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LUTON TOWN V NOTTINGHAM FOREST

SATURDAY 16TH MARCH 2024 | 3:00PM | KENILWORTH ROAD



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

BRING THE NOISE!



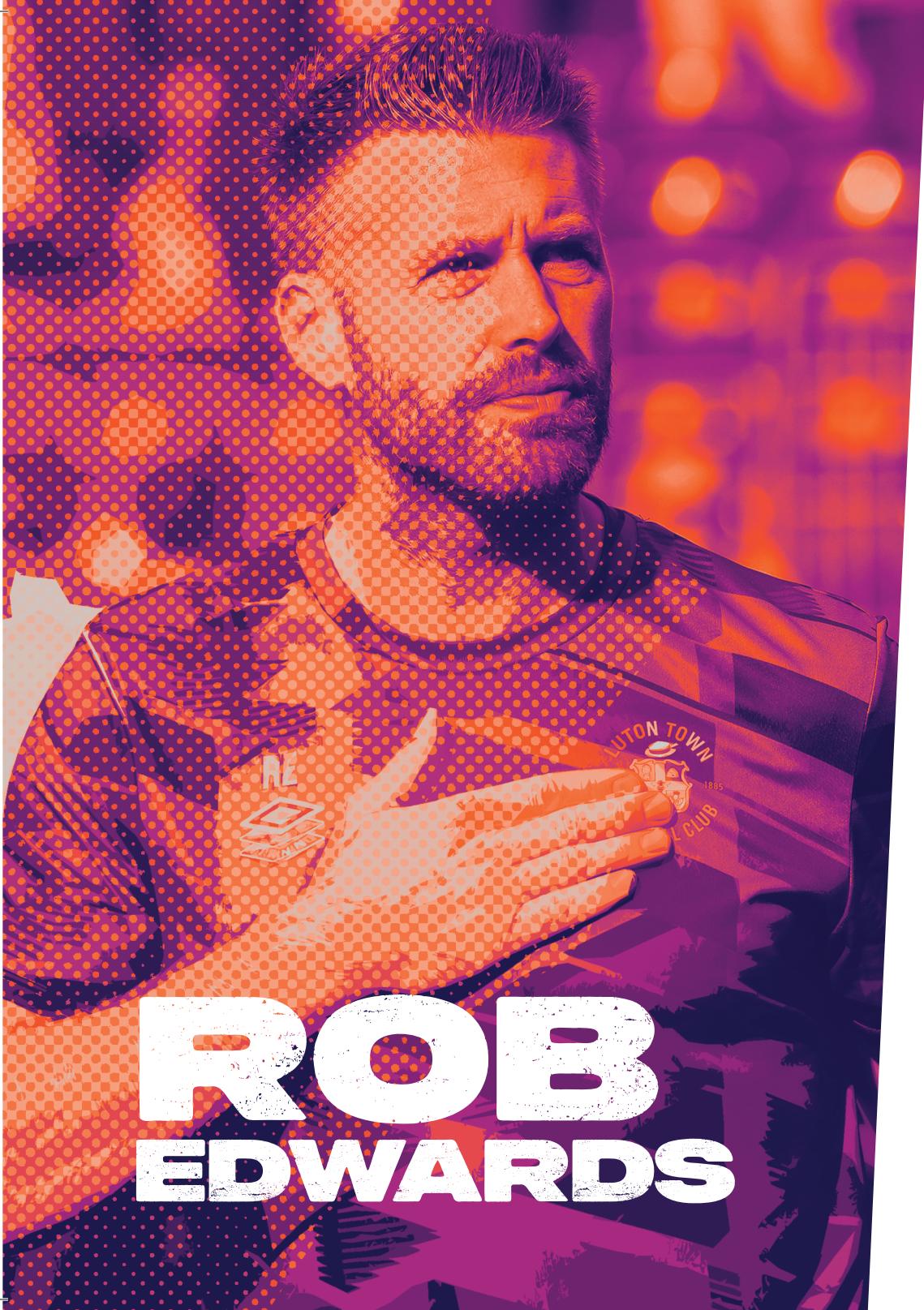
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WELCOME TO KENILWORTH ROAD

Life is never dull at Luton Town is it? Since we were last at Kenilworth Road we had the rollercoaster evening in front of the television cameras against Aston Villa before Cauley Woodrow's late-show at Crystal Palace last weekend. Then, on Wednesday, football showed just how cruel it can be at Bournemouth. Yet there's no time for us to dwell on disappointments – today we need the Kenny rocking for a huge game in the Premier League, so get behind the boys and bring the noise. Come on Luton!

**05****ROB EDWARDS****08****FROM THE BOARDROOM****26****WELCOME NOTTINGHAM FOREST****45****HATTERS HISTORY****58****ACADEMY UPDATE****68****NEWS FROM THE SUPPORTERS' TRUST****80****SEASON SO FAR**



ROB EDWARDS

I'm writing these notes on Thursday morning following the game at Bournemouth and believe me it's very tough for me to sit here and go through what happened on Wednesday night.

It was a challenging evening and it's a challenging time but I'd like to begin these notes by thanking those supporters who applauded the lads off the pitch at the end. It was amazing given the circumstances. Personally it was tough going over to that section of the ground. I felt sorry and responsible for the defeat but I was heartened by your encouragement.

I think there's a feeling from you that you understand what we're going through right now, so that support at the end meant a lot after such an exhausting and exasperating 45 minutes.

After the game, as a group of staff, we went through the match and went through it again when we woke up. We have no alternative but to try and learn from our mistakes and try more of the things that we did so well on Wednesday that got us in such a commanding position at half-time.

It's a case of recovering now for today's game and look ahead to what is for both clubs a massive game.

I'd like to welcome Nuno Espirito Santo and his Nottingham Forest team and staff to the Kenny. It doesn't take a genius to work out how important this game is for both clubs so all I will say is that off the pitch, in the stands, we need you.

Two matches from last season will stick in my memory forever. Watford and Sunderland at home here were experiences like no other. The noise and intimidation you served up from the first minute played the most vital of roles in those two massive performances. We need those levels again for 90 minutes this afternoon.

On the pitch we'll pick ourselves up. It will be the same group of players that need to go again so they are going to need your support. They will be doing all they can to make you proud of this football club.

We understand it's difficult right now but I'm never going to sit here and make excuses, in these notes or when I'm talking in the media. We have a group that we believe in and we've got to stay strong.

Wednesday night was undoubtedly a setback but we've had plenty of those. We had a bigger one the last time we travelled to Bournemouth in what was a life and death situation. Wednesday wasn't that – we lost a football match in a harsh way. But we'll learn and we'll get better.

Everyone works so hard to do the club proud in the toughest league in the world and we're not going to stop now.

As I mentioned at the start, your support has been magnificent. So please keep it up. We'll need you today, so bring the noise and get behind the boys. 





**TOM
LOCKYER**

I don't know where to really start with these notes to be honest with you, but I think it's best to begin by saying thank you to everyone, including everyone at Bournemouth, for the welcome and support I received on Wednesday.

It was fantastic to meet up with the medical staff who helped save my life three months ago. They are amazing people, so humble, and I was truly heartened to see them after what had happened to me. I was introduced to the crowd before the game and while it was nice to receive all that applause, I was pointing my finger towards the medics, as they are the real heroes.

At half-time I then chatted with fans from both our and Bournemouth's supporters' clubs who raised over £2,000 for the British Heart Foundation through various fundraising initiatives, including Mark Crowther, who is cycling to every game this season. It truly is inspiring to see people go to such lengths to raise money for such a great cause.

Bournemouth were great and they really rolled out the red carpet for me – I even had my face on the front of the programme! It was a really nice touch and I think there is a real mutual respect between the two clubs and sets of fans as a result, especially shown in the 59th minute when there was a round of applause.

Remember, if you don't know CPR, then go and learn it. It saved my life and you might one day help save somebody's life – it could be someone incredibly close to you. So get out there and do it!

During the half-time presentation I was probably grinning from ear to ear in the photographs. The boys put in a tremendous attacking display to be 3-0 up, scoring some excellent goals. We put ourselves in such a good position but I don't think anyone truly expected what would happen next.

There's no getting away about how disappointing the second half was for us. We could sit here and talk about it until we're blue in the face but that won't help. What we need to do to is put that to the back of our minds because this afternoon we have a massive game against a Nottingham Forest team who are within our sights.

The boys know the importance of today, a victory would put us above them in the table going into the international break. However, for them to be able to do that we need all four sides of the Kenny to bring the sort of noise we've heard in recent seasons here. Those Watford and Sunderland games immediately spring to mind.

Your support really does make a difference and the boys need your backing more than ever. The lads are giving everything right now and they have been brilliant in the face of some testing times. Please show them how much they mean to you this afternoon.

Enjoy the game.





FROM THE BOARDROOM

WITH CHAIRMAN
DAVID WILKINSON

Good afternoon everyone and a very warm welcome to today's visitors

Nottingham Forest.

Our clubs have quite a history since playing each other for the first time in 1938 in the old second division.

Since then we have played each other 68 times with us winning 23 and drawing 18.

One of my earliest memories was our FA Cup run in 1959. The biggest crowd ever, 30,069, in the Kenny for the quarter-final against Blackpool, a dramatic semi-final draw against Norwich at White Hart Lane in front of 65,000 and a tense 1-0 victory in the replay at St Andrews led us to our first ever Wembley appearance against Forest. We went into the game as strong favourites having beaten them 5-1 just a few weeks before, but sadly, it wasn't to be and we didn't play well on the day and lost 2-1.

We had another major disappointment when in the year following our League Cup Final win against Arsenal we made it to Wembley again, in the same competition, but came up short 3-1 against Brian Clough's Forest.

Over the years several notable players have appeared for both clubs amongst those are David Pleat, Danny Wilson, Kingsley Black and Barry Butlin and, of

course, Mick Harford also had a brief spell as their manager.

You don't need me to tell you that today is a relegation battle. With ten games left we are both in a fight to stay in the richest league in the world. Forest were promoted last year and managed to narrowly avoid relegation.

They demonstrated that, despite a huge turnover, and reportedly heavy investment in players, competing in this league is tough and that experience has been repeated this year. Chasing the dream can be dangerous as many clubs, including ourselves, have, in the past, found to their cost, and in the long term it cannot be right for a competition to be decided by those who can afford the greatest losses. Why does it seem to be an anathema to show a profit? Sustainability should be the key and it is that that is currently exercising the grey cells of all those at the top of football.

Having experienced so much of it since our inception nearly 140 years ago, we are strong supporters of our football pyramid and believe that it is the base that gives it its strength. It is country wide and all encompassing. It is open to all and encourages pride and investment in local communities. It breaks down barriers between classes,



Andros Townsend and Cauley Woodrow celebrate at Crystal Palace

races and creeds and encourages discourse. It is one of greatest enablers of social intercourse and a catalyst for charitable work and funding. Like an iceberg it is easy to lose sight of what is beneath the pinnacle, but highly dangerous to do so.

Every youngster who kicks a ball against a wall or in the park with his or her friends dreams of playing for their favourite team. The base of the pyramid is source of all the future hopes. In youth football everyone wants to know that there is a pathway for a player to progress and this must apply to clubs as well. What is the incentive without a target? Where is the joy without a challenge?

Most clubs have experienced the highs and lows. It is a proven fact that football is a cyclical business. All bar two of the clubs in the Premier League have spent time in lower divisions and it is only Arsenal of the top six who haven't. Today's opponents are a classic example when in the late 70s and early 80s they won two European Cups and many other competitions under the management of Brian Clough.

The EFL clubs live in hope of reaching

the promised land, but when they get there the hope can turn to fear. Fear of relegation, but this must be good because it is these swings of emotion that make this sport so successful and watchable. Personally I can't imagine not having had those experiences.

We continue to be involved in last-minute drama. It has so often this season gone against us, but it was our way, for once, last Saturday with Cauley converting Andros' superb cross in the dying seconds at Crystal Palace.

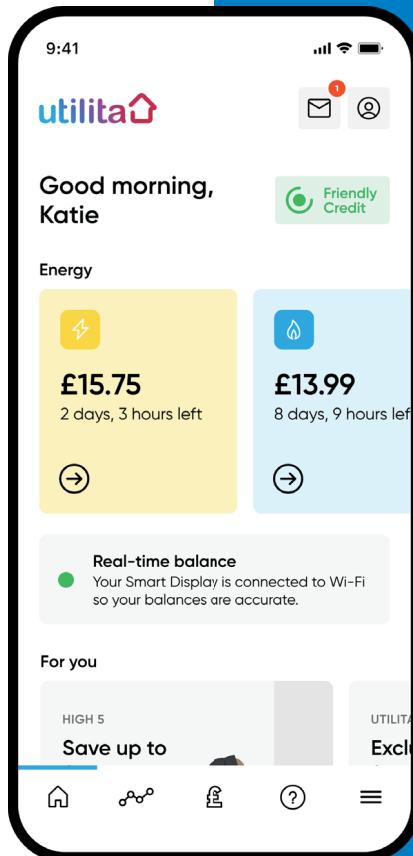
Gary and I are just back from Bournemouth where we witnessed more drama and this time massive disappointment, but I hope that we remember how far we have come and see how much our wonderful squad are putting into their performances. Your support has been magnificent and we all need to keep going for Rob and all his team.

It is great to see Locks in good spirit and we'd like to thank all at Bournemouth for all they did to recognise him and the awful events of that day. Thanks also go to both our supporters groups who raised funds to help with travel and for the British Heart Foundation. ➤

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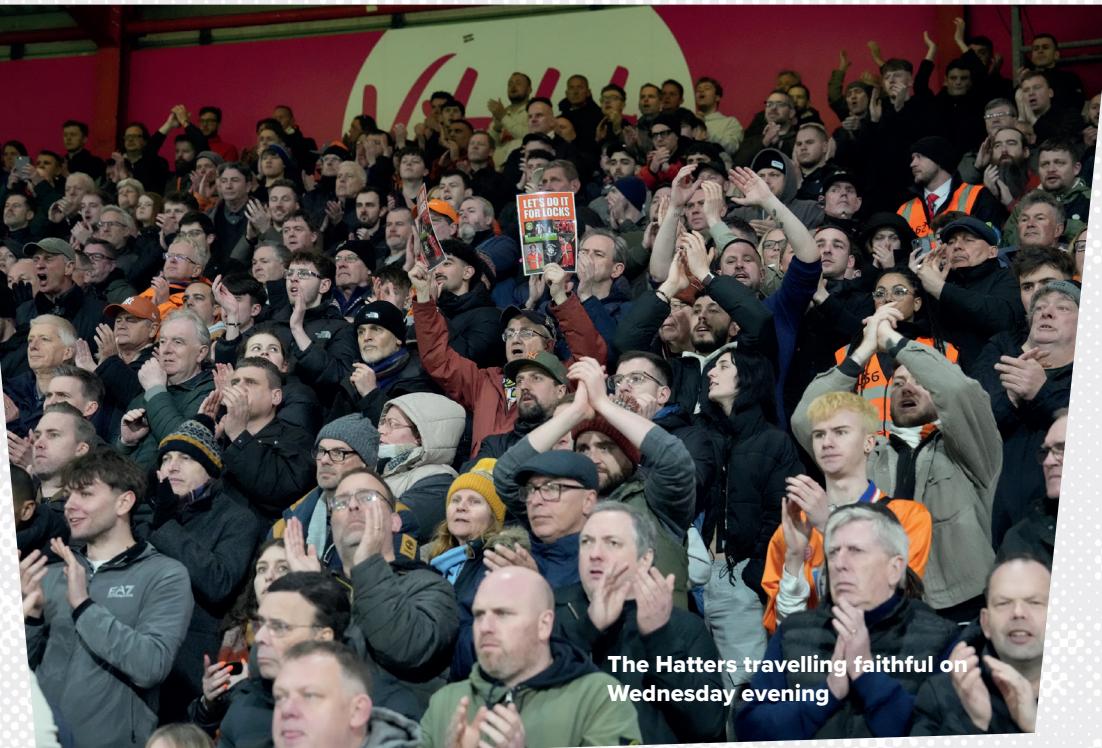
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The Hatters travelling faithful on Wednesday evening

I was pleased I took the opportunity to watch our under-12s play Tottenham in the last of the Premier League Cup group games. They managed an exciting 4-3 win away at the Spurs training ground, which puts them into the quarter-finals where they are at home to Arsenal. It's not an age group I have watched before and I was genuinely surprised by the quality and enthusiasm shown by both teams. The only downside is that we now have to watch our backs in fear of losing our best players to bigger Premier League clubs, who under the rules of EPPP, can virtually steal anyone they want for a pittance.

Can I close by offering our massive congratulations to Mick for being granted the Honorary Freedom of the Borough of Luton. He does so much to promote the Town and support local charities that it is hard to think of a more deserving recipient. Well done Mick on behalf of us all.

“Our lessons come from the journey not the destination.”

Enjoy the game. 

COYH!

David

AROUND TOWN



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Many happy returns to Town fan David Rowland, who celebrated his 70th birthday on 7th March. He has been coming to Kenilworth Road for the past 61 years.

He's pictured here with daughter Emily who plays for the Luton Town Ladies Blues under-10s as goalkeeper.



Big birthday wishes go to **Martha Crow**, who is celebrating her 10th birthday. Martha sits with her dad in the Main Stand Enclosure. Have a great day today from Mum, Dad and your three sisters.



REST IN PEACE

Jimmy Husband.

15th October 1947 – 9th March 2024

News has reached Kenilworth Road of the sad passing of Jimmy Husband at the age of 76 after a short illness.

Born in Newcastle, Jimmy was a highly regarded schoolboy footballer, and after playing for England schoolboys, was left with the choice of many clubs who coveted him. In 1963 he opted for League champions Everton.

Jimmy became a regular for the Goodison Park side, picking up several England under-23 caps, appeared in an FA Cup final in 1968 and won a League Championship medal in 1970. He would doubtless have picked up a full England cap but manager Alf Ramsey was averse to using wingers which was where he predominately played at the time.

Jimmy was fast and skilful with an eye for goal and became Luton manager Harry Haslam's final piece in the jigsaw, in December 1973, as the Hatters sought successfully to win promotion to the top flight.

Scorer of many vital goals during that season and the next four years for the Town, Jimmy finished his career, along with many others, in the North American Soccer League.

His record of 48 goals in 162 first team games in Hatters colours confirmed his

value to a side containing the likes of John Aston, Jim Ryan, Peter Anderson and the Futcher twins.

On his return to the UK, Jimmy settled in mid-Bedfordshire where he ran a pub and was a welcome guest of the club in 2005 for the Kenilworth Road Centenary celebrations.

Our condolences go out to all his family and friends.

LTDSA AGM UPDATE

Luton Town Disabled Supporters Association (LTDSA) held its first AGM since to the Covid pandemic in the John Moore Lounge last week.

Since the group's inception in 2014, the LTDSA had its biggest attendance with people being able to join in person and online. The evening boasted lots of updates of past and current actions by LTDSA whilst taking the opportunity of celebrating key contributors like Richard Hill MBE and Hatters backroom staff.

Richard founded the LTDSA in 2014 and from its inception was the key driver in positive change. He was presented a signed Luton Town shirt by Allan Drummond (Interim Char) in thanks for all the positive work whilst laying the foundations for the current LTDSA Committee.

Allan started the evening by introducing the running order and updating those in attendance of all positive actions LTDSA have been successful in implementing with LTFC. The constitu-

tion – an essential document required by the Football Supporters Association – was then updated and agreed, giving a foundation and focus for the newly elected 12-person committee under the stewardship of the newly elected Chairperson, Allan.

Before the main event, the group gave special thanks to Lisa McEvoy for all the support offered to LTDSA in facilitating meetings along with Mike Hooker and the ticket office team.

With lots of changes happening around Kenilworth Road, Gary Sweet updated the attendees on all the improvements made and those planned works due around the stadium. Gary then gave a very positive and passionate presentation on Power Court. Alongside David Wilkinson, Gary stayed well past the envisaged finished time for an interactive Q&A session with those in attendance.

The LTDSA committee would like to express thanks to Gary, David, Derek Wilson, the Fan Engagement Team and all the other LTFC staff, who all stayed beyond the scheduled wrap-up time to answer questions.

Whilst the AGM has now finished, anyone who would like to know more about the LTDSA can contact us by emailing info@ltdsa.co.uk or by messaging us on X/twitter at @LTDSA.



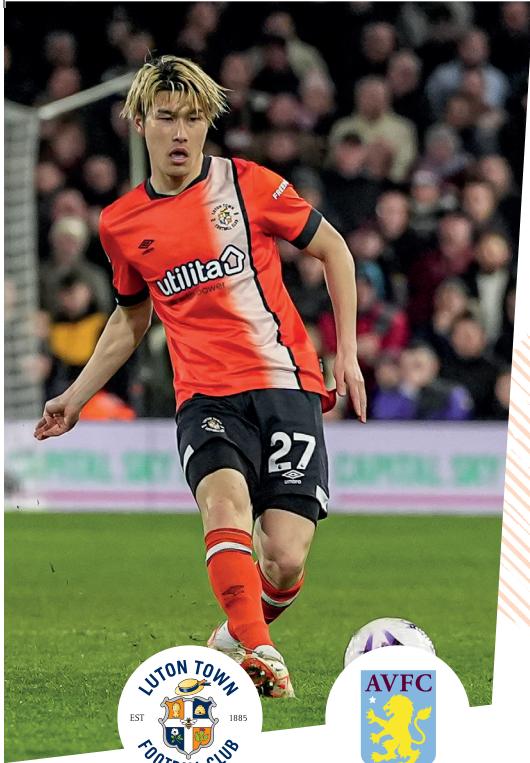


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2-3



Kenilworth Road – 2nd March 2024

Town: Kaminski; Kaboré, Doughty, Burke, Mengi, Bell (sub Ogbene 6); Clark, Barkley; Chong (sub Mpanzu 84), Townsend (sub Hashioka 53), Morris.

Subs not used: Shea, Krul, Berry, Woodrow, Nelson, Piesold.

Villa: Martinez, Cash, Konsa, Lenglet, Moreno (sub Digne 79), Bailey (sub Diaby 79), McGinn, Douglas Luiz, Ramsay (sub Rogers 29 (sub Iroegbunam 79)), Tielemans (sub Zaniolo 79, Watkins).

Subs not used: Ederson, Dias, Rodri, Foden, Lewis.

SCORERS

Town – Chong 66, Morris 72

City – Watkins 24, 38, Digne 89

Attendance: 11,594, the biggest of the season so far, including 1,358 in the away end.



MATCH REPORT

HATTERS COMEBACK ENDED BY LATE VILLA WINNER

With a minute left on the clock, and with a point within their grasp following one of the finest, battling 45 minutes at Kenilworth Road this season, all of the Town's incredible endeavour was undone in heart-breaking fashion.

Moussa Diaby swung in a cross from the right and fellow substitute Lucas Digne nodded past Thomas Kaminski at the back-post and a relieved Aston Villa celebrated a crucial win in their quest for Champions League football.

The Town, inconsolable, were left to reflect on nothing to show for their efforts that saw them battle back from the dead to level after a first half that saw Villa ease into a two-goal lead.

Ollie Watkins was the difference in the opening period with two very well taken goals to put Unai Emery's side in control.

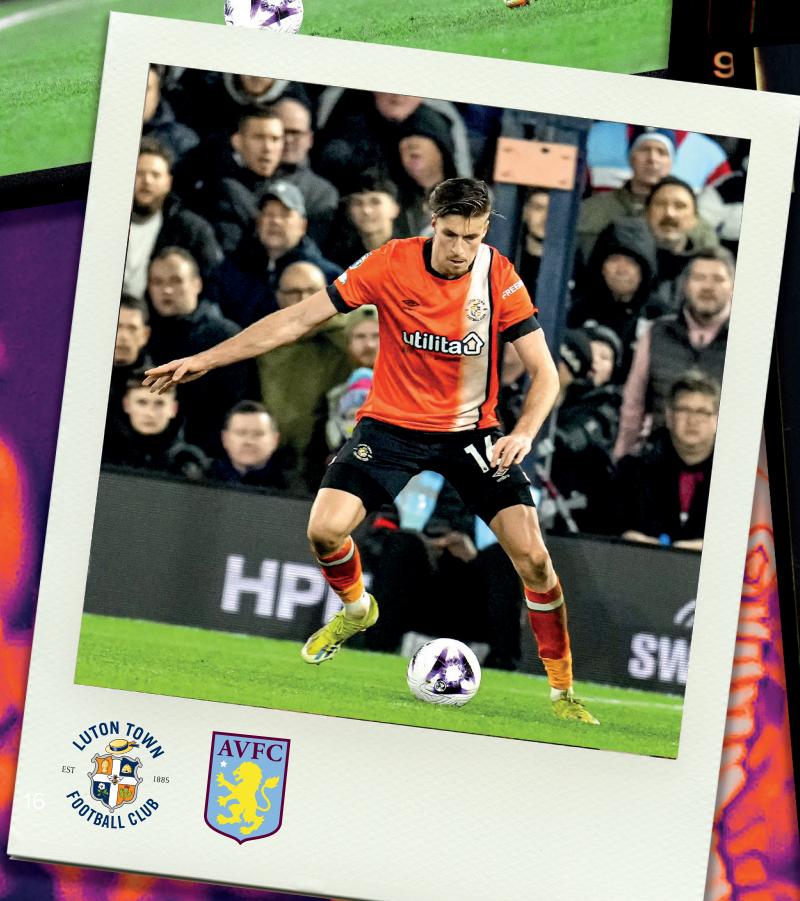
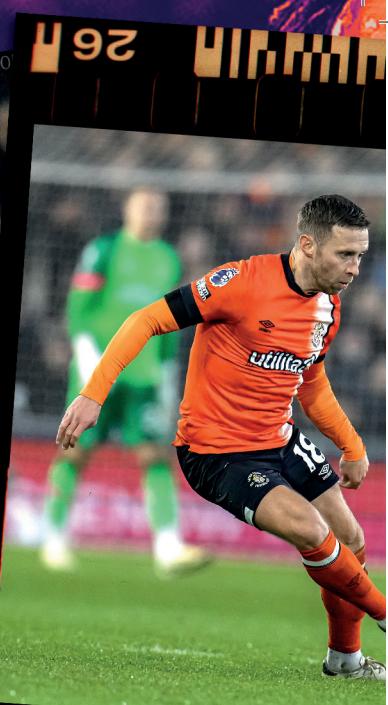
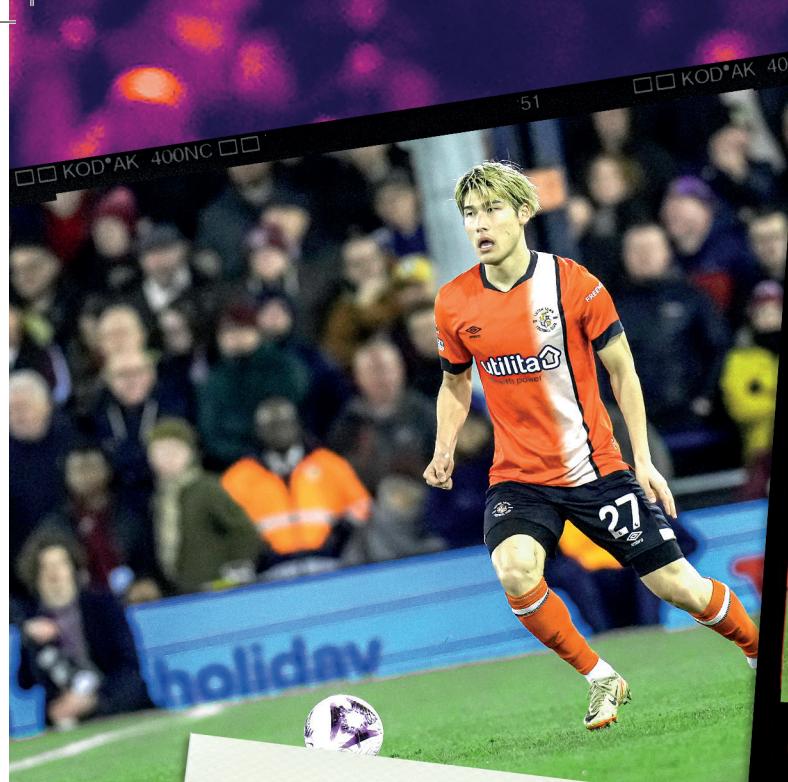
Kaminski had earlier repelled Villa with a series of fine saves but the Town keeper's night was much quieter after the interval as the Hatters took the game to their visitors.

In a wonderful response despite trailing by two, the Hatters penned Villa back and deservedly halved the deficit on 66 minutes when Tahith Chong bundled the ball over from close range after Villa couldn't deal with a right-wing cross.

Kenilworth Road was bouncing. It was just what the Sky Sports cameras wanted. Six minutes after making it 2-1 it was level and the noise was deafening as belief flowed through those in orange. Alfie Doughty's deep left-wing free-kick was floated to perfection to the back-post for Carlton Morris to send a side-foot finish beyond Emil Martinez.

All of a sudden the Town tails were well and truly up and Villa had no answer. Three minutes after the equaliser – and with 15 minutes left – Morris nodded straight at Martinez following Jordan Clark's cross. Kenilworth Road's foundations might not have coped had that effort found the target.

Still the Town pushed. But Villa had the final say to knock the stuffing out for the Hatters at the death when Diaby and Digne combined and that was that. 





MATCH GALLERY

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REFLECTIONS ON VILLA DEFEAT

Carlton Morris couldn't hide his frustration that his eighth Premier League goal of the season and fifth in seven games didn't earn the Hatters a point against Aston Villa in our last home Premier League outing.

The striker's goal – which brought the Hatters level having trailed 2-0 at half-time – made him become the first Hatters player to net in three successive home top-flight matches since Iain Dowie in 1990.

"That's my main job as a forward, creating goals and scoring them, but it's extremely frustrating when it doesn't follow with a result. I'm really disappointed as it's another occasion of the performance being there, but us not coming away with any points," said the former Barnsley frontman.

"The first half wasn't really us, we were losing too many duels, we weren't really at the races and second half it was like the switch flicked and that was us performance-wise, but it's disappointing not to come away with any points.

"Set-plays is a strength of ours, we need to keep that going, but I'm just going to keep working hard, keep the team positive. It's a humble, hard-working group, that's what we do, and that's



what's going to get us out of this fight."

At the other end of the pitch the Hatters had goalkeeper Thomas Kaminski to thank for a series of fine stops to prevent Villa increasing their two-goal lead.

The Belgian also reflected on the first half performance that allowed the visitors to go in at the break in command.

"It was a very bad first half I think," said the Town keeper. "We were not really aggressive in the first half, we were a little bit on the back foot and maybe we showed Villa a little bit too much respect. For me it was good, but I'd rather make zero saves and get the three points.

"At half-time the manager said, 'if you come out aggressive and on the front foot, win a couple of duels, the fans will be behind us again' and that's what happened, as you can see what happens when the fans are there.

"He was very direct in his message and I think we all understood and that's why we came out so aggressively, took the game a little bit in our hands, but we can't give these goals away.

"We came back very well, we did the right things, we were aggressive, we were on the front foot, but unfortunately they get that last goal. We are doing the right things, especially at home, also against a good side, but it's disappointing as we've got no points." 



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LAST-GASP WOODROW EQUALISER GIVES TOWN A POINT AT PALACE

The late hurt and heartbreak from the previous weekend's defeat to Aston Villa was quickly banished as the Hatters served up a late show of their own to earn what could be a crucial point come the end of the season.

As the games begin to run out, all of a sudden every point becomes more precious – and when an equaliser comes in the final moments of a game which the Town had not been at their best – the scenes of jubilation in the away end and among the squad come the end told its own story.

Trailing to Jean-Philippe Mateta's 11th-minute goal, the Town rallied in the second half but all seemed lost but with one final action two substitutes combined to breathe new life in the Hatters' survival hopes. Andros Townsend, a former Palace favourite, cut inside on his left foot and arced a dangerous cross that found the head of Woodrow who guided his header gloriously into the corner.

Mateta's opener exasperated those of a Town persuasion as the striker nonchalantly turned home inside the six-yard box after Alfie Doughty's back-pass left Thomas Kaminski and Gabe Osho leaving the ball for each other.

Palace spurned several chances to double their lead. Mateta heading over on the half-hour before shooting wide after being gifted the ball by Jordan Clark shortly before the break.

After the interval the Hatters' chances of a positive result took a turn for worse when Edwards lost Osho and the impressive Teden Mengi in the space of 15 minutes as the Town revered to a back-four with Daiki Hashioka and Reece Burke operating in the centre.

But the Town upped their enterprise in the search of a leveller and on 67 minutes their efforts were nearly rewarded when Carlton Morris struck a volley straight at Johnstone.

After that let off Palace then should have been out of sight on 74 minutes when Kaminski produced a fantastic save to thwart Mateta from close range. It would turn out to be a key moment.

Eberechi Eze almost scored from 50 yards with an audacious effort that clipped the crossbar and, as time ticked down, it seemed that the Town were running out of ideas in their quest for a late point especially when Odsonne Édouard hit the bar.

But just when it looked all over, Townsend and Woodrow combined and the Hatters were left to celebrate a momentous point with their travelling fans.



1

1

Selhurst Park - 9th March 2024

Palace: Johnstone, Ward, Andersen, Richards, Munoz, Wharton (sub Hughes 81), Lerma, Mitchell, Ayew (sub Ahamada 70), Mateta (Eduoard 81), Eze

Subs not used: Tomlins, Clyne, Henderson, Plange, Rodney, Ozoh

Town: Kaminski; Kaboré, Doughty, Osho (sub Woodrow 81), Mengi (sub Hashioka 62), Burke; Barkley, Clark (sub Nelson 88); Chong (sub Berry 88), Ogbene (sub Townsend 87), Morris.

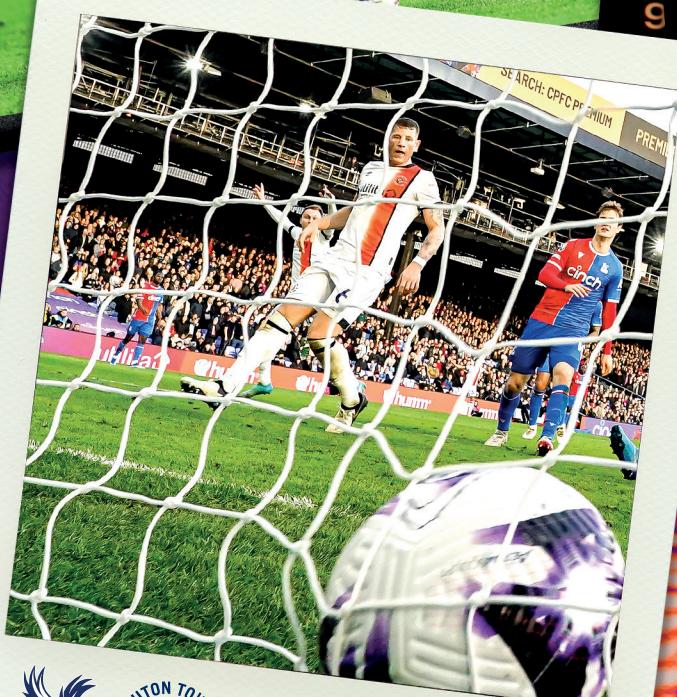
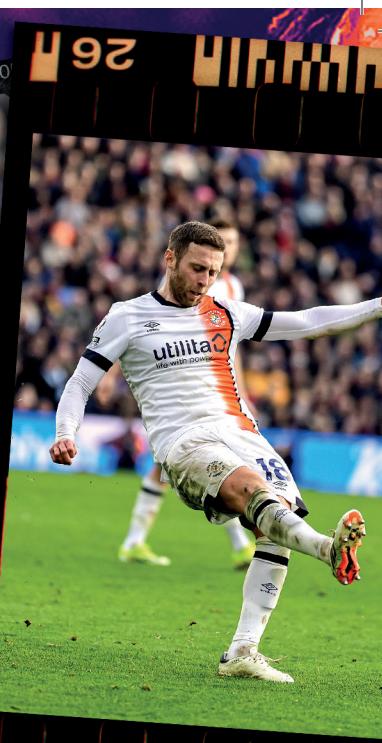
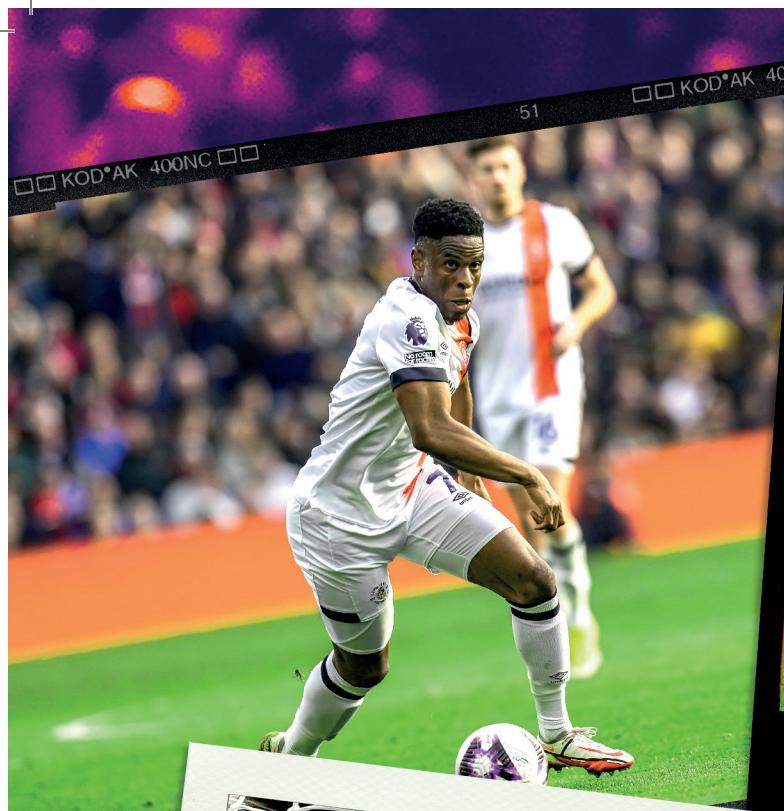
Subs not used: Shea, Krul, Mpanzu Piesold.

SCORERS:

Palace – Mateta 11

Town – Woodrow 90+6

Attendance: 25,103, including 2,687 backing the Town





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WOODROW'S DELIGHT AT LATE LEVELLER

Cauley Woodrow's first Premier League goal in almost a decade rescued what could prove to be a vital point in the fight for survival against Crystal Palace last weekend.

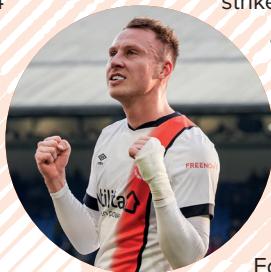
The 29-year-old, whose only other top-flight goal also came against the Eagles when playing for Fulham on the final day of the 2013/14 campaign, silenced the Selhurst Park crowd with an inch-perfect glancing header in the 96th minute.

It sent the travelling Hatters into ecstasy, and asked about them singing 'He's one of our own' in the celebrations when the final whistle blew seconds later, Woodrow replied: "It's amazing. I love this club.

"I've got history here from when I was younger and I came back last summer and I haven't played probably as much as I'd have wanted to, but I've always got a good attitude, I keep my head down and do as much as I can for the team and it was a really great moment.

"I'm really grateful that they did that at the end. I'm just thankful that I could send them home with a happy result."

Woodrow also explained his special celebration immediately after netting



his third goal of the season in all competitions, following a Carabao Cup strike against Gillingham back in August and the last-gasp winner in the FA Cup fourth round tie at Everton in January.

"My wife is pregnant and the baby is due on the 7th May, so she said to me 'Next time you score, stick the ball up your top,'" smiled the striker.

"I scored against Everton and I forgot, so I was getting it in the earhole to be fair because I was thinking I'm not sure I'm going to score before the baby comes! But thankfully it came today and she's text me already, so it's all good."

Former Palace winger Andros Townsend, whose cross led to the leveller, believes the point could be huge come the end of the season.

He said: "You never know how important that is going to be. It's so those fine margins that could turn out to be so vital in our battle to stay in this league.

"We once again showed just how much we fight for each other and the team. The spirit in this dressing room is truly like no other I've been a part of.

"We kept going to the very end, like we have done on many occasions this season, and we got our reward." 

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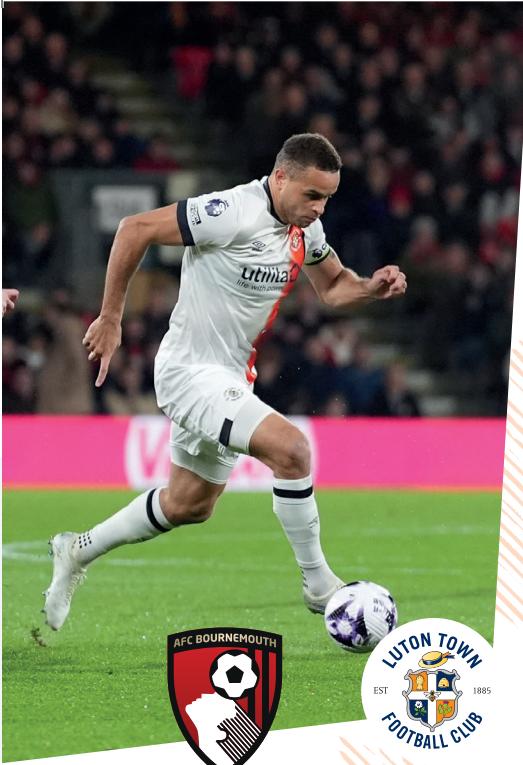


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4 - 3

Vitality Stadium - 13th March 2024

Town: Kaminski; Kaboré, Doughty, Hashioka (sub Mpantu 67), Mengi, Burke; Barkley (sub Berry 88), Clark; Chong (sub Woodrow 73), Ogbene (sub Townsend 88), Morris.

Subs not used: Shea, Krul, Nelson, Piesold, Martins.

Cherries: Neto, Smith (sub Adams 71), Mepham, Zabarnyi, Ouattara, Cook, Christie (sub Hill 90+6), Semenyo, Scott (sub Unai 46), Sinisterra (sub Tavernier 46), Solanke (sub Billing 90+1).

Subs not used: Kerkez, Faivre, Kluivert, Travers.

Attendance: 11,198, including 1,313 shouting for the Town.

SCORERS:

Bournemouth – Solanke 50, Zabarnyi 62, Semenyo 64, 83

Town – Chong 9, Ogbene 31, Barkley 45+1

HATTERS LET HALF-TIME LEAD SLIP AT BOURNEMOUTH

The Town saw a 3-0 half-time lead evaporate as they were beaten at Bournemouth.

Leading at the break thanks to terrific counter-attacking goals from Tahith Chong, Chiedozie Ogbene and Ross Barkley, the Hatters fell apart in the second period.

Dominic Solanke got the Cherries' first goal five minutes after the restart to pull one back but two goals in the space of two-and-a-half minutes – from Illia Zabarnyi and Antoine Semenyo – drew the hosts level.

Barkley missed a big chance for the Town to restore their on 71 minutes but with seven minutes to go the Cherries led for the first time when Semenyo thundered a shot past Thomas Kaminski.

With Tom Lockyer introduced to the crowd before the game, all seemed rosy at half-time with the Hatters well in command – Chong headed home in the ninth minute following a lovely dinked cross from Jordan Clark to get the ball rolling. It was the 16th successive game that the Town had scored in the Premier League this season.

But it got better for the Hatters shortly after the half-hour with a goal of real quality and attacking verve. Chong released Alfie Doughty down the left and his low cross was converted by Ogbene sliding home at the back post.

Yet it got better for the Town in first-half injury time when Issa Kaboré released Barkley in on goal and the midfielder blasted home to make it 3-0.

Bournemouth were booed off at half-time but their supporters were on their feet just five minutes after the restart when Solanke turned and finished brilliantly in the box to get one back.

The goal gave the Cherries hope and as the hosts attacked at will, they completed the turnaround with two goals in the space of three minutes. Firstly Zabarnyi converted from close range despite the best efforts of the Town defence to clear the danger. The equaliser then came when Semenyo hit a low effort from the edge of the area beyond Kaminski.

The Hatters steadied the ship and could have retaken the lead when Barkley spurned a chance from a matter of yards having reacted quickest to Carlton Morris' flick-on from Doughty's set-piece.

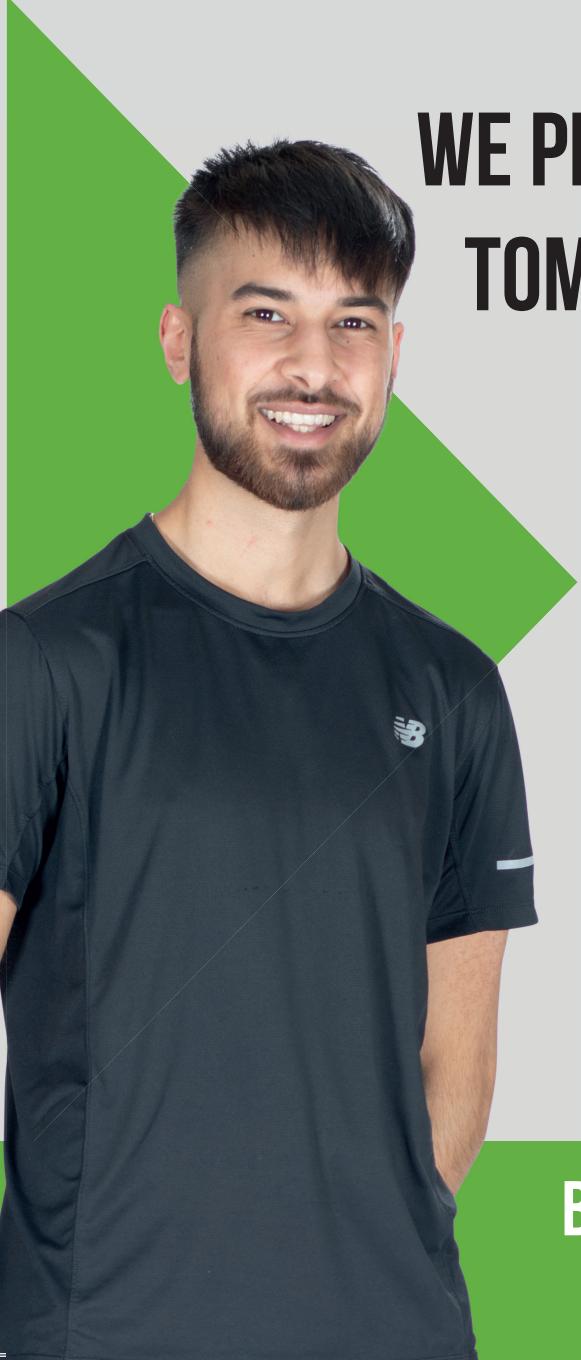
But as time ticked down Bournemouth came again and the Cherries found a winner with seven minutes remaining when Semenyo added his second of the game, driving into the box from the right and blasting home.







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KITS FROM THE PAST

TOWN FAN DAVE FOXEN LOOKS BACK AT THE HATTERS' COLOURS DOWN THE YEARS

1885 – 1889

If I were to ask you, “what colours do you associate with Luton Town?” your answers would probably be along the lines of orange, white, blue, black etc. But what about pink and purple? It probably wouldn’t cross your mind unless you were a keen Hatters historian!

Our first ever kit was exactly that – pink and purple. If you pop in your time machine and go back to 1885 – 1889 and went to a Luton Town game, you will see our beloved club playing in a rather fetching pink and purple ‘kit’. I say kit in loose terms, as it is not the type of football attire you see these days.

I don’t think anyone has seen this shirt live, due to it being 140 years old next year, but looking at the very grainy pictures from that era, the shirt looks very thick! It was half pink, half purple with buttons to keep the material together. It also boasted a very smart collar, and fetching pink and purple hat and we doubt that would pass the FA regulations these days!

The shorts are more like three-quarter lengths, going well below the knee. These shorts were in the purple-blue colour, with matching socks. The pink was left to just the shirt and hat. For that era, and looking at the manufacturing process, having two colours on the shirt and hat was quite forward thinking!

Fast forward to 2010 and the club released a special 125 Anniversary Special shirt to celebrate our club being 125 years old. This included both a rugby style shirt, and a modern-day remake. The modern-day remake was used in our match against Bath City in the Blue Square Premier in October 2010. We won that game 3-1, thanks to goals from Danny Crow, George Pilkington and Taiwo Atieno.

The original shirt, in 1885, was worn by the likes of E. Ellingham, George Deacon and J.C Lomax, the latter being our top scorer in 1888-1889 with six league goals!



WELCOME NOTTINGHAM FOREST

The Hatters welcome Nuno Espírito Santo's Nottingham Forest side to Kenilworth Road in what is a massive game in the Premier League relegation battle. Last time out, Forest lost 1-0 away to Brighton & Hove Albion.

Forest had a tough start to the season and faced Arsenal away on the opening day. Arsenal won 2-1 as two first half goals from Eddie Nketiah and Bukayo Saka before a late goal from Taiwo Awoniyi gave the Nottingham Forest fans something to cheer about.

In the next game, Forest picked up their first win of the season after beating Sheffield United 2-1 at home. This was followed by a 3-2 loss to Manchester United and a 1-0 home defeat to Burnley in the Carabao Cup.

In early September, Forest won their first away match of the season. This was an excellent 1-0 away win against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge, an Anthony Elanga goal was enough for the win.

After this, Forest went on a poor run. A home draw with Burnley was followed by a defeat at Manchester City. Two draws against Brentford and Crystal Palace were to follow.

In October, Forest then drew 2-2 with the Hatters. A Chris Wood double put Steve Cooper's side 2-0 up before late goals from Chiedozie Ogbene and Elijah Adebayo earned the Town a point.

Nottingham Forest picked up their next win in early November as they shocked the league by beating high flying Aston Villa 2-0. This was followed by four losses in a row against West Ham, Brighton, Everton and Fulham.

This poor run continued with a draw with Wolves and losses to Tottenham and Bournemouth making things look bleak just around Christmas. Nuno Espírito Santo was appointed as the new Forest boss after the loss to Spurs.

Boxing Day marked the start of a good run of form as a 3-1 away win against Newcastle and a 2-1 win over Manchester United turned the tide.

However, Forest have won one league game in 2024 so far and that was a 2-0 home win over West Ham United. More recently, Forest have lost three games in a row 1-0 and will be looking to pick up some big points in the coming weeks.

MEET THE TRICKY TREES

THE BOSS



NUNO ESPIRITO SANTO.

Installed as the Forest boss in December last year, replacing Steve Cooper. Led Wolves to the Premier League in 2018 and spent a short-spell in charge of Tottenham and Al-Ittihad in Saudi Arabia.

GOALKEEPER



MATZ SELS.

Belgian stopper who arrived at the City Ground last month from Ligue 1 side Strasbourg for a fee of £5 million. Began his career with Lierse and Gent before six years at Strasbourg.

DEFENDERS



WILLY BOLY.

Hugely experienced French-born Ivory Coast international centre-back who joined Forest from Wolves in 2022. Started his career at Auxerre before moves to Portugal with Braga and Porto.



MURILLO.

£10 million summer capture from Brazilian side Corinthians. Only 21, the centre-half only made his top-flight debut for the South American heavyweights in April last year.



MOUSSA NIAKHATE.

Senegal international centre-half Moussa arrived at the City Ground in 2022 after spending six years with Mainz in the German Bundesliga. Started his career with Valenciennes before moving to Metz.



HARRY TOFFOLO.

Born in Welwyn Garden City, left-back Harry started his career at Norwich but it wasn't until a spell at Lincoln that he shot to prominence. Signed for Huddersfield

in 2020 and moved to Forest following their promotion to the Premier League.

NECO WILLIAMS.

Highly-rated young Wales international full-back who joined Forest in 2022 for a fee of £17 million from Liverpool. Made his Liverpool debut in 2019/20 leading to his first cap for Wales.

MIDFIELDERS



DANILO.

Young Brazilian midfielder who arrived at the City Ground in January last year from Brazilian side Palmeiras. Made his senior debut aged 17 and scored his first goal in the Copa Libertadores.



CALLUM HUDSON-ODOI.

London-born midfielder or winger Callum signed for Forest in September last year. Came through the ranks at Chelsea where we won the Champions League and the World Club Cup in 2021.



NICOLAS DOMINGUEZ.

September 2023 arrival Nicolas signed from Italian club Bologna, where he had played over 100 games. An Argentina international he began his career with Velez Sarsfield.



MORGAN GIBBS-WHITE.

Attacking midfielder who signed for Forest from Wolves for £25 million last season. An England Under-21 international, he shot to prominence after scoring 11 goals while on-loan at Sheffield United in 2021/22.



IBRAHIM SANGARE.

Ivory Coast international defensive midfielder arrived at the City Ground in September last year for a fee of £30 million. Started his career at Toulouse in France before moving to PSV in the Netherlands.



RYAN YATES.

Forest academy graduate and club captain who made his debut for the club in 2018/19. Prior to his debut the defensive midfielder enjoyed loan spells with Barrow, Shrewsbury, Notts County and Scunthorpe.

ATTACKERS



TAIWO AWONIYI.

Nigeria international centre-forward who made an instant impact when signing last season.



ANTHONY ELANGA.

Swedish winger Anthony joined Forest from Manchester United last summer for £15 million. Was part of the Red Devils squad that won the League Cup in 2023 and were runners-up in the Europa League in 2021.



DIVOCK ORIGI.

Belgium international striker who is currently on loan from AC Milan. Began his career with Lille but made his name during eight years at Liverpool, scoring 41 times in 175 games at Anfield.



CHRIS WOOD.

Experienced forward who scored twice against the Town earlier this season. Born in New Zealand, he moved to England to join West Brom in 2009. Became prolific during spells at Leicester, Leeds and Burnley eventually moving to Newcastle. Signed for Forest last summer.



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A HATTER AND A RED

Local boy Kingsley Black signed on for Luton Town after leaving college and following a series of brilliant displays on the left wing for the reserves he was awarded a League debut at QPR in September 1987 while still only 19.

Seven months later he starred as the Hatters lifted the Littlewoods Cup leading to a fight between Billy Bingham of Northern Ireland and Bobby Robson of England for his international services. He chose the former and eventually earned 30 caps for the country of his father.

An inevitable big money move followed, joining Forest in 1991 for £1.5 million, where he went onto be part of the squad that finished runners-up in the League Cup final in 1992 and the First Division (now Championship) in 1993.

After leaving the City Ground in 1996 he headed for Grimsby, where his experience helped the Mariners achieve two Wembley wins in 1998 as the club won the Second Division (now League One) play-offs and the Football League Trophy.



GREAT GAMES

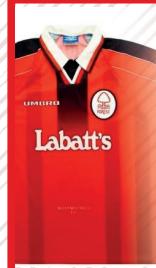
This afternoon will be 69th meeting between the two clubs with Forest holding the upper hand marginally in the head-to-head record.

The Reds have won 27, the Town 23, while there have been 18 draws. Forest won both of arguably the two biggest matches the two sides have played against each other: the 1959 FA Cup Final and the 1989 League Cup final.

Of the Town's 23 victories, perhaps the most important came in the FA Cup in December 2007. Both clubs were in League One at the time but met in the FA Cup second round at Kenilworth Road.

With the Hatters on the cusp of administration, hopes were pinned on beating Forest and drawing a big gun in the third round. Calvin Andrew's solitary strike earned the Hatters a 1-0 win and money-spinning cup tie against Liverpool, eventually taking the Reds to a replay before the 2020 consortium were given the green light to take over.

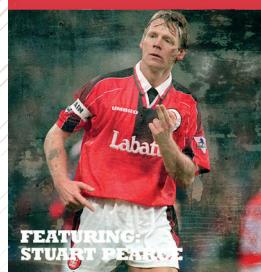
The Town have won their last two home top-flight fixtures against Forest, winning 2-1 in April 1992 (Mick Harford and Julian James on target) and 1-0 in March 1991 (thank you Iain Dowie).



CLASSIC KIT

Umbro, check. Local beer sponsor, check. Intimidating bright red and black vibes, check. The sight of Stuart Pearce smashing a free-kick from the edge of the box in the top-flight, check.

CULT HERO



CULT HERO: STUART PEARCE

If you search 'Nottingham Forest cult heroes' online, you'll find a book with that precise title, written by David McVay. With his arms spread wide in celebration – but with a steely facial expression – the lead image shows **Stuart Pearce** with the captain's armband. After joining Forest from Coventry in 1985, the man nicknamed 'Psycho' went on to become a club legend, make 522 appearances, scoring 88 goals – not bad for a left-back – and made 76 of his 78 England caps while at the City Ground.



CLASSIC CLASH

LUTON TOWN 3-4 NOTTINGHAM FOREST
FA CUP THIRD ROUND REPLAY
11TH JANUARY 1971



THE SNAPPED GOALPOST
AT THE CITY GROUND

ROGER WASH LOOKS BACK
ON THE TIME THE TOWN
AND FOREST PLAYED OUT
A SEVEN-GOAL THRILLER

Following promotion, the Town started the 1970/71 season, their first back in Division Two (now the Championship) since 1963, slowly – but once they had got used to the division and, aided by the goals of star striker Malcolm Macdonald, they started to climb the table.

In the week before Christmas 1970 the Hatters extended their run of only one defeat in 16 games in a 1-1 draw at Norwich, where the Canaries netted a fortunate last-minute penalty, and cemented their second place in the table, one point behind Leicester.

A Boxing Day home clash with Millwall was postponed late on due to snow but with the weather causing many cancellations the league table was not affected as the Town looked forward to the diversion of the FA Cup where we had been drawn away to top-flight Nottingham Forest.

Forest were going through a dismal run and had gone 11 games without a win but

a crowd of 23,230, including several special train loads from Luton, were at a freezing City Ground to see Forest run rings around the Hatters on an icy pitch and take a deserved lead on 18 minutes through Jimmy McIntosh.

On the half-hour Forest full-back John Winfield crashed into the back of the net, followed by Macdonald, with the result that a goal post snapped at its base – posts were made of wood in those days, and no doubt water had seeped in, frozen and then thawed leaving it weak.

The subsequent delay while a new post was sought out and put in place gave Luton coach Jimmy Andrews and his staff time to re-organise things on the pitch and, after the re-start, with Don Givens pushed further forward and winger Jimmy Ryan given a free role, the Town looked more threatening. Therefore it was no

surprise when a deserved equaliser, from the head of Macdonald, came on 70 minutes to take the tie back to Kenilworth Road.

Before the replay the Hatters drew 0-0 at home to QPR to preserve second place in the division and looked forward to the Forest clash and a good chance to avenge the FA Cup final defeat from only 12 years before.

This time 23,483 turned up to see a contest of high speed, thrust and parry with the Town attacking from the start but leaving themselves wide open for the counter attack.

After 15 minutes of sustained pressure, during which Forest goalkeeper Jim Barron pulled off some wonder saves, Forest broke away and scored a soft goal through Peter Cormack.

Macdonald levelled five minutes later only to see substitute Gary Collier and then John Richardson net twice within a minute to give the away side an apparently unassailable lead.

The Town were made of strong stuff, though, and a penalty from Macdonald after a foul on Jimmy Ryan opened the game up again.

Supermac was rampant and seemed to be playing the Forest defence on his own and the roof was lifted when he bagged his hat-trick with six minutes to go to level the tie.

Manager Alec Stock went down to the bench to supervise extra-time but watched in horror

as Forest winger Ronnie Rees raced through from a seemingly offside position to bang in the winner at the death.

Coach Jimmy Andrews said afterwards: "We over attacked. It was a great game for spectators, but not a great professional game. At times we were murdering them."

"We played well enough to win and badly enough to lose. Attacking football is great if you are not too worried about the result."

Manager Alec Stock was still seething afterwards, saying: "We gave goals away tonight. I have no time for excuses or hard luck stories, but if the game had gone to extra-time we would have paralysed them."

Forest assistant manager Bill Anderson, realising his side were a touch fortunate to be going through to meet Orient in the next round, said: "Of course Luton should have won but they did not get the breaks. Had we been 3-1 down at half-time we could not have grumbled but when one of our defenders headed the ball on to his own bar and we escaped it was then I began to think in terms of a victory for us."

"No-one can win a cup tie of this nature without luck and Luton certainly did not enjoy their share tonight."

**MALCOLM MACDONALD
NETS FROM THE SPOT
IN THE REPLAY**



VIEW FROM THE OAK ROAD

SUPPORTING YOUR CLUB IS NEVER EASY, NO MATTER WHAT LEAGUE, NO MATTER THE REPUTATION OR ITS PAST GLORIES. NOW IN THEIR SECOND SEASON IN THE TOP-FLIGHT FOLLOWING PROMOTION IN 2022, REDS FAN MATT OLDRLOYD GIVES US THE LOWDOWN ON WHAT IT LIKE TO FOLLOW FOREST THIS SEASON.

What does it mean to be a Forest supporter?

I think the last couple of seasons have truly shown me how much it means, after a quarter of a century following the Reds home and away. I've always been proud to follow them but getting to be part of Wembley and top flight adventures with my own generation has been brilliant.

How important is watching Forest to you and why?

I suppose it means an awful lot. I've followed this club to the third tier and back again, taking in places like Woking, Gillingham and Weymouth along the away. And now that my son has started to come to games over the last few years its somehow taken on even more importance. He saw Forest get promoted to the Premier League a lot quicker than his old man!

Luton might have had their rollercoaster ride, but can Forest fans associate with that? Describe how the ups and downs of following the club have impacted your life.

To an extent, yes. We were the original Premier League yo-yo club, but much of our recent history has been scratching around in a frustrating attempt to return to the top league. So perhaps more carousel than rollercoaster, although we made it in the end!

The fortunes of Forest will always have some sort of impact, but I've hopefully learned a little to cope with the losses a bit more these days!

Of all the players that have worn the red and white, who stands out for you and why?

Of those I have seen with my own eyes, I'll struggle to look beyond Stuart Pearce. The power of his

character and his Trent End salutes before kick-off used to mean everything to me as a young supporter. In more recent times I grew to adore Brice Samba. A wonderful goalkeeper who took us to Wembley with his heroics in the play-off semi-final.

Are there any matches against Luton that you remember in particular?

A 2-1 win at Kenilworth Road in 2019. I think it's the only time I've seen us win at your ground, and the away end was tremendous that day. I will always look forward to a trip to Kenilworth Road – its cramped and dated but, a little like the City Ground, it has lots of charm.

Can you put into words the feeling of being a Forest fan right now? What's your expectations for the remainder of the season and beyond?

It's a difficult period, combining the struggle on the pitch with the uncertainty of the PSR punishment. The sooner we learn our fate with that the better because at least then we know what we are fighting against. I think we have the talent to survive, but clearly results need to improve.

How has life supporting Forest changed during your lifetime following the club?

Perhaps I've become more cynical, and I've definitely grown tired of Saturday 3pm kick-offs becoming less frequent! The strange thing about it is you see these faces every weekend who you don't really know but you all grow up together, following a shared passion across the entire country. I've always liked that side of it. The camaraderie.

Finally, what's your favourite ever Forest game and why?

For reasons that won't surprise anyone, my favourite Forest games have mostly come in the last couple of years. Wembley was clearly amazing, but I will go for Arsenal at home at the end of last season when we secured our Premier League status. It felt like the culmination of many, many years of heartbreak coming to an end and the noise in the closing moments will stay with me forever.



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We also had the pleasure of hosting seven 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 match sponsor AES Construction Services and the friends and family of Fred Tucker, a life-long Hatters fan who passed away in 2017 but whose birthday is today. We all hope you have an enjoyable afternoon with us.

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**IN MEMORY
OF FRED TUCKER**

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ON THIS DAY



GREAT GAME 16TH MARCH 1974

**LUTON TOWN 3
LEYTON ORIENT 1**

As we have touched on elsewhere in today's programme, it was with sadness that we learned of the passing off Jimmy Husband last week.

Well, on this day in 1974, as the Hatters chased promotion to the top-flight, Jimmy scored a hat-trick as the Town saw off promotion rivals Orient at a packed Kenilworth Road.

In front of 17,045 Husband is the difference as the O's are seen off 3-1 with Alan West and Barry Butlin also in inspiring form.

Town: Horn, Ryan, Thomson, Anderson, Faulkner, Garner, Husband, Butlin, West, Aston.



THE RECORD

The Town's record on 16th March is decent down the years, losing just five times in the 21 games since the first match back in 1895, winning ten of those.

Hatters teams taking part on this day have won three of the last four, including the last two. Back in 2022 the Town thrashed Preston North End 4-0 at Kenilworth Road in the Championship with Luke Berry scoring two of those.

365 days prior to that win, the Town were successful at Kenilworth Road as well as goals from James Bree and Elijah Adebayo earned the Hatters a 2-0 win over Coventry in the Championship.

Draws at Wrexham in 2013 and at home to Gillingham in 2019 on our way to the League One title followed a 3-1 win over Kidderminster Harriers in the Conference in 2010. In front of 5,908 two goals from Kevin Gallen and one from Jake Howells gave Richard Money's side all three points.

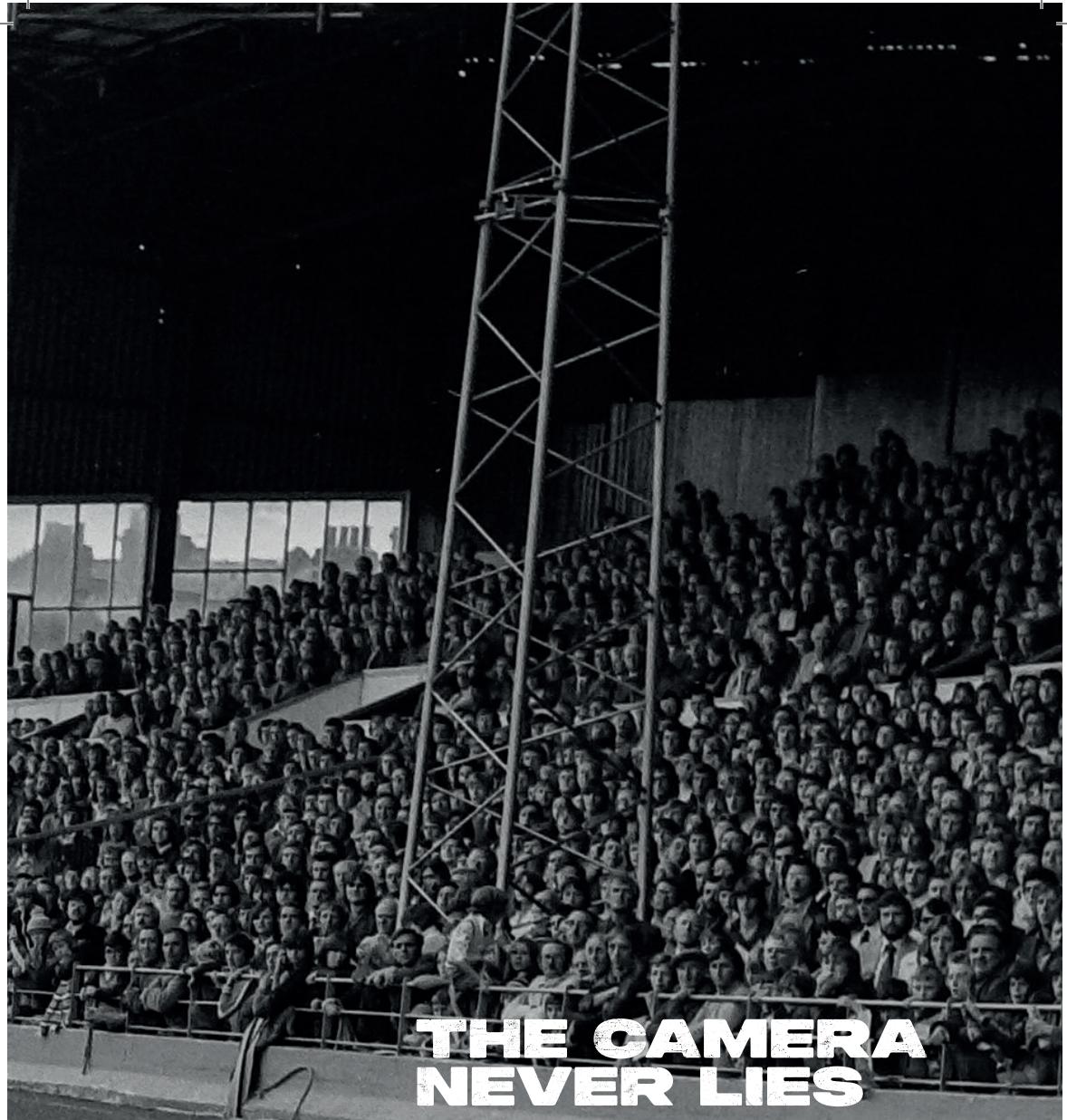
TOP-FLIGHT TOWN

The Hatters are playing their fourth match in the top-flight on this day this afternoon and will be looking to earn their first victory.

Of the three games Town teams have played in the top division on 16th March, two have ended defeat.

Norwich City won 1-0 here at Kenilworth Road in 1991 while Burnley secured a 2-0 victory in 1957. Sandwiching those defeats was a 1-1 draw at Sheffield Wednesday in 1985 with Mick Harford on target in front of 18,856 at Hillsborough.



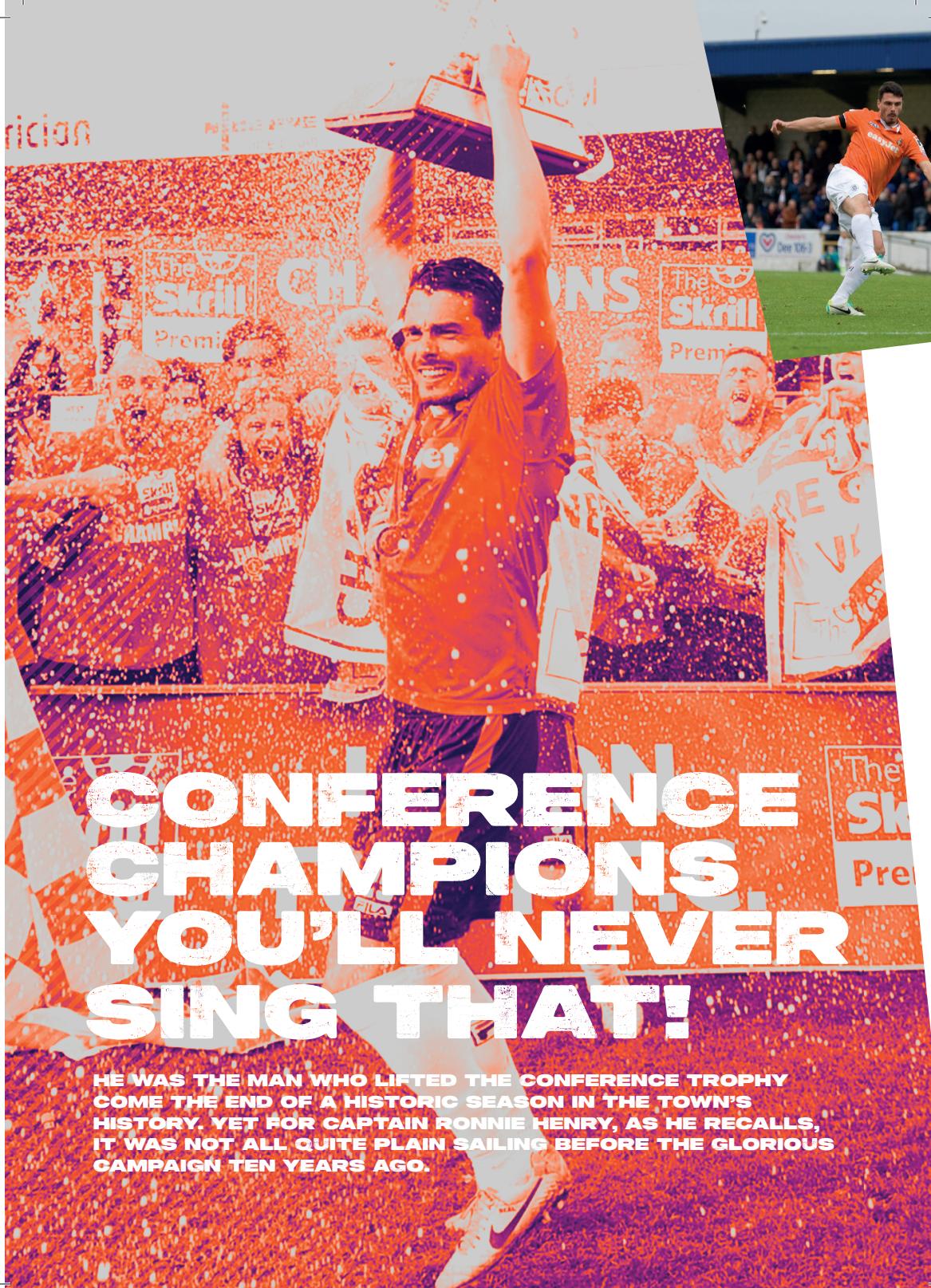


THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

Winger John Aston is about to be clattered by Forest's Colin Barrett during the 1-1 draw at Kenilworth Road in September 1976.

Barrett was later to put through his own net for the Town's equaliser.

Roger Wash



CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS. YOU'LL NEVER SING THAT!

HE WAS THE MAN WHO LIFTED THE CONFERENCE TROPHY COME THE END OF A HISTORIC SEASON IN THE TOWN'S HISTORY. YET FOR CAPTAIN RONNIE HENRY, AS HE RECALLS, IT WAS NOT ALL QUITE PLAIN SAILING BEFORE THE GLORIOUS CAMPAIGN TEN YEARS AGO.



When Ronnie Henry first set foot in Kenilworth Road in 2012 he envisaged a first season of glory and goals, promotion and pride.

Signed by Paul Buckle from Stevenage, then in League One, and instantly installed as captain, he had one aim and one aim alone: inspire Luton Town back to the Football League.

Sadly, things didn't quite work out for the former Stevenage man. The Town were regressing, and struggled in the Conference under Buckle in 2012/13. Kenilworth Road, which Henry once knew as an intimidating, hostile environment as a visiting player, was now an uncomfortable place for the Town players to perform as the team finished in seventh in the fifth tier.

It was a year that made Henry think about his decision to leave Stevenage and even question whether he would even stick around for a second season.

"That first year, if I said I didn't have second thoughts, I'd be lying to you," Henry says as he takes a look around an empty, cold and wet Kenilworth Road last week.

"Yeah, there were times that come over me that I thought this is this is a tougher challenge than I thought, and where I felt, 'what have I done?'

"It wasn't easy. There was moments where I could have left the football club because of how hard it got, but the reason I was captain is because that I stuck by what I wanted to do."

By the time that disappointing season had come to an end the Town had a new man at the helm in the shape of John Still and Henry knew the boss would want to get back to basics if the side were to make a return to the Football League.

"I remember John taking over very clearly," remembers Henry. "It was a Tuesday evening. He came in to the dressing room and spoke to us. Then we went to Braintree and we lost. John came

to watch. He was quite clear in what he wanted. It was quite simple.

"John knew exactly what he wanted and he made it very clear from every different playing position from goalkeeper to the forwards. When you get it here, this is what you do. We're all on the same sheet. So it made it quite easy for us. It was quite, quite refreshing. It was simple."

But things in football are never easy, never simple.

Henry still had his burning ambition of winning the Conference, of being the captain and lifting the trophy, but a bumpy start to the following season saw the Town already playing catch-up.

With expectation as high as ever, Henry was quickly realising why the Hatters were finding it so difficult in getting out of the fifth tier.

And one incident in particular sticks out – one which went on to have a huge impact on the remainder of the season.

Behind at half-time at home against Lincoln, one fan vented his frustration at the team as they left the pitch. Once the Town had turned the game around and won 3-2 thanks to two goals from Mark Cullen, the captain stuck up for his teammates and told the supporter exactly what he thought.

"I remember it clearly now," recalls Henry. "I mean the position I played in the team was obviously at right-back. So coming over to get the ball back from the crowd and when they're throwing it back at you it was really hard not to hear what they were saying."

"I understood where they were coming from. The fans are passionate, they want the club to do well. They expect to do well. And we weren't doing great at the time."

"So it was it was on us. The only thing I said to the fan was that we had a young team. It wasn't easy, even for myself as a senior player and as a captain."

"There was a huge responsibility on us to win games week in, week out. And that situation here with the fan, rightly or wrongly, I went to speak to him. ➤

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JACK BATESON  H: FORMBY HATTERS A: AVAILABLE T: AVAILABLE	JACOB PINNINGTON  H: AVAILABLE A: AVAILABLE T: AVAILABLE	JAKE BURGER  H: AVAILABLE A: AVAILABLE T: AVAILABLE	JAMESON HORLICK  H: AVAILABLE A: AVAILABLE T: AVAILABLE
JAYDEN LUKER  H: AVAILABLE A: AVAILABLE T: AVAILABLE	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
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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  H: AVAILABLE A: AVAILABLE T: AVAILABLE
CAI HOCKEY  H: AVAILABLE A: AVAILABLE T: AVAILABLE	TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT KIT SPONSORSHIPS CALL THE COMMERCIAL TEAM: 01582 411622 OR EMAIL COMMERCIAL@LUTONTOWN.CO.UK		



"I said, 'listen, we're not doing it deliberately. We're trying our best. I understand where you're coming from. But listen, give us some leeway. A little bit. We'll try and get you where we want to get to'.

"Now a lot of people are saying that may have been the turning point to the club rising up the league, whether it was or not, I don't know, but him and the rest of the fans kind of understood.

"It was a case of 'let's get in this together'. We're only going to get up the leagues by the fans and the players and the staff all getting amongst it together. And I think that's when John started to bring the fans into the huddle.

"It certainly did bring us all together and it felt more of a more of a unique football club and you know for a fact when these fans here get behind you, in this environment, in this stadium, there was only one outcome when we walked out of this tunnel onto this pitch. We knew we was going to win."

With the fans onside and with Still reciting his "stronger the team" mantra each week, the Town were soon hitting their stride, hitting top spot at the turn of the year and never looked back.

Henry, from right-back, was in fine form and continued to use his leadership skills as captain to full effect – none more so on New Year's Day when Barnet came to Kenilworth Road.

"It was a big, big game and the weather was absolutely terrible, and I don't mind saying it now, but the game probably shouldn't have been on," remembers the skipper.

"I was freezing from the start but I was trying to get the game on, making sure it was on, making sure it was played. I said to the referee 'come on, ref, it's got be played!'

"I was saying there was nothing wrong with the pitch, even though it's psychology in my head I knew the pitch was hardly playable.

"We landed up playing in areas in the corners of the pitch where it wasn't so bad. We didn't want to play in the areas that were terrible as the referee would call it off.

"But I'm really pleased the game went ahead because we ended up winning it and going four points clear. It was a big game and it was a big turning point.

"Psychologically it was big against Barnet because it was a huge game. To get that game on to keep the momentum going... after that we I didn't look back."

And that's how exactly how it ended. A 27-match unbeaten run paving the way for a promotion back to the Football League and, come the end of the season, Henry achieved the aim he set out when he first walked into the dressing room. ➤



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Helped by a team which included several leaders, with the likes of Steve McNulty, Mark Tyler, Luke Guttridge and Paul Benson, Henry wrote his name into Hatters history by lifting the Conference trophy aloft after the 4-1 win over Forest Green in the final home game of the campaign.

"It was special, especially being captain," he says. "I enjoyed the responsibility of being captain at such a fantastic football club and it was a real honour, but it was a real responsibility. It was tough the first year. I'm not going to lie to you.

"But I managed to do it the second year and it was a lot easier because of the experience in the changing room and the standards we had, the environment and the coaching staff created. It made my job a lot easier because I had five or six players around me that would do exactly the same job.

"I just wore the armband out on the pitch at the weekend and got the privilege to lift the trophy which was a huge, huge moment in my football career and one that I remember all these years on.

"But it wasn't just for me, it was for my family. It was for the fans and for the people that work here. Because when I came here it was obvious what the football club wanted.

"It became desperate for the fans to get out of the Conference. Everyone deserved it because we worked so hard for it and it was just a great moment, so to give that to the football club, it was a relief.

"I'm not going to lie, it was a relief. To banish all of that frustration that you had sometimes taken personally, especially the previous year.

"But getting us out of the Conference was probably a bigger achievement than a lot of people realise because it's so hard to get out of the division with only one club being promoted automatically."

But while the Hatters were heading for League Two one man who wasn't was Henry.

"Yes," he says with a tinge of melancholy. "As soon as we finished the season and we were promoted I spoke to the club about extending my stay, and Luton were quite open to extending it, but I made the decision to go back to my old club Stevenage with my old manager.

"There was nothing against Luton, and I would love to have stayed here, but I thought at the time I needed to make a decision.

"I thought, I've come here. I had an agenda: I wanted to help get the football club into the Football League and I've done that so I could walk away happy.

"I'd love to have played for the club in the Football League but that wasn't to be.

"But I am so I'm so proud of what I've done here and I have no regrets. I have no regrets whatsoever." 

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Matthew Barnes-Homer scores the only goal of the game at Stevenage in April 2010



Only ten years ago! A 0-0 draw at Salisbury

A-Z THE NON-LEAGUE YEARS

HATTERS HISTORIAN ROGER WASH REMEMBERS OUR OPPONENTS DURING OUR CONFERENCE DAYS

S is for Salisbury, Southport, Stockport and Stevenage Borough

When we dropped into non-League it gave supporters a chance to visit new parts of the country such as the cathedral city of Salisbury and its quirky ground on the outskirts. Quirky inasmuch as a double decker bus stood along one touchline – ‘parking the bus’ took on a new meaning. We only played twice at Salisbury City, drawing both, but comfortably won our home games.

We had played Southport in our Football League days and resumed meetings for four seasons commencing in 2010/11. Highlights included 6-0 and 5-1 home wins with all different scorers in each plus the wonder volley from way out by Steve McNulty, which is still regularly shown today, during the 3-0 victory at Kenilworth Road during our promotion season.

At Haig Avenue a dismal 2-1 defeat in 2010/11 is hard to expel from the memory, as is the 1-0 defeat on the opening day of our promotion season. An entertaining 3-3 draw is sandwiched between these though.

Another team we had met semi-regularly during our Football League years was Stockport County who we met for two seasons in the Conference. They were on a downward spiral at the time though and we recorded three wins and draw from our four games with none regarded as classics.

When we were cruelly dumped into non-league the general feeling was that we would bounce straight back and so an early 1-0 home defeat at the hands of Stevenage Borough caused resentment in the crowd leading to manager Mick Harford leaving the club.

Looking back, it can be seen that Stevenage had pulled together a once in a generation squad of players that gradually assumed pole position. A chance came to pull closer to them over Easter 2010 at Broadhall Way where, in front of a capacity crowd, a solitary goal from Matthew Barnes-Homer separated the sides to inflict their only home defeat of the season.

Sadly, despite our best efforts, we could not catch them and ultimately finished second only to lose in the play-offs.



HATTERS IN THE COMMUNITY

LUTON TOWN FC COMMUNITY TRUST EASTER FOOTBALL CAMPS

Booking is now live for our Easter Holidays football camps. The camps will take place at a variety of venues both in and around Luton.

As well as Luton itself, we'll be heading to Flitwick and Dunstable. Our camps are open to anyone in school years 1 to 6 regardless of ability and previous experience of the game. Our camps are all run by professional coaches and offer opportunities for young people to learn new skills and work on their technique in a positive, fun and safe environment.

Our day starts with warm-up activities where we specifically focus on individual SAQ (Speed, Agility and Quickness) skills as well as ball mastery. We then focus on individual and team games where the participants learn to use their social skills to work effectively with their team mates. In the afternoon all participants take part in football tournaments and matches, with the main focus being having fun and not specifically winning games.

To round off each day, we hold a mini awards ceremony to reward those who have displayed a positive attitude, shown

good determination or excelled in their performance.

Community Trust Business Development Manager, Adam Woulds, said: "We take pride in the fact that our camps are open to all, whether you've been playing football for a few years or just taking your first steps in the game, everyone is welcome. We love creating a sense of community where everyone feels supported by our coaches, as well as their peers, and seeing new friendships form."

A new booking system is now place for our camps and courses, so you will be required to sign up again. This is a very simple process. To see a full list of our venues please visit www.lutontowncommunity.co.uk. For further information please contact us community@lutontown.co.uk or call 01582 561622.

In addition to this we will also be running Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) camps at Dallow Primary and Ely Way training ground in Luton. The HAF programme is a government funded initiative aimed at providing healthy activity, a hot meal and education around nutrition to those in



receipt of income related free school meals. To reserve places for HAF camps, please visit www.activeluton.co.uk/energise-luton-holiday-camps.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

As part of our International Women's Day celebrations last week we hosted a special celebration breakfast for some of our female participants from our social club, based at Kenilworth Road on Wednesday mornings.

The social club is open to all and is now receiving funding from the Premier League Charitable Fund, allowing the trust to put on additional sessions and events for the group.

Our Schools Officer, Aiden Knowles, based at Putteridge High School, put on an event for 15 female students along this year's International Women's Day theme of

'Inspire Inclusion' as well as celebrating their successes and positive role models.

We also visited numerous schools to deliver assemblies around this theme, including St Joseph's School Catholic Primary School where pupils were lucky enough to be visited by Alfie Doughty and Tim Krul.

This was particularly inspiring for the girl's Wildcats team, who are soon to take part in a tournament representing the Hatters against other Premier League sides, hosted by Arsenal.

As if all this wasn't enough, the youngsters were then treated to a visit from the FA Women's National League Cup trophy and given the opportunity to have their photos taken next to it, with the final taking place at Kenilworth Road next weekend.

For further information or to join our social group, please email community@lutontown.co.uk.

ACADEMY UPDATE

WITH ACADEMY ADMINISTRATOR EMILY HOWES



Following International Women's Day last week, I would like to begin by acknowledging the part our club plays in supporting women working within the football industry.

I am aware there are an array of challenges and obstacles that women can face in the workplace, which may be exacerbated in a male dominated environment, so choosing to work in the right place with the right people is paramount.

I think at some point in their career, a woman will question her work-life balance and whether parenthood will jeopardise her career, which can often be one of the many barriers to full-time employment for women.

I have been incredibly fortunate in the seven-and-a-half years that I have been at the club that I have always felt supported as both a female and as a mother. I currently work full-time as the academy administrator, but I initially joined the club as a sports therapist.

The opportunity to change to a more flexible role was presented to me when I found it difficult to balance my family life and work responsibilities. The academy are incredibly grateful

for this, as without me, I don't think they would cope...! I think that's what's great about football, there are so many different pathways available.

As a female working within the academy, I have never been made to feel "less-than" or undervalued, in fact, I am pretty sure I am everyone's favourite colleague (at least that's what I tell myself). So I would encourage any female exploring the possibility of working in football to try to ignore any gender stereotypes and to not be deterred.

Football is a fast paced and exciting environment with many jobs well suited to women. The current catalyst for change sees more women now entering the men's game, which is great. My own daughter plays for our girls under-12s and seeing the new generation of girls falling in love with the sport is exciting. For her (and even my son) it is important for me that they see a future where we champion women in sport.



Academy Update

The first team's promotion to the Premier League has introduced a host of new competitions for our academy boys that have allowed them to play against top-flight category 1 and 2 teams. Most recently, our under-12s have topped the table where they will now host Arsenal in what I am sure will be a great display of football in the quarter-finals of the Premier League Cup.

Under-18s

Out of 10 teams in the EFL Youth Alliance South-East Division, our Under-18s managed to qualify top of the league for the Merit League One, meaning they will now play against the top five teams from the South West. Their victory meant they were presented with their winner's trophy at half-time of the Aston Villa game. The boys were delighted and even made an appearance on Sky Sports.

Alex Lawless' side have started their run in the Merit League strong by opening the campaign with two successive wins with an impressive

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: Kobi 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

4-1 victory over Swindon Town and 2-1 win over Stevenage. With Oxford United this weekend, hopefully they can make it a hat-trick of wins.

Alex Lawless may celebrate wins on the pitch but he is victorious off the pitch too. The Supporters' Trust hosted a fantastic quiz night recently, which saw our academy side appropriately named 'AbsoLUTely F'Lawless' crowned winners. With these being my notes, I will say that I absolutely carried the team ;)

Finally, a massive congratulations to Zack Nelson on his first team debut against Crystal Palace last week.

Enjoy the game.

COYH!

YOUTH U18 FIXTURES AND RESULTS

OPPONENT	DATE	SCORE	STARTING XI	CHIGOZIE	HARVEY	MARTINS	BENAGR	ROUTH	EMERY
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	KAYIBANDA	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 W 2-1	HOCKEY	HARVEY	BENAGR	STITT	CHIGOZIE	BATESON	LORENTZEN-JONES
SWINDON TOWN FAYC3	FRI 15/12/23	H L 0-2	HOCKEY	GIWA	JOHNSON	BENAGR	CHIGOZIE	KAYIBANDA	LORENTZEN-JONES
CAMBRIDGE UNITED	SAT 6/1/24	H W 2-1	HOCKEY	HARVEY	SCOTT	MARTINS	EMERY	KAYIBANDA	TRURAM
GILLINGHAM	FRI 12/1/24	A W 3-2	HOCKEY	HARVEY	SCOTT	STITT	EMERY	KAYIBANDA	WARREN
BRENTFORD	SAT 20/1/24	H W 5-0	HOCKEY	HARVEY	SCOTT	MARTINS	EMERY	KAYIBANDA	STITT
NORTHAMPTON TOWN	SAT 16/2/23	A L 2-3	HOCKEY	HARVEY	ROUTH	MARTINS	EMERY	KAYIBANDA	STITT
LEYTON ORIENT	SAT 3/2/24	A L 0-1	THOMAS	IOANNIDES	BENAGR	MARTINS	EMERY	KAYIBANDA	LORENTZEN-JONES
SUTTON UNITED	SAT 10/2/24	H W 4-2	BLACKLEDGE	HARVEY	BENAGR	MARTINS	EMERY	KAYIBANDA	LORENTZEN-JONES
STEVENAGE	SAT 2/3/24	H W 2-1	BLACKLEDGE	HARVEY	BENAGR	STITT	EMERY	TRIALIST A	WARREN
SWINDON TOWN	SAT 9/3/24	H W 4-1	BLACKLEDGE	ODEGAH	HARVEY	MARTINS	EMERY	TRIALIST A	STITT
OXFORD UNITED	SAT 16/3/24	A							
CHELTENHAM TOWN	SAT 23/3/24	H							
LEYTON ORIENT	FRI 29/3/24	A							
PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	TUE 2/4/24	H							
AFC WIMBLEDON	SAT 13/4/24	H							
SUTTON UNITED	SAT 20/4/24	A							
PORTSMOUTH	SAT 27/4/24	A							

DEVELOPMENT SQUAD U21 FIXTURES AND RESULTS

GILLINGHAM	TUE 22/8/23	A W 4-3	TRIALIST A	FRANCIS-CLARKE	KAYIBANDA	JOHNSON	PINNINGTON	LUKER	WATSON
BRENTFORD B	TUE 29/8/23	A W 2-1	HORLICK	PINNINGTON	FRANCIS-CLARKE	BATESON	GIWA	PIESOLD	BURGER
CHELSEA	TUE 19/9/23	A L 1-4	HORLICK	PINNINGTON	KAYIBANDA	PHILLIPS	BATESON	JOHNSON	PIESOLD
LEEDS UNITED	FRI 6/10/23	A L 1-4	HORLICK	PINNINGTON	PHILLIPS	JOHNSON	CHIGOZIE	KAYIBANDA	PIESOLD
NORTHAMPTON TOWN	TUE 17/10/23	H L 2-3	HORLICK	PINNINGTON	GIWA	PIESOLD	CHIGOZIE	KAYIBANDA	LUKER
KEMPSTON ROVERS (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	TOPPKINS	FRANCIS-CLARK	HERON
CHELSEA	TUE 12/12/23	H L 1-2	KRUL	PINNINGTON	JOHNSON	TOPPKINS	FRANCIS-CLARKE	ANDERSEN	PIESOLD
COLCHESTER UNITED	FRI 2/2/24	H L 0-2	CAMIS	PINNINGTON	JOHNSON	PIESOLD	FRANCIS-CLARKE	BATESON	HERON
LEEDS UNITED	MON 12/2/24	H L 0-2	CAMIS	PINNINGTON	JOHNSON	PIESOLD	FRANCIS-CLARKE	BATESON	HERON
BIGGLESWADE (BSC SF)	WED 13/3/224	A L 0-3	CAMIS	HARVEY	BENAGR	STITT	EMERY	CHIGOZIE	LORENTZEN-JONES

SUBS

WARREN	LORENTZEN-JONES	XAVIER-JONES	HOUGHTON	TRISTRAM, TAKAWIRA, IOANNIDES, ROBERTS-EDEMA, BOOTH
LORENTZEN-JONES	TRISTRAM	XAVIER-JONES	TAKAWIRA	MARTINS, IOANNIDES, HARVEY, ROUTH, DEAN, TRIALIST,
IOANNIDES	LORENTZEN-JONES	TRISTRAM	XAVIER-JONES	PIPA, ODEGAH, HOUGHTON, HARVEY, WARREN,
TRISTRAM	LORENTZEN-JONES	XAVIER-JONES	HOUGHTON	WARREN, IOANNIDES, AKINYA, SHEPHERD, PIPA
IOANNIDES	XAVIER-JONES	LORENTZEN-JONES	TRISTRAM	BOOTH, ANDERSON, SHEPHERD, STITT, ROBERTS-EDEMA
STITT	ANDERSON	IOANNIDES	TRISTRAM	PIPA, TAKAWIRA, MARTINS, BENAGR, SHEPHERD
IOANNIDES	ANDERSON	TRISTRAM	TRIALIST B	PIPA, TAKAWIRA, HOUGHTON, SHEPHERD,
LORENTZEN-JONES	ANDERSON	TRISTRAM	XAVIER-JONES	ODEJAH, PIPA, STITT, HOUGHTON, HARVEY
LORENTZEN-JONES	ODEGAH	TRISTRAM	HOUGHTON	ANDERSON, XAVIER-JONES, KIRBY, KAYIBANDA, PIPA
KIRBY	ODEGAH	LORENTZEN-JONES	ANDERSON	HOCKEY, HOUGHTON, XAVIER-JONES, MARTINS, AKINYA
I-JONES	STITT	HOUGHTON	SHEPHERD	PIPA, XAVIER-JONES, ANDERSON, BENAGR, CHIGOZIE
I-JONES	STITT	ODEGAH	ANDERSON	PIPA, SHEPHERD, BENAGR, ROUTH, HINCAPIE-ALFONSO
I-JONES	TRISTRAM	ODEGAH	ANDERSON	IOANNIDES, HOUGHTON, TAKAWIRA, KAYIBANDA, ROUTH
I-JONES	TRISTRAM	ODEGAH	ANDERSON	MARTINS, THOMAS, IOANNIDES, TAKAWIRA, EMERY, HOUGHTON, HARVEY
STITT	ODEGAH	LORENTZEN-JONES	ANDERSON	XAVIER-JONES, IOANNIDES, WARREN, TAKAWIRA, BENAGR, HOUGHTON
LORENTZEN-JONES	ODEGAH	TRISTRAM	ANDERSON	XAVIER-JONES, IOANNIDES, TAKAWIRA, HOUGHTON
LORENTZEN-JONES	HOUGHTON	TRISTRAM	XAVIER-JONES	WARREN, THOMAS, IOANNIDES, ODEGAH, ROUTH
WARREN	ODEGAH	TRISTRAM	XAVIER-JONES	FOX, SHEPHERD, TAKAWIRA, ROBERTS-EDEMA
I-JONES	WARREN	ODEGAH	TRISTRAM	STITT, HARVEY, HOUGHTON, ANDERSON
I-JONES	WARREN	ANDERSON	TRISTRAM	STITT, IOANNIDES, HOUGHTON, TAKAWIRA, ODEGAH
LORENTZEN-JONES	ODEGAH	TRIALIST B	TAKAWIRA	SHEPHERD, PIPA, HINCAPIE-ALFONSO, CHIGOZIE, ROUTH
LORENTZEN-JONES	ANDERSON	TRIALIST B	TAKAWIRA	CHIGOZIE, WARREN, BENAGR, ROUTH

13

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, TRISTRAM
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
BURGER	LYNCH	NELSON	LUKER	HORLICK, PHILLIPS, HERON, BATESON, MATTHEWS-LEWIS
NELSON	LYNCH	PHILLIPS	ALLEN	LORENTZEN-JONES, THOMAS, MARTINS, KAYIBANDA, ODEGAH
BURGER	LYNCH	PHILLIPS	MATTHEWS-LEWIS	LORENTZEN-JONES, BLACKLEDGE, ANDERSON, KAYIBANDA, ALLEN
I-JONES	HERON	LYNCH	HARRIS	WARREN, BLACKLEDGE, ODEGAH, ANDERSON, ROUTH

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GETTING TO KNOW... ZACHARIAS IOANNIDES

Place of birth: London

Position: Central midfield

Year joined the academy: As an under-11.

What boots do you wear? Adidas X.

My aims are to be playing in the under-21s or higher by the end of the season.

The proudest moment of career so far is scoring in the Floodlit Cup semi-final against Cardiff.

In the playground, I used to be Lionel Messi, because he was my idol. I love the way he'd dribble and manipulate the ball so effortlessly.

At school my favourite subject was maths, because I always found it easy and enjoyed it.

A career outside of football? I'd be a teacher because I would like to shape the future generations.

The one teammate who I'd say is the most talented is Isaiah Harvey, because he has good technical ability and he's quick.

Of the first team squad, the player I look-up to most is Ross Barkley.

The best thing about Luton Town is the friendliness and community environment.

If I was to describe myself... I'm a hard-working technical midfielder. Good close control and composure and tend to be a bit of a box-to-box midfielder.

I can play in many positions, including wing back or anywhere in the midfield. I like to emulate Saka when I play wing back.



THE LAWLESS REPORT

"Zach has been with the club since he was an under-11 and has shown quality and lots of hard work to progress to the under-18s.

"He's a very technical midfielder who possesses a good touch and likes to use this to good effect in tight situations.

"Zach is also a versatile player, who can do a number of jobs, whether that be as an attacking central midfielder, a box-to-box-type midfielder or by playing in a wing-back role."

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- ✖ Throwing objects
- ✖ Drug use
- ✖ Discriminatory behaviour

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES:

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

HELP US ENSURE MATCHES ARE SAFE AND ENJOYABLE FOR ALL **LOVE FOOTBALL. PROTECT THE GAME.**



Premier League



FSA.

YOUNGSTERS OFF TO FLYING START IN MERIT DIVISION

Fresh from winning the South East division of the Youth Alliance, the Hatters' Under-18s began their merit division campaign with two wins out of two.

Alex Lawless' side – who were presented with their trophy at half-time during our last home match with Aston Villa – face the top clubs from the south east and south west divisions between now and the end of the season in a bid to be crowned the champions of the south.

In their first match, the Town beat Stevenage 2-1 at The Brache. The Hatters went 1-0 up courtesy of a Jack Lorentzen-Jones penalty after Jamie Odegah was upended by the Stevenage keeper.

Boro equalised ten minutes later but the Town would earn all three points thanks to Odegah. The striker ran on to a long ball over the visitors' defence, drove into the box and finished smartly across the goalkeeper.

Four days later the Town made it back-to-back wins by beating Swindon 4-1. The Robins beat the Hatters in the FA Youth Cup earlier in the season but it was Lawless' youngsters who flew out of the blocks when Matthew Takawira put the Town in front when hassling the visitors defence to fire home.

Swindon didn't take long to respond, equalising with a far post header after the Town failed to clear a set-piece.



The visitors put the Hatters under plenty of pressure in the closing stages of the first half but Lawless' side stepped up their efforts in the second period and scored three unanswered goals.

Firstly Takawira's flick-on from a long ball found Dylan Stitt to burst forward from midfield and finish well to put the Town in front.

Then it was 3-1 when Dominic Martins converted from the penalty spot after he saw a header at the back-post handled on the line.

The Town then applied the coup de grâce in the closing stages when a cross from Marcus Warren was left by Odegah to a trailist to quickly control the ball in the box and ruthlessly fire home to make it four.

Lawless's side travelled to Oxford United this morning and are next in action next Saturday at The Brache when they entertain Cheltenham Town (kick-off 10.30am).



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LUTON TOWN LADIES

A SLICE OF LUCK SENDS REAL BEDFORD THROUGH TO THE LEAGUE CUP FINAL

By Owen Williams

Luton Town Ladies got the go ahead at 12.15 for their game against Real Bedford last Sunday afternoon. The game was expected to be the toughest game of the season, excluding the match against Brighton.

Two weeks since their last game, Town Ladies would have hoped to of got off to a quick start, although it was Bedford who had the first shot of the match, two minutes in but the ball was sent high over the bar.

Leyah Maddix had a free run again down the left hand side of the Luton attack, but as she attempted to slot Tsaianne Leander through on goal, but the pass was slightly overhit.

On 14 minutes the Town had their best chance of the match. Jess McKay got on the end of a Shianne Swarres cross, but her headed effort was sent wide of the post.

However, the Hatters did not need to as a minute later Andie Dickens gave Luton the lead. Maddix floated a pass across the field which Dickens picked up. She sent the defender the wrong way and her effort from just outside the box slipped



underneath the goalkeeper and into the back of the net.

The Hatters almost had a second when Amber Pearson was played through on goal, forced the keeper into a good save before the rebound fell to Maddix only for her fire her shot over the crossbar.

On 33 minutes it seemed Maddix was through on goal, but a Bedford defender made an incredible last-ditch sliding challenge to prevent her from getting a shot away.

With three minutes to go until the break, Bedford equalised with an effort from the edge of the box.

The first attack of the second half goes Luton's way. Quick feet from Dickens saw her glide past two Bedford defenders, but her cross was slightly overhit and Bedford regained possession.

With 15 minutes to play, luck was on Real Bedford's side as they took the lead. Chloe Martin attempted a cross into the Luton box and the ball floated above Amy Butler and spins off a puddle at the goalmouth.

Despite their best efforts the Hatters could not find an equaliser and Real Bedford celebrated reaching the final.

Tanya Blacksley was awarded player of the match for her desire to win every tackle and challenge.

Follow the Ladies on X: @LTFCL_Official



LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS' TRUST

WITH WITH COLIN ADAMSON – SOLYD CHAIR

Hello and welcome to today's game. Here we are then. The final ten games and the boys are on course to achieve something very special and three points today would take us closer to that safety that nobody beyond Luton thought was possible.

Of course, we arrive at Kenilworth Road after the events of Wednesday evening and in line with that I'd like to inform you of the latest SoLYD fundraising initiative.

SoLYD: Empowering Luton's young, one heartbeat at a time

In light of the cardiac arrest suffered by our captain Tom Lockyer at the Vitality Stadium when we played Bournemouth in the Premier League in December, the footballing community has come together to ensure the safety of its young athletes.

Following Wednesday's rearranged game, which gave both clubs the opportunity to come together and heal, SoLYD are launching a vital initiative.

Did you know that sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is a leading cause of death among young athletes? Statistics show that approximately one in 50,000 to one in 80,000 athletes aged 14-24 experience SCA each year during sports activities.

While rare, these incidents highlight the huge importance of having defibrillators readily available, especially in high-intensity environments like football academies.

In the world of football, where passion meets potential, we are determined to safeguard the lives of young athletes at Luton Town academy. This cause aims to secure two vital pieces of equipment: defibrillators.

The Luton Town Academy, renowned for its dedication to nurturing young talents serves as the perfect backdrop for this life-saving initiative.

By providing access to defibrillators, SoLYD is not only investing in the future of football but also prioritising the health and safety of the players who compete in the game.

Moreover, SoLYD's efforts serve as a vital reminder of the importance of being prepared in the face of medical emergencies. In a world where unforeseen circumstances can arise at any moment, having the necessary tools and resources readily available can mean the difference between life and death.

As supporters rally behind SoLYD's cause, it underlines the impact that grassroots initiatives can have on the broader footballing community. Beyond the boundaries of the pitch, this campaign is a commitment to ensuring the well-being of athletes.

As SoLYD continues its journey to secure defibrillators for the Luton Town academy, we ask you to help us in support of this cause.

In doing so, we reaffirm our commitment to the principle that every heartbeat matters and that together, we can make a difference beyond the boundaries of the pitch.

To help us you can donate by scanning the QR code on this page.

Enjoy the game today.

COYH!

MEET THE FANS WITH HATTERS SUPPORTERS BARNEY AND TIM HUNTER

How long have you supported Luton for?

B: Couldn't understand why my dad supported Luton. He took me to a 2-0 win over Shrewsbury in 1997 and I've been hooked ever since!

T: Supporter for over 40 years and a season ticket holder for 12 years.

Where do you sit at home matches?

We both sit in the Main Stand, Block B

Who is your all-time favourite player and why?

B: Steve Howard, absolute goal machine! Seemed to score every game I attended.

T: Raddy Antic - he helped save our first division status in the early 80s.

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

B: Being fully behind them through thick and thin, from losing at home to Hyde to battling the Premier League big boys! Such a great community to be a part of.

T: Loyalty. Supporting them through the 30-point deduction to the Conference to their rise up to the Premier League.

What are your favourite memories of being a Luton fan?

B: The play-off final win was just magical. The 4-1 win over Forest Green after finally achieving non-league promotion is a close second though, two very emotional days.

T: The Johnstone's Paint Trophy final and last season beating Coventry in the play-off final.

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

B: They mostly support big Premier League teams so any stick I get I just respond, "At

least I get to see them play!" They've always respected my loyalty though and are all buzzing for what we've achieved.

T: Yes, friends do take the mick sometimes but I suspect they're secretly impressed at how well we've done.

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

B: Our results can affect them now so I've experienced more annoyance if we're unable to nick a point off their rivals!

T: I think most are impressed at how well we've done but still have a little dig about us going down.

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

B: Full of pride and excitement. Particularly chuffed for the players getting to experience the top tier for the first time.

T: Proud, privileged and relieved I kept my season ticket all those years.

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

B: Such a noticeable step in quality up but so satisfying seeing us hold our own as I knew we would.

T: Always enjoyed watching us play but currently enjoying seeing some of the elite players in action too.

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

B: The fight for Premier League survival, starting with today! I know we can do it COYH!

T: Seeing the players continue to play with determination to stay in the Premier League. 



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WHO'S YOUR PREMIER LEAGUE TEAM?

Today, we host Nottingham Forest in a huge game in the Premier League. So, let's cast our minds back to last season when the Hatters faced Hull City away from home in what turned out to be the Hatters' promotion winning season.

There was big news coming from Hull earlier that morning as it was announced that manager Shota Arveladze had been sacked by the Tigers. This was naturally going to have a big effect on the game.

Luton knew that a win would put them in a play-off position whereas Hull were sitting 20th in the league at the time. Nonetheless, it would prove to be a tough game for Nathan Jones's side.

The Hatters had named a strong side as always and this side included a midfield three of Allan Campbell, Henri Lansbury and Jordan Clark as well as the strikeforce of Carlton Morris and Elijah Adebayo.

Luton started the game very well and took the lead after just six minutes. A Lansbury corner was struck by Adebayo and his effort bounced back off the crossbar before rebounding in off Alfie Jones and finding the net.

Hull nearly found an equaliser soon after as a long-range effort took a deflection on the way in before rattling the crossbar and bouncing back down before being cleared. Morris then had a great chance soon after which was well saved by the goalkeeper.

Just before half time, the Hatters had a second. After a bit of a scramble in the box, Adebayo laid the ball off to James Bree whose cross was cleared to Lansbury 30 yards out to strike an absolute thunderbolt in for 2-0 his first goal for the club.

The ex-Nottingham Forest man made his mark in the match before doing his lawnmower celebration. This was it for the match as Luton grinded out a big three points on the road. 

COYH

Words by Zac Neal





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JUNIOR HATTERS TODAY'S MASCOTS



Abigail Beneteau-Kavanagh

Age: 11

Hobbies: Football, Basketball, Skiing

Favourite Player: Jordan Clark



Max Patten

Age: 11

Hobbies: Playing football, gaming, playing with his dogs Parker and Bailey

Favourite Player: Ross Barkley



Edison Inge

Age: 7

Hobbies: Playing football & watching football

Favourite Player: Elijah Adebayo



Wilson Bennett

Age: 10

Hobbies: Football

Favourite Player: Ross Barkley



Frankie Fahy

Age: 10

Hobbies: Playing football, listening to music and supporting Luton Town FC

Favourite Player: Elijah Adebayo & Gabe Osho



Reuben Taylor

Age: 9

Hobbies: Football, Gaming, Sport

Favourite Player: Chiedozie Ogbene

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TICKET NEWS



TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR V LUTON TOWN

Premier League
Saturday 30th March 2024,
kick-off 3pm

Luton Town supporters have been allocated a full allocation of 3,038 tickets as licensed safe standing. However, part of Block 118 is dedicated to supporters who need to prefer to sit.

Away Season Ticket holders

Those away season ticket holders who requested a ticket will have payment taken and ticket dispatched on Thursday 21st March. Please advise to ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk if you do not require your ticket.

Diamond Season Card Holders

Tickets for this fixture go on sale on Monday 18th March at 10am to Diamond and Executive Season Card Holders at one ticket per person. They will be available online, in person or via phone using your Client Reference numbers.

Season Card Holders (6 away games attended in 2022/23)

On Thursday 21st March at 10am Season Card Holders who attended six away games or more during the 2022/23 season will be able to purchase one ticket per person. They will be available online, in person or via phone using your Client Reference numbers.

All Season Card Holders

On Friday 22nd March at 10am all Season Card Holders will be able to purchase one ticket per person. They will be available online or via phone only using your Client Reference numbers.

2-Year Members

Subject to availability, any 2-year member can book one ticket per person on Tuesday 26th March online, in person or by calling the ticket office.

Members with previous purchase history

Subject to availability, any member with previous purchase history (before 10th May 2023) can book one ticket per person on Wednesday 27th March at 10am online or via phone only.

General Sale

Subject to availability, any supporter with a previous purchasing history can book tickets on Thursday 28th March at 10am online or by calling the ticket office.

Prices

Adults £30, Seniors £25, Young Adult (18-21) £25, Under 18s £18.

Ambulant and wheelchair supporters will pay the age-related price and are entitled to a personal assistant if in receipt of higher Disability Living Allowance, PIP or Attendance allowance.

Additional notice

Due to feedback received last season regarding allocated seats, we are trying to assist those supporters who cannot stand. If supporters are going to stand, please book tickets in the 'back' sections to allow those that need / prefer to sit when viewing the pitch. Also, please take your allocated seats.





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. Name the two Luton goalscorers the last time the Hatters beat Forest in the top-flight at Kenilworth Road in 1992?
2. The Forest fans used to sing 'You'll never beat Des Walker'. But which former Luton striker sped past Walker to score twice in a 2-2 top-flight draw at the City Ground in December 1990?
3. How far in metres is the City Ground from Notts County's Meadow Lane?
4. In which years did Forest win the European Cup?
5. The Hatters last played on this day in the Championship in 2022 with Luke Berry scoring twice in a 4-0 win - against who?
6. Which team play their home games at Boundary Park?
7. Which club are nicknamed the Baggies?
8. Stuart Pearce made 721 senior club appearances. But how many goals did he score?
9. Which Town player had the most touches of the ball in the draw at Crystal Palace?
10. What is the fewest number of draws recorded in a Premier League season?

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 PITTS. Like a half-decent loan signing, not bad.

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





Premier League

ROUND-UP

The Town know a victory this afternoon will lift them out of the relegation zone as they welcome a Nottingham Forest side to Kenilworth Road.

Forest sit one place and three points above the Hatters in the table after the Reds lost 1-0 at Brighton last Sunday. The Town's point at Crystal Palace inched them closer to Nuno Espírito Santo's side and could have gone into today's game above the Tricky Trees had they hung onto victory at Bournemouth.

The fight for survival is likely to go down to the wire as the season reaches its climax with the Town's fellow relegation rivals all losing last weekend.

Everton went down 2-0 at Manchester United as goals from Bruno Fernandes and Marcus Rashford gave Erik ten Hag's side all three points.

Brentford, who sit five points above the Town in the table went down 2-1 at Arsenal with Kai Havertz's goal six minutes from time giving the Gunners all three points in their quest for the league title.

The two sides below the Hatters in the table both picked up points following draws on the road – both letting two-goal leads slip.

Burnley led 2-0 at half-time against West Ham only for the Hammers to strike back in the second half and earn a point thanks to Danny Ings' injury-time equaliser.

And Sheffield United were also on the receiving end of a Bournemouth comeback as the Blades led 2-0 going inside the final



16 minutes only for the Cherries to fight back and earn a point.

The biggest game of last weekend saw Liverpool and Manchester City play out a high-quality 1-1 draw at Anfield. John Stones put City ahead in the first half but Alexis Mac Allister's second-half penalty ensured it finished all square.

The result of the weekend came at Villa Park as two Champions League hopefuls met. After a goalless first half, Tottenham scored four goals without reply in the second period to close the gap on fourth place to two points.

Premier League

#	Team	Pl	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Arsenal	28	20	4	4	70	24	46	64
2	Liverpool	28	19	7	2	65	26	39	64
3	Manchester City	28	19	6	3	63	28	35	63
4	Aston Villa	28	17	4	7	59	41	18	55
5	Tottenham Hotspur	27	16	5	6	59	39	20	53
6	Manchester United	28	15	2	11	39	39	0	47
7	West Ham United	28	12	7	9	45	49	-4	43
8	Brighton and Hove Albion	28	11	9	8	50	44	6	42
9	Wolverhampton Wanderers	28	12	5	11	42	44	-2	41
10	Newcastle United	28	12	4	12	59	48	11	40
11	Chelsea	27	11	6	10	47	45	2	39
12	Fulham	28	10	5	13	40	44	-4	35
13	Bournemouth	28	9	8	11	41	52	-11	35
14	Crystal Palace	28	7	8	13	33	48	-15	29
15	Brentford	28	7	5	16	40	52	-12	26
16	Everton *	28	8	7	13	29	39	-10	25
17	Nottingham Forest	28	6	6	16	34	50	-16	24
18	Luton Town	28	5	6	17	41	59	-18	21
19	Burnley	28	3	5	20	27	62	-35	14
20	Sheffield United	28	3	5	20	24	74	-50	14

* Everton deducted 6 points following a breach of the Premier League's Profitability and Sustainability rules.



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PLAYER STATISTICS

	2023/24 SEASON								CAREER				
	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		CARDS		TOTAL				
	APPS	G	APPS	G	APPS	G	Y	R	APPS	G			
Elijah Adebayo	13	(10)	9	3	(2)	0	16	(12)	9	1	0	137	41
Mads Andersen	4	(4)	1	2	(0)	0	6	(4)	1	1	0	10	1
Ross Barkley	21	(2)	4	4	(1)	0	25	(3)	4	4	0	28	4
Amari'i Bell	21	(0)	0	4	(2)	0	25	(2)	0	0	0	124	2
Luke Berry	0	(8)	0	2	(1)	0	2	(9)	0	2	0	175	24
Jacob Brown	12	(7)	2	1	(2)	1	13	(9)	3	5	0	22	3
Reece Burke	12	(2)	0	3	(1)	0	15	(3)	0	4	0	75	4
Tahith Chong	11	(12)	3	4	(1)	1	15	(13)	4	4	0	28	4
Jordan Clark	7	(7)	0	2	(1)	2	9	(8)	2	5	0	128	11
Alfie Doughty	24	(3)	1	6	(0)	1	30	(3)	2	4	0	68	4
Ryan Giles	5	(6)	0	2	(1)	0	7	(7)	0	0	0	14	0
Daiki Hashioka	1	(2)	0	0	(1)	0	1	(3)	0	0	0	4	0
Joe Johnson	0	(0)	0	1	(2)	0	1	(2)	0	0	0	5	0
Issa Kabore	16	(3)	0	0	(2)	0	16	(5)	0	6	0	21	0
Thomas Kaminski	28	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	28	(0)	0	3	0	28	0
Tim Krul	0	(0)	0	6	(0)	0	6	(0)	0	0	0	6	0
Tom Lockyer	14	(0)	1	1	(0)	0	15	(0)	1	4	0	117	7
Sambi Lokonga	11	(1)	0	2	(0)	0	13	(1)	0	2	0	14	0
Teden Mengi	19	(2)	1	5	(0)	0	24	(2)	1	3	0	26	1
Carlton Morris	22	(6)	8	4	(1)	0	26	(7)	8	2	0	84	28
Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu	8	(13)	0	3	(2)	0	11	(15)	0	0	0	396	23
Marvelous Nakamba	13	(0)	0	0	(1)	0	13	(1)	0	5	0	34	0
Zack Nelson	0	(1)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(1)	0	5	0	1	0
Chiedozie Ogbene	18	(9)	4	5	(1)	1	23	(10)	5	1	0	33	5
Gabriel Osho	16	(0)	2	2	(0)	0	18	(0)	2	2	0	80	5
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	10	(9)	1	1	(3)	0	11	(12)	1	1	0	23	1
Cauley Woodrow	2	(13)	1	3	(2)	2	5	(15)	3	2	0	55	6



WELL DONE ZACK

Many congratulations to Hatters academy graduate **Zack Nelson**, who came on to make his senior debut in the 1-1 draw at Crystal Palace last weekend.

2023/24 FIXTURES & RESULTS

DATE	OPPOSITION	KO	POS	SCORE	STARTING XI	GILES	ANDERSEN	LOCKER	BELL
SAT AUG 12	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	3PM	A 18	L1-4	KAMINSKI KABORÉ	GILES	ANDERSEN	LOCKER	BELL
FRI AUG 25	CHELSEA	8PM	A 19	L0-3	KAMINSKI KABORÉ	GILES	BURKE	LOCKER	BELL
TUE AUG 29	GILLINGHAM (CC)	7.45PM	H -	W 3-2	KRUL DOUGHTY	GILES	ANDERSEN	LOCKER	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 BURKE	BELL	BURKE	LOCKER	ANDERSEN
SAT SEP 23	WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS	3PM	H 18	D1-1	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	BURKE	LOCKER	LOCKER	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	LOCKER	LOCKER	BELL
SAT OCT 3	BURNLEY	7.30PM	H 17	L1-2	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	MENGI	LOCKER	LOCKER	BELL
SAT OCT 7	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	12.30PM	H 17	L0-1	KAMINSKI BURKE DOUGHTY	ANDERSEN	LOCKER	OGBENE	OGBENE
SAT OCT 21	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	3PM	A 17	D 2-2	KAMINSKI BURKE DOUGHTY	MENGI	LOCKER	LOCKER	OSHO
SUN OCT 29	ASTON VILLA	2PM	A 18	L1-3	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	MENGI	LOCKER	LOCKER	OSHO
SUN NOV 5	LIVERPOOL	4.30PM	H 17	D 1-1	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	MENGI	LOCKER	LOCKER	OSHO
SAT NOV 11	MANCHESTER UNITED	3PM	A 18	L0-1	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	MENGI	LOCKER	LOCKER	OSHO
SAT NOV 25	CRYSTAL PALACE	3PM	H 17	W 2-1	KAMINSKI DOUGHTY	BELL	MENGI	LOCKER	OSHO
SAT DEC 2	BRENTFORD	3PM	A 17	L1-3	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	BELL	MENGI	LOCKER	OSHO
TUE DEC 5	ARSENAL	8.15PM	H 17	L3-4	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	MENGI	LOCKER	LOCKER	OSHO
SUN DEC 10	MANCHESTER CITY	2PM	H 18	L1-2	KAMINSKI DOUGHTY	GILES	MENGI	LOCKER	BELL
SAT DEC 23	NEWCASTLE UNITED	3PM	H 18	W 1-0	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	GILES	MENGI	OSHO	BELL
TUE DEC 26	SHEFFIELD UNITED	3PM	A 18	W 3-2	KAMINSKI DOUGHTY	GILES	MENGI	OSHO	BELL
SAT DEC 30	CHELSEA	12.30PM	H 18	L2-3	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	MENGI	OSHO	LOCKER	BELL
SUN JAN 7	BOLTON WANDERERS (FAC3)	2PM	H -	D 0-0	KRUL OGBENE DOUGHTY	MENGI	OSHO	OSHO	BELL
FRI JAN 12	BURNLEY	7.45PM	A 18	D 1-1	KAMINSKI OGBENE DOUGHTY	MENGI	OSHO	OSHO	BELL
TUE JAN 16	BOLTON WANDERERS (FAC3R)	7.45PM	A -	W 2-1	KRUL OGBENE DOUGHTY	MENGI	OSHO	BURKE	BELL
SAT JAN 27	EVERTON (FAC4)	3PM	A -	W 2-1	KRUL OGBENE DOUGHTY	MENGI	OSHO	OSHO	BELL
TUE JAN 30	BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION	7.45PM	H 17	W 4-0	KAMINSKI OGBENE DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	LOCKER	BELL
SAT FEB 3	NEWCASTLE UNITED	3PM	A 17	D 4-4	KAMINSKI OGBENE DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	LOCKER	BELL
SAT FEB 10	SHEFFIELD UNITED	3PM	H 17	L1-3	KAMINSKI OGBENE DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	OSHO	BELL
SUN FEB 18	MANCHESTER UNITED	4.30PM	H 18	L1-2	KAMINSKI OGBENE DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	OSHO	BELL
WED FEB 21	LIVERPOOL	7.30PM	A 18	L1-4	KAMINSKI OGBENE DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	OSHO	BELL
TUE FEB 27	MANCHESTER CITY (FAC5)	8.00PM	H -	L2-6	KRUL OGBENE DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	LOCKER	BELL
SAT MAR 2	ASTON VILLA	5.30PM	H 18	L2-3	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	LOCKER	BELL
SAT MAR 9	CRYSTAL PALACE	3PM	A 18	D 1-1	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	OSHO	BELL
WED MAR 13	AFC BOURNEMOUTH	7.30PM	A 18	L3-4	KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	OSHO	HASHIKA
SAT MAR 16	NOTTINGHAM FOREST	3PM	H -		KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	OSHO	HASHIKA
SAT MAR 30	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	3PM	A -		KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	OSHO	HASHIKA
WED APR 3	ARSENAL	7.30PM	A -		KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	OSHO	HASHIKA
SAT APR 6	AFC BOURNEMOUTH	3PM	H -		KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	OSHO	HASHIKA
SAT APR 13	MANCHESTER CITY	3PM	A -		KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	OSHO	HASHIKA
SAT APR 20	BRENTFORD	3PM	H -		KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	OSHO	HASHIKA
SAT APR 27	WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS	3PM	A -		KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	OSHO	HASHIKA
SAT MAY 4	EVERTON	3PM	H -		KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	OSHO	HASHIKA
SAT MAY 11	WEST HAM UNITED	3PM	A -		KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	OSHO	HASHIKA
SUN MAY 19	FULHAM	4PM	H -		KAMINSKI KABORÉ DOUGHTY	BURKE	MENGI	OSHO	HASHIKA



LUTONTOWN.CO.UK

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



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

SUBSTITUTES

				ATT	AWAY
NAKAMBA	CHONG	MPANZU	MORRIS ⚽	SHEA, FRANCIS-CLARKE, BERRY, CAMPBELL, DOUGHTY, BROWN, MCATEE, OGBENE, WOODROW	31,027, 3,001
NAKAMBA	CHONG	BARKLEY	MORRIS	DOUGHTY, ANDERSEN, RUDDOCK-MPANZU, OGBENE, BROWN, KRUL, BERRY, WOODROW, JOHNSON	39,893, 3,054
MPANZU	BERRY	WOODROW ⚽	OGBENE	SHEA, BURKE, JOHNSON, KABORE, BARKLEY, CHONG, NAKAMBA, ADEBAYO, MORRIS	9,468, 1,058
NAKAMBA	CHONG	BARKLEY	MORRIS	KRUL, BERRY, BROWN, FRANCIS-CLARKE, JOHNSON, KABORE, MPANZU, OGBENE, WOODROW	10,802, 1,151
NAKAMBA	CHONG	LOKONGA	MORRIS	KRUL, ADEBAYO, BERRY, DOUGHTY, GILES, MENGI, MPANZU, OGBENE, WOODROW	24,467, 2,701
NAKAMBA	LOKONGA	OGBENE	MORRIS ⚽	KRUL, ADEBAYO, ANDERSEN, BERRY, CHONG, GILES, MENGI, MPANZU, WOODROW	10,893, 1,091
MPANZU	CHONG	BERRY	WOODROW	SHEA, OGBENE, MORRIS, KABORE, BURKE, BROWN, BELL, BURGER, LUKER	7,360, 708
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	OGBENE	ADEBAYO	KRUL, ANDERSEN, BERRY, WOODROW, ADEBAYO, CHONG, MENGI, GILES, JOHNSON	39,289, 2,976
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	OGBENE	MORRIS	KRUL, ANDERSEN, BERRY, BURKE, WOODROW, ADEBAYO ⚽, CHONG, GILES, JOHNSON	10,918, 1,126
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	OGBENE	MORRIS	KRUL, BARKLEY, BERRY, WOODROW, KABORE, CHONG, MENGI, GILES, JOHNSON	10,929, 1,151
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	ADEBAYO	MORRIS	KRUL, OSHO, BARKLEY, WOODROW, ADEBAYO ⚽, KABORE, GILES, TOWNSEND, LUKER	29,361, 2,893
NAKAMBA	MPANZU	CHONG	BROWN	KRUL, WOODROW, ADEBAYO ⚽, CHONG, MPANZU, GILES, TOWNSEND, JOHNSON, LUKER	41,785, 3,005
NAKAMBA	BARKLEY	OGBENE	MORRIS	KRUL, ADEBAYO, CHONG ⚽, MPANZU, CLARK, BROWN, GILES, NELSON, LUKER	11,049, 1,151
NAKAMBA	BARKLEY	OGBENE	TOWNSEND	KRUL, ADEBAYO, BERRY, CHONG, MPANZU, CLARK, BROWN, GILES, NELSON	73,599, 3,008
NAKAMBA	BARKLEY	OGBENE	TOWNSEND	KRUL, BERRY, ADEBAYO, CHONG, CLARK, BROWN ⚽, GILES, NELSON, LUKER	11,029, 1,149
MPANZU	BARKLEY	OGBENE	TOWNSEND	KRUL, ADEBAYO, CLARK, BROWN ⚽, GILES, TOWNSEND, JOHNSON, NELSON	17,075, 1,725
MPANZU	BARKLEY	OGBENE	CHONG	KRUL, OGBENE, BERRY, MORRIS, CHONG, MPANZU, CLARK, GILES, TOWNSEND	11,112, 1,151
NAKAMBA	BARKLEY	BROWN	ADEBAYO	KRUL, ANDERSEN, BERRY, MORRIS, CHONG, MPANZU, CLARK, LOKONGA, JOHNSON	11,047, 1,151
LOKONGA	BARKLEY	BROWN	ADEBAYO	KRUL, ANDERSEN, OGBENE, MORRIS, WOODROW, CHONG, MPANZU, CLARK, GILES	11,042, 1,145
LOKONGA	BARKLEY	BROWN	ADEBAYO	KRUL, SHEA, ANDERSEN, OGBENE, BERRY, MORRIS, WOODROW, CHONG, MPANZU	31,041, 2,362
LOKONGA	BARKLEY	BROWN	TOWNSEND	KRUL, ANDERSEN, OGBENE, MORRIS, WOODROW, CHONG, MPANZU, CLARK, GILES	11,041, 1,151
LOKONGA	BARKLEY	CHONG	ADEBAYO	KRUL, OGBENE, BERRY, WOODROW, CHONG, MPANZU, CLARK, GILES	10,994, 1,044
LOKONGA	BARKLEY	CHONG	TOWNSEND	KRUL, BERRY, WOODROW, KABORE, CHONG, BURKE, MPANZU, BROWN, TOWNSEND	52,211, 3,145
LOKONGA	BARKLEY	CLARK	ADEBAYO	KRUL, BERRY, WOODROW, KABORE ⚽, CHONG, MENGI, MPANZU, BROWN, TOWNSEND	11,138, 1,350
LOKONGA	BARKLEY	CLARK	TOWNSEND	KRUL, POTT, BERRY, MORRIS ⚽, WOODROW, CHONG, BURKE, MPANZU, GILES	20,155, 1,432
BARKLEY	MPANZU	CLARK	MORRIS	KAMINSKI, POTT, BERRY, WOODROW, ADEBAYO, BROWN, GILES, BELL, TOWNSEND	10,878, 751
LOKONGA	BARKLEY	TOWNSEND	ADEBAYO	KAMINSKI, SHEA, POTT, BERRY, WOODROW, CHONG, MPANZU, JOHNSON, NELSON	37,713, 1,699
LOKONGA	BARKLEY	CLARK	ADEBAYO ⚽	KRUL, POTT, BERRY, WOODROW, CHONG, MPANZU, TOWNSEND, JOHNSON, NELSON	10,994, 1,044
LOKONGA	BARKLEY	CLARK	MORRIS	KRUL, BERRY, WOODROW, KABORE, CHONG, BURKE, MPANZU, BROWN, TOWNSEND	59,896, 2,505
LOKONGA	BARKLEY	CHONG	WOODROW	KRUL, POTT, BERRY, KABORE, MPANZU, BURKE, MPANZU, CLARK, TOWNSEND, NELSON	11,163, 1,866
LOKONGA	BARKLEY	CHONG	WOODROW	KRUL, SHEA, OGBENE, BERRY, WOODROW, CHONG, MPANZU, HASHIKA, TOWNSEND, NELSON, PIESOLD	11,594, 1,358
CLARK	BARKLEY	CHONG	WOODROW	KRUL, SHEA, BERRY, WOODROW ⚽, MPANZU, HASHIKA, TOWNSEND, NELSON, LUKER, PIESOLD	25,103, 2,687
CLARK	BARKLEY	CHONG	TOWNSEND	KRUL, SHEA, BERRY, WOODROW, MPANZU, TOWNSEND, NELSON, LUKER, PIESOLD, MARTINS	11,988, 1,313
CLARK	BARKLEY	CHONG	OGBENE		
CLARK	BARKLEY	CHONG	OGBENE ⚽		



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.

6. Oldham, 7. West Brom, 8. 99, 9. Issa Kabore (with 78). 10. Two.
1. Mick Harford and Julian James; 2. Lars Elsntp; 3. ZTO metres; 4. 1979 and 1980. 5. Preston
TOWN TEASERS ANSWERS.



HOLD THE BACK PAGE

With Mike Simmonds, Luton News Sports Editor

Wednesday night saw Luton take their place in the record books but sadly for all the wrong reasons, the Hatters becoming just the third team to ever lose a Premier League game having been 3-0 ahead at half-time.

When Ross Barkley blasted the visitors in what looked like an insurmountable lead just before the break, all eyes turned to the live league table to see Town above the dotted line once more, but following the second 45 minutes, it's doubtful anyone was up for checking it again.

All is not lost though, as come 5pm today, the standings could once more see Luton having dragged themselves out of the bottom three, if they can somehow summon almost superhuman reserves of energy and mental strength to defeat Nottingham Forest and go above the Reds in the process.

To do so will see Rob Edwards have to patch up his battered and bruised squad for one last time ahead of an international break that can't come soon enough for the manager.

Commendably, he doesn't want to use the quite incredible injury list as an excuse this season, pointing to the way in which Liverpool coped with such adversity recently, but it's safe to say Town have been hit harder than most

by their absentees.

Wednesday night saw Luton into double figures of players in the treatment room when facing the Cherries, with the quartet of Marvelous Nakamba, Jacob Brown, Amari'i Bell and Dan Potts all unlikely to feature against his term.

It means Luton have had to field two goalkeepers on their bench for their last three Premier League encounters, while despite the club and Edwards keen to promote young players, it would be extremely difficult to throw on teenagers Zack Nelson, Axel Piesold or the latest to be involved, Dominic Dos Santos Martins into the melting pot of a top flight relegation scrap, when their senior experience is next to nothing.

Edwards might not want to use it as an excuse, but I will, as had Sambi Lokonga or Elijah Adebayo been fit, the pair in prime form before suffering hamstring strains, it could well have been a different story on the south coast.

Injuries and unavailability are biting at just the wrong moment and if they are to be the reason why Luton aren't going to the likes of the Emirates, Old Trafford and Anfield once more next term, it will be a real, real shame. 



THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH



sky sports



LUTON TOWN

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

NOTTINGHAM FOREST

1. MATT TURNER
3. NUNO NAVARES
6. IBRAHIM SANGARÉ
7. NECO WILLIAMS
8. CHEIKHOU KOUYATÉ
9. TAIWO AWONIYI
10. MORGAN GIBBS-WHITE
11. CHRIS WOOD
13. WAYNE HENNESSEY
14. CALLUM HUDSON-ODOI
15. HARRY TOFFOLO
16. NICOLÁS DOMÍNGUEZ
18. FELIPE
19. MOUSSA NIAKHATÉ
20. GIO REYNA
21. ANTHONY ELANGA
22. RYAN YATES
23. ODYSSEAS VLACHODIMOS
26. MATZ SELS
27. DIVOCK ORIGI
28. DANILO
29. GONZALO MONTIEL
30. WILLY BOLY
32. ANDREW OMOBAMIDELE
37. RODRIGO RIBEIRO
40. MURILLO
43. OLA AINA
48. ATEEF KONATÉ

MATCH OFFICIALS

- REFEREE - DARREN ENGLAND
- ASSISTANT REFEREE - JAMES MAINWARING
- ASSISTANT REFEREE - RICHARD WEST
- FOURTH OFFICIAL - DEAN WHITESTONE
- VIDEO ASSISTANT REFEREE - ANDREW MADLEY
- ADDITIONAL VIDEO ASSISTANT REFEREE - SIMON BENNETT