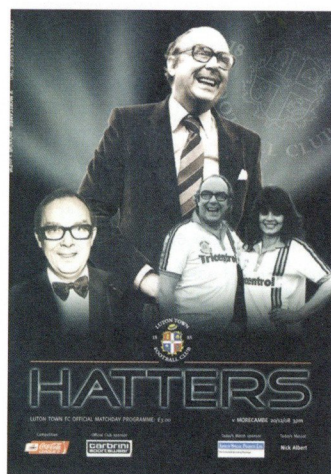


Danny Carlton



COVERED!

CLUB HISTORIAN
ROGER WASH
PICKS OUT EIGHT
PROGRAMME COVERS
FROM PAST GAMES
WITH OUR OPPONENTS.

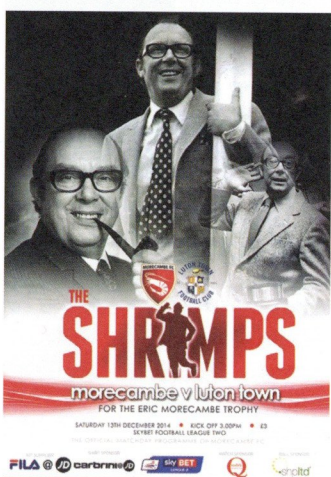
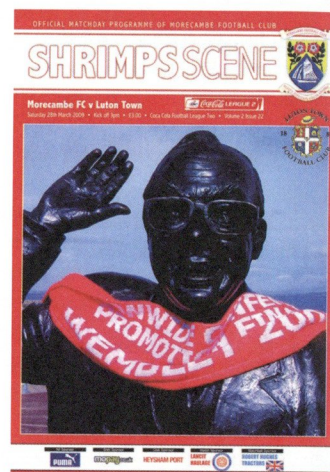


◀ DECEMBER 2008

The first ever meeting with the Shrimps finishes in a 1-1 draw with Michael Spillane on the scoresheet for the Town. Although unbeaten in five, draws are not enough as the Hatters battle against a 30-point deduction.

▶ MARCH 2009

At the old Christie Park ground the Town fight back from a goal down to win 2-1. After three straight victories there is a little light at the end of the tunnel, but this turns out to be the last League win until 2014.

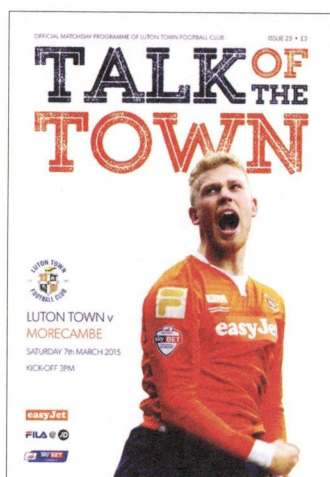


◀ DECEMBER 2014

Naïve defending and a lack of physicality ends in a 3-0 defeat in the Town's first visit to the Globe Arena, although the dismissal of Steve McNulty after 30 minutes does not help.

▶ MARCH 2015

The Town's 15-game unbeaten home run ends in a 3-2 defeat with Luke Wilkinson netting an own goal four minutes from the end. This after the Hatters had levelled the score from being two behind.

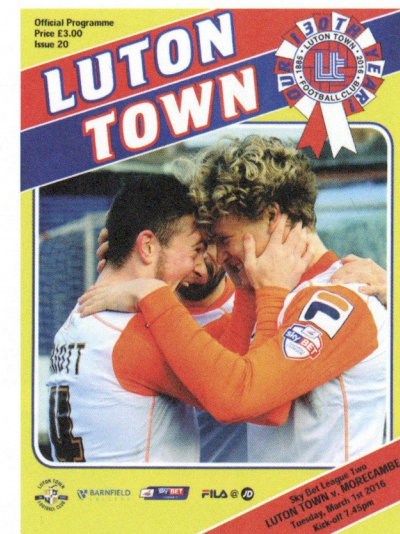
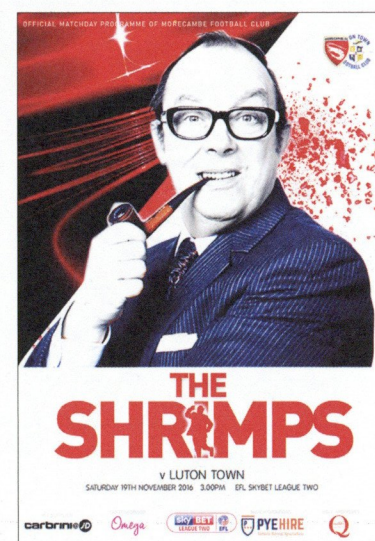


▲ SEPTEMBER 2015

The Town are made of sterner stuff this year and with Paddy McCourt controlling the midfield, a 3-1 victory is recorded. Luke Wilkinson opens the scoring with a goal at the right end!

▼ NOVEMBER 2016

The Town inflict Morecambe's seventh straight home defeat when winning 2-0. A goal in each half from Danny Hylton and Isaac Vassell secures the points.

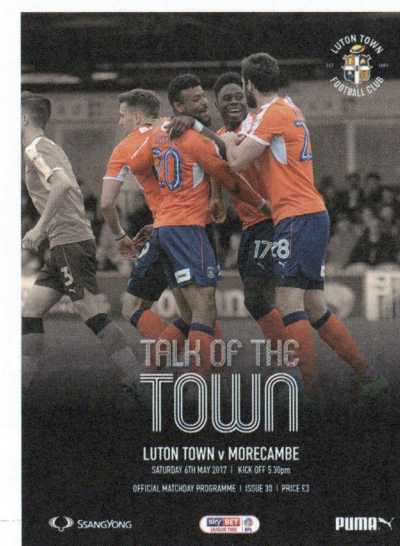


▲ MARCH 2016

A frustrating evening is ended with a Jack Marriott goal with 14 minutes to go. It is now three wins in a row as the Town make a late bid for the play-offs.

▼ MAY 2017

Two late goals from substitute Jack Marriott set the Hatters up for play-off clashes against Blackpool with a 3-1 victory over the Shrimps at Kenilworth Road.





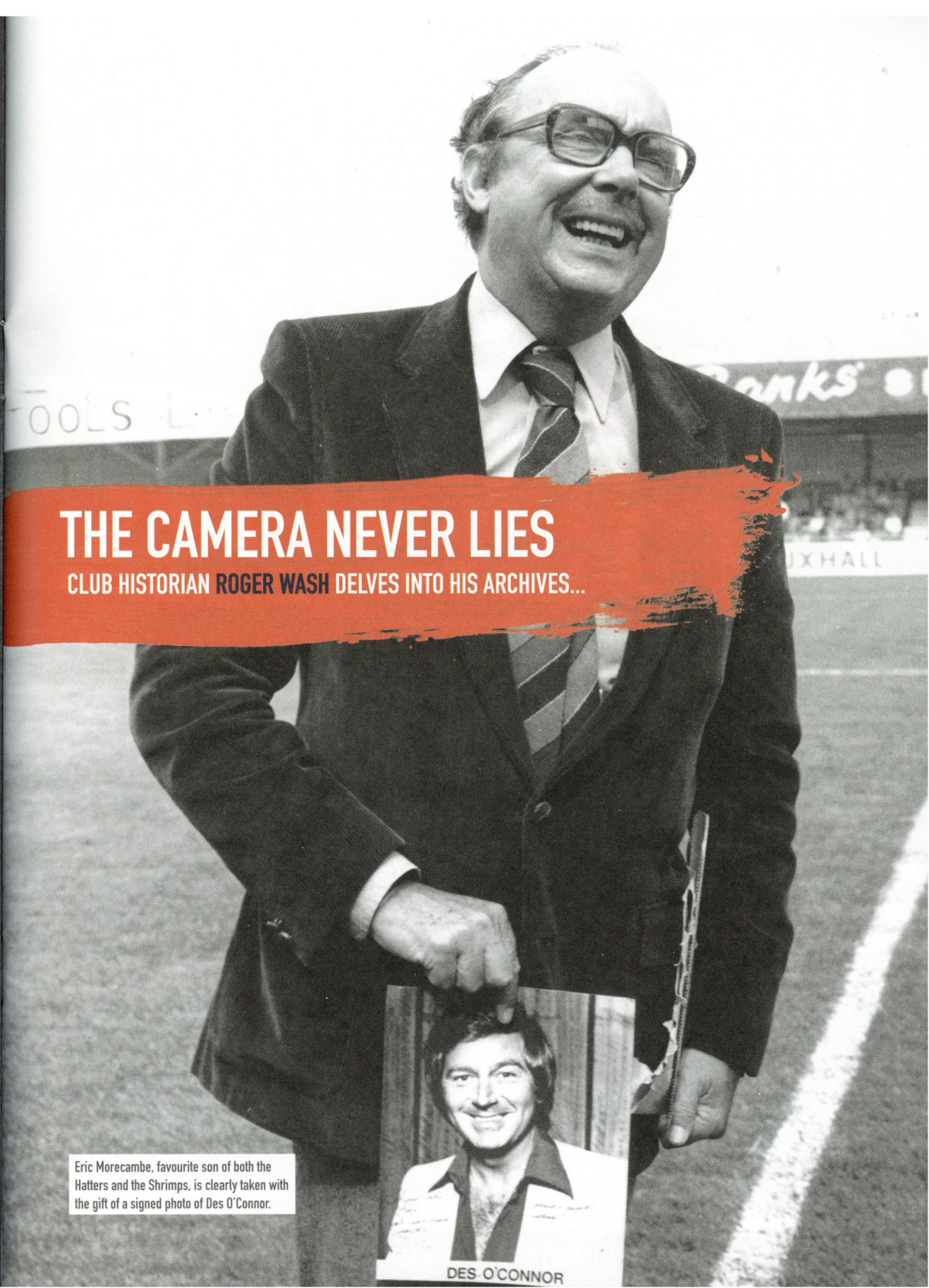
Full Time



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*IRI data MAT 26.03.16



THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES INTO HIS ARCHIVES...

Eric Morecambe, favourite son of both the Hatters and the Shrimps, is clearly taken with the gift of a signed photo of Des O'Connor.



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PROUD TO PRINT THE LUTON TOWN MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

JAMES SHEA'S TOWN TEAM-MATES

[TOWN TEAM-MATES]

Who do you travel in with?

I travel in by myself on the train. I live in Islington, so jump on at King's Cross, half-hour here and a short walk over from Luton Parkway to The Brache. It's easy for me.

Who do you sit next to in the dressing room?

I'm in between the new Essex mob – Shins and El. It's a tight little corner in there, but they look after me. Shins keeps me entertained, he's a funny one.

Who do you room with?

The Big Man – the GK Union. Me and Stechy room together on every trip and we've been good so far. He sorts the room out – and he makes a good cup of tea!

Most annoying on away trips?

I haven't seen anyone really annoying yet. I've heard who the main two culprits are, but I haven't seen anything yet – at the moment, touch wood!

Best trainer?

Olly Lee.

Worst trainer?

I'll go for Glen and Pelly. Sheez sometimes, but he turns up on a Thursday when it matters!

Strongest in the gym?

Pell – he's just naturally strong.



Luke Gambin shows off his quick feet at Newcastle

Quickest feet?

Gambo, without a doubt. He's rapid.

Nutmeg king?

Cooky wants it, so I'll go for him.

Biggest moaner?

Glen, Sheez, Olly Lee – he loves a moan.

Loudest in the dressing room?

Stechy's got a big mouth – says the same phrase every morning, which I can't repeat. Glen's quite loud as well.

Gaffer's pet?

The Caretaker, Glen Rea.

Best taste in music?

I like Sheez's music, which he has playing on coach journeys. It's old school. Nice stuff to get along with and songs that everyone knows. He caters for everyone.

Worst taste in music?

Pelly. It's not my sort of music!

Best initiation song?

Macca was the first one up in Slovenia, and he set a very good standard with 'Wild Rover'. I went for the The Kooks – Naïve. I wasn't the best, and I wasn't the worst. I was average, and I'll take that. Started slowly but I pulled it back!

Worst initiation song?

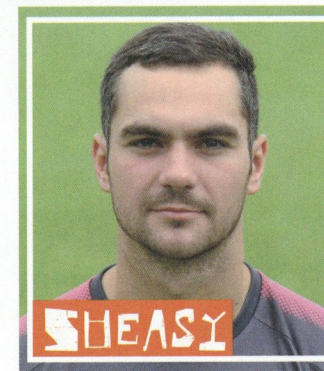
Shins, by a country mile! Forgot the words, forgot everything, shaking! No, he wasn't shaking, but he was terrible.

Best dressed?

Shins gives it a good go.

Worst dressed?

Jarvo. I'll leave it at that.



I can't be too mean!

Who spends the longest time in front of the mirror?

Pottsy. He does his barnet – a lot!

Most intelligent?

Pottsy thinks he's intelligent, but I'm going with Jack Stacey because he's doing a degree in business.

Best banter?

Mully's a funny one, but Shins is a very funny guy who goes under the radar.

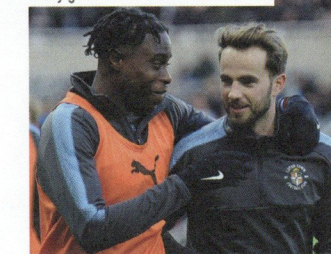
Most likely to be a manager?

Sheez or Macca. I wouldn't get on Macca's wrong side if I was playing for him!

Finally, predict your player of the year?

The Big Man, Stechy!

Pelly gives Shins some music advice!



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PORT VALE 4 : TOWN 0



SATURDAY 30TH DECEMBER | SKY BET LEAGUE 2 | ATTENDANCE: 5,523 | AWAY: 1,175

PORT VALE GOALS: MULLINS (OG) 23, POPE 60, 83, WHITFIELD 70

HATTERS: STECH, JUSTIN, MULLINS, SHEEHAN ©, POTTS, REA, MPANZU, D'ATH (BERRY 54), CORNICK (SHINNIE 67), HYLTON, E LEE (COLLINS 54). | **SUBS NOT USED:** COOK, GAMBIN, FAMEWO, SHEA (GK).

PORT VALE: BOOT, DAVIS, KAY, HARNESS, PUGH, POPE (BARNETT 87), MONTANO, SMITH, WHITFIELD (WORRALL 76), TONGE, GUNNING (ANDERSON 57). | **SUBS NOT USED:** LAINTON (GK), DENTON, FORRESTER, TURNER.

THE ACTION

Town fell to their first defeat in 13 games as Port Vale put them to the sword in a 4-0 win at Vale Park in the Hatters' final game of 2017.

Dan Potts' attempted clearance ricocheted back off Johnny Mullins and into the back of the Town's net midway through the first half, before Tom Pope doubled the hosts' lead on the hour mark as he swept home from a Ben Whitfield pass.

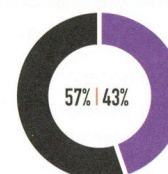
Pope then turned provider as he set-up Whitfield to fire into an empty net after picking Glen Rea's pocket, before the 32-year-old got his second of the afternoon as he converted from close range to round off the scoring with seven minutes left.



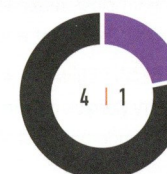
JONES:

"We were poor. We had a spell in the second half for about six or seven minutes that we

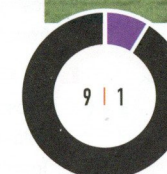
looked like the team we are, and then apart from that we were second best. They outfought us, they outbattled us, they worked harder than us. They were more dangerous than us and thoroughly deserved to win the game."



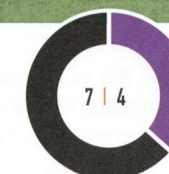
POSSESSION



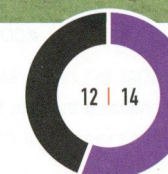
SHOTS ON TARGET



SHOTS OFF TARGET



CORNERS



FOULS

TOWN 4 : LINCOLN CITY 2

MONDAY 1ST JANUARY | KENILWORTH ROAD | ATTENDANCE: 9,659 | AWAY: 1,044

TOWN GOAL: COLLINS 32, JUSTIN 43, HYLTON 73, CORNICK 82

LINCOLN GOALS: BOSTWICK 6, GREEN 34

HATTERS: STECH, STACEY, MULLINS, SHEEHAN ©, JUSTIN, REA, O LEE, BERRY, SHINNIE (CORNICK 71), COLLINS, HYLTON. | **SUBS NOT USED:** COOK, MPANZU, GAMBIN, E LEE, FAMEWO, SHEA (GK).

YELLOW CARDS: BERRY | **RED CARDS:** SHEEHAN

LINCOLN: VICKERS, LONG (KNOTT 80), HABERGHAM, WHITEHOUSE, WATERFALL ©, RHEAD (GINNELLY 46), GREEN (DICKIE 85), BOSTWICK, RAGGETT, ANDERSON, WOODYARD. | **SUBS NOT USED:** FARMAN (GK), PALMER, ARNOLD, STEWART. | **YELLOW CARDS:** RHEAD, WHITEHOUSE, ANDERSON | **RED CARDS:** ANDERSON



Danny Hylton heads the Town in front



THE MAIN MINUTES

4' RED CARD – Alan Sheehan is shown a straight red card after a coming together with Matt Rhead.

5' GOAL to Lincoln. The resulting free-kick from the red card is hammered in by Michael Bostwick from 20 yards. **0-1** #COYH

32' THE TOWN TEN BRING IT LEVEL! Jack Stacey plays it over the top for Danny Hylton, he wrestles with Sean Long to get to it and does, he fakes a shot before selflessly teeing up James Collins to smash it in for a deserved equaliser. **1-1** #COYH

34' GOAL to Lincoln. Matt Green gets on the end of a flick on inside the box, firing it at Stech, but the keeper can't keep it out of the back of the net. **1-2** #COYH

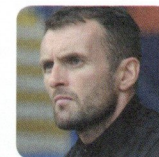
36' RED CARD: Harry Anderson gets a second yellow for a high tackle on Andrew Shinnie. It's now ten against

ten! This has been an action-packed half so far... **1-2** #COYH

43' ONE OF OUR OWWWNNNN! Town win a corner, it's swung in and cleared to James Justin who is 25 yards out, he takes a touch and then smashes it into the bottom right corner! Incredible stuff! **2-2** #COYH

73' WE'RE IN THE LEAD! Luke Berry crosses from the left, it's deflected and Hylton gets down low to head it past Josh Vickers from close range to put the Hatters in front for the first time. What a turnaround! **3-2!** #COYH

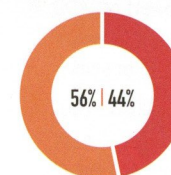
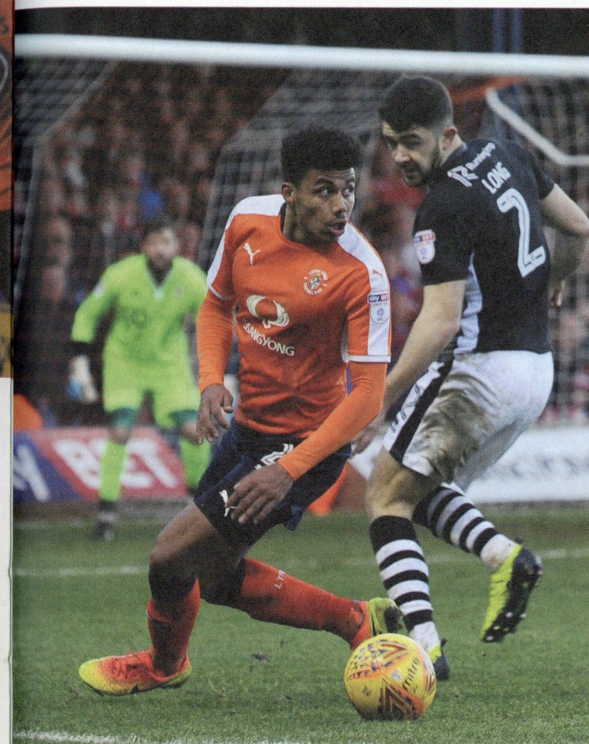
82' YOU ABSOLUTE BEAUTY, CORNDOG! 4-2 to the Hatters! Substitute Harry Cornick cuts in from the left before unleashing a thunderbolt past Vickers to extend the Town's lead! **4-2** #COYH



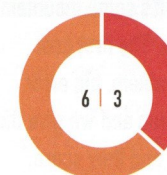
JONES:

"I am super proud of my side today, more than I have ever been. This is my best result, this is our best result and it wasn't because we scored four goals or won 4-2, it was the spell after we went down to ten men.

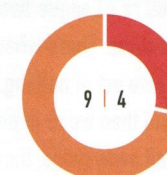
"From the time we had the sending off, to the time they scored their second, I was so proud of my team. We got on the ball, we were the better side, they couldn't get near us. In that time they gave everyone belief. It gave everyone in the stadium belief that we were by far the better side, even with ten men."



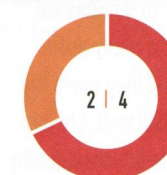
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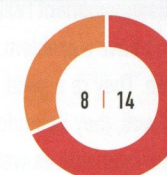
SHOTS ON TARGET



SHOTS OFF TARGET



CORNERS



FOULS

NEWCASTLE UNITED 3 : TOWN 1



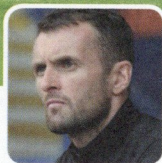
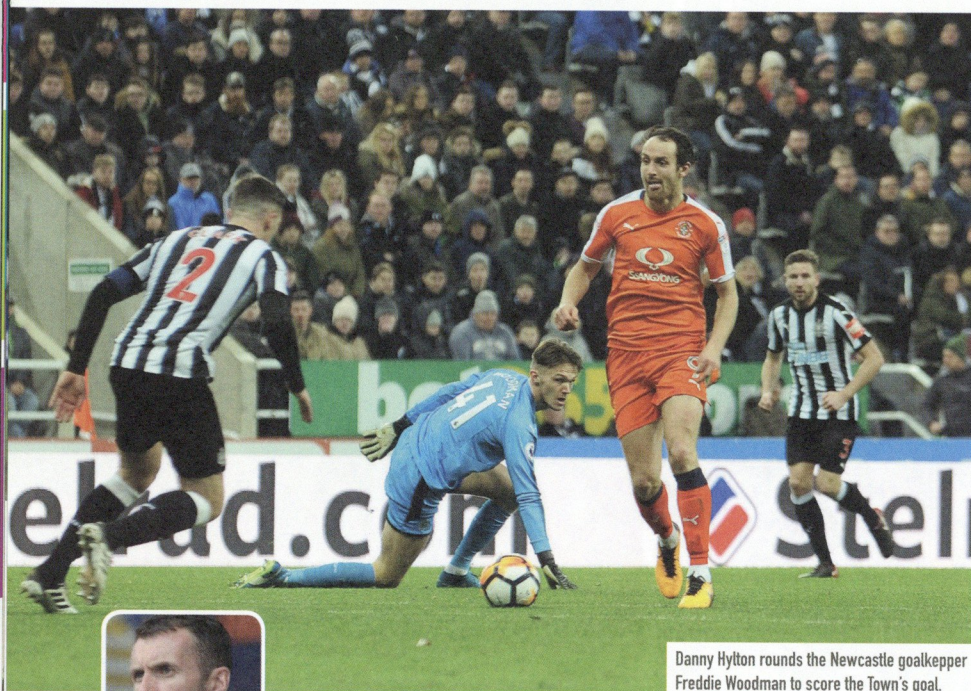
SAT 6TH JANUARY | ST JAMES' PARK | EMIRATES FA CUP R3 | ATTENDANCE: 47,069 | AWAY: 7,477

TOWN GOAL: HYLTON 49

NEWCASTLE GOALS: PEREZ 30, 36, SHELVEY 39

HATTERS: STECH, JUSTIN, REA, MULLINS ©, POTTS, MPANZU (CORNICK 46), O LEE, BERRY, SHINNIE (GAMBIN 82), COLLINS (E LEE 68), HYLTON. | **SUBS NOT USED:** STACEY, COOK, FAMEWO, SHEA (GK) **YELLOW CARDS:** HYLTON

NEWCASTLE: WOODMAN, CLARK, DUMMETT, LASCELLES © (HAYDEN 31), MURPHY, SHELVEY (DIAME 71), GAYLE, RITCHIE, PEREZ, MANQUILLO, MERINO (SAIVET 80). | **SUBS NOT USED:** AARONS, JOSELU, HAIDARA, DARLOW (GK) | **YELLOW CARDS:** SHELVEY, HAYDEN, DUMMETT

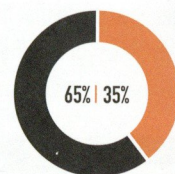


JONES:

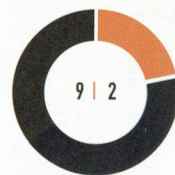
"I am very proud of the second half performance, but the overall feeling I've got is disappointment really. For 25 minutes we didn't have a problem, it was a really even game. They're a good side and they move the ball well, they defended the ball well. We had a few moments as well, a little bit more quality and we might have punished them.

"But when you make three errors and you go three down against a Premier League side and you're a League Two side, it's some mountain to climb. That's what it was. The first goal came out of nothing, no problem, big error. And then we're in possession and we give the ball away twice, they're in and they score."

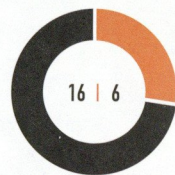
Danny Hylton rounds the Newcastle goalkeeper Freddie Woodman to score the Town's goal.



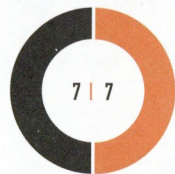
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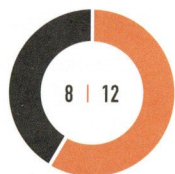
SHOTS ON TARGET



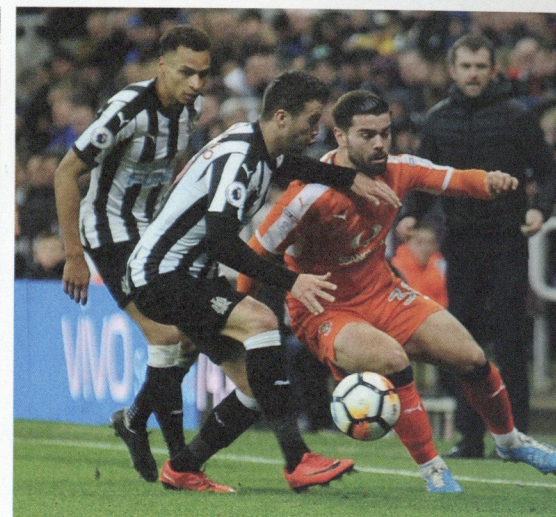
SHOTS OFF TARGET



CORNERS



FOULS



THE MAIN MINUTES

30' GOAL to Newcastle. Jacob Murphy wins a free-kick 20 yards from goal with Danny Hylton booked for tugging him back, it's swung in, Marek Stech spills it and Ayoze Perez turns it in. **NU 1-0 LT** #COYH

36' GOAL to Newcastle. Matt Ritchie crosses in from the right, it takes a deflection, Dwight Gayle heads towards goal and forces a great save from Stech, but it falls nicely for Perez to tuck away his second of the game. **NU 2-0 LT** #COYH

39' GOAL to Newcastle. Gayle tees up Jonjo Shelvey to curl home from the edge of the box, sending it down the middle to extend the hosts' lead. **NU 3-0 LT** #COYH

49' **GOOOOOOOOOOALLLLLLL SUPER DANNY HYLTON!** Keeper Freddie Woodman clears it under pressure, Glen Rea sends it straight back to Hylton up the other end who rounds the keeper and the striker fires in! **NU 3-1 LT**

57' Hylton has the ball in the back of the net as he smashes it into the bottom right corner after a fantastic one-two with Andrew Shinnie and the striker is celebrating, but the linesman has his flag up for offside. TV replays show Hylton was clearly onside!

74' Hylton again out-muscles a Newcastle player – this time it's Isaac Hayden – and is then brought down right on the edge of the Newcastle box. Elliot Lee takes the resulting free-kick and smashes it against the crossbar! He was looking for the top right corner and it cannoned back and away from goal!

90+4' Town counter from a Newcastle corner after Stech's save, Elliot Lee carries it into the other half before sending Luke Gambin through but his shot from an angle on the right hits the side netting!

DANNY JOY AT 7,500 TOWN FANS CALLING THE TOON!



St James' Park played host to a thriller as the Hatters were ultimately knocked out of the Emirates FA Cup a fortnight ago, but Town striker Danny Hylton said the 7,500 travelling supporters made the day one he won't forget.

The Hatters certainly looked destined for defeat as a nine-minute spell in the first half saw Nathan Jones' side go 3-0 down, but an excellent second half performance should have seen the Town potentially pick up more than just a consolation goal.

With the Hatters back in the game after Hylton's 49th minute goal, he felt – and the replays show – that his second goal that was ruled out for offside should have stood. With how the Hatters go about their work, he believes his team could have certainly got more from the game.

He said: "The second one it was a great one-two with Shinnie, in my mind there was no doubt about it, that's why I went off and celebrated.

"I scored, I never thought it was offside. I have seen the replay back and it wasn't. Sometimes the decision goes against you and it did today. If that had counted, it's 3-2, there's half-an-hour to go, you never know.

"I don't think we play the League Two way. A lot of teams go back to front really quickly, we like to play. We have come to Newcastle and we have tried to be brave. First half they punished us, but second half we were the better team, playing our way and playing football. We were really positive.

"It gives you a taste. This is the level we want to be at and we aspire to be that. We will keep plugging away this season, keep doing that and hopefully we can make our way up the league tables."

Hylton's goal four minutes after the restart gave the Town hope of an unlikely comeback, and with the way the fans were cheering on the Hatters, Hylton felt the visiting side could pull it off.

"To be fair the keeper has made my mind up for me for the goal, I have got no option but to go round him, then it was me and the defender! He was going back across goal so I tried to put it in the near post and thankfully it went in.

"It was an electric atmosphere. The stadium is amazing, it takes your breath away. Our fans – fair play to every single one of them. They sung their hearts out, got behind the lads and made a big difference. It just added to that electric atmosphere. It's a game I won't forget.

"We lost the game 3-1 but all the supporters were loud and proud because they could see we gave our all, we played some good stuff and at times we were the better side in the game. Apart from that ten-minute spell where they scored three goals, I thought we did ourselves proud."

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TOWN TRAVELLERS

[KEVIN HARPER]

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

“What a day! I was like a kid at Christmas in the week prior to the game and the day did not disappoint. The atmosphere in our end was fantastic and watching the Town take the game to a Premier League side in a stadium like St James' Park made me so proud.

I never lack pride where supporting the Town is concerned, but I was bursting with it after a wonderful performance on and off the pitch.

The game itself was fairly even for the most part, but 10 minutes of sloppiness in the first half where we conceded three goals cost us dear.

We made a brave change at half-time and Danny Hylton scored early to send 7,500 Town fans crazy. He got another that was wrongly disallowed, and we really had a side more than 50 places higher than us on the ropes as Elliot Lee hit the crossbar and Shinnie had a shot well saved in a brilliant second half performance.

Ultimately the damage was done in that first half but the effort we put in was fantastic. It was a long day but one well worth it, even without the result going in our favour. A day I'll remember for a while.”

...AND HIS INTERVIEW WITH FELLOW TRAVELLING TOWN FAN **JUNE ADAMSON**

When did you start supporting Luton?

First game was Luton v Manchester United in 1990.

Where do you sit at home games?

Season Ticket Holder Kenny Upper Block F

Who do you go to matches with?

My son Colin and on occasions my grandsons Josh and Ben join us. At away matches there is a group of us on the Bobbers Coach that sit together.

What got you into supporting Luton?

My family were all Crystal Palace fans but in the '80s we moved to Bedfordshire. My son wanted to watch Manchester United. I jumped at the chance to watch a game which was Luton v Man U. He discovered he preferred Luton Town and that's where the magic started.

Seats or terrace?

Seats

What is your favourite memory as a Luton fan?

One of them is going to Wembley watching Claude Gnaka score that goal and win us the JPT. There have been many more that are close, especially from the Conference-winning season.

Who is your all-time favourite Luton player and why?

Ceri Hughes came into the service station I ran, and I asked him to sign the back of a receipt for me. I was shaking as this was first time I met a player close up. He continued to come in as a regular, and his girlfriend's car broke down so we helped her – for which he was extremely grateful.

Who is your favourite Luton manager and why?

It was always Pleaty, and still is – but I do like Nathan as I love his passion for our club.



Where will Luton finish this season?

Hopefully top, going up as champions. Think it's OUR year!

What does LTFC mean to you?

I follow Luton up and down the country. I've met many players going to events. It's a club that you can get as close to as you want.

Describe LTFC in 3 words.

Special Luton moments



GET GAME READY



BRING IT ON!

TOWN 0 : PETERBOROUGH 0

POSH WON 7-6 ON PENALTIES



TUE 9TH JANUARY | CHECKATRADE TROPHY 3RD ROUND | ATTENDANCE: 2,253 | AWAY: 408

HATTERS: SHEA, MUSONDA, SHEEHAN ©, FAMEWO, STACEY, MPANZU, D'ATH (O LEE 82), SENIOR, GAMBIN (MCQUOID 26), CORNICK (SHINNIE 64), COOK. | **SUBS NOT USED:** JUSTIN, POTTS, COTTER, ISTD (GK).

PENALTIES SCORED: COOK, MCQUOID, OLLY LEE, SHINNIE, SHEEHAN, MPANZU. | **SAVED:** MUSONDA

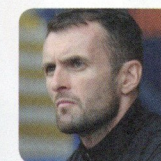
POSH: BOND, SHEPHARD, HUGHES, TAFAZOLLI, BALDWIN ©, LLOYD (KANU 57), MADDISON, MARRIOTT, MORIAS (ANDERSON 68), DA SILVA LOPES (DOUGHTY 33), GRANT. | **SUBS NOT USED:** PENNY, O'MALLEY (GK), FREESTONE, BORG | **PENALTIES SCORED:** MADDISON, DOUGHTY, MARRIOTT, SHEPHARD, KANU, BALDWIN, TAFAZOLLI.

THE ACTION

It was another enthralling Checkatrade Trophy clash at Kenilworth Road, but it was a disappointing result in the end as the Hatters exited the competition as Peterborough defeated them on penalties.

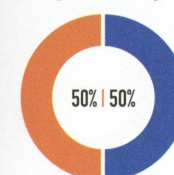
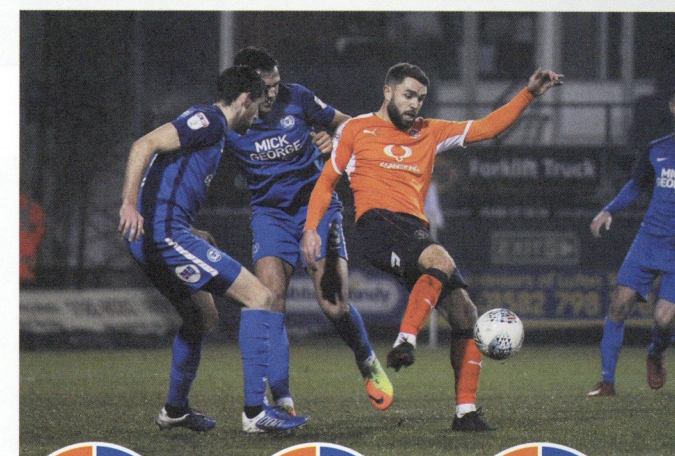
After an end-to-end first half saw neither side able to find the back of the net – with Jack Marriott and Lawson D'ath both going close for their sides – a goalless second half followed, leading straight to penalties.

With Frankie Musonda needing to score his spot-kick with the Posh leading 7-6, the 20-year-old's effort was well saved by Jonathan Bond.

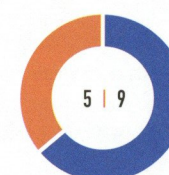


JONES:

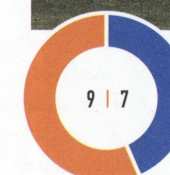
"We made ten changes, we've had equal chances and I think it was a good entertaining game. It just shows where we are. We've got a real strong squad and we've made changes and we've been able to more than compete with a side that is eighth in League One."



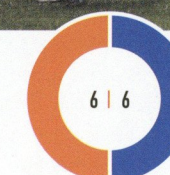
POSSESSION



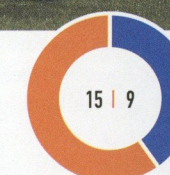
SHOTS ON TARGET



SHOTS OFF TARGET



CORNERS



FOULS

CHESTERFIELD 2 : TOWN 0

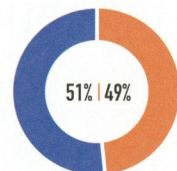


SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY | PROACT STADIUM | ATTENDANCE: 5,715 | AWAY: 1,244

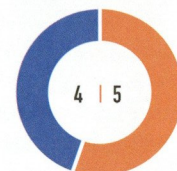
CHESTERFIELD GOALS: ROWLEY 19, MCCOURT 25

HATTERS: STECH, JUSTIN, MULLINS, FAMEWO, POTTS, REA, BERRY, OLLY LEE (CORNICK 28), BERRY, SHINNIE (MPANZU 84), COLLINS (COOK 84), ELLIOT LEE. | **SUBS NOT USED:** STACEY, SENIOR, D'ATH, SHEA. **YELLOW CARDS:** ELLIOT LEE, JUSTIN.

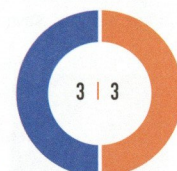
CHESTERFIELD: RAMSDALE, TALBOT, NELSON, MAGUIRE, WEIR, REED, MCCOURT (DIMAIO 90+3), KAY, HINES (BINNOM-WILLIAMS 83), O'GRADY, ROWLEY. | **SUBS NOT USED:** PARKIN, DE GIROLAMO, KELLETT, OFOEGBU, WAKEFIELD. | **YELLOW CARDS:** KAY, MAGUIRE.



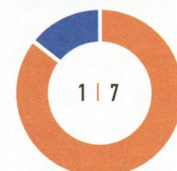
POSSESSION



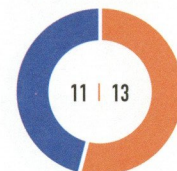
SHOTS ON TARGET



SHOTS OFF TARGET



CORNERS



FOULS

THE MAIN MINUTES

- 15'** First effort on goal for the Town as James Collins slips Andrew Shinnie into the left-side of the area and the Scot shoots left-footed from a tight angle, home keeper Aaron Ramsdale saves well low down at his near post. Cracking move!
- 19'** Goal for Chesterfield as Joe Rowley gets in at the near post to sweep in Robbie Weir's low cross from the right - **C 1-0 LT** #COYH
- 25'** The hosts now have a penalty after referee Carl Boyeson judges that James Justin tripped Zavon Hines as he looked to go past him on the left byline. Jak McCourt sends Marek Stech the wrong way to double the hosts' lead, firing it into the bottom right corner - **C 2-0 LT**

- 35'** It's the Town's turn to attack again, as Elliot Lee first nutmegs his man and then crosses for Shinnie, whose effort goes just over the bar from close range. Lee then has a shot himself from outside the box, and that goes just wide.
- 66'** The Town have the ball in the net...but the offside flag was in the air long before Collins turned Harry Cornick's low cross in at the back stick.
- 88'** Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu sees a shot blocked, then sub Jordan Cook sends a 25 yarder in that Ramsdale does well to push around the post. Chesterfield eventually see off the danger by clearing Luke Berry's corner.



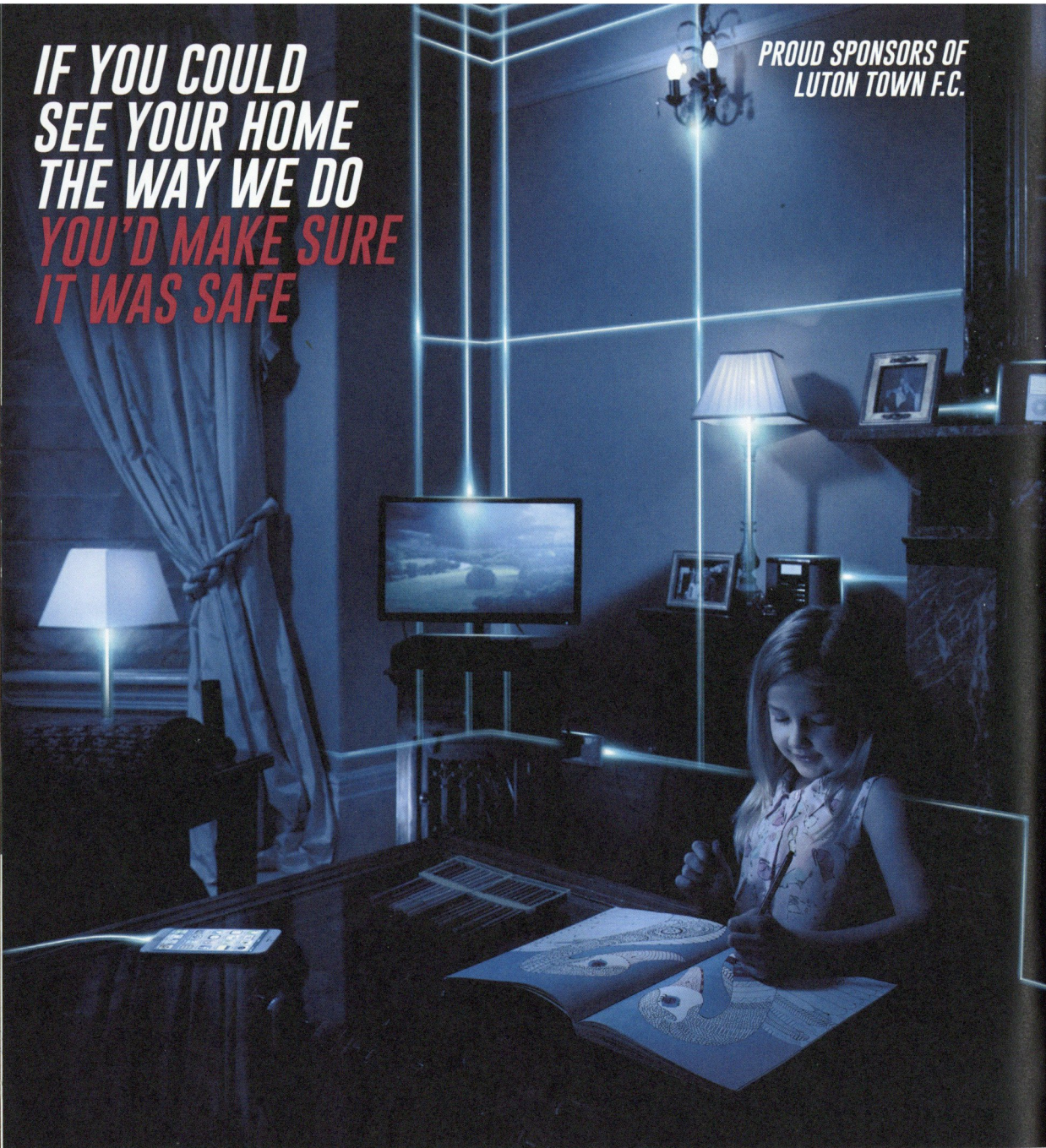
JONES:

"It was a disappointing performance. I am not taking anything away from Chesterfield, they were better than us in the first half and that was when the game was won. We talked about it not being another Port Vale in terms of getting a foothold in the game, coming out and pressing high and working hard, and we didn't do it. We know we are a good side but we looked a bit powder-puff and leaderless with four big players missing in Scott Cuthbert, Alan Sheehan, Alan McCormack and Danny Hylton, who we didn't risk with his stiff hamstring."



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[AKIN FAMEWO ON CHESTERFIELD]

FAMEWO FINDS HIS FEET DESPITE DEFEAT

AKIN, 19, MAKES FIRST EFL START OF THE SEASON AT CHESTERFIELD

While there was disappointment all-round at the 2-0 defeat at Chesterfield, teenager Akin Famewo provided a bright spot at the heart of the Hatters defence where he made his second EFL start – and first of the current campaign.

The 19-year-old centre-half made his debut at Hartlepool in September 2016, but had since been limited to Checkatrade Trophy starts and a couple of league sub run-outs in his dozen senior appearances for the Hatters.

However, after an impressive showing in the penalty shoot-out defeat to Peterborough in the midweek, manager Nathan Jones selected the homegrown product alongside captain Johnny Mullins at Proact Stadium, with Alan Sheehan serving the second of his three-match suspension.

After the game, Jones said: "The kid was excellent. He showed a real bravery in terms of going up against them and this defeat was nothing to do with Akin Famewo. I'm pleased for him."

Midfielder Andrew Shinnie was also impressed, adding: "Akin has done well. He's a big strong boy and he could easily do well in this league. I'm sure he'll have a good career."

Understandably, Famewo felt the same disappointment of every Hatter at the result, but he enjoyed the experience and is hungry for more.

"I was happy that I got chance to be out on the pitch," said the defender. "I really appreciate being given that opportunity, but obviously it's a big three points that, if we'd capitalised on, would have put us in a great position. I am disappointed with that, but I am still thankful that I got my chance."

The Town are currently missing two vastly experienced centre-halves in club captain Scott Cuthbert and vice-skipper Sheehan, who – as a left-footer – Famewo has to battle with for a starting shirt.

The youngster relishes the chance to work with his teammates every day though, adding: "I hope to take every

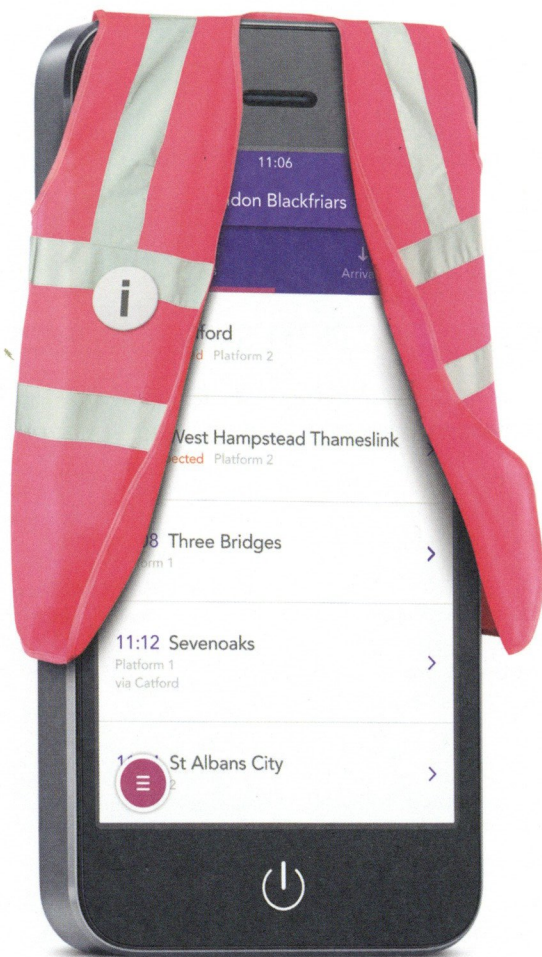
opportunity that I get given, and I hope that I do impress, but I'm just taking each game at a time.

"Alan Sheehan is class, so it's a difficult one to push through. But he's also giving me lessons in training and helping me learn, so there are positives to it, but obviously I want to get out there myself and play."

After seeing the side bounce back immediately from defeat in the previous away game at Port Vale by beating Lincoln at Kenilworth Road on New Year's Day, Famewo is confident the same reaction will be triggered this afternoon against Morecambe.

"We are a team who can bounce back," he said. "We do know how to learn from mistakes. You can see that from how well we've been doing this season. We've had a couple of hiccups, but like every team that happens to, you learn from it, you move on and keep striving forward and upwards."





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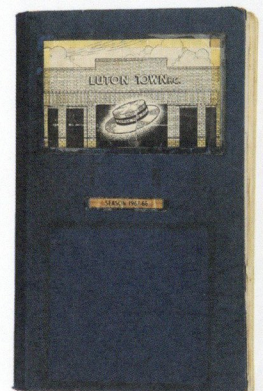
WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

PART FOURTEEN

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...



After the disappointing defeat at Bradford Park Avenue at the end of December, the Town had dropped back to fourth spot in the division although they still remained only two points behind the leaders with two and three games in hand on the teams above them.

League football could now take a backseat as the Hatters were due to make the trip to Swindon for an FA Cup second round tie. Swindon stood in third place in Division Three (now League One) and boasted a formidable home record, having lost only once that campaign.

A big Town following boosted the crowd at the County Ground to a best of the season, at that stage, of 18,203. Without the injured Bruce Rioch, Graham French and Tony Read, coupled with the reluctance to risk long term casualty Rodney Green for two games in a week, it was a reshuffled Town side that took to the field. At least Ray Whittaker was fit again and able to take his place on the left wing.

What turned out to be an end to end thriller did not look like that in the opening half. Swindon were on the attack from the start, forcing the Town back, and took the lead after

17 minutes, albeit from a fortuitous penalty. Tommy Hare brushed against Swindon winger Don Rogers, who tumbled spectacularly in the area.

Rogers took the spot-kick, which was saved by Bill Taylor in the Luton goal, but the referee saw an infringement and ordered a re-take. Despite the protestations from a mob of Luton players, the decision stood, and Rogers made no mistake second time around.

Rogers doubled the home side's lead just before the interval and the game seemed over, but whatever was said at half-time certainly worked as two goals from the Town around the hour mark turned the game on its head.

Whittaker had a say in both goals, putting over a perfect cross for Keith Allen to head home and, after John Moore was fouled in the area, netting with a spot-kick.

It now developed into a tremendous cup-tie and just as the Town were looking forward to a replay, Don Heath broke Luton hearts when firing in off a post just before the end. We could now concentrate on the League!



DENTON TO PLAY ON SATURDAY

By ROGER DUCKWORTH

LUTON TOWN'S new signing, right-winger Peter Denton from Coventry City, will play for the Town at home against Newport County on Saturday. Denton, who is 21, was signed by Luton manager Allan Brown late yesterday afternoon for a £4,000 fee.

will replace John who also joined this season, and who has ousted Graham in recent weeks.

one of nine players in the transfer list by Coventry, has been in the Midlands club since he played in it six times.

on travelled down to overnight, and met his team-mates when he Luton for a training at Stockingstone Road.

signing was done is by Mr Brown, who feels been squeezed out at the rate by other clubs who lead of his intentions in Luton Press, to make is captures.

it means the end of an any search for a new by the Luton manager who is determined to win promotion this season.

Relief

Denton, who is not married, will live in Luton. This is also a relief for Mr Brown whose previous attempts to secure players' signatures have been frustrated by wives not wanting to move.

last night Mr Brown's day was completed to his satisfaction when Luton reserves, currently bottom of the London Midweek League, won 2-1 at Colchester.

Mr Brown fielded a strong side that was much changed from that of recent weeks, and French, who has been left in the background of late, was played at left-half.

Said the Luton manager: "I was delighted with French's performance. He showed very well. In fact they all did. This was certainly a more compact looking side."

Tony Read, regular first teamer until Christmas, had his first outing since a pulled stomach muscle made way for new signing Billy Taylor from Partick Thistle.

Luton led at the interval by a Robin Wainwright goal, and Micky Brown added another soon after the break before Colchester pulled one back.

Town's only bad luck of the day came to winger Brian Johnson who pulled a muscle. This is a further setback for the ex-Sunderland player who is fighting his way back after a recent injury in the first

POST
17-1-68

game of the season at Wrexham.

Green back

Centre-forward Rodney Green continued his fight back to fitness with another good show, and on the left-wing Mr Brown tried Woods, an amateur who has just returned from a visit to South Africa.

Luton team to meet Newport County on Saturday will not be picked until tomorrow, but Mr Brown's choice may well be restricted by injuries to forwards Ian Buxton and Ray Whittaker, who both received knocks at Hartlepool's last week.

This may well pave the way back to first team football for Green, and with the inclusion of new boy Denton, Luton's attack will certainly have a new look.

Should Whittaker not play, and he has missed training all week with a groin injury, French may well come back on the left-wing. And with Bruce Rioch off training but likely to play, Luton's attack could well be: Denton, Allen, Green, Rioch, French.



Luton's new right winger Peter Denton, who was signed from Coventry City yesterday, gets down to some hard training at Stockingstone Road today.



Another strong challenge from Branton, but again to no avail.
POST 22-1-68



Foiled again: Buxton ends on the ground after getting in a header but on Saturday, Newport's goalkeeper, Weare, dived full-length to save.

OUT OF TOUCH LUTON SEE 100 PER CENT HOME RECORD LOST

Branton got up well to this cross, but was unable to get his header past Weare in the Newport goal.

POST
22-1-68

LUTON DROP FIRST HOME POINT

Luton 1 Newport 1: by PETER GILL

OUT OF TOUCH in front of goal, Luton could not complain at losing their 100 per cent home record. They found Newport unexpectedly tough opposition. County went on to defence from the start—and it was a defence that cared nothing for reputations.

Even without star centre-half Alan Williams, for whom the tall, inexperienced Mike Deacy was an adequate deputy, Newport had too much know-how for the unhappy Luton forwards.

The visitors packed their defence areas, stood on no ceremony in the middle and, having weathered the storm of their first 20 minutes, decided their task was not so tough as all that. So they gave more rein to their tracking ability, and launched some dangerous raids that led to Len Hill putting them ahead two minutes from half time.

Having found themselves in the unusual situation of being in arrears on their home ground, Luton were expected to make a great comeback in the second half.

Certainly they went through the motions with some show of authority, but they never struck their true form, even after Allen put them level 15 minutes from the restart.

But the finishing power just was not there. Particularly was that the case at inside forward, with Ian Buxton and Bruce Rioch shut out by Newport's stern tackling.

In fact, for all Luton's feverish pressure, the more clear-cut chances fell to Newport.

Tony Buck was twice unlucky, and once badly at fault when left with a close-range chance. Former Luton winger Rine nearly won the match with a cracking drive that Tony Read just tipped

SUNDAY
EXPRESS
21-1-68

A close shave for Newport. Goalkeeper Weare is thankful to see this shot go over the bar.

'It's grim up north' – the Town take on Hartlepoons in the snow



Back to League action the following Saturday and a trip to Hartlepoons, who had won four games in a row and were now on the fringes of the promotion race. In truth the game should not have gone ahead due to thick covering of snow over an icy pitch, but the Town were desperate not to have another postponement and so did not argue when the referee indicated that the game should go ahead.

During the first half the Town soon adopted a shoot on sight policy as the treacherous pitch did not encourage any form of close passing football. Thunderbolt efforts from Allen, Ian Buxton and fit again Bruce Rioch were all spectacularly saved by George Smith in the Hartlepoons goal, but the vital first goal would not come.

The inevitable happened in the second period when Hartlepoons' Ernie Phythian bundled the ball home from close range on 55 minutes after a scramble in the Luton box, but skipper Terry Branston, showing his forwards the way to score, netted an equaliser three minutes later, sweeping home a Whittaker cross.

Smith was still expertly fielding everything that was coming his way, but at the other end Bill Taylor in the Luton goal fumbled a cross leading to Terry Bell being gifted a tap-in on 71 minutes. Despite late valiant efforts the Town could not force another breakthrough, and with it a surely deserved point.

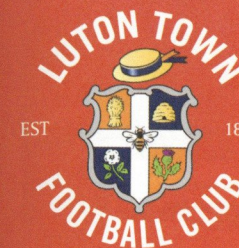
The Town's confident smile was beginning to look like a nervous grin, but there was some good news on the transfer front when Allan Brown finally managed to bring in a winger after several false starts. Peter Denton was signed from Coventry for £4,000 and was due to make his debut at home to Newport on the following Saturday.

Denton, who was on the fringes at Highfield Road, stepped into a Luton side that boasted the only 100 per cent home record in the Football League. Perversely, Graham French, the player Denton was set to replace, was picked to play in place of the injured Ray Whittaker.

In a very below par performance the Town surrendered their home record to an athletic Newport side who took the lead through Len Hill just before the interval, then sat back in the second period as the Town huffed and puffed to try to pull a goal back.

A goal from Allen on the hour, following persistent play from full-back Fred Jardine, who put over a low cross, papered over the cracks as Newport easily held on to the point their play deserved, and could have earned both points if they had been a tad more adventurous given the Luton defence was all at sea at times.

The only good news was that the Hatters climbed one place in the division as the teams around them suffered surprising defeats.



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INI ECSTATIC AT SEMI-FINAL WIN!

Town Professional Development Phase Lead Coach Inigo Idiakez said it was 'impossible to be happier' after the Hatters youth team reached the southern area final of the EFL Youth Alliance Cup after a penalty shoot-out victory against Cheltenham Town last Saturday.

Josh Neufville scored the Town's equaliser in a 1-1 draw that preceded the 4-2 penalty win at Cheltenham's Quat Lane training ground, and Idiakez said: "We created 23 chances, some of those were one-on-ones, but it was one of those games where you are in control and you don't think you're going to score.

"It's impossible for me to be happier. It was a joy to watch. I have said before that since the Youth Cup defeat to Stevenage, the attitude has been incredible.

"Cheltenham scored after we started poorly, but the reaction

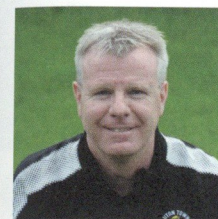
was immense. When you're losing sometimes teams play the long ball or lose discipline, but we didn't – we were focused and it paid off.

"For our goal we played out from the back, created a two-against-one before Josh Neufville tucked it away to level the score. We thought it was going to be one of those days, but our hard work and perseverance paid off."

The Spanish coach added: "We practiced penalties on Friday and it worked. We don't usually practice them, but we did because it was a cup competition so we knew it was a

possibility, and I was delighted to see us put away all of ours."

Josh Neufville was on target



ANDY AWFORD'S ACADEMY UPDATE

Good afternoon everyone and welcome to today's game versus Morecambe.

U18S

Following the opportunity to have a short period of downtime over the festive period, the Youth Team picked up where they had left off, before the break, with a resounding 3-1 league victory over Dagenham & Redbridge at Ely Way a fortnight ago, Josh Neufville, Joe Mead and Scott Belgrove getting the goals.

This was followed up with a EFL Youth Alliance Cup victory away at Cheltenham Town in the Southern Area semi-final. After totally dominating the game, we were slightly disappointed that our dominance did not see us win the game over 90 minutes. Josh Neufville got us a thoroughly deserved equaliser that took the tie to penalties, and thankfully all our players scored, whilst Tiernan Parker produced a fine save to send us through to the final to face either Exeter City or Oxford United (date to be confirmed).

U18S MERIT LEAGUE

For those of you who are not aware the first (current) part of the U18s' season is made up of a league that features 11 teams from the south-east region.

These fixtures have to be completed by the end of January as from the beginning of February, the top six teams join forces with the top six from the South West region to form Merit League 1, and the bottom five teams from each respective league form Merit League 2.

With two games remaining, it appears that we will have to settle for a spot in Merit League 2. Following the fine recent run of form, that has seen us win the last six out of seven league matches, we were hoping to make it into the top six, however a 2-1 defeat away at Northampton Town on Tuesday has made it virtually impossible.

The early season defeats, whereby we simply did not score enough goals, have cost us, and it has been a big learning curve for the boys. They have shown real improvement over the last three months, however our poor early season form was nowhere near the level we expect at the football club and it appears that we have paid the price.

Although disappointing, there is still plenty to play for with the upcoming Area Cup Final, which will hopefully lead to a National final, and the boys will be expected to continue to show the level of consistency they have recently reached in the new Merit League. We will also use the Merit League as an opportunity to offer the U16s vital U18 game time, as this is a vital part of their development as they join us in a full-time capacity as apprentices in July.

UNDER 9S TOUR TO GERMANY

Well done to the Under-9s who went to Germany on tour last weekend. Once again, they represented the club with great pride, competitiveness and dignity, reaching the quarter-finals of a very strong competition.

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 (LGCupQF)	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	W 3-1
Sat Jan 13	Cheltenham (LGCupSF)	A	D 1-1
(won 4-2 on pens)			
Tue Jan 16	N'hampton Town	A	L 1-2
Sat Jan 20	Leyton Orient	H	

11am, Ely Way

Sat Jan 27 Barnet H

11am, Ely Way

Following early tournament wins versus Borussia Mönchengladbach, Hertha Berlin and Red Bull Leipzig, we came unstuck against a competitive Borussia Dortmund, losing 3-1.

More great memories and stories for everyone to have and share.

Enjoy today's game. COYH!!

Andy



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LUTON TOWN IN THE COMMUNITY

BY KEVIN THOBURN HEAD OF THE HATTERS COMMUNITY TRUST



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LUTON STREET LEAGUE

We are today delighted to announce agreement has been reached with the Council to establish the 'Luton Street League' project that will use sport to improve community cohesion and life chances for young people in Luton.

The overall project has a budget of almost £250,000 between now and March 2019, and involves investment from both the Trust, our partners Beds Cricket and the European Union through the European Social Fund.

Luton Street League will open ten centres across town that will offer football, cricket and other sports activities and develop these centres into a league format with young people from right across Luton, aimed at improving community cohesion as they engage with each other on a regular basis.

In addition, all centres will offer employment training and skills workshops to help participants either improve their current employability opportunities or future employment chances. The project will concentrate on Luton's most deprived 11 wards, covering the north and south of town.

The Luton Street League project falls within the Council's Community Local Led Development (CLLD) strategy produced through consultation with those who work and live in Luton. The CLLD sets out a vision and action plan centred around six strategic objectives that all address in one way or another the many barriers to employment that certain sections of the Town's population face, as well as focusing on the importance of community cohesion in raising the outside perception of Luton to employers and potential visitors.

Luton



**European Union
European Social Fund**
Investing in jobs and skills

Head of Trust Kevin Thoburn commented: "The project has been a long time in the planning and we're grateful for the Council's support during 2017 in realising our vision and eventually making the project happen.

"The idea of a cross-town sports league has been on our 'to do' list for some time as we feel that through using the power of sport and our badge we have the most effective tool to improve community cohesion among young people in Luton.

AMBITIOUS

"Eventually, our aim is to tackle some of the trickier problems in the town around

gangs, knife crime and extremism that often attract young people who maybe feel excluded from the mainstream either in terms of getting a job, or better training or skills to get a job.

"It's probably our most ambitious project and initially we have agreed targets up to March 2019 with the Council, but fully expect the project to have a life of over four years which gives everyone half a chance of making a real impact and making real lasting changes for individuals in some of the most deprived parts of the Town."

If you would like to find out more about the 'Luton Street League' please call us at the Community Trust offices in Ely Way on 01582 561 622.



EFL TRUST KIDS CUP FINAL AT HALF-TIME TODAY – THE ROAD TO WEMBLEY!

Today at half-time is the big school finals day for the EFL kids Cup with Luton's Pirton Hill Primary taking on Priory Academy from Dunstable.

The two teams qualified for today's final through our local county tournaments held across Bedfordshire, jointly organised with our local Schools Games Organisers involving almost 50 schools – so we are expecting a high-quality final.

The Bedfordshire finals for the top eight teams were of a high standard and we are grateful to Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu and James Shea for coming along and presenting finals pennants on the day.

Every EFL club is involved in organising their local Kids Cup competition for teams representing schools at U11 level, and in each of the last three years, nearly 2,500 schools and 20,000 children have participated in these competitions giving them an incredible experience as well as encouraging them to maintain that elusive healthy lifestyle 'thing'. Our winners from today will go on to represent the Hatters at the Regionals, and should they progress, the National finals at Wembley at the Checkatrade Trophy Final in March.

Before that the winners of today's final will proceed to the area final to play the winning school from Barnet, Cambridge, Southend, Stevenage, Colchester, Ipswich

Town and Norwich City with the overall winners proceeding to a regional North v South final with the eventual final to be played at Wembley Stadium. Last year our two time representatives from Arnold Middle in Barton reached the last stages only losing out in the last game from appearing at Wembley – let's hope one of today's finalists can go one better!

Good luck to everyone playing in today's final!





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Procedure	Procedure cost	Monthly payment	Total amount repayable
Breast augmentation	£4995	£121	£7243
Knee ligament repair	£6995	£169	£10143

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HATTERSLADIES

LUTON TOWN LADIES 3-1 SOUTHAMPTON SAINTS G&L

Town ease through to the next round of the Premier League Plate competition

After an excellent performance and narrow defeat in the FA Cup to Chichester City the previous week, the Hatters Ladies were focused on trying to progress in the League Plate at home to Southampton Saints last Sunday.

The game was played on a difficult pitch but it was the home side who started the better, with Jess McKay hitting the crossbar from range before Dionne Manning put in a testing cross that the Saints' keeper just managed to get a hand on it in front of Tash Fensome, making her first start up front since returning to the club.

Fensome didn't have to wait long for her first goal back as a Hatter, with Nicola Henman beating the keeper to a long pass in the 25th minute and Fensome smashing the loose ball into the bottom corner for 1-0.

Minutes later, Town doubled their lead with some excellent build up play, Lisa Nixon and Manning combining to set up McKay, who finished well.

In the second half, the message was to continue attacking in numbers and within five minutes, McKay was up to her old tricks, finding space 30 yards out before smashing the ball into the roof of the net.

Rachel Carter was then introduced at left-back after a long absence from the first team with a head injury, but Saints pulled a goal back on the hour after a free-kick was not cleared properly.

However this didn't stop the Hatters and they rode out a difficult five minutes before almost extending their lead, Henman and Zara Carroll both rattling the bar, Fensome hitting the post and Rachel Kosky forcing the Saints keeper into an amazing save among a host of Town chances.

Baker was very happy with the performance from her side, saying: "Today we did the simple things well. We moved the ball with pace and controlled the game from the off. We did the nasty stuff really well on a tough pitch and defended well as a unit.

"Tash made a great impact on her first start since her return to the club, and I also thought Rachel Kosky was outstanding today at centre-back. They are lucky we didn't stick five or six on them as we had multiple chances, but a win is a win in the cup."



Jess McKay in action

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 (FAC3QR)	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	L 1-2
Sun Jan 14	Southampton Saints (Plate)	W	3-1
Sun Jan 21	Woburn (Beds County Cup)	A	
Sun Jan 28	Cambridge	A	
Sun Feb 4	Leyton Orient	A	
Sun Feb 11	Stevenage	A	

*Home games are played at Stockwood Park Athletics Stadium



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All 72 EFL Clubs have signed up to a new Chairman's Charter to help put an end to the dangerous use of pyrotechnics.

It is already a criminal offence to enter a football stadium while in possession of a flare, smoke bomb or firework.

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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With behind-the-scenes content, it's a great way of keeping on top of everything Hatters related in the build-up to games and on matchday itself, with live audio

commentary of all matches from the Hatters' Simon 'Statto' Pitts and all the latest news straight to your inbox via the weekly club newsletter.

Don't forget your subscription will benefit Luton Town FC too, with the club receiving 70 per cent of every package taken out...

YOUR REGULARS



LAST WEEK:

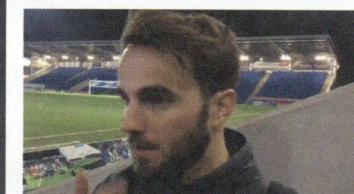


FIRST START OF THE LEAGUE SEASON

Akin Famewo shares his thoughts on his first league start of the season in the 2-0 defeat to Chesterfield.

SHINNIE ON CHESTERFIELD

Hatters midfielder Andrew Shinnie was disappointed with the result at the Proact Stadium, but expects the Town to get back to winning ways.



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- Email: iFollow@eFL.com (manned 8am-10pm, 7 days a week)
- By the live chat tool available on the club website (manned 8am-10pm, Mon-Fri and match/event days running three hours before the match through to three hours after)
- For billing/subscription queries only, you can phone on [0207 826 4577](tel:02078264577) (manned 8am-10pm UK hours, Mon-Fri and match/event days, running three hours before the match through to three hours after)

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JUNIOR HATTERS

**LET'S DO THIS !!!
COME ON
YOU HATTERS!**



**HATTY!
HARRY!**

GONE SHRIMPING

Happy Harry and Hatty took a trip to Morecambe earlier this week to do some research on today's visitors to Kenilworth Road. While they were there, they took the opportunity to catch some Shrimps for their tea. Can you work out which line has the shrimp at the end?



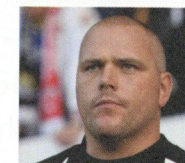
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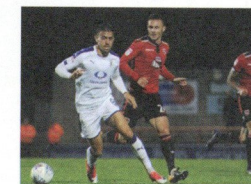
**Head to head
with Luton:**

Luton wins - 5

Draws - 2

Cambridge wins - 2

Last time...

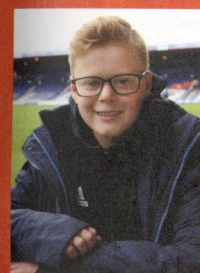


Luton 0 - 0 Morecambe

YOUR JUNIOR S.L.O

We're very pleased to introduce you to 13 year old James Whitehead from Wingrave, Buckinghamshire who has now begun his role as the first ever Luton Town junior supporters' liaison officer, congratulations!

We received lots of applications, and everyone we met had brilliant ideas about how we can make things as interesting and exciting as possible for our younger supporters. James is now joining forces with our club supporters' liaison officer John Miller. If you've got an idea you'd like to share with James - you can email him on junior.slo@lutontown.co.uk



JUNIOR HATTERS ON YOUTUBE

This week we will be launching our brand new Junior Hatters channel which will feature loads of great new content created by and for you! Keep an eye out for our Junior SLO, who'll be making his way around the ground today with our crew, including Happy Harry and Hatty.

The Hatters, Sponsored by SportingAds

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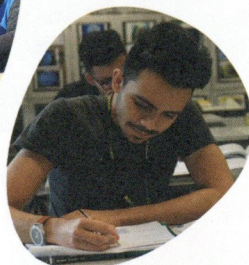
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[STATS AND LEAGUE UPDATE]

LEAGUE LOOK

LAST SATURDAY'S LEAGUE TWO RESULTS:

Cambridge United 0-0 Mansfield Town

Carlisle United 1-0 Crewe Alexandra

Cheltenham Town 0-2 Accrington Stanley

Chesterfield 2-0 Luton Town

Crawley Town 2-0 Barnet

Exeter City 1-0 Coventry City

Grimsby Town 1-2 Newport County

Morecambe 1-1 Stevenage

Port Vale 1-1 Yeovil Town

Swindon Town 1-0 Forest Green Rovers

Wycombe Wanderers 3-1 Colchester United

TODAY'S LEAGUE TWO FIXTURES:

Newport County v Crawley Town (Friday)

Accrington Stanley v Port Vale

Barnet v Lincoln City

Colchester United v Grimsby Town

Coventry City v Swindon Town

Crewe Alexandra v Wycombe Wanderers

Forest Green Rovers v Cambridge United

Luton Town v Morecambe

Mansfield Town v Cheltenham Town

Notts County v Exeter City

Stevenage v Carlisle United

Yeovil Town v Chesterfield

LEAGUE TABLE 2017/18

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	LUTON TOWN	27	16	6	5	62	27	35	54
2	Notts County	27	14	9	4	46	28	18	51
3	Accrington Stanley	26	14	4	8	44	30	14	46
4	Wycombe Wanderers	27	13	7	7	49	36	13	46
5	Exeter City	26	14	3	9	36	32	4	45
6	Lincoln City	27	12	8	7	37	26	11	44
7	Mansfield Town	27	11	11	5	38	29	9	44
8	Coventry City	27	13	5	9	28	19	9	44
9	Swindon Town	26	14	2	10	39	34	5	44
10	Newport County AFC	27	11	9	7	37	31	6	42
11	Colchester United	28	11	8	9	37	34	3	41
12	Cambridge United	27	10	8	9	25	31	-6	38
13	Carlisle United	27	10	7	10	38	37	1	37
14	Crawley Town	27	10	6	11	27	31	-4	36
15	Stevenage	27	9	7	11	37	40	-3	34
16	Cheltenham Town	28	9	7	12	37	41	-4	34
17	Grimsby Town	28	9	7	12	27	38	-11	34
18	Port Vale	28	9	5	14	30	36	-6	32
19	Morecambe	27	7	8	12	27	37	-10	29
20	Crewe Alexandra	27	9	2	16	29	42	-13	29
21	Yeovil Town	27	7	7	13	37	48	-11	28
22	Chesterfield	28	6	6	16	28	51	-23	24
23	Forest Green Rovers	27	6	5	16	26	48	-22	23
24	Barnet	27	5	5	17	26	41	-15	20

PLAYER STATS 2017/18

	THIS SEASON											CAREER TOT	
	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		DISIP						
	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS	Y	R	APPS	GLS			
Tyreeq Bakinson	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0	0	6	0		
Luke Berry	18	(3)	5	4	(1)	1	22	(4)	6	4	1	26	
James Collins	21	(3)	11	3	(0)	1	24	(3)	12	4	0	27	
Jordan Cook	0	(9)	0	5	(1)	1	5	(10)	1	3	0	57	
Harry Cornick	10	(13)	4	2	(2)	0	12	(15)	4	1	0	27	
Kavan Cotter	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	1	1	(0)	1	0	0	2	
Scott Cuthbert	15	(1)	1	2	(0)	0	17	(1)	1	2	1	104	
Lawson D'Ath	1	(3)	0	4	(0)	1	5	(3)	1	1	0	21	
Akin Famewo	1	(2)	0	5	(0)	0	6	(2)	0	0	0	14	
Luke Gambin	3	(2)	1	4	(3)	1	7	(5)	2	0	0	29	
Danny Hylton	24	(0)	15	4	(0)	2	28	(0)	17	8	0	75	
Jack James	0	(0)	0	0	(1)	0	0	(1)	0	0	0	1	
Aaron Jarvis	0	(1)	0	2	(1)	1	2	(2)	1	0	0	4	
James Justin	6	(5)	2	5	(0)	0	11	(5)	2	1	0	56	
Elliot Lee	7	(12)	5	5	(1)	2	12	(13)	7	1	0	36	
Olly Lee	22	(0)	3	4	(1)	1	26	(1)	4	5	0	107	
Alan McCormack	8	(0)	1	0	(0)	0	8	(0)	1	4	0	8	
Josh McQuoid	0	(0)	0	0	(2)	1	0	(2)	1	0	0	45	
Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu	11	(9)	0	7	(1)	0	18	(10)	0	2	1	146	
Johnny Mullins	11	(1)	1	4	(1)	0	15	(2)	1	1	0	46	
Frankie Musonda	0	(0)	0	3	(1)	0	3	(1)	0	0	0	12	
Dan Potts	25	(0)	5	3	(0)	1	28	(0)	6	8	0	72	
Glen Rea	22	(5)	0	4	(0)	0	26	(5)	0	4	1	90	
Arthur Read	0	(0)	0	0	(2)	0	0	(2)	0	0	0	3	
Jack Senior	0	(0)	0	5	(0)	0	5	(0)	0	1	0	21	
James Shea	0	(0)	0	5	(0)	0	5	(0)	0	1	0	5	
Alan Sheehan	24	(0)	2	4	(0)	0	28	(0)	2	7	1	89	
Andrew Shinnie	16	(3)	1	5	(1)	2	21	(4)	3	3	0	25	
Jack Stacey	23	(0)	1	4	(0)	0	27	(0)	1	1	1	27	
Marek Stech	27	(0)	0	4	(0)	0	31	(0)	0	2	0	31	
Connor Tomlinson	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	0	1	
Isaac Vassell	2	(0)	2	0	(0)	0	2	(0)	2	0	0	55	



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.

*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) ***Score at full-time 0-0. (Hatters lost 7-6 on penalties)



HOLD THE BACKPAGE

WITH **STUART HAMMONDS** PRESS & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

It started at 9am the day after the FA Cup third round draw was made, when Tony Banks of the Daily Express rang to ask about doing an interview with the Lee family.

One by one, they kept coming. The Sun, Daily Mail, Telegraph, Times, The i, Daily Mirror, Guardian. The locals; the Luton News, BBC Three Counties, ITV News Anglia and BBC Look East, not forgetting the Luton Town Supporters' Trust and Justin Dealey's LTFC Fans' podcasts.

Then the national TV big boys – BBC Football Focus and Sky Sports' Soccer Saturday – came calling, along with the FA's television production partner, Input Media. In total, requests for Olly, Elliot and dad Rob, whose ten years as a Newcastle player made the Hatters' date with the Premier League Magpies so appealing to the Press, reached double figures.

Of course, there were seven matches to be played between that first call on Tuesday 5th December and the game on Saturday January 6th, so we decided on one big Press conference two days before the trip to Toon.

Usually we just have the locals at our weekly pressers, unless we've won 8-2, 7-1 or 7-0 the game before! Occasionally on a Monday, it's just Mike Simmonds. Pre-Newcastle we had 22 members of the media, including producers, cameramen and photographers.

There were great tales for the lads and dad to tell, while the gaffer also regaled the visitors with stories of his time in Spain, his two years in charge of the Hatters and his new four-year contract, signed that morning.

Other enquiries came from Metro and the Irish Independent for Alan Sheehan, the Daily Record in Scotland for Andrew Shinnie, then Sky News and talkSPORT (x2), with interviews fulfilled by Joaquin Gomez, Mick Harford and Nathan.

By the time kick-off came around after a four-hour drive up the A1, it was a chance for Charlie Hanson and I to catch breath and enjoy watching our boys turn in a terrific performance for all-but nine minutes, and really give Newcastle a scare in that second half.

And what support above us, to the left of the Press box! The atmosphere created by that record following of 7,500 up in the gods was immense, something noted by Hatters and Newcastle legend Malcolm Macdonald, a true gent who was sat behind us reminiscing to a colleague about his fond memories of life at Luton, the day before his 68th birthday.

Post-match gave us further insight as to what Premier League managers have to face media-wise. After

emerging from the dressing room, I took Nathan into a studio for his Match of the Day interview. Not wanting our fans to have to wait for the nationals, I led him back outside to do his iFollow Hatters and BBC3CR interviews with Simons Pitts and Oxley, before back into the media suite to speak to talkSPORT and Radio 5 Live.

Next he was on stage to take questions from the written press, before – just as we thought he was finished and could head to Rafa Benitez's office – we were grabbed for another couple of lines for Monday's papers!

It was great experience, both on the field for the team, and off it for the rest of us, and I'm sure it's left everyone wanting more of the same at top stadiums like St James'.

One final word for Newcastle. I've written to their media team to thank them – and I know Gary Sweet has done likewise to his counterpart Lee Charnley, and the local police.

From start to finish their hospitality knew no bounds, and hopefully some day soon we'll be able to say thanks by return by welcoming them to a state-of-the-art stadium of our own at Power Court!

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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
- 23 Josh McQuoid
- 24 Lawson D'Ath
- 27 Aaron Jarvis
(On loan at Boreham Wood)
- 33 Kavan Cotter
- 35 Arthur Read
- 36 James Shea
- 37 Frankie Musonda
- 38 Elliot Lee
- 39 Akin Famewo
- 40 Harry Isted
- 44 Alan Sheehan



MANAGER:

JIM BENTLEY

- 1 Barry Roche
- 2 Aaron McGowan
- 3 Patrick Brough
- 4 Alex Kenyon
- 5 Steven Old
- 6 Dean Winnard
- 7 Garry Thompson
- 8 Andy Fleming
- 9 Vadaine Oliver
- 10 Adam Campbell
- 11 Kevin Ellison
- 12 Dan Nizic
- 14 Luke Conlan
- 15 Aaron Wildig
- 16 Sam Lavelle
- 17 Mitchell Lund
- 18 Rhys Turner
- 19 Reece Deakin
- 20 Niall Maher
- 21 Elliot Osborne
- 22 Max Muller
- 23 Tyler Brownsword
- 24 Michael Rose
- 25 Ben Hedley
- 26 Steve Yawson
- 27 Luke Jordan
- 28 Adam McGurk
- 29 Callum Lang

MATCH OFFICIALS



TREVOR KETTLE



ANDREW NEWBOLD



DAVID PLOWRIGHT



NIGEL LUGG

NEXT HOME GAME:

WYCOMBE WANDERERS

TUESDAY 30TH JANUARY 2018 | 7.45PM

