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LUTON TOWN V CHELSEA

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME 2021-22

FA CUP R5 | 02.03.22 | KO: 7:15PM

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life with power



PROSTATE
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LETON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB SINCE 1885



GOAL!
GOAL! GOAL! GOAL! GOAL! GOAL! GOAL! GOAL! GOAL! GOAL! GOAL! GOAL!
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GOAL! GOAL!
GOAL!

WHAT CLEAN SHEET?

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02.03.22 | KO: 7.15PM

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JAMAL EDWARDS MBE:
24.08.90 - 20.02.22

Please join in the 31st-minute applause to celebrate the life of Chelsea and Hatters fan Jamal, who was born in Luton. Tonight's matchday playlist, available on Spotify, is also dedicated to a true trailblazer in the music scene.

ONE
TWO
THREE
FOUR
FIVE
SIX
SEVEN
EIGHT
NINE
TEN



CLUB OFFICIALS

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Head of Recruitment Analysis: Jay Socik
Head of Medical: Simon Parsell
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Club Chiropractor: David Leu
Head of Community Trust: Kevin Thoburn

OUR TOWN - LUTON TOWN OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

Made in Luton. Printed by Bartham Press.
Edited by Stuart Hammonds (stuart.hammonds@lutontown.co.uk).
Design by Ed Smith (ed@edsmithecreative.co.uk).
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LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 2020 LTD

Kenilworth Road Stadium, 1 Maple Road East,
Luton, Bedfordshire LU4 8AW
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We're signing on for our fifth year as shirts sponsors with Luton Town Football Club...and what a time to be involved!

We're incredibly proud to be associated with the club - let's reach for the heights together!

Here's to an exciting end to the 2021-22 campaign!

COME ON YOU HATTERS!



www.starplatforms.co.uk



THE MANAGER

Good evening and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for what promises to be a special night against world club champions Chelsea.

We welcome Thomas Tuchel, his staff, players and the travelling supporters who are joining us this evening and wish them a safe journey back to London after the match.

It goes without saying that tonight will be an immense challenge for us as a club. We all know that Chelsea are an amazing team full of world class players, but we relish the test of going head-to-head with such clubs. After all, this is why we all do what we do, to be involved in matches like this.

Last week was a brilliant week for us – winning three successive matches in the Championship is a feat we have been trying to achieve this season but up until Saturday, it had proved elusive.

To get 15 points from a possible 18 is a phenomenal month in any division, let alone the Championship, which we all know is one of the toughest leagues in the world.

Performance wise we weren't at our best, but it was all about the result, especially at this stage of season. I am so proud of all the players and especially our winning goalscorer, Danny Hylton. After a torrid few years with injury setbacks, it was really special to see him score in front of the Kenny End again and have that moment with the whole crowd singing his name. He's worked hard for that.

We've had some good cup moments in my time here as a lower division club, beating Aston Villa in the Carabao and going up to Newcastle with more than 7,500 Hatters behind us, giving a Premier League side a great game as a League Two club. Danny scored two good goals that day, remember!

Last season I was proud of our efforts in the fourth round at Stamford Bridge, because it showed how far we have come as a club to give a good account of ourselves against such a quality team. This time around, we want to continue to build on our current form and we have an added bonus to help us – you.

We shared your disappointment that you were unable to be at the game last year, but fortunately we have the majority of a sold-out crowd to roar us on against the current Champions League holders tonight.

We all know how special night matches at Kenilworth Road can be and they rarely get much bigger or more exciting than tonight's game. The opportunities to experience occasions like this are getting less likely by the month as we prepare to move to Power Court, and it's fixtures like this that also show exactly why we need the new stadium, so we can get everyone in who wants to watch it.

For tonight though, savour the atmosphere, make the old girl rock and let's see what can happen.

Enjoy the game and COYH!



**TO GET 15
POINTS FROM A
POSSIBLE 18 IS
A PHENOMENAL
MONTH IN ANY
DIVISION, LET
ALONE THE
CHAMPIONSHIP**

NOTES FROM THE BOARDROOM

DAVID WILKINSON
CHAIRMAN



Good evening everyone and a warm welcome to Kenilworth Road.

Chelsea are our visitors for this fifth round FA Cup tie and we look forward to pitting our wits against the current World Club Champions and winners of last season's Champions League. I guess that makes it about as tough as it gets. Of course, we were drawn against them in the fourth-round last year at Stamford Bridge, having to play in what was a surreal and sterile atmosphere behind closed doors. We were in no way disgraced whilst conceding an extraordinary goal with two balls in play, coming out 3-1 losers.

The last time we made the fifth round was 2013 when, after playing six games including qualifying for the first round, we met Millwall here at the Kenny, whilst being at our lowest-ever position in the football pyramid. We lost 3-0 but had made history in the previous round by being the only club from the then Football Conference, now National League, to overcome a Premier League team in the competition, beating Norwich 1-0.

The FA Cup is a fantastic competition, yet for me, that unique excitement is somewhat diminished once the fourth round is over. The abolition of replays, which gave smaller clubs drawn at home the chance to win the opportunity of a money-making return fixture. The move to midweek after the fourth round. Semi-finals at Wembley and the final not exclusively on the day at 3pm. There are so many demands on Clubs, but if it weren't for Europe, which only concerns a few surely we could fit in more time to ensure the world's oldest cup competition retains its appeal.

Chelsea regard themselves as one of the top six and were a part of the group wanting to set up the European Super League.

They were formed in 1905, 20 years after us, as a new club formed after Fulham turned down the offer of a lease at Stamford Bridge. They were very successful in attracting top class players and big crowds in their early years, however, they didn't get their first major award until 1955. It is the Premier League years that have been their most successful where they have won 5 Premier League titles, 7 FA Cups, 4 League Cups, 2 Champions League titles, 2 Europa League titles, 2 UEFA Super Cups and 1 FIFA World Club Championship. Based on attendance figures they have the sixth largest fanbase in England and are reputably the seventh most valuable club in the world.

An impressive record to say the least, and clearly we go into this game as major underdogs, but that was the case in 2013. No one gave us a prayer. So an intriguing challenge with absolutely no pressure. Who knows? We are Luton Town and since that time we have risen 77 places in the pyramid. Having said all this our record against them is not too bad. We first played them in the Cup in 1927 and since then have played them 44 times, winning 14, drawing 12 and losing 18.

As we are all so sadly aware from daily news bulletins, the current situation in Russia raises issues relating to our guests this evening resulting in a certain amount of confusion about their current ownership, but it is not for us to enter speculation except maybe for what team they will put out on Wednesday evening. However, we must all appreciate that the players, officials and supporters who are not Russian find themselves in an awkwardly compromised position.





**“WHEN THE POWER OF LOVE OVERCOMES
THE LOVE OF POWER THE WORLD WILL
KNOW PEACE.” JIMI HENDRIX**

What a week we have just had! We are in somewhat uncharted territory standing in sixth place, after three wins on the bounce for the first time this season, putting us in the highest position in the League since our relegation from the top flight in 1992. Second in the 2022 form league with 22 points from 11 games, and amongst those wins against clubs for the first time in 30 years. It's always rather hard to appreciate by those of us who've been around longer that any fan, who is younger than 30 plus, will never have seen us in the top division or believe that apart from Arsenal and Everton every club in the Premier League has spent time in the lower leagues.

Could I take this opportunity to welcome Robert Snodgrass, wish him well and hope he enjoys his time with us. I gather he is quite well known by a few members of our squad, which should enable him to settle in more easily. I'm sure we all look forward to seeing him contribute over the last 14+ games, which come along at nearly two a week until Reading at the beginning of May.

Gary continues to work tirelessly on stadium plans one of the major parts of which is what goes where. To that end I was pleased to join him, our historian Roger Wash and the architects on a visit to the Wolverhampton Wanderers Museum on our way to Stoke. It is reputed to be one of, if not, the best Museums in football and was a useful example for those interested in finding space and design at Power Court. Dipping in and out as I do it is absolutely mind-boggling the amount of detail required and of course if any one piece of the layout needs altering then modifications are required elsewhere. It really is bewilderingly complex.

“When the power of love overcomes the love of power the world will know peace.” - Jimi Hendrix

Enjoy the game

COME ON YOU HATTERS

David



THANKS THE LUTON LEGENDS!

To celebrate this season's unique 'Legends' shirt, we're planting trees for Hatters fans. Get involved:

www.ryebridgeconstruction.com/lutonlegends



PROSTATE
CANCER UK

BIG MICK HARFORD

OUR HATTERS HERO AND SCORER OF CHELSEA'S
FIRST PREMIER LEAGUE GOAL IS ON THE SPOT...



CLUB LEGEND MICK HARFORD SAT DOWN TO ANSWER QUESTIONS SENT INTO THE CLUB VIA TWITTER AND FACEBOOK, DISCUSSING HIS PLAYING DAYS, LIFE AT LUTON NOW AND HIS BEST MOMENTS OVER THE YEARS!

Ahead of tonight's game against one of his former clubs, Chelsea, the 63-year-old shared just how much not only the support from Luton fans but the football family in general has meant to him over the years, and particularly since revealing his prostate cancer diagnosis last July.

"I'm so overwhelmed with it to be honest," said Big Mick. "I'm quite an emotional guy believe it or not, and sometimes I get hairs standing up on the back of my neck, I get quite tearful when I hear the fans singing my name.

"When I went up to the Forest away game and I was on the way back from the North East, I saw it myself. Gary (Sweet) turned to me and I nodded, and had a tear in my eye. It's very overwhelming and I can't thank them enough for the support they have given me over the past 15, 16 months.

"All I wanted to do was help raise awareness of prostate cancer, and if I've helped one person, then speaking out about it has been worth it. Please, if anyone has any doubts, go to www.prostatecanceruk.org and get yourself check out."

BELOW YOU CAN FIND THE BEST ANSWERS FROM MICK'S Q&A...

I'M QUITE AN
EMOTIONAL GUY
BELIEVE IT OR NOT,
AND SOMETIMES I GET
HAIRS STANDING UP
ON MY BACK, I GET
QUITE TEARFUL WHEN
I HEAR THE FANS
SINGING MY NAME

BIG MICK HARFORD

Antoni Gostomski – Who's the best player that you've scouted who has gone onto be the real deal that we didn't sign?

It is really hard because you go out and watch a lot of players. There was a lot I watched who I knew we couldn't get because they were out of reach, one was Callum Wilson, and the other is Dwight Gayle. Everyone knew how good they were, but we couldn't get them because they went to bigger clubs who had more money.

Paul G – Which is your favourite goal you scored for the Hatters?

That's a good question. I scored some important goals, some not so important, but one of the goals I really liked was at Derby County away. Played a ball into Ricky Hill, Ricky chested it down to me and I hit it on the half volley. Peter Shilton was in goal and that made it even better.

Andy Peacock – Who was the perfect strike partner you never played with?

Arguably the best team I have ever played against and the best team I've seen in my lifetime was Liverpool in the 80s, and one of the greatest players in the world, Kenny Dalglish. I'd have loved to have played with Kenny, the way he got hold of the ball, the way he set players up, Kenny would probably be my choice as a player I never got to play with.

Andrew Malcolm – What is your single proudest moment in football?

Quite easy really and I'm glad I did it as a Luton Town player, and that is to represent my country at Wembley when we played Denmark. I will never forget it, I remember saying to Peter Beardsley as we kicked off together, 'this is it Peter' – and he said just enjoy it. I still keep in touch with Peter, he texts me after every game.

Iain Bayliss – When Power Court is built would you prefer a stand named after you, a statue and/or a Wetherspoons called the 'Sir Micky Harford' on site?

The Mick Harford toilets, what about that one? I'm so grateful the fans have supported me all these years. The public have been fantastic with me. Not just Luton supporters but everyone, I'm proud of the support I get, and I'd like to thank everyone. If anything was named after me, I'd be absolutely thrilled, delighted and honoured.

Connor – Favourite player you've worked with over the last six years?

What I'd have to say is one of the ones that have been here the longest. He's a fans' favourite, he



has done brilliantly for us. Every time he goes out there on the training ground you know what you're getting. He charges around, he's a great character, good family man and I think we would all say that Danny Hylton epitomises a Luton Town player.

It's a real tough question because I could talk about all of them from down the years who have come and gone, but ever since Danny has been here, he's been a massive part of our success.

Simon Butt – 10 years ago we were playing in the Conference, since then we have achieved so much and now, we're in the Championship. Where do you think we will be in 10 years' time?

I'm sure we will have a new stadium and that will give everyone a massive lift. Unfortunately we have to leave Kenilworth Road behind but the plan is to keep building slowly. Hopefully we still have our manager in place to build and compete, and we know what the dream is – to get into the Premier League. That is everyone's aim as a football person, player, director, manager or a coach. You have to aim for the top. In 10 years' time, we have to be looking to be in the Premier League.

Zac the beast – Who is the best defender you have ever played against in your career?

Probably the one that stood out for me who gave me the toughest game and hurt me a couple of times, a fantastic footballer and he played for arguably the best team in the country Manchester United – Paul McGrath – he was a great footballer, a proper nice guy but a proper hard man.

I get asked a hell of a lot of questions about this one. It's a real tough answer because when I look back, I think of Steve Bruce and Gary Pallister, Alan Hansen and Mark Lawrenson as well.

Felipe Uribe – From your position, how exciting has it been seeing the team grow in the way it has over the last few years, from promotions to relegation escapes to all the beautiful things that've happened?

There has been some amazing times and it has been beautiful. Especially all the lows we had, 30 points deducted, spending five years in the conference. A real legendary status should be given to John Still for getting us out of that league, then Nathan taking over in League Two and helping us progress through the leagues.

It's great to see from my point of view, the support we get from the board, 2020, the support from the fans. Everyone is behind what we're trying to do so it's a beautiful story what has happened in the last 10 years. The twists and the turns, the ups and the downs, but no matter what, the fans have always stayed with us.

Andrew Ivey – As a Mackem, did you find it difficult moving away from that area to further your career?

I left when I was 18, I had just done a three-year apprenticeship as a plumber. When I look back I do miss Sunderland at times, I do miss my friends because I left really early and I went to Lincoln. Every weekend you'd go back and see your family. I was on about £25 a week so we couldn't afford to get out because we didn't have a car. We used to hitchhike on a Saturday night after a game – crazy isn't it? We'd stand at the side of the A1 – me, a lad called Micky Smith and another team-mate Alfie Eden, we used to race home because you'd have to go individually, you wouldn't get anyone who would put two or three in a car. We were hardened hitchhikers, we knew the rules and I did miss going home and I did get home sick a few times, but after three or four months, you meet people and make friends. The city you're playing in and working in becomes your home and after a few months I was alright.

Jenny Royall – You have played for and been associated with many other clubs, why do you think Luton stands out so much for you?

Luton is not just about the football club for me. It's about the whole environment, the town. I came to Luton as a player and really enjoyed my time here, I love the club, love the supporters, then my son was born in Luton, so he is a Lutonian. I have made it my home, I'm based down here, and I have a real affinity for everything about the football club, the town and the people.

The people have been great to me and the past 15 months even better, I can't thank them enough. It has been an amazing connection between me and the fans, and I'd like to thank them for that, it's a great feeling I get when I'm here.

Even in the dark days they were so supportive of me and the football club, they've been fantastic and all the backing they have given to Prostate Cancer as well.

Colin Turner – What did you say to Vinnie Jones on the pitch in our semi-final against Wimbledon? He went very quiet afterwards!

I'll be totally honest with you and say that I don't remember! Vinnie is a real good friend of mine, he's a top guy and he had a great career. On that day I thought they were the better team than us, albeit we were one-nil up. Second half they were the better team and arguably deserved to go to Wembley that day. I'm sorry I can't remember but it would have had an F and a C in, for sure!

Stuart Phillips – When you scout players how many times typically watch them and what particular attributes do you see as most important?

When you bring Isaac Vassell into the football club, you watch him once at Bishop's Stortford and when he gets subbed, everyone in the stand gets up to leave. So we get him in for training and after 10 minutes, the manager says 'I'm signing him!'. Things are different for different players. Kiernan Dewsbury-Hall for instance, I must have watched him five or six times, Nathan the same.

We all knew what Kiernan was. He was a physical specimen, we knew his build and he was growing. The only way to watch a footballer player is in a 11 vs 11 match and with competition on the game, that's my opinion.

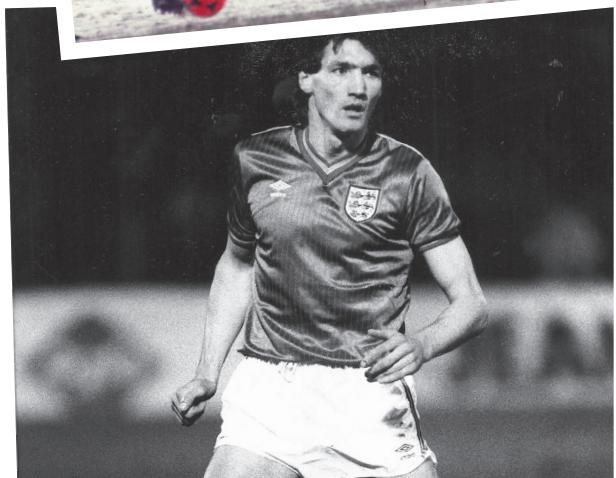
Justin Kiff – Do you think you should've had more England caps?

Probably if I had played for a bigger club I would have got more caps. I hate to say that because I believe Luton in their day and in their prime could have beaten anyone on our day, including the top teams like Man United and Liverpool. If I'd have been playing for a United or a Chelsea maybe I would have got more caps. I was on the bench for seven or eight games, I never got on the pitch. It was an honour to be involved and to get two caps I was really chuffed, in an era where it was really hard to get caps.

Anthony Murray – Do you think the 1988 Littlewoods Cup team was the best team you played for?

It's a good question. I played for some good teams with some good players. The Chelsea team was a good team, some very established players. Derby had some good players but when I first came to Luton and I always say this, I walked in the dressing room and it was full of international players. You're looking at Ashley Grimes, Steve Foster, Ricky Hill and Brian Stein.

Then you had the younger ones, Mitchell Thomas, Tim Breacker, the place was littered with international players. Danny Wilson, Kingsley Black. That team was a great team, had magnificent balance to it, Preecey on the left, Ricky on the right, some great players. I would say yes, in terms of what we did in that period of time, what we achieved, it was a fantastic team, great place to play and team to play for.



**BIG
MICK
HARFORD**

'Informative, interesting and most importantly good advice - don't ignore the signs!'

BOB CHAMPION CBE



PROSTrATE CANCER

THE MISUNDERSTOOD MALE KILLER

Graham Sharpe

PROSTrATE CANCER

The news that Mick Harford had prostate cancer was particularly poignant for me. Not only because I have been a Luton Town supporter since 1959 - when I was eight - but also, because I have also had prostate cancer, and as Mick's diagnosis became public knowledge, I was finishing off the book I had been writing about my experiences as I'd gone through my treatment for this common, but so misunderstood condition. Many affected are not even initially sure about the proper name of this potentially fatal disease.

Which is why my book is called 'PROSTrATE CANCER', as at one point I'd also believed that was how it was spelled and pronounced, and I would hear the superfluous 'r' inserted into the name by so many of those I met while I was being treated.

I'd also heard over the years that prostate cancer was something that one was more likely to die WITH, rather than FROM. As, it became obvious, had many others. This belief may hold an element of truth, but it can also make men complacent and less likely to get themselves checked out as they believe it is very unlikely to prove problematic, let alone fatal for them even if they are unfortunate enough to be affected by it.

Well, as someone who spent most of his working life in the publicity department at bookies William Hill, I like to ask people who enjoy the odd flutter whether they have ever backed a 7/1 winner. Most have, so they know it is not that unusual an occurrence. Well - 7/1 also represents the average odds about a man being diagnosed with PC. As I write this, 7/1 is marginally longer odds than the betting price for Luton to finish in the top six this season...possibly not a certainty, but definitely far from out of the question.

Having initially taken myself off to see my GP after noticing blood in my urine, and then being given a blood test which would indicate that there was more than a fair chance that I did have PC, I wondered just what would now be in store for me in terms of treatment. I had no idea, so looked around for some reading matter to explain things to me.

I couldn't find anything with much explanatory detail - and even less about the actual nature of the tests I'd be undergoing to establish precisely what my situation might be.

Being by profession a journalist, I decided while sitting waiting for one of my early, exploratory

medical investigations, to keep notes about what was happening to me, if only to pass the time waiting to be probed, prodded and poked. These notes would later be invaluable when I decided to write probably the first 'tell-all' PC book.

Some of the symptoms I was experiencing early on actually affected my ability to attend Hatters' home matches, let alone away trips, given the frequent necessity to have toilet facilities close at hand. As I live a good first half (45 minutes+added time) car trip away from the ground this required some detailed planning, but on a couple of occasions my symptoms even prevented me from attending games.

I knew that PC did not differentiate about the type of people it affected - Rod Stewart had it, Elton John did, Elvis Costello did. But none of them, it seemed, spoke about it until they had 'beaten' it - not that I believe it is possible ever to do that conclusively - and even then they seemed reluctant to go into more than the most basic detail about the actual mechanics of what they'd been through.

I had no such qualms, and have explained, sometimes in gory detail, what lies in wait for those diagnosed with PC, whilst emphasising that you will be treated with dignity and respect by those carrying out the procedures, all of which are designed for your ultimate benefit and well-being.

Please, if you are a middle-aged gentleman, whether or not you have any obvious symptoms, ask your GP how to go about having yourself checked out for signs of PC. Yes, the early stages of checking out may well involve your medic donning plastic gloves, but I'm sure if I could cope with it, so can you - although I guess the doctor who initially checked Mick out might have had slight misgivings for his personal safety when explaining to him what was about to happen!

GRAHAM SHARPE, LTFC season-ticket holder

Graham Sharpe is the author of PROSTrATE CANCER: The Misunderstood Male Killer (Oldcastle Books)

UKRAINIAN HUMANITARIAN APPEAL



The Luton branch of the Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain has issued an urgent appeal for donation of medical and food supplies to go the Ukraine via The Red Cross. Many have nothing and have been injured in the fighting following the Russian invasion. This involves women children and babies not wanting to leave their homes. Many Ukrainians in Luton have been told by their families back home, that aged parents want to die in their homes!! It's heart-breaking to talk to these people. How can we help? Please see below.

They are in desperate need of:

- 1) First aid kits
- 2) Sterile dressings
- 3) Anti-septic wipes
- 4) Bandages
- 5) Sleeping bags
- 6) Pain killers
- 7) Tea
- 8) Coffee (No glass containers)
- 9) Tinned or packet goods, dry soups
- 10) Toothbrushes
- 11) Toothpaste
- 12) Children's Nappies
- 13) Adult Nappies (to be used as large wound dressings)
- 14) Warm clothing, socks, hats etc

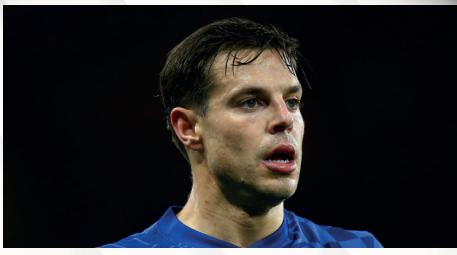
Monetary donations can be made to:
Association of Ukrainians in GB, Luton Branch

Sort code: 40 30 32
Account 82498278

Donations can be made by prior arrangement in person to the Ukrainian Club, 16 Cromwell Hill Luton, 10 -7 daily. Please ring any of these numbers first; **07817932117, 07912854806, 07846637785, 07552288298**

Or please contact Karen & Dave Cockfield, **01582 614311**. We can help to coordinate and ensure donations get where they need to be.

Thank you for your help in these terrible times.



THE GOALKEEPER: KEPA ARRIZABALAGA

A product of the Athletic Bilbao academy, Kepa made his senior debut for the club's farm team, Basconia, before making his debut for Bilbao in September 2016.

After two years as first-choice, the Spaniard joined Chelsea in 2018 for £71.6m - the world record for a keeper. Initially starting as Chelsea's first-choice, the signing of Edouard Mendy has seen Kepa dropped to backup.

In Mendy's absence, however, the goalkeeper is regularly used in cup competitions and has a good track record when it comes to penalties.

THE DEFENDER: CESAR ASPILICUETA

The club captain, Azpilicueta, has been at Stamford Bridge for almost a decade and has won every trophy possible with the Blues.

Coming through with Osasuna, he made his senior debut in 2007 against Real Madrid. He made 99 La Liga appearances for the club, joining Marseille in 2010. Azpilicueta played two seasons in France, before his move to Chelsea in 2012.

Azpilicueta has featured over 450 times in all competitions for Chelsea, and was appointed captain in 2019 after Gary Cahill's departure.

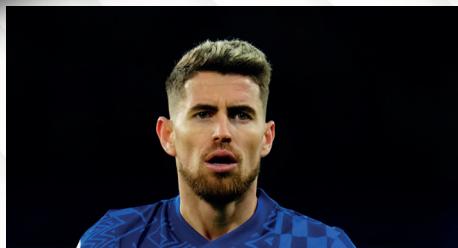


THE MANAGER: THOMAS TUCHEL

After a short playing career, Tuchel went into coaching, before his first managerial job with FC Augsburg II in 2007, and had a later spell at Mainz. He later managed Borussia Dortmund, winning the DFB-Pokal. The German then took over at PSG, where he won two Ligue 1 titles and was a Champions League runner-up. Tuchel was sacked by PSG in December 2020, and later replaced Frank Lampard at Chelsea in January 2021. Since his appointment at Chelsea just over a year ago, the German has won the Champions League, UEFA Super Cup, and Club World Cup.



ON THE RADAR: CHELSEA



THE MIDFIELDER: JORGINHO

Finishing third in the 2021 Balon D'Or, Jorginho has enjoyed a whirlwind year for club and country. Winning the Champions League with Chelsea, he also helped Italy win the Euros.

Born in Brazil, Jorginho began his career with Hellas Verona. He made almost 100 league appearances for the club, before leaving for Napoli. He was a regular in Napoli's midfield, and made 160 appearances for the club.

In July 2018, he moved to England and followed manager Maurizio Sarri from Napoli to Stamford Bridge.

WATCH OUT FOR... ROMELU LUKAKU

A product of the Anderlecht academy, Lukaku made 73 appearances for the club and scored 33 times before a move to Chelsea in 2011.

His first spell at Chelsea didn't work out, spending time on loan at West Brom and Everton, eventually joining the Toffees permanently. He joined Manchester United in 2017, and spent two years at Old Trafford. The Belgian spent two years in Serie A with Inter Milan, before Chelsea broke their transfer record to sign him last summer for a reported fee of £97.5 million.

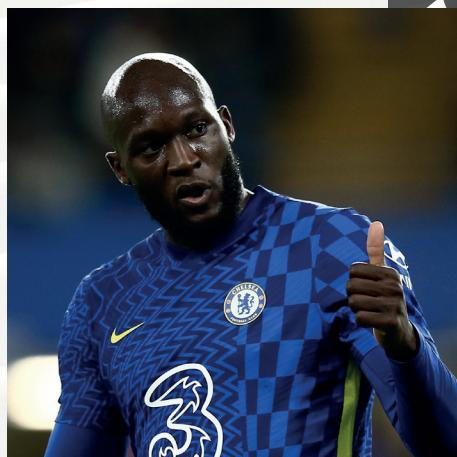


THE ATTACKER: HAKIM ZIYECH

Moroccan international Ziyech made his professional bow in the Eredivisie with Heerenveen, before joining FC Twente in 2014.

He spent two seasons with the club, before a move to Ajax in 2016. Ziyech helped the Amsterdam giants to the Dutch league title in the 2018/19 season, and joined Chelsea officially in the summer of 2020.

In recent weeks, 28-year-old Ziyech has been in impressive form for the west London club, playing his way into manager Thomas Tuchel's thinking



ON THE RADAR: CHELSEA



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Richard Harvey (right) celebrates after blasting in the Town's first goal.

LAST TIME AT THE KENNY

HATTERS 2 BLUES 0

28th December 1991. Division One (now Premier League). Words: Roger Wash

The Town were struggling, in this their tenth straight season in the top flight. Rock bottom in the week leading up to Christmas the Hatters had gone eleven games without a win until a 1-0 home victory over Coventry in a dire game on 20th December produced the faintest glimmer of light.

Next up at Kenilworth Road were current League champions Arsenal on Boxing Day. A 1-0 win, courtesy of a solitary strike by Mick Harford, gave supporters the chance to dream.

Two days later, in a third home game in a row, came Chelsea who were having their own on-field struggles but were boosted by the presence in the directors box of their most high profile supporter, Prime Minister John Major.

The Town continued where they left off against Arsenal and ploughed into Chelsea from the start.

It was no surprise therefore when they finally took the lead in the 38th minute through the unlikely boot of full-back Richard Harvey.

Awarded an indirect free-kick on the edge of the area the ball was touched by Mark Pembridge to Harvey who steamed in to blast in a low shot.

A couple of minutes later Pembridge was floored by Chelsea goalkeeper Dave Beasant in the area with the referee awarding a penalty and only booking the offender for what appeared a blatant professional foul. John Dreyer kept calm to convert the spot kick.

Chelsea stepped up the pressure in the second half but apart from a shot by former Hatter Paul Elliott that was pushed onto the bar by Steve Sutton the Luton defence held firm.

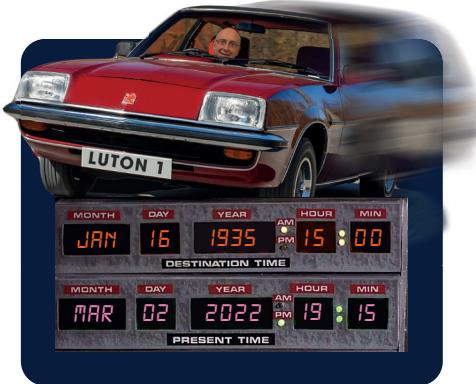
As the game entered its final quarter the Town had the chance to put the game to bed when Paul Telfer was brought down in the area by Chelsea's Tommy Boyd. This time the referee made a correct decision and dismissed Boyd but Harford blasted the penalty against the underside of the bar with the ball being cleared to safety.

LUTON TOWN:

Sutton, James, Harvey, Kamara, Dreyer, Peake, Telfer, Stein (Campbell), Harford, Pembridge, Preece (Oakes).

CHELSEA:

Beasant, Clarke (Stuart), Boyd, Jones (Dickens), Elliott, Monkou, Le Saux, Townsend, Dixon, Allen, Wise.



MEMORY MATCH

**LUTON TOWN 2 - 0 CHELSEA
FA CUP THIRD ROUND REPLAY.
16TH JANUARY 1935.**

WORDS: ROGER WASH

LUTON TOWN:

Coen, Smith, Reece, Brown, McGinnigle, Fraser, Crompton, Bell, Ball, Roberts, Stephenson.

CHELSEA:

Jackson, Barber, MacAuley, Russell, Craig, Miller, Spence, Argue, Bambrick, Gibson, Horton.

In 1934/35 the Town received another exemption to the third round of the FA Cup competition due to their exploits in 1932/33, when they reached the quarter final and the following season when they narrowly went out to mighty Arsenal. This time the Division Three (South) side (equivalent to League One today) drew another plum tie in the shape of top flight outfit Chelsea at Stamford Bridge.

The Town were going through one of their wonderfully inconsistent periods where they would win by four goals one week then lose by the same scoreline the next. Chelsea were in a comfortable mid-table position.

A crowd of 46,492 gathered to see the Town put in one of their better performances against strangely lacklustre opponents, and it was no

real surprise when Sam Bell forced the ball home, following a corner, five minutes before the interval. The goal was hotly disputed, as many in the ground felt that the ball had not crossed the line and the London press had a field day trying to prove the impossible by hanging a ball from the crossbar to show how photographs can be deceiving, especially when taken from anywhere apart from along the goal line.

Despite all the protests, the goal stood and it was not until the last ten minutes that Chelsea decided to make a game of it and push everyone forward in an effort to score an undeserved equaliser. This they did when James Argue shot through a crowd of players to take the tie back to Luton.

In the days before floodlights cup tie replays had to be fought out on mid-week afternoons which in turn would normally affect the attendance. To say that there was unprecedented interest in the game is an understatement as realised by the town's big employers, who faced a major display of downing tools on the afternoon of the match.

Skefco, George Kent, Vauxhall, Electrolux, Davis Gas Stove Co and all the hat factories saw sense and decided to close from mid-day, with only the first two asking employees to go back after the match to make up for lost time.

The turnstiles were closed 30 minutes from kick-off, but such was the weight of numbers outside anxious to see the game that the Kenilworth Road end gates were forced open and many hundreds gained admission without paying, which added to the crush inside.

A deputation of police officers had to force a way through the throng to allow the Chelsea players and directors in, while hundreds of spectators lined the roof of the Bobbers Stand. This time the police were unable or unwilling to remove them, nor the hardy individual who had climbed to the top of a telegraph pole.

The official attendance was 23,041 which smashed the previous record by over 4,000, but this figure did not account for the non-payers. The ground was dangerously



Sam Bell hovers in the background waiting for a loose ball. Note the supporters on the Bobbers Stand roof.

overcrowded (bear in mind the Kenilworth Road and Oak Road end terraces were only half their current height) and it is a minor miracle that no-one was badly injured or even killed.

The game kicked off with a double line of spectators on the running track and rather more on the Bobbers Stand/Kenilworth Road corner where there had to be a major re-shuffle every time there was a flag kick.

The Town were forced into a couple of changes from the first game with Tom Mackey suspended and Billy Thayne injured. Harry Reece and Hugh McGinnigle took their places.

Again Chelsea did not seem to have much stomach for a fight and their attempts to play 'first division football' were doomed to failure against a fired up Luton side that fought for every ball as if their lives depended on it.

The game remained scoreless until 25 minutes from the end when a throw-in from Charlie Fraser

to Fred Roberts saw the latter hook the ball into the goalmouth where Chelsea goalkeeper John Jackson could only parry the ball to Jack Ball who shot into an empty net.

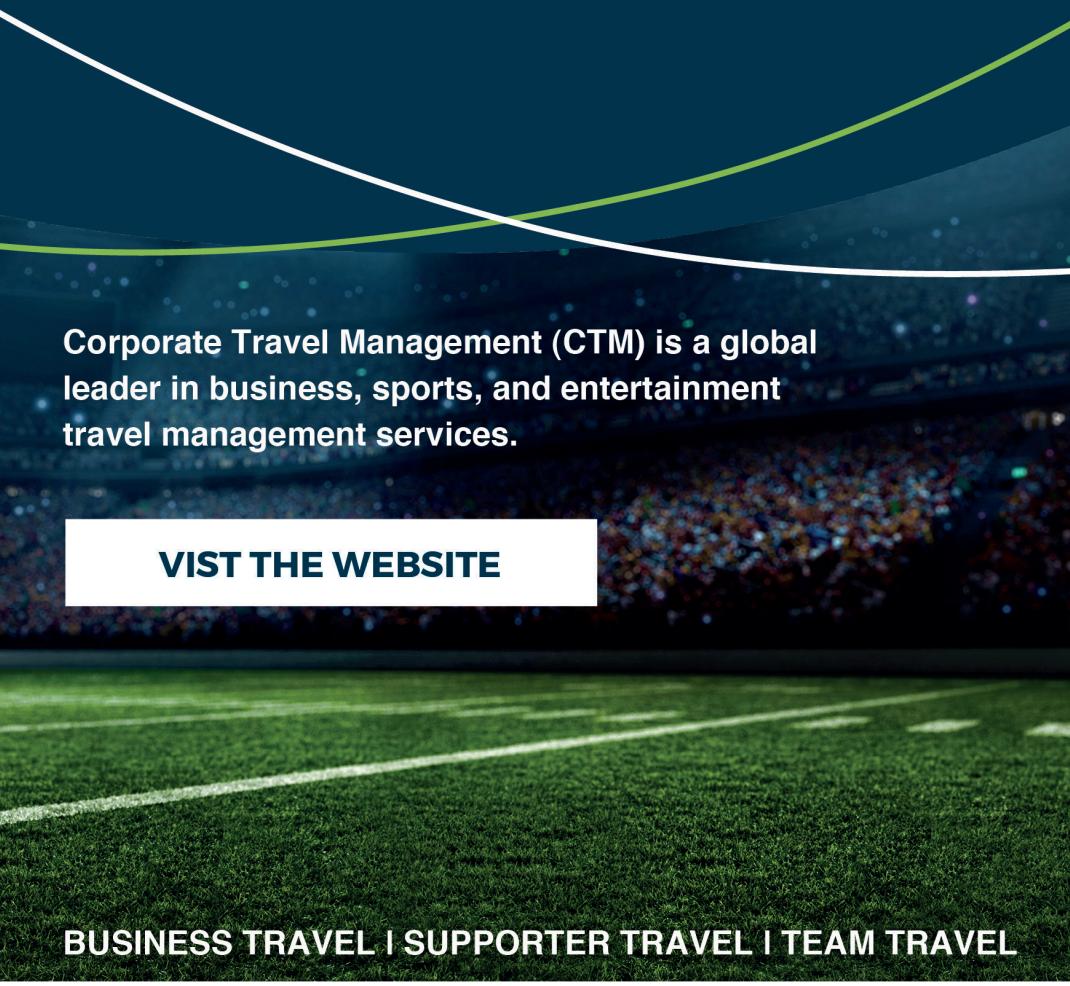
The second goal came soon after when Bob MacAuley was dispossessed by Ball who played the ball inside to Roberts who smashed it home.

With 20 minutes left the injured Reece became a passenger on the wing but even then Chelsea could not raise themselves from their torpor and at the final whistle Luton supporters raced on to the pitch to chair off their heroes.

Sadly, the story does not have a happy end as the Town went out at Burnley in the next round, but the cup run had put a few more pennies into the pot which was added to when several honest supporters sent in postal orders to pay for their illegal entry to the ground.

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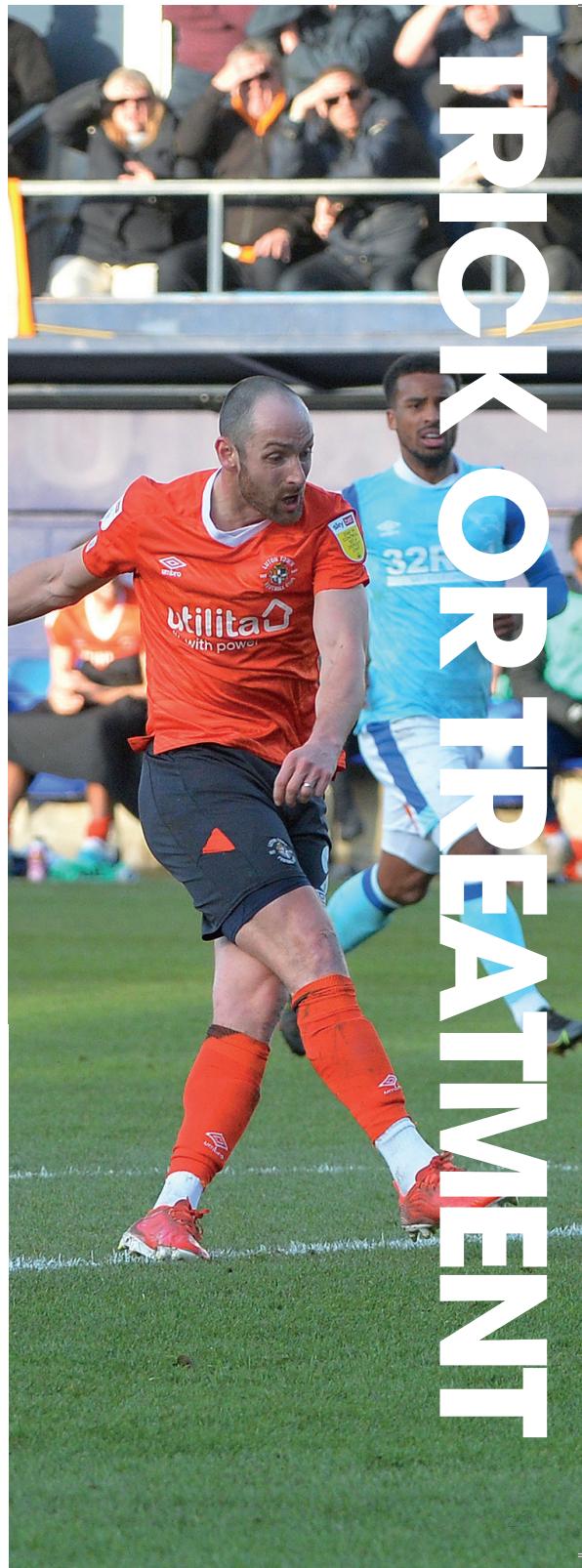
The magic of the FA Cup, giant killings, Non League clubs going toe to toe with the big boys. It's the pinnacle of domestic football. However, the magic may be fading for some, but you try telling that to the lads as they step out against Chelsea tonight in front of a packed Kenilworth Road. We all remember Carrow Road with JJ O'Donnell crossing for Scott Rendell to score and the excitement that followed. So let's dream again.

Playing West Brom recently reminded me of a funny moment we had at the Hawthorns. The West Brom mascot is an Ideal Boiler and he was stood in the tunnel. Darren Cook then said as he entered the dressing room, the boilers just gone out. Chris Phillips, being concerned, said: "Will your wife get it repaired today?" No replied Daz, it was just the mascot going out.

Injury wise we are still missing Sonny Bradley as he recovers from surgery. Pelly remains unavailable at the minute. To give you an idea of how fixtures are affecting things, his match load has increased by over 65% in the last 6 weeks. With a busy March that is not going to change for the group. On the positive front Luke Berry has returned to training, hotly followed Jordan Clark. Apart from that it is a case of sticking plasters on people and keeping them going.

What a week for Danny Hylton. A 33rd Birthday, two goals and still remains as silly as ever. I am so pleased for him. He has had tough times with injury but has always remained positive and worked hard. So you make your own luck and he deserves some. Still no chance of him buying us a Starbucks though. Danny also declared that he doesn't eat eggs, but likes egg fried rice. Help!

Getting to games can be troublesome. Elliot Thorpe recently was selected to play at Crystal Palace in a development game. He placed the postcode in his sat-nav, but was then slightly concerned as he sat on the Woolwich Ferry, thinking he was about to have a day trip to France!



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SIMON OXLEY



A home FA Cup tie against the European champions, live on BBC1, brings back memories of one of my favourite LTFC commentary games. Luton ended up losing 5-3 to Liverpool in 2006 but the third round match had everything.

It was a wonderful atmosphere as Mike Newell's side, with the Kinnear-bought spine of messrs Coyne, Nicholls and Howard, took on the 2005 European Cup winners and the likes of Gerrard, Carragher and Kewell.

So many memories. Hatters fan Alan Adair shaking hands with Gerrard before returning the ball for a throw; Gerrard opening the scoring; Luton then going 3-1 up, with referee Mark Clattenburg failing to reduce the visitors to 10 men; and that proving crucial as Liverpool hit back with Alonso sealing the win from inside his own half. Fantastic.

Now 16 years on we welcome the champions of Europe once again. After missing last season's ties with Man United and Chelsea this is one for supporters to cherish, and for a new generation of fans a chance to see their team take on the nation's elite in the flesh rather than on YouTube. Long live the FA Cup.

When I started covering Luton these games had become the norm, and before the expansion of European football had filled the midweeks, I can recall attending a Zenith Data Cup win at Stamford Bridge on penalties in 1991.

Chelsea's last visit here in December of that year - two days after a 1-0 home win over Arsenal - saw Luton win 2-0 courtesy of Richard Harvey and John Dreyer's one-step penalty (see YouTube). But ultimately it wasn't enough to prevent relegation from the top flight.

But of course the combination of Luton, Chelsea and the FA Cup will always mean recalling the 1994 semi-final at Wembley which unfortunately never really lived up to expectations as two Gavin Peacock goals saw Chelsea ease to victory.

After the excitement of beating Newcastle here, surviving the win at Cardiff, and then the Scott Oakes hat-trick to see off West Ham, having the semi at Wembley (not the norm back then) seemed to make it too much of an occasion in itself rather than a game to win. But it was a wonderful experience with a cup run including St James's Park, Ninian Park, Upton Park and Wembley, with my first time as a commentator at the latter.

Ex-Hatter now chaplain Alan West was our summariser for the semi, but there was no divine intervention.

So to tonight. Let's showcase the club, the passion, and why the FA Cup remains part of the heart and soul of our game. Millions will be watching.

Then it's off to Middlesbrough on Saturday. Now might that be a more important game?





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DYLAN BHUNDIA

www.ltfcanalysis.wordpress.com
Twitter - @dylan_bhundia



The magic of the FA Cup. It encapsulates the underdog mentality that energises all of us.

A 'nothing to lose' mentality can be a powerful thing, suffocating the supposed favourites in a mist of pressure and anxiety, whilst propelling the opposition to play with aggression and freedom. After all, they've got nothing to lose.

Last season the Hatters went into two games with that 'free-hit' mentality, facing Manchester United in the Carabao Cup Third Round and today's opponents Chelsea in the FA Cup fourth round. Whilst losing both games, that underdog mentality ebbed throughout the Hatters even without that feeling flowing through a packed-out Kenilworth Road. It took Manchester United 88 minutes to reach the safety of a two-goal lead, and that was after the Hatters hit the post and had one cleared off the line.

Luton were also more than in last year's tie against Chelsea, with Jordan Clark halving the deficit on 30 minutes and Harry Cornick coming close to equalising in the second half.

Where else in recent years has that powerful underdog mentality taken hold at Luton? The Hatters, then in League Two, headed to St James' Park to face Newcastle United in 2018. That day showed the limits of a 'free-hit' mentality, with the Hatters' opponents storming into a first-half three-goal lead before Danny Hylton pulled one back and then had a second wrongly disallowed amidst a second-half where the Hatters pegged back their Premier League opponents.

In 2005 European Champions Liverpool visited

Kenilworth Road. A star-studded side featuring Steven Gerrard, Xabi Alonso and Jamie Carragher were pegged back by a fired-up Luton crowd, before repeating their heroics in Istanbul to pull back a two-goal deficit and round off a 5-3 victory with Alonso's strike from inside his own half.

For all of the talk in modern football of the vast inequalities that exist within the game and the glaring ethical and moral shortcomings of some of the richest and most powerful owners in the Premier League, it's the FA Cup that encapsulates the fight against that.

For 90 minutes, 22 players cross the white line and face off on the level playing field that is a game of football. It's an opportunity for the morally sound, ethically financed, ceiling smashing 'little guys' to fight back against their superpower opponents and show them what they're all about.

Everybody loves an underdog. But everyone loves an underdog even more when they represent the kind of values, both on and off the pitch, that bring life and vibrance to the leagues below the top.

The Hatters are on a journey, and whilst the league campaign in the context of a play-off push will always take precedence, nights like tonight have the potential to live long in the memory for the special occasions that they are.

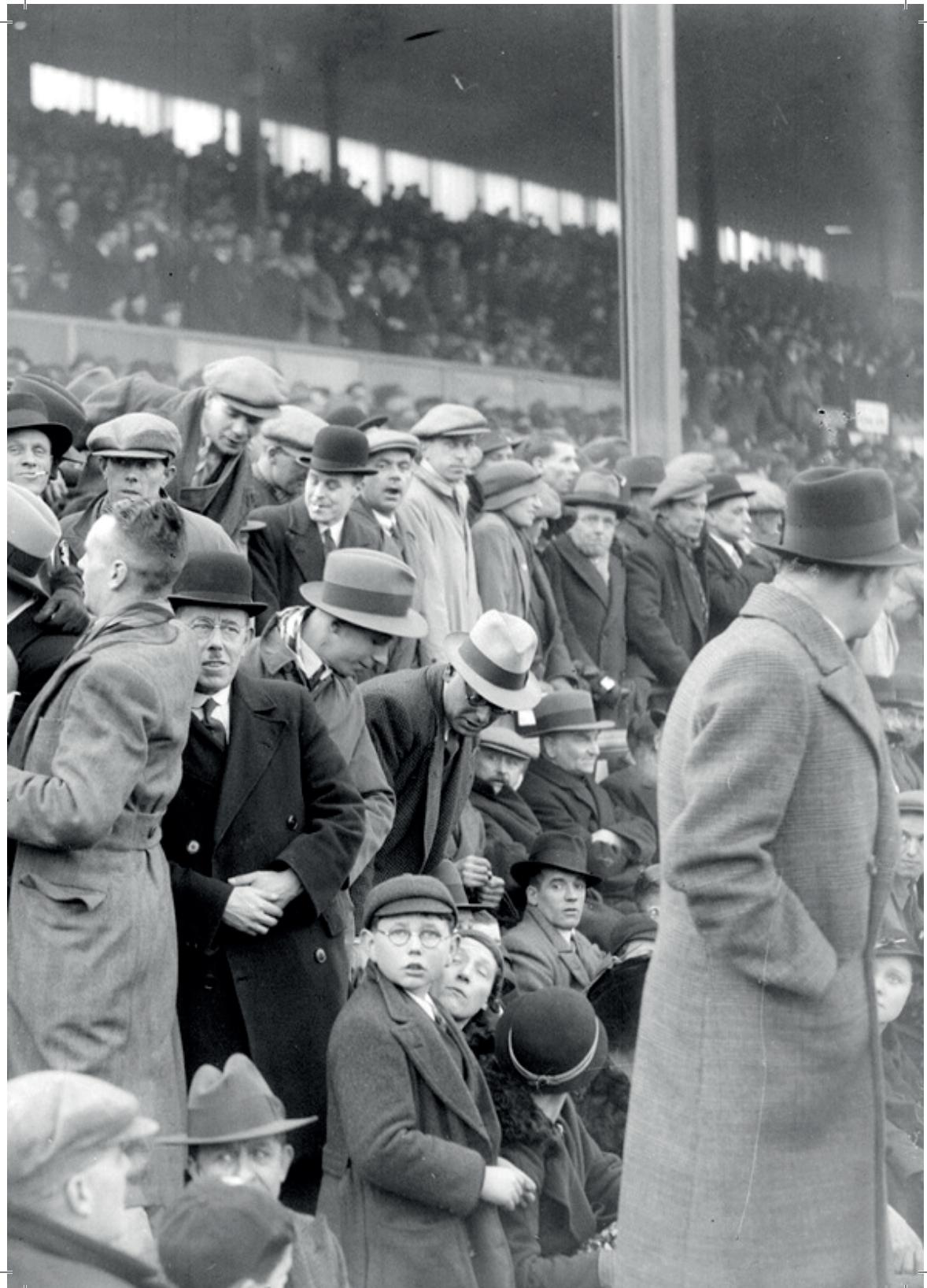
DYLAN BHUNDIA



THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

A lady supporter is lifted over the fence to escape the crush in the enclosure at Kenilworth Road before an FA Cup replay with Chelsea in January 1935 gets under way.

Roger Wash



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LUTON TOWN LADIES

First team targetting the top two on back of 12-game unbeaten run

The Hatters Ladies have been picking points quietly in the league, moving up the table with a run of 12 league games unbeaten. With only 5 league games left it's a tight contest at the top and the ladies are pushing for a second placed finish.

A month ago, the points were shared away to Bedfordshire rivals Bedford ladies, where the Hatters twice threw away the lead. Captain Jess McKay and Leyah Maddix were the scorers, along with an own goal and the score finished 3-3.

The ladies then travelled to St Ives and came away 5-2 winners after controlling the game well. McKay grabbed another two goals, and Maddix one, with top goal scorer Olivia Abraham and Nicola Henman adding the others.

Another point was then picked up at home against Haringey, a disappointing result after the Hatters were once again leading twice. Leyah Maddix was again on the score sheet, along with Fiona Constable and Shanice Thompson.

The ladies then bowed out of the league cup,

losing 2-1 to Needham Market, Constable with the only goal.

With five games left, it's the six league draws that have proved costly where points have been lost. However manager Nikki Baker is still targetting a top two finish.

"In recent weeks too many draws have cost us points but we are still in with a chance of finishing second," said Baker. "It will take a good winning run, but we are now 12 league games unbeaten, having not lost since September.

"We are disappointed we haven't been able to challenge for the league title after a very poor start to the season but we have recovered it well. We are looking forward to trying to find as far up the league table as we can, and then look to rebuild for next season."

The ladies are still looking to add players to the senior squads, if you are interested please email lutontownlfc@hotmail.co.uk

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ADRIAN FORBES



Good evening and welcome to Kenilworth Road for what is sure to be a fantastic occasion for all connected with the Hatters.

It has been great to see and hear the excitement of the academy players as they look forward to getting to see the stars of Chelsea grace Kenilworth Road.

Last week a young U21s side went down 1-0 at Southend, conceding a late goal. Whilst the loss was disappointing, to have five second-year scholars starting for the Development Squad bodes well for the future as these young players would have learnt a lot from the game which will hopefully aid their long-term development.

Its also important to mention that we had two first year scholars starting and two securing spaces as game changers, which again shows that players in the U18s will get the opportunity to step up to the development squad providing they are showing the correct work rate, attitude and application to training and performing well at Youth Team level.

Also, during this game, it was great to see Josh Neufville (pictured) make his first start after being out with a long-term ankle injury. Josh came off the bench against Leighton in the Beds Senior Cup for 20 minutes and that was the perfect opportunity for him to gain his

first minutes of competitive football due to the injury. During his lay off with this injury Josh has worked extremely hard to get back to full fitness, whether this be his rehab work in the gym or his work back out on the grass he has shown real determination to get back to full fitness and it was great to see Josh back in the starting 11.

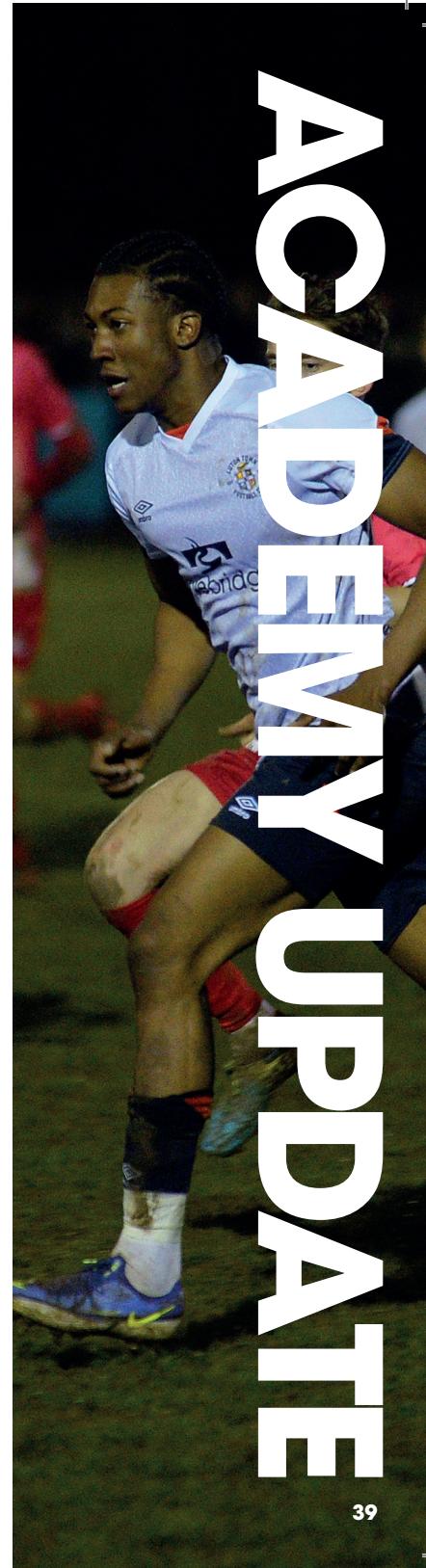
With it being a no game week for the youth team, last weekend opened up the opportunity for them to get some valuable preparation in for the area cup final vs AFC Wimbledon on 8th March, they take on Swindon Town this weekend and we wish them the best of luck next week.

Lastly a special mention to Ed McJanett and Jacob Pinnington, who have in recent weeks returned to The Brache on a Sunday, which would normally be a day off for them, in order to referee some Sunday fixtures for the club's schoolboy teams.

Not only is this superb for them from a football development point of view in getting them to understand the game from a different perspective, but it is also great for our younger players to get the opportunity to meet players that are representing the club at both Youth level, and in Ed's case, a player that has been on the bench for the first team this season.

Enjoy the game COYH!

Forbesy



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JOSH ALLEN

How did you get into football?

I first started playing football around the age of six or seven for my lower school team. I then played a few years for my local team before joining Luton at the age of 11.

Do you have a matchday routine?

I don't have much of a routine apart from a couple of things - I make sure I have the same breakfast before every game and put my left shinpad on first before my right, then my left boot before my right, it's a superstition I've had for a long time.

Who is your favourite footballer and why?

My favourite footballer is Lionel Messi. In my opinion he is the best player ever and he made me fall in love with football.

What music are you into?

I listen to quite a lot of different music, but mainly hip-hop and house.

Favourite film?

My favourite film is Step Brothers with Will Ferrell. I am more of a series person and my favourite would be Peaky Blinders.

What do you do to relax?

Normally to relax I will watch some YouTube or Netflix, or play Xbox with my mates.

Biggest fear?

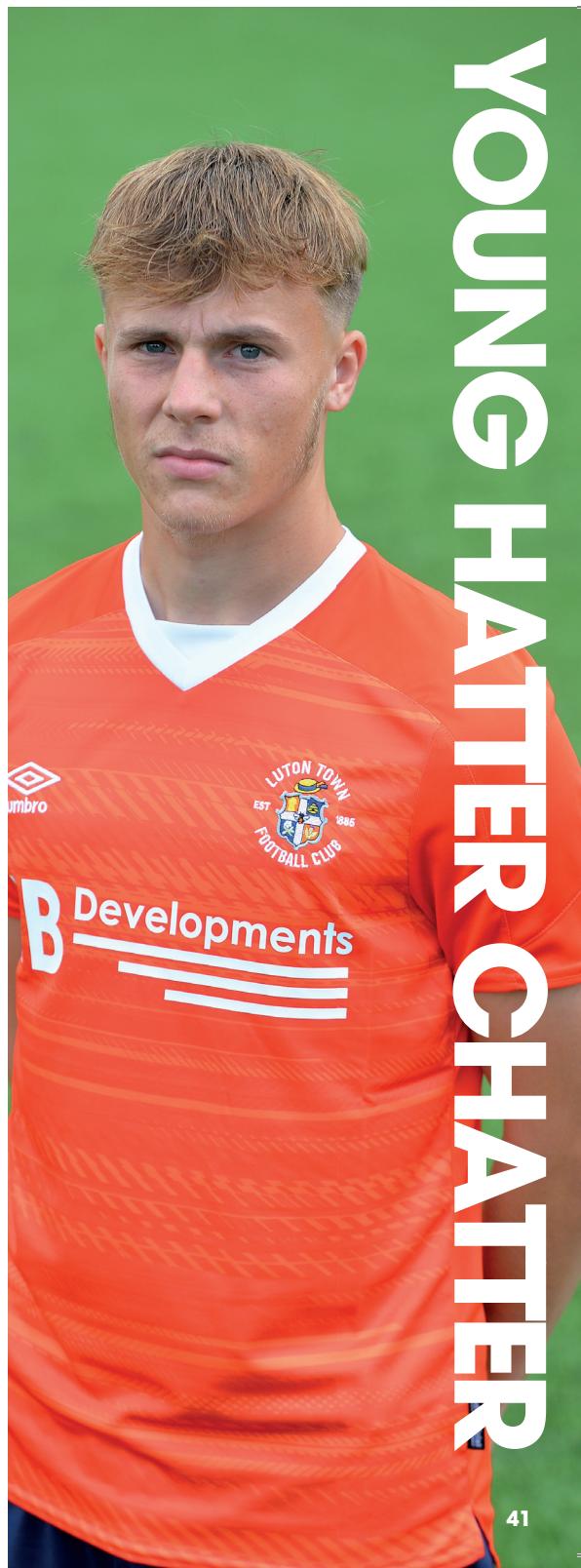
My biggest fear is dropping my phone down a drain. I think about it every time I walk past one and the thought of it scares me.

If you had to have a superhero power, which one would you choose?

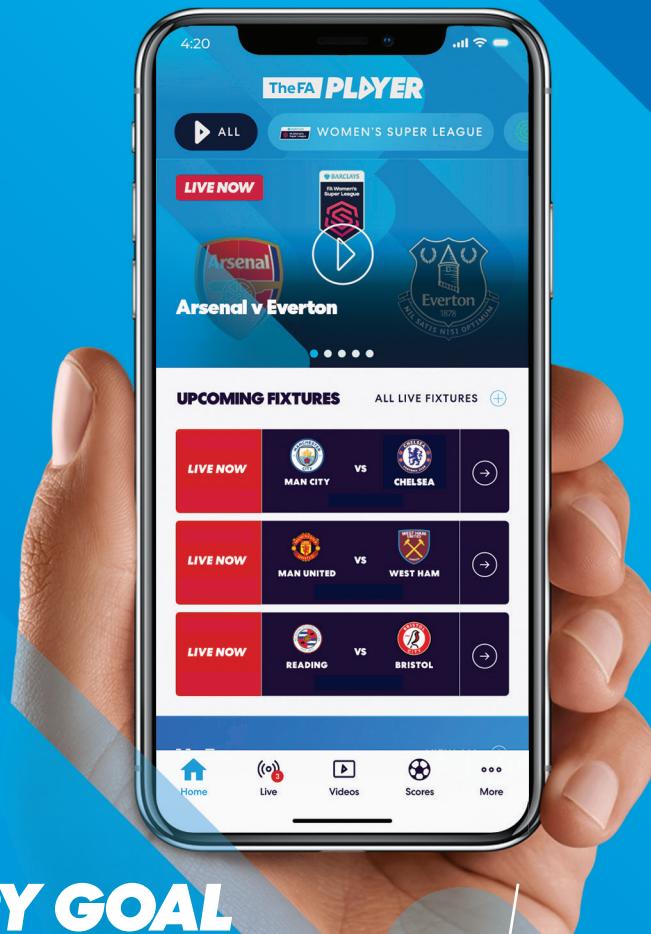
I would say the ability to fly. Just to be able to go anywhere I want and not be late to anything.

If you were stuck on a deserted island, what is the one thing you'd bring with you?

Probably a football or my phone.



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PREMIER LEAGUE KICKS COMMUNITY PROGRAMME MARKS 15-YEAR ANNIVERSARY



Tonight we welcome Premier League opposition just as the Premier League is celebrating 15 years of its flagship community programme.

Premier League Kicks has supported hundreds of thousands of young people to achieve their potential and improve their wellbeing through free weekly football sessions and educational workshops.

Supporters might not realise that even though we are an EFL Club, the Hatters Community Trust receives grant funding of over £100,000 a season from the Premier League Charitable Foundation to provide free PE support in schools, as well as free late night sessions on some of the biggest estates in the Town.

The Trust began its Premier League Kicks delivery in 2016 and since then has hosted over 1,500 sessions and engaged with 1,548 Participants in over almost 2,500 contact hours. Fair to say most young teenagers with a love of football in Luton have been involved in the last 7 years as

the Trust meets its strategic aims of involving and supporting young people in regular, positive, and fun activity, whilst helping to create stronger, safer, more inclusive communities.

As part of the 15-year celebrations, all EFL/PL Trusts have nominated a Premier League Kicks 'Local Legend' – somebody who has taken part in, volunteered, or worked on the program and has inspired others through their dedication, work ethic and own personal development.

Bradley Collins 20, was chosen as the Hatters Community Trust Premier League Kicks Local Legend because of his journey from participant as a 15-year-old boy, to a 20-year-old Community Trust Kickstart employee. Through his engagement and attending our PL Kicks project, Bradley has become a full-time member of staff working as a community cohesion coach. Bradley has always showed an interest in coaching and the leadership qualities to be a good role model and coach to the other participants. After dropping out of college he came back to KICKs as an 18-year-old to

volunteer and take on part-time coaching roles which has led to him being offered a contract on the Kickstart scheme with the possibility of him gaining a full-time contract at the end of his placement.

Bradley said: "Being part of the Community Trust team has had an amazing effect for me and given me the focus to qualify and become a sports coach, and know I will have the chance to create more opportunities for players that are part of the Project now."

From one legend to another, former Manchester United defender Rio Ferdinand said: "Legend is a word you hear a lot in football, but legends aren't just created in stadiums. The coaches, mentors, volunteers, and participants who are fulfilling their potential thanks to these weekly sessions all deserve to be called legends.

"For 15 years Premier League Kicks has been using the universal language of football to bring communities together and inspire a new generation of young people, providing positive role models who can give them belief and can help to steer them on the right path in life."

As well as providing young people with access to free football and sports activities, Premier League Kicks offers mentoring, life skills advice and access to opportunities like volunteering to help aid their development. To date, the Premier League has invested almost £66 million in Kicks and in the year ahead an estimated 80,000 young people across the England and Wales will take part in the programme.

Premier League
Kicks

LOCAL LEGEND

15 Years

BRADLEY COLLINS

YEARS INVOLVED: 5
SESSIONS ATTENDED: 202
PARTICIPANTS COACHED: 306

PANINI

Since it began, more than 440,000 young people have participated in Premier League Kicks football and multi-sport sessions held at community venues across England and Wales. The program started with four pilot clubs and is now run across 936 venues by 90 Premier League, EFL and National League sides – all funded by the Premier League Charitable Fund.

PL KICKs manager at the Trust, Wayne Polson, said: "Our KICKs sessions are extremely popular and importantly offer local boys and girls access to high quality local facilities they would otherwise not have access to, because of the high cost and strict booking conditions most owners are required to have in place. The sessions are a bit of a melting pot, which is great, and local role models like Bradley show the benefit and opportunity available to lots of young disengaged teenagers in the Town."

Anyone interested in the programme and want to find out more about the opportunity it offers can contact Wayne via email at PLKICKS@lutontown.co.uk



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JUNIOR HATTERS



TODAY'S MASCOT



ARCHIE

NAME: Archie Robbins

AGE: 9

HOBBIES: Football & Supporting LTFC

FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Elijah Adebayo

FA CUP QUIZ

Q1: Who scored our goal the last time we faced Chelsea?

A) Harry Cornick B) Luke Berry C) Jordan Clark

Q2: When did we make FA Cup history by becoming the first non-League team to beat a Premier League team?

A) 2012 B) 2013 C) 2014

Q3: What team did we face in the 1959 FA Cup Final?

A) Aston Villa B) Norwich City C) Nottingham Forest

Q4: How many FA Cup goals did Mick Harford score for the Hatters?

A) 10 B) 12 C) 13

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Stadium: Stamford Bridge

Capacity: 41,837

Last season: 4TH (PL)

Head to head with Luton:

Luton wins - 14

Draws - 13

Chelsea wins - 18

Manager: Thomas Tuchel



SUPER DANNY HYLTON

On Saturday Danny Hylton scored his first Kenilworth Road goal in the Championship, giving the Hatters their first three Championship wins in a row since 1996!



Answers | Q1: C, Q2: B, Q3: C, Q4: A



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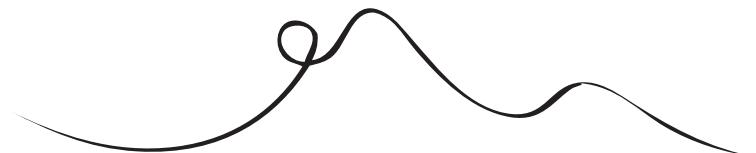
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1 LUTON TOWN 0 DERBY COUNTY

Kenilworth Road – Sat 26th February 2022 –
Sky Bet Championship

Town: Steer; Bree, Burke, Lockyer, Naismith (C),
Bell; Osho, Campbell, Lansbury (Hylton 51');
Cornick (Jerome 59'), Adebayo (Onyedimna 78').

Derby: Allsop; Byrne, Davies (C), Cashin,
Buchanan, Forsyth (Plange 73'); Bielik, Morrison;
Knight (Ebiwei 84'), Bird (Ebosole 66'); Kazim-
Richards.

Scorers:
LT - Hylton (67')

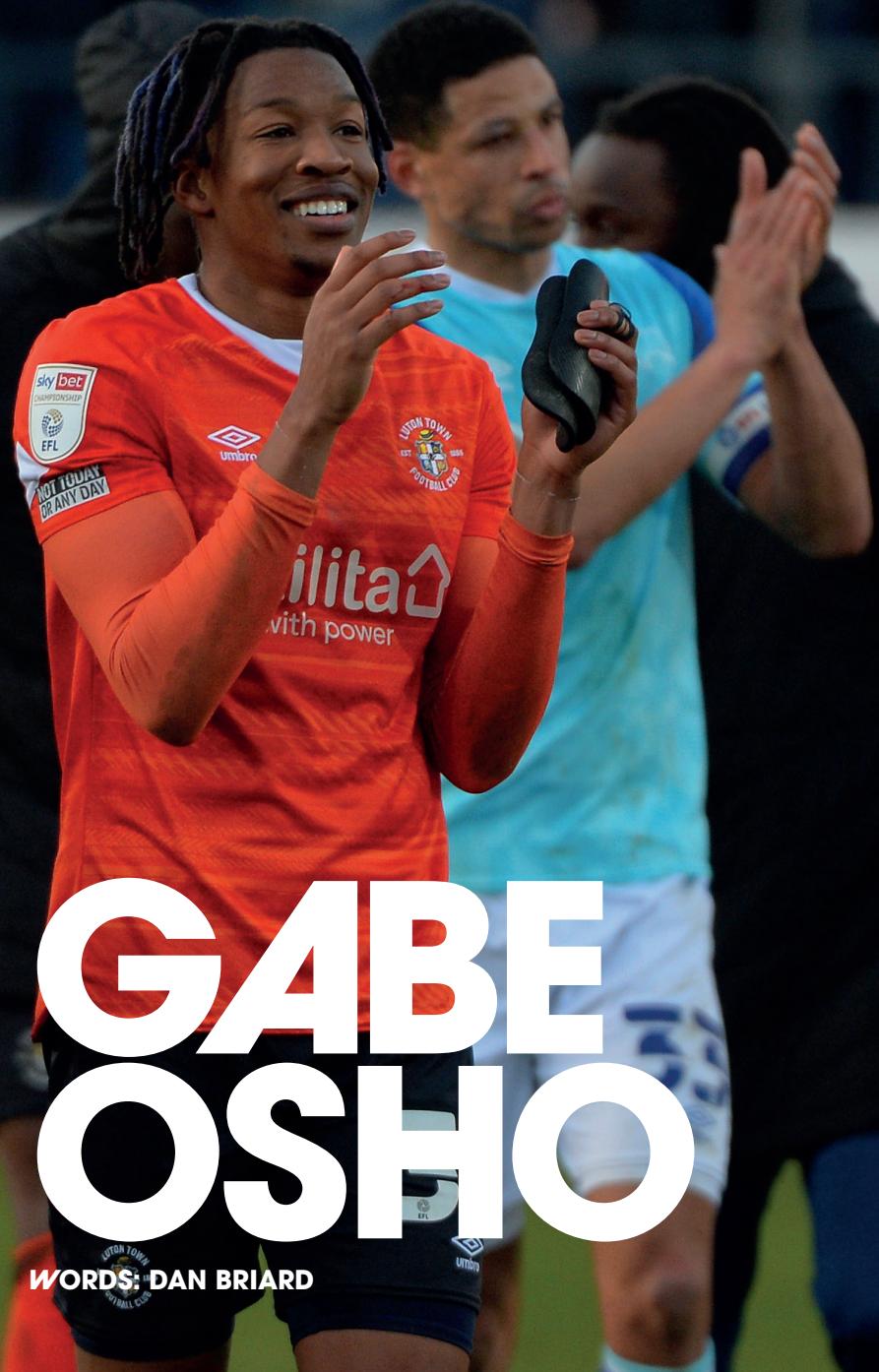
**"15 out of 18 points
is a phenomenal
month to have in the
Championship. I'm
not sure we did that in
League Two and One.
We've not gone three
on the bounce before
and that is all I wanted
today."**

NATHAN JONES

DERBY REACTION

GABE OSHO

WORDS: DAN BRIARD



Gabe Osho praised the team spirit after victory against Derby County at the weekend took the Hatters into the play-off places heading into the business end of the season.

After helping preserve a 14th league clean sheet of the campaign and secure a third successive win of the week following victories against West Bromwich Albion and Stoke City, the defensive midfielder said: “I don’t know how we do it but every game we just seem to dig in, fight, and at the moment, we are getting three points!

“On the pitch every single game, everyone wants to fight for each other, fight for the manager and fight for the club so we have to dig in and get results.

“We know we are going to be hard to beat and break down, and hard to score against. As I said, we will have periods of the game where we are on top and if we can score in those periods, we can give ourselves a good chance.”

Danny Hylton scored his second goal in two matches after coming off the bench to net in front of the Kenilworth Road crowd for the first time since March 2019 in the 4-0 win against Doncaster Rovers.

And it’s experience like Danny’s with a blend of young exuberance that led Osho to say: “We have a good balance in the team between experienced and young players. The experienced players talk to us day in and day out, game in and game out to coach us through things and then we bring our own skills to the game.



“We are aware that we’re in the top six, but everyone is focusing on each individual game, trying to win the games and then we will see where we end up at the end of the season.

Speaking after his 22nd appearance of the season, Osho is relishing his role in the team and hopes to play ‘as many games as possible’ between now and the end of the season.

“It’s brilliant to be a part of this team, especially in the last month when we have been winning and the momentum seems to be building. For me personally I’m delighted to be involved and I just want to keep helping the team as much as I can.

“The work we do day in and day out, everyone believes in it, everyone believes in the methods we have and what the gaffer says so when it gets tough

in games sometimes, we go back to that, and it seems to be working.”

Heading into yet another big week, the 23-year-old said: “I know it’s cliché but you have to take it a game at a time but that is the aim. I think after Chelsea we have a big week – Middlesbrough, Coventry and QPR. We have to attack every game as it comes now.

“Two away games and one home. I believe we can go and win all three, I think that is how we have to approach every single game and then see where we are at the end of the week.”

Ahead of tonight’s meeting with world champions Chelsea, Osho and his teammates will approach the game as they usually do but admits the away side could be in for a surprise under the lights at Kenilworth Road.

FIXTURES 2021-22

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY	POS	PENALTY (F)	PENALTY (A)	OWN GOALS	SENT OFF	OPP. SENT OFF	SHEA	BREE	POTTS	NASMITH	BRADLEY	REA	CORNICK	BERRY	HYLTON	LEE	ADEBAYO	SLUGA	
								1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12						
AUGUST																									
Sat 7	3.00pm	H	Peterborough United	W 3-0	10,019	1,032	2	-	-	-	-	*	y				*	1a					1		
Tue 10	7.45pm	A	Stevenage (Carabao Cup R1)	D 2-2*	3,052	1,291	-	-	-	-	-	*	*					y	a		c				
Sat 14	3.00pm	A	West Bromwich Albion	L 2-3	23,283	1,433	11	-	-	1	-	*							1			d			
Tue 17	7.45pm	A	Barnsley	W 1-0	12,999	748	3	-	-	-	-						c	a y			*	y			
Sat 21	3.00pm	H	Birmingham City	L 0-5	10,014	1,006	11	-	-	-	-							a y	c			*			
Sat 28	3.00pm	H	Sheffield United	D 0-0	9,774	1,036	12	-	-	-	-	*		y			a								
SEPTEMBER																									
Sat 11	3.00pm	A	Blackburn Rovers	D 2-2	11,241	810	12	-	-	-	-	*		b	y	b		c 2						y	
Wed 15	7.45pm	A	Bristol City	D 1-1	16,878	572	13	-	-	-	-	*	y				*	a	c	b 1			a		
Sat 18	3.00pm	H	Swansea City	D 3-3	9,721	831	14	1	-	-	-	*		y			c	b	1 a			2 c			
Sat 25	3.00pm	A	AFC Bournemouth	L 1-2	9,737	1,125	16	-	-	1	-	*				*	*	c	b						
Wed 29	7.45pm	H	Coventry City	W 5-0	9,805	1,032	9	1	-	-	-	*				c	2 a	1					2 b		
OCTOBER																									
Sat 2	3.00pm	H	Huddersfield Town	D 0-0	9,977	1,009	13	-	-	-	-	*					y	a	c						
Sat 16	3.00pm	A	Millwall	W 2-0	14,227	1,631	10	-	-	-	-	*	y		y		2 a	*					c		
Tue 19	7.45pm	A	Derby County	D 2-2	20,258	1,057	9	-	-	-	-	*		y a		c		*	1						
Sat 23	3.00pm	H	Hull City	W 1-0	9,999	793	5	-	-	-	-	*					a			1 b					
Sat 30	3.00pm	A	Preston North End	L 0-2	11,059	989	10	-	1	-	-	*			a	b	c	*							
NOVEMBER																									
Wed 2	7.45pm	H	Middlesbrough	W 3-1	9,790	987	6	-	-	-	-	*	y	y a	1	*	1 b	b					1 c		
Sat 6	3.00pm	H	Stoke City	L 0-1	10,068	1,005	11	-	-	-	-	*				*	b	*							
Fri 19	7.45pm	A	QPR	L 0-2	15,062	2,452	11	-	-	-	-	*			y		a	*					y		
Tue 23	7.45pm	A	Nottingham Forest	D 0-0	25,715	1,418	11	-	-	-	1			y	*	a	c		* c						
Sat 27	3.00pm	H	Cardiff City	L 1-2	9,987	1,032	14	-	-	-	-	*			y c	b									
DECEMBER																									
Sat 4	3.00pm	A	Blackpool	W 3-0	11,366	1,391	12	-	-	-	-					1			c			1 c			
Sat 11	3.00pm	H	Fulham	D 1-1	9,992	1,029	12	-	-	-	-						*			1	*				
JANUARY																									
Sun 9	12.30pm	H	Harrogate Town (FAC3)	W 4-0	4,834	330	-	-	-	-	-	*		1	*	a 1	e		1 e	*					
Sat 15	12.30pm	H	AFC Bournemouth	W 3-2	9,649	1,032	13	-	-	1	-	*		1										*	
Wed 19	8.00pm	A	Reading	W 2-0	9,611	849	11	-	-	1	-													*	
Sat 22	3.00pm	A	Sheffield United	L 0-2	27,780	1,843	13	-	-	1	-											a	*		
Tue 25	7.45pm	H	Bristol City	W 2-1	9,202	586	10	-	-	-	-	*					y a			1	*				
Sat 29	3.00pm	H	Blackburn Rovers	D 0-0	9,987	1,032	10	-	-	-	-	*	y	*		b y	c								
FEBRUARY																									
Tue 1	7.45pm	A	Swansea City	W 1-0	16,598	310	9	-	-	-	-	*				a 1	c y	y b							
Sat 5	5.30pm	A	Cambridge United (FAC4)	W 3-0	7,937	1,470	-	-	-	-	*					b	a								
Tue 8	7.45pm	H	Barnsley	W 2-1	9,101	306	7	1	-	-	-	*				b	c			c					
Sat 12	3.00pm	A	Birmingham City	L 0-3	17,292	1,782	10	-	-	-	-	*				c	*								
Sat 19	3.00pm	H	West Bromwich Albion	W 2-0	10,029	1,031	8	-	-	-	-	*	c	*		*	b								
Wed 23	7.45pm	A	Stoke City	W 2-1	18,270	581	8	-	-	-	-	*				y a	1 y			y					
Sat 26	3.00pm	H	Derby County	W 1-0	10,070	1,032	6	-	-	-	-	*				b	a 1	c							
MARCH																									
Wed 2	7.15pm	H	Chelsea (FAC5)																						
Sat 5	3.00pm	A	Middlesbrough																						
Tue 8	7.45pm	A	Coventry City																						
Sun 13	12.00pm	H	QPR																						
Wed 16	7.45pm	H	Preston North End																						
Sat 19	3.00pm	A	Hull City																						
APRIL																									
Sat 2	3.00pm	H	Millwall																						
Tue 5	7.45pm	A	Peterborough United																						
Sat 9	3.00pm	A	Huddersfield Town																						
Fri 15	3.00pm	H	Nottingham Forest																						
Mon 18	3.00pm	A	Cardiff City																						
Sat 23	3.00pm	H	Blackpool																						
Sat 30	3.00pm	A	Fulham																						
MAY																									
Sat 7	3.00pm	H	Reading																						



WELCOME PRESLEY!

A new Hatter was born in January as Presley Ronald Francis Garley was born to dad James and mum Emma. Grandad Dave is a Luton fan and grandad Shane is a Chelsea supporter, so today's match is particularly special. Mum, dad and grandad Dave are season ticket holders at the Kenny. COYH!

FOR MATCH REPORTS AND STATS, VISIT WWW.LUTONTOWN.CO.UK

SLUGA	SNODGRASS	MENDES GOMES	LOCKER	BURKE	MAPANZU	CLARK	PEREIRA	KHOSO	ISTED	CAMPBELL	LANSBURY	ONYEDINIMA	STEER	MUSKWE	THORPE	BELL	NEUFVILLE	OSHO	BECKWITH	JEROME	JONES	MICANNET	FRANCIS CLARKE	SUB TIMES					SENT OFF	L#	O#	GOAL TIMES	
12	12	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	28	29	30	32	33	35	36	37	38	a	b	c	d	e	L#	O#	GOAL TIMES		
		b			c		*			c	1 b		a						*					78	82	85	-	-	-	-	30, 68, 71		
					b		*		c	y		1 b						y	1 a	*	*			72	72	79	-	-	-	-	2, 5, 26, 40		
		*			1	b	*	c	y c	a	a	b						y c	1	b	a			46	60	74	89	-	-	-	5, 36, 66, 70, 88		
		*	b				*		*	*	y							*						69	88	90	-	-	-	-	4		
		*				a	*	b	b									*	c					28	46	57	-	-	-	-	7, 26, 47, 84, 88		
		*	*			*	*	a	b	b														83	84	-	-	-	-	-			
y	c	*				*			*	a	ay							y	y					11	46	59	-	-	-	-	27, 31, 73, 98		
	c					*			*	y								*	b					63	63	74	-	-	-	-	57, 91		
*		*			a	*			*	y								*						61	76	89	-	-	-	-	7, 15, 23, 63, 86, 92		
b						*			*									a	a	c				46	71	75	-	-	-	-	17, 31, 64		
a		*							*	*								c	b					71	71	80	-	-	-	-	3, 18, 30, 45+7, 58		
	c	*	b						*	b							*	a y						66	73	87	-	-	-	-			
	d	d	y b						b	*	c							a						68	76	79	87	-	-	-	11, 53		
	*	*	y b						c	a 1	b						*						31	31	65	-	-	-	-	20, 48, 60, 83			
	*	c	a						*	c	*							b						22	46	78	-	-	-	-	17		
	y	*							*	a	c	b	y											46	46	70	-	-	-	-	27, 45+3		
		a	c						*	y	ay		*					c						55	81	89	-	-	-	-	13, 57, 60, 62		
		*							y	b	a						*							63	64	80	-	-	-	-	34		
	y		y b						*	b	y		a	*	*			b						68	79	-	-	-	-	-	10, 55		
	*		1						*	b	a		a	*	*			*						74	74	87	-	-	-	-	61		
	b		a	1	*			*	a	*	b						*							57	66	84	-	-	-	-	10, 64, 77		
*	*								y b	*	a	a						b						46	77	82	-	-	-	-	42, 54, 91		
*	*								*																78	78	-	-	-	-	-	19, 62	
*	*		c	d					b	y a	d						c		1 b					60	61	71	71	77	-	-	18, 50, 82, 88		
*	*	b							1 a	c	a						b		c					60	65	82	-	-	-	-	30, 42, 51, 78, 97		
*	*	a							1 c	a	b						c		b					69	74	79	-	-	-	-	33, 58		
*	*	r	b						c y	a	*	b					c	b	c	a				54	60	63	-	-	61	-	48, 51		
*	*	1 c							*	c	a	*	b				b							61	61	87	-	-	-	-	42, 56, 68		
*	y	*							*	c	a	a					a							70	70	83	-	-	-	-			
*	*	y							y c	a	*						b							63	63	81	-	-	-	-	72		
1 d	1								d	y c	a	*					1	a	c	*				*	*	69	78	85	85	-	-	-	14, 23, 88
*	*								1 y	a	*						b	b	*					55	80	85	-	-	-	-	28, 44, 59		
a	a								c	y 1	a	*	a				b		1 b					57	57	75	-	-	-	-	25, 46, 69		
*	*	y	y						b	y b	*	*	*					y		a 1					63	85	89	-	-	-	-	55, 82	
*	*	y	y						*	a	c								b y					75	93	-	-	-	-	-	56, 82, 92		
*	*																							51	59	78	-	-	-	-	67		



RIP ROD HEWITT

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of life-long Luton Town fan Rod Hewitt. Rod was instrumental in the running of the Bobbers in the 1960s and 70s and was determined to cheer on the club from the disabled area when his MS tried to stop him in more recent years. Rod was also a well known figure in local football, with long associations with both Hexton FC and the NHCSFL. He lost his battle with cancer on 25th February 2022. He will be greatly missed by family and friends alike.

UP NEXT



FORMED: 1876

NICKNAME: BORO

LAST SEASON: 10TH IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP

FOLLOW THEM ON TWITTER: @BORO

COLOURS: RED & WHITE SHIRTS, RED SHORTS

GROUND: RIVERSIDE STADIUM

MANAGER: CHRIS WILDER

WHO?

Boro have competed in the Championship for the last five seasons after being relegated from the Premier League in 2017. Middlesbrough won promotion to England's top tier the year before after finishing second under former Manager Aitor Karanka. Now under the management of Chris Wilder, they are hoping he can repeat his promotion success with Sheffield United of three years ago to end Boro's top-flight exile.

GROUND?

The Boro have played their home games at the Riverside Stadium since 1995, and the stadium hosts a capacity of 34,742. Before their move to the Riverside, Middlesbrough spent almost a century at Ayresome Park.



HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?

The two sides last met in November 2021 at Kenilworth Road, with Luton completing a second-half comeback to win 3-1 thanks to goals from Sonny Bradley, Elijah Adebayo and Harry Cornick. Last season, the Hatters earned just one point from the Boro, drawing 1-1 at Kenilworth Road but losing 1-0 on the road in December 2020.

KNOWING ME, KNOWING YOU

Former Hatter Martin Cranie spent one season at the Riverside in 2018 before joining Luton on promotion from League One in 2019. Luton also signed forward Tom Craddock initially on-loan and then on a permanent deal in 2008 and 2009 as they were relegated from League Two.

Words: Dylan Bhundia

LUTON TOWN PLAYER STATISTICS

	2021-22 SEASON									CAREER			
	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		CARDS		TOTAL				
	APPS	G	APPS	G	APPS	G	Y	R	APPS	G			
Elijah Adebayo	27	(2)	12	1	(0)	1	28	(2)	13	3	0	48	18
Sam Beckwith	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0	1	0
Amar'i Bell	27	(1)	1	1	(1)	0	28	(2)	1	2	0	30	1
Luke Berry	7	(3)	4	0	(1)	1	7	(4)	5	2	0	133	19
Sonny Bradley	16	(1)	2	1	(0)	0	17	(1)	2	2	0	149	5
James Bee	31	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	32	(0)	0	5	0	101	1
Reece Burke	17	(2)	0	2	(0)	1	19	(2)	1	3	1	21	1
Allan Campbell	20	(1)	4	0	(3)	0	20	(4)	4	6	0	24	4
Jordan Clark	14	(4)	2	1	(0)	0	15	(4)	2	1	0	58	5
Harry Cornick	22	(4)	8	0	(2)	0	22	(6)	8	3	0	197	31
Danny Hylton	2	(8)	3	0	(2)	0	2	(10)	3	2	0	160	61
Cameron Jerome	9	(13)	2	3	(0)	2	12	(13)	4	3	0	25	4
Peter Kioso	4	(5)	0	2	(0)	0	6	(5)	0	2	0	14	0
Henri Lansbury	14	(11)	0	2	(0)	0	16	(11)	0	9	0	27	0
Elliott Lee	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0	124	30
Tom Lockyer	20	(0)	1	2	(0)	0	22	(0)	1	4	0	45	1
Carlos Mendes Gomes	2	(6)	0	3	(0)	1	5	(6)	1	0	0	11	1
Polly-Ruddock Mpanzu	26	(2)	1	0	(1)	0	26	(3)	1	2	0	327	20
Admiral Mus�ke	7	(10)	0	2	(0)	2	9	(10)	2	1	0	19	2
Kai Naismith	32	(0)	1	1	(0)	1	33	(0)	2	5	0	56	3
Fred Onyedinma	8	(13)	2	1	(1)	0	9	(14)	2	2	0	23	2
Gabriel Osho	15	(7)	0	2	(0)	0	17	(7)	0	4	0	25	0
Dion Pereira	0	(0)	0	0	(1)	0	0	(1)	0	0	0	2	0
Dan Potts	2	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	3	(0)	0	1	0	179	11
Glen Rea	8	(4)	0	1	(0)	0	9	(4)	0	4	0	207	8
James Shea	11	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	13	(0)	0	0	0	98	0
Simon Sluga	19	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	19	(0)	0	1	0	94	0
Jed Steer	3	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	4	(0)	0	0	0	4	0
Elliott Thorpe	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0	1	0

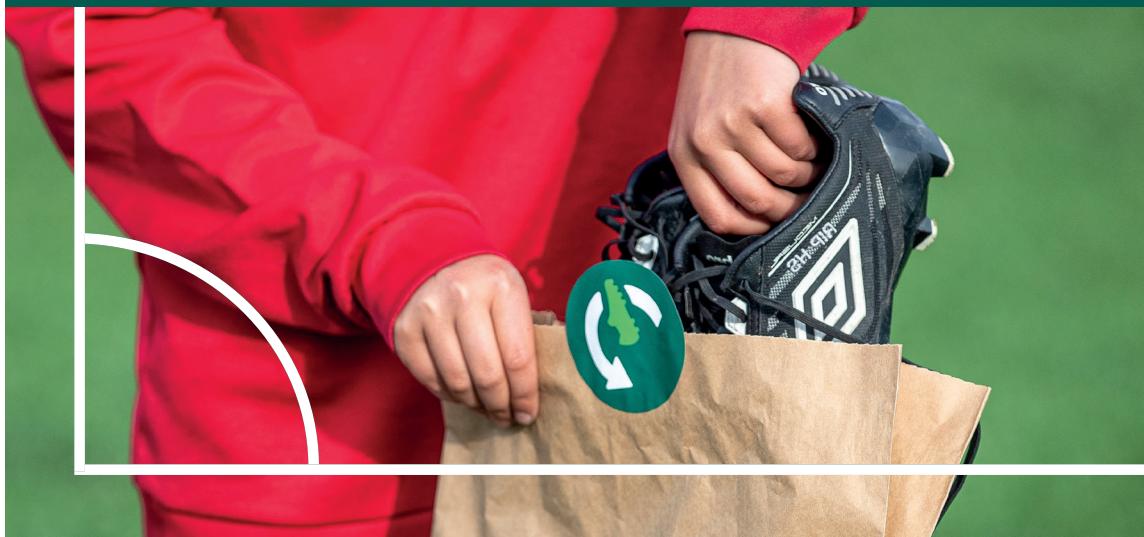
2021-22 CHAMPIONSHIP TABLE

#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Fulham	33	21	7	5	82	29	53	70
2	Bournemouth	31	18	7	6	51	27	24	61
3	Huddersfield Town	35	16	11	8	46	36	10	59
4	Blackburn Rovers	34	16	9	9	46	34	12	57
5	Queens Park Rangers	34	16	8	10	49	39	10	56
6	Luton Town	33	15	9	9	46	37	9	54
7	Sheffield United	33	15	8	10	44	34	10	53
8	Middlesbrough	33	15	7	11	43	35	8	52
9	Nottingham Forest	33	14	9	10	45	33	12	51
10	Coventry City	33	14	9	10	43	38	5	51
11	Millwall	33	13	10	10	36	34	2	49
12	Preston North End	35	11	14	10	38	39	-1	47
13	West Bromwich Albion	33	12	10	11	35	30	5	46
14	Blackpool	34	12	9	13	40	41	-1	45
15	Stoke City	33	12	8	13	42	38	4	44
16	Bristol City	35	11	7	17	45	63	-18	40
17	Swansea City	31	10	8	13	32	43	-11	38
18	Hull City	35	10	7	18	30	39	-9	37
19	Birmingham City	35	9	10	16	40	55	-15	37
20	Cardiff City	34	10	6	18	40	54	-14	36
21	Reading *	34	10	5	19	42	67	-25	29
22	Barnsley	33	5	8	20	24	48	-24	23
23	Derby County *	34	10	12	12	34	38	-4	21
24	Peterborough United	33	5	6	22	24	66	-42	21



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NATHAN JONES

- 01 JAMES SHEA
- 02 JAMES BREE
- 03 DAN POTTS
- 04 KAL NAISMITH
- 05 SONNY BRADLEY
- 07 HARRY CORNICK
- 08 LUKE BERRY
- 09 DANNY HYLTON
- 11 ELIJAH ADEBAYO
- 12 ROBERT SNODGRASS
- 14 CARLOS MENDES GOMES
- 15 TOM LOCKYER
- 16 REECE BURKE
- 17 PELLY-RUDDOCK MPANZU
- 18 JORDAN CLARK
- 20 PETER KIOSO
- 21 HARRY ISTED
- 22 ALLAN CAMPBELL
- 23 HENRI LANSBURY
- 24 FRED ONYEDINIMA
- 25 JED STEER
- 26 ADMIRAL MUSKWE
- 28 ELLIOT THORPE
- 29 AMARI'I BELL
- 32 GABRIEL OSHO
- 35 CAMERON JEROME

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THOMAS TUCHEL

- 01 KEPA ARRIZABALAGA
- 02 ANTONIO RUDIGER
- 03 MARCOS ALONSO
- 04 ANDREAS CHRISTENSEN
- 05 JORGINHO
- 06 THIAGO SILVA
- 07 N'GOLO KANTE
- 08 MATEO KOVACIC
- 09 ROMELU LUKAKU
- 10 CHRISTIAN PULISIC
- 11 TIMO WERNER
- 12 RUBEN LOFTUS-CHEEK
- 13 MARCUS BETTINELLI
- 14 TREVOH CHALOBAH
- 16 EDOUARD MENDY
- 17 SAUL NIGUEZ
- 18 ROSS BARKLEY
- 19 MASON MOUNT
- 20 CALLUM HUDSON-ODOI
- 21 BEN CHILWELL
- 22 HAKIM ZIYECH
- 24 REECE JAMES
- 28 CESAR APILICUETA
- 29 KAI HAVERTZ
- 31 MALANG SARR

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE
PETER BANKES

ASSISTANT REFEREE 1
NEIL DAVIES

ASSISTANT REFEREE 2
JAMES MAINWARING

FOURTH OFFICIAL
GRAHAM SCOTT

E-GOLDEN GAMBLE

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