



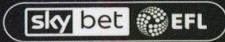
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# IN THIS ISSUE...



Welcome to this afternoon's edition:

After a midweek success over our near neighbours, we welcome Luton Town to Wearside as our attention returns to the top of League One. In today's edition Reece James talks about competition at left-back, Aiden McGeady fields the fans' Twitter questions, Chris Maguire relives his goal against Newcastle and we hear from Nicky Summerbee in Roker Report.

- 04 Manager's Column: Jack Ross
- 07 From the Boardroom
- 09 From the Dressing Room: Dylan McGeough
- 10 Action Replay
- 13 Club News
- 14 Teamtalk: Reece James
- 21 On The Road with A Love Supreme
- 22 Opposition: Luton Town
- 29 Foundation of Light
- 30 Twitter Q&A with Aiden McGeady
- 33 Quickfire with Donald Love
- 34 Season Tracker 1987-88: Gary Bennett
- 39 Tickets
- 40 Player Focus: Chris Maguire
- 42 Roker Report with Nicky Summerbee
- 47 SAFC Ladies
- 48 Tweed All About It
- 53 SLO
- 55 SAFC Hospitality
- 57 Academy Spotlight
- 59 Under-23s update
- 61 Under-18s update
- 62 Fixtures/Results
- 64 Stats Zone
- 66 Coming Soon



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MANAGER'S NOTES

# JACK ROSS

WELCOME BACK TO THE STADIUM OF LIGHT FOR TODAY'S GAME AGAINST LUTON TOWN.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our visitors today, including the Hatters' backroom staff and players, and the fans who have travelled to Wearside this afternoon.

Today, the pressure is on us to make a promising week a good one.

Last weekend we left The Valley frustrated after coming away with a point, but victory today, coupled with our progress in the Checkatrade Trophy, would put us in a good position on all fronts heading into the remainder of the campaign.

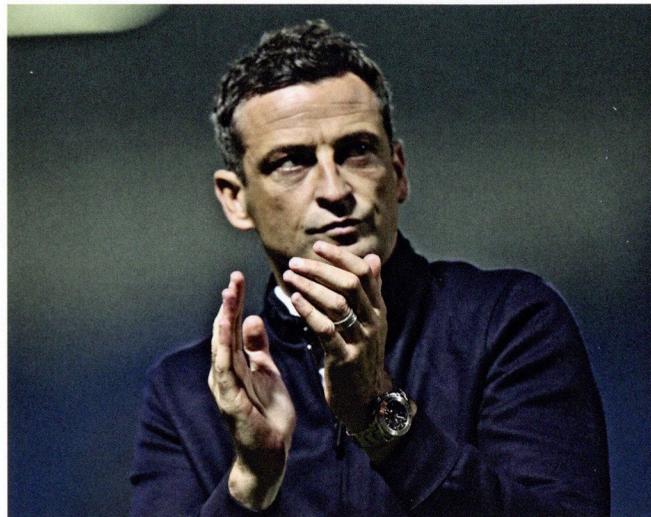
The festive period has been tough on the players and, as we have seen in the last few games, our options have been limited and the squad has been stretched.

I have to tip my cap to the players, though, because they've coped with the demands brilliantly and when called upon, they've put knocks, illnesses and fatigue to one side to help the team.

The younger members of the squad have also stepped up and proved their worth, as we saw on Tuesday evening when they played a key role in a hard-earned victory.

Once again, they showed they can cope with the pressure and demands that come with playing senior football, and as a manager, I know I can trust them to come in and perform.

Our busy schedule shows no signs of letting up as we continue to battle on



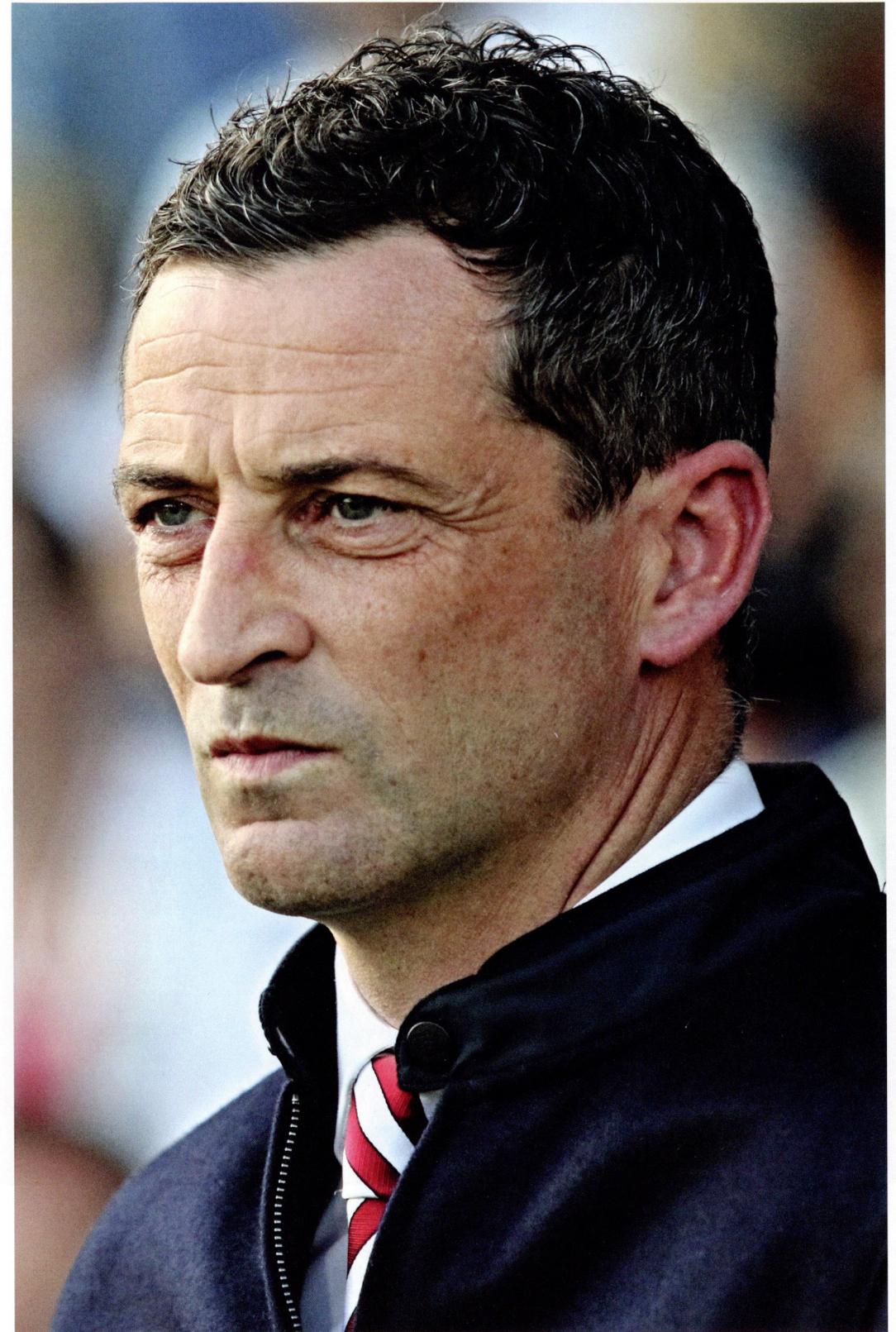
**"TODAY, THE PRESSURE IS ON US TO MAKE A PROMISING WEEK A GOOD ONE"**

multiple fronts, but as it has throughout the season, the league will remain our priority.

Today we will face a real test as Luton arrive here looking to lay down a marker, and there's further incentive for them to do that following the midweek departure of Nathan Jones.

They sit second in the league and occupy one of the two spots we want to be in at the end of the season, so it's up to us to once again rise to the challenge and move above them.

Enjoy the game,  
**Jack Ross**



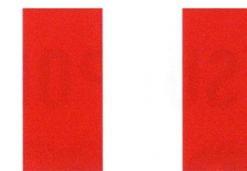


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FROM THE BOARDROOM

# TONY DAVISON

WELCOME BACK TO THE STADIUM OF LIGHT FOR TODAY'S SKY BET LEAGUE ONE CLASH AGAINST LUTON TOWN.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our visitors, including the Hatters board members, players, staff and, of course, the supporters who have travelled in their numbers to Wearside today.

Like many of you, I was in the capital last weekend to watch the Lads take on Charlton Athletic at The Valley.

Around the ground, I couldn't help but notice the volume of pictures recalling our heart-breaking defeat at Wembley after that dramatic game in 1998.

One in particular stood out, with Sir Bob Murray and the Sunderland board applauding politely as the Charlton directors leaped up and down celebrating their promotion to the top-flight.

I can't be the only one who wondered, what if history repeats itself over 20 years on and we face them again in a play-off final?

From a commercial, emotional and football point of view, if you could guarantee our promotion via the play-offs right here, right now, I would snap your hand off.

Financially, our share of the gate from a sell-out semi-final at the Stadium of Light and trip to Wembley, coupled



with increased retail sales, television, catering and so on, makes the 'play-off route' extremely lucrative.

Emotionally, we all remember that memorable cup run in 2014 and the way we turned Wembley red & white. The opportunity to not only return to the national stadium, but win there, would be one I'd never forget.

Of course, there are no guarantees in football and just like you, I am hoping Jack Ross and the Lads can achieve promotion however it comes, ideally by occupying one of the top two places.

After all, following Tuesday's victory here at the SoL, we are now just two games away from a Wembley cup final.

On balance, I'm sure we'd all rather trade lifting the Checkatrade Trophy and achieving automatic promotion for the tension and financial benefit of a potential play-off win. That might sound greedy at first, but after the last few years, surely we deserve it?

Today, though, it is all about taking three points from a massive game to help us on our way, and I'm sure the atmosphere you create will provide a fitting backdrop.

Once again, thank you all for your tremendous backing.

**Tony Davison**

# PROUD SUPPORTER OF SUNDERLAND AFC



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## FROM THE DRESSINGROOM

WELCOME BACK TO WEAR SIDE FOR TODAY'S BIG SKY BET LEAGUE ONE CLASH AGAINST LUTON TOWN.

After Tuesday's win, the boys can't wait to be back here at the Stadium of Light for what promises to be a tough but exciting game.

We know the pressure is on us to pick up a win because Luton are currently sitting above us in second place.

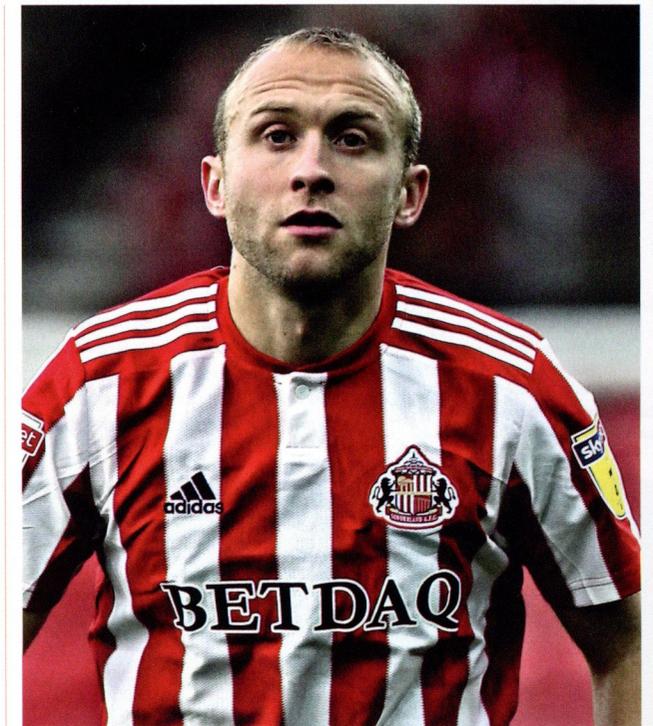
Like Portsmouth and ourselves, they have enjoyed a good start to the season and set the pace in the league, and I don't expect that to change between now and the end of the campaign.

That means it's up to us to deliver three points today and win our games in hand to ensure we move above them and into the top two places.

We were a little disappointed following last weekend's draw at Charlton Athletic, but they are a good team with a strong record at home, so I think we will look at it as a good point on the road come the end of the season.

Our performance was encouraging, and although we didn't take all of the chances we created, we are playing the right way and we dominated much of the game.

It was great to return to winning ways in the Checkatrade Trophy and it was important for some of the boys to get some more minutes under their belt, as everyone will play a big part between now and the end of the campaign.



**"AFTER TUESDAY'S WIN, THE BOYS CAN'T WAIT TO BE BACK HERE AT THE STADIUM OF LIGHT FOR WHAT PROMISES TO BE A TOUGH BUT EXCITING GAME"**

We added another win to our record here at the Stadium of Light and once again thrived in a big atmosphere when the pressure was on.

That bodes well for today, as Luton will bring plenty of fans with them and create a lot of noise, but we want to maintain our unbeaten league record on home turf and kick on up the table.

Thank you for your support,

Dylan McGeouch

# ACTION REPLAY

Saturday 5 January | 3pm | The Valley | League One



# 1

JAMES (50' OG)

### LINE-UP

- 1 Phillips
  - 2 Dijksteel
  - 5 Bauer
  - 23 Sarr
  - 20 Solly
  - 4 Bielik
  - 19 Morgan (Williams 68')
  - 15 Pratley
  - 11 Fosu-Henry
  - 18 Grant
  - 9 Taylor
- Subs: Marshall, Clarke, Ajose Maynard-Brewer, Hackett-Fairchild, Stevenson



Sunderland made the perfect start against fellow promotion hopefuls Charlton at The Valley, opening the scoring after just two minutes. Reece James picked out Luke O'Nien at the back post and he volleyed powerfully past home stopper Dillion Phillips. The Lads continued to apply the pressure and Aiden McGeady and Max Power both fired wide from distance, while Charlie Wyke blazed off target when well placed and then headed agonisingly over after Lynden Gooch's initial shot cannoned back off the bar. Kyristian Bielik's volley wide was the closest the hosts came to levelling.



Just five minutes after the interval the Addicks did restore parity when James was unfortunate to convert Lyle Taylor's low cross into his own net. With the momentum now with Lee Bowyer's side they carved out numerous further chances but were lacking that clinical edge. Tariqe Fosu's dangerous free-kick saw Darren Pratley head inches wide, Jon McLaughlin denied Taylor with his legs and Karlan Grant miscued from close-range. At the other end Duncan Watmore almost snatched victory deep in stoppage time for Jack Ross' men but blazed over.



# 1

O'NIEN (2')

### LINE-UP

- 1 McLaughlin
  - 13 O'Nien
  - 12 Flanagan
  - 15 Baldwin
  - 16 James
  - 8 McGeouch
  - 27 Power
  - 11 Gooch (Watmore 67')
  - 19 McGeady
  - 9 Wyke
  - 20 Maja (Maguire 84')
- Subs: Ozturk, Sinclair, Ruitter Mumba



# ACTION REPLAY

Tuesday 8 January | 7.45pm | The Stadium of Light | Checktrade Trophy



# 4

WATTS (49' OG), WYKE (52'), MAGUIRE (78'), KIMPIOKA (86')

### LINE-UP

- 25 Ruitter
  - 13 O'Nien
  - 5 Ozturk
  - 12 Flanagan
  - 16 James
  - 37 Mumba
  - 8 McGeouch (Hackett 83')
  - 17 Sinclair
  - 7 Maguire
  - 14 Watmore (Kimpioka 45')
  - 9 Wyke (Molyneux 76')
- Subs: Stryjek, Diamond, Taylor, Hunter



Almost 17,000 supporters turned out for a Wear-Tyne clash in the Checktrade Trophy, with Jack Ross making six changes to his starting XI as Jerome Sinclair, Bali Mumba and Robbin Ruitter were all included. The first real opening saw Nathan Harker in the Magpies goal make a point-blank save from Charlie Wyke, before Alim Ozturk blazed wide. The visitors created some quickfire chances midway through the half that went unrewarded and although Mumba had the ball in the net shortly before the interval, it was ruled out.



The hosts finally made the breakthrough a minute into the second period when Chris Maguire's corner caused havoc in the box and Kelland Watts turned into his own net. Ruitter denied Watts at the other end before Sunderland increased their lead as Wyke headed home another Maguire corner. Provider turned goalscorer as a Maguire piledriver from 25 yards made it 3-0, before substitute Benji Kimpioka added some gloss to the scoreline with a late fourth as Sunderland earned the local bragging rights and a place in the quarter-finals.



# 0

### LINE-UP

- 29 Harker
  - 59 Walters
  - 52 Bailey
  - 53 Watts
  - 33 Gibson
  - 47 Longstaff
  - 44 Sangare
  - 54 Allan (Longelo 68')
  - 37 Roberts
  - 60 Wilson (Juanito 75')
  - 51 Sorensen (Toure 56')
- Subs: Langley, McEntee





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# CLUB NEWS



## SOCCER SUPPLEMENT JUMP ON BOARD



Earlier this week, the club launched a new a partnership with Soccer Supplement to support the club's nutrition needs for the 2018-19 season.

Since launching a few seasons ago, the UK-based specialist supplements company has been working with a range of professional football clubs around the world and has also been named as the nutrition partner of the PFA.

Paul Walsh, SAFC's first-team sport scientist, said: "We're very happy to partner with Soccer Supplement as our performance supplement supplier. Their products will integrate well with our food-based nutritional strategies to support the Lads' preparation and recovery.

"Over the course of a very demanding season, high quality food, the correct recovery and Informed Sport accredited supplements, are important to ensuring our players sustain the very highest level of performance.

"The comprehensive range of products offered by Soccer Supplements will help meet the specific requirements of our players."

To celebrate the new partnership, Soccer Supplement is offering Sunderland supporters an exclusive discount on products.

Simply enter the discount code '**BlackCats25**' at [www.SoccerSupplement.com](http://www.SoccerSupplement.com) to get your hands on some of the same products used by the Wearsiders.

## CLUB STORE SALE

Sunderland fans can grab a bargain post-match today, with up to 85 per cent off items in the Stadium of Light store.

As well as great savings on all current season adidas training wear, you can also purchase the 2018-19 black away and blue third kit for a reduced price.

Bargains on offer include adidas bench coats from only £9.99, mini kits from £5 and trainers from just £4.99.

The Stadium of Light store will be open until kick-off today and will re-open at the final whistle.

And the store will also be open until kick-off today when the Lads host Luton Town, while also opening after the final whistle until 6pm.

Savings are also available online at [www.safcstore.com](http://www.safcstore.com).

## MEGA SALE

UP TO **85% OFF**  
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# UNITED FRONT

**REECE JAMES** HAS BECOME THE LATEST IN A LONG LINE OF FORMER MANCHESTER UNITED PLAYERS TO STRUT HIS STUFF ON WEARSIDE.

After a tough start to the season, which saw injury curtail his involvement, James has returned to fitness and become a regular starter for Jack Ross' side.

And although competition for places remains fierce, as Bryan Oviedo and Denver Hume also battle for left-back supremacy, James is enjoying the pressure that comes with playing for Sunderland.

"There's a real battle at left-back between the three of us," he explained.



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"I was in a similar position last season at Wigan, but here it's been even tougher because Denver has shown exactly why he should be playing, and Bryan was playing in the World Cup six months ago.

"You have to thrive in that situation, though, and it spurs you on to be a better player, as we all know that if we let our performances dip, someone is banging on the door waiting to play.

"We all push each other every day, but the good thing is that we have a healthy competition and we all support each other."

When players find themselves out of the team, heads often drop, and standards along with them.

But there's none of that in Sunderland's dressing room, according to James, who hailed the environment built by the manager and his backroom team.

"It doesn't matter what position you are in, everyone pushes each other to be the best," he said.

**"WE ALL  
PUSH EACH  
OTHER EVERY  
DAY, BUT  
THE GOOD  
THING IS THAT  
WE HAVE A  
HEALTHY  
COMPETITION  
AND WE ALL  
SUPPORT  
EACH OTHER"**

"That's the way the manager has it and he's brought the right type of players to the club, as we all back each other whether we're in the starting XI or on the bench.

"Having the right personalities in the dressing room is vital if you want to be successful, and the gaffer has brought in the right people throughout the club.

"Everyone's end goal is the same - we want to be playing Championship football next season - and whatever part you play, you owe it to your team-mates and the club to give your all."

One player who certainly gives everything is James' long-time team-mate, Max Power.

The duo experienced a wealth of third-tier success while at Wigan before being reunited on Wearside, and the left-back expects the midfielder to play a starring role between now and May.

"Max is someone who gives absolutely everything every day, whether it's in a game or on the training pitch," he said.

"I've played with him for years and although he's always been a tough tackler, I've never known him to be sent-off, so the red cards were unfortunate and as you can see looking back, two of them were incredibly unlucky.

"He's shown since his first game how much quality he's got, and he's an unbelievable player to have at our disposal, so he'll continue to play a big part this season.

"He's a great character on and off the pitch, and that goes back to what I was saying about the manager, and he has a great understanding with George and Catts.

"I think they get the best out of each other and midfield is an incredibly strong area at our disposal."

And apparently, the former Latics duo aren't the only similarities between Sunderland and the previous League One winners.

"This season has been very similar to my first at Wigan Athletic," he revealed.

"We had a brand-new team and few players knew each other, so it took us a little bit to familiarise ourselves and get used to a new way of playing.

"Just like here, though, things gelled quickly, and when that happens you not only get your results on the pitch, but off it.

"We've had great runs of form and our home results have been excellent, and you've seen the effect it's had on the fans - people are starting to enjoy their football again.

"Personally, I've had a good run of games lately and after playing catch up for the first couple of months, things are starting to click and I'm showing what I can do.

"The more games you play the more momentum you build, as you start to establish ways of playing with the people around you and the more you understand them, the better you can perform.

"That's especially the case with this squad - when you have someone like Aiden McGeady in front of you, it makes your job a hell of a lot easier - because we have so much quality.

"You just have to give him the ball and let him do what he does best, and I think he's been unbelievable this season."

**"WE HAVE SO MUCH QUALITY THROUGHOUT THE TEAM"**

That quality isn't just reserved for the final third, though, and the Black Cats have proved their worth up and down the pitch, from Jon McLaughlin to Josh Maja.

And James explained that a little quality goes a long way in League One.

"We have so much quality throughout the team," he said.

"You have to have that little bit of magic because it sets you apart from a lot of the teams in this league.

"Last season we had it with Nick Powell, who was at a different level, but with this team, it's not just one or two individuals, we have four or five.

"Now we can add Duncan Watmore to that list as well, and even before he came back, we had scored in every game this season.

"I don't think many teams at any level will have done that, and from the starting XI to the bench, we have quality in abundance."



Being surrounded by talented players isn't new to James, though, having started his career with Manchester United.

The defender rose through the ranks at the Red Devils' illustrious academy, and paid tribute to his former club for the continued impact it has on his life.

"At United, it isn't just about becoming a footballer," he explained.

"It's about much more than that, from your mentality and work ethic to how you are as a person, and they make sure you stay very grounded.

"I owe a lot to the reserve manager at the time, Warren Joyce, as he was unbelievable for me and helped me improve in many, many ways.

"You are around world-class players and big names every day, but they would work with you in training and help you improve.

"They didn't think they were above you and they really helped you along, and Ryan Giggs, who was the assistant manager at the time, helped the younger players

a lot as well when they trained with the first-team.

"I can't thank Manchester United enough for the impact they've had on my life."

And heading into the remainder of the season, James is confident the Lads can make the Stadium of Light a Theatre of Dreams.

"We have a tough run of fixtures to start the New Year, so it's going to be a team effort to ensure we pick up maximum points," he explained.

"Once we play our games in hand, and hopefully win them, it will set us up nicely heading into the final stages of the campaign.

"The next couple of months are going to be busy, but one week can mean nine points, and it will define where we are at the end of the season.

"We want to head into the final ten games in the driving seat, and we want to win the league."

**"WE WANT TO HEAD INTO THE FINAL TEN GAMES IN THE DRIVING SEAT, AND WE WANT TO WIN THE LEAGUE"**



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## GLANFORD PARK

Scunthorpe United have a solitary former Black Cat in their ranks - second-string goalie and former youth player, Jak Alnwick, whose big brother, Ben, played for us 22 times before leaving for Tottenham.

Glanford Park only opened in 1988, and a few of us might remember back in Roy Keane's tenure when the police provided a free bus 'for the railway station' after a friendly match.

A nice touch, we thought, until it dumped us in a field in the middle of nowhere, making a nonsense of meeting up with folks for the homeward journey.

The ground is quite low, with all four sides being the same height and the corners open, and only the floodlights betray its presence from distance, but there are a few pesky pillars to obscure the views.

Various pies, with the option of mushy peas, are on offer in the ground, but as it's in a retail park there are the usual Americanised offerings nearby.

If you're driving, use the M180, leave at J3 and at the end of the



M181, you'll see the ground near the roundabout, and there's a big car park at only £3 a go.

The ground is over a mile from the railway station, so allow half an hour to walk to the match or get a taxi.

The train journey is around three hours from Sunderland, and as there's a change at Doncaster, it's an option for refreshments there, as the last leg is only half an hour.

Scunny itself offers a few decent pubs not too far from the station, such as the Honest Lawyer and Blue Bell on Oswald Road, and

nearer the ground are the Old Farmhouse - as long as you're not wearing colours - and the Berkely.

At the ground itself, there is the Iron Bar - geddit - while there should be beer on sale in the concourse.

1,678 of us will be seated in the AMS stand behind the goal, and they can squeeze another 500 in to the Clugston Stand if needed.

Beware the free bus back to the station - who knows where you'll end up!

**Ha'way the Lads**



# LUTON TOWN

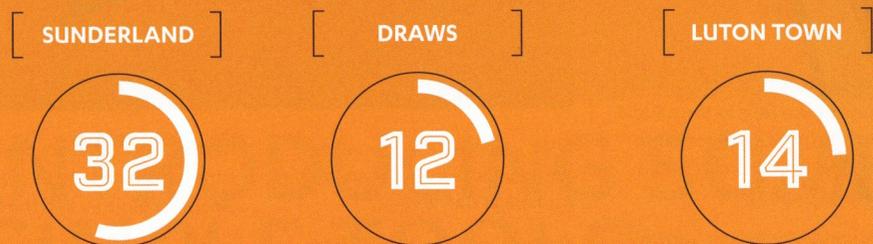
## FACTFILE:

The last time Luton won at Sunderland, the Lads were FA Cup holders.

### LAST THREE FINISHES:



### HEAD TO HEAD:



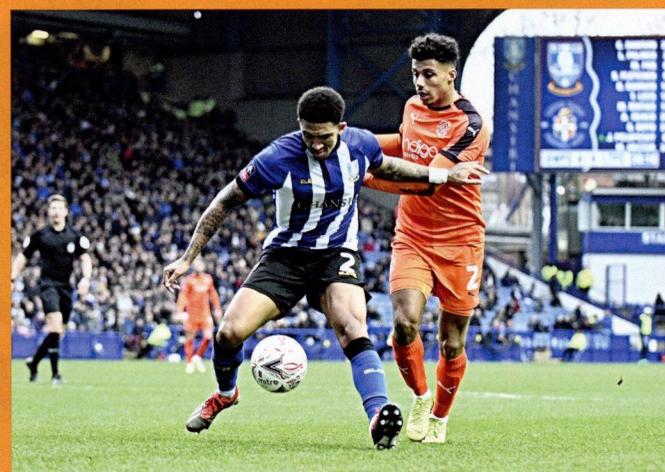
### LAST FIVE OUTINGS:



NB Luton score first



## SCENESETTER



Sunderland's visit was the only one gained from the first three matches. The fixture list gave the newly-promoted club away games at promotion hopefuls Portsmouth and Peterborough, while there was also a narrow loss at West Brom in the Carabao Cup. Having lost two of their first three league games Luton have only lost two more, at Doncaster and Barnsley.

Having built momentum courtesy of the best home record in the division, 10 wins and three draws, the rest of the league bar Pompey find themselves trying to keep up with the Hatters, who prior to the draw at Walsall on their last league trip had won their previous three away fixtures.

With the transfer window being open Luton are looking to strengthen for the run-in. At the start of this week Derby boss Frank Lampard confirmed midfielder George Thorne was in talks with Luton with a view to a loan move and there could of course be other additions before today's game.

Luton look like a team in a hurry. Last week at Hillsborough they looked like the side from the higher division, as Sheffield Wednesday hung on for a goalless draw in the FA Cup.

It will be three months tomorrow since the Hatters were beaten in the league. They will be determined to extend that run today to prevent Sunderland leap-frogging them into the automatic promotion

positions. But don't expect Luton to come for a point. They are an attack-minded side with two talented strikers in James Collins and Danny Hylton, backed up by the inventively dangerous Elliott Lee at the point of their midfield diamond.

Top scorers in the division and with the best goal difference, the Hatters had a tough start to the season. Their point from



# YOUR TEAM IS THE ONE TO WATCH

## EFL Highlights Saturday 9pm

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**QUEST**

Freeview 37 | Freesat 167 | Sky 144 | Virgin 172

## ONES TO WATCH...

**DANNY HYLTON**



Age: **29** Position: **Forward**  
Previous club: **Oxford United**

Hylton has hit over 100 EFL goals, the most recent being a hat-trick against Accrington in October. Previously Danny was the champion of League Two as he contributed 50 goals in the last two seasons since joining from Oxford. His final goal for Oxford had been against Luton, one of 30 Hylton netted in two seasons with the U's, one of them coming at Wembley in the final of what is now the Checkatrade Trophy. A promotion winner in his second season with both Oxford and Luton, Hylton made the League Two Team of the Year in each of the last two campaigns and was Hatters Player of the Year the season before last. He was also a promotion winner with first club Aldershot. Prior to this season his only game at this level was for Rotherham at Brentford in 2013 a fortnight before the Millers loaned him out to Bury.

**JAMES COLLINS**



Age: **28** Position: **Forward**  
Previous club: **Crawley Town**

An academy player with Aston Villa, Collins got his first opportunity with Darlington a decade ago. Subsequently Collins impressed on three further loans leading to a £200,000 move to Hibs in 2013. Although there were just six goals in 40 games he saved one of them for an Edinburgh derby win five years ago this month. Returning to England with Shrewsbury, one of his previous loan clubs, he hit 17 goals in his first season but found himself loaned to Northampton, scoring on his Cobblers debut. The following summer took Collins to Crawley where his 20 goals in a single season included strikes at home and away against Luton, leading to a move to Kenilworth Road. Another 20-goal haul in his first season started with a debut hat-trick, part of his 10-goal haul so far this time around.

**ELLIOTT LEE**



Age: **24** Position: **Midfielder**  
Previous club: **Barnsley**

Durham born while dad Rob was starring for Newcastle, Elliott now sparkles at the tip of the diamond that normally shapes Luton's midfield. Starting with West Ham, Elliott debuted five years ago this month away to Manchester United. Made four European appearances for West Ham and also had loans to Blackpool and Colchester as well as Luton before signing for Barnsley in 2016. After a year in Yorkshire Elliott joined Luton where he has excelled, getting into double figures as he helped them win promotion last season. A clever player who likes to play give and go's on the edge of the box, Lee has an eye for a killer pass as well as always looking like he has a goal in him. Ended November with 10 goals to his name and now having gone eight games without a goal - his longest run for the club - he is due another.



RED&WHITE



**LUKE BERRY**

Age: 26 Position: Midfielder  
Previous club: Cambridge United

Goal-scoring midfielder now in his second season with Luton, for whom his eight goals last season included a hat-trick against Stevenage and an FA Cup goal at Gateshead. Recently back in the side after not playing since August. Previously had two spells with Cambridge United either side of a year in League One with Barnsley in 2014-15.



**SONNY BRADLEY**

Age: 27 Position: Defender  
Previous club: Plymouth Argyle

Began with home club Hull before moving to Portsmouth in 2013 after three loans, including one in Sweden. After a season with Pompey Bradley had two terms with Crawley and two more at Plymouth before joining Luton last summer. He is now approaching 300 league games, a tally he already exceeds when all competitions are included.



**HARRY CORNICK**

Age: 23 Position: Forward  
Previous club: Bournemouth

A goal on Boxing day was his seventh of the season. Signed from Bournemouth in August 2017, just over half of his 59 league appearances so far have been as a substitute. Made his solitary appearance for the Cherries four years ago this month in the FA Cup. Had six loans before leaving for Luton, including serving Yeovil Town, Leyton Orient and Gillingham.



**JORGE GRANT**

Age: 24 Position: Midfielder  
Previous club: Nott'm Forest (loan)

Talented central midfielder on a season-long loan from Nottingham Forest. Had 16 goals by this stage last season on loan to Notts County, ending the campaign with 19, including one in the League Two play-offs. Scored against Tottenham at White Hart Lane for Forest in the League Cup in 2014 on his second appearance for his parent club.



**MATTHEW PEARSON**

Age: 25 Position: Defender  
Previous club: Barnsley

A member of the Barnsley side that humbled Sunderland at Oakwell last season. Pearson joined Luton in the summer and has quickly become a stalwart of their defence. Capable of playing at full-back as well as centre-back. Strong and quick, Pearson was capped by England at Under-18 and 'C' level. Has also served Rochdale, Halifax and Accrington Stanley.



**DAN POTTS**

Age: 24 Position: Defender  
Previous club: West Ham United

Son of ex-West Ham United skipper Steve Potts, Dan played in the Premier League for the Irons and gained experience with Colchester United and Portsmouth before joining Luton Town in the summer of 2015. Is now closing in on 100 league appearances for the Bedfordshire club. Has played for both the USA and England at Under-20 level.



**PELLY RUDDOCK MPANZU**

Age: 24 Position: Midfielder  
Previous club: West Ham United

Came off the bench at Hillsborough last Saturday. A popular player who can operate in defence as well as midfield. Began with Boreham Wood and was given a West Ham debut in the League Cup by Sam Allardyce before joining Luton on loan in the Conference. Twice a promotion winner with the Hatters, who he joined permanently five years ago.



**JAMES SHEA**

Age: 27 Position: Goalkeeper  
Previous club: Wimbledon

Once on the bench in a Champions League game for Arsenal, with whom he was an FA Youth Cup winner. Trained with England in 2010 when Fabio Capello's squad used the Gunners' Colney Heath base. A promotion winner with Wimbledon when he kept his first clean-sheet against Luton Town. He has 14 clean-sheets to his name this term, his most recent in the FA Cup.



**AARON JARVIS**

Age: 20 Position: Forward  
Previous club: Basingstoke

Young striker currently breaking into the team but yet to make a league start. In the side last weekend at Sheffield Wednesday, in what was his fourth cup start of a season in which he has come off the bench four times. Picked up at the start of last season from Basingstoke, Jarvis enjoyed a handful of games before being loaned to Boreham Wood.



**JAMES JUSTIN**

Age: 20 Position: Defender  
Previous club: N/a

Local lad who wears number two but played at left-back last week. Developed as a central midfielder in youth football, his comfort on the ball is self-evident in a player rapidly making a name for himself as a quality member of a side brimming with confidence. An England Under-20 international, he was Luton's Young Player of the Season in 2016-17.



**KAZENGA LUA LUA**

Age: 28 Position: Forward  
Previous club: Sunderland

Debuted for Sunderland a year ago this month but only managed five more appearances without ever starting for the Black Cats. So far all eight of his appearances for the Hatters have also been from off the bench. Started with Newcastle, where all eight of his league games were also as sub. In total he has been used as a sub 147 times and started 93 games.



**ALAN MCCORMACK**

Age: 34 Position: Midfielder  
Previous club: Brentford

Well-travelled veteran who started with Preston and was Player of the Year with both Swindon and Brentford. A promotion winner with both of those clubs, as well as with Luton last season, McCormack was named in the League One Team of the Season in 2013-14. As a youngster he was also a runner-up in what is now the Checkatrade Trophy with Southend.



**ALAN SHEEHAN**

Age: 32 Position: Defender  
Previous club: Bradford City

Player of the Year in last year's promotion push when he also made the PFA League Two Team of the Year. A veteran with more than 400 games under his belt, the first coming for Leicester City in 2005. Of his 11 clubs, including loans, Notts County are the only one he has played more games for than Luton. The set-piece specialist made over 150 outings for the Mags.



**ANDREW SHINNIE**

Age: 29 Position: Midfielder  
Previous club: Birmingham City

Brother of Aberdeen's Graeme, who he played against in the 2017 Scottish Cup semi-final when he was on loan to Hibs, with whom he won the Championship. Capped once by Scotland, Shinnie started with Rangers, debuting against his home team Aberdeen. Played for Lee Clark at Birmingham and also played Championship football for Rotherham.



**JACK STACEY**

Age: 22 Position: Defender  
Previous club: Reading

Played at Wembley in the 2017 League Two Play-off Final on loan to Exeter City, one of three clubs he was loaned to by his first club Reading - one of the others being Carlisle United - who he scored against in the semi-final - and Barnet. Now in his second campaign with the Hatters, for whom he has barely missed a game since his transfer to Bedfordshire in 2017.

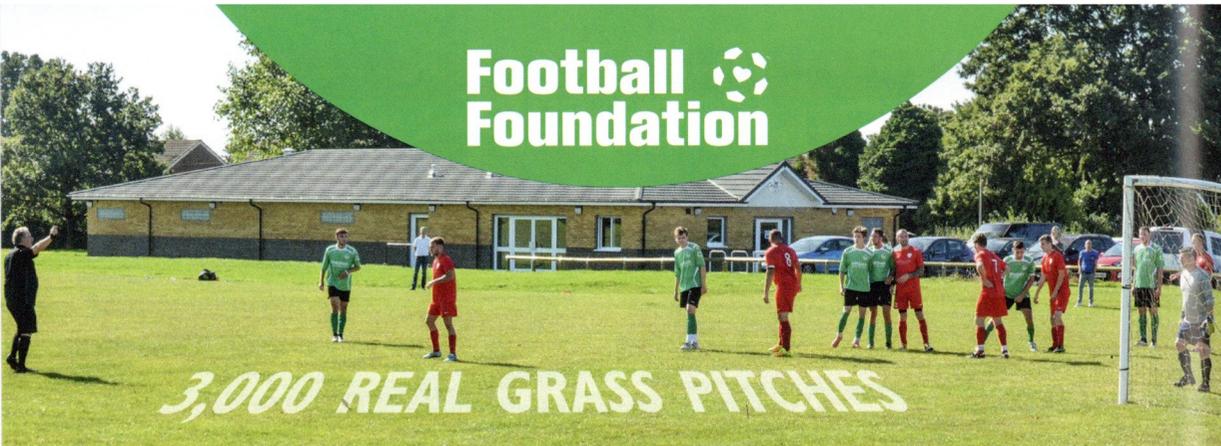


**GLEN RAE**

Age: 24 Position: Defender  
Previous club: Brighton & HA

Brighton-born Rae began with his home team debuting against Southend United, a club he would soon join on loan. Just under three years ago Luton was the destination of his second loan, the move duly being made permanent in July 2016 for an undisclosed fee and he has made in excess of 100 league appearances since. He has 10 Republic of Ireland Under-21 caps.

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## GRAFTON GROUP LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR CYCLE CHALLENGE

Merchanting, DIY retailing and mortar manufacturing business Grafton Group plc, whose UK businesses include Buildbase, Plumbase, Selco and CPI Euromix, is backing the Foundation's International Cycle Challenge for the eighth consecutive year.

The Dublin-based company's CEO, Gavin Slark, will also take on the 268-mile trek from Switzerland to Eastern France this June alongside a team from Grafton Group plc.

For the Foundation of Light, this will be another landmark on a journey which started in 2011 and has so far covered nine countries.

Slark, Grafton Group plc's CEO, said: "Every year we look forward to getting involved with ideas for the following challenge and of course, taking part in it as well.

"We continue to support and take part in the challenge as we have seen first-hand the life-changing work the Foundation does for so many people in the city and beyond."

Cyclists are asked to pay a non-returnable £250 deposit and fundraise a further £1,400. This covers costs including transport - flights and transfers -



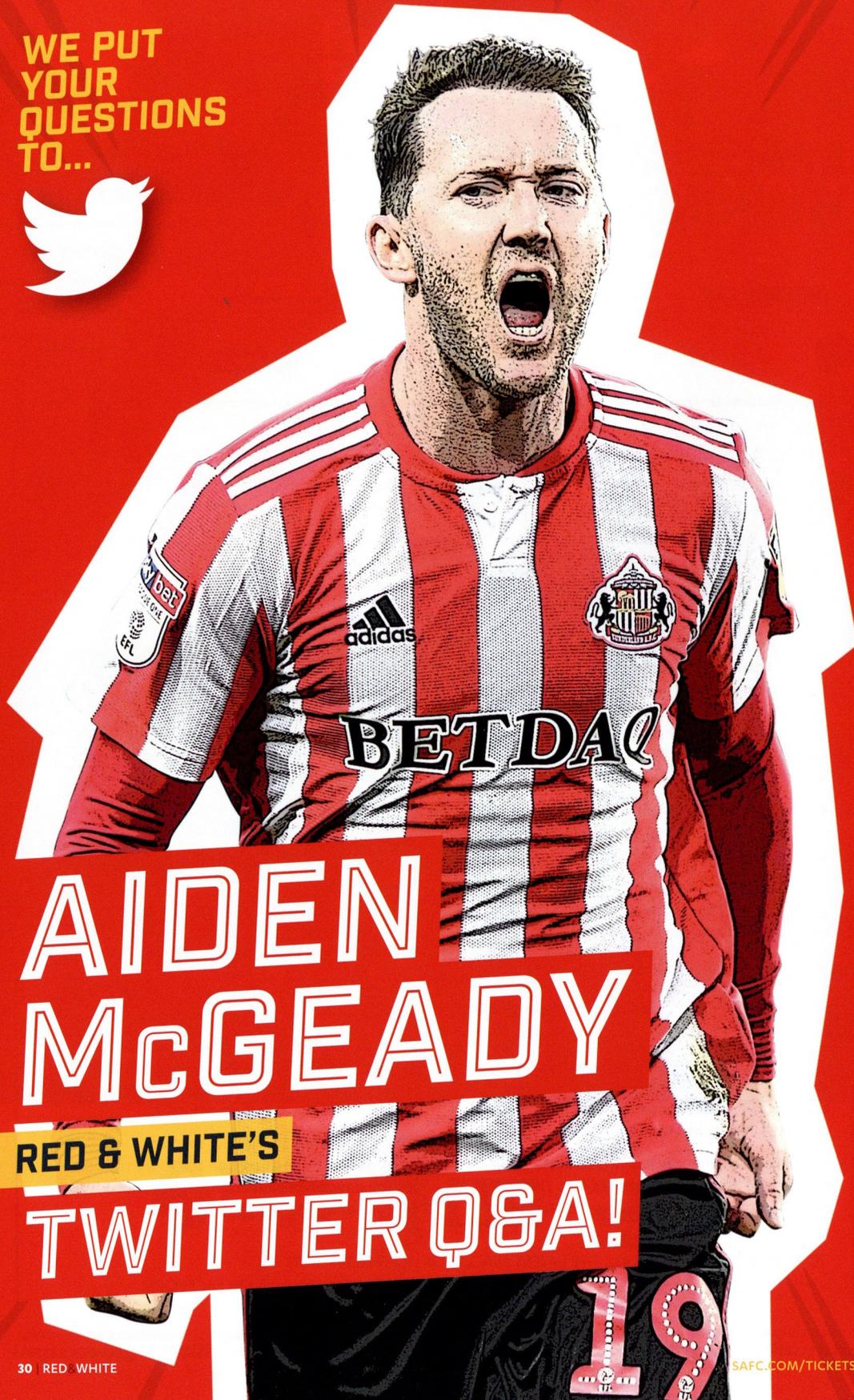
accommodation and minor cycle repairs along the route.

Previous International Cycle Challenge routes have included Wroclaw to Prague, Brussels to Paris and Dublin to Sunderland, raising hundreds of thousands of pounds for North East communities.

For further information about this year's International Cycle Challenge and to sign up contact [jemma.dowson@foundationoflight.co.uk](mailto:jemma.dowson@foundationoflight.co.uk) or call 0191 563 4735.

TO KEEP UP TO DATE WITH ALL THE LATEST BEACON OF LIGHT NEWS, VISIT [WWW.BEACONOFLIGHT.CO.UK](http://WWW.BEACONOFLIGHT.CO.UK), FOLLOW [@FOL\\_BEACON](https://twitter.com/FOL_BEACON) ON TWITTER OR LIKE [BEACON OF LIGHT](https://www.facebook.com/foundationoflight) ON FACEBOOK.

WE PUT  
YOUR  
QUESTIONS  
TO...



AIDEN  
McGEADY

RED & WHITE'S

TWITTER Q&A!



RED & WHITE'S SECOND Q&A OF 2019 SEES **AIDEN McGEADY** GO UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT. THE WINGER ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS ON ALL THINGS SUNDERLAND, AND MUCH, MUCH MORE...

**@Lucia52932933:** How big is Charlie Wyke's head?

"I hadn't noticed, but Luke O'Nien has a big head as well."

**@ColArmstrong:** Who's the best player you've played against?

"Leo Messi."

**@FIFA123orJP:** What's your favourite goal you've scored for the Lads?

"My first one against Norwich last season."

**@1974cookie:** Cheeseboard or cheesecake?

"Cheeseboard."

**@BiLbOsAfC:** Favourite flavour of crisp?

"Salt and vinegar."

**@MSBurkey:** Would you rather have arms for legs or legs for arms?

"Legs for arms, you'd be rapid and you could run like a dog."

**@chips\_73:** Red or brown sauce on bacon sandwiches?

"Brown."

**@AlanPartridgeJP:** Is Adam Matthews the 'Welsh Cafu' or is Cafu the 'Brazilian Matthews'?

"Adam Matthews is the Welsh Ross Tokely."

**@jessesilence24:** Ninja or pirate?

"Pirate, because you get to go around the world stealing treasure."

**@hamftm:** Do you have long legs or short socks?

"My socks are normal size, but I normally roll them down."

**@DominicYoung\_:** Who's the worst dressed at the club?

"There's one guy that gets away with murder, and that's Glenn Loovens."

**@emilyxfraser:** What has been your favourite game to play in this season so far?

"Probably Barnsley."

**@kylesafc\_73:** Messi or Ronaldo?

"Messi."

**@WERGHJIGgJ:** Why do you look like a potato smiley?

"Because I'm tasty."

**@Jamie58\_02:** What is your best and worst moments in your career?

"Making my debut for Celtic. And losing the league on the final day of the season with Celtic."

**@zihnimac:** How was playing in Russia?

"Enjoyable, but cold."

**@ColArmstrong:** Best team-mate ever?

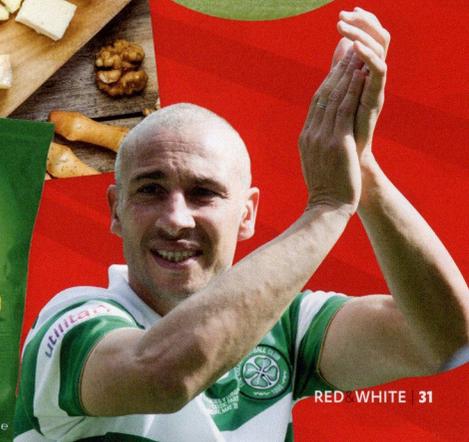
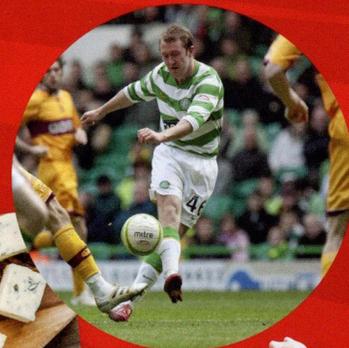
"Henrik Larsson."

**@PeterHiggins:** Who would win in a scrap between you and Lee Cattermole?

"Always back yourself."

**@adamlowdenx:** Thoughts on Brexit?

"Shambles."



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## QUICKFIRE QUESTIONS

WITH DONALD LOVE

Best player you've played with?

Anthony Martial



Career highlight so far?

Making my Manchester United debut



Funniest player you've played with?

Max Power



Worst dressed player?

Luke O'Nien



Most intelligent player you've played with?

Duncan Watmore

Least intelligent player you've played with?

Reece James

Who is your favourite player ever?

Paul Scholes



SEASON TRACKER

# 1987-88

CLUB HISTORIAN ROB MASON TRACES THE TALE OF SUNDERLAND'S ONLY PREVIOUS SEASON IN THE THIRD TIER, 1987-88. CONTINUING THE STORY, **GARY BENNETT** REFLECTS ON THE SEASON.

16 JANUARY  
**SUNDERLAND AFC**  
 LEMON 32'  
**BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION**  
 ATTENDANCE: 17,404

19 JANUARY  
**SUNDERLAND AFC**  
 GABBIADINI 54'  
**CREWE ALEXANDRA**  
 ATTENDANCE: 8,881

Having been knocked out of the FA Cup at the second round stage, as they were this season, Sunderland had a two-week gap after taking six points in the first two days of the year. The scheduled league trip to Bristol Rovers was postponed as the Pirates were taking on Shrewsbury in the cup.

Recharging the batteries was well timed as next on the fixture list was the team who would finish runners-up, Brighton. Again comparing 1987-88 with the current season the Lads welcome Luton this afternoon

1

0

1

0

with the Hatters pushing hard for automatic promotion. The visit of Brighton had a similar sense of anticipation to today's fixture.

Unlike Sunderland, the Seagulls - like Luton - were still in the cup. After knocking out south coast rivals Bournemouth, while the Lads were inactive, Brighton had pulled a plum draw in having Arsenal at home to look forward to.

Like Luton today, Sunderland were on a long uneaten run at this stage of the campaign in 1987-88. They were two thirds of the way through what would become a 15-game unbeaten run that had started with the 7-0 demolition of Southend.

Gary Bennett remembers the sense of togetherness: "As players were added to the squad we started to buy into what we thought we could do. We had some good young players who were coming through the system so it was just a case of adding to that, which Denis Smith did with players who knew that division. People like John MacPhail, John Kay and Marco Gabbiadini added to a good mixture of experience and young kids. The biggest thing was we had a group of players who had a fantastic team spirit and a great relationship with

the supporters, as well as amongst ourselves. There was a lot of trust. If anyone got into a little bit of trouble they knew they'd have 10 players behind them."

That spirit was essential to get the better of Brighton. As so often happens in matches between well matched in-form teams it became something of a battle. So often a telling, if unsung, player throughout the campaign, Paul 'Jack' Lemon got the only goal of the game. It arrived with almost an hour to play giving 'Benno' and co plenty to do to earn what would be a 10th league clean-sheet of the season.

Lee Cattermole misses this afternoon's big game through suspension, having barely laid a glove on any opponents compared to the sort of tackles that flew in back in the era of the Eighties. Back then a tackle could be a tackle in the days before people started to argue you could collapse in a puff of smoke if there was contact. Football is meant to be a contact sport remember and contact doesn't equate to a foul.

The joint record holder of red cards - with Kevin Ball - before Cattermole came along, 'Benno'

# S R 5

Edition 16  
 Sunderland AFC v Luton Town  
 12 January 2019

INCLUDING



JUNIOR REPORTER COLUMN



MAKE YOUR PREDICTION



SAMSON AND DELILAH'S QUIZ



FREE POSTER  
 JON McLAUGHLIN

# IT'S GAME TIME!

## JUNIOR REPORTER COLUMN

Good afternoon and welcome to today's huge game against Luton Town.

We had five games during the festive period, starting with an unfortunate 3-1 defeat against Portsmouth and ending with a 1-1 draw against Charlton Athletic.

Also, we saw a League One record attendance when over 46,000 fans came out on Boxing Day to see Aiden McGeady's strike clinch all three points against Bradford City.

The Lads bounced back from a 1-1 draw against Shrewsbury Town to reward the 7,804 away fans at Blackpool, with a hard-earned point clinched at Charlton last time out.

Luton come to the Stadium of Light today in second place in the table. The Hatters were in FA Cup action last week, and the last time they were in league action they drew 0-0 against Barnsley.

With both teams at the top of the table, this game may show the best in both sides, but fingers crossed we can come away with three points.

Ha'way the Lads!

Finlay Anderson



## MASCOTS

### ZACH

**Hobbies:** Watching and playing football, athletics and swimming  
**Favourite players:** Jon McLaughlin and Lynden Gooch



### JASPER

**Hobbies:** Playing football, cricket and golf. Swimming, building Lego and spending time with his family  
**Favourite players:** George Honeyman, Max Stryjek, Bali Mumba and Max Power



### DECLAN

**Hobbies:** Football and basketball  
**Favourite players:** Lee Cattermole and George Honeyman



### CHLOE

**Hobbies:** Playing football and gymnastics  
**Favourite players:** Lynden Gooch, Luke O'Nein and Jon McLaughlin



### LEWIS

**Hobbies:** Football  
**Favourite players:** Lee Cattermole and Josh Maja



### MATTHEW

**Hobbies:** Watching and playing football, FIFA on Xbox and Lego  
**Favourite players:** Josh Maja and Lynden Gooch



### GEORGE

**Hobbies:** Football, computer games and basketball  
**Favourite players:** Josh Maja, Jack Baldwin and Lynden Gooch



### NIAMH

**Hobbies:** Football  
**Favourite players:** Jack Baldwin and Lynden Gooch



### THOMAS

**Hobbies:** Playing and watching football, FIFA on Xbox  
**Favourite player:** Josh Maja



## WORDSEARCH

A S R V S Y I N Q H W U K L H A C A F I  
G V S O N N Y B R A D L E Y M C R R A C  
M J P F A L A N S H E E H A N F A Q C W  
F F L M G H G M D J T L I R I N O I F B  
L L B Z M L F A O A P H R V K P G C E H  
K K E Z E J N U R S N O F I M P T Y Y V  
F B O N R I N V G W I P E M J S B M K F  
E Z R D O F N O V N K M O E D U A Q W T  
J E D V P I W N E L U X E T G T H C T R  
A A E O V T C S I S W D I G T N T N Q Y  
G Y G U F G K F O H E F Q H L S I J X W  
W E I Q N C P N D K S A E L F T U A Z B  
Q C W U A H D C H G Z W O A S C P C B Z  
M A B J F A P H W F P Y E U T W R K Y T  
Q T R F E X S K Y E D U J R C Y O J C K  
U S R A O K J N A J C S S N D X M A C V  
Z K M H N C L R O I E S K A W N A M B T  
O C O T C B S N V M Q F P O H H A E P V  
U A L H Q O E Y A S V T O G S S W S H E  
G J Z K N S P J B G E R O M A T G Y Z U

CAN YOU FIND THE 12 LUTON TOWN PLAYERS HIDDEN IN THE WORDSEARCH?

- JAMES JUSTIN
- DAN POTTS
- SONNY BRADLEY
- MATTHEW PEARSON
- JACK STACEY
- JACK SENIOR
- LLOYD JONES
- JACK JAMES
- FRANKIE MUSONDA
- ALAN SHEEHAN
- ANDREW SHINNIE
- GLEN REA

## CREST QUEST

CAN YOU LINK UP THE MANAGERS WITH THEIR CURRENT TEAMS?



## MAKE YOUR PREDICTION



v



ANSWERS: CREST QUEST - Garry Ranken (Birmingham City), Claudio Monik (Birmingham City), Claudio Ranken (Fulham), Kenny Jackett (Portsmouth).

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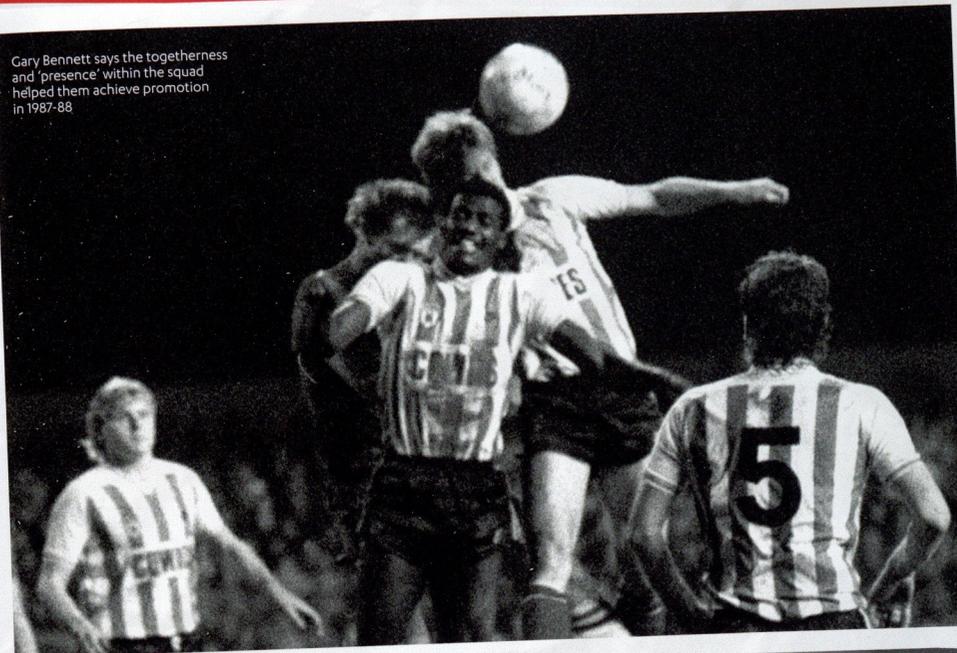
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STADIUM OF LIGHT  
THE GALLERIES



Gary Bennett says the togetherness and 'presence' within the squad helped them achieve promotion in 1987-88.



## PROGRAMME PARADE

'Benno' was on the cover of the programme for the cup visit of Crewe, which as usual was a full size edition. Following Eric Gates' recent hat-trick against Rotherham the Roker Review looked back at hat-tricks, listing every Sunderland player who had scored right back to the club's opening league season.

The effervescent Eric Gate was pictured on the cover of the issue with Brighton, where the in depth centre spread profile featured new signing Tim Carter, who manager Denis Smith welcomed in his programme notes.

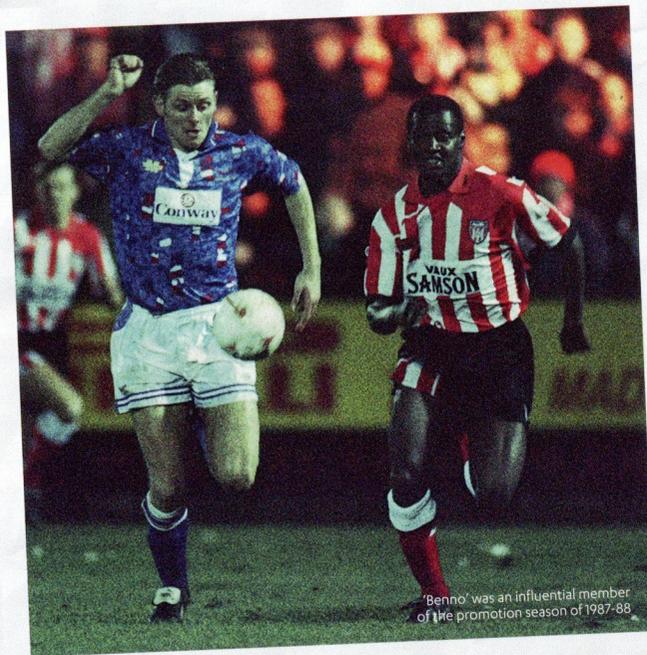


wasn't shy when it came to getting stuck in. "If teams wanted to make games a battle we had the players who would say, 'Okay, fair enough'. We weren't afraid of that. We had a little bit of so called 'presence' in our team" remembers Gary who adds: "This season I'm still finding out if the team have the capability to handle games like that. Obviously no one is going to bully Lee Cattermole but as a whole I've seen teams try to rough us up."

One such player who was a real team man was Steve Doyle. If players had had their names on the back of their shirts at the time not too many would have left the club shop having asked to have Doyle on the back of their top. He was a player who did the fetching and carrying, the ugly stuff that if it doesn't get done the team doesn't win. Remembering Bill Shankly's famous explanation that a football team, 'Needs eight men to carry the piano and three to play it', Doyle was never going to be asked to tinkle the ivories but he knew what he was doing. Sold to Sunderland by future Sunderland

manager Mick Buxton, Doyle had won this division twice before with Preston and Huddersfield and would play his part in Sunderland going up. "When you talk about characters we had players like Steve Doyle," notes 'Benno'. "He was a quiet lad but what a good character and a good player to have in your team. You need players like that."

Writing in his programme notes for the next home league game manager Denis Smith came out with words that Jack Ross could copy and paste this season. Having noted that Brighton would be in the promotion frame come the end of the campaign and it was important Sunderland took full advantage of their home game, albeit by the narrowest of margins, Smith wrote: "You the supporters played a vital part in gaining those three points, and I suspect you do not fully realise how vital your encouragement was. The match was hard... Our performance was not perhaps as fluent as usual, but team effort and work rate was first class. And this is where you came in."



'Benno' was an influential member of the promotion season of 1987-88

I sensed that Sunderland fans appreciated the work that was being put in by the players, and that while the side was not playing as well overall as in some games, there was a gritty determination to get a result. We were all pulling together - fans and players. A shared understanding between pitch and terraces."

Reflecting more than three decades on Bennett concurs. "We had that belief that we were going up and that transmitted to the supporters," says the man best placed to compare the previous third-tier team with the class of 2018-19, having played in the '87-88 side and seeing every modern day game in his role as BBC local radio summariser.

Comparing the era of Marco and Maja, Bennett observes: "I think the '87-88 team had a little bit more because we had one or two exciting players such as Marco Gabbiadini. Wherever Marco got the ball people were thinking, 'There could be a goal here.' On the other hand Josh Maja

## "WE HAD THAT BELIEF THAT WE WERE GOING UP AND THAT TRANSMITTED TO THE SUPPORTERS"

comes alive in the 18-yard box. We had people like Gary Owers would always put a shift in up and down, while Gordon Armstrong would always get onto the end of things and chip in with goals, and then there were people like Paul Lemon and Paul Atkinson who all contributed."

The modern day team are doing very well and hopefully will go up this season with Sunderland never to return to this level. Hopefully in future no members of the 2018-19 squad will be asked to compare their team to a future Sunderland side at this tier. A club of Sunderland's stature should not be playing so low down the league. The fact that they are is down to the mistakes of the recent past. Stewart Donald, Jack

Ross and the players are straining every sinew to make this stay in the third-tier as short as it possibly can be, as 'Benno' and co did in the Eighties.

Then as now, while Sunderland were out of the FA Cup - and League Cup come to that - they retained an interest in the Football League Trophy, or the Checkatrade Trophy in its modern guise.

Three days after Brighton's visit Smith made just one change to the side for a Sherpa Van Trophy meeting with Crewe Alexandra, Paul Atkinson coming in for the injured Gary Owers. Making their first ever visit to Roker Park Crewe included 20-year-old David Platt. He had 21 goals for the season already and had been the subject of a £100,000 bid from up the road. It would be the last game Platt played for Crewe before a £200,000 move to Aston Villa. Two years later he would be scoring that sensational hooked volley for England in the last minute of extra-time to beat Belgium at Italia '90.

Extra-time was available against Crewe and looked distinctly possible. Although Crewe were lower mid-table in the division below the Lads, again the home side weren't firing on all cylinders but a goal from Marco nine minutes after the break proved enough to seal Sunderland's progress.

Sunderland would not make the Wembley final but there was a route to Wembley the club were on course for. As the centre-piece of the Football League's Centenary commemorations a 16-club tournament was scheduled for Wembley in the middle of April. Two of these teams would come from Division Three. Qualification was based on the results of the 15 league games played from the start of November - the exact start of Sunderland's unbeaten 15-game run. The Lads weren't just on their way up, there was a trip to the old twin towers in the offing.

Club historian **Rob Mason**

# GEORGE MULHALL

The last home league game witnessed the annual period of silence in memory of former players, staff and supporters to have lost their lives during the calendar year.

One of the people remembered was Scottish international winger George Mulhall, who played 289 games for Sunderland during the Sixties, scoring 67 goals, in addition to providing many more for the likes of Neil Martin and Nick Sharkey. As well as Brian Clough who scored 19 times in the 20 games they played together, the first two of those on Mulhall's home debut in September 1962 against this afternoon's visitors Luton Town.

Mulhall won three full caps for Scotland, the first with Aberdeen and the latter two while with Sunderland. Now thanks to the generosity of the Mulhall family, from this weekend we have on permanent display one of the caps and international shirts George won while with the Lads.

Mulhall's wing play benefited from having legendary goal-scorers to take advantage of the chances he created. Four days after George had starred in a 6-2 home win over Grimsby, which featured a Clough hat-trick, Denis Law scored four as Scotland hammered Northern Ireland 5-1 at Hampden Park, on 7 November 1962, in the game the shirt and cap on display come from. Former Sunderland winger Billy Bingham got the Irish consolation



George Mulhall's son Neil with the Scotland cap and shirt he has donated for permanent display at SAFC

with the scoring completed by another wing wizard Willie Henderson.

Scottish football is treated disparagingly by many in contemporary times but when Mulhall played for Scotland he was in the best side in Britain. The 5-1 win over Northern Ireland was part of a 100 per cent record as the Scots won the Home International championship. England were beaten at Wembley with two goals from another man who would come to Sunderland - the legendary Jim Baxter.

As Mulhall wore this shirt and won this cap he had Baxter and Manchester United maestro Pat Crerand at half-back, while the five-man forward line (those were the days) read: Willie Henderson, John White, Ian St. John, Denis Law and Mulhall. Tragically White

would be killed in a lightning storm under two years later. He had been ever-present in the Spurs side that had become the first team in the twentieth century to achieve the double in 1960-61, when he played in the cup quarter-final at Roker Park.

Such was Scotland's strength Mulhall had waited three years for this second cap despite scoring in a 4-0 away win on his debut. That was against Northern Ireland in Belfast.

The same venue and opposition would witness George's third and final full international in October 1963, mid-way through a season where he was ever-present in Sunderland's first ever promotion. Scotland lost but Mulhall still had a good week - three days earlier he had played in a 2-1 win over Newcastle in front of almost 57,000.



# HAVING THE LAST LAUGH

**CHRIS MAGUIRE** REFUSED TO GET CARRIED AWAY FOLLOWING TUESDAY'S WIN OVER NEWCASTLE UNITED'S UNDER-21s, BUT THE FORWARD ADMITTED ANY WIN HELPS TOP UP POSITIVITY AND MOMENTUM.

Coming off the back of a 1-1 draw with Charlton Athletic, the Lads entered the midweek Checkatrade Trophy tie in a 'no-win' situation, according to the 29-year-old.

Thankfully, though, they did win, as a second-half flurry sealed a comfortable victory at the Stadium of Light in front of a noisy crowd.

And Maguire thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

"Tuesday's match was a no-win situation for us really, as we were expected to come away with a win, yet we had everything to lose," he said.

"A good crowd turned out and a vocal one at that, so I'm pleased we gave the supporters something to cheer out, especially in that second-half.

"It was a good atmosphere and although we won't be getting carried away because we know it was their kids, they still brought 3,000 fans to cheer them on.

"They let me know and gave me plenty of abuse, but I've said before, if you do that, I'll have the last laugh, and I did."

Sunderland will now enter the quarter-final stage of the competition, with just two games separating them from a Wembley cup final.

And with a bumper crowd expected on Wearside today, as the Black Cats take



**“IT’S GREAT TO BE IN THE NEXT ROUND OF THE COMPETITION, AND THERE AREN’T THAT MANY GAMES REMAINING NOW UNTIL THE FINAL”**

on fellow promotion contenders Luton Town, there is plenty to look forward to on Wearside heading into the latter stages of the campaign.

"It's great to be in the next round of the competition, and there aren't that many games remaining now until the final," he continued.

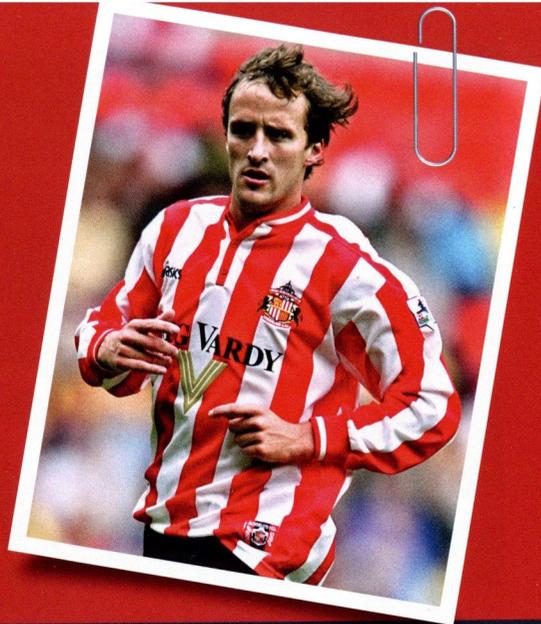
"You can see by the team we fielded on Tuesday, and by the way we played, that it's a competition we want to win, and we want to go to Wembley and a win a trophy.

"Saturday's game is a big clash and we know they are sitting above us at the moment, but if we keep playing the way we have, we're confident we can move into second place and push on."





# ROKER REPORT



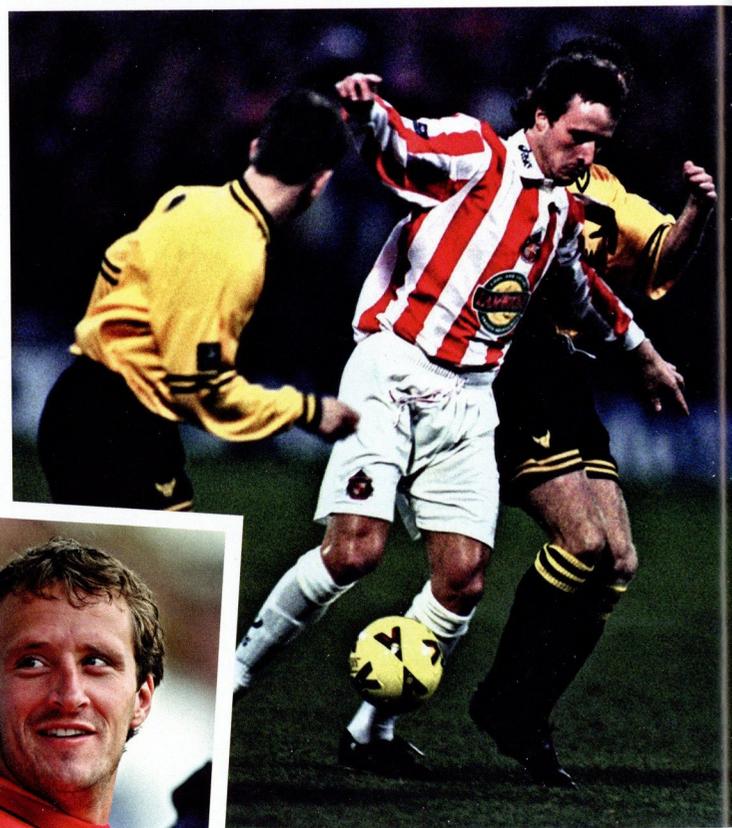
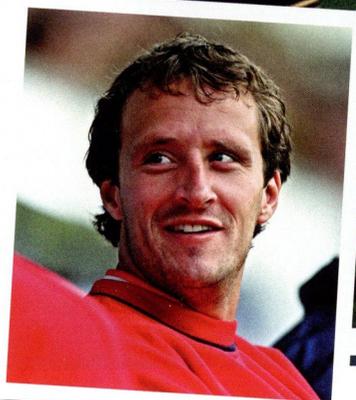
ROKER REPORT MEETS... **NICKY SUMMERBEE!**  
**GRAHAM MacMILLAN-MASON** CATCHES UP WITH THE FORMER BLACK CAT TO TALK ALL THINGS RED AND WHITE...

**RR:** I normally start off by asking who the best player was you played alongside, but instead, as I'm curious, who was the best drinker in the squad?

**NS:** "Alex Rae was a good drinker but the best person, if you got him on the right day because obviously, he's sensible, is 'Quinny'. He drinks pints of Guinness like it's nothing. Because he's a big lad, you couldn't fill him up! We had a good drinking squad, but it's a different game now. The players just don't do it nowadays, but back then we were encouraged to go out and that's what created the team spirit that saw us do so well."

**RR:** It wasn't Mickey Gray, then?

**NS:** "Mickey was useless! Lightweight! He's in better trim now than when he played football, though. He's fitter than ever! He's got the Beverley Hills smile and the tan, he's not the lad from Castletown anymore with his California haircut!"



**RR:** We weren't doing that well when you arrived, but we beat Portsmouth 4-1 on your debut and you managed to nab the last goal. After that we just seemed to go on this incredible run. Why did it work so well for you so quickly?

**NS:** "Sometimes you go to a club and it's right. The players gel and everything works. Personally, I had played in the Premier League and I wanted to go back there. I had something to prove after being relegated. I started my career as a sort of wing back, however, I wasn't that strong at defending. But when I went to Sunderland they wanted me to be an out-and-out winger, which suited me perfectly. Having 'Quinny' and Kevin Phillips there was great as a winger. I was an acquired taste because I looked lazy, I had the big shorts on and the long strides and I probably looked a bit lethargic to the eye, but once the Sunderland crowd got to know me and what I brought to the team, they got right behind me and embraced me - I'd never really had that before."



**RR:** We have to talk about the Play-off Final - what a game. What are your memories of that day, and what is it like to score for Sunderland at Wembley?

**NS:** "It was brilliant to play at Wembley. I had played with Swindon a few seasons before where we were 3-0 up and they pulled it back to 3-3, but we got a penalty at the end and won it 4-3. So, I'd been to Wembley before. We didn't start well. We were ahead of them in the league and I think we thought we'd turn up and win the game and it wasn't the case, so it took us until after half-time to get going. Once we did, it just felt like one of those days where you felt it wasn't happening for you. It just had that feeling the more the game went on." >

**"BACK THEN WE WERE ENCOURAGED TO GO OUT AND THAT'S WHAT CREATED THE TEAM SPIRIT THAT SAW US DO SO WELL"**

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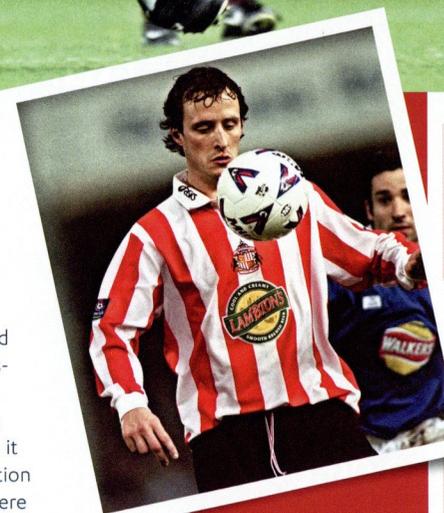


SAFSEE



**RR:** How instrumental were Peter Reid and Bobby Saxton in creating that team?

**NS:** "They worked together well. 'Sacko' was a proper straight-talking Yorkshireman and when there were tellings-off to be given out, they were. There was nothing special with the training, it was basic, a lot of repetition so you knew what you were doing - something I believed in. It was all about the team spirit with them. A lot of going out, a lot of team meals together, having a laugh and keeping that team bond strong. I remember we got beat down at Watford before we went up, and Peter Reid and Bobby Saxton said they wanted us in the next day. Of course, you thought we were going to be getting a telling off but when we got in, he had eight or nine bottles of champagne waiting there for us and it was all about chilling out, forgetting the defeat and building that team spirit. Bobby was a massive part of that, 'Cookie' was too. We had a great backroom team full of banter. If you bought a pair of new trainers or some new gear, you knew you were going to be getting stick and it was



**"I PLAYED MY BEST FOOTBALL AT SUNDERLAND... BECAUSE THAT'S THE PLACE IT HAPPENED FOR ME"**

great! It keeps you going. They worked well, the pair of them. You knew where you stood with Bobby. You couldn't take it easy on the pitch, because you knew if it wasn't Bobby getting on at you, it would be 'Reidy' and it pushed you. Sunderland was the place to be then. The youth team were top of the league, the reserve team were top of the league and the first-team was top as well. The whole place was buzzing."

**RR:** In the scope of your career, you played for some big, big clubs, but where would you place your time at Sunderland in that?

**NS:** "I played my best football at Sunderland. I played at Manchester City, of course, and both clubs are massive with huge fan bases, but for me it's Sunderland because that's the place it happened for me. It was a great place to live, a brilliant stadium to play in and we had some fantastic times there. Sunderland was my fondest period in football. My confidence was sky high and football is all about confidence. I loved the fans and the staff. At Sunderland I felt like I could do anything. I loved seeing Sunderland play City at Wembley in the cup final, because I think the nation saw what Sunderland was all about."

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# SAFC ladies



## POSITIVITY'S THE POLICY

Captain Keira Ramshaw is positive about what 2019 holds after a learning experience for the team last year.

Despite tough circumstances in pre-season, Sunderland enjoyed a mostly positive start to put them third in the league.

And the captain and top scorer is pleased with the start to the season her team-mates have made.

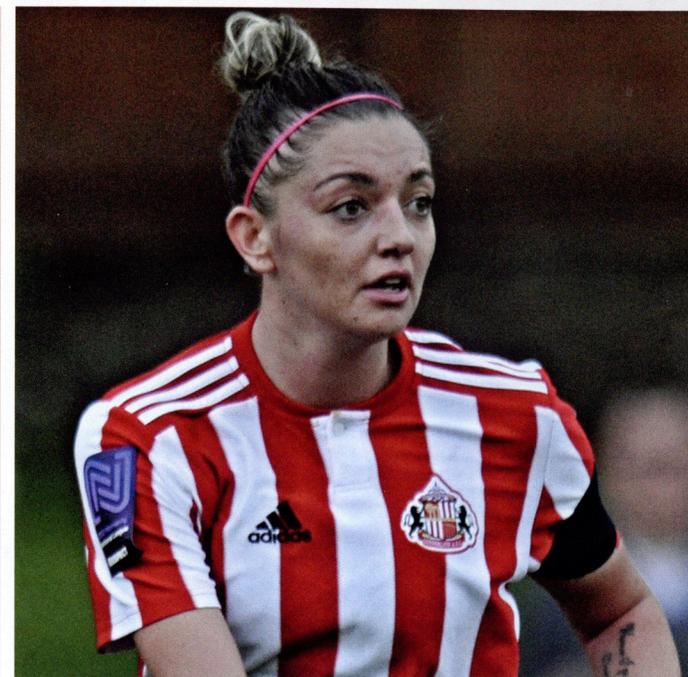
"It's been a good start to the season," she said.

"We've had plenty of positives in the first half of the campaign and we're happy with where we are at the minute.

"We've had plenty of learning experiences in both good and bad results, which have improved our understanding of the league.

"With plenty of time behind us as a team, it gives us a good base to build from."

With several development team players making the jump to first-team football for the new season, Ramshaw hailed the impact made by the younger players within the squad.



"They've all done well," she continued. "It's a lot of pressure for them to step into, but they've taken the challenge on and have put us in a good place.

"I think they've all come a long way as footballers, and it's been nice to see them improve throughout the year.

"We've also grown well as a unit, it's a great bunch to work with and it's great that we've managed to build the squad togetherness so quickly."

After half a season to learn their new surroundings in the FA Women's National League, Ramshaw is excited for what 2019 holds, as the side look to finish the season off strongly.

"We know what to expect now," she explained.

"We've played plenty of teams and know what they're about, meaning we're better prepared for the second push in 2019.

"We've had a few poor results in the first half of the year, but they've helped us figure out how to combat certain teams and hopefully it stands us in good shape for the rest of the season."

### WOMEN'S PREMIER NORTH DIVISION 2018-19

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1 Blackburn Rovers Ladies	10	10	0	0	56	30
2 Huddersfield Town Ladies	12	9	0	3	20	27
3 <b>Sunderland AFC Ladies</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>24</b>
4 Stoke City Ladies	12	7	1	4	12	22
5 Fylde Ladies FC	10	6	2	2	16	20
6 Derby County Ladies	12	6	2	4	-4	20
7 Middlesbrough Women FC	11	5	2	4	1	17
8 Hull City Ladies	13	5	1	7	-8	16
9 Guiseley Vixens Women	10	4	2	4	4	14
10 Nottingham Forest Ladies	11	3	1	7	-14	10
11 Sheffield FC Ladies	14	3	1	10	-17	10
12 Doncaster Rovers Belles LFC	13	3	0	10	-34	9
13 Bradford City Womens	11	0	0	11	-53	0

# TWEED ALL ABOUT IT

BBC RADIO NEWCASTLE'S *NICK BARNES* LOOKS BACK AT THE SEASON SO FAR...

Vale Park. Sunday 11 November. Gary Bennett asks the Port Vale media officer, 'where is the press lounge?'

'Through the doors, across the concourse and right in front of you', he replied.

'Benno' strode off through the doors and a minute later returned to the press box, quizzing, 'where did you say?'

He is redirected through the doors. A few minutes later I followed to find him standing forlornly on the concourse with a look of bemusement on his face. It transpires, the 'press lounge' is the caretaker's cupboard with a hot water urn.

The biggest shock of life in League One, and on this occasion League Two in the FA Cup, is the lack of amenities, the relative standard of facilities in the press boxes, and, of course, the standard of the football.

BUT I'm loving it. The fans are loving it, and it seems the players are loving it.

Of course, I knew in the summer, as many of us did, what to expect in terms of the grounds we would be visiting, as I spent a number of years rocking around the country in the old Divisions Three and Four with Carlisle United.

However, we were in the dark as to how well Sunderland would adapt to life in the third-tier.



**"I'M LOVING IT. THE FANS ARE LOVING IT, AND IT SEEMS THE PLAYERS ARE LOVING IT"**

We needn't have worried. Pre-season got better and better. Progressively each match the team improved and there was the distinct impression that Jack Ross was a man with a plan.

The emphatic win at St Mirren and the slightly surreal friendly at Middlesbrough, abandoned as it was in the midst of a biblical storm, both showed signs that a team was in the making.

No mean achievement bearing in mind the trauma of last season and the transformation of the squad over the summer.



We're now just past the halfway mark and Sunderland are very much in contention for automatic promotion.

It's been a tough, grinding six months but that was to be expected. Every player one speaks with who has played at this level says it's nothing less than a treadmill, and at regular intervals Ross has been at pains to point out that he has a League One squad.

It is equipped to understand this league and to withstand its rigours. It's not a squad put together to dazzle, but to dig the club out of the division. Ross is also at pains to point out he has only signed players who have bought into the ideology, bought into what Sunderland means to its fans.

Even those players he inherited, such as Aiden McGeady, Lee Cattermole, Bryan Oviedo and Adam Matthews, are all converts. There is some efficacy to the suggestion prospective Sunderland players should watch the Fulwell73 Netflix documentary 'Sunderland 'til I die'.

Everyone who has seen it has been struck by just how much this football club means to the fans.

**"WE'RE NOW JUST PAST THE HALFWAY MARK AND SUNDERLAND ARE VERY MUCH IN CONTENTION FOR AUTOMATIC PROMOTION"**

The transformation of the football club from the shambolic ashes of the Ellis Short era has been nothing short of miraculous. A masterstroke was the 'Big Seat Change'.

Frowned upon by some in the summer as a meaningless exercise, it became a metaphor for the reawakening of the giant that Sunderland is.

The shabby colourless stadium has become a beacon of the new Sunderland. Fans are proud to return. Teams are coming to Sunderland and it's their cup final.

Conversely, that has also had a negative effect as teams arrive here to frustrate Sunderland and it's to their credit they remain unbeaten at home in the league, and on a number of occasions have had to show grit and determination to earn a result.

The opening match of the season against Charlton Athletic was the marker. A crowd of 31,000 and the dramatic Lynden Gooch winner in the 96th minute. It's as though Sunderland knew Fulwell73 were making series two.

Of course, there have inevitably been moans and groans along the way. ▶



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They surfaced early following the 1-1 draw at Kenilworth Road with fans feeling it was a match Sunderland should have won, having led 1-0, but were unable to see it out.

I thought that disingenuous at the time and so it has been proved, as Luton arrive today unbeaten at home and having only conceded nine goals, whilst bagging 31.

There have been wobbles. Inevitable in a season of 46 matches where the standard across the board is broadly comparable, as teams enjoy purple patches of form.

The difference for Sunderland is in being able to field game-changers like McCeady and Oviedo, and in having discovered in Josh Maja the unlikely of goalmouth heroes.

The magic he has conjured up in the 18-yard box has been another highlight of the season.

The distraction over his contract was avoidable and we're yet to see how it will play out, but if common sense prevails, I would hope to see him here



**"THE MAGIC HE HAS CONJURED UP IN THE 18-YARD BOX HAS BEEN ANOTHER HIGHLIGHT OF THE SEASON"**

until the end of the season whatever he decides to do regarding his future.

I have been impressed with Ross. If there was a signing of the summer, it was the appointment of the 42-year-old.

Many of you won't see until the second series of 'Sunderland 'til I die' how thorough, professional and knowledgeable he is.

He will explain patiently and thoroughly everything from tactics to substitutions. He is a true student of the game and has a voracious appetite for anything football related and has true respect for everyone from the top to the bottom and time for everyone.

So onwards we go, and we still have Accrington Stanley to return to where the warmth and adventure of League One was no more apparent than on that wretched day when several thousand Sunderland fans got soaked through to the skin, and where the staff of the club couldn't have been more helpful.

We had all joked about going to Accrington when the fixtures were released, but it was the Crown Ground that epitomised 'Sunderland 'til I die'.

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## SUPPORTER LIAISON OFFICER

Welcome everyone to our home match against Luton Town.

I am sure all of you will be looking forward to what promises to be an exciting game this afternoon, as two of League One's top sides go head to head.

Many of our away games have sold out this season, and this is something that we hope to continue for the remaining away fixtures.

To see almost 8,000 supporters travel to Blackpool on New Year's Day was amazing, and we will continue to ask for the highest allocation possible for games going forward.

December was a busy month and due to the Christmas period, I spoke to many supporters that had issues with their away tickets arriving in time for the Blackpool and Charlton Athletic games.

If this is an issue for any of you in the future, there is a solution to this providing you contact the ticket office no later than a day before the fixture. Our ticket office can liaise with the club we are facing to organise duplicate tickets to collect on the day of the game.



To organise this please send your email confirmation to [ticket.office@safc.com](mailto:ticket.office@safc.com) along with your contact details. My colleagues in the ticket office will get back in touch with you directly to discuss the procedure.

Your tickets will be reprinted by the host club and available to collect from their ticket office ahead of the game.

I'd also like to remind fans that the ticket office is closed at the weekends of away fixtures, and it isn't possible to get reprinted

tickets organised on the day of the game.

So, if you haven't got your away tickets please ensure in time by contacting our ticket office well in advance of the game date, so we can help and support you in attending the fixture.

Thank you for your continued support away from home and here at the SoL, and if any of you would like to discuss this further please feel free to get in touch.

Enjoy the game,

**Chris Waters**

If you would like to get in touch with the club regarding new initiatives or ideas to improve the matchday experience, please contact me on [chris.waters@safc.com](mailto:chris.waters@safc.com).



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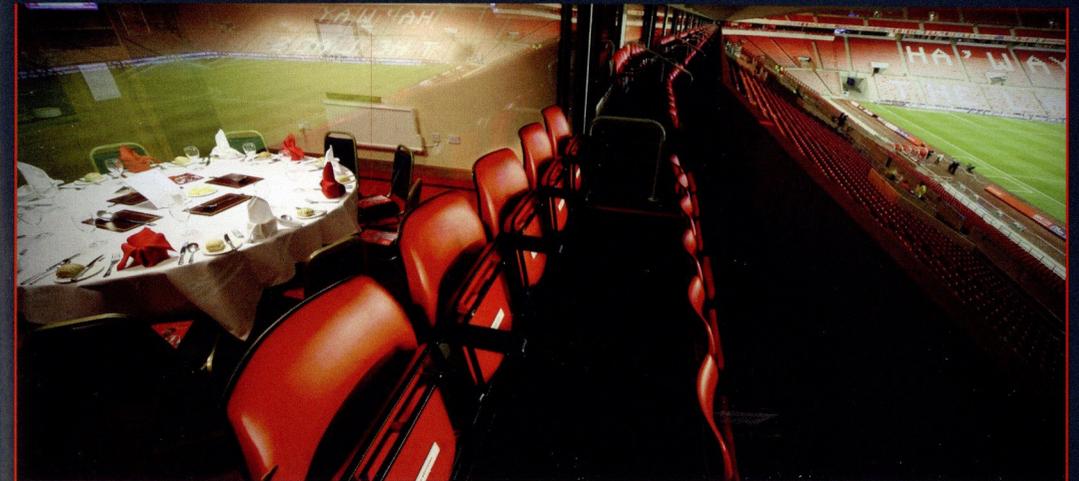
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# PERFECT MATCH

## LOOKING TO ADD TO YOUR MATCHDAY EXPERIENCE?

Whether you're celebrating a special occasion, rewarding a hard-working team or simply looking for a chance to watch the Lads in style, there's sure to be a package right up your street.



## BOX CLEVER AT THE SOL

For almost 40 years, Simon Tuckwell, managing director of Wearside-based manufacturers Glasshus, has been following Sunderland.

The company, which designs, manufactures and installs architectural glass and aluminium facades, has a team of over 50 staff, who regularly enjoy matchday hospitality at the Stadium of Light.

Simon has always been a matchday regular, but through work he was given the opportunity to experience game days from a different point of view, in Glasshus' Executive Box.

"My favourite part of a matchday is the build-up and anticipation

before kick-off. It's definitely different taking the game in from a box after years in the stands," Simon explained.

"My favourite time as a Sunderland fan has to be the 2014 cup run, where we got to Wembley, after all of the other rounds were won at the Stadium of Light. That threw up some really memorable nights," he added.

With the Lads undefeated in the league at the Stadium of Light so far in this campaign, Simon and the team are hoping for many more standout moments at the Sol this season.

If you would like the opportunity to experience a matchday in style at the Stadium of Light, there are packages available to suit all tastes and budgets.

Executive Boxes can be booked for up to 10, 12 or 25 guests, they guarantee privacy and exclusivity without sacrificing the atmosphere.

All boxes include a private balcony and a three-course meal with a dedicated host service.

Box holders can also use the Magic Moments Bar for pre and post-match drinks and can use their executive boxes on non-matchdays free of charge.

Reserve an executive box for the season and you have the option to decorate your box and balcony.

### Get In Touch

If you want to know any more visit [www.safc.com/hospitality](http://www.safc.com/hospitality) or get in touch with our sales team on **0371 911 1555** or email [hospitality@safc.com](mailto:hospitality@safc.com)

# GET GAME READY



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## ACADEMY SPOTLIGHT: ELLIOT EMBLETON

### EMBLETON BUOYANT ON MARINERS LOAN

A first loan spell can always prove to be a daunting experience.

Having been in a first-class academy set-up for many years, the realisation of entering the world outside, and moving out of a comfort zone, can be difficult.

But for 19-year-old midfielder Elliot Embleton, those assumptions couldn't be further from the truth.

Entering Grimsby Town's first-team squad earlier this season, Embleton came into a losing side battling for their lives at the foot of the Sky Bet League Two table.

While he scored on his second appearance for the Mariners, the youngster had to wait until

**"TO STAY FOR THE REST OF THE SEASON WAS OBVIOUSLY A TOUGH DECISION, BUT IT GIVES ME MORE CHANCES TO SHOW EVERYONE WHAT I CAN DO AND GAIN MORE EXPERIENCE READY FOR NEXT SEASON"**



October before he won his first match away at Carlisle United.

That has since ignited an upturn in form from Michael Jolley's side, with the England youth international producing a string of five-star showings, as he took his goal tally to four before the start of the festive fixtures.

Since then, Embleton has extended his spell at Blundell Park until the end of the season, with Sunderland boss Jack Ross stating he wants the Durham-born player to return with 30 or 40 senior appearances under his belt.

Speaking to Red & White, Embleton shared his delight after committing to the Mariners for the remainder of the campaign, admitting the pressure and adrenaline rush you get from senior football is one he is thriving on.

"Yes, I'm very happy with my progress in the team," he said.

"I've started 18 games now and got four goals. I'm pleased, but obviously I would like to get more goals and assists. I'm sure that will come, though.

"I've really enjoyed my time at Grimsby and I've managed to build a little relationship with the fans. It's great because it gets your confidence up knowing they are backing you.

"They are brilliant fans both home and away and fortunately we've been able to repay them with a good winning run recently.

"To stay for the rest of the season was obviously a tough decision, but it gives me more chances to show everyone what I can do and gain more experience ready for next season."

# MATCHDAY AT THE SOL

Whether it's business or pleasure, there's a hospitality option to suit your needs, along with bespoke advertising and sponsorship packages to showcase your business to a wider audience.



## HOSPITALITY

Our matchday hospitality has something for everyone. Whatever your needs or budget we'll find the perfect option for you.

From only £37.50 per person



## SPONSORSHIP

Shine a light on your company with one of our fantastic sponsorship packages. Entertain clients, reward staff - whatever your needs we can tailor a package for your needs.

Matchball sponsorship from £1100\* (for six people)



## ADVERTISING

Highlight your company name or brand to a regional, national and international audience. A range of advertising options including match programme and pitchside LEDS are available.

LEDS from £700\*

## QUESTIONS?

Our dedicated hospitality team is available to help on 0371 911 1555, via email at [hospitality@safc.com](mailto:hospitality@safc.com) or visit [safc.com/hospitality](http://safc.com/hospitality)

\*Price includes VAT



# SAFC U23s



## SUNDERLAND UNDER-23s 2 NEWCASTLE UNDER-23s 3

Sunderland Under-23s were made to swallow a bitter pill last time out, as Newcastle United came from behind and struck an injury-time winner at the Academy of Light.

Lee Connelly and Jack Diamond had given the Lads a commanding advantage inside the opening 34 minutes, but goals from Oliver Walters, Elias Sorensen and Rosaire Longelo saw the Magpies swoop in and collect three points.

Benji Kimpioka led the line for Elliott Dickman's side, with 16-year-old Dan Neil once again called upon in the middle of the park, while 15-year-old

Ryan Gooch was named amongst the subs.

The Black Cats experienced a day to forget when they travelled through to Tyneside earlier this season, but last Friday's match was far more competitive. Connelly broke the deadlock with 11 minutes played, using his pace to sneak in behind and latch onto a ball over the top. The Scot composed himself and showed guts to slide the ball beyond the on-rushing Newcastle stopper, knowing full well he would be cluttered in the process.

The second goal arrived in rather extreme circumstances. Diamond was the scorer, his audacious lob from just inside the Newcastle half finding the back of the net with 34 minutes played.

Newcastle fought back and managed to ignite a momentum shift before

the break, as Walters flicked home from the right.

Sorensen then equalised on the hour mark when he turned home Thomas Allan's assist after a lightning start to the second period.

Both sides continued to trade blows as Sunderland grew into the half, but in the dying seconds, Newcastle clinched all three points when Longelo slammed the ball home to defeat the Black Cats on home soil.



**Sunderland U23:**  
Patterson, Hunter, Taylor, Bainbridge (Store), Young, Bale, Hackett, Connelly, Neil, Diamond, Kimpioka

**Subs not used:**  
Johnstone, Gooch, Leonard, Connolly



**Newcastle U23:**  
Huuhtanen, Gibson, Watts, Bailey, Walters, Sangare, Longstaff, Wilson, Roberts, Allan, Sorensen

**Subs not used:**  
McEntee, Langley, Longelo-Mbule, Nunez-Cumbreras, Toure





## STADIUM OF LIGHT CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2019



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### FRI 25TH JANUARY

**Emergency Services / Retail Post Christmas Party**

Includes 2-course buffet, Disco, DJ

**£9.99**



### SAT 6TH APRIL

**Retro 90's Party Night**

Dance the night away! Includes Buffet, DJ, Rodeo Bull, Photo-booth

**£15.00**



### THURS 14TH FEBRUARY

**Valentines Night**

Includes 3-course meal and live entertainment

**£29.95**



### SUN 21ST APRIL

**Easter Sunday Lunch**

Celebrate Easter at SoL with a delicious 3-course meal

**£19.95**



### SUN 17TH MARCH

**St. Patricks Day**

A real fun day out including Drinks reception, 2-course buffet, Rod Stewart Tribute Act, Disco & DJ

**£29.95**



### SAT 8TH JUNE

**Gin / Rum / Prosecco Festival**

Includes drink samples and live entertainment

**£10.00**



### SUN 31ST MARCH

**Mother's Day Lunch**

Treat Mum to a special 3-course meal and complimentary gift

**£19.95**



### SUN 16TH JUNE

**Father's Day Lunch**

Treat Dad to a special 3-course meal and complimentary gift

**£19.95**

For more information on all our Events please contact the Sales Team on 0371 911 1555 / solevents@elior.co.uk

STADIUMOFLIGHT

# SAFC U18s



## 18 MONTHS OF PAIN

**Two years ago, Dan Neil thought his career was over.**

Now 16, the first-year scholar is enjoying a breakthrough season with the Under-23s and has even had a sniff of first-team action.

After being struck down with a potentially career-ending knee injury, Neil recalls stamping his foot against the turf as he looked to knockout the pain he was experiencing during an Under-14 tournament in Warwick.

Surgery followed in London and so did a lengthy 18-month spell on the sidelines, with a career in football looking increasingly unlikely for the fledgling talent.

"The injury came at a bad time for me," Neil reflected.

"I had just been playing for England against the USA, got my scholarship and I was on a real rise before the injury hit."

However, progress has been sweet and Neil is back playing the sport he craves, taking each day as a blessing as he looks to make up for lost time, while perusing a dream that at one stage he looked unlikely to fulfil.

"Everyone has to deal with adversity and come back, and I think I've managed to do that," the teenager explains.

"Each time I step onto the grass now I am just grateful because at one point it might not have happened.

"I didn't expect to have achieved what I have done at all this season



because my aim was just to get into the Under-23s at the end of the season.

"Getting a sniff of first-team action at Morecambe was a brilliant experience. Like I said, the first-team have been great, it makes you work harder and it makes you want it even more

"Elliott [Dickman] has been the same and given me a number of chances to play in the Under-23s and hopefully I can kick on to the first-team from here."



You can keep up to date with all the latest Under-18s news and action via [safc.com](http://safc.com).

**"EACH TIME I STEP ONTO THE GRASS NOW I AM JUST GRATEFUL BECAUSE AT ONE POINT IT MIGHT NOT HAVE HAPPENED"**

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RED & WHITE | 61



# FIXTURES & RESULTS 2018-19



DATE	KO	COMP.	OPPONENT	RES.	ATT.	REFEREE	STARTING XI	SUBSTITUTES						
<b>August 2018</b>														
Sat 4	12:30	SBL1	Charlton Athletic	2-1	31,075	J Brooks	McLaughlin Love Loovens Ozturk Matthews O'Nien	Mumba Honeyman Gooch1 Maguire Maja1	Oviedo (27'), Sinclair (45'), Molyneux (90+3'), Baldwin, Ruiter, Hume, Embleton					
Sat 11	15:00	SBL1	Luton Town	1-1	10,059	C Breakspear	McLaughlin Matthews Baldwin Loovens Oviedo Mumba	Honeyman Power Gooch Maja1 Maguire	Cattermole (54'), O'Nien (85'), Molyneux (90+2'), Ozturk, Ruiter, Hume, Embleton					
Thu 16	19:45	CC1	Sheffield Wednesday	0-2	13,890	B Toner	McLaughlin Hume Ozturk Baldwin James O'Nien	Cattermole Power Embleton Honeyman Maguire	Gooch (61'), Maja (66'), Molyneux (80'), Robson, Ruiter, Mumba, Taylor					
Sun 19	15:00	SBL1	Scunthorpe United	3-0	29,876	A Backhouse	McLaughlin Matthews Loovens Oviedo Cattermole	Power1 Gooch Honeyman Maguire1 Maja1	James (59'), Mumba (70'), O'Nien (83'), Ozturk, Robson, Ruiter, Embleton					
Wed 22	19:45	SBL1	Gillingham	4-1	8,438	A Coggins	McLaughlin Love Loovens Baldwin James Cattermole	Power1 Gooch Honeyman1 Maguire1 Maja1	McGeouch (69'), Hume (78'), O'Nien (83'), Ruiter, Ozturk, Mumba, Embleton					
Sat 25	15:00	SBL1	AFC Wimbledon	2-1	4,848	J Busby	McLaughlin Love Loovens Baldwin James Power	Cattermole2 Gooch Honeyman Maguire Maja	Ozturk (45'), McGeouch (51'), Oviedo (58'), O'Nien, Ruiter, Mumba, Embleton					
<b>September 2018</b>														
Sat 1	15:00	SBL1	Oxford United	1-1	32,193	M Heywood	McLaughlin Love Ozturk Baldwin Gooch Cattermole	Honeyman Power Oviedo Maguire Maja	Wyke (45')1, McGeouch (73'), James (79'), Flanagan, O'Nien, Robson, Ruiter					
Tue 4	19:45	CT	Stoke City U21s	0-0	7,644	M Coy	Ruiter Hume James Ozturk Flanagan McGeouch	O'Nien Robson Maguire Maja Wyke	Sinclair (65'), Kimpioka (75'), Molyneux (77'), Stryjek, Love, Taylor, Hackett					
Sat 8	15:00	SBL1	Fleetwood Town	1-1	29,367	D Drysdale	McLaughlin Matthews Loovens Baldwin Hume Cattermole	McGeouch Maguire Honeyman Gooch Maja1	Sinclair (51'), Wyke (63'), Flanagan (72'), Ozturk, O'Nien, James, Ruiter					
Sat 15	15:00	SBL1	Burton Albion	1-2	4,566	D Whitestone	McLaughlin Matthews Baldwin Loovens Oviedo Honeyman	Cattermole Gooch Maja Wyke Sinclair	Maguire (43')1, McGeady (51'), O'Nien (85'), Ozturk, Flanagan, Ruiter, Hume					
Sat 22	15:00	SBL1	Rochdale	4-1	28,764	T Kettle	McLaughlin Flanagan Loovens Baldwin Hume Cattermole	McGeouch Gooch2 Honeyman Maguire Maja2	Sinclair (69'), McGeady (73'), Oviedo (86'), Matthews, O'Nien, James, Ruiter					
Sat 29	12:30	SBL1	Coventry City	1-1	16,407	M Salisbury	McLaughlin Flanagan Baldwin Loovens Hume Gooch	Maguire Cattermole1 McGeouch Honeyman Maja	Matthews (4'), Oviedo (37'), Power (66'), Ozturk, Sinclair, McGeady, Ruiter					
<b>October 2018</b>														
Tue 2	19:45	SBL1	Peterborough United	2-2	28,727	D Coote	McLaughlin Matthews Flanagan Baldwin Oviedo Maguire	McGeouch Power McGeady Maja1 Sinclair1	James 70', Mbunga-Kimpioka 90+2', Ozturk, Robson, Ruiter, Mumba, Diamond					
Sat 6	15:00	SBL1	Bradford City	2-1	19,487	A Backhouse	McLaughlin Matthews Flanagan Baldwin James Maguire	Cattermole Power McGeady Sinclair Maja1	McGeouch 70', Honeyman 73', Ozturk 84', Robson, Ruiter, Mumba, Kimpioka					
Tue 9	19:45	CT	Carlisle United	3-1	8,112	B Toner	Ruiter Matthews Ozturk Baldwin James Maguire	McGeouch Robson1 McGeady Honeyman1 Mbunga-Kimpioka1	O'Nien 45', Diamond 79', Connolly 87', Hackett, Taylor, Gamble, Patterson					
Sat 20	15:00	SBL1	Shrewsbury Town	2-0	9,007	J Busby	McLaughlin Matthews Baldwin Flanagan James McGeouch	Maguire Cattermole2 McGeady Sinclair Maja	Gooch 54', Honeyman 57', O'Nien 82', Ozturk, Ruiter, Mumba, Kimpioka					
Tue 23	19:45	SBL1	Doncaster Rovers	1-0	11,881	J Simpson	McLaughlin Matthews Flanagan Baldwin James Cattermole	McGeouch Maguire1 Honeyman Gooch Sinclair	O'Nien 64', McGeady 85', Ozturk, Love, Ruiter, Mumba, Kimpioka					
Sat 27	15:00	SBL1	Southend United	3-0	30,894	R Lewis	McLaughlin Matthews Flanagan Baldwin James Cattermole	McGeouch Maguire1 Honeyman1 Gooch Sinclair	McGeady 54', Maja 57', O'Nien 74', Oviedo, Ozturk, Ruiter, Mumba					
<b>November 2018</b>														
Sat 3	15:00	SBL1	Plymouth Argyle	2-0	12,065	C Boyeson	McLaughlin Matthews Flanagan Baldwin James Honeyman	McGeouch Maguire McGeady2 Gooch Maja	Sinclair 73', O'Nien 75', Mumba 88', Loovens, Ozturk, Ruiter, Kimpioka					
Sun 11	14:30	FAC1	Port Vale	2-1	7,238	A Backhouse	McLaughlin Matthews Flanagan Baldwin James McGeouch	Honeyman1 Gooch1 Maguire McGeady Sinclair	Maja 64', Power 71', O'Nien 81', Oviedo, Loovens, Ozturk, Ruiter					
Tue 13	19:45	CT	Morecambe	1-0	2,377	P Marsden	Ruiter Ozturk Loovens Bainbridge Hunter Power	Hackett O'Nien Oviedo Diamond Maja1	Taylor 60', Connolly 66', Neil 90+2', Patterson, Leonard, Kokolo, Young					
Sat 17	15:00	SBL1	Wycombe Wanderers	1-0	30,727	M Salisbury	McLaughlin Matthews Flanagan Baldwin James Honeyman	McGeouch Gooch Maguire Honeyman1 Gooch Sinclair	Power 54', Maja 54'1, Oviedo 75', Loovens, Ozturk, O'Nien, Ruiter					
Sat 24	15:00	SBL1	Walsall	2-2	7,868	C Hicks	McLaughlin Matthews Flanagan Baldwin James Honeyman	Power Gooch1 McGeady1 Oviedo Maja	O'Nien 49', Maguire 61', Loovens, Ozturk, Sinclair, Mumba, Patterson					
Tue 27	19:45	SBL1	Barnsley	4-2	28,514	A Madley	McLaughlin Matthews Flanagan Baldwin James Power	Honeyman Maguire Gooch1 McGeady1P Maja1	O'Nien 59', Sinclair 84', Oviedo 90', Ozturk, Hackett, Mumba, Patterson					
<b>December 2018</b>														
Sat 1	15:00	FAC2	Walsall	1-1	3,140	C Boyeson	McLaughlin Matthews Flanagan Baldwin James O'Nien	Power Gooch Oviedo McGeady1 Maja	Sinclair 63', Mumba 75', Ozturk, Bainbridge, Ruiter, Hackett					
Tue 4	19:45	CT	Notts County	2-0	8,580	G Salisbury	Ruiter Bainbridge Loovens Ozturk Oviedo McGeouch	Power Mumba O'Nien Watmore1 Sinclair1P	Kimpioka 67', Hackett 83', Diamond 87', Patterson, Flanagan, Hunter, Maja					
Sat 8	15:00	SBL1	Accrington Stanley	1-1	5,257	O Langford	McLaughlin Matthews Flanagan Baldwin James Gooch	Power Honeyman McGeady Maguire1 Maja	Oviedo 17', O'Nien 61', Loovens, Ozturk, McGeouch, Sinclair, Ruiter					
Tue 11	19:45	FAC2R	Walsall	0-1	8,212	M Salisbury	McLaughlin O'Nien Flanagan Baldwin Oviedo McGeouch	Power Maguire Honeyman Watmore Sinclair	Cattermole 58', Maja 58', Mumba 78', Loovens, Ozturk, James, Ruiter					
Sat 15	15:00	SBL1	Bristol Rovers	2-1	28,971	T Bramall	McLaughlin Matthews1 Loovens Baldwin Oviedo Cattermole	Power McGeady Honeyman Gooch Maja1	Maguire 75', Ruiter 76', Watmore 84', Ozturk, McGeouch O'Nien, Sinclair					
Sat 22	15:00	SBL1	Portsmouth	1-3	19,402	P Banks	McLaughlin O'Nien Loovens Baldwin James Cattermole	Power McGeady Honeyman Gooch Watmore	Ozturk 49', Maguire 59', Sinclair 79', Oviedo, McGeouch, Maja, Ruiter					
Wed 26	15:00	SBL1	Bradford City	1-0	46,039	D England	McLaughlin O'Nien Flanagan Baldwin Oviedo Power	Cattermole Gooch McGeady1 Maguire Maja	Watmore 76', Wyke 84', McGeouch 87', Ozturk, James Sinclair, Ruiter					
Sat 29	15:00	SBL1	Shrewsbury Town	1-1	33,288	O Langford	McLaughlin O'Nien Flanagan Baldwin Oviedo Cattermole	Power Gooch McGeady Maguire Maja1	James 50', Wyke 55', Watmore 67', Ozturk, McGeouch, Sinclair, Ruiter					
<b>January 2019</b>														
Tue 1	15:00	SBL1	Blackpool	1-0	10,994	D Drysdale	McLaughlin O'Nien Flanagan Baldwin James Power	Cattermole Gooch McGeady Maja1 Wyke	McGeouch 84', Maguire 88', Ozturk, Sinclair, Ruiter, Mumba, Kimpioka					
Sat 5	15:00	SBL1	Charlton Athletic	1-1	16,317	S Martin	McLaughlin O'Nien Flanagan Baldwin James McGeouch	Power Gooch McGeady Wyke Maja	Watmore 67', Maguire 84', Ozturk, Sinclair, Ruiter, Mumba					
Tue 8	19:45	CT	Newcastle United U21s	4-0	16,654	T Harrington	Ruiter O'Nien Ozturk Flanagan James Mumba1	McGeouch Sinclair Maguire1 Watmore Wyke 77'1	Kimpioka 45'1, Molyneux 77', Hackett 83', Stryjek, Diamond, Taylor, Hunter					
Sat 12	15:00	SBL1	Luton Town											
Sat 19	15:00	SBL1	Scunthorpe United											
TBC		SBL1	Gillingham											
<b>February 2019</b>														
Sat 2	15:00	SBL1	AFC Wimbledon											
Sat 9	15:00	SBL1	Oxford United											
Tue 12	19:45	SBL1	Blackpool											
Fri 15	19:45	SBL1	Accrington Stanley											
Sat 23	15:00	SBL1	Bristol Rovers											
<b>March 2019</b>														
Sat 2	15:00	SBL1	Plymouth Argyle											
Sat 9	15:00	SBL1	Wycombe Wanderers											
Tue 12	19:45	SBL1	Barnsley											
Sat 16	15:00	SBL1	Walsall											
Sat 23	15:00	SBL1	Fleetwood Town											
Sat 30	15:00	SBL1	Burton Albion											
<b>April 2019</b>														
Sat 6	15:00	SBL1	Rochdale											
Sat 13	15:00	SBL1	Coventry City											
Fri 19	15:00	SBL1	Doncaster Rovers											
Mon 22	15:00	SBL1	Peterborough United											
Sat 27	15:00	SBL1	Portsmouth											
<b>May 2019</b>														
Sat 4	17:30	SBL1	Southend United											

KEY: HOME GAMES ARE IN BOLD | GOALSCORER1 | BOOKED ■ | SENT-OFF ■ | STARTING XI | FIRST SUB | SECOND SUB | THIRD SUB | OWN GOAL †

\*Sunderland won 4-2 on penalties \*\*Game abandoned due to weather



# SUNDERLAND AFC STATS ZONE

# SKY BET LEAGUE ONE STATS CORNER



## SUNDERLAND AFC ROLL CALL 2018-19

		LEAGUE			LEAGUE CUP/EFL TROPHY			FA CUP			TOTAL		
		St	Sb	Gls	St	Sb	Gls	St	Sb	Gls	St	Sb	Gls
01	Jon McLaughlin	25	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	29	0	0
02	Adam Matthews	15	1	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	18	1	1
03	Bryan Oviedo	9	6	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	12	6	0
04	Glenn Loovens	11	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	0
05	Alim Ozturk	2	3	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	8	3	0
06	Lee Cattermole	17	1	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	18	2	3
07	Chris Maguire	19	6	5	4	0	1	2	0	0	25	6	6
08	Dylan McGeouch	10	6	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	16	6	0
09	Charlie Wyke	3	4	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	5	4	2
10	George Honeyman	18	2	2	2	0	1	2	0	1	22	2	4
11	Lynden Gooch	22	1	5	0	1	0	2	0	1	24	2	6
12	Tom Flanagan	15	1	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	20	1	0
13	Luke O'Nien	6	10	4	5	1	0	2	1	0	13	12	4
14	Duncan Watmore	1	4	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	4	4	1
15	Jack Baldwin	24	0	1	2	0	0	3	0	0	29	0	1
16	Reece James	13	4	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	19	4	0
17	Jerome Sinclair	7	6	1	2	1	1	2	1	0	11	8	2
18	Donald Love	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
19	Aiden McGeady	13	4	6	1	0	0	2	0	1	16	4	7
20	Josh Maja	21	2	14	2	1	1	1	2	0	24	5	15
21	Ethan Robson	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1
24	Jack Bainbridge	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
25	Robbin Ruiters	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	0
27	Max Power	15	2	2	3	0	0	2	1	0	20	3	2
32	Max Stryjek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	Denver Hume	3	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	0
34	Jake Hackett	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	0
35	Luke Molyneux	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	5	0
36	Andrew Nelson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
37	Bali Mumba	2	2	0	2	0	1	0	2	0	4	4	1
39	Jack Diamond	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
40	Brandon Taylor	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
48	Benjamin Kimpioka	0	1	0	1	3	2	0	0	0	1	4	2
29	Elliot Embleton	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

## SKY BET LEAGUE ONE TABLE 2018-19

		P	HOME					AWAY					GD	PTS
			W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A		
1	Portsmouth	26	8	3	2	24	12	9	3	1	22	12	+22	57
2	Luton Town	26	10	3	0	31	9	5	4	4	18	15	+25	52
<b>3</b>	<b>Sunderland</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>+22</b>	<b>51</b>
4	Charlton Athletic	27	9	3	2	23	11	5	2	6	20	20	+12	47
5	Barnsley	25	7	5	0	19	8	6	2	5	21	14	+18	46
6	Doncaster Rovers	26	7	4	2	24	13	6	2	5	23	19	+15	45
7	Peterborough Utd	26	4	5	4	15	18	8	3	2	30	15	+12	44
8	Coventry City	27	6	3	4	13	11	5	2	7	16	20	-2	38
9	Burton Albion	26	7	2	4	18	12	3	3	7	16	21	+1	35
10	Southend United	26	6	1	6	21	14	5	1	7	11	17	+1	35
11	Blackpool	25	6	3	4	17	13	3	5	4	9	12	+1	35
12	Fleetwood Town	26	6	4	3	21	17	3	3	7	14	13	+5	34
13	Accrington Stanley	25	4	4	4	13	17	5	3	5	14	18	-8	34
14	Wycombe Wan.	26	6	3	4	18	15	2	5	6	16	23	-4	32
15	Walsall	26	4	4	5	16	22	4	4	5	12	19	-13	32
16	Shrewsbury Town	26	6	5	2	17	11	1	4	8	12	21	-3	30
17	Scunthorpe United	27	4	4	6	20	30	4	2	7	14	22	-18	30
18	Rochdale	27	4	2	8	13	27	4	4	5	20	29	-23	30
19	Gillingham	26	4	2	7	20	22	4	2	7	16	21	-7	28
20	Bristol Rovers	26	3	3	7	11	16	4	3	6	14	13	-4	27
21	Bradford City	26	5	1	7	16	15	3	2	8	15	25	-9	27
22	Oxford United	26	6	0	7	20	17	0	8	5	11	24	-10	26
23	Plymouth Argyle	26	4	3	6	19	24	2	3	8	12	23	-16	24
24	AFC Wimbledon	26	3	3	7	13	19	3	1	9	7	18	-17	22

### TOP FIVES: TOP SCORERS

John Marquis	Doncaster Rovers	15
Tom Eaves	Gillingham	14
<b>Josh Maja</b>	<b>Sunderland</b>	<b>14</b>
Ian Henderson	Rochdale	13
Karlan Grant	Charlton Athletic	12

### TOP FIVES: MOST YELLOW CARDS

Cameron Brannagan	Oxford United	9
James Perch	Scunthorpe United	9
Ben Whiteman	Doncaster Rovers	9
Jordan Williams	Rochdale	9
Andy Butler	Doncaster Rovers	8

### TOP FIVES: TOP ASSISTS

Ashley Hunter	Fleetwood Town	9
James Coppinger	Doncaster Rovers	8
Ronan Curtis	Portsmouth	8
<b>Lynden Gooch</b>	<b>Sunderland</b>	<b>7</b>
Marcus Maddison	Peterborough United	7

### TOP FIVES: MOST CLEAN-SHEETS

James Shea	Luton Town	11
Adam Davies	Barnsley	10
Mark Howard	Blackpool	10
Alex Cairns	Fleetwood Town	9
Richard O'Donnell	Bradford City	9

COMING SOON

# SCUNTHORPE UNITED

SATURDAY 19 JANUARY - 3PM

FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION OF TODAY'S BIG BATTLE ON WEARSIDE, SUNDERLAND WILL TURN THEIR ATTENTIONS TO A TRIP TO SCUNTHORPE UNITED NEXT WEEKEND.

With no midweek match, for a change, Jack Ross' side will get the chance to get plenty of rest as they recover from a demanding festive schedule.

Having travelled to Portsmouth, Blackpool and Charlton recently, the Lads have also played three home matches in the last three weeks.

While the Black Cats booked their place in the last eight of the Checktrade Trophy on Tuesday, as they defeated Newcastle United Under-21s, Ross' men have picked up eight points from 18 in the race for promotion to the Championship.

Sunderland head to Glanford Park having suffered just two defeats on the road this season.

Losing at Portsmouth and Burton Albion, the Lads have since responded with a win at Blackpool and a draw at promotion rivals Charlton Athletic.

Backed by another sold out away attendance - our 15th of the season - Sunderland will be roared on by more than 2,500 fans at Glanford Park next Saturday.



Earlier in the season, the Black Cats raced out of the traps and into a 3-0 lead at the break as Max Power, Josh Maja and Chris Maguire got themselves on the scoresheet.

It was also the first league meeting between the two clubs in over 50 years, with the last encounter against the Iron ending in a 1-0 victory to the Lads in 1963.

Proceeding Scunthorpe away, the Lads would've faced Gillingham at the Stadium of Light, however, that

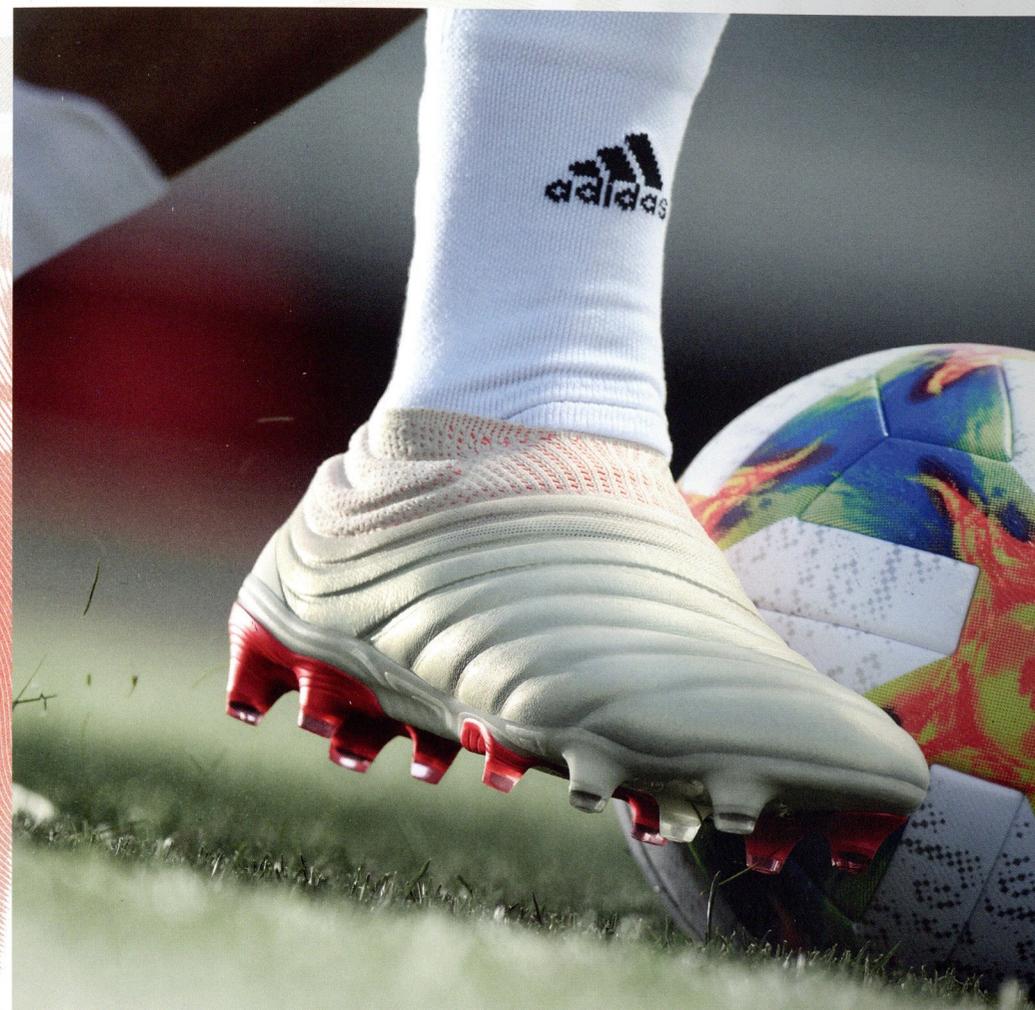
match has been postponed due to their progression in the Emirates FA Cup.

So, that means that next up on Wearside is AFC Wimbledon, who travel to the North East on Saturday 2 February.

Tickets for the match are on sale now, with adult tickets available from £18.

Thank you for reading, and we'll see you soon!

# C O P A



R E D E F I N E  
T O U C H

WITH COPA AT [ADIDAS.COM/FOOTBALL](https://www.adidas.com/football)



**MANAGER:** Jack Ross

Jon **McLAUGHLIN** ● 01  
Adam **MATTHEWS** ● 02  
Bryan **OVIEDO** ● 03  
Glenn **LOOVENS** ● 04  
Alim **OZTURK** ● 05  
Lee **CATTERMOLE** ● 06  
Chris **MAGUIRE** ● 07  
Dylan **McGEOUCH** ● 08  
Charlie **WYKE** ● 09  
George **HONEYMAN** ● 10  
Lynden **GOOCH** ● 11  
Tom **FLANAGAN** ● 12  
Luke **O'NIEN** ● 13  
Duncan **WATMORE** ● 14  
Jack **BALDWIN** ● 15  
Reece **JAMES** ● 16  
Jerome **SINCLAIR** ● 17  
Donald **LOVE** ● 18  
Aiden **McGEADY** ● 19  
Josh **MAJA** ● 20  
Ethan **ROBSON** ● 21  
Robbin **RUITER** ● 25  
Max **POWER** ● 27  
Elliot **EMBLETON** ● 29  
Jimmy **DUNNE** ● 30  
Max **STRYJEK** ● 32  
Denver **HUME** ● 33  
Jake **HACKETT** ● 34  
Luke **MOLYNEUX** ● 35  
Andrew **NELSON** ● 36  
Bali **MUMBA** ● 37  
Brandon **TAYLOR** ● 40



01 ● Marek **STECH**  
02 ● James **JUSTIN**  
03 ● Dan **POTTS**  
04 ● Alan **McCORMACK**  
05 ● Sonny **BRADLEY**  
06 ● Matty **PEARSON**  
07 ● Jack **STACEY**  
08 ● Luke **BERRY**  
09 ● Danny **HYLTON**  
10 ● Elliot **LEE**  
11 ● Andrew **SHINNIE**  
14 ● Harry **CORNICK**  
16 ● Glen **REA**  
17 ● Pelly Ruddock **MPANZU**  
18 ● Jorge **GRANT**  
19 ● James **COLLINS**  
21 ● Jack **SENIOR**  
24 ● George **THORNE**  
25 ● Kazenga **LUALUA**  
27 ● Aaron **JARVIS**  
28 ● Lloyd **JONES**  
34 ● Jack **JAMES**  
35 ● Arthur **READ**  
36 ● James **SHEA**  
40 ● Harry **ISTED**  
44 ● Alan **SHEEHAN**  
48 ● Josh **NEUFVILLE**

## TODAY'S MATCH OFFICIALS

  
REFEREE:  
Lee Probert

  
ASSISTANT:  
Andrew Garratt

  
ASSISTANT:  
Steven Meredith

  
FOURTH OFFICIAL:  
Darren England