



ISSUE #6 | £4.00 | PREMIER LEAGUE

## LUTON TOWN V LIVERPOOL

SUNDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 2023 | 4.30PM | KENILWORTH ROAD



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WE WILL REMEMBER THEM 



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**LEAGUE CUP**  
WINNERS 1988  
RUNNERS-UP 1989

**F4 CUP**  
RUNNERS-UP 1959

**FOOTBALL LEAGUE TROPHY**  
WINNERS 2008/09

**SECOND DIVISION/  
CHAMPIONSHIP**  
CHAMPIONS 1981/82  
RUNNERS-UP 1954/55, 1973/74  
PLAY-OFF WINNERS 2022/23

**THIRD DIVISION/  
LEAGUE ONE**  
CHAMPIONS 1936/37, 2004/05, 2018/19  
RUNNERS-UP 1935/36, 1969/70

**FOURTH DIVISION/  
LEAGUE TWO**  
CHAMPIONS 1967/68  
RUNNERS-UP 2001/02, 2017/18

**CONFERENCE PREMIER**  
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Contributors: **Roger Wash, Stuart Hammonds, Dec O'Reilly, Zac Neal, Bradley Dixon and Mike Simmonds.**

With thanks to: The media department at  
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The views in this programme are not  
necessarily those of Luton Town Football Club.

# BRING THE NOISE!



NO AI WAS  
USED TO WRITE  
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PROGRAMME.



# WELCOME TO KENILWORTH ROAD

It's good to be back here. Home is where the heart is. It seems an eternity since we were last here when we ran Tottenham close in front of the live television cameras and this afternoon we have another mouth-watering match in front of millions watching at home as Liverpool make the trip down from Anfield. We've enjoyed some great games here against the Reds in the past, so here's hoping for another memorable afternoon. Enjoy the game. Come on Luton!



**05** ROB  
EDWARDS



**07** TOM  
LOCKYER



**08** FROM THE  
BOARDROOM



**26** WELCOME  
LIVERPOOL



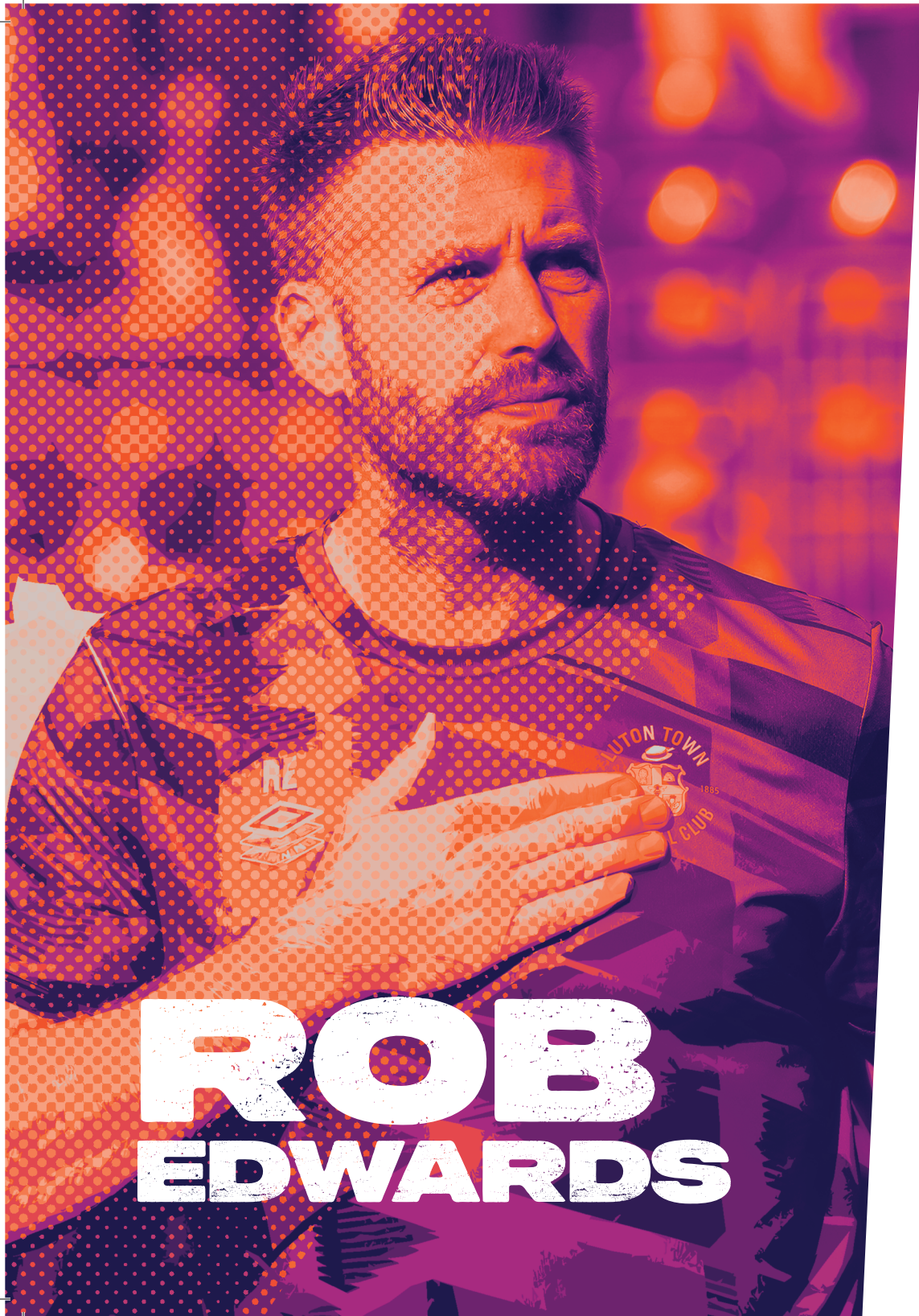
**45** HATTERS  
HISTORY



**57** ACADEMY  
UPDATE



**80** SEASON  
SO FAR



# ROB EDWARDS

**A very warm welcome back to you all for today's special game. It has been a long time since we saw you here at the Kenny for the visit of Tottenham.**

That game feels a long time ago now, doesn't it? Looking back on it, it ended up being a very close game. The first 18 minutes were difficult for us but we grew into it and, after the sending off on half-time, I felt we should have got something from the game.

We then had a good afternoon at Nottingham Forest where our travelling fans witnessed a brilliant comeback. The players showed character, desire and determination to come from 2-0 down to earn a precious away point.

Aston Villa last Sunday was a real challenge. It was probably our toughest game of the season to date. We're 10 games in and we're learning a lot about this league but we knew it would be difficult.

However, they made it tough for us. They exposed us in some areas which disappointed us but overall I was proud of the players' efforts. This was because they did not go under. They did not cave in. They did not feel sorry for themselves. Of course, these are prerequisites for any professional, but we have seen it happen. Villa scored six against Brighton, four against West Ham – and it was important that did not happen against us. So, for us to keep going – and score the final goal – was at least a positive to take into today's game.

A warm welcome, therefore, to Liverpool, to Jurgen Klopp and his staff and players to Kenilworth Road. What an amazing challenge it is for us this afternoon. These

are the games and the days we wanted after we won promotion: To go toe-to-toe with the best coaches, best players and the best teams – and we have that today.

It is the first time we play a true giant of football. Liverpool are a huge football club with a prestigious history and this game presents an exciting opportunity for us, especially live on TV, to show the world what we are about.

As always, first and foremost, we will look to give you everything. We want to give you something to shout and scream about. You need to enjoy these games and these occasions and we want the players to be brave and show their best.

It'll be difficult, we know that, and we know we're going to have to defend extremely well. However, we want to try and attack the game as much as possible all the while recognising we're going up against one of the best teams in Europe right now on current form.

It's going to be a great day. But remember Wembley? Remember those celebrations? Days like today are for remembering those moments. We wanted this. So let's make sure we drink in every single second of it.

Please get behind the lads and bring the noise. I promise that they will give you absolutely everything.

Finally, these are my first notes since the sad passing of Sir Bobby Charlton. A player and a gentleman of his kind we may never see again. On and off the pitch he was incredible. He will be sorely missed but greatly remembered. May he rest in peace. 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿





# TOM LOCKYER

**It's good to be back here at the Kenny. It seems an eternity since we were last at home for the Spurs game and as a squad we're really looking forward to getting stuck into another big Premier League fixture here.**

A home match against Liverpool for a Super Sunday game on live on Sky is one all pros want to play in. Our achievement last season means we go into this game on merit, as equals, playing in the same division. This isn't a cup game. It's not a one-off that we can just look forward to and say 'we've got nothing to lose'.

No, this is a Premier League game with points at stake and that only adds fuel to the fire. So while it will be a great occasion – and one we must all – players, staff and fans – embrace, the most important thing is that we go into this game taking it seriously. There's no room for sentimentality and we have found already this season that the Premier League is an unforgiving place. I can assure you we will be ready for what is going to be a real test – but it's one we will certainly relish.

As I said at the top, it's been a while since we were here at Kenilworth Road. We love playing here and we are desperate to give you a result here that your support deserves. Our performances at home, including against Tottenham, have been encouraging, and we can feel that first win is coming. We know that teams aren't going to enjoy playing in our surroundings and we need you to help us in

making our home a cauldron in order to make life that little bit more difficult for opposing teams.

The Spurs game was another 'what might have been' performance. They showed their quality in the opening stages but we got to grips with them and after the red card we felt we should have got something from the game but sadly it wasn't to be.

Our trip to Forest was a bit of a rollercoaster, though. First half we had a few chances, rode our luck and were happy to go in at 0-0. Second half they stuck two in and that gave us a mountain to climb. Yet this group have not got to this stage by just rolling over, and we showed great character to get it back to 2-2. The dressing room was a good place to be after that, but we also knew we needed to be better – we won't always come back from two goals down this season.

So then last Sunday at Villa saw us on the receiving end of probably our toughest assignment so far this season. Unai Emery has got them playing some great football but we kept our heads above water even after falling behind. The gaffer didn't not want us to capitulate like a few teams have done so far this season against them. Even at 3-0 we kept going and we rallied right until the end which paid off with a late consolation.

That determination is one of our most defining characteristics and we will need that again today. We'll also need your support, which continues to be magnificent whether that be here or on the road.

Thank you again but please get behind us once more today.

Cheers. 





# FROM THE BOARDROOM

WITH CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
GARY SWEET

**Good afternoon and welcome to Kenilworth Road for what promises to be a Bonfire Night to remember.**

Liverpool, in the Premier League, live across the world, at our dearly beloved old stadium. 'Luton v Liverpool' just rolls nicely off the tongue, doesn't it? And we are honoured to be welcoming Sky Sports' Super Sunday team here too.

This is our third televised match so far this season on home soil and we have been heartened to receive so many compliments about the facilities, access and hospitality we have afforded Sky, TNT, the plethora of international broadcasters and journalists here so far.

No matter who you are, or who you represent (within reason!) Kenilworth Road will give you an open-armed, warm welcome. This is something we pride ourselves on and will never change. On this day 12 years ago, we welcomed Fleetwood Town to Kenilworth Road for a Conference fixture, and we would like to think our values have remained constant all the way through rise through the divisions.

Today, we wish to extend a welcome to everybody associated with Liverpool to Kenilworth Road, in particular those supporters who have travelled the 360-mile round trip having to endure the graveyard slot in this weekend's fixtures.

We have a long and colourful history with our friends from the red side of Stanley Park, especially during our top-flight days in the 1980s. Whether that be a Mike Newell hat-trick on the plastic pitch, a Mick Harford winner, playing three keepers in a single match at Anfield and still sharing the points in a six-goal thriller, a game called off due to snow (Hansen and Dalglish really didn't fancy it!) or, in more recent times, their memorable 5-3 win here in 2005 in a live FA Cup tie.

Naturally, today, we will enter battle as clear underdogs as Jurgen Klopp's side have clearly rediscovered their good form this season. However, being underdogs is what we're used to and being underdogs is what we love to be.

Indeed, the last time we competed against each other was the first day we came out of our last administration and marked a significant day in our history. Almost 16 years ago, it only seems like yesterday in some ways, marked the day that administrator Brendan Guilfoyle granted us the agreement to take control of the club we love so dearly, just hours before our FA Cup replay at Anfield in 2008. It still is a 'pinch me' moment, and today is a special landmark for everyone who has been involved since that day to see where we are and how we have progressed as a club on and off the pitch over that time.

Our Premier League experience of only ten games so far has certainly been an



Town fans proudly hold '2020' banners aloft at Anfield on the night we last met Liverpool

eye-opening beginning to life in the board-room at this level, but also surprising. To the possible surprise of many, I've been immensely impressed with the Premier League's executive team so far. With us, they've been welcoming, helpful and thoroughly professional. Many will also be heartened to hear that they also have a very clear caring consideration for the game, the pyramid and for those scraping a living below the top tier.

I mention this, given how the latest broadcast selections which expose some idiosyncratic misfortunes around the away fixture at Turf Moor, which we hope will be ironed out before travel arrangements need to be made.

We are clearly always on the side of the travelling supporter in such matters, however, having seen the complexities of the fixture pile-up in the calendar above the Premier League and the subsequent regulatory restrictions that then need to be maintained, I do have a certain sympathy with the challenge they face which makes it a good foundation to find solutions.

What I think the Premier League is battling with reasonably well is treading the balance between the protection of the traditional fixture schedule and the demand in commercial growth from the broadcasting community on the other hand. I am fully aware that the League has rejected certain demands from the media in favour of attending supporters.

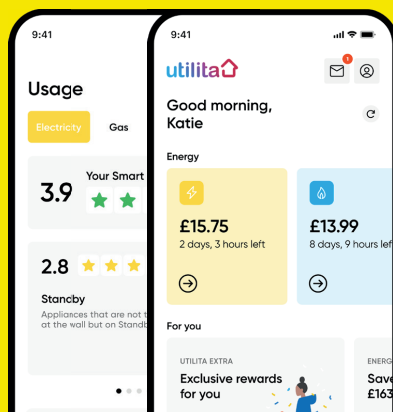
Ultimately, it is the 20 Premier League clubs who generally have the final say, and it's fair to say that I believe more clubs should be taking a football-wide perspective rather than the narrow, single-club view many do.

This matter is very much a topic high on the agenda at this moment in time as the landscape in football is set to change. With the introduction of the incoming regulator for football, the 'new deal for football' (on the redistribution of wealth within the game) and the tender process for the Premier League's broadcast rights all afoot, it is such an interesting time to be involved.

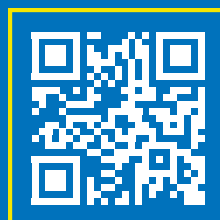
My view is that, by and large, these impending changes to the games control and ➤

HATTERS. IT'S TIME TO

SAVE LIKE  
DAVE



Energy that's  
proper smart.



The Hatters players applaud the away contingent at Aston Villa last Sunday



regulation will be a very positive restructure for football and I look forward to sharing my thoughts on these matters as they become clearer in the near future.

You can be rest assured that, whatever happens in the next few months, the future for Luton Town and Power Court will be brighter.

I can also assure you that living with the privilege of Premier League membership is something we are slowly becoming accustomed to and will be an experience we intend to continue to enjoy beyond this season.

Despite its ills, we should all revel in life at the top table, particularly on days like today when so many world class footballers will grace our modest stage. We sincerely hope that one of those today will be Luiz Diaz, who may be absent as worry over the disappearance of his father increases. We would all like to wish Luiz and his family our very best wishes and hope for the safe return of Mr Diaz senior.

Another recent tragedy means that we travel to Old Trafford next Saturday without the true honour of meeting Sir Bobby Charlton who became a graceful, ambassadorial presence for United over the decades. Football is a poorer place without Sir Bobby, and I send our condolences to the Charlton family for their loss.

Back to matters on the pitch, last week's defeat at Aston Villa showed spirit that we have been accustomed to from this group of players in the face of what was arguably our toughest opponents of the season so far. Aston Villa were impressive, the level of their players' speed of thought a sight to behold and something we can aspire to. It is worth remembering they have only just returned to the Premier League after a spell in the Championship so they are certainly a club whose footballing ethos we can look up to.

I need to mention that your support has been amazing at each and every single game this season. It was not just recognised by us (on the other side of the pitch) at Villa Park, but praise was heaped upon us by officials of Aston Villa, who greatly appreciated the self-deprecating humour. We never take your backing for granted, but I know you will make us proud in front of the world this afternoon.

Finally, a massive congratulations to Joe Johnson who has been selected for the England Under-17 squad as they will soon look to fare well in the Under-17 World Cup in Indonesia. Good luck Joe!

Get behind Rob, Trolls and Richie and the lads and let's make this an afternoon to remember.

Come on Luton!  
Gary 



## SUPPORTING THE POPPY APPEAL

**We are once again proud to join football clubs across the country to show our support for the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal.**

To demonstrate our commitment to the charity, we have chosen to include the emblem of a poppy in the design of the shirts issued for today's fixture against Liverpool during the period of Remembrance.

All of these poppy-adorned shirts will be made available to fans through exclusive digital auctions at **MatchWornShirt.com/poppy**, with the proceeds raised being donated to the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal. Adding to the value of these shirts, each one will be individually signed by the respective player who wore it, making it a unique piece of sporting history.

MatchWornShirt's 2022 Poppy Appeal campaign was a spectacular success, raising more than £900,000 for the Royal British Legion.

Before kick-off today there will be a minute's silence as we remember those who gave their lives in battle.

We will remember them.

## FIVE MATCHES SELECTED FOR TV COVERAGE

**Five of the Hatters' Premier League matches across December and January have been chosen for live television coverage by three broadcasters.**

Our home fixture with Arsenal on Tuesday 5th December will now kick-off at 8.15pm that evening and be shown on Amazon Prime Video.

Five days later the Hatters will then entertain reigning champions Manchester City at Kenilworth Road in front of the Sky Sports Cameras on Sunday 10th December, kick-off 2pm.

Our Boxing Day trip to Sheffield United remains a 3pm kick-off and will now be shown live on Amazon Prime Video.

TNT Sports return to Bedfordshire for the Town's home fixture against Chelsea on Saturday 30th December with the kick off moved to the early lunchtime slot of 12.30pm.

And finally, the Hatters will head to Burnley on Monday 15th January for a 7.45pm kick-off live on TNT Sports. If the Town or the Clarets are involved in an FA Cup replay the game will move to Friday 12th for a 7.45pm kick-off and still be shown live by TNT. Furthermore, if Vincent Kompany's side are also involved in an EFL Cup semi-final, the game will again still be televised but will be played on Sunday 14th with a 12 noon start.

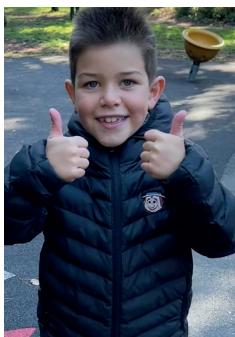
We apologise to any supporters inconvenienced by any of these fixture amendments.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Happy birthday to two sisters, **Ella** and **Evie**. Ella turned ten yesterday and Evie will be seven on 14th November. Both are season ticket holders and play

for Luton Town Ladies youth teams. Birthday wishes come from Mummy, Daddy, family, friends and team mates from LTLFC. Evie currently broke her elbow and is in plaster after her operation, only just signing up for her football team, so is excited to be back at the Kenny. Get well soon Evie!



Wishing one of our young Hatters, **Joseph Gill**, a very happy eighth birthday. With lots of love from all his family and friends. Joseph plays for Wixams Stars and predicts a 2-1 win this afternoon!



Birthday wishes also go to **Brian Stronell**, who is celebrating his 70th birthday. A life-long Town fan, birthday wishes come from David, Denise, Peter and Neil.

## REST IN PEACE



Hatters fan for over 50 years, **John Wray** was a season ticket holder in the Kenilworth Road end, block D. John sadly passed away after a six-year battle


with prostate cancer on 9th October. He was so happy to have seen Luton reach the Premier League and see our first win at Everton. Although illness prevented him from attending a game since April he was always cheering on through the TV and radio.



**Nick Abrahams**, aka Stumpy, sadly passed away on 17th September 2023. He developed his love for the mighty Hatters when he was a small boy and this extended through to his adult life. Nick was a season ticket holder in the Kenilworth lower tier. He was a double lower leg amputee but this never stopped him travelling hundreds of miles up and down the country following the club that he adored. Nick finally had his dreams come true when he watched the Town get promoted to the Premier League.



Live Happy

A large, stylized red graphic of the Luton Town FC crest, which is a 'T' with a horizontal bar, is positioned in the upper left and center of the page. The background is a vibrant blue sky and sea scene with a white boat on the horizon and a small yellow boat in the foreground.

We're super proud to be sponsoring **Luton Town FC**, especially since we've just opened a new store on Luton Retail Park. You'll find it in Next, on the first floor beside the home section. Pop in to chat to our friendly team of Travel Experts – they can help you score a holiday that suits your style and budget, as well as organise any holiday extras. Plus, follow them on Facebook for the latest info and offers – just search **TUI Luton**.

## TOWN MISS CHANCES IN DEFEAT TO TEN-MAN SPURS

The fact the Town came off the field disappointed not to have taken something off one of the 'big six' - was testament to another performance that warranted more as the Hatters endeavoured to keep their unbeaten visitors at bay in an intoxicating encounter inside a packed Kenilworth Road.

Spurs flew out of the blocks and could – and perhaps should – have been three goals ahead inside seven minutes. Thomas Kaminski was brilliant to save the second of those chances, denying Richarlison from close range.

Kaminski made another immense save, getting down low to turn Dejan Kulusevski's low effort around the post but with every passing minute the Town were growing in confidence and belief.

At 0-0 the game turned when Yves Bissouma was shown a second yellow card for a dive on the edge of the Hatters penalty area and the visitors were down to ten men.

After the break the Town should have led. Chiedozie Ogbene raced down the right and delivered a perfect cross on a plate for Elijah Adebayo. However, from inside the six-yard box the striker couldn't turn home.

Then, five minutes later, after a succession of Tottenham corners, Micky van de Ven turned home the loose ball to give Tottenham the lead.

The Town plugged away, aiming to make their extra man count and on 64 minutes another good chance fell their way when Alfie Doughty's wonderful left-wing cross was nodded over by an unmarked Jacob Brown.

As both sides made their changes, the game lacked fluency as the Hatters tried in vain to find a leveller against a Tottenham side that had packed their backline to see out the points. 🥵



### Kenilworth Road – 7th October 2023

**Hatters:** Kaminski; Andersen (sub Mengi 59), Burke, Lockyer (sub Barkley 81), Doughty, Ogbene; Nakamba, Mpanzu (sub Berry 66); Adebayo (sub Chong 67), Morris, Brown (sub Woodrow 67).

**Sub not used:** Krul, Kaboré, Mengi, Giles, Johnson.

**Spurs:** Vicario, Porro, Romero, van de Ven, Udogle (Davies 82), Sarr, Bissouma, Kulusevski (sub Veliz 90+2), Maddison (sub Skipp 76), Richarlison (sub Hojbjerg 46), Son Heung-min (sub Royal 76).

**Sub not used:** Gil, Dier, Lo Celso, Foster, Davies.

### SCORERS:

**Spurs** - van de Ven 52





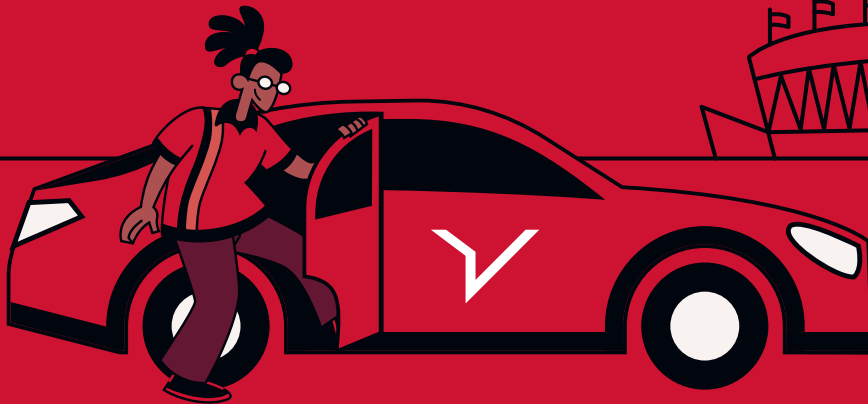
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# MARV: WE HAVE TO KEEP BELIEVING

**Marvelous Nakamba wants the Hatters to take the positives from the number of chances they created against Premier League leaders Tottenham into the upcoming games.**

Town lost 1-0 to Spurs at Kenilworth Road, but spurned several opportunities to either take the lead or equalise either side of Micky Van De Ven's solitary strike early in the second half.

The Zimbabwean midfielder said: "I think getting some chances against one of the top two teams right now, so I think we have to take out more of the positive ones and stick together as a group. It's only us who can help ourselves.

"We have to focus more, keep up the momentum and concentrate more, to stay in each of the games in the basic ways, and to keep on helping each other. As a team and a group, we need to work with each other."


Another full house roared the Hatters on, but that elusive first home win in the top-flight since 1992 still eludes Rob Edwards' side.

"I think the fans have been very, very helpful throughout, home and away, and they push us, said the 29-year-old. "Now it is up to us as a group to give them something to thank them.

"To be there for the whole 90, 95, 100 minutes, to be there for everyone, they are

doing that well. They are there for the club, there for the players and each and everyone. Now us, as players, we have to put that extra gear in as a team and everyone to push each other and help each other in a positive way."

And on playing in the Premier League, after helping the Hatters win promotion during his loan spell last season before signing permanently in the summer, the ex-Aston Villa man added: "Of course, it is a dream to be in the Premier League and be competing with the best week in, week out.

"This is what we want. This is what everyone dreams of in the club. This is what the club wants, so we just have to keep on competing, giving everything, and keep on believing." 





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## DETERMINED TOWN FIGHT BACK FROM TWO DOWN TO EARN POINT

**With 14 minutes left, and with Nottingham Forest two goals to the good and well in command, the Hatters did what has epitomised this team – this club – over the last decade: battled, fought and eventually, through sheer determination, got their just rewards.**

The game followed a familiar pattern to the Town's life in the top-flight: they were always in it. Somehow, you felt there would always be a chance – and so it would ultimately prove.

In the first half Steve Cooper's side should have gone in ahead at half-time. A number of glorious chances went begging for the Tricky Trees. Forest missed a sitter to lead with the last kick of the first 45 – Ibrahim Sangare driving a shot wide of the goal when it seemed harder to miss.

The Town goal had lived a charmed life in the first half but their luck would run out just three minutes after the restart when Chris Wood struck, taking advantage of some sticky defending to finish well beyond an exposed Thomas Kaminski.

Forest then doubled their lead through that man Wood, who craned every neck muscle to guide a fine header inside Kaminski's far post.

At that point, with 15 minutes left, Forest were cruising. Cooper made three changes of his own. Willy Boly, Nicolas Dominguez and the impressive Sangare made way with 12 minutes remaining.

And then the comeback began. With seven minutes left Chidozie Ogbene started the recovery mission, lashing home from six yards after the Forest defence had made a hash of clearing Andros Townsend's free-kick.

Then, in stoppage time the Town were level. Tom Lockyer's laser-like raking pass was on the money. Elijah Adebayo's eyes lit up. Holding off two Forest defenders and chesting the ball down into his path there was only one outcome this week. His finish, magic, you know.

At 2-2 the game wasn't done. Wood had Hatters hearts in mouths when finishing superbly across Kaminski but the hat-trick would not count and the offside flag was a welcome relief to those of a Luton persuasion.



# 2-2

### City Ground – 21st October 2023

**Forest:** Turner, Aurier (sub Aina 88), Boly (sub Worrall 78), S. dos Santos, Toffolo, Dominguez (sub Yates), Mangala, Sangare (sub Kouyate 78), Gibbs-White, Wood, Elanga (sub N. Williams 88).

**Subs not used:** N. dos Santos, Niakhate, Vlachodimos, Aguilera.

**Town:** Kaminski; Ogbene, Doughty, Mengi, Lockyer, Burke (sub Kaboré 56); Nakamba, Ruddock (sub Barkley 72), Chong (sub Townsend 72); Morris (sub Woodrow 81), Brown (sub Adebayo 72)

**Subs not used:** Krul, Osho, Giles, Luker.

### SCORERS:

**Nottingham Forest** – Wood 48, 76  
**Town** – Ogbene 73, Adebayo 90+3



KODAK 400NC

51

KODAK 400

92





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# ELIJAH: WE NEVER GIVE UP

**Town forward Elijah Adebayo described the highs and lows of football after netting the late equaliser at Nottingham Forest last Saturday.**

Our number 11 believes that the standards are set in training and the never give up attitude is throughout the whole club following the dramatic Premier League comeback at the City Ground.

"That sums up football," said Adebayo. "One week it doesn't go for you and the next week it does. It changes very fast, and the emotions are a great feeling for myself and the team.

"Rob wasn't particularly happy with the way the game had gone, but we've got game changers on the bench and everyone needs to try to impact the game.

"It's a squad game, we've all got to try to help each other out and the emotions were great when we were celebrating together, that's the team.

"Anyone who knows Luton knows that we never give up, from the team to the fans who were fantastic again today. If we aren't doing it, they are pushing us through and that's where it comes from.

"The fans were singing even when we were two-nil down, this season we know it's going to be tough, but we will always have that.

"Throughout the squad, no one wants to be on the losing side whether it's in training or on a match day. We try and install that

mentality every day so the character in the group is good, you know straight away that this group will fight until the end.

"Things happen, it's not necessarily used as fuel, it's just football. Sometimes you don't have a particularly good week and you just have to go back to basics in the next week.


"I've told myself a lot of things in the last week and it's just about being the player that I want to be."

Fellow substitute Ross Barkley added: "In the first half I didn't think we were at our best.

"We needed to put the pressure higher up the pitch and make things happen.

"Forest are a good side who were in the Premier League last year and been through the experience of it, but we showed character, we kept pushing until the end and credit to the lads on the bench because they came on and made a difference.

"We need that otherwise the Premier League will be difficult league to play in, and we showed that we can do what the manager asked of us.

"Over the last month or so I've seen how important this club is through the fans, the staff, the players that have experienced the club for a long time, the difficulties of coming from the Conference all the way up." 

**2018/19**  
**League One**  
**Champions**



**2019/20**  
**19th, Championship**  
*Heroic last-day*  
*escape!*



**2020/21**  
**12th, Championship**



**2021/22**  
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# 3-1

## Villa Park – 29th October 2023

**Villa:** Martinez, Cash (sub Diego Carlos 79), Kona, Torres, Digne, McGinn, Kamara (sub Tielemans 79), Douglas Luiz (sub Dendoncker 90), Zaniolo (sub Bailey 46), Diaby (sub Traore 90), Watkins.

**Subs not used:** Chambers, Lenglet, Olsen, Iroegbunam.

**Hatters:** Kaminski; Kaboré, Doughty (sub Giles 79), Lockyer, Osho (sub Townsend 57), Mengi; Nakamba (sub Mpanzu 76), Barkley; Ogbene, Morris (sub Adebayo 76), Brown (sub Chong 57).

**Subs not used:** Krul, Woodrow, Johnson, Luker.

## SCORERS:

**Villa** – McGinn 17, Diaby 48, Lockyer (og) 62  
**Town** – Martinez (og) 83

## HATTERS RALLY BUT FALL TO DEFEAT AT VILLA PARK

**The Town stayed in this game for as long as they could – and didn't go under – said Rob Edwards after he saw his side go down 3-1 at Villa Park.**

Even three goals down the Town rallied and managed to reduce arrears and give those loyal thousands who had made the trip up the motorway something to cheer about even in consolation.

As predicted Villa started fast. Any teams know that if you allow the Hatters to frustrate you then you're in trouble. Thomas Kaminski's brilliant double save in the 11th minute to deny Ollie Watkins from close range was a sign of things to come as the hosts ramped up the early pressure.

That seemingly inevitable opening goal came on 17 minutes when the Town switched off for milliseconds from Douglas Luiz's short free-kick which found John McGinn. One step inside onto his right foot and a blast of the ball later and it was 1-0.

Those supporting Villa sat back and waited for a second but it would not come. The Town ended the first half with encouragement. On 28 minutes, Chidozie Ogbene got the home defence back-pellading for the first time and his cross was inches away from finding Carlton Morris for a tap-in.

Having got to the break just the one goal behind, the Town started the second half aiming to creep closer to the Villa goal. However, just two-and-a-half minutes after the restart the Hatters' task became harder when Moussa Diaby doubled Villa's lead with a first-time finish.

Staying in the game has been a forte of the Town so far this term but Villa made life tougher shortly after the hour when skipper Tom Lockyer turned home Diaby's cut-back and all of a sudden even being in the game was proving difficult.

Villa passed up several chances to add a fourth but the Town rallied as time ticked down and they were back in the game seven minutes from time when substitutes Andros Townsend and Elijah Adebayo combined to cause confusion in the home defence. Ezri Kona's header back towards goal hit the crossbar and rolled over the line after hitting goalkeeper Emil Martinez.



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51

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92

28





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# OSHO ON VILLA PARK RETURN

**Town defender Gabe Osho made his first Premier League appearance of his career when he completed his return from injury at Aston Villa.**

Our number two had not played a competitive game since the Championship play-off final at Wembley Stadium back in May.

"It was a good experience," said Osho. "It wasn't the result we wanted but it was good to be back out playing with the boys after being out for a while now. I just hope that the team and I can move on and kick on from it now.

"The speed and the demands of Premier League games on the body is more than what I've ever done before, I'm tired but my body feels fine.

"In this league they really punish the mistakes, that's probably the main thing. The goals that they scored today was in ways that we knew about before the game, we worked on that during the week and it was unfortunate that we got caught in those ways today, that's not good enough."

Osho returned to the Hatters line-up after recovering from a knee injury had kept him out of the team since that day at Wembley at the end of May.

"It's been hard over the last couple of months having to watch the boys from the sidelines, it was a good feeling being back out there today and I really believe in this

team," said the 24-year-old. "A lot of people have doubted us but we have a really good chance of staying up this season, we have to correct the little things.

"I'm excited to play more games at this level, everyone dreams about playing in the Premier League as a kid so to get the chance to do that today was an honour. I want to win, so we'll need to keep working a bit harder and carry out game plans to give us a better chance of getting a result in these games.

"When you are three-one down, you expect the fans to be on your back a bit but the support we had was amazing, even at the end of the game.

"I'd seen what the fans were like online, being out there today seeing that was touching and we want to give them something to really cheer for." 🥰





# WELCOME LIVERPOOL

**Today, the Hatters welcome English giants Liverpool to Kenilworth Road. Jurgen Klopp's side have started the season well and currently sit fourth place in the Premier League.**

The Reds began the season with a solid 1-1 draw away to Chelsea before comfortably beating Bournemouth 3-1 at Anfield to pick up four points in the first two games.

After this, Liverpool had to travel to the north east to face the tough task of Newcastle away. Anthony Gordon put Newcastle ahead but two late goals from Darwin Nunez secured a fine 2-1 win for ten-man Liverpool.

Klopp's side continued this winning run with wins over Aston Villa, Wolverhampton Wanderers and West Ham. The Reds also beat LASK Linz in the Europa League during this time.

In late September, Liverpool suffered their first loss of the season away to

Tottenham. After red cards for Curtis Jones and Diogo Jota, a late Spurs winner secured the points for Ange Postecoglou's side.

Two more victories in the Europa League, as well as another two Premier League, puts the Reds in a very good position in both competitions.

There was a busy period of recruitment at Anfield during the summer. In particular, they changed up the midfield. Alexis Mac Allister, Dominik Szoboszlai, Wataru Endo and Ryan Gravenberch were all brought in by Klopp and have already impressed the Anfield faithful.

A tough game awaits for both sides who are eager to put another Premier League win on the board – especially the Hatters who are eyeing their first three points on home turf.

A warm welcome to all those involved with Liverpool and we hope you enjoy your time at Kenilworth Road.

# MEET THE REDS

## THE BOSS



**JURGEN KLOPP.** Manager who has won the Premier League and Champions League since arriving at Anfield from Borussia Dortmund in 2015. Played his entire career with Mainz, who he would also later manage.

## GOALKEEPER



**ALISSON BECKER.** Brazilian international goalkeeper who joined the Reds in 2018 from AS Roma. Since arriving at Anfield he's won the Premier League and the Champions League and has twice won the Golden Globe.

## DEFENDERS



**TRENT ALEXANDER-ARNOLD.** Academy graduate Trent made his debut as an 18-year-old in 2016. An England international and winner of the Premier League and Champions League.



**IMBRAHIMA KONATE.** Paris-born French international centre-half who joined Liverpool in 2021 from RB Leipzig. Started his career with Sochaux in Ligue 1 before moving to Germany.



**JOEL MATIP.** Bochum-born Cameroon international defender

who arrived at Anfield in 2016 after over 200 games for Schalke. Another to win the Premier League and Champions League with the Reds.



**KOSTAS TSIMIKAS.**

Greek international left-back who signed for the Reds in 2020 from Olympiakos. Came through the ranks at the Greek giants and spent time out on loan at Esbjerg and Willem II.



**VIRGIL VAN DIJK.**

Dutch international Virgil is the Reds' captain and has been leading by example since he joined in 2018. Began his career with Groningen before moving to Celtic and then Southampton.

## MIDFIELDERS



**ALEXIS MAC ALLISTER.**

Argentinian World Cup winner Alexis joined the Reds this summer for a reported £35m. The attacking midfielder joined from Brighton having started his career with Argentinos Juniors.



**CODY GAKPO.**

Netherlands international forward who signed earlier this year from PSV. Came through the ranks at the Dutch giants where he was named Dutch footballer of the year in 2021/22.



**RYAN GRAVENBERCH.**

Summer arrival Ryan signed from Bayern Munich for a reported £35m. A Netherlands international, he came through the ranks at Ajax before moving to Germany.



**DOMINIK SZOBOSZLAI.**

Hungarian international midfielder who signed this summer for a reported £60m from Red Bull Leipzig. Began his career in Austria with Liefering before moving to Red Bull Salzburg then to Leipzig.

## ATTACKERS



**DIOGO JOTA.** Portugal

international forward who joined from Wolves in 2020 for a reported £40m. Came to prominence with Atletico Madrid prior to arriving at Molineux.



**DARWIN NUNEZ.** Striker

who arrived at Anfield in June 2022 from Benfica in a £64m deal. Began his career in his native Uruguay before moving to Europe with Almeria in 2019.



**MOHAMED SALAH.** The

Egyptian frontman is one of Liverpool's greatest goalscorers and the scorer of almost 200 goals for the Reds since arriving from Roma in 2017 for a then-transfer record of £36.9m.



# CLASSIC MATCH



**CLUB HISTORIAN  
ROGER WASH  
REMEMBERS THE TIME  
THE HATTERS SILENCED  
THE KOP.**

## 11TH SEPTEMBER 1982 LIVERPOOL 3-3 LUTON TOWN

Anfield, Liverpool on 11th September 1982 will live long in the memory for the couple of thousand Luton Town supporters lucky enough to be present.

On the face of it, a 3-3 draw at the home of the current champions would be seen as a remarkable achievement for a newly promoted side but we came away slightly disappointed at seeing two points lost.

Following promotion to Division One (now Premier League) in glorious style at the end of 1981/82 the Town had started off the new season with a fighting 2-2 draw at FA Cup holders Tottenham after being complete-

ly outplayed in the first 15 minutes, and followed it up with a 2-0 home defeat at the hands of West Ham who showed Division One know how and lethal finishing as well as being far sharper in the box.

Manager David Pleat obviously had words with his forwards, especially big money signing from Charlton Paul Walsh, with the talking to having an effect as, in the next game, Notts County were beaten 5-3 at Kenilworth Road with Walsh scoring a hat-trick.

It was now the turn of the defence to have problems as Notts County could quite easily have scored five themselves in a crazy game and when Aston Villa put four in our



**NUMBER 1 ON THIS DAY:  
SURVIVOR  
EYE OF THE TIGER**

net at Villa Park the following Tuesday, alarm bells rang.

After the Villa mauling a trip to Anfield was not regarded as a suitable 'comeback' game but we were all pleasantly surprised when Walsh skinned Mark Lawrenson after 30 minutes play, squared the ball to Brian Stein who hit a first time shot into the top corner of the net.

Graeme Souness smacked home a 20-yard volley five minutes later before Luton goalkeeper Jake Findlay went off on a stretcher after tearing a chest muscle in the days of only one substitute.

Instead of normal deputy goalkeeper Mal Donaghy taking over it was decided that full back Kirk Stephens was the man for the job and he was powerless to prevent Ian Rush putting the Reds ahead at the interval.

Stephens certainly looked unconventional but the chants of 'Shakin Stephens' (for the benefit of younger supporters he was a popular singer of the time) from the Kop did seem unfair as he was obviously enjoying himself immensely. Common sense prevailed, however, as Donaghy came out for the second half wearing the green jersey.

With the Hatters 2-1 down at the home of the League champions and with an outfield player in goal, no one would have offered us a chance but we stunned Anfield when, in the space of ten minutes, David Moss and Brian Stein put us in the lead.

Both goals were scored on the break as Liverpool attacked relentlessly but with Donaghy having only one save to make because of the superb cover offered by his defence a Luton win became increasingly likely.

It was a disappointment therefore when Craig Johnston banged in a leveller, especially as he had just come on as substitute for an ineffective Kenny Dalglish and instantly became the only Liverpool forward with any real idea.

As we drove away from Anfield it was soon learnt that our battling point had ended up pushing us three places down the table to just above the relegation zone. Life just wasn't fair!

An odd spot of the game was that a team had scored against three different goalkeepers and we wondered whether this was ever likely to happen again. Two weeks later we scored against three different Stoke goalkeepers in an amazing 4-4 draw at the Victoria Ground. But that is a story for another day. 🥰



Brian Stein about to pull the trigger for the Town's first goal

**TOWN:** Findlay (Antic), Stephens, Money, Horton, Goodyear, Donaghy, Hill, Stein, Walsh, Turner, Moss.

**LIVERPOOL:** Grobbelaar, Neal, Thompson, Lawrenson, Kennedy, Whelan, Souness, Dalglish (Johnston), Lee, Rush, Hodgson.

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**Plumstead born Paul Walsh joined Charlton from school and was only 17 when he became the youngest player to net a hat-trick for the Addicks in a senior game.**

Hard-up Charlton were forced to accept a £250,000 bid, plus Steve White, from top-flight new boys Luton in 1982 and the seriously talented forward soon became a terrace hero at Kenilworth Road with his twisting runs, close control and goalscoring ability.

Sadly, a bid of £700,000 from Liverpool was accepted for the, by now, England international in 1984 and he went on to grace Anfield for almost four years during which time he picked up a League championship medal. Moving on to Tottenham where he won an FA Cup winners medal, he then signed twice for Portsmouth with a spell at Manchester City sandwiched in between.

Paul's playing career ended with a knee injury in 1996 and he is now a pundit.



## CULT HERO: JERZY DUDEK

The fact the Reds have their fair share of players who have excelled with the liver bird on their chests, leads us to question what makes a 'cult hero' for a club who have enjoyed so much success over the years? A player who is underestimated, maligned even, or overcome adversity to become a fans' favourite. **Jerzy Dudek's** heroics between the sticks in the Champions League final of 2005 are worthy of folklore as is his 'wobbly legs' imitation.



## GREAT GAMES

You can read about a number of classic games between the Town and Liverpool inside this programme – after all our overall record against the Reds isn't the greatest so we have to shout about the wins – so here's another.

Back in October 1986 the Reds

visited Kenilworth Road and it was Liverpool-born Mike Newell that was the toast of the town after his brilliant hat-trick earned the Hatters a 4-1 top-flight win at the Kenny. Liverpool are second-best in all departments, despite a consolation goal from the spot from Jan Molby.



## CLASSIC KIT

Liverpool fans have been lucky to have some beautiful shirts down the years. Anything with Crown Paints, Candy or Carlsberg on the front – whether that's in red, yellow or grey – are instant winners.

Around our parts yellow and red combinations are frowned upon, but Umbro's offering of their away colours for the 1982/83 and 1983/84 seasons really take you back to days when football was better, the pitches were muddier and you would aim to replicate Kenny Dalglish goals in the playground.

**CROWNING GLORY**



# CUP CLASSIC



**CLUB HISTORIAN  
ROGER WASH REFLECTS  
ON A DULL, TEDIOUS  
ENCOUNTER AT  
KENILWORTH ROAD :-)**

**11TH SEPTEMBER 1982  
LUTON TOWN 3-5 LIVERPOOL**

**One of the benefits of winning the championship of League One in 2004/05 was being exempted until the third round of the FA Cup the following season.**

The Town had not met top flight opposition in the competition since Southampton in 1995 so we could hardly believe it when we were paired at home with Liverpool, the Champions of Europe – a game that soon caught the imagination of the football world.

Leading up to the game much was made of Town manager Mike Newell being in the books of Liverpool as a schoolboy and being a self-confessed Reds fan even though he had scored a hat-trick against them for the Hatters in a famous 4-1 win in 1986.

The match was soon picked for live TV coverage and with the kick-off being put back to 5.30pm and with miles of cable on the Kenilworth Road concourse the occasion had a surreal air about it – something we were not used to.

Mindful of putting out a weakened team and being turned over by Championship side Burnley the previous year, Reds manager Rafa Benitez picked his strongest side and

in a brilliant atmosphere the contest started as it meant to go on with both sides attacking at will.

Steven Gerrard opened the scoring with a spectacular 20 yard effort on 16 minutes but the Town roared back with goals from Steve Howard and Steve Robinson before the interval and it could have been more as an effort from Markus Heikkinen was spectacularly headed off the line by Reds defender Steve Finnan.

On 48 minutes Liverpool were awarded a penalty when Gerrard went over theatrically in the area but Djibril Cisse saw his spot kick-saved by Marlon Beresford. Five minutes later in this breathless contest the Town had a penalty of their own when Reds goalkeeper Scott Carson upended Rowan Vine in the box. Skipper Kevin Nicholls made no mistake and drilled the Hatters into an unbelievable 3-1 lead.

Perhaps the Town should have sat back on their lead but the team continued to attack ("too honest" said Newell afterwards) and were eventually undone by two goals from sub Florent Sinima-Pongolle and a pair from Xabi Alonso which included a 60-yard effort in the closing seconds with all 11 Luton players at the other end of the field chasing the game.

Liverpool had certainly been in a game and there was no shame in defeat.

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We also had the pleasure of hosting six mascots for the game who enjoyed their experience at Kenilworth Road, who as well as meeting their favourite Luton players also got to meet TNT Sports presenters Peter Crouch and Rio Ferdinand.



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## LUTON TOWN V TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR





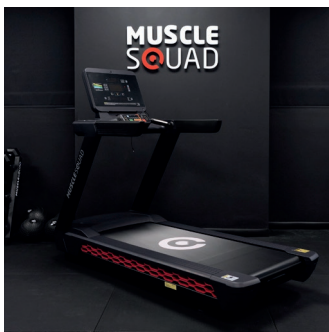
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# ON THIS DAY



## REMEMBER, REMEMBER, THE 5TH NOVEMBER



### MEMORABLE MATCH!

**WOLVES 2-3 TOWN  
5TH NOVEMBER 1994**

The Town began the 1994/95 campaign in fine form away from Kenilworth Road, racking up a succession of excellent performances on the road.

Our Bonfire Night display on this day in 1994 added to a fine sequence under manager David Pleat coming at Molineux.

David Preece, Dwight Marshall and Kerry Dixon put the Hatters well in command, racing into a three-goal lead to combat Wolves' long-ball game.

Wolves pulled two goals back against the run of the play, aided by the unfortunate Marvin Johnson, but despite the fine result – which kept the Hatters on the fringes of the play-off places in Division One (now Championship), press talk of Pleat's return to Tottenham took the gloss off another fine awayday.

## THE RECORD

**It's 22 games played on Bonfire Night down the years, with the Town winning ten, losing 11 and drawing just once.**

That one draw came back in 1977 when the Hatters were held at home to Hull City in a 1-1 draw in Division Two (now Championship).

Our first game on 5th November came in 1898 - a 1-0 home defeat to Burslem Port Vale and our most recent a 1-0 win over Blackpool at Bloomfield Road last season.

## TOP-FLIGHT TOWN

**Today will be the fourth time the Hatters have played in the top-flight on this day and we will be aiming to make it three wins from those four following the successes previous Town sides have enjoyed.**

The first such victory came in 1955 when a Bob Morton-inspired Town saw off Wolves 5-1 at Kenilworth Road before a crowd of 27,911 here.

It wasn't until 1983 that we were in action in the top division on this day and it was another afternoon that belonged to the Town as a Paul Elliott winner was enough to seal a 1-0 victory at Loftus Road against Queens Park Rangers.

However 365 days later the Hatters were not so lucky as despite a Danny Wilson goal we went down 3-1 at Millwall at the (old) Den.

## BEST OF THE REST

**In 1949 the Town recorded an emphatic 5-2 win over Blackburn in Division Two (now Championship) with George Stobbart scoring four goals – the only Town player to hit a hat-trick on this day.**

Our first win on 5th November came in 1906 with a 3-2 win here at Kenilworth Road against New Brompton in the United League.

Other notable wins include a 3-2 win at Tranmere in 1938 and a 3-2 triumph at Ipswich in 1960.

Of course, our rich and varied history has seen us play at all levels of the pyramid. Our only matches on this day in the Conference (now National League) saw us lose 2-1 at home to Fleetwood in a game best remembered by the fine performance of Jamie Vardy and a certain Steve McNulty.



# THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

Mick Harford displays his heading ability  
during the 3-2 defeat at Anfield in October 1985.  
Roger Wash



A full-page background image featuring a football player, Scott Griffiths, in a dark blue kit with 'easyJet' and 'FILA' logos. He is smiling and looking towards the right. In the background, a goal net is visible, and another player is partially seen on the left. The image has a high-contrast, slightly desaturated look with a blue and purple color palette.

# CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS YOU'LL NEVER SING THAT!

**LEFT-BACK SCOTT GRIFFITHS SAYS HE HAD A LOVE-HATE RELATIONSHIP WITH MANAGER JOHN STILL BUT REVEALS THERE WAS NO MAN BETTER SUITED TO HELPING THE HATTERS RETURN TO THE PREMIER LEAGUE.**

It's always the left backs that are unsung heroes. And Scott Griffiths was no different. An ever-present in the Town team that ten years ago won the Conference, the defender went about his business at full-back quietly and confidently. He even scored once: in the 6-0 win over Kidderminster Harriers.



John Still missed that goal. He was in bed with the sniffles. But as Scott says, it was the manager's influence off the field that really helped change the Hatters' fortunes.

"He didn't mess about. We played in the right areas. John puts something in place to build a winning squad which takes time. That's something you can't do these days," says Griffiths, now 37.

"It surprises me how Premier League clubs work, considering managers come and go so quickly; nobody has time to settle and build a rapport.

"But under John we did. It sounds kind of arrogant but I got the feeling we would win the league. The players we had, the players we brought in.

"Pre-season said it all. He ran us into the ground. If you can't keep up in pre-season you had no chance, especially in the heat of the Portuguese sun. When the season started we then used to run teams into the ground. We played football when we could but after 80-85 minutes nobody was keeping up with us."

Griffiths' career at Kenilworth Road came after having already won promotion with

Still at Dagenham & Redbridge. So when the manager came calling towards the end of the 2012/13 season, there was only one answer.

"John brought me through to one club, sold me to another then brought me back. I'm paraphrasing but he spoke to me and said, 'do you fancy winning another league and I was like "yes"'. But no, I knew what was going to happen: With John's method I knew it wouldn't be long before this club were top of the table.

"I know it's not very modest but I saw what could happen, even on a poor budget like it was at Dagenham, with the right group of players who come together, worked hard for each other. John knew how to create a close knit team of players. One of his sayings was 'my 11 best not my best 11' I knew that special players were coming in and that Luton already had a few already, so I knew it was a way to go for success.

"He doesn't necessary go out to get the best players. Don't get me wrong, he attracted some very good players. But I saw him recruit players that would die for you, run through bricks walls for you. He'd mould them from a young age. He also took advantage of me as my two-figure weekly ➤



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wage showed! When I was 18 at Dagenham I needed to supplement my wage by delivering pizzas! But John wanted hungry players with no egos. You wanted to play for someone like that."

With Griffiths quietly and effectively going about his business the Town were soon where he envisaged before a ball had been kicked that season.

Once the Hatters had seen off the challenge of Cambridge – including a memorable 1-1 draw thanks to a last-minute equaliser by Mark Cullen – the title and a long-awaited return to the Football League, after years of frustration on and off the pitch, became reality.

Griffiths was – and still is – not that big a football fan. It wasn't until his former kit sponsor Mick Donohue explained to him the ups and downs of the Hatters' recent history.

"As someone who plays no attention to football at all – I barely followed the team I was playing for at the time – I didn't know at the time the Luton Town story," he says.

"But I did my research; the 30-point deduction and the years of hurt and how a lot of it was unjustified. There was a lot of passion. Mick, my sponsor, talked me through what had happened and how desperate they were to get back to the League.

"The end of the season was incredible. I was on the pitch with my wife and to see so much joy from the fan and John Still lifting the trophy...There were no words. No matter how many times you win promotion it's still amazing."

Griffiths was in the away end at Aston Park last week, watching the Hatters for the first time since winning promotion to the Premier League.

Clearly itching to return to the pitch himself – "the nearest I get to football these days is playing five-a-side with my bad knees on a Sunday night," he says – he watched on proudly despite the result.

He also afforded a cheeky, proud smile when those Hatters fans around him broke into a chant of "Conference champions, you'll never sing that" to the Villa fans.

"Kenilworth Road might not say Premier League but the atmosphere and the fans and the attitude of the club does. It doesn't say relegation battle either – they deserve to be there," says Griffiths on the club's current position.

"I wanted to finish my career at Luton and would have happily stayed there. I have such good memories of good people."

Griffiths now lives a stone's throw from Forest Green's New Lawn Ground, is a qualified plasterer and is training for the Cotswolds Way Challenge, a 100k race, next June.

"I'm self-employed now. I've tried a few different things. I'm a qualified plasterer, have my own company S&J Maintenance. It's going well.

"The Cotswolds challenge is the only keeping me fit to be honest! I've always hate the gym but it keeps me fit – as well as my son, he's a little whirlwind." 🌀



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# A-Z THE NON-LEAGUE YEARS

## HATTERS HISTORIAN ROGER WASH REMEMBERS OUR OPPONENTS DURING OUR CONFERENCE DAYS

### Part Five - E is for Eastbourne Borough and Ebbsfleet.

We met Eastbourne Borough during our first two Conference years and remained unbeaten over the four games played. A comfortable 4-1 home win over Christmas 2009 with Kevin Gallen netting two of the goals was followed by a narrow 1-0 victory at a snowy Eastbourne the following February with Asa Hall on target.

I can recall driving past the new Brighton Amex on the way to Eastbourne wondering whether we would ever play at such venues again!

In the following campaign, two goals from Danny Crow secured an eventually comfortable 4-2 win at Eastbourne which was followed up with a 3-0 home win as the campaign was drawing to a close and the dreaded play-offs loomed again.

We met Ebbsfleet United for three of our five seasons in non-League starting in 2009/10. In the first

clash that campaign, former Hatter Peter Holmes inspired Fleet to a shock 3-2 win at Kenilworth Road. Two months later, in the return, the Town were a goal down at the interval courtesy of a comedy own goal from giant centre-half Janos Kovacs.

Things got much better in the second period though as the Hatters netted six times without reply to secure a vital win and put more pressure on the top two, Oxford and Stevenage. A hat-trick from Claude Gnaka made it an afternoon to remember at our first ever visit to that part of Kent – if you felt that Kenilworth Road was antiquated then the brilliant 'old school' Stonebridge Road was up another notch.

The Town were two goals up through Amari Morgan-Smith and James Dance with 15 minutes left to play at Ebbsfleet in October 2011 but contrived to concede twice late on. No mistake was made in the end of season home game though as two goals from Stuart Fleetwood secured a comfortable 3-0 victory as we homed in on the play-offs again.

Our final pair of games took place in 2012/13. Fleetwood was on target with another two goals in an early season game at Stonebridge Road which was won 3-1 but the final home game of the campaign was bittersweet. Ebbsfleet were already relegated while we were destined to finish outside the play-off places for the first time. Two goals from Alex Wall secured the three points in a 2-0 win in an underwhelming performance. 🏆



# LUTON TOWN FC COMMUNITY TRUST

## ADULTS' SOCIAL CLUB

We are delighted to have recently restarted our adults' social club at Kenilworth Road.

Predominately aimed at over 50s, we have been running the social club for a number of years, providing a safe space for people from the town to meet, enjoy a cup of tea, a slice of cake and each other's company.

The group took a short break recently whilst the stadium renovations were taking place but is now back and running every Wednesday morning between 10am and 12pm. Community Trust staff love to get involved too, especially when it comes to a game of bingo or dominoes!

Community Trust Business Development Manager, Adam Woulds, said: "Wednesday mornings are fast becoming my favourite time of the week. Our group really value the opportunity to meet up with other like-

minded individuals, some of which are big Hatters fans and some of which have never been to a game. We enjoy hosting everyone at Kenilworth Road and we're keen to keep growing the group. It's a very relaxed environment where everyone is welcome."

The social club runs every Wednesday and is completely free. Entry is through the main entrance on Maple Road East. For further information please contact [community@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:community@lutontown.co.uk) or call 01582 561622.

## NO ROOM FOR RACISM

Friday 27th October marked our first Premier League Kicks No Room for Racism tournament at Lea Manor Recreation Centre. Over 40 young people aged 14-16 attended the event from venues across Luton and Bedford.

We invited all of our Kicks participants to put together their own squads of eight

players and come up with their own team's name, as well as taking responsibility for the administrative duties of registering their teams.

In the lead up to the tournament, we spoke to the participants to gain their input on how the event should run and what it should look like, this brought out some great ideas such as black and white ribbons on the trophies. With October being Black History Month, we also spoke about our black role models and who has inspired us all.

Alongside the event, we held various activities for the young people to engage with, including a Mental Health workshop by Luton Youth Partnership Service, Sexual Health by Luton Sexual Health Service, Emotional Wellbeing from CHUMS and a Youth Voice workshop led by Community Trust staff.

The day was not just about football, but also celebrating the diversity of our sessions and demonstrating that we are all one big community. Throughout the day, the players had the opportunity to meet and engage with other young people that usually attend different sessions across different venues and it was great to watch them integrate and enjoy each other's company.

During the tournament itself, each team played each other twice, with the winners of the group going straight to the final and a play-off taking place for the second spot. It was a hard-fought battle between the two

sides which ended with the players from our Lea Manor Kicks session winning 2-1 and taking home the trophy.

It was a very successful day, with all teams sticking around until the end to show their support to the other teams in the competition.

Staff members from the Community Trust teamed up with Rob Edwards and other Luton Town staff to take part in the Love Luton Run Fest recently. The annual event raises money for a variety of local causes. This year, we were running in support of Community Interest Luton's 'Let's Feed Luton' campaign, aimed at tackling food poverty in the town through Luton Foodbank.

Our staff all took part in the 5K race, with some running and some walking the course, but all supporting this wonderful event and great cause. It was a great turnout for the event in general, with 1,500 runners and even more cheering on those taking part along with the event volunteers.

Over £35,000 has been raised so far but there is still time to show your support to the 'Let's Feed Luton' campaign. If you would like to contribute, you can do so by visiting <https://justgiving.com/campaign/LetsFeedLutonWinterCampaign>



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**Since we were last at Kenilworth Road the Town completed the signing of experienced attacker Andros Townsend.**

The 32-year-old brings the experience of 264 appearances in the Premier League to Kenilworth Road to add to the 13 caps the attacker won for his country.

Having graduated from the Tottenham Hotspur academy he went onto make almost a century of appearances for Spurs before spells with Newcastle, Crystal Palace and, most recently Everton.

"I feel like it's a good fit and these last couple of weeks have been good for both parties," Townsend said. "I think it had to be right and during the weeks I was on trial we've had a look at each other and done that.

"I've seen where I can help this team and on the flipside the manager has seen where I can help – whether that's on the pitch, in the dressing room or on the training field – with my enthusiasm and experience.

"Plus, Luton are my local team – I live 20-25 minutes away so I've kept my eye on their progress and watching the Championship play-off final and see them win promotion was great for the club.

"I never thought I'd pull on the Luton shirt, so it's a huge honour to play again in the Premier League for this club, and hopefully get help this club get as many points as we can and see where it takes us."

On Townsend, Town boss Rob Edwards said: "Andros has undoubted Premier League quality, which he has shown in this league and on the international stage. Of course, he has had a difficult period with injury through no fault of his own – and we wouldn't be able to

sign him if he'd had played in the last 18 months.

"However, we're in a position to help each other: he can come in and give everything, bring out those technical qualities to help us and we can give him a platform to show everyone what he's all about.

"He adds more competition at the top end of the pitch – an area we know at this level you need to come out on top in that battle. He's also got that bit of magic and hopefully we can get the most out of him.

"He's been brilliant and his attitude has been phenomenal. He's a humble, hard-working individual that we will benefit from having at the training ground on a weekly basis. Young players are going to look up to him and think 'they are the standards I need to be at'. He's been impeccable.

"We're delighted to have him. We hope he can make a positive impact – and we don't see why he won't."

# WELCOME ANDROS TOWNSEND



## ACADEMY UPDATE

### WITH HEAD OF EDUCATION KOBIE DEE

#### **'Football is played with your head and your feet are just your tools'**

Good afternoon, let me introduce myself I'm Kobie Dee the Head of Education at the Luton Town football academy, who has a passion for education as well as football. I've been a teacher for over 20 years who has worked with several elite athletes at all levels of academia. I've recently qualified as a NASENDCO which specialises in communication, interaction, along with social,

emotional and mental health with young people. I would like to thank the club who helped support me to gain this qualification at Masters level.

As you will see this afternoon, professional footballers are often celebrated for their physical prowess, dedication and hard work on the pitch. However, many people underestimate the importance of education in the lives of these players.

In reality, education is crucial for professional footballers, as it serves as a foundation for their success and long-term well-being. At Luton Town Football Club we believe one of the most compelling reasons for footballers to pursue education is career longevity. A professional career can be unpredictable, with injuries and unexpected setbacks. In such situations, having education is therefore essential, enjoyable and develops several other skills.

England and Real Madrid star Jude Bellingham who completed the same education programme as our scholars said: "Education can give you a lot of qualities that you can take into a professional environment. I've learned from the first-team games that I played (when a scholar at Birmingham City) that you must be switched on at all times and education develops my concentration."

### **So what education does a scholar do and what does their week look like?**

Every week a scholar will complete a minimum of ten hours of education on top of their training and match schedule. This consists of 1 full day per week and 2 afternoon sessions. Players can choose to study GCSE, BTEC, A Levels or other Vocational qualifications depending on their interests and academic ability.

Since the promotion to the Premier League the games programme has excelled with lots of important midweek cup games that clash with education times. This means working closely alongside Paul Benson and Alex Lawless to ensure ALL education is completed. They are both huge believers

that education is extremely important and can build character and improves their ability. The culture we have at the club between all staff and players helps with relationships and builds both trust and understanding to get the best out of everyone.

Recently we have had scholars return from international duty in Italy and Spain, whilst away they were still able to complete their education. This can be quite challenging due to time differences and busy schedules but I'm able to check in with them regularly with a blend of online learning and coursework.

As you may be aware we currently have Joe Johnson away on England duty at the FIFA U17 World Cup in Indonesia. He will be away for over a month but Joe is fully aware of his educational commitments and when to check in. The FA are also completely supportive with this and ensure they place education in their daily timetable.

We wish Joe the best of luck out at the World Cup and know he'll be watching with the millions around the world. So let's show them what an atmosphere Kenilworth Road can be!

Enjoy the game. 🏆

COYH!

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## Marcus Daws



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## Joe Johnson



H: Stacey Peck  
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## YOUTH U18 FIXTURES AND RESULTS

OPPONENT	DATE	SCORE	STARTING XI
MILTON KEYNES	SAT 5/8/23	A W 6-0	HOCKEY CHIGOZIE ⚽ HARVEY MARTINS BENAGR ROUTH EMERY
CAMBRIDGE UNITED	SAT 12/8/23	A W 4-1	THOMAS GIWA CHIGOZIE EMERY SCOTT BENAGR ⚽ WARREN
NORTHAMPTON TOWN	SAT 26/8/23	H L 1-2	TRIALIST KAYIBANDA EMERY SCOTT BENAGR MARTINS GIWA
CAMBRIDGE UNITED	SAT 9/9/23	H L 3-4	THOMAS GIWA HARVEY EMERY ⚽ KAYIBANDA SCOTT MARTINS
SUTTON UNITED	SAT 16/9/23	A W 1-0	HOCKEY CHIGOZIE BENAGR KAYIBANDA EMERY ROUTH HARVEY
STEVENAGE	SAT 23/9/23	H L 0-1	HOCKEY CHIGOZIE SCOTT KAYIBANDA EMERY ROUTH HARVEY
GILLINGHAM	SAT 30/9/23	H D 1-1	TRIALIST A CHIGOZIE BENAGR STITT EMERY ROUTH HARVEY
AFC WIMBLEDON	SAT 14/10/23	A W 2-1	HOCKEY GIWA BENAGR KAYIBANDAD EMERY CHIGOZIE WARREN
BRENTFORD	SAT 28/10/23	A D 0-0	HOCKEY CHIGOZIE BENAGR GREGORY EMERY ROUTH HARVEY
LEYTON ORIENT	SAT 4/11/23	A	
MILTON KEYNES	SAT 11/11/23	A	
AFC WIMBLEDON	SAT 18/11/23	H	
STEVENAGE	SAT 9/12/23	A	
NORTHAMPTON TOWN	SAT 16/12/23	A	
CAMBRIDGE UNITED	SAT 6/1/24	H	
GILLINGHAM	SAT 13/1/24	A	
BRENTFORD	SAT 20/1/24	H	
LEYTON ORIENT	SAT 3/2/24	A	
SUTTON UNITED	SAT 10/2/24	H	

## DEVELOPMENT SQUAD U21 FIXTURES AND RESULTS

GILLINGHAM	TUE 22/8/23	A W 4-3	TRIALIST A FRANCIS-CLARKE KAYIBANDA JOHNSON PINNINGTON LUKER ⚽ WATSON
BRENTFORD B	TUE 29/8/23	A W 2-1	HORLICK PINNINGTON FRANCIS-CLARKE BATESON GIWA PIESOLD BURGER
CHELSEA	TUE 19/9/23	A L 1-4	HORLICK PINNINGTON KAYIBANDA PHILLIPS BATESON JOHNSON PIESOLD
LEEDS UNITED	FRI 6/10/23	A L 1-4	HORLICK PINNINGTON PHILLIPS JOHNSON CHIGOZIE KAYIBANDA PIESOLD
NORTHAMPTON TOWN	TUE 17/10/23	H L 2-3	HORLICK PINNINGTON GIWA PIESOLD CHIGOZIE KAYIBANDA LUKER
KEMPSTON ROVERS	TUE 31/10/23	H W 8-0	TRIALIST CHIGOZIE LUKER ⚽ PIESOLD ⚽ PINNINGTON KAYIBANDA PHILLIPS
COLCHESTER UNITED	MON 13/11/23	A	
CHELSEA	TUE 12/12/23	H	
LEEDS UNITED	FRI 19/1/24	A	
COLCHESTER UNITED	FRI 2/2/24	H	

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IOANNIDES	LORENTZEN-JONES	TRUSTRAM	XAVIER-JONES	PIPA, ODEGAH, HOUGHTON, HARVEY, WARREN
TRUSTRAM	LORENTZEN-JONES	XAVIER-JONES	HOUGHTON	WARREN, IOANNIDES, AKINYA, SHEPHERD, PIPA
IOANNIDES	XAVIER-JONES	LORENTZEN-JONES	TRUSTRAM	BOOTH, ANDERSON, SHEPHERD, STITT, ROBERTS-EDEMA
STITT	ANDERSON	IOANNIDES	TRUSTRAM	PIPA, TAKAWIRA, MARTINS, BENAGR, SHEPHERD
LORENTZEN-JONES	ANDERSON	TRUSTRAM	XAVIER-JONES	ODEJAH, PIPA, STITT, HOUGHTON, HARVEY
LORENTZEN-JONES	ODEGAH	TRUSTRAM	HOUGHTON	ANDERSON, XAVIER-JONES, KIRBY, KAYIBANDA, PIPA
BURGER	NEWTON	TRIALIST B	MCATEE	HORLICK, MATTHEWS-LEWIS, HERON, ALLEN, PIESOLD, LYNCH
LUKER	NEWTON	LYNCH	MATTHEWS-LEWIS	HERON, PHILLIPS, BOOTH, PIPA, TRIALIST
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## THE NEXT GENERATION SPEAKS

**It takes a brave player to stand-out from the team, put their foot on the ball and make something happen – especially when the going gets tough.**

But that's something Jack Lorentzen-Jones loves to do in the central midfield battle for the Town Under-18s.

No player in Alex Lawless' side has scored more than Lorentzen-Jones, who has now been at the club for ten years – during which time the Hatters have risen from the depths of the Conference to playing in the Premier League.

But it was after a discussion with a man who helped the Hatters win the National League that helped Lorentzen-Jones hit the goalscoring form he craves from that attacking midfield position.

"In pre-season I wasn't getting much joy – I didn't get a goal or assist and that's something I model my game on," explains Jack. "I had a chat with Paul Benson about how best to improve that and now I have scored six goals and set-up two more in seven games so I've been happy.

"By the end of December I want to have scored ten goals. It's a challenge but I will back myself to do it."

Lorentzen-Jones takes such responsibility in his stride. A player who used to pretend to

be Eden Hazard in the playground at school – "I loved the way he played with such confidence, he was never afraid".

"You've got to believe in yourself," he says. "Even the top players when they are on top of their game will make mistakes. Those who do it best are those that keeping going and aren't afraid to do that."

The midfielder, who was born in Northampton, has – like many in the academy – seen it all since joining the club ten years ago.

"I originally started playing for my school and they had an induction, a kind of 'come and play football' thing. I was scouted for the Centre of Excellence, then played in one game for the pre-academy, scored a few goals, and then joined the academy.

"I've played in a range of positions; right-back, as a ten, as a striker but now I'm an eight and it's my favourite position."

But what's the best bit about playing for the Town?

"I've been here since I was an under-8 and I'm a massive Luton fan, Luton through and through so it's massive for me," he says, smiling.

"We're a Premier League club now, which means we get more recognition and now it's up to us, and to me, to keep working, keep pushing on and working towards earning myself a professional contract." 🧐






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LOVE FOOTBALL. PROTECT THE GAME.**



## GETTING TO KNOW... JACK LORENTZEN-JONES

**NAME:** Jack Lorentzen-Jones

**DOB:** 05/08/2006

**Place of birth:** Northampton

**Position:** Central midfield

**Year joined the academy:** As an Under-8

**What boots do you wear?** Nike Mercurials

**My aim for the season** is to earn a professional contract.

**The proudest moment of career so far** was receiving my scholarship.

**In the playground, I used to be** Eden Hazard. An absolute baller.

**At school my favourite subject other than PE is** business studies.

**A career outside of football for me would be** in sports science.

**There's not one teammate who I'd say is the most talented,** it's a very good group.

**Of the first team squad, the player I look-up to most is** Alfie Doughty.

**The best thing about Luton Town is** the character of the team and the club.

**If I was to describe myself, I would say I'm** an attacking midfielder that looks to create and score goals.



## THE LAWLESS REPORT

"Jack is an attacking midfielder who is always looking to get on the ball. He's brave in being able to do this and isn't afraid to make things happen.

"He's also a player who loves to dribble with the ball and shows confidence in driving from midfield with the ball at his feet.

"Jack's a very confident young player, he excels in one-versus-one scenarios when he tries to evade the tackles of the opposition.

"A very forward-thinking player, he runs forward and plays forward and has a real keen eye for goal as he already chipped in with a number of goals this season from central midfield.

"His attacking mindset is completed by his powerful shot - he is a good striker of the ball and has scored a few long-range efforts so far this season, so he definitely isn't one to be scared of having a go from distance."



# FC24



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Pictured are two combined under-10s squads following their league fixture.

**October brought a series of away fixtures involving five visits to Essex and Hertfordshire.**

Town began their travels with an FA Cup at Grays Athletic and survived an early setback before responding well coming out on top thanks to goals from Shakeela Hussain, Shanice Lewis, Jess McKay and Keira Palmeiro securing a 4-1 win.

St Albans City hosted the return to league action and a brace from Leyah Maddix and Shanice Lewis gave the Town a 3-0 lead. This game saw the first team debut of 16-year-old Leah Robinson between the sticks and her fine performance was only slightly dented by a late goal from the hosts.

It was back to Essex the following week to Barking, and a fine first-half performance saw the Hatters race into a three-goal lead with further strikes from Maddix, Lewis and Hussain. This time there was a clean sheet for Robinson following a goalless second period.

The FA Cup draw sent the Ladies to Wodson Park who are a tier below. A tight first half

was capped off by an incisive dribble from Fiona Buttigieg and when she pulled the ball back from the byeline it was Lewis again on hand to tap home to give the Hatters a 1-0 half-time lead. The home side put up a hard fight throughout and they equalised with 20 minutes left. That sparked a young Luton side into action and a superb control and turn by Lewis followed by an unstoppable strike into the top corner appeared to be enough. Park fought back hard and were only denied a late leveller by a remarkable headed clearance from Elly Wade to prevent the tie going to penalties.

The final game of the month was a visit to Bowers & Pitsea and it was to be the Ladies' first league defeat of the season. The hosts opened the scoring only to be pinned back by a goal from Tanya Blacksley. Bowers restored their lead but this time there was no equaliser as the Town slipped to fourth place in the table.

The FA Cup run has extended to the First Round Proper where the draw sends us on the road again but only the short trip to Harpenden Town on 12th November for our first ever meeting. 🏆

Follow the Ladies on X: @LTFCL\_Official



# LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS' TRUST

## WITH TRUST SECRETARY PETER MITCHELL

**What a season it has been so far! I guess most if not all of us at the beginning of the season would have been delighted to have been so competitive. The fact that we should be higher if it were not for decisions going again us makes the position we are in more encouraging.**

We matched Spurs after the initial 20 minutes and against Burnley feel we should have won. At Everton we put on a great display and we came away with what could prove to be three valuable points.

When one remembers some of the dark days as I do such as Gateshead away and Braintree not forgetting a visit to Hayes & Yeading, it is good we are in the position we find ourselves in.

I have been watching Luton for over 60 years and have certainly seen the highs and lows so decided to join the Trust some while ago as I was impressed by what they had achieved and were looking to do in the future. In 2020 I saw an advert from the Trust wishing to appoint a secretary; I applied and was co-opted onto the Board. At the subsequent AGM I was officially appointed to the Board and have held that position since. I am immensely proud of the work the Trust carry out and I am looking forward to the future with renewed optimism.

As Secretary of the Trust, I am responsible for the efficient administration of the society,

particularly regarding ensuring compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements and for ensuring the board's decisions are implemented. In addition, the need to remind the Board of the rules to protect members' interests. There are many other responsibilities that I am responsible which are too many to mention here. One role is to ensure the smooth running of Board meetings and once a year the AGM which I will comment on later this season.

The Trust is important as it is to help fans to join together and strengthen their influence over the way their club is run, and to improve the links between their club and the community it serves. Our aims are to secure the future of the Club, keeping the Club with the fans where it belongs.

Turning now to the AGM; our AGM this year is 30th November commencing at 7.3pm at

Kenilworth Roaf. Our guest speaker this year is Jake Howells.

All members are welcome and if you have not yet joined why not do it now? To join head to our website [www.lutontownsupporterstrust.com](http://www.lutontownsupporterstrust.com). Any problems please contact [membership@lutontownsupporterstrust.com](mailto:membership@lutontownsupporterstrust.com)

In closing, we as a Trust are proud to serve you and welcome all comments whether they be positive or negative as we always strive to improve.

Enjoy the game, be loud and get right behind the lads! 🏈



# MEET THE FANS

## WITH TOWN SUPPORTERS RHYLEIGH, OAKLEIGH AND SCARLET CREMIN

### How long have you supported Luton for?

Rhyleigh and Oakleigh were born into supporting Luton with their dad and his family being lifelong supporters. Rhyleigh has only missed three games since football started up again after Covid. Scarlet fell in love with the team after going to the games with them.

### Where do you sit at home matches?

G Block

### Who is your all-time favourite player and why?

Oakleigh - Tom Lockyer because he is the best.

Rhyleigh - I can't name one player in particular as it is a team game and they are all really nice to me after the games.

Scarlet - Tom, Elliot, Reece, Jordan, Nakamba, I love Pelly. Really I can't choose it's all of them!

### What does it mean to you to be a Luton fan?

Rhyleigh - It feels good to be a Luton fan and to see them do so well

Scarlet - I feel proud to be a Luton fan and love the family feeling you get with the club.

### What are your favourite memories of being a Luton fan?

Rhyleigh - Luton v Coventry at Wembley, but I think this will be the same for all Luton fans.

Oakleigh - Meeting Tom Lockyer for the first time.

Scarlet - Being able to go into City College Norwich with bragging rights after beating them twice last season!

### How has your support of Luton been seen by your friends (did they make fun of little old Luton etc)?

Rhyleigh - We live in Norfolk so most of my friends support Norwich. It was fun taking the mickey out of them when we beat them!

Oakleigh - Yes and my teaching assistant is a Norwich fan and she didn't speak to me for the day when we beat them.

Scarlet - Most of my friends are Arsenal and Liverpool fans, so there has been a lot of banter this season. But I'm confident we will do well and I will win the bragging rights badge again.

### Has it changed now that we are in the Premier League compared to say the Conference?

Rhyleigh - The league games are very different with the grounds and atmosphere!

Scarlet - I've only seen them during the Championship and now in the Premier League so can't really comment.

Although I'm glad to see the players have remained grounded and not like other teams in this league who ignore their fans after the game.

### What were your feelings when you saw Luton walk out in the Premier League for the first time?

Rhyleigh - Proud and happy we still had a lot of the players who got us there.

Scarlet - It finally made it all seem real!

### What are you most looking forward to for the rest of the season?

Rhyleigh - Staying up and the Man City game on my birthday.

Oakleigh - Seeing Tom score loads of goals.

Scarlet - Seeing us gradually moving up the table 🏆





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# WHO'S YOUR PREMIER LEAGUE TEAM?

As we welcome a massive side like Liverpool today for a league fixture, I think it is time we look back to our roots to getting here. Let's rewind to a certain away day in Walsall back in 2018.

Prior to this match, Luton were flying in League One. I could not say the same for Walsall therefore the Hatters were definitely favourites for this one.

The Town came into the game on the back of an 11-game unbeaten run so the away end was full of optimism and excitement for what was to come at the Bescot Stadium.

Nathan Jones' side started the better of the two sides and almost went ahead early on. Elliot Lee had two great chances but neither were converted.

Suddenly, Walsall won a penalty after a Jack Stacey foul. Morgan Ferrier slotted the penalty away to give the Saddlers the lead.

The end of the first half was more even with both sides pushing for a goal. Neither side could find another one as the score was 1-0 at the interval.

The second half was more of the same as both sides kept pushing. Eventually, Walsall got their second after James Shea couldn't keep a hold on the ball which allowed Andy Cook to comfortably finish.

Some Walsall fans may have thought the game was over but up stepped James Collins in the 72nd minute to fire Luton back into the game. He spun away from the defender before striking the ball through the goalkeeper legs and into the back of the net.


Soon after, the Hatters had a goal disallowed. A Danny Hylton header was chalked off for offside as we got more desperate for a goal.

Deep into injury time, Luton had one final roll of the dice from a set piece. Alan Sheehan took a corner and chipped the ball in nicely. Matty Pearson rose highest and headed goalwards but the goalkeeper parried the ball. However it fell to Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu on the edge of the box to chip in. Walsall couldn't clear it and Kazenga LuaLua was able to poke in to level the game in the 94th minute.

This caused carnage in the away end as LuaLua immediately jumped into the stands alongside other players. The Town had picked up a point and stretched the unbeaten run to 12.

That result is still remembered fondly by fans as it really showed our team spirit in League One.

Today, this is what it's all for. Games like today is what we have waited for. Be loud and proud! COYH!

Words by Zac Neal 



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# JUNIOR HATTERS TODAY'S MASCOTS



**Archie Royle**

Age: 11

Hobbies: Football, Fifa, Running

Favourite Player: Carlton Morris



**Jude Hunter-Trollope**

Age: 7

Hobbies: Sports, Football, Rugby, Golf

Favourite Player: Elijah Adebayo



**Oliver Baker**

Age: 12

Hobbies: Playing football for Nene Valley FC & Scootering

Favourite Player: Jacob Brown



**Adyan Ahmed**

Age: 11

Hobbies: Playing football and badminton

Favourite Player: Pelly Ruddock



**Maxim Barker**

Age: 9

Hobbies: Football, plays in goal for his school team U10s and Crystal Palace U10s. He is also learning taekwondo and won a bronze medal at last year's British National Taekwondo Championships

Favourite Player: Thomas Kaminski



**Oscar Wilkinson**

Age: 7

Hobbies: Football, Pokemon, Drawing

Favourite Player: Thomas Kaminski



**Henry Wilkinson**

Age: 9

Hobbies: Football, Pokemon, Drawing

Favourite Player: Tom Lockyer

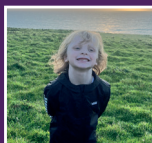


**Yahiya Koyes**

Age: 10

Hobbies: Football, Playing for Luton Allstars

Favourite Player: Tom Lockyer



**Jaxson Irons**

Age: 7

Hobbies: Karate, Computer Games

Favourite Player: Carlton Morris

## AWAY MASCOT



**Stanley Robson**

Age: 7

Hobbies: Playing Football

Favourite Player: Steven Gerrard

# GET INTO REFEREEING!

**A special FA event is being held in Luton on the evening of Wednesday 15th November to launch a new bursary available across refereeing courses.**

The bursary is part of the FA's commitment to addressing the under representation of Black, Asian and Mixed Heritage referees across the UK.

In partnership with Luton Council, GSV Management and Step Forward Luton, the free event has been organised to encourage people from across Luton's diverse communities to hear about the bursary and courses, along with the many opportunities and benefits that come with a career in refereeing.

It is aimed at people aged 14 and over who want to referee mini soccer, 9 v 9 and/or 11 v 11 football. The courses, which usually cost £140, will be discounted to just £40 for those on a bursary.

Abu Nasir, CEO of GSV Sports Management and a Step Forward Luton Ambassador, said: "I am thrilled that the FA are providing this opportunity for Luton. We are one of the most diverse towns in the country with a passionate football following. All eyes will be on Luton as this could be a framework for other counties throughout England.

"This is partnership work at its best, with all key stakeholders within the town, including the Council and Luton Town FC all working together on this important initiative. There is a shortage of referees for our leagues and to get more qualified referees supported through bursaries will help address our current challenges.

"I would like to see some of these referees develop further and hopefully some of them will progress to elite level. We want to sustain this for the long-term so having everyone

working together on this will ensure sustainability. I encourage everyone to attend and register for the event as we have football industry leaders attending to provide attendees with a unique insight and support."

Raj Randhawa, The FA Group's Refereeing EDI Delivery Manager, said: "FA Refereeing are pleased to be working alongside Luton Council, GSV Management and Step Forward Luton to provide unique opportunities at a local level.

"The recent launch of the Refereeing Strategy is critical to attracting and retaining our match officials. We aim to create a safe, inclusive and enjoyable environment for referees at all levels and to offer strong support throughout their career.

"The strategy specifically outlines our targets and positive action programmes that will further diversify the referee and match official community. I would encourage the people of Luton and specifically the Black, Asian and Mixed heritage populations to attend this event, to find out more about bursary and career opportunities. Referees are the lifeblood of our game and we would love the opportunity to welcome you into the football family."

The event is open for anyone to attend and will take place between 6-9pm on Wednesday 15th November 2023.

For more information email  
[raj.randhawa@thefa.com](mailto:raj.randhawa@thefa.com)



# LET'S GO

**OLD TRAFFORD**  
**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11TH**  
**KICK OFF: 3:00PM**

## WHERE?

The Hatters next port of call in the Premier League is to one, if not *the*, most famous stadium in the world. With a capacity of 74,310, the 'Theatre of Dreams' is the largest domestic stadium in the Premier League. Opening in 1910, its largest attendance actually came back in 1939 for an FA Cup semi-final involving Wolves and Grimsby when 76,962 turned up. Old Trafford has undergone significant redevelopment in the early 1990s, with its most recent expansion completed in 2006. Hatters fans will be held in the corner of the ground, taking up part of the East and Sir Bobby Charlton Stands.

## HOW TO GET THERE

Coming from the Luton, take the M1, M6, leave the M6 at Junction 19 and follow the A556 towards Altrincham. At the junction with the M56 take the A56 towards Altrincham. Keep on the A56 for six miles and then you will come to see Sir Matt Busby Way on your left. The ground is half a mile down this road on your left, although on matchdays this road may well be closed to traffic. The postcode is M16 0RA. The Bobbers Travel Club will, of course, be heading to Old Trafford. Leaving Luton at 9am, their fares are £35 adults and £32 concessions. Book your spot by calling 01234 856542.

## OUR RECORD THERE

Okay, so here comes the awkward part. Next Saturday will be our 17th visit to Old Trafford and the Town Squad will be aiming to make history by becoming the first to take anything from a trip to the famous ground. The Town have lost on all of

their previous 16 visits, scoring just eight times and conceding 47. The closest the Hatters have come to a result was a 1-0 defeat in October 1986, while our last visit – in September 1991 – saw United run out 5-0 winners. The last Town player to score at Old Trafford was David Preece in a 4-1 defeat in March 1991. For the record, the Hatters have won away at Manchester United, when the club were known as Newton Heath back in September 1897.

## THE UNITED OF TODAY

United are the most decorated club in the modern era of the Premier League with 13 titles since the division was founded in 1992, but their performances in recent seasons have left their fans yearning for a return to former glories. Their last title came back in 2012/13 and last season they finished a distant third behind their cross-city rivals. United currently sit in eighth place in the table, winning five and losing five of their first ten matches this season under boss Erik ten Haag.

## WATCH OUT FOR

Marcus Rashford. Undoubtedly one of United's biggest talents, Rashford came through the academy ranks at Old Trafford and only turned 26 earlier this week. The forward made a goalscoring start to his career on his first team debut in a Europa League game against Midtjylland in February 2016, becoming United's youngest ever goalscorer in European competition at the time. Last season the frontman hit 30 goals in all competitions in 56 games in which he helped United win the Carabao Cup.



VS



**THE RED DEVILS**

**THE HATTERS**



# MEMBERS



Call the Commercial Team on 01582 411622 or email [commercial@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:commercial@lutontown.co.uk) for information on memberships.

## TOWN TEASERS

Due to popular demand – put your football knowledge to the test and answer these Luton Town and football-related questions. Let us know how you do – you'll win no prizes, just our editor's utmost respect.

1. How many times have the Hatters beaten Liverpool at Kenilworth Road?
2. Which Football League club are nicknamed the Railwaymen?
3. From which club did the Hatters sign James Collins?
4. Who scored the first Luton goal under Rob Edwards?
5. Which team are the only team in history to concede over 100 goals in a Premier League season?
6. Which American became the first to score a Premier League hat-trick?
7. How many England goals have Ross Barkley and Andros Townsend scored between them?
8. Which team play their home games at Huish Park?
9. Who scored the winning goal for the Hatters in a 1-0 home victory over Liverpool in 1988?
10. Former Luton player Petri Helin represented which country at international level?

**HOW DID YOU SCORE? TURN TO PAGE 81 FOR THE ANSWERS. NO CHEATING**

**8-10 SIMON PITTS.** We'll have you co-commentating with Simon soon.

**4-7 COURTNEY PITT.** Like a half-decent loan signing, not bad.

**0-3 THE PITS.** Either you're a Reds fan or you're new to this.





# Premier League

## ROUND-UP

**Ange Postecoglou's Tottenham remain out in front in the Premier League after maintaining their unbeaten record with a victory over Crystal Palace in the first game of matchday ten.**

Son-Heung-min's goal midway through the second half put Spurs in command and despite a late consolation from Jordan Ayew from the Eagles, the London side held on to secure another three points in their quest for a first league title since 1961.

The chasing pack kept up their pursuit by all winning. Arsenal crushed Sheffield United 5-0 at Emirates Stadium with Eddie Nketiah grabbing a hat-trick. Fabio Vieira and Takehiro Tomiyasu were also on target to keep the Gunners on the heels of their North London rivals.

Reigning champions Manchester City are level on points with Arsenal and two points off the top after winning the Manchester derby 3-0 at Old Trafford with Erling Haaland scoring twice.

Our visitors this afternoon are just three points off the summit after Jurgen Klopp's side saw off Nottingham Forest 3-0 at Anfield. Diogo Jota, Darwin Nunez and Mohamed Salah were on target.

At the other end of the table the biggest winners of the weekend were Bournemouth, who registered their first win of the season to leap outside of the relegation zone. Philip Billing's stunning second-half strike helped the Cherries overcome fellow strugglers Burnley. The Clarets had led thanks to Charlie Taylor's goal only for Antoine Semenyo to level before the break.

Everton also secured a vital three points to move away from the bottom three, winning 1-0 at West Ham. A goal from striker Dominic Calvert-Lewin six minutes into the second half was the difference to pull Sean Dyche's side five points clear of the dropzone.

Elsewhere, Brentford won for the third straight season at Stamford Bridge against Chelsea to leapfrog their London rivals in the standings. Wolves held Newcastle to a 2-2 draw and Fulham took a point on their trip to Brighton.

### TODAY'S GAMES

NOTT'M FOREST v ASTON VILLA

LUTON TOWN v LIVERPOOL

### MONDAY'S GAME

TOTTENHAM v CHELSEA

### TOP SCORERS

HAALAND (MAN CITY) 11

SALAH (LIVERPOOL) 8

SON HEUNG-MIN (SPURS) 8



A man with a beard and sunglasses stands on a grassy field. He is wearing a short-sleeved polo shirt with a red and white striped pattern, red shorts, white socks, and black loafers. The background shows a grassy field with soccer goals and trees under a cloudy sky.

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# PLAYER STATISTICS

	2023/24 SEASON											CAREER	
	LEAGUE			CUP			TOTAL		CARDS			TOTAL	
	APPS	G		APPS	G		APPS	G				APPS	G
Elijah Adebayo	4	(6)	2	1	(1)	0	5	(7)	2	0	0	121	34
Mads Andersen	4	(2)	1	2	(0)	0	6	(2)	1	1	0	8	1
Ross Barkley	3	(2)	0	0	(1)	0	3	(3)	0	0	0	6	0
Amari'i Bell	7	(0)	0	1	(1)	0	8	(1)	0	0	0	106	2
Luke Berry	0	(2)	0	2	(0)	0	2	(2)	0	1	0	168	24
Jacob Brown	7	(3)	0	1	(1)	1	8	(4)	1	2	0	12	1
Reece Burke	7	(1)	0	0	(1)	0	7	(2)	0	1	0	66	4
Tahith Chong	5	(3)	0	1	(0)	0	6	(3)	0	3	0	9	0
Jordan Clark	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	0	111	9
Alfie Doughty	7	(3)	0	2	(0)	1	9	(3)	1	1	0	47	3
Ryan Giles	3	(2)	0	2	(0)	0	5	(2)	0	0	0	7	0
Joe Johnson	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0	3	0
Issa Kabore	7	(2)	0	0	(2)	0	7	(4)	0	3	0	11	0
Thomas Kaminski	10	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	10	(0)	0	1	0	10	0
Tim Krul	0	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	0	0	2	0
Tom Lockyer	9	(0)	1	1	(0)	0	10	(0)	1	2	0	112	7
Sambi Lokonga	2	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	0	0	2	0
Teden Mengi	3	(2)	0	1	(0)	0	4	(2)	0	1	0	6	0
Carlton Morris	10	(0)	3	0	(1)	0	10	(1)	3	1	0	62	23
Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu	5	(5)	0	2	(0)	0	7	(5)	0	0	0	382	23
Marvelous Nakamba	10	(0)	0	0	(1)	0	10	(1)	0	3	0	31	0
Chiedozie Ogbene	6	(4)	1	1	(1)	0	7	(5)	1	0	0	12	1
Gabriel Osho	1	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0	63	3
Dan Potts	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	0	216	12
James Shea	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	0	107	0
Andros Townsend	0	(2)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(2)	0	0	0	2	0
Cauley Woodrow	0	(7)	0	2	(0)	1	2	(7)	1	0	0	44	4



## TOWNSEND DEBUT

Congratulations to Andros Townsend who made his debut for the Town at Forest to become the 1,358th player to pull on our colours in our history. We're happy to have you with us, Andros!

# 2023/24 FIXTURES & RESULTS

DATE	OPPOSITION	KO	POS	SCORE	STARTING XI						
SAT AUG 12	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	3PM	A 18	L 1-4	KAMINSKI	KABORÉ	GILES	ANDERSEN	LOCKYER	BELL	
FRI AUG 25	CHELSEA	8PM	A 19	L 0-3	KAMINSKI	KABORÉ	GILES	BURKE	LOCKYER	BELL	
TUE AUG 29	GILLINGHAM (CC)	7.45PM	H -	W 3-2	KRUL	DOUGHTY	GILES	ANDERSEN	LOCKYER	BELL	
FRI SEP 1	WEST HAM UNITED	8PM	H 19	L 1-2	KAMINSKI	DOUGHTY	GILES	BURKE	ANDERSEN	BELL	
SAT SEP 16	FULHAM	3PM	A 20	L 0-1	KAMINSKI	KABORÉ	BELL	BURKE	LOCKYER	ANDERSEN	
SAT SEP 23	WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS	3PM	H 18	D 1-1	KAMINSKI	KABORÉ	DOUGHTY	BURKE	LOCKYER	BELL	
TUE SEP 26	EXETER CITY (CC)	7.45PM	A -	L 0-1	KRUL	DOUGHTY	GILES	MENGI	ANDERSEN	JOHNSON	
SAT SEP 30	EVERTON	3PM	A 17	W 2-1	KAMINSKI	KABORÉ	DOUGHTY	BURKE	LOCKYER	BELL	
SAT OCT 3	BURNLEY	7.30PM	H 17	L 1-2	KAMINSKI	KABORÉ	DOUGHTY	MENGI	LOCKYER	BELL	
SAT OCT 7	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	12.30PM	H 17	L 0-1	KAMINSKI	BURKE	DOUGHTY	ANDERSEN	LOCKYER	OGBENE	
SAT OCT 21	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	3PM	A 17	D 2-2	KAMINSKI	BURKE	DOUGHTY	MENGI	LOCKYER	OGBENE	
SUN OCT 29	ASTON VILLA	2PM	A 18	L 1-3	KAMINSKI	KABORÉ	DOUGHTY	MENGI	LOCKYER	OSHO	
SUN NOV 5	LIVERPOOL	4.30PM	H								
SAT NOV 11	MANCHESTER UNITED	3PM	A								
SAT NOV 25	CRYSTAL PALACE	3PM	H								
SAT DEC 2	BRENTFORD	3PM	A								
TUE DEC 5	ARSENAL	8.15PM	H								
SUN DEC 10	MANCHESTER CITY	2PM	H								
SAT DEC 16	AFC BOURNEMOUTH	3PM	A								
SAT DEC 23	NEWCASTLE UNITED	3PM	H								
TUE DEC 26	SHEFFIELD UNITED	3PM	A								
SAT DEC 30	CHELSEA	12.30PM	H								
MON JAN 15	BURNLEY	7.45PM	A								
TUE JAN 30	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	7.45PM	H								
SAT FEB 3	NEWCASTLE UNITED	3PM	A								
SAT FEB 10	SHEFFIELD UNITED	3PM	H								
SAT FEB 17	MANCHESTER UNITED	3PM	H								
SAT FEB 24	LIVERPOOL	3PM	A								
SAT MAR 2	ASTON VILLA	3PM	H								
SAT MAR 9	CRYSTAL PALACE	3PM	A								
SAT MAR 16	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	3PM	H								
SAT MAR 30	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	3PM	A								
TUE APR 2	ARSENAL	7.45PM	A								
SAT APR 6	AFC BOURNEMOUTH	3PM	H								
SAT APR 13	MANCHESTER CITY	3PM	A								
SAT APR 20	BRENTFORD	3PM	H								
SAT APR 27	WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS	3PM	A								
SAT MAY 4	EVERTON	3PM	H								
SAT MAY 11	WEST HAM UNITED	3PM	A								
SUN MAY 19	FULHAM	4PM	H								

## Premier League

#	Team	Pt	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Tottenham Hotspur	10	8	2	0	22	9	13	26
2	Arsenal	10	7	3	0	23	8	15	24
3	Manchester City	10	8	0	2	22	7	15	24
4	Liverpool	10	7	2	1	23	9	14	23
5	Aston Villa	10	7	1	2	26	14	12	22
6	Newcastle United	10	5	2	3	26	11	15	17
7	Brighton and Hove Albion	10	5	2	3	23	19	4	17
8	Manchester United	10	5	0	5	11	16	-5	15
9	West Ham United	10	4	2	4	16	17	-1	14
10	Brentford	10	3	4	3	16	12	4	13
11	Chelsea	10	3	3	4	13	11	2	12
12	Wolverhampton Wanderers	10	3	3	4	13	17	-4	12
13	Crystal Palace	10	3	3	4	8	13	-5	12
14	Fulham	10	3	3	4	9	16	-7	12
15	Everton	10	3	1	6	10	14	-4	10
16	Nottingham Forest	10	2	4	4	10	15	-5	10
17	Bournemouth	10	1	3	6	8	21	-13	6
18	Luton Town	10	1	2	7	9	20	-11	5
19	Burnley	10	1	1	8	8	25	-17	4
20	Sheffield United	10	0	1	9	7	29	-22	1



**LUTONTOWN.CO.UK**

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



KEY: GOALSCORER 🎯 | 1ST SUB / 2ND SUB / 3RD SUB / 4TH SUB / 5TH SUB | RED CARD

SUBSTITUTES					ATT	AWAY	
NAKAMBA	CHONG	MPANZU	MORRIS 🏆	ADEBAYO	SHEA, FRANCIS-CLARKE, BERRY, CAMPBELL, DOUGHTY, BROWN, MCATEE, OGBENE, WOODROW	31,872	3,001
NAKAMBA	CHONG	BARKLEY	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	DOUGHTY, ANDERSEN, RUDDOCK-MPANZU, OGBENE, BROWN, KRUL, BERRY, WOODROW, JOHNSON	39,893	3,054
MPANZU	BERRY	WOODROW 🏆	OGBENE	BROWN 🏆	SHEA, BURKE, JOHNSON, KABORE, BARKLEY, CHONG, NAKAMBA, ADEBAYO, MORRIS	9,468	1,058
NAKAMBA	CHONG	BARKLEY	MORRIS	ADEBAYO	KRUL, BERRY, BROWN, FRANCIS-CLARKE, JOHNSON, KABORE, MPANZU, OGBENE, WOODROW	10,802	1,151
NAKAMBA	CHONG	LOKONGA	MORRIS	BROWN	KRUL, ADEBAYO, BERRY, DOUGHTY, GILES, MENGI, MPANZU, OGBENE, WOODROW	24,467	2,701
NAKAMBA	LOKONGA	OGBENE	MORRIS 🏆	BROWN	KRUL, ADEBAYO, ANDERSEN, BERRY, CHONG, GILES, MENGI, MPANZU, WOODROW	10,893	1,091
MPANZU	CHONG	BERRY	WOODROW	ADEBAYO	SHEA, OGBENE, MORRIS, KABORE, BURKE, BROWN, BELL, BURGER, LUKER	7,360	708
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	OGBENE	MORRIS 🏆	BROWN	KRUL, ANDERSEN, BERRY, WOODROW, ADEBAYO, CHONG, MENGI, GILES, JOHNSON	39,289	2,976
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	OGBENE	MORRIS	BROWN	KRUL, ANDERSEN, BERRY, BURKE, WOODROW, ADEBAYO 🏆, CHONG, GILES, JOHNSON	10,918	1,126
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	ADEBAYO	MORRIS	BROWN	KRUL, BARKLEY, BERRY, WOODROW, KABORE, CHONG, MENGI, GILES, JOHNSON	10,929	1,151
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	CHONG	MORRIS	BROWN	KRUL, OSHO, BARKLEY, WOODROW, ADEBAYO 🏆, KABORE, GILES, TOWNSEND, LUKER	29,361	2,893
NAKAMBA	BARKLEY	OGBENE	MORRIS	BROWN	KRUL, WOODROW, ADEBAYO, CHONG, MPANZU, GILES, TOWNSEND, JOHNSON, LUKER	41,785	3,005



## WORLD CUP CALL-UP FOR JJ!

We are delighted to confirm that our academy graduate Joe Johnson will be representing England at the FIFA Under-17 World Cup in Indonesia. The Young Lions begin their campaign with a Group C fixture against New Caledonia next Saturday before coming up against Iran on Tuesday. Johnson's group rounds off with a game against holders Brazil; all of England's group stage matches will be played in the 82,000-seater Jakarta International Stadium. Joe will be only the second ever Luton Town player to represent England at a World Cup competition, the first being Syd Owen in 1954. We would like to wish Joe good luck in Indonesia and wish him all the best at the World Cup with England!



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, email [myvoice@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:myvoice@lutontown.co.uk) or download Kick It Out's free confidential reporting app on the App Store or Google Play.

TOWN TEASERS ANSWERS:  
1: 7: Crowe, 3: Crawley, 4: Jordan Clark, 5: Swindon, 6: Clint Dempsey, 7: 9: Yeovil, 9: Mick Harford, 10: Finland.



## HOLD THE BACK PAGE

With Mike Simmonds, Sports Editor, Luton News

**So we're ten games into the Premier League season and to be fair, it's gone pretty much as most Town fans would have expected so far.**

Luton find themselves third from bottom, which is probably a few places higher than anyone outside of Kenilworth Road would have anticipated back in August, as they find themselves leading the fight to stay up from the trio of promoted clubs.

After what was a fairly tough introduction to life as a top-flight club, with defeats against Brighton and Chelsea, the Hatters have tightened up immeasurably since, as yes they have lost five from the eight, but it has been by just the one goal in four of them.

Goal difference could prove such a crucial factor regarding who ends up keeping their heads above the dotted line as well, which made World Cup winner Emiliano Martinez's unfortunate late deflection into his own net even more important on Sunday.

Unai Emery's side had already put six past Brighton and four into the West Ham net, so the fact Luton kept it at three was something of a morale victory, as the comical ending means their goal difference is now minus 11.

It's already a hefty 11 better than bottom side Sheffield United, six than Burnley, who were meant to be the top ranked side of those coming up, and importantly two ahead of fourth bottom AFC Bournemouth.

That has been done with an ever-changing

back-line as well, with only keeper Thomas Kaminski the one regular strand, as injuries have robbed boss Rob Edwards of all of his centre halves at some stage, which makes the return of Gabe Osho all that more important.

If the play-off hero had a tough baptism to top flight football last weekend, it could be even harder this afternoon as Luton go up against a Liverpool team who have won 11 from 14 first team fixtures this term, their only defeat coming in that controversial 2-1 reverse at Spurs.

They also possess one of the best ever players seen at this level, a certain Mo Salah, who is already up to double figures in front of goal.

Luton have had some cracking fixtures against the Reds over the years, the 5-3 FA Cup defeat in 2006, Iain Dowie's double in a 3-1 victory in 1991, plus Mike Newell's hat-trick as the Hatters triumphed 4-1 some 37 years ago.

If they can get something from Jurgen Klopp's title-chasers today, such is the difference between the sides nowadays, it would surely surpass the lot.

If not, then once more the main thing will be to show that fighting spirit and determination to never go under that is serving them so well so far – then move on and focus on a first ever win at Old Trafford next weekend instead. 🏆



Premier  
League

# THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH



sky sports



## LUTON TOWN

1. JAMES SHEA
2. GABE OSHO
3. DAN POTTS
4. TOM LOCKYER
5. MADDS ANDERSEN
6. ROSS BARKLEY
7. CHIEDOZIE OGBENE
8. LUKE BERRY
9. CARLTON MORRIS
10. CAULEY WOODROW
11. ELIJAH ADEBAYO
12. ISSA KABORE
13. MARVELOUS NAKAMBA
14. TAHITH CHONG
15. TEDEN MENGİ
16. REECE BURKE
17. PELLY RUDDOCK MPANZU
18. JORDAN CLARK
19. JACOB BROWN
23. TIM KRUL
24. THOMAS KAMINSKI
26. RYAN GILES
28. ALBERT SAMBI LOKONGA
29. AMARI'I BELL
30. ANDROS TOWNSEND
38. JOE JOHNSON
45. ALFIE DOUGHTY



## LIVERPOOL

1. ALISSON BECKER
2. JOE GOMEZ
3. WATARU ENDO
4. VIRGIL VAN DIJK
5. IBRAHIMA KONATE
6. THIAGO ALCANTARA
7. LUIS DIAZ
8. DOMINIK SZOBOSZLAI
9. DARWIN NUNEZ
10. ALEXIS MAC ALLISTER
11. MOHAMED SALAH
13. ADRIAN
17. CURTIS JONES
18. CODY GAKPO
19. HARVEY ELLIOTT
20. DIOGO JOTA
21. KOSTAS TSIMIKAS
26. ANDY ROBERTSON
32. JOEL MATIP
38. RYAN GRAVENBERCH
42. BOBBY CLARK
43. STEFAN BAJCETIC
45. MARCELO PITALUGA
48. CALUM SCANLON
49. KAIDE GORDON
50. BEN DOAK
52. ISAAC MABAYA
53. JAMES MCCONNELL
62. CAOIMHIN KELLEHER
66. TRENT ALEXANDER-ARNOLD
78. JARELL QUANSAH
84. CONOR BRADLEY
94. MELKAMU FRAUENDORF

## MATCH OFFICIALS



- REFEREE - ANDREW MADLEY  
ASSISTANT REFEREE - HARRY LENNARD  
ASSISTANT REFEREE - NICK HOPTON  
FOURTH OFFICIAL - ANTHONY TAYLOR  
VIDEO ASSISTANT REFEREE - CRAIG PAWSON  
ADDITIONAL VIDEO ASSISTANT REFEREE - SIMON LONG