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LUTON TOWN V FULHAM

SUNDAY 19TH MAY 2024 | 4:00PM | 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

For the last time this season, a big welcome to you all to our loveable old home. It is, in all likelihood – for now at least! – our last game in the Premier League, but what a journey it's been. It genuinely only seems like yesterday we headed to Brighton with giddy excitement as we began our first top-flight adventure in over 30 years. The players and staff have done us proud every single time they've stepped onto the pitch since, and today gives us all the opportunity to give them the send-off they deserve so get behind them one last time. Thanks for reading... see you next season. Up the Town!



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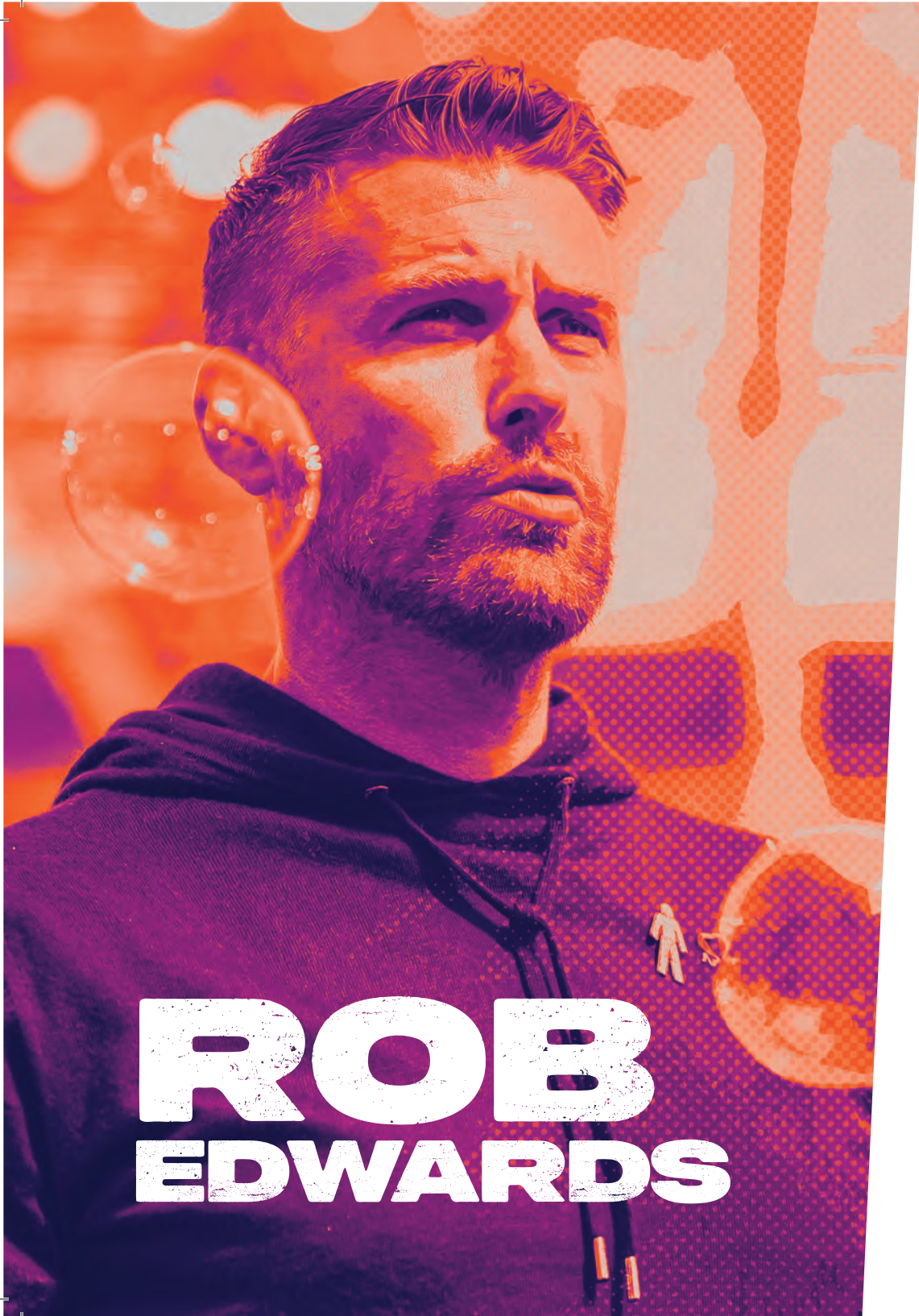
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ROB EDWARDS

Welcome to Kenilworth Road to you all for the final time this season as the curtain comes down on our Premier League adventure.

I'd like to extend that welcome to our visitors from Fulham; manager Marco Silva and his staff and players and the officials and supporters from Craven Cottage.

The season has been an incredible journey and one I've absolutely loved. I meant what I said after the game last week that you, the players and the staff, have given me the best 18 months of my career – so for that, thank you.

It's been a challenging year – understandably so, we've been playing in best league in the world. I think we've improved and learned so much from this experience which leaves me in no doubt that we will be better and stronger as a result of this.

Yet now we've had a taste of dining at the top table, all I can think about – and all we should be focusing on now – is ensuring that we get back there again.

So now we have the summer to prepare, and we'll go into that with our eyes wide open at the task ahead. We know what it takes – we've done it before – but for us to be successful we need to stick together and trust the process. There's no way we're going to change all of a sudden after having one year of Premier League football. Yes, we'll be in a strong position to attack the league, but as we all know it's not a division for the faint-hearted. But we've navigated it before so we can do so again.

Looking back on the past year, the number one takeaway has been your backing. The support you have shown has been incredible. You have shown Luton Town at its best. On the pitch, the players have been a credit to themselves and have competed admirably on the world stage. Clearly we've fallen just short, but we have pushed it all the way and always, always given our best.

It's fair to say we've had a challenging season and had many hurdles to overcome, none least than what happened to Locks


at Bournemouth in December. Our medical staff were honoured at the supporters' end-of-season awards and rightly so for their heroic actions on the day. Thanks to them and the staff down at Bournemouth, we still have him with us.

Inevitably it was something that hit us hard, losing our captain, but the way in which the players and staff have rallied gives me immense pride.

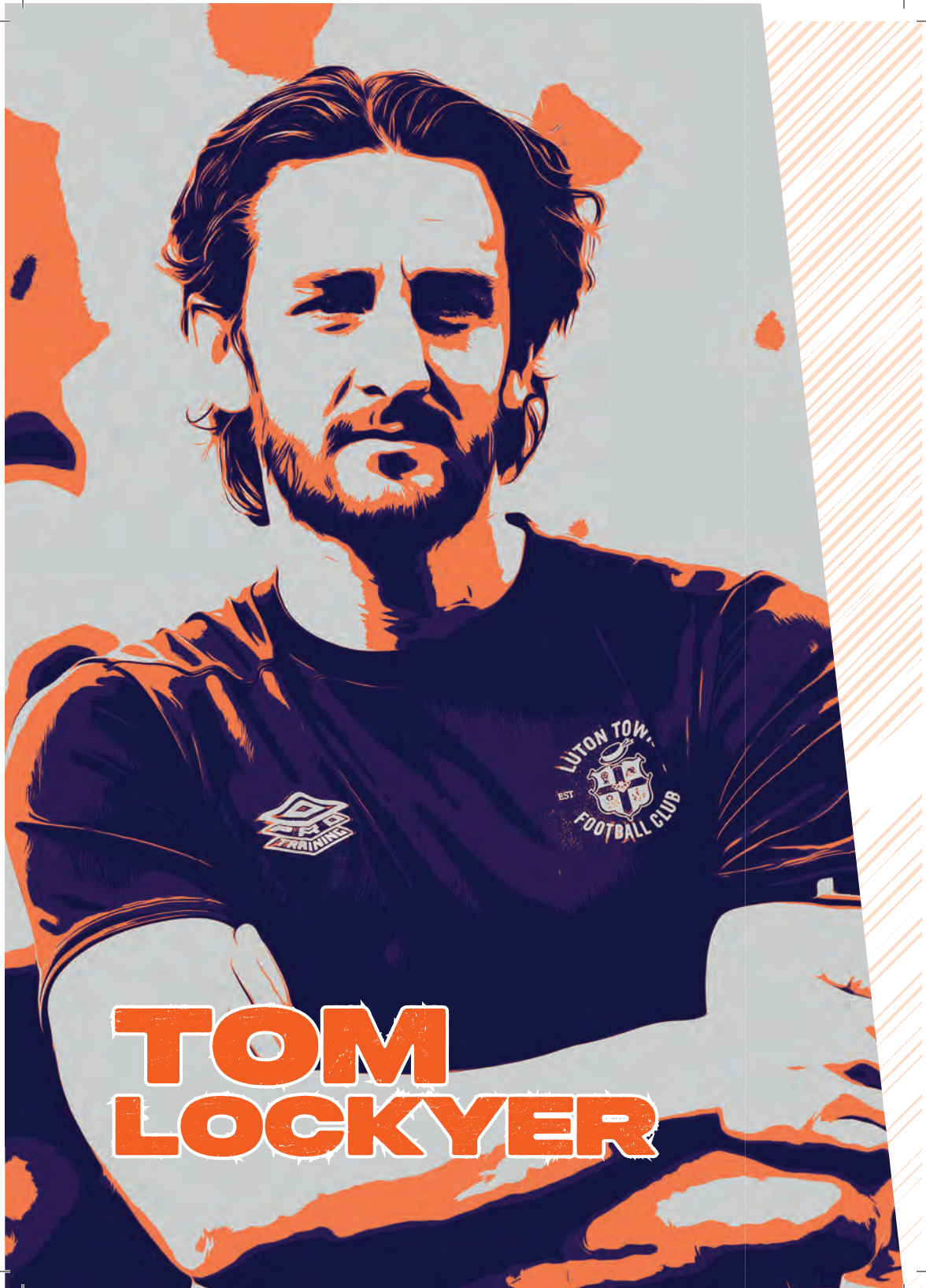
The reaction of us all in the circumstances is one of a number of moments this season to look back on in a campaign that has flown by. It doesn't seem five minutes since we were at Brighton on the opening day of the season and in the months that have followed I've been proud to see the team evolve and improve and that is another reason for optimism going into next season.

Finally, I'd like to thank all the staff for supporting me throughout the campaign. Managers don't do this job alone – far from it – and behind me I have had the unbelievable backing of an extremely talented backroom staff. In particular a big thanks to Richie and Trolls who have put up with me all season! Thank you, too, to Gary and the board for their support and also to the wider club staff who have all gone above and beyond this season.

My family have also lived and loved this season. My son goes around the house singing Hatters songs and they've managed to get to every game home and away which means a lot. I definitely couldn't have got through this season without them.

All it leaves me to do is to wish you all, and those closest to you, a wonderful summer. Football can be all-too consuming sometimes, so a break is important, believe me! Recharge your batteries, remember the good times from this season and come back to the Kenny in August ready to get behind us as we go again. 





**TOM
LOCKYER**

Like you all, the lads and I are all desperately disappointed that this season is likely to end in relegation back to the Championship. I feel as though we would have had enough to survive if it wasn't for the all injuries we've had but we're not making any excuses.

However, taking a step back sometimes helps. This season has still been an incredible one. I'm sure most of you have enjoyed seeing your club back in the top-flight and been proud of the way we've gone about it and applied ourselves against some of the biggest clubs in the world.

What's stuck out most for me is the togetherness we have at this club. It extends from the unity in the dressing room to among the staff behind-the-scenes and you in the stands. Maintaining that spirit is huge for us moving forward.

This club is in great hands. Promotion to the Premier League has secured the long-term future of the club. Relegation doesn't signal the death of a club. It can make them stronger. I think we all know that this club has gone through plenty of adversity before and come back stronger, so it's important to look at the bigger picture.

The togetherness I've spoken about was never more evident than after the final whistle at West Ham last Saturday. The reception was incredible. Looking ahead, if we're to be successful again, we need more of the same next season.

We're at our best when we're underdogs and when people write us off. That means it'll be hard next season as a team coming down from the Premier League. So it's important to keep that spirit running throughout the club. If we can, I'm confident we'll be okay.

This season has given us all a taste of the Premier League, and as players we all want more of it and I'm sure you want the same too. We'll do our best to get back but we recognise it's not going to be easy. However, that's the plan, and we'll be all better off for the experience we've had these past 12 months.

From a personal point of view, I'd like to thank Gary Sweet and Rob Edwards, you the fans and everyone associated with the club for the way I've been treated after what happened at Bournemouth. I can't thank everyone enough.

As I write these notes, I don't know what the future holds, but what I will say is that I love this club and would love nothing more to continue to be involved with it. I have had some incredible memories of playing for this great club and I have been honoured to wear the captain's armband. The day we walked out at Brighton on the first day of the season was a special moment.

However the best things for me this season are that I'm still here and that I'm a dad to the newest Hatter, Mila Lockyer.

Thank you once more for your loyal backing of the team throughout the season and to everyone who has taken the time to send me messages and cards. It means a lot.

So, finally, for one last time this season get behind the boys and give them the send off they deserved before the summer break.

See you soon. 🧢







FROM THE BOARDROOM

CHIEF EXECUTIVE GARY SWEET

Witnessing the players and management take in ten minutes of heartfelt appreciation last weekend brought a lump to the throat. A moment of steadfast reflection between those on the pitch and those of you in the stands, its poignancy was underlined further by the applause given to Rob, his staff and the players by the West Ham fans as they left the pitch.

Those scenes after the final whistle at the London Stadium are just one of many individual moments to cherish in our first season back in the top-flight since 1992 – and it's flashed past in the blink of an eye.

This time 12 months ago we had yet to even win promotion to the Premier League. Following that wonderful win underneath the Wembley arch – a day we will all never forget – who would have thought the twists and turns that would have followed?

We've accomplished so much in such a short space of time, but we've remained true to ourselves, our roots, our principles – believe me, not an easy feat when we're surrounded by multi-billion-pound business and global brands that we have gone toe-to-toe with so defiantly in this whirlwind of a season.

It wasn't even 12 months ago when we were preparing for a play-off final and putting the finishing touches to the major overhaul of Kenilworth Road and preparing our contractors to get on site as soon as the final whistle at Wembley blew.

And in a season that has given us all so much in so many different ways, there are a couple of small moments in particular that lodge in my memory that fill me with a certain pride.

There were more than two moments on the pitch that elevated us onto cloud nine.

Slamming in those two very early goals against Brighton, and the magnificent and deserved performance that completed the 4-0 triumph, a result which gave us the real belief that we belonged in the league. And much the same, as Elijah coolly slotted our fourth at St James' Park to put us 4-2 up to send the few of us in the away directors' seats a little excited, much to the vocal disgruntlement of those around us.

But before this all began; Tuesday 29th August and our home Carabao Cup tie against Gillingham saw the new Bobbers stand open.

It was an evening that I enjoyed from the opposite stand to the usual directors' box with much excitement – and mild embarrassment – as I collected yellow paint upon the soles of my shoes and trousers as I, along with others, painted the many steps some 90 minutes before kick-off, just in time to get our safety certificate signed off!

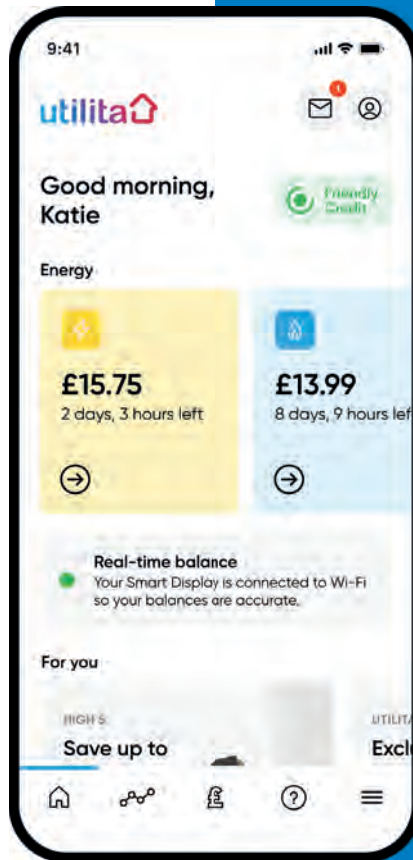
The Bobbers project can only be described as a superhuman effort, completed over the course of 13 stressful weeks. In saying goodbye to the executive boxes and hello to a structure of awesome architectural flexibility, we reunited all four sides of Kenilworth Road and ticked the first of many boxes on the Premier League's exhaustive requirement sheet. Next week, we will head to the FC Business Awards with our heads held high, with the Bobbers among the projects shortlisted for the Innovation Award.

Now the Bobbers stands there as a reminder of our successes and progress of recent years on and off the field. The same can be said for many of the visible upgrades around the ground, from increased hospitality and media areas to safe standing in the Oak, now giving us our biggest ➡

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capacity since the mid-1990s, hitting a new high today.

Since that very wet night against Gillingham, with the whiff of wet paint still in the air, we've come a long way. We've stayed Luton, made new friends, gained respect, lived through our much-loved captain's cardiac arrest and stood tall against the world's elite, scaring the living daylights out of them on a couple of occasions.

The relentless endeavour of the squad and staff and their heroic, never-say-die attitude has taken the fight for survival down until the very last day of the season. It is a feat which we will all appreciate come the final whistle today.

When the final blast on the referee's whistle sounds, I think we will all share a collective sigh of relief; a short moment to finally catch our breath. The season has been a challenge, no doubt, but we are already back on it – planning for next season – using all the knowledge and learning from these hectic, fulfilling past 12 months with the desire and determination to bounce back at the first attempt. Remember: the comeback is always sweeter than the setback.

So, preparations are already under way for 2024/25, and you may have recently read details regarding the impending progress we are set to bring to other areas of the business via many different departments during the close season.

This includes the elevation of the club's digital platforms – that will see our methods of communication enhanced with the addition of a new website and app – and our back-end infrastructure, which will be overhauled with the introduction of a new customer relationship management (CRM) system. Additional improvements and changes around Kenilworth Road, from hospitality to catering and from retail to ticketing, will be communicated at points during the close season, so keep your eyes peeled.

We also have a huge programme of works for player facilities at The Brache and for the Academy too, which will clearly show signs of continued progress.



On the subject of ticketing, we will soon be able to share with you details on season cards, renewals and memberships for next season. Please watch this space.

I am almost 1,000 words into my final programme notes of the season and you may well be wondering 'why hasn't he mentioned Power Court yet?!' Well, with good reason. Elsewhere in this programme you will be able to read a comprehensive update regarding the latest on our new stadium plans. In exclusive conjunction with the Luton Town Supporters' Trust, I sat down and outlined as much as I can possibly say on the project's progress: what the next steps are, the challenges we are facing and a rough estimate of timescales of when we expect to see a Luton Town team running out at a new stadium. Please turn to page 68 to read on.

Today the curtain comes down on our first – but not last – Premier League campaign. I'd like to welcome our visitors from Fulham and congratulate them on a fine second successive season in the top-flight and wish everyone associated with the Cottagers well going forward next year.

However, before I sign off, I'll leave you with a comment I've been told a few times since last Saturday: don't be sad it's over, be happy it happened. Twelve months ago, after a magical day at Wembley, we were privy to a season that saw Luton, ourselves and the town, put firmly back on the map and, in some cases, capture the true spirit and imagination of football fans everywhere.

And in any case, it certainly isn't over. Here's to the next chapter!

Enjoy your summer, enjoy the Euros – come on England – and we'll see you next season.

Up the Town.

Gary. 

AROUND TOWN



REST IN PEACE

Everyone at Kenilworth Road has been saddened to learn of the passing of **Viv Busby** at the age of 74.

Viv formed an excellent foil to ace-goalgetter Malcolm Macdonald as well as weighing in with some vital goals himself.

Born in High Wycombe in 1949, Viv signed on for his home town club Wycombe Wanderers as a youngster where his goalscoring exploits came to the attention of Town manager Alec Stock who signed him in January 1970.

He did not wait long for his first team chance and by the end of that season had written himself into Hatters folklore by scoring the all-important goal against Southport which virtually assured promotion to the old Division Two.

A linking up on loan with his ex-strike partner Macdonald at Newcastle did not work out and he eventually moved to Fulham in August 1973, for whom he appeared in the 1975 FA Cup final.

After leaving Craven Cottage, Viv turned out for Norwich, Stoke, Sheffield United, Blackburn and York City interspersed with two spells in the USA with Tulsa Roughnecks.

After finishing playing, Viv moved into scouting, coaching and managing various clubs including Hartlepool, Workington and York City before moving to Spain in 2011.



The Club would also like to pay tribute to Town fan **Colin Titmuss**, who passed away at the age of 79 on 14th May.

Our condolences go to the family and friends of

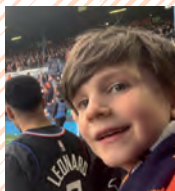
Viv and Colin, as we remember every Town supporter we have lost during the season.

FIRST-TIME HATTERS!



Happy first match to three-year-old **Kit**. Kit is attending today's game with his Mum and Papa who are season ticket holders in the Main Stand. Kit's favourite

player is Alfie Doughty and he's hoping he will score against Fulham today. Good to have you with us, Kit!



We were also contacted by the parents of young Hatter **Josef Frowde**, who made his debut at Kenilworth Road to witness our win over Bournemouth in April.

Josef's mother Polly told us: "Josef became a Luton fan last year and recently had a brilliant afternoon watching his first game. As well as being delighted with the result, he enjoyed the atmosphere and seeing the skill of the players up close. He'll definitely be back to try and bring them more luck!"

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Many happy returns to massive Town fan **Scott Cooper**, who turns 34 today. A diamond season ticket holder for almost a decade, Scott goes to games with his father in law.

A very happy birthday to **Carole Barringer** who celebrates her 70th birthday today. Your husband and two sons apologise for the years of Luton Town talk and football conversations at the dinner table! Lots of love from Andy, Andrew, Stephen, Amy, Sophia and Leo.

ONE LAST HURRAH



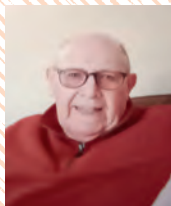
It will be an emotional afternoon for Town fan **Bob Davies** who will make his last visit to Kenilworth Road as a season ticket holder after deciding to give up his ticket next season at the age of 92.

Thank you for your support, Bob! We trust you will enjoy today's game and hope you'll be back at the Kenny once again in the future.

SPIDEY'S BIG MATCH

A charity event in Flitwick on 1st June will see two football teams and Hatters fans raise money for Great Ormond Street and Pumping Marvellous. Pumping Marvellous are fundraising in memory of Hatters supporter Jamie Wilding who died through heart failure in 2020.

'Spidey's Big Match' will be a day filled with excitement, including a charity football match with former Luton Town players, family fun activities and a DJ and bar to end the day on a high.



GOOD LUCK, TREVOR!

Everyone at Kenilworth Road would like to wish life-long Town fan **Trevor Powell** the best of luck ahead of an

operation at Bedford Hospital.

We hope to see you fighting fit here at the Kenny next season!

POST-MATCH LAP OF APPRECIATION

Immediately after the final whistle today, the players and staff will return to the dressing room for a short period of time to collect their families, before coming back out to show their appreciation for your support over the past ten months.

We respectfully ask all supporters to remain in your seats and remind everyone that entering the pitch is against the law.

Anyone doing so will face a stadium ban and potential criminal proceedings, and this could also impact the Club financially, as was the case following last year's play-off semi-final against Sunderland when we were fined £32,000 for post-match pitch incursions.

Similarly, all supporters are reminded that throwing any object onto the field of play, including smoke devices and pyros, is a criminal offence and will lead to individual prosecution and Club sanctions.

Please show the players and staff the respect they so richly deserve, as well as your fellow fans, and sign off our Premier League season in style.

We're all Luton!



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ADEBAYO ON TARGET AS HATTERS HELD AT HOME

Elijah Adebayo scored on his return to the starting XI to earn the Hatters a point against Everton in our last match here at Kenilworth Road.

The striker finished brilliantly to cancel out Dominic Calvert-Lewin's penalty, which was awarded after Teden Mengi was adjudged to have fouled Jarrad Branthwaite in the box.

Adebayo, on his first start since mid-February, took a raking pass from Sambu Lokonga on his chest, got the better of Ashley Young and fired a slick finish beyond England goalkeeper Jordan Pickford on 31 minutes.

After the break the Town were dominant, winning a string of set-pieces but could not force the ball home.

The Toffees, who secured their safety the previous weekend, almost re-took the lead midway through the second half only for Thomas Kaminski to produce a stunning save to turn Calvert-Lewin's close-range header over the crossbar.

But the Hatters continued to push in the frantic closing stages, and were unlucky not to grab a late winner from one of a number of chances in the dying minutes.

Substitute Luke Berry twice went close - the first with a glancing header that Pickford saved before the midfielder's acrobatic shot was cleared off the line with Pickford beaten.

Then, in the final act, in the 98th minute, Andros Townsend's low first-time shot seemed destined for the bottom corner only for Branthwaite to divert the ball to safety. 🥅



1 - 1

Kenilworth Road – 3rd May 2024

Town: Kaminski; Onyedima (sub Woodrow 70), Doughty; Burke, Mengi, Osho; Lokonga, Barkley; Chong, Morris, Adebayo (sub Townsend 80).

Subs not used: Shea, Krul, Berry, Mpanzu, Clark, Hashioka, Johnson.

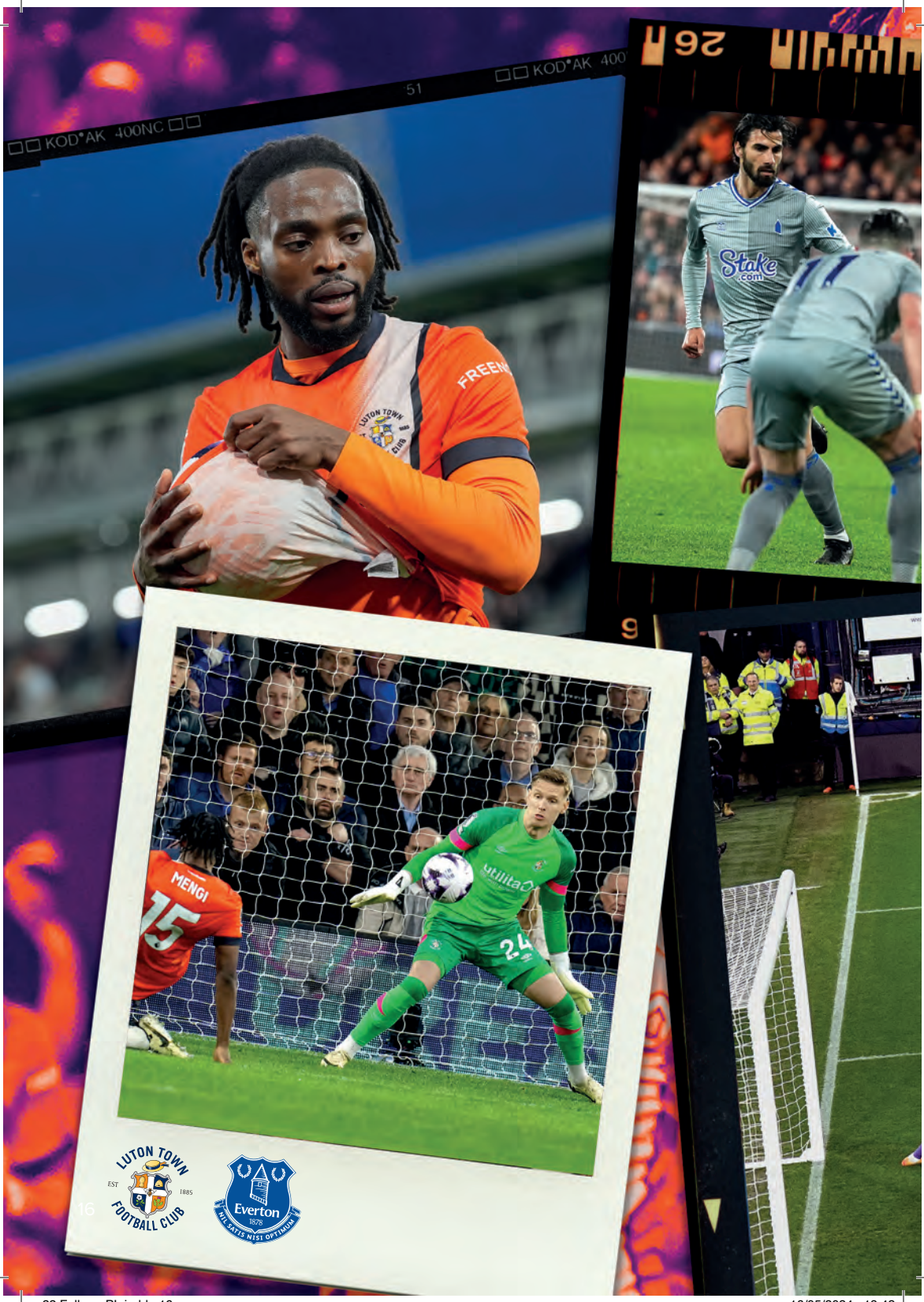
Everton: Pickford, Godfrey, Branthwaite, Tarkowski, Young (sub Coleman 67), Gueye (Chermiti 80), Doucoure (sub Gomes 54), Garner (sub Onana 55), Harrison, McNeil, Calvert-Lewin (sub Beto 80).

Subs not used: Virginia, Keane, Onana, Danjuma, Dobbins.

GOALS

Town – Adebayo 31

Everton – Calvert-Lewin 24 (pen)





 MATCH GALLERY



FREENOW



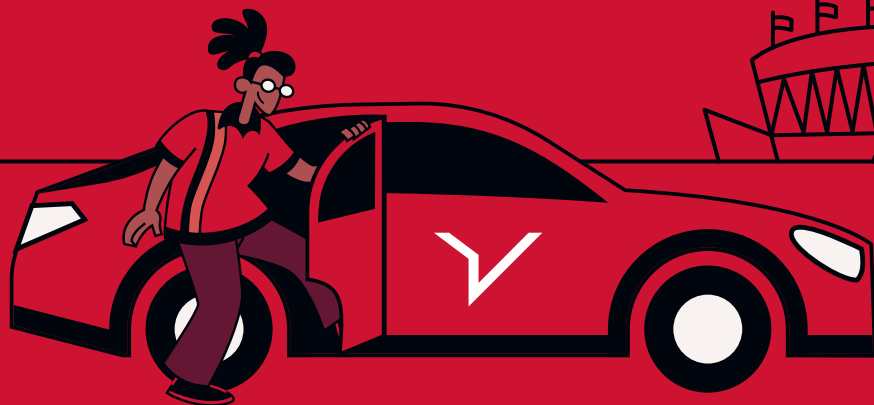
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ELIJAH REFLECTS ON EVERTON

Elijah Adebayo promised to give everything for the Hatters fans in the final games of the season after netting his tenth Premier League goal of the season to earn a point against Everton on his full return from injury.

Our striker followed up his late substitute appearance at Wolves with 80 minutes from the start against the Toffees amid an electric Kenilworth Road atmosphere.

His 31st-minute equaliser, cancelling out Dominic Calvert-Lewin's opener from the penalty spot seven minutes earlier, raised the decibel levels even further than they had been before kick-off.

"Magnificent," was the 26-year-old's reply when asked about the fans on Friday night. "Even before kick-off, they were fantastic. We could hear them, they were nice and loud and they know we are going to need them.

"They are going to need us too, and if they can sing like that and get behind us like that for the remaining games,

I'm sure we'll give them something to shout about.

"We just want to make sure that we give the fans what they've deserved for being behind us for the whole season."

After missing more than two months of the season with the hamstring injury that forced him out of the warm-up before the Manchester United match on 18th February, Adebayo also found time to praise club staff who have helped him return to reach double figures for the campaign and draw level with Carlton Morris.

"I was devastated when I found out how long I was going to be out for, tried to come back and it just wasn't right," he said. "I just got my head down and tried. It could have been easy for me to be ruled out.

"But I've done some fantastic work with the medical staff, they've all been top, and sports scientists have been top as well, and I can't thank them enough for getting me back where I am today." 🏆



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TOWN ALL BUT DOWN AFTER HAMMERS FIGHT BACK

The Hatters' hopes of staying in the Premier League were all but over after West Ham fought back to take the points at the London Stadium last weekend.

Leading at half-time thanks to Sambu Lokonga's sixth-minute header, the Town had the points in their grasp – only for three second half goals to leave the Hatters three points behind Nottingham Forest with a game to go with an inferior goal difference.

Unchanged after the 1-1 draw with Everton, the Town started like a team who knew what was on the line and the opening goal came from an likely source. Alfie Doughty clipped in a cross from the left and Sambu Lokonga ghosted in unnoticed into the Hammers' penalty area to nod past Alphonse Areola. It was the Belgian's first goal for the Hatters and his first in three years.


What followed for the remainder of the first half was typical Luton: terrific, brave defending to deny the home side a leveller.

On 13 minutes Jarrod Bowen saw his volley hit the outside of the post following Lucas Paqueta's left-wing cross and ten minutes later Teden Mengi cleared the danger as Jarrod Bowen's low shot crept goalwards.

Ross Barkley then charged down Bowen's shot on 28 minutes as the Town continued to frustrate the home side but within ten minutes the Hatters midfielder was limping off the pitch as he picked up a knock and was replaced by Jordan Clark.

Just like the first half, the Hatters started the second well, creating a couple of half-chances but within eight minutes of the restart it was 1-1. Bowen was allowed to run down the right and after the Town half-cleared James Ward-Prowse diverted the ball into the bottom corner.

With their tails up, the home side continued to push forward and after Kaminski saved three times in as many minutes to keep the Hammers out the Iron led on 65 minutes when Tomas Soucek drove a fine volley into corner.

Five minutes later it was almost curtains for the Town when the lively Mohammed Kudus somehow hit the post but the reprieve was short-lived as the Hammers made it 3-1 when young substitute George Eardly tapped home from close range. 

21



3 - 1

London Stadium - 11th May 2024

West Ham: Areola, Zouma, Coufal, Ward-Prowse, Antonio (sub Eardly 75), Paqueta (sub Ings 84), Kudus, Bowen, Ogborn (sub Casey 90+3), Soucek, Emerson (sub Cresswell 84)

Subs: Fabianski, Johnson, Cornet, Alvarez, Mubama.

Town: Kaminski, Onyedima (sub Ogbene 73), Doughty (sub Berry 87), Burke (sub Woodrow 87, Mengi, Osho; Barkley (sub Clark 39), Lokonga; Chong, Morris, Adebayo.

Subs not used: Krul, Berry, Woodrow, Mpanzu, Hashioka, Townsend, Johnson.

GOALS

West Ham: Ward-Prowse 54, Soucek 65, Eardly 76

Town: Lokonga 6





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MORE THAN JUST FOOTBALL – CARLTON

Our captain Carlton Morris spoke emotionally on behalf of his Luton Town team after a 3-1 defeat at West Ham left us on the brink of having relegation from the Premier League mathematically confirmed.

Asked if he could put an emotional afternoon into words, the striker – with the League’s Inside Matters mental health awareness campaign in his mind – replied: “Yes, I can try. You’ll have to forgive me because it is a bit emotional.

“I was sat in bed last night and watched a ten-minute video that Wolves put out for mental health awareness and seeing how much the football means to the fans, and how much we do impact people’s lives, it made me think about that straight away to be honest.

“At the end of the game, going over to our fans, being stood there for ten minutes, the lads giving out our shirts, them clapping and then screaming for us – it does touch a nerve to be honest, and it does put things into perspective because these guys work all week to come and watch us kick a football about.

“So when you put it into perspective, I can be happy and be proud of myself and my team-mates and know that this club is moving in the right direction.”

The travelling Hatters gave their team an amazing 15-minute ovation after the final whistle at London Stadium, and Morris said: “One thing we’re not going to do is just give up and down tools. We know we are fighting against the odds at times. I’m not making excuses.

“There is a pretty clear budget difference between us and some clubs and there is some serious quality in this division. I’ve absolutely loved it and we’ve put up a real fight, we’ve been competitive, and I think the fans know that and appreciate that.

“I take a lot of experience from (the season). I’m 28 years old and I’m not naïve as to think I know this game inside and out. I’ve learned so much since the start of the season until now.

“I’m evolving, our team is evolving and first and foremost, with what happened to Locks around Christmas time, it really does put things into perspective about how lucky we are to be in the situation that we are in.


“Yes, unfortunately it didn’t end up ok for us in terms of where we are in the table right now. But I am proud especially to wear the armband in Locks’ absence and lead that team out knowing that we are going to have each other’s back and have that togetherness with the fans as well.

“It’s a community, it’s a club and it’s more than just football.”



Morris spoke of his pride in how the Hatters have performed in the top-flight, saying: “I’ve spoken to friends in this division and they’ve said ‘we hope you do it, we hope you stay up’ because we’ve brought something else to the league.

“We’ve been competitive, we’ve scored a lot of goals, we’ve been in a lot of high-goal games – like the absolute classic at Newcastle. I’ve loved being a part of it, I’ve loved being on this journey with this team from last year. This season has been incredible and I won’t take a second of it for granted.”

On the Hatters’ hopes of bouncing back quickly, he added: “I’d like to think so. We have evolved so much as a club, as staff, as individuals from the start of the season to now. This is the best league in the world for a reason. It’s not easy, but we will relish the opportunity to be back again.” 



CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS YOU'LL NEVER SING THAT!

AT THE MIDDLE OF THE TOWN DEFENCE THE SEASON THEY RETURNED TO THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE WAS A MAN WHO ALL HATTERS FANS TOOK TO THEIR HEARTS. PLAYER OF THE YEAR AND SCORER OF THE GOAL OF THE SEASON, STEVE MCNULTY TALKS US THROUGH HIS CAREER AT KENILWORTH ROAD.

He couldn't go 20 seconds without being stopped as he walked through the Kenilworth Road corridors on his first return since leaving in the autumn of 2015.

A guest of the club at our last home game with Everton, Steve – or Stephen as he always prefers – was happy to chat and reminisce with Hatters fans who idolised him during his successful time in Bedfordshire that saw us finally, after five seasons of hurt, end non-league purgatory.

Yet like the majority of players who have passed through our doors over the past ten years, McNulty takes the adulation modestly. He's as humble as they come.

"People say 'you're a cult hero' and this and that, but I'm not," he says. "I was just fortunate enough to come and play a part at a massive club and it was a privilege."

As a player who had impressed against the Hatters in his Fleetwood days, McNulty had exclusively played his football in the non-league circles of the north-west. After coming through the Liverpool academy – where he captained the Reds' youth team – stops at Burscough, Vauxhall Motors and Barrow followed.

Therefore it seemed unlikely that the Liverpoolian would decide to up sticks and move 180 miles down the motorway and settle in Luton.

"It was crazy really," he explains as he looks out on the pitch before the Town hosted his beloved Toffees in the top-flight.

"I got a phone call from Mickey Mellon saying that Fleetwood were going in a different direction and that I'd not play for them again, which was fair enough.

"There were a few phone calls from a few other clubs but Luton was a real last-minute thing. I remember one minute I was in my house watching telly on the couch and the next thing I had the bag packed and I was on the way down to Luton in the car. I'd spent most of my career in the north-west and this was the first time I'd move away from home.

"I knew how hostile it was and I knew what I was getting myself in to when signing for such a big club. I played at Kenilworth Road before and used to love coming here and playing. When the fans are behind you, you know it's a great club to play for."

The Hatters faithful immediately took to the centre-half but the beginning to his career at Kenilworth Road was stop-start. The Town had beaten Norwich in the FA Cup but he was cup-tied. His debut was a 1-0 defeat at Barrow. Things were tough on the pitch. Paul Buckle, the man who brought him to the club, then left.

But slowly but surely McNulty began to get used to life in the south and, following the arrival of new boss John Still, things began to click in to place.

"I didn't know I was going to be staying. Paul left and John came in and I didn't know what was planned but John said he wanted me," he says.

"John said he was going back to basics. A case of two or three passes and get the ball forward. He had a plan for the following season. We'd missed out on the play-offs but everything was encouraging.

"He wanted me to stay and he said he was going to build the team and that's exactly what he did. He's a great man and brought some really good players to the club. ➡

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"We already had good players but together we managed to turn the tide."

Having been sold the dream by Still, hopes were high for a tilt at promotion the following summer. However, the first game of the season, McNulty was sent-off and the Hatters went down 1-0 at Southport.

"It wasn't the greatest start was it?!" he says with a cheeky grin. "The slow start was a concern but we'd seen in training day in day out the effort and quality of the lads, and with John and his methods it took some time to get his ideas across and the way he wanted us to play. Once we got it, there was no stopping us. We had some players who had come from higher levels and we were quietly confident."



With a settled defence in front of goal-keeper Mark Tyler, the Hatters' soon recovered and began to motor up the table.

McNulty's moment of the season would come, ironically, come against Southport at the Kenny. After the visitors had cleared a free-kick, McNulty waited on the edge of the area. Watching the ball all the way he smashed it back with intent and saw it sail into the top corner. Stunned teammates engulfed the defender – their smiles telling their own story – while the Town fans celebrated one of the best goals they'd witnessed in recent times. Even now the goal is replayed. On YouTube it is nearing 350,000 views.

"It was a fluke!" he laughs. "Came off my shinpad. I could do that 100 times and none of them would go in. I got lucky. The best

thing about it was that the Southport keeper was my mate."

When your centre-half who is rarely among the goals hits one like that, you know you're in for a season to remember – and so it proved as the Town roared to the title and with it a place back in the Football League.

For McNulty the promotion meant more. The season, the success, the team and the club had helped him fall back in love with football again.

"Obviously I knew I was coming to a massive club and it was the first time I'd moved away from home," he says.

"I was living away from the family, which was tough, but I felt for the first time in my career that I had no distractions. Living away meant I could concentrate on football and it meant I felt I could play my best football."

"When I was down at Luton, I was playing for a good side, under a good manager and I really enjoyed it."

"In the end it was a tough decision but I think I'd played my best football of my career."

However, the time spent up and down the UK's motorways took its toll. In 2015, when Tranmere came calling, it was an opportunity too good to turn down to return to the north-west.

"I felt I was spending all my time on the M1 and M6 getting back home to see my family. I had a little one and another one on the way. It was really tough and it was a decision I didn't take lightly but it was one I had to for the family. Sometimes I look back on it with a bit of regret but it was time to put the family first." ➡

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Having won the Conference title at Fleetwood and with the Hatters, the centre-half used all his experience to lead Rovers to back-to-back promotions via the play-offs, earning himself cult hero status at yet another club.

During this time, the Town were also making their ascent up the divisions. Something which gave McNulty plenty of pride watching from afar.

"When people speak to me and they're like 'you used to play for Luton' and I know I played for them in the Conference but it's nice to have a played a small part," he says.

"It's nice to come back and see not much has changed and many of the same people are still here doing a good job. It's great that they've gone up through the leagues still being the same and having the same values."

Once he hung up his boots, McNulty dabbled in coaching and management in non-league, but these days football is playing less of a role in his life.

"As you can see I haven't been in the gym since I finished playing!" he jokes. "But yes I'm working for a school on the Wirral where I live. It's a school for kids that have been excluded from mainstream schools in the area. We just try and make them better kids, better humans and give them a pathway.

"It's quite rewarding and it gives me a lift. I'm enjoying it and giving something back to the local community.

"I had a little go at managing in the lower leagues and it's something I might revisit at some point – I'm just looking for the right opportunity but at the moment I'm happy at school and I'm free at the weekends."

After a few pre-match words in the Eric Morecambe Lounge, McNulty watched the Town and Everton play out an entertaining 1-1 draw, a result which did not do much for the Hatters' survival hopes. "I did want Luton to win, to be honest," he says.

Then, with his brother and friends by his side, he said his goodbyes and slipped off into the night to catch the last train home – hopefully with reminders of how much he is treasured in this part of the world.





WELCOME FULHAM

Today the Hatters face Fulham in the final game of the season. Marco Silva's side travel to Kenilworth Road for the first time since 2021 and have confirmed a solid mid-table finish already.

The Cottagers started the season very well with an opening day victory over Everton at Goodison Park. This was followed by a shock 3-0 loss to local rivals Brentford in their first home game of the season.

Fulham later picked up a good point at the Emirates Stadium in a 2-2 draw with Arsenal to end August before losing 5-1 away to Manchester City at the beginning of September.

Silva's side picked up their second league win of the season and first at home after beating the Hatters 1-0. Carlos Vinicius scored in the 65th minute to earn the victory. The following week saw a goalless draw with Crystal Palace before they lost 2-0 to Chelsea.

Fulham got back to winning ways after beating Sheffield United 3-1. Three second half goals saw the Cottagers pick up all three points against Paul Heckingbottom's side. Fulham later lost to Tottenham before drawing against Brighton to end October.

There was a late 1-0 loss to Manchester United before a 3-1 away defeat to Aston Villa before the Cottagers then beat Wolves 3-2 at home thanks to a double from Willian (including a 94th-minute penalty) and a goal from Alex Iwobi.

The next game for Fulham was a 4-3 thriller at Anfield against Liverpool. Two late goals from the Reds earned them the win. In the

next two games that followed, Silva's side recorded two sensational back-to-back 5-0 wins. The first against Nottingham Forest and the next against West Ham.

Fulham went on to lose the following three games against Newcastle, Burnley and Bournemouth but they soon turned around this poor form with an excellent 2-1 win over Arsenal on New Year's Eve. Raul Jimenez and Bobby Reid got the goals in a comeback win for Fulham.

The Cottagers started their league campaign in 2024 with a loss to Chelsea before draws against Everton and Burnley. Fulham picked up an impressive 3-1 victory over Bournemouth which was followed by a 2-1 loss to Aston Villa.

Fulham then picked up an amazing away win against Manchester United as a 97th-minute winner from Calvin Bassey secured the three points. They followed this up nicely with a 3-0 win against Brighton.

A loss to Wolves in early March was followed up by a 3-0 win over Tottenham before drawing 3-3 with Sheffield United in a topsy-turvy game. Fulham then lost their next two games against Nottingham Forest and Newcastle.

Silva's side picked up their last win against West Ham in April before losing to both Liverpool and Manchester City as well as drawing with Crystal Palace and Brentford.

Now they visit Kenilworth Road for their final act of the campaign and we'd like to wish a warm welcome to all those involved with the Cottagers this afternoon.

MEET THE COTTAGERS

THE BOSS



MARCO SILVA. Portuguese head coach Marco is about to complete his third season in charge. Guided the club

to the top-flight as Championship title winners in 2022 and has also managed Hull, Watford and Everton in England.

GOALKEEPER



BERND LENO. Germany international goalkeeper who arrived at Craven Cottage from Arsenal in 2022.

Began his career with Stuttgart before spending seven years with Bayer Leverkusen.

DEFENDERS



TOSIN ADARABIOYO. Manchester-born centre-back who came through the ranks at the Etihad Stadium before

making the move south to Fulham in 2020. Earned experience in the Championship at West Brom and Blackburn.



CALVIN BASSEY. Nigerian international left-back or centre-half Calvin joined the Cottagers from Ajax last summer. Born in Italy, he started his career in Leicester's academy before a move to Glasgow Rangers in 2020.



TIMOTHY CASTAGNE. Belgium international full-back who arrived at Craven Cottage in August last year from Leicester. Started his career with Genk before moving to Atalanta before moving to England.



ANTONEE ROBINSON. Milton Keynes born full-back Antonee has been a regular since joining from Wigan in 2020. Started his career at Everton and is an United States international.



ISSA DIOP. French centre-back Issa joined the Cottagers in 2022 after over 100 appearances for West

Ham. Started his career at hometown club Toulouse before his move to London in 2018.



TIM REAM. Hugely experienced defender and Fulham's vice-captain, Tim has made over 300 appearances for he club since signing from Bolton in 2015. Another USA international with 56 caps.

MIDFIELDERS



ANDREAS PEREIRA. Attacking midfielder Andreas joined the Cottagers last season having come through the youth ranks at Manchester United.

A Brazilian international, he earned experience out on loan at Granada, Valencia, Lazio and Flamengo.



TOM CAIRNEY. Club captain Tom has played over 300 times in Fulham colours since

joining from Blackburn in 2015. A Scotland international, he started his career at Hull, where he came through the academy.



JOAO PALHINHA. Influential defensive midfielder in his second season at Craven

Cottage. A Portugal international, Joao started his career at Sporting, where he won the title in 2021. Was last season's player of the year.



SASA LUKIC. January transfer window capture from Italian club Torino. The Serbia international midfielder has become a regular ever since joining. Began his career with Partizan Belgrade.



HARRISON REED. England youth international midfielder Harrison arrived at Craven Cottage from Southampton in 2020 following a successful loan spell. Also enjoyed loans at Norwich and Blackburn.



HARRY WILSON. Wales international winger Harry joined the Cottagers from Liverpool in 2022. Gained a wealth of experience in multiple loan spells including one with Fulham in 2021/22.

ATTACKERS



ADAMA TRAORE. Pacey winger Adama joined Fulham last summer after five years and over 150 appearances at Wolves. Came through the Barcelona academy and also played for Aston Villa and Middlesbrough.



BOBBY DE CORDOVA-REID. Experienced forward or winger who joined the club from

Cardiff in 2020 following a successful loan spell. Came to prominence during his spell with Bristol City.



ALEX IWOB. Attacker Alex joined the Cottagers after four years at Everton.

Came through the ranks at Arsenal, making 100 Premier League appearances and has been capped 78 times by Nigeria.



RAUL JIMENEZ. Experienced Mexico international frontman who signed for the Cottagers after a prolific spell with Wolves. After leaving Mexican side America he joined Atletico Madrid and then Benfica.



RODRIGO MUNIZ. Up-and-coming forward who has enjoyed fine form in front of goal recently. The Brazilian

joined the club in 2021 from Flamengo and spent last season on loan at Middlesbrough.



WILLIAN. Hugely experienced and successful Brazilian international who arrived at the Cottage in 2022. Won two Premier League titles and the Europa League with Chelsea and the Copa America in 2019.

FROM THE OAK ROAD



Andy Tarnai reflects on what being a Fulham fan is really all about

What does it mean to be a Fulham supporter?

I love supporting an underdog club – Fulham happened to be my first flat share location when I moved to London and the Tigana gang inspired me to become a FFC fan.

How important is watching Fulham to you and why?

I love the 15-minute cycle ride to Craven Cottage and the special Fulham atmosphere being close to the pitch. Trying to see most home games and surely it's a highlight of my weekends.

Describe how the ups and downs of following the Fulham have impacted your life.

That's a question better asked to my wife! The times when we were up and down between Premier League and Championship were frustrating – but it took us time to find a top class manager like Marco Silva to turn us back into a top class club.

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

Any of Louis Saha, Luis Boa Morte, Steed Malbranque, Moussa Dembele, Clint Dempsey, Danny Murphy and Willian these days.

What matches against Luton do you remember?

Not that many to be honest – I missed home game last season but I hope to see many more when Luton comes back into Premier League.

Can you put into words the feeling of being a Fulham fan right now? Describe to us what it's been like in recent times.

It's more fun now that we have become a more consistent Premier League fixture. There is always concern in the background that manager and players will be leaving and rebuilding always come with a risk of relegation.

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

It hasn't changed so much. We had season tickets with my mate for 23 years – most of those years in Premier League. Some of the early years in Championship were depressing though.

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

An easy one: the 4-1 win against Juventus.





A HATTER AND A COTTAGER

Plenty have worn the colours of both clubs, most notably our own **Elijah Adebayo** who progressed through the ranks at **Craven Cottage**. Under-18s boss **Alex Lawless** was also on the books as a youngster while **Paul Trollope** also starred at the West London club. **Alan Neilson**, **Richard Money**, **Alan Slough**, **Mark Pembridge** and the late **Viv Busby** have also represented both clubs.

However perhaps one of the most successful for the Town was a little-known full-back signed from Fulham for £17,500 in the summer of 1969. Within a couple of months, converted to a forward because of injuries, **Malcolm Macdonald** became a goalscoring sensation and in two seasons at Kenilworth Road netted 49 goals in 88 League starts and earned himself a big money move to Newcastle.

On Tyneside, Mac became every bit the hero he had been at Luton only this time he started to pick up England caps along the way, scoring five in one international, before surprisingly accepting a £333,333 transfer to Arsenal in 1976.

Wear and tear to his knees forced him into retirement at the age of 29 and on rejoining Fulham, Mac took over the hot seat in 1980 and guided the Cottagers to promotion. Having quit the game 'Supermac' got into media and after-dinner circuit and is still a radio broadcaster on Tyneside.



GREAT GAMES

TOWN 4-0 FULHAM 16TH FEBRUARY 1980

Leading scorer **David Moss** bags a hat-trick before half-time in a ruthless display of attacking football to put the Hatters back on top of the old Second Division (now Championship) on goal difference. **Brian Stein** is also on target as the Town run riot against the Cottagers.

"We were outplayed by a Luton side who are difficult to beat on their own pitch," says Fulham manager **Bobby Ferguson** afterwards.

Town: **Findlay**, **Aizlewood**, **Donaghy**, **Grealish**, **Saxby**, **Price**, **Hill**, **West**, **Stein**, **Hatton**, **Moss**.



CLASSIC KIT

Winning promotion always makes you look back fondly at shirts from the past but even fans of other clubs would cast envious glances towards this Fulham shirt from the 1998/99 campaign. A club playing in the third tier having their shirts made Adidas was something of a novelty but the German manufacturers got this spot on with classy home shirt.

With the dawn of the internet, too, what better sponsor than **Demon** to round it all off?

CULT HERO: SIMON MORGAN

As real heroes go, they don't come much bigger than **Simon Morgan**. After arriving at Craven Cottage in 1990 following six years at Leicester, the versatile defender went on to make over 400 appearances in Fulham colours. After helping the club to two promotions – from the Third Division (League Two) to the First Division (Championship), he was still at the club when the Cottagers won promotion to the Premier League in 2000/01. Known for his unwavering loyalty and humble personality, he is still affectionately referred to as "Mr Fulham" by Fulham fans.



Although we had met during our Southern League days at the beginning of the last century our first meetings in the Football League took place in 1928 following the Cottagers relegation from the old Division Two.

The Hatters went down 4-2 at Craven Cottage on 15th December 1928 in front of a crowd of 11,069, with Lewis Bedford and Joe Daly on the scoresheet and Tommy Roe making his first appearance for the club.

Fulham achieved an early double when they won 3-1 at Kenilworth Road in the return the following April inflicting our first home defeat since November 1927. Ace goalscorer Andy Rennie had levelled the score with 15 minutes left but Fulham netted twice just before the end to secure their victory.

Leading up to Fulham's promotion in 1932 we secured big home wins of 4-1 in 1929/30, with Jim Drinnan scoring twice, and 5-0 the following season when Rennie bagged a couple. We were, however, unable to break our duck in West London.

Following our own promotion to Division Two in 1937 we renewed acquaintances with the Cottagers in December at Kenilworth Road when two goals from the prolific Joe Payne helped secure a 4-0 win. The Town defence had an easy afternoon with goalkeeper Bill Dolman having only one save to make – a penalty from Fulham's Ronnie Rooke – but he was beaten when the referee had to hold the play up for several minutes when steam from a train passing the ground enveloped the pitch!



Malcolm Macdonald plagues the Fulham defence during our first ever League win at Craven Cottage in April 1970

Our customary defeats at the Cottage followed but we thought we had cracked it when we were unlucky to only draw there in September 1939. As War broke out shortly afterwards a win would not have counted but we did hold the dubious honour of topping the table when hostilities started, a position we held on to for seven years.

When football recommenced in 1946 it was back to the pre-War pattern of defeats at the Cottage and wins at Kenilworth Road, although before the end of the decade our home record against Fulham was looking none too bright with defeats in both 1947/48 and the Cottagers' promotion season of 1948/49.

Fulham came back down again three years later and, in the period leading up to our own promotion in 1955, we suffered three straight defeats at Craven Cottage, including 5-1 in 1954 when Johnny Haynes netted a hat-trick, but managed to secure a 3-0 home win on the road to promotion.

We briefly met up again in 1959/60 just as we were about to plummet through the divisions, but two goals from Billy Bingham were not enough as we suffered a 4-2 set back at Craven Cottage. We managed to win the return 4-1, our biggest victory of the season, but Fulham played most of the game with only ten men after Jimmy Hill had retired injured.

A lot of water had passed under the bridge before we next met, in 1969/70 in Division Three, but a respectable crowd of 16,485 turned out in a snow-storm at Kenilworth Road to see Malcolm Macdonald score the only goal of the game.

Macdonald, who had been signed as a full-back from Fulham the previous close-season, had been converted to a forward, and was making goalscoring look easy. The return match that season was watched by a crowd of 18,987 with Macdonald, inevitably, scoring the only goal of the game for our first ever win at the Cottage and setting us up for a promotion place which, a couple of weeks before, looked lost.

We managed a further win at Craven Cottage in 1973 – Rodney Fern netting the only goal of the game – but clashes during this period tended to be low scoring and instantly forgettable.

Then, in 1976, Fulham completed a double signing that made the football world sit up when Rodney Marsh and George Best went to Craven Cottage. ➤



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LOVE FOOTBALL, PROTECT THE GAME

James Collins nets during the 3-3 draw at Kenilworth Road on Boxing Day 2019



For a while crowds flocked to see the pair in action and we were early beneficiaries as 19,929 congregated at Kenilworth Road to witness the away side cruise to an easy 2-0 victory.

The bubble had burst somewhat by the time of the return and the Town, in the middle of a nine-game winning run, were victorious 2-1 in a match marking the last appearance in the Football League for Marsh.

Over the next two seasons games went with the home side but in 1979/80 came the parting of the ways with Fulham's relegation to the old Division Three.

We signed off with a rare double, winning 3-1 at Craven Cottage and 4-0 in the return with mercurial winger David Moss knocking in a hat-trick.

Paths eventually crossed again in 1996/97 following Fulham's promotion from the bottom division. Little did anyone realise when the teams fought out a 0-0 draw at a hot Craven Cottage in August 1997 what the Al Fayed revolution was about to bring to

Fulham as, by the return, the Cottagers side was unrecognisable and romped to a 4-1 win.

The spending revolution started too late to enable Fulham to win promotion that season but they walked the division the following year winning 4-0 at Kenilworth Road along the way, although the early dismissal of Alan White did not help matters.

Fulham had looked on this as a grudge match as the Town had become the only side to win at Craven Cottage that season following an amazing 3-1 victory when the expensive Cottagers were made to look second best in all departments.

Over 20 years were to pass before we crossed paths again, this time in the Championship in 2019/20. A loss at Craven Cottage was followed by a scintillating 3-3 draw at Kenilworth Road on Boxing Day 2019.

Fulham won promotion to the top flight at the end of that season but were back at Kenilworth Road in December 2022 where Elijah Adebayo netted in a 1-1 draw. The less said about the 7-0 win for Fulham against a severely depleted Luton side at the end of that season the better! 🧢

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18: JORDAN CLARK



H: Chris & Alex Browne
A: First Response Fire Safety
UK Ltd
T: Keith Obington Transport
TW: AVAILABLE

19: JACOB BROWN



H: UNAVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE
TW: AVAILABLE

20: LOUIE WATSON



H: AVAILABLE
A: Temple Flooring LTD
T: AVAILABLE
TW: AVAILABLE

21: JOHN MCATEE



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H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE
TW: AVAILABLE

23: TIM KRUL



PLATINUM
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A: AVAILABLE
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24: THOMAS KAMINSKI



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27: DAIKI HASHIOKA



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TW: AVAILABLE

28: ALBERT SAMBI LOKONGA



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TW: AVAILABLE

29: AMARI'I BELL



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T: Bartham Group
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45: ALFIE DOUGHTY



H: Kevin Lennon
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T: TP Extrusions Ltd
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ROB EDWARDS



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EVERTON MASCOTS & SPONSORS



OUR LAST HOME GAME HERE IN THE PREMIER LEAGUE AGAINST EVERTON SAW ROSS BARKLEY PICK UP THE MAN-OF-THE-MATCH AWARD AGAINST HIS FORMER CLUB.

The midfielder was presented with award from our sponsors and guests in the Eric Morecambe lounge after the game.

We also had the pleasure of hosting five home mascots for the game who enjoyed their experience at Kenilworth Road. They each 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 FPM and matchball sponsors RJ O'Neil and nine mascots. We wish you all a wonderful afternoon with us at our final game of the season.



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Our commercial packages make for an unforgettable matchday experience. To find out more about Mascots, match sponsorships and other opportunities, contact commercial@lutontown.co.uk





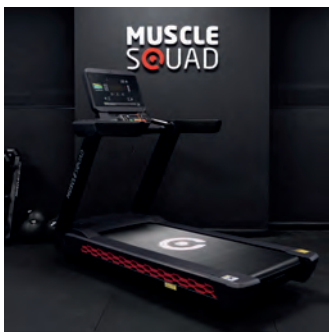
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CONGRATULATIONS, MARK

Last weekend saw the Premier League and its clubs joined forces to 'Kick off a conversation on mental health' for the Inside Matters campaign, and our super cycling supporter Mark Crowther completed the final leg of his Pride in Luton Premier Pedal Challenge.

Compared to Burnley away on a Friday night at four days' notice, the relatively short and straightforward distance of 44 miles to West Ham last weekend saw Mark surpass 8,000 miles over the three years he has been raising awareness and funds for several local charities, including Mind BLMK and our club charity of the year, NOAH Enterprise.

The London Stadium was the 162nd ground he cycled to in his support of Luton Town since first being inspired by a doorstep visit from then-Hatters strikers Harry Cornick and James Collins as he struggled with his own mental health during the pandemic.

Invited to the training ground recently to discuss his journey with club doctor Amos Ogunkoya, Mark reflected on three years in which he cycled to every away game in the Championship in the 2021/22 season before doing the same in the top-flight this term.

Ahead of Mental Health Awareness Week (13-19th May), Mark talked about how for much of his four decades supporting the Hatters, he would come to the game, not speak to anyone then go home.

For half of those 43 years, Mark has struggled with mental health issues since losing his mother and found that for him, speaking to a counsellor helped, while pointing out that for others it could be a family member or friend.

During Lockdown, however, cut off from friends and family and without football to attend, he found himself in what he describes as "a dark place", having "irrational thoughts" as he contemplated taking his own life.

Inspired by Collins scoring the winning goal in the behind-closed-doors derby against Watford in April 2021, and keeping a promise he made to Cornick as he presented him with a signed shirt, Mark took on the first of his cycling challenges that has seen him raise over £36,000 for his chosen charities – and shortlisted for EFL supporter of the season in 2021/22.

"West Ham was emotional because it's been three years and when I started it was about raising awareness and raising money," said Mark. "Some of the things I didn't recognise at the start of it, like the friendships I've made and the journey I've been on.

"Before I did this, I wouldn't dream to chat with a player. I put them on a pedestal, professional footballers playing for the team I love, but they are all so humble and genuinely nice, normal guys. Just the fact that I feel comfortable chatting to them – it means the world to me because this football club is a big part of my life."

THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

It looks like the ball is going over the heads of Fulham's Johnny Haynes and Roy Bentley as well as the Town's John Groves to the waiting Allan Brown and Bob Morton with only Alan Mullery as cover.

Action from the Hatters' 4-1 win at Kenilworth Road in January 1960.

Roger Wash





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A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

JACK BATESON



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A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

JACOB PINNINGTON



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T: AVAILABLE

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T: AVAILABLE

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T: AVAILABLE

JAYDEN LUKER



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
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JOSH ALLEN



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

JOSHUA ODELL-BATURE



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A: AVAILABLE
T: AVAILABLE

MILLAR MATTHEWS-LEWIS



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

TOBIAS BRANEY



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T: AVAILABLE

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T: AVAILABLE

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A: AVAILABLE
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DYLAN STITT



H: AVAILABLE
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ISAIAH HARVEY



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JACK LORENTZEN-JONES



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MARCUS WARREN



H: AVAILABLE
A: AVAILABLE
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MATTHEW TAKAWIRA



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MAX SCOTT



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OLIVER PIPA



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SAM ANDERSON



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TATE XAVIER-JONES



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TYRELL GIWA



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WILL HOUGHTON



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ZACHARIAS IOANNIDES



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KITS FROM THE PAST

HATTERS FAN DAVID FOXEN TAKES A LOOK THROUGH HIS COLLECTION OF HATTERS SHIRTS. OUR FINAL INSTALMENT THIS SEASON FOCUSES ON THE 1980/81 HOME SHIRT.

Hatters fan and kit collector David Foxen looks back through some of our most iconic shirts. Our final instalment this season focuses on the 1980/81 home shirt.

We saw a sneak peak of what this shirt might look like the previous season, as for the final two months of the 1979/1980 season our shirt was adapted to allow for the introduction of Tricentrol as the sponsor.

A few minor changes were required though for the 80/81 shirt – changes for the better! Let's start with the basics of this shirt; made by Adidas, the shirt features the same white used in previous seasons along with the orange stripe going down the left-hand side.

That meant our badge remained in its unfamiliar home of being on the right-hand side of the shirt. This has only happened with this design of the shirt. It must have been to accommodate the orange stripe and not to 'lose' the badge.

The Tricentrol logo moved slightly further up the shirt and switched places with the famous Adidas Trefoil logo. We still had the lovely orange stripes down the sleeves, but the big difference is in the neckline. Gone were the buttons that went all the way down to the sponsor logo in the previous season and instead we have a smart, V-Neck collar.

Personally, I think removing that long button sequence really improved the look and feel of this shirt. I can't imagine the players needed all those buttons anyway!

On the pitch, this shirt saw us finish in fifth place in the old Second Division. At one stage towards the end of the season, our form saw us almost



push the top three, but ultimately we fell just short as West Ham United won the league with Notts County and Swansea City being the other two sides promoted.

We beat Chelsea at Stamford Bridge thanks to David Moss and Ricky Hill goals, an epic Brian Stein hat-trick helped us in a 4-2 victory away at Bristol Rovers, and we did the double over our neighbours from Vicarage Road, with home and away 1-0 wins.

It is a wonderful shirt worn by several legendary players. I wish I could go back in time and buy a couple from the club shop!

Luton's Big Weekend is almost here...

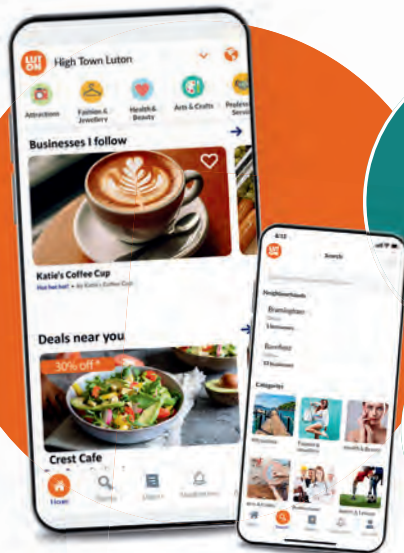
and it's going to be unforgettable!

From Friday 24 May to Sunday 26 May, Coldplay, RAYE, and Chase & Status will headline BBC Radio 1's Big Weekend at Stockwood Park, making it one of the biggest events in Luton's history.

Even without tickets, there's plenty to enjoy in the town, including fringe events, watch-parties, and after-parties throughout the weekend. The celebration continues on Monday 27 May with the spectacular Luton Carnival.



Make sure you're part of the action by downloading Luton's #1 app, where you'll find all the information you need about the events and exclusive Big Weekend deals from local pubs, bars, and restaurants.



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**STEP
FORWARD
LUTON**



ALL SMILES AT SUPPORTERS' AWARDS NIGHT

Ross Barkley and Thomas Kaminski took the biggest share of the nine awards on offer at the Luton Town Supporters' Trust awards evening.

Barkley picked up the Player of the Season award, Signing of the Season and the Junior Supporters' Player of the Season award.

Luton's number six has made more than the desired impact since joining on a free transfer last summer, his Premier League experience has helped contribute five goals and six assists this season.

Meanwhile, Kaminski was voted the Players' Player of the Season award by his teammates and the Home Player of the Season.

Tahith Chong's memorable counter-attack goal against Liverpool at Kenilworth Road claimed the Mick Harford trophy for Goal of the Season.

It was our Curaçao creator's first Premier League goal of his career as he opened the scoring against the six-time Champions League winners back in November.

Another one of our summer signings, Teden Mengi, claimed the Away Player of the Season award after a career-high 33 first-team appearances this campaign.

Academy graduate Zack Nelson was chosen by Rob Edwards and the first-team coaching staff as the Young Player of the Year.

Elsewhere in the evening, our medical team of Simon Parsell, Chris Phillips and Dr Amos Ogunkoya were chosen as the recipients of this season's Outstanding Contribution award.

Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu was also recognised as he became the 11th Luton player to reach 400 appearances last month, with the Signing of the Season award being re-named after the Luton number 17.





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Action from the first game at non-League level.
Kevin Gallen at Wimbledon 2009



From the last game. Andre Gray at Hyde 2014

A-Z THE NON-LEAGUE YEARS

HATTERS HISTORIAN ROGER WASH REMEMBERS OUR OPPONENTS DURING OUR CONFERENCE DAYS

Part Nineteen. A resume of our five years in the Conference.

Over the five years marooned in Division Five we played 44 different teams. Some every season (Cambridge United, Forest Green Rovers, Gateshead, Kidderminster, Tamworth and Wrexham) while there were some we only met once (Aldershot, Barnet, Chester, Halifax, Grays, Oxford United, Stevenage and Welling).

We won a total of 119 games and lost 45 with a positive goal difference of 203. Our biggest home win was the 8-0 thumping of Hayes and Yeading at Kenilworth Road in 2010 and, as well as a 7-0 battering of Hereford in our promotion season, we also racked up six goals six times.

Away from Kenilworth Road our biggest win was 6-1 at Ebbsfleet in 2010, after being 1-0 down at half-time, and honourable mentions should be made to the 5-0 wins at Alfreton and Nuneaton during our promotion season as well as at beleaguered Kettering in 2011/12.

Most of the lows of the Conference years have been erased from the memory but reference must be made of losing three times in the play-offs, losing dismal

games at home to Stevenage and away at Crawley in 2009/10 and at Southport the following season, as well as two defeats at Braintree before we finally came good there in our promotion season.

Fortunately, I was not at Carlisle to see the Town lose 5-1 to Gateshead in 2012/13 before a 'crowd' of 382 but did witness the abysmal home defeat to Hyde a few weeks before in front of 4,847, our lowest attendance at that level.

A special mention must be made of the 1-0 defeat at Dartford in 2012/13 on a bitterly cold night. The heater of the car we were in packed up on the way home to put the tin hat on it!

The highs are far more memorable though. A run of ten wins and a draw from 11 games in 2009/10 where we thought we would catch Stevenage up at the top, the last day win at Fleetwood in 2011/12 to enable us to scrape into the play-offs and the whole of the promotion season where we gradually caught early pacemakers Cambridge and went on to win the championship in style with 101 points. Who could forget Pelly's banger at Dartford on the run-in which virtually confirmed we were finally up. 🏆

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LUTON LADIES SECURE SECOND PLACE AT KENILWORTH ROAD

Luton Town Ladies hosted Bowers & Pitsea Women at Kenilworth Road last week for their penultimate league match of the season, knowing that three points at the Kenny would secure second place in the table.

It was a scorching hot day at Kenilworth Road and it didn't take Luton long to bring their own heat. 13 minutes in Tsaianne Leander was tripped in the area and the Hatters were awarded a penalty which captain Jess McKay took and converted into the bottom left corner, despite a touch on the ball from the keeper.

Three minutes later and captain McKay struck again, but this was all about the assist. Amber Pearson collected the ball on the left hand side and incredibly sliced the Bowers defence open, with an inch perfect pass for her skipper, who slotted the ball past the keeper, to give her side a two goal advantage.

With 10 minutes left to play of the first half, McKay netted her hat-trick in front of over 500 fans at Kenilworth Road.

She wasn't done there, however, as with three minutes remaining of the first 45, McKay scored yet again. A Pearson corner caused chaos in the box, the ball fell kindly for McKay who smashed the ball into the net for 4-0.

With the last action of the half, Bowers pulled a goal back, via a smart finish into the bottom left corner in front of the Oak Road Stand.



It didn't take long into the second half for Luton to score again, this time it was the best of the bunch, scored by Shianne Swarres. She picked the ball up outside the box and expertly lifted the ball over the keeper and into the back of the net.

Bowers had their first half-chance of the second half, with 13 to play, but keeper Leah Robinson did well to hold onto the ball.

In the sixth minute of additional time, Luton netted their sixth. Fiona Buttigieg sent the ball across the face of the goal, setting up Elizabeth Sanders for a simple tap in.

The three points meant that Luton secured second spot, with a game left to play, with the final game this afternoon at Barton against Dunstable.

Follow the Ladies on X: @LTFCL_Official



LUTON TOWN FC COMMUNITY TRUST

INSIDE MATTERS EVENT AT QUEEN ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL

On Thursday 9th May, Luton Town Community Trust were delighted to host a Mental Health Workshop in Collaboration with CHUMS.

The workshop was open to the sixth form students at Queen Elizabeth High School as a part of the Premier League's Inside Matters Campaign. This initiative aims to encourage football fans to check in on each other and kick off a conversation on mental health.

During the workshop, CHUMS, who are a local mental health and emotional wellbeing service, emphasised the importance of self-care and how to access the appropriate tools and services to help combat any concerns the students may have.

The students were also lucky enough to have a surprise appearance from Luton Town's James Shea, who shared insights into how football has aided his own mental health journey. James also took part in a Q&A where students could ask questions

and seek advice on challenges they may have.

Annette Cooper, Service Manager for CHUMS, said: "It's important to get young people talking about mental health so they become comfortable being open and honest about how they feel and about any difficulties they are facing. Not talking about it can often add to the problems, making people feel alone and creating a sense of stigma around having struggles. By having conversations about mental health, you can make others aware of how you are genuinely and what you need, which gives people a chance to support you appropriately."

If you're struggling with your mental health, please visit www.chums.uk.com or call 01525 863924 for support and guidance.

CHARITY GOLF DAY IN SUPPORT OF LUTON TOWN FC COMMUNITY TRUST

Barth Consulting are set to host a charity golf day at South Beds Golf Club on Friday 14th June. All proceeds raised from the day will be donated to us here at Luton Town FC Community Trust and be used to support the work we do.

Registration is from 11.30am with bacon rolls

available upon arrival. The golf itself begins at 1pm with a shotgun start. The day will be capped off with a meal following the golf, as well as a raffle and charity auction with a host of great items on offer. Entry is open to all, so round up your friends, family and colleagues, or register as an individual and we'll find a group for you.

Louise Barth, Director of Barth Consulting and organiser of the event, said: "I'm really looking forward to hosting the golf day on Friday 14th June. It's shaping up to be a great, fun day, with friends, family, and colleagues on a fabulous course right here in Luton. And all this whilst, supporting a very worthy charity that does so much amazing work with young people across Bedfordshire."

A fourball can be reserved for £350, including all of the catering and events throughout the day as described above. Individual places are £90. There are also sponsorship packages available. For further information please contact louise. barth@barthconsulting.co.uk or if you are ready to book, please complete the online booking form available through www.lutontowncommunity.co.uk.



ACADEMY UPDATE

WITH HEAD OF ACADEMY DEVELOPMENT WAYNE TURNER



Wow, what a season this has been, a true rollercoaster for everybody involved! From you guys living every minute, with the board of Directors, the first team players and staff!

Then down to us in the Academy looking over from not too far away, it's been an amazing 18 months, just like Rob the Gaffer quoted.

For all of us in the youth department, it has been priceless. From the ball boys on match days through to the young lads that have made it consistently into the first team squad, training with them on a regular basis. Resulting in Joe Johnson and Zack Nelson actually making their Premier League debuts! Obviously we are delighted with their progression, but we also realise how high the first team bar has now been raised.

At the start of the season Paul Benson and I linked up to front the Academy from U9-U21s. He's the boss and I did - and I will continue to - assist him all I can. He's a real pleasure to work with, we have a bit of banter, while also having a steely determination to succeed. Along with that, Paul has a clear vision of how he wants the Academy to develop.

So with that in mind we are slightly re-designing our set up, which is as follows:

UNDER-9-12S:

Billy Carter will lead these age groups, giving them the chance to gain the tools in their tool box to be able to technically deliver when they get older.

13-14S

Jack Cartwright will start the 11 v 11 process, coaching the fundamentals of the 'big' game into the under-13s, then progress into more tactical awareness with the 14s.

Benno and I both believe that Billy and Jack are perfectly equipped to deliver this, with their style of coaching and mannerisms.

15-16S

We are welcoming back Joe Deeney, who was last here in similar roles when I was heading up the Academy between 2012 to 2015.

Joe is the full package, with immense experience at all levels. He, Olly Modeste and head of coaching Dan Walder will deliver sessions that will get them prepared to become scholars if they are lucky enough to get the chance?

16-18S

Waiting for them will be Alex Lawless and Craig Alcock who are both accomplished coaches, who have the same beliefs, principles and standards as Benno and I.

UNDER-21S

Adrian Forbes decided a month ago to move to more sunny climbs. The USA to be precise! I would like to thank him for his commitment to the role over my first year, but he grafted four years before that. Thank you Forbsey and good luck.

We are now seeking a replacement, and we are very nearly there in doing so in order to complete the coaching jigsaw.

Along with all those coaches we have sports scientists, analysts, physiotherapists and goalkeeper coaches. Not to mention the administration office staff, welfare and education departments, too.

Recruitment is the other department we are expanding. Lee Cowley has done a tremendous job with a small band of scouts and we are now going to expand that to more scouts, meaning more areas and players covered.

Benno and everyone in the Academy, including the part-time staff are the hardest working group of people I've ever come across. Truly they are workaholics!

They have unbelievable role models in Gary, Rob and the first team staff and everyone gives their all for this football club!

Talking of Gary Sweet, he is the driving force. Together with ourselves, Gary and James Mooney, we are striving now 100 per cent to achieve Category 2 status to enable us to close the gap on the first team. It's critical now with the work ethic that comes more quality. Better players, better facilities, better coaching and welfare. That's what we all must strive for!

From Under-13s 11 v 11 to the first team, we all want to be on the same page, with quality players playing against quality opposition on a regular basis. None of this is possible without the continued support of Gary and the board.

Finally a massive thanks to you, the supporters, and also SOLYD, who themselves keep delivering every season.

Everyone throughout the club deserves a rest now. It wasn't a dream – it was real. Thank you for the ride gang, enjoy today and see you all in July.



ACADEMY WHO'S WHO

Academy Manager: Paul Benson

Head of Academy Development: Wayne Turner

U9-16 Head of Coaching: Dan Walder

U18 Lead Coach: Alex Lawless

Academy Operations Manager: Dale Brunton

Academy Administrator: Emily Howes

Youth Development Phase Lead Coach (15-16): Craig Alcock

Youth Development Phase Lead Coach (12-14): Jack Cartwright

Foundation Phase Lead Coach: Billy Carter

Head of Academy Recruitment: Lee Cowley

Academy Scout: Kevin Thoburn

Head of Education: Kobie Dee

Academy Safeguarding Manager: Stuart Cornish

Player Care Officer: Wayne Polson

Lead Academy Analyst: Michael Malone

Academy Head of Goalkeeping: Albert Bell

Academy Goalkeeping Coach: Frank Atwell

Senior Academy Physiotherapist (18-21): Oliver Sharples

Senior Academy Physiotherapist (12-16): Connor Wright

Lead Academy Sports Therapist: Paige Simms

Lead Academy Sports Scientist: Daniel Taylor



Luton Town Community Trust are proud to launch a new scheme to increase participation and engagement with the South Asian community in Luton.

The aim of the scheme is to create more opportunities for participation within communities along with generating a clear pathway into elite football.

Before last weekend's Premier League fixture between the two clubs, our Community Trust staff and a team of young players were invited down to West Ham United to participate in a collaboration which enabled both clubs to celebrate the work that is done in both communities.

Between them, the two areas of east London (the Boroughs of Newham, Redbridge, Tower Hamlets, Barking & Dagenham and Havering) and the Borough of Luton are home to more

than 400,000 people with South Asian heritage – a region which includes India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal.

Many thousands are passionate football fans, and both clubs have launched schemes to engage with those communities, provide pathways into football and, ultimately, to produce elite players and coaches of the future.

The Hatters and Hammers play a leading role in progressing the Premier League's South Asian Action Plan, with recent figures from the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) showing signs of progress in the area.

The number of South Asian men's professional footballers in England and Wales has risen for the second year in a row and there are 22 professional players with South Asian heritage aged 17 or over in England's top four leagues

this season, which is a 29% rise from 17 in 2022/23.

The overall percentage of South Asian professional players however remains low in England and Wales. There are around 5,000 professional footballers in the UK, with less than 1% with South Asian heritage. This compares with 9.3% of the overall UK population, who identify as Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh.

The participants of both clubs enjoyed sessions delivered by both Luton Town Community Trust staff and West Ham Academy staff at the London Marathon Community Track at London Stadium.

On the day, the participants were lucky enough to have current West Ham United players Angelo Ogbonna and Freddie Potts - younger brother of Town defender Dan Potts - as well as former Hammers centre-back Anton Ferdinand.

The players supported the delivery of the sessions, offering their expert advice and coaching points throughout delivery of sessions and matches.

Luton Town Community Trust Football Development Manager Alex Wallace said: "For us, it's the start of a new programme we're going to launch to increase South Asian participation and engagement in Luton, so this is a brilliant opportunity to bring a team down and mix in with West Ham, who have a very successful programme themselves.

"Kenilworth Road is in the middle of Bury Park in Luton, which is an area we are aiming to have much more engagement with as a Community Trust and hopefully we can support and find the under-represented talent that is there.

"It is about giving them the opportunity and creating that pathway for them. The goal is to have a player with South Asian heritage play for Luton Town's first team and that's why we're launching our programme, to give opportunities to those who haven't had them. That's the dream.

"When you walk through the town centre now, the first shirt you see is Luton Town. It's a very well-supported club and we've had a fantastic time over these past few years and long may that continue."

For more details on this scheme and all of the Luton Town Community Trust's programmes, follow @LTFC_Community on X, Luton Town FC Community Trust on Facebook or email community@lutontown.co.uk



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to find out more





2020 DEVELOPMENTS ACQUIRES HERITAGE BUILDING TO SECURE THE FUTURE OF LUTON'S ICONIC JAZZ CLUB

With the announcement that 2020 Developments are about to complete the acquisition of the historic Mill Yard site in the heart of Luton's cultural scene, the future of the town's much loved The Bear Club is secured – in its current location, and in its current format!

The Bear Club, in 2018 voted 'one of the top 25 jazz clubs in the world' by AllAboutJazz, was in severe danger of being lost or relocated until the football club's property division stepped in.

Town CEO Gary Sweet said: "When we learnt that the building was about to be sold to a buyer which meant The Bear would be left homeless, we simply could not stand by and let it happen. It means too much to the town, its endangered nightlife and its independent cultural spirit."

Michael Moran, 2020 Development's Chief Operating Officer, added: "The acquisition of the Mill Yard building, and safeguarding of the Bear Club, is very important in the wider context of our commitment to the regeneration of Luton's town centre.

"As we're soon to launch detailed plans for our exciting new stadium on the adjacent 20-acre Power Court site, and

with The Bear Club sitting between us, the prospering cultural quarter, the train station and alongside the new Stage development, this is the start of a new era for a long-neglected area of the town that's being brought back to brilliant new life. This location is a good investment for the club too, as we aim to fulfil the great potential of the whole area for our local and football communities."

This announcement comes after months of close dialogue with Bear Club owners Giles Willits and Neil Simmonds, who are both relieved and excited that the club is now secure.

The pair said in a statement: "The Bear Club is an important cultural asset for the town and we're utterly delighted that the new owner of the building is stepping in to safeguard the future of the club in its current venue. We very much look forward to working with them."

The future is bright for the Bear Club – and for Luton and beyond as perceptions of the town's profile continue to change for the positive, locally, nationally and internationally. Great music, a great new ground (and more!) on the way: the buzz around Luton is getting better and better.






DANGEROUS BEHAVIOUR HAS NO PLACE IN OUR GAME.

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- ✗ Smoke bombs and pyros
- ✗ 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.**



MEET THE FANS

WITH TOWN SUPPORTER STACEY SELLARS

How long have you supported Luton for?

I've supported Luton Town for 44 years. I first went in 1979 as my parents took me and my twin brother to our first match.

Where do you sit at home matches?

Main Stand block E

Who is your all-time favourite player and why?

Ricky Hill. His skill on the ball was breathtaking. I do think he should have some role at the club as he is a fantastic coach.

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

It means the world. It's in my family's blood.

What are your favourite memories of being a Luton fan?

I was 14 when we won the Littlewoods Cup so that was amazing, but staying up at Manchester City when Raddy Antic scored was special. I was nine and remember it clearly. My favourite memory though is when Kingsley Black scored the winner at Derby in 1990. We went bananas. I get goosebumps every time I see it online.

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

They know it's my passion so no, I don't get any fun made of. Most support Premier League clubs but never ever go!

Has it changed now that we have been in the Premier League?

Yes, people talk to me more about Luton now we are in the Premier League and know more about us.

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

It was pride. My feelings were excitement to see my team to compete with the best teams in the world.

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

It's been a good experience as everyone now talks about Luton on national radio and TV more than the lower leagues as people are suddenly interested in us. But saying that people comment on us that don't know us and don't understand us as a club. So good and bad.

What moments have you enjoyed the most this season?

First and foremost hearing the news that Tom Lockyer was alive and responding well after what happened at Bournemouth. The first win at Everton was fantastic and making Alan Shearer praise us after beating Newcastle after his comments in the first few weeks of the season.





FC24



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LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS' TRUST

End-of-season message from chair Tony Murray

Hello and welcome to the final Premier League game of the campaign.

We now know that barring something of a miracle, this will be the last match in the top flight for at least a season, as we get set to strive hard to return to a level which we have graced with such pride over the last nine months.

When we set out on the journey of climbing through the leagues when John Still ticked off the first hurdle ten years ago, the Premier League was still so far in the distance that we could never truly believe we would grace it, let alone compete in it as well as we have and made so many great memories a decade later.

Ultimately, it looks like we will come up just short in our overall quest to remain in the division, but as fans we can ask no more than we have been given by the players, staff and everyone involved in this fine club. They have given us a season we'll remember for a long time.

The season was celebrated at our presentation evening recently where a number of awards were handed out. I would like to congratulate Ross Barkley on being named the player of the season, an award he will receive at the end of the pre-game warm-up this afternoon due to illness meaning he couldn't join us on the night, and Thomas Kaminski for being given the honour of being the players' player of the season.



Two other moments stood out though. Firstly, myself and my fellow Trust board members chose to award the Kevin Catlin Memorial Trophy to the medical team at this club for the amazing efforts they put in at Bournemouth back in December.

We also honoured Pelly Ruddock Mpanzu about whom the signing of the season award will be named after moving forward.

The evening was the culmination of another year of outstanding work by my fellow board members. Once again we get to the end of a season and I am an extremely proud chairman after overseeing the brilliant work my colleagues have

done this term.

We will continue to represent you, our members, to the best of our ability, by being your voice in meetings with 2020 and all issues within the wider game as ever.

Our voice is only as strong as our membership so if you are not yet a member of the Trust and would like to join you can do so via our website today.

Finally, inevitably at the end of a season this will be the final time we see some of this wonderful squad in a Town shirt. I would like to thank those who represent us for the last time for the incredible effort you have put in during your time at the club, taking us on a journey we'll never forget.

Enjoy the game and have a great summer.

COYH!

Tony



LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS' TRUST

...IN CONVERSATION WITH
GARY SWEET, CEO, LUTON TOWN.



THE BIG INTERVIEW PART TWO

Well, what a season it's been. We have so much to be proud of, and as Rob Edwards and Gary Sweet explained at the LTST Presentation Evening, the future is very bright for our club and our town. A big part of that future is of course the new ground at Power Court – and, as we mentioned in the Everton programme, Gary Sweet offered to answer questions about the subject that's close to every Hatters' heart for this last programme of the season. So, we sent out a snap questionnaire a week or so ago inviting questions to be asked – and with nearly 300 Trust members and fans responding, we certainly had a lot to talk about!

The largest number of questions asked, unsurprisingly, were about when we might expect to be taking our

seats at our new stadium. It's a major talking point for Town fans, especially as detailed planning submission is imminent, work is going on at the site and just a few days ago full plans for the rerouting of the River Lea were submitted.

"When will the building work start – and what has held it up?"

Gary Sweet: "Firstly may I just say that we completely understand certain frustrations and we are as anxious as anyone to get it done and it's not an easy question to answer. There are so many complexities with a project like this, in a location like this, and at a time like this including some outside of our control.

"But if we're looking at concrete facts – no pun intended – groundworks have already started and, in-sync with UKPN's targeted schedule on

the sub-station, piling is currently scheduled to start in the first half of 2025. That's the foundations being laid. After that you're looking at approximately a two-year build time. Construction of the stadium can begin before the sub-station move is finished and we won't need to wait for the residential development to start either. So that gives you some idea – targeting an opening for the 2027/28 season but must allow for test events and training and as it would be a nightmare to move mid-season we may be pushed to 2028/29.

“Yes, it's taking longer than we wanted it to take which bothers me more than anybody – but no one could have predicted the five years the country, indeed the world, has experienced and the huge impact on all our lives and plans and is still affecting markets.

Some of the issues you'll have heard about before, and for good reason – because they have affected every major development in the UK. Covid, Brexit, the war in Ukraine, massive interest rate rises, supply chains being hit and material costs rocketing sky high. The cost of everything has more-or-less doubled, so we've had to adapt and be agile. And then we have the matter of the UKPN substation being moved.

“UKPN have also been hit by those problems, so they've had to reschedule their programme too. That's totally beyond our control unfortunately and as the sub-station supplies power to the town, we can't just knock the thing down! It's all under way now, but the project is ridiculously complex so we're going to need to be patient. That won't stop us cracking on with the works

we can progress, including site levels and opening up the river and as the development sector begins to recover. **But you can have faith. It is happening, it always was. Be 100% sure of that.”**

Do you wish you'd picked a less complex site to build on?

GS: “We looked at more than 30 potential sites, and Power Court was the only option for us – despite the obvious complications, which we were fully aware of. Why? Because it's right at the heart of our town centre, it's where a football club should be, at the heart of its communities – that's what our club culture is all about. It's going to be our home for generations to come and we're committed to it being the best it can be, in the best location.”

There have been development delays beyond your control – has this period produced any positive benefits?

GS: “Yes, lots. The extra income from Premier League promotion has enabled us to go bigger, better, bolder. Originally it was to be a built in three phases, starting at 17,500 capacity – but now we're going straight to our maximum allowable capacity. And because we'll save time, material, money and upheaval avoiding that, we've really been able to enhance the design too, with some of those extra touches which make a real difference. Funding was always in place, though - we sold the land at Newlands at the optimum time and price in the logistics boom and the delays have enabled us to finely-tune the way we work to cut out layers of cost. As you know, we try to do things differently, and that applies to this too: we're not getting into the position that has damaged so many clubs – and developers – with debts related to new ground builds in the wrong location. Power Court should eventually be ➤



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debt-free with the income from the residential completion."

How will Power Court capture the unique nature and atmosphere of Kenilworth Road?

GS: "I love this question. We're absolutely committed to protecting our heritage – it's what makes us special now. Literally every little detail is being considered – we captured dozens of characteristics unique to Kenilworth Road that will help shape a uniqueness at Power Court. Proximity of seats to the pitch, the tunnel being offset, even the approach to the stadium – think of the journey between the terraced houses of Hazelbury and replace that with the river and apartment blocks landing you into a lively corner entrance – upgraded but sound familiar?"

Some quickfire questions...

What about the atmosphere?

GS: "This is mainly led by the acoustics which will be far better than we have now – right around the ground. The unique roof structure will retain its acoustic energy as long as fans can supply it. A lot of work is going into promoting this with design and materials."

Will people be able to sit together as they've always done?

GS: "We'll be ensuring that supporters will have a certain familiarity to their surroundings, absolutely. We'll also reflect the various characteristics of different parts of the ground – from the energy of G Block to the more dignified vibe of the David Preece Stand."

Will PC be used outside of match days? And will it be purely for football?

GS: "PC is all about the football, and we won't include anything that could compromise the intense atmosphere we want at our core. But we would be foolish not to design in technical capability that will enable us to use the stadium for other things too, be that concerts, boxing or carnival days."

What else will be on the site?

GS: "At the ground level of the residential there will be retail and food and beverage outlets and we're also including a multi-use indoor space that can be used as, for instance, a matchday fan zone, for events and exhibitions and so on. And there's the club museum and shop of course, plus cafes and bars."

Gary reassured us that all aspects of accessibility and transport are being fully considered and planned for, which answered many more questions. We haven't got space to include everything so let's end on this...

What will the ground be called, and will we have a say in that?

GS: "Again, we are committed to protecting our identity and heritage. Our current thinking is against selling naming rights. As for fans having a say, there will be consultation events and the Supporters' Trust and Hatters Heritage will be intrinsic to naming of stands. So, if you want to be involved, join the Trust – who sponsor HH – and have a voice in it all."

Many thanks to Gary for his time and apologies that not everyone's questions could be asked. Here's to the future and to Power Court. Keep an eye on our social media and emails – and encourage your family and fellow fans to join the Trust. Especially those youngsters who will soon be filling Power Court!

To join the trust, visit www.lutontownsupporterstrust.com and click on Become A Member.



LUTON TOWN BUSINESS PARTNERS





WHO'S YOUR PREMIER LEAGUE TEAM?

As our first season back in the top-flight comes to an end it's the perfect time to look back on the season gone at highlights and memories made along the way.

I personally have managed to get to 34 league games this season including today and it's been an amazing season to watch as a fan and definitely one of my favourites ever and I am extremely proud of everyone at the club.

We started the season on the south coast as we faced Brighton and Hove Albion. We lost 4-1 but there were plenty of positive takeouts from it, such as scoring our first Premier League goal. In early September, we hosted our first ever Premier League match after ground renovations. We lost 2-1 to West Ham but Mads Andersen scored our first home Premier League goal.

We picked up our first point of the season in a 1-1 home draw with Wolves before getting our first ever Premier League win. First-half goals from Tom Lockyer and Carlton Morris were enough to get the win over Everton at Goodison Park. It was a special day.

In October, we travelled to the City Ground to face Nottingham Forest. We went 2-0 down but Chiedozie Ogbene pulled on back late on before an even later equaliser from Elijah Adebayo earned us a point.

Luton had a special night under the lights in November against Liverpool. A valiant performance saw the Hatters pick up a point. An 80th-minute goal from Tahith Chong put us ahead before a late goal from Luis Diaz earned the Reds a share of the spoils.

We then picked up our first home win of the season after beating Crystal Palace 2-1. Teden Mengi and Jacob Brown got the goals as we got our second league win of the campaign.

In December, we took a half-time lead against Manchester City but were later

beaten. Two days before Christmas, we picked up a big 1-0 win over Newcastle after Andros Townsend scored the winner against his former club. His celebration was a touching moment honouring our captain Tom Lockyer who was recovering after suffering a cardiac arrest the week before at Bournemouth.

This was followed with a 3-2 win at Bramall Lane on Boxing Day. A first half goal from Alfie Doughty was cancelled out as we trailed 2-1 after 70 minutes. Two late own goals saw us pick up another three points, however.

We then picked up a late point at Turf Moor thanks to Carlton Morris' header in the 92nd minute. Perhaps the highlight of our entire season was when we beat Brighton 4-0 under the lights in January. Two goals in three minutes before going on to score four (including an Elijah Adebayo hat-trick) saw Luton pick up a remarkable win.


The Hatters then travelled to St James' Park for another big game. Luton went 4-2 up before drawing 4-4 in another sensational game involving Rob Edwards' side.

A rough patch of form was to follow due to a long injury list, but the Hatters did not stop fighting. This was proved in the match away against Crystal Palace when out of nothing, Cauley Woodrow scored an excellent goal with the last touch of the game to steal a point at Selhurst Park.

A home point against Forest was also a fine moment but a 2-1 win over AFC Bournemouth and comeback was brilliant. Jordan Clark and Morris got the goals to secure the win. A draw with Everton wasn't quite enough as it now appears our fate is essentially sealed.

As our season ends in probable relegation, we may be down, but we are not out. We have had some good days and bad, but this squad has proved what we are worth and has made our mark. Let's enjoy it today!

That's me signing off for the season. It's been some season as a Hatter! See you next year!

COYH! 

Words by Zac Neal

2018/19
League One
Champions



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



2020/21
12th, Championship



2021/22
6th, Championship



2022/23
Promoted to the
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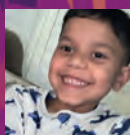
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JUNIOR HATTERS TODAY'S MASCOTS



Zakariya Koyes

Age: 7

Hobbies: Football, Computer Games

Favourite Player: Elijah Adebayo



Nathan Owens

Age: 9

Hobbies: Watching football and playing in goal for EB Lions and our very own development centre

Favourite Player: Thomas Kaminski



Oliver Darvall

Age: 11

Hobbies: Playing football, watching Luton

Favourite Player: Ross Barkley/ Carlton Morris



Lewis Salmon

Age: 12

Hobbies: Football, Table Tennis, Cricket, Hockey, Swimming

Favourite Player: Ross Barkley / Thomas Kaminski



James Dooley

Age: 7

Hobbies: Football and Tennis

Favourite Player: Chiedozie Ogbene



Leah Meenan

Age: 7

Hobbies: Beavers, Swimming, Brownies

Favourite Player: Carlton Morris



Conall Meenan

Age: 10

Hobbies: Playing football for stopsley sharks and swimming

Favourite Player: Ross Barkley



Harrison King

Age: 9

Hobbies: Football, Cricket

Favourite Player: Carlton Morris & Ross Barkley



Jessica Sweet

Age: 11

Hobbies: Drama

Favourite Player: Alfie Doughty and Luke Berry



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. Thomas Kaminski has made more saves than any other goalkeeper in the Premier League – but how many has he made?
2. Which player has made more assists than any other player in the Premier League this season (with 12)?
3. Which club lost twice at Wembley in the space of seven days last week?
4. Crawley beat Milton Keynes to reach the League 2 play-off final last week but what was the aggregate semi-final score?
5. Which Luton player was the last to play every single minute of a season?
6. Steve McNulty made his Luton debut against which club in 2013?
7. Which player has hit the woodwork the most times this season in the Premier League, and how many times?
8. How many red cards have the Town had so far this season?
9. Which club used to play their home games at Vetch Field?
10. How many times have the Hatters been promoted to the top-flight?

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

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

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

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





Premier League

ROUND-UP

Manchester City are one victory away from making history after their two wins this past week – at Fulham and Tottenham – put them in pole position to win an unprecedented fourth successive title.

Pep Guardiola's side know three points this afternoon at home against West Ham will make it four championships in a row – a feat yet to be accomplished by a team in England.

Arsenal remain in the hunt should City slip up against the Hammers. Mikel Arteta's side kept up their hopes with a 1-0 win at Manchester United on Sunday and face Everton at the Emirates Stadium this afternoon.

Liverpool are assured of third place going into Jurgen Klopp's final match in charge of the Reds against Wolves at Anfield, and next season they will be joined in the Champions League by Aston Villa. The two sides played out an entertaining 3-3 draw at Villa Park last Monday.

European football can still be obtained by several clubs from fifth to eighth spot, with Tottenham in pole position to finish in fifth place despite the defeat against Manchester City.

Newcastle and Chelsea have both ended the season with a flourish and will be aiming to continue that next season.

The Town's defeat at West Ham has all but sealed our fate – unless we earn a comprehensive result and Nottingham Forest are on the end of a heavy defeat in their final fixture of the campaign at Burnley.



The Claret's relegation was confirmed last week after defeat at Spurs and Vincent Kompany's side will also join Sheffield United in the Championship next term.

Two sides the relegated teams won't face in the second tier next season are Leicester and Ipswich following their promotions to the top-flight. Leicester bounced back as champions after relegation 12 months ago while the Tractor Boys earned remarkable back-to-back promotions after being in League One last season.

Premier League

| # | Team | Pl | W | D | L | F | A | GD | Pts |
|----|--------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | Manchester City | 37 | 27 | 7 | 3 | 93 | 33 | 60 | 88 |
| 2 | Arsenal | 37 | 27 | 5 | 5 | 89 | 28 | 61 | 86 |
| 3 | Liverpool | 37 | 23 | 10 | 4 | 84 | 41 | 43 | 79 |
| 4 | Aston Villa | 37 | 20 | 8 | 9 | 76 | 56 | 20 | 68 |
| 5 | Tottenham Hotspur | 37 | 19 | 6 | 12 | 71 | 61 | 10 | 63 |
| 6 | Chelsea | 37 | 17 | 9 | 11 | 75 | 62 | 13 | 60 |
| 7 | Newcastle United | 37 | 17 | 6 | 14 | 81 | 60 | 21 | 57 |
| 8 | Manchester United | 37 | 17 | 6 | 14 | 55 | 58 | -3 | 57 |
| 9 | West Ham United | 37 | 14 | 10 | 13 | 59 | 71 | -12 | 52 |
| 10 | Brighton and Hove Albion | 37 | 12 | 12 | 13 | 55 | 60 | -5 | 48 |
| 11 | Bournemouth | 37 | 13 | 9 | 15 | 53 | 65 | -12 | 48 |
| 12 | Crystal Palace | 37 | 12 | 10 | 15 | 52 | 58 | -6 | 46 |
| 13 | Wolverhampton Wanderers | 37 | 13 | 7 | 17 | 50 | 63 | -13 | 46 |
| 14 | Fulham | 37 | 12 | 8 | 17 | 51 | 59 | -8 | 44 |
| 15 | Everton * | 37 | 13 | 9 | 15 | 39 | 49 | -10 | 40 |
| 16 | Brentford | 37 | 10 | 9 | 18 | 54 | 61 | -7 | 39 |
| 17 | Nottingham Forest ** | 37 | 8 | 9 | 20 | 47 | 66 | -19 | 29 |
| 18 | Luton Town | 37 | 6 | 8 | 23 | 50 | 81 | -31 | 26 |
| 19 | Burnley | 37 | 5 | 9 | 23 | 40 | 76 | -36 | 24 |
| 20 | Sheffield United | 37 | 3 | 7 | 27 | 35 | 101 | -66 | 16 |

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

** Nottingham Forest deducted four points following a breach of the Premier League's Profitability and Sustainability Rules. That decision is currently under appeal (4pts).

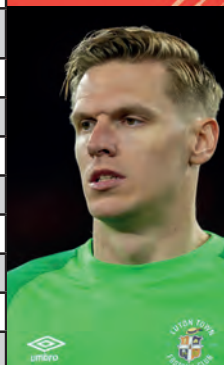
A man with a beard and sunglasses stands on a grassy field. He is wearing a red and white polo shirt with the word 'PERCIVAL' in large red letters, red shorts, white socks, and black loafers. The background shows a grassy field with soccer goals and trees under a cloudy sky.

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PLAYER STATISTICS

| | 2023/24 SEASON | | | | | | | | | | | CAREER | |
|----------------------|----------------|------|----|------|-----|---|-------|------|-------|---|---|--------|----|
| | LEAGUE | | | CUP | | | TOTAL | | CARDS | | | TOTAL | |
| | APPS | | G | APPS | | G | APPS | G | | | | APPS | G |
| Elijah Adebayo | 15 | (11) | 10 | 3 | (2) | 0 | 18 | (13) | 10 | 1 | 0 | 140 | 42 |
| Mads Andersen | 4 | (4) | 1 | 2 | (0) | 0 | 6 | (4) | 1 | 1 | 0 | 10 | 1 |
| Ross Barkley | 30 | (2) | 5 | 4 | (1) | 0 | 34 | (3) | 5 | 6 | 0 | 37 | 5 |
| Amari'i Bell | 21 | (0) | 0 | 4 | (2) | 0 | 25 | (2) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 124 | 2 |
| Luke Berry | 2 | (15) | 2 | 2 | (1) | 0 | 4 | (16) | 2 | 2 | 0 | 184 | 26 |
| Jacob Brown | 12 | (7) | 2 | 1 | (2) | 1 | 13 | (9) | 3 | 5 | 0 | 22 | 3 |
| Reece Burke | 20 | (2) | 0 | 3 | (1) | 0 | 23 | (3) | 0 | 6 | 0 | 83 | 4 |
| Tahith Chong | 19 | (13) | 4 | 4 | (1) | 1 | 23 | (14) | 5 | 5 | 0 | 37 | 5 |
| Jordan Clark | 13 | (9) | 1 | 2 | (1) | 2 | 15 | (10) | 3 | 5 | 0 | 136 | 12 |
| Alfie Doughty | 33 | (3) | 1 | 6 | (0) | 1 | 39 | (3) | 2 | 5 | 0 | 77 | 4 |
| Ryan Giles | 5 | (6) | 0 | 2 | (1) | 0 | 7 | (7) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0 |
| Daiki Hashioka | 5 | (4) | 0 | 0 | (1) | 0 | 5 | (5) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Joe Johnson | 0 | (1) | 0 | 1 | (2) | 0 | 1 | (3) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| Issa Kabore | 21 | (3) | 0 | 0 | (2) | 0 | 21 | (5) | 0 | 7 | 0 | 26 | 0 |
| Thomas Kaminski | 37 | (0) | 0 | 0 | (0) | 0 | 37 | (0) | 0 | 3 | 0 | 37 | 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 | 15 | (1) | 1 | 2 | (0) | 0 | 17 | (1) | 1 | 3 | 0 | 18 | 1 |
| Teden Mengi | 27 | (2) | 1 | 5 | (0) | 0 | 32 | (2) | 1 | 4 | 0 | 34 | 1 |
| Carlton Morris | 31 | (6) | 10 | 4 | (1) | 0 | 35 | (7) | 10 | 3 | 0 | 93 | 30 |
| Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu | 11 | (15) | 0 | 3 | (2) | 0 | 14 | (17) | 0 | 1 | 0 | 401 | 23 |
| Marvelous Nakamba | 13 | (0) | 0 | 0 | (1) | 0 | 13 | (1) | 0 | 5 | 0 | 34 | 0 |
| Zack Nelson | 0 | (2) | 0 | 0 | (0) | 0 | 0 | (2) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Chiedozie Ogbene | 19 | (10) | 4 | 5 | (1) | 1 | 24 | (11) | 5 | 1 | 0 | 35 | 5 |
| Fred Onyedinma | 4 | (4) | 0 | 0 | (0) | 0 | 4 | (4) | 0 | 1 | 0 | 60 | 3 |
| Gabriel Osho | 20 | (0) | 2 | 2 | (0) | 0 | 22 | (0) | 2 | 2 | 0 | 84 | 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 | 14 | (12) | 1 | 1 | (3) | 0 | 15 | (15) | 1 | 1 | 0 | 30 | 1 |
| Cauley Woodrow | 2 | (21) | 1 | 3 | (2) | 2 | 5 | (23) | 3 | 2 | 0 | 63 | 6 |



EVERY MINUTE!

Congratulations to goalkeeper Thomas Kaminski, who was named players' player of the year by his teammates. The Belgian is the only Town player to have played every single minute in the Premier League this season.

2023/24 FIXTURES & RESULTS

| DATE | OPPOSITION | KO | POS | SCORE | STARTING XI | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------------|---------|------|-------|-------------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| SAT AUG 12 | BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION | 3PM | A 18 | L1-4 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | GILES | ANDERSEN | LOCKYER | BELL |
| FRI AUG 25 | CHELSEA | 8PM | A 19 | L0-3 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | GILES | BURKE | LOCKYER | BELL |
| TUE AUG 29 | GILLINGHAM (CC) | 7.45PM | H - | W3-2 | KRUL | DOUGHTY | GILES | ANDERSEN | LOCKYER | BELL |
| FRI SEP 1 | WEST HAM UNITED | 8PM | H 19 | L1-2 | KAMINSKI | DOUGHTY | GILES | BURKE | ANDERSEN | BELL |
| SAT SEP 16 | FULHAM | 3PM | A 20 | L0-1 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | BELL | BURKE | LOCKYER | ANDERSEN |
| SAT SEP 23 | WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS | 3PM | H 18 | D1-1 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | DOUGHTY | BURKE | LOCKYER | BELL |
| TUE SEP 26 | EXETER CITY (CC) | 7.45PM | A - | L0-1 | KRUL | DOUGHTY | GILES | MENGI | ANDERSEN | JOHNSON |
| SAT SEP 30 | EVERTON | 3PM | A 17 | W2-1 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | DOUGHTY | BURKE | LOCKYER | BELL |
| SAT OCT 3 | BURNLEY | 7.30PM | H 17 | L1-2 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | DOUGHTY | MENGI | LOCKYER | BELL |
| SAT OCT 7 | TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR | 12.30PM | H 17 | L0-1 | KAMINSKI | BURKE | DOUGHTY | ANDERSEN | LOCKYER | OGBENE |
| SAT OCT 21 | NOTTINGHAM FOREST | 3PM | A 17 | D2-2 | KAMINSKI | BURKE | DOUGHTY | MENGI | LOCKYER | OGBENE |
| SUN OCT 29 | ASTON VILLA | 2PM | A 18 | L1-3 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | DOUGHTY | MENGI | LOCKYER | OSHO |
| SUN NOV 5 | LIVERPOOL | 4.30PM | H 17 | D1-1 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | DOUGHTY | MENGI | LOCKYER | OSHO |
| SAT NOV 11 | MANCHESTER UNITED | 3PM | A 18 | L0-1 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | DOUGHTY | MENGI | LOCKYER | OSHO |
| SAT NOV 25 | CRYSTAL PALACE | 3PM | H 17 | W2-1 | KAMINSKI | DOUGHTY | BELL | MENGI | LOCKYER | OSHO |
| SAT DEC 2 | BRENTFORD | 3PM | A 17 | L1-3 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | BELL | MENGI | LOCKYER | OSHO |
| TUE DEC 5 | ARSENAL | 8.15PM | H 17 | L3-4 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | DOUGHTY | MENGI | BELL | OSHO |
| SUN DEC 10 | MANCHESTER CITY | 2PM | H 18 | L1-2 | KAMINSKI | DOUGHTY | GILES | MENGI | LOCKYER | BELL |
| SAT DEC 23 | NEWCASTLE UNITED | 3PM | H 18 | W1-0 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | DOUGHTY | MENGI | OSHO | BELL |
| TUE DEC 26 | SHEFFIELD UNITED | 3PM | A 18 | W3-2 | KAMINSKI | DOUGHTY | GILES | MENGI | OSHO | BELL |
| SAT DEC 30 | CHELSEA | 12.30PM | H 18 | L2-3 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | DOUGHTY | MENGI | OSHO | BELL |
| SUN JAN 7 | BOLTON WANDERERS (FAC3) | 2PM | H - | D0-0 | KRUL | OGBENE | DOUGHTY | MENGI | OSHO | BELL |
| FRI JAN 12 | BURNLEY | 7.45PM | A 18 | D1-1 | KAMINSKI | OGBENE | DOUGHTY | MENGI | OSHO | BELL |
| TUE JAN 16 | BOLTON WANDERERS (FAC3R) | 7.45PM | A - | W2-1 | KRUL | OGBENE | DOUGHTY | MENGI | OSHO | BURKE |
| SAT JAN 27 | EVERTON (FAC4) | 3PM | A - | W2-1 | KRUL | OGBENE | DOUGHTY | BURKE | MENGI | BELL |
| TUE JAN 30 | BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION | 7.45PM | H 17 | W4-0 | KAMINSKI | OGBENE | DOUGHTY | BURKE | MENGI | BELL |
| SAT FEB 3 | NEWCASTLE UNITED | 3PM | A 17 | D4-4 | KAMINSKI | OGBENE | DOUGHTY | OSHO | MENGI | BELL |
| SAT FEB 10 | SHEFFIELD UNITED | 3PM | H 17 | L1-3 | KAMINSKI | OGBENE | DOUGHTY | BURKE | OSHO | BELL |
| SUN FEB 18 | MANCHESTER UNITED | 4.30PM | H 18 | L1-2 | KAMINSKI | OGBENE | DOUGHTY | MENGI | OSHO | BELL |
| WED FEB 21 | LIVERPOOL | 7.30PM | A 18 | L1-4 | KAMINSKI | OGBENE | DOUGHTY | OSHO | MENGI | BELL |
| TUE FEB 27 | MANCHESTER CITY (FAC5) | 8.00PM | H - | L2-6 | KRUL | OGBENE | DOUGHTY | BURKE | MENGI | BELL |
| SAT MAR 2 | ASTON VILLA | 5.30PM | H 18 | L2-3 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | DOUGHTY | BURKE | MENGI | BELL |
| SAT MAR 9 | CRYSTAL PALACE | 3PM | A 18 | D1-1 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | DOUGHTY | BURKE | MENGI | OSHO |
| WED MAR 13 | AFC BOURNEMOUTH | 7.30PM | A 18 | L3-4 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | DOUGHTY | BURKE | MENGI | HASHIOKA |
| SAT MAR 16 | NOTTINGHAM FOREST | 3PM | H 18 | D1-1 | KAMINSKI | OGBENE | DOUGHTY | BURKE | MENGI | KABORÉ |
| SAT MAR 30 | TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR | 3PM | A 18 | L1-2 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | DOUGHTY | BURKE | MENGI | MPANZU |
| WED APR 3 | ARSENAL | 7.30PM | A 18 | L0-2 | KAMINSKI | ONYEDINMA | DOUGHTY | KABORÉ | MENGI | HASHIOKA |
| SAT APR 6 | AFC BOURNEMOUTH | 3PM | H 18 | W2-1 | KAMINSKI | HASHIOKA | DOUGHTY | KABORÉ | MENGI | BURKE |
| SAT APR 13 | MANCHESTER CITY | 3PM | A 18 | L1-5 | KAMINSKI | ONYEDINMA | DOUGHTY | BURKE | HASHIOKA | BERRY |
| SAT APR 20 | BRENTFORD | 3PM | H 18 | L1-5 | KAMINSKI | KABORÉ | DOUGHTY | BURKE | MENGI | OSHO |
| SAT APR 27 | WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS | 3PM | A 18 | L1-2 | KAMINSKI | HASHIOKA | DOUGHTY | BURKE | MENGI | OSHO |
| FRI MAY 3 | EVERTON | 8PM | H 18 | D1-1 | KAMINSKI | ONYEDINMA | DOUGHTY | BURKE | MENGI | OSHO |
| SAT MAY 11 | WEST HAM UNITED | 3PM | A 18 | L1-3 | KAMINSKI | ONYEDINMA | DOUGHTY | BURKE | MENGI | OSHO |
| SUN MAY 19 | FULHAM | 4PM | H | | | | | | | |

SUPPORT OUR CHARITY OF THE YEAR

Our charity of the year NOAH will be around the ground this afternoon with a bucket collection to raise funds to help those less fortunate across Luton and Central Bedfordshire.

NOAH work across Luton and Central Bedfordshire with individuals who are sleeping rough on the street, in car parks, under bridges or in abandoned, derelict buildings with the aim to help people off the street, to encourage engagement with the wider NOAH services and to access safe accommodation.

All fundraising and donations go directly toward continuing their vital services. This season, we have supported NOAH with various activations, most notably with our fan engagement officer Lisa McEvoy taking on a 12-day trek in Madagascar and fellow supporter Mark Crowther cycling to every away match.

We have also provided donations of football boots for the five-a-side team that was being set up at NOAH, donating the gate money for the open training session at Kenilworth Road, raising funds through the annual Andy King Memorial golf day, provided a space at Power Court for Bunkabins, which provide shelter for people experiencing homelessness over the winter months.

We made a clothing donation and organised a visit to the Park Street welfare centre from Rob Edwards and worked together to host a dinner in the Eric Morecambe Lounge with guest speakers and donated to the raffle and having this platform today for fundraising and raising awareness.

You can also donate directly to NOAH by scanning this QR code.

Thank you for your support!





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

| SUBSTITUTES | | | | | | ATT | AWAY |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|---|--------|-------|
| NAKAMBA | CHONG | MPANZU | MORRIS ❖ | ADEBAYO | SHEA, FRANCIS-CLARKE, BERRY, CAMPBELL, DOUGHTY, BROWN, MCATEE, OGBENE, WOODROW | 31,872 | 3,001 |
| NAKAMBA | CHONG | BARKLEY | MORRIS | ADEBAYO | DOUGHTY, ANDERSEN, RUDDOCK-MPANZU, OGBENE, BROWN, KRUL, BERRY, WOODROW, JOHNSON | 39,893 | 3,054 |
| MPANZU | BERRY | WOODROW ❖ | OGBENE | BROWN ❖ | SHEA, BURKE, JOHNSON, KABORE, BARKLEY, CHONG, NAKAMBA, ADEBAYO, MORRIS | 9,468 | 1,058 |
| NAKAMBA | CHONG | BARKLEY | MORRIS | ADEBAYO | KRUL, BERRY, BROWN, FRANCIS-CLARKE, JOHNSON, KABORE, MPANZU, OGBENE, WOODROW | 10,802 | 1,151 |
| NAKAMBA | CHONG | LOKONGA | MORRIS | BROWN | KRUL, ADEBAYO, BERRY, DOUGHTY, GILES, MENGI, MPANZU, OGBENE, WOODROW | 24,467 | 2,701 |
| NAKAMBA | LOKONGA | OGBENE | MORRIS ❖ | BROWN | KRUL, ADEBAYO, ANDERSEN, BERRY, CHONG, GILES, MENGI, MPANZU, WOODROW | 10,893 | 1,091 |
| MPANZU | CHONG | BERRY | WOODROW | ADEBAYO | SHEA, OGBENE, MORRIS, KABORE, BURKE, BROWN, BELL, BURGER, LUKER | 7,360 | 708 |
| NAKAMBA | MPANZU | OGBENE | MORRIS ❖ | BROWN | KRUL, ANDERSEN, BERRY, WOODROW, ADEBAYO, CHONG, MENGI, GILES, JOHNSON | 39,289 | 2,976 |
| NAKAMBA | MPANZU | OGBENE | MORRIS | BROWN | KRUL, ANDERSEN, BERRY, BURKE, WOODROW, ADEBAYO ❖, CHONG, GILES, JOHNSON | 10,918 | 1,126 |
| NAKAMBA | MPANZU | ADEBAYO | MORRIS | BROWN | KRUL, BARKLEY, BERRY, WOODROW, KABORE, CHONG, MENGI, GILES, JOHNSON | 10,929 | 1,151 |
| NAKAMBA | MPANZU | CHONG | MORRIS | BROWN | KRUL, OSHO, BARKLEY, WOODROW, ADEBAYO ❖, KABORE, GILES, TOWNSEND, LUKER | 29,361 | 2,893 |
| NAKAMBA | BARKLEY | OGBENE | MORRIS | BROWN | KRUL, WOODROW, ADEBAYO, CHONG, MPANZU, GILES, TOWNSEND, JOHNSON, LUKER | 41,785 | 3,005 |
| NAKAMBA | BARKLEY | OGBENE | MORRIS | TOWNSEND | KRUL, ADEBAYO, CHONG ❖, MPANZU, CLARK, BROWN, GILES, NELSON, LUKER | 11,049 | 1,151 |
| NAKAMBA | BARKLEY | OGBENE | MORRIS | TOWNSEND | KRUL, ADEBAYO, BERRY, CHONG, MPANZU, CLARK, BROWN, GILES, NELSON | 73,599 | 3,008 |
| MPANZU | BARKLEY | OGBENE | MORRIS | TOWNSEND | KRUL, BERRY, ADEBAYO, CHONG, CLARK, BROWN ❖, GILES, NELSON, LUKER | 11,029 | 1,149 |
| MPANZU | BARKLEY | OGBENE | MORRIS | CHONG | KRUL, ADEBAYO, CLARK, BROWN ❖, GILES, TOWNSEND, JOHNSON, NELSON | 17,075 | 1,725 |
| MPANZU | BARKLEY ❖ | BROWN | ADEBAYO | TOWNSEND | KRUL, OGBENE, BERRY, MORRIS, CHONG, CLARK, GILES, JOHNSON, NELSON | 11,112 | 1,151 |
| NAKAMBA | BARKLEY | BROWN | ADEBAYO ❖ | TOWNSEND | KRUL, ANDERSEN, BERRY, MORRIS, CHONG, MPANZU, CLARK, LOKONGA, JOHNSON | 11,047 | 1,151 |
| LOKONGA | BARKLEY | BROWN | ADEBAYO | TOWNSEND ❖ | KRUL, ANDERSEN, OGBENE, MORRIS, WOODROW, CHONG, MPANZU, CLARK, GILES | 11,042 | 1,145 |
| LOKONGA | BARKLEY | BROWN | ADEBAYO | TOWNSEND | KRUL, SHEA, ANDERSEN, OGBENE, BERRY, MORRIS, WOODROW, CHONG, MPANZU | 31,041 | 2,362 |
| LOKONGA | BARKLEY ❖ | BROWN | ADEBAYO ❖ | TOWNSEND | KRUL, ANDERSEN, OGBENE, MORRIS, WOODROW, CHONG, MPANZU, CLARK, GILES | 11,041 | 1,151 |
| LOKONGA | BARKLEY | CHONG | ADEBAYO | MORRIS | KAMINSKI, ANDERSEN, BERRY, WOODROW, KABORE, MPANZU, CLARK, GILES, TOWNSEND | 10,739 | 1,609 |
| LOKONGA | BARKLEY | CLARK | ADEBAYO | TOWNSEND | KRUL, POTTS, BERRY, MORRIS ❖, WOODROW, CHONG, BURKE, MPANZU, GILES | 20,155 | 1,432 |
| BARKLEY | MPANZU | CLARK | MORRIS | CHONG ❖ | KAMINSKI, POTTS, BERRY, WOODROW, ADEBAYO, BROWN, GILES, BELL, TOWNSEND | 10,878 | 751 |
| LOKONGA | BARKLEY | TOWNSEND | ADEBAYO | MORRIS | KAMINSKI, SHEA, POTTS, BERRY, WOODROW, CHONG, MPANZU, JOHNSON, NELSON | 37,713 | 1,699 |
| LOKONGA | BARKLEY | CLARK | ADEBAYO | MORRIS | KRUL, POTTS, BERRY, WOODROW, CHONG, MPANZU, TOWNSEND, JOHNSON, NELSON | 10,994 | 1,044 |
| LOKONGA | BARKLEY ❖ | CLARK | ADEBAYO ❖ | MORRIS ❖ | KRUL, BERRY, WOODROW, KABORE, CHONG, BURKE, MPANZU, BROWN, TOWNSEND | 52,211 | 3,145 |
| LOKONGA | BARKLEY | CLARK | ADEBAYO | MORRIS | KRUL, BERRY, WOODROW, KABORE, CHONG, MENGI, MPANZU, BROWN, TOWNSEND | 11,138 | 1,350 |
| LOKONGA | BARKLEY | CHONG | WOODROW | MORRIS ❖ | KRUL, POTTS, BERRY, KABORE, BURKE, MPANZU, CLARK, TOWNSEND, NELSON | 11,438 | 1,389 |
| LOKONGA | BARKLEY | CHONG | WOODROW | MORRIS | KRUL, POTTS, BERRY, KABORE, MPANZU, BURKE, CLARK, TOWNSEND, NELSON | 59,896 | 2,505 |
| CLARK ❖ | BARKLEY | CHONG | WOODROW | MORRIS | SHEA, OSHO, MPANZU, HASHOKA, TOWNSEND, JOHNSON, NELSON, PIESOLD | 11,163 | 1,866 |
| CLARK | BARKLEY | CHONG ❖ | TOWNSEND | MORRIS ❖ | KRUL, SHEA, OGBENE, BERRY, WOODROW, MPANZU, HASHOKA, NELSON, PIESOLD | 11,594 | 1,358 |
| CLARK | BARKLEY | CHONG | OGBENE | MORRIS | KRUL, SHEA, BERRY, WOODROW ❖, MPANZU, HASHOKA, TOWNSEND, NELSON, LUKER, PIESOLD | 25,103 | 2,687 |
| CLARK | BARKLEY ❖ | CHONG | OGBENE ❖ | MORRIS | KRUL, SHEA, BERRY, WOODROW, MPANZU, TOWNSEND, NELSON, LUKER, PIESOLD, MARTINS | 11,198 | 1,313 |
| MPANZU | BARKLEY | CHONG | CLARK | MORRIS | KRUL, SHEA, BERRY, WOODROW, HASHOKA, TOWNSEND, NELSON, PIESOLD, MARTINS | 11,630 | 1,260 |
| BERRY | BARKLEY | CHONG ❖ | TOWNSEND | MORRIS | SHEA, KRUL, WOODROW, CLARK, HASHOKA, ONYEINIMMA, JOHNSON, NELSON, PIESOLD | 61,534 | 3,038 |
| MPANZU | BARKLEY | CLARK | TOWNSEND | MORRIS | KRUL, SHEA, BERRY, WOODROW, CHONG, JOHNSON, CHIGOZE, NELSON, PIESOLD | 60,262 | 3,003 |
| CLARK ❖ | BARKLEY | CHONG | TOWNSEND | MORRIS ❖ | KRUL, SHEA, BERRY, WOODROW, MPANZU, ONYEINIMMA, JOHNSON, NELSON, PIESOLD | 11,779 | 1,260 |
| BARKLEY ❖ | CLARK | CHONG | TOWNSEND | MORRIS | KRUL, SHEA, WOODROW, MPANZU, JOHNSON, HARRIS, CHIGOZE, NELSON, PIESOLD | 53,449 | 3,065 |
| LOKONGA | BARKLEY | CLARK | CHONG | MORRIS | KRUL, SHEA, BERRY, WOODROW, MPANZU, HASHOKA, TOWNSEND, ONYEINIMMA, JOHNSON | 11,817 | 1,314 |
| LOKONGA | BARKLEY | CLARK | CHONG | MORRIS ❖ | KRUL, SHEA, BERRY, WOODROW, ADEBAYO, MPANZU, TOWNSEND, ONYEINIMMA, JOHNSON | 31,531 | 3,012 |
| LOKONGA | BARKLEY | CHONG | ADEBAYO ❖ | MORRIS | KRUL, SHEA, BERRY, WOODROW, MPANZU, CLARK, HASHOKA, TOWNSEND, JOHNSON | 11,873 | 1,257 |
| LOKONGA ❖ | BARKLEY | CHONG | ADEBAYO | MORRIS | KRUL, OGBENE, BERRY, WOODROW, MPANZU, CLARK, HASHOKA, TOWNSEND, JOHNSON | 62,463 | 3,001 |

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

TOWN TEASERS ANSWERS:
1. 143. 2. Ollie Watkins. 3. Southall Moors. 4. 8-1. 5. Mark Tyler in 2013/14.
6. Barrow. 7. Darwin Nunez (9). 8. None. 9. Swansea. 10. Four times (1955, 1974, 1982, 2023).



HOLD THE BACK PAGE

Mike Simmonds. Luton News sports editor.

Well, it's been a season that not many thought they would ever get to witness, I certainly didn't anyway: Luton Town in the Premier League.

Yes it's only going to last one year, unless there is some kind of bonkers afternoon with goals flying in left, right and centre both at Kenilworth Road and Turf Moor today, but not even the most optimistic Hatters fan believes that will actually happen.

Apart from the lack of parking at top-flight grounds, it has been quite the campaign too, so time to hand out some awards.

Player of the Season: Yes, Ross Barkley has been absolutely incredible, producing some of the most unbelievable pieces of individual brilliance ever seen at Kenilworth Road, but if pushed, I'd have to go for Thomas Kaminski as mine. Luton knew they needed a top-class goalkeeper when going up against some of the best forwards in the world and boy did they find one.

Goal of the season: Tom Lockyer's tackle at Everton was a personal favourite, as was Luke Berry's to snatch a point against Forest. The noise when Tahith Chong's counter-attack against Liverpool found the net was quite brilliant, but for an actual strike, I'll go for Jordan Clark's first in the FA Cup against Manchester City. No-one was stopping that.

Assist of the season: It doesn't get much better than a block tackle for your team-mate to finish and that's exactly what Luke Berry did against AFC Bournemouth. Charging into a challenge as only he can, the ball rebounded through for Jordan Clark to pick out the bottom corner. Wonderful stuff.

Save of the season: Having made the most in the Premier League, then unsurprisingly there are plenty to select from, but maybe as it happened right in front of me, Thomas Kaminski's effort in preventing Dejan Kulusevski's shot from nestling into the bottom corner was I think what is described as a 'worldie'.

Skill of the season: Can't be anyone other than Ross Barkley can it? So many examples, particularly at Kenilworth Road, but the one that stands out was the backheeled pass through to team-mate Tahith Chong against Chelsea. Simply outstanding.

Best food: Something that all journalists like to judge is the pre-match meal served up before a game. Standards have been raised beyond belief this term and while Manchester City's pulled beef and Yorkshire pudding deserves a big mention, as does the gravy at AFC Bournemouth and Spurs' roasted carrots, the spread that was laid out by Chelsea at Stamford Bridge takes the gong. I didn't, but I'd have happily paid for it.

Best 180 seconds of the season: The opening moments against Brighton & Hove Albion couldn't have gone any better than anyone imagined, Elijah Adebayo and Chidozie Ogbene both finding the net in quick succession as the Seagulls were just blown away.

Best final whistle ovation: There have been wonderful receptions for the Hatters after every single game, and while Everton would usually stand out as it signalled Luton's first win back at this level, for anyone who was at Chelsea for the second game of the season, can't have failed to found what Town fans did at the final whistle as anything other than utterly spine-tingling.

Moment of the season: Again, plenty to pick out, from the ovation Tom Lockyer got when returning to Kenilworth Road, Luke Berry scoring a first ever Premier League goal, last-minute winners for Cauley Woodrow and Carlton Morris, but I'll go for the 2-1 success at Everton which saw Town earn a first victory of the season. The scenes of celebration and total jubilation at the end will live long in the memory.

Worst prediction of the season: Garth Crooks stating Luton would be relegated by Christmas. It's now 19th May and yes, it's only by a fingernail, but the Hatters are still clinging on.



THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH



sky sports



LUTON TOWN

1. JAMES SHEA
2. GABE OSHO
3. DAN POTTS
4. TOM LOCKYER
5. MADDS ANDERSEN
6. ROSS BARKLEY
7. CHIEDOZIE OGBENE
8. LUKE BERRY
9. CARLTON MORRIS
10. CAULEY WOODROW
11. ELIJAH ADEBAYO
12. ISSA KABORÉ
13. MARVELOUS NAKAMBA
14. TAHITH 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
32. FRED ONYEDINMA
38. JOE JOHNSON
43. ZACK NELSON
45. ALFIE DOUGHTY
46. JAYDEN LUKER
48. DOMINIC DOS SANTOS MARTINS



FULHAM

1. MAREK RODÁK
2. KENNY TETE
3. CALVIN BASSEY
4. TOSIN
6. HARRISON REED
7. RAÚL JIMÉNEZ
8. HARRY WILSON
9. ARMANDO BROJA
10. TOM CAIRNEY
11. ADAMA TRAORÉ
12. FODÉ BALLO-TOURÉ
13. TIM REAM
14. BOBBY DE CORDOVA-REID
17. BERND LENO
18. ANDREAS PEREIRA
19. RODRIGO MUNIZ
20. WILLIAN
21. TIMOTHY CASTAGNE
22. ALEX IWOBI
23. STEVEN BENDA
26. JOÃO PALHINHA
28. SAŠA LUKIĆ
31. ISSA DIOP
33. ANTONEE ROBINSON
36. ALEX BORTO