



LUTON TOWN V WEST BROMWICH ALBION
SATURDAY JANUARY 14TH 2023 | KENILWORTH ROAD



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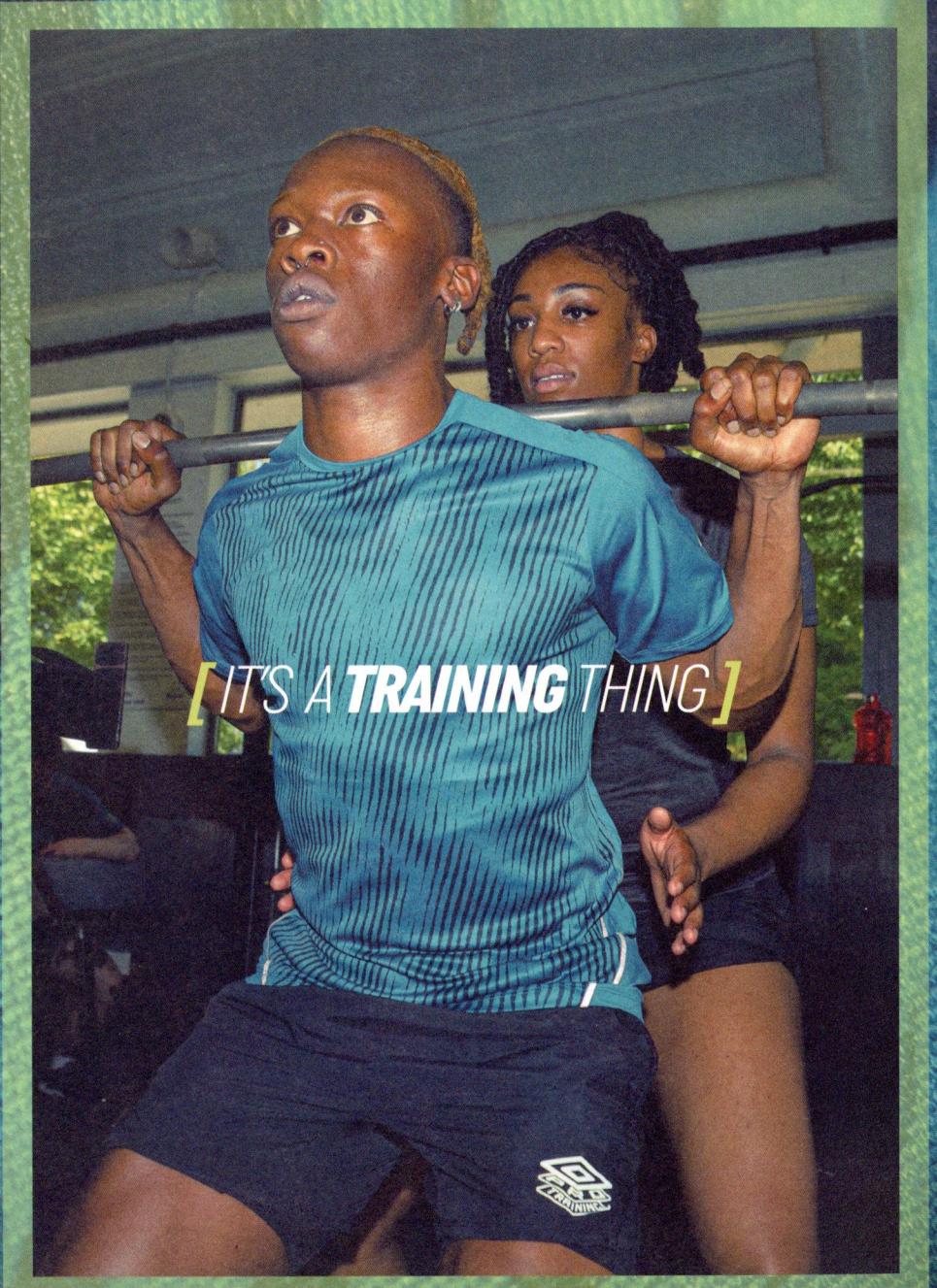


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SATURDAY JANUARY 14TH 2022 | KENILWORTH ROAD



Ethan Horvath manages to claw the ball away from the top corner and prevent Wigan's Tom Naylor from settling last week's FA Cup 3rd round tie in injury-time.

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OUR TOWN - LUTON TOWN OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

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ROB EDWARDS



LUTON TOWN v WEST BROMWICH ALBION
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WELCOME BACK TO KENILWORTH ROAD FOR WHAT PROMISES TO BE A FASCINATING MATCH IN THE SKY BET CHAMPIONSHIP AGAINST WEST BROM.

This will be our first three o'clock on a Saturday home match and I honestly can't wait for a bit of normality to return to what's been a strange season so far for everyone, with the World Cup break quickly followed by Christmas, when kick-off times are all over the place, and then the FA Cup.

We were disappointed not to make our possession count in last week's third round tie with Wigan, but once again, there were some really pleasing elements of our performance, even if we didn't quite create those big chances to really test their keeper.

In an ideal world we'd have wanted to have won the tie on the day. But if you can't win the game, you make sure you don't lose it, and that was a huge positive having been behind early on.

We had to call on Ethan really late on, making that save to prevent the ball going in the top corner, and then benefitted from a 100 per cent correct decision to disallow the one that Wigan did manage to get past him, as his shirt was being pulled by the player in front of him as he dived.

We'll certainly know Wigan well by the end of next week, with the league match on Saturday coming five days after Tuesday's replay. But we know that if we can progress through that one, we have a great opportunity to go on a good Cup run.

Our focus all week has been on the league, however, and we welcome everyone who has travelled with West Brom today. They are one of the form teams at present and Carlos Corberan has done a great job so far in leading them on a charge up the table. I don't know Carlos personally, but as a club we know him well with the job he did at Huddersfield, and I'm sure he has ambitions to go one better with West Brom.

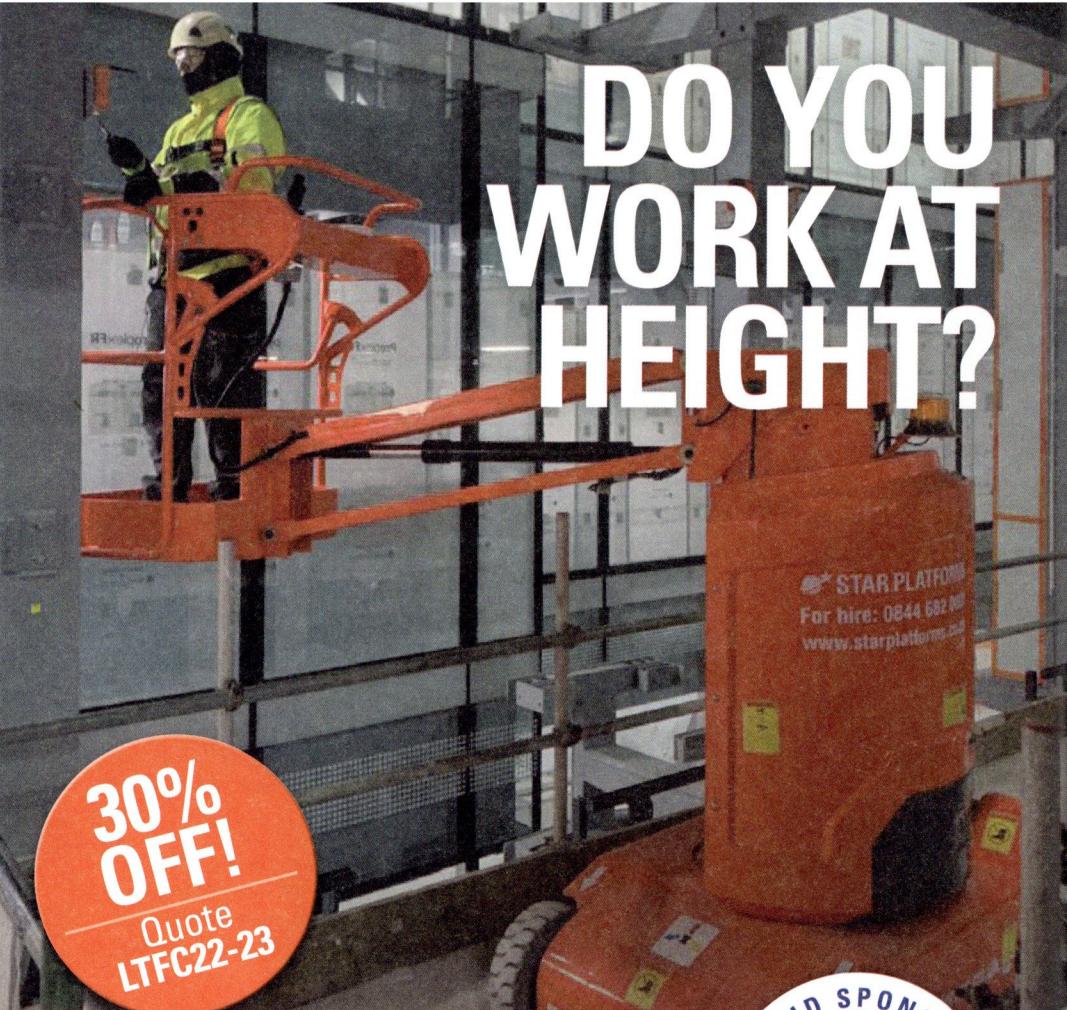
Today is all set up to be a really good contest. Both sides are on winning runs and are separated by just two places and one point in the table. We are in a fantastic position with what the lads have done in the first half of the season, long before we came in, and in those three matches in quick succession over the festive period.

This one kicks off a massive week, with the Under-18s at home to QPR in the FA Youth Cup fourth round on Wednesday night as well. If you can get down to support Alan, Alex and the young lads, it will be great for them to have a big crowd to play in front of, and we all wish them luck.

Enjoy today's game, give the boys everything you've got and please travel safely up that M6 over the next few days.

COYH!





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FROM THE BOARDROOM

ROB STRINGER
Director



Welcome to another sell-out match at Kenilworth Road! Many of my fellow fans have been saying to me that this is an important game, but the truth is in the most competitive league in the world at this stage of the season, every match is vital.

The points difference between teams is even tighter than last season, with just four points separating fifth place from 15th in the table! Every hard-won point can count towards something at the end of season as literally every team is either competing to win the division, get in the play-offs or stay up.

The prize is obviously huge in our division, but the cliche of one game at a time is certainly true this season.

We all would definitely settle for an identical result to last season's game against West Brom, which was a definite confirmation of our play-off potential at that point of the season.

Cameron Jerome and Allan Campbell got the goals that day, the latter with what we now recognise as a trademark burst and blast from outside the box. The same today would be nice, lads!

How competitive our fellow Championship teams are was certainly highlighted by the FA Cup game against the current bottom club Wigan last Saturday.

Our manager described in his post-match press conference far more eloquently than I could the ebb and flow of the game, but we certainly came back strongly after a slow start and as illustrated by the great result at Huddersfield too, we have curtailed the form guide of not being able to turn round a game where we go behind.

The game on Tuesday night will be difficult too, but the reward of a winnable home tie in the fourth round should be extra incentive.

I write these notes a couple of hours before a weekly two-hour board meeting where we discuss everything and anything regarding the future of our club. As Gary and David frequently state in these notes, we are all united as fans in the direction this club needs to take, and we all know that our unity has been reflected so impressively on the pitch by our players and coaching staff.

Let's make the atmosphere electric today for Rob and the boys – and then the same here for the Under-18s on Wednesday in their FA Youth Cup fourth round tie under the lights.

COYH!



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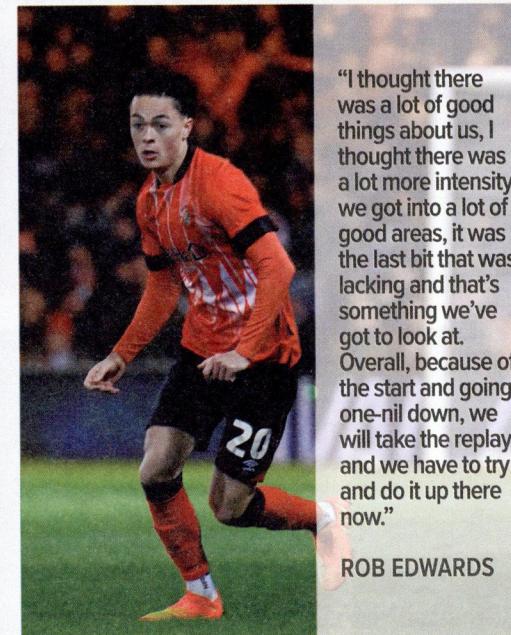


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"I thought there was a lot of good things about us, I thought there was a lot more intensity, we got into a lot of good areas, it was the last bit that was lacking and that's something we've got to look at. Overall, because of the start and going one-nil down, we will take the replay and we have to try and do it up there now."

ROB EDWARDS



1 LUTON TOWN 1 WIGAN ATHLETIC

Kenilworth Road – Sat 7th January 2023

Hatters: Horvath; Bree, Osho, Burke (Doughty 63'), Potts (C), Bell; Watson (Mpanzu 76'), Campbell (Berry 45'), Woodrow; Cornick (Jerome 72'), Morris (Adebayo 45').

Latics: Amos; Edmonds-Green (Darikwa 89'), Whatmough, Tilt (Hughes 77'); Nyambe, Power (C), Cousins (Aasgaard 74'), Naylor, McClean; Lang, Fletcher (Kean 74').

Scorers:
LT - Cornick (45' + 1)
WA - Naylor (17')

MUSCLE SQUAD

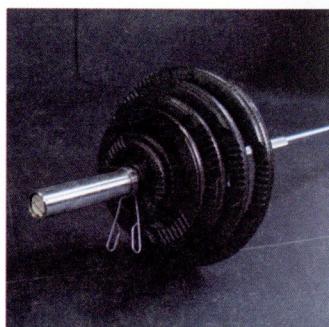
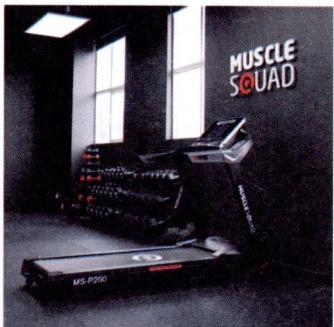


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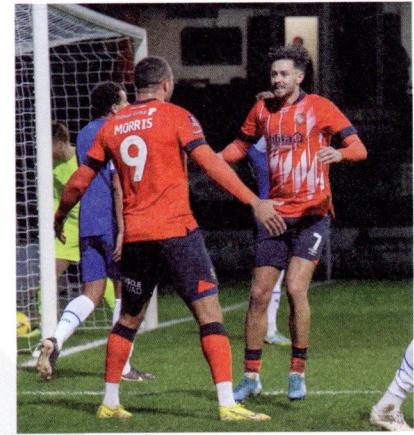
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WIGAN FA CUP REACTION

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HARRY CORNICK

Harry Cornick was relieved to be back on the scoresheet in last week's FA Cup draw with Wigan and hopes he can kick on now for the remainder of the season.

The forward was handed his seventh start of the campaign and marked it with a goal on the stroke of half-time, the first he has scored this term.

The looping header cancelled out Tom Naylor's opener for Wigan and set-up an intriguing second half but neither side could find a winner despite their best efforts.

"We couldn't get going as we do at home," Cornick admitted after the match. "Usually we get the ball, play, and then start steam-rolling people, but we found we couldn't really do that today. We struggled first half, then second half was about getting the ball in the back of the net. We didn't create enough chances and then when we did get a chance to take it, we weren't really doing that."

On his goal, the 27-year-old said: "It has been a long time coming. It has been a stop-start season for me due to injuries and there's a lot of strikers in the squad, so I've not been getting my chance at times and then getting in and coming

out. It's nice to get a goal and hopefully a few more will come.

"We have four or five quality strikers in the squad now. I'm not guaranteed a start so I have to work for it, work hard, try and get my name on the team sheet and then when I do that, I have to try and do my bit for the team – score and get some wins.

"There's a lot of competition for places and the boys are chomping at the bit to get some minutes," Cornick continued. "The replay is another chance for the lads who aren't getting minutes in the league to get minutes. That was the case for me today, I haven't played loads this season, so the FA Cup is perfect for me to have a start and try and prove to the gaffer that I want to be in the team. The more games, the better. We have a big squad and everyone is going to play their bit to the end of the season if we want to do something special, which we think we can."

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TRICK OR TREATMENT

SIMON PARSELL

HEAD OF MEDICAL

Well, it's been a while since I did a column and it's been all change. We are getting used to things, but it was strange at first for all, especially when Kevin was handing out room keys at the hotel and went 'Who's Rob?' Then James Shea sees a message in our group from Rob and thinks 'Why is Rob from the kitchen messaging?'

It has been good to see the injured lads back in action and obviously it's no coincidence they all came back and scored great goals. Lets just hope Cauley, Alfie and Reece remember how to do it again.

Currently we have Sonny Bradley, who is recovering well but still a few weeks away. It was a nasty event and described by the consultant as the worst he had seen in 30 years.

Henri is making good progress following his surgery. I will be honest and say it's not everyday you step out the treatment room and find Henri's dog tied to the wheel of your car. Mind you, I would have been happy laying on that blanket.

Fred is working with the Sport Science team and nearing a return, and he is now an engaged man. I told him first comes the engagement ring, then the wedding ring, and finally the suffering. Only joking, ladies!

DADS ARMY DELIVER

Luton Town's Dads Army continue to go from strength to strength, and in 2022 the fundraising Hatters fans reached their target of £5,000, nearly doubling the previous year's donations.

Shopping was done again at Bookers Cash & Carry and all food was delivered to Luton Foodbank in December.

The Dads Army crew would like to say a huge thank you to all who have contributed, and a special mention to Brian Jenkins who originally came up with the idea to



Finally on the treatment table front, Luke Freeman will be with us for a while after suffering an injury at QPR.

Quote of the week is back, but the person will remain anonymous. I said to the player we had a burglary at The Brache recently. He replied 'No way, a burglary - is that where they broke the window and got in'.

We have had a few birthday's recently, Elijah being the latest, but I must have missed the cake. Also, happy birthday to Gary Sweet. Some might see this as snivelling, I see it more as job security.

It's a bit late but Happy New Year to everyone and let's enjoy the rest of the season. I was going to quit all of my bad habits for the new year, but remembered no-one likes a quitter. COYH!



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THEIR TOWN

By Zac Neal



Our visitors today are West Bromwich Albion. Founded in 1878, the club universally known as the Baggies play at The Hawthorns and have had a relatively successful history.

The West Midlands side have won the FA Cup five times, most recently in 1968, and they have also been crowned champions of England, winning the First Division title way back in the 1919/20 season. They finished runners-up in 1924/25 and 1953/54. Perhaps their biggest club legend of all is Fred Everiss, who managed the club for 46 years. Doubling up as secretary, Everiss managed the club for 1,520 games, recording 658 wins between 1902 and 1948, and is the longest serving manager of all-time in English football.

In recent years, they have had some success as they have spent 13 of the last 21 seasons in the Premier League, with eight consecutive years their most consistent spell. Their most recent campaign in the top flight of English football was in 2020/21, when they were relegated having won just five matches, with Sam Allardyce unable to pull off his trademark rescue act.

After a poor start to this campaign, Steve Bruce was sacked as Albion manager immediately after the Hatters drew 0-0 at the Hawthorns on October 8th. Former Huddersfield boss Carlos Corberan was appointed and since then, the Spaniard has led the Baggies out of the relegation zone to one point away from the play-offs with a run of eight wins from their last nine games.

Their most recent outing was a 3-3 with Chesterfield in the FA Cup third round. The National League high-fliers looked like pulling off a shock at the Technique Stadium, but a last-minute equaliser from Brandon Thomas-Asante, with his second of the game, forced a replay. The top scorer misses today's game, however, having been given a three-match suspension for violent conduct after the FA took retrospective action following a 92nd-minute incident.



CARLOS CORBERAN

MANAGER | The 39-year-old retired from playing at Valencia B aged 23, to pursue his passion for coaching. He worked his way through Villarreal's coaching ranks, went to Saudi Arabia and was then head coach of Doxa and Ermis in Cyprus before working under Marcelo Bielsa at Leeds. He was appointed Huddersfield manager in 2020, leading them to last season's Championship play-off final, before joining Olympiacos. Returned to England in October to take over at the Hawthorns.



ALEX PALMER

GK | The 26-year-old came through the Baggies academy, and gained experience during two loans with Non-League Kidderminster, before emergency loan spells with Oldham and Notts County. In July 2019, Palmer joined League Two Plymouth on a season-long loan, then stepped up a division with Lincoln in 2020. Last March he played two games for the Hatters on emergency loan, providing an assist for Elijah Adebayo's winner at Coventry, before returning to Albion to sign a new deal.



WEST BROM IN FOCUS

BY OLLIE FILMER



CONOR TOWNSEND

DEF | Now in his fourth season with West Brom, 28-year-old Townsend began his career at Hull City and during his time on Humberside, he made just one senior appearance but gained experience every season in various loan spells. He played for Grimsby in 2011-12, then Chesterfield, Carlisle, Dundee United, Scunthorpe and Grimsby again before rejoining Scunthorpe on a permanent deal in 2016. He joined the Baggies in 2018 and is approaching 150 appearances for the club.

JED WALLACE

ONE TO WATCH | The 28-year-old joined Albion from Millwall in the summer, and although he's scored just four goals, is thought by many to be the Baggies' player of the season so far. Started his career at Portsmouth, where the attacking midfielder made over a century of appearances, before moving to Wolves and then the Lions. Established himself as one of the top performers outside the Premier League during his six years at The Den, and has 79 career goals from 432 appearances.



JOHN SWIFT

MID | 27-year-old Swift began his career in Chelsea's youth system before signing a professional contract. He went on various loan spells, gaining experience with Rotherham, Swindon Town and Brentford, and gained England caps at every age group from U16 to U21, prior to signing for Reading in July 2016. In his first season at the Madejski Stadium, he was named EFL Young Player of the Year and became renowned as one of the top midfield talents in the second tier, earning a move to West Brom last summer.

KARLAN GRANT

ATT | Londoner Grant made his debut for Charlton, where his dad Kim had also played as a striker, in September 2014, prior to being loaned out to Cambridge in January 2016. The following season he went to Crawley, where he proved prolific in League Two. Grant returned to Charlton, where his 18 goal involvements in the 18/19 League One season earned a move to then-Premier League Huddersfield. Now 24, he joined Albion in 2020 and has 23 goals from 87 Baggies appearances.



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Born in Leytonstone in March 1985 Curtis was released by his first club Wimbledon, and after writing to all clubs in the London area looking for an opening was immediately taken on by the Town following a successful trial.

He showed maturity beyond his years when making his Hatters League debut as an 18 year old in a 2-2 draw with Stockport in January 2004, and it was only a matter of time before he won a regular spot in the first team.

Almost ever present during the Town's tremendous 2004/05 League One championship winning season, his displays in central defence alongside Chris Coyne quickly caught the eye of Premier League clubs but it took a massive £3 million to prise him from Kenilworth Road.

A credit to his profession, Curtis moved to West Bromwich in September 2005 where he took to the top flight like a duck to water, and from there he moved to Aston Villa, Birmingham, Hull, for whom he appeared in the 2014 FA Cup final, and finally Derby where he is still putting in assured performances.

FIRST GAME. TOWN 2 STOCKPORT CO 2 - 17/1/2004

After a run of ten games with only one defeat the Town were still in the hunt for a play-off place. Curtis Davies, replacing the suspended Emmerson Boyce for his Luton debut, could only watch as a mistake by Lee Mansell allowed County to take the lead.

An own goal levelled the score on 32 minutes, before Adrian Forbes was dismissed for violent conduct just before the interval.

The ten men of Luton still controlled the game, however, but lowly County took the lead in the second period only for Steve Howard to bag the equaliser with five minutes to go. "Two points dropped," said manager Mike Newell afterwards.

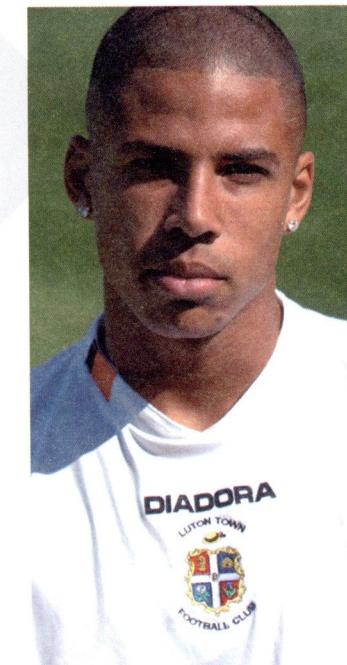
LAST GAME. TOWN 2 MILLWALL 1 - 29/08/2005

The Town got off to a great start to their first season back in the Championship since 1996, beating the just relegated Crystal Palace and Southampton and winning at Leicester.

In a noon kick-off against Millwall the Hatters took an early lead through Warren Feeney, only for the Lions to level on the hour. It was left to Curtis Davies to sign off his Luton career in style, sweeping home with 12 minutes to go to secure three more points.

**FIRST
AND
LAST**

**CURTIS
DAVIES**



**HATTERS
TALES**
WITH ROGER WASH
CLUB HISTORIAN



GEORGE MARTIN

George Martin. A man of many parts as well as being player, coach, scout and manager at Kenilworth Road.

'Psychology is playing a big part in the game now, and the aim of every player is to be that split second quicker than the other fellow.' These words could have been written today but were actually penned in 1939 by newly appointed coach at Kenilworth Road, George Martin!

Just before the outbreak of the last War the 'Beds and Herts Evening Telegraph' ran a series of articles featuring the staff at Kenilworth Road. All the players of the time were highlighted but one

intriguing piece gave Martin the chance to have his say under the title, 'How football has changed.'

'For some players the least touch is sufficient to put them on the ground and you can't play football there', and 'a team of internationals lacking team spirit will always be beaten by eleven moderate players who are helping each other'

Born in Bothwell, Lanarkshire in July 1899, George had always wanted to be a professional footballer in his native Scotland but his father was strongly against it and fought hard to prevent him from playing at all. He had to wait until his 16th birthday before finally getting his own way.

Motherwell wanted to sign him, but to keep his father half happy he played junior amateur football for Cadzow St Annes, who went on to win every competition they entered. Finally bowing to the inevitable, father gave in and George, spoilt for

choice, opted to sign for Hamilton.

Playing as a fast, powerful centre-forward for Hamilton, George scored his first league goal against the mighty Celtic and never looked back until an outbreak of boils forced him out of the side. After regaining full fitness he was loaned out to Bo'ness, and from there he moved south of the border to Hull in 1922, where manager Bill McCracken converted him to inside-left after saying that he was too clever to play at centre-forward!

It was during his time at Anlaby Road that George came to the attention of Everton after starring in three stirring FACup ties that saw the young Scot net the eventual winner 'with a shot that



George Martin during his playing days at Kenilworth Road.

burst the ball' against the men from Goodison. It was not long after that Everton put in offer that could not be refused and George moved to Merseyside just as the Toffees were about to win the championship of the old Division One in 1928.

George became a regular in the side and set up a fair number of goals for Dixie Dean, who was just about to break the League scoring record with 60, a record that is unlikely to be beaten – George scored the winner in the penultimate game at Burnley which virtually sealed the championship and was instrumental in goals 58, 59 and 60 for Dean on the final day. Two seasons later Everton were relegated but bounced straight back up, although just before the end of that campaign George was transferred to Middlesbrough where, for the first time in his career, he was dropped and ended up spending a miserable year on Teesside.

The chance to come to Kenilworth Road in the summer of 1933 was therefore grabbed with both hands and he joined a Luton side that was slowly being built up for a tilt at promotion to the old Division Two. Enjoying playing alongside such centre-forwards as Andy Rennie, Jack Ball and Tom Tait, the goals flowed as the Hatters moved nearer and nearer to promotion.

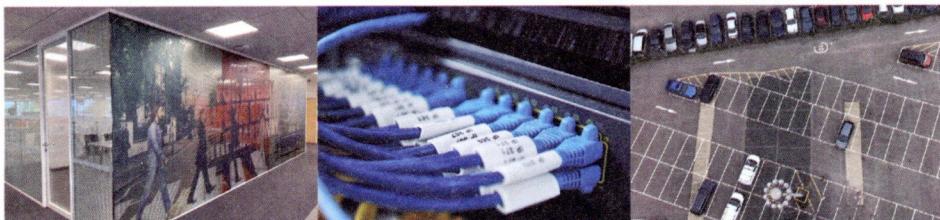
Having featured alongside the record-breaking Dean, George was about to partner another legend in Joe Payne, who exploded onto the football map over Easter 1936 in devastating fashion. Playing his first game at centre-forward, Payne destroyed luckless Bristol Rovers at Kenilworth Road and after the dust had settled, following an amazing 12-0 win, it was found that he had netted a record ten times.

George Martin played no little part in the victory, and seeing that Payne could do no wrong, played the ball to him at every opportunity leaving the centre-forward to do the rest. Unfortunately the following campaign, during which Payne broke the Division Three scoring record when banging in 55 goals, was to be George's last in league football, but such was his great knowledge of the game that he was appointed coach and took on a caretaker manager role as War broke out, followed by becoming full first team manager in 1944.

It was a difficult job to be a football club manager in that period when, quite naturally, the minds of the vast



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majority of the population were fixed on other things. George Martin therefore earned much credit for building a strong youth set up of mainly local talent that was to form the backbone of a promising Luton Town side that featured strongly in Division Two once the War ended.

By this time George was known as something of a polymath, being county standard at bowls, golf and tennis, seeing his sculptured bust of Julius Caesar win first prize in an exhibition, and attracting attention from a London impresario for his fine tenor singing voice and cutting several records.

In his Telegraph article he said that he was happy being 'one of the boys' and disagreed that familiarity bred lack of discipline, and had a Friday ritual of a Round Table discussion which included all the players. One of his early League games in charge during the 1946/47 season saw the Hatters turn a 0-3 interval deficit against a powerful Newcastle outfit into a 4-3 victory after cancelling his 'nice man' persona and kicking over a bucket of cold water at half-time!

It was probably this performance that alerted the board at St James' Park to turn to George when they were seeking a new manager during the following close season and it was on Tyneside that, aided by a seemingly bottomless pit of money, he forged a side that won promotion in front of average home crowds of over 56,000. Selling terrace hero Len Shackleton to Sunderland did not go down well but that was soon forgotten when he converted local boy Jackie Milburn to centre-forward, and thereby creating another legend.

Newcastle at the time were controlled by powerful chairman Stan Seymour, who it would appear dabbled in team affairs too much for George's liking and he decided to take the opportunity to move to Aston Villa in 1950. His stay in Birmingham was not a success and he left the game altogether and concentrated on his business interests alongside his builder brother in Liverpool.

The call of the game still remained strong, however, and he returned to Luton accepting the part-time post of chief scout in 1960 which allowed him to keep his eye in, but five years later, against his better judgement, he came back into management at Kenilworth Road at a time when the Hatters were going through the then worst playing period in their history.

Frankly, George was too old for the job having turned 66, and although he almost led the side to promotion from Division Four in his first full season in charge, he never got over the player bonus mutiny that scuppered the immediate return and was glad to be relieved of his duties in November 1966 when Allan Brown took over.

Still retaining an interest in goings on at Kenilworth Road right up until his death in Luton in 1972, George Martin holds down a big place in the club's history as player, coach, scout and manager as well as being instrumental in bringing John Moore to Kenilworth Road.



George during his second term as manager



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A - ATHLETE

If you had to compete, what event would you do?
Football!



B - BOOTS

Favourite pair of boots?
Use to be Adidas Nemeziz but they stopped making them. I'm wearing the Adidas Predators at the minute.



C - CAR

Dream car?
Probably a Mercedes-Benz G-Class. I'd say a Lamborghini but it's not practical!



D - DESTINATION

Dream destination?
Barbados.



E - EAT

Favourite food?
My mum's spaghetti Bolognese.



F - FIVE

What is your all-time five-a-side team?



I'm going all-out attack. Nathan Trott in goal, me in midfield, Neymar, Ronaldinho and Lionel Messi.

G - GUESTS

Celebrity you'd like to have a drink with?
Kevin Hart would be good.



H - HOBBIES

Favourite thing to do other than football?
Listen to music. I love a dance so any type of music, I'm there.



I - IDOL

Who is your sporting idol?
Andres Iniesta.



J - JOB

What do you see yourself doing after playing?
DJ. At Derby I was on the music. I'm not currently here, but I don't want to touch it because we're on such a good run!



K - KIT

Favourite all-time football shirt?
Any old school Brazil shirt, they are all classics!



L - LANGUAGES

How many languages can you speak?
Just the one. I can say hello in multiple, that's about it!



M - MOMENT

Favourite moment of your career so far?

Scoring the winning penalty in the Carabao Cup against Salford City last season. That was the best I've felt after a game!



N - NICKNAME

What do the lads call you?
Lou.



O - OPPPOSITION

Hardest opponent?

Playing against Martin Odegaard in the recent friendly at Arsenal's training ground.



P - PIZZA TOPPINGS

What toppings would you choose?

BBQ base, stuffed crusts, chicken, peppers and if I want some spice, jalapeno.



Q - QUOTE

A quote you live by?

Just keep swimming, from Dory in Finding Nemo!



R - RESTAURANT

Favourite restaurant?

I love food so it's hard to say one. The one I have been using a lot recently is Wagamama's.



S - STADIUM

Favourite stadium you've played at?

Emirates Stadium



T - TRAVEL

Best place you've been to?

Barbados, that's why it's my dream destination because I want to go back.



U - UNLIMITED

If you could have endless something, what would it be?
Happiness.



V - VICTORY

Most memorable win?

Again, I'd have to say the cup win against Salford.



W - WATCH

Favourite film/series?

Game of Thrones. I also like Stranger Things and Rick and Morty.



X - X FACTOR

If you had to sing, what song would you choose?

So Sick by Ne-Yo. That was my initiation song.



Y - YIKES

Biggest fear?

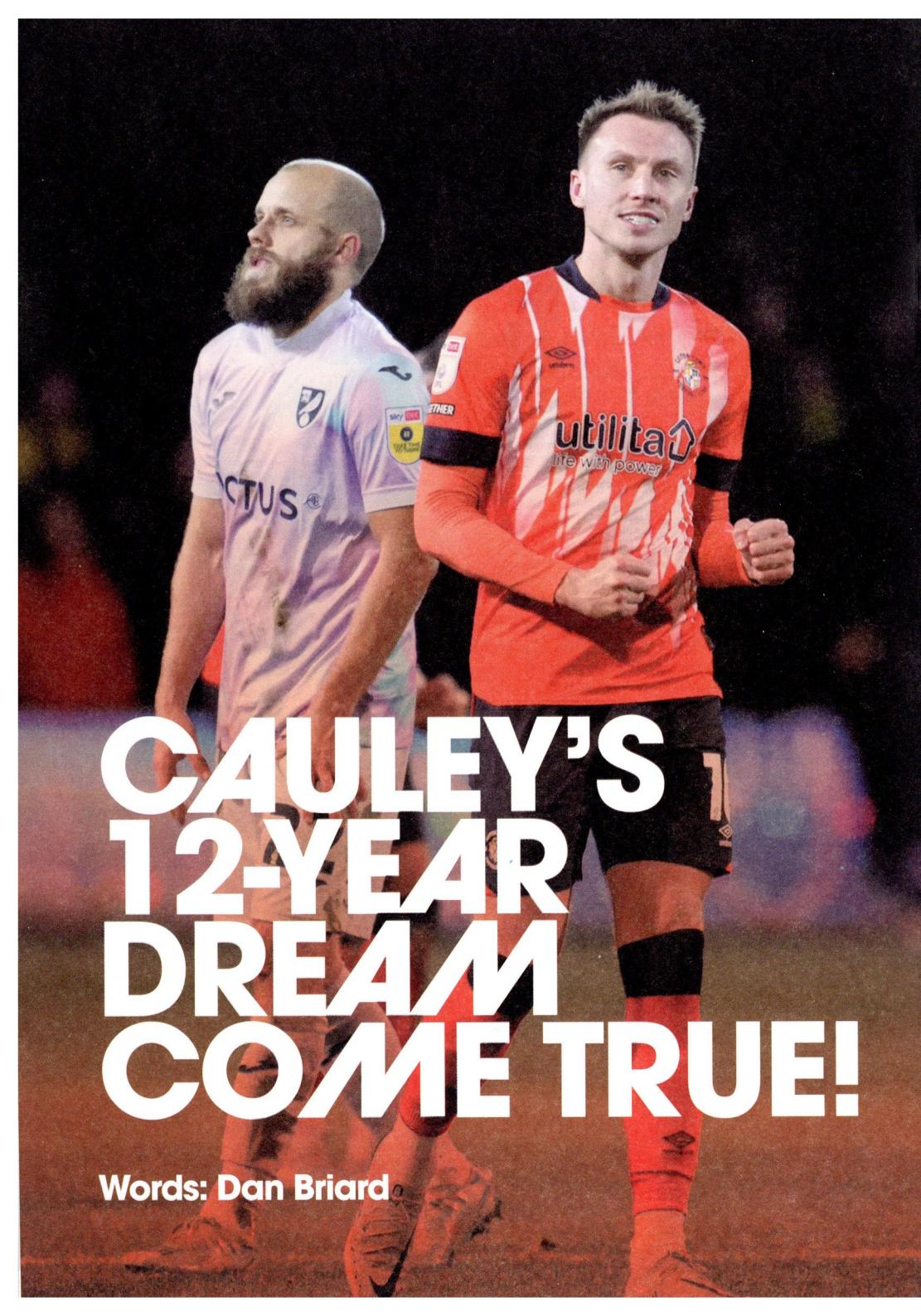
Not being in control of a situation. Say I was in deep water or in a forest by myself where I don't know what's going to happen.



Z - ZOO

Favourite animal?

Black panther.



CAULEY'S 12-YEAR DREAM COME TRUE!

Words: Dan Briard

As first goals for your first professional club go, a 90th minute winner isn't a bad way to start. To say it was 12 years and 12 days in the making, well that makes it even better, and in Cauley Woodrow's case, it was a dream come true.

After bursting onto the scene as a 15-year-old having just scored six goals in a FA Youth Cup qualifying match, this summer, Woodrow decided the time was now to return to Kenilworth Road.

In June 2022, the now 28-year-old came back to where it all started, though, by his own admission, it hasn't been all plain sailing.

"In terms of coming back to a club I was at years ago, I was delighted," said Woodrow, speaking after training at The Brache this week. "Loads of the staff I already knew, a few of the lads I already knew, so it's been amazing. The team has been doing well which is obviously a good thing, but in terms of a start for me, it has been quite difficult. I didn't really play under Nathan (Jones) as much as I wanted to and then I got injured. I have been out a long while and now it's a fresh start under a new manager."

A three-month injury lay-off left the former Barnsley man frustrated and thinking about football more than ever as he longed for a return to action.

"It was ridiculous really," Woodrow reflected. "We beat Blackburn at home and I played, and then I thought 'oh perfect, this is my time to get in the team', and I would have played against Hull because the manager wasn't going to change the team. A few days before, I felt my soleus go and it was a

nightmare really. It always happens in football, and in life in general, when things are going well something comes along that puts you down, but it's part of the game.

"You're in the gym for three months on your own with the fitness coach, the physios, going into London for injections and you're so separated from the team. The lads are travelling all over the country playing games, and that's what you want to be doing. You have to work as hard as you can because you need to get the right work done in the gym because if you don't, when you get back it will hinder you.

"When I'm injured, I'm a bit grumpy to be fair! It's all I think about, and you see the lads playing and winning, it's something you want to be a part of. I've definitely not taken my mind off it, when I'm injured, I'm thinking about football more than when I'm not."

The return was worth it though and arguably couldn't have been scripted any better. In a tightly contested Boxing Day match against promotion-hopefuls Norwich City, Cauley was introduced off the bench with four minutes remaining. The rest, as they say, is history.

"The way the game was going, it was my first time back on the bench and Gabe (Osho) got sent off and I was thinking that's it now, he's probably not going to bring me on. But the gaffer was brave and brought on another forward player. It was a bold move and thankfully it came off.





"I was just delighted for everyone really, I was happy for myself and in terms of the staff, they were joking before saying that if I scored then I need to come over. It was a big moment for the new staff as well – Paul Trollope, Richie (Kyle) and the gaffer. It was their first home game and their first win, and what a way to get it."

A superb Boxing Day then transformed into a nine-point week over the Christmas and New Year period with victories against Queens Park Rangers and Huddersfield Town, which for the former England Under 21 international was a sign that all the sacrifices had been worth it.

"It was a brilliant week. The manager kept talking about wanting to get nine points and it was a massive group effort and shift from everyone. It propelled us up the table towards where we want to be looking at, but it can't stop here now, we need to kick on.

"In football we don't get the same time off as everyone else. On New Year's Eve we were in a hotel up north, but it's worth it when we get nine points over that week. It was worth the sacrifices of being in training and playing games away from your family."

Following those league matches was an FA Cup tie under the lights against Wigan Athletic. Whilst some may doubt the magic of the cup in that particular scenario, the importance of the match couldn't be taken away from Woodrow, who played the full 90 minutes in a competitive fixture for the first time in over a year.

"I have never really been injured before but last season I had a knee injury that put me out. Then it was the end of the season and I came here, didn't play at the start and then got injured. It was my first competitive 90 minutes for over a year, so it was great! I feel good, surprisingly I felt a lot better than I thought I would."

Prior to today's game against West Bromwich Albion, the Hatters find themselves within goal difference of the play-off places, more specifically, two goals as things start.

If last season was anything to learn from, there are plenty more ups and downs until May for the Town faithful and players to endure, but the striker is set on a strong second half of the season both individually and for the team.

"Ultimately our goal as a club is to get in the play-offs or get promoted, that is what we're striving for. We're in a good position now and we have a real chance. We have given ourselves a great opportunity to get there so I think that is the main focus of everyone."

"Personally, I want to play games, score goals and do as much as I can. The aim is to stay fit and hopefully help as much as possible."



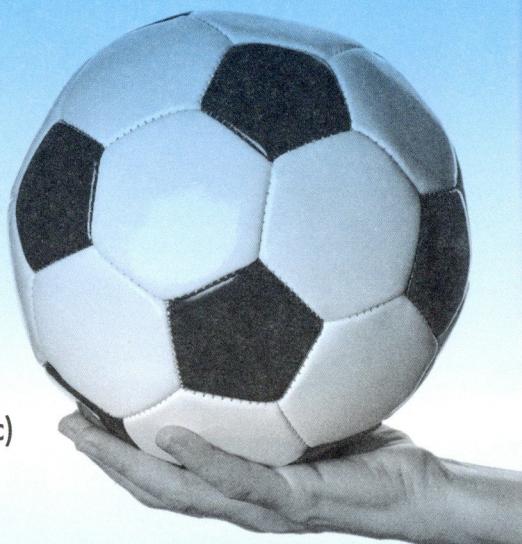


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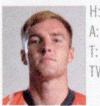
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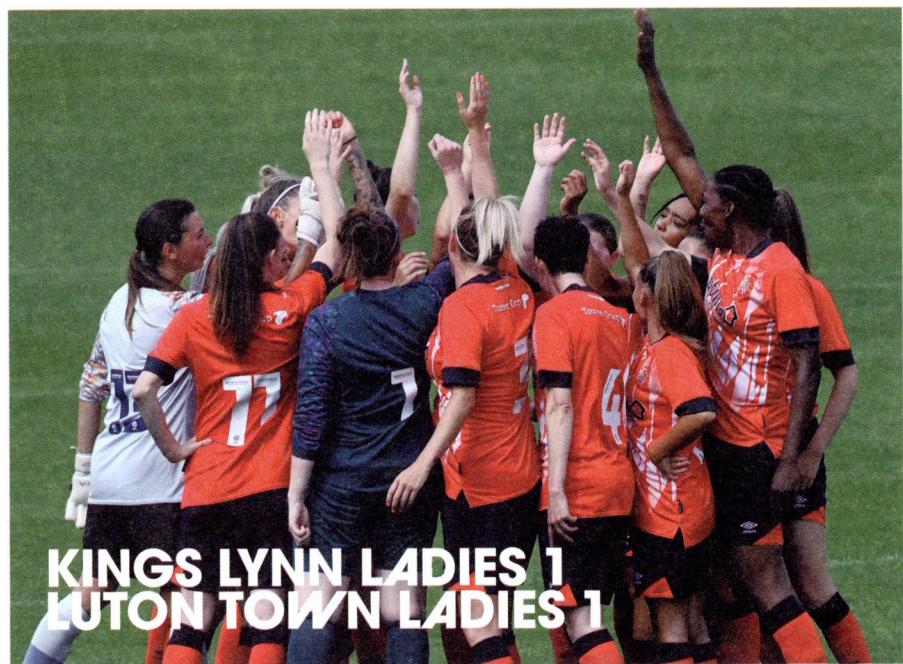
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LUTON LADIES

LUTON TOWN v WEST BROMWICH ALBION
SATURDAY JANUARY 14TH 2022 | KENILWORTH ROAD



**KINGS LYNN LADIES 1
LUTON TOWN LADIES 1**

Table-topping Luton Town Ladies made the journey to Norfolk last Sunday to face relegation battlers Kings Lynn in the Eastern Region Women's Premier League.

It was a fast start for the Town as they pressed high, Jess McKay coming close just seven minutes in with her shot just missing the mark.

Fifteen minutes on the clock and Leyah Maddix linked up well with Fi Constable, who swung a dangerous cross in to the box but Andie Dickens shot sailed over the bar.

A good performance from the Kings Lynn keeper denied Luton on multiple occasions, and half an hour into the game Lil Sanders was denied twice with a great double save from the home keeper.

There was a debut on 38 minutes as Lil Sanders made way for Shakeela Hussain, who joins the Luton family.

Minutes before the half-time whistle Leyah Maddix battled through three defenders to put herself through on goal and

slotted home calmly to put Luton ahead.

The second half proved to be a lot scrappier as Luton struggled to get the ball on the ground and 63 minutes in, Kings Lynn found an equaliser when a corner was played in and a scramble in the box was converted.

There was a late winner on the cards for Luton when Lil Sanders broke through on goal, smashing the ball top corner, only to be disallowed moments later for an offside.

Luton remain unbeaten this season but will feel that it was two points dropped given the shift they put in.

Luton Town Ladies are back in action tomorrow when they travel to take on Royston Town Women.

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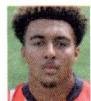
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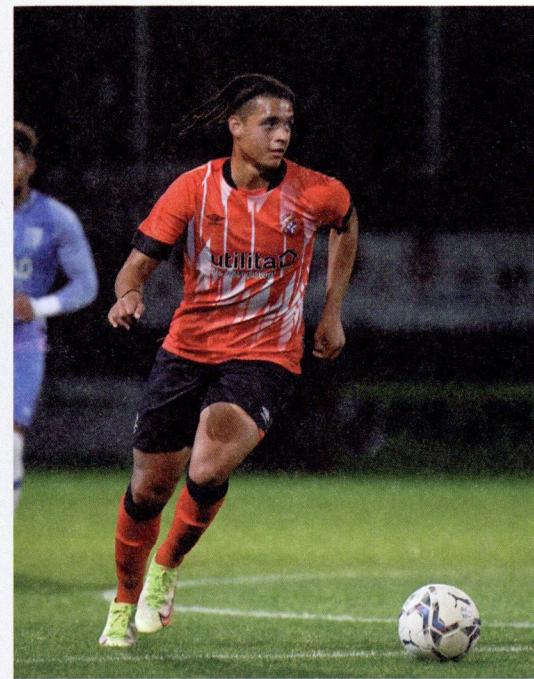
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ACADEMY UPDATE



Under 21 Lead Coach Adrian Forbes has praised the academy players during a 'transitional period' for the Development Squad over the Christmas and New Year Period.

On Tuesday afternoon, a young Luton side went head-to-head with Lincoln City U21s and suffered a 3-2 defeat. The result, however, was one Forbes felt didn't reflect the impressive performance he saw from his players, believing they deserved more from the match.

"The goals we conceded were disappointing from our point of view but credit to the lads and how they performed in the second half," said Forbes. "I'm not sure how many chances we created where we tested their goalkeeper off the top of my head, but whilst we lost the game 3-2, we could have quite easily won 6-3, it was one of those sorts of games."

LUTON TOWN v WEST BROMWICH ALBION
SATURDAY JANUARY 14TH 2022 | KENILWORTH ROAD

Jayden Luker (pictured) started in the defeat against Lincoln City after he was recently on the bench in the FA Cup match against Wigan Athletic.

"I'm proud of all of the boys we work with. Part of the group has been used in and around the first team - Jayden, Casey (Pettit), Conor Lawless, Josh Williams and Zack Nelson.

"A lot of the boys have been around it, but to see Jayden make the step up from the Under 18s, into the Under 21s group and then get on the bench for the first team, it just shows how well he's worked and his attitude to learn, listen and take on board information to develop and improve himself has been really impressive."

Elsewhere in the academy, the Under 18s continued their impressive league form against local rivals Northampton Town. Two goals from Darcy Moffat, plus goals from Jake Burger, Archie Heron and an own goal gave Alan McCormack's side a 5-1 victory.

The Under 16s were also convincing winners against Northampton – winning 7-1 at The Brache.

Next up, the U18s are in cup action on Wednesday 18th January. The FA Youth Cup Fourth Round takes place at Kenilworth Road against QPR U18s.

Tickets are priced at £5 for adults and £3 for seniors and under 17s. All tickets will need to be purchased in advance of the game and can be booked online or from the Ticket Office in person or by phone.



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GETTING TO KNOW...

RIO MARTUCCI

Age: 17

Position: Midfielder

Where are you from?

I'm from Bedford, born and raised there. I've been there my whole life and I haven't moved out!

Which junior teams did you play for?

I started off at Meltis Corinthians at about seven years old and I played in the year up.

Which team do you support?

I support Chelsea, and of course Luton Town Under 18s as well!

What age did you join Luton?

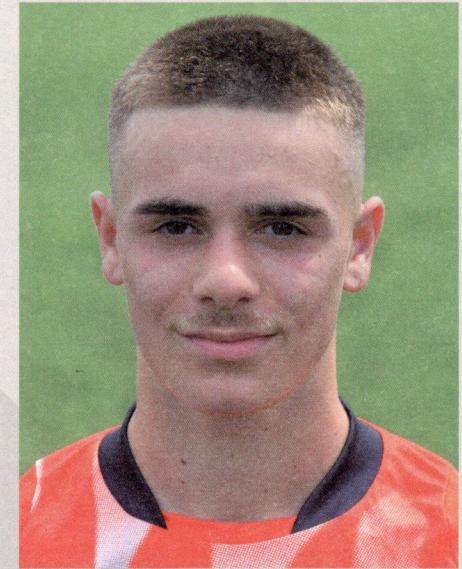
I joined at Under 8s.

How did you join the club?

When I was at Meltis Corinthians, a coach from Luton ran the after school football club and asked me to come and play for Luton.

**Who has been the biggest influence on
your career so far?**

My mum. She always pushes me to be the best me. She has always been there for more if I need support and she has helped me become who I am today, someone who is mentally strong and can come through challenges.



Ross O'Kane, I always remember him from when I was younger, as well as Jordan McCann. They were probably my biggest supporters as coaches, and James Townsend from Under 16s pushed me to do my best.

Who is your footballing hero?

I wouldn't say I have a footballing hero. I don't look up to any footballer and aspire to be them. I think I see footballers and see their great achievements but I want to make my own achievements.

**What has been the highlight of your
career so far?**

Getting the early scholarship. From Under 16s, there was five of us offered early scholarships. Coming on in the FA Youth Cup win at Birmingham recently was also really good.

What are your hopes for the future?

I hope to keep progressing through the academy at Luton Town and hopefully make the first team.



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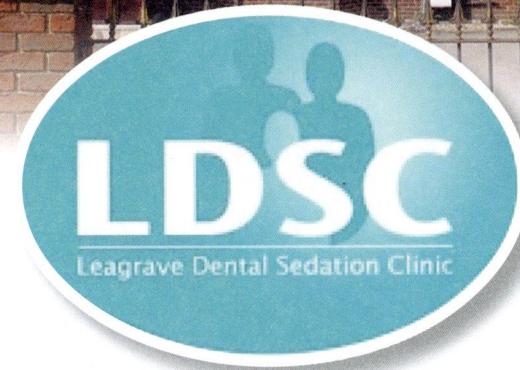
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LUTON TOWN COMMUNITY TRUST



VICTORY FOR WALKING FOOTBALLERS!

The Luton Town Walking Football team recently triumphed in an over 50's tournament in Cheshunt, Hertfordshire. On route to the final they eliminated Leyton Orient, Tottenham, Cheshunt, Maidstone and Hastings before beating Clacton on penalties in the final to lift the Cheshunt Autumn Trophy 2022.

Initially set up with the help of Luton Town FC Community Trust back in 2015, Luton Town Walking Football team have since ran independently and have gone from strength to strength. This is the latest success for the team who have previously won trophies and tournaments including the King-smaid Champions of Champions Cup at the Etihad complex in 2017, where they beat Man City in the final. They also regularly compete in the National Cup, with their best achievement being semi-finalists in 2017.

Walking football is often cited as the fastest growing sport in the country, with new clubs, leagues and tournaments regularly forming across the UK. There is even an England international team, with a World Nations Cup organised for August 2023 in Manchester, with countries from across the globe participating. As a non-contact sport, it is great for those who love football but who are unable to play the full game anymore, for whatever reason.

Club Captain, Barrie Hicks, commented: "Walking football can cater for all levels and abilities, even boasting a few

"WALKING FOOTBALL IS A GREAT WAY OF GETTING ACTIVE AGAIN AND IS GOOD FOR YOUR MENTAL WELL-BEING."

ex-pros among its exponents, including ex-Town star Mark Stein! Games can be gentle, or highly competitive and technical. Walking football is a great way of getting active again and is good for your mental well-being."

The club are always on the lookout for new recruits for both their over 50s and over 60s sides and are also in the process of forming a ladies team. Training is currently at 6pm on Wednesdays at Denbigh High School, Alexandra Avenue, Luton. You can turn up just for some enjoyment and a bit of exercise, or you can try and get into one of their competitive teams. Many of the players are also Luton Town supporters and feel proud to be able to wear the colours. There is also a blossoming social side to the club with nights out, golf, foot golf, and a quiz night recently organised. Please feel free to contact them through their email address if you are interested enquiry@lutontownwfc.co.uk, or you can contact Baz Hicks on **07973 560993** or Dave Brown on **07711 369128**. They also have a website: www.lutontownwfc.co.uk and a Facebook page.

Back row left to right: Simon Durston, Dave Brown, Vijay Patel, John Lake (over 50's team player/manager), Phil Weldon, Neil Middleton. Front row left to right: Neil Bristow, Baz Hicks (Captain), Cam Kerrins.



LUTON TOWN v WEST BROMWICH ALBION
SATURDAY JANUARY 14TH 2022 | KENILWORTH ROAD

FIT HATTERS LOOKING FOR PARTICIPANTS FOR NEXT COHORT

We are now recruiting for our next cohorts of male and female Fit Hatters that kick off in mid-January. This provides a great opportunity to those who want to get the new year off to a positive, healthy start.

Fit Hatters is a FREE health programme supported by the EFL Trust and Sport England for men and women aged 35-65 who are looking to lose weight, get fitter and lead a more active life. The 12 week programme is delivered by coaching staff from the Community Trust and is based at the stadium. It brings together Hatters fans just like you, who want to lose weight, learn about healthy eating and who are beginning to think about taking part in an exercise programme to get fit. Each week the programme comprises 45 minutes in the Eric Morecambe 'classroom' and 45 minutes of activity sessions pitch side under the famous Kenny lights.

We recently completed another successful cohort of the programme, with some staggering results across the board. Many of our participants commented on how they got just as much out of the social side of the programme, as well as picking up some great ways of making lifestyle changes that will make a real difference in the long term.

Fit Hatters participant, Brian, said: "When I started at Fit Hatters, I was going through a very bad period in my life, I had been suffering from a thyroid problem, I was totally unfit and extremely overweight and, to cap it all, was depressed. I Learned ways to make small changes to my diet and exercise through the Fit Hatters programme. I would encourage anyone to sign up for what has been a life saver for me. I was not in a good place but now am now fitter, healthier and happier than I have been for a long time."

Our Fit Hatters programme runs all year round in 12 week blocks, with spaces still available for the next cohort starting mid January. If you are thinking about making a change, why not drop Beth an email at health@lutontown.co.uk or give her a ring at the community office on **01582 561622**.



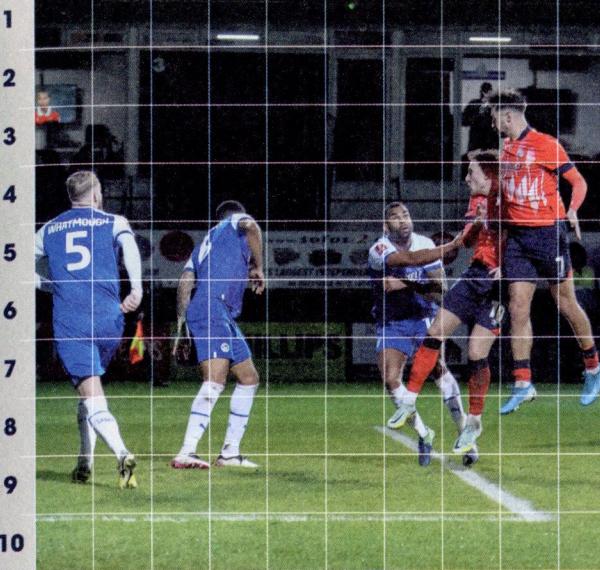
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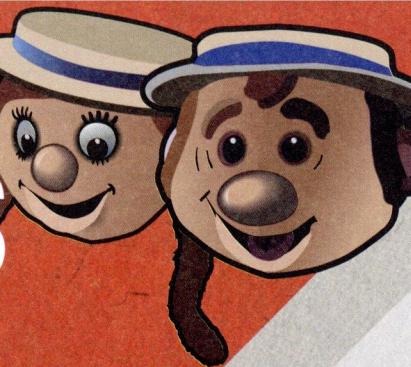
01582 453338
quinngroundworks.co.uk

JUNIOR HATTERS

A B C D E F G H I J



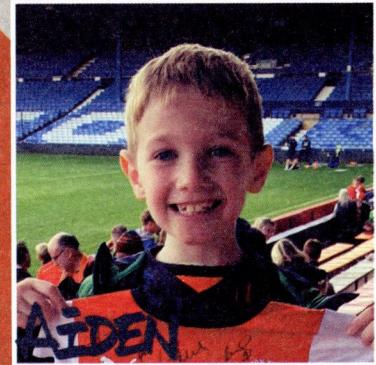
PIXELATED PLAYER
Can you tell which player
we have pixelated below?



SPOT THE BALL

We've hidden the ball
in the picture on the
left, can you work
out which square it
should be in?

TODAY'S MASCOT



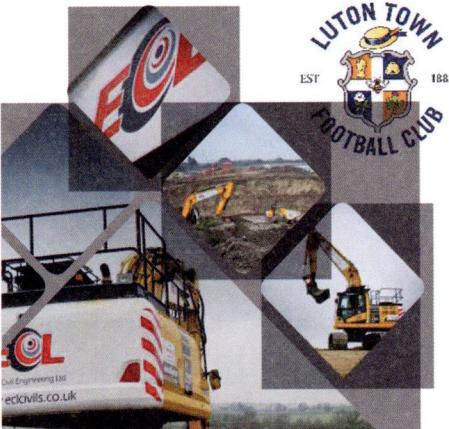
NAME: Aiden Enlander
AGE: 8
HOBBIES: Playing football & FIFA
with my brother Dillion.
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Elijah Adebayo



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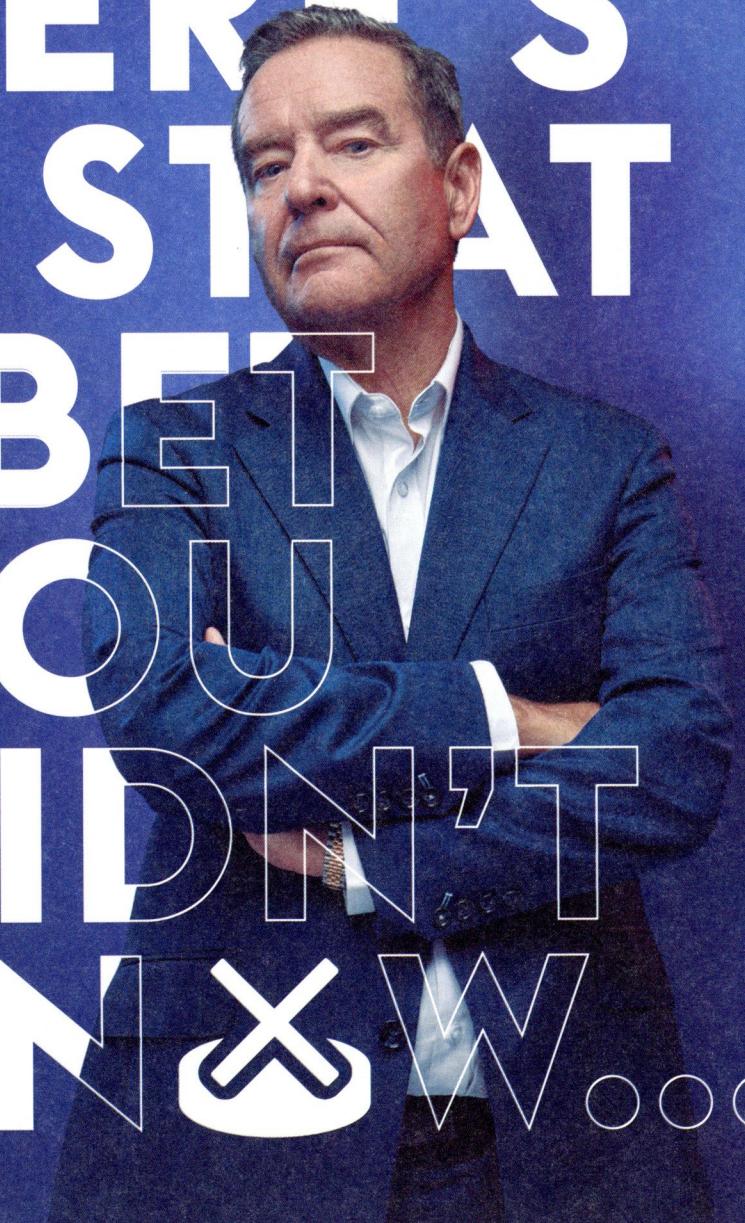
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY HATTERS!



HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY, TREVOR!
We would like to wish Trevor Taylor a very happy 90th birthday for next Friday!

Having moved to Luton in 1964, Trevor attended his first match in March 1965 – a 7-2 home loss to Shrewsbury. Despite that inauspicious start, Trevor continued to attend on a regular basis before becoming a season ticket holder in the 1970s. He regularly travelled with the 'Excelsior Travel Club' to away games from the early 1980s to 90s, and his favourite player of all-time is Malcolm Macdonald. Have a great day, Trevor!



SKY BET CHAMPIONSHIP 2022/23

#	Team	Pl	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Burnley	26	16	8	2	52	25	27	56
2	Sheffield United	26	15	6	5	44	23	21	51
3	Blackburn Rovers	26	14	0	12	30	30	0	42
4	Watford	26	11	7	8	31	28	3	40
5	Middlesbrough	26	11	6	9	41	33	8	39
6	Millwall	25	11	6	8	32	26	6	39
7	Luton Town	25	10	9	6	31	26	5	39
8	Sunderland	26	10	8	8	38	29	9	38
9	West Bromwich Albion	26	10	8	8	34	26	8	38
10	Preston North End	26	10	7	9	24	26	-2	37
11	Norwich City	26	10	6	10	32	29	3	36
12	Queens Park Rangers	26	10	6	10	28	31	-3	36
13	Reading	26	11	3	12	29	36	-7	36
14	Coventry City	25	9	8	8	27	26	1	35
15	Swansea City	26	9	8	9	36	36	0	35
16	Hull City	26	9	6	11	32	42	-10	33
17	Birmingham City	26	8	8	10	27	29	-2	32
18	Stoke City	26	8	6	12	28	34	-6	30
19	Bristol City	26	7	8	11	32	35	-3	29
20	Cardiff City	26	7	7	12	20	29	-9	28
21	Rotherham United	26	6	9	11	28	39	-11	27
22	Blackpool	26	6	8	12	28	38	-10	26
23	Huddersfield Town	25	7	4	14	24	32	-8	25
24	Wigan Athletic	26	6	6	14	26	46	-20	24

HAPPY 80TH, CAROLE!

Congratulations to Carole Patten, who celebrated her 80th birthday yesterday!

Carole started coming to matches with her mum and dad as a little girl and has been supporting the Hatters ever since. Her proudest moments were the Littlewoods Cup Final in 1988, from which she is pictured outside Wembley with sons Mick and Andy, and when her brother Dave Kirby was the Luton physio for two years in the mid-1980s.

All her Hatters-supporting family wish Carole, who is at the game with them today, a very happy 80th birthday!



HAPPY 50TH, SVEN!

Happy 50th Birthday to lifelong Hatter Sven Hill.

Sven has been to many memorable matches with lifelong mate Nick over the years, notably the 2009 Johnstone's Paint Trophy final, away vs Liverpool in the FA Cup in 2008, and away vs Notts County in May 2018. Enjoy the match Sven!!

2022-23 FIXTURES & RESULTS



KEY: GOALSCORER ⚽ | 1ST SUB / 2ND SUB / 3RD SUB / 4TH SUB / 5TH SUB | ■ RED CARD | ▲ YELLOW CARD | OWN GOAL ⚽

AUGUST

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“

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‘LOVE FOOTBALL. PROTECT THE GAME’

A message about anti-social and criminal behaviour

To mark the new season, we want to make you aware of new measures being taken across all of football to ensure everyone can have a safe and enjoyable experience. We are supporting strong action from the FA, Premier League and EFL to tackle anti-social and criminal behaviours that put all of us at risk.

This reflects the seriousness of the risks to fans and staff – pyros can burn at 2000 degrees Celsius and cause lifechanging injuries, while entering the pitch endangers players, managers and match officials.

We know those who commit these illegal acts do not represent the majority of supporters.

#LoveFootball #ProtectTheGame



PLAYER STATISTICS

	2022-23 SEASON								CAREER	
	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		CARDS		TOTAL	
	APPS	G	APPS	G	APPS	G	Y	R	APPS	G
Elijah Adebayo	21	(2)	3	0	(1)	0	21	(3)	3	4
Amari'l Bell	23	(1)	1	1	(0)	0	24	(1)	1	0
Luke Berry	1	(8)	2	1	(1)	0	2	(9)	2	1
Sonny Bradley	9	(3)	0	0	(0)	0	9	(3)	0	3
James Bree	25	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	26	(0)	0	2
Reece Burke	7	(2)	2	2	(0)	0	9	(2)	2	1
Allan Campbell	25	(0)	2	1	(0)	0	26	(0)	2	2
Jordan Clark	22	(1)	2	0	(0)	0	22	(1)	2	3
Harry Cornick	6	(11)	0	1	(1)	1	7	(12)	1	1
Alfie Doughty	9	(1)	1	0	(1)	0	9	(2)	1	6
Luke Freeman	9	(11)	2	0	(0)	0	9	(11)	2	2
Ethan Horvath	24	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	25	(0)	0	0
Harry Isted	1	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0
Cameron Jerome	0	(20)	1	1	(1)	0	1	(21)	1	0
Henri Lansbury	6	(2)	1	1	(0)	0	7	(2)	1	2
Tom Lockyer	20	(0)	0	1	(0)	1	21	(0)	1	5
Matt Macey	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0
Carlos Mendes Gomes	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	1	1	(0)	1	0
Carlton Morris	22	(3)	10	1	(1)	0	23	(4)	10	5
Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu	8	(4)	0	0	(1)	0	8	(5)	0	1
Admiral Muskwe	1	(1)	0	1	(0)	0	2	(1)	0	0
Fred Onyedinma	3	(5)	0	0	(0)	0	3	(5)	0	1
Gabriel Osho	9	(5)	1	1	(1)	0	10	(6)	1	2
Dion Pereira	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0
Dan Potts	21	(0)	1	1	(0)	0	22	(0)	1	3
Glen Rea	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0
James Shea	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0
Elliot Thorpe	0	(2)	0	0	(1)	0	0	(3)	0	0
Louie Watson	1	(1)	0	2	(0)	0	3	(1)	0	0
Josh Williams	0	(0)	0	0	(1)	0	0	(1)	0	0
Cauley Woodrow	2	(8)	1	2	(0)	0	4	(8)	1	0



CHRIS HOPE

It is with the heaviest of hearts that we announce the passing of lifelong Hatter and season ticket holder for over 40 years Chris Hope who passed away suddenly but peacefully on 15th December, aged just 59.

He leaves his wife Sarah, mum Doris and brother Andy behind, but joins his dad Brian, who passed away last May.

His close friends, many of whom are Hatters are shocked, devastated and heartbroken too.

We would like to thank Luton Town FC for all their support and would greatly appreciate it if his fellow Hatters could stand and clap for Chris in the 59th Minute.



PETER HOSIER

25/12/1939 – 25/12/2022

Peter was a loyal Luton Town supporter for over 60 years and also a committee member, who sadly passed away on 25/12/2022 after a short illness.

Rest in peace. Gwen and Paul and family.



THE LAST WORD

SIMON OXLEY

BBC 3CR COMMENTATOR



I'm not sure we quite captured the "magic of the FA Cup" here last week, but it was entertaining enough, and, if successful in Tuesday's replay, then with all due respect to Grimsby a fifth round place beckons once again.

It does pose the question: "Which trip to Wigan would you prefer to win?" My manager-style answer would be "both", but if pressed to choose one it would be next Saturday's Championship trip.

The trio of wins over Christmas and the New Year have re-invigorated the play-off challenge, and each was special in its own way. We always seem to do well here against Norwich, and Cauley Woodrow's late strike after going down to 10 men prompted the Jones-esque celebrations from Rob Edwards.

For me the win at QPR was the Malteser in the Christmas celebrations, rounded off by Alfie Doughty's stunning strike which was a late contender for the 'Goal of 2022'. But the



win at Huddersfield, when we were thinking "six points will do", was also excellent at the end of a busy week, and with Reece Burke returning to bag a late winner.

Today will test our inconsistent home record, with only three wins from 12 Championship games here, compared to seven wins on the road. The Baggies have won 8 out of 9, and my BBC colleagues at Huddersfield on New Year's Day were almost misty-eyed as they reflected their loss of Carlos Corberan has certainly been WBA's gain.

It was good to catch-up with ex-Hatters Scott Cuthbert and Jonathan Smith who were on commentary duty with me at QPR and Huddersfield respectively, and to see the affection they still have for the club. Likewise seeing Elliot Lee on the scoresheet for Wrexham in their cup win at Coventry, where the "magic of the cup" I spoke about earlier was certainly in evidence.

There wasn't much "magic" about last Sunday afternoon's TV offering of Manchester City strolling past Chelsea, but then I discovered something called 'Red Button' and was able to enjoy Stevenage's wonderful triumph at Villa Park.

Ten years on (I know, where did that time go?) from our wins over Wolves and Norwich, the competition can still excite. But I'd still rather win today and next Saturday, than on Tuesday.



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ROB EDWARDS

- 01 JAMES SHEA
- 02 JAMES BREE
- 03 DAN POTTS
- 04 TOM LOCKYER
- 05 SONNY BRADLEY
- 06 GLEN REA
- 07 HARRY CORNICK
- 08 LUKE BERRY
- 09 CARLTON MORRIS
- 10 CAULEY WOODROW
- 11 ELIJAH ADEBAYO
- 12 HENRI LANSBURY
- 16 REECE BURKE
- 17 PELLY-RUDDOCK MPANZU
- 18 JORDAN CLARK
- 20 LOUIE WATSON
- 21 HARRY ISTED
- 22 ALLAN CAMPBELL
- 23 FRED ONYEDINNMA
- 28 ELLIOT THORPE
- 29 AMARI'I BELL
- 30 LUKE FREEMAN
- 32 GABE OSHO
- 33 MATT MACEY
- 34 ETHAN HORVATH
- 35 CAMERON JEROME
- 45 ALFIE DOUGHTY

CARLOS CORBERAN

- 01 DAVID BUTTON
- 02 DARNELL FURLONG
- 03 CONOR TOWNSEND
- 04 DARA O'SHEA
- 05 KYLE BARTLEY
- 06 SEMI AJAYI
- 07 TOM ROGIC
- 08 JAKE LIVERMORE
- 10 MATT PHILLIPS
- 11 GRADY DIANGANA
- 12 DARYL DIKE
- 14 JAYSON MOLUMBY
- 15 ERIK PIETERS
- 16 MARTIN KELLY
- 17 JED WALLACE
- 18 KARLAN GRANT
- 19 JOHN SWIFT
- 20 ADAM REACH
- 21 BRANDON THOMAS-ASANTE
- 23 KEAN BRYAN
- 24 ALEX PALMER
- 26 ZAC ASHWORTH
- 29 TAYLOR GARDNER-HICKMAN
- 35 OKAY YOKUSLU

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: **JOSH SMITH**

ASSISTANT REFEREE 1: **GRAHAM KANE**

ASSISTANT REFEREE 2: **AKIL HOWSON**

FOURTH OFFICIAL: **OLIE YATES**