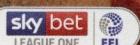


# THIS IS OUR TOWN



OFFICIAL LTFC MATCHDAY PROGRAMME  
2018-19 SEASON | ISSUE #24  
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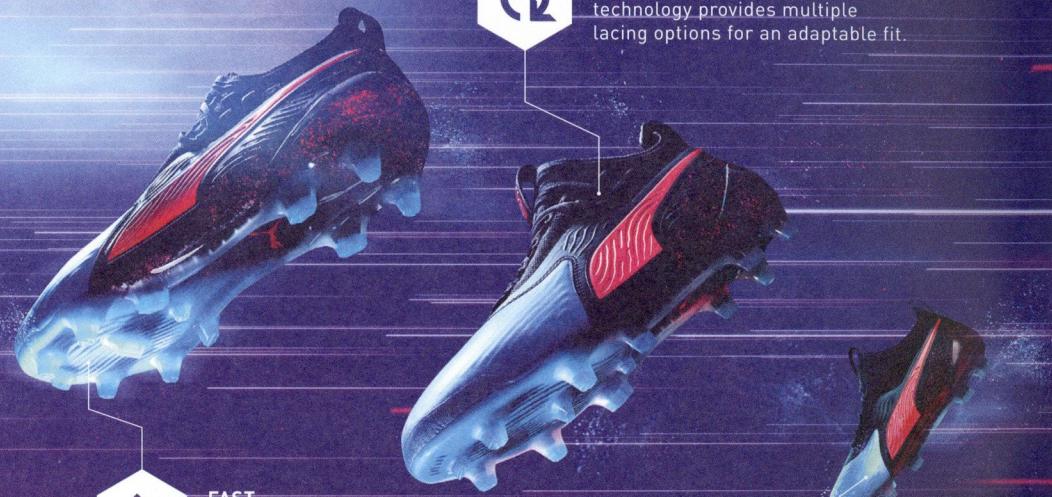
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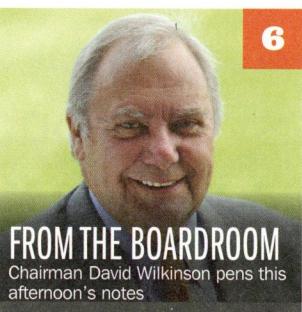
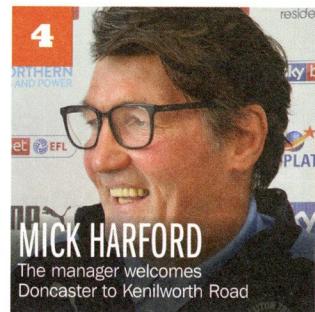
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Thoughts, feedback and announcements are welcome by post, phone or email #COYH

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

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# THE MANAGER

## MICK HARFORD

**Welcome back to Kenilworth Road for this afternoon's Sky Bet League One fixture with Doncaster Rovers.**

It's a game that many people will be looking at today, bearing in mind our respective positions towards the top of the division, and especially with there not being any Premier League or Championship action due to the international break.

Doncaster are a very dangerous outfit, as we saw earlier in the season when we played them at the Keepmoat Stadium. I made what I thought would be a one-off return to the dugout that day as interim assistant-manager after Paul Hart had left to rejoin Notts County, but little did we know about what would lie in store a few months down the line!

I'd like to welcome Grant McCann, his staff and his team down to Luton and wish them a safe journey back to Yorkshire tonight. Grant is doing a good job up there and we know we face another tough encounter today.

I have to keep repeating what I've said consistently since becoming interim manager in January. The players here are great group to work with and they – and the staff – deserve to take any credit that comes in our direction.

The dressing room manages itself for the most part and my toughest job in recent weeks has been having to pick which players to have on the bench, and which ones unfortunately won't be involved.

We miss James Collins today because of his international call-up for the Republic of Ireland – and we all wish him well against Gibraltar tonight and Georgia in midweek – but that presents an opportunity for someone else to come in.

The players have all had to be training to the highest levels to be ready to take that chance, and they know they will all have a part to play in the coming weeks.

I thought we deserved more than a point from last week's game against Gillingham on the chances we created, but they played their part in a good game and we know we'll come up against teams fighting for everything to stay in the division, like Gillingham were. Today will be just as tough a test for the opposite reason.

Finally, I was privileged to help kick-off the Community Trust's tournament for the men's disability team at Ely Way on Tuesday. It was fantastic to see those lads getting out and showing their love of the game under this football club's badge.

I took inspiration from them and I know many of the guys will be here today, as several of them came to me and gave me their thoughts on last week's game. They love this club and I wish those who are playing for the LTFC disability team tomorrow in the regional finals of the FA People's Cup the very best of luck.

Please show the first team here today the wonderful support that you always do – and if any of you can get over to Kempston Rovers in the morning to support those lads as they bid to get to the national finals at St George's Park, even better.

Enjoy the game. COYH!



# FROM THE BOARDROOM

WITH CHAIRMAN DAVID WILKINSON

**Good afternoon everyone.**

A warm welcome to you all and especially our visitors from Doncaster Rovers. It was a close fought encounter at the Keepmoat in September, which Donny won 2-1.

We enjoyed a lot of the play and created many chances, but a deflected goal proved to be the decider after Elliot Lee had equalised with a close-range header. Donny have plenty to play for as they are currently in sixth place at the bottom end of the play-off zone with a game in hand. We look forward to an exciting game in front of another capacity crowd in the Kenny.

It has been an active few weeks both on and off the field. I must add my congratulations to Gary, Mike, Shaun and the team for their tremendous performance at the Planning Committee hearing, which culminated in permission being granted for our game changing plans at Newlands Park, and to our playing squad for bringing back four points from the recent punishing away schedule. So much in our club goes on behind the scenes that it is easy to underestimate and undervalue the work that is involved in creating what we all see – the end result.

We on the Board see some of it, maybe enough to fire our imaginations, but even that is just the tip of the iceberg. We hear reactions to the granting of planning permission on an evening in March, which was the result of years of thinking, talking, planning, learning, consulting, managing, battling, selling, promoting, financing, buying, employing, testing, analysing, defending, wishing, hoping, doubting, fearing and eventually cheering – but they can never do justice to what has gone before and we are still only just at the end of the beginning.

We reiterate that even though this is a fantastic result, there is much more to do before we can put a spade in the ground to start the stadium.

While we are on the subject of hard work, we are so proud that Collo has made the Ireland squad. It is so well deserved for his effort and determination and we are keeping our fingers crossed that he plays tonight against Gibraltar.

And then there's Pelly, what a character! Doesn't score many, but is up for 2018 goal of the season. What a cracker it was against Crewe last season! If you agree, voting closes at midnight tomorrow. He deserves it.

Tuesday was EFL Day of Action and our part in it was to hold a competition at Ely Way for our Every Player Counts Disability team. Mick, Sonny Bradley and James Shea joined in and were there to present prizes to the winners. It was a fantastic few hours and showed how football can help to bring people with all kinds of disabilities together in the fresh air, on grass to have fun and socialise. For me it was incredibly moving to see so much joy from all those involved. (For those who can, there is a great short clip on the club website, YouTube and social media channels showing some of the action)

It's probably not possible for our younger fans to realise how only a few decades ago disabilities, learning or physical, were a barrier to participating in what is now justifiably tagged the beautiful game. Many of you may have watched Harry Redknapp's Full English on TV this week and seen the forlorn distress of Paul Merson when talking of his gambling addiction.



We know that this has blighted a significant number of players over the years, and it is so encouraging that Paul and others now feel able to speak out without fear of stigma or judgement.

The players' boot and glove auction for Kids in Action raised almost £2,500, including an amazing £148 for Matty's magic hat, an old straw boater that had been lying around the media and marketing team's office for years until Matty signed it.

All these show the good that football can do towards social advancement.

*"Disability is the inability to see ability"* Vikas Khanna.

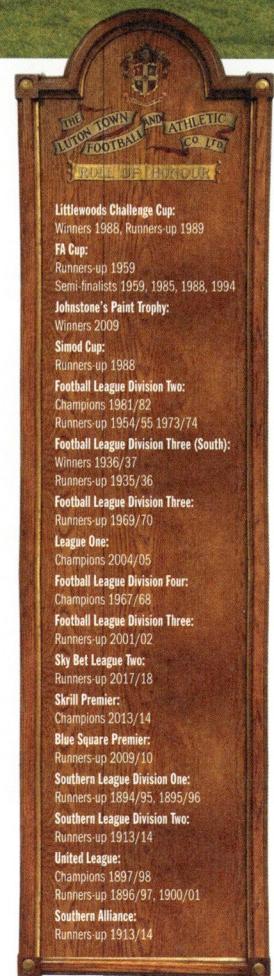
Finally, the tenth anniversary of our JPT win against Scunthorpe is only a week away. It has special significance for us in 2020 and, of course, Mick. There were so many reasons for making it so. It was the end of our first season as custodians of the club, which had been at the wrong end of so much adversity and injustice and was going to find itself out of the Football League. No club before or since had suffered such a punishment, but we are made of sterner stuff and 42,000 bought tickets to the Final at Wembley. At the time it was a record attendance from a single club and reminded us of our future potential.

Mick was our manager and despite a superhuman effort we had failed to make up the 30 points deducted by the FA and Football League, but we won with a squad built from scratch at the start of the season. A win, which at least temporarily lifted the gloom surrounding the club. It was an important part of our journey; a day we'll never forget and I for one am looking forward to reliving the occasion at the beginning of April.

Enjoy the game.

Come On You Hatters!

*Dan*



# PELLY UP FOR GOAL OF 2018!

Hatters midfielder Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu's strike against Crewe last season - which won him the Sky Bet League Two Goal of the Month award for April - has been shortlisted for Goal of 2018 at the upcoming EFL Awards.

Last season the award was brought back to Kenilworth Road by Olly Lee for his stunning 70-yard 'Goal from another post code' against Cambridge in November 2017.

This time around it's Pelly's turn as he approaches his double century of appearances in a Town shirt, with today set to be his 199th.

It was the absolute rocket he struck late on in our 3-1 win over Crewe on April 14th last year - in his 151st game for the club - that has seen him shortlisted for this award.

You can remind yourself of the goal on our website and YouTube channels - and can see all ten shortlisted on the EFL website [www.efl.com/GOTY2018](http://www.efl.com/GOTY2018) - and can vote at [www.bit.ly/PellyGOTY](http://www.bit.ly/PellyGOTY) before midnight tomorrow.

#### The ten goals on the shortlist are:

League Two - **Maxime Biamou**

**Coventry City** v Swindon Town 20th January

Championship - **Connor Hourihane**

**Aston Villa** v Birmingham 11th February

League One - **Lewis Page**

**Charlton Athletic** v Plymouth 24th March

Championship - **Ruben Neves**

**Wolves** v Derby 11th April

Championship - **Jack Grealish**

**Aston Villa** v Cardiff City - 11th April

League Two - **Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu**

**Luton Town** v Crewe 14th April

Championship - **John McGinn**

**Aston Villa** v Sheff W 22nd September



League Two – **Danny Mayor**  
**Bury** v Grimsby 8th September

Championship – **Adam Reach**  
**Sheff W** v West Brom 3rd October

League One – **Cauley Woodrow**  
**Barnsley** v Peterborough 26th December

The top five goals will be revealed week commencing 1st April, with the overall winner of the competition being voted for and revealed at this year's EFL Awards on Sunday 7th April at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London.

And we reckon Pelly deserves the neutral's vote just for THAT shirt he wore when he picked up his Goal of the Month award before heading off on holiday at the end of last season!

Well done, Pelly!



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# EFL DAY OF ACTION 2019

**The Luton Town Community Trust hosted a fantastic tournament for the Every Player Counts Adult PAN Disability team at Ely Way on Tuesday afternoon as part of the EFL's Day of Action, with Mick Harford, Sonny Bradley and James Shea getting involved.**

**Around 40 members of the Hatters team took part, all of different ages and backgrounds, showcasing their skills – with Bradley and Shea getting in on the action as they joined in the games.**

After setting up Nicky Toone to score the tournament's winning goal, James said: "I really enjoy it. Me and Sonny have come down here and played a bit of football and you can see the smiles on everyone's faces.

"We have Nicky down at the training ground every Thursday and he was a part of the tournament today. He's a great lad Nicky – he's brilliant to be around. You can see what it meant to him when he scored the goal!"

"It's just great to come down and put some smiles on faces. It's hard not to feel a part of the community and the town as a player when we're representing the club at events like this.

## Inspiring

"You see what's going on both on and off the pitch, what the club is doing for the whole town. It's unbelievable, it's just moving everything forward. Everyone wants to be a part of it."

Mick also enjoyed the afternoon, sharing some inspiring words and taking questions from several of the players who all had an opinion on his substitutions in matches, player recruitment and – in hat-trick scorer Damian's case – his eyesight!

After claiming his glasses back from the disability team's talisman, Mick said: "Damian's scored three and he's a top man. I'm honoured to be here.

"It's inspirational to see the guys out there running around. They don't get a lot of time outdoors and they come here and they do inspire me and everyone else in the town. It's a real special day.

"I know they train on a weekly basis, but this is the annual EFL Day of Action to showcase what the Community Trust do, and it's great to see them having a good time. I'm honoured to be in attendance.

"Nicky is part of our squad. We are thinking about giving him a number! He comes down every Thursday, has breakfast with us. He comes out and collects the balls.

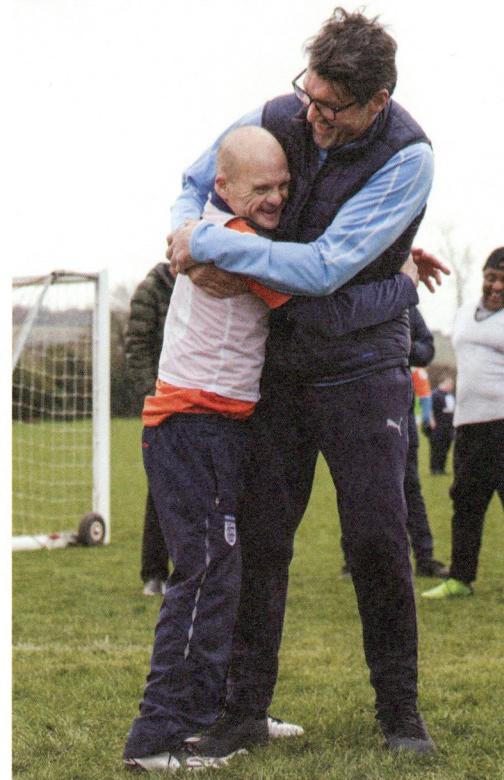
"Kevin Dearden looks after him and his father Terry picks him up after he's had his lunch, so Nicky is part of our squad and to be fair, one of the other lads over there has just pulled me aside and said 'You should have made the substitution a bit earlier on Saturday!'

"I asked him where he sat and he said he sits in the Enclosure, so I think he's one of the rowdy ones – but I reckon he's probably right actually, so fair play to him!"

The Hatters legend spent well over an hour joining in with the lads, and he added: "Luton Town Football Club is in the heart of the community. The people who organise and run these events for the Community Trust need a pat on the back and we will carry on doing this. Just bringing the lads here to the old training ground and seeing them play, it's absolutely inspirational."

As well as Mick, Sonny and James, we hosted guests from the EFL Trust, the Wembley National Stadium Trust who sponsor the Every Player Counts programme, Bedfordshire FA and reporters from Sky Sports, ITV and The Guardian.

Hopefully you'll have spotted some of the coverage in recent days both on club channels and in the national media, giving the Luton Town Community Trust and the work they do some much-deserved publicity!



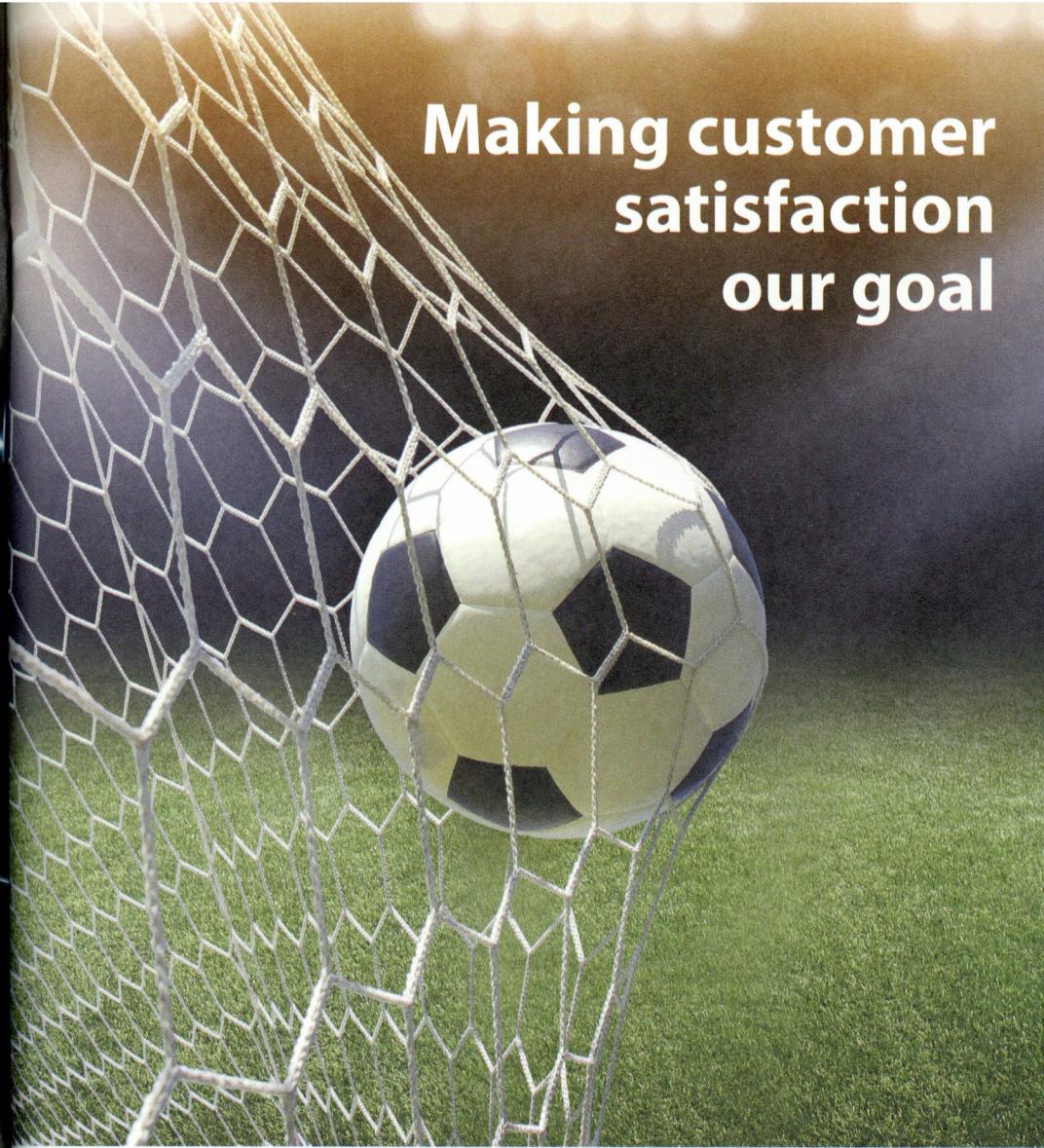
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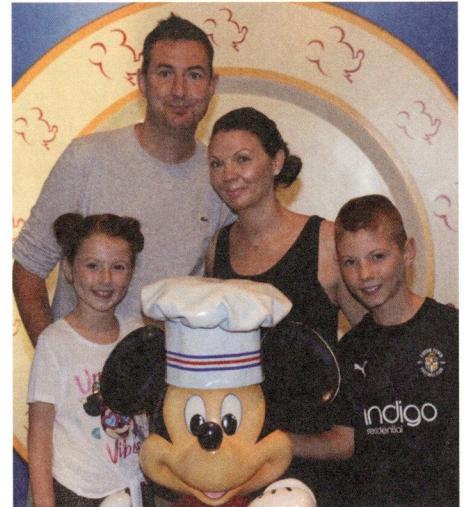
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## HAPPY 40TH ELLIOTT!

We were sent this message by ten-year-old Reece Kenyon, who along with his sister Bethany, is a mascot today as together with mum Jacqui, the family celebrate dad Elliott's birthday!

'Happy birthday to my now 40-year-old dad. Wow – he's getting old! My dad has been going all his life and now so am I. His first game was in 1986 against Man U when we drew 1-1, whereas mine was v Southport. He has seen us win the Paint final and the League Cup final. He's Luton for life and named my middle name after Kevin Nicholls. I'll never forget some of the games I've been to with him, like going to Walsall away and Portsmouth at home. Thanks dad and I hope you enjoy today. COYH!'

Great words Reece, and happy birthday Elliott!



## HAPPY 38TH STEVEN!



All at Kenilworth Road hope that dedicated Hatters supporter Steven Suarez has a wonderful birthday.

His fiancee Julie Bartlett got in touch with TIOT to say: "Steven is going to be 38 and he has been to every home and away, with his son Daniel Tiffen. They are both Diamond season ticket holders and even when he was in hospital, he got leave to go to the game! For away games he travels with the Bobbers Travel Club. Love from his fiancée Julie and his children Daniel, Skye and Storm, and his step-children Alfie, Angel and Bobby."

## BERYL SLATER (nee Francome)

We are sorry to report the passing of long-time supporter Beryl Slater (nee Francome), who worked for the club for 16 years from the beginning of the 1950s as an assistant in the players' canteen.

Beryl lost her battle with cancer on March 4th, aged 86 years. She and her husband, Bob, who passed away last April had one daughter, Joanne, and a granddaughter, Eleanor. They have been living in Newmarket, Suffolk for the past 15 years and are pictured on their wedding day in 1953.

"The highlight of her career at LTFC was the 1959 Cup Final when she sat directly in front of the Queen, albeit several rows further down," said Beryl's brother Alan. "After the match they went for a banquet at the Park Lane Hotel and then on to



the London Palladium, where Flanagan and Allen made a joke about straw boaters being discarded in Wembley Way!"

The thoughts of all at Kenilworth Road are with Beryl's family and friends at this sad time.



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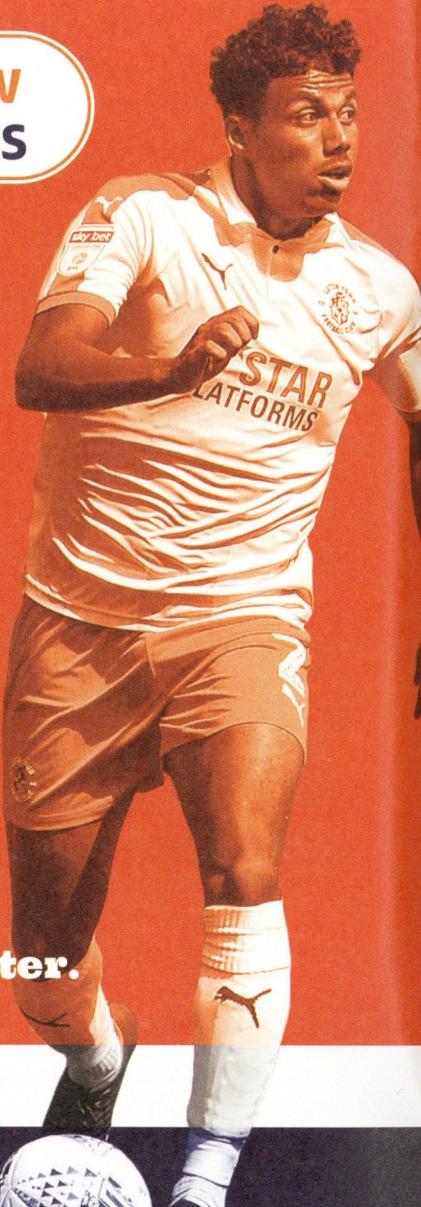
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[ALL-TIME XI]

4-3-3



## **INIGO IDIAKEZ'S ALL-TIME XI**

**Big mix in this one. Some world class talent in there.  
Decent team from interim first team coach Inigo Idiakerez.**

### **Kelvin Davies**

**Played with at: Southampton**

He was solid. A good shot stopper, a captain, a leader. I think he played a lot of games for Southampton and he was consistent.

### **Aitor Lopez Recarte**

**Played with at: Real Sociedad**

Played with him for ten years and he was amazing. Great one-against-one and was like a winger going forward. Defensively he was so quick. The best going forward I have seen.

### **Tom Huddlestone**

**Played with at: Derby County**

I remember the first time I played with him was a trial with Derby, he played centre midfield, it was a disaster. George Burley moved him to centre back and he was incredible. He reads the game really well. The quality of the pass he has is incredible.

### **Aitor Karanka**

**Played with at: Spain Under-21s**

We played at the Olympics together, we played in the European Cup Under-23s final. Good with the ball, a proper defender. Left footed, which is difficult to find.

### **Agustín Aranzábal**

**Played with at: Real Sociedad**

The best left-back Sociedad have had in the last 30 years. Going forward he was amazing. He was 6ft 3in, but the quality of crosses and taking people on, he was brilliant.

### **Xabi Alonso**

**Played with at: Real Sociedad**

Everyone knows the quality he has. He ran the show all the time. A good friend of mine, he is so humble and he works hard.



Xabi Alonso

### **Adam Lallana**

**Played with at: Southampton**

At 17 he was incredible in terms of reading the game and breaking the line. Has a bit of pace. I played against Zidane and I can compare Adam with him, in terms of the first touch.

### **Jorge Valdivia**

**Played with at: Rayo Vallecano**

He's from Chile, he wasn't known as a good player when I was with him, but he went back to Chile and he is one of the best players ever for them. I didn't know about it at the time.

### **Gareth Bale**

**Played with at: Southampton**

He played left-back, but he was amazing. He can play right wing in this team though. Nobody can catch him, he was too good. He's doing really well.

### **Javier De Pedro**

**Played with at: Real Sociedad**

He played at the World Cup. Getting crosses in, he put it on the striker's head. The quality he has, he's incredible.

### **Raul**

**Played with at: Spain Under-21s**

Goals. Goals. Goals. He had the brain, he was clever. His movement was clever between the defenders. He was always there to score.

# COMMERCIAL

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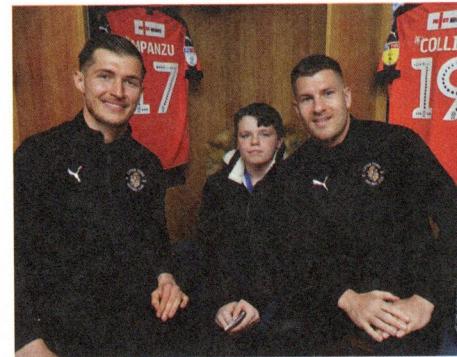
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## EXECUTIVE BOX HOLDERS



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# WELCOME DONCASTER ROVERS

**The Hatters would like to extend a warm welcome to today's visiting staff, players and supporters from Yorkshire based outfit, Doncaster Rovers.**

A side who have been through the mire and recovered – much like the Hatters – Donny suffered under what we will call an 'interesting' ownership, falling into the Conference. They spent five years in Non-League before achieving successive promotions, finding themselves in League One in 2004.

Spells in the Championship before falling back down the pyramid to League Two followed, securing third tier status once again in 2017.

John Marquis' goals were huge in that success and are once again vital in Donny's push for a play-off spot this campaign. Their form since the turn of the year hasn't been ideal though, and their once comfortable spot in the top six is coming under threat.

Just three league wins since New Year's Day and with no victory in their last six, Grant McCann's side need to reverse this slide or a punt at Championship football might not be on the cards come May.

Their first half of the season was hugely impressive and came as a little bit of a surprise to some



## FACTFILE:

NICKNAME: DONNY  
GROUND: KEEPMOAT STADIUM  
MANAGER: GRANT McCANN  
LAST SEASON: 15TH IN LEAGUE ONE

## HEAD-TO-HEAD

LUTON WINS:	11
DRAWS:	6
DONCASTER WINS:	8
LAST MEETING:	DONCASTER 2-1 LUTON - SEPTEMBER 2018

# MEET THE SQUAD

## GOALKEEPER

### LOUIS JONES AGE: 20

The young keeper has forced his way into the number two position this season, gaining some good Football League match day experience from the bench.



## DEFENDERS

### DANNY ANDREW AGE: 28

Progressed through Peterborough United's youth system while the Posh played in the Championship. The Defender is well-known for his set-piece taking ability.

### TOM ANDERSON AGE: 25

Struggled to find game time at Burnley after he signed professionally in 2012. After a considerable amount of time on-loan, Rovers signed the defender at the start of the season.

## THE STOPPER

### Marko Marosi Age: 25

The Slovakian has taken full advantage of an injury hit season to Donny number one Ian Lawlor, asserting himself as the main man between the sticks. A gameless run at Wigan Athletic meant the keeper was able to link up with Rovers on a free deal in 2014, working his way into the side over the last few seasons. The shot-stopper was also lucky enough to represent Slovakia at youth level in 2014. Now on four shut outs for the campaign, one of which coming against promotion chasing Barnsley last week, Marosi will be looking to add one more to his list this afternoon.

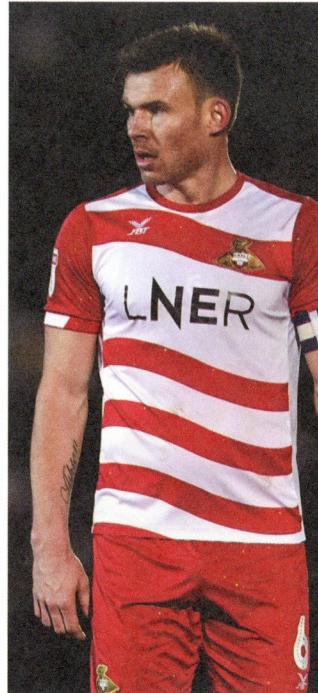


## DID YOU KNOW?

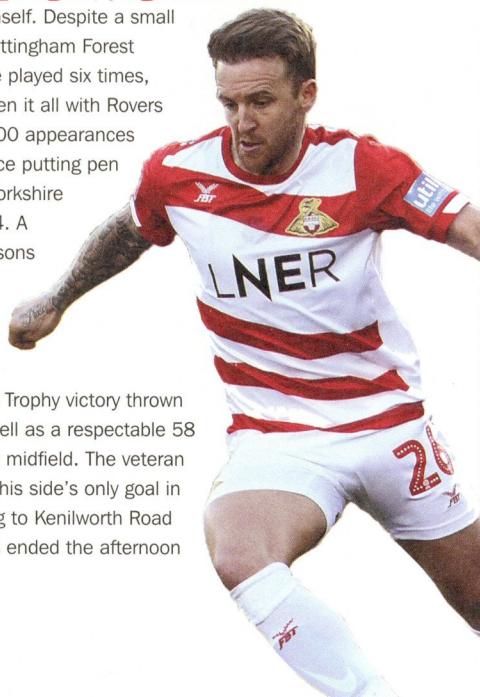
Whilst Doncaster's men's team have spent a majority of their time fighting it out in the lower reaches of the EFL, Doncaster Rovers Belles are one of the most successful women's teams in the country. As one of only three non-London teams to have scooped the FA Women's Premier League National Division, the club was founded by Golden Goals lottery ticket seller Sheila Stocks in 1969. She played for the club for 25 years, retiring in 1994 after they won the Women's FA Cup final.

**THE WALL****Andy Butler**  
**Age: 35**

Born in Doncaster, it wasn't until much later in his career that the defender earned a move to his home-town club, signing for Rovers in 2014. Butler enjoyed his most successful run at Scunthorpe United, helping the club climb from League Two to the Championship across four seasons. The 35-year-old has spent time with Huddersfield Town, Blackpool and Sheffield United before his move to Doncaster was made permanent after a solid loan spell. The centre-half was a vital part of the Rovers team to win promotion from League Two in 2016-17, playing 46 matches in total.

**IN THE MIDDLE****James Coppinger** | **Age: 38**

Mr Doncaster himself. Despite a small loan spell with Nottingham Forest in 2012 where he played six times, Coppinger has seen it all with Rovers with more than 500 appearances under his belt since putting pen to paper for the Yorkshire side back in 2004. A whopping 15 seasons with Donny has seen three promotions, two relegations and a Football League Trophy victory thrown into the mix, as well as a respectable 58 league goals from midfield. The veteran midfielder netted his side's only goal in Rovers' last outing to Kenilworth Road where the Hatters ended the afternoon as 3-1 winners.

**PAUL DOWNING**  
**Age: 27**

Signed in January on a six-month loan deal from Blackburn Rovers, playing every match since his arrival. Played a big part in Blackburn's promotion from the division last season.

**AARON LEWIS**  
**Age: 20**

Another loan signing from January's window. The young Welshman comes in for some valuable first team action while away from Swansea City over the next six months.

**MIDFIELDERS****BENJAMIN WHITEMAN**  
**Age: 22**

A former Manchester United and Sheffield United academy player. Scored the winning goal in the Hatters' 2-1 defeat against Rovers at the Keepmoat.

**TOMMY ROWE**  
**Age: 30**

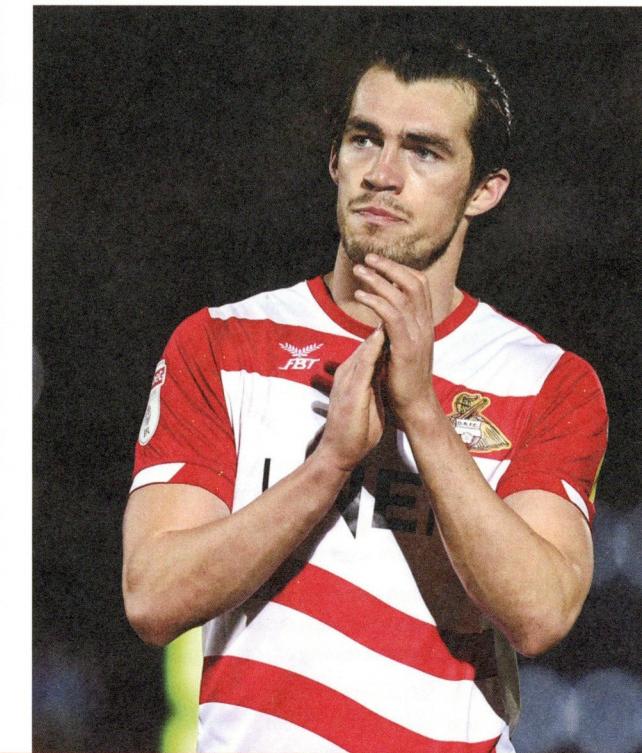
A key component of Darren Ferguson's Peterborough team to win promotion back to the Championship in 2010-11. Played alongside the current gaffer Grant McCann that season.

**ALISTER CRAWFORD**  
**Age: 27**

The Scot began his career with Hamilton Academical in a spell lasting nine seasons with the Accies. Won promotion with the Scottish club to the SPL in 2013-14.

**WATCH OUT****John Marquis** | **Age: 26**

Marquis currently sits just behind James Collins in the Sky Bet League One Top Scorers leader board on 18 for the season. The forward was born in Lewisham and began his career with local club Millwall. When first team opportunities failed to arise at the Den, Marquis ended up on-loan at several clubs before signing with Rovers in 2016. The striker has netted 62 times in all competitions since his arrival, firing in an impressive 26 to send Donny up in his first full season in Yorkshire. His efforts that season were rewarded with a place in the PFA League Two Team of the Season, alongside Danny Hylton.

**IN NUMBERS...**

<b>Stadium capacity:</b>	<b>15,231</b>
<b>Miles from Kenilworth Road:</b>	<b>137</b>
<b>Year opened:</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>Average crowd this season:</b>	<b>7,994</b>
<b>Seasons in League One:</b>	<b>2</b>

**HERBIE KANE**  
**Age: 20**

Currently on-loan from Liverpool having graduated from their youth academy. Kane has managed to score four goals so far this term and has represented England U17s.

**MATTY BLAIR**  
**Age: 29**

The man who broke the hearts of more than 30,000 Luton fans at Wembley when he scored York City's winner to send them up to League Two from the Conference.

**STRIKERS****MALLIK WILKS**  
**Age: 20**

On a season-long loan from Leeds United. Assisted Accrington Stanley at the beginning of their promotion winning season last term. Scored three in three at the beginning of this season.

**ALFIE MAY**  
**Age: 25**

Part of the Rovers side to win promotion from League Two in 2016-17, scoring Rovers' equaliser to ensure the points were shared in the Hatters last trip to the Keepmoat.

**TYLER SMITH**  
**Age: 20**

Described by Grant McCann as a "star in the making", Smith is currently on-loan from Sheffield United, scoring twice in eight matches.

# CLASSIC CLASH WITH DONNY

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH Delves into his archives...

APRIL 30TH 1955 • DONCASTER ROVERS 0 LUTON TOWN 3

**The Town opened the new 1954/55 season adopting a 'continental' style of strip (round neck collar and tight fitting) not previously seen worn by a British club, and also pinching an idea used successfully by the Hungarians - that of using a deep lying centre-forward.**

With the now fit-again Jesse Pye filling the role, the Hatters, after another stuttering start, won six games in a row and promotion talk soon filled the pubs and clubs of the town. But the first bombshell of the new season was about to be dropped when Pye asked for a transfer and moved to Derby in early October 1954

With no ready-made replacement, a variety of permutations were used including Terry Kelly and Peter MacEwan, but after what was to be the only home defeat of the season, against Swansea on 30th October, the drastic decision was taken to switch wing-half Bob Morton to centre-forward.

Morton – relishing his new position – scored twice in his first game in the new role in a 3-3 draw at Notts County and the team began to fire on all cylinders again with ace goalscorer Gordon Turner now given more freedom.

The Town embarked on a spell of ten games undefeated which saw them take over top spot and earn rave reviews with their wins at Nottingham Forest (5-1), Hull (4-0) and Rotherham in the FA Cup (5-1).

The scintillating form could not be maintained and the Town became part of a group of clubs tightly packed at the top of the table, and as the season neared its end it could be seen that the Hatters had to face and overcome several of their chief rivals if promotion was to be won.

Easter came, as did a crowd of 25,775 to Kenilworth Road on Good Friday, who witnessed a disappointing 0-0 draw with Leeds. Undeterred, a best-of-the season 27,148 turned up the following day to see West Ham beaten 2-0.

It was following this game that the season started to turn sour, as in the return with Leeds on Easter Monday, the Town were thrashed 4-0 with big John Charles hammering two from the penalty spot.

The Hatters were now in the middle of an epidemic of penalty kicks awarded against them, but in the next game Blackburn's Bobby Langton shot wide as Luton luckily hung on to a point in a 0-0 draw at Ewood Park.

The crunch game followed at Birmingham where a crowd of 34,612 saw the Blues win 2-1 with the clinching goal coming after a dubious penalty award.

This defeat left the Town with three games to play and needing to win them all to stand a realistic chance of promotion. At a round table conference, the players agreed that experience was needed for the run-in with the result that Charlie Watkins, who was due to emigrate to South Africa at the season's end, was recalled to form a left wing partnership with Jim Pemberton, who had been moved from the half-back line leaving the way clear for Morton to return to probably his best position.

These unorthodox moves had 'gamble' written all over them, but they paid off as Port Vale were



A confident Town side run out at Belle Vue

hammered 4-2 at Kenilworth Road followed by Bristol Rovers, beaten 2-0 in a clash that saw Watkins score both in a fairytale end to his last Luton home game.

The final game of the campaign was a trip to Doncaster where two special trains were chartered and amongst the supporters was our esteemed Honorary Vice-President John Buttle who, along with everyone else, knew that only a victory would do.

As it turned out the Town enjoyed a surprisingly comfortable victory with Peter MacEwan heading home from a Seamus Dunne cross in the first minute to settle the nerves and firing in a second 14 minutes later.

By the half-hour mark Pemberton had added a third and although Rovers attacked constantly in the second period, the Town held out with little trouble and at the final whistle needed to wait patiently for results elsewhere.

Rotherham were the main danger, winning seven in a row in a late bid, and if they had won at Port Vale on the day the Hatters were at Belle Vue, they would (should the Town also win) be virtually guaranteed promotion being level on points with a game to play.

With the Millers losing 1-0 at Vale Park they were awarded a penalty which was saved by Vale's Ray

<b>LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB</b> EST 1885	<b>D.R.F.C.</b>
BAYNHAM	HARDWICK
DUNNE	MAKEPEACE
AHERNE	GAVIN
MORTON	TEASDALE
OWEN	WILLIAMS
SHANKS	HERBERT
DAVIES	TINDILL
TURNER	JEFFREY
MACEWAN	J WALKER
WATKINS	McMORAN
PEMBERTON	G WALKER

King, later to become a Hatters coach. The Town had to wait ten agonising minutes to find out if they were up on goal average, as Rotherham would have now needed to win their final game by a cricket score

This turn of events actually put the Town in top spot, but they were pipped for the championship, again on goal average, by Birmingham who won their final game the following week. This, incidentally, was the only time the Blues had led the table all season.

The Town were now in the top flight for the first time in their history. An exciting but, at the same time, frightening prospect.

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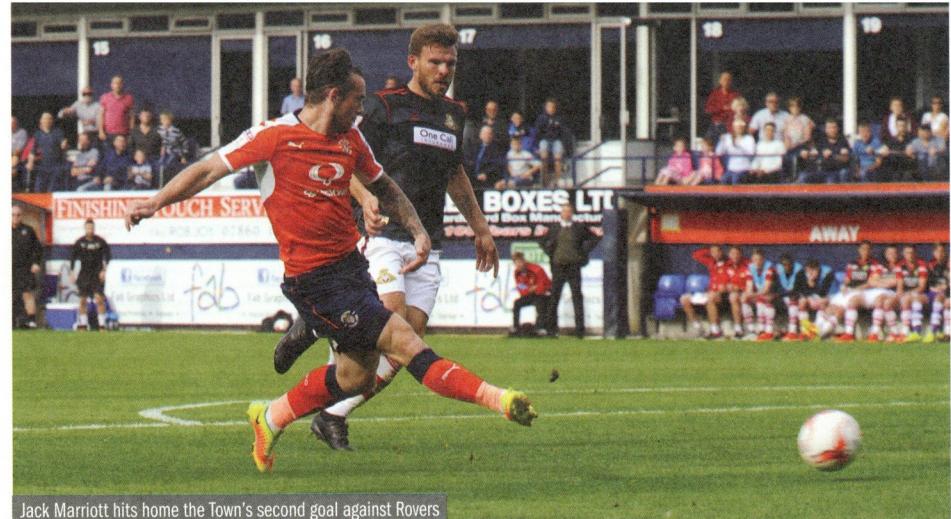
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Jack Marriott hits home the Town's second goal against Rovers

## THE LAST TIME DONCASTER CAME TO TOWN

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH REPORTS ON DONNY'S LAST VISIT TO KENILWORTH ROAD

**24TH SEPTEMBER 2016 • LUTON TOWN 3 DONCASTER 1**

### LEAGUE TWO

After the Town won 3-0 at Home Park on the opening day of the 2016/17 campaign, it looked like we could be in for a good season but inconsistent form, where it proved to be difficult to put an unbeaten run together, meant that we were always playing catch-up for one of the automatic promotion places.

The Hatters had dropped to seventh spot following a 2-0 defeat at Crawley, which was not the best preparation for the visit of second-placed Doncaster, who were pushing for an immediate return to League One.

In truth, Doncaster were all over the Hatters for the opening 20 minutes, missing several opportunities to put the game to bed before James Coppinger netted on 21 minutes. Luton skipper Scott Cuthbert injured his neck while trying to prevent the goal, and the subsequent seven-minute stoppage seemed to upset Rovers' rhythm and galvanise the Town in equal measure, leading to a far better Hatters performance for the rest of the game.

Cameron McGeehan levelled the score on 36 minutes when he took advantage of a low driven cross from Olly Lee, and five minutes later Jack Marriott latched on to a clever Danny Hylton back-heel before smashing the ball home.

The game was made safe with ten minutes to go when Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu was tripped in the area by Donny's Joe Wright, leaving McGeehan to confidently net the subsequent penalty.

The final action of the game saw Hylton dismissed for dissent (throwing a litter picker off the pitch) after being refused a free-kick when he was bundled over the advertising hoardings.

**Luton Town:** Walton, Justin, Mullins, Cuthbert (Sheehan), Potts, Lee, Mpanzu, Cook (Gray), McGeehan (Gilliead), Marriott, Hylton.

**Doncaster:** Marosi, Richardson (Baudry), Butler, Wright, Evina (Calder), Houghton, Blair, Rowe, (Middleton), Coppinger, Marquis, Williams.

# COVERED!

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



## December 1947

The first ever League meeting between the two sides at Kenilworth Road end in a 2-1 Town victory with Bobby Brennan and Allen Driver the Luton goalscorers. Joe O'Brien and Sid Ottewell make their debuts for the Hatters.



## April 1948

In the return at Belle Vue the home side are already relegated and two goals from Bobby Brennan seal a 2-0 win.



## March 1951

The Town had lost 5-2 at Belle Vue on Good Friday, but in the return on Easter Monday, they win 3-1 to secure two valuable points in the fight against relegation. George Stobart, Bernard Moore and a penalty from Willie Davie set up the first of three straight victories.



## April 1954

A season that promised so much until the loss of talisman Jesse Pye with a broken leg now seems to be petering out despite a 2-0 home victory over Rovers. Pye's apprentice Gordon Turner and South African Roy Davies net the goals.



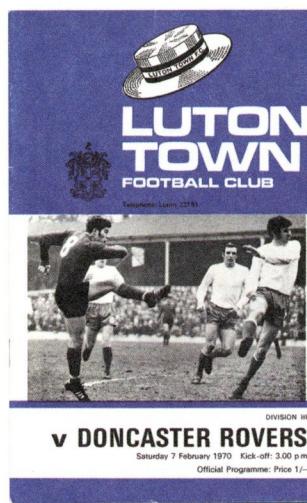
## October 1965

A hat-trick from John O'Rourke helps see off Rovers 4-3 in a thriller at Kenilworth Road. Despite the apparent narrow scoreline, the third Doncaster goal is merely a consolation right at the end.



## October 1967

On a filthy, wet night the Town are 5-1 up at the break, but take their foot off the gas and gift Rovers two late goals to give the final scoreline an unrealistic look.



## February 1970

After a mid-season blip, the Hatters are back to the top of the table with an emphatic 4-0 win over Rovers at Kenilworth Road. Malcolm Macdonald is back to his best with a two-goal haul.



## May 2005

Champions Luton are hoping to break the 100 points barrier but are held to a 3-3 draw at Belle Vue in a final game of the season goal-fest.



# THE ROAD TO WEMBLEY 2009

PART THREE

IN THIS OCCASIONAL SERIES, CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH RECOUNTS THE HATTERS' JOHNSTONE'S PAINT TROPHY CUP RUN

On April 5th it will be ten years since the Town team stepped out at Wembley in front of 42,000 Hatters ready to lift the Johnstone's Paint Trophy. In the final part of this series we will travel back on the road to Wembley culminating in a great victory in a season of gloom.

The competition had not been received with rapturous delight by Town supporters, even though a first round bye was granted, as we had more important things to think about, namely the preservation of our Football League status.

Brentford were seen off in round two at Kenilworth Road in a game that went to a penalty shoot-out after finishing 2-2. On-loan goalkeeper Conrad Logan pulled off two saves to leave Rossi Jarvis to secure the winning strike.

League One Walsall were our area quarter-final opponents at the Bescot Stadium, where Jarvis netted the only goal of the game late on to set up an area semi-final at home to Colchester, also of League One.

In truth, we should have gone out of the competition that evening as Colchester missed many opportunities as the Town rode their luck. A solitary deflected goal by Claude Gnakpa settled

the tie and suddenly the competition became interesting as only a two legged area final against Brighton stood between the Hatters and Wembley.

A dour 0-0 draw at Withdean was followed by a tight 1-1 scoreline at Kenilworth Road, leading to another penalty shoot-out. This time a different loanee goalkeeper, Lewis Price, was the hero saving twice to send the Town through to a Wembley clash with Scunthorpe, who were chasing an ultimately successful promotion from League One.

Off the pitch the club's new owners, 2020, were overwhelmed but not surprised by the supporters resolving to make sure that the Johnstone's Paint Trophy final would be a show of unity and defiance.

The initial allocation of tickets was quickly sold out amid tales of supporters queuing from 2.30 in the morning and an unprecedented 6,500 being shifted in one day. Fresh allocations were requested and supplied, and by the time of the game an amazing



42,000 tickets had been sold, which could have been even more, had an ill thought-out segregation policy not been in place at Wembley stadium.

The record '30 miles to Wembley' was produced, the players were 'suited and booted' and boaters, scarves and replica shirts were purchased in record numbers as the supporters made their intentions known that this would be a day to remember in front of the TV cameras.

The Hatters were as good as relegated by this time, so the final was seen as a welcome relief from the problems in the League and would be a final 'hurrah' for at least a season.

Scunthorpe were obvious favourites and bossed the opening 20 minutes, taking the lead during that period when the clever front duo of Paul Hayes and Gary Hooper combined to good effect, leaving the latter to slot the ball home.

An acrobatic header off the line by skipper Kevin Nicholls from a piledriver by Scunthorpe's Henri Lansbury was pivotal as slowly the Town fought back, and the game developed into an end-to-end thriller with several close shaves in both goalmouths.

We did eventually level the tie on 32 minutes when Tom Craddock cleverly set up Chris Martin to roll the ball into the net.

The Hatters then had a lucky let-off when Craddock raised an arm to Scunthorpe's Cliff Byrne.

The Iron captain theatrically collapsed, but fortunately none of the officials saw the incident.

To rub salt in the wound, Craddock then put the Hatters into the lead mid-way through the second half with a pinpoint shot from the edge of the area, which left us needing to endure a Scunthorpe onslaught.

Lansbury smacked the bar with ten minutes left but just as we thought the threats had been seen off, Grant McCann hit home an unstoppable shot from 25 yards on 88 minutes.

Rather than going straight to a penalty shoot-out again, the final catered for extra-time and when substitute Gnakpa failed to score two minutes in after being put through by Nicholls, we all thought that the miss could come back and bite us.

Three minutes later though, Gnakpa was put through again and this time he made no mistake, cleverly lobbing the onrushing goalkeeper.

We managed to hold on to the lead until the end this time though to cue mass celebrations in the midst of a season of gloom.

**Luton Town:** Brill, Spillane, Asafu-Adjaye, Pilkington, Emanuel, Keane, Nicholls, Hall, Jarvis (Parkin), Craddock (Gnakpa), Martin.

**Scunthorpe United:** Murphy, Byrne, Mirfin, Pearce (Wright), Williams, Lansbury, Sparrow (Woolford), McCann, Hurst (Togwell), Hooper, Hayes.



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# Jason Cummings' HAT'S LIFE



**Apple or Android?**

Apple.

**Last person you called?**  
My Mum.

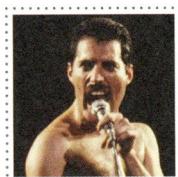


**Most famous person in your phone?**  
Steven Gerrard.

**Favourite food?**  
Nandos.



**Apple or rhubarb crumble?**  
Neither. Just the crumble.



**Food you can't stand?**  
Beetroot.

**Pet hate?**  
Celebrations tubs that have like pens and stuff and not chocolate in.

**Cat or dog?**  
Dog.



**Xbox or PlayStation?**  
PlayStation.

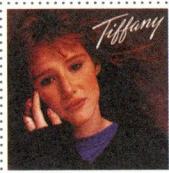
**Karaoke song?**  
Queen – Don't Stop Me Now.

**Favourite artist?**  
Oasis.



**Top of your playlist?**

I Think We're Alone Now - Tiffany.



**Last holiday?**

Ibiza.



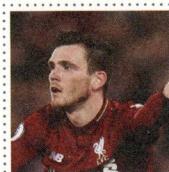
**Can't miss on TV?**

Game Of Thrones.



**Love Island or Peaky Blinders?**

Peaky Blinders.



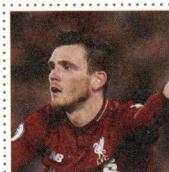
**Club you support?**

It's complicated, but I was brought up a Hearts fan.



**Favourite away ground?**

Ibrox.



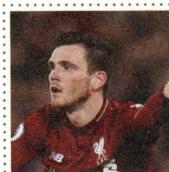
**Best moment in football?**

Scottish Cup win for Hibs or Scotland debut.



**Best player played with?**

Andrew Robertson.



**Room-mate?**

Baps, Thorney and Moncs.



**Instagram or Twitter?**

Instagram.

# ON THE CENTRE SPOT

We asked for your questions on our social media channels to put to midfielder George Moncur - our January signing from Barnsley - ahead of today's clash with Doncaster. Here the 25-year-old is the latest Hatter to be put On The Centre Spot!



**Twitter: @lukehobson2005** What made you want to join Luton?

It was an easy decision as soon as I knew Luton were interested, and it didn't matter to me that the manager had just left. I knew a lot about the club because of so many of my mates being here - obviously Elliot, being my best mate for so long, but the other lads I knew from West Ham when we were younger like Pottsy, Pelly and Stechy, and Matty from Barnsley - it all made it so appealing to come here. Even lads at Barnsley, like Cam, only had good things to say about where this club were heading and the way they do things. You only have to look at the training ground and the new stadium plans for that, and having been here and heard the crowd and seen how the team play, I knew it was the right place for me to come and play my football. I also wanted to get back down south, especially with my wife due to give birth to our first baby any day now. Both our families are in Essex so it was important for us to be close to them.

**Twitter: @emmaorch** How do you get your foot around your free-kicks?

I used to practise the so-called 'Dipper' at West Ham all the time, and at Colchester, where you run onto it straight, try to hit the valve and it goes up and over the wall, but it's hard to control it to come back down. I get more success with the one that I've done twice for Luton so far, where I try to hit the outside of the ball as hard as I can, and I swing my right foot towards the corner flag, so as long as I get my foot around it, the spin comes back in to the far post. I try to put as much spin as I can on it from the outside of the ball, and get plenty of whip on it. The one at Fleetwood had a little bit of dip and a little bit of curve, so all good.

**Twitter: @ltfc\_bible** What's your favourite moment at Luton so far?

Definitely scoring against Portsmouth, just in terms of the state of the game - it was a big top of the table clash so it would have been great for us to win - and thankfully we did, so it was a great moment to score that goal. The weather helped as well, with it snowing. All we needed was the orange ball!



George curls in THAT free-kick in the 3-2 win over Portsmouth!

**Twitter: @Andysbrett** Did the groundsman tell you off like a naughty school kid after "that" knee slide?

I've got to be honest, I was expecting him to say something because half of the lads followed me, didn't they? But he didn't say a word. It was just one of those things you get caught up in the emotion of it all. You see the ball hit the back of the net and just turn and sprint. Next thing you know, the pitch is covered in snow and we're ploughing through it on our knees. I'm sorry, Dickie!

**Instagram: @olivergodding97** Why did you run over and celebrate your free kick in front of those Fleetwood fans?

I just lost it, didn't I? I apologised in my interview after the game because I shouldn't have done it, and when I got to the stand it was full of older supporters who'd done nothing to offend or antagonise me. I just got carried away. I've never really liked playing at Fleetwood. Can't stand the place. But I should have run to celebrate with our supporters, and I'm sorry I didn't.

**Twitter: @ltfc\_bible** Best player you've ever played with?

Joe Cole at West Ham. I was lucky as a boy to watch him play with my dad for West Ham, and then to be at the club when he came back in 2013 was unreal. He was such a quality player, could do amazing things with the ball and he'd achieved so much in the game with Chelsea and England. Top man as well. It was a privilege to train with him.

**Twitter: @comeonhatters** Why didn't you bring Cam back with you?

Haha! Cam's a great lad, but he's happy at Barnsley. I did speak to him about Luton and he only said good things. He'd had a great relationship with the fans and loved his time here. Because it all happened so quickly with my move I didn't really get chance to get his opinion on me coming here, but I know what he thinks about Luton.

**Twitter: @abboway** Who's the best player in Division One? (apart from Luton players of course)

I like the lad we played against at Plymouth a couple of weeks ago, Ruben Lameiras. I thought he was good on the ball and lively. And I've got to say my old Barnsley team-mate Alex Mowatt. He was brilliant to play with and you always knew he'd find you with the pass. I'd imagine he's got to be up there for League One Player of the Year, but there'd be a few in our squad that'll be in with a shout as well.

**Twitter: @liamrowlands94** Starbucks or Costa?

Got to be Starbucks, hasn't it?

**Twitter: @liamrowlands94** Favourite song that the Luton fans sing?

There's some quality songs that ring around the ground, and it's brilliant when they sing the Matty Pearson one. But I quite like the LuLuLu one at the moment - 'Tell LuLuLu LuLuLu, to put the champagne on ice...'



# CENTRE SPOT

He sets off in celebration...



**Phil Wain: Do you have any superstitions or do you just get on with it?**

The only superstition I have is that I pray before a game, at home before I leave. I used to do it in the changing room but the bible says to do it in a place where there's no-one around, where it's just you and the Lord basically in a room. It says 'Pray without ceasing', which means basically pray without thinking in some sort of way, because you've got to just pray with what's in your heart. So when I go before games, I kneel before the Lord in a quiet room, as it says, behind closed doors. I give it whatever I've got on my chest. I pray for protection in the game, that nothing comes against me and my team-mates or the other team, because at the end of the day the last thing you want is injuries, and I just pray for enjoyment and for the Lord's will to be done. My faith is the best thing in my life. Football is just a gift that the Lord has given me, I believe, and I just want to show my talent to the world through Him, because without Him I don't think I'd be playing. He's blessed me with great things.

**danielo.100 What's it like working under Mick Harford?**

He's brilliant. He just encourages us to go and play with freedom. Obviously I don't know what it was like before I got here, but he lets the lads manage themselves and trusts us to do the right things. The boys all have great respect for Mick for what he's done in the game and the way he is around the place. Every time we cross the white line we're desperate to get that result for him, for the way he treats us.



...then slides on his knees with the rest of the lads following!



**✉ @danielstommy4 Hardest CB/CDM you've ever faced?**

I remember playing against Karl Henry, the ex-Wolves and QPR midfielder, a couple of times when he was at Bolton last season. We were in the Championship and he was a hardened ex-Premier League player who was fit, strong and knew the game. Every run I made he was there, so difficult to get past, and he could pass the ball too. I know he was at Bradford for a spell earlier this season and played against Luton, but he hadn't signed when we played them second game of the season for Barnsley.

**✉ @abboway Who was your favourite player when you were growing up?**

That has to be my dad. I loved going to watch him play for West Ham. Every boy's hero is their dad, and when he happens to play football, it's even more so.

**✉ @sandybeeson88 Who would win in a game between you, Dan Potts and Elliot Lee against Moncur, Potts and Lee Senior?**

Definitely us younger lads because the old boys' legs have gone! Although saying that, have you seen Rob on the TV in Harry's Heroes? I reckon he could still do a job. It is amazing that we've all turned out to be footballers, and all coming through at West Ham, the club where all three of our dads played.

**✉ @danzohayes How's your dad?**

He's good. He's enjoying retirement, playing plenty of golf and doing a bit of hospitality work down at West Ham on a matchday.

**✉ @LutonTownExile If the squad had to act an episode of Only Fools and Horses I reckon you'd be Del Boy. Who would play Rodney, Trigger, Mickey Pearce and Boycie?**

Rodney is Del Boy's brother and best mate, so even though he doesn't look anything like him, that would have to be Ell I reckon. I'm going to go for Pelly as Trigger. Boycie's the old geezer, so that would be James Shea and Shinnie would be Mickey Pearce.

**✉ @dickplenty Who has the worst clobber?**

I'm going to say Jason Cummings. I reckon he gets dressed in the dark most mornings – he's got some bad gear.

**✉ @\_danscott What's your favourite position on the pitch?**

I like playing in the number ten role, where I can get on the ball and run at people or thread passes through. I honestly don't mind where I play though, as long as I'm on the pitch. I played left-wing a lot for Barnsley and really enjoyed it.

**✉ @fortnite\_pro\_gamer4287 What team do you support?**

West Ham. It was simple. It's where we went most of the time so that's who I supported.



George celebrates with fellow goalscorer Pelly at Fleetwood on the day the club record EFL unbeaten run was broken

**✉ @davidjflee Has watching old videos of your agent's free-kicks inspired your new technique?**

They didn't have video coverage of Non-League back then, so how would I see the videos?! Sorry Dave.

**✉ @StephenHarrison: Are you happy with your FIFA stats? If not, what would you change?**

Well, they've got my weight wrong for a start – I'm much heavier than 139lbs! I reckon they've over-valued me but I'd be happy with those wages! I'd change the international reputation.

**✉ @KarenStokes What's the deal with the sock art?**

The main reason is because I always get cramp. I don't know if you can really help cramp with the sock art, but I've seen players do it and I've been told that it can help in a way to take pressure off the back of your calves. So if you cut holes in it, it releases the sock a bit so it isn't so tight around your leg, like they are these days. I end up cutting them down the bottom, and then three holes in so it gets a bit of air to the calf. If the kitman doesn't save them from game to game, I have to do a new pair, so he won't be happy with me!

	George Moncur
Overall Rating	67
Potential	70
+	24y.o.
ID	201446
Birth Date	Aug 18, 1993
Height	5'9"
Weight	139lbs
Value	€950K
Wage	€4K
Preferred Foot	Right
International Reputation	★★★★★
Weak Foot	★★★★★
Skill Moves	★★★★★
Work Rate	Medium / Medium
Body Type	Normal
Real Face	No
Release Clause	€1.7M

**✉ @Who did your tattoos?**

It's a geezer called Jay Shaw. I found him when I was at Colchester and got on with him more and more, and I let him do my tattoos every time. Then I used to go around his house so I was lucky enough to not have to wait to book in, so I got it done fairly quickly. I've got my left sleeve, which I started with, devoted to my faith, and my right sleeve is more personal things. The first one I got done was Jesus on my left arm but I didn't tell my mum for a long time, because I knew she'd be mad. It's actually quite funny, because I'd always wear a long-sleeved base layer in games so she wouldn't see from the stand or on any pictures – and even when I'd go on holiday with my family, I'd be sitting by the pool in sweltering temperatures wearing it, I was so scared to tell her! She's fine with it now, but it's fair to say my tattoos have cost me a few quid – I'm not quite Sonny Bradley though!

**✉ @LTFCTixExchange Who would win in a fight between Sonny Bradley, Matty Pearson and Alan McCormack?**

That's a tough one. Macca's like a bulldog, Matty's a bit like a lion, but I think Sonny comes on top. I think he does them, in the later rounds I think if it was a boxing match and it went the distance, Sonny would end up doing them on points maybe. He's got the reach.



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## TRAVELLER'S TALES

LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS' TRUST MEDIA OFFICER KEVIN HARPER'S TRIP TO BRADFORD

### THE JOURNEY

It was an early afternoon start for the second lengthy trip in four days, and after a sherbet or two too many celebrating the wonderful result of the Newlands Park decision the night before, it was a somewhat tender me who boarded the coach! The journey wasn't too bad and we made it to Valley Parade just after 6.30pm on a proper foul night in Yorkshire.

**RATING: (OUT OF 5)**

### THE GROUND

It had been a while since I'd been to Valley Parade but nothing of note has changed. Town fans were sat down the side of the pitch and made a belting noise throughout the match, particularly on 20 minutes to acknowledge the wonderful work of 2020. Facilities weren't too bad. It is a nice ground in fairness.

**RATING:**

### THE FOOD

I'd eaten on the way up and the queues for the food inside the ground were enormous. It was like they weren't expecting a crowd which was pretty poor. Fairly expensive too which was another negative.

**RATING:**

### THE PROGRAMME

The programme was actually a decent one considering there were not too many recent meetings between the two clubs to draw on. There was a fair bit of interest about the Town in it, which killed some of the journey home, and the usual home stuff.

**RATING:**

### THE MATCH

What a night! The Town were superb in the first half, scoring another one of our total football goals when Andrew Shinnie laid it on a plate for Jack Stacey. Had it not been for the Bradford keeper we'd have gone in more than 1-0 up at half-time. Credit to the hosts though, they threw everything at us in the second half, and with conditions turning horrendous we had to stand up and really fight. We dug in for a brilliant win, recognised by the players with their amazing celebrations in front of the away fans after the full-time whistle had blown.

**RATING:**

### MAN OF THE MATCH

You could have picked any of the back four and a few in front of them, but Jack Stacey was outstanding on the night. He got forward at will in the first half and then muscled up in defence when we needed him to. He didn't need to be the match winner to claim this honour but as he scored the goal it confirmed his position.

### SUMMARY

This was the sort of night champions are crowned. Rubbish weather, long trip, boggy pitch but we still stood strong. The 1,000 away fans were brilliant and once I'd thawed out and dried off, I was well happy with what I saw. What a few days to be a Luton fan!

**OVERALL RATING: 14**

# LUTON TOWN 2 GILLINGHAM 2

TOWN GOALS: HYLTON 45, STACEY 67

GILLINGHAM GOALS: EAVES 53, O'NEILL 79



Danny Hylton tucks away the opening goal



LUTON TOWN		GILLINGHAM	
2	2	2	2
SHEA		HOLY	
STACEY		O'NEILL	
PEARSON		EHMER	
BRADLEY		HANLAN	
JUSTIN		EAVES	
MPANZU		BURKE	
SHINNIE		FULLER	
BERRY (POTTS 66)		REILLY	
LEE (LUALUA 80)		DA SILVA LOPES (REES 87)	
COLLINS		BYRNE	
HYLTON (CORNICK 90+2)		OGILVIE	
SUBS NOT USED:			
MONCUR			
BAPTISTE			
THORNE			
ISTED			
YELLOW CARDS:			
HANLAN			



Matty Pearson goes for a spectacular effort on goal

## STORY OF THE MATCH

The Hatters were held to a 2-2 draw last Saturday as Gillingham came from behind twice in an entertaining encounter at Kenilworth Road.

Both sides threatened going forward, but it was the Hatters who broke the deadlock on the stroke of half-time when Danny Hylton pounced on an error from Callum Reilly to fire home.

Tom Eaves got his team back in the game early on in the second half when he nodded in from close range from Reilly's header.

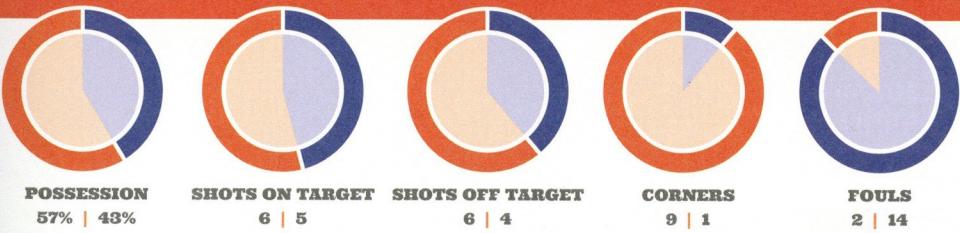
Jack Stacey restored the lead with a drilled effort at the near post, but Luke O'Neill curled in a fantastic free-kick to ensure his side took a point from the game.



## HARFORD

"The boys gave everything, it was a real tough encounter. I think you've got to give credit to Gillingham – the way they played, the way they set-up. A really dangerous outfit, they played two strikers up front who were quite lively. I thought Eaves was a big handful today."

"We created lots and lots of chances, we got into some really, really good positions, maybe final ball again, not so clinical in the final third. We need to be that little bit more clinical in and around the penalty area and tuck those chances away."





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BY HARRY ROGERS

# SUPER DAN'S STAYING ALIVE!

**Danny Hylton** managed to get his name on the score sheet for the second time this month after pouncing cleverly on a defensive error to notch his seventh goal of the season in last weekend's 2-2 draw with Gillingham.

Super Dan is always capable of popping up with important strikes and last Saturday's opener was no different, ensuring that the Hatters gained another important point towards their overall goal of promotion.

Speaking after the match, Hylton said: "As a forward you've got to try and stay alive and stay bright for any chance or anything that might happen. You've got to stay alive and take the chance and luckily today, it fell for me and I managed to score.

"I'd trade the goal for three points if you'd offer me that, so it's not about any individual, about me scoring or anyone else scoring. We just want to win games."

The record-breaking Hatters have been in

tremendous form, refusing to drop points since October and pushing their way to the top of the Sky Bet League One table. Although the side have had a number of accolades to be praised for this term, Hylton is confident his team-mates are focussed on finishing the job.

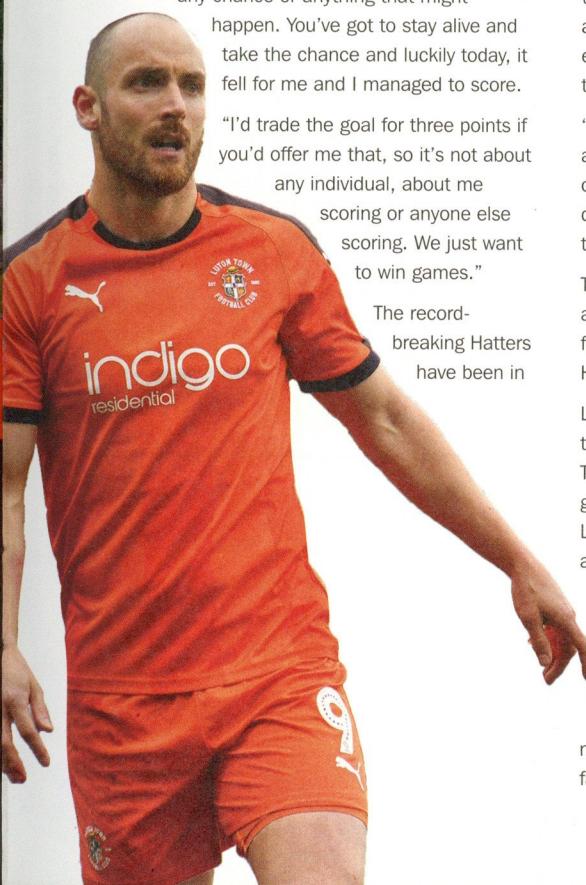
He continued: "That's the great thing about this team and squad. We don't get too high or too low about these kind of things. We're not getting too excited about records, being unbeaten and being top of the league.

"We win a game and we shake each other's hands and we move on, a new week, a new game to focus on. We're delighted to break these records, but we don't get too excited about them, we just try and take care of the next game in hand."

The striker was adamant that his side would pose a real threat coming into League One this season following the Hatters' promotion from League Two. His prophecy has so far come true.

Laughing, he added: "I'm a psychic aren't I? I know this group and I know the players we've got. League Two was difficult, some games were hard and away games, people make it really hard. You come into League One and a lot of teams try and play football and I knew it would probably suit us a little bit more.

"We're a footballing team. We work hard, we stick together, we've got a great team spirit and that's tough to play against. Mix that with the ability that we have, I knew we would have a good season, we weren't just coming in to make the numbers up. I'm delighted. Top of the league is fantastic and we'll try and stay there now."






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FOOD! DRINK! LAUGHTER! FRIENDS!

BY HARRY ROGERS

# EVER-PRESENT PELLY'S IN POSITION

Along with Matty Pearson, Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu is the only Luton player to have started every single Sky Bet League One match this season, proving his worth to this promotion chasing Hatters side.

Even a small change of position in last weekend's 2-2 draw with Gillingham couldn't falter the 25-year-old's contribution, slotting into the defensive midfield role for the injured Alan McCormack.

Speaking after the match on Saturday, Pelly – who moved to within two of his double century of appearances for the club – said: "The switch is easy for me, I've played there the season before, I fit in well.

"Obviously, if the gaffer wants me to play there then I'll play there. It has no effect on me. I've just got to keep it simple, keep disciplined and keep the ball moving."

It was the midfielder's dominating run from the middle of the pitch that won the Hatters an important corner which led to Danny Hylton's opening goal just before half-time.

Mpanzu continued: "I had the opportunity to drive, won the corner and we scored from it. It was a good start from the boys. Hylts is a goal scorer and today he put one in. It's a bit of a dodgy bounce, I thought the keeper was going to get it, but thankfully he's put it in."

A huge number of miles had been covered going into the Gillingham clash at Kenilworth Road with Plymouth away on the previous Saturday, followed by a long Tuesday night journey up to Bradford. The ex-West Ham man was happy to accept a short rest before getting back to work for this afternoon's test.

Mpanzu said: "We've put in a lot of miles going to Plymouth and Bradford. We got a win and a draw, and today we got a draw. We've travelled a lot of miles throughout the week and got five points out of



nine, which isn't bad going. We've got to keep top of the table and everyone's got to catch us.

"I think we did alright. We started well but the boys maybe got a bit leggy, but there is no excuses. We're top of the league for a reason. We've got to keep going, keep battling and take positives from the game. We're a point better off than we were."

The Kenilworth Road faithful may also remember Mpanzu's stunning strike at home versus Crewe last season, putting the game out of reach and pushing the Hatters within touching distance of promotion. His top-class effort has been shortlisted for the 'Goal of 2018' prize at the upcoming EFL awards.

Mpanzu added: "It's good on a personal note and hopefully people get voting and I win it. But listen, a goal is goal. We've got to focus on hopefully winning the league and the next match on Saturday."

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MANAGER: GRAHAM COUGHLAN

#### WHO?

Gas have dragged themselves out of the relegation zone after a dismal start to the campaign and now sit 13th in the third tier. Unfortunately for them, it is seemingly the most open relegation battle that this division may have ever seen, with even 12th placed Plymouth Argyle only three points clear of 21st placed Walsall. Their form since Christmas is right up there with the highflyers in League One, and had they started in similar fashion, they may well have been fighting it out for a place in the Championship.

#### STADIUM - MEMORIAL STADIUM

Able to fit in just over 12,000 supporters, the Memorial Stadium looked as if it wasn't going to be the home of the Pirates for much longer, as plans to move to a new stadium were afoot. However, after long delays, plans to move or develop the ground were put on the backburner and the owners at the club have stated they'd rather improve the Memorial Stadium than move to a new home. The ground's record attendance came in 2008, when 12,011 came to watch Rovers play West Bromwich Albion.

#### HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?

The Hatters took on Gas earlier on this season, with Andrew Shinnie grabbing the all-important goal in a 1-0 win. That was Town's 47th victory in this fixture, having drawn 29, and lost on 47 occasions.

#### RESULTS SO FAR

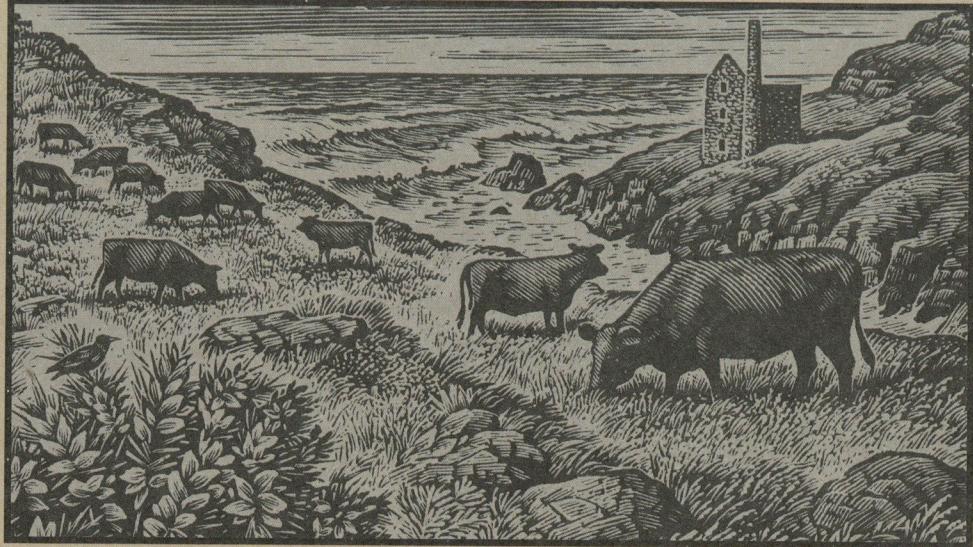
A dreadful start this season ended up costing Darrell Clarke his job at the Memorial Stadium, with a 2-1 defeat at Sunderland in mid-December following his departure seeing the club sit four points from safety in 23rd spot. Just two defeats since then have reversed their fortunes, defeating clubs around them like Walsall, Oxford and Scunthorpe to haul them away from danger. They're performing against the bigger teams in the third tier as well, drawing with Portsmouth, and last weekend grabbing a point at Charlton Athletic.

#### KNOWING ME, KNOWING YOU

Former Hatters midfielder Lee Mansell made 62 appearances for the club, scoring ten times before departing for Oxford United in 2005. A long spell at Torquay United followed, before spending the last three seasons of his playing career at Bristol Rovers. He is now an academy coach at the club. John Still who famously guided the Hatters back into the EFL, was Rovers' assistant manager between May 2002 and December 2003.

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## BOBBERS TRAVEL CLUB

Luton Town's recent match away to Shrewsbury Town was a big day for the Bobbers Travel Club, as it was the 40th anniversary weekend of our first trip following the Hatters.

We took a coach to the match at Cambridge United on 3rd February 1979 and we have travelled to every competitive first team fixture played in this country since then. To celebrate such a landmark occasion, every supporter who boarded our coaches to the New Meadow received a free trip, a reward we offer our loyal travellers each season.

Supporters who have used our service have seen everything from the highs of promotion winning campaigns, to the lows of relegation and many other memorable occasions. We have a policy that we never cancel due to lack of numbers, so fans are never left disappointed.

Earlier this month two coaches full of Bobbers members undertook the journeys to Plymouth and Bradford, and we will be taking fans to each of the remaining four away matches, starting with Bristol Rovers next Saturday.



Right from the beginning, the Travel Club has been a popular way of Luton fans getting to matches, and that remains the case today, courtesy of the hard work initially of Paul Deason, to the present day committee of Les and Sue Miller, Steve Russell, Stewart Smith and John Pyper.

Although the primary aim of BTC is to ensure travel to away matches, we are fortunate enough to have been able to support the Football Club financially throughout the years.

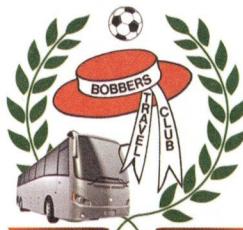
We have sponsored matches, become kit sponsors to many players, including the current away kits of first team stars James Justin and Alan Sheehan as well as youth team goalkeeper Tiernan Parker. We have also supported the youth team on their travels to big FA Youth Cup matches, funding the cost of their coaches for some of those games. Thanks to the wonderful loyalty of our travellers, we have been able to give £20,000 back to the club in this fashion.

We are also proud to have assisted the medical and physio department at the Club, where many items at the current training ground have been paid for through donations made by the Bobbers.

This includes training equipment which has recently seen Jonathan Smith, Cameron McGeehan and Luke Berry among others back to full fitness much quicker than originally expected.

We will continue to support LTFC physio Simon Parsell, another man whose kit we sponsor, in any way that we can, and add to the £40,000 we have already donated to the department.

It has been a wonderful 40 years supporting the Hatters up and down the country, and as the Club embark on a bright future, we look forward to providing travel and assistance for many years to come.



Travelling to Luton Town F.C. Away games

## YOUTH TEAM KIT SPONSORS 18/19

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<b>DEQUANE WILSON-BRAITHWAITE</b>  H: AVAILABLE A: AVAILABLE	<b>ANDY AWFORD</b>  H: AVAILABLE A: AVAILABLE	<b>NEXT UP:</b> SAT 30 MAR   OXFORD UTD   A   KO 11AM   VENUE TBC SAT 6 APR   PETERBOROUGH   A   KO 11AM   PE2 7EA	

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# ACADEMY UPDATE

WITH ACADEMY & DEVELOPMENT MANAGER  
**ANDY AWFORD**

**Good afternoon everyone and welcome to today's game versus  
Doncaster Rovers.**

### YOUTH TEAM

The U18s got their first Merit League 1 victory with a fine 4-1 victory over Southend United a couple of weeks ago at The Brache, and last week followed that up with a hard fought 1-1 draw away at Premier League AFC Bournemouth.

The Southend game saw us lead at the interval, following a superbly taken goal by one of our Under-16 players Callum Nicholson. We then took full control after the break with further goals from Toby Byron, Josh Boorn and Connor Tomlinson.

The long trip down to Bournemouth also saw us lead at half-time following a fine finish from Tomlinson after good work down the left hand side from Byron.

Some compact defending in the second half saw us comfortably see off Bournemouth's attacking threat, however we paid the price for not putting the game to bed by missing several opportunities on the counter attack, as Bournemouth equalised in injury time.

A frustrating end to a game that we should have won. However, as always, the boys will learn from the experience and hopefully be better equipped next time we enter the latter stages of a game.

### UNDER-9S

Congratulations to our Under-9s who recently returned from a tour to Zeebrugge in Belgium with a trophy at the front of the minibus to show for their hard work and efforts.

The BFA tournament was a qualifier that offered the winners the opportunity to play in The Brussels Football European Cup later in April, which includes European giants Juventus and Barcelona amongst other top European clubs.

We have been drawn in a group which includes Ajax, Paris Saint-Germain and Toulouse. A tough group for the boys, but one in which we can cause a surprise or two and make it through to the knockout stages, whereby we will probably be up against the likes of Manchester City, AS Roma, Sevilla, Benfica and Porto.

I am sure you will all wish our young crop the very best of luck. You can follow their progress on our Academy twitter page ([@AcademyLTFC](#)).

### UPCOMING TOURNAMENT

The Academy will be hosting an Under-11 tournament over the weekend of May 11th and 12th. This competition is open to both grass-roots teams and professional academies. Further details are available on the club website, by calling the main switchboard on 01582 411622 or emailing in to [info@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:info@lutontown.co.uk)

Enjoy today's game, get behind the lads as you always do and hopefully we'll be another three points closer at 5pm tonight. COYH!!

Andy

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SOUTHERN

# LUTON TOWN IN THE COMMUNITY

## TRUST RECEIVES NATIONAL CRIMEBEAT AWARD

Earlier this month the Trust received further recognition of its community cohesion work when Community Operations Manager Daniel Douglas was presented with the National Crimebeat Award from the High Sheriff of Bedfordshire, Julian Polhill, with a special commendation for the Football for Peace project.

National Crimebeat is the youth crime prevention charity of the High Sheriffs' Association, and recognises innovative and successful crime prevention and social cohesion projects.

The Football for Peace Young Ambassador Training Programme was a local community initiative that used football to connect young people from different faiths, cultures and backgrounds in Luton and get them to communicate, play together and learn to confront stereotypes and better understand one another through dialogue.

### Respect

As well as having the chance to organise a peace football tournament here at the stadium during the close season, the project identified young people aged 16 to 18 years to work together within Luton's communities to create greater mutual understanding and respect as well as developing their personal skills in the process.

Our 'Peace Ambassadors' attended workshops that covered events management, conflict management, team building and equality and diversity, as well as everyone gaining a recognised Level 2 sports qualifications, skills that we hope will be helpful for them in the future whilst also benefitting the whole community.



Luton Town FC Community Operations Manager, Daniel Douglas, said: "We recognise the cohesive impact that a relatively small number of young people from across the town can have as young leaders in changing perceptions and raising aspirations. We know that Luton's young people have a lot to contribute to making Luton a place to be proud of, and projects like Football For Peace help them to achieve this."

Football For peace is an ongoing project and is part of the Hatters Trust portfolio of projects that aim to improve community cohesion in Luton. This year the Trust will be heavily involved in celebrating the 25th anniversary of Kick it Out celebrations at our next home game v Blackpool.



## EFL TRUST KIDS CUP

The boys and girls from this year's Bedfordshire winners, Pirton Hill Primary School, narrowly missed out again on a Wembley appearance as for the second year in a row the Lewsey boys and girls fell at the semi-final stage of the national competition.

The EFL Trust Kids U11 Cup culminates in three finals across the EFL Play-Off weekends in May. All 72 Football League clubs are first split into their three divisions, before being again split into two groups, north and south – so Pirton Hill Primary progressed as Luton Town FC into the Division Two South play-offs at Oxford United this year.

## EASTER HALF-TERM SOCCER CAMPS

Easter half-term is only a couple of weeks away! If you are one of the hundreds of youngsters who regularly attend our soccer camps then you will already know the format and how to book, and you will also probably have received all of the details of our soccer camps already.

However, if you've not tried a soccer camp before then why not come along during half-term. They are great fun, open to all abilities and run from 9.30am to 3.30pm each day. They are very competitively priced at £15.00 per single day down to £10.00 each additional day and represent great value.

There are lots of skills training and mini world cup tournaments, our popular hot shots roadshow and of course, everyone receives the legendary LTFC free medal with the chance to meet first team players on presentation days plus a great match ticket deal!

Starting with a draw against AFC Wimbledon, the boys and girls then notched up three wins on the bounce against Plymouth, Peterborough and Bristol Rovers, before losing 1-0 to eventual finalists Southend. The three wins were enough to take the Lewsey kids into the semi-final, but a strong Wycombe side were too much for them and they lost out to the eventual overall winners of the tournament.

A valiant effort and the boys and girls represented the Hatters in fine style with some great displays – especially from the only girls who made it into the regional finals. Let's hope that the first team also narrowly miss out on a Wembley appearance in May!

Our courses run throughout the county from Bedford down to Luton and into North Herts and you can book online at [lutontowncommunity.co.uk](http://lutontowncommunity.co.uk) – or by giving us a call at the Community Office on **01582 561622**, texting **07725 172345** or emailing [soccerschool@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:soccerschool@lutontown.co.uk) for further information or to book a place. We look forward to seeing everyone during half term – wrap up warm and bring the suncream!



# HATTERS LADIES

BY DANIEL TAGG

## Luton 1-1 Denham

### Share of the spoils in relegation six-pointer

Going into this midweek game at The Brache, Luton knew that this would be their best chance to pick up points and elevate themselves away from the drop zone, as they came up against a struggling Denham side who were without a win in three games. Town were boosted by the return of skipper Rachel Carter to the starting line-up, and Nicola Henman was also included in the squad for the first time since her injury.

The Hatters started well, and were easily the better side in the opening stages; Lisa Nixon was proving to be a valuable addition to the side in midfield, and Rebecca Ferris was causing Denham problems going forward, while also fulfilling her defensive responsibilities. Town's first shot on target came when forward Dionne Manning managed to work herself a half a yard to get a shot off, but it was well saved by the away side's keeper.

Gradually, Denham began to play themselves back into the encounter, with Kezia Hassall having to pull off a couple of decent saves to ensure the scores stayed level.

Just before the half-hour mark, however, Luton took the lead when an excellent free-kick delivery from Zara Carroll was well met by centre-half Rachel Kosky and the ball beat the Denham stopper.

The Hatters then looked to increase their advantage before the break, with Jess McKay looking the most dangerous going forward for the home side. McKay's powerful runs with the ball had the Denham defence thoroughly beaten, and if it wasn't for some decent saves pulled off by the keeper, then she would've got the goal she deserved.

The second half saw the game become increasingly open, and after just ten minutes Denham levelled the scores with a looping effort from just outside the box that crept just underneath the bar.

Luton looked to retaliate, and Rachel Kosky's storming run could only be stopped by a cynical body-check from a Denham defender.

**Fair**

The introduction of Aurora Ryan and Rebecca Clay for the final ten minutes seemed the best chance of Luton taking back the initiative and grabbing the winner, and the pair contributed to the last big push which saw Jess McKay and Rachel Carter both go close, before Denham provided one last scare as they clipped the crossbar with a speculative strike.

The game ended all-square, which was probably a fair result on the balance of play. Luton must now prepare for the visit of high-flying Crawley as they hope to pick up more points to help in their fight to escape relegation.

### FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE SOUTH EAST DIVISION ONE FIXTURES 2018/19

Sun Aug 19	Leyton Orient	L 0-1	Sun Nov 11	Kent (FACupR1)	W 1-1*
Sun Aug 26	AFC Wimbledon	L 1-3	Sun Dec 2	Billericay (FACupR2)	L 1-3
Sun Sep 2	Cheltenham (Cup)	L 1-3	Sun Dec 9	Norwich City	L 1-4
Sun Sep 9	Actonians	L 0-3	Sun Jan 6	Sharnbrook (BCC)	W 9-0
Sun Sep 16	Billericay Town	L 1-2	Sun Jan 13	Leyton Orient	L 0-3
Sun Sep 23	Dunstable (Cup)	W 7-0	Wed Feb 20	Enfield Town	D 0-0
Sun Sep 30	Ipswich Town	W 3-1	Sun Feb 24	AFC Wimbledon	W 4-1
Wed Oct 3	Denham United	D 0-0	Sun Mar 3	Stevenage	L 0-1
Sun Oct 7	Oxford City	W 5-2	Wed Mar 13	Denham	D 1-1
Sun Oct 14	Gillingham (plate)	L 4-5			(Home games at Stockwood Park Athletics Stadium)
Sun Nov 4	Cambridge Utd	L 0-1			*W 3-1 on penalties

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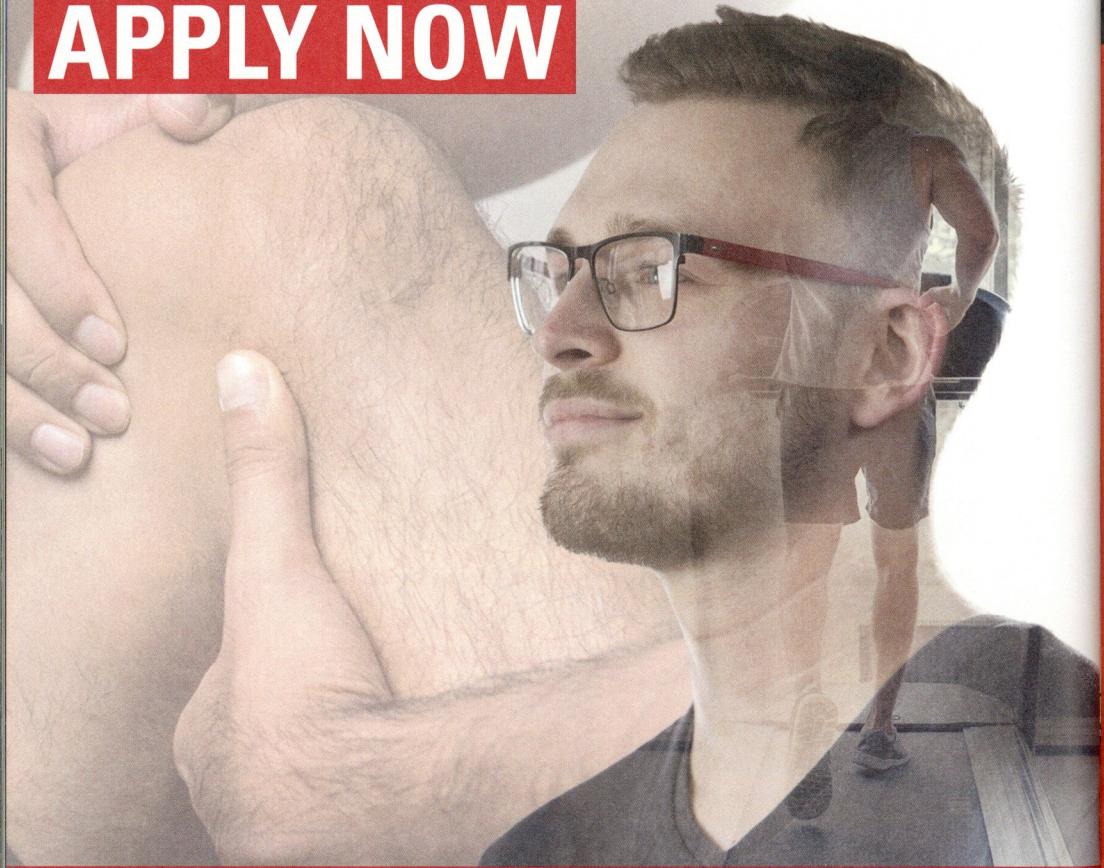
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Clue... He's had the most appearances this season

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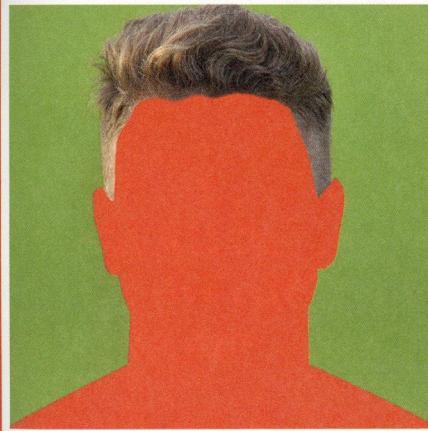
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LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB V D.R.F.C.

**FAN ART**

Junior Hatter Hayden has been busy creating some fantastic art work featuring Marek Stech, James Collins, Dan Potts, Kazenga LuLu, James Shea, Mick Harford and a fantastic picture of Power Court!

Can you tell who this player is just by his hair?



Do you know what four players have been used to make up this image?





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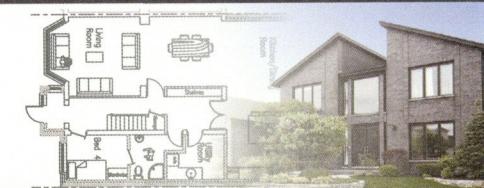


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# LEAGUE LOOK

## LEAGUE TABLE 2018/19

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Luton Town	38	23	11	4	72	31	41	80
2	Barnsley	38	21	12	5	64	28	36	75
3	Sunderland	37	19	16	2	64	34	30	73
4	Portsmouth	38	20	11	7	66	41	25	71
5	Charlton Athletic	38	19	10	9	55	37	18	67
6	Doncaster Rovers	37	15	12	10	61	46	15	57
7	Coventry City	38	16	8	14	43	42	1	56
8	Peterborough United	38	15	10	13	58	54	4	55
9	Blackpool	38	13	14	11	39	40	-1	53
10	Fleetwood Town	38	14	10	14	49	41	8	52
11	Burton Albion	38	13	11	14	48	44	4	50
12	Plymouth Argyle	38	12	9	17	47	59	-12	45
13	Bristol Rovers	37	11	11	15	37	37	0	44
14	Wycombe Wanderers	38	11	11	16	47	58	-11	44
15	Accrington Stanley	36	11	11	14	38	49	-11	44
16	Gillingham	38	12	8	18	49	61	-12	44
17	Scunthorpe United	38	12	8	18	46	64	-18	44
18	Shrewsbury Town	38	10	13	15	42	50	-8	43
19	Oxford United	38	10	13	15	44	54	-10	43
20	Southend United	38	12	6	20	47	55	-8	42
21	Walsall	38	11	9	18	42	60	-18	42
22	AFC Wimbledon	38	11	6	21	32	53	-21	39
23	Rochdale	37	10	8	19	44	75	-31	38
24	Bradford City	38	10	6	22	42	63	-21	36

## PLAYER STATS 2018/19

	THIS SEASON		LTFC CAREER TOT											
	LEAGUE APPS	CUP APPS		TOTAL APPS	GLS	DISIP	Y	R	APPS	GLS				
Luke Berry	6	(7)	1	2	(1)	0	3	(8)	1	0	0	55	9	
Sonny Bradley	36	(1)	0	20	4	(0)	0	41	(1)	0	4	0	42	0
James Collins	36	(2)	0	20	4	(0)	0	40	(2)	20	9	0	87	40
Harry Cornick	13	(11)	5	20	4	(0)	2	18	(11)	7	0	0	70	12
Jason Cummings	0	(1)	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	(1)	0	0	0	1	0
Luke Gambin	0	(0)	0	1	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0	38	3
Jorge Grant	13	(4)	2	4	(1)	2	17	(5)	4	2	0	22	4	
Danny Hylton	17	(7)	7	2	(1)	0	19	(8)	7	4	2	117	57	
Harry Isted	0	(0)	0	2	0	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	0	0	2	0
Jack James	0	(0)	0	1	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0	2	0
Aaron Jarvis	0	(4)	0	4	(2)	1	4	(6)	1	0	0	0	14	0
Jake Jarvis	0	(2)	0	1	0	(0)	0	1	(2)	0	0	0	13	0
Lloyd Jones	0	(1)	0	3	1	(0)	0	3	(2)	0	1	0	6	0
James Justin	27	(8)	3	7	(2)	0	34	(10)	3	1	0	0	106	6
Elliot Lee	28	(2)	10	4	(1)	0	32	(3)	10	4	0	0	84	25
Kazenga Luuua	4	(12)	1	4	(2)	1	8	(14)	2	2	0	0	22	2
Alan McCormack	16	(2)	0	4	(0)	0	20	(2)	0	9	0	0	38	1
George Moncur	2	(5)	4	0	0	(0)	0	2	(5)	4	1	0	7	4
Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu	38	(0)	2	4	(2)	0	42	(2)	2	5	0	0	198	11
Frankie Musonda	0	(0)	0	1	(1)	0	1	(1)	0	0	0	0	14	1
Josh Neufville	0	(0)	0	0	(3)	0	0	(3)	0	0	0	0	3	0
Euan O'Kane	0	(3)	0	1	(0)	0	1	(3)	0	0	0	0	4	0
Matty Pearson	38	(0)	6	6	(0)	0	44	(0)	6	1	0	0	44	6
Jake Peck	0	(0)	0	0	(1)	0	0	(1)	0	0	0	0	1	0
Dan Potts	14	(9)	1	1	(2)	0	15	(11)	1	5	0	0	115	9
Glen Rea	20	(2)	1	4	(1)	0	24	(3)	1	5	0	0	136	5
Arthur Read	0	(0)	0	4	(0)	1	4	(0)	1	0	0	0	7	1
Jack Senior	0	(0)	0	3	(0)	0	3	(0)	0	1	0	0	24	0
James Shea	35	(0)	0	5	(0)	0	40	(0)	0	0	0	0	53	0
Alan Sheehan	3	(12)	0	4	(0)	1	7	(12)	1	1	0	0	126	8
Andrew Shinnie	32	(2)	4	6	(0)	1	38	(2)	5	8	0	0	74	8
Jack Stacey	37	(0)	4	5	(0)	0	42	(0)	4	3	0	0	87	5
Marek Stech	3	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	5	(0)	0	0	0	0	47	0
George Thorne	0	(2)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(2)	0	0	0	0	2	0
Connor Tomlinson	0	(0)	0	0	(1)	0	0	(1)	0	0	0	0	2	0

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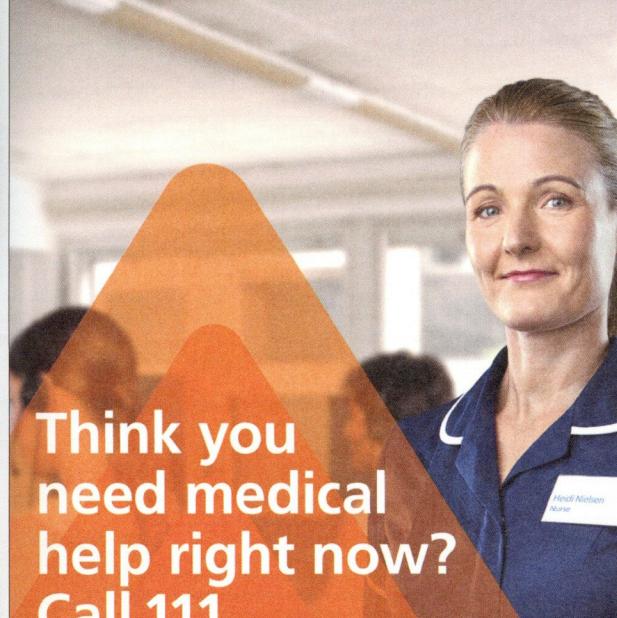
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Clinical Commissioning Group



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# FIXTURESPILE-UP

**WHO, WHEN AND WHERE THE HATTERS ARE PLAYING THIS SEASON**

**KEY:** ● First Substitute | ● Second Substitute | ● Third Substitute | ■ Sent off | **GOALSCORER**

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY	POS	STARTING XI
<b>AUGUST</b>								
Sat 4	3.00pm	A	Portsmouth	<b>L 0-1</b>	19,018	2,392	21	Stech <b>Justin</b> Pearson Sheehan Potts McCormack ●
Sat 11	3.00pm	H	Sunderland	<b>D 1-1</b>	<b>10,059</b>	<b>1,047</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Stech Stacey Pearson 1 Sheehan</b> Potts McCormack
Tue 14	8.00pm	A	West Bromwich Albion (CC R1)	<b>L 0-1</b>	10,404	1,175	-	Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley Justin Rea ●
Sat 18	3.00pm	A	Peterborough United	<b>L 1-3</b>	8,016	2,209	22	Stech Stacey Pearson ● Bradley Sheehan McCormack ●
Tue 21	7.45pm	H	Southend United	<b>W 2-0</b>	<b>9,086</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley</b> Potts Rea
Sat 25	3.00pm	H	Shrewsbury Town	<b>W 3-2</b>	<b>8,518</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Shea Stacey 1 Pearson Bradley</b> Potts Rea
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>								
Sat 1	3.00pm	A	Wycombe Wanderers	<b>D 1-1</b>	6,072	1,702	9	Shea Stacey <b>Pearson 1</b> Bradley Potts Rea
Tue 4	7.45pm	H	Brighton & Hove Albion U21 (CT)	<b>W 2-1</b>	<b>1,318</b>	<b>44</b>	-	Isted <b>Justin Jones</b> Sheehan Senior McCormack ●
Sat 8	3.00pm	A	Doncaster Rovers	<b>L 1-2</b>	7,526	1,013	11	Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley Potts Rea
Sat 15	3.00pm	H	Bristol Rovers	<b>W 1-0</b>	<b>8,912</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley</b> Potts Rea
Sat 22	3.00pm	A	Blackpool	<b>D 0-0</b>	4,124	1,382	12	Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley Potts Rea
Sat 29	3.00pm	H	Charlton Athletic	<b>D 2-2</b>	<b>9,502</b>	<b>1,032</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley</b> Potts Rea
<b>OCTOBER</b>								
Tue 2	7.45pm	A	Oxford United	<b>W 2-1</b>	6,769	1,171	10	Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley <b>Potts 1</b> Rea ●
Sat 6	3.00pm	H	Scunthorpe United	<b>W 3-2</b>	<b>8,682</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley</b> Potts ● Rea
Tue 9	7.45pm	H	MK Dons (CT)	<b>W 3-0</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>208</b>	-	Isted <b>Justin Rea</b> Sheehan Senior McCormack
Sat 13	12.00pm	A	Barnsley	<b>L 2-3</b>	12,688	807	10	Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley Potts Rea ●
Sat 20	3.00pm	H	Walsall	<b>W 2-0</b>	<b>8,953</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley</b> Potts ● <b>Rea 1</b>
Tue 23	7.45pm	H	Accrington Stanley	<b>W 4-1</b>	<b>8,454</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley Justin Rea</b>
Sat 27	3.00pm	A	AFC Wimbledon	<b>W 2-0</b>	4,202	751	5	Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley Justin Rea
<b>NOVEMBER</b>								
Sat 3	3.00pm	A	Rochdale	<b>D 0-0</b>	3,689	858	5	Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley Justin Rea
Sat 10	3.00pm	H	Wycombe Wanderers (FACR1)	<b>W 2-0</b>	<b>5,343</b>	<b>786</b>	-	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley</b> Justin Rea
Tue 13	7.45pm	A	Peterborough United (CT)	<b>L 1-2</b>	2,017	254	-	Stech James Pearson Jones Sheehan McCormack
Sat 17	3.00pm	H	Plymouth Argyle	<b>W 5-1</b>	<b>10,004</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley</b> <b>Justin 1</b> Rea
Sat 24	3.00pm	A	Gillingham	<b>W 3-1</b>	5,671	1,282	4	Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley Justin Rea
Tue 27	7.45pm	H	Bradford City	<b>W 4-0</b>	<b>8,568</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley</b> <b>Justin 1</b> Rea
<b>DECEMBER</b>								
Sun 2	2.00pm	A	Bury (FACR2)	<b>W 1-0</b>	2,977	549	-	Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley Justin Rea
Wed 5	7.45pm	H	Southend United (CT2)	<b>D 1-1*</b>	<b>1,545</b>	<b>121</b>	-	<b>Stech Musonda Jones</b> Potts Senior ● Sheehan
Sat 8	3.00pm	H	Fleetwood Town	<b>W 2-0</b>	<b>8,528</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley</b> Justin Rea
Sat 15	3.00pm	A	Coventry City	<b>W 2-1</b>	12,559	2,598	2	Shea Stacey <b>Pearson 1</b> Bradley Justin Rea
Sat 22	3.00pm	H	Burton Albion	<b>W 2-0</b>	<b>9,538</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Shea Stacey 1 Pearson Bradley</b> Justin Rea ●
Wed 26	3.00pm	A	Scunthorpe United	<b>W 2-0</b>	4,050	766	2	Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley Justin Grant ●
Sat 29	3.00pm	A	Walsall	<b>D 2-2</b>	5,739	1,956	2	Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley Justin McCormack
<b>JANUARY</b>								
Tue 1	3.00pm	H	Barnsley	<b>D 0-0</b>	<b>9,926</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley</b> Justin McCormack
Sat 5	12.30pm	A	Sheffield Wednesday (FACR3)	<b>D 0-0</b>	16,974	4,219	-	Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley Justin McCormack
Sat 12	3.00pm	A	Sunderland	<b>D 1-1</b>	37,791	3,081	2	Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley Justin McCormack
Tue 15	7.45pm	H	Sheffield Wednesday (FACR3R)	<b>L 0-1</b>	<b>9,259</b>	<b>1,473</b>	-	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley</b> Justin <b>LuaLua</b>
Sat 19	3.00pm	H	Peterborough United	<b>W 4-0</b>	<b>10,055</b>	<b>1,031</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley</b> Justin McCormack ●
Sat 26	3.00pm	A	Southend United	<b>W 1-0</b>	8,460	2,037	1	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson 1 Bradley</b> Justin McCormack
Tue 29	7.45pm	H	Portsmouth	<b>W 3-2</b>	<b>10,078</b>	<b>1,033</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley</b> Justin McCormack
<b>FEBRUARY</b>								
Sat 2	3.00pm	A	Shrewsbury Town	<b>W 3-0</b>	6,859	1,334	1	Shea Stacey <b>Pearson 1</b> Bradley Justin McCormack ●
Sat 9	3.00pm	H	Wycombe Wanderers	<b>W 3-0</b>	<b>10,072</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley</b> Justin McCormack
Sat 16	3.00pm	A	Fleetwood Town	<b>W 2-1</b>	3,651	1,048	1	Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley Justin McCormack ●
Sun 24	12.00pm	H	Coventry City	<b>D 1-1</b>	<b>9,801</b>	<b>819</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson 1 Bradley</b> Justin McCormack
<b>MARCH</b>								
Sat 2	3.00pm	H	Rochdale	<b>W 2-0</b>	<b>9,905</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley</b> Justin McCormack
Sat 9	3.00pm	A	Plymouth Argyle	<b>D 0-0</b>	11,081	1,215	1	Shea Stacey Pearson Bradley Justin ● McCormack
Tue 12	7.45pm	A	Bradford City	<b>W 1-0</b>	15,992	1,044	1	<b>Shea Stacey 1 Pearson Bradley</b> Justin McCormack ●
Sat 16	3.00pm	H	Gillingham	<b>D 2-2</b>	<b>9,963</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Shea Stacey 1 Pearson Bradley</b> Justin <b>Berry</b> ●
Sat 23	3.00pm	H	Doncaster Rovers					
Sat 30	3.00pm	A	Bristol Rovers					
Luton Town Football Club's commitment is to promote inclusion and to confront and eliminate discrimination, whether by reason of age, disability, gender reassignment, sex, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief. People can be assured of an environment in which their rights, dignity and individual worth are respected, and in particular that they are able to work and watch football in an environment without the threat of intimidation, victimisation, harassment, bullying and abuse. Should you wish to report a specific incident, please contact your nearest steward or download Kick It Out's free, confidential reporting app on the App Store or Google Play.								
<b>APRIL</b>								
Sat 6	3.00pm	H	Blackpool					
Sat 13	3.00pm	A	Charlton Athletic					
Sat 20	5.30pm	A	Accrington Stanley					
Tue 23	7.45pm	H	AFC Wimbledon					
Sat 27	3.00pm	A	Burton Albion					
<b>MAY</b>								
Sat 4	5.30pm	H	Oxford United					

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## **TODAY'S SKY BET LEAGUE ONE FIXTURES**

AFC Wimbledon v Gillingham	Luton Town v Doncaster Rovers	Shrewsbury Town v Portsmouth
Bradford City v Blackpool	Peterborough Utd v Southend Utd	Walsall v Barnsley
Burton Albion v Accrington Stanley	Plymouth Argyle v Bristol Rovers	
Coventry City v Oxford United	Rochdale v Scunthorpe United	

\*Lost 2-4 on penalties

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# TICKETS

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**BRISTOL  
ROVERS**

SKY BET LEAGUE ONE | 3PM | SATURDAY 30TH MARCH

Tickets in home sections for this game have now sold out.



**BLACKPOOL**

SKY BET LEAGUE ONE | 3PM | SATURDAY 6TH APRIL

Tickets in home sections for this game have now sold out.



**CHARLTON  
ATHLETIC**

SKY BET LEAGUE ONE | 3PM | SATURDAY 13TH APRIL

Tickets for this away game have now sold out.



**MACCA IS  
FEBRUARY'S  
DIAMOND!**

Town midfielder Alan McCormack has won the Diamond Player of the Month Award for February.

In another month when there have been a number of excellent performances, nine different players received votes.

However, Alan pipped both Matty Pearson and James Collins to the award by three votes.

Diamond season ticket holder Mick Thornton was drawn from the hat and received a Diamond hospitality package for last week's game against Gillingham, after which he presented the monthly trophy to Macca.

Thanks to all those that took the time to vote!



**ACCRINGTON  
STANLEY**

SKY BET LEAGUE ONE | 5.30PM | SATURDAY 20TH APRIL

Ticket information for this fixture will be released in due course.



**AFC WIMBLEDON**

SKY BET LEAGUE ONE | 7.45PM | TUESDAY 23RD APRIL

Tickets in home sections for this game have now sold out.

## afc wimbledon game moved

The Hatters' Sky Bet League One match against AFC Wimbledon has now been moved to Tuesday 23rd April, with the game kicking off at 7.45pm.

The match against the Dons was due to be played on Monday 22nd April, but has been moved as a result of the Hatters' game versus Accrington being rescheduled to be broadcast live on Sky Sports from the Friday to the Saturday.

We apologise to any supporters inconvenienced by this change of date and kick-off time.





# HOLD THE BACK PAGE

BY GREG PITCHER,  
FREELANCE JOURNALIST AND HATTERS FAN

Dear Kenilworth Road,

Now we've finally decided to part I wanted to take this opportunity to tell you just how much you mean to me.

The time is right to move on, and we can both look forward to more glamorous futures apart, but I know I'll never replace you. How could I? You were my childhood sweetheart. My first true love.

Sure it started as a relationship of convenience. I used you at first, my ticket to the stars. Gascoigne, Lineker, Merson, Rush. You knew them all and I couldn't resist the lure of seeing them strutting on your plastic floors.

But I was just a boy. We grew together. Familiarity and emotion, the writing was on the wall. We just needed a spark and soon it came. The FA Cup. Heady nights, your Kenilworth Road End swaying. Oakes, Telfer, Hughes lighting up the dark – these were my heroes now and they belonged to you, no-one else.

Wembley was flat when it came. Something was missing. Of course it was – you weren't there.

Life moved on but we only grew tighter. I moved away, 170 miles between us but never a thought for anyone else. Passionate trips back. Old faces, familiar rituals.

Of course it hasn't always been smooth sailing. I admit we got stuck in a rut. Lawrence, Hill, Fuccillo – it seemed like you couldn't be bothered anymore. You looked tired. Even the TVs disappeared. I admit I yearned for better.

It was Big Fat Joe who finally ignited us again, my love, what wonderful days. Eight goal thriller against Swansea and away we went. I was so sorry I ever doubted you.

Greg

What a rollercoaster it was. Top of the Championship one heady August. By then I was on the other side of the world but we connected every day. I lay in bed listening with excitement as Liverpool's latest generation almost perished – Gerrard, Carragher and of course Alonso. That goal just adding to your legend. Ensuring you'll never be forgotten.

Hard times soon came. Harsh punishments. Plummeting fortunes. From entertaining Liverpool to inviting in Chester City. Losing at home to Stevenage. Anger on faces. Harsh words. Lonely nights. Worse still – the creeping realisation of our new place in the world.

Still I came to you. Perhaps I knew nothing else. But how you've rewarded me. Still, Jones, Harford. Gray, Hylton, Ruddock. A rush of blood, an affirmation.

In the end, the last 30 years has shown me that it's not your circumstances that matter to me – it's you.

Yes you drive me mad at times – those pillars you leave in front of the seats, the toilets you never seem to spend any money on and what can I say about your food?

Of course I'm looking forward to our new lives apart – you can be so much more than this and I can hardly stop looking at my new partner. She's younger, prettier, closer to the station and I've already imagined us watching the big names together once more.

But that's for the future. This is just to say thank you, my first true love, Kenilworth Road.

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# TEAMS



Manager: MICK HARFORD

- 1 Marek STECH
- 2 James JUSTIN
- 3 Dan POTTS
- 4 Alan MCCORMACK
- 5 Sonny BRADLEY
- 6 Matty PEARSON
- 7 Jack STACEY
- 8 Luke BERRY
- 9 Danny HYLTON
- 10 Elliot LEE
- 11 Andrew SHINNIE
- 12 Alex BAPTISTE
- 14 Harry CORNICK
- 16 Glen REA
- 17 Pelly-Ruddock MPANZU
- 19 James COLLINS
- 20 George MONCUR
- 23 Jason CUMMINGS
- 24 George THORNE
- 25 Kazenga LUALUA
- 35 Arthur READ
- 36 James SHEA
- 40 Harry ISTED
- 44 Alan SHEEHAN
- Aaron CONNOLY

Manager: GRANT McCANN

- 1 Ian LAWLER
- 3 Danny ANDREW
- 5 Joe WRIGHT
- 6 Andrew BUTLER
- 7 Mallik WILKS
- 8 Ben WHITEMAN
- 9 John MARQUIS
- 10 Tommy ROWE
- 11 Ali CRAWFORD
- 12 Tom ANDERSON
- 13 Marko MAROSI
- 14 Alfie BEESTIN
- 15 Herbie KANE
- 17 Matty BLAIR
- 18 Tyler SMITH
- 19 Alfie MAY
- 21 Will LONGBOTTOM
- 22 Kieran SADLIER
- 25 Shane BLANEY
- 26 James COPPINGER
- 27 Max WATTERS
- 31 Paul DONNELLY
- 32 Cody PRIOR
- 33 Louis JONES

## MATCH OFFICIALS

JOHN BUSBY  
 PAUL YATES

ANTHONY DA COSTA  
 DANIEL MIDDLETON

**NEXT HOME GAME:**  
**BLACKPOOL**  
**(SKY BET LEAGUE ONE)**  
**Sat 6th April 2019 | KO: 3pm**

