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LUTON TOWN V WATFORD
SATURDAY APRIL 1ST 2023 | KENILWORTH ROAD

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Wayne Turner scores the derby winner on his 24th birthday in a 1985 FA Cup fifth round replay. Now 62, our ex-skipper is on iFollow co-commentary duty today.

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LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB SINCE 1885

OUR TOWN - LUTON TOWN OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

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[3]



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ROB EDWARDS



LUTONTOWN v WATFORD
SATURDAY APRIL 1ST 2023 | KENILWORTH ROAD

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HELLO AND WELCOME BACK TO KENILWORTH ROAD FOR WHAT I KNOW IS THE MOST EAGERLY-ANTICIPATED FIXTURE OF THE SEASON!

We know today's game will be a tough challenge for various reasons, not least because Watford have appointed a proven manager at this level – and the one above – in Chris Wilder, who I extend the welcome to, along with his squad and all who have travelled up the M1 today.

I think the first question I was asked in my press conference after my appointment was about April the 1st. Now the day is here, I know full well what this means to every Hatter inside this fantastic old stadium today.

That includes all of us staff and players and, as we keep saying, at this moment in time this is our biggest game of the season because it's our next one.

I know I am the first man to manage both clubs for the best part of a century. Of course, to do it in the same season is something no-one could have envisaged when the fixtures came out last June.

I am so proud and privileged to be in this position as manager of Luton Town, and I feel it every time I walk down the tunnel and out onto the pitch. That goes for away games too, as your support on the road is unbelievable, even from up in

the Gods as you were at Sunderland a fortnight ago. I feel the connection that we've built over the past four months, and I'm sure this will be the most special yet.

I know there is a big rivalry between the two clubs. You have waited 17 long years to be able to pack this place out for a derby, and I can only imagine how frustrated you were two years ago when you had to watch from home.

This game is about you. It is about the community. It's about the players who have been so brilliant in every sense since we came in. It is Luton Town v Watford. A game of football and one that we want to win so that when we come back up the tunnel at the end, we've got that same feeling as when we came down it before kick-off.

This week I was so grateful to be given the opportunity to visit NOAH, our club charity of the year, and see the wonderful work that they do for the homeless in our community.

I'd like to say thank you, publicly, to the guys there for having myself and the chairman, David, over for a cup of tea and to be able to hear first-hand from them and some of the people that they have helped.

In this week of all weeks, it gave me a real sense of perspective. We have eight massive games to go to achieve something really special this season, and to know that everyone in this town is right behind us fills us all with pride.

You know that you will play a huge part this afternoon as our 12th man. We know it might be the last derby here, so make the old place rock, give it everything you've got and I can guarantee you that every player in our squad and all the staff will be doing exactly the same. Enjoy the game and COYH!

[5]



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FROM THE BOARDROOM

DAVID
WILKINSON

Chairman



Good afternoon everyone and a very warm welcome to Kenilworth Road for today's visit of Watford.

Back in October we put on one of the worst, if not the worst, performances of the season at Vicarage Road and left with a rather embarrassing 4-0 defeat, so obviously we'll be looking for better this time. The last time we played each other here was two years ago in April 2021, when we came out 1-0 winners with James Collins scoring from a penalty with his first kick having come off the bench. There was one vital ingredient missing that day though, as we all sadly know, so it's going to be fantastic to hear you all in the stands today.

Our two clubs first met in a friendly at Vicarage Meadow in 1885, the year of our birth (not mine), and since then have played each other 120 times, winning 54, drawing 29 and losing 37. We have had 16 seasons in the top-flight against their 14, so the so called M1 derby has some history; although we have only played each other six times in the last 20 years.

It is also quite remarkable that it is only nine years since we were five divisions apart and now, without the benefit of parachute payments, we are nine points above them with eight games to play. Watford are renowned for changing their managers on a very regular basis, and in the time we have got back into the same division they have had 18 compared to our six, which included Andy Awfod as a four-game caretaker.

Of course, when Rob joined us, having been sacked by Watford, there was some initial concern, but it only needed one meeting to see that it wasn't going to be a problem and subsequent experience has clearly borne out that view. Their loss is our gain!

Let's hope that this game lives up to its hype, which so often isn't the case. Can you believe it's not being televised? Extraordinary!

Tuesday saw a Parliamentary Select Committee meeting with the Department for Culture Media and Sport, Tracey Crouch, author of the Fan Led Review, Kevin Miles, CEO Football Supporters Association, Debbie Hewett, Chair of FA, Richard

Masters, Chair of Premier League and Rick Parry, Chair of EFL.

We have covered the progress, importance and necessity of the Football Governance White Paper quite often over recent months and I make no apology for going back to it again here to comment on perceived progress and intent.

All those present who are affected by the white paper were questioned, in some cases quite strongly. They all either agreed with the need for a regulator or, being aware it was going to happen, seemed prepared to work with it and other involved parties in an attempt to protect the pyramid and achieve all round sustainability.

The most urgent need is to agree and implement a new distribution model because as can be seen from recent accounts filings, particularly in the Championship, there looks like financial trouble on the horizon for more than a few.

It was encouraging to hear Richard Masters say that he hoped to have something in place for next season, although Parachute payments still seem to be a big sticking point for the Premier League.

It seemed that there was acceptance that new financial fair play rules were required to ensure that any increase in distributions not be swallowed up by increased player salaries or investor dividends, and it seems



they're favouring a form of salary cost management system, in other words the total player wage bill being limited to a percentage of turnover. 70% was mentioned.

There is a mass of detail yet to be agreed and in some cases included and there was specific mention of women's football, equality, diversity and inclusion issues.

There are clearly tough negotiations ahead, but there seemed to be acceptance that the gap between the Premier League and the rest of football has grown too much and that a major reset is required. It was Rick Parry who said that a sticking plaster wouldn't do it. Let's hope that words become actions because football across the board will be all the better for it.

Closer to home I had the privilege to join Rob, Jenn, Lisa and Stuart for their visit to our charity of the year, NOAH. Rob was interviewed by BBC Look East and we were all shown around their characterful rabbit warren of a premises, and met David Morris, their

CEO, and some of his wonderful staff. It was so humbling to see the work they do for the most deprived members of the community.

For over 30 years they have been supporting those suffering homelessness and severe poverty, and were visited 14,000 times last year by people needing help, finding secure accommodation for nearly 300 people. The centre is open 365 days a year and helps those in need with food, clothing, showers and access to doctors, dentists and other professionals, along with their main task of finding accommodation.

We are proud to be associated with them for the rest of this season and next, and hope we can help to raise their profile to assist them raise the funds they need to continue their amazing work in the community.

Finally, congratulations from us all to the U17s who won the quarter final of the Floodlit Cup on Tuesday with a 5-3 victory against Cheltenham – and an even bigger one to our head groundsman, Dickie Bird, on his 30th anniversary of working for the club. Keep up the great work in keeping our pitches, both here and at The Brache, in such pristine condition, Dickie!

"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success" - Henry Ford.

Enjoy the game.
COYH

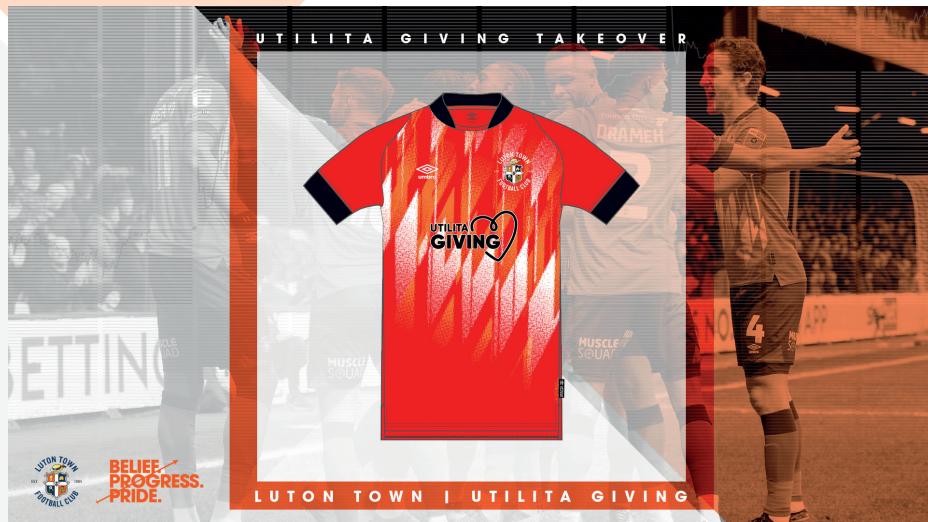


Supporting people in fuel and food poverty

utilitagiving.org



[10]



TODAY'S GAME DEDICATED TO UTILITA GIVING

Luton Town have dedicated their home clash against Watford to a new charity tackling fuel and food poverty.

Utilita Giving will take over the Sky Bet Championship fixture, with the Hatters proudly wearing the charity's logo on the front of their home shirt, as well as their warm-up tops.

But it won't just be awareness raised on the day.

Representatives of Utilita Giving will be outside Kenilworth Road collecting money. There will also be a post-game auction selling the limited-edition shirts, with all proceeds going to the charity. Funds raised for Utilita Giving on the day will then be donated to the Luton Foodbank.

Trustee of Utilita Giving, Jem Maidment, said: "We are extremely grateful to Luton Town FC for allowing us to raise awareness and vital funds at such a big fixture. On this occasion, Utilita Giving will be supporting the people of Luton, with all funds raised being pumped back into the local community, to help families out of fuel and food poverty."

"If you're coming down on the day, please do bring any coins you are able to spare, no matter how much that may be. We will also be able to take card payments if necessary. Every donation makes a difference, particularly in these challenging times."

Chris Bell, Commercial Director at Luton Town FC, added: "We are really pleased to be able to support Utilita Giving during the game against Watford. We will proudly wear the charity's logo on the front of the home shirt.

"We hope our supporters are able to support the fundraising, every penny will help. There will be collections before the game and a brilliant game of Football Bowls at half-time. We look forward to helping the local community with Utilita Giving."

Utilita Giving will also provide half-time entertainment in the form of 'Football Bowls'.

Hosting the game, which is similar to Lawn Bowls, will be a special guest recognised by football fans all over the world.

Utilita Giving supports individuals, families and households who are experiencing fuel and food poverty across England, Scotland and Wales, and who meet the charity's purpose and eligibility criteria.

The charity also supports groups and organisations whose intentions match that of Utilita Giving, helping people in fuel and food poverty – much like Luton Foodbank.

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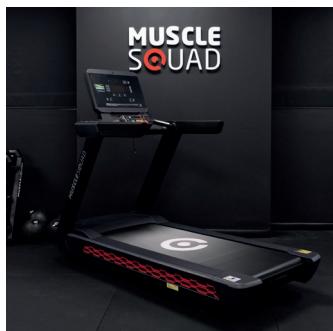
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MATCH ACTION

LUTON TOWN v WATFORD
SATURDAY APRIL 1ST 2023 | KENILWORTH ROAD



“The defenders blocked and ran, the midfielders won the second balls and did the basics well, our strikers ran their socks off and as a team I thought it was an excellent performance.”

ROB EDWARDS



1 LUTON TOWN 0 BRISTOL CITY

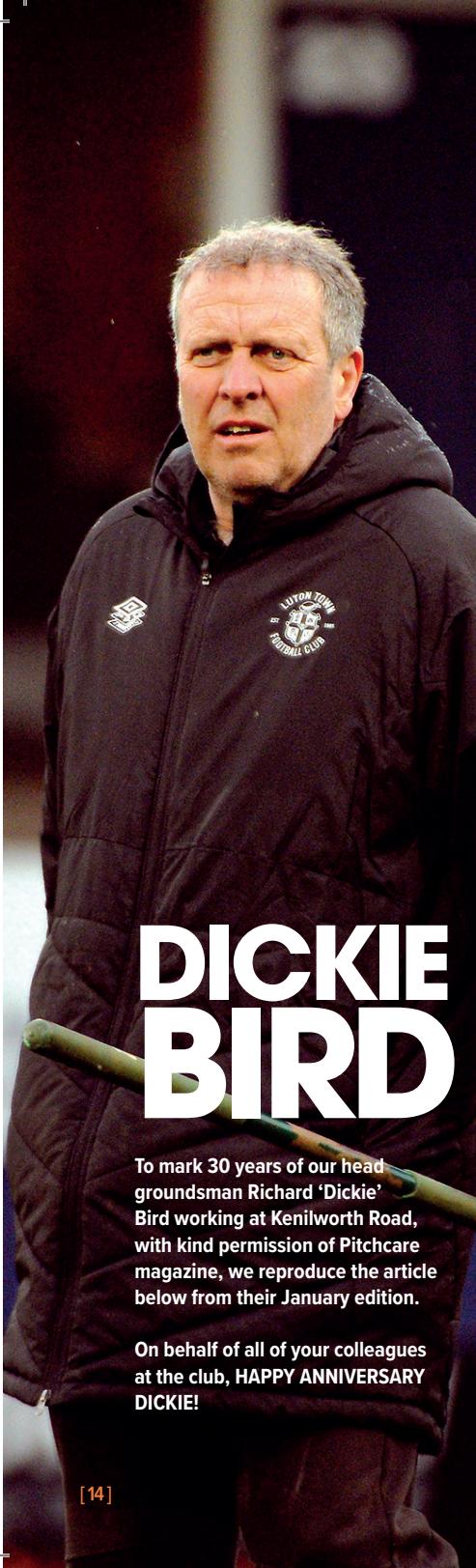
Kenilworth Road – Wed 15th March 2023

Hatters: Horvath; Drameh, Osho, Lockyer (C), Bell (Burke 87'), Doughty; Nakamba, Berry, Campbell; Morris, Adebayo (Woodrow 84).

Robins: O'Leary, Dasilva, Scott, Cornick, King, Mehmeti (Taylor-Clarke 63'), Weimann (C), Pring, Sykes, Wells (Bell 62'), Vyner.

Scorers:
Morris 4'

[13]



DICKIE BIRD

To mark 30 years of our head groundsman Richard 'Dickie' Bird working at Kenilworth Road, with kind permission of Pitchcare magazine, we reproduce the article below from their January edition.

On behalf of all of your colleagues at the club, **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY DICKIE!**

[14]

HATTERS' UPLIFTING FUTURE

WORDS: Neville Johnson

Head groundsman Richard Bird spoke to us during the World Cup break about the pitch ups and downs during his thirty years at Kenilworth Road. Few clubs in the Football League have had the rollercoaster ride the Bedfordshire club has had.

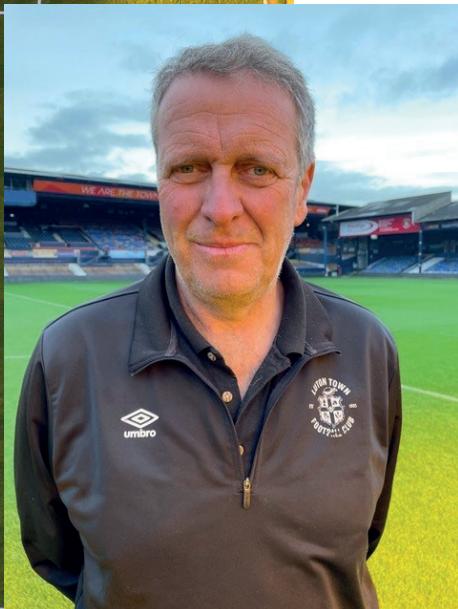
This most traditional of grounds was constructed in 1905, just before Luton Town took up residence as tenants. It bought the ground in 1933 and 56 years later sold it to the town's Borough Council. Since then, the club has had use of it on a rolling 7-year lease at a peppercorn rent.

Redeveloping this famous old ground is well nigh impossible because of its limited site. For the best of reasons its life is drawing to a close because the club's directors recently confirmed that a move to a brand new home just a mile away is very much on. Plans for a 17,500-seater, state-of-the-art stadium at Luton's town centre Power Court are approved and should become reality in a couple of years.

There is an air of optimism on and off the pitch. Anticipation is mounting and it's very evident when talking to the man who's in charge of pitch matters, Richard Bird, who not surprisingly is known as Dickie to all at Kenilworth Road.

On the 22nd March this year, he will have been Luton Town's head groundsman for thirty years. It was 1993 and he had been working as a greenkeeper at a local golf club. One winter Saturday, he was at a Luton home game with his father-in-law, whose company had a couple of executive seats, and his career changed direction.

In a half-time conversation that day about the poor state of the pitch with one of the then Luton directors, Richard mentioned that a bit of verti-draining would help matters considerably. This and other professional observations impressed, and semi-seriously he was asked if he would



like to come and work at the club. He thought no more about it until a couple of weeks later he saw in the local paper an advertisement for a job as Luton Town head groundsman. He couldn't resist it, and after a couple of interviews the position was his. A fan who gets paid to see every match: it's a job for life.

The time when Richard took over was just 18 months after the club's six year brave, but ultimately unsuccessful, plastic pitch 'marriage' had been brought to an end. A re-instated grass pitch was coming to the end of its second season with four home fixtures left. In truth it was a fairly awful surface, Richard recalls.

Looking back to 1985, the club's move to follow the lead of Queens Park Rangers four years earlier in introducing artificial surfacing to top class football was a bold one, and at considerable expense. Kenilworth Road adopted a pitch material produced by French manufacturer En-Tout-Cas called Sporturf

Professional. Unfortunately, it was soon unpopular with both players and fans and with some derision became referred to as 'the plastic pitch'. Preston North End and Oldham Athletic also turned to this type of pitch. Eventually, in 1991, artificial surfaces were outlawed by the Football League and natural grass officially became the rule.

Richard's early years at Kenilworth Road were testing to say the least. When he first took over, the pitch was far from satisfactory.

"Black layer was rife," he recalls. "Since the days of the artificial pitch, there had been a drainage issue. A crushed brick base used for it, about 10 inches below the surface, had been left after its removal beneath the reinstated grass surface. It caused a long lasting problem."

At the time, the club was even then planning to move to a new stadium and it was envisaged that the pitch would only need to last two or three years. The trucks and equipment used in the pitch swap created what effectively was a compounded sub-surface saucer, a recipe for water retention. That ambition to move did not materialise and the drainage issue persisted and worsened.



Annual renovation thereafter relied principally on brought in hollow tining, then core removal, sanding and reseeding by Richard and a couple of apprentices. Any spoil - just like sand deliveries - had to be piled up in the road close to the stadium's single entrance, such was its limited surroundings.

"The 'luxury' of the new stadium will be such a joy," says Richard.

For years, manual aeration and regular verti-draining kept things in check, but waterlogging remained a thorn in Richard's side until 2009 when he called in specialist contractor Pugh Lewis to install a system of 3-metre

budget for off-season reinstatement, he asked for £10,000 to introduce hybrid surfacing to the penalty areas and each end. He admits he was surprised and delighted when the directors asked him to get quotes for a complete hybrid pitch installation. He did just that and Kenilworth Road had a full hybrid pitch installed in August 2021 by specialists SIS.

Richard recalls the build up to this transformation and the actual installation.

"We had the usual summer renovation carried out, taking off all of the top surface to reveal the drain lines, then sanded and reseeded with Rigby Taylor R140 ryegrass mix.

"We had played our first home game on the Saturday against Peterborough, and then on the Sunday SIS arrived with their stitching machines and completed about 85 per cent of the pitch over the next two weeks, two operatives working 24 hours a day in 12 hour shifts. It was fascinating to watch. We

spaced drains and a main drain exiting to a storm drain in one corner of the stadium.

Further slits have since been added. The system does a good job and the drainage issue is now pretty much resolved, even in the wettest of conditions.

Richard, however, always knew that more was needed to get a pitch in keeping with the club's Championship status and further ambition.

A couple of years ago, he knew he was taking a chance, but in putting forward proposals and

had to pull them off site though in order to play our next home game, but they returned the day after to finish the job."

Richard reckons the biggest asset of the new pitch is speed of recovery. Re-growth is very impressive. He cuts it to 28mm over the winter months and down to 23mm during the summer.

"The pitch has performed immaculately ever since. No more divots. The improvement has been phenomenal. Post-match we just go over it with rotary mowers to gather up whatever loose debris there might be."

Richard and his two full-time assistants, Jamie Marshall and Archie Murdoch, also look after the club's training centre at the Brache, a nearby 17-acre facility. A two-phase makeover of facilities begins there in March with half the pitches 'taking turns' for a full refurbishment, ensuring that there are always sufficient first class grass surfaces available for training.

Access to Kenilworth Road has always been a problem, on match days and for getting equipment in and out. Machinery has to be tractor-towed along adjacent streets, entering the ground through a single access point.

Since 2021, annual renovation at Kenilworth Road has been conducted by contractor White Horse, who back in 2016 Richard had engaged to lay the pitches at the Brache and will also carry out the first phase of refurbishment there this spring.

"They do a splendid job for us," says Richard.

That new Luton Town stadium is not too

far away, so Richard is looking forward to smoother ins and outs for all concerned.

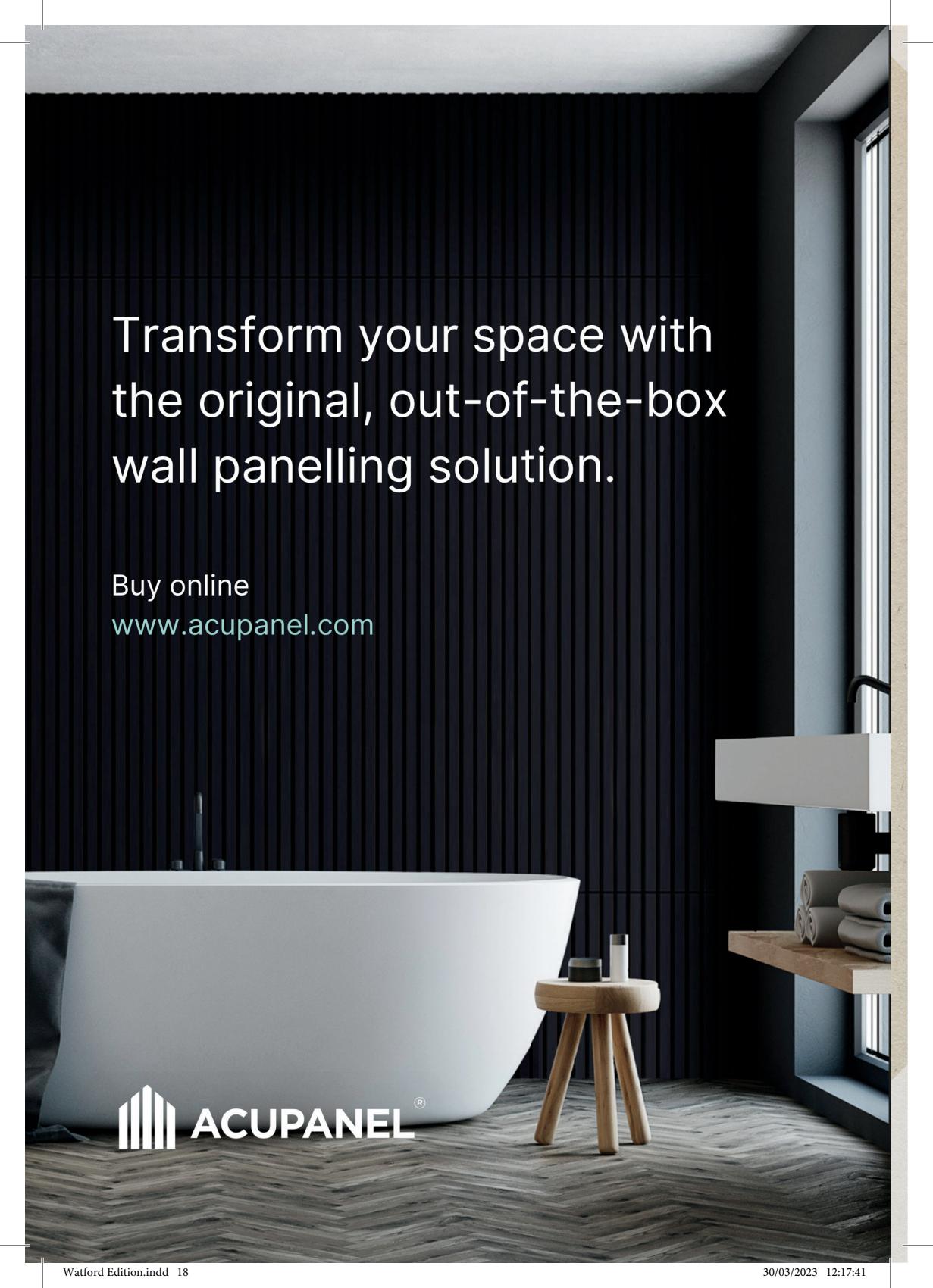
When it comes, the move will be both sad and exciting. Richard says he has many good memories of life at Kenilworth Road from the day when his mum and dad bought him his first season ticket to 'prepping' the first Luton match on its hybrid pitch.

As well as serving the club for nearly 30 years, he truly is a lifelong supporter. His happiest pre-groundsman day was when the Hatters triumphed 3-2 over Arsenal in the 1988 League Cup final, then called the Littlewoods Cup.

The club has had probably more ups and downs literally than pretty well any other in the Football League - too many to list here. It is a yo-yo club par excellence, and one that has bounced back a number of times from enforced hardships that would have sunk many a club, including a record 30-point deduction in 2007. From top division to non-league, and back again, well nearly, Richard has seen it all.

The best of times: the worst of times - a tale of one Town. But the real best for the Hatters may be just around the corner, at the Power Court Stadium.





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THEIR TOWN



By Zac Neal

On derby day, our opposition is Watford. The Hertfordshire club play at Vicarage Road and are currently under the management of Chris Wilder, their third manager of the season and 18th permanent gaffer in the last ten-and-a-half years.

The Hornets have been going through a tough time lately as they find themselves floating just above the mid-table mark in tenth place, with a defeat at QPR, a home win over Birmingham and a 1-1 draw with bottom club Wigan since the former Sheffield United manager replaced Slaven Bilic in early March. The Croatian had replaced our own Rob Edwards, who had been in charge for just ten league matches when Watford's owners parted company with him in September.

Relegated from the Premier League last May, Watford have got a very good squad for the Championship, laced with players who have done it on the biggest stages football has to offer. One notable name is Ismaila Sarr, who has been a star man for the Hornets in recent years and who also appeared at the Qatar World Cup last winter, representing Senegal.

It hasn't been the greatest start to the new year for the Hornets as they have only won four games in 2023, a period in which they also crashed out of the FA Cup at the third round stage to Reading. They have tasted victory in just two of their last 11 matches.

Watford fans will look back fondly on the last derby as they won 4-0 against Nathan Jones' Luton side. Goals from Keinan Davis, William Troost Ekong, Joao Pedro and Ismaila Sarr gave Hornets fans a day to remember, but Town were triumphant last time out here at the Kenny, as James Collins' first-touch penalty secured a 1-0 win in the behind-closed-doors season of 2020-21.



CHRIS WILDER

MANAGER | A former top-flight right-back with boyhood club Sheffield United, Wilder is best known for leading the Blades from League One to the Premier League. The 55-year-old has a track record of success at every level he's worked since starting as player-manager of Non-League Alfreton in 2001. He then managed Halifax, Oxford and Northampton before landing his dream job in 2016. Since leaving Bramall Lane in 2021, he bossed Middlesbrough before taking over Watford last month.

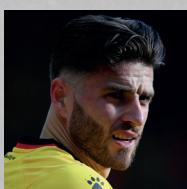


DANIEL BACHMANN

GK | Austrian international Bachmann moved to England in 2011 and began his professional career at Stoke after joining from Austria Vienna. The 28-year-old keeper never made a senior appearance for the Potters and had loan spells at Wrexham, Ross County and Bury. Bachmann arrived at Premier League Watford in 2017. After a successful loan spell at Kilmarnock and Watford's relegation, he became the number one choice in the Championship.



WATFORD IN FC BY DEC O'REILLY



WESLEY HOEDT

DEF | 29-year-old centre-half Hoedt began his career at AZ Alkmaar before swiftly arriving at Lazio on a free transfer. After a successful period in Italy, he joined Southampton in 2017. Hoedt stagnated at St Mary's, going out on loan to Celta Vigo, Antwerp and back to Lazio before permanently signing for Anderlecht. It was a better spell for Hoedt at Anderlecht, winning the Belgium Cup before joining Watford in January 2023.

ISMAILA SARR

ONE TO WATCH | Senegalese forward Sarr joined Watford for a club record fee when arriving from French club Rennes in August 2019. Having started his career with Metz, the 25-year-old has gone onto star for his country in two World Cups and also played a key role in their run to the AFCON final the same year he joined the Hornets. He has since clocked up 123 appearances at Vicarage Road, scoring 33 goals. Nine of those have come in 31 appearances this season.

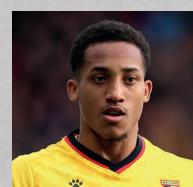


ISMAEL KONE

MID | Canadian international Koné joined the Hornets in January 2023 after impressing in the MLS for Montréal. The 20-year-old midfielder was born in Ivory Coast and moved to Canada when he was seven. Koné came to Europe to trial at multiple clubs before the COVID-19 pandemic forced the midfielder back to Canada. After training with the Under-23s, he broke into Montréal's first-team and played for Canada at the 2022 World Cup.

JOAO PEDRO

ATT | Brazilian forward Pedro joined Watford from Fluminense FC in December 2019, having initially agreed to the move from the Rio-based club a year previously. He scored his first goal for the club in the derby win over the Hatters the following September, and went onto score nine times in the Hornets' promotion to the Premier League – the same tally he has so far this season as joint top scorer with Sarr. The 21-year-old has 103 Watford appearances to his name.



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Under the spotlight is a player with a connection to both the Hatters and today's visitors, with club historian ROGER WASH looking back at their first and last appearances for the Town.

Born in Luton in May 1937, Luton Grammar schoolboy Tony was a teenage wonderkid playing for England schoolboys at Wembley, as well as the successful Bedfordshire Youth side that won the national championship.

Not surprisingly he was snapped up by the Hatters in 1955 and such was his progress that he made his League debut less than a year later. After dropping out after this sensational start, he made only sporadic appearances over the next two years before winning a place on the left wing in the Town's FA Cup team in 1959, a side that was kept intact all the way through to the final.

A two-year stint in the National Service followed, as well as a surprise move to Watford where he topped 100 League appearances, which preceded a tour of non-League sides in the south combined with a career in marketing.

Tony sadly passed away in January 2021.

FIRST GAME: SUNDERLAND 1 LUTON TOWN 2. 7/3/1956

FA Cup semi-finalists Sunderland, having won at Newcastle in the competition the previous weekend, were looking for revenge against a Luton side who had thrashed them 8-2 at Kenilworth Road earlier in the campaign.

Instead it was the Hatters who moved into a two-goal lead following breakaways to silence the crowd, with the Sunderland consolation coming via a miss-hit shot that trickled over the line past a wrong-footed Ron Bayham in the Luton goal.

LAST GAME: WOLVES 3 LUTON TOWN 2. 23/2/1960

Relegation-bound Luton made a game of it and by the interval were drawing 2-2 against the League champions with goals from John Groves and Billy Bingham.

It was backs to the wall in the second period but as the game moved into the final minute Luton supporters thought that a well-earned point was on the cards. Sadly, Gordon Turner was dispossessed in midfield leading to a swift Wolves break which ended with Peter Broadbent slamming home a winner.

There was barely time to re-start the match before the referee blew the final whistle to a game that summed up the Town's season.

FIRST AND LAST

TONY GREGORY



HATTERS TALES

WITH ROGER WASH
CLUB HISTORIAN

David Moss nets from the spot in the home game.



HATTERS STING THE HORNETS

The current season pairing of the Hatters of Luton with the Hornets of Watford has certainly aroused passions in both towns ahead of the first meetings between the sides in front of spectators for 17 years.

The rivalry between the supporters has been going strong for well over a century, but the true golden era on the playing side really started with Watford's promotion from the old Division Three in 1979.

Opposing managers David Pleat and Graham Taylor attempted to play down the importance of the fixture, but it was

a forlorn task as the supporters ticked off the days as the first derby match for seven years approached.

Boxing Day 1979 will live long in the memory of Luton fans with full-back Kirk Stephens stealing in on the blind side in the final minute to head home a long cross from the wily Bob Hatton, and set up a run of 1-0 victories for the Town.

A single strike from Hatton secured the double later on that season and goals from Steve White turned the screw even further as the Hatters achieved consecutive 1-0 wins the following campaign, much to the annoyance of the residents of south Hertfordshire.

With Watford now settled in the old Division Two, and the Town having twice narrowly missing out on promotion, season 1981/82 was viewed with great optimism by both sets of

Brian Stein fires in the leveller at Vicarage Road in 1982.



supporters who were looking for the final push for a place in the top flight.

The Hatters opened the campaign with an easy 3-0 home win over newly promoted Charlton, and followed it up with victory at QPR in the first league game to be played on an artificial surface.

All three points were won at Bolton to set up the perfect start, but the Town were then brought back to earth with a bang when Sheffield Wednesday came to Kenilworth Road and thrashed the home side 3-0 in front of the TV cameras.

The 100 per cent away record was maintained when two goals from White helped Town to a 2-1 victory at Leicester the following week, but the good work was undone when lowly Cardiff City, playing above themselves as it eventually turned out, upset the form book in winning 3-2 at Kenilworth Road.

The next game was at home to the Hornets and with the Hatters' inconsistent displays at Kenilworth Road, never had there been a better time for Watford to end the Luton jinx.

Watford had enjoyed a good start to the

campaign, and came to Luton on the back of three consecutive victories, including wins at both Chelsea and Wrexham, but it was the Town who came out of the traps the stronger and attacked with a will from the start.

The Hatters had opted to dispense with a sweeper system and recalled Lil Fuccillo in place of Raddy Antic, while Watford decided to employ teenage wingers Nigel Callaghan and John Barnes in an attacking formation designed to take the game to the Town.

The two youngsters were by-passed and left to look on as bystanders as the Town attacked with a purpose winning the midfield immediately. After good saves from Steve Sherwood in the Watford goal, the breakthrough came after 33 minutes when Hornets forward Gerry Armstrong, back helping his overrun defence, brought down winger David Moss who was cutting in from the by-line. Moss duly converted the resulting penalty for his first goal of the season.

The score was doubled four minutes later when Watford defender Ian Bolton fouled Brian Stein in the area and Moss picked his spot again to send the Luton fans delirious.

The fun was not yet over with Stein making it three just before the break after taking a delightful through ball from Ricky Hill in his stride.

The second half was always going to be an anti-climax, especially after Stein scored number four on 52 minutes, heading home a Moss centre after a sweeping move. Although Watford reduced the deficit with a deflected Bolton free-kick, the eventual result was emphatic and pushed the Town up to second spot in the table. It was also the Hatters' biggest derby win for 45 years.

Graham Taylor took the blame for the defeat and admitted that he was wrong to play with such an attacking formation against a side that had the look of Brazil in full cry, especially in the first half.

Oliver Philips in the 'Watford Observer' was not so generous however, and moaned about the failure of the Hornets' young wingers to make headway on "Luton's narrow track." As there was only 18 inches difference in width between the two



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HATTERS TALES

WITH ROGER WASH
CLUB HISTORIAN

Brian Stein heads home the Town's fourth goal.



pitches, Luton supporters took this as sour grapes!

By the time of the return, in February 1982, the Hatters were sitting pretty at the top of the table and had the luxury of two games in hand over Watford, in second place, and had played four games less than third-placed Oldham.

There was massive interest in the game and a crowd of 22,580, over 5,000 higher than Watford's previous best that season, gathered at Vicarage Road to watch an absorbing contest brought about by a contrast in styles. Watford employed quick, long passes to move from defence to attack, while the Town used a short passing game.

The Hornets had the best of the opening period and took the lead after eight minutes when Wilf Rostron hit the ball home from 25 yards, but the Town fought back and went close several times before the best player on the field, Brian Stein, equalised on 33 minutes after turning Watford defender Steve Terry in the area.

The second half saw the Luton defence under a fair amount of pressure but the Town always looked the more likely to score from their frequent breakaways.

As a spectator you always felt, however, that both teams were happy to settle for a draw and that is how it finished, with honours even, and Watford finally halting the run of defeats against the enemy.

The Luton supporters did not mind though, as their team was still four points clear at the top and on the way to the championship.



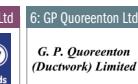
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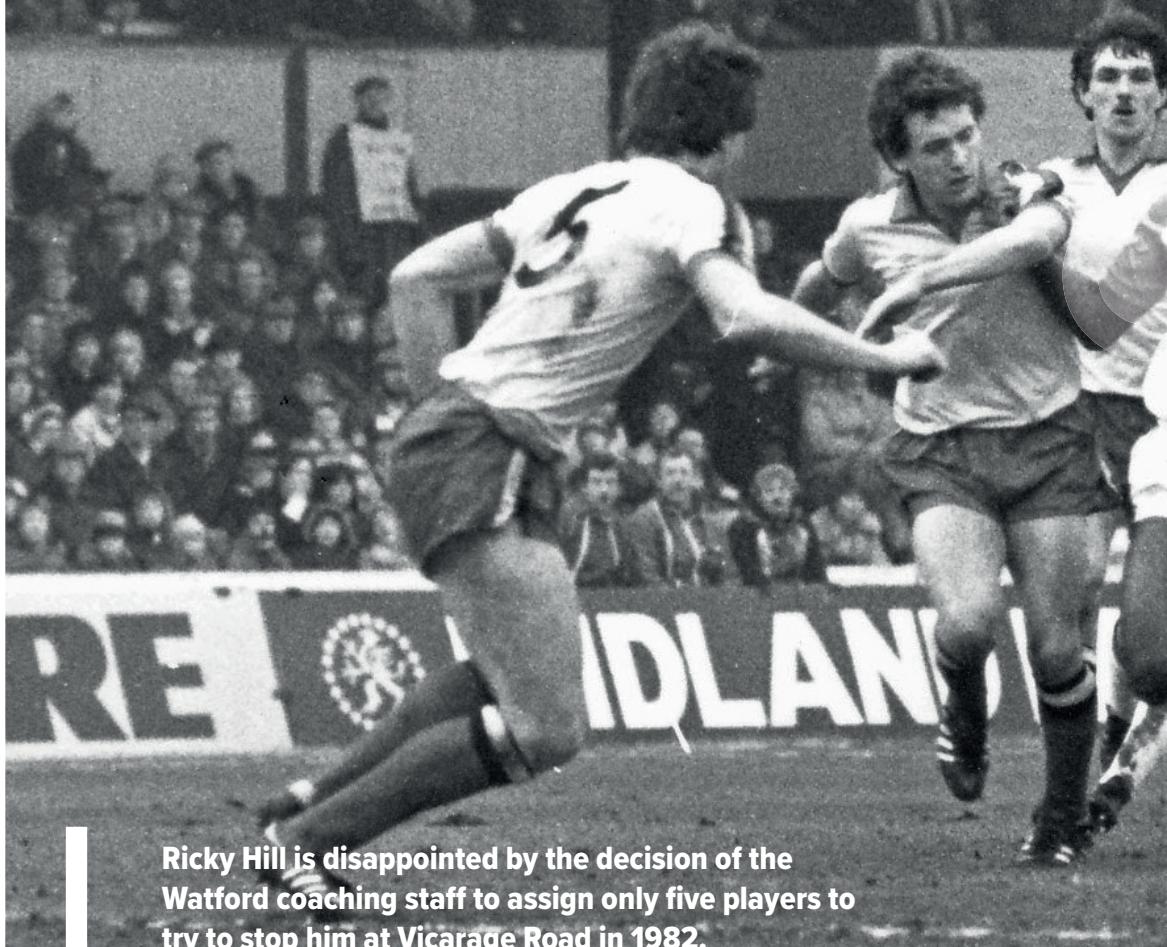


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**Ricky Hill is disappointed by the decision of the
Watford coaching staff to assign only five players to
try to stop him at Vicarage Road in 1982.**



[31]



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LUTON AZ

WITH MARVELOUS NAKAMBA



A - ATHLETE

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

Probably swimming. I was a gold medallist back in Zimbabwe, so I'll give it a go at the Olympics!



B - BOOTS

Favourite pair of boots?

Nike Mercurial's.



C - CAR

Dream car?

I'd say the Lamborghini Aventador in matte black.



D - DESTINATION

Dream destination?

Dubai, it always has good vibes!



E - EAT

Favourite food?

It's a staple food from home, Sadza with some meat.



F - FIVE

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

I'll put Emiliano Martinez in goal. At the back I'll have John Terry. Then I'll have Lionel Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo, Ronaldinho and Kylian Mbappe.



G - GUESTS

Celebrity you'd like to have a drink with?

It's a shame that he is dead, but Oliver Mtukudzi. A lot of people back home they say that he made good music, I've listened to a few songs.



H - HOBBIES

Favourite thing to do other than football?

Probably just shopping to be honest.



I - IDOL

Who is your sporting idol?

When I was younger it was Angel Di Maria.



J - JOB

What do you see yourself doing after playing?

Probably trying to help kids back home in Zimbabwe, I'll be busy with my foundation! I want to help kids believe it's possible to dream and to make it. I'd be back there helping get kids shoes and other things, helping them with discipline, dedication and believing.



K - KIT

Favourite all-time football shirt?

I had one, it was a Cameroon jersey when I was young. My father bought it for me, it was nice. Rigobert Song's name was on the back, and he is their coach now.



L - LANGUAGES

How many languages can you speak?

Many languages! Back home I can speak almost all the languages. Shona, Ndebele, English and now I can speak French, too.



M - MOMENT

Favourite moment of your career so far?

There has been a few, playing in the Championship, Belgium, getting to the Carabao Cup final with Aston Villa. Playing at Wembley was a great experience.



N - NOTABLE

Who is the most famous contact in your phone?

My wife! Either her or Jack Grealish, he's my guy.



O - OPPPOSITION

Hardest opponent?

Marco Reus, I played against him in the Champions League.



P - PIZZA TOPPINGS

What toppings would you choose?

I'm not a pizza guy, but I'd go with pepperoni.



Q - QUOTE

A quote you live by?

To be humble.



R - RESTAURANT

Favourite restaurant?

Nakira in Birmingham, it's a good restaurant..



S - STADIUM

Favourite stadium you've played at?

Villa Park and Kenilworth Road. I prefer home games with our fans.



T - TRAVEL

Best place you've been to?

I've been to a few places, probably America though. I went to Dallas for the Dallas Cup with a team from Zimbabwe. It was the first time I went on a long flight, I really enjoyed the place



U - UNLIMITED

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

To live forever.



V - VICTORY

Most memorable win?

The Carabao Cup semi-final win with Aston Villa against Leicester City before going to Wembley. Trezzy [Trézéguet] scored a last-minute winner.



W - WATCH

Favourite film/series?

Mine is Narcos. I started watching it in lockdown instead of watching movies. I do also like Mexican and Columbian movies too.



X - X FACTOR

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

I'd sing a song by DJ Maphorisa, my guy! Him or Enzo Ishall, from Zimbabwe. Any song from those two.



Y - YIKES

Biggest fear?

My biggest fear is to let down the people that I love. I feel so bad when I let them down!



Z - ZOO

Favourite animal?

I'd say a lion.



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A: SAM Beast Consulting Ltd
T: 1981 Events
TW: Available

AMARI'I BELL



H: Available
A: Available
T: Available
TW: Available

LUKE BERRY



H: WHOSH
A: Available
T: Available
TW: Available

SONNY BRADLEY



H: ABS Thermal Insulations
A: Bobbers Travel Club
T: Corey Mayes
TW: Available

REECE BURKE



H: Kelchner Brewery
A: You'll never take the maple
T: Available
TW: Available

ALLAN CAMPBELL



H: Bartham Group
A: First Response Fire UK
T: TP Extrusions Ltd
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JORDAN CLARK



H: Chris & Alex Browne
A: Tommy Lennon
T: Hugo Elkington
TW: Available

ALFIE DOUGHTY



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AVAILABLE**

TW: Available

CODY DRAMEH



H: Maddie Knight
A: Available
T: Available
TW: Available

LUKE FREEMAN



**PLATINUM
AVAILABLE**

TW: Available

ETHAN HORVATH



**PLATINUM
AVAILABLE**
G: Jo Mepitly & John Wheeler
TW: Available

TOM LOCKERY



H: H Block Con Clubbers
A: Available
T: Available
TW: Available

MATT MACEY



**PLATINUM
AVAILABLE**
G: Jo Mepitly & John Wheeler
TW: Available

CARLOS MENDES GOMES



H: Available
A: Available
T: Available
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T: Scandinavian Hatters
TW: Available

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H: Available
A: Available
T: Available
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H: The Banks Family
A: Available
T: Available
TW: Available

FRED ONYEDINMA



H: Solidium Design Ltd
A: Bobbers Travel Club
T: Available
TW: Available

GABE OSHO



H: LTFC Fool
A: Available
T: SAM Beast Consulting Ltd
TW: Available

DION PEREIRA



H: Available
A: Available
T: Available
TW: Available

DAN POTTS



H: Doug Knight
A: Available
T: Available
TW: Available

GLEN REA



H: Available
A: Available
T: Available
TW: Available

JAMES SHEA



H: Available
A: Available
G: Available
TW: Available

JOE TAYLOR



H: DLA Driving
A: Available
T: Available
TW: Available

ELLIOT THORPE



H: Available
A: Available
T: Available
TW: Available

LOUIE WATSON



H: Doug Knight
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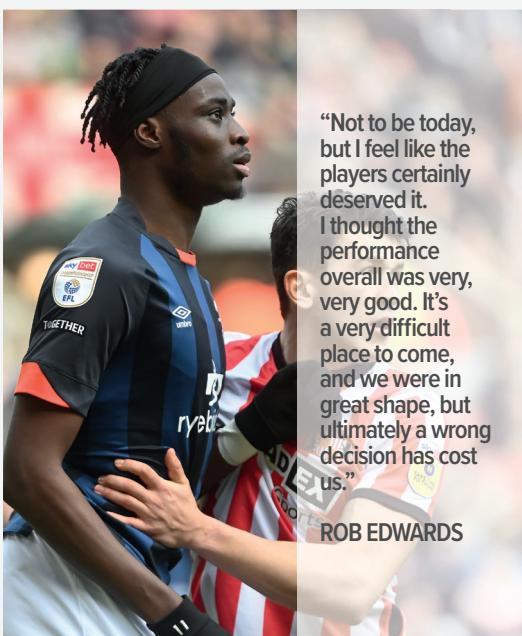
H: Rob Mayfield
A: Rob Mayfield

SIMON PARSELL



H: Bobbers Travel Club
A: Available

MATCH ACTION



“Not to be today, but I feel like the players certainly deserved it. I thought the performance overall was very, very good. It's a very difficult place to come, and we were in great shape, but ultimately a wrong decision has cost us.”

ROB EDWARDS



1 SUNDERLAND 1 LUTON TOWN

Stadium of Light – Sat 18th March 2023

Black Cats: Patterson, Batt (C), Ballard, Neil (Bennette 72'), Roberts, Clarke, Gelhardt (Ekwah 72'), Hume (Pritchard 72'), Ba (Amad 55), O'Nien, Michut (Gooch 72').

Hatters: Horvath; Drameh, Osho, Lockyer (C), Bell, Doughty (Onyedinma 75'); Nakamba, Berry (Clark 57'), Campbell; Morris, Adebayo (Woodrow 83').

Scorers:

LT - Doughty 51'
S - Amad (pen) 87'

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H: Available
A: Available
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H: Available
A: Available
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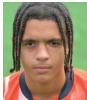
H: Available
A: Available
T: Available

CONOR LAWLESS



H: Available
A: Available
T: Available

JAYDEN LUKER



H: Available
A: Available
T: Available

TYRELLE NEWTON



H: Formby Hatters
A: Available
T: Available

CALLUM NICOLSON



H: Liz Evans
A: Available
T: Available

CASEY PETTIT



H: Gill, Julie, Neil &
Yvonne
A: Vic Hardy
T: Available

JOSH SWAN



H: Available
A: Available
T: Available

JOSH WILLIAMS



H: Available
A: Available
T: Available

YOUTH TEAM

TYRELL GIWA



H: Available
A: Available

JACK BATESON



H: Formby
Hatters
A: Available

SAM BENTLEY



H: Available
A: Available

JAKE BURGER



H: Gill, Julie,
Neil &
Yvonne
A: Available

JOE JOHNSON



H: Available
A: Available

OLIVER HEMLIN



H: Available
A: Available

ARCHIE HERON



H: Available
A: Available

WILL HOUGHTON



H: Available
A: Available

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A: Available

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A: Available

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A: Available

ZACK NELSON



H: Available
A: Available

JOSH ODELL-BATURE



H: Available
A: Available

JACOB PINNINGTON



H: Available
A: Bobbers
Travel Club

MAX SCOTT



H: Available
A: Available

BEN TOMPKINS



H: Available
A: Available

MARCUS WARREN



H: Available
A: Available



Hello everyone and welcome back to the Kenny for what promises to be another exciting Championship game.

It was fantastic to see so many of you coming out to support the U21s last week as they took on Biggleswade FC in the final of the Beds Senior Cup. Taking part in this competition has been a real eye opener for some of the boys in our U21s group and the challenge of playing against established men's teams adds a different physical and tactical challenge compared to their usual U21 fixtures.

It was also great to play against some of our former apprentices who are now plying their trade for local semi-professional Clubs, including Connor Tomlinson who many of you will recognise as being the youngest player to ever appear for Luton Town. Connor made his debut aged just 15 years and 199 days as he came on as a 92nd minute substitute against Gillingham in the EFL Trophy (Connor scored Bedford Town's only goal of the game as the Hatters knocked the Eagles out of the Beds Senior Cup 5-1 in the semi-finals).

The hospitality which the players, staff and directors have received from all the clubs the U21s visited in the Beds Senior Cup this season has been fantastic, and they have all been a real credit to local football within Bedfordshire.

DALE BRUNTON

Academy Operations Manager

Round 1

v Shefford Town and Campton (2-1)

Quarter Final

v Biggleswade United (4-1)

Semi Final

v Bedford Town (5-1)

Final

v Biggleswade FC (6-2)

The competitive nature of these competitions is something that is lacking from our U21s programme at the moment, but cups such as the Beds Senior Cup add an invaluable experience for our young players as they aim to make the transition into the first team.



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HAT-TRICK MAN MILLAR ON CUP WIN!

WORDS: Dec O'Reilly

Hat-trick hero Millar Matthews-Lewis said it was “an amazing feeling” to score three goals and win the Beds Senior Cup in-front of 751 fans at Kenilworth Road.

The substitute came off the bench just before half-time and found the net three times in the second half as the young Hatters beat Southern League Division One Central side Biggleswade FC 6-2.

“I’ve scored at the Kenny before”, said Matthews-Lewis. “To get a hat-trick is an amazing feeling and to win the cup on the big stage is really good.

“You can see that the away side [Biggleswade FC], their fans were at it, there were shouting so that was a bit of a different experience, and I think the boys should get used to that if they want to get to the top level. I think we all adapted very well to it.

“We wanted to win more this season, we’ve been knocked out of competitions with the Under-18s, but to win something [Beds Senior Cup] and we still have the [Merit] League to win, we want to get another medal so we’ll just keep on pushing and keep on winning.

“Under-18s and under-21 football is completely different, the physicality difference means you have to be quicker and you have to be stronger. I back my ability to get that one step ahead with the Development squad and I think I’ve adapted to it as well, as you can see you don’t score a hat-trick for no reason, so I think I’ve done well.”

The centre-forward was composed in front of goal in the Beds Senior Cup Final, however playing at the top of the pitch has been something new he has had to adapt to throughout the season.

“It’s a new task I’ve had this season,” said Matthews-Lewis. “Last season I was a midfielder but this season I’ve changed to a striker. Playing with the likes of Oli Lynch and Jake Burger, we link-up well in training and it can’t get much better than playing with those two in-front of me and behind me. We link-up really well and you can see we’ve done well.”



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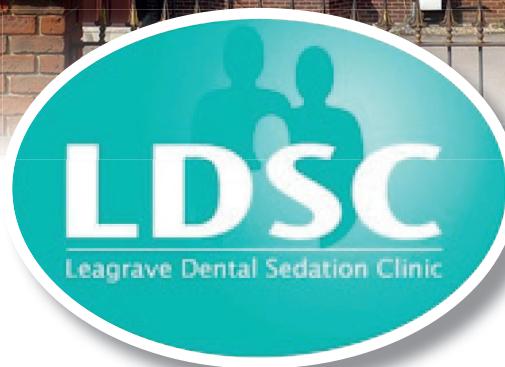
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LUTON TOWN COMMUNITY TRUST



We are now recruiting for our next cohort of male Fit Hatters that kicks off in mid-April. This provides a great opportunity to those that want to make a change in their lifestyle and get fitter. The timing couldn't be better, with our next cohort starting straight after Easter!

Fit Hatters is a FREE health programme supported by the EFL Trust and Sport England for individuals 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."

Alongside the main Fit Hatters programme, many of our current and previous participants take part in other sessions we run, such as walking football and circuit training.

Our Fit Hatters programme runs all year round in 12-week blocks, with spaces still available for the next cohort starting on 20th April.

If you are thinking about making a change, why not drop us an email at health@lutontown.co.uk or call us at the community office on 01582 561622.



ECL Civil Engineering Ltd

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JUNIOR HATTERS



TODAY'S MASCOTS



HUGO

NAME: Hugo Elkington
AGE: 9
HOBBIES: Plays for Linsdale Galaxy & Leighton Town.
FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Alfie Doughty



ELLA

NAME: Ella Elkington
AGE: 13
HOBBIES: Playing sports & watching Luton.
FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Carlton Morris



HARRY

NAME: Harry Mullan
AGE: 13
HOBBIES: Football, Hockey, Golf & Rugby.
FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Tom Lockyer



NOEL

NAME: Noel Moone
AGE: 7
HOBBIES: Football, Football & Football.
FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Sonny Bradley



BOBBY

NAME: Bobby McPherson
AGE: 8
HOBBIES: Football, Gaming & Lego.
FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Amari'i Bell



FREDDIE

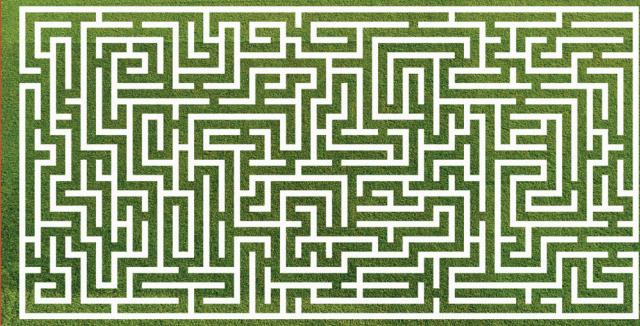
NAME: Freddie Rodell
AGE: 13
HOBBIES: All things football!!
Plays for Clophill Utd & school.
FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Carlton Morris



ROSSI

NAME: Rossi Bartham
AGE: 12
HOBBIES: Football & Playstation
FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Allan Campbell

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YOU
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KNOWOOO



TAKE TIME TO THINK

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SKY BET CUSTOMERS USE DEPOSIT LIMITS
TO MANAGE THEIR BETTING BUDGET.

THAT'S ENOUGH TO FILL:
6 WEMBLEYS.
201 ALLY PALLYS.
OR 8 CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP DAYS.
(THAT'S A LOT OF TWEED)

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HAVE DEPOSIT LIMITS.
SO WHOEVER YOU BET WITH,
SET AN APPROPRIATE ONE FOR YOU
AND THEN **ENJOY THE SPORT.**

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THAT'S BETTING BETTER.

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ALAN ADAIR - 26.04.58 - 16.03.23

We were saddened to learn of the passing of lifelong supporter Alan Adair two days before our recent game at Sunderland.

Fellow fan John Pyper wrote: "Alan was a great Luton Town supporter whose first match was in December 1963 v Exeter City. His statistical knowledge on Luton Town matched that of Roger Wash!"

He lived life to the full and was a very high profile character in his time as a fan, as well as being a great lover of the Beatles and Soul Music."

Please join in a minute's applause in the 64th minute of today's game as a tribute to Alan, whose funeral takes place on Monday at the Stopsley Vale Crematorium at 4pm.

The thoughts of all at LTFC are with Alan's family and many friends at this sad time.



GEOFF LOVELL

All at Kenilworth Road were saddened to learn of the passing of lifelong supporter Geoff Lovell, who also worked for many years as club safety manager after retiring from the police in the early 1990s. His son Mark contacted us to say:

"Dad sadly passed away early Saturday morning after

LUTONTOWN v WATFORD
SATURDAY APRIL 1ST 2023 | KENILWORTH ROAD

SKY BET CHAMPIONSHIP 2022/23

		P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Burnley	37	24	11	2	74	29	45	83
2	Sheffield United	37	21	7	9	58	33	25	70
3	Middlesbrough	38	20	7	11	69	42	27	67
4	Luton Town	38	17	13	8	46	35	11	64
5	Blackburn Rovers	37	19	4	14	43	42	1	61
6	Millwall	38	17	9	12	48	40	8	60
7	Norwich City	38	16	9	13	52	41	11	57
8	Coventry City	38	15	12	11	47	37	10	57
9	West Bromwich Albion	37	15	10	12	47	39	8	55
10	Watford	38	14	13	11	45	40	5	55
11	Sunderland	38	14	11	13	53	46	7	53
12	Preston North End	38	14	11	13	34	43	-9	53
13	Stoke City	38	13	9	16	48	45	3	48
14	Bristol City	38	12	12	14	45	46	-1	48
15	Hull City	38	12	11	15	43	53	-10	47
16	Swansea City	38	12	10	16	51	57	-6	46
17	Birmingham City	38	12	9	17	42	50	-8	45
18	Reading	38	13	6	19	40	58	-18	45
19	Queens Park Rangers	38	11	9	18	38	59	-21	42
20	Rotherham United	37	9	13	15	41	51	-10	40
21	Cardiff City	37	10	9	18	28	41	-13	39
22	Huddersfield Town	38	9	9	20	32	53	-21	36
23	Blackpool	38	8	11	19	40	58	-18	35
24	Wigan Athletic *	38	7	13	18	33	59	-26	31

a short illness. He passed peacefully in his sleep at the Luton and Dunstable hospital. He was 81 years old and leaves behind his wife June, three children, Debbie, Mark and Alison, seven grandchildren, Matt, Ben, Becky, Danny, Bradley, Thomas and Sophie, and five great grandchildren! He was an ardent Luton Town supporter and took immense pride in working for the club as their safety manager!"

Our thoughts are with all of Geoff's family and friends.

Rest in peace, Geoff.

2022-23 FIXTURES & RESULTS

	DATE	OPPOSITION	POS	SCORE	STARTING XI					
	SAT JUL 30	BIRMINGHAM CITY	H /	D 0-0	HORVATH BREE OSHO BRADLEY POTTS BELL CA					
	SAT AUG 6	BURNLEY	A 15	D 1-1	HORVATH BREE OSHO BRADLEY POTTS BELL CA					
	TUE AUG 9	NEWPORT CTY AFC (CCR)	H /	L 2-3	MACEY MENDES GOMES BURKE LANSBURY LOCKYER PEREIRA WI					
	SAT AUG 13	PRESTON NORTH END	H 20	L 0-1	HORVATH BREE BURKE BRADLEY POTTS BELL CA					
	TUE AUG 16	BRISTOL CITY	A 23	L 0-2	HORVATH BREE BURKE BRADLEY POTTS BELL CA					
	SAT AUG 20	SWANSEA CITY	A 18	W 2-0	HORVATH BREE BURKE LOCKYER POTTS BELL CA					
	FRI AUG 26	SHEFFIELD UNITED	H 17	D 1-1	HORVATH BREE BURKE LOCKYER POTTS BELL CA					
	TUE AUG 30	CARDIFF CITY	A 9	W 2-1	HORVATH BREE BURKE LOCKYER POTTS BELL CA					
	SAT SEP 3	WIGAN ATHLETIC	H 16	L 1-2	HORVATH BREE OSHO LOCKYER POTTS BELL CA					
	WED SEP 14	COVENTRY CITY	H 18	D 2-2	HORVATH BREE OSHO BRADLEY POTTS BELL CA					
	SAT SEP 17	BLACKBURN ROVERS	H 11	W 2-0	HORVATH BREE BURKE LOCKYER POTTS BELL CA					
	FRI SEP 30	HULL CITY	A 5	W 2-0	HORVATH BREE BURKE LOCKYER POTTS BELL CA					
	TUE OCT 4	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	H 8	D 3-3	HORVATH ONYEDINMA BREE LOCKYER POTTS BELL CA					
	SAT OCT 8	WEST BROMWICH ALBION	A 9	D 0-0	HORVATH BREE LOCKYER BRADLEY POTTS BELL CA					
	SAT OCT 15	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	H 6	W 3-1	HORVATH BREE LOCKYER BRADLEY POTTS BELL CA					
	TUE OCT 18	NORWICH CITY	A 4	W 1-0	HORVATH ONYEDINMA BREE LOCKYER POTTS BELL CA					
	SUN OCT 23	WATFORD	A 9	L 0-4	HORVATH BREE LOCKYER BRADLEY POTTS BELL DOUGHTY CA					
	SAT OCT 29	SUNDERLAND	H 9	D 1-1	HORVATH DOUGHTY BREE LOCKYER POTTS BELL CA					
	TUE NOV 1	READING	H 10	D 0-0	HORVATH BREE LOCKYER BRADLEY POTTS BELL CA					
	SAT NOV 5	BLACKPOOL	A 8	W 1-0	HORVATH CLARK BREE LOCKYER POTTS BELL CA					
	TUE NOV 8	STOKE CITY	A 9	L 0-2	ISTED CLARK BREE LOCKYER POTTS BELL CA					
	SAT NOV 12	ROTHERHAM UNITED	H 10	D 1-1	HORVATH BREE OSHO LOCKYER BELL DOUGHTY CA					
	SAT DEC 10	MIDDLESBROUGH	A 13	L 1-2	HORVATH BREE OSHO LOCKYER BELL DOUGHTY CA					
	MON DEC 26	NORWICH CITY	H 12	W 2-1	HORVATH BREE OSHO ■ LOCKYER POTTS BELL DOUGHTY CA					
	THU DEC 29	QUEENS PARK RANGERS	A 5	W 3-0	HORVATH DOUGHTY BURKE BREE LOCKYER POTTS BELL CA					
	SUN JAN 1	HUDDERSFIELD TOWN	A 5	W 2-1	HORVATH DOUGHTY BREE LOCKYER POTTS BELL CA					
	SAT JAN 7	WIGAN ATH (FAC R3)	H -	D 1-1	HORVATH BREE BURKE OSHO POTTS BELL CA					
	SAT JAN 14	WEST BROM	H 9	L 2-3	HORVATH DOUGHTY BREE BURKE LOCKYER POTTS BELL CA					
	TUE JAN 17	WIGAN ATHLETIC (FAC R3 B)	A	W 2-1	HORVATH BREE BURKE OSHO BELL CA					
	SAT JAN 21	WIGAN ATHLETIC	A 7	W 2-0	HORVATH BREE OSHO LOCKYER POTTS BELL WI					
	SAT JAN 28	GRIMSBY TOWN (FAC R4)	H -	D 2-2	HORVATH DOUGHTY OSHO LOCKYER POTTS BELL CA					
	TUE JAN 31	CARDIFF CITY	H 4	W 1-0	HORVATH DRAMEH BURKE LOCKYER BELL DOUGHTY CL					
	SAT FEB 4	STOKE CITY	H 4	W 1-0	HORVATH DRAMEH BURKE LOCKYER BELL DOUGHTY CA					
	TUE FEB 7	GRIMSBY TOWN (FAC R4 R)	A -	L 0-3	HORVATH THORPE OSHO LOCKYER BELL ONYEDINMA CA					
	SAT FEB 11	COVENTRY CITY	A 4	D 1-1	HORVATH DOUGHTY BURKE ■ LOCKYER OSHO BELL NA					
	WED FEB 15	PRESTON NORTH END	A 4	D 1-1	HORVATH ONYEDINMA BURKE LOCKYER OSHO BELL NA					
	SAT FEB 18	BURNLEY	H 4	L 0-1	HORVATH DRAMEH BURKE LOCKYER ■ OSHO BELL NA					
	SAT FEB 25	BIRMINGHAM CITY	A 6	W 1-0	HORVATH DRAMEH BURKE OSHO BELL DOUGHTY NA					
	TUE FEB 28	MILLWALL	H 6	D 2-2	HORVATH DRAMEH OSHO LOCKYER BELL DOUGHTY NA					
	SAT MAR 4	SWANSEA CITY	H 5	W 1-0	HORVATH DRAMEH OSHO LOCKYER BELL DOUGHTY NA					
	SAT MAR 11	SHEFFIELD UNITED	A 4	W 1-0	HORVATH DRAMEH OSHO LOCKYER BELL ONYEDINMA NA					
	WED MAR 15	BRISTOL CITY	H 4	W 1-0	HORVATH DRAMEH OSHO LOCKYER BELL DOUGHTY NA					
	SAT MAR 18	SUNDERLAND	A 4	D 1-1	HORVATH DRAMEH OSHO LOCKYER BELL DOUGHTY NA					
	SAT APR 1	WATFORD	H	-						
	FRI APR 7	MILLWALL	A	-						
	MON APR 10	BLACKPOOL	H	-						
	SAT APR 15	ROTHERHAM UNITED	A	-						
	WED APR 19	READING	A	-						
	SAT APR 22	MIDDLESBROUGH	H	-						
	SAT APR 29	BLACKBURN ROVERS	A	-						
	MON MAY 8	HULL CITY	H	-						



LUTONTOWN.CO.UK

Visit the official club website for up-to-date news, ticket info, match reports, and live coverage via iFollow Hatters.



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

			O.G.	SUBSTITUTES	ATT	AWAY
CAMPBELL	CLARK	FREEMAN	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	MACEY, LOCKYER, CORNICK, WOODROW, LANSBURY, PEREIRA, JEROME	9,921 1,032
CAMPBELL	CLARK	FREEMAN	CORNICK	ADEBAYO	MACEY, LOCKYER, BERRY, MORRIS, WOODROW, LANSBURY, BURKE	19,628 1,026
WATSON	BERRY	WOODROW	JEROME	MUSKWE	ISTED, CORNICK, MORRIS, THORPE, OSHO, WILLIAMS, ALLEN, PETTIT, NELSON	3,827 207
CAMPBELL	CLARK	FREEMAN	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	MACEY, LOCKYER, WOODROW, WATSON, THORPE, OSHO, JEROME	9,740 895
CAMPBELL	OSHO	WOODROW	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	MACEY, LOCKYER, MUSKWE, CLARK, THORPE, FREEMAN, JEROME	17,329 718
CAMPBELL	CLARK	FREEMAN	MUSKWE	ADEBAYO	MACEY, BERRY, MORRIS, WOODROW, THORPE, OSHO, JEROME	16,323 609
CAMPBELL	CLARK	FREEMAN	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	MACEY, BERRY, WOODROW, MUSKWE, ONYEDINNA, OSHO, JEROME	9,882 1,032
CAMPBELL	CLARK	FREEMAN	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	MACEY, BERRY, WOODROW, LANSBURY, ONYEDINNA, OSHO, JEROME	17,202 421
CAMPBELL	CLARK	FREEMAN	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	MACEY, BRADLEY, CORNICK, BERRY, WOODROW, ONYEDINNA, JEROME	9,885 1,035
CAMPBELL	CLARK	FREEMAN	MORRIS	CORNICK	MACEY, LOCKYER, WOODROW, ADEBAYO, LANSBURY, BELL, JEROME	9,546 1,028
CAMPBELL	CLARK	LANSBURY	MORRIS	WOODROW	ISTED, WATSON, ONYEDINNA, FREEMAN, OSHO, JEROME, DOUGHTY	9,839 712
CAMPBELL	CLARK	LANSBURY	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	ISTED, CORNICK, MPANZU, ONYEDINNA, OSHO, JEROME, DOUGHTY	15,730 544
CAMPBELL	CLARK	LANSBURY	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	ISTED, BRADLEY, CORNICK, MPANZU, PETTIT, NELSON, DOUGHTY	9,073 308
CAMPBELL	CLARK	LANSBURY	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	ISTED, CORNICK, BERRY, MPANZU, ONYEDINNA, FREEMAN, DOUGHTY	21,550 1,385
CAMPBELL	CLARK	LANSBURY	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	ISTED, CORNICK, BERRY, ONYEDINNA, FREEMAN, JEROME, DOUGHTY	10,011 1,038
CAMPBELL	CLARK	DOUGHTY	MORRIS	CORNICK	ISTED, BRADLEY, BERRY, ADEBAYO, LANSBURY, FREEMAN, JEROME	25,846 1,182
CAMPBELL	CLARK	FREEMAN	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	ISTED, POTT, CORNICK, BERRY, WATSON, OSHO, JEROME	19,282 1,954
CAMPBELL	CLARK	LANSBURY	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	ISTED, BRADLEY, CORNICK, BERRY, MPANZU, FREEMAN, JEROME	10,060 1,032
CAMPBELL	MPANZU	DOUGHTY	CORNICK	ADEBAYO	ISTED, BERRY, MORRIS, WATSON, FREEMAN, JEROME, PETTIT	9,620 926
CAMPBELL	MPANZU	BERRY	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	ISTED, CORNICK, WATSON, FREEMAN, JEROME, PETTIT, LAWLESS	11,452 1,208
CAMPBELL	MPANZU	CORNICK	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	MACEY, BERRY, WATSON, FREEMAN, JEROME, PETTIT, DOUGHTY	18,095 784
CAMPBELL	MPANZU	CLARK	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	ISTED, CORNICK, BERRY, WATSON, FREEMAN, WILLIAMS, PETTIT	10,071 1,040
CAMPBELL	MPANZU	CLARK	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	ISTED, CORNICK, BERRY, WATSON, FREEMAN, JEROME	23,187 463
CAMPBELL	MPANZU	CLARK	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	ISTED, CORNICK, BERRY, WOODROW, FREEMAN, JEROME, PETTIT	9,831 1,039
CAMPBELL	MPANZU	CLARK	MORRIS	CORNICK	ISTED, BERRY, WOODROW, ADEBAYO, WATSON, FREEMAN, JEROME	16,030 1,562
CAMPBELL	MPANZU	WATSON	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	ISTED, CORNICK, BERRY, WOODROW, BURKE, JEROME, PETTIT	18,333 638
CAMPBELL	WATSON	WOODROW	MORRIS	CORNICK	ISTED, BERRY, ADEBAYO, MPANZU, THORPE, JEROME, PETTIT, DOUGHTY, LUKER	5,660 290
CAMPBELL	MPANZU	CLARK	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	ISTED, CORNICK, WOODROW, BURKE, WATSON, OSHO, JEROME	10,069 1,042
CAMPBELL	WATSON	CLARK	WOODROW	ADEBAYO	ISTED, POTT, LOCKYER, CORNICK, BERRY, MPANZU, THORPE, JEROME, PETTIT	5,668 191
WATSON	MPANZU	CLARK	CORNICK	ADEBAYO	ISTED, BERRY, BURKE, CAMPBELL, ONYEDINNA, JEROME, DOUGHTY	11,125 1,005
CAMPBELL	MPANZU	CLARK	CORNICK	ADEBAYO	ISTED, BERRY, MORRIS, WOODROW, BURKE, WATSON, ONYEDINNA, THORPE, NELSON	8,552 1,473
CLARK	MPANZU	WOODROW	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	WALTON, BERRY, WATSON, CAMPBELL, ONYEDINNA, THORPE, OSHO	9,031 544
CAMPBELL	MPANZU	CLARK	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	SHEA, BERRY, WOODROW, NAKAMBA, ONYEDINNA, TAYLOR, OSHO	10,031 1,021
CAMPBELL	WATSON	BERRY	WOODROW	ADEBAYO	SHEA, MORRIS, BURKE, MPANZU, CLARK, PEPPER, DOUGHTY, PIESOLD, JOHNSON	7,051 466
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	CLARK	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	SHEA, BERRY, WOODROW, LANSBURY, CAMPBELL, ONYEDINNA, TAYLOR	20,366 2,843
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	CLARK	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	SHEA, POTT, BERRY, WOODROW, LANSBURY, CAMPBELL, TAYLOR	13,903 457
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	CLARK	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	SHEA, POTT, BERRY, WOODROW, CAMPBELL, TAYLOR, DOUGHTY	10,066 1,026
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	CLARK	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	SHEA, BERRY, WOODROW, WATSON, CAMPBELL, ONYEDINNA, TAYLOR	16,866 1,838
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	CLARK	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	SHEA, BRADLEY, BERRY, WOODROW, CAMPBELL, ONYEDINNA, TAYLOR	10,060 1,032
NAKAMBA	CAMPBELL	CLARK	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	SHEA, BRADLEY, BERRY, WOODROW, MPANZU, ONYEDINNA, TAYLOR	10,072 1,031
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	CAMPBELL	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	SHEA, BRADLEY, BERRY, WOODROW, LANSBURY, MUSKWE, TAYLOR	28,406 1,717
NAKAMBA	CAMPBELL	BERRY	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	SHEA, WOODROW, LANSBURY, BURKE, WATSON, ONYEDINNA, TAYLOR	9,899 858
NAKAMBA	CAMPBELL	BERRY	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	SHEA, WOODROW, LANSBURY, BURKE, CLARK, ONYEDINNA, TAYLOR	37,579 1,054

Luton Town Football Club's commitment is to promote inclusion and to confront and eliminate discrimination, whether by reason of age, disability, gender reassignment, sex, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief. People can be assured of an environment in which their rights, dignity and individual worth are respected, and in particular that they are able to work and watch football in an environment without the threat of intimidation, victimisation, harassment, bullying and abuse. Should you wish to report a specific incident, please contact your nearest steward or download Kick It Out's free, confidential reporting app on the App Store or Google Play.



“

**ANYONE WHO ENTERS THE PITCH WITHOUT
PERMISSION AND THOSE CARRYING OR USING
SMOKE BOMBS OR PYROS WILL NOW RECEIVE
AN AUTOMATIC CLUB BAN.**

”

‘LOVE FOOTBALL. PROTECT THE GAME’

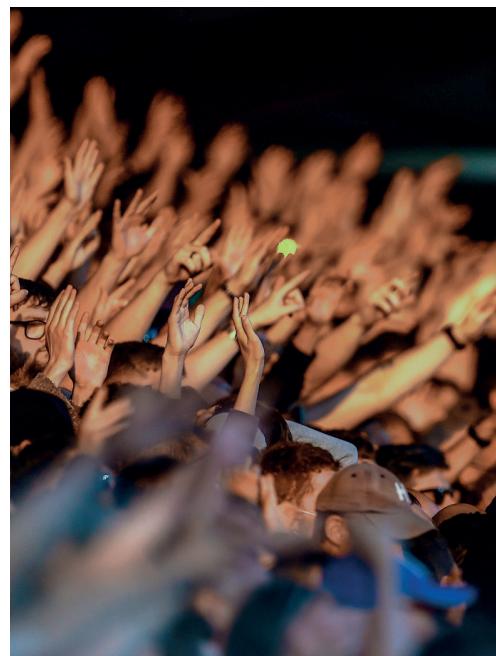
A message about anti-social and criminal behaviour

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



FSA.



HAPPY 8TH BIRTHDAY, ISMAEL!

Happy Birthday to Ismael who turned 8 this week.

Ismael's favourite players are Carlton Morris and James Shea.

Wishing you the best birthday, love from Mum, Dad, Ehsaaq & Aleesa



HAPPY 59TH BIRTHDAY NEIL!

Happy special Derby-day birthday to our dad, grandad and loyal Hatter, Neil Bush!

We hope you enjoy the game and one of Norm's curries to go with it! Thanks for all you do for us. Love from Emma, Jamie, Richard and Freddie

PLAYER STATISTICS

	2022-23 SEASON									CAREER	
	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		CARDS		TOTAL		
	APPS	G	APPS	G	APPS	G	YEL	RED	APPS	G	
Elijah Adebayo	34	(2)	7	3	(1)	2	37	(3)	9	9	0
Amarill Bell	36	(1)	1	4	(0)	0	40	(1)	1	2	1
Luke Berry	3	(12)	3	2	(2)	0	5	(14)	3	2	0
Sonny Bradley	9	(4)	0	0	(0)	0	9	(4)	0	3	0
James Bree	27	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	29	(0)	0	3	0
Reece Burke	13	(4)	2	3	(0)	0	16	(4)	2	3	0
Allan Campbell	31	(3)	2	4	(0)	0	35	(3)	2	3	0
Jordan Clark	32	(2)	2	2	(1)	1	34	(3)	3	4	0
Harry Cornick	7	(12)	1	2	(2)	1	9	(14)	2	1	0
Alfie Doughty	18	(3)	2	2	(2)	0	20	(5)	2	8	0
Cody Drameh	9	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	9	(0)	0	1	0
Luke Freeman	9	(11)	2	0	(0)	0	9	(11)	2	2	0
Ethan Horvath	37	(0)	0	4	(0)	0	41	(0)	0	0	0
Harry Isted	1	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0
Cameron Jerome	0	(21)	1	1	(2)	0	1	(23)	1	0	0
Henri Lansbury	6	(3)	1	1	(0)	0	7	(3)	1	2	0
Tom Lockyer	32	(0)	1	3	(1)	1	35	(1)	2	6	1
Matt Macey	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0
Carlos Mendes Gomes	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	1	1	(0)	1	0	0
Carlton Morris	34	(3)	16	1	(3)	0	35	(6)	16	10	0
Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu	18	(5)	1	1	(3)	0	19	(8)	1	2	0
Admiral Muskwe	1	(1)	0	1	(0)	0	2	(1)	0	0	0
Marevelous Nakamba	9	(1)	0	0	(0)	0	9	(1)	0	1	0
Fred Onyedinma	5	(10)	0	1	(1)	0	6	(11)	0	2	0
Gabriel Osho	19	(5)	1	4	(1)	0	23	(6)	1	3	2
Dion Pereira	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0
Dan Potts	23	(0)	1	2	(0)	0	25	(0)	1	4	0
Glen Rea	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	0
James Shea	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	0
Joe Taylor	0	(2)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(2)	0	0	0
Elliot Thorpe	0	(2)	0	1	(1)	0	1	(3)	0	0	0
Louie Watson	2	(2)	0	4	(0)	0	6	(2)	0	1	0
Josh Williams	0	(0)	0	0	(1)	0	0	(1)	0	0	0
Cauley Woodrow	3	(19)	1	4	(1)	1	7	(20)	2	3	0

THE LAST WORD

SIMON OXLEY

BBC 3CR COMMENTATOR



It's not Merseyside, Milan or Manchester – but it's ours. Welcome to the first Luton versus Watford derby at a full Kenilworth Road since 2006.

Over 17 years ago! My son, now in sixth form, wasn't even born; Shayne Ward was number one; and Rob Edwards was playing for Wolves in a 2-0 Championship defeat at Coventry.

Like so many matches I've covered between the two sides, that game on January the 2nd 2006 had plenty to keep us entertained. A rare goal from Malky Mackay; Ashley Young getting sent off; and a post-match rant from Mike Newell after 10-man Watford had 'managed' the game in a 2-1 win.

Red cards have been a feature here down the years with two Hornets players sent off on the opening day of the season in 1993, and Kiko Femenia two years ago behind closed doors. Most of you will only have seen that sending off on a television or computer screen, after James Collins came off the bench to net the decisive penalty (pictured below). So remember how strange that felt and soak it up today.



I've covered these games in this tier, and the one below, and in the League Cup and the Anglo-Italian Cup, but not yet in the top flight. One day perhaps?

Luton are looking a good bet for a play-off place, but there's still work to do, and some difficult fixtures ahead, starting today, with the likes of Millwall, Middlesbrough and Blackburn to come. Watford still have a chance and, as we saw at Vicarage Road in October, are more than capable. Doubtless Nathan Jones would have referenced that result this week in the build-up, but how will Rob Edwards handle today?

The post-match interview at Sunderland was the closest he's come to losing his cool, but he continues to impress. Many Watford fans were sorry to see him go, and might we see a Luton manager being applauded by visiting supporters in a derby? I'm reminded of Alec Chamberlain's ovation at the Kenilworth End in 1997, even though he ran out for the second half with Watford leading 4-0.

Goals in these games can define your time at a club – step forward Ian Benjamin and David Thomas. But not many have played for both without the first association affecting the perception of their spell at the other. There are of course exceptions – the afore-mentioned Chamberlain; the late Alan Garner won promotion with both; and Matthew Spring scored 'that' Luton goal before helping Watford to the Premier League.

These two clubs have dominated the vast majority of my working life. So many memories; let's make some more today.

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LOCAL PRIDE STINGS THE NETS

After a 10-year absence, Luton Town now have a foothold in the top half of the League and could be the team to beat in the title race.

With a solid defensive record and a strong attacking line, the Hatters are well positioned to challenge for the title.

They have a strong squad and a

solid manager in Rob Edwards.

He has a clear vision for the team and

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Report by Brian Swain
Pictures: Mark Richards

ROB EDWARDS

- 01 JAMES SHEA
- 02 CODY DRAMEH
- 03 DAN POTTS
- 04 TOM LOCKYER
- 05 SONNY BRADLEY
- 08 LUKE BERRY
- 09 CARLTON MORRIS
- 10 CAULEY WOODROW
- 11 ELIJAH ADEBAYO
- 12 HENRI LANSBURY
- 13 MARVELOUS NAKAMBA
- 15 ADMIRAL MUSKWE
- 16 REECE BURKE
- 17 PELLY-RUDDOCK MPANZU
- 18 JORDAN CLARK
- 20 LOUIE WATSON
- 22 ALLAN CAMPBELL
- 23 FRED ONYEDINMA
- 24 JACK WALTON
- 25 JOE TAYLOR
- 27 Aribim Pepple
- 28 ELLIOT THORPE
- 29 AMARI' BELL
- 30 LUKE FREEMAN
- 32 GABE OSHO
- 34 ETHAN HORVATH
- 45 ALFIE DOUGHTY

CHRIS WILDER

- 01 DANIEL BACHMANN
- 02 JEREMY NGAKIA
- 03 MARIO GASPAR
- 04 HAMZA CHAUDHURY
- 06 IMRÂN LOUZA
- 07 KEINAN DAVIS
- 08 TOM CLEVERLEY
- 10 JOÃO PEDRO
- 11 ISMÄËL KONÉ
- 12 KEN SEMA
- 13 JOÃO FERREIRA
- 14 HASSANE KAMARA
- 15 CRAIG CATHCART
- 16 DAN GOSLING
- 18 YÁSER ASPRILLA
- 21 HENRIQUE ARAÚJO
- 22 RYAN PORTEOUS
- 23 ISMÄILA SARR
- 24 TOM DELE-BASHIRU
- 25 LEANDRO BACUNA
- 26 BEN HAMER (GK)
- 27 CHRISTIAN KABASELE
- 28 SAMUEL KALU
- 30 KORTNEY HAUSE
- 31 FRANCISCO SIERRALTA
- 34 BRITT ASSOMBALONGA
- 35 MADUKA OKOYE (GK)
- 37 MATHEUS MARTINS
- 39 EDO KAYEMBE
- 42 JAMES MORRIS

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE: JOSH SMITH
ASSISTANT REFEREE 1: MATTHEW JONES
ASSISTANT REFEREE 2: AKIL HOWSON
FOURTH OFFICIAL: LEE SWABEY

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