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LUTON TOWN V MANCHESTER CITY

SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2023 | 2PM | KENILWORTH ROAD



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Print: **Bartham Press.**

Editor: **Andrew Barringer.** Design: **Ed Smith.**
Photography: **Dave Horn.** Additional photos:
Shutterstock. Statistics: **Simon Pitts.**

Contributors: **Contributors: Roger Wash, Stuart Hammonds, Dec O'Reilly, Zac Neal, Bradley Dixon and Simon Pitts.**

With thanks to: The media department at Manchester City and Kevin Parker.

The views in this programme are not necessarily those of Luton Town Football Club.

BRING THE NOISE!



NO A.I. WAS
USED TO WRITE
TEXT OR IN THE
DESIGN OF THIS
PROGRAMME.



WELCOME TO KENILWORTH ROAD

We're not sure where to start. After finally catching our breath after a remarkable 90 minutes against the league leaders here on Tuesday night, today we face arguably our toughest test of the season so far. Talk about no rest for the wicked. Manchester City arrive at Kenilworth Road as the reigning champions of England and Europe and possess one, if not *the*, strongest squad in world football. It promises to be another cracking game, so enjoy it. Drink it in and sing yourselves hoarse. Come on Luton!



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SO FAR



ROB EDWARDS

What else can I say after Tuesday night's game? It will be a night we will never forget. It was a special evening for many reasons, none more so than your support and the players' efforts.

That's what makes the defeat harder to take, knowing how much everyone put into trying to get a positive result against the current league leaders. We knew we would be in for a game.

Your backing was incredible from the first minute until the last, and I can assure you that you weren't alone in feeling sick to the stomach at the very end. On the balance of play, we did not deserve to lose but, once more, we received a reminder of the ruthless nature of this league.

However, I have nothing but absolute pride for the players, who did their jobs and gave their all. They played with an energy, an intensity and with quality against a team widely tipped to enjoy a successful season. The performance also showed just how much belief there is in the dressing room. To show the character to recover from 1-0 down and then 2-1 down to take the lead highlights how strong a group we have. Yes, we lost, and yes we were hugely deflated come the final whistle, but looking back on it overall, it is a performance we can all be hugely encouraged by.

That belief, confidence and quality will be needed again today, and we will once again need the support of everyone if we are to replicate those kind of levels against a team of Manchester City's quality. This is arguably the toughest test in world football so make sure you sing your hearts out and bring the noise once more.

I'd like to welcome Pep Guardiola and his staff and players – probably the most talented group on the planet right now – to Kenilworth Road. Again, it's another exciting match and one we're looking forward to.

What Manchester City have achieved over some years now, especially under Pep, has been special. My congratulations to them on their spectacular achievements of last season that saw them win the treble. They're a winning machine who continue to evolve and set standards of the highest order across the world.

Therefore, as I've said many times before in these notes, these are the days which you have to enjoy. Whether you're a manager, player, member of staff or supporter. You have to embrace these moments in life.

So let's make the most of today and enjoy the occasion. As always, you can be rest assured that, while we will savour it, we will do so by competing to a level as high as we can.

Thank you once more for your support, not just on Tuesday but throughout the season so far. I'm running out of words of praise. Everyone at the club truly appreciates your passion and loyalty. I hope we are able to make you proud of this determined and committed team once more come the final whistle this afternoon.

So let's all enjoy it. Bring the noise and get behind us like you always do. 🥁





TOM LOCKYER

I'm sitting here writing these notes trying to think of the words to describe what happened on Tuesday night.

What I will start with is by saying how proud I am of the lads and the performance by everyone involved in what was so close to being an evening to remember. Not many outsiders gave us a chance of getting a result against the league leaders and yeah, that might have been the eventual outcome, but I hope those doubters were watching and be impressed with what they saw from a team who gave everything.

The dressing room was probably the lowest and quietest it has been this season. That's not to say there was not encouragement and positivity. But after a game like that you are emotionally and physically drained. The lads experienced a full set of emotions. It was probably the first time for many of the boys to have really gone through such rollercoaster emotions at this club. Come the end though, sometimes it doesn't matter how you played. It's the end result that you think about the most. We lost. We conceded four goals. We know there are areas we can improve in. That's football.

But the character was there: twice behind we rallied and came back. Then we showed quality to then take the lead. The moments towards the end were nail-biting. I couldn't keep still in the stands watching – it was gut-wrenching. And when they scored with the last action of the game? I have no words.

I said in my notes for the Crystal Palace game that we would never take a point before the game if it was offered to us. We have standards, we want to win every game – listen, we feel we can win every game no matter who we play.

We have belief that we can get results and stay in this league. Our performances here especially have shown that – I don't think anyone can disagree with that. Teams are finding it difficult playing here. Yes, Liverpool found a way to grab a point and Arsenal did the same to take all three on Tuesday, but we are showing we are not to be taken lightly. Every week's a learning curve. The league is brutal and it can be ruthless, especially to teams new to it. What doesn't kill you makes you stronger, right?

So to today. Manchester City. A test like no other for us. Nobody will expect us to get a result but has this club ever paid attention to any of that outside noise? Exactly. We have repeatedly shown this season that we are capable of mixing it with the best. They are a team that swept all before them last season, they're chasing history and of course they are a team full of world class players. I'm not going to roll out the clichés. None of this 'it's 11 v 11 at the end of the day' stuff. We know what we're capable of and I'm sure they will treat us with the respect we deserve.

While I was gutted not to be on the pitch, it was honestly an intense experience watching from the stands on Tuesday. There's no doubt your support and the atmosphere you created helped. More of the same please today.

Enjoy the game and get behind us. 

Cheers.





FROM THE BOARDROOM

WITH DIRECTOR STEPHEN BROWNE

Hello and season's greetings to one and all!

Today we welcome Pep Guardiola's treble winning Manchester City to a festive fixture here at Kenilworth Road. How far we've come – the best team in the land gracing our hallowed turf in a home league match for the first time since 28th November 1998 back in the old Division Two.

And for the older contingent of the away following, how could I not mention that famous day in May 1983, when with four minutes remaining the late, great Raddy Antic silenced Maine Road and secured one of the greatest final day escapes in history. I have a fond kinship for those City fans who hold this against us. It's nostalgically welcome to bare the grudge of real fans for past clashes, when passions ran our beautiful game. No more so than in today's footballing climate, where fans, pundits, and the league itself, seem to have very short memories.

For the second consecutive fixture, Kenilworth Road plays host to one of the English and European footballs giants. Our endeavour and commitment against Arsenal was immense and the game plan so nearly came off. A

cruel end to a fascinating game but let's remember we took a key title contender to the final second. Not many will score three against them this season. Had the ref played the correct extra time, we would have gained an exceptionally worthy point. The atmosphere was amazing and you can see the difference you make. If we all keep doing our best and keep improving, we will surprise and confound many people.

With games coming at us thick and fast over this winter period, many opportunities to pick up valuable points lay ahead, and I know I speak for us all in saying a solid haul of points under our tree come the end of the month would be a hugely welcome present!

We must spare a moment, however, to give extra consideration to those less fortunate than ourselves, particularly at this time of year. Be it the cost of living, the holes left by absent loved ones, or the suffering throughout the world, it is far from an easy time to show kindness to your neighbour, but in these times of instability and division that is precisely what we must endeavour to do.

This year, the Luton Salvation Army Toy Appeal aims to provide 7,000 children in Luton who won't receive a present

this year, something to open on Christmas Day.

As a club we strive to back projects within our local community and the Academy and development squad players have been down to help with the wrapping. I know it's a huge amount to ask, but even a small donation will make an incredible difference to a family this Christmas – and we are all part of the same family. If you have an extra unneeded present, or a few spare coins, please help us ensure that there are 7,000 smiling and laughing young faces on the 25th.

At a time when the gulf between the 'haves' and the 'have nots' of this world is only widening, it seems like an appropriate time to look inwards at what we ourselves can do to make a positive difference to our collective futures.

I'm reminded of a tale undoubtedly familiar with the vast majority of you - Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'. It's hard not to empathise with Bob Cratchit and poor Tiny Tim, and revile against the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge who, consumed by his own greed, lost all sight of what truly matters in life. Not until the visit of a former adversary – the chain burdened spectre of Jacob Marley – followed by a trio of apparitions, does Scrooge truly contemplate his ways and recognise his folly.

The Ghost of Christmas Past sought to remind Mr Scrooge of his humble roots. Simpler times in which he hadn't yet fully developed his cold and callous nature. The estrangement from his fiancée to be, a love lost summoning a year of regret, a glimpse of humanity.



Slowly the realisation dawns that the insidious allure of gold lined pockets stole from him far more than it could ever give.

The second spirit transports Scrooge to observe the Cratchit family Christmas, and their ailing son, Tiny Tim. With meagre means and few resources, it becomes apparent that unless he intervenes Tiny Tim will surely die. In his eternal quest of avarice, the price is borne by those less fortunate.

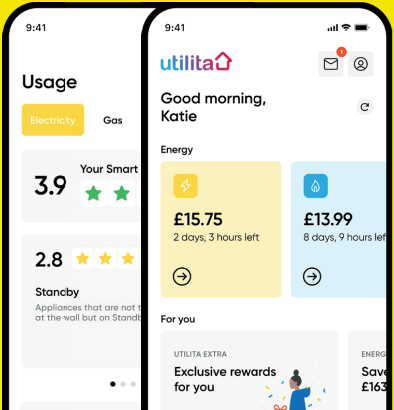
Finally, the wraith of Christmas Yet To Come presents to Scrooge his own mortal end, raising the ultimate question of legacy. In the end, we will all be judged by our deeds, and what we do in the present directly influences the future, for better or worse. We are the masters of our own destiny.

But what about when our destiny is collective? How do we achieve alignment amongst many parties? As a board we have always held true to



HATTERS. IT'S TIME TO

SAVE LIKE
DAVE



Energy that's
proper smart.



transparency and ethics at the core of what we do and who we are. I truly believe our success in recent years has been in a large part down to the ethos woven into the fabric of this wonderful Club of ours, that has held steadfast for over 135 years. And that ethos? You, the supporters.

Previous owners of our Club, in 1991, voted for the introduction of the Premier League. Now, we as Custodians, are playing our role in the New Deal for Football as proposed by the Government White Paper and included in the King's Speech. Should we vote with our eyes focussed on gaining advantage for ourselves at the expense of others? Or should we vote thinking about what is good for the game as a whole – and for every stakeholder – no matter what that means for us?

Our promise to you was to give us all a club we can be proud of. To find a harmony between championing the interests of Luton Town, whilst simultaneously standing as a beacon for the wider footballing community, endeavouring to better ourselves and others. From grassroots football initiatives such as our recent partnership with Switchshop to bring the local school children of Beechwood Green JMI School a new astroturf playing surface, to community driven projects such as the Salvation Army's Toy Appeal I mention above... our Club and community are intrinsically linked and beat with the same heart.

We are being held up as a model club and we have influenced many fans and owners around the country. We continue to change and evolve our wonderful game and use our voice



to speak fairly. Neither you nor I are impressed or lured by shining things, or things we cannot afford. We are not transfixed on pockets lined with (fools) gold that some other clubs can be accused of chasing. We do not gain success whilst financially doctoring accounts to gain advantage.

So, I invite us all to reflect; what is it that we stand for? Is it the further stratification of our game and repeating the financial inequity of the past, or are we better than that? True courage is selfless - to stand up in the present and make yourselves heard wherever injustice is encountered. Only through collective action can we shape what is yet to come.

The question is this; who do we want to be in the future, and who is that future for?

I think you know that Luton Town will vote for what is best for football. Best for those who are not sitting at the table and not able to speak. Let's hope that others have the courage and bravery to do the same and put selfish thoughts aside.

I send you my best wishes for the festive season and an exciting 2024.

As always, Come On You Hatters!

Stephen 

Scan QR code for more information on the Salvation Army Toy Appeal:



AROUND TOWN



CONGRATULATIONS, THOMAS

A huge congratulations to Hatters goalkeeper Thomas Kaminski whose double-save against Crystal Palace has been named the Castrol Premier League Save of the Month for November.

The Town stopper beat a number of fine saves up for the award, including Manchester United's Andre Onana who had kept out goalbound Carlton Morris header during our match at Old Trafford.

It was the second time the Belgian had been nominated for the award following his heroics in our defeat at Aston Villa in October.

Here's to more fine saves and more awards for the remainder of the season. Nice one, Thomas!



CHEIO'S A DIAMOND

Hatters attacker Chiedozie Ogbene has won the Diamond Player of the Month award for October.

The former Rotherham man collected 45 per cent of the vote, narrowly beating goalkeeper Thomas Kaminski.

The 26-year-old scored his first goal in Town colours in the 2-2 draw against Nottingham Forest during the month.

It is the second time Ogbene has picked up the award having already taken the prize for August/September.

Diamond Season Ticket holder Rob Parsons was drawn to present the trophy to Chieo in the Eric Morecambe Suite after our game against Arsenal on Tuesday night.

We would like to thank all Diamond Season Card holders that took the time to vote.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Many happy returns to **Rhyleigh Cremin** is celebrating their 12th birthday this weekend.

We hope you have a great day! Love comes from Mum, Dad, Krystle, Scarlet, Oakleigh and Laela xx



WE'RE BEHIND YOU, PAUL

We were sorry to hear of an accident involving one of our Dutch supporters **Paul Van Oijen** (pictured above, left) during the week of the Liverpool match.

All at Kenilworth Road hope you are recovering well and that you have the support you need. Remember to take things one day at a time and be kind to yourself. You are strong and resilient, and you will get through this.

Recovery is going to take time, but we hope you can make it to Kenilworth Road soon and don't worry if you cannot fly, your family have promised to do the eight-hour drive to come and get you.

Good Luck with your rehab Paul!



REST IN PEACE

It is with sadness that we report the passing of life-long supporter **Carol Hood** on 27th October after a brave battle with illness.

She was born in London and always had a soft spot for Crystal Palace as that was her dad's team, but supported Luton since moving to the town in 1973.

She was a season ticket holder for over ten years until 2016 and enjoyed many a happy day sitting behind the goal in the Kenilworth Road end and still listened to Luton via local radio in recent years and was over the moon when we won promotion at Wembley in May.

Her family were glad Carol got to experience that wonderful day and even listen to our first few matches in the Premier League.

With love always from Ken, Chris, Jayne, Lisa and Kennedy.



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GALLANT HATTERS LOSE OUT IN THRILLER

A pulsating, gripping, intoxicating 96 minutes had passed.

Then, as an additional minute elapsed, Hatters hearts were broken in the cruellest of endings as a raucous Kenilworth Road fell silent. Declan Rice nodded past Thomas Kaminski – and the seventh and final goal won three points for the league leaders.

The Hatters were behind once and then twice, trailing at 2-1 at the break. Then, incredibly, led 3-2. A famous Luton Town scoreline if ever there was one. Arsenal came back and back again until come the final peep on the referee's whistle, which signalled a gallant defeat.

Arsenal led for the first time on 20 minutes when Gabrielle Martinelli turned home Bukayo Saka's cross.

Yet the Hatters were level just five minutes later when Gabe Osho nodded in Alfie Doughty's left-wing corner. Deservedly so.


The game swung from end to end. The Town attacked when they could – the issue was the Gunners were sensing blood. Kaminski was equal to numerous efforts sent his way but the Belgian could do nothing to stop Gabriel Jesus in first half stoppage time from nodding home to put the visitors in front.

Just four minutes after the restart it was 2-2. Andros Townsend won a corner which was swung in beautifully by Doughty and Elijah Adebayo, making only his fourth start of the season, rose above David Raya to send Kenilworth Road into pandemonium.

Eight minutes later that turned into pure ecstasy as the Hatters, unbelievably, led. Townsend found Ross Barkley inside the penalty area and, after holding off his man, struck a low drive through the legs of Raya. 3-2.

It was breathless stuff and those inside the old ground were still catching their breath three minutes later when the Gunners levelled. Kai Havertz taking Jesus' pass to dink past an exposed Kaminski.

All square once more, the Town were under the cosh as time ticked down and the visitors craved an equaliser. Kaminski held a Martin Odegaard effort with 15 minutes left before the goalkeeper then tipped over a Havertz header with just four minutes on the clock.

Six minutes were added by the officials and then became the crushing blow. The Hatters seemed to have dealt with the Gunners' final attack, yet as play continued, Odegaard sent over a teasing left-wing cross and Rice had the final say. 

Kenilworth Road – 5th December 2023

Town: Kaminski; Kaboré, Doughty (sub Giles 88), Mengi, Osho, Bell; Mpanzu (sub Clark 88), Barkley; Townsend (sub Ogbene 62), Brown (sub Chong 61), Adebayo (sub Morris 61).

Subs not used: Krul, Berry, Johnson, Nelson.

Gunners: Raya, Saliba, White, Gabriel, Saka, Odegaard, Jesus, Martinelli (sub Trossard 64), Kiwior (sub Zinchenko 64), Havertz, Rice.

Subs not used: Ramsdale, Nketiah, Soares, Jorginho, Nelson, Elneny, Walters.

SCORERS:

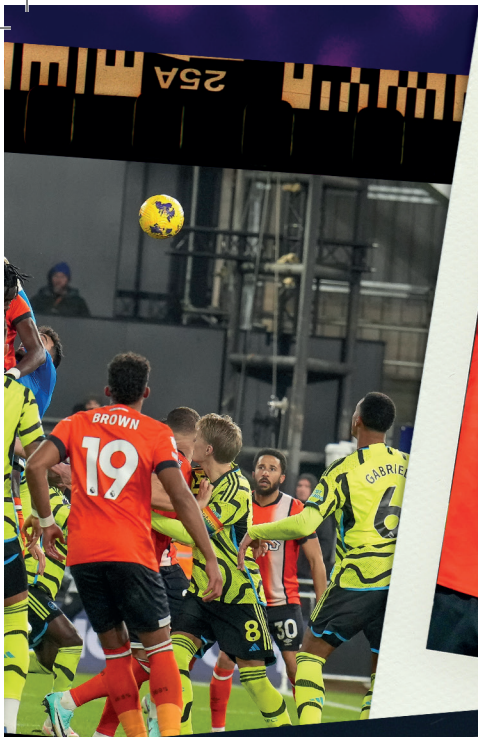
Town: Osho 25, Adebayo 59, Barkley 57

Arsenal: Martinelli 20, Jesus 45, Havertz 60, Rice 90+



3-4





 MATCH GALLERY



KODAK PORTRA 400

FREENOW



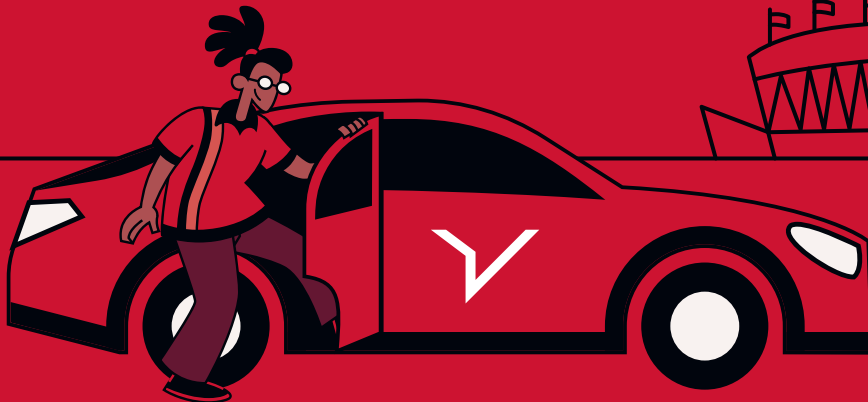
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LUTON



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EDWARDS: WE GAVE EVERYTHING

Rob Edwards said he couldn't have asked for more from his side despite seeing the Town lose a point from their grasp with the final kick of the game against Arsenal.

Behind twice, the Town then led 3-2 but were undone late on by Declan Rice's stoppage time header.

It was a performance that deserved more on a night of high emotion at Kenilworth Road which left the manager wondering what might have been.

"I didn't really know what to say to the lads afterwards," admitted Edwards. "What I did say was I'm proud of them, not to let that one moment then affect us too much.

"I've got to look at the bigger picture, the players did exactly what we asked of them, gave everything, and football is about entertainment. It was an entertaining game, but my job is to get points as well and we've just come up short today."

The mood in the Hatters dressing room was understandably low after going toe-to-toe with the current league leaders until the very last action.

Edwards said: "I don't think I've ever seen them so disappointed and flat,

they were hurt by it, we all were, but all I can say to them was they gave everything, they made the supporters proud.

"The fans were all standing at the end and standing up and clapping, so we know we doing our job when they're doing that. The difference tonight between a 3-3 and a 4-3 was just those few seconds, so we can learn from it, but if I can almost eliminate it from how I feel about the game, then really, really proud of the players.

"Every game's different, our performances have been good and you're playing against a top team like that you know you have to up it and know you have to give even more as they're going to test us even more, ask more questions and they did that.

"I think we made it a really uncomfortable night for them, they want a game of order and control and we tried to make it chaotic, we tried to be really aggressive and brave and then we showed some really good quality as well on the ball in the moments that we had it.

"So I think we can take some positives from it and we have to, but we know we need to get points as well, performances are things that will get us those." 🏆





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OSHO SPEECHLESS AFTER ARSENAL LATE SHOW

Defender Gabe Osho felt as down anyone after the Town's hopes of a priceless point against Arsenal was snatched away from them at the death on Tuesday night.

The centre-back scored his first goal of the season in the first half to cancel out Gabriel Martinelli's opener.

In a rollercoaster night of emotions, the former Reading man found it difficult to convey his thoughts after 90 minutes of physical and mental torment.

"To be honest I don't really know what to say," said the 25-year-old. "I don't really care about the first Premier League goal, it's just really disappointing not to get anything from that game and I felt that we deserved something.

"From their perspective, that's what top teams do I guess, but from our perspective, it's them and Liverpool now where we probably lost out on four points, which takes us I don't even know where in the table, so we have to fix that. It's just disappointing at the moment.

"It's hard, teams are good, they go to the end of games and you can never really take a rest or take a breather in a game.

"I'm adapting as I'm playing but today wasn't good enough as a defensive unit. As a team you score three goals at home,


you expect to get something out of the game, so we need to look at that and move forward."

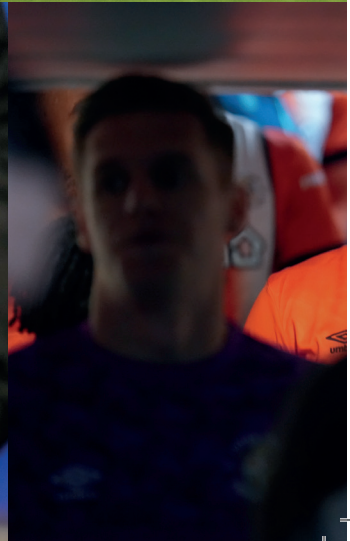
Disappointment was on the lips of Osho and many of those of a Town persuasion and while Declan Rice's late goal was a hammer blow, there was some solace to take from the performance on a night which the Hatters took the game to the league leaders.

"There's a little bit of a positive in the fact that we've gone against Liverpool and Arsenal and really pushed them to the end," said Osho. "You'd probably think, going forward, when we play other home games against lesser opposition than them, then we can get something more out of the game, but at the moment it's just disappointing."

The challenges keep coming for Osho and the Town with the visit of the reigning champions, who are aiming to make history by becoming the first English club to win four titles in a row.

Osho added: "It's going to be tough against Manchester City, just like it was against Arsenal, but this does show that we can go head-to-head the best teams in the league, especially here at Kenilworth Road.

"We'll go into City with no fear and try to get something out of the game again." 





BEHIND THE SCENES: LUTON v ARSENAL



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Champions



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NEW TV RIGHTS PACKAGE AGREED

The Premier League has concluded deals with Sky Sports and TNT Sports for five UK live packages and with BBC Sport for the free-to-air highlights package.

All three agreements will cover the four-year period starting Season 2025/26 and are the largest sports media rights deals ever concluded in the UK.

Sky Sports has been awarded live rights packages B, C, D and E, covering a minimum of 215 live matches per season, which will include more than 140 matches played at weekends, evening matches on Fridays and Mondays and full coverage of three midweek match rounds. For the first time, Sky Sports will also broadcast all 10 matches on the final day of each season.

TNT Sports has been awarded live rights package A, covering 52 live matches per season, including exclusive coverage of matches played on Saturdays at 12.30pm and full coverage of two midweek match rounds.

For the first time in the UK, all matches taking place outside of the Saturday 3pm 'closed period', including those displaced to Sunday 2pm because of club participation in European competitions, will be broadcast live.

BBC Sport has been awarded highlights rights for all 380 Premier League matches each season, with additional digital rights for the BBC's online platforms. The agreement will see BBC Match of the Day continue to bring Premier League action to millions of viewers each week, alongside a full range of additional programming.

The announced agreements will deliver a total of £6.7 billion in revenue across the

four-year period, inclusive of a four per cent increase in live rights value compared to the previous process.

Richard Masters, Premier League Chief Executive said: "We are delighted to announce new deals with Sky Sports and TNT Sports that will extend our partnership for a further four years and see more Premier League matches than ever before shown live from 2025/26 onwards.

"As long-standing and valued partners, Sky Sports and TNT Sports are renowned for consistently delivering world-class coverage and programming. We have enjoyed record audiences and attendances in recent seasons, and we know that their continued innovation will drive more people to watch and follow the Premier League.

"We are also extremely pleased to extend our partnership with BBC Sport, which will continue to bring weekly highlights of all Premier League matches to the widest possible audience in the UK. Match of the Day has been an institution for generations of football fans in this country and remains incredibly popular with fans of all ages.

"The outcome of this process underlines the strength of the Premier League and is testament to our clubs, players and managers who continue to deliver the world's most competitive football in full stadiums, and to supporters, who create an unrivalled atmosphere every week."

The broadcast renewals will provide financial certainty for clubs throughout professional football until at least 2029. In the current three-year broadcast cycle, the Premier League committed to continue its world-leading levels of support by contributing £1.6 billion to communities and the wider game across England and Wales from 2022 to 2025.



WELCOME MANCHESTER CITY

Today, we welcome last season's treble winners Manchester City to Kenilworth Road. City have had a strong start to the season and are very much in the mix to win the title for a fourth year in a row – and make history. No team in the history of English football has secured four top-flight titles in a row.

The Citizens got their season off to the perfect start with a 3-0 away win against Vincent Kompany's Burnley. Haaland bagged a brace and Rodri added to the scoresheet as City got off to a winning start.

This win was followed by solid victories over Newcastle United, Sheffield United, Fulham and West Ham United. City were in brilliant scoring form throughout this period and went on to beat Crvena Zvezda in the Champions League and Nottingham Forest in the Premier League.

At was at this point where City had their first blip of the season. Pep Guardiola's side were knocked out of the Carabao Cup after losing 1-0 to Newcastle United. They went on to lose 2-1 against Wolves in the Premier League in the same week.

They recovered well with a 3-1 win over RB Leipzig before they lost 1-0 against Arsenal in a crucial match in the title race. Gabriel Martinelli's deflected effort won the game for the Gunners.

This poor run sparked a good one as City went on to win another five games in a row. Some of these wins included a derby day win over Manchester United and a 6-1 thrashing of AFC Bournemouth.

City were then involved in a thrilling 4-4 encounter at Stamford Bridge against Chelsea. A late Cole Palmer penalty denied them all three points. This was followed by a 1-1 draw with Liverpool and another thrilling draw – this time 3-3 against Tottenham Hotspur.

On top of their success last season, City were sure to improve their squad with some new signings. Guardiola signed exciting young defender Josko Gvardiol from RB Leipzig, Jeremy Doku from Rennes, and Matheus Nunes from Wolves.

A massive welcome to all those involved with Manchester City today. We hope you enjoy your short stay with us at Kenilworth Road.

MEET THE CITIZENS

THE BOSS



PEP GUARDIOLA. Arguably one of the best and most successful coaches of the modern era, the Spaniard has won La Liga three times (with Barcelona), the Bundesliga three times (with Bayern Munich), the Premier League five times with City and the Champions League three times.

GOALKEEPER



EDERSON. Brazilian international keeper who joined City in 2017 from Benfica. Began his career with local club Sao Paulo before moving to Portugal aged 16 where he had spells with Ribeirao and Rio Ave.

DEFENDERS



MANUEL AKANJI. Swiss international Manuel is capable of playing at centre-half or at full-back. Shot to prominence at Basel before joining Borussia Dortmund and after 119 Bundesliga appearances signed for City in 2022.



NATHAN AKE. Dutch international centre-back who arrived at the Etihad in 2020 for a reported £41m. Joined Chelsea's academy from Feyenoord in 2011 and had loan spells at Reading, Watford and Bournemouth.

JOSKO Gvardiol. Left-sided



Croatian international Josko became the second most expensive defender in history after arriving from RB Leipzig for £77m in the summer. Started his career in Croatia with Dinamo Zagreb.



RICO LEWIS. Versatile and highly rated teenager who came through the ranks at the Etihad. Made his debut last season and was awarded with his first England cap last month.

RUBEN DIAS. Portuguese international centre-back Ruben joined City in 2020 from Benfica. Has impressed at the heart of the City backline ever since and could be in line for his 100th appearance this afternoon.



KYLE WALKER. Experienced England international right-back Kyle signed for the Citizens in 2017 from Tottenham. Came through the ranks at hometown club Sheffield United and is nearing 600 senior appearances.



JOHN STONES. Defender who can also operate in central midfield, John joined City in 2016 from Everton. The England international was born in Barnsley and started his career at Oakwell.

MIDFIELDERS



PHIL FODEN. Gifted England international midfielder Phil came through the ranks at the Etihad. Made his City debut aged 17 years and 177 days when coming on as a substitute in the Champions League against Feyenoord in 2017.



JACK GREALISH. Became the most expensive British player ever at the time when he joined City from Aston Villa for £100m in 2021. The winger started his career at Villa Park and made his England debut in 2020.



MATEO KOVACIC. Despite being only 29, the Croatian international midfielder has a wealth of experience following spells with Inter Milan, Real Madrid and Chelsea.



RODRI. Defensive midfielder who has become an integral part of the side following his arrival from Atletico Madrid in 2019. The Spanish international started his career at Villarreal.



BERNARDO SILVA. Portuguese international attacking midfielder has made over 200 Premier League appearances since joining from Monaco in 2017. Another former Benfica man.

ATTACKERS



JULIAN ALVAREZ. Promising Argentinian forward who won the World Cup in 2022 to become the first ever player to win the World Cup and a continental treble in the same season. Signed for City in 2022 from River Plate.



JEREMY DOKU. Young winger who burst onto the scene having signing this summer from French club Rennes on a five-year deal. A Belgian international, he started his career at Anderlecht.



ERLING HAALAND. Goalscoring sensational Erling signed for City at the start of last season from Borussia Dortmund and has since scored 71 goals – 53 of which came last term. Started his career in his native Norway before joining RB Salzburg and then Dortmund.



DAVID PLEAT SETS OFF ON HIS DANCE OF JOY ACROSS THE PITCH AFTER SEEING HIS SIDE ESCAPE RELEGATION AT MAINE ROAD

CLASSIC MATCH



CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH REMEMBERS A DAY OF HIGH DRAMA AT MAINE ROAD

14TH MAY 1983. MANCHESTER CITY 0-1 LUTON TOWN

Promoted as runaway champions of the old Division Two at the end of the 1981/82 campaign the Hatters had invested wisely in the close season bringing in the sought after Charlton Athletic forward Paul Walsh.

Manager David Pleat reckoned that Walsh and Brian Stein together in the Town's forward line would cause Division One defences problems galore and so it proved.

The attacking threat was never an issue in the early part of the season but the Hatters shipped in goals at the other end at an alarming rate. High-scoring games such as Notts County being beaten 5-3 at Kenilworth Road were followed by a 3-3 draw at

Liverpool, a 4-4 draw at Stoke and 3-3 draw at home to Southampton.

The Town became the darlings of the television companies due to the exciting nature of the games and the guarantee of goals and end to end action but Pleat was worried about what would happen when the goal supply dried up.

His fears were justified when Stein broke a bone in his foot during the 3-1 home win over Manchester City just before Christmas, which virtually ended his season. Lack of adequate cover meant that Walsh was left to plough a lone furrow up front and naturally the goals failed to flow at the same level as they had done during that glorious autumn.

Without an adequate strikeforce, but still



**NUMBER 1 ON THIS DAY:
TRUE SPANAU BALLET**

letting in goals, it was no real surprise that by Easter the Hatters were bottom of the table despite making lots of friends along the way. Just as all seemed lost, a six-match unbeaten run suddenly catapulted them up the table and the finishing post finally came into view. The final home game against Everton was meant to be a carnival occasion as three points would virtually guarantee safety and after Ricky Hill gave the Town an early lead all seemed set fair.

Inexplicably, the Hatters disintegrated after this early breakthrough and conceded five goals. Worse was to come at the end of the game when it was learned that every one of the fellow strugglers had won leaving the Town with a mountain to climb once more.



Two games remained, both in Manchester. At Old Trafford on the following Monday evening, an injury weakened side was turned over 3-0 by United leaving a do or die battle against Manchester City to determine the final relegation place.

Pleat insisted that the players turn out for a testimonial game for Watford's Ross Jenkins on the Tuesday evening then allowed them the Wednesday off before taking the squad to Henlow Grange for a day of relaxation.

While trying to maintain a winning mentality and a positive spirit in the squad, Pleat was going through personal agonies as his father in law was very ill and sadly died on the day before the game at Maine Road.

Around 5,000 Luton supporters made their way up to Manchester, swelling the crowd to 42,843. The maths were simple – the Town had to win to stay up whereas City only needed a point.

Injuries to both David Moss and Richard Money meant a reshuffle of the side and a recall for the

barely fit Stein as the Town gambled in the hope of rekindling the Stein/Walsh partnership that had been so successful.

Only needing a point, City instinctively sat back throughout a sterile first half while the Town huffed and puffed to make a breakthrough. Chances were at a premium with Walsh firing into the side netting and Mal Donaghy blasting a shot just over the bar.

The Town knew that they needed to attack with more purpose in the second half and so they did, pushing City further and further back at the same time. Several half chances went begging as the game drew closer and closer to a goalless stalemate and in another bold gamble Pleat withdrew the

tiring Wayne Turner and replaced him with the unpredictable Yugoslav Raddy Antic.

With four minutes left, Stein got the ball out on the right wing and with tired legs tried a cross which came back to him off City defender Tommy Caton. Stein tried another cross which was pushed out to the edge of the area by goalkeeper Alex Williams straight to Antic.

Antic fired the ball straight back with the goalkeeper deflecting the shot past a defender on the line. The players went wild and smothered Antic while Pleat ran around in a daze trying to organise the team for the final four minutes.

Those four minutes seemed like 40 but in the end the referee's whistle sounded an unlikely escape for the Town and the famous victory jig across the pitch by Pleat.

TOWN: Godden, Stephens, Goodyear, Horton, Elliott, Donaghy, Hill, Aylott, Walsh, Turner (sub Antic), Stein.

CITY: Williams, Ranson, Reid, Caton, McDonald, Bond, Baker (sub Kinsey), Hartford, Power, Tueart, Reeves.

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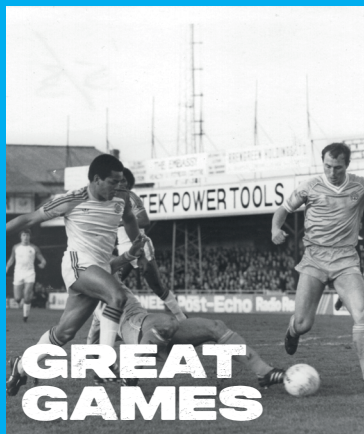
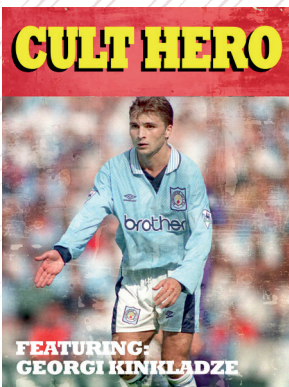


A HATTER AND A CITIZEN

After only 20 games for his home town club Chester, 17-year-old Paul Futcher was snapped up by Town manager Harry Haslam for £100,000 in June 1974 just as the Hatters were about to embark on an ill-fated season in Division One.

Making his Hatters debut earlier than the fans expected, Paul proved a revelation playing without fear in the heart of the defence. An international career beckoned but a couple of major road accidents seemed to take the edge off his play although he still commanded a large fee when transferred to Manchester City in 1978.

Paul played League football until nearly 40 and then went on to manage a variety of non-league clubs and took Southport to the FA Trophy final in 1998. Living in Holmfirth, Paul became a sports coach at a Huddersfield college before sadly passing away in 2016.



11th DECEMBER 1982 TOWN 3-1 CITY

You can read to your heart's content about the wonders of our epic do-or-die relegation battle elsewhere in this issue, but did you know that famous season saw us complete the double over City?

With so many words written about Raddy Antic's winner at Maine Road, the home victory

earlier in the season, in December, must not be forgotten given the importance of the points later in the campaign.

The Town romp to their first home victory in three months. Paul Walsh, who would later go

onto play for City, opened the scoring with a brilliant volley and, although City equalise, Brian Stein makes the points safe by scoring one himself before forcing Asa Hartford to put through his own goal.

Town team: Findlay, Stephens, Money, Horton, Goodyear, Donaghy, Hill, Stine, Walsh, Turner, Moss.



CLASSIC KIT

Think 'brother' emblazoned on the front. Admittedly it's hard not to when envisaging a Manchester City shirt given they were sponsors between 1978 and 1999. In 1997 our visitors went from sporting Umbro to turning out in Kappa gear for two seasons. With the iconic Kappa logo running down the sleeves, their sky blue offering was certainly eye-catching but it coincided with their relegation to the third tier. However, Paul Dickov and co. would be celebrating a year later with a last-gasp play-off win over Gillingham at Wembley.



BROTHERS IN ARMS

CULT HERO: GEORGI KINKLADZE

There are sections of the City faithful who believe **Georgi Kinkladze** was the greatest player to ever pull on a Manchester City shirt. His name conjures images of jinking runs, defenders trailing in his wake and, for some reason, a bad Maine Road pitch. Yet the Georgian international – who arrived for £2m in 1995 – will be long remembered by City fans for being the so-called "luxury they could not afford" by then-boss Joe Royle. Sometimes, it doesn't matter what the boss thinks when the fans love a player of such technical brilliance, and one that can change a game in an instant. While many world-class players have gone onto grace the sky blue, including their current crop, Kinkladze is a wizard that the terraces will never forget.



EDWARDS APPRECIATES PEP & CITY

MANAGER ROB EDWARDS HAS GIVEN HIS THOUGHTS ON ADJUSTING TO BEING A PREMIER LEAGUE MANAGER, TODAY'S BATTLE WITH MANCHESTER CITY AND HIS APPRECIATION OF PEP GUARDIOLA.

"Manchester City are amazing," said Edwards. "I've got such admiration for Pep Guardiola as a manager, wherever he's been he has been a winner and they have built this football club over the years, it's incredible to see the culture they have built with the players they have."



“To continuously evolve them and keep winning, including the treble last season, everyone will now be trying to knock them off their pedestal, so it’s a big challenge for them.

“They’ve been in tight games where they could have won all of them, we know how tight games are and that’s just the nature of the Premier League.”

Following on from the agonising defeat to Arsenal on Tuesday night, Edwards acknowledges that City will be another tough fixture with one of the world’s best managers.

“It’s an exciting game for us, in my opinion City are the best and Guardiola is the best. A few years ago, when I was a coach at Wolves, I was reading Guardiola’s books, studying his Bayern Munich team and it will be quite an experience going up against him.

“It would be nice to get a bit of time after the game to pick his brains, whether there will be enough time afterwards I’m not sure, but he’s someone you can learn a lot from.”

The fans are going to be needed to give their full support once again, as they did against Arsenal and in the other home matches so far this season.

“A lot of talk before the season had been about Kenilworth Road and the role it was going to play for us, we need to continue to make it a difficult place to come, and we need to pick up more points here too.

“All of the home games have been tight, either with one goal in it or draws, so we hope that it will be similar today.

“We know the size of the task and of course we are going to respect City for what they are and who they are, but Kenilworth Road is a unique place as well.

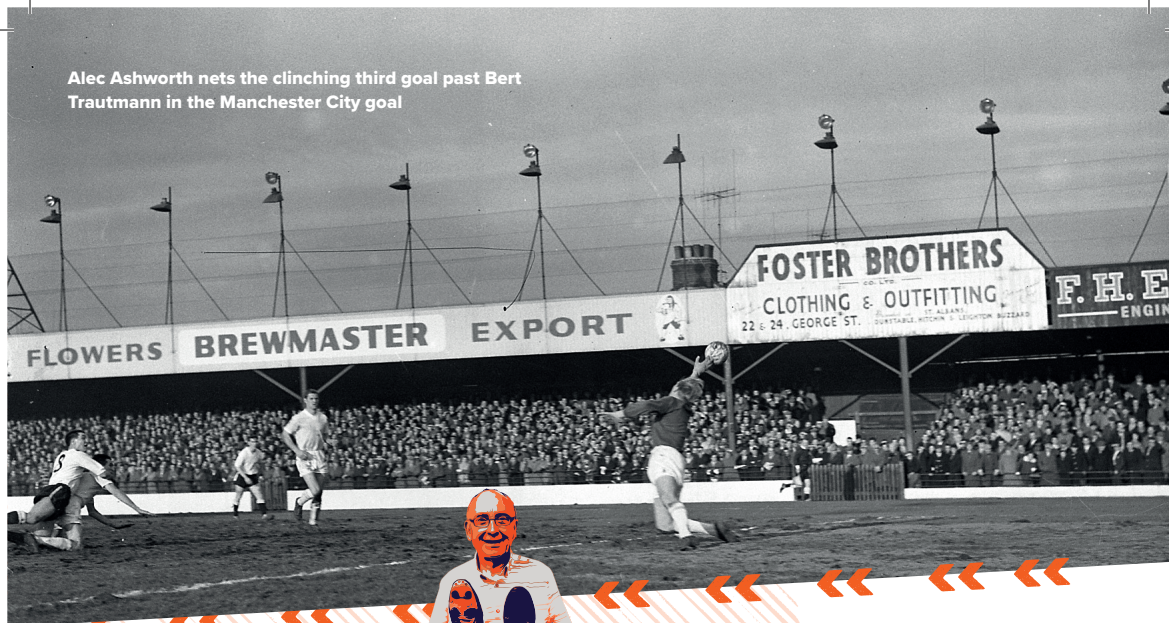
“Against Liverpool, Arsenal and Spurs, we’ve shown that we can compete against these top sides, so we’ll try to do that again.”

Edwards has adapted to life as a Premier League manager with his team, he did admit that there are aspects of it that he still needs to work on outside of the office.

“You don’t get any downtime as a Premier League manager really, it’s hard to sleep. Knowing what it means to everyone at this level and the scrutiny you get, it lives with you 24/7.

“I’ll continue to work on trying to switch off. I love the lads and would love to play them all, they all want to play and a lot of them deserve to play, but you can only pick 11, that’s the most difficult bit.”

Alec Ashworth nets the clinching third goal past Bert Trautmann in the Manchester City goal



« HATTERS REWIND »

Club historian Roger Wash looks back to the time that Denis Law created an unwanted record.

**Luton Town 3-1 Manchester City
FA Cup Fourth Round
1st February 1961.**

As was normal at the time, whenever the FA Cup competition came into view the whole Town went 'cup crazy' which was perfectly understandable as the Hatters were defeated finalists in 1959 and had reached the fifth round the year after.

When the Town were drawn out of the hat to play Northampton at Kenilworth Road in the third round in 1960/61 such was the interest in the game that it was immediately made all-ticket.

For the first local derby meeting against the Cobblers since 1937, over 26,000 turned up on a day hindered by a local bus strike to see the Town use skill against brawn and win comfortably to the tune of 4-0.

The reward was another home all-ticket affair with top flight Manchester City the visitors for the third time in eight years in the competition. City ominously boasted the mercurial Denis Law, who had become the most expensive player in the country when transferring from Huddersfield the previous year for a staggering £53,000.

Lutonians woke up on the day of the game to a downpour which persisted throughout the morning and into the afternoon leaving the Kenilworth Road pitch under water and the match in doubt.

Over 23,000 turned up and were relieved when the referee started the game and were even more so when Alec Ashworth put the Town two up inside 18 minutes. Then came the Denis Law show.

Gliding over the surface, Law netted a hat-



trick by half-time and repeated the feat in the second half before the rain got steadily worse leading to the referee calling the players off after 69 minutes with City leading 6-2.

It has been repeated over the years that the referee only intended to keep the players off the pitch until the rain had subsided a little but, showing admirable quick thinking, the Luton players leapt into the bath. When the officials decided to re-start the game a quick visit to the Luton changing room left them with little alternative but to abandon the game.

The replay took place on the following Wednesday afternoon due to complaints by City's German goalkeeper Bert Trautmann that the Kenilworth Road floodlights were not good enough.

The midweek afternoon kick-off kept the crowd down to 15,583 who saw a Kenilworth Road pitch turned from a waterlogged but even surface to thick, sticky mud which would hold the ball up.

Bob Morton was recalled to the side to

man-mark Law while John Groves was told to shadow City's playmaker George Hannah. City were naturally unchanged!

This time the Town went two up in 22 minutes with Ashworth taking advantage of a poor clearance from City's defence to ram the ball past Trautmann and then unselfishly setting up Jim Fleming to tap home.

Law was again on the scoresheet just before half-time when he made sure that a Joe Hayes shot that had already beaten Jim Standen in the Luton goal, crossed the line.

City rallied briefly after the interval but it was the Town who regained the initiative and in the 65th minute made sure of victory with another goal from the alert Ashworth this time from a cross from John Bramwell.

From then on the confident Hatters were content to repulse a flurry of desperate raids, led by the irrepressible Law, the unlucky man who scored seven goals and still finished on the losing side.

Law was to say in recent years that he 'only' scored five in the first game at Luton but that does not make it much better! 🥵

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MODEST BARKLEY LOVING LIFE AT LUTON

He was voted man-of-the-match by the sponsors on Tuesday night and scored a goal on his 30th birthday yet, understandably, Ross Barkley was left frustrated after the last-gasp defeat against Arsenal.

However, the midfielder's display was just one in a string of fine performances at the heart of the Hatters midfield since becoming a regular in Rob Edwards' side.

The former Everton and Chelsea man, while happy with his form, just wants to repay the faith shown in him by the manager and by the Town support who have grown to admire the talents of a man who not so long ago was a mainstay of the England squad.

"The fans are brilliant, I'm enjoying being at the club, genuinely. I can feel the connection with the fans and the players, it's good to be a part of," said Barkley after the 4-3 reverse to the Gunners on Tuesday.

"The fans are there until the last minute, singing. At the weekend we got beaten by Brentford and we were clapping them at the end because the support was brilliant, they still stay at the end, it's great to see.

"Hopefully, as the season goes on, we do reward them and do stay in the league and they can celebrate that.

I'm just enjoying my football though. I'm feeling positive, confident and just enjoying my football, that's the main thing.

"I'm happy with how I'm playing and enjoying being at the club.

"I feel young, so it's no problem, but it's always nice to score on my birthday. My goal's my goal. It didn't do anything to the result. It's a good moment but it doesn't help because we got beat.

After the Arsenal game journalists asked Barkley about comments from Hatters supporters who had quoted him as the 'best player to ever play for Luton Town'.

The modest midfielder was happy to reply: "It's high praise, it's nice to hear, obviously. I don't know about the players in the past but I'm just trying to do my best for the club, enjoying my football and help the players with my experience, and just help the team grow."

No sooner did the game finish that attention quickly turned to today and the visit of the reigning champions.

Barkley added: "Our focus is on winning games so it's not just like I scored a goal, we got beat. We'll reflect on it and hopefully we can put it right Sunday against the European champions."



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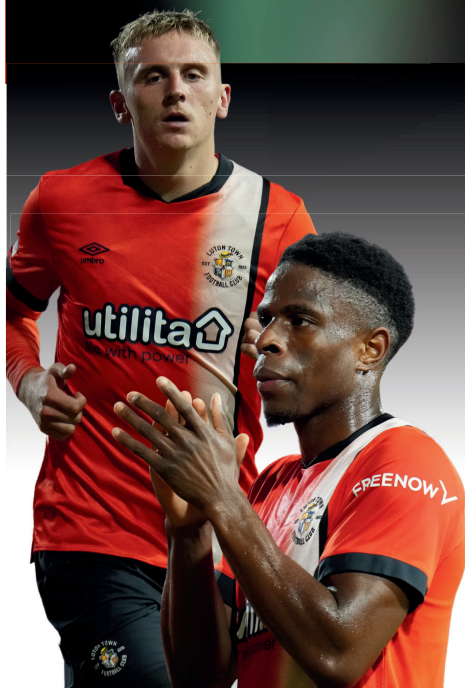
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COMMERCIAL MATTERS

Luton Town Football Club was delighted to announce a second year of partnership with local IT business Switchshop earlier this month.

Both parties recently helped to support a local school project. Switchshop found out about the major requirement at Breachwood Green JMI School for a new astroturf playing surface. They did not hesitate to offer the vital investment required to help accelerate this fantastic facility.

The Hatters were able to assist the school with the pitch opening with Mick Harford, Cauley Woodrow and James Shea doing the honours.

Town commercial director, Chris Bell said: "Luton Town and Switchshop share many common values that have allowed us both to progress over recent year. Strong ties to the local community, investment in people and a desire to constantly improve runs through the core of Luton Town and Switchshop.

"When James and the team at Switchshop explained how they had supported Breachwood Green JMI school with their new play area we were only too happy to help open the facility.

"Sport can play a very important part in development for children, this is a belief we both hold. Mick, Cauley and James had a brilliant time with the children and staff. We hope many happy memories were made and we look forward to expanding and developing a great partnership with Switchshop.

Switchshop director James Curry added: "The partnership provides the opportunity to support the local businesses and make a positive impact within the community. As a locally born company, we are thrilled to continue working with Luton Town, who also represent our own values in progression, and strong local roots to grow and achieve success. This will also help to improve employee satisfaction, many of whom are loyal Hatters fans.

"Myself, Mike and Tom always wanted Switchshop to be able to make a difference whether it be with our customers, employees or surrounding communities, we feel that this project has provided us the opportunity to make such an impact and are incredibly proud to be involved. Overall, the collaboration reflects a shared spirit of community, growth and ambition."

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We also had the pleasure of hosting six home mascots for the game who enjoyed their experience at Kenilworth Road, who got to meet their favourite players pre-match before lining up with the captains and officials moments before kick-off.

Today we have the pleasure of welcoming guests from our match sponsors Nisa and matchball sponsor Hardings with us again, plus six home mascots who will get all the VIP treatment!

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IN FOCUS LUTON v ARSENAL





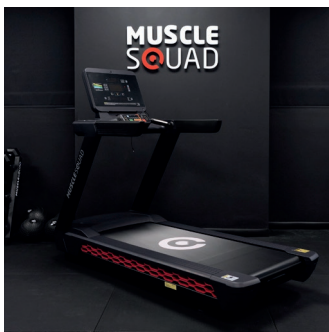
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ON THIS DAY

5TH DECEMBER

MEMORABLE MATCH!

STOKE 2-4 LUTON
10TH DECEMBER 1983

Paul Walsh scores a hat-trick against the lowly Potters team who had sacked their manager, Richie Barker, the previous day. Robbie James converts from the spot after Ian Painter drives the ball at the hand of Mal Donaghy. A superb headed goal by Ray Daniel is his first for the Hatters.

Town: Read, Sealey, Stephens, Thomas, Horton, Elliott, Donaghy, Hill, Stein, Walsh, Aylott, Daniel.

THE RECORD

Today will be the 25th time in history the Hatters have played on 10th December, and Town sides down the years have overall had the upper hand, winning 12 of those.

Just three have ended in a draw – the most recent a 1-1 with Carlisle in League Two in 2016 – while on nine occasions have the Hatters lost.

LAST TIME OUT

Just a year ago the Hatters were in action on this day and it was a significant one, as it was Rob Edwards' first game in charge.

A wonderful goal from midfielder Jordan Clark had the Town in front at Middlesbrough but the hosts would come back to take the points with a stoppage time winner from Matt Crooks earning Boro all three points.

"It wasn't to be. There are bits for us to learn on and reflect on and get better at," said Edwards afterwards. The Town would go on and get a bit better and win promotion. Boro, meanwhile, would lose to Coventry in the play-offs semis.

STIFF COMPETITION

In the 24 games played on this day, the Hatters have played in no less than ten different competitions or divisions.

The Town have played in (in chronological order): the FA Cup, United League, Southern League, Division Three (South), Division Two, Division One, the Southern Professional Floodlit Cup, Division Four, the Auto Windscreens Shield (and LDV Vans Trophy) and the FA Trophy.

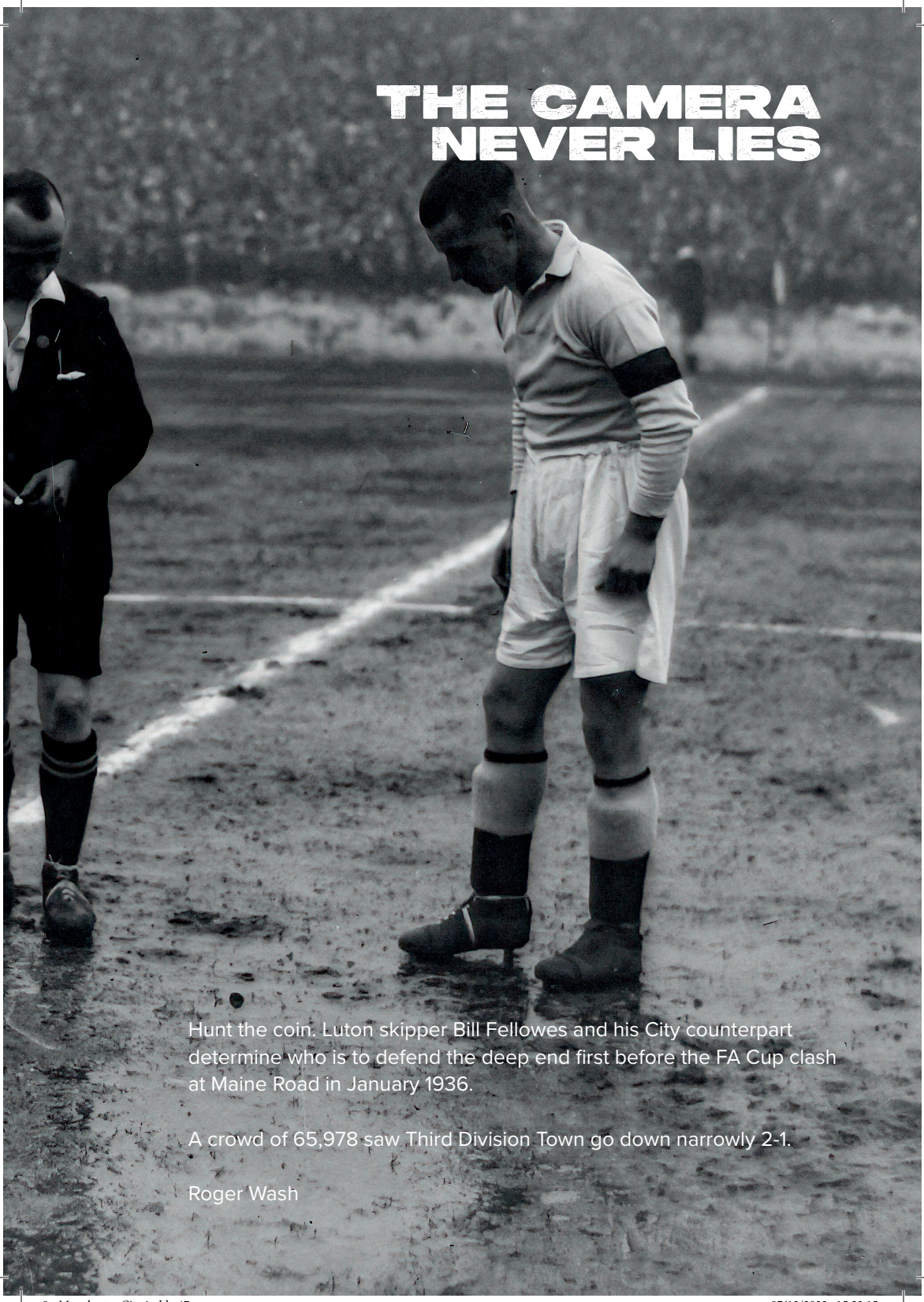
Can you believe that on this day in 2011 the Hatters were beating Swindon Supermarine in the FA Trophy? Just 1,298 saw goals from Stuart Fleetwood and Tommy Wright earn a place in the second round.

CITY TRIUMPH

The Hatters have played three times in the top-flight on this day, beating Stoke and Derby but on 10th December 1955, Manchester City earned a 3-2 win at Maine Road before a crowd of 15,499 at Maine Road.



THE CAMERA NEVER LIES



Hunt the coin. Luton skipper Bill Fellowes and his City counterpart determine who is to defend the deep end first before the FA Cup clash at Maine Road in January 1936.

A crowd of 65,978 saw Third Division Town go down narrowly 2-1.

Roger Wash



CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS YOU'LL NEVER SING THAT!

LUKE GUTTRIDGE WAS 90 MINUTES AWAY FROM NOT JOINING THE HATTERS - AND THEN WHEN HE DID SIGN HE WAS WONDERING WHY HE'D BOTHERED AFTER THIS FIRST GAME ENDED IN DEFEAT. THIS IS HIS STORY OF THAT SEASON TO REMEMBER.

For some it's the little things that make a team successful. For Luke Guttridge, a number of small components helped contribute to the Town's success in the Conference ten years ago.

Sure Andre Gray's 30 goals and Mark Tyler's 23 clean sheets helped. As did Guttridge's 13 goals from midfield in just 32 games. More on that later.

But it takes a team to win titles and in 2013/14 – after four failed seasons of trying – the Hatters got the job done. And Guttridge knows exactly why.

"In football you need chemistry and we had that in this team," says Guttridge, now 41. "It's not about necessarily having the best individuals. It's about partnerships all over the pitch.

"You need a blend of characters which you develop as a team over time. You don't know you've got it until you start to play. We had leaders and personalities that were all a bit mis-fitting but it worked.

"For me, in midfield, I had Jonathan Smith alongside me who loved to do the things I hated. And he was my roommate. We clicked instantly."

Guttridge's story of that season is a captivating one. Had Northampton won the League Two play-off final the season before he would have never even set foot inside Kenilworth Road.

"If we'd gone up, I would have stayed there," he says. "But Bradford's win paved the way for the midfield to question where his future lied. "That disappointment left a bitter taste that summer and I wanted something exciting. I wanted to go some-

where fun, somewhere to enjoy my last few seasons as a player rather than finish on a decline.

"I didn't have an agent, I did the deal myself; phoned up John Still, asked if he needed a midfielder. The deal was done. There was no magic formula. They had players in my position already but I think John thought I could do a job, but I was excited by the opportunity.

"Dropping down to the Conference wasn't an issue for me. I knew half the games at least would be on a decent pitch and we'd have sellouts at home games. I knew the project, wanted to play further forward and a bit more attacking and yes, it was a bit of a gamble by coming out of the league but I'm glad I took it."

With the deal done, everything was going well. A positive pre-season out of the way, the Town headed for the opening game of the season at Southport full of confidence.

"I was telling my mates that we were going to win the league comfortably," he says, laughing. "Then I sat on the bus after we'd lost thinking 'what have I done?!' We were horrendous.

"But it was a slow start. There was a defeat at Wrexham on a Friday night.

"A lot of the teams I could have signed for were in the play-offs in the league above so I was wondering what I'd done.

"But a few factors helped us turn the corner. We changed shape, we had changes in personnel – I remember Alex Lawless coming back.

"The game I first felt something click – like ➤



'we're up and running here' – was at Kidderminster.

"I never thought it would be as good as it turned out to be, though. We lit the blue touch paper, as John would say, and we just took off.

"Paul Benson made his debut at Kidderminster and I knew him from my Southend days. We complimented each other well. We knew each other's game. That was a real bonus.

"Then there was Andre Gray. I said after a week 'who's that?' because I thought he was unreal. I knew he would go onto play at a higher level because he had the attributes and the mindset. Moving him out to the right and playing to his strengths just worked wonders.

"It wasn't just one or two players, though, it was a genuine team effort. Steve McNulty would dominate at the back and play out; Mark Tyler in goal was brilliant... anyone who came in did a job, the youngsters... Cam McGeehan, Pelly – they added the youthfulness plus a desire to learn and improve and then we had the older guard including myself."

It was the perfect blend. Embarking on a long unbeaten run, that stretched from September to March, it was a sequence that all but guaranteed a place back in the Football League.

"The period around Christmas stands out," continues Guttridge. "We had home games where we'd score lots of goals. We beat Kidderminster, again, 6-0 this time at home. They had players in their team that day – Joe Lolley, Marvin Johnson, Chey Dunkley – that would go on and play at Championship level. Tough games, full houses, blowing

teams away... and I got a few goals and assists along the way."

With the Town motoring towards the title, Guttridge's involvement in the fun would be cruelly cut short after breaking a bone in his foot in the 3-0 home win over Alfreton.

"I'd already broken a bone in my foot and had a metal implant and the specialist said it was almost impossible to break – however I had a spiral fracture, it was split like a piece of wood. I knew I'd done it instantly and the specialist said it would be touch and go.

"From that point on I wasn't involved. I'd scored 13 goals by the start of March and I wanted to get 20 goals and 20 assists and with 15 games left of the season and I was on target to reach a special total for a midfielder.

"But that got taken away and I never quite felt part of it. I was involved for a bulk of the season but towards the end, amid all the celebrations, I felt like a fraud. Yes, it was nice to be on the pitch with my daughter at the end, but looking back I felt wasn't part of it."

We remind 'Gutts' that he was anything but a fraud for his role in getting the Hatters back among the 92.

"I don't like praise," he replies. "My job was to come down to the level and help them win the league.

"But, yes, it is amazing to see where Luton are now. We laid a few bricks down at the start of the journey and other people have since taken the club further. A lot of people call us legends, but we're not.

"We're just part of the history and we were a successful team. Of course I'm proud of what we achieved but it was a small part.

"To see Pelly in the Premier League... I don't think he gets the recognition he deserves. To come in from the Conference days and win four promotions and still be playing in the top-flight now is a testament to him and how he's developed.

"I couldn't be more grateful for my time at Luton, though, being part of that process to see them where they are now. It is incredible."


That season of glory meant a lot to Guttridge, now 41, still in the game and attempting to "bring a new twist" to being an agent. "The job these days is more than just money, it's about supporting and helping players," he says.

Especially as the triumph was towards the end of a career that would eventually end as injuries began to catch up with him.

And while the success might have been ten years ago, there's a glint in his eye and a confidence about him that suggests he'd still be able to do a job for the Hatters this afternoon.

"Maybe for just 20 minutes and I'd fancy myself to change the game!" he laughs. "I'm still playing on Monday nights to keep myself going. I've gone quiet now, I'm not moaning so much.

"The reality though is my body physically can't take it and, more importantly, mentally I wouldn't be able to. I've still got a bit... so if there's a summer tournament or a game to open a new stadium, I'll be there."

Don't worry, Luke, we have your number. See you at Power Court soon. 



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A-Z THE NON-LEAGUE YEARS

HATTERS HISTORIAN ROGER WASH REMEMBERS OUR OPPONENTS DURING OUR CONFERENCE DAYS

Part Eight – H is for Hayes & Yeading, Hereford, Histon, Hyde and Halifax.

We met **Hayes & Yeading United** over our first three seasons at non-league level and remained unbeaten. It was a pleasure to visit the old school Church Road, sadly no more, which was steeped in history but it was a remarkable home game that stands out.

In March 2010 we thumped them 8-0 at Kenilworth Road with seven goals coming in a blistering first half. Three players, Kevin Gallen, Claude Gnakpa and Tom Craddock, each scored twice as the Hatters went goal-crazy.

We had met **Hereford** as high as Division Two (now Championship) in 1976/77 but both found ourselves playing for points at non-league level in 2012. We were on our way to the title the following season and in the midst of a succession of heavy victories we thrashed the Bulls 7-0 with a certain Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu netting his first goal for the club to add to an Andre Gray hat-trick.

Hyde were our opponents during our last two seasons in non-league. Another low point in our history came when **Hyde** deservedly won 2-1 at Kenilworth Road in March 2013 in front of only 4,847. This defeat is tempered with the 1-0 win at Ewen Fields the following

season where an already promoted Hatters signed off from five years of non-league football.

When I moved to Newmarket in 1984, **Histon** were in the Eastern Counties League playing against the likes of Newmarket Town. A rapid rise through the divisions, for what was essentially a village side, saw them come up against the Town in our first two non-league seasons.

We won all four games, netting 17 goals in the process, with giant centre-half Janos Kovacs scoring on his debut at Histon in January 2010 and Tom Craddock netting a hat-trick in the home game later that season.

Our meetings with **Halifax** went back to our Football League days – winning at a snow bound Shay in front of 29,235 in the FA Cup in 1933 and clinching promotion from the old Division Four there in 1968.

Both the Town and Halifax found themselves in the Conference in 2013/14 when an Alex Wall goal in the second half confirmed a 4-3 home win while at the Shay in the battle of the outstanding strikers, Andre Gray for the Town and Halifax's Lee Gregory, saw the latter come out on top but it proved only a small bump on the road to promotion. 🏆



LUTON TOWN FC COMMUNITY TRUST

PUTTERIDGE HIGH SCHOOL DROP-IN SESSION

On Wednesday 22nd November Luton Town FC Community Trust Community Coach, Aiden Knowles, delivered a men's mental health and wellbeing day at Putteridge High School, allowing students to attend drop-in sessions to explore what mental health can mean, and what support networks are available to them.

Putteridge High School is one of the schools that employ a full-time member of staff through the Community Trust, allowing us to have a greater impact on their pupils and broaden the type of work we can carry out in the school.

During the planning stages of the event, students had the opportunity to create a

portrait of themselves and write down their emotions, feelings, achievements and future goals, allowing them to think a bit more about their own mental health.

During the event itself Aiden worked with other school staff to organise drop-in sessions for the students. As an ice breaker, the students were asked to first talk about their favourite sports team and players. This allowed students to build their confidence levels, feel supported and to gradually come out of their comfort zone before moving on to other topics.

Aiden then delivered a presentation to demonstrate factors that may impact the mental health of the students; including stress of exams, struggling to form friendships, or settling into school life. We then shared several resources and



videos, outlining what support is available to individuals if they are suffering with their mental health.

The day was a real success and has led to participants becoming more confident in sharing their experiences with their designated safe person. We have also been able to signpost several of the pupils to our Premier League Kicks programme, which allows young people the opportunity to take part in free football sessions across the town, as well as attending workshops from local support services and undertake training and employment opportunities.

Following on from this event last week, this week has been an exciting one for students at Putteridge High School, with Rob Edwards and Ross Barkley turning up to officially open their new 3G football facility. They took the time to speak to students and sign autographs, making for an extremely memorable experience for the young people.



SOCIAL CLUB VISITORS

We were delighted to host a few of our Social Club members at the home fixture against Crystal Palace recently. Predominately aimed at over 50s, we have been running the social club for several 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 from 10am to 12pm.

Community Trust staff love to get involved too, especially when it comes to a game of bingo or dominoes! The group thoroughly enjoyed the match, particularly as they were lucky enough to witness the historical moment the Hatters secured their first home victory in the Premier League.

Social Club member, Mary, thoroughly enjoyed her day.

She said: "I've lived in Luton my whole life but this was my first ever trip to the football. I loved it! It was such a great atmosphere and a day I'll remember forever. The Social Club is very important to me. I've made some great friends and really look forward to my Wednesday mornings."

The social club runs every Wednesday 10am-12pm and is completely free. Entry is through the main entrance on Maple Road East.

For further information please contact community@lutontown.co.uk or call 01582 561622.

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BEDS SENIOR CUP PROGRESS FOR UNDER-21S

The Hatters Under-21s continued their defence of the Beds Senior Cup last week with a 2-0 second round win over ten-man Bedford Town.

Adrian Forbes' youngsters scored a goal in each half, with Millar Matthews-Lewis netting the opener in the 24th minute after a cross from captain Jake Burger deflected off a defender to the far post, where the forward was waiting to volley home.

The Southern League Division One Central hosts had Shane Bush sent off for bringing down Josh Allen when the Town striker was through on goal six minutes before half-time.

Joshua Phillips added the second with 15 minutes remaining, getting on the end of a corner and finishing from close range, to ensure Town move into the third round with victory over the side they beat in the semi-final last season.

Forbes on the win at Bedford: "The boys played well against a tough team that were physical which we aren't used to.

"We passed the ball around excellently at times, we could have been a bit more clinical in-front of goal but we just didn't take those chances.

"The most important thing was making sure we got into the next round, which we did. The key for me was not wanting a different team playing in a cup final at Kenilworth Road other than us, which is what I said to the boys before the last game and before tonight."

Town: Horlick, Pinnington, Benagr (Kayibanda 85), Piesold, Tompkins, Francis-Clarke, Heron, Burger (C), Allen (Anderson 88), Phillips, Matthews-Lewis (Braney 85).

Sub not used: Camis



ACADEMY UPDATE

WITH ACADEMY OPERATIONS MANAGER DALE BRUNTON

Good afternoon all and welcome to Kenilworth Road for this Premier League fixture against Manchester City.

It has been an amazing first season for the club in the Premier League so far and this has been reflected in the Academy also, with our boys and staff being invited to participate in a number of Premier League fixtures and events that previously they didn't have access to.

Operationally this is a fantastic challenge as it sees us having to extend our travel and accommodation provision so that the boys can play in the increased number of matches and competitions that being a Premier League Club brings with it.

So far this season our Under-9s have taken part in a Premier League welcome festival at Loughborough University, the Under-12s took part in the Truce Cup qualifiers down in Portsmouth and the Under-15/17/18s have all taken part in the Premier League Cup at their respective age groups.

These competitions allow the boys and staff to challenge themselves against the best academies in the

country on a regular basis in competitive fixtures, which can only be a positive for them and their development both on and off the pitch.

The pinnacle of these competitions is the Premier League Cup for the Under-21s age group in which we were drawn in a group D with Chelsea, Leeds United and Colchester United. The first three fixtures in this competition (which were all played away from home) have seen Adrian Forbes' team come away with no points against strong Category 1 & 2 teams.

The Hatters have their first home game of the competition on Tuesday 12th December against Chelsea at Kenilworth Road and we are hoping to see as many of you there as possible to cheer the boys on.

Being a Premier League Club also opens doors to face teams we would never usually play, and this has become evident with the invite for the Under-21s to travel to Belgium to face Club Brugge in an





end of season friendly. This will be an amazing opportunity for the young Hatters to pit themselves against some of the best players in Europe as well as being able to experience life as a first team player, including travelling the day before the game and an over-night hotel stay.

I'd also just like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to SOLYD for their continued support of the Academy, especially with regards to travel opportunities for the Under-21s and the younger age groups.

SOLYD work tirelessly to raise funds which they donate to the Academy and these donations have enabled the Academy to offer a wide range of experiences to the boys and staff within the Academy which further enhance the programme.

Enjoy today's game and COYH! 🥰

ACADEMY WHO'S WHO

Academy Manager: **Paul Benson**
 Head of Academy Development: **Wayne Turner**
 U9-16 Head of Coaching: **Dan Walder**
 U21 Lead Coach: **Adrian Forbes**
 U18 Lead Coach: **Alex Lawless**
 Academy Operations Manager: **Dale Brunton**
 Academy Administrator: **Emily Howes**
 Youth Development Phase Lead Coach (15-16): **Craig Alcock**
 Youth Development Phase Lead Coach (12-14): **Jack Cartwright**
 Foundation Phase Lead Coach: **Billy Carter**
 Head of Academy Recruitment: **Lee Cowley**
 Academy Scout: **Kevin Thoburn**
 Head of Education: **Kobie Dee**
 Academy Safeguarding Manager: **Stuart Cornish**
 Player Care Officer: **Wayne Polson**
 Lead Academy Analyst: **Michael Malone**
 Academy Head of Goalkeeping: **Albert Bell**
 Academy Goalkeeping Coach: **Frank Atwell**
 Senior Academy Physiotherapist (18-21): **Oliver Sharples**
 Senior Academy Physiotherapist (12-16): **Connor Wright**
 Lead Academy Sports Therapist: **Paige Simms**
 Lead Academy Sports Scientist: **Daniel Taylor**

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Archie Heron



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Axel Piesold



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A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

Ben Tompkins



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
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Jack Bateson



H: FORMBY HATTERS
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

Jacob Pinnington



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
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Jake Burger



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
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Jameson Horlick



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
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Jayden Luker



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
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Josh Allen



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

Joshua Odell-Bature



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

Millar Matthews-Lewis



H: Les Miller, Miller & Company
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

Oliver Lynch



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

Tobias Braney



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

Tyrelle Newton



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
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Zack Nelson



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

Joshua Phillips



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

Marcus Daws



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

Joe Johnson



H: Stacey Peck
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

YOUTH U18 FIXTURES AND RESULTS

OPPONENT	DATE	A	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	H	W 1-0	PIPA	GIWA	BENAGR	STITT	EMERY	ROUTH	HARVEY
MILTON KEYNES	SAT 11/11/23	A	W 3-1	HOCKEY	GIWA	HARVEY	MARTINS	KAYIBANDA	ROUTH	LORENTZEN-JONES
AFC WIMBLEDON	SAT 18/11/23	H	W 4-0	HOCKEY	GIWA	HARVEY	MARTINS	CHIGOZIE	KAYIBANDA	LORENTZEN-JONES
STEVENAGE	SAT 9/12/23	A								
SWINDON TOWN FAYC3	FRI 15/12/23	H								
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	GATSON	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 (BSC)	TUE 31/10/23	H	W 8-0	TRIALIST	CHIGOZIE	LUKER	PIESOLD	PINNINGTON	KAYIBANDA	PHILLIPS
COLCHESTER UNITED	MON 13/11/23	A	L 0-2	SHEA	PINNINGTON	KAYIBANDA	CHIGOZIE	PHILLIPS	PIESOLD	BURGER
BEDFORD TOWN (BSC)	TUE 28/11/23	H	W 2-0	HORLICK	PINNINGTON	BENAGR	PIESOLD	TOMPKINS	FRANCIS-CLARK	HERON
CHELSEA	TUE 12/12/23	H								
LEEDS UNITED	FRI 19/1/24	A								
COLCHESTER UNITED	FRI 2/2/24	H								

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DYLAN STITT



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A: AVAILABLE
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ISAIAH HARVEY



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A: AVAILABLE
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JACK LORENTZEN-JONES



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A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

MARCUS WARREN



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A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

MATTHEW TAKAWIRA



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

MAX SCOTT



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

OLIVER PIPA



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

SAM ANDERSON



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

TATE XAVIER-JONES



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

TYRELL GIWA



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

WILL HOUGHTON



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

ZACHARIAS IOANNIDES



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A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

CAI HOCKEY



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LORENTZEN-JONES	TRUSTRAM	XAVIER-JONES	TAKAWIRA	MARTINS, IOANNIDES, HARVEY, ROUTH, DEAN, TRIALIST,
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
IOANNIDES	ANDERSON	TRUSTRAM	TRIALIST B	PIPA, TAKAWIRA, HOUGHTON, SHEPHERD,
LORENTZEN-JONES	ANDERSON	TRUSTRAM	XAVIER-JONES	ODEJAH, PIPA, STITT, HOUGHTON, HARVEY
LORENTZEN-JONES	ODEGAH	TRUSTRAM	HOUGHTON	ANDERSON, XAVIER-JONES, KIRBY, KAYIBANDA, PIPA
KIRBY	ODEGAH	LORENTZEN-JONES	ANDERSON	HOCKEY, HOUGHTON, XAVIER-JONES, MARTINS, AKINYA
N-JONES	STITT	SHEPHERD	ODEGAH	PIPA, XAVIER-JONES, ANDERSON, BENAGR, CHIGOZIE
N-JONES	STITT	ANDERSON	XAVIER-JONES	PIPA, SHEPHERD, BENAGR, ROUTH, HINCAPIE-ALFONSO

BURGER	NEWTON	TRIALIST B	MCATEE	HORLICK, MATTHEWS-LEWIS, HERON, ALLEN, PIESOLD, LYNCH
LUKER	NEWTON	LYNCH	MATTHEWS-LEWIS	HERON, PHILLIPS, BOOTH, PIPA, TRIALIST
LUKER	BURGER	MATTHEWS-LEWIS	DAWS	HOCKEY, HERON, ANDERSON, BENAGR, CHIGOZIE
BURGER	LUKER	TOWNSEND	MATTHEWS-LEWIS	HOCKEY, HERON, LYNCH, EMERY, TRUSTRAM
BURGER	LYNCH	TOWNSEND	MATTHEWS-LEWIS	NELSON, PHILLIPS, DAWS, HOUGHTON, LORENTZ-JONES
NELSON	LYNCH	BURGER	MATTHEWS-LEWIS	HOCKEY, ANDERSON, EMERY, DAWS, LORENTZ-JONES
NELSON	LUKER	MATTHEWS-LEWIS	LYNCH	HORLICK, GIWA, DAWS, HERON, BENAGR
BURGER	ALLEN	PHILLIPS	MATTHEWS-LEWIS	ANDERSON, CAMIS, BARNEY, KAYIBANDA

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MIXED NIGHT FOR ANDROS

Hatters attacker Andros Townsend had high praise for the performance against Arsenal on Tuesday night but was left rueing the late goal that cost the Town a point against the league leaders.

"I'm proud and devastated, those are the two words, because it was an amazing performance against one of Europe's best clubs," the winger told the huddled press pack in the mixed zone late after Tuesday night's epic

"To score three goals, to press high, to not give them any time on the ball, to have chances, and to still lose it, devastating. We'll sulk and we'll drown our sorrows but then we'll have to take the positives and look forward to another tough game on Sunday."

Having succumbed to a late Liverpool equaliser that denied the Town all three points and then suffered more late heartbreak against Arsenal, Townsend knows the Hatters need to learn to see games out better if they are to get the points their performances deserve.

"I knew there'd be more than 96 minutes, we just couldn't hold out and that's football."

"When you're in the Premier League, you can't give them any chances. Unfortunately we've been undone in the last second of the game, we've been undone against Liverpool in the last few minutes so we have to learn from it."

"We have to learn and be better as if we're going to stay in the league we need to start turning these ones into points and the Liverpool ones into wins if we're going to get the required points we need."

Despite the disappointment, Townsend had plenty of positives to take when you look at who the Hatters have run close at Kenilworth Road already this season.

"If you look at all the top teams we've played this season, Spurs, unlucky to lose, Liverpool, unlucky not to win, (Manchester) United conceded a set-piece, here tonight, unlucky to not take a point," added the former Tottenham, Crystal Palace and Everton man.

"So each game we're taking the positives, but eventually we need the points on the board instead. Teams in and around us are starting to win, so we need to start winning games and Sunday is one we're going to look to try and win."






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CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR:

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- ✗ Discriminatory behaviour

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES:

-  Serious injury
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-  Reported to the police
-  Criminal record
-  Education and employment at risk

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LUTON TOWN LADIES

LADIES EASE PAST NEWMARKET TOWN

Four in a row for the Ladies as winning streak continues

Luton Town Ladies earned another convincing win by defeating Newmarket Town 4-0 last Sunday afternoon.

The Ladies came into the match off the back of three consecutive wins in all competitions, with the most recent coming in a 5-3 away win at Enfield Town in the FA Cup second round.

With 35 minutes on the clock, the Town make the breakthrough through Andie Dickens, who pulled off a lovely finish, smashing the ball past the Newmarket keeper.

Leyah Maddix almost had an instant impact when coming off the substitutes' bench when she hit a thumping effort just inside the box that was well saved.

There was one last chance for the Town before half-time when Amber Pearson used her strength to pick out a pass but a fine piece of defending saw Newmarket clear the danger.

The Hatters started the second half a lot quicker than they did the first and ten minutes into the second period the Ladies celebrated a well-deserved second goal and some much-needed breathing



space. A mixture of good pressing and some good luck saw Elizabeth Sanders have a shot blocked, the ball deflected back into her path before it found the target.

As the Hatters pressed for more goals, Maddix, who had very lively throughout the second half, sent in two great balls into the box, but no one is able to turn the ball goalwards.

At the other end goalkeeper Amy Butler ensured her clean sheet when she was replaced in goal by Elly Wade, who was immediately called into action to prevent Newmarket for scoring and halving the deficit.

With five minutes to go, substitute Samira Khan made sure of victory to make it 3-0 with her third goal in as many games, getting onto the end of a wonderful cross.

Then, with the last attacking play of the game, the Town make it four when Maddix rose highest to convert Fi Buttigieg's corner.

The Ladies' next match took place today in the third round of the Adobe Women's FA Cup when they entertained Keynsham Town at Barton Rovers. Find out more by heading to @LTLFC_Official on X.

Follow the Ladies on X: @LTFCL_Official



LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS' TRUST

WITH SOLYD SECRETARY DEREK SHEPPARD

This season was always going to be tough given we were never going to spend extravagantly. The financial security was always paramount.

It's clear to those that see us week in week out our progression game on game, season on season. And this season is following a similar profile. The results haven't reflected our improvement and how we have played overall. We could have been in a much stronger position if the football gods had been accommodating. We've been fabulous in our last three at home, picking up four points when it could have been seven if not for two very late goals.

I'm Derek Sheppard, Trust board member for three years and inputting as much as I can for our members. I feel very fortunate to be involved with SoLYD (Supporters of Luton Youth Development) who has now come under the umbrella of the Trust. I've been involved fundraising to help provide the Academy with items that they may not have done without our involvement.

I would like to thank each and every person that has donated to SoLYD over the last 16 seasons. Without your generosity, especially when we found ourselves in the Conference and funding from the league ceased, our contributions to the Academy wouldn't have been achieved.

In those 16 years SoLYD has donated close to £150,000 and we intend to keep giving and supporting our wonderful Academy. There's nothing better than watching a lad break into the

first team as one of our own.

This year we've already donated £3,000, of which 2k is partially funding a trip to Belgium for the Under-21 squad where they will use their few days in Brussels playing FC Brugge while still finding time to study.

Next week, a group of 90 supporters will be having a Christmas Dinner before watching our Under-21s host Chelsea from the directors' box. Thanks to those 90 fans, SoLYD will be raising at least £1,000 from the night.

I have another role within the Supporters' Trust and that's Equality and Diversity representative.

I hope some of you managed to get a pair of rainbow laces at our fixture against Arsenal. The Trust purchased 500 pairs as it welcomed one of the club's supporter groups, Rainbow Hatters.

I'm working on a few other events for this season, and I hope that the Trust, in cooperation with the football club and the Football Supporters' Association, will be announcing these in the near future.

All the best, keep being as vociferous from the first minute to well past the 90th. It lifts the team and keeps driving the boys forward. And reproductions of our recent home performances will see us win enough games to stay in this division.

A quick look over my left shoulder from the enclosure is our constant reminder (as if any Luton supporter needs reminding) that we do it our way, we are not like any other club and fortunate to have wonderful owners, or custodians as 2020 keep telling us.

Forza Luton.



MEET THE FANS

WITH ANDY COSIER FROM AUSTRALIA

How long have you supported Luton for?

Since the late 1970's. The first game I can remember was Newcastle, sitting in the Bobbers Stand, around 1977/78.

How are you able to watch Luton matches and who do you watch them with?

I watch them on Optus Sports from Australia. I have recently founded the Oz Hatters supporters group and we hope to be able to go to a local bar in Brisbane to watch games as a group.

Who is your all-time favourite player and why?

Hard one this, but I would say David Moss and Mick Harford. Both are very different forward players but could score goals. Mossy could despatch a penalty at ease under any pressure. Big Mick could score goals but also able to rough up defenders to allow strike partners room to score.

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

It is my home town and I always will have a soft spot for the Hatters, but it's the loyal support that really brings it home to me. We have had a barren few years but the support has always been there through thick and thin.

What are your favourite memories of being a Luton fan?

Winning the Division 2 in 1981/82 and the Littlewoods Cup win against Arsenal in 1988 stand out, but how can you forget the Wembley win on penalties against Coventry to get us in the Premier League?

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

Most of my friends are proper football fans so don't tend to mock too much as they know what goes around comes around. There's been a little bit of ridiculing with us being in the Premier League by pundits and others but hopefully we prove them very wrong.

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

The football is a lot quicker in the Premier League and mistakes are punished more ruthlessly, but I think we have always kept that Luton way of playing and the support has stayed through the hard times.

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

So proud that we had finally made it to the Promised Land. Very nervous right up to kick-off.

How do the experiences of seeing Luton in the Premier League compare with the lower leagues?

Where before you expect to win certain games in the lower leagues, the Premier League is certainly a lot more difficult with every game being so very tough.

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

That we give a good account of ourselves in every game, and fight to the end. I don't care if we stay up by one point as long as we are there next season playing the Luton way and entertaining. 🍌





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WHO'S YOUR PREMIER LEAGUE TEAM?

As we welcome current Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup holders Manchester City to Kenilworth Road, it is the perfect opportunity to look back at how far we have come. So, let's look back to a trip to Adams Park in 2017.

It was September 2017 as Luton made the fairly short trip to Buckinghamshire to face Wycombe Wanderers. Both the Town and Wycombe were in the hunt for promotion early in the League Two season and this game would prove to be a big one.

Former Hatter Craig Mackail-Smith made the starting XI for Wycombe as well as another ex-Hatter in Michael Harriman. There was also future QPR and Crystal Palace star Eberechi Eze on the bench.

As for Luton, it was a standard line-up from Nathan Jones' side as the strike partnership of Danny Hylton and James Collins started for the Hatters. Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu was also starting for the Hatters in midfield.

The game got off to a tough start for Jones' side with Wycombe pressing for a goal. Marek Stech made a few good saves, but it was Luton who had the ball in the back of the net first. Unfortunately, James Collins' header was disallowed for offside.

Just before half time, it was 1-0 to Wycombe. A great cross swung in from the right was met by Adebayo

Akinfenwa who outmuscled Glen Rea and headed Wycombe into the lead.

Later on, the Chairboys should've made it 2-0. A glorious chance for the Wanderers was met by their attacker but somehow the ball was blasted over the bar.


In the second half, the Town were awarded a penalty after Danny Hylton was dragged down in the box. Hylton took but it was well saved by Scott Brown in the Wycombe goal.

The Hatters had some better chances in the second half, but the Wycombe defence was standing strong. Scott Brown made a brilliant save from a Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu effort from distance.

In the 90th minute, the Town then went forward down the left wing and a great ball in was flicked on to Scott Cuthbert who was there to calmly finish for a late equaliser.

Yet the Town weren't done here though and they somehow found a winner in the 98th minute. A Harry Cornick cross close to goal was headed over the goalkeeper at an angle and despite the defender's best efforts, the ball stumbled into the back of the net to send the travelling fans into raptures.

It was a monumental win for the Hatters and an away day to remember as Jones' side picked up all three points. It's always good to flashback to older times. Enjoy the game!

COYH. 

Words by Zac Neal



LUTON TOWN BUSINESS PARTNERS

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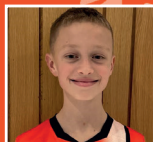


JUNIOR HATTERS TODAY'S MASCOTS



Ella Elkington

Hobbies: Netball, Music &
Following Luton Home and Away
Favourite Player: Tom Lockyer



Joshua Johnson

Hobbies: Playing Football &
Gaming
Favourite Player: Tom Lockyer



Hugo Elkington

Hobbies: Football, FC24,
Athletics, Luton Home & Away
Favourite Player: Alfie Doughty



Aidan Enlander

Hobbies: Playing Football &
PlayStation
Favourite Player: Ross Barkley



Archie Royle

Hobbies: Football, FIFA, Running
Favourite Player: Carlton Morris



Leighton Edwards

Hobbies: Football
Favourite Player: Carlton Morris
Away Mascot

WELCOME TO OUR AWAY MASCOT



Name: Lyla Hulston

Hobbies: Watching City, Playing Football, Reading
Favourite Player: Erling Haaland

TICKET NEWS



SHEFFIELD UNITED V LUTON TOWN

Premier League
Tuesday 26th December
2023, kick-off 3pm

**We have received the full allocation of
2,861 tickets for our fixture at Bramall
Lane.**

Season Card holders who attended six away league* fixtures in 2022/23

Supporters who meet this criteria can book one ticket per person from 10am on Friday 8th December online via phone or in person using their client reference number. If you did not assign tickets to individual client reference numbers, then you would need to book your tickets either by phone or in person from the ticket office.

* League away fixtures only, not including play-offs.

Season card holders

Subject to availability, tickets for season card holders go on sale 10am on Tuesday 12th December, at one per person online, using a client reference number or can be purchased via phone. Please note: no tickets will be sold in person at this stage of the sales plan or this fixture.

Two-year Hatters Members

Subject to availability, any members who have held a membership for two seasons can book one ticket per person from 10am on Thursday 14th December online, in person or by calling the ticket office.

2023/24 Hatters Members

Subject to availability, any members with a previous purchasing history can book one ticket per person from 10am on Friday 15th December online or by calling the ticket office. Please note: no tickets will be sold in person at this stage of the sales plan or this fixture.

New 2023/24 Hatters Members/General Sale

Subject to availability, tickets will go on sale on Monday 18th December at 10am at one per person to any supporter with a previous purchasing history and any member without a previous booking history. These will be sold via the online portal, in person and via phone on 01582 416976.

Prices

Adults £30, Seniors Over 60s £23, Students £20, 18-21-year-olds £20, Under-18s £14. Ambulant Disabled supporters who claim middle/higher rate DLA/Enhanced PIP) Will pay concession price or age appropriate, whichever is the lesser amount.

LET'S GO

VITALITY STADIUM SATURDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2023 KICK OFF: 3:00PM

WHERE?

For most of us, this will always be Dean Court. The Cherries' home ground was first opened in 1910 but has undergone a complete rebuild to resemble nothing like it's previous appearance. The redevelopment began in 2001 and for many years the stadium was a three-sided affair until the introduction of the South Stand in 2013. Keep an eye out for the unusual floodlights in the open corners of the ground.

HOW TO GET THERE

Follow the A338 towards Bournemouth. Leave the A338 via the slip road which is signposted Kings Park/Football traffic. You will then reach a small roundabout at which you take the second exit into Kings Park Drive. The entrance to the stadium and car park are down this road on the left. The postcode to the ground is BH7 7AF. If you'd rather go by coach, the Bobbers Travel Club are running coaches to Bournemouth. The fare is £30 adults and £27 for concessions and departs Luton at 10am. Call 01234 856542 to book.

OUR RECORD THERE

Town teams from the past have rarely fared well on their trips to Dean Court down the years. Of the 33 times the Hatters have made the journey to this part of Dorset, only seven teams have come back with a win to their name. The Town lost 2-1 on their last

visit in September 2021 but in the season before a Kiernan Dewsbury-Hall goal gave us a 1-0 win. An Enoch Showunmi goal gave the Hatters all three points back in April 2005 on our way to promotion from League One.

THE CHERRIES OF TODAY

Bournemouth staved off the threat of relegation at the end of last season thanks to a fine end of the season run which saw them finish the season in 15th place. This time around, under the guidance of manager Andoni Iraola, the Cherries – now playing their seventh season in the Premier League – have improved in recent weeks with a number of important wins to escape the relegation zone.

WATCH OUT FOR

Marcus Tavernier enjoyed a memorable first season in the Premier League after joining the Cherries from Middlesbrough ahead of the start of 2022/23 season. The winger scored five goals and supplied four assists in 23 appearances, his exploits helping the Cherries preserve their top-flight status with four games to spare. The former England youth international has since continued his fine run of performances this season, including an excellent brace in the recent victory away at Sheffield United.



THE CHERRIES

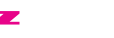
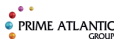
VS



THE HATTERS



MEMBERS



Call the Commercial Team on 01582 411622 or email
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. Who scored the Town's winning goal against Manchester City to keep us in the top-flight in 1983?
2. What was the name of the ground where that goal was scored?
3. Who scored the last Hatters goal against Manchester City in 1998?
4. True or false, no club has ever won four top-flight titles in a row?
5. What is the nationality of City striker Erling Haaland?
6. Which Football League club play their home games at Gander Green Lane?
7. The Sulphurites is the nickname of which English club?
8. Which goalkeeper has kept more clean sheets in the Premier League than any other keeper?
9. Which three teams will England face in the group stage at Euro 2024?
10. With the exception of Issa Kaboré, who was the last player to join the Hatters on-loan from Manchester City?

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 City fan or you're new to this.



ROUND-UP

Arsenal's last-minute winner on Tuesday ensured Mikel Arteta's side would end Gameweek 15 on top of the Premier League.

Liverpool remain two points behind the Gunners after Jurgen Klopp's Reds earned a 2-0 win at our relegation rivals Sheffield United at Bramall Lane.

Goals from Virgil van Dijk and Dominik Szoboszlai were enough to give the Anfield club all three points and spoil Chris Wilder's return to the Yorkshire club. The Blades remain bottom of the table on five points, four points behind the Hatters.

Our visitors this afternoon are now winless in four Premier League fixtures after losing 1-0 at in-form Aston Villa. Victory for Unai Emery's side was their 14th in a row at Villa Park in the Premier League and was enough to take them above City and into third place – four points off the top.

The Hatters' relegation rivals Burnley went down 1-0 at Wolves on Tuesday evening, while Everton were not in action until Thursday – and after our print



deadline. You will, of course, now know whether the Town are in the bottom three before kick-off today.

The biggest winners and losers of the week were Fulham and Nottingham Forest respectively after the Cottagers recorded their biggest win of the season over Steve Cooper's side on Wednesday, winning 5-0 to take them further clear of the relegation zone. Forest sit one place and four points above the Hatters in the table.

AFC Bournemouth's resurgence continued with another victory – this time 2-0 at Crystal Palace to make it ten points from their last four matches. Defeat for Roy Hodgson's Eagles was their third in four matches, including the reverse here at Kenilworth Road.

In other matches that took place in midweek, two Scott McTominay goals secured a 2-1 win for Manchester United against Chelsea at Old Trafford. The same scoreline also saw Brighton defeat Brentford at the American Express Community Stadium.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

EVERTON v CHELSEA

FULHAM v WEST HAM

SPURS v NEWCASTLE

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. The shirt has a large red graphic on the chest that says "PERCIVAL" and a small Umbro logo. He is also wearing red shorts, white socks with a small Umbro logo, and black loafers. The background shows a grassy field with soccer goals and trees under a cloudy sky.

Umbro x Percival

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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	5	(10)	3	1	(1)	0	6	(11)	3	1	0	126		35	
Mads Andersen	4	(2)	1	2	(0)	0	6	(2)	1	1	0	8		1	
Ross Barkley	8	(2)	1	0	(1)	0	8	(3)	1	2	0	11		1	
Amari'I Bell	10	(0)	0	1	(1)	0	11	(1)	0	0	0	109		2	
Luke Berry	0	(2)	0	2	(0)	0	2	(2)	0	1	0	168		24	
Jacob Brown	8	(6)	2	1	(1)	1	9	(7)	3	4	0	16		3	
Reece Burke	7	(1)	0	0	(1)	0	7	(2)	0	1	0	66		4	
Tahith Chong	6	(7)	1	1	(0)	0	7	(7)	1	4	0	14		1	
Jordan Clark	0	(4)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(4)	0	1	0	115		9	
Alfie Doughty	11	(3)	0	2	(0)	1	13	(3)	1	1	0	51		3	
Ryan Giles	3	(5)	0	2	(0)	0	5	(5)	0	0	0	10		0	
Joe Johnson	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0	3		0	
Issa Kabore	11	(2)	0	0	(2)	0	11	(4)	0	4	0	15		0	
Thomas Kaminski	15	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	15	(0)	0	3	0	15		0	
Tim Krul	0	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	0	0	2		0	
Tom Lockyer	13	(0)	1	1	(0)	0	14	(0)	1	4	0	116		7	
Sambi Lokonga	2	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	2	(0)	0	0	0	2		0	
Teden Mengi	8	(2)	1	1	(0)	0	9	(2)	1	1	0	11		1	
Carlton Morris	14	(1)	3	0	(1)	0	14	(2)	3	1	0	67		23	
Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu	8	(6)	0	2	(0)	0	10	(6)	0	0	0	386		23	
Marvelous Nakamba	12	(0)	0	0	(1)	0	12	(1)	0	4	0	33		0	
Chiedozie Ogbene	10	(5)	1	1	(1)	0	11	(6)	1	0	0	17		1	
Gabriel Osho	6	(0)	1	0	(0)	0	6	(0)	1	1	0	68		4	
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	4	(3)	0	0	(0)	0	4	(3)	0	0	0	7		0	
Cauley Woodrow	0	(7)	0	2	(0)	1	2	(7)	1	0	0	44		4	

2023/24 FIXTURES & RESULTS

DATE	OPPOSITION	KO	POS	SCORE	STARTING XI
SAT AUG 12	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	3PM	A 18	L1-4	KAMINSKI KABORÉ GILES ANDERSEN LOCKYER BELL
FRI AUG 25	CHELSEA	8PM	A 19	L0-3	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	L1-2	KAMINSKI DOUGHTY GILES BURKE ANDERSEN BELL
SAT SEP 16	FULHAM	3PM	A 20	L0-1	KAMINSKI KABORÉ BELL BURKE LOCKYER ANDERSEN
SAT SEP 23	WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS	3PM	H 18	D1-1	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY BURKE LOCKYER BELL
TUE SEP 26	EXETER CITY (CC)	7.45PM	A -	L0-1	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	L1-2	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY MENGI LOCKYER BELL
SAT OCT 7	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	12.30PM	H 17	L0-1	KAMINSKI BURKE DOUGHTY ANDERSEN LOCKYER OGBENE
SAT OCT 21	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	3PM	A 17	D 2-2	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY MENGI LOCKYER OGBENE
SUN OCT 29	ASTON VILLA	2PM	A 18	L1-3	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY MENGI LOCKYER OSHO
SUN NOV 5	LIVERPOOL	4.30PM	H 17	D1-1	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY MENGI LOCKYER OSHO
SAT NOV 11	MANCHESTER UNITED	3PM	A 18	L0-1	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY MENGI LOCKYER OSHO
SAT NOV 25	CRYSTAL PALACE	3PM	H 17	W 2-1	KAMINSKI DOUGHTY BELL MENGI LOCKYER OSHO
SAT DEC 2	BRENTFORD	3PM	A 17	L1-3	KAMINSKI KABORÉ BELL MENGI LOCKYER OSHO
TUE DEC 5	ARSENAL	8.15PM	H 17	L3-4	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY MENGI BELL OSHO
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	Pl	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Arsenal	15	11	3	1	33	14	19	36
2	Liverpool	15	10	4	1	34	14	20	34
3	Aston Villa	15	10	2	3	34	20	14	32
4	Manchester City	15	9	3	3	36	17	19	30
5	Tottenham Hotspur	14	8	3	3	28	20	8	27
6	Manchester United	15	9	0	6	18	18	0	27
7	Newcastle United	14	8	2	4	32	14	18	26
8	Brighton & Hove Albion	15	7	4	4	32	27	5	25
9	West Ham United	14	6	3	5	24	24	0	21
10	Chelsea	15	5	4	6	26	24	2	19
11	Brentford	15	5	4	6	23	21	2	19
12	Fulham	15	5	3	7	21	26	-5	18
13	Wolverhampton Wanderers	15	5	3	7	20	25	-5	18
14	Crystal Palace	15	4	4	7	14	21	-7	16
15	Bournemouth	15	4	4	7	18	30	-12	16
16	Nottingham Forest	15	3	4	8	16	27	-11	13
17	Luton Town	15	2	3	10	16	30	-14	9
18	Everton *	14	5	2	7	15	20	-5	7
19	Burnley	15	2	1	12	15	33	-18	7
20	Sheffield United	15	1	2	12	11	41	-30	5

* Everton deducted 10 points following a breach of the Premier League's Profitability and Sustainability rules.



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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, KRUIJ, 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	KRUIJ, BERRY, BROWN, FRANCIS-CLARKE, JOHNSON, KABORE, MPANZU, OGBENE, WOODROW					10,802	1,151
NAKAMBA	CHONG	LOKONGA	MORRIS	BROWN	KRUIJ, ADEBAYO, BERRY, DOUGHTY, GILES, MENGI, MPANZU, OGBENE, WOODROW					24,467	2,701
NAKAMBA	LOKONGA	OGBENE	MORRIS ❖	BROWN	KRUIJ, 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	KRUIJ, ANDERSEN, BERRY, WOODROW, ADEBAYO, CHONG, MENGI, GILES, JOHNSON					39,289	2,976
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	OGBENE	MORRIS	BROWN	KRUIJ, ANDERSEN, BERRY, BURKE, WOODROW, ADEBAYO ❖, CHONG, GILES, JOHNSON					10,918	1,126
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	ADEBAYO	MORRIS	BROWN	KRUIJ, BARKLEY, BERRY, WOODROW, KABORE, CHONG, MENGI, GILES, JOHNSON					10,929	1,151
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	CHONG	MORRIS	BROWN	KRUIJ, OSHO, BARKLEY, WOODROW, ADEBAYO ❖, KABORE, GILES, TOWNSEND, LUKER					29,361	2,893
NAKAMBA	BARKLEY	OGBENE	MORRIS	BROWN	KRUIJ, WOODROW, ADEBAYO, CHONG, MPANZU, GILES, TOWNSEND, JOHNSON, LUKER					41,785	3,005
NAKAMBA	BARKLEY	OGBENE	MORRIS	TOWNSEND	KRUIJ, ADEBAYO, CHONG ❖, MPANZU, CLARK, BROWN, GILES, NELSON, LUKER					11,049	1,151
NAKAMBA	BARKLEY	OGBENE	MORRIS	TOWNSEND	KRUIJ, ADEBAYO, BERRY, CHONG, MPANZU, CLARK, BROWN, GILES, NELSON					73,599	3,008
MPANZU	BARKLEY	OGBENE	MORRIS	TOWNSEND	KRUIJ, BERRY, ADEBAYO, CHONG, CLARK, BROWN ❖, GILES, NELSON, LUKER					11,029	1,149
MPANZU	BARKLEY	OGBENE	MORRIS	CHONG	KRUIJ, ADEBAYO, CLARK, BROWN ❖, GILES, TOWNSEND, JOHNSON, NELSON					17,075	1,725
MPANZU	BARKLEY ❖	BROWN	ADEBAYO	TOWNSEND	KRUIJ, OGBENE, BERRY, MORRIS, CHONG, CLARK, GILES, JOHNSON, NELSON						



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 or download Kick It Out's free confidential reporting app on the App Store or Google Play.

TOWN TEASERS ANSWERS:
1 Raddy Antic, 2 Maine Road, 3 Gary Doherty, 4 True, 5 Norwegian, 6 Sutton United,
7 Harrogate Town, 8 Petr Cech, 9 Serbia, Slovenia and Denmark, 10 Luke Bolton.



HOLD THE BACK PAGE

With Simon Pitts – Hatters Player commentator

Have you recovered from Tuesday night yet?

What an incredible performance against the league leaders only to be denied a point with basically the last touch of the game – it was heartbreaking after coming from behind twice and then taking the lead through Ross Barkley on his 30th birthday.

It was certainly a performance to be proud of, with amazing team spirit shown throughout, all of which is going to be needed again against Manchester City this afternoon.

Just over ten years ago today Luton drew 0-0 at Staines Town in the FA Trophy, whilst on this day in 2013 today's opponents were winning a Champions League tie at Bayern Munich, having won the Premier League earlier that year.

A decade on and we find ourselves playing against City in the top-flight, something that us Hatters fans could only dream of during those non-league days.

For most of our opponents this season we look back to the 1991/92 season for the last league meeting at Kenilworth Road, however in the case of today's visitors we don't have to go back quite as far, as in 1998/99 both sides were in the third tier of the pyramid with a Gary Doherty header earning a 1-1 draw in the second half.

Looking back on that season, current Premier League teams Bournemouth, Burnley and Fulham were also in the same division, but so were Macclesfield, Oldham

and York, who all now find themselves playing different levels of non-league football.

It shows just how much things can change in football, and life in the Premier League is so different to what we have all been used to over the years. Times have certainly changed since our last top-flight campaign too.

As we saw on Tuesday night, it took a £100m player to win the match for Arsenal, and the gulf in money spent is clearly on show again this afternoon – but how much is our team spirit and determination worth in comparison to those large transfer fees?

The Hatters have shown that they aren't here to just make up the numbers this season, with the first victory of the campaign at Goodison Park, and then the win against Palace here a fortnight ago giving a foundation to build on, along with the draw against Liverpool and of course the excellent performance on Tuesday night.

Those behind the scenes at Kenilworth Road continue to enhance and develop the Club in a sensible and effective manner which secures and protects its long-term future, and while this might be referred to as a David v Goliath encounter – it's one we've all been waiting for, and one that everybody involved deserves the opportunity to experience.

Enjoy the match – and continue to create that very special Kenilworth Road atmosphere – COYH. 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿



Premier
League

THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH



sky sports



LUTON TOWN

1. JAMES SHEA
2. GABE OSHO
3. DAN POTTS
4. TOM LOCKYER
5. MADSEN 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. PELLİ 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



MANCHESTER CITY

2. KYLE WALKER
3. RÚBEN DIAS
4. KALVIN PHILLIPS
5. JOHN STONES
6. NATHAN AKÉ
8. MATEO KOVAČIĆ
9. ERLING HAALAND
10. JACK GREALISH
11. JEREMY DOKU
16. RODRIGO
17. KEVIN DE BRUYNE
18. STEFAN ORTEGA MORENO
19. JULIAN ALVAREZ
20. BERNARDO SILVA
21. SERGIO GÓMEZ
24. JOŠKO Gvardiol
25. MANUEL AKANJI
27. MATHEUS NUNES
31. EDERSON
33. SCOTT CARSON
47. PHIL FODEN
52. OSCAR BOBB
82. RICO LEWIS

MATCH OFFICIALS



- REFEREE - TIM ROBINSON
ASSISTANT REFEREE - MARC PERRY
ASSISTANT REFEREE - MATTHEW WILKES
FOURTH OFFICIAL - CRAIG PAWSON
VIDEO ASSISTANT REFEREE - JARRED GILLET
ADDITIONAL VIDEO ASSISTANT REFEREE - DARREN CANN