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versus
LUTON TOWN
17.03.18 - 3.00PM
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Office Hours

Thursday 10am-7pm; Friday 10am-7pm
Matchday: 10am – kick off
& 30 minutes after full time

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SATURDAY 27 MARCH 2018 VS **LUTON TOWN**

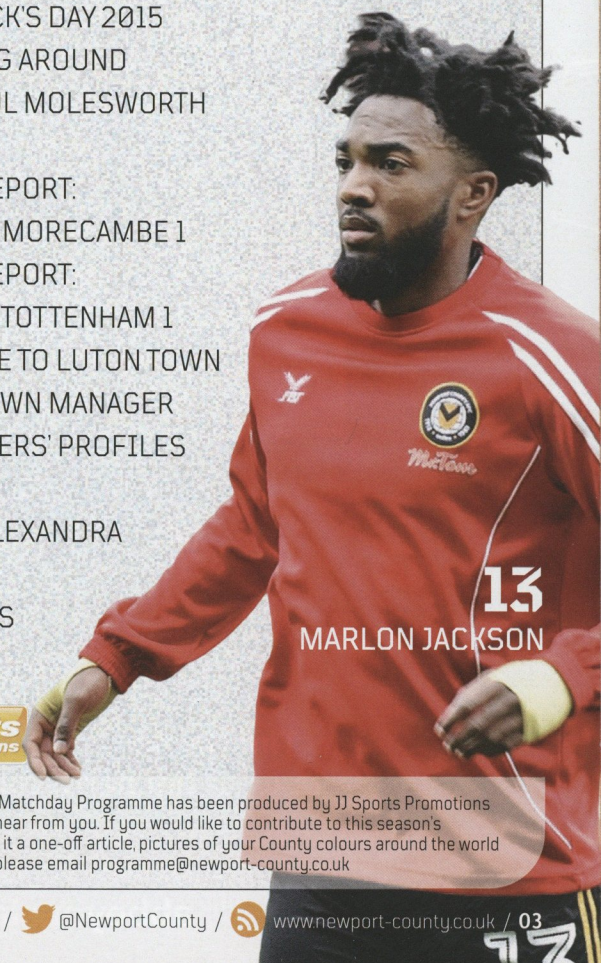
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The Newport County AFC Matchday Programme has been produced by JJ Sports Promotions Ltd and we would love to hear from you. If you would like to contribute to this season's Matchday Programme, be it a one-off article, pictures of your County colours around the world or a regular column, then please email programme@newport-county.co.uk



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IN CHARGE

A word from the Manager, **Michael Flynn**

Welcome to Rodney Parade for today's match against Luton Town.

I'd like to begin by welcoming Nathan Jones and the directors, staff, players and supporters of Luton Town to Rodney Parade.

Luton are a very good team and, on their home turf, are a formidable opponent. Nathan has done a fantastic job this season and, when they are allowed to play, they can be free-scoring and play great football.

We had a tough day at Kenilworth Road earlier in the season but a better second half performance was promising and getting a goal back showed the kind of resilience we can bring to any match.

At home, we are a different team and they are a different team on the road.

You only have to look at their results against Stevenage to see that: 7-1 at Kenilworth Road, 1-1 at Broadhall Way. We know they will bring a good following but we're confident that on our home soil, and with the support of our fans, we can put in a really good performance.

Our last home match was a strange game with plenty of goals and some frustration. I felt we should have defended better and put away a few more of our chances, but we put these things right last weekend with a good away win over Yeovil.

I was delighted for Josh Sheehan to get his first goal since returning and was impressed with the whole team performance.

We've closed the gap to play-offs to just five points so all in all, it was a good day at the office.

We know we face a tough task, but I've said before we're not going to let this season peter out.

Today is the first of three home matches in a row. In fact, we have home matches every weekend until April 21.

We've had a good home record since I've been in charge so this is a fantastic opportunity to continue this form and continue to pick

up valuable points. With your support behind us, who knows what's possible?

We'll take it game by game...

Michael Flynn

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COUNTY COMMERCIAL

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Today's Match Ball Sponsor is Joe Ford.

NEWPORT COUNTY AFC RACE DAY

Join us at Chepstow Racecourse for the Newport County AFC Race Day on 21st March. Seven races, £15 a ticket and loads of chances to win big! The Newport County AFC Race Day promises to be packed full of fantastic racing and excellent company.

Join manager Michael Flynn and a selection of first team players at Chepstow Racecourse as they spend their day off at the races with the supporters of Newport County AFC. Tickets can be purchased from Chepstow Racecourse. For any Hospitality Enquiries, please contact Rebecca Hemming directly at commercial@newport-county.co.uk

HALF TIME DRAW

Don't forget to take part in today's Half Time Draw! With its new format, you now don't have to win to be a winner. Whilst first prize will take home half of the Draw's takings, there are also prizes for the second, third and fourth places which include Club Shop Vouchers, Match Tickets, Cinema Tickets for Cineworld. In addition, the Draw's Ticket also gives the winner the opportunity to get a free home shirt when purchasing a used car from Ponthir Suzuki. Tickets are priced at just £1 and can be purchased from any of the sellers around the stadium and in the hospitality suites before kick-off. Draw results will be announced on the pitch

at half time, as well as published across all of the club's Official Media Channels and on the official Half Time Draw webpage - www.newport-county.co.uk/fans/half-time-draw

HOSPITALITY PACKAGES

The club would like to welcome all of its Season Ticket Holders and 100 Club Members who have taken advantage of the recent offer to upgrade to hospitality for today's match. We hope you enjoy your afternoon and thank you for your continued support.

Hospitality packages for our upcoming home games at Rodney Parade are available from £37.50 plus VAT. The Hospitality package includes a two-course meal, car parking space, match programme, team sheet and VIP seat with access to the Bisley Suite at half time and full time. Hospitality boxes are available from £450 plus VAT. To find out more information please email commercial@newport-county.co.uk or phone 01633 481896.

COUNTY LOTTERY

The County Lottery is booming again with more and more people joining every day. Not only is the County Lottery a fantastic way to raise money for the club we love, it could also see you £500 richer at the end of the week. And at the end of the month? Well, one lucky person will walk away £1000 richer!

To join the County Lottery and to check the full results, please visit www.countylottery.com or download the app.

SUBSCRIPTION DRAW

The Subscription Draw has been a constant supporter of Newport County AFC for a number of years. You can join the subscription draw by speaking to David Hando and find a full list of winners in the Programme Shop and Club Shop Notice Board.

Here are the recent winners:

Mark Leverson	£50	Oscar Mincher	£25
Mary Payne	£50	Tony Ralph	£25
Jeff Jones	£50	David Tanner	£25
Tony Maitland	£50	Kate Rees	£25

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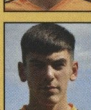


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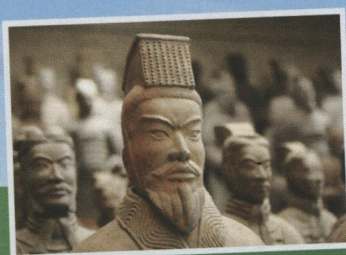


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University South Wales

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- Foundation Degree - Community Football Coaching & Development

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- American Scholarship Offers
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If you are currently in year 11 and have desire to study full time and represent Newport County AFC in both a Football and Futsal games programme we are holding our second open evening for both male and female students at Llanwern High School on Tuesday 20th March 5pm start.

If you seek further information on the college programme, please don't hesitate to contact Dave Lewis on the following email address:

Dave.lewis@newport-county.co.uk

KINDER +SPORT U13S FUTSAL CUP WINNERS - SPONSORS COLEG GWENT

Congratulations to Monmouth Comprehensive school in winning the Gwent year 9/10 NCAFC Futsal Cup. Monmouth Boys will represent Newport County AFC at the Regional finals on Tuesday 24th April. We must give an extra



special mention and WELL DONE to Monmouth who have now won this cup three years in succession. We would also like to thank Coleg Gwent for sponsoring the Gwent Under 15s Competitions for the second year.

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Congratulations to Monmouth Comprehensive school in winning the Gwent year 7/8 NCAFC Futsal Cup. Monmouth Girls will represent Newport County AFC at the Regional finals on Tuesday 1st May. We would also like to thank our main Community Sponsors Melin Homes for sponsoring the Competition in its first year.



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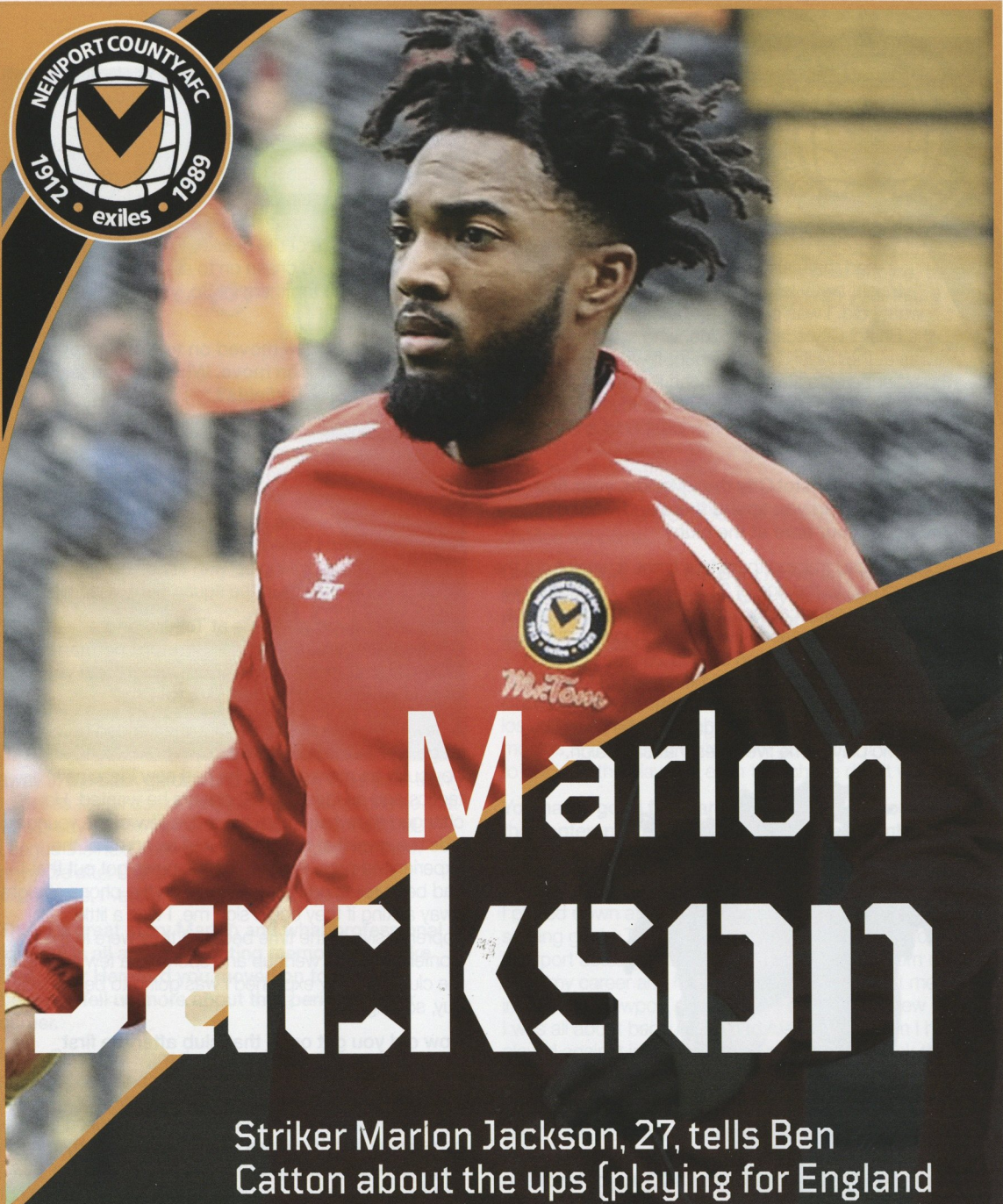
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Marlon Jackson

Striker Marlon Jackson, 27, tells Ben Catton about the ups (playing for England C in Bermuda) and downs (being released by a new manager) of life as a player and how he hopes to get back in action for County after a difficult time overcoming injury.



So, Marlon, what were your first steps in to football?

I think I was about six years old when I wanted to start playing football. I told my mum and she found some trials I could go to in the local paper. The team were Stambridge Rangers and I had the trial and they wanted to sign me straight away later that day and that is exactly what I did. I was playing for both Stambridge and the Bristol City academy side, who scouted me, until I was at the under-11 age group. It was at that time the other parents started to moan that all the good players who played for both sides would just be playing for the academy teams, so that's what I did and I signed permanently for Bristol City.

Let's talk about Bristol City then Marlon, your first club. How long did you spend there and what can you tell me about your time at the club?

I was playing and training there four times a week from the age of seven up to the age of 21 so I mean the club were a big part of my early career. I made five full appearances for the club, my first season I went out on loan to League Two Aldershot where I played around 26 times I think. I was out on the wing. We finished fifth and got in to the play-offs but lost in the semis. After that season, I went back to City and impressed the gaffer at the time Steve Cotterill, who played me five times that campaign.



I was going to ask Marlon, have you always played in the forward role you play in for the County nowadays or did you start somewhere else?

Yes, I have always been a striker! While at Aldershot that was the first time I had played out wide because I had always played as a striker, up front leading the line to be honest. That all started when I first started playing, I was one of the quickest players so they put me up front and I'd chase on to all of the balls knocked over the top and tap them in! So, yeah I have always been a forward.

After Aldershot, you moved on to Northampton Town in another loan move. What did you learn from your time at Sixfields?

Northampton are a great club. It was a month loan. I played a few games for them, the setup is great and it was good to get out on the pitch for that club. Ben Tozer was also there while I was too which is great! Ben's a top lad and he actually helped me settle in and everything when I joined Northampton, it was my first time meeting and linking up with him there so it was good to know he was in the squad here when I joined.

After several month loans at Telford and Cheltenham, you signed for Hereford permanently. How did that move come about which saw you depart your boyhood club, Bristol City?

A new manager came in at City and I ended up getting let go. Derek McInness came down from Scotland, obviously as managers do he had new ideas new tactics and an idea of what players he wanted. He changed the whole team around, a few of the younger lads like myself at the time as well as some of the experienced pros. As soon as the news got out that I had been released Hereford were on the phone straight away asking if they could sign me. I was a little apprehensive at the time because they were in the Conference but I went up and spoke to a few people at the club and they explained I was going to be the main guy, so I signed.

How did you get on at that club after the first permanent move of your career?

Yeah, Hereford are a great club. They have got a huge fanbase and I got off to a fantastic start, scoring eight goals in my first 10 games but I unfortunately then had an awful injury that saw me out of action for five months. I was in such good form I was actually then called up to the England C side which just says how I was playing.

Indeed, it does Marlon. How was that experience of getting called up the England C side and representing your country?

It was actually in the summer, the off season. I had been back from my injury for about a month, after playing five or six games at the end of that last season when I picked the injury up and that is when I got the call: "We're going to Bermuda in a week and you have been selected." So, I was out straight



away in the back garden and down my local park trying to get as fit as I could. I played one, scored one so that was pretty prolific form! I moved on to the Football League the next season so I couldn't play for them anymore after that but yeah it was a fantastic experience, I've still got the shirt framed at home!

That's a great story Marlon and what professional football is all about – creating memories just like that. After Hereford you moved on to Bury I believe? Tell us more about that period of your career.

Kevin Blackwell signed me and I was doing well, scoring goals and playing well but he was then sacked. A new manager came in and got rid of me straight away. He didn't even see me train or anything like that he just walked through the door and told me I could leave. I was shocked at the time, but I was getting used to that happening to me!

I was going to say just then Marlon, it must be so difficult whenever a new manager comes in for players to adapt and adjust depending on what plans and ideas he has. What are your thoughts on that?

That is totally true. Whenever a manager gets sacked and you are at the club, it is never good, because it normally means the team hasn't been performing. Depending then like you say on the next manager that comes in, whether he has got his own plans or ideas or not, normally means you are going to be moving on

unless you are in the form of your life scoring goals every game. It is difficult then handling that with moving, relocating and sorting your head out so you can play again but yes, it is just part of football nowadays. You have to have faith in yourself.

Bringing it back to Newport County AFC just for a moment, this season Marlon you are one of five strikers that could be picked every week depending on what the manager thinks is the best choice, that surely must be difficult especially with your injury problems so far this season?

It has been to be honest, yeah! Especially because the lads have been doing so well, Podge (Padraig Amond), Noubis (Frank Nouble) and Shawn (McCoulsky) have all got around 10 goals to their name already this season so working your way back in, with my injuries as well this season, it is difficult. Like I say though, it isn't up to anyone else but you, you have to keep working hard and believing that you are good enough and that your chance will come.

Great, Marlon. After the Bury move and subsequent short loan spell at Lincoln City you moved on to Halifax Town in a permanent deal. How did that move come about?

They signed me until the end of the season because the club were trying to get the play-offs, we got there but lost in the semis to Cambridge. That was a great few months and I scored quite a few goals and it was good to get in to the play-offs even though we didn't win them.

You had a good few games at Halifax like you say in the conference playing around 15 games until the end of the season, then came the two separate spells at Oxford City?

I played down at Oxford twice and was playing well, scoring goals. That actually helped me in to my move to Newport actually, I knew Bitts (James Bittner) from earlier on in my career and he was eager to try and get me involved at Newport and Warren Feeney also knew what I was all about because he had managed a team I had played against in the past and I scored a hat-trick that day – both were keen to sign me and that's how my move to County came about.

One more from me Marlon, Shawn McCoulsky seems like one of the lads who you have a better relationship with in the squad. Do you think with you spending so long at Bristol City earlier on in your career, that has helped? Can you really relate with each other?

Absolutely Ben, yeah. Shawn is a great lad and is basically doing the exact same thing I was doing at Bristol earlier on in my career with his loan spells. Shawn is a great listener as well, we play in the same position as well obviously which helps. Shawn's the same as most of the younger lads in the squad though, so grateful for advice. Jay Foulston, Ben White, Mo Touray, these are all great lads that are always keen to listen and learn which is great.



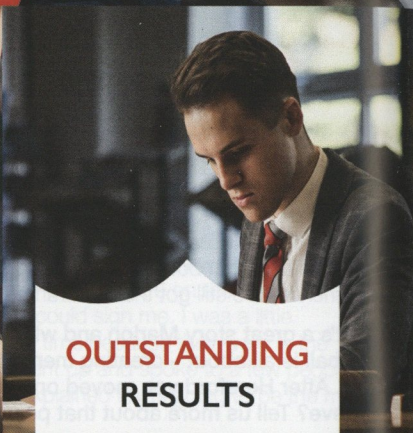
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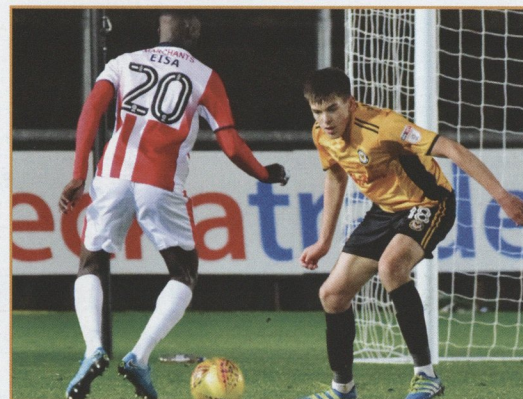
JAY'S JOY AFTER WALES UNDER-19S CALL-UP

Newport County AFC academy talent Jay Foulston has received his first call-up to the Wales Under-19 squad as the side head to Croatia today.

The squad will be flying to Zagreb play two friendly international matches against their hosts.

Defender Jay was one of a number of Academy first year scholars given an opportunity to train and play with the first team during pre-season.

After stand-out performances, first team manager Michael Flynn gave the 16-year-old a first team squad number.



Jay became the third youngest player ever to pull on a County shirt when he made his debut as a late substitute in the Carabao Cup match against Southend United, aged just 16 and 255 days.



He has since played a key role in the Checktrade Trophy, made a number of appearances on the bench, and taken part in valuable work experience at top Championship clubs.

On receiving news of his call-up, Jay said: "I am thrilled to have been called up to the Wales Under-19 squad. I have always wanted to represent my country, it's an honour for me and I just can't wait to get out on that pitch."

Michael added: "I'm absolutely delighted for Jay, he's an excellent prospect and has an outstanding attitude towards the game."

NCAFC Academy manager Byron Anthony was also keen to praise Jay for his attitude and work-rate: "We're all delighted for Jay, he has worked extremely hard this season and deserves his call up. This will be a great experience for him to go away and represent Wales U19s".

Everyone at the club would like to wish Jay all the best in Zagreb.

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The scenes at the London Stadium last weekend have shocked the footballing world and its sensibilities. West Ham United are a club in turmoil. Once renowned for being a club with a partisan and loyal fan base, the Hammers seem to have lost that special bond between supporter, community and club identity. They have not been the same club since they left the spiritual home of Upton Park for the grandiose London Stadium, home of the 2012 London Olympics.

There has been a groundswell of peaceful protest building amongst supporters who feel distanced from the board and owners, but it is hard to understand why it climaxed so dramatically last Saturday. The Hammers were abject in a 0-3 hammering by fellow clarets Burnley and, yes, this humiliating defeat followed successive 1-4 reverses away to Liverpool and Swansea City.

However, in their preceding Premier League fixtures since the turn of the calendar year, the team had managed two wins and three draws, including a creditable away stalemate at Spurs and an impressive 4-1 away win at Huddersfield, with only one defeat in that time. Being dumped out of the FA Cup by League One Wigan Athletic will not have helped the situation but it is hardly a run of form of catastrophic proportions.

There is a much deeper malaise at the club. Supporters feeling valued and listened to can be as important as supporters seeing success on the field. Protest banners at last weekend's match included the slogans 'Sullivan, Gold and Brady - Get Out of Our Club', a reference to the triumvirate of club owners and 'Sold a Dream - Given a Nightmare', a reference to the supposed rebirth of the West Ham as a serious force in the Premier League as part of the move to a new stadium with a far bigger capacity and revenue generation capability.

In the past five years the income of the East End club has doubled and the owners claim that there has been significant investment in the playing squad. The financial facts might bear this out, but whether it has been wise investment, and value for money, is a wider question. The Hammers are not the only club in recent years to have been profligate in the transfer market but what success are fans expecting? West Ham are the 17th highest revenue earning football club in the country and are 16th in the top flight of 20 clubs. So, if there is a connection between resources and success then the Hammers have parity. The club have the 10th highest wage bill in the country - with 10th place in the Premier League table being occupied by Watford and, in the places above, only Burnley having a significantly lower wage bill. The gap between 10th

and 16th place is only six points, or two games, and with home fixtures to come against Southampton (17th) and Stoke City (19th) the Hammers have the opportunity to gain some points and recover some ground in the fight to avoid relegation.

Fan protests are becoming more organised and visible as part of a new wave of democracy in football. What alarmed the viewing public and the media was the ferocity of the protests and interjections during the match as the home side succumbed to defeat. Four separate incursions onto the pitch by disgruntled supporters with scenes of players and stewards alike wrestling with the invaders to protect the home players and restore order, and an angry mob of several hundred confronting those present in the directors' box with a venom that veteran broadcaster John Motson said that he never before witnessed in his many years of covering the game. Was it organised or spontaneous? It appeared to be a combination of the two.

The repercussions will be serious and could lead to yet more security advice, and cost, for all clubs. An inquiry will follow into the grossly inadequate security at one of the homes of modern sport. Hammers captain Mark Noble is a club man through and through. For him to admit that "it's been like this for the past two seasons, since we moved to the stadium" and that the atmosphere was "horrible" says so much. He has appealed to fans to set aside their animosity towards the board until the season is over.

This is a time for calm, and for supporter organisations such as the West Ham United Independent Supporters Association to help take charge of a troubled situation. This is as much a supporter responsibility.

A GAME OF TWO HALVES

ARTICLE BY COLIN EVERETT



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www.newport-county.co.uk / 21



With the Hatters in town today, Chris Shingler takes us back to a programme from a Division Four clash against them in 1967 and a season that ended with our visitors being crowned champions.

AMBER

FROM THE ATTIC

It's always a pleasure to welcome Luton Town to Newport, and today we look back at the programme for their visit to Wales on the September 16, 1967 to Somerton Park in a Division Four showdown.

The season was one to remember for the Hatters as they finished on top of the pile and were promoted as champions.

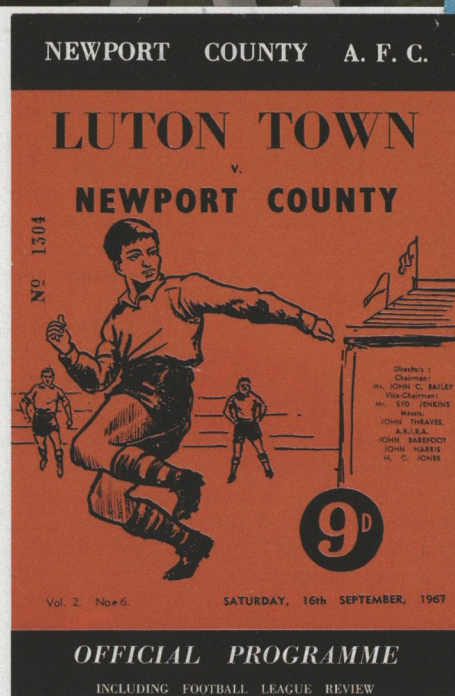
The 9d priced, eight-paged issue included, it appears for the first time at Newport, the Official Journal of The Football League in its "Review" colour magazine; but more on that later. The issue was edited by Cliff Hiscott, whose son Roger and grandsons Ryan and Cullum are all well-known County supporters to this day.

Les Graham was the County manager/coach during this period, with assistance from general manager Trevor Morris. The long-serving Ray Wilcox was acting as trainer, no doubt keeping the players on their toes throughout the week.

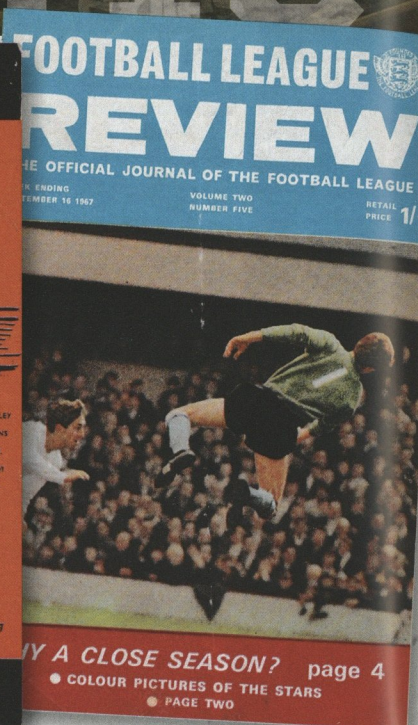
In 'General Manager's Notes' Morris, who also managed Cardiff, Swansea and in a caretaker role Wales, writes... "After the hullabaloo, tension and excitement of the Football League Cup, we today return to the comparative calm of the Fourth Division." The tie he refers to was played four days previously when First Division Blackpool had nicked a 1-0 win at Somerton in front of a healthy Tuesday night crowd of 13,157.

However, Morris adds... "It has to be acknowledged that the long-suffering Newport public will not be wooed back to Somerton Park in any numbers until we give them better class football - that is our aim."

Page three is devoted to Luton, where we learn they finished the previous season in 17th place; just one place above the County, but they were off to a



CLIFF HISCOTT



decent start this time around; winning two of their opening five games. This, added to draws against our compatriots Swansea and Wrexham, gave them six points.

Southend were the only team so far to lower their colours. If I'm being honest, none of the visitors featured in the pen pics printed that day ring any bells to me, but they included Haydock-born goalkeeper Tony Read, who according to his bio was... "Equally at home in the centre-forward position."

Nevertheless, looking at the teams that adorn the centre pages, a certain Bruce Rioch is listed. The Aldershot-born player became the first English-born player to captain Scotland and appeared

in the 1978 World Cup in Argentina. With a plethora of advertisers bustling around the edges, many older fans here today from Gwent would certainly remember Miss Black Car Exchange of 143-144 Commercial Road, and probably may have had coal delivered to their houses courtesy of James & Emanuel of 1 Malpas Road.

The popular John "Polly" Rowland was the subject of 'Meet the Players'; the former Corporation Road (St. Andrews) school pupil joined County as an amateur in 1951 but left in 1954 to join the well-known Newport Toffee factory side Lovell's Athletic.

Polly signed professional forms with the Rexville-based outfit in 1957, before the lure of league football back at Somerton proved too much to resist and he returned to us in 1958. In the proceeding nine years until 1967, he had made over 400 appearances in the amber shirt.

The piece notes... "He was awarded an Under -23 cap when he played for Wales against Scotland." Polly's favourite singer, the reader learns, is one Sammy Davis Jr, and the piece finishes by noting... "The club recognised his services to the County and are granting him a testimonial match at the end of the present season."

The match promised was duly played, with Portsmouth providing the opposition - but was actually staged in March 1969, nearly a year later than initially stated.

Likewise situated on page six was 'Programme Jottings' where there is a round-up of recent results and team line-ups. The league match at Doncaster had ended 1-1, Len Hill getting our goal, whilst the previously mentioned Blackpool tie, and a home Welsh League (Premier Division) clash with local rivals Cardiff City had also ended up at one apiece.

Ken Wookey was our scorer. Last season's fixtures with Luton were also noted, where we had won 2-0 at home with Gordon Fraser and Ken Morgan netting, but had suffered a 3-1 reverse at Kenilworth Road, Jeff Thomas scoring our consolation.

Moving on and 'Newport County Supporters' Club' jottings were featured on page eight, and Fred Beare, the General Secretary, writes... "Congratulations to the County team on the magnificent fight they put up last Tuesday. Not one of the crowd could have left Somerton Park without feeling that the County at least deserved a draw."

Fred goes onto welcome... "Mr and Mrs Frank Shepherd from Luton, who have done so much to foster the closeness of the two Supporters' clubs." Hopefully, some older visiting fans here at Rodney Parade will remember their names. Fred ends with a plea however... "The County have made a very successful start to the season, so why not tell your friends about this and persuade them to come along to Somerton Park."

Indeed, County were actually above Luton in the league table printed on the back page, with a better goal average; we too had six points and lay in ninth place with Wrexham and Swansea separating us.

This game was to finish 1-1 as well, Gerald King getting the County score, his third of the season thus far. Some 4,635 watched the action that autumn day and 1-1 was also the score of the return game on January 20 in Hertfordshire, where once, again Len Hill nabbed a point for us in front of 10,992 fans.

The teams at Somerton Park for that early season clash were; David Timson, David Williams, Joe Wilson, Alan Wood, Alan Williams, John Rowland, Jeff Thomas, Terry Melling, Dai Jones, Len Hill and Gerald King. Sub was Ken Wookey.



POLLY ROWLAND

Luton's team given via the programme was; Read, Hare, Jardine, McDerment, Branston, Moore, Brown, Allen, Dougan, Rioch, Whitacker.

The aforementioned "League Review" magazines are an absolute treasure trove of fascinating stories and pictures of the time. They were an invaluable source of information to any reader and still are. Pictured in glorious colour in this issue [Volume 2 No.5] were World Cup winner George Cohen of Fulham, Phil Parkes of Wolves, Tony Hateley of Liverpool, as well as a superb team snap of Bradford City.

From the colour of their striped shirts, to the terrace behind them, to the chimney stacks of the city they represent, the whole page is a thing of pure, raw beauty and a lovely snapshot of time gone by. Aldershot were the featured team in 'Club Call' and there are also some great stories on Halifax Town, Wolves, and Stockport County.

One statistic of note is our total attendance for the previous 1966/67 season; only Workington had less trundling though the turnstiles. 65,994 had found their way up Cromwell Road or over Somerton Bridge, giving us a poor average of just 2,869. Stockport topped the attendance table with a decent 9,820.

With the champagne corks being popped come May for Luton, we finished in 12th position with 45 points from our 46 fixtures. The Hatters were five points clear of runners-up Barnsley, with Hartlepool and Crewe also having a cause for a

knees-up come the season's end. Bradford Park Avenue were to finish bottom, and indeed did so for the next two seasons before losing their place in "Club 92" to Cambridge United in the summer of 1970.

Manchester City won the Football League, pushing the red half of their city into the runners-up spot. West Bromwich Albion won the FA Cup, where a Jeff Astle goal in extra-time had beaten Everton at Wembley. George Best of Manchester United and Southampton's Welsh international Ron Davies topped the goal-scoring charts with 28 strikes apiece. The mercurial Best also got one as United won the European Cup on a memorable night at Wembley, when they became the first English side to win "old big ears" with a 4-1 extra time victory over Benfica.

ON THIS DAY...

In the footballing world, Man City beat Sheffield United 5-2 at Maine Road, Southampton edged past Liverpool at The Dell 1-0, whilst that man Best again was on target at Hillsborough this time in a 1-1 draw for United against Sheffield Wednesday. In the news, Vladimir Tkachenko, a 25-year old Soviet physicist who was working at Birmingham University, was abducted from the streets of London by two KGB agents, apparently because the Russians believed that he was preparing to defect to the West.

AND FINALLY...

'Juke Box Jury' was on BBC 1 that evening at 5.15pm with David Jacobs in the chair and 'Doctor Who,' a staple diet of a Saturday night TV fodder was on later, starring Patrick Troughton. Television cameras were at the Royal Albert Hall in London for the second half of the final concert in the '73rd Season of Henry Wood Promenade Concerts, with 'Match of The Day' coming along at 10pm. Engelbert Humperdinck's "The Last Waltz" was in the second week of five at No.1 in the single charts, with Tom Jones reclaiming top spot in the album charts with "Delilah." Simon & Garfunkel's "Bookends" had briefly knocked the Welsh superstar and former County president off the top the previous week.



Full Time



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TODAY'S THE DAY BY PHIL TANNER

NEWPORT COUNTY AFC 1 - 0 LUTON TOWN
17 MARCH 2015, LEAGUE TWO

It's a bonus when I can find an anniversary game with something in it for visitors as well as home supporters. That said, it was probably a bit mischievous to feature a game when we scored eight in the Notts County programme a few days after they'd shipped eight themselves.

Last time we revisited the 2014-15 campaign was for a very late to loss Mansfield Town in early March and I speculated that manager Jimmy Dack might have started to worry that the promotion game was up. I was misremembering and two weeks later we were still hanging in there despite a 2-1 loss away to fellow play-off hopefuls Stevenage and a disappointing 1-1 here against relegation-bound Cheltenham.

Dack rang the changes in reverting to a 5-3-2 formation from 4-4-2. Andy Sandell returned at left back in place of Cardiff loanee David Tutonda, although Darren Jones retained the captaincy. In the centre, Ismail Yakubu was also back from injury. Max Porter replaced an injured Mark Byrne in midfield and the gifted but infuriating Adam Chapman dropped to the bench. Up front Shaun Jeffers, so often disappointing, came in for Swindon loan player Miles Storey.

The Hatters feared skipper Stephen McNulty might miss out because of facial cuts sustained in a defeat at Portsmouth last time out, but he made it. Mark Tyler, one of the division's best keepers, Jonathan Smith and Nathan Doyle were all unavailable with knee injuries while Scott Griffiths, awaiting a hernia op, wasn't risked.

Writing in the Argus, Michael Pearlman was scathing about County's home form after the Cheltenham draw: "Fortress Rodney Parade is currently more like a quaint B&B in the Cotswolds or a chalet in the South of France, inviting, enticing and exactly the kind of place under pressure football teams can come to unwind and enjoy some hospitality."

Our form may have been faltering, but Luton were on a more slippery slope. Little did they know it, but our visitors were in the middle of a horrendous run of seven consecutive league defeats and nine in 10 games which cost them promotion. They and County were to wind up occupying the places immediately below the play-off group.

The County website's match report describes the proverbial game of two halves. We dominated the early possession, keeping the ball away from the visitors and with wingback Ryan Jackson causing all sorts of problems down Luton's left. Ryan had our first chance, running at the defence from just inside the Luton half after a pass from Lee Minshull before cutting inside and forcing Elliot Justham to save.

Our domination paid off after 21 minutes when Jackson launched a long throw into the box which Lee Minshull flicked on to Aaron O'Connor, who fired into the top corner against his old club. County continued to bombard the Luton box, with Yan Klukowski looping a header onto the roof of the net. We could have been three or even four up at the break.

Joe Day wasn't troubled at all in the first half, but we needed him in the second. Joe made great saves from Elliot Lee and Mark Cullen, with Lee and Luke Wilkinson hitting the woodwork.

County weathered the storm and looked more comfortable after Chris Zebroski replaced Jeffers up front with 20 minutes left. Chris almost scored with his first touch and then put O'Connor in to force a good save from Justham.

Nerves crept in, but we saw out four minutes of added time. The three points left us outside the play-off places only on goal difference, but it was to be the only home win in Dack's time as manager.

COUNTY LINE-UP v LUTON TOWN - 17 MARCH 2015

Joe Day, Ryan Jackson, Kevin Feely, Ismail Yakubu, Darren Jones, Andy Sandell, Max Porter, Lee Minshull, Yan Klukowski (Michael Flynn, 79), Shaun Jeffers (Chris Zebroski, 71), Aaron O'Connor (Adam Chapman, 90). Not used: Jamie Stephens, Miles Storey, Joe Parker, David Tutonda. Attendance 2,536 (away 349).



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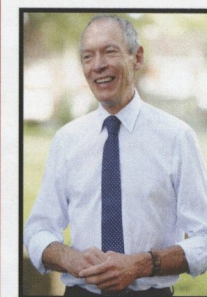
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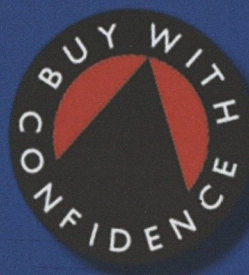
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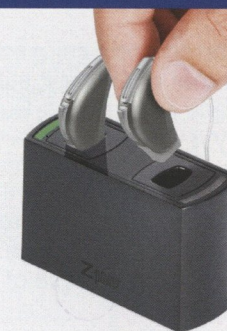
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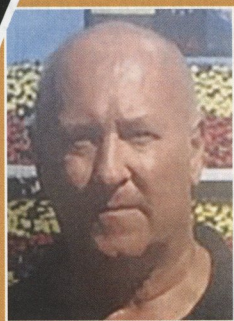
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SCOUTING AROUND

WITH PAUL MOLESWORTH, NEWPORT COUNTY AFC, CHIEF SCOUT



Good afternoon everyone and a very warm welcome to one of my ex-clubs Luton Town for what promises to be an exciting game today at Rodney Parade.

I was chief scout at the Hatters when they won promotion from League Two in the 2001/2002 season.

Joe Kinnear and Mick Harford were in charge with Brian Stein also coaching the first team.

We had a great season and I enjoyed every minute working at that club and it still holds a special place in my heart. But for 90+ minutes today it won't!

We had them watched against Accrington and to be fair Luton played some great stuff and should have won the game, only to go and lose it in the last couple of minutes.

We also had them covered at Coventry too but I'm having to write these notes before that game has been played and I wouldn't like to guess the outcome.

If he's here today, a big welcome to Luton's chairman and my old mate, Nick Owen, who's a legend in Birmingham.

It was great to get back to winning ways at Yeovil and to be fair the manager called it when we spoke before the game.

Hopefully we can continue in that mode today and with a good run of home games to come, we can climb back up the league.

Today I'll be up at Crewe, which is a place that's easy to get to. I'll let the train take the strain and even I can manage the two-minute walk to the ground from the station!

I would expect that you might see a goal or two today as both teams like to play attacking football and I expect us to put on a great display.

Enjoy the game. Let's get another three points!

Regards

Paul Molesworth

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CLUB NEWS

A LOOK AT WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND RODNEY PARADE

CLUB AND DSA MARK WEEKS OF ACTION

Today's fixture sees the club and Disabled Supporters' Association (DSA) celebrating Level Playing Fields (LPF) Weeks of Action for this year.

We have chosen this fixture as our opponents Luton Town also have a proactive DSA who have also done some fabulous work including leading their club to becoming a Dementia Friendly organisation.

As part of this Weeks of Action, we welcome a group of children and some of their families from the Thrive Charity to attend their first game. Some of the children will also lead the teams out with the Weeks of Action banner to promote the event.

Level Playing Fields is a charity dedicated to promoting good access to sporting events for all fans. Each year, they run a themed "Weeks of Action" which is a fortnight of events and activities aimed at increasing awareness of the struggles which some supporters face when simply trying to attend a football match.

This year's Weeks of Action theme is #OurMatchday and focuses on highlighting some of the positive work and initiatives being undertaken by clubs and DSAs.

Our DSA that was formed in 2015 has grown rapidly and supported a large number of supporters with information, attending and being comfortable at games. The groups' volunteers usually find that a quick chat and offering some assistance removes many of the potential barriers that could be experienced by a supporter with disabilities attending a match at Rodney Parade.

The DSA were also at the heart of a case study that the EFL shared on their "EFL in the Community" page earlier this season in which the EFL highlighted a particular story of County supporter Paul Olander and how the DSA helped him enjoy watching regular football again. The DSA have also provided crucial assistance to the club with advice and support and are in constant talks with the club and Rodney Parade about improving disabled access and facilities at the stadium.

Here is a 'Matchday in the Life' of the DSA:

- 12:30pm 1st volunteer arrives to support Disabled Supporters with parking passes in Maindee School
- 1.00pm The rest of the DSA Matchday Volunteers arrive to coordinate the Accessible spaces in Rodney Parade (after liaising with supporters to organise parking).

Support is available by Entrance Gate 2 for any supporters that need to be dropped off whilst their driver parks

Blankets and emergency ponchos are placed on the North Terrace and Hazell Terrace for home supporters and also the away end for those who have travelled. Wheelchairs are prepared for use if requested.

Accessible facilities are checked for any potential issues for supporters and fed back to the club, revised plans discussed and implemented.

2.00pm Rodney Parade parking closes. Matchday volunteers now check on the North Terrace viewing platform. Any visiting supporters that require support are assisted by the DSA to join their supporters. Volunteers remain available in case they are needed to support the ticket office or further supporters arriving need any assistance.

2:30pm Maindee School car park shuts

3.00pm If no further assistance is needed the volunteers make their way into the stadium for the game.

3:45pm At half time volunteers check for any issues for disabled supporters and if the weather is bad offer blankets and emergency ponchos for use.

4:50pm At the final whistle, volunteers assist supporters to their cars (if needed), collect in blankets and return wheelchair to storage.

To find out more about the fantastic work of the Amber DSA, please visit our website: www.newport-county.co.uk/fans/disabled-supporters-association/

TODAY'S BUCKET COLLECTION

Today's Bucket Collection is to support the launch of the Newport 'Men's Sheds'.

The group get together every 2nd Thursday of the month, 2.00pm. at Summerhill Baptist Church, Albert Avenue, Maindee, NP19 8FT and socialise and take part in activities which the group chooses. It's a fantastic way to spend the afternoon, make new friends and learn new skills!

Find out more by visiting:

www.facebook.com/Newport.MensSheds



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GET GAME READY



BRING IT ON!

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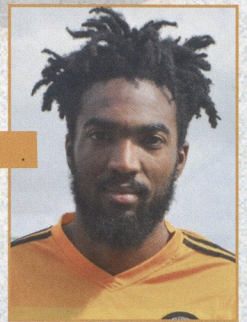
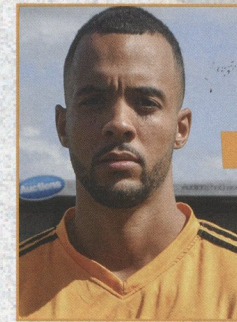
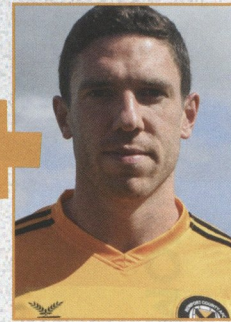
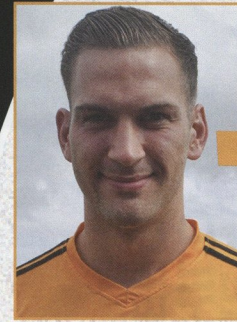


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SPOT THE BALL



ANSWERS ON PAGE 34



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10 QUESTIONS

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MAN UNITED BUT SHAMROCK ROVERS FROM 10

CAREER INFLUENCE : MY PARENTS

BEST FOOTBALL MEMORY :
PROMOTION WITH GRIMSBY/*THAT* SPURS GOAL

DREAM STADIUM : OLD TRAFFORD

FAVOURITE PLAYER OF ALL TIME :
MESSI OR RONALDO (BRAZILIAN)

FAVOURITE SONG :
VANCE JOY - RIPTIDE

FAVOURITE FOOD :
CHRISTMAS DINNER (TURKEY OR HAM)

FAVOURITE DRINK : SPRITE ZERO





TODAY'S MASCOTS...

TOP O' THE MORNING TO YA! IT'S ST PATRICKS DAY TODAY AND I'M CELEBRATING BY LISTENING TO THE SCRIPT... ON REPEAT... ALL DAY. I'LL ALSO BE LISTENING TO B*WITCHED - ASK AN ADULT!

FIVE-YEARS-OLD AND LIKES TO SIT ABOVE THE HAZELL TERRACE SO HE CAN JOIN IN WITH THE SINGING.

TODAY I'M WELCOMING FOUR FANTASTIC MASCOTS TO RODNEY PARADE! FIRST, IT'S OUR MR TOM COMPETITION WINNER ERNIE NICOLAIDES. EIGHT-YEAR OLD ERNIE IS A KEEN FOOTBALLER AND PLAYS LEFT-MIDFIELD FOR HIS UNDER-9S SIDE. HIS FAVOURITE COUNTY PLAYER IS MICKEY DEMETRIOU AFTER WATCHING THE CENTRE BACK SCORE THREE GOALS AT HOME DURING THE GREAT ESCAPE MATCHES! HIS FAVOURITE COUNTY MEMORY IS WATCHING US STAY UP ON THE LAST DAY OF THE SEASON AND RECEIVING THE

"GOAL-SCORING BOOT" FROM MICKEY AFTER THE GAME!

WE ARE ALSO JOINED BY TEN-YEAR-OLD LUKE EVANS. LUKE IS ALSO A KEEN FOOTBALLER AND HE PLAYS RIGHT MIDFIELD (WE'VE GOT THE MAKINGS OF AN EXCELLENT MIDFIELD WITH THIS WEEK'S MASCOTS). LUKE'S BEST MEMORY FROM WATCHING COUNTY WAS THAT MAGICAL MOMENT THAT PADRAIG AMOND'S HEADER PUT THE SIDE 1-0 UP AGAINST SPURS. LUKE BECAME A COUNTY FAN BECAUSE HIS DAD, NAN AND 'GRAMPY' ARE ALL BIG COUNTY FANS. HE WENT TO HIS FIRST GAME WHEN HE WAS JUST

OUR THIRD MASCOT IS ELLIOTT. ELLIOTT IS A STRIKER FOR MONMOUTH TOWN U11S BUT HIS FAVOURITE COUNTY PLAYERS IS RIGHT-BACK DAVID PIPE. ELLIOTT'S DREAM IS TO BECOME A PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER AND HE'S CURRENTLY PART OF THE NEWPORT COUNTY AFC DEVELOPMENT CENTRE. ELLIOTT IS A SEASON TICKET HOLDER AND HAS ALWAYS SUPPORTED HIS HOMETOWN TEAM. HIS BEST MEMORY FROM SUPPORTING COUNTY WAS SHAWN MCCOULSKY'S LAST-MINUTE

WINNER AGAINST LEEDS UNITED.

WE ALSO HAVE A MASCOT FROM LUTON TOWN JOINING US THIS AFTERNOON! SEVEN-YEAR-OLD CHARLIE LEE JOINS US TODAY FROM LUTON TOWN. THOUGH HE LIVES IN WALES AND IS A FANTASTIC FOOTBALLER WHO CURRENTLY PLAYS IN SWANSEA CITY AFC ACADEMY, HIS DREAM IS TO PLAY FOOTBALL FOR LUTON TOWN. HIS FAVOURITE HATTER IS MIDFIELDER OLLY LEE AND HIS BEST MEMORY FROM SUPPORTING LUTON IS TODAY WHEN HE GETS TO BE MASCOT.

I HOPE ALL THE MASCOTS HAVE A FANTASTIC TIME!

Spytty

DON'T FORGET - YOU CAN ME @COUNTYMASCOT

ANSWERS...
PLAYER MATCHES: MICKEY DEMETRIOU (28) + BEN TOZER (12) = 40;
CALUAM JAHRAALDO-MARTIN (32) - MARLON JACKSON (13) = 19;
SPOT THE BALL: ID: WHO AM I?: DAVID PIPE

LEVEL PLAYING FIELD WEEKS OF ACTION

Celebrating 'Our Matchday'

The EFL is supporting the 2018 Level Playing Field Weeks of Action. This annual initiative, now in its 13th year, aims to celebrate accessibility and inclusion for disabled sports fans across England and Wales.

Disabled people constitute the largest minority group at around 15% of the population and this number is increasing year on year. Naturally, a large number of disabled people are football fans too and we are pleased to take this opportunity to thank them for their continued loyalty and dedication to their club and our competitions.

This year the EFL and Level Playing Field are celebrating the matchday experience for disabled fans. We want to shine a light on the positives of attending a live matchday and promote a culture of accessibility and inclusiveness within sport.

This season's campaign will see Level Playing Field join together with sports clubs, fans and organisations across England and Wales to celebrate the #OurMatchday campaign to promote the positive experience had by disabled fans and the message of access and inclusion for all.

Clubs across the EFL will be working with their Disabled Supporters' Association to promote the work they are doing to improve the supporter experience so that football matches are a welcoming environment for everyone.



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2018



For more information about the important work of Level Playing Field and this year's Weeks of Action, please visit www.levelplayingfield.org.uk email helen@levelplayingfield.org.uk or call 0208 621 2403.

Alternatively you may wish to send a message of support to @lpftweets on Twitter using the hashtag #OurMatchday





NEWPORT COUNTY AFC MORECAMBE

1
1



TUESDAY 23 JANUARY 2018 | 3.00PM | RODNEY PARADE
SKY BET LEAGUE TWO | ATTENDANCE: 2,754 (18 AWAY)

Newport County AFC's perfect start to 2018 came to an end as a late Michael Rose penalty ensured Morecambe took a point from Rodney Parade in a 1-1 draw.

The Exiles took the lead on 14 minutes after a relatively quiet opening, Ben Tozer superbly reacting to a Frank Nouble flick-on to curl into the top corner from the edge of the six-yard area.

Chances were certainly at a premium in South Wales during the game, although County edged things in terms of possession, and Morecambe duly found their equaliser with 14 minutes remaining.

Away captain Rose calmly slotted home his penalty into the left corner after goalkeeper Joe Day had originally fouled substitute Garry Thompson, as the hosts missed the chance to rise into the play-off positions and had to settle for eighth position following the draw.

Michael Flynn elected to make just the one change to the side that secured a fourth successive 2-1 victory the Friday night before against Crawley Town at Rodney Parade.

That saw Mark O'Brien come in for his first start since being dismissed against Lincoln City just before Christmas.

Ben White was the player to make way for his vice-captain in a like-for-like change, as the 19-year old missed out on the starting side in a league game for the first time since the opening day of the season.

That did cause a change in the County formation at Rodney Parade, with it looking like a 4-2-3-1 system

being implemented by Flynn from the off.

Morecambe manager Jim Bentley made three changes to his side that suffered a narrow 1-0 defeat to Luton Town on the previous Saturday.

Two of those changes came in the midfield of a familiar 3-4-1-2 formation for the Shrimpers, as Andrew Fleming and Aaron Wildig dropped to the bench in place of Alex Kenyon and Adam Campbell.

The final change for the away side came in attack as Kevin Ellison came back into the side in search of his sixth goal against the Exiles from just 11 appearances.

Garry Thompson was the attacking option to make way for the 38-year old as Morecambe looked to continue their impressive Sky Bet League Two record against the Exiles.

But if anything, it was the Exiles who had the better of the opening exchanges, even if no clear-cut chances were being created, away goalkeeper Barry Roche punching clear several crosses as possession was evidently all with County in the first ten minutes.

And that pressure finally told as County took the lead just four minutes later.

An inviting delivery from Willmott into the area was superbly flicked on by Nouble into Tozer's path, who instinctively swung a leg at it to guide it past Roche and into the top corner from the edge of the six-yard area.

That was the midfielder's second of the season after his winner at Swindon in November, and the Exiles were certainly playing with confidence following the early opener.

Josh Sheehan and Padraig Amond both produced clever flicks in the centre to set Nouble away on the left-hand side, although the cross was a little tame and allowed Roche to safely collect.

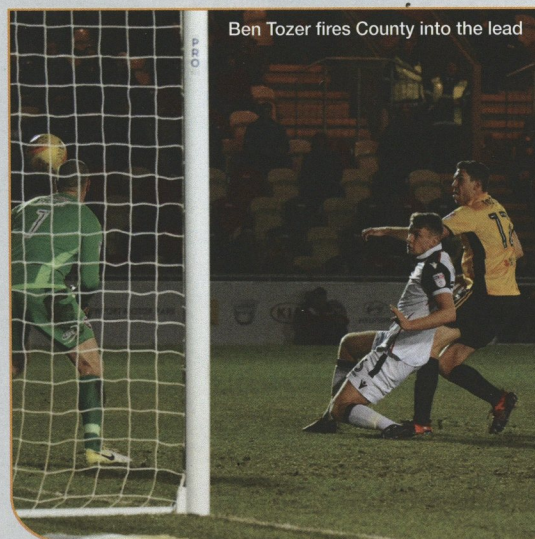
It took until the 25th minute for Morecambe to create their first sight at goal. Wycombe loanee Max Muller capitalised on a slip from Scot Bennett in the area, but could only fire straight at Joe Day from 15 yards.

The visitors were clearly inspired by that opening and could probably feel aggrieved to not be level with ten minutes of the half remaining.

Ellison flicked a corner from the front post back into the danger area and captain Michael Rose looked likely to smash an attempt at goal, only for O'Brien to time a challenge to perfection and get it away.

Rose was denied again with a 30-yard volley just after as the away side were starting to get a foothold in the game, even if there were very few clear-cut chances being created by either side.

But County almost provided a double sucker-punch to the Shrimpers in the second of the two additional minutes.



On that occasion Mickey Demetriou rose highest from Willmott's corner, but with Roche beaten, Ellison scrambled back to his near post and headed clear.

That meant the Exiles took just a one goal advantage back with them to the dressing rooms and you would have to say that they deserved it on the balance of the game.

County were winning all the aerial battles, Demetriou and Amond particularly impressing in the air, although the Exiles could only breach the Morecambe goal on one occasion during the first 45 minutes.

The away side certainly grew into the game the longer it progressed, but clear-cut chances were at a premium in South Wales and Day would have been extremely pleased with the output of his defensive unit in the first-half.

Flynn chose to make a change at half-time to try and press home the advantage that his side had created in the first-half, Sheehan being replaced by Emmanuel Osadebe, who came in for his County debut having joined on loan from Cambridge United the week before.

And the midfielder certainly looked accustomed to his role in the midfield during his opening 15 minutes in Amber, firing narrowly wide of the far post in addition to some very sharp touches that nearly produced some openings.

But other than that, it was another case of very few chances being created, Bennett and O'Brien both firing wide on the angle but nothing to test either goalkeeper at Rodney Parade.

Day was eventually forced into a stop on 68 minutes, superbly tipping over a 25-yard effort from Rose after County had twice failed to clear the danger.

Robbie Willmott was providing a constant threat for the Exiles all night, arguably County's best player throughout the game, and another bursting run almost presented Amond with a header in the area, although the cross had too much speed and went out for a throw-in.

ARTICLE BY RYAN ROBINSON PICTURES BY NICOLA JOHNS

Day was called into action again with 18 minutes to go, this time getting down well to prevent Muller after the defender had wriggled his way into the area and created some space.

Nouble was taken off shortly after as a booking for the striker would have led to a suspension for the Tottenham game on Saturday, as Shawn McCoulsky came on in his place.

But the visitors were gifted a glorious chance to equalise in the 76th minute as Day was adjudged to have felled Shrimpers substitute Garry Thompson.

Rose stepped up and duly dispatched the opportunity into the bottom left corner more with accuracy rather than power as Day went the wrong way.

Steve Old almost turned the game completely on its head with seven minutes to go, County extremely lucky to see the centre-half inadvertently deflect Ellison's attempt just wide of the far post with Day beaten.

Amond may have won it for County shortly after with a volleyed attempt of his own, Roche reacting well to get a strong foot to it and ensure it didn't fall to any of the four awaiting County attackers.

McCoulsky came even closer with just 100 seconds of the match left to be played, this time Roche getting a strong hand to his effort on the turn to tip the ball over the crossbar.

But no further chances could be created by either side during the five additional minutes of time added on, as both had to settle for a well contested point at Rodney Parade.

County: Day, Pipe, Demetriou, O'Brien, Bennett, Butler, Willmott, Tozer, Sheehan (Osadebe 45'), Nouble (McCoulsky 73'), Amond (Hayes 86')
Subs not used: Bittner, White, Reid, Collins

Morecambe: Roche, Lavelle, Old, Muller, Conlan, Rose, Kenyon, McGowan, Campbell (Lang 64'), McGurk (Thompson 64'), Ellison
Subs not used: Nizic, Brough, Fleming, Wildig, Lund



NEWPORT COUNTY AFC

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2017-18 STAT PACK

sky BET
LEAGUE TWO

LEAGUE TWO TOP FIVES

GOALS

1	KEE	21
2	EISA	18
3	COLLINS	17
4	ADEBAYO AKI...	16
5	DOIDGE	16

ASSISTS

1	ADEBAYO AKI...	11
2	TAYLOR	11
3	COOPER	9
4	KEE	8
5	STEAD	8

SHOTS ON TARGET

1	EISA	54
2	ADEBAYO AKI...	47
3	UCHE IKPEAZU	45
4	KEE	41
5	MCNULTY	41

MINUTES PER GOAL

1	COLLINS	149
2	KEE	149
3	HYLTON	160
4	EISA	164
5	SZMODICS	165

% OF GOALS INVOLVED IN

1	DOIDGE	49
2	POPE	49
3	KEE	48
4	DENNIS	44
5	UCHE IKPEAZU	43

MINUTES PER CHANCE CREATED

1	TAYLOR	203
2	COOPER	221
3	REID	225
4	MCALINDEN	268
5	ADEBAYO AKI...	275

FOULS

1	UCHE IKPEAZU	107
2	ADEBAYO AKI...	89
3	NEWTON	86
4	POPE	86
5	MANDRON	75

MINUTES PER GOAL CONCEDED

1	ANYON	51
2	ROSS	55
3	KRYSIK	55
4	GARRATT	57
5	COLLINS	57

LEAGUE TWO SPOTLIGHT

Graham Westley's three home Football League meetings with Wycombe have all ended in defeat, with Gareth Ainsworth in charge of Wycombe for the most recent two.

LEAGUE TWO SPOTLIGHT

Mark Robins' previous two league trips to Gresty Road have ended in defeat, losing 1-0 with Rotherham in March 2007 and 2-0 with Scunthorpe in March 2015.





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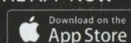
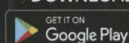
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2017-18 STAT PACK

sky BET
LEAGUE TWO



NEWPORT COUNTY

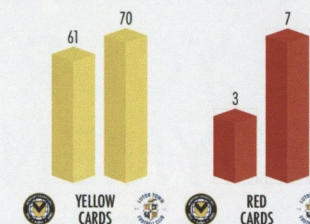
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LUTON TOWN



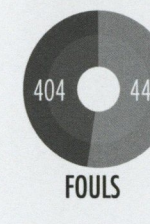
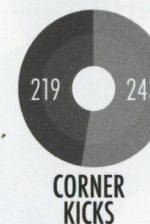
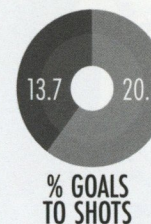
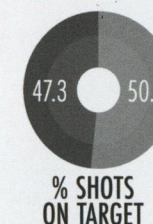
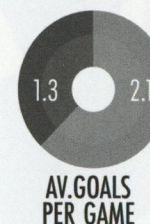
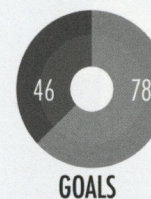
MATCH FACTS

Newport are unbeaten in their last six home Football League matches against Luton (W4 D2) since losing 3-1 in October 1946.

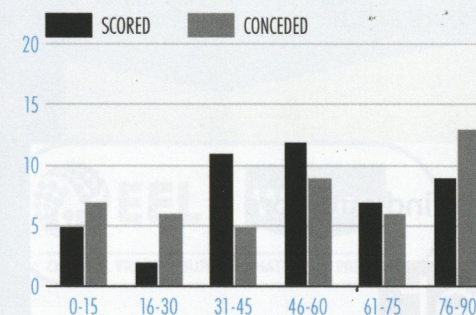


MATCH FACTS

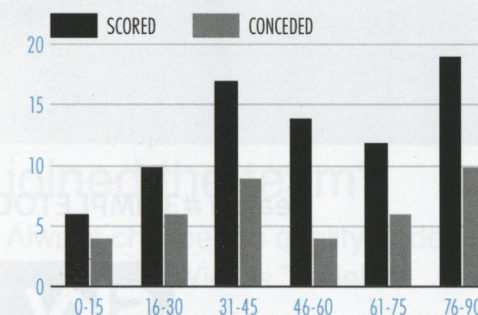
Luton are, however, unbeaten in their last four league games against Newport since losing 3-0 in November 2015, when substitute Oliver McBurnie scored a hat-trick.



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NEWPORT COUNTY AFC 1 TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR 1

SATURDAY 27 JANUARY 2018 | KO 5.30PM | RODNEY PARADE
THE EMIRATES FA CUP, FOURTH ROUND | ATTENDANCE: 9,836 (1649 AWAY)



Newport County AFC booked themselves a third visit to Wembley after holding Premier League high flyers Tottenham Hotspur to a 1-1 draw in a pulsating The Emirates FA Cup Fourth Round clash at Rodney Parade.

And the Exiles were only seven minutes away from causing one of the biggest upsets in the history of the competition after Padraig Amond opened the scoring for the hosts after 38 minutes.

Joss Labadie superbly dispossessed Kyle Walker-Peters out-wide before forcing a throw-in that was only half cleared to Robbie Willmott.

His delivery sat up perfectly for Amond to head home the opener on the night, guiding the chance straight into the bottom corner as Michel Vorm could only watch in the Spurs goal as the ball flew past him.

The Exiles had done a remarkable job to nullify the obvious presence of Harry Kane, Day making a smart save in the first-half to keep him out, as County were battling resolutely in an attempt to secure a stunning victory against a side 71 places higher than them in the English league pyramid.

But Kane showed his Premier League class to salvage a replay for the away side, calmly passing into an empty

The Exiles managed to keep Spurs star Harry Kane quiet until his late equaliser



net after Son Heung-min had guided a corner into his path just two yards out.

The stalemate meant County had their name in the hat for the Fifth Round draw and a bid to get to that stage for just the second time in the club's history.

Manager Michael Flynn elected to make two changes to the side that drew 1-1 with Morecambe on Tuesday night before.

That saw captain Joss Labadie make a welcome return to the starting team following a recent injury lay-off with the hamstring problem sustained in the win at Grimsby Town.

Josh Sheehan made his way to the bench in place of his captain, while Ben White was also brought back in after missing that Tuesday game as a precautionary measure.

Mark O'Brien also found his name amongst the substitutes for the game, as Flynn resisted the temptation to name a defensive line-up and set-up in the familiar 4-3-3 formation when in possession.

Tottenham manager Mauricio Pochettino also resisted his own lure of naming a slightly weaker side and fielded a team full of internationals, although it was still five changes from their last Premier League outing with Southampton the weekend before when they drew 1-1 away.

That meant Spurs went with a 3-1-4-2 formation from the word go, with formidable duo Fernando Llorente and Kane up-front.

And you would have to say that the Exiles should have been in front after just three minutes.

David Pipe and Joss Labadie both did well to regain possession after Walker-Peters was found to be indecisive outside his area, with the returning County captain drilling the ball across the face of goal from Pipe's clever through ball.

Amond and Eric Dier both missed it but the ball found its way to an unmarked Frank Nouble lurking ten yards out, who really should have at least hit the target with the attempt as it sailed high and wide out of the stadium.

The first chance for the visitors surprisingly took until the 11th minute.

But there could no surprises that it fell the way of Kane 25-yards out, although the frontman couldn't quite find the right connection and it flew into the travelling support behind Joe Day's goal.

The Exiles were certainly showing no fear of their Premier League opposition in the opening quarter-of-an-hour, certainly giving the ball away on far fewer occasions than the visitors in the early exchanges and causing a host of problems in the wide areas.

Kane used his imposing power to muscle his way towards the front post on 28 minutes, getting on the end

Padraig Amond gave County a fully-deserved 1-0 lead



of Trippier's cross, only for Day to produce a remarkable save to keep it out with the help of the post.

All the Tottenham chances were falling the way of their talisman at Rodney Parade, who shortly after saw a speculative 35-yard free-kick just graze the crossbar on it's way over.

The visitors were certainly beginning to assert some sort of authority onto proceedings, although not creating any further clear-cut chances, as they were without question getting more sustained spells in possession.

But the Exiles remained insistent that it wouldn't last for long and duly took the lead in the 38th minute.

Credit must go to Labadie for his involvement in the build-up, dispossessing Walker-Peters yet again and forcing a throw-in from Victor Wanyama about ten yards in from the corner flag.

That delivery from Tozer was only half cleared into Willmott's path on the edge-of-the-area, who whipped a perfect delivery towards the far post for Amond to power a header into the bottom corner as Vorm could only watch it give County the lead.

Amond was almost at it again just four minutes later, showing more heart and desire to get on the end of what looked like a hopeful long ball, this time Vorm reacting well to save at his near post.

The indication of the two minutes additional time came and by without any further chances being created by either side as County took a one-goal advantage back with them to the dressing rooms.

And you would have to say that the Exiles deserved it.

Nothing was being left at Rodney Parade by any player - vigour, heart and desire all on show in abundance by the players in Amber and they were certainly not in fear of their opposition.

ARTICLE BY RYAN ROBINSON PICTURES BY NICOLA JOHNS

Labadie was by-far the stand-out player from a County perspective in the opening 45 minutes, working tirelessly to limit the service towards Kane and Llorente, while Mickey Demetriou was there should anything get through.

And the Exiles would be even more pleased to see that Messrs Kane, Llorente, Wanyama and company were limited to just the one shot on target in the opening 45 minutes.

Day was equal to Kane on that occasion and he would have been mightily pleased with the courage portrayed by his defence to nullify the threat of the stellar Tottenham attackers for the rest of the half.

That forced Pochettino into making an attacking alteration to begin the second-half at Rodney Parade, Son taking to the field in place of Walker-Peters.

But even that substitution couldn't inspire Spurs into finding a route towards goal, White sharply making a last-ditch challenge on Kane in their best moment for the first 20 minutes of the second-half, as Pochettino turned to his bench yet again.

Llorente was the man to make way this time as the Argentinian sought more creativity in the middle, another international star in Dele Alli coming on.

And Alli was right at the heart of creating an opportunity within 20 seconds of his introduction. His splitting through ball found Son in the area, but Day was equal to it again to save firmly with his leg.

Kane fired into the side netting with 20 minutes to go as County continued to defy the odds at Rodney Parade, with Flynn showing absolutely no fear of a Tottenham comeback by bringing another attacker into proceedings.

The hero from the Third Round, Shawn McCoulsky replaced goal-scorer Amond to a standing ovation from a packed Rodney Parade, the Irishman running his heart into the ground for the 74 minutes in which he participated.

And if anything as the game approached the 80th minute mark, Spurs were still no closer to breaking down a stubborn County defence, Pochettino chancing his final throw of the dice by bringing Ben Davies into the game in place of Dembele.

But they would find their equaliser in the 82nd minute.

It was a well worked corner routine to find the net, Son - rising highest to float a header to the back post where Kane showed his predatory instinct to tap home unmarked from two yards.

Kane almost broke County hearts in the second minute of the four added at the end of the match, Day again alert to deflect it wide, as the Exiles secured themselves a lucrative replay at Wembley Stadium with a more than deserved draw in South Wales.

County: Day, Pipe, White, Demetriou, Bennett, Butler, Willmott, Labadie (C) (Dolan 83'), Tozer, Nouble, Amond (McCoulsky 74')

Subs not used: Bittner, Reid, O'Brien, Sheehan, Hayes

Tottenham Hotspur: Vorm, Walker-Peters (Son 45'), Vertonghen, Foyth, Trippier, Dier, Dembele (Davies 81'), Wanyama, Sissoko, Llorente (Alli 65'), Kane

Subs not used: Gazzaniga, Sanchez, Amos, Georgiou



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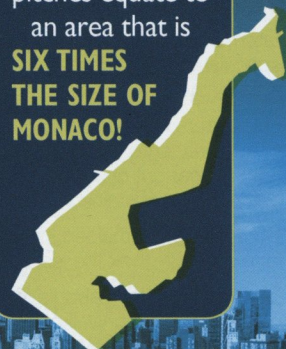


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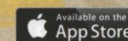
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WELCOME LUTON TOWN

After nine seasons away, this afternoon's visitors Luton Town look favourites to return to the third tier of English football despite a few recent hiccups. The 1988 League Cup winners spent five of those seasons in the Conference of course, though under the management of Rhondda-born Nathan Jones, 'The Hatters' are well placed to recapture former glories. Indeed, Luton had lost just seven League Two games all season ahead of Tuesday evening's trip to Coventry, though strangely three of those defeats were at strugglers Barnet, Port Vale and Chesterfield.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS...

SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

This afternoon's visitors came into being in 1885 following the amalgamation of local outfits Luton Town Wanderers and works' team Excelsior FC. The new club moved to Excelsior's home in Dallow Lane, though supporters complained that on windy afternoons they were engulfed with smoke from the trains on the nearby railway line, causing their straw hats to be blown from their heads! Perhaps to stand out amidst the smog, Town adopted an eye-catching pink and navy blue playing kit, and five years later become the first club in the south of England to turn professional. By 1897, supporters – literally! – breathed a collective sigh of relief as the club moved to a smoke-free new home at Dunstable Road, before settling at Kenilworth Road in 1905.

GOLDEN DECADE

Luton reached the top-flight of English football for the first time in the 1955-56 campaign, making it to Wembley three years later for the FA Cup final. Nottingham Forest ended their dreams of glory with a 2-1 victory, though Hatters threw the proverbial kitchen sink at Forest in search of an equaliser after Dave Pacey pulled a goal back in the 66th minute, with Allan Brown heading narrowly wide and future manager Billy Bingham hitting the side netting as the game drew to its close. Forest's opening

goal came from Roy Dwight, uncle of Reg Dwight, better known as Elton John, former chairman of Town's arch rivals Watford! Among the star names at Luton through the 1950s were record appearance holder Bob Morton, record goal scorer Gordon Turner, England goalkeepers Ron Baynham and Bernard Streten, England defender Syd Owen and Ireland internationals Tom Aherne, Seamus Dunne and George Cummins.

LEAGUE CUP SUCCESS

The 1980s was another memorable decade for Luton, as manager David Pleat led the club to the First Division for a third time in 1982. Six years later, managed by Ray Harford, Town won the League Cup with a dramatic 3-2 win over red-hot favourites Arsenal. Cwmbran-born goalkeeper Andy Dibble sparked a late Hatters rally by saving an 80th minute penalty, before Danny Wilson equalised and Brian Stein bagged an injury time winner. To cap a memorable season, Luton also reached Wembley in the Full Members Cup Final and the Mercantile Credit Centenary Tournament.

LUTON LEGEND...

ANDY DIBBLE

Most legends will have played more than 31 games for a club, but there again without Andy Dibble, it is quite possible that Luton Town would still be searching for their first major honour. With Arsenal 2-1 up in the 1988 League Cup Final, the three-times capped Wales international famously turned Nigel Winterburn's 80th minute spot kick around the post, paving the way for Danny Wilson and Brian Stein to seal Hatters' triumph with a goal apiece in the last eight minutes. Cwmbran-born Dibble had moved to Kenilworth Road from Cardiff City for £125,000 in the summer of 1984 but, with Les Sealey in impressive form, his first team opportunities were limited, resulting in loan spells with Sunderland and Huddersfield Town. The final was only Dibble's sixth appearance of the campaign and, as he reflected to 'The Guardian' last month, 'I knew I had to save that penalty or things would be over for us.' Even after that, it was clear that Sealey was manager Ray Harford's preferred choice between the posts, and a week later the goalkeeping hero was back in South Wales, watching Panteg, managed by his father Alan, in Welsh League action.

By the end of the season, Andy was on his travels again, with a £240,000 move to Manchester City, but after a couple of seasons as number one he lost his place to Tony Coton. Nevertheless, he played more games for City – 116 – than any of his other 17 clubs, though another highlight included keeping a clean sheet in a 1-0 victory that sealed Rangers' ninth successive Scottish Premier League title in 1997. A few months after that championship success, the shot stopper rejoined this afternoon's visitors on a free transfer, but played just one game for the by now third tier outfit before resuming his travels. Since retiring in 2006 after 397 first team appearances, Dibble has been goalkeeper coach at Accrington Stanley, Coventry City, Peterborough United and Rotherham United, before returning to his native South Wales just over a year ago to take up a similar position at former club Cardiff. The 52-year-old reflected on a career that has brought 'something like nine or 10 promotions as a player and coach', but told 'The Daily Mail' that he did not regret leaving Luton for Manchester City, 'I had a brilliant time at City. Manager Peter Reid would let us all have a couple of glasses of wine before a game to relax. He knew how to manage people!'

COUNTY CONNECTIONS...

THE PLAYERS

Current County stars **MARK O'BRIEN** and **ROBBIE WILLMOTT** both had spells with Luton, while Conference promotion heroes **AARON O'CONNOR** and **DANNY CROW** arrived at Rodney Parade from Kenilworth Road. Jump back a few seasons, and **CHARLIE HENRY** and **IAN HILLIER** also



MARK O'BRIEN

represented both clubs, as did goalkeeper **MARK OVENDALE**, who tragically passed away in 2011, aged just 37. However, the first player in the 'modern era' to play for both Hatters and County was Swansea-born centre forward **LAURIE SHEFFIELD**, who scored a mightily impressive 46 goals in 92 League games for County between 1959 and 1962. The former Wales Schoolboy international arrived at Somerton Park from Southern League Barry Town, netting hat-tricks against Bradford (Park Avenue), Notts County and Torquay United and breaking the club's post-war scoring record in the process. Supporters were disappointed with his £1,000 transfer to Doncaster Rovers, while six years later he moved to Luton for £13,000 from Oldham Athletic, bagging 12 goals in his one season at Kenilworth Road before returning for a second spell at Doncaster. Now 78, Laurie still lives in Doncaster and has not given up on his football career just yet! The former Royal Welch Fusilier turns out in midfield for 'Retro Rovers' walking football team, helping his side reach the final of a tournament at Manchester City's Etihad Stadium last summer!

CLUB CALL...

Formed:	1885.
Ground:	Kenilworth Road Stadium, 1 Maple Road, Luton LU4 8AW.
Previous Grounds:	Excelsior Ground (1885-97), Dunstable Road (1897-1905).
Capacity:	10,356 (all-seated).
Best League Position:	7th, Division 1 1986-87.
Best in FA Cup:	Runners-up 1958-59.
Best in League Cup:	Winners 1987-88.
Best in FL Trophy:	Winners 2008-09.
Best in FA Trophy:	Semi-finalists 2010-11 and 2011-12.
Record Win:	15-0 v Great Yarmouth Town, FA Cup 4QR, November 1914.
Record Defeat:	0-9 v Small Heath, Division 2, November 1898.
Record Crowd:	30,069 v Blackpool, FA Cup quarter-final, March 1959.
Record Signing:	Lars Elstrup, £850,000 from Odense, August 1989.

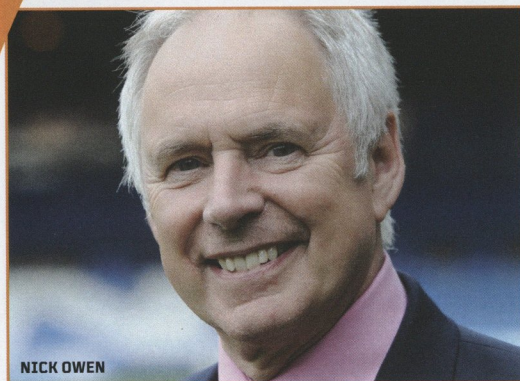


FANZONE...

FAMOUS FANS

Former Luton Town chairman

NICK OWEN may have celebrated his 70th birthday four months ago, but the one time 'Sporting Triangles' and 'TV-am' presenter is still a young man compared to his late uncle, Reg Dean, who was the oldest man in Britain when he passed away in 2013 at the age of 110!



Now a presenter on 'Midlands Today', lifelong Town fan Nick stepped aside as chairman in August after nine years in the role, explaining in an official statement, 'I have taken this decision with a heavy heart, because of my love of LTFC, and have relished being part of the wider team since 2008. However, I have a significant number of other commitments, with both my primary employer, the BBC, and other organisations. All of these demand long travel and unpredictable schedules, and consequently I feel that I am unable to dedicate the time and effort that I feel the role now deserves.'



Luton-born former IBO World Light Welter-weight boxing champion **BILLY SCHWER**, 48, and **CHRIS SALMON**, chief cashier of the Bank of England between 2011 and 2014 and now the Bank's Executive Director for Markets, are also keen supporters of Hatters, while iconic comedian from the 1960s and 1970s, **ERIC MORECAMBE**, remains forever associated with Luton. Welsh singer **CERYS MATTHEWS**, 48, has spoken of her passion for the club, the former Catatonia star revealing her love for the Hatters during a Soccer AM appearance. TWO England cricket

greats also take an interest. Ex-spinner **MONTY PANESAR**, 35, is a keen supporter, while former captain, the half-Welsh **ALASTAIR COOK**, 33, has been known to visit Kenilworth Road.

ON THE FORUM...

A few posters on Town's two main message boards, 'Luton Outlaws' and 'Luton Town Forum', have started to get a tad twitchy with recent form and are hoping for a decent points return from their double header away week at Coventry and Newport.

'So who's going? Hopefully we can take a good following down there, I would assume all tickets have sold.' 'whhatter' hoping that Luton fans are out in force this afternoon.

'We have stuttered and spluttered since Christmas. Sheehan now out for two games at Coventry and Newport.'

Let's hope Luton's Alan Sheehan's namesake in amber makes up for his absence to allay 'Spix's' fears!

'I think back to the Newport game. He was exceptional in the first half when we bullied them. Disappeared in the second half when they got on top and became more physical.'

'Ramridge raider' considering the case for Luton's Maltese international winger Luke Gambin ahead of this afternoon's encounter.

'Wins at Cov and Newport coming up.' 'IP' planning ahead.

'Can't wait until the weekend and the trip to Newport.' 'whhater' is really looking forward to his day out.

'Think we will be OK, but need something from the next two games at Coventry and Newport. Keep the faith.'

'Yo!' trying to keep the nerves at bay.

'Let's hope we don't have too many more bad days.' We are sure that 'crazyhatter can tolerate just one more!

HATTERS 2017-18...

GREAT RUN

Town boss Nathan Jones was philosophical after last weekend's 2-1 home defeat at the hands of title rivals Accrington Stanley. The former Merthyr Tydfil defender felt that his side put in a good performance, though was naturally disappointed that they moved away from the top spot that they had held since November, telling the club's official website, 'Look, it is disappointing in the context of everything. We could not do too much about the first goal. It was a wonderful strike, but I thought that we dominated for 80, 90 per cent of the game and I thought we had enough chances to have put the game to bed, but when you do not defend properly at the end - it has cost us. I could not really moan too much in terms of performance levels, we had enough chances. We had a few cleared off the line, we had a penalty shout, the keeper made an unbelievable save from Jack Stacey and I felt we were the better side. They scored two, we scored one and they are the facts.'

COUNTY V HATTERS...

SEASON	COMPETITION	HOME	AWAY
1912-13	Southern League Div 2	5-1 (N/A)	0-5 (N/A)
1913-14	Southern League Div 2	2-0 (10000)	0-1 (8000)
1919-20	Southern League Div 1	0-0 (6414)	0-4 (8000)
1920-21	Division 3	2-0 (5000)	2-2 (9000)
1921-22	Division 3 (South)	2-2 (8000)	0-4 (10000)
1922-23	Division 3 (South)	0-3 (5000)	0-1 (8500)
1923-24	Division 3 (South)	1-0 (9000)	0-2 (5000)
1924-25	Division 3 (South)	1-1 (7000)	2-2 (7000)
1925-26	Division 3 (South)	2-1 (4498)	2-4 (6816)
1926-27	Division 3 (South)	3-2 (6821)	1-4 (5240)
1927-28	Division 3 (South)	7-2 (3995)	1-1 (5192)
1928-29	Division 3 (South)	1-2 (4177)	1-5 (8782)
1929-30	Division 3 (South)	0-0 (3879)	2-4 (8825)
1930-31	Division 3 (South)	3-1 (2868)	1-3 (8097)
1932-33	Division 3 (South)	3-2 (2344)	2-2 (6504)
1933-34	Division 3 (South)	1-2 (5524)	1-1 (10072)
1934-35	Division 3 (South)	2-4 (4052)	1-4 (8759)
1935-36	Division 3 (South)	0-2 (6356)	0-7 (10085)
1936-37	Division 3 (South)	2-1 (7654)	0-5 (14469)
1945-46	Football League South	4-0 (6553)	0-1 (9000)
1946-47	Division 2	1-3 (11480)	3-6 (7814)
1965-66	Division 4	3-1 (2173)	1-2 (4899)
1966-67	Division 4	2-0 (3451)	1-3 (5377)
1967-68	Division 4	1-1 (4635)	1-1 (10992)
2010-11	Conference Premier	1-1 (2834)	1-1 (6945)
2011-12	Conference Premier	0-1 (1511)	0-2 (6108)
2012-13	Conference Premier	5-2 (2247)	2-2 (5125)
2014-15	League Two	1-0 (2536)	0-3 (8383)
2014-15	FA Cup Round 1	2-4 (3656)	-
2015-16	League Two	3-0 (2551)	1-1 (7606)
2016-17	League Two	1-1 (2304)	1-2 (7058)
2017-18	League Two	1-3 (7681)	-



JAMES COLLINS

LAST TEN YEARS...

SEASON	LEAGUE	POS	AV ATT
2007-08	League One	24 Relegated	6493
2008-09	League Two	24 Relegated	6019
2009-10	Conference Premier	2 Play-Offs	6947
2010-11	Conference Premier	3 Play-Offs	6241
2011-12	Conference Premier	5 Play-Offs	6111
2012-13	Conference Premier	7	5882
2013-14	Conference Premier	1 Promoted	7387
2014-15	League Two	8	7901
2015-16	League Two	11	8554
2016-17	League Two	4 Play-Offs	8046

HATTERS' RESULTS 2017-18

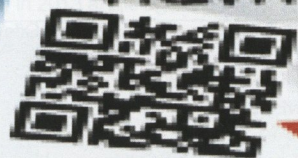
DATE	OPPONENT	V	F-A	ATT
05 Aug:	Yeovil Town	H	8-2	8101
08 Aug:	Ipswich Town (EFL Cup Round 1)	H	0-2	4610
12 Aug:	Barnet	A	0-1	3555
15 Aug:	Tottenham H U23s (EFL Trophy)	H	2-2	2699
19 Aug:	Colchester United	H	3-0	7865
26 Aug:	Mansfield Town	A	2-2	4665
02 Sep:	Lincoln City	A	0-0	9332
09 Sep:	Swindon Town	H	0-3	8455
12 Sep:	Port Vale	H	2-0	7046
16 Sep:	Wycombe Wanderers	A	2-1	5512
23 Sep:	Chesterfield	H	1-0	7575
26 Sep:	Morecambe	A	0-0	1354
30 Sep:	Newport County	H	3-1	7681
03 Oct:	Barnet (EFL Trophy)	H	1-1	1530
07 Oct:	Accrington Stanley	A	2-0	2193
14 Oct:	Stevenage	H	7-1	9208
17 Oct:	Exeter City	A	4-1	4209
21 Oct:	Crawley Town	A	0-0	3494
28 Oct:	Coventry City	H	0-3	9670
31 Oct:	AFC Wimbledon (EFL Trophy)	A	2-1	581
04 Nov:	Portsmouth (FA Cup Round 1)	H	1-0	5333
11 Nov:	Cheltenham Town	A	2-2	3900
18 Nov:	Cambridge United	H	7-0	8721
21 Nov:	Carlisle United	H	3-0	7644
25 Nov:	Crewe Alexandra	A	2-1	4571
03 Dec:	Gateshead (FA Cup Round 2)	A	5-0	1339
05 Dec:	West Ham U23s (EFL Trophy R2)	H	4-0	1670
09 Dec:	Notts County	H	1-1	10063
16 Dec:	Forest Green Rovers	A	2-0	2546
23 Dec:	Grimsby Town	H	2-0	9102
26 Dec:	Swindon Town	A	5-0	8526
30 Dec:	Port Vale	A	0-4	5523
01 Jan:	Lincoln City	H	4-2	9659
06 Jan:	Newcastle United (FA Cup Round 3)	A	1-3	47069
09 Jan:	Peterborough United (EFL Trophy R3)	H	0-0	2253 lost 6-7 on pens
13 Jan:	Chesterfield	A	0-2	5715
20 Jan:	Morecambe	H	1-0	8476
27 Jan:	Grimsby Town	A	1-0	4159
30 Jan:	Wycombe Wanderers	H	2-3	8564
03 Feb:	Exeter City	H	1-0	8788
10 Feb:	Stevenage	A	1-1	4465
13 Feb:	Crawley Town	H	4-1	8020
24 Feb:	Cheltenham Town	H	2-2	8453
03 Mar:	Cambridge United	A	1-1	6722
10 Mar:	Accrington Stanley	H	1-2	9503

SCORERS: Collins 17, Hylton 17, E. Lee 10, Berry 8, Potts 6, Cornick 5, O. Lee 5, Sheehan 3, Shinnie 3, Gambin 2, Justin 2, Mullins 2, Vassell (now Birmingham) 2, Cook 1, Cotter 1, Cuthbert 1, D'Ath 1, Jarvis 1, McCormack 1, McQuoid (now Aldershot) 1, Stacey 1. Two own goals.

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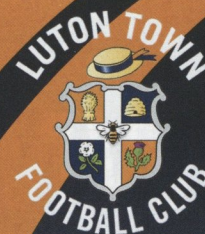
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MEET THE MANAGEMENT OF LUTON TOWN

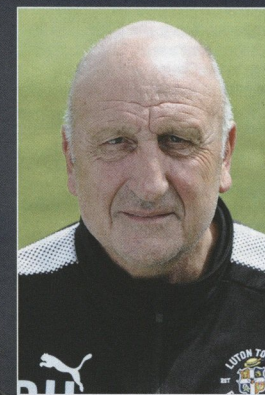
BIOGRAPHIES PROVIDED BY PHIL TANNER

NATHAN JONES MANAGER

Welshman Jones was appointed as John Still's successor in January 2016. A former coach and assistant manager at Yeovil Town, Charlton Athletic and Brighton & Hove Albion, he was a player at Kenilworth Road in 1995 but left without making an appearance after being signed from Merthyr Tydfil, for whom he made more than 80 appearances at left back.

Nathan spent a year in Spain from 1996-97 with Numancia and Badajoz before returning to the UK and playing for Southend, Brighton and Yeovil, making more than 500 appearances in total. He began taking his coaching qualifications while with Yeovil and achieved his UEFA pro licence in 2014. Several members of the current Hatters squad were coached by him at Charlton or Brighton.

PAUL HART ASSISTANT MANAGER



The vastly experienced Hart played at the highest level in central defence for Leeds United, Nottingham Forest and Sheffield Wednesday, among other clubs, before moving into management with Chesterfield in 1988. He subsequently took charge at Forest, Barnsley, Rushden & Diamonds, Portsmouth, QPR and Swindon. Paul also had success at development level at several clubs, including Leeds and Charlton, where he first worked with Nathan Jones in 2012-13. He was named Hatters number two in May 2016.

JOAQUIN GOMEZ FIRST TEAM COACH



Spanish coach Gomez arrived at Kenilworth Road in July 2016. He was one of the youngest men in Spain to gain a UEFA pro licence coaching qualification, and was assistant manager at fifth-tier club C.P. Parla Escuela before moving to England at the age of 24. Over five years he worked his way up through Brighton & Hove Albion's academy to coach the first team alongside Nathan Jones. Joaquin left the Seagulls in 2015 to become head of tactical analysis at Derby County, from where he joined the Hatters.



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MEET THE PLAYERS OF LUTON TOWN



01. MAREK STECH

A Czech international, winning one cap in 2014, the 27-year-old joined the Hatters in June 2017 from Sparta Prague. He started his career as a schoolboy with Sparta, before joining West Ham at 16 and playing on loan with clubs including Wycombe and Yeovil. The 6ft 5in stopper signed permanently for the Glovers in 2012 and helped win their first promotion to the Championship before leaving for three years back at Sparta.

GOALKEEPER



03. DAN POTTS

Predominantly a left back whose aerial ability also makes him an option in central defence. The 23-year-old signed in summer 2015 from West Ham, where he made 13 appearances after making his debut in December 2011. Father Steve also played for the Hammers. Dan played on loan at Colchester and Portsmouth before joining the Hatters. While with the West Ham he represented the USA at U20 level before being selected for England at U18, U19 and U20.

DEFENDER



05. JOHNNY MULLINS

The 32-year-old centreback made his 500th career appearance last season. Johnny started at Reading without making the first team, leaving in 2006 after 50 appearances during two long loans with Kidderminster. He then spent two years at both Mansfield and Stockport before joining Rotherham in 2010. After helping the Millers win promotion to League One in 2012-13, he won promotion from League Two with Oxford United before joining the Hatters two summers ago.

DEFENDER



07. JACK STACEY

A Reading youth product, the 21-year-old – comfortable at right back and in midfield – played six times for the Royals in the Championship. Between 2015 and 2017 he went on loan to Barnet, Carlisle and Exeter. Jack found his feet with the Grecians last term, when he made 38 appearances and scored the goal which took them to the League Two play-off final. Joined the Hatters on a two-year contract after terms were agreed with Reading.

DEFENDER



09. DANNY HYLTON

Signed in summer 2016 after helping Oxford United to promotion to League One and the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final. Danny started his career with more than 200 games for Aldershot Town, then joined Rotherham in 2013. He joined Oxford after loans to Bury and Wimbledon. Luton's top scorer last season with 27, he was shortlisted for League Two Player of the Year as voted for by managers and named in the PFA Team of the Season.

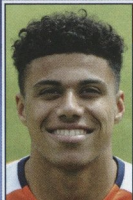
STRIKER



11. ANDREW SHINNIE

On a season-long loan from Birmingham City, with a CV including more than 200 games in Scotland as well as his time in the English second tier. Andrew started with Rangers and was loaned to Dundee before joining Inverness Caledonian Thistle. After selection for the 2012-13 PFA Scotland SPL Team of the Year, he joined Birmingham. He has also been loaned to Rotherham and last season to Hibernian, where he won a Scottish Championship medal.

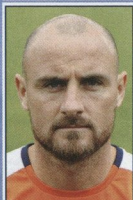
MIDFIELDER



02. JAMES JUSTIN

Linked in the press with a January move to Premier League Brighton, but stayed at Kenilworth Road. The Luton-born right-sider signed his first pro contract in 2015 after 10 years as a junior and made his debut as a sub on the final day of 2015-16. He has since twice extended his contract and in a breakthrough 2016-17 was called up to the England U19 squad, going on to make his U20 debut last August.

DEFENDER



04. ALAN MCCORMACK

The 34-year-old joined the Hatters last July after his contract with Brentford expired. Alan has several promotions to his name, including from League Two with Swindon and League One with the Bees. The former Ireland U19 cap has proven his versatility over the years with clubs including Southend and Charlton, amassing over 450 career appearances. His half-volley in the 8-2 win over Yeovil was named League Two Goal of the Month for August.

MIDFIELDER



06. SCOTT CUTHBERT

Can play either centrally or at right back. Scott signed for the Hatters in the summer of 2015 after two years at Leyton Orient, having helped them and before that Swindon reach League One play-off finals. He came through the youth ranks at Celtic and joined Swindon after loans to Livingston and St Mirren. Took over the captaincy when Steve McNulty left for Tranmere in October 2015. Capped at U21 and B level by Scotland.

DEFENDER



08. OLLY LEE

The brother of Town striker Elliot and son of Rob Lee, Ollie started at West Ham. He played on loan at Dagenham under former Hatters boss John Still and at Gillingham, moving on to Barnet and Birmingham City, who released him in 2015 after a spell on loan in League Two with Plymouth. His 70-yarder in the 7-0 win over Cambridge won him the League Two Goal of the Month award for November.

MIDFIELDER



10. JORDAN COOK

Former Sunderland youth player signed in summer 2016 after turning down a new deal at Walsall. The 27-year-old began his career in the Premier League, making his Black Cats debut on Boxing Day 2010. He went on loan to Darlington, Walsall and Carlisle before signing for Charlton in 2012. Jordan first worked with Town boss Nathan Jones at The Valley and after two years at Walsall, welcomed the chance to link up again.

MIDFIELDER



14. HARRY CORNICK

Pacey 22-year-old who joined the Hatters from Bournemouth last August for an undisclosed fee. Harry was originally on Town's radar as a teenager. He signed for the Cherries in January 2013 as a 17-year-old, but continued playing for Wessex League club Christchurch until the end of that season. He made only one senior appearance for Bournemouth, but gained experience on loan at Welling, Aldershot, Havant & Waterlooville, Yeovil, Leyton Orient and Gillingham.

STRIKER



15. JAKE JERVIS

Former Birmingham City, Portsmouth and Ross County forward who became Luton's third signing of transfer deadline day in January when he moved from Plymouth Argyle for an undisclosed fee. Jake, who also has loans at Hereford, Notts County, Swindon, Preston, Carlisle and Tranmere on his CV, plus a spell in Turkey with Elazigspor, had spent the past two-and-a-half seasons at Home Park, with his 13 goals in 2016-17 helping secure promotion from League Two.

STRIKER



17. PELLY RUDDOCK MPANZU

West Ham academy graduate enjoying his longest sequence of matches after an injury-disrupted couple of years. The direct, pacey youngster was an instant hit when signed on loan by then boss John Still from the Hammers midway through the Conference title winning campaign of 2013-14. Pelly passed the 100-game mark for the Hatters last season and was rumoured to have attracted interest from bigger clubs in the January window.

MIDFIELDER



19. JAMES COLLINS

Ireland U21 cap with more than 100 career goals who has won promotion three times from League Two, twice with Shrewsbury and once on loan at Northampton. James began with Aston Villa, going on to score regularly in the fourth tier. A season with Hibernian in 2013-14 didn't prove as fruitful, but he has netted consistently since his return to England, including 22 last term for Crawley Town from whom he joined Luton last June.

STRIKER



21. JACK SENIOR

2016 summer deadline day signing from Huddersfield Town. The left back won the Professional Development League 2 championship in 2015-16 season with his former club. Now 21, Jack left the Terriers after a nine-year association, joining the Hatters on a two-year deal. He played 10 games last season and at the time of writing is yet to appear in League Two in the current campaign, but signed an extension in November.

DEFENDER



24. LAWSON D'ATH

Attacking midfielder signed from Northampton in the January 2017 window. Lawson started his career at Reading, making one senior appearance, and his League debut came during a loan spell playing alongside current manager Nathan Jones at Yeovil in 2012. The 25-year-old also enjoyed loans at Cheltenham, Exeter and Dagenham & Redbridge before joining Northampton in 2014. He made almost 100 appearances in two-and-a-half-years at Sixfields and won the League Two title in 2015-16.

MIDFIELDER



36. JAMES SHEA

Signed as a free agent in July 2017. After coming through the academy at Arsenal, James had loans with Southampton and Dagenham before dropping into non-league after his release in 2013. He continued to train with the Gunners and returned to the League a year later with Wimbledon, winning promotion from League Two in 2015-16 and topping 100 games. At the time of writing has played only in cups for the Hatters, but recently extended his deal.

GOALKEEPER



39. AKIN FAMEWO

Powerful centreback who joined the club as an under-11. Now 19, Akin signed his first pro contract in July 2016 after the senior squad's pre-season camp in Hungary and made his debut as a sub in the 2-1 win over County that August. His first start came in the EFL Trophy the same month and his full EFL bow in September. Injury restricted his progress, but he finished the campaign with six first-team games to his name.

DEFENDER



16. GLEN REA

Ireland U21 cap who can play holding midfielder or centreback. Glenn joined on loan from Brighton in March 2016, making 10 appearances, and signed permanently that June. He also had a three-month loan from Brighton to Southend and opted to rejoin the Hatters to be reunited with Nathan Jones, who he worked under at Brighton, ahead of interest from the Shrimpers. Made 49 appearances, 46 of them starts, in his first full season with Town.

DEFENDER



18. LUKE BERRY

One of the top scoring midfielders in the division in recent seasons, the 25-year-old netted 22 in 2016-17 for Cambridge United, with whom he started his career. A regular opponent of Town in the Conference years, he made his Cambridge debut in 2010 and played 135 games before joining Barnsley in 2014. After one season there he returned to Cambridge and played a further 105 games before becoming Nathan Jones' tenth signing of last summer's transfer window.

MIDFIELDER



20. FLYNN DOWNES

Joined the Hatters on loan from Ipswich Town on January deadline day until the end of the season, soon after turning 19. Flynn penned a three-year contract at Portman Road soon after turning professional and had made five starts among his 12 appearances – including his full debut when the Tractor Boys won at Kenilworth Road in the Carabao Cup in August. He has also won his first England U19 caps this term.

MIDFIELDER



22. LUKE GAMBIN

Maltese cap signed in the January 2017 window, moving from Barnet for an undisclosed fee. Luke had been with the Bees since joining as an apprentice in 2009 and in 136 appearances helped them win the Conference in 2014-15 and establish themselves back in League Two. The Sutton-born midfielder made his international debut in 2016 and helped Malta to a first win in 17 matches when they beat Ukraine 1-0 in June 2017.

MIDFIELDER



28. LLOYD JONES

Joined the Hatters for an undisclosed fee from Liverpool on deadline day last August. Plymouth-born Lloyd started in the youth ranks at Argyle before a reported six-figure sum took him to Anfield in 2011. The 6ft 3in centreback was capped by Wales at U17 and U19 and by England at U19 and U20. He left Liverpool without making a senior appearance but had EFL experience via loans to Cheltenham, Accrington, Blackpool and Swindon.

DEFENDER



38. ELLIOT LEE

Brother of midfielder Ollie and son of ex-England and Newcastle midfielder Rob, Elliot is in his second spell at the club, having had a short loan from West Ham in 2015 during which he netted with his first touch for the club. While at West Ham he had loan spells with Colchester, Southend and Blackpool, before leaving in 2016 to join Barnsley. With game time at Oakvill limited to six appearances, he joined the Hatters last July.

STRIKER



44. ALAN SHEEHAN

Joined on loan from Bradford City in January 2016, Nathan Jones' first signing, and permanently that May. The Irishman captained the team for the final seven matches of 2015-16 after Scott Cuthbert suffered an injury. Alan has topped 300 career games at left back or centreback, the majority during two spells with Notts County. He also counts Leeds and Swindon among his employers, as well as loans with Mansfield, Crewe, Oldham and Peterborough, after starting out at Leicester.

DEFENDER



UNBELIEVABLE STUFF



NO SUGAR, TASTES AMAZING



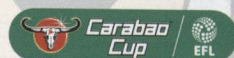
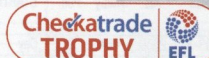
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APPEARANCES AND SCORERS PLAYER STATS 2017-18

UP TO AND INCLUDING SATURDAY 10 MARCH 2018 V YEOVIL TOWN (AWAY)

Statistics
supplied by
Gareth Swatridge



NO PLAYER

	APPS	GOALS		
01 JOE DAY	44 (0)	0	0	0
02 DAVID PIPE	37 (0)	0	3	0
03 DANIEL BUTLER	39 (3)	1	5	1
04 JOSS LABADIE	30 (2)	6	11	1
06 BEN WHITE	42 (0)	1	6	0
07 ROBBIE WILLMOTT	33 (4)	2	4	0
08 MATTY DOLAN	33 (4)	3	6	0
09 PADRAIG AMOND	30 (11)	11	1	0
10 FRANK NOUBLE	38 (4)	8	9	0
11 LEMAR REYNOLDS	5 (10)	1	1	0
12 BEN TOZER	29 (7)	2	4	0
13 MARLON JACKSON	1 (4)	0	0	0
15 SHAWN MCCOULSKY	13 (20)	11	2	0
16 JAMIE TURLEY	0 (0)	0	0	0
17 SCOT BENNETT	26 (8)	2	3	0
18 JAY FOULSTON	2 (1)	0	0	0
19 TYLER REID	1 (2)	0	0	0
20 TOM OWEN-EVANS	6 (9)	0	2	0
21 LEWIS COLLINS	1 (0)	0	0	0

NO PLAYER

	APPS	GOALS		
22 EMMANUEL OSADEBE	0 (3)	0	0	0
23 MICHAEL FLYNN	0 (0)	0	0	0
24 MOMODOU TOURAY	0 (0)	0	0	0
25 MARK O'BRIEN	22 (4)	0	5	1
28 MICKEY DEMETRIOU	43 (0)	4	5	0
30 JAMES BITTNER	2 (0)	0	0	0
31 JOSH SHEEHAN	3 (2)	1	0	0
32 CALAUM JAHRALDO-MARTIN	2 (2)	0	0	0
33 EVAN PRESS	1 (0)	0	0	0
34 TOM HILLMAN	1 (0)	0	0	0
36 OWEN TAYLOR	0 (1)	0	0	0
39 PAUL HAYES	2 (6)	2	2	0
45 AARON COLLINS	0 (1)	0	0	0
NO LONGER AT CLUB				
14 JAZZI BARNUM-BOBB	1 (2)	0	0	0
19 AARON WILLIAMS	0 (0)	0	0	0
22 REECE COLE	2 (3)	1	0	0
27 SEAN RIGG	13 (8)	0	2	0
29 JOE QUIGLEY	3 (2)	0	1	0



LEAGUETABLE

UP TO AND INCLUDING
TUESDAY 13 MARCH 2018

POS	TEAM	PLAYED	WON	DRAWN	LOST	FOR	AGAINST	POINTS
01	ACCRINGTON STANLEY	36	22	5	9	61	39	71
02	LUTON TOWN	37	20	10	7	78	39	70
03	NOTTS COUNTY	37	18	11	8	59	38	65
04	WYCOMBE WANDERERS	36	18	9	9	68	52	63
05	MANSFIELD TOWN	36	16	14	6	55	37	62
06	EXETER CITY	35	18	6	11	45	38	60
07	COVENTRY CITY	36	17	7	12	41	30	58
08	LINCOLN CITY	36	15	12	9	50	39	57
09	SWINDON TOWN	36	18	3	15	55	54	57
10	CARLISLE UNITED	37	15	10	12	53	46	55
11	NEWPORT COUNTY AFC	36	13	13	10	46	46	52
12	CRAWLEY TOWN	36	15	7	14	41	44	52
13	COLCHESTER UNITED	36	13	12	11	46	42	51
14	CAMBRIDGE UNITED	37	13	11	13	37	47	50
15	CHELTENHAM TOWN	37	11	11	15	52	53	44
16	STEVENAGE	36	11	10	15	48	53	43
17	YEOVIL TOWN	36	10	9	17	46	57	39
18	PORT VALE	36	9	10	17	39	51	37
19	CREWE ALEXANDRA	36	11	4	21	43	59	37
20	FOREST GREEN ROVERS	36	10	7	19	43	61	37
21	GRIMSBY TOWN	37	9	10	18	31	54	37
22	MORECAMBE	35	8	12	15	35	46	36
23	BARNET	37	7	9	21	34	54	30
24	CHESTERFIELD	35	8	6	21	36	64	30

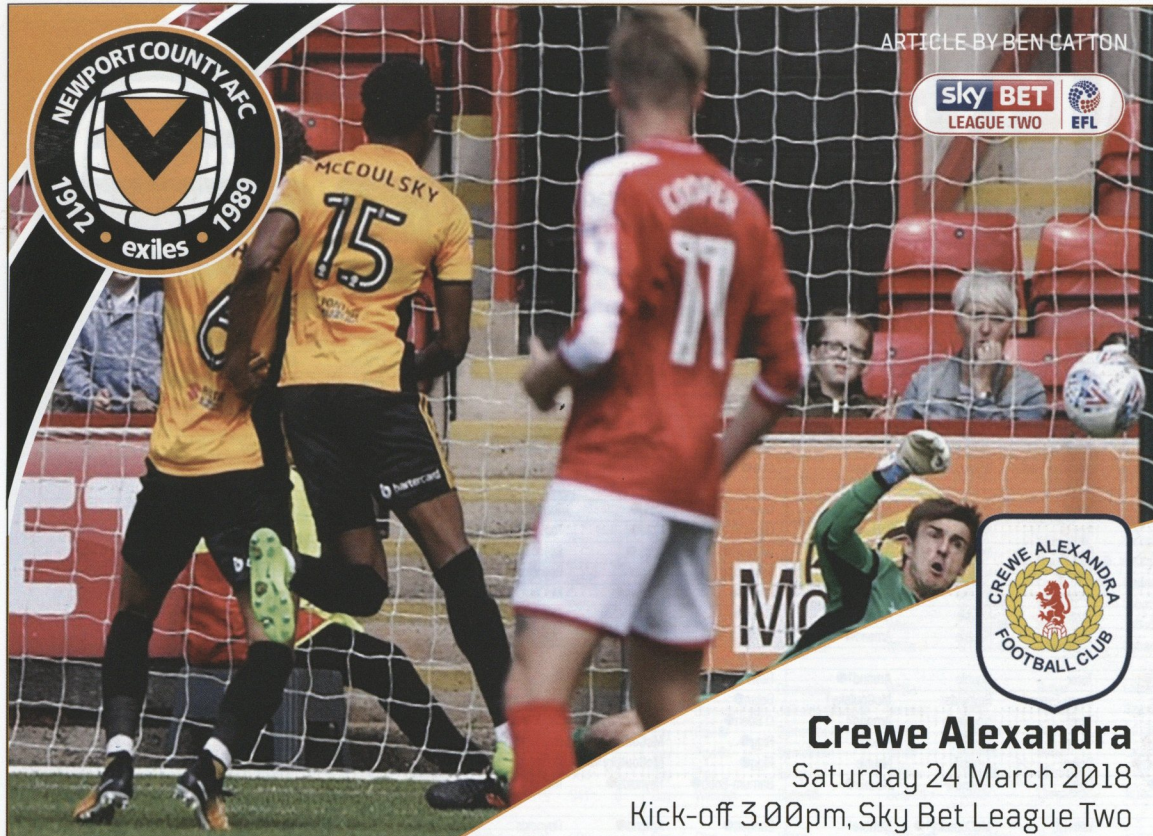


Statistics supplied by Gareth Swatridge

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ARTICLE BY BEN CATTON



Match action from County's 1-1 draw away at Crewe Alexandra in August

There's £5 football in town next weekend as the Railwaymen from Crewe Alexandra provide the next test for County at Rodney Parade.

This match is the first of a period of matches that were re-scheduled at the beginning of the season to allow for our pitch work to be completed.

And you can watch this match for just a fiver as the Exiles make a bid for a play-off spot. What a fantastic offer it is and you can buy your tickets now at www.newport-county.co.uk/tickets

Formed in 1877 and named after Princess Alexandra, Crewe were a founding member of the Football League Second Division back in 1892.

Currently placed precariously in the lower echelons of the table, next week's visitors will be eager to secure as many points as possible as they head into the tail end of the season as they aim to guarantee their Sky Bet League Two status for the 2018/19 season.

David Artell is currently at the helm at Gresty Road, the same player Christian Jolley sprinted past in the historic Conference play-off final win against Wrexham back in 2013.

The 37-year-old Gibraltar international made over 460 appearances as a player and captained the Railwaymen to victory over Cheltenham Town in their League Two play-off final at Wembley in 2012.

County drew 1-1 at Crewe earlier on this season in an evenly contested match.

That day the hosts had Perry Ng sent off in the 17th minute but The Alex scored just a minute later through Chris Dagnall as the game went on to end as a draw. Frank Nouble's strike just five minutes before in the 13th minute was the forward's second goal of the season.

Crewe Alexandra

Saturday 24 March 2018
Kick-off 3.00pm, Sky Bet League Two

County and Crewe have previously met 37 times in all competitions. County have the better record overall, defeating Crewe 12 times, with 14 draws between the two sides. They first met back in 1962, County were the victors that day thrashing the Alex 5-1 in front of a crowd of 4,737.

Last time Crewe visited Rodney Parade back in August of 2016, the match ended in a 1-1 stalemate after Sean Rigg cancelled out Alex Kiwomya's effort in the 81st minute, converting a Jazzi Barnum-Bobb cross.

County's manager at the time, Warren Feeney, said after the game: "I am pleased but I am also disappointed, we gave ourselves a mountain to climb in the first half. We would have lost that game last season so it goes to show the character that is now at this football club."

Current boss Michael Flynn will be hoping for all three points as he continues to pursue his target of a play-off spot. With this match being the first of a period of home matches for the Exiles, it is vital County are victorious and take advantage of a team flirting with the relegation places.

Are you travelling to County's next away game versus Chesterfield? Why not travel on the coach with the Supporters' Club? Call Jeff Challingsworth (01633 270609) (07925 878330) or Bob Herrin (01633 274440) between 9am-8pm.



Ticket Information

Watch the Exiles for just £5 next weekend. Tickets for Newport County AFC v Crewe Alexandra, Sky Bet League Two, Saturday, March 24, kick-off 3pm, are available at www.newport-county.co.uk



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Official Fuel Economy Figures for the new MINI Cooper Countryman: Urban 42.8 mpg (6.6 l/100km). Extra Urban 57.6 mpg (4.9 l/100km). Combined 51.4 mpg (5.5 l/100km). CO₂ Emissions 126 g/km. Figures are obtained in a standardised test cycle. They are intended for comparisons between vehicles and may not be representative of what a user achieves under usual driving conditions.

*Test drive subject to applicant status and availability.



NEWPORT COUNTY AFC V LUTON TOWN | 17.03.18 | 3.00PM



NEWPORT COUNTY AFC

Manager: Michael **FLYNN**
Colours: Amber

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 01 Joe DAY | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 02 David PIPE | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 03 Daniel BUTLER | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 04 Joss LABADIE | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 06 Ben WHITE | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 07 Robbie WILLMOTT | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 08 Matty DOLAN | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 09 Pdraig AMOND | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 Frank NOUBLE | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 Lamar REYNOLDS | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 Ben TOZER | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13 Marlon JACKSON | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 Shawn MCCOULSKY | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 Jamie TURLEY | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 Scot BENNETT | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 Jay FOULSTON | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 Tyler REID | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 Tom OWEN-EVANS | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 Lewis COLLINS | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 Emmanuel OSADEBE | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23 Michael FLYNN | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 24 Momodou TOURAY | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25 Mark O'BRIEN | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 28 Mickey DEMETRIOU | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 30 James BITTNER | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 31 Josh SHEEHAN | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 32 Caluam JAHRAALDO-MARTIN | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 33 Evan PRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 34 Tom HILLMAN | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 36 Owen TAYLOR | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 39 Paul HAYES | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 45 Aaron COLLINS | <input type="checkbox"/> |

LUTON TOWN

Manager: Nathan **JONES**
Colours: White

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 01 Marek STECH | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 02 James JUSTIN | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 03 Dan POTTS | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 04 Alan MCCORMACK | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 05 Johnny MULLINS | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 06 Scott CUTHBERT | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 07 Jack STACEY | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 08 Olly LEE | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 09 Danny HYLTON | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 Jordan COOK | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 Andrew SHINNIE | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 Harry CORNICK | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 Jake JERVIS | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 Glen REA | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 Pelly RUDDOCK MPANZU | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 Luke BERRY | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 James COLLINS | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 Flynn DOWNES | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 Jack SENIOR | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 Luke GAMBIN | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 24 Lawson D'ATH | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 27 Aaron JARVIS | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 28 Lloyd JONES | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 35 Arthur READ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 36 James SHEA | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 38 Elliot LEE | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 39 Akin FAMEWO | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 44 Alan SHEEHAN | <input type="checkbox"/> |



TODAY'S FIXTURES

(KICK-OFF 1.00PM)

LINCOLN CITY V
GRIMSBY TOWN
NOTTS COUNTY V
MANSFIELD TOWN

(KICK-OFF 3.00PM)

ACCRINGTON STANLEY V
FOREST GREEN ROVERS
BARNET V
WYCOMBE WANDERERS
CAMBRIDGE UNITED V
SWINDON TOWN
CARLISLE UNITED V
CRAWLEY TOWN
CHELTENHAM TOWN V
CHESTERFIELD
COLCHESTER UNITED V
YEOVIL TOWN
CREWE ALEXANDRA V
COVENTRY CITY
MORECAMBE V
EXETER CITY
PORT VALE V
STEVENAGE

IN CHARGE

Referee: Craig Hicks
Assistant Referees:
Justin Amey & Mark Griffiths
Fourth Official: Steven Plane

NEXT AT HOME...

Crewe Alexandra
Saturday 24 March 2018
Kick-off 3.00pm
 Sky Bet League Two

ON THE ROAD...

Chesterfield
Monday 2 April 2018
Kick-off 7.45pm
 Sky Bet League Two

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