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OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME 2020-21
ISSUE #7 | LUTON TOWN V BLACKBURN ROVERS
21.11.20 | KO: 3PM



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OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

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editor and/or Luton Town.



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NATHAN JONES

I hope everyone is keeping well and staying safe in these testing times for everyone.

We are back at Kenilworth Road this afternoon for the first time in three weeks, and sadly we still can't have you here with us in person, but we know that you're supporting us in every possible way you can.

Blackburn are the visitors today and we welcome Tony Mowbray, his staff and players just as we did on that memorable night four months ago when we retained our Championship status.

If ever there was a match that you all deserved to be here for it was that one, and just as on that occasion, we know that as another opponent who have recently been a Premier League club, Blackburn will present a tough test for us.

We believe we have improved significantly from that point and are now showing that we are competitive at Championship level. Taking four points from six on the road sent us into the international break in a really good place, with 17 points from our first 11 matches.

We want to establish ourselves in the division and to do that, we need to maintain that level over the next 35

matches as we look to move the club forward on every level, with the help of a great board, a terrific CEO and the best supporters who, even though you aren't here at the games, are playing a huge part as part of the one team, one goal mantra that we have here.

The four days we had in Yorkshire for the Rotherham and Huddersfield matches were really important in that process, as it gave us chance to limit the travelling time and get some rest into the players at the end of a manic schedule of matches, as well as a bit of team bonding.

After the two-week break for all but five of the squad – who we were proud to see represent their countries and get at least one full match in each – we now enter another congested period where we play 12 matches in the six weeks to January 2nd. That is the same ratio that we had during the 2019-20 restart, with three more matches thrown in over a week and a half longer period.

But bearing in mind that this sequence then continues with the FA Cup and midweek matches through most of January, February and March before the next international break, I am glad that we are now able to revert to making five substitutions from nine possible game changers on the bench.

Boosted by the arrival of Gabriel Osho, a player we have liked for a long time and who we welcome to the club, we head into today's match with a fully fit squad of 25. Hopefully the sensible decision that the EFL has taken will help us maintain that condition and we can really kick on.

Enjoy today's game and we will hopefully be back together, and stronger for it, very soon.

COYH!



DAVID WILKINSON

Hello everyone. This afternoon we welcome the players and officials from Blackburn Rovers.

Last season we won both home and away so let's hope that we can continue the trend. Despite that I was interested to see that midfielder Joe Rothwell was quoted as saying: "No disrespect to Luton at all here, but they are a team we expect to beat". No disrespect to him, but that should give us an added incentive.

We have differing views on international breaks; on one hand they provide some respite from the intensity of the campaign and time for recovery, and on the other it can interrupt momentum.

They also concertina the time available to fulfill the league programme, and the run up to Christmas is a case in point when we have 10 games in 5 weeks. We will certainly be pleased that we have a strong squad to call on.

Having said all that, we are very proud of all those who have been in their relative international squads this week. Well done to Simon Sluga, Tom Lockyer, Rhys Norrington-Davies, Joe Morrell and James Collins. Another example of how far we have come in a short period of time.

A couple of weeks ago, on my birthday, I remembered the quote: "The good thing about getting old is that you don't

lose all the other ages you've ever been". It strikes me that the same is true of football. Obviously we would never have chosen to drop down into the Conference, but the loyalty and support of our fans and the determination and belief of everyone involved makes us the responsible club we are today in the Championship.

I often wonder why the experience we have had has seemingly been wiped from history. No mention of massive points deductions when comparing current punishments for what seem like more serious crimes. If I remember correctly, we had no right to appeal against something, which put us out of the Football League for five years. There is surely a lot to learn from not only our progress, but that of Rotherham and Bournemouth, who were punished relatively heavily at the same time.

Consistency is what we strive for, but it seems that getting it from the powers-that-be at any level is becoming as rare as hen's teeth.

I note that on Thursday the Government announced a scheme to help major spectator sports in England, which is of course welcome and will provide some support for clubs lower down the pyramid, but although there's plenty of talk, no deal has yet been offered to the Championship. Whatever does come forward, whether it be from Government or Premier League, it is likely to be by way of loan secured against future income. So the problems are deferred, but not removed, and the changes to the structure of the leagues, which have been discussed at such length, will still be vital for the long term future of the game.

We understand that the government doesn't have money. It has to borrow it, raise it in taxes or print it, and all of those options have painful ramifications. Revenue in football comes from many sources, and at the moment, one of the major ones is restricted by the government, namely crowds in grounds. It is this plus the additional costs of managing Covid and staging games without revenue, which is causing the problem. It could be argued that the Championship is the most seriously affected



Obviously we would never have chosen to drop down into the Conference, but the loyalty and support of our fans and the determination and belief of everyone involved makes us the responsible club we are today in the Championship.



by this because gate income represents a larger percentage of turnover than any other league, and certainly the Premier. We look forward to the time when this is properly acknowledged and fully addressed.

As you know we are putting together an Under-21 squad and have arranged friendly fixtures against an interesting mixture of clubs. It provides an opportunity for those now too old for the U18s, who have come through the ranks, and some new signings to get decent competitive football. In the past week we have played at Birmingham and Charlton and I was fortunate to be able to watch and enjoy the games.

To that end could I welcome Gabby Osho. He played a part in both games and even I could see that he can play although, clearly, with so much time out, we'll all need to be patient with his progress. Good luck Gabby I hope you enjoy your time with us.

On a negative note we were naturally very disappointed by the Council's decision to approve planning for an Aldi store at Gypsy Lane, and even more disappointed that the high court system is seemingly avoiding the issue. It seems that authorities can get away with anything these days.

The point is, we achieved planning consent at Power Court and in the current economic climate it makes no sense to allow competition so close by.

Every individual piece of our plans are contingent upon each other, and if one piece falls, the whole plan may need to be restructured. It feels like investing millions into obtaining a planning consent has no protection anymore, especially as we had such a fantastic operator lined up, which will now fall by the wayside.

We trust that this is an isolated episode and we can move forward together to complete the project, and all we hope is that the Council appreciates that this will affect Power Court and will work tirelessly to make amends as we approach our planning amendments for both Newlands Park and Power Court.

Enjoy the game. COME ON You Hatters
David



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SONNY BRADLEY

The Hatters captain reflects on four big points on the road in Yorkshire

Good afternoon everyone, I hope you are all safe and well and looking forward to another big game in the Championship this afternoon at the start of a crazy winter period.

Prior to the international break, we earned two positive results against Rotherham and Huddersfield. I think we definitely deserved to beat Rotherham and on a different day, that could have been three or four-nil.

We defended really well when we were under the cosh in the first half, and then took control after the break. Last season we may have been out of it by that point, which shows how far we've come.

To then reset and go again after a few days' bonding together staying up in Yorkshire, getting a draw against another tough team in Huddersfield, I think is a really positive result and a measure of our improvement as a team.

It was important we got a reaction after Brentford and I think that is exactly what we did. We have given ourselves a good platform to build on, moving on to the next set of fixtures which again are very demanding and very busy.

We now enter a period of Saturday games followed by midweek matches right up until the New Year, but I believe we recruited really well in the summer and anyone that is asked to step up I think is ready for Championship football.

In that respect, we're quite lucky to have options available to us, but the season goes on. We can't make any excuses, it is going to be difficult, but we are ready for the challenge.

We have to compliment our physio department as well because they have got a real job on their hands, more than ever this season. There are more fixtures, the training load is pretty much the same and with that comes more injuries and more work to do.

I know Simon, Chris and Daz do a fantastic job and they're going to be needed more than anyone from now until the end of the season. They play a massive part in everything we do.

This afternoon we face Blackburn and that immediately brings back happy memories from last season, although that last match is somewhat of a blur still.

They are a difficult side to play against and they have real quality. When you look at the players they have recruited, I feel they will certainly be looking for a top six finish this season.

But I think we have proven over the course of the first half of the season, if we're on it, we can beat anyone our day. For us, it is all about preparing well and on the day, making sure we put in a good performance to try and win the game.

Please continue to stay safe, keep up your support however you can - we really do appreciate it - and enjoy today's game.

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JAMES COLLINS

James Collins spoke of battle with COVID-19 after scoring in the Hatters' 1-0 victory against Rotherham United, a win that was based on the second half performance, was fully merited.

It was the only the second match he started after missing three matches because of a positive test, and Collins admitted: "It was horrible. I was really ill, I had a chest infection as well, so I had that and the virus. I was bed-bound for three or four days and then I was trying to get myself back fit, obviously isolating as well. It wasn't a great time but I'm glad to be back involved now, I can find my feet again and get back match sharp."

His volley in the 70th minute beyond Jamal Blackman lifted the Hatters up into ninth and earned them a third win in Yorkshire this term, following victories at Barnsley and Sheffield Wednesday.

As always, Collo was honest in his reflection of the 90 minutes, beginning: "First half not so good but second half was a great performance. To come away in the Championship and win one-nil away from home is a great result, people say it is the best result in football so we're certainly happy with it in there."

Town had a flurry of chances in the second half and dominated proceedings as the goal eventually came with 20 minutes left.

"I think second half and I think throughout the game, we had the best chances but I think we were second to everything all over the pitch in the first half. Second half, we were bang at it and showed what a good side we are.

"We practise them, I made eye contact with Bez and I knew exactly where he was going to put it and to be fair to him, he's put it on a plate for me, all I had to do was get contact and it's a goal so as much credit goes to him as the finish."

The striker had another chance just before netting his fifth goal of the season but on reflection, the 29-year-old said: "I think it was just behind me, I got something on it then it hit the defender and creped wide. I couldn't tell you where it hit me but it's just one of those things, it is just getting back into the swing of things now, finding my feet and obviously delighted to get the winner."

Words: Dan Briard



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GEORGE MONCUR

George Moncur was delighted to score his first goal of the season and thanked manager Nathan Jones for putting his faith in him for the last two matches.

The midfielder started against Rotherham United and versus Huddersfield Town, for which his hard work was rewarded with a good finish to give the Hatters the lead at the John Smith's Stadium.

It extends a fantastic record in which Moncur has now scored eight times in just 12 starts since signing for the club in January 2019 and the former West Ham youngster was in good spirits following the final whistle.

"Like I say in every interview that I give, I give thanks to Jesus first because without him I wouldn't be here so all glory to him but also thanks to the manager for putting faith in me to go and show what I can do. I'm really happy for my team mates, we've picked up an important four points on the road."

On his goal, the first he has scored since his last-minute winner against Wigan Athletic last season, Moncs said: "I remember the person marking me was a little bit off, I thought if I can just get across him, I'll have a chance.

"When I saw the ball coming over, I think he switched off for a second and I put faith in my contact because I know I have good technique, so just concentrated on hitting the ball and thankfully it went in."

Moncur made his first league starts of the season in the respective away trips to Yorkshire and understands the tricky task Jones is presented with trying to pick the team.

"He has a very difficult job because there are 25 real good players in there, and he can only pick 11 plus the subs. I want to thank him for what he has done, how he's tried to improve my mindset. He's sort of the first manager that has tried to knuckle down off the ball with me, I think it's really working and hopefully I can carry on."

"I don't try and get too happy or too low because that is the character that I am, but I'm really happy with myself. I think defensively I have tried to get better and I think that is the reason I've probably got in now. I've tried to knuckle down and that is what I'm going to focus on going forward."

Words: Dan Briard



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FACT FILE

NICKNAME: Rovers

STADIUM: Ewood Park

CAPACITY: 31,367

LEAGUE POSITION 19-20: 11th in the Championship

MANAGER: Tony Mowbray

MILES FROM LUTON: 193 miles

LAST MEETING: Kenilworth Road, 22/07/20, 3-2, Championship

RECORD BUY: £8m for Jordan Rhodes from Huddersfield, 2012

FAMOUS FANS: Matt Smith (Doctor Who), Lee Mack, Carl Fogarty





THE MANAGER

TONY MOWBRAY

Vastly experienced manager Tony Mowbray has been at the Ewood Park helm since February 2017, and is now into his fourth full season with the club.

As a player, the 56-year-old spent time with Middlesbrough, Celtic and Ipswich, before branching out into management - first as a caretaker manager with Ipswich, before stints at Hibernian, West Brom and Celtic.

After his sacking at Parkhead, Mowbray went onto manage another of his former playing clubs, spending three years at Middlesbrough before losing his job.

He then spent time as Coventry City manager, resigning in September 2016, before replacing Owen Coyle at Blackburn.

BLACKBURN ROVERS

ON THE GOALKEEPER



THOMAS KAMINSKI

Belgian goalkeeper Thomas Kaminski is one of Rovers' signings from this summer's transfer window, joining the club from Gent.

The 28-year-old made his professional debut with Germinal Beerschot, before stints across his home nation with OH Leuven and Anderlecht, as well as loan spells in Europe with Greek side Anorthosis Famagusta and in Denmark with FC Copenhagen.

Kaminski then had spells with Kortrijk and Gent, racking up regular appearances in the Jupiler Pro League, before switching to the Sky Bet Championship and Blackburn Rovers this summer.

DEFENDER



DARRAGH LENIHAN

Republic of Ireland international Darragh Lenihan joined Blackburn in the summer of 2011, signing from Irish side Belvedere.

Coming through the club's development sides, the 26-year-old spent five months away from Ewood Park on loan at Burton Albion to gain first-team football. During his short spell with the Brewers, he made 17 league appearances.

Once his loan spell at the Pirelli Stadium ended, Lenihan returned to the club and has been a regular for Rovers since making his debut in April 2015.

After impressing at club level, the defender made his international debut in June 2018 in a fixture against the USA.

RADAR

MIDFIELD



LEWIS HOLTBY

Beginning his professional career with Alemannia Aachen, Lewis Holtby became a regular for the side in the 2.Bundesliga, before signing for Schalke in 2009.

He spent four years with the Gelsenkirchen club, making 55 Bundesliga appearances and spending time on loan at Bochum and Mainz. Holtby, who has three German caps to his name, then moved to the Premier League, signing for Tottenham.

The 30-year-old struggled to break into the Spurs first team, and spent time on loan with Fulham, and then Hamburg. He joined Hamburg on a permanent deal in 2015, spending four years with the club before joining Blackburn in September 2019.

STRIKER



BEN BRERETON

Following his release from Stoke City, Ben Brereton signed for Nottingham Forest's academy in 2015, eventually progressing into the first team set-up at the City Ground.

After breaking into the Forest side, the 21-year-old was named as the Championship Apprentice of the Year during the 2016/17 season. He would go onto make over 50 Championship appearances for Forest, scoring eight times.

In August 2018, Brereton signed for Blackburn on loan, with an option to make the deal permanent. After six months at Ewood Park, he made the long-term move to Lancashire for an undisclosed fee, and has been a regular under Tony Mowbray.



KEEP AN EYE ON...

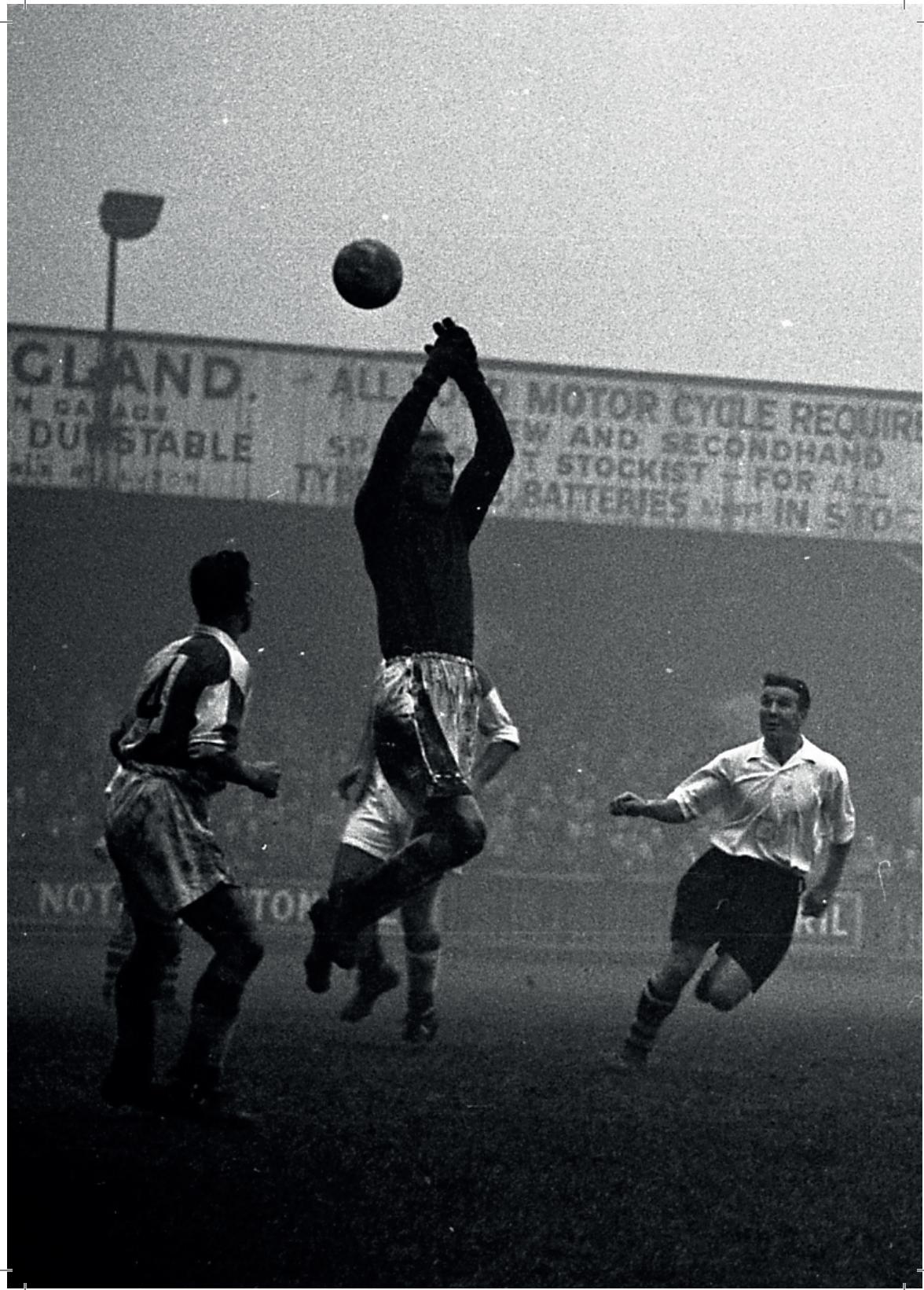
ADAM ARMSTRONG

One of Blackburn's main goal threats, and key men in attack, Adam Armstrong has proven himself to be adept at Championship level, and is currently the league's top goal scorer.

Born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Armstrong was a product of the Newcastle United academy. The 23-year-old was unable to maintain a first team place with the Magpies, spending time away on loan at Coventry, Barnsley, and Bolton.

Armstrong joined Blackburn on an initial loan spell in January 2018, and signed permanently in August of the same year. He has made an impressive start to the 2020/21 season, scoring 11 times in the Championship so far.

Words: Ryan Payne



CLASSIC CLASH

LUTON TOWN 6 BLACKBURN ROVERS 0. 15TH NOVEMBER 1952.
DIVISION TWO (NOW THE CHAMPIONSHIP).

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES INTO HIS ARCHIVES...

The Town had bagged 13 goals in their previous three home games leading up to a clash with Blackburn on a dreary November afternoon.

At half-time, with the Hatters only one up, supporters were thinking that the goal-fest was now over but in the second period five goals were netted in 32 minutes which included a hat-trick from Jesse Pye who had a field day against 17 year old Blackburn centre-half Alan Bean.

Pictured are Charlie Watkins and Bernard Moore waiting for a slip by the Rovers goalkeeper.



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LUTON TOWN



FULL COLOUR PRINTING

By club historian Roger Wash



IN THIS SUNDAY

REYNOLDS NEWS

The long awaited Hatters' Heritage website has now launched – have a look on www.hattersheritage.co.uk

In turn, we aim to run a series throughout the season showcasing artefacts and memorabilia in our collection reflecting the club's rich history.

In the early 1960s, the now departed Sunday newspaper Reynolds News featured a 'colour' photo of a different football team each week. Naturally, they wished to advertise the forthcoming photo in the catchment area of the club in question so they placed posters around the town. This poster is from March 1961 and must have fallen off a wall!!

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WELCOME TO MORE NEW BOYS!

The transfer window may be closed, but since our most recent home game against Brentford, we have welcomed four new free agent signings to Kenilworth Road to boost Nathan Jones' senior squad and the evolving Under-21 ranks as part of the development set-up at the club.

Gabriel Osho is the most recent, and as an accomplished right-back or centre-half, the 22-year-old brings versatility to Jones' defensive options following his departure from Reading at the end of last season.

Osho spent over a decade with the Royals, coming through the academy, and made his Championship debut back in December 2018 against Middlesbrough.

He had already gained first-hand experience of men's football in 2017 and 2018, when he spent time on-loan with Maidenhead United and Aldershot Town, and later joined Bristol Rovers and Yeovil Town in other loan spells.

He impressed during the latter stages of last season, where he made five Championship appearances, including in Reading's 5-0 victory against the Hatters at Kenilworth Road where he played the full 90 minutes at right-back.

Osho, who captained Reading's Under-23s, said: "It's taken a bit of time since I first heard it was a possibility of coming to Luton, but I'm buzzing to be here. I made a decision to leave Reading because I wanted an opportunity like this for the next part of my development, and I'm so pleased it's been sorted and I'm now a Luton Town player. I've only got good experiences of Kenilworth Road from last season. I can't wait to get started and get back out there in an orange shirt!"





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Also joining the Hatters development squad are a trio with experience of coming through the ranks at Premier League clubs, with ex-Watford winger Dion Pereira, Crystal Palace wideman TQ Addy and former West Bromwich Albion attacking midfielder Jack Chambers signing as free agents.

Pereira is a 21-year-old winger who made two Premier League appearances for Watford and won their young player of the year award for 2016-17, before moving to the USA in 2019 to join MLS side Atlanta United, meaning his signing is subject to international clearance.

"I've had a bit of experience in the Premier League and a whole season in a first-team environment out in America, but this is definitely a chance for me to kick-start my career back in England," said Dion. "Going to America was a great experience and it's something that not too many youngsters get nowadays, so it's been a benefit to me, and I know what's needed at this high level.

"The set-up of this club sounds amazing. Obviously the Under-23s set-up is only starting this year, with a view to next season being in the league, but the

pathway to the first team is there as long as you do the hard work. That's what I intend to do."

Addy is another wideman who was offered a first professional contract by Palace this summer having featured regularly for the Eagles' U23 side last term, but has opted to move away from Selhurst Park to further his career.

The 18-year-old, who had been in Palace's academy since joining from Fulham at the age of 11, said: "I came in a couple of weeks ago and played some matches, and it's been really good. The coaches have been supportive, as have people around the club.

"There have been people high up who you wouldn't expect to know your name, but they come to speak to you, so it gives you a bit of confidence coming in to hit the ground running, keep working hard and show what you've got.

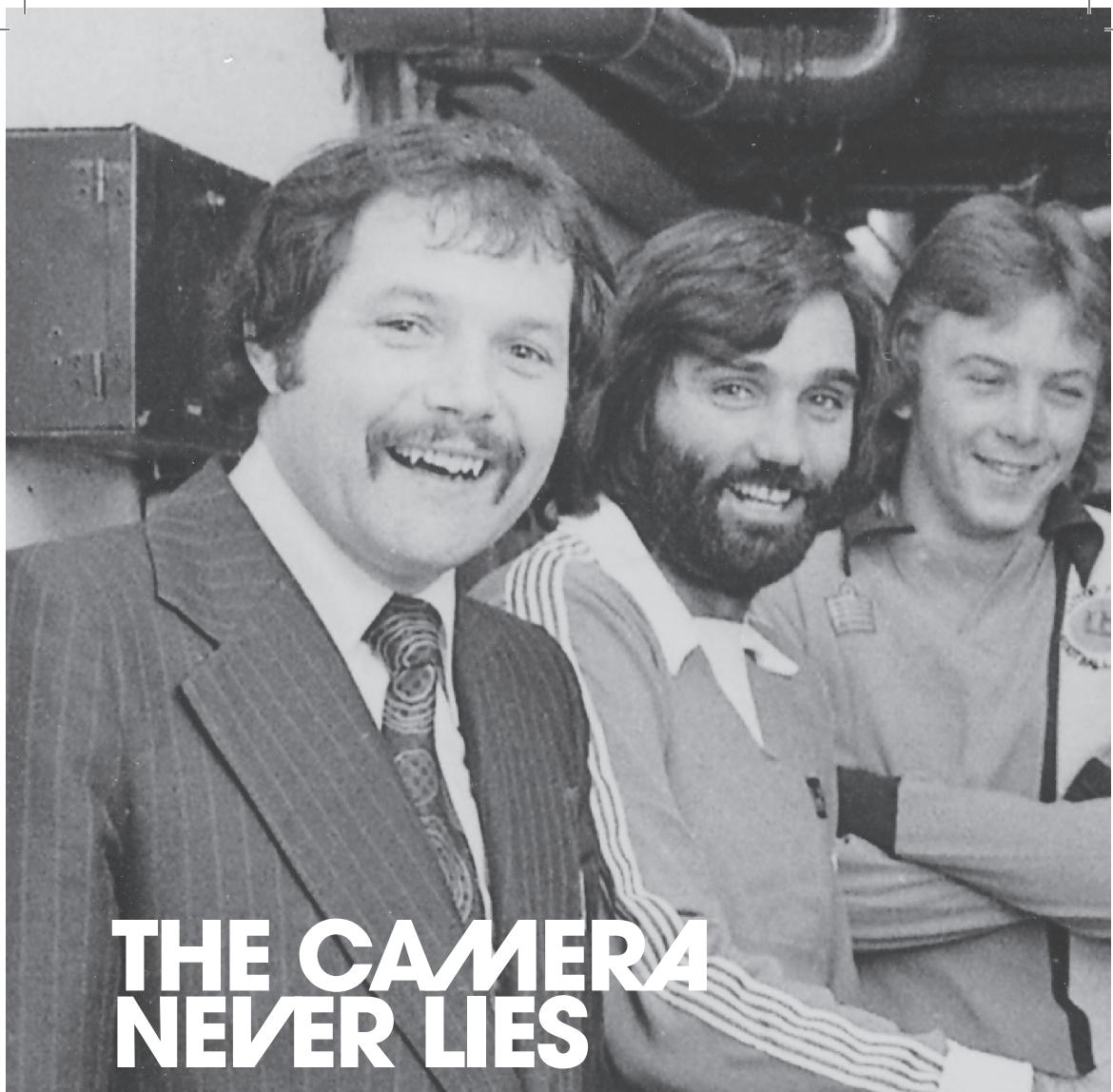
"I've seen the results that the first team have been getting in recent years, I've seen the history around the club as I've been walking around the stadium, and it just seems like the right environment to be in. I've seen a few of the players

who have come through here, like James Justin, and it shows that if you do well, they want the best for you. That's all you can ask for from a club. I can't wait to get going."

Chambers, 20, is a Northern Ireland U19 international who moved over with his family from Banbridge, near Belfast, as a 16-year-old to sign for Albion. The former Linfield youth player arrives at Kenilworth Road after being released by the Baggies at the end of last season, but has continued to train full-time with the Hawthorns club before playing in recent friendlies for the development squad.

Jack said: "I've come here on trial and played two games, got a couple of assists in those games, and I've hopefully impressed. I'm looking forward to playing more matches than I've been able to recently at West Brom.

"There is a lot more of a pathway here for me. It all seems really good and promising. Even having meetings with the Chief Executive, you don't really get that a lot as younger players at other clubs. That tells you a lot about the club you're coming into and I'm really excited to be here."



THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

In October 1975, the Hatters were invited to play in a friendly game at Dunstable Town to mark the official switch-on of the new floodlights at Creasey Park.

Guesting for Dunstable was George Best which naturally bumped up the attendance. Pictured before the game are (left to right):- Dunstable Town manager Barry Fry, Best, Andy King, Peter Anderson, Alan West and Luton manager Harry Haslam.

Roger Wash



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KIT SPONSORS 20/21

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YOUTH TEAM

KEY: H: HOME | A: AWAY

JOSH ALLEN  H: Available A: Available	EDDIE CORBIT  H: Available A: Available	JACOB COWLER  H: Available A: Available	AIDAN FRANCIS  H: Available A: Available
JOSEPH HALSEY  H: Available A: Available	JAMESON HORLICK  H: Available A: Available G: SGW Goalkeeping	TRA LUCAS  H: Les Miller - Miller & Company A: Available	ED MCJANNET  H: Gill, Julie, Neil & Yvonne A: Available
MATTHEW MOLONEY  H: Blakeney Estates A: Available	TYRELLE NEWTON  H: Available A: Available	CALLUM NICOLSON  H: Available A: Available	CASEY PETTIT  H: Gill, Julie, Neil & Yvonne A: TV Sport Blogs
BEN STEVENS  H: Available A: Available	JOSHUA SWAN  H: Available A: Available	ADAM WEDD  H: JB Associates A: The Wedds	COREE WILSON  H: Liz Evans A: Available



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ACADEMY UPDATE

A insight into the academy and our bright young prospects with ANDY AWFORD

U21s

A warm welcome to Jack Chambers, TQ Addy and Dion Periera. All three players have recently signed contracts and featured in the latest batch of U21 fixtures against Hemel Hempstead (won 3-2), Academy23 (won 2-0), Birmingham City (lost 2-1) and Tuesday afternoon's trip to Charlton Athletic (lost 4-3).

All the recent fixtures have given the players a variety of challenges, which is what we intend to continue to offer this particular group between now and the end of the season. Further fixtures are organised against Peterborough, Crystal Palace and Bournemouth that will again test and develop our young players.

The latest fixture was a real game of two halves away at Charlton. A fine first half display saw us deservedly 3-0 up at half-time with well taken goals from Jack Chambers, Josh Neuville and Jake Peck.

However, within 20 minutes of the restart we were pegged back to 3-3 as Charlton scored from a corner kick and two penalties. We regrouped well and were unfortunate not to retake the lead, hitting both the post and the bar as we regained some control of the game with a decent 15-minute spell. However,

Charlton managed to score the winner five minutes before the end and although another couple of chances came our way, we could not find the net.

A great game for the neutrals and a big learning curve for our young players as we continue to test and develop them against good and varied opposition.

U18s

The Youth team remain top of the Youth Alliance League, picking up four points from their last two league fixtures - beating Gillingham 1-0 and drawing 2-2 with Northampton.

Next up in the league are two away fixtures at AFC Wimbledon and Leyton Orient, whilst we look forward to playing under the lights at Kenilworth Road in the third round of The FA Youth Cup against West Ham United. That tie will take place on Thursday 3rd December, with a 7pm kick-off.

Schoolboys

The latest government lockdown meant that our U9-U14s programme had to shut down at the beginning of November (thankfully the boys are now allowed back in!)

However, our U15/16s have been able to train and play and produced some very good performances of late. Victories over QPR, Gillingham and Brighton have set the standard for this group and we look forward to an exciting and varied games programme between now and Christmas with fixtures lined up against Fulham, AFC Wimbledon, Charlton Athletic, Southend United, Arsenal, Portsmouth and Norwich City.

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LUTON TOWN COMMUNITY TRUST

PL KICKS project brings Police, Youth Offending Services and local youths together

It's been a difficult lockdown for many young people in Luton, deprived of both the places they gather and the daily activities they are used to enjoying, particularly sport and definitely football!

Our PL KICKS project funded by the Premier League uses the power of football to engage with young people from deprived backgrounds, offering access to local facilities not available to them and providing diversionary activity designed to prevent anti-social behaviour that could lead to more serious involvement in knife crime, drugs and gangs.

Following the successful relaunch of our KICKS project in September, the KICKS team organised a fantastic tournament which brought local police officers and KICKS participants together on the Marsh Farm Estate to play against each other and the games took place just days before the more recent lockdown came into force.

PCSO Imran Khan who works for the Amber Unit, which is a partnership project jointly run by Bedfordshire Police and the Luton Youth Offending Service, set up to raise awareness of and to divert young

people in Luton away from gangs and the dangers of knife crime took part and commented: "The KICKS initiative is a great way to help divert young people away from criminality and develop interpersonal skills such as communication, team working, listening and self-confidence. This will help them in the world of work and social interactions.

"Thank you to the Luton Town KICKS team for organising a fantastic football match between local officers and the community as part of the KICKS initiative. It was an amazing game of football with young people at Lea Manor Recreation Centre and breaking down barriers between the young people, Police and the wider community."

PL KICKS provides both the Police and Youth services access to young people across Luton they find difficult to reach and communicate with. Our three weekly centres in Lewsey, Marsh Farm and Farley Hill offer both the Police and Youth Offending services the opportunity to meet and interact with local youths on issues likely to cause harm or unrest on some of our biggest estates while at the same time offering diversionary activities for hundreds of local young people.



OUR TOWN | LUTON TOWN V BLACKBURN ROVERS | 21.11.20 | PAGE 33



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JUNIOR HATTERS CROSSWORD

Can you fill in all the words using the clues below?

1

2 | | | | | |

3 | | | | | |

PELLY STRIKES AGAIN!



4 | | | | | |

5 | | | | |

DOWN

1. When a player scores two goals in a single game.
2. He wears number 12.
5. Another name for a football manager.

ACROSS

2. Another word for a captain.
3. Hatters number 10.
4. He's the Nottingham Forest manager.



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Formed: 1865
Stadium: City Ground
Capacity: 30,445
Last season: 7th (Ch)
Head to head with Luton:
Luton wins - 27
Draws - 15
Forest wins - 21
Manager: Chris Hughton



Answers: Crossword: (Across) 2. Skipper, 3. Elliot Lee, 4. Chris Hughton (Down) 1. Brace, 2. Slimon Sludge, 5. Gaffer



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LUTON 0 BRENTFORD 3

SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2020 | KENILWORTH ROAD

BRENTFORD SCORERS: HENRY 20', TONEY 29', FORSS 76'

ATTENDANCE: BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

TO READ THE FULL MATCH REPORT, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.lutontown.co.uk



LUTON TOWN	BRENTFORD
SLUGA	RAYA
CRANIE	DALSGAARD
LOCKYER	PINNOCK
PEARSON ▲ 37'	BECH SORENSEN
BRADLEY	HENRY ○ 20'
NORTON-DAVIES ▲ 45'	DASILVA
REA	JANELT
DEWSBURY-HALL	MARCONDES ▲ 75'
MPANZU	MBEUMO ▲ 82'
CLARK ▲ 74'	TONEY ○ 29' ▲ 75'
HYLTON ■	CANOS
SUBSTITUTES ▲ ▲	
SHEA	THOMPSON
TUNNICLIFFE	GOODE
BERRY ▲ 46'	JENSEN ▲ 75'
LEE	FORSS ▲ 75 ○ 76'
COLLINS ▲ 74'	GHODDOS
LUALUA ▲ 37'	FOSU-HENRY ▲ 82'
MORRELL	NNA NOUKEU



Nathan Jones was honest in his reflection following his side's 3-0 defeat to Brentford in the Sky Bet Championship.

Jones said: "It was very difficult but we're going to have difficult afternoons when you are in the Championship, because we know they are a wonderful footballing side with a way of playing and a way of recruiting.

"They sell, they get proper athletes and get them in and that costs a hell of a lot of money, which is something we haven't got the luxury of doing.

"We competed until the first goal, structurally looked good and it's just when we don't quite do things right, we get punished and then it's difficult to get back into the game against a team like that.

"If you do become open and take gambles, then they can hurt

you. But today they were the better side, they're a wonderful side and credit to Brentford and Thomas.

"They are a good group of players, well rehearsed in what they do. They've been doing it for a while and we're just slightly behind them, but we're competing.

"It is difficult when we're at our maximum every game. The games are coming ridiculously quick, ridiculously fast, and it is difficult for us to compete.

	LT	B
POSSESSION:	48%	52%
SHOTS ON TARGET:	1	5
SHOTS OFF TARGET:	4	7
CORNERS:	5	4
FOULS:	10	12



ROOTHERHAM 0 LUTON 1

WEDNESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER 2020 | AESSEAL NEW YORK STADIUM

LUTON SCORERS: COLLINS 70'

ATTENDANCE: BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

TO READ THE FULL MATCH REPORT, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.lutontown.co.uk



ROOTHERHAM	LUTON TOWN
BLACKMAN	SLUGA
HARDING	PEARSON
IHIKWE ▲ 87'	REA
MACDONALD	BRADLEY
MATTOCK	CRANIE
BARLASER	TUNNICLIFFE
JOZEFZON □	MORRELL ▲ 45'
WILES ▲ 60'	BERRY □
LINDSAY	MONCUR ▲ 89'
MILLER □	CORNICK ▲ 64'
SMITH ▲ 58'	COLLINS ○ 70'
SUBSTITUTES ▲ ▲	
JOHANSSON	SHEA
WOOD	LEE
VASSELL	LOCKYER ▲ 89'
HIRST ▲ 58'	MPANZU ▲ 46'
LADAPO ▲ 80'	LUALUA ▲ 64'
SADLIER	BREE
CROOKS ▲ 10'	NOMBE



Manager Nathan Jones was in good spirits following the Hatters' 1-0 win against Rotherham.

Town moved up into 9th position just one point adrift of the play-off places following a well-deserved three points at the AESSEAL New York Stadium, after James Collins netted the only goal of the game.

"We've had a lot of people playing a lot of games," the Welshman began. "We mixed it up slightly and we wanted that freshness. We didn't quite get it, we got it second half.

"We only made one change at half-time and we got it second half, it proved to be a decent decision and coming here, these are the games we have to win, and we did. I'm really pleased and really proud of them, as I said, I thought we were excellent.

"I think they all were, they all stepped up. We stepped on a

yard, we pressed a little bit higher, we won second balls, we got on second balls, aggressive with our headers and in the stuff we did and then we got a foothold in the game.

"We have enough quality to score goals at this level, we only scored one tonight but we hit the post, Collo missed a great opportunity, George could have had two goals tonight, so we've had a lot of opportunities tonight to win the game and as I said, we have won it but that doesn't flatter us in any way."

	RU	LT
POSSESSION:	56%	44%
SHOTS ON TARGET:	5	5
SHOTS OFF TARGET:	11	5
CORNERS:	5	7
FOULS:	10	18



HUDDERSFIELD 1 LUTON 1

SATURDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2020 | JOHN SMITH'S STADIUM

HUDDERSFIELD SCORER: EITING 60'

LUTON SCORER: MONCUR 21'

ATTENDANCE: BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

TO READ THE FULL MATCH REPORT, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

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HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	LUTON TOWN
HAMER	SLUGA
AVILA ▲ 90'	PEARSON
STEARMAN	REA □
SARR	BRADLEY □
TOFFOLO	CRANIE □
EITING ○ 60'	MPANZU
HOGG	DEWSBURY-HALL
O'BRIEN	BERRY ▲ 77'
DIAKHABY ▲ 66'	MONCUR ○ 21' ▲ 60'
CAMPBELL	CORNICK ▲ 73'
KOROMA □ ▲ 82'	COLLINS □
SUBSTITUTES ▲ ▲	
DUHANEY ▲ 90'	SHEA
MBENZA	TUNNICLIFFE ▲ 77'
WARD ▲ 82'	HYLTON
SCHINDLER ▲ 66'	LEE
BROWN	NORRINGTON-DAVIES
DALY	LIALUA ▲ 73' □
CASTRO PEREIRA	BREE ▲ 60'



Manager Nathan Jones reflected on the 1-1 draw with Huddersfield Town in a positive manner after picking up four points on the road.

Town led in the 21st minute courtesy of George Moncur's first goal of the season in just his second start, before Carel Eiting levelled for the hosts in the second period to leave the Hatters heading into the international break in tenth place.

"Definitely a good point," said Jones. "To come here, two years ago they were a Premier League side, we come up against teams like these week-in, week-out. Not only that, they had an extra day's rest which is a vital factor and I think second half we just ran out of steam a little bit."

"We looked a little bit tired second half but four points on the road, that's what you have to remember. I'm really delighted, proud of the work rate, proud of the desire to get a result and as I said, ideally would've loved three points but we always do."

"People are putting in massive shifts, people like Matty Pearson, Sonny Bradley, Martin Cranie, Pelly-Ruddock. They've played so many 90 minutes, it has taken its toll and then it wavers down. We would have loved to have had a real sharpness about us second half, but we are just repeating games, games and games. We needed to get to this point."

"If someone had said to me after Saturday's game you are going to get four points on the road, be where you are in this international break, we would have taken that all day long."

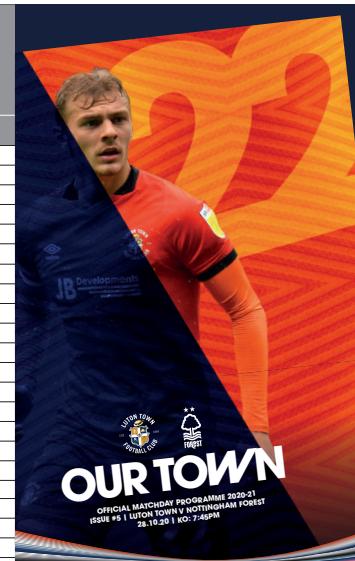
	HT	LT
POSSESSION:	67%	33%
SHOTS ON TARGET:	2	2
SHOTS OFF TARGET:	11	5
CORNERS:	4	2
FOULS:	11	13

FIXTURES 2020-21

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY	POS	PENALTY (F)	PENALTY (A)	OWN GOALS	SENT OFF	OPP. SENT OFF	SHEA	CRANIE	POTTS	TUNNICLIFFE	BRADLEY	PEARSON	CORNICK	BERRY	HYLTON	LEE	SHINNIE	
													1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
SEPTEMBER																								
Sat 5	3.00pm	H	Norwich (Carabao Cup R1)	W 3-1	BCD	BCD	-	1	-	-	-									a	*	b	*	
Sat 12	3.00pm	A	Barnsley	W 1-0	BCD	BCD	6	-	-	-	-	*								b	y	c	a	
Tue 15	6.00pm	A	Reading (Carabao Cup R2)	W 1-0	BCD	BCD	-	-	-	-	-		c									a		
Sat 19	3.00pm	H	Derby County	W 2-1	BCD	BCD	2	-	-	-	-	*								b	1	*	c	
Tue 22	8.15pm	A	Man Utd (Carabao Cup R3)	L 0-3	BCD	BCD	-	-	1	-	-	*							*	b	y	a		
Sat 26	12.30pm	A	Watford	L 0-1	BCD	BCD	7	-	-	-	-	*				c	y			b	a			
OCTOBER																								
Sat 3	3.00pm	H	Wycombe Wanderers	W 2-0	BCD	BCD	5	-	-	-	-	*								yb	c	b1		
Sat 17	3.00pm	H	Stoke City	L 0-2	BCD	BCD	6	-	-	-	-	*	b							c	y	a		
Tue 20	7.45pm	A	Millwall	L 0-2	BCD	BCD	10	-	-	1	-	*	y						c	a	b	b		
Sat 24	3.00pm	A	Sheffield Wednesday	W 1-0	BCD	BCD	9	-	-	-	1	*	y			b			*	a				
Wed 28	7.45pm	H	Nottingham Forest	D 1-1	BCD	BCD	9	-	-	1	-	1	*	y						*	a			
Sat 31	3.00pm	H	Brentford	L 0-3	BCD	BCD	13	-	-	-	-	*				a	b	y	*					
NOVEMBER																								
Wed 4	7.45pm	A	Rotherham United	W 1-0	BCD	BCD	9	-	-	-	-	*							b	y	*			
Sat 7	3.00pm	A	Huddersfield Town	D 1-1	BCD	BCD	10	-	-	-	-	*	y		c	y		b	c	*	*			
Sat 21	3.00pm	H	Blackburn Rovers																					
Tue 24	7.00pm	H	Birmingham City																					
Sat 28	3.00pm	A	Cardiff City																					
DECEMBER																								
Wed 2	7.45pm	H	Norwich City																					
Sat 5	3.00pm	A	Swansea City																					
Tue 8	7.45pm	A	Coventry City																					
Sat 12	3.00pm	H	Preston North End																					
Wed 16	7.00pm	A	Middlesbrough																					
Sat 19	3.00pm	H	AFC Bournemouth																					
Sat 26	3.00pm	A	Reading																					
Tue 29	3.00pm	H	Bristol City																					
JANUARY																								
Sat 2	3.00pm	H	QPR																					
Sat 16	3.00pm	A	AFC Bournemouth																					
Wed 20	7.45pm	A	Brentford																					
Sat 23	3.00pm	H	Rotherham United																					
Sat 30	3.00pm	A	Blackburn Rovers																					
FEBRUARY																								
Sat 6	3.00pm	H	Huddersfield Town																					
Sat 13	3.00pm	A	Birmingham City																					
Tue 16	7.45pm	H	Cardiff City																					
Sat 20	3.00pm	A	Stoke City																					
Tue 23	7.45pm	H	Millwall																					
Sat 27	3.00pm	H	Sheffield Wednesday																					
MARCH																								
Tue 2	7.45pm	A	Nottingham Forest																					
Sat 6	3.00pm	A	Norwich City																					
Sat 13	3.00pm	H	Swansea City																					
Tue 16	7.45pm	H	Coventry City																					
Sat 20	3.00pm	A	Preston North End																					
APRIL																								
Fri 2	3.00pm	A	Derby County																					
Mon 5	3.00pm	H	Barnsley																					
Sat 10	3.00pm	A	Wycombe Wanderers																					
Sat 17	3.00pm	H	Watford																					
Wed 21	7.45pm	H	Reading																					
Sat 24	3.00pm	A	Bristol City																					
MAY																								
Sat 1	3.00pm	H	Middlesbrough																					
Sat 8	3.00pm	A	QPR																					

KEY: Starting XI Substitute • Unused sub y: yellow card r: red card p: penalty scorer *: penalty missed

[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE TOWN'S FIXTURES & RESULTS ONLINE](#)



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KEY: : Out on loan | : Left club | **Team name colour:** Carabao Cup Match | **Team name colour:** FA Cup Match

UP NEXT



FORMED: 1875

NICKNAME: THE BLUES

LAST SEASON: 20TH IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP

FOLLOW THEM ON TWITTER: @BCFC

COLOURS: BLUE SHIRT, WHITE SHORTS

GROUND: ST ANDREW'S TRILLION TROPHY STADIUM

MANAGER: AITOR KARANKA

WHO?

The Blues have spent the last nine seasons competing in the Championship after they were relegated from the Premier League in 2011, however only last finished in the top half of England's second tier in 2015/16. After winning the League Cup in the same year that they were relegated to the Championship, Birmingham competed in the Europa League group stages and despite winning three of their six group games, they failed to qualify for the knockout stages of the competition.

GROUND?

The Blues have played their home games at St Andrew's since the ground opened in 1906 to replace Muntz Street after 29 years. Originally, St Andrew's held an estimated 75,000 spectators with its record capacity of 67,341 coming in Birmingham's 1939 FA Cup tie against Everton.

HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?

The two sides last met in January at Kenilworth Road as Gary Gardner's 69th minute strike gave the Blue's a 2-1 on the road as the Hatters battled relegation from the Championship. Birmingham also won the reverse fixture in October at St Andrew's by the same score line after Lukas Jutkiewicz's late header cancelled out Harry Cornick's powerful second half equaliser.

KNOWING ME, KNOWING YOU

Forward Isaac Vassell joined Birmingham under then manager Harry Redknapp from the Hatters in 2017 after impressing in League Two, whilst midfielder Andrew Shinnie had come in the opposite direction that summer, originally on loan before signing a permanent deal in 2018. Current Hatters assistant manager and former striker Mick Harford signed for Luton in 1984 after scoring 25 goals across four seasons at St Andrew's.

Words: Dylan Bhundia

LUTON TOWN PLAYER STATISTICS

LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 1885	2020-21 SEASON								CAREER	
	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		CARDS		APPS	G
	APPS	G	APPS	G	APPS	G	Y	R	APPS	G
Luke Berry	8	(1)	1	1	(0)	0	9	(1)	1	2
Sonny Bradley	11	(0)	0	3	(0)	0	14	(0)	0	2
James Bree	0	(3)	0	1	(0)	0	1	(3)	0	0
Jordan Clark	3	(4)	2	2	(1)	1	5	(5)	3	0
James Collins	7	(1)	1	1	(0)	3	8	(1)	4	2
Harry Cornick	7	(0)	0	1	(1)	0	8	(1)	0	1
Martin Cranie	11	(0)	0	1	(1)	0	12	(1)	0	4
Kiernan Dewsbury-Hall	4	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	4	(0)	0	0
Brendan Galloway	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0
Danny Hylton	4	(3)	0	2	(0)	0	6	(3)	0	3
Peter Kioso	0	(0)	0	1	(1)	0	1	(1)	0	1
Elliot Lee	6	(2)	1	1	(2)	0	7	(4)	1	0
Tom Lockyer	3	(1)	0	2	(0)	0	5	(1)	0	0
Kaizengna Lualua	1	(8)	0	2	(1)	0	3	(9)	0	2
George Moncur	2	(4)	1	2	(0)	0	4	(4)	1	0
Joe Morrell	2	(2)	0	0	(0)	0	2	(2)	0	0
Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu	10	(1)	2	1	(0)	0	11	(1)	2	4
Rhys Norrington-Davies	9	(0)	0	3	(0)	0	12	(0)	0	2
Matty Pearson	11	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	12	(0)	0	1
Dan Potts	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0
Glen Rea	9	(0)	1	1	(0)	0	10	(0)	1	3
James Shea	0	(0)	0	3	(0)	0	3	(0)	0	0
Andrew Shinnie	0	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	0
Simon Sluga	11	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	11	(0)	0	0
Ryan Tunnicliffe	2	(2)	0	2	(0)	0	4	(2)	0	0

2020-21 CHAMPIONSHIP TABLE

#	Team	PI	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Reading	11	7	1	3	17	12	5	22
2	Watford	11	6	3	2	14	9	5	21
3	Norwich City	11	6	3	2	13	8	5	21
4	Bournemouth	11	5	5	1	15	9	6	20
5	Bristol City	11	6	2	3	15	11	4	20
6	Swansea City	11	5	4	2	13	7	6	19
7	Middlesbrough	11	4	6	1	9	5	4	18
8	Stoke City	11	5	3	3	15	12	3	18
9	Millwall	11	4	5	2	10	8	2	17
10	Luton Town	11	5	2	4	9	11	-2	17
11	Brentford	11	4	4	3	17	12	5	16
12	Blackburn Rovers	11	4	2	5	21	14	7	14
13	Huddersfield Town	11	4	2	5	12	13	-1	14
14	Preston North End	11	4	1	6	15	14	1	13
15	Cardiff City	11	3	4	4	12	11	1	13
16	Barnsley	11	3	4	4	12	13	-1	13
17	Birmingham City	11	3	4	4	9	11	-2	13
18	Queens Park Rangers	11	3	4	4	11	15	-4	13
19	Rotherham United	11	3	3	5	10	12	-2	12
20	Nottingham Forest	11	3	3	5	9	12	-3	12
21	Coventry City	11	2	2	7	12	23	-11	8
22	Wycombe Wanderers	11	2	1	8	6	19	-13	7
23	Sheffield Wednesday *	11	3	3	5	6	10	-4	6
24	Derby County	11	1	3	7	5	16	-11	6



SCREWFIX

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The 'homemade waste pipe goal'. Waste pipes, push-fit knuckle bends and some barrier fencing. It doesn't seem like much, but sometimes it's all you need to transform your garden into a proper footy pitch.





NATHAN JONES

JAMES SHEA	01	01	THOMAS KAMINSKI
MARTIN CRANIE	02	02	RYAN NYAMBE
DAN POTTS	03	03	DERRICK WILLIAMS
RYAN TUNNICLIFFE	04	04	BRADLEY JOHNSON
SONNY BRADLEY	05	05	DANIEL AYALA
MATTY PEARSON	06	06	STEWART DOWNING
HARRY CORNICK	07	07	ADAM ARMSTRONG
LUKE BERRY	08	08	JOE ROTHWELL
DANNY HYLTON	09	09	SAM GALLAGHER
ELLIOOT LEE	10	10	LEWIS HOLTBY
SIMON SLUGA	12	11	HARRY CHAPMAN
GEORGE MONCUR	14	13	AYNSLEY PEARS
GLEN REA	16	15	BARRY DOUGLAS
PELLY-RUDDOCK MPANZU	17	16	HARVEY ELLIOTT
JORDAN CLARK	18	17	AMARI'I BELL
JAMES COLLINS	19	18	JACOB DAVENPORT
KIERNAN DEWSBURY-HALL	22	19	TOM TRYBULL
BRENDAN GALLOWAY	23	20	BEN BRERETON
RHYS NORRINGTON-DAVIES	24	21	JOHN BUCKLEY
KAZENGA LUALUA	25	23	BRADLEY DACK
JAMES BREE	26	24	JOE RANKIN-COSTELLO
SAM NOMBE	27	25	HAYDEN CARTER
JOE MORRELL	28	26	DARRAGH LENIHAN
AVAN JONES	32	27	LEWIS TRAVIS
SAM BECKWITH	33	28	SCOTT WHARTON
JAKE PECK	34	29	CORRY EVANS
COREY PANTER	35	31	ELLIOTT BENNETT
JOSH NEUFVILLE	37	36	JOE GRAYSON
		39	TYRHYS DOLAN
		41	ANTONIS STERGIAKIS

TONY MOWBRAY

01	THOMAS KAMINSKI
02	RYAN NYAMBE
03	DERRICK WILLIAMS
04	BRADLEY JOHNSON
05	DANIEL AYALA
06	STEWART DOWNING
07	ADAM ARMSTRONG
08	JOE ROTHWELL
09	SAM GALLAGHER
10	LEWIS HOLTBY
11	HARRY CHAPMAN
13	AYNSLEY PEARS
15	BARRY DOUGLAS
16	HARVEY ELLIOTT
17	AMARI'I BELL
18	JACOB DAVENPORT
19	TOM TRYBULL
20	BEN BRERETON
21	JOHN BUCKLEY
23	BRADLEY DACK
24	JOE RANKIN-COSTELLO
25	HAYDEN CARTER
26	DARRAGH LENIHAN
27	LEWIS TRAVIS
28	SCOTT WHARTON
29	CORRY EVANS
31	ELLIOTT BENNETT
36	JOE GRAYSON
39	TYRHYS DOLAN
41	ANTONIS STERGIAKIS

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE - GAVIN WARD | ASSISTANT REFEREE 1 - MATTHEW MCGRATH
ASSISTANT REFEREE 2 - BHUPINDER GILL | FOURTH OFFICIAL - ADRIAN WATERS