

## LUTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 2020 LTD

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The views in this programme are those of the  
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editor and/or Luton Town.

[WELCOME TO LUTON TOWN v FOREST GREEN ROVERS]

# WELCOME TO KENILWORTH ROAD



## THANK-YOU!

What a season it has been to be involved  
with Luton Town – and what a privilege it  
was to be on the pitch filming the players’  
celebrations when we made it over the  
line at Carlisle last Saturday!

The first of my final programme of the  
season thank-yous has to go to Nathan,  
Paul, Joaquin, Kev and all the players for  
delivering such fantastic football for us  
to report on this season, and for always  
co-operating with anything we ask of them  
media wise. Great people to be proud of.

It’s a familiar roll call, but I have to say  
thank you to the following people without  
whose help it would not be possible to  
produce This Is Our Town every home  
game: Charlie Hanson, Ed Smith, Viv  
Long, Ailish Gaughan, Siobhan Kos-  
Hodge, Bradley Dixon, Mike Hooker, Kevin

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around at the last minute, and Raj Koyes  
and his team at Barhams. Kevan Platt  
and John Buttler offer me great guidance  
and the benefit of their experience, and  
who could forget Roger Wash (I did last  
year!) who contributes so much historical  
content and is always on the end of the  
phone to confirm a Hatters fact.

Finally, hats off to you, the supporters, for  
backing your club in such huge numbers  
this season. See you in League One!

**STUART HAMMONDS – EDITOR**



# THE MANAGER

NATHAN JONES

**Good afternoon and welcome to Kenilworth Road for the final time this season – and what we can officially call a promotion party!**

We welcome Forest Green and their manager Mark Cooper, who I get on well with. Mark got them promoted last season from the Conference, which is a tough league to get out of, he's kept them in League Two this year by doing it his way, which shows bravery and courage.

He's received backing from his chairman as well and they'll be stronger for it next year. I wish everyone from Nailsworth an enjoyable afternoon, and most importantly, a safe journey back to the Cotswolds this evening.

What an afternoon it was up at Carlisle last Saturday, where two years of hard work culminated with the news coming through to us from 350 miles away in Devon that Crawley had held Exeter to a 2-2 draw, five minutes before the end of our game.

We learned from the disappointment of last year and we carried that feeling of total devastation from the Blackpool game, when we had all summer to think about it, with us all the way.

We strengthened, we identified areas that we knew we needed to improve on, and that included certain parts of

our play, and we did that. We believe we are a wonderful side and we've tried to win every game and not been negative in anything we've done.

I'd like to start by thanking the board, who have supported me in that process – as they have from day one. I work closely with Gary Sweet on a daily basis, and I'm so pleased to have delivered what we hope is only our first promotion together for those people who saved the club ten years ago.

The training ground we work in every day has helped us create an environment of learning and development, and I can't understate how important the facilities are that we have been provided with at The Brache. They are the envy of Championship clubs.

My staff have offered me unwavering support. They have all been magnificent, and you could see how much it meant to Paul Hart – he was in tears on Saturday because



ultimately, when you think of the fantastic career he's had, it was his first promotion. He's spent most of it in the top-flight though, and it's difficult to win promotion from there, so it was a massive thing for him.

I'm not going to name individual players, because every single one has been phenomenal for me this season. We've had five players in both EFL and PFA teams of the year – six different players in total – and we could have had so many more, because there aren't many from either of those teams that I think would get in the Luton Town team. That is testament to what we have here.

### FAITH

I want to thank my family and my fiancée, Laurie, because I've been a nightmare to live with for two years. My unparalleled desire and tunnel vision to get this club promoted, and to be the best manager I can be for this club, has given us problems. I've had to have a partner who is patient, understanding, humble and who has sacrificed her own life for the good of Nathan Jones, which ultimately has culminated in the good of Luton Town.

My faith has also played a big part. Everything I believe is God's will, so I praise the Lord for bringing me to the club, giving me the strength to do it and having the people here that have like-minded visions to what I do, and to prepare and work tirelessly for that.

Finally you, the fans, have been fantastic both travelling in such massive numbers away, and creating such a special atmosphere here at Kenilworth Road this season. I feel I've got a special relationship with you.

I knew about the heartache and the disappointments you've gone

through when I came, so I knew that in taking on the job, you take on that responsibility of getting a club back to where it should be. We are one phase into that and a lot of credit should go to John Still as well, because without getting out of the Conference, we'd never have the opportunity to get into League One.

From the moment I came in we've acted like a Championship club in terms of how we've gone about our training programme, our sports science, our recruitment – and we are now one step closer to the Championship.

There is no perfect way to win promotion, because when it happens it is just the most amazing feeling. We have deserved it and our style and how we've played has deserved it. It's more difficult to do it our way. Wigan manager Paul Cook texted me and he said 'It's more difficult to do it your way, and when you're expected to do it' – and he's right. He knows, because he had it with Portsmouth last year.

### TIRELESSLY

It's great to get it done because it's been our sole vision since I came to the club. All we've talked about is the step up and the progress, and that we do it safely. We haven't gone gung-ho. We haven't spent ridiculous money on players who have only got one promotion in them, and then we've got to get rid of them.

We've built and are constantly building blocks, and all the blocks that are in place are ready to go again. We had to work tirelessly through the learning curve and it's been tough again. Typical Luton, everyone says about it, in terms of the heartache we had to go through

last year, but it's all the foundations for where we are now.

If we had gone up last year, I don't think we'd be in the position we are now to really impact on League One. Everything happens for a reason – it's all God's will – and I'm immensely proud to lead the club. I love the club. It's in my blood. I'm immensely proud of everyone involved in the club.

### PROUD

I'm the manager, but it's about everyone involved and I'm proud when I watch my team, I'm proud when I see our club getting accolades and I'm proud when I see our club get mentioned because we are a special club.

This is the final home game and hopefully the final home game ever in League Two. It's been a nice little pit-stop for us in terms of development but, God willing, we'll never be playing League Two football at Kenilworth Road again – and we hope not to be playing it again full stop.

Enjoy the day today. We are going to be going all out to win the game because we want to finish the season strongly – and we know that with Accrington losing in midweek, there's still a chance of the title. So please get behind the lads as you always do. It's a wonderful time to be a Hatter and the future is bright for the club as a whole.

Thank you all for the role you have played!



# David Lloyd

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## THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

**Good afternoon everyone and welcome to Kenilworth Road for our final home game of the Sky Bet League Two campaign.**

Promotion has to be up there with the best feelings I have had in football. It's genuinely fantastic. To go from the disappointment of Blackpool to what we have done now, it's been a real journey that been a pleasure to be a part of. We've had some fantastic results, to finish the way we have is brilliant. This is my first promotion and it's been a long time coming.

When I joined the club in 2015 I was coming from League One after a four-year spell at Leyton Orient. I genuinely believed that we would be promoted at the first time of asking. But that's football, what you hope and expect to happen doesn't always work out.

This year, apart from some hiccups, it has played out near enough as well as we hoped, and we could still go up as champions. That's what we'll be aiming for, but when we look back at this season, we will remember the sevens, the eights, the fives and the fours – they're the games at the end of our careers we will look back on.

The coach journey home from Carlisle was very, very good. It was five hours. We had a lot to drink. A lot of sing-songs. Usually when you go to Carlisle you're wondering when the journey will end, but we didn't want it to stop. I am sure you have seen plenty of the videos on social media of it. It was also great to see Johnny Vegas having a great time with the supporters on the train home, one of the slightly odder things I have seen whilst I have been here!

There's been so many highlights this year – for me Wycombe was unbelievable. I got sent off the week before against Swindon, we were cruising in that game and because of me we got beaten 3-0. I got brought on as a sub at Adams Park – I scored and then we all know what happened next. It was ridiculous.

This year has been really testing in terms of expectation. We've done incredibly well I think. From the outset we had going up as our target, everyone knew that was what we were going for, as if we weren't already a big enough scalp for other teams!

# GREAT SCOTT

There's been pressure on this team for a couple of years, but the board and the coaching staff were incredibly well prepared. We recruited well – playing staff and behind the scenes – and it has paid dividends.

We challenged ourselves to change a lot of things this year, home form and improving from corners to name a few, and the numbers are telling. We want to finish this season with a bang, and that means carrying on that strong home form this afternoon against Forest Green. They're now safe after a midweek draw, but I have no doubt that Mark Cooper's side will be well up for it today.

All that is left to be said is thank you, for your terrific support. It's been a privilege to captain your club this season.




[GARY SWEET]



# FROM THE BOARDROOM

WITH CHIEF EXECUTIVE **GARY SWEET**

**Good afternoon and welcome back to Kenilworth Road for the final time this season – and the last time as a League Two club. What an afternoon, evening, weekend it proved to be at Carlisle... I think!**

You have to enjoy the good times as a football supporter and those scenes at the end of the game at Brunton Park, and afterwards outside the Griffin Pub and on the 1848 train out of Carlisle will live with us Hatters forever. And our newest fan, Johnny Vegas, I hope!

First of all let me welcome the players, officials and supporters of Forest Green Rovers, with whom we have enjoyed many a good battle over recent seasons in the Conference and, this year, in League Two. Thankfully they are safe from relegation and both sets of supporters can enjoy the party atmosphere this afternoon. Coincidentally, Rovers were the visitors here as our final home game opponents on the day we celebrated our last promotion back into the Football League four years ago.

It also gives me great pleasure to thank SsangYong for their sponsorship over recent seasons and welcome three new sponsors whose branding will be decorating three brand new kits for 2018-19.

A very warm welcome to our first new partner, Indigo Residential, who will be on the orange home shirt – which will be launched by our team in today's match and will also be available to buy in the club shop from half-time.

Further welcomes go to Star Platforms – who will sponsor our white away shirt – and Northern Gas & Power will sponsor the purple reserve kit.

Indigo will be familiar to many of you – an estate agency based in Leagrave who strive to “deliver results through excellence”, which is something we at Luton Town FC continuously aim for, too. Star Platforms – also a familiar local company – are based in Dunstable and provide nationwide hire access to scissor lifts, cherry pickers and low-level platforms.

We wanted more local companies that have a broader presence, which fits our culture here at the club – especially

as the people at Indigo and Star Platforms are Hatters supporters – and they couldn't be partnering with us at a better time, as we head into the third tier of English football.

Of course, that is where we were when 2020 was formed just over ten years ago, although our official custodianship started just before kick-off on the season when we started 30 points worse off than any other club in League Two, having led the club out of administration.

We all know the business side of the club was in an appalling state back then, and I am delighted to announce in this column today that one of the men who has helped turn that situation around, David Wilkinson, has agreed to be the club's new chairman. David was a founder member of 2020, the joint-first investor to embark the mission and who has worked tirelessly as and when required, not just as an elder statesman of the board of directors but also as a trusted and genuine friend to me.

Quite simply, I couldn't do my job without David lending his support (and enduring my occasional strops) and I'm thrilled to have him as our chairman going forward. He's a familiar face to everybody, a likeable face for everybody, and what it means practically, is that nothing much will change. David has been vice-chairman for several years and the promotion this season is a reward for him and all the board for how marvellous they have been.

I would like to say a huge thank you to every director for their support, not only financially but non-financially too, because without their ambition we wouldn't have got where we are both on the football side of the club and the property side of the business.

We enjoyed the celebrations up at Carlisle as much as any supporter, and of course, a huge part of us wanted to be over on the far side of the ground with the 1,400+ of you who had made our longest journey of the season to



be there when it happened. And how good did it feel to see our team promoted on the pitch, rather than sitting at home, for the only the second time since 1982?

The sheer volume of numbers following us this season has been phenomenal. To have an average of 1,251 at every away game is unheard of for League Two, especially given that we have sold out at many venues – and that figure will only rise with the 4,500 already sold for what will be another party to remember at Notts County next week. Let's not forget the record 7,500+ who travelled to Newcastle in the FA Cup. That was hairs on the back of the neck stuff.

Support here at home has been fantastic too. You have all played your part in embracing the style of football that we as Luton supporters have always wanted to see over the years, and that backing has noticeably made a difference with our results here compared to last season, finishing today with a game that was sold out a long time ago.

I have to thank the staff who commit their time, giving their all to help make possible what we see out on the pitch. The culture we have here at Kenilworth Road behind the scenes is similar to our playing culture. In business we are competitive and work hard, and we put an emphasis on all of those things. But we are a great team of people, which is what we have also aimed to have in the squad.

Every single one of those players have been phenomenal for us. We have witnessed some fantasy football this season – 8-2 over Yeovil, the sevens against Stevenage and Cambridge. Thank you to the team for delivering this promotion while maintaining a genuine human touch that saw three of our squad watching last Saturday's game with the supporters here in the Eric Morecambe Lounge

and producing one of the images of the whole celebrations for me, as Jack Senior, Lawson D'Ath and Harry Isted celebrated with Nicky Toone as if they were on the pitch with their team-mates. Well done boys!

The football staff have done wonderful work to produce this result too, from Mick Harford – adding to his legendary status at the club with another raft of fantastic signings – to assistant-manager Paul Hart, who we are so delighted to see win the first promotion of such a long and distinguished career.

You have all done us proud, but there is one man who has got us over the line, and that's our manager, Nathan Jones. When we first met Nathan in December 2015, we were taken aback by his drive and determination to do things a different way. The Luton way. Naturally, we had to be patient as he got his own players in who he knew could play the patient passing game he, and we, wanted. But his absolute dedication, commitment, love and passion for the game – and for this club – has been the difference. Thank you, Nathan, for delivering this first step on our journey and let's look forward to building the next one.

Which brings me nicely into the importance of this in the journey on which we want to take our town, not just the football club in the coming years. We are now out of the wilderness, knocking on the door of the big leagues. It's a huge era – and this is where we start.

We've got two years left of 12-year programme we set out to fulfil as 2020, and we've still got some work to do, but for the town this promotion is huge. With an increase in attendances, we are now going to need a new stadium more than ever. The need button gets pushed harder. It is much more than just a desire now. We talk about sporting success bringing huge amounts of goodwill and well-being around the local environment, and the town and county should embrace this success and hope for better things to come.

Imagine playing in the Championship at Power Court in 2021, which is still our aim. Let's hope we do the double this year!

Enjoy today's game, continue to enjoy the celebrations and please keep next Sunday, May 6th, free for an open-top bus celebration and civic reception in the town centre on which more details will follow in the coming days.

Come On You Rip Roaring Hatters!



**2018-19 HOME SHIRT**  
**ON SALE FROM HALF-TIME**  
**IN THE STADIUM CLUB SHOP**

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**LIMITED AVAILABILITY**

# MORE FROM THE BOARDROOM

## WITH YOUR NEW CHAIRMAN DAVID WILKINSON

**Good afternoon everyone and a particularly warm welcome to Kenilworth Road.**

Welcome to Officials, Players and fans from Forest Green Rovers, they were the visitors on the last game of our Conference promotion season.

What a week we've had! It was wonderful to be a part of the joyful celebrations in and on the way back from Carlisle. Tension was released and hard work paid off. We're back in League One where our journey began ten years ago. Thank you to everyone who has played their part, big or small, in overcoming the negatives and putting us back on the road to future success and long-term survival.

We're not secure yet. Our long-term future is inextricably linked to a new stadium and accompanying developments. As we've discussed before, the funding gap between top and bottom continues to widen so we must reduce our reliance on distributions from above as much as we can. The beauty of this from our perspective, as true Lutonians, is that what is good for us is also good for our Town.

If you have read Gary's notes you will see that I have been voted by the Board to be the new Chairman. I am touched and honoured by this offer, however, it won't really mean much change. As Vice Chairman I have chaired all Board Meetings, attended Football League meetings, sat on Committees, helped to host visitors and represent us at other Clubs and events. The only area I have not had to cover is the Press and media, in which, of course, Nick Owen was masterful.

A lot of you know me or of me, but for those that don't a little potted history.

My Mum and Dad were married in St Mary's Church.

I was born in Luton.

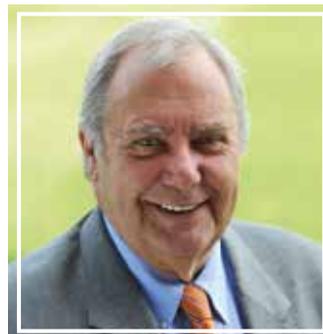
My Grandfather founded a fruit and veg wholesaling business between Bute St. and Williamson St. in the Town centre in the 1920s, which was forced out to Hitchin when the Arndale was built.

### DEVOTED

My first job in the late 60s was at Crew, Turnbull and Co. Accountants, in George St. West, behind the ABC Cinema. I then gave up accountancy and moved to the City for the rest of my working life.

My first game was at home to West Ham in the old first division in September 1958. We won 4-1 and I was gripped and devoted, from then on, even three relegations over the following ten years did nothing to dim my enthusiasm and commitment.

No other club could have given such a roller coaster ride. I counted nine promotions and nine relegations in the 60 years since I first became a fan. We've played in every division many times and can never be accused of being dull. Pain and pleasure in equal doses, and not just mental as discussed in the Griffin pub on Saturday night. I bunked off school quite a few times to see games and even the resulting punishment was no deterrent.



My involvement at a higher level began around 2006 when John Mitchell and David Pinkney tried to persuade me to invest with them. I didn't, but I learnt a little of what went on.

A short time after that I was contacted by Gary and Stephen and the rest is history. Myself and a few others were convinced by the 2020 Mission Statement, which set out the 12-year plan to rescue the Club and aim for the Championship and a new stadium by that date. We learnt from the Administrator that we were preferred bidders outside the front gate of Anfield before our cup replay against Liverpool, which we went on to lose 5-0. Probably the most tolerable defeat in our long and chequered history.

That's where it all started. We have a small, but diverse group of investors and directors, who are mostly Lutonians, all fans and get on very well. In 10 years we have never had a split Board decision.

I cannot express to you how proud I am to have been given this opportunity. Even now after all these years I can't believe it's not a dream.



## [BOARDROOM]



The Club has been a major part of my life and given me so much pleasure. I know and understand that it's the same for thousands of others. We have a huge responsibility to ensure the long-term future of the Club we love so much so that young kids who are so passionate now, just as I was 60 years ago, have the opportunity to have similar experiences when we are long gone.

There are some who undoubtedly would have rejoiced at our demise, but real community-based football clubs are about more than just Saturday afternoon. There are a lot of examples of Clubs that either no longer exist or are in a ruinous state, but the survival instinct is strong. Our spirit from the youngest fans all the way through to the Boardroom is inextinguishable.

We are in League One. I am on cloud nine.

LET'S CELEBRATE!

Enjoy the game.

Come On You Hatters

## MIKE HERRICK – DIRECTOR

**The abiding memory I have from our promotion season in 1968 – the first one I was to witness after 11 years as supporter which had encompassed a descent from the top Division all the way down to the bottom of the Football League – was of Bruce Rioch conducting the Oak Road crowd singing the name of manager Allan Brown.**

Now, 50 years later, I think the lasting memory I shall look back on from this season is that overwhelming feeling of achievement and relief on hearing the final whistle not at Carlisle, but at Exeter, which finally confirmed our promotion.

To be able to celebrate with fellow directors, Gary and David and some of the vice-presidents was a very special moment. The wild scenes of joy from the other side of the pitch looked quite spine-tingling and if I had one tiny regret it was that I was not over there in your midst going berserk with you (hopefully I won't make the same mistake next time!)

However, the euphoria was shortly to be ratcheted up a notch when we all joined in the celebrations at the Griffin pub in the town centre after the match (and on the train home) – such a feeling of togetherness and unbounded joy.

It's moments like these that make football what it is and, more

importantly, what makes Luton Town what we are.

This season will stand out as one of the more exhilarating of recent times. It all started for me in July in Slovenia during pre-season training. I feel so fortunate to be involved in this way. Living so far from Kenilworth Road I miss the day-to-day involvement with goings on at the club, so this is a great opportunity to really feel a part of the team.

It always turns out as hard work (for the players) and great fun in equal measures. During one session the players split into groups and are asked to set their targets for the season. This year, to my surprise, the minimum that they felt acceptable was not promotion by any means (which I might have been tempted to settle for). It was automatic promotion as an absolute requirement. You could sense the steely determination in everything they did that was to bring this ultimate prize.



As an aside, another thing they were asked was their ultimate dream achievement. They plumped for winning the FA Cup (I assume this was because at the time the World Cup was a little too far in the future to be considered!)

By the start of the season they were fully primed and champing at the bit, raring to go. It should have come as no surprise, then, that after just seven minutes of the first game at home to Yeovil we were to find ourselves 1-0 down! After all, isn't that the Luton way?

True, we did recover from this by thumping in eight goals of our own which brought a sense of unreality to proceedings and set the scene for an outstanding first half of the season. This was to lay an unbreachable

foundation for our eventual success, though our uncanny ability to lose occasionally to teams right at the bottom of the table was very much in keeping with our history and heritage.

There were many other highlights along the way. Two very late goals and a penalty save by Marek to earn a draw at Mansfield, and two stoppage-time goals to earn a last gasp win at Wycombe were cases in point.

And who could forget Olly Lee's goal from another postcode against Cambridge? I was on holiday for that one but I almost saw that ball in flight from my hammock in the Caribbean. Goal of the Season? I think not. More like Goal of the Century.

I can't finish these reflections without thanking certain people who through their efforts turned our hopes into reality. So to Nathan and Gary, all the

teams that they lead, the players, the backroom staff, in fact everyone connected with the club, a heartfelt 'thank you'.

And last but not most definitely not least, to you the fans, without whom none of this would be worth doing. Thank you one and all for making this a year to savour.

Mike

## BOB CURSON – DIRECTOR

Welcome to the management, players and supporters of Forest Green Rovers, we hope you enjoy your day as our guests at Kenilworth Road.

What a relief it is to know that we are promoted before our last home game of the season. One which will have a totally different outcome than that of last year when we lost in the play-off semi-final to Blackpool in the last minute. The feeling of disappointment and failure which lasted well into the summer have transpired into feelings of joy and happiness of the success and achievement in going up to League one.

These are the natural instincts that we all go through when supporting any team, the ups and downs and highs and lows during the season, the roller-coaster ride of emotions on a journey that keeps us coming back time and time again. Sometimes, I wonder if my heart can take the strain, especially as I am not getting any younger.

Talking of age, I was just seven years old when my dad took me to my first Luton game in 1958 – and the rest, as they say, is history.

I have supported the team through thick and thin ever since. Who would have thought that a youngster from humble beginnings, living in Hartley

Road and attending Old Bedford Road school, would be fortunate enough to become a Director and Shareholder of this wonderful football club. How lucky I am, and what a privilege it is.

I now have the opportunity of taking my grandson Josh (pictured with me) to the games and am so proud that he is following in my footsteps. It makes me feel like I am watching them all over again as he never stops talking about the players, the next game and the club in general. He is as keen as I was at his age.

We have a fantastic team at the club not only on the pitch, but also in the boardroom, through the offices to the backroom staff and on the terraces, we are one team and one club. Everyone plays their part and is a piece of the Luton Town jigsaw puzzle.

At the helm we have Gary Sweet, a man who eats, drinks and sleeps Luton Town FC, so whatever time of the day it is, you will always find Gary willing to talk about his favourite profession and pastime, Luton Town Football Club.

We have a brilliant young manager in Nathan Jones who is living up to



our expectations. We knew he was someone special after we were blown away by the presentation he made at his interview two years ago. We are excited by his vision and the energy he puts into every minute, he will go a long way in football and we are so happy that he wants to travel with us.

The football we are playing reminds me of the early days when David Pleat was building a great team at the club. We knew something was happening as things improved with every game, I have the same feelings now. It is hard to play skilful passing, quick football when some other teams try to stop you playing and slow the game down, but as we move up the league this will change, so we have a treat in store.





# Full Time



Proud partner of



\*IRI data MAT 26.03.16



We are going in the right direction, playing football as it should be played and long may it continue.

Not only are we excelling on the pitch our work in the community is also second to none. The hard work and dedication of Kevin Thoburn, head of Football in the Community Trust, and his team in spreading the good name of our club throughout Bedfordshire. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Kevin, James Hatch, the coaching staff and Trustees who have helped the Trust grow into something very special for the past ten years.

Our training facilities must be rated as one of the best there is outside the Premiership. I remember visiting Crawley Green Rovers football club some ten years ago to ask them if we could use their facilities during the bad weather because our youth team had nowhere to train. How things have changed. We are now in a position to offer them the use of our facilities to be used as their home ground on match days.

We have come a long way since those very bleak days.

The last piece of the jigsaw puzzle is our ground relocation. It has to happen now, we have completely outgrown the Kenny and our vision for the future relies on us moving sooner rather than later. We are doing our bit on and off the pitch, it is now up to others to help us achieve our ambitions.

Anyone who had any doubts about our ability to run this club when we first took over should look at what has been achieved so far and have the confidence to give us the opportunity to show what we can really do for our wonderful club and this famous town.

There are no egos in our team, only a group of self-made men who want success for their football club and their town. I will be personally delighted to see the club relocated to Power Court, less than a five-minute walk from where I was born and grew up as a child.

Finally, to you the fans, who have stuck by us since we took over, hoping that we could turn things around. It has not been easy, I can assure you, but as time moves on we are gradually getting there so keep on doing what you do best, you are the most incredible supporters any club could wish for and we applaud you for it.

My best wishes go to Brendan, another of our life long supporters who is leaving our shores in June to further his career in America for five years. We wish him and his family well and look forward to seeing him back supporting us on his return.

On behalf of the Directors and Shareholders and everyone at the club, we thank you for your ongoing patience, trust and support and hope that you continue to enjoy the exhilarating ride.

Best wishes to one and all.

COYH!

Bob

## SIMON GIBB – FINANCE DIRECTOR

Welcome to our last home game of the season against Forest Green Rovers – who, now safe from relegation, can hopefully also enjoy what should be a great festive day in front of a full house here at Kenilworth Road.

The draw last week and promotion at Carlisle was the culmination of two years of hard work from Nathan Jones and his support team to put together a side capable of getting us out of League Two, but also capable of contending at the right end of League One next season. I think you will agree that we have a strong talented squad, well capable of pushing on again next season.

The overall quality of the squad was emphasised by the Club having five players in the League Two EFL team

of the season a fantastic accolade for which we should all be proud! The awards were also particularly positive for the Club as we won the Family Club of the Year for League Two which emphasises our commitment to all of our community. Finally, of course, Olly Lee got the goal of the season award for the EFL for his fabulous goal against Cambridge. All in all it was a great night for Luton Town and what we have achieved.

Your support at home has been exceptional this year with more of you



## [BOARDROOM]



than last year buying season tickets and overall attendances significantly up on last year. Thank you for that fantastic support. As well as one of the best supported teams at home, we have always taken huge numbers to the away fixtures and it was fantastic for those 1,400 of you who went such a huge distance to witness promotion success first hand.

Success on the field doesn't just emanate from the players, of course. Achieving success over a period of time involves every member of the support team playing their part. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the coaching and academy support teams as well as all the people that help run the Club efficiently and quietly behind the scenes. From the person selling you a ticket or a burger, or showing you to your seat, through to the community staff working to bring through the next Luton star, they all work tirelessly for the cause and should be applauded.

Forest Green Rovers are fairly new to the League and have taken environmental responsibility in the game to new heights, for which I applaud them. Football is only

just embracing the challenge of protecting our environment for future generations and we, as a Club, aim to do our bit as well. You will see over the next season increased focus on recycling, reducing plastic usage and the like and I hope you will support us in this initiative.

Over the closed season we will also be continuing to look for ways to improve your experience at the ground as best we can cost effectively, given the limitations of an ageing facility.

From the financial perspective the direct benefits of moving up to League One are relatively insignificant, but of course we will have more bigger games with greater away support boasting attendances and adding to atmosphere. More importantly, we are closer to the Championship where the financial rewards linked to more TV coverage, more higher profile teams, sponsorship and cup progression increase substantially. Getting there is our short-term goal of course!

The interest and excitement after such a great season is already

showing in early plans for next season with more of you signing up for season tickets already. That's superb news – thanks for your support. Let's try and fill the old stadium next season for every game!

It is great for the Town to celebrate success on the field but we also hope to be celebrating a new dawn for our Club with approval of the new stadium and combined plans in the very near future. We are over the first football hurdle, so let's hope the Council do their bit to support what the vast majority of Lutonians want – high quality facilities for watching football and a massively improved offering in the town for everyone. 2018 is already massively positive year for the Club. Let's hope we can also achieve the next great step forward for our great town as well!

Finally, enjoy today and don't forget there is a planned Civic reception and parade of the team to be enjoyed on 6th May to celebrate our success.

COYH!

## PAUL BALLANTYNE – DIRECTOR

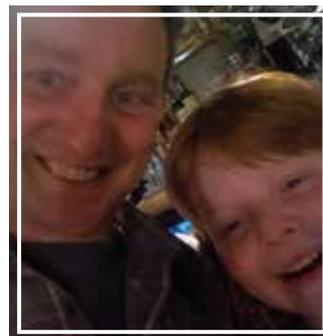
**For me, being part of this great club of ours is not about football success in the short term, although it does feel great (I can't have been the only one to have wanted that train journey back from Carlisle to be even longer).**

Nor is it driven by the desire for a financial return. Though that would be nice, too.

For me it's really about being part of a team committed to building LFC for the long term, as we know how close we have come to losing our club in the past. I want us to do so with strong principles, anchored in the local community and led by fans,

which is why we are all delighted to see one of us, David Wilkinson, step up from vice-chair to become chairman of the club from today.

All of us, none more so than David, aim to take this club forward for future generations with an integrity visible in everything we do, from the type of football we play on the pitch to the way we deal with everybody off it.



That is why the success in gaining promotion this season, in a style that we can only thank Nathan, his staff and players for delivering, has been equalled in the winning of the League Two Family Club of the Year, with all at the club going above and beyond to make sure families have an enjoyable experience at a game despite the constraints of an ageing stadium.

Apart from those very youngest, (like my son Owen, pictured with me enjoying last week's trip to Carlisle) Luton fans know that sickening fear that the team might not be playing next season. We had to look over the edge and it was horrible.

We've been lucky to be able to pull back from there, but we mustn't forget the need to build sustainability

so we can extend the brilliant history of this club and hand it on to our children and their children.

Going up is great, but I don't mind if we're playing Clapton Rovers every week (although that might get a bit boring after a while), as long as there's a Luton Town to support.

Paul

## STEPHEN BROWNE – ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

**A warm welcome to Hatters all over the world who will still be celebrating after last week's fantastic news. The pictures of players celebrating with fans bought a tear to my eye. It means so much to us all.**

After the disappointment of last year everyone at the Club has worked so hard to ensure we didn't have the trauma of play-offs this time around.

On a personal level, it has been a rollercoaster of emotions – joy at promotion, delight for Nathan and his team and the squad, pride at such strong and wonderful supporters, happiness for my colleagues who have given so much. However, I've also reflected on what has been a very hard journey, and remembered those dear friends who are not with us to enjoy this moment.

I read various reports of our success last week and many referred to 'first time in the top three tiers for a decade....'

Yes, ten years ago 2020 became custodians and we all remember that at that time the only way was down. For a while I thought 'What a hard struggle just to get back where we started all those years ago! Was it really worth it?'

But are we 'just' back where we started? I wasn't looking at the whole picture....

Yes, we are back in League One so in position terms we are no further

forward, although hopefully we will renew our friendly rivalry with the team many have a soft spot for - AFC Wimbledon, the proper Dons. But that's just on the pitch and off it, other things are definitely light years ahead of those dark months a decade ago.

Luton Town now has one of the country's leading football academies with vibrant and talented players learning their trade. We have a new, fit for purpose, training ground which has played a massive role in both attracting top talent and developing the talent and fitness we have.

We have a huge community programme that sees thousands engage with the Club in a whole host of ways every month, and we know the Bedfordshire community appreciate this. We have a behind the scenes team that are at the top of their game, and get better every day.

We are well advanced on plans for a new stadium and we own the land. We are not losing £0.5m every month and neither are we £7m in debt, so the Club is in a stable, and sustainable, position. We are one of only a few clubs to take our social



responsibility seriously on things like the National Living Wage.

We are not forced to sell players or accept poor bids for those we do sell. We have players who have served and left us that still deliver, through sell-ons, after they leave us - a testament to the skill in innovative deal making that happens at the highest level.

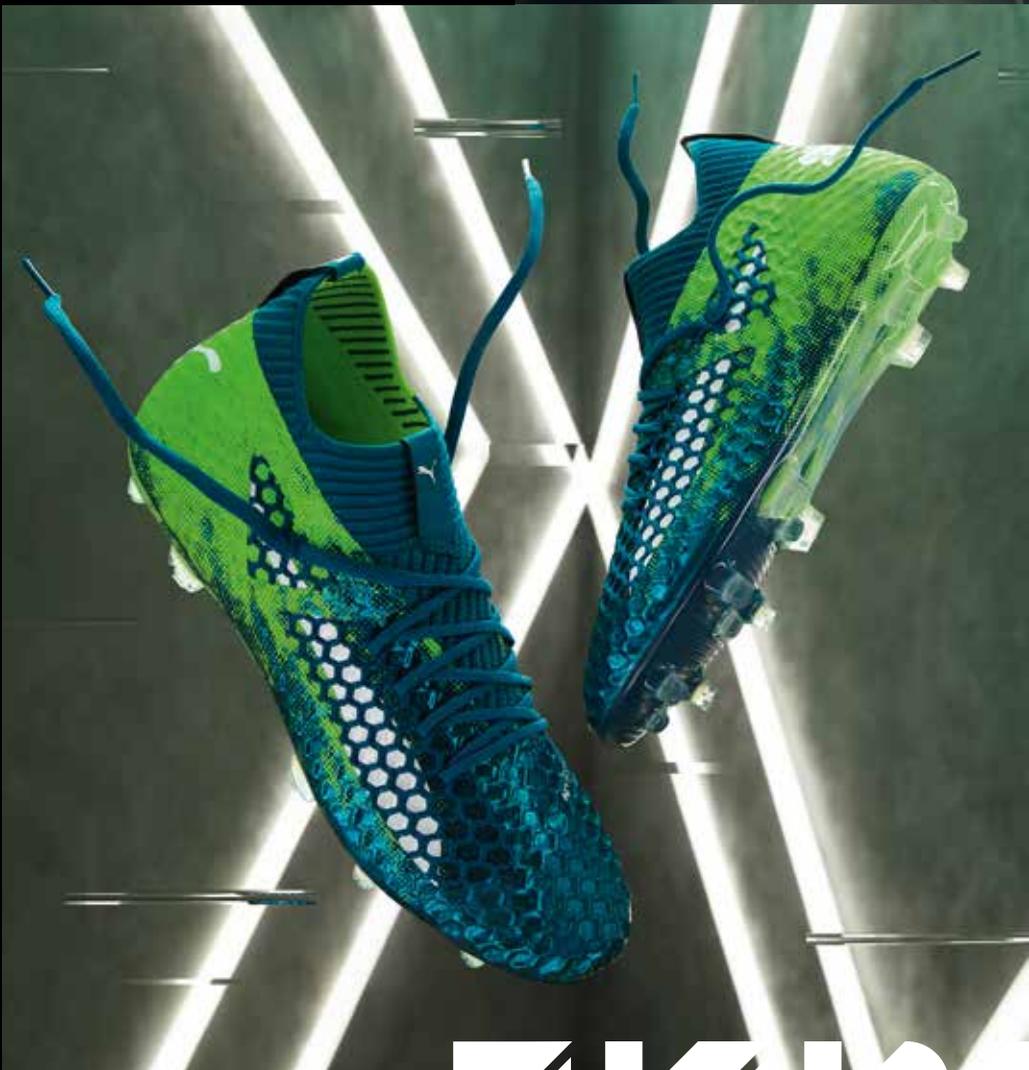
We are a respected Club in the Football League and our voice is not only heard, but advice is sought from us. We are delivering 'firsts' such as the supporters having control over Club colours and identity. I hear fans at other clubs envious of us and how we all work together.

We are award winners – the stadium project, the family club approach,





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the players, the manager, our CEO, our community work.....all thoroughly deserving of awards they have collected on behalf of themselves and the Club.

We are creative in areas like ticketing and merchandise that other clubs now copy. We are an open and accessible club where we encourage supporters to be involved with no closed doors or secrets or lies. We all listen to each other, and very few clubs can boast that.

Of course I could go on - there is so much to be proud of that I'm sure you will have many other examples too. We have come a very long way.

I remember saying a long time ago that we had to fight as one, we had to stand tall and turn our faces to the wind, be united, be strong, and only then could we face the challenges ahead together with any chance of success. We had to not only believe in our dreams, we had to deliver them or die. Only then could we save our Club for future generations to enjoy.

I reminded people that many, many great legends have walked our

corridors, terraces, and pitch. If we were to save our Club, everyone would have to aim to be a legend too. We asked for your trust, and whilst it would have been very easy in those days for you to say no, you did grant us that honour.

Through thick and thin you supported our plans, you had patience, you had faith, you have played your part - we were asking a lot as many had not heard of us as individuals before 2008. Of course, a few deserted but many more hopped aboard for the ride and stayed true to their Club - parting with hard earned time and cash to support the team both at The Kenny and around the country.

Today, every single one of you is standing tall. Absent friends included. You can congratulate yourselves on the roles you have played. You should be proud of yourselves. This is your promotion and you deserve it.

So, no, we are not back where we started. The more I think about it, the more I feel this is a huge milestone.

Now, the only way is up. Now, we are a completely different Club to

the worn down and ragged old lady we inherited in 2008. Now we have a united Club and fellow supporters that we can be totally proud of. Now we have a Club that is an intrinsic part of the community.

Now we have 11,000 local voices that want the town of Luton to stand up and start the developments that will improve our town dramatically and forever.

We're not just 'back'. We are ready for the next decade and far, far stronger than we have ever been. Together, who knows what we can achieve. There's a long way to go in our story yet, and I couldn't be prouder than writing it with you.

This is our town, our Club, and we are unstoppable! Bring it on!

History is now ours to make, and we will.

COME ON YOU HATTERS!

## CIVIC CELEBRATION — 6TH MAY

**Mayor of Luton Cllr Mohammad Ayub and LTFC are inviting supporters to a civic celebration, to be held in St George's Square, Luton, on Sunday 6 May, to mark the club's promotion to League One.**

The party, will kick off when Hatters players and officials arrive in St George's Square from Kenilworth Road in an open-top bus at approximately 12.15pm, before joining the Mayor onto a stage for short celebratory speeches.

Players and officials of the Club will then attend a civic reception in the Town Hall and live music will play on stage until approximately 2.30pm and large screens will display this season's highlights. The day's event is being funded by the council's airport company London Luton Airport Limited to acknowledge the support that the airport receives from the people of Luton.

## THANK YOU, HATTERS!

**Following the game at Carlisle last Saturday, we were delighted to receive the following message of congratulations and thanks from the Cumbrians' supporters' liaison officer Nigel Dickinson, praising the travelling Hatters supporters:**

Nigel wrote to his Town counterpart John Miller: "Firstly, congratulations on your promotion and secondly a big thank you for the conduct of your 1,404 fans that made the long journey north. Myself and my Safety Officer would like to pass on our thanks for their behaviour – a few more fans than those that came up on the Tuesday nights, when you have been up here before. They certainly created a great atmosphere."

Well done everyone who travelled for representing the club so well.



# AWARD WINNERS!

The last few weeks have seen not only members of the Hatters first team honoured for their performances this season, but awards for initiatives behind the scenes acknowledging all the work the club has put into making sure the Hatters are inclusive for all.

First up it was the EFL League Two Team of the Season awards where we had five Town players included, with Jack Stacey, Alan Sheehan, Dan Potts, Luke Berry and Danny Hylton named as they made up nearly half the team.



The only other team to have that many players named in any team in professional football in England was Manchester City.

Not only that, Olly Lee's 70-yard screamer against Cambridge got the recognition it deserved as he picked up the EFL Goal of the Year award, beating the likes of Adam Reach of Sheffield Wednesday and Marcus Maddison at Peterborough United.

Next up was the League Two Family Club of the Year, which recognised all the hard work the club puts into ensure matchdays are fun for all and generally help promote the family aspect of football. Junior Supporters' Liaison Officer James Whitehead was on hand to pick that up for the Hatters at the EFL awards.





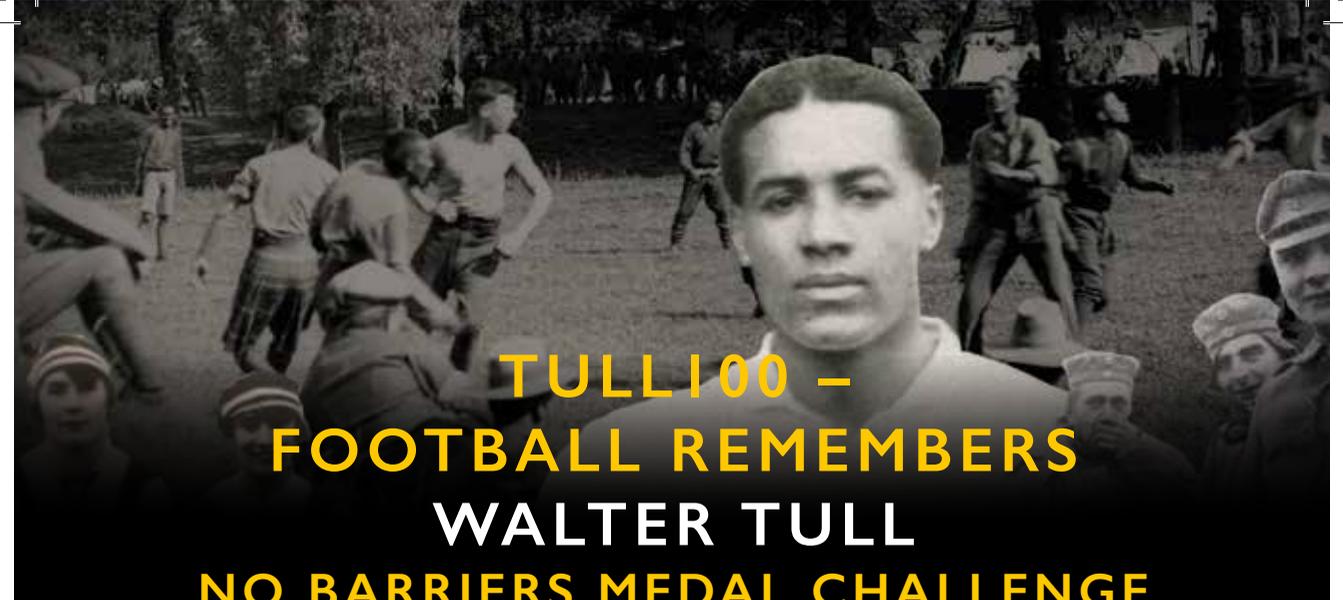
We also had five players named in the PFA Team of the Year, with Hylton, Berry, Potts and Sheehan joined in this League Two side by goalkeeper Marek Stech.

We also had the Luton Town Supporters' Trust's presentation evening, where Sheehan was named Internet Player of the Year and overall Player of the Year. Potts won the Players' Player of the Year, while Stacey was named Young Player and Hylton the Junior Supporters' Player of the Season.

Olly, predictably, won the club's Goal of the Season award as well, with his brother Elliot winning the award for highest number of home Man of the Match nominations by the Luton News and Harry Cornick receiving the Bobbers Travel Club's Away Player of the Season Award.



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# TULL 100 – FOOTBALL REMEMBERS WALTER TULL NO BARRIERS MEDAL CHALLENGE

Remember Walter Tull and stand up  
against discrimination by doing the  
**No Barriers** medal challenge

One hundred years ago, on the 25th March 1918, during the final year of the First World War, footballer Walter Tull was killed in action at the age of just 29.

Before the outbreak of war in 1914, Tull's playing career had seen him make more than 100 senior appearances for Northampton Town, before becoming the first infantry officer of black heritage in the British Army to lead his men into battle. From the football pitch to pitch battle, he made history and was an inspiration to others.

To mark the centenary of Walter Tull's death, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Big Ideas in conjunction with the EFL, Football Association and Premier League's Football Remembers initiative invite schools, football teams and youth, arts and voluntary groups to celebrate his life and achievements through Tull 100 – Football Remembers.

Find out how to earn your medal,  
receive your free Tull 100 resource pack  
and apply for small scale funding by  
emailing [tull100@big-ideas.org](mailto:tull100@big-ideas.org)

 Big Ideas |  @Big\_Ideas\_Co

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Premier League



*Composite First World War football images courtesy of the National Army Museum, Girdwood Collection held by the British Library and Bruce Castle Museum (Haringey Archive and Museum Service).*



**THE FULL HONOURS WERE AS FOLLOWS:**

- Goal of the Season – Olly Lee
- Away Player of the Season – Harry Cornick (chosen by Bobbers Travel Club)
- Outstanding Contribution – Kevin Catlin
- Home Man of the Match – Elliot Lee
- Junior Supporters' Player of the season – Danny Hylton
- Young Player of the season – Jack Stacey (chosen by Nathan Jones & management team)
- Internet Player of the Season – Alan Sheehan
- Players' Player of the Season – Dan Potts
- Player of the Season – Alan Sheehan

*It's been an incredible month for the Hatters – well done to everyone recognised!*



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PROUD TO PRINT THE LUTON TOWN MATCHDAY PROGRAMME



# WE'RE ON OUR WAY

## NOTTS COUNTY SATURDAY 5TH MAY, 3PM

FORMED: 1862 | NICKNAME: THE MAGPIES | LAST SEASON: 16TH IN LEAGUE TWO | FOLLOW THEM ON TWITTER: OFFICIAL\_NCFC  
COLOURS: BLACK AND WHITE STRIPES | GROUND: MEADOW LANE | MANAGER: KEVIN NOLAN

**WHO?** A club steeped in history, they are the oldest professional association football club in the world. They lost their place in the top flight in 1992 – the same season as the Hatters – and like the Town, have failed to reach that status since. A five-season stay in League One came to an end in 2015, and they have struggled to compete for a place near the top of this division in the following two campaigns, but are certainly in the mix for promotion this time around.

**TICKETS** The Hatters' allocation of 4,498 tickets for next Saturday's fixture have all been sold.

**HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?** Our 1-1 draw at Kenilworth Road at the beginning of December was our 72nd meeting, of which the Hatters have won 35 and lost 16. Johnny Mullins headed in for the Town, before Shola Ameobi equalised. Last season at Meadow Lane it looked as if the Magpies were going to add to their tally against us, when Vadaine Oliver took an 83rd minute penalty with the game goalless, but Christian Walton pulled off a tremendous save to see the Hatters take a point.

**IN CHARGE** The Magpies were in real trouble last season, a run of ten games without a win – nine of which were defeats – saw ex-boss John Sheridan depart at the beginning of January. He was replaced ten days later by former Bolton Wanderers and West Ham United midfielder

Kevin Nolan. The 35-year-old found Notts in a perilous position, 22nd in the division, and almost immediately turned their fortunes around, guiding them to a 16th place finish. Nolan has dispelled any murmurs of him not being up to the task, winning nearly 50 per cent of his games in charge since his arrival, bringing in a mix of older heads as well as some excellent young talent. Regardless of whether they achieve promotion or not, it's fair to say he's done an excellent job since going in there.

**PREVIOUS FORM** Just two points behind third-placed Wycombe, the Magpies are in form and still in with a great chance of automatic promotion having beaten Coventry 2-1, Colchester 3-1 and Yeovil 4-1 in their last three games. They head to Grimsby this afternoon looking for a fourth straight win that could put them back in the top three.

**KNOWING ME, KNOWING YOU** Town defender Alan Sheehan spent three seasons at Meadow Lane between 2011-14, netting seven times in his final season there before moving onto Bradford City. Prior to his initial loan spell here, the 31-year-old re-joined the Magpies on loan for half a season. In total, he made 142 appearances for Notts. The Irishman recently made his 100th appearance for the Hatters. Town assistant-manager Paul Hart played for County in the late 1980s, then became academy manager in 2014 before a spell as caretaker-boss.

[TOWN v FOREST GREEN ROVERS | SATURDAY 28TH APRIL 2018] 25

[COMMERCIAL]

# MAKE A DAY OF IT!

FOR HOSPITALITY & SPONSORSHIP CONTACT THE COMMERCIAL TEAM ON 01582 411622 OR COMMERCIAL@LUTONTOWN.CO.UK

## MATCH SPONSOR: LUTON AWAY DAYS



Luton Away Days are a group of like-minded Luton fans who travel across the country following Luton as well as travelling to England games. They have supported the team through the hard times in Non-League and are now looking forward to being back to League One this season. Being a Luton fan is like being on a roller coaster ride – but they have enjoyed the ride! COYH.

## MATCHBALL SPONSOR: J BLOCK



J Block - as the name suggests, this is named after the Block at Kenilworth Road that most of the group stand in. Passionate fans of the club through the good and not so good times, a strong friendship has grown over the years between the fans who stand in this area, young and old alike. Once a Hatter, always a Hatter.

## TODAY'S MASCOTS:



### JAYDEN MCGUINNESS

AGE: 5 | SCHOOL: WIGMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOBBIES: FOOTBALL, POOL, COMPUTER

GAMES | FAVOURITE PLAYER: DANNY HYLTON

ACCOMPANIES TO GAMES: HIS DAD



### ALFIE FREEMAN

AGE: 10 | SCHOOL: BREACHWOOD GREEN

HOBBIES: PLAYING FOOTBALL FOR HIS SCHOOL AND TEAM AND WOULD LIKE TO PLAY FOR LUTON TOWN ONE DAY!

FAVOURITE PLAYER: DANNY HYLTON

ACCOMPANIES TO GAMES: HIS DAD

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<p><b>5: Johnny Mullins</b> H: Mike Normal For MK A: Mike Normal For MK</p> 	<p><b>6: Scott Cuthbert</b> H: WHOSH A: Genting Casino Luton</p> 	<p><b>7: Jack Stacey</b> H: Community Interest Luton A: Kaelan Bond</p> 	<p><b>8: Oily Lee</b> H: Scandinavian Hatters A: Julian &amp; Anne Hyde</p> 
<p><b>9: Danny Hylton</b> H: Richard Banks A: The Mad Hatter T: 1981 Events</p> 	<p><b>10: Jordan Cook</b> H: @TrondheimHatter A: Ian Corkett &amp; Linda Thomas</p> 	<p><b>11: Andrew Shinnie</b> H: Peter &amp; Linda Little A: Groundcare Machinery Services Ltd</p> 	<p><b>14: Harry Cornick</b> H: Ben &amp; Emma Banks A: Maddie</p> 
<p><b>15: Jake Jervis</b> H: Hatters Travel Trio A: AVAILABLE</p> 	<p><b>16: Glen Rea</b> H: The Walsh Family from Spain A: Tommy Lennon</p> 	<p><b>17: Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu</b> H: Dean Kemp A: WHOSH</p> 	<p><b>18: Luke Berry</b> H: Lynn, Ben and Rhiannon A: G Owen Ceramic Tiling Ltd</p> 
<p><b>19: James Collins</b> H: Tim Fordham Plumbing And Heating A: Community Interest Luton T: Chris Nicoll</p> 	<p><b>20: Flynn Downes</b> H: AVAILABLE A: AVAILABLE</p> 	<p><b>21: Jack Senior</b> H: WHOSH A: #Senior'sBarmpots</p> 	<p><b>22: Luke Gambin</b> H: G Owen Ceramic Tiling Ltd A: Ben &amp; Emma Banks T: 1981 Events</p> 
<p><b>24: Lawson D'Ath</b> H: CME Heating A: Emma Sanders</p> 	<p><b>27: Aaron Jarvis</b> H: Mad Hatter A: Martin, Heather &amp; Boo</p> 	<p><b>28: Lloyd Jones</b> H: Betsy and Stanley Banks A: Ian Hull</p> 	<p><b>33: Kavan Cotter</b> H: Andrew J Finch A: Curly, Matt &amp; LLSK</p> 
<p><b>35: Arthur Read</b> H: COYH A: DM Specialists</p> 	<p><b>36: James Shea</b> H: Marston Vale Properties A: AVAILABLE G: Derek &amp; Madison Borino</p> 	<p><b>37: Frankie Musonda</b> H: Football262 A: AVAILABLE</p> 	<p><b>38: Elliot Lee</b> H: Richard Tilley A: SOLYD Gold Hatters</p> 
<p><b>39: Akin Famewo</b> H: Bobbers Travel A: AVAILABLE</p> 	<p><b>40: Harry Isted</b> H: Craig Steeples A: Selsey Properties Ltd G: Dynamic Drainage Ltd</p> 	<p><b>44: Alan Sheehan</b> H: Hatters Talk A: Jon Exley &amp; Karen Holcombe</p> 	
<p><b>Nathan Jones</b> H: Thompsons Accountants A: Country Properties</p> 	<p><b>Paul Hart</b> H: Doug Knight A: Colne Consulting Ltd</p> 	<p><b>Joaquin Gomez</b> H: AVAILABLE A: AVAILABLE</p> 	<p><b>Simon Parsell</b> H: Bobbers Travel A: AVAILABLE</p> 

KEY: H: HOME | A: AWAY | G: GLOVES | T: THIRD SPONSOR

[TOWN v FOREST GREEN ROVERS | SATURDAY 28TH APRIL 2018] 29

[WELCOME FOREST GREEN ROVERS]



# WELCOME

## FOREST GREEN ROVERS

### FACTFILE:

NICKNAMES: THE GREEN DEVILS

GROUND: THE NEW LAWN

MANAGER: MARK COOPER

LAST SEASON: 3RD IN NATIONAL LEAGUE

**The Hatters would like to extend a warm welcome to the travelling supporters, staff and players of Forest Green Rovers.**

On what was a massive weekend for both the Green Devils and the Hatters last Saturday, both sides went out and got the result they wanted. Whilst Town secured promotion, Rovers put four past Chesterfield as they all but confirmed their place in Sky Bet League Two for a second consecutive season – the midweek draw with Yeovil making certain.

Mark Cooper's side have certainly been one of the more entertaining sides to watch this campaign, a fluid passing style of football has seen them receive plaudits across the

division, but it hasn't necessarily yielded the results they might have hoped for.

They arrived in the fourth tier having plied their trade in the National League for nearly two decades – the appointment of Cooper proving to be an inspired

one, as he got them up via the play-offs in his first full campaign in charge.

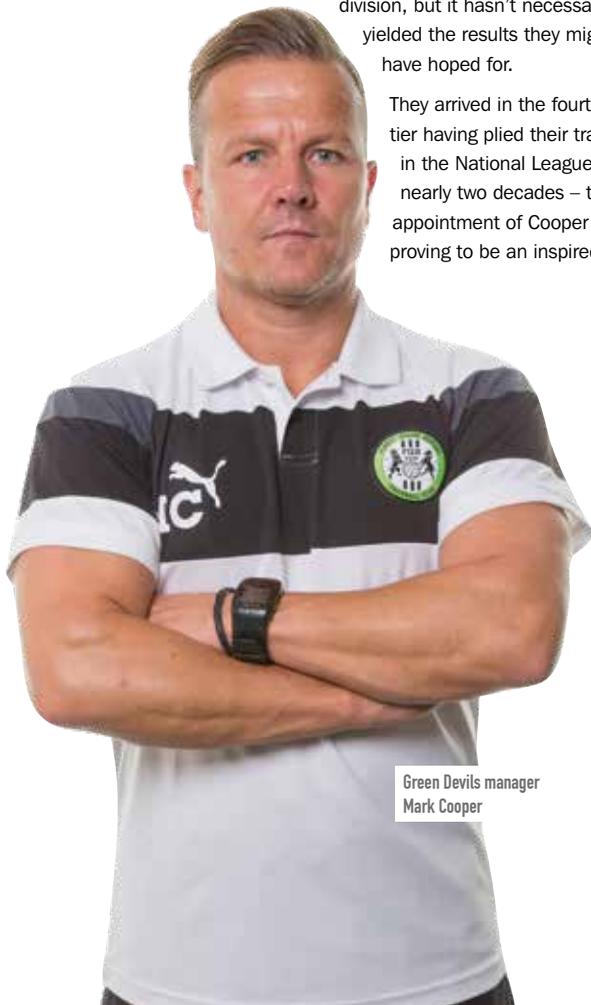
A tough start saw them pick up just one win in their opening 13 games and an immediate return to Non-League looked likely. However, small bursts of form have seen them pull away from the bottom two places, especially at home, where they have had the knack of beating teams around them to ensure they keep pace.

It's difficult to talk about this Forest Green side without mentioning Christian Doidge. The striker – as mentioned in the player profiles on the opposite page – made his way up the football pyramid, but his impact at the New Lawn can't be understated. A similar figure to what Danny Hylton is here, Doidge has been the go to man when it comes to goalscoring, and he has certainly delivered throughout his near two season stay there.

A huge amount of additions in January have certainly aided their climb away from the relegation zone, Reuben Reid notably adding firepower up top and relieving some of the weight on Doidge's shoulders. Reid is well known for his exploits in the division, and it comes as little surprise to see the 29-year-old continue his decent form on from his previous club, Exeter City.

A proudly vegan side, our trip to Forest Green earlier on in the campaign proved to be a tasty affair – and not just on the food front! Alan Sheehan fired in from a well worked corner in the first half, before Danny Hylton poked home into an empty net after a slip from goalkeeper Bradley Collins.

There's certainly a feeling that the shackles are slightly off for both sides today, so let's hope for an exciting affair!



Green Devils manager  
Mark Cooper

### HATTERS V FOREST GREEN

LUTON WINS: 7 | DRAWS: 3 | FOREST GREEN WINS: 1

LAST MEETING:

FOREST GREEN 0-2 LUTON - 16TH DECEMBER 2017

# THE MAIN MEN

## IN BETWEEN THE STICKS

### BRAD COLLINS



This is the Chelsea loanee's first full season in professional football where he has been playing regularly, having progressed through the

youth ranks at Stamford Bridge after joining in 2010. He turned professional with the Blues in 2014, going onto win the UEFA Youth League and FA Youth Cup. He joined the Green Devils in June on a season long loan, making his senior debut on the opening day in a 2-2 draw against Barnet. The 21-year-old has gone on to make 44 appearances to help Rovers maintain their League Two status.

## THE WALL

### FARREND RAWSON

The 21-year-old started his career off at



Derby County, but never made a professional appearance for the Rams. During his time at Pride Park, he went out on loan twice to then-Championship

outfit Rotherham United between 2014-16. He then spent time at Coventry City last year before signing for Accrington Stanley at the beginning of this campaign. After making 12 league appearances for Stanley, he signed an 18-month contract at the New Lawn in January.

## THE MAN IN THE MIDDLE

### ISAIAH OSBOURNE



The 30-year-old joined Rovers from Walsall, having spent two seasons at the Bescot Stadium. He began his career at Aston Villa, making 19 Premier League appearances for them, as well as heading out on loan to the likes of Nottingham Forest, Middlesbrough and Sheffield Wednesday. He left Villa Park for Hibernian in 2011, before heading south of the border for Blackpool after a season in Scotland. He spent two years at Bloomfield Road before joining Scunthorpe United. From there he moved to the Saddlers. He has a contract with Forest Green until the end of this season.

## THE DANGERMAN

### CHRISTIAN DOIDGE



Second in the scoring charts in the National League last year, Doidge has carried on his net finding exploits this campaign, having scored 24 times. After a stop-start beginning to his footballing career – which saw him give up football altogether and pursue a career in basketball – he climbed his way back up the pyramid, playing for clubs in the lower reaches of the Welsh Football system, before earning a move to Dagenham & Redbridge from Carmarthen Town. The 25-year-old scored in the 3-1 play-off final win which secured the Green Devils' place in the EFL.

### GOALKEEPER

#### CAMERON BELFORD

AGE: 31

PREVIOUS CLUB: STRANRAER

### DEFENDERS

#### DAN WISHART

AGE: 25

PREVIOUS CLUB: SUTTON UNITED

#### LEE COLLINS

AGE: 29

PREVIOUS CLUB: MANSFIELD TOWN

#### DALE BENNETT

AGE: 28

PREVIOUS CLUB: WATFORD

#### SCOTT LAIRD

AGE: 29

PREVIOUS CLUB: SCUNTHORPE UNITED

#### MARK ROBERTS

AGE: 34

PREVIOUS CLUB: CAMBRIDGE UNITED

#### GAVIN GUNNING

AGE: 27

PREVIOUS CLUB: PORT VALE

### MIDFIELDERS

#### REECE BROWN

AGE: 22

PREVIOUS CLUB: BIRMINGHAM CITY

#### CHRIS CLEMENTS

AGE: 28

ON LOAN FROM GRIMSBY TOWN

#### ALEX BRAY

AGE: 22

ON LOAN FROM ROTHERHAM UNITED

#### DAYLE GRUBB

AGE: 26

PREVIOUS CLUB: WESTON-SUPER-MARE

### STRIKERS

#### REUBEN REID

AGE: 29

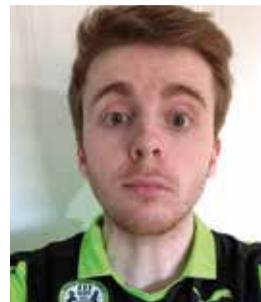
PREVIOUS CLUB: EXETER CITY

#### TAVHON CAMPBELL

AGE: 21

ON LOAN FROM WEST BROM

# THE VIEW FROM THE OAK ROAD



**REUBEN COWLEY**, a Forest Green Rovers supporter of 10 years gives us his thoughts on how their first season in Sky Bet League Two has gone and what lies in store this afternoon on their visit to Kenilworth Road, as well as his top XI players to ever pull on a shirt for the Green Devils...

## GENERAL ENQUIRIES:

**After a near two-decade stay in the National League, how are Forest Green finding their first season in the EFL?**

As our position in the league suggests, we've not had the easiest induction into the EFL. We had a good squad coming into League Two, but the jump from the National League was immense, and we struggled. Our playmakers would have no protection in the centre of the park, and we got overpowered. The physicality was a step up from what we were used to in the Conference. Thankfully Mark Cooper made some quality signings, the likes of Gavin Gunning and Reuben Reid gave us some experience and much needed leadership on the pitch.

**Mark Cooper oversaw the promotion to League Two so he must be well-liked by supporters at the New Lawn?**

Football is a fickle game. One minute you're a hero, the next they fans are chanting 'sacked in the morning'. There's no denying Mark Cooper has done a lot for the club, it's a shame to see the fans turn on the manager, but sometimes you can totally understand why, and our frustrations spill over. However, the players have to take responsibility when they're not playing well, it's not always down to the manager. To be fair to him, he's kept on going and he made some fantastic signings, and we had a good run of results in February. With the win over Cheltenham the other week, his popularity has certainly risen.

**Which of your signings this campaign have impressed you most?**

Reuben Reid, without a doubt. His ability to read the game and hold the ball up is something we've been missing all season. Christian Doidge has often been isolated as a lone striker, but Reid's link up play with Doidge allows us to change the way we play, and it gives us more options in the final third. His first goal for FGR against Port Vale was top quality, and it also gave us those vital three points. He also has a fantastic first name!

**Out of the players you had last season who went on to leave, who do you wish you could bring back into the team?**

For me it would have to be Ethan Pinnock or Kaiyne Woolery. Pinnock was a brilliant defender and his height (6ft 4ins) definitely helped. It's bitter-sweet because you don't want a good player to leave, but when a bigger club declares an interest and sees the potential in that player, you want them to develop and move on to better things. Woolery will always be appreciated by the FGR fans, and nobody will forget the two goals he scored at Wembley to send us to the EFL for the first time in our club's history.

**Christian Doidge netted in the win over Cheltenham the other week, how important has he been to your campaign?**

Doidge has been phenomenal, a truly outstanding player. It's not been easy for him as the lone striker for the majority of this season, but that never stopped him from somehow





finding a goal. I have run out of superlatives to describe him. He has scored nearly half of our league goals this season, and his contribution to avoiding the drop is just outstanding, for one player to be able to do that much is incredible. With the signing of Osbourne, Reid and Grubb, he is now getting much better service and is being provided with better chances to bag a goal. You know he's special because when he was injured about a month ago, we looked like we'd lost our confidence, and when a player has that effect on the rest of the team

you just know he's special. He will be a club legend, wherever his path may take him. He will always be welcome at Forest Green Rovers.

**How can Town supporters expect your side to play this afternoon – open and attacking? Direct football? Or neither?**

We will have to go for it, there's no other option. With the gap at the bottom of the table being as narrow as it is, we will have to play for the win, and to do that we will play open and attacking football. We cannot afford to be cautious, we know how

dangerous Luton are, and how many goals they can score in a game. But we have to be strong defensively, not buckle under the pressure and show them that we belong in this league. I thought we were extremely unlucky in the reverse fixture and I think we deserved something from that game. We'll be looking to redeem some mistakes that were made and we won't be looking to make this a comfortable game for Luton. With all that being said, we need to turn up on the day. *(This was written prior to Rovers midweek clash with Yeovil.)*

## MY ALL-TIME FOREST GREEN XI...

### GK: SAM RUSSELL

Majestic beard, fantastic goalkeeper, a club legend

### RB: DALE BENNETT



A leader, a loyal player, and he's on the FGR customised cover for FIFA 18

### CB: JAMIE TURLEY

A defensive rock, and certainly someone you wouldn't mess with

### CB: GAVIN GUNNING

A quality player, good on the ball and calm under pressure – and that's a skillset every defender needs

### LB: JARED HODGKISS

A talented player who has a lot of experience, dug us out of a few holes

during a difficult period under David Hockaday

### RM: JAMES NORWOOD

Totally bonkers, a very fast player with an unpredictable style of play

### CM: REECE BROWN

Calm and has the ability to switch up the tempo when it's needed, a very good playmaker

### CM: YAN KLUKOWSKI

Tall, strong and buried some tasty free-kicks

### LM: ELLIOT FREAR

Nimble, quick and extremely talented. Unfortunately, Motherwell saw that and took him away from us

### ST: ALEX SYKES

A club legend, and he was my PE teacher in secondary school. He was nice to me so he makes the cut

### ST: CHRISTIAN DOIDGE

I'd be out of my mind to leave out this man, a truly phenomenal player.

## QUICKFIRE:

### Terrace or Seats?

Seats

### Who are your rivals?

Cheltenham Town

### Favourite all-time manager?

Adrian Pennock

### Predict your player of the season?

Christian Doidge

### If you could bring back one player from the past back into the Forest Green team, who would it be?

James Norwood

### Which five current or former Forest Green players or managers would you invite to a dinner party?

Brad Collins, Reece Styche, Yan Klukowski, Jared Hodgkiss, Gavin Gunning

### Most treasured piece of Forest Green memorabilia?

"Making history" flag from the final at Wembley against Grimsby. We lost but it's a nice flag!

### What league will Forest Green be in next season?

League Two

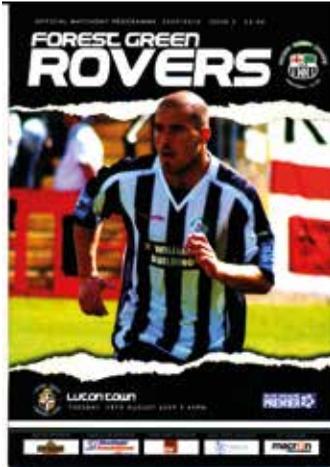
### Who will win Sky Bet League Two this season?

Accrington Stanley

[ROGER WASH]

# COVERED!

CLUB HISTORIAN  
ROGER WASH  
PICKS OUT EIGHT  
PROGRAMME COVERS  
FROM PAST GAMES  
WITH OUR OPPONENTS.

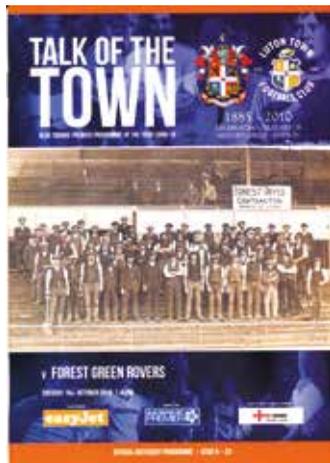
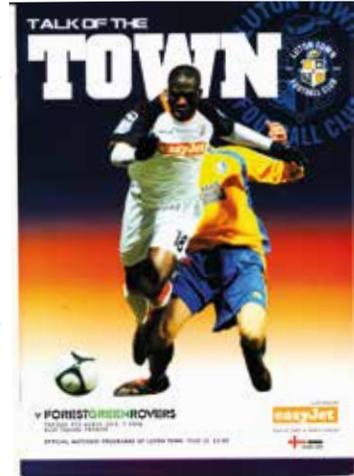


## ◀ AUGUST 2009

The Town remain unbeaten in their opening four games in their first season in the Conference but the 1-0 win at the New Lawn, courtesy of a goal from Tom Craddock, is uninspiring.

## ▶ MARCH 2010

Tom Craddock's last-minute effort secures a narrow 2-1 home win over Rovers. Oxford, in pole position, are nine points ahead of the Hatters but their lead is gradually whittled away before the end of the campaign. Unfortunately, Stevenage leapfrog both sides to clinch the title.



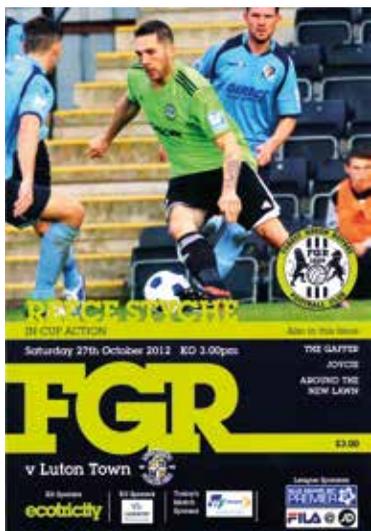
## ◀ OCTOBER 2010

A comprehensive 6-1 home victory over Rovers with Dan Walker's 25-yard effort, his first for the club, the pick of the bunch.

## ▶ MARCH 2011

A soft effort from Lloyd Owusu secures all three points for the Town in another drab affair at the New Lawn.



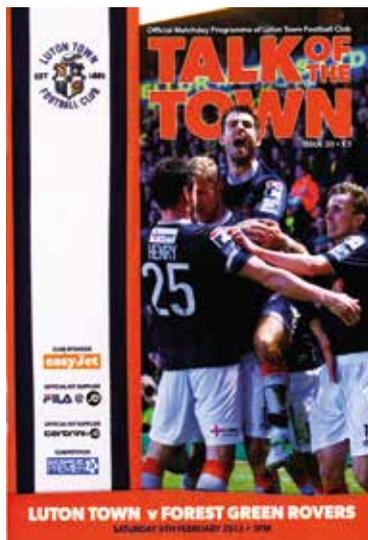


▲ OCTOBER 2012

Two goals in the final 15 minutes enable the Town to scrape a 2-1 win at the New Lawn. A curling effort from Stuart Fleetwood and a late penalty from Scott Rendell send the 1002 Hatters home happy.

▼ AUGUST 2013

The Hatters are mindful that Rovers had slammed eight past Hyde in their previous home game and defend in depth, with a 0-0 draw the inevitable outcome.

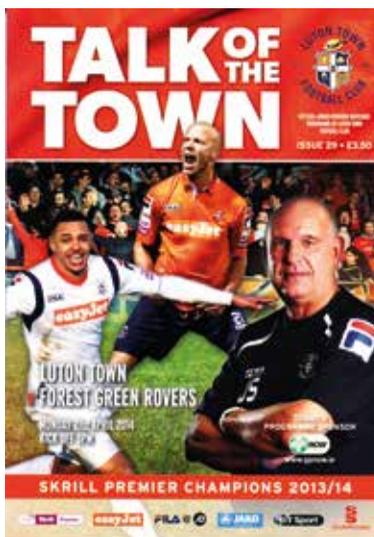


▲ FEBRUARY 2013

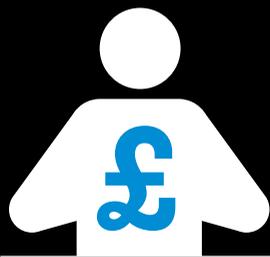
Steve McNulty makes his Luton debut and watches bemused as Andre Gray misses a penalty and a player from each side is dismissed. The explosive contest finishes 1-1.

▼ APRIL 2014

The cautious display at the New Lawn the previous August is long forgotten as the Town attack with a will in an entertaining game which is closer than the final 4-1 scoreline suggests. The crowd of 10,044 is here to see only one thing though – the lifting of the Skrill Premier Trophy!



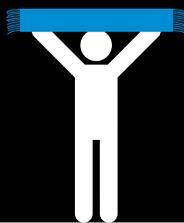
# THANK YOU!



**£4m**  
raised to help beat  
prostate cancer



**60,000**  
'Man of Men' logo  
wears every season  
by players



**3,500**  
match day  
volunteers



**1,562**  
fans cycled  
to Amsterdam

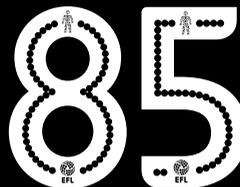
**1,000** fans  
walked with Jeff Stelling



**275**  
match day  
collections



**30**  
Wembley finals



**85**  
EFL clubs  
supported

**MISSION: TOGETHER WE WILL RELEGATE PROSTATE CANCER**



Find out more:  
[prostatecanceruk.org/football](http://prostatecanceruk.org/football)

Prostate Cancer UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (1005541) and in Scotland (SC039332). Registered company number 02653887.

# 2017-18 STAT PACK



**LUTON TOWN**

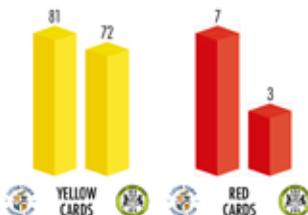
**v**

**FOREST GREEN ROVERS**



## MATCH FACTS

Luton won the only previous EFL meeting between these sides 2-0 back in December, thanks to goals from Alan Sheehan and Danny Hylton.



## MATCH FACTS

This will be just the second meeting between these sides in the Football League.



**GOALS**



**AV. GOALS PER GAME**



**SHOTS (EX. BLOCKED)**



**% SHOTS ON TARGET**



**CLEAN SHEETS**



**% GOALS TO SHOTS**



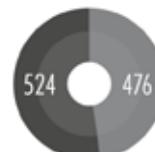
**CORNER KICKS**



**GOALS CONCEDED**

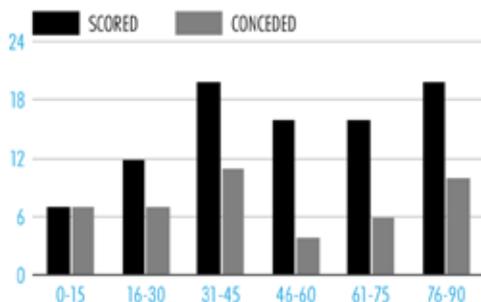


**AV. GOALS CONCEDED PER GAME**

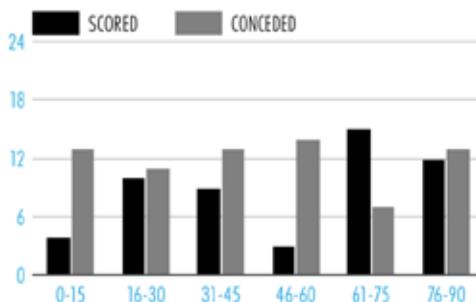


**FOULS**

## GOAL TIMES



## GOAL TIMES



# 2020 10

They were dark days indeed. Following two consecutive relegations and the infamous points deductions handed down by the FA and the Football League, the Club found themselves back in the 4th tier of English football, beginning the 2008-09 season with a points tally of -30. Since then, the Club has been walking the path of recovery, and renaissance. So, with promotion back to League 1 secured, we look back at ten years since 2020 took the helm, and reflect of some of the key moments. #COYH

## A LOOK BACK AT THE FIRST TEN YEARS OF LUTON TOWN 2020'S CUSTODIANSHIP

# -30



The Club exits administration, and Luton Town 2020 officially begin their tenure as custodians of the Club.

# 08-09



- ↓↓↓ **LEAGUE POSITION: 24TH**
- ⋮ **AV. HOME ATTENDANCE: 6019**
- ⚽ **POTY: KEITH KEANE**
- ⚽ **TOP SCORER: MARTIN (14)**

# 42,000+

Over 42,000 hatters travelled to Wembley to watch the newly relegated Hatters beat Scunthorpe United 3-2 in classic Johnstone's Paint Trophy encounter.



Luton Town Community Trust is established



**Adult mental health programmes started**



**The Club is represented by our own disability football team**



# 09-10

⇒ **BLUE SQ. PREMIER POSITION: 2**  
■ ■ ■ **AV. HOME ATTENDANCE: 6947**  
👤 **POTY: GEORGE PILKINGTON**  
⚽ **TOP SCORER: CRADDOCK (24)**



## THE CLUB UNVEIL A NEW-LOOK CREST

000000  
**29**  
**JULY**  
**2009**



"This change to the badge is one we are updating and revolutionising the club's ever-important and growing image at a time when the club's rebirth begins with a fresh start and a clean slate on and off the pitch." Gary Sweet

# 8-0

**THE SCORELINE IN OUR 2009-2010 FIXTURE AGAINST HAYES & YEADING, WITH GALLEN (2), GNAKPA (2), KEANE, CRADDOCK (2) & HOWELLS ON THE SCORESHEET**



# 31

A total of 31 players have graduated through the club's academy to play in a competitive first team game since 2008, including Jake Howells - pictured on the right.



# 10-11

⇒ **BLUE SQ. PREMIER POSITION: 3**  
■ ■ ■ **AV. HOME ATTENDANCE: 6242**  
👤 **POTY: MARK TYLER**  
⚽ **TOP SCORER: BARNES-HOMER (20)**



# 18,195

Attendance at the City of Manchester Stadium, where the Hatters narrowly missed promotion to League Two after a 4-3 defeat on penalties to AFC Wimbledon in the Blue Square bet play-off final.



**5 CLUB RECORD:**  
5 consecutive away clean sheets in all competitions during Jan-Feb

000000  
**2010**

'Tickets for Troops' initiative introduced

# 11-12

⇄ **BLUE SQ. PREMIER POSITION: 5**  
⋮ **AV. HOME ATTENDANCE: 6111**  
⚽ **POTY: JANOS KOVACS**  
⚽ **TOP SCORER: FLEETWOOD (16)**



# 10

## CLUB RECORD:

10 consecutive home clean sheets in all competitions during December to March

# 30,000

Around 30,000 Town supporters were at Wembley to watch the Blue Square play-off final against York. Unfortunately, an Andre Gray goal after just two minutes was not enough to win promotion. The game ended 2-1 to York City.



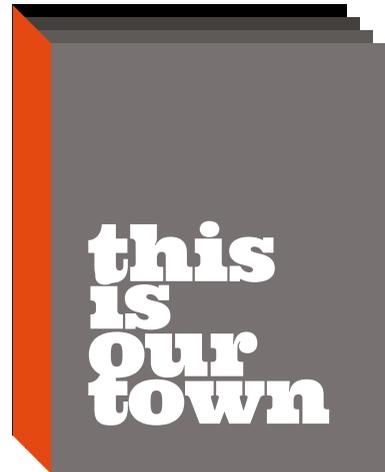
# £2,500,000+ RAISED FOR CHARITY SINCE 2008



**Around 1000 signed footballs**



**Around 600 signed shirts**



**2000 signed programmes**

Each and every week, the Club donates signed shirts, footballs, programmes and other merchandise to charities and other good causes to help raise money through raffles and auctions. We estimate that donated items will have raised in the region of £2.5m since 2008 in addition to our official charity of the year partnerships and support for the Royal British Legion, Prostate Cancer UK and other national charities.

# 12-13

⇨ **CONF. PREMIER. POSITION: 7**  
⋮ **AV. HOME ATTENDANCE: 5889**  
👤 **POTY: ALEX LAWLESS**  
⚽ **TOP SCORER: GRAY (20)**



Luton Town became the first non-League side to win at the home of a Premier League team in the FA Cup when gaining a 1-0 victory at Norwich City in 2012/13.



🏆 **JOHN STILL JOINS LUTON TOWN.**  
**26 FEB 2013**



Schools Link-Sports Cohesion Programme

# 6-1

Luton Town beat Barrow on Jan 8



# 13-14

## CHAMPIONS!

↑↑↑ **CONF. PREMIER. POSITION: 1**  
⋮ **AV. HOME ATTENDANCE: 7387**  
👤 **POTY: STEVE McNULTY**  
⚽ **TOP SCORER: GRAY (30)**



# 15,000

On 4th May 2014, an estimated 15,000 people crowd into St George's Square in Luton to celebrate the Hatters' return to the Football League.

# 101 102

**POINTS WON**

**GOALS SCORED**



### CLUB RECORD:

23 clean sheets in the League.



### CLUB RECORD:

15 consecutive away league games unbeaten



### GOLDEN BOOT

Andre Gray with 30 goals



### AWARD

John Still wins Conference Manager of the Year

# 14-15



**SKIPPER STEVE McNULTY NAMED IN THE PFA LEAGUE 2 TEAM OF THE YEAR**

**SKY BET LEAGUE 2. POSITION: 8**  
**AV. HOME ATTENDANCE: 8702**  
**POTY: NATHAN DOYLE**  
**TOP SCORER: CULLEN (14)**



000000  
**24**  
MAR  
2015

## **KENILWORTH ROAD RENAMED FOR CHARITY**

On 24th March 2015, the Club temporarily renamed Kenilworth Road the "Prostate Cancer UK Stadium" in aid of the Football League's official charity of the year. The stunt helped to raise thousands of pounds for PCUK and made the headlines in national and local press and online.



# £20,000+

Luton Town have supported the Royal British Legion on an ongoing basis through ground collections and our annual poppy shirt auctions. Supporters' generosity in the last three seasons alone has helped to raise over £20,000 for the armed forces veterans charity.



## **CLUB JOINS LOVE LUTON**

Pledging to help improve the image and perception of Luton and to enhance belief in the town and drive a thriving economy. The Club's involvement is set to continue well into the future.



## **CLUB STAFF JOIN LUTON FOODBANK SALARY SACRIFICE**



# 5,500+

Town supporters responded in their thousands to our survey, enabling the Club to better understand the different ways people get to Kenilworth Road on matchdays.



000000  
**11**  
DEC  
2014

## **LUTON TOWN BECOME THE FIRST ENGLISH PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL CLUB TO ADOPT THE NATIONAL LIVING WAGE**

"This shows the Hatters are ahead of the competition, both on and off the pitch. Everyone deserves a wage they can genuinely live on, so Luton Town should be commended for doing the right thing." Gavin Shuker MP



# 15-16



**LUTON TOWN DISABLED SUPPORTERS ASSOCIATION ESTABLISHED**

**SKY BET LEAGUE 2. POSITION: 11**  
**AV. HOME ATTENDANCE: 8226**  
**POTY: JACK MARRIOTT**  
**TOP SCORER: MARRIOTT (16)**

## THE CLUB CELEBRATES ITS 130TH YEAR WITH A SPECIAL CREST



# 3



### OFFICIAL CHARITIES OF THE YEAR PROGRAMME

At the beginning of the 2015-16 season the 'Official Charities of the Year' programme was launched - providing an opportunity for three local charities to benefit from a season-long partnership with the Club. These were CHUMS, Happy Days Children's Charity and LAMP. The partnerships would raise in the region of **£20,000** in total, as well as valuable awareness for each organisation.



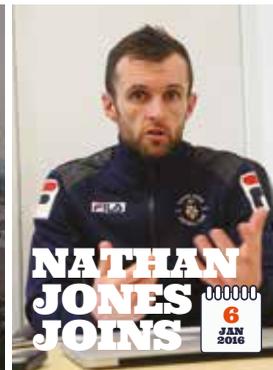
**CLUB STAFF SIAN, RANGA AND SIOBHAN RAISED A FORTUNE WITH THEIR SKYDIVE**

# £6,241



## LUTON TOWN ACHIEVE FAMILY EXCELLENCE ACCREDITATION

The Club are recognised for their efforts to engage positively with young supporters and families





# 4500 VISITORS

WELL OVER 4,000 PEOPLE ATTENDED THE PRE PUBLIC CONSULTATION EXHIBITION ROADSHOW WHICH TOOK PLACE BETWEEN MAY 21ST AND 28TH 2016, HELD ACROSS THREE LUTON TOWN CENTRE LOCATIONS.

**11,500+ LETTERS OF SUPPORT SUBMITTED**  
**99+% WEIGHT IN FAVOUR**



**POWER COURT LAND PURCHASED BY 2020**



# 16-17



**SKY BET LEAGUE 2. POSITION: 4**  
**AV. HOME ATTENDANCE: 8043**  
**POTY: DANNY HYLTON**  
**TOP SCORER: HYLTON (27)**



**AWARDED BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE COHESION SPORTS CHAMPIONS 2017**



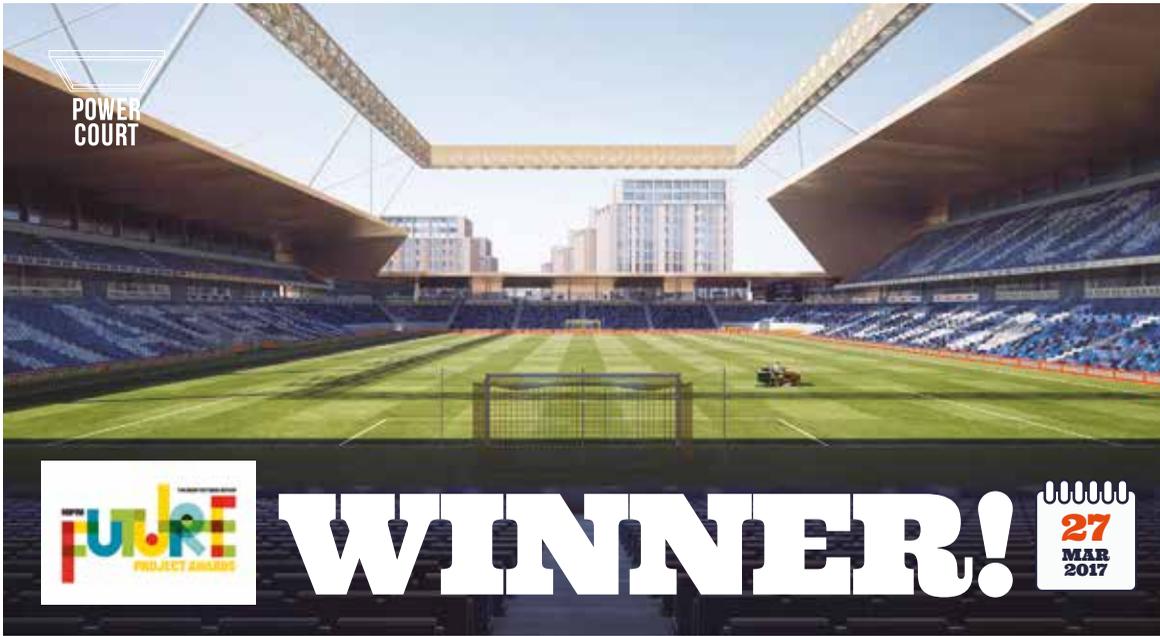
**CLUB CONTINUES SUPPORT FOR LEVEL PLAYING FIELD'S WEEKS OF ACTION**



# £25,000



Level Trust - our second official Club charity of the year benefit from £25,000 + worth of fundraising during the 2016-17 season, including Nathan Jones' parachute jump, a prison lock-in with Bedfordshire Police and members of Kenilworth Road staff cycling from London to Paris.



**DESIGNS FOR POWER COURT STADIUM  
RECOGNISED AT A PRESTIGIOUS GLOBAL  
ARCHITECTURE AWARDS CEREMONY**

“The masterplan allows the restoration of a currently hidden connection between the church and the River Lea. It also aims to deliver a pedestrian-focused scheme with raised public piazzas all accessible to the wider public. The scheme brings together cutting-edge architecture and engineering to transform a post-industrial site into a dynamic attraction, delivering new facilities to enhance the life of the town.”



**CLUB SUPPORTS THE  
BEDS POLICE WHITE  
RIBBON DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE CAMPAIGN**



**AWARDED LUTON'S BEST  
LEISURE & CULTURE AWARD**



**STADIUM SOCIAL CLUB  
ESTABLISHED**

Our weekly social club which is aimed at the over 50's and offers a variety of activities to engage with lonely and vulnerable members of our local community and runs from 10.00 am for two hours each wednesday.



**RAINBOW  
LACES**



# 17-18

# PROMOTION!

↑↑↑ **SKY BET LEAGUE 2. POSITION: TBC**  
⋮ **AV. HOME ATTENDANCE: 8615\***  
⚽ **POTY: ALAN SHEEHAN**  
⚽ **TOP SCORER: HYLTON (22)\***

\*Current figure prior to Forest Green Rovers match on April 28th

## 5 PLAYERS NAMED IN THE EFL LEAGUE 2 TEAM OF THE YEAR:

Jack Stacey, Alan Sheehan, Dan Potts, Luke Berry and Danny Hylton

## 5 PLAYERS NAMED IN THE PFA LEAGUE 2 TEAM OF THE YEAR:

Marek Stech, Alan Sheehan, Dan Potts, Luke Berry and Danny Hylton



## OLLY LEE WINS EFL GOAL OF THE YEAR FOR HIS POSTCODE-CROSSING 70-YARD GOAL AGAINST CAMBRIDGE



## NATHAN JONES WINS LEAGUE TWO MANAGER OF THE MONTH FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER.

## CLUB NAMED LEAGUE TWO FAMILY CLUB OF THE YEAR

# 13

# 5-0

**CLUB RECORD:** 

13 consecutive away games unbeaten

**CLUB RECORD:**

Joint largest away league win.

Swindon Town 0 - 5 Luton 





**GARY SWEET WINS LEAGUE TWO CEO OF THE YEAR AT THE FOOTBALL BUSINESS AWARDS**

3 NOV 2017



**CLUB APPOINTS ITS FIRST JUNIOR SUPPORTERS' LIAISON OFFICER - JAMES WHITEHEAD**



**LUTON TOWN ACHIEVES THE FAMILY EXCELLENCE GOLD AWARD, RECOGNISING THE EXTRAORDINARY QUALITY OF THE FAMILY EXPERIENCE. ONE OF ONLY 10 CLUBS TO DO SO**

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

**79,500**

**92,951**

**15,800**

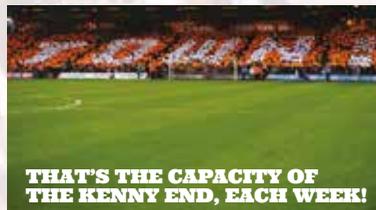
**10,000**

**08-18**

**LUTON TOWN COMMUNITY TRUST**

**3500 >**

Individual engagements each week through programmes delivered in local schools, colleges, youth groups and voluntary organisations



**THAT'S THE CAPACITY OF THE KENNY END, EACH WEEK!**



**LUTON TOWN COMMUNITY TRUST DELIVERS OVER 70 FREE HOURS OF CURRICULUM PE EVERY WEEK**

**OUR 12 GIRL'S AND WOMEN'S WEEKLY CENTRES NOW REACH OVER WELL OVER 140 PLAYERS**

**OUR AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMES REACH OVER 400 CHILDREN EACH WEEK IN LUTON & BEDFORDSHIRE**



## Proud to be working with Luton Town Football Club on their Training Ground, Academy Facilities and the Stadium

- Building Maintenance
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- Flooring
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# ALAN McCORMACK'S

# TOWN TEAM-MATES

## Who do you travel in with?

Stechy. It's normally pretty loud because he's a very bubbly person!

## Who's next to you in the dressing room?

Pottsy on my right and Mulls on the left. Pottsy is the most untidy player in the world – if it's not his toe strappings in your place, it's his shorts or his flip flops and towel. Mulls is good fun. He's always up to something!

## Who do you room with?

Scottie, but we've not had many chances this season! We shared in Slovenia and have done ever since. We know our routines on a Friday night and we can relax without playing computer games.

## Most annoying on away trips?

Probably Hylts and Mulls. They're always up to something, but not in a bad way – moving your food, or something like that.

## Best trainer?

The Lee brothers – they bring their own ball at times!

## Worst trainer?

Glen Rea. He just does things that baffle me!

## Strongest in the gym?

Collo, Scottie Cuthbert or Frankie, in terms of the weights they lift.

## Quickest feet?

Elliot Lee. He's sent me in many directions – nowhere near where the ball is going!

## Nutmeg king?

Olly Lee. He just gets it out of nowhere.

## Biggest moaner?

James Collins and Hylts. Everyone puts me down, but it's an absolute

lie. I'm the most laid back guy in training.

## Loudest in the dressing room?

You know when Stechy's about. Even when he's been out of the team, you never ever see him sulking.

## Gaffer's pet?

Danny Hylton – and now Jack Stacey!

## Best taste in music?

Sheez always puts a good mix on when we're travelling. Everyone knows them all and we have a sing-song on the way back sometimes.

## Best initiation song?

Lloyd Jones at Yeovil, singing Chris Brown. For a young lad to serenade the boys, including me, sitting on laps and looking into their eyes as he's singing to them – very brave!

## Worst initiation song?

Shins, without a doubt. Forgot the words. Awful.

## Toughest opponent on the pool table?

Sheez and Scottie are up there, and Collo – although he takes his time when he's lining up a shot. We counted 19 practise strokes while properly staring at the ball, to then go and tap it!

## Worst at pool?

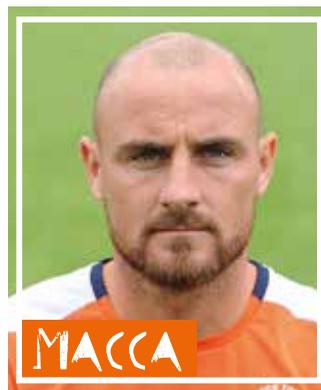
Jack Stacey's not great. Him and Harry Cornick, when they are playing together, block up every pocket!

## Best dressed?

I like Pell's gear. He stands out, but he pulls it off. At the Christmas do he wore a black fur coat and it was unbelievable!

## Worst dressed?

Young Jarvo – colour co-ordination leaves a lot to be desired!



## Who spends the longest time in front of the mirror?

It's usually Pottsy and Harry Cornick with the hairdryer, making sure their hair's perfect.

## Most intelligent?

Scottie and James Shea, he's the accountant – and he looks intelligent!

## Best banter?

Quite a few could take that title, it's a great dressing room, but Glen and Gambo together. If you had a camera follow them around you could make a TV show. You'd have just hours of laughter, the two of them bouncing off each other all day.

## Most likely to be a manager?

Me, Scottie and Sheez are all doing our coaching badges at the moment, so maybe one of us. I did my B Licence with Scott so I saw first-hand how he coaches, and he's good. Of the young lads, Pottsy speaks well and has a good football brain.

## Finally, predict your player of the year?

For me, Dan Pottsy or Alan Sheehan – but there's a good seven or eight you could pick from.

# Don't forget!



LTFC season ticket holders  
travel at child rate on match days.

Don't worry about parking,  
connect with the Busway at  
Luton Station and get dropped  
right outside the ground.

visit [arrivabus.co.uk/beds-and-bucks](http://arrivabus.co.uk/beds-and-bucks)

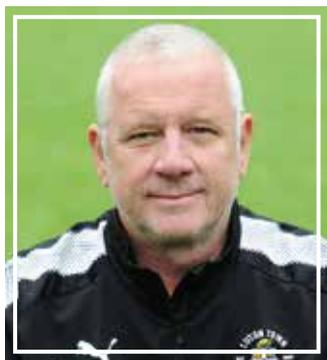


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from £10 on the 757



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# TRICK OR TREATMENT

A HUMOROUS INSIGHT TO PHYSIO SIMON PARSELL'S WORK

## SAY WE ARE GOING UP, SAY WE ARE GOING UP.

Opportunities don't happen, you create them. That's what has happened at this club. The combination of good people behind the scenes, good players and staff, plus outstanding fans has really gelled this season to push the club into League One. Over 30,000 fans travelling by the end of the season and an average home gate of 8,600 is the support many dream of.

Ninety goals scored at the rate of 2.09 per match and 1.02 conceded. Which means we score every 43 minutes and concede every 88 minutes. This form caused journalists in December to describe Luton as the most entertaining team in England. The dream has been achieved. So the best way to predict your future is to create it. With things happening off the pitch as well, the future is bright, the future is orange. For me also it provides a landmark as I reach 500 games as Luton Town physio next week at Notts County.

There are one or two people I would like to thank. Firstly, Bobbers Travel for their continued support of the medical department. To Doctor Paul Deeley, Chiropractor David Leu and our Paramedic team of the two Daves and Colin, who help me pick the bones out of the situations. There's Vera the laundry lady, who loves washing the kit, loads. Maggie the cook at the training ground – she uses the smoke detector as a kitchen timer, but looks after us. Finally Elizabeth the training ground cleaner. Nobody cleans like her but she did sell the Hoover. She said it was just collecting dust. Without all these cogs, the wheel doesn't turn.

A big thank you to everybody who has sent cards to Luke Berry. At times like this it's nice to know there is support. It was a nasty injury but as we were treating Luke on the field, he said: "Can't you put it back in and I will play the second half." Luke is making good progress and already at work in the gym and starting to weight bear. A few more

days healing and then we can start in the swimming pool at the David Lloyd gym. Thanks to them for helping us out.

I recently visited Luke at his house and whilst sitting watching the Commonwealth Games with him, I thought my eyes were playing up and there was a blob on the screen. I asked with what it was and he told me: "It's a piece of Blu Tack that I use as a cheat on Call of Duty." Apparently the Blu Tack marks the spot that you wait at and just keep shooting the enemy. That boy has too much time on his hands.

The lads have been outstanding this season playing some great football, and also providing us with a few hairy moments as well. We can all reflect and pick out our favourite moments, but to get five players in the Teams of the Year is outstanding and shows the regard that fellow players and managers have for them.

I think Elliot Lee and Pelly-Ruddock have started their claims for goal of 2018 already, although Pelly's second shot caused an EasyJet pilot leaving Luton to report an unidentified flying object going past the cockpit window. This promotion means a lot to everyone, but when you see Paul Hart with a tear in his eye, then you know how special it is.

The quotes board has been outstanding this year. The final two were provided at Carlisle, when Scott announced that: "My brother is not driving to the game today – he is just jumping in his car", and of course, one of our main contributors Danny Hylton said: "If we had won the game we would be closer to second!"

Well that's it for another season. Time for me to put on those trunks and head towards a sunbed. I just hope Greenpeace don't try and push me back in the water. Enjoy the summer.

**COYH!**






— FUNDING PARTNERS —

Since 2000, the Football Foundation has been transforming grassroots facilities across the country thanks to the generous investment provided by the Premier League, The FA and the Government via Sport England.

The total area of every all-weather pitch the Football Foundation has funded is equivalent to **NEW YORK'S CENTRAL PARK!**

**39,160** If every changing room the Football Foundation ever funded was combined, **39,160** players would be able to change simultaneously!

If every all-weather and natural grass pitch the Football Foundation funded was laid back-to-back, it would stretch from London's **BIG BEN TO CALAIS!**

If every goalpost the Football Foundation funded were stacked on top of each other, it would create a structure equivalent to the height of **351 WEMBLEY STADIUMS!**

**Football Foundation**



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# THE SCIENCE OF EVERYTHING LUTON

THE TOWN'S HEAD OF SPORTS SCIENCE, JARED ROBERTS-SMITH, GIVES US AN INSIGHT INTO HIS WORK WITH THE HATTERS LADS...

**Wow, what a few days! From mad uncontrolled celebrations on the pitch when the final whistle went at Brunton Park, getting mobbed in Carlisle High Street by 300 faithful away fans, to a seven-hour party bus home to be greeted by fans, friends and family – it's been a whirlwind 72 hours but I wouldn't change it for the world!**

Firstly, I feel I need to give a massive shout out to the Luton Town Faithful. When I came to the club two years ago, I had no idea how big a following the club had and just how passionate and dedicated the fans were. The support at home during occasions ranging from the 8-2 win on the opening day of this season, to the defeat against Blackpool in the play-off semi, you guys have stuck by us through thick and thin.

And as for the away following we receive consistently game in, game out, it makes such a difference to the players and staff on the pitch and makes that winning feeling that little bit sweeter, so in true Town tradition...hats off to every single one of you.

Secondly, I have to praise the boys, again each and every one of them. They have worked tirelessly throughout the season, whether playing week in week out, not in the starting 11 or out injured, asking what is required of them on a day in, day out basis.

They have put the graft in on the training pitches, in the gym and at the Kenny and the numerous away grounds week after week. Every now and again you have to check a couple of them, but they know we do it for their best interest to develop as a person, professional and ultimately to receive individual accolades like the EFL and PFA teams of the season selection, as well as collective achievements such as our promotion to League One. It's been a pleasure to work with you lads during this season, a great group and a credit to us as staff.

That brings me on nicely to the staff and board. There are so many people that work so hard from us as the first team staff that you see on the pitch weekly, to the groundsman/maintenance staff, catering departments, media and PR,



admin/financial departments, the board and numerous other people behind the scenes.

I like to think I have played my part in this important and successful season, but we couldn't do it without each other and although I hope everyone knows how much I appreciate their hard work, this gives me an opportunity to thank all of those people – not least my family and my lovely girlfriend, Becky for their unconditional support.

Again this column follows the trend for this season, with not so many comical lines as Super Fizz, but hopefully has given you a good insight to behind the scenes at LTFC.

What a wonderful ten months, especially after the heartbreak of last year. We bounced back and achieved our aims and goals, and that doesn't come without a lot of hard work that we are all so proud of. Can't wait to see you back here next season...next stop League One!

**COYH!**

# TOWN 3 : CREWE ALEXANDRA 1



SATURDAY 14TH APRIL | KENILWORTH ROAD | ATTENDANCE: 9,202 | AWAY: 189

**TOWN GOALS:** HYLTON 39, E LEE 45+2, MPANZU 51 | **CREWE GOAL:** BOWERY 35

**HATTERS:** SHEA, STACEY, REA, SHEEHAN ©, POTTS, MCCORMACK, MPANZU, O LEE, E LEE (CORNICK 64), COLLINS, HYLTON (MULLINS 85). | **SUBS NOT USED:** JUSTIN, JERVIS, DOWNES, GAMBIN, STECH (GK)  
**YELLOW CARDS:** MCCORMACK, HYLTON.

**CREWE:** GARRATT, NG, RAY ©, JONES, BOWERY, NOLAN, WINTLE, PICKERING, KIRK (AINLEY 57), GREEN (DAGNALL 77), MILLER (PORTER 57). | **SUBS NOT USED:** WALKER, RICHARDS (GK), LOWERY, STERRY  
**YELLOW CARDS:** GREEN, DAGNALL.



Elliot Lee puts the Town in front



## THE MAIN MINUTES

**35'** GOAL to Crewe Alexandra. Shaun Miller flicks the ball past Alan Sheehan and Jordan Bowery is through, he then calmly slots it through the legs of James Shea to give the visitors the lead. 0-1 #COYH

**37'** Close to an immediate response from the Hatters, Town win a free-kick 25 yards from goal, Sheehan takes – he gets it over the wall and it looks destined for the top corner, but Garratt manages to get there to claw it away from danger!

**39'** **DANNY HYLTON EQUALISES FOR THE HATTERS!** Sheehan delivers a left-wing corner, Alan McCormack rises highest to nod it down and Hylton fires it in from close range! That's his 22nd goal of the campaign! 1-1 #COYH

**45+2'** **ELLIOT LEE, WHAT A STRIKE!** The Hatters take the lead in emphatic style just before the half-time whistle - Pelly wins the ball inside his own box before getting it forward to Collins, he plays it down the left for Elliot who manages to wriggle past two defenders, before curling it in off the post! 2-1 #COYH

**51'** **OOHHH PELLY! BRILLIANT EFFORT!** Town win a corner, it's crossed in and then cleared to Pelly 25 yards out, he brings it down before hammering it into the top left corner! Beautiful strike. Every outfield player currently on the pitch for Town has got a goal this season. 3-1 #COYH#

**80'** **SHEEHAN HITS THE POST!** Town have another free-kick, this one right on the edge of the box – Sheehan lines it up and it hits the outside of the post and bounces away from danger!

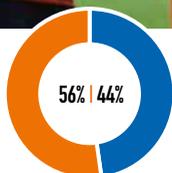
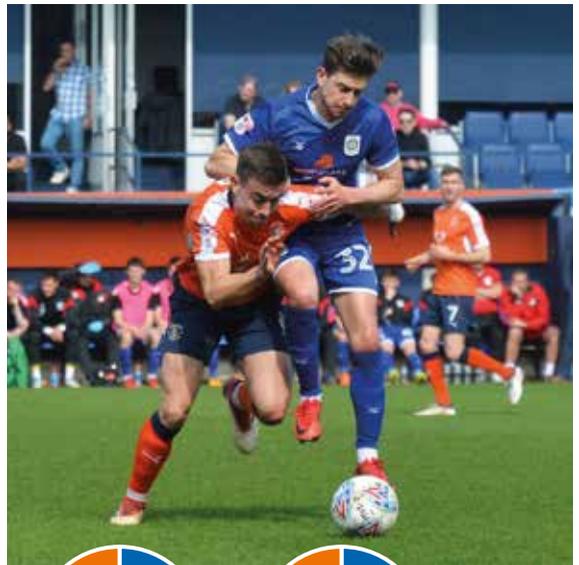


## JONES:

"First half I thought we peppered their goal. The goal was coming but then they got one, so it kind of set us back a little bit. But we showed some real character once again to get a goal back straight away and then to score a goal just before half-time was superb and that really set the

tone. Then to score so quickly after half-time effectively killed the game. It was wonderful really.

"We're hitting form at the right time and putting the pressure on a couple, so that's good from our point of view."



POSSESSION



SHOTS ON TARGET



SHOTS OFF TARGET



CORNERS



FOULS

**NEW**

# ORANGE!



**TASTES  
AMAZING.  
RHYMES  
WITH  
NOTHING.\***

**\*EXCEPT 'SPORANGE'**



# PELLY'S PILEDRIVER!

## MIDFIELDER'S HITS STUNNING FIRST GOAL OF THE SEASON IN CREWE WIN

**Town's longest serving player Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu marked his first goal in a year with a bang as he netted a thunderbolt of an effort in the 3-1 win over Crewe Alexandra a fortnight ago at Kenilworth Road.**

That game marked Pelly's third consecutive start – a run which coincided with three victories on the spin for the Hatters.

Whilst it was a tough period for the 24-year-old being out of the team, he wants to be Sky Bet League One.

He said: "I have been out of the team, I could have got more [appearances] this year. I've come back in and it's been a while. I've just got to keep going.

"Times have changed, but changed for the better and hopefully we can get the job done and look forward to League One.

"It has changed a lot, players come and go, managers come and go. We've got the facilities now – the training ground is brilliant. So I've been through the highs and lows and now we're on a high. The main thing now is we get to League One and see how we can do."

The recent 3-0 win over Yeovil Town marked his 150th appearance in a Town shirt, in which time he had netted seven goals. With goals coming from a range of players across the squad this campaign, he was desperate to get in on the action, with pressure building on his shoulders from his team mates.

"I had to get a goal, I was having good shots, so I just said 'let me hit this'," he continued. "Thankfully I got the goal and the win. Three points was all we needed today.

"I hit it well, I struck it nicely. I was thinking if this goes in, it's a good strike. The keeper saw it late – I'm delighted I got my first goal of the season, it's been a while.

"Glen (Rea) scored last week, so he was getting on my back, and I was like, 'Yes, I need to hit this' and thankfully it went in.

"I had to control it, the gaffer was like 'No blazing squad, no blazing squad,' so I've hit it and hit it very sweetly. Everyone has been on the scoresheet, everyone's chipping in. We're getting goals from everywhere, so it's good for the team and the morale."



Alan McCormack's return to the starting XI appears to have also aided Mpanzu's performances, with the Irishman's strong holding midfield displays allowing the former West Ham United man to push forward.

Pelly explained: "He's 100 per cent influenced us. He has got experience in that position, he's obviously played for a while. It's good to have him there anchoring the midfield. He's been good since he has come back after a long spell out injured."





# CARLISLE UNITED 1 : TOWN 1



SATURDAY 21ST APRIL | BRUNTON PARK | ATTENDANCE: 5,523 | AWAY: 1,404

**TOWN GOAL:** OLLY LEE 62 | **CARLISLE GOAL:** GRAINGER 13

**HATTERS:** SHEA, STACEY, REA, SHEEHAN (C), POTTS, MCCORMACK (MULLINS 90+1), O LEE, MPANZU, E LEE (DOWNES 90+2), COLLINS, HYLTON. | **SUBS NOT USED:** JUSTIN, CORNICK, JERVIS, GAMBIN, STECH (GK)  
**YELLOW CARD:** POTTS

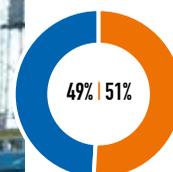
**CARLISLE:** BONHAM, GRAINGER (C), JOYCE, JONES, DEVITT, CAMPBELL-RYCE, BENNETT, ELLIS, BROWN (MILLER 72), HILL, NADESAN (TWARDEK 72). | **SUBS NOT USED:** GRAY (GK), PARKES, O'SULLIVAN, LAMBE, STOCKTON | **YELLOW CARDS:** ELLIS, GRAINGER, JONES



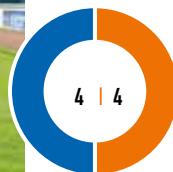
## JONES:

"You've got to enjoy these times because they're few and far between. Six promotions I've had, but I've been in it not far off 30 years. So if you have one every five years you wouldn't take that from anything else! If you had a kiss off your wife or girlfriend every five years you would be struggling.

"To do that is a wonderful achievement and we've got to enjoy and we will enjoy it. We will make sure we're ready for next week, but we will enjoy it. Five of our players have been honoured in the PFA Team of the Year. We've got a night with the supporters tomorrow that we will enjoy in the right manner. But we will enjoy it because they have worked tirelessly."



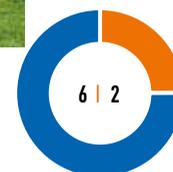
POSSESSION



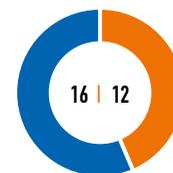
SHOTS ON TARGET



SHOTS OFF TARGET



CORNERS



FOULS



Olly Lee slots home the equaliser... the goal that sealed promotion!

## THE MAIN MINUTES

- 13'** PENALTY to Carlisle. Richie Bennett is tripped by James Shea as the striker tried to round the keeper. Danny Grainger steps up... and slots it away convincingly from 12-yards, sending Shea the wrong way. CU 1-0 LT #COYH
- 36'** Really unlucky there. Jack Stacey is fouled out on the right, Alan Sheehan whips in the resulting free-kick, claims for a handball not given, Danny Hylton, Elliot Lee and Alan McCormack all have efforts in the space of five seconds but they're all blocked or saved and Carlisle maintain their lead.
- 49'** Pelly close to his second screamer in as many games - good build up down the left, Dan Potts' cross runs across the edge of the box, James Collins takes a touch to tee it up for Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu to hit and it's narrowly wide of the bottom left corner!
- 62' OLLY LEE!!! COME ON!!!** Town are level! Jack Bonham saves well from Hylton's effort from the edge of the box, but Olly calmly slots it in from seven yards! It's not from 70-yards, but that could be his best goal of the season! **CU 1-1 LT** #COYH
- 68'** Crawley Town have equalised at Exeter City, as it stands, THE TOWN ARE GOING UP!
- 80'** Pelly very nearly gives the Hatters the lead. Stacey goes on a brilliant run down the right, he goes past a few before getting it to Pelly who is through on goal, he shoots but the keeper spreads himself well and Elliot Lee can't put away the follow up.
- FULL-TIME!!!! WE ARE GOING UP, SAY WE ARE GOING UP! TOWN CLINCH PROMOTION FROM SKY BET LEAGUE TWO! COME ON!**



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# FULL DUCK DINNER FOR SHEEZ!

**It was after the Town were knocked out of the FA Cup and Checktrade Trophy within four days of each other in January that Player of the Year Alan Sheehan told Hatters fans it was now: "Full duck or no dinner!"**

After sealing promotion at Carlisle on Saturday, he could look forward to his full duck dinner...washed down with a few beers on the five-hour journey back to Bedfordshire!

"It was all or nothing," said the 31-year-old Irishman. "Full duck or no dinner...and we're going to be having duck tonight, aren't we?"

"And we'll have to wash that down with something, won't we?! But no, it's a great achievement. We set out with a goal at the start of the season, and everyone wants to win the league, but this time next year it doesn't matter, because we're in League One now.

"Credit to all the fans that travelled, not just today but all the way through the season. They've been unbelievable – even from the start of the season to Swindon away, just after Christmas, going away to Wycombe at the start of the season, there are so many memorable games. That's for them because they deserve it."

Sheehan said he didn't know what was going on down in Devon, where Crawley holding Exeter to a 2-2 draw helped the Hatters over the line at Brunton Park.

"I hadn't got a clue to be honest until the fans started singing at the end. We were going to win the game, as we always do, and we had a few chances," he said.

"I thought we were excellent in the second half. The first half we weren't great at all. They had the penalty and didn't really create a whole lot, but we kind of got word and I saw the manager's subs and thought 'Hold on a minute, let's hold on and get the job done', which we did.

"Pelly had a few chances and you touched on me and Glen Rea at the back again. Alan McCormack has come back in and it would be unfair not to bring him up – fellow Irishman! He's been unbelievable since he came back in.



"It's 13 points out of 15 since he came back in and the leadership and the know-how, he's made such a huge difference. He's had his injuries, but I suppose if you said, come in for 15-20 games and they're the big ones that he's played this year, and he's been immense for us."

The players included injured midfielder Luke Berry in their dressing room celebrations.

"We Facetimed Luke there, all the team," said Sheehan. "He's been unbelievable for us all season. He's a brilliant lad and what happened to him at Colchester I hope that happens to no-one again, because it was horrible. But we can't wait to have him back and someone with his attitude, he'll only come back stronger."

And Sheez was looking forward to the party on the way home, with a sea of beer following the lads down the M6.

"I'd imagine so, unless you're a cider man!" he smiled, "but it's thoroughly deserved because it's been a club effort from top to bottom and everybody deserves the praise that they get."



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# OLLY OLLY OLLY OLLY, WE ARE THE TOWN!

**It was the pinnacle moment of the campaign so far last Saturday as Olly Lee's goal secured promotion to the third tier for the Hatters.**

The older Lee brother at the club has now made more league appearances this season than he has in a single campaign in his career, with the 26-year-old at the heart of the Town midfield for much of the 2017-18 term.

Not only that, his goalscoring exploits haven't gone unnoticed – they certainly didn't at Carlisle – with his strike against the Cumbrians his sixth of the campaign.

Olly was over the moon with the result, but it wasn't until the full-time whistle had blown that he realised how important his goal was.

He said: "We had no idea about the Exeter result to be honest. It was only with about five minutes to go that all the fans started to sing and I was thinking 'Hello, what could be happening here'. When the final whistle went we still didn't know.

## DREAM

"There were some great scenes, stuff I will remember forever. We had no idea. I was trying to shout to some fans to find out the score, I had no idea what was going on, they obviously couldn't hear me! When it got through that Exeter had drawn it was the best feeling I have had.

"To get promoted with my brother, it's been a dream come true. I've loved



every minute playing with him and to have dad there watching, it's one I will remember."

When asked how he rated his goal at Brunton Park compared to his famous Goal of the Year winning strike against Cambridge, he said: "It's definitely more important! It was a great moment. It was the goal we needed. Thankfully I was there to put it in and it's been a great day for the boys.

"I just needed to get a clean strike and hit the target. I think I can score goals, obviously I haven't scored for a little while. I've been a bit frustrated by that. I have been doing some extra shooting and thankfully it's paid off."

The goal brought the game level after Carlisle had taken the lead through Danny Grainger's penalty early on.

Lee joked: "We like to make it difficult for ourselves don't we, it's entertaining for the fans! That's all that matters. Getting back into the game though shows the character in the squad. We're all together, we all make it happen.

"We'd like to do it an easier way, but sometimes we don't start as quickly as we'd like to. We went one down but you saw how we reacted and I thought we dominated after that. It was just a matter of time before we scored and we did."

# THE DEADLY DUO

**They're the first Hatters strike duo to each score 20 goals in a season for 90 years when Andy Rennie and Jimmy Yardley achieved the feat in the 1927-28 campaign – and Danny Hylton and James Collins are just as prolific when it comes to winning promotion!**

Hylton has registered 22 times this term, becoming the first Town player to net 20 or more in consecutive seasons since Steve Howard in 2001-02 and 02-03, while Collins has hit 20 since his summer switch from Crawley Town.

Between them, however, they have now racked up a phenomenal seven promotions – six of them from League Two.

Collins, 27, leads the way with four and he said: "It's my fourth from League Two and I'm hoping it's not going to be the last in my career. The determination is there now to kick on and win promotion to an even higher level."

## TOUGHEST

Two of the striker's previous promotions came with Shrewsbury, with the other coming on loan at Northampton for the second half of the 2015-16 campaign.

"I've got to say this one has been the toughest," he adds. "The expectation has been there all along, and being away from home for long periods makes it tough, but it's been so enjoyable.

"The squad and the spirit among the boys is unbelievable and that coach journey back from Carlisle will live with us forever. You have to celebrate the good times and it's a pleasure to play with these lads."



Hylton has won three promotions, the first from the Conference with Aldershot in 2006 before leading Oxford to League One two years ago.

"I have won three promotions but it gets better every time, doesn't it?" smiled the 29-year-old. "There was a lot of pressure and expectation on us this year. Everyone keeps saying we were the best, so we needed to keep going and get it done and we did.

"It was an amazing moment, obviously something we've been building up to all season, something we wanted to achieve from the first day of pre-season. We're just relieved to have got it done and we've enjoyed every minute of it. It's something I will never forget."

Together with fellow strikers Elliot Lee and Harry Cornick, the Town forward

line has registered 59 times this season.

"We've got quality throughout the team, there's people that don't make the bench on a Saturday that would get in any other team in this league," said Hylton.

"To play with Collo, it's a pleasure. He's a goalscorer and he's got loads this season, but it doesn't matter where the goals come from, whether it's Harry Cornick, Elliot Lee or Jervis or Jarvo. It doesn't matter.

"We had five players in both the EFL and PFA teams of the season, which is great, but there could have been a few more. Personally, it was a great achievement because it's brilliant to get recognition off managers and players. It was great."

# REACTION EXTRA

## THE HOMETOWN BOY

Homegrown full-back James Justin may not have played as many games as in his breakthrough season of 2016–17, but you couldn't keep the smile off the face of a lad who has been at his hometown club since the age of seven.

"It's unbelievable," said the 20-year-old, who has made 22 appearances, scoring twice. "I never thought I'd be sitting here after the heartbreak of the play-off defeat to Blackpool last season, it took a toll on us. But we have bounced back and we're better than ever now, trying to strive up the leagues.



"I was nervous during the game. I just wanted it to happen and I am over the moon that it's happened.

"You'll never do it again in your career, going away to Carlisle to seal promotion and having a six-hour journey on the way back. It was a party bus and something I will remember for the rest of my life. My first promotion, my hometown club, it's just a great feeling."

## THE DOUBLE PROMOTION HATTER

Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu is the only player left at the club from the 2013–14 Conference promotion-winning season, and the midfielder certainly revelled in the celebrations on the pitch at Brunton Park – and afterwards on the coach home.



The dressing room DJ recently passed 150 appearances for the Hatters, and he said: "I've been here a long time and it was good to get promoted from the Conference as champions, and although we're not champions in League Two, it's a massive achievement.

"To then have the long coach journey to enjoy it together was a great feeling. We had a couple of beers and the music playing, and it had been a hard game at Carlisle, but we got through in the end and it was such a relief that we could just enjoy ourselves.

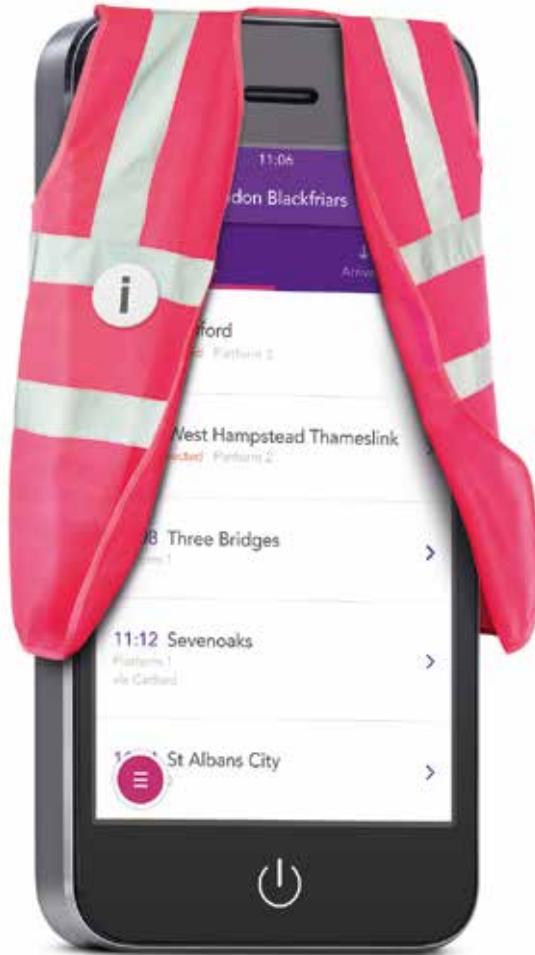
"Promotion was the aim at the beginning of the season and we've

achieved that, so it's a job well done for us."

Pelly's highlight of the campaign might have been his recent goal against Crewe, but no – it had to be Carlisle.

"Sealing promotion yesterday has to be the highlight," said the 24-year-old. "It's that relief that we've done all that we've set up to achieve in pre-season. Now we've got to look forward to League One and see what we can do.

"We think we've got a League One team and we'd all love for back-to-back promotions, but we've got to sit back in the summer and see what realistically we can achieve."



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# REACTION EXTRA

## THE YOUNG PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Jack Stacey has had a wonderful first season at Kenilworth Road since joining the club from Reading last summer, enjoying a battle with James Justin for the right-back spot that has also ended with him succeeding JJ as the club's Young Player of the Year.

"I'm so happy to get the young player of the year award from the gaffer," said the 22-year-old. "I feel that he and his staff have really improved me over the season and it's nice to be recognised within a great squad featuring lots of young players."

Stacey spent last season on loan at Exeter, suffering the same play-off heartache as the Hatters – albeit a game further on as our semi-final conquerors Blackpool beat the Grecians after the defender's last-gasp goal against Carlisle had earned them a place at Wembley.

He added: "I lost in the play-offs last year, and a lot of the lads here from last season did as well, so we all had that joint experience which we have used as motivation for this season in our goal of winning promotion. Everyone is extremely happy with that."

"When the final whistle went at Carlisle there was confusion really. We were looking towards the crowd to let us know. They'd been singing and chanting, but that's just usual for the Luton crowd, so we weren't sure."

"I saw Stechy running over first with the 'Going Up' flags, and after that it was a brilliant moment to share with the fans that were there and all the players and staff. Thankfully the gaffer gave us a couple of days off to celebrate."

Now Stacey, who has scored once in his 43 appearances this term, is looking forward. "When I first met with the manager he outlined a long-term plan for the club and this is the first stage that we've reached," he added. "Now I want to continue to improve as a player, and as a club to reach the next stages."



## THE AWAY FANS' PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Harry Cornick quickly became a fans' favourite after his arrival from Bournemouth in August – so much so that the Bobbers Travel Club voted him their away player of the year!

"It's great to be appreciated by the fans," said the 23-year-old. "The supporters have been unbelievable this year and they've been at the games like Newcastle, where we took 7,500, Coventry, where we took over 2,000 and then Carlisle away this weekend – to take over 1,000, it was unbelievable. So I'd like to say thanks to the fans for voting for me for this."

Asked for his personal highlight, the forward thought back to October and the first of his five goals.

"Carlisle sticks in mind obviously, but for me personally I think Exeter away where I got my first goal, we won 4-1 and we first went top of the league," said Cornick. "I think that's when I realised what a good opportunity we have this year to get promotion."





## THE LITTLE BROTHER!

**Olly Lee wasn't the only one to grab the limelight at the weekend, with younger brother Elliot winning the Ian Pearce Memorial Trophy at the club presentation evening for earning the most home man-of-the-match awards from the Luton News.**

"It was quite unexpected," said the 23-year-old. "It was nice to receive that award and I like to think that I've put in good performances when I've been on the pitch this season."

Elliot's 12 goals in total have come from 19 starts, with his ten league strikes coming at an average of 137 minutes per goal – better than Danny Hylton's 148 and James Collins' 167 minutes per goal.

"I've just been told by Simon Pitts that my ratio is better than Hylts and Collo, so I'll rub that in their faces," laughed Elliot. "I've always said that if I play games, I'll score goals – and that's what I've done. I'm happy with my season."

Playing in the same team as his big brother has made this season even more special for the Lee family.



"I think there is a bit of telepathy between the two of us," said Elliot. "He's put a couple of a plate for me – and a few others this season – so full credit to him because he's been phenomenal this season for us, and a big reason why we've gone up."

"The Cambridge game at home was massive for me. It was the first game

we started together and him scoring that worldly goal and me getting a couple, it was brilliant with all the family there.

"And obviously Newcastle, going back to St James' Park, and then to top it off, Carlisle away, getting the promotion was fantastic. It's a day I'll never forget."

# REACTION EXTRA



## THE PROLIFIC PLAYERS' PLAYER

Hatters defender Dan Potts was over the moon to receive the Players' Player of the Year award at the Luton Town Supporters' Trust's Presentation Evening on Sunday.

The 24-year-old has got on the scoresheet seven times this campaign, which is remarkable given he didn't score until his 67th career appearance – that goal coming in the first leg of the play-off semi-final against Blackpool last season.

He was unable to attend the dinner on the night, as he was being honoured at the PFA's Awards Evening, in which he made their League Two Team of the Year.

Potts said: "I am delighted, over the moon to be the Players' Player. You ask any player to get that sort of recognition from your team mates, it's a special one.

"I'd definitely say this has been the best season of my professional career in terms of everything. The stats, the amount of games I have played, I have kept fit, winning promotion, the awards – taking that all into consideration, I'd definitely say it's been my most successful year for sure.

"I was never known for scoring goals! We've worked on getting shots on target and getting it good positions. We have done a lot of work on set pieces and as a defensive unit we have been fantastic going forward and tight at the back."

[TOWN v FOREST GREEN ROVERS | SATURDAY 28TH APRIL 2018] 71

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# TOWN TRAVELLERS

## LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS' TRUST MEDIA OFFICER KEVIN HARPER'S VIEW FROM CARLISLE...

“Wow what a special day! In fairness it didn't feel overly special when the alarm started bleeping at 5am but once I was up and at it, the feeling of excitement soon kicked in. Carlisle might be more miles away than I dared to think but the prospect of promotion made the journey much easier.

After a stop off at the services encountering Manchester United fans heading in the opposite direction we were soon well on the way to Cumbria. As Carlisle got closer my excitement increased!

Once we arrived at Brunton Park it was time to get the party started. We went straight into the ground where there was a barbecue and beer available which was the perfect pre-match aperitif and cranked up the anticipation further.

We made our way into the seats on the most gorgeous sunny day, perfectly fitting weather for a promotion to be sealed, and the match kicked off. We were slow out of the traps and Carlisle took the lead from a penalty. Uh oh.

News was better elsewhere with Crawley beating Exeter but there appeared to be few signs that we were going to get back into our match as half time came and went with the Town still 1-0 down. Worse news came soon after when Exeter went 2-1 up, and suddenly the feeling was this was not going to be the day after all.

Then after getting a foothold in the game, utopia arrived when Danny Hylton's shot was too hot for the Carlisle keeper to handle, and there was Olly Lee to score a rare tap in and level the match. Almost 30 minutes remained. We could win this yet. But wait!

Crawley equalised at the same time! A draw would be enough.

The rest of the match was all about not conceding and we actually twice almost won it when Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu had a chance saved and then hit the bar moments later. News came through Exeter had drawn. We're up. Carlisle get a corner and send the keeper up. I must admit Cheltenham away flashed through my mind but the corner was headed over, the final whistle went and scenes of pandemonium began in the away end!

The celebrations were something I will not forget for a long while and on the long journey home there was plenty of time to reflect on a truly special day. It was made even more special sharing it with some amazing friends so I arrived home totally buzzing and a very proud Hatter! ”

## ...AND HIS INTERVIEW WITH FELLOW TRAVELLING TOWN FAN ANTHONY HOPPIE

**How long have you been a Luton fan?**

23 years

**Where do you sit at home games?**

Main Stand Block F

**Who do you go to matches with?**

My friend Craig

**What got you into supporting the Town?**

My mate took me to my first game which was Wycombe away in 1998.

**Who is your favourite Luton player of all time?**

Steve Howard

**And your favourite manager?**

Nathan Jones

**What is your favourite Luton match from the past?**

Crystal Palace away in 2005/06

**If you could bring back one player from the past to play in the current side who would you choose?**

Ahmet Brkovic

**Who is your LTFC Player of the Season?**

Danny Hylton

**Describe LTFC in three words**

My home town





# LUTON TOWN SUPPORTERS' TRUST

## And breathe! After a nervous wait the Town are officially going up and doesn't it feel great!?

What a remarkable season it has been for this amazing football club. It started in fantastic style with the 8-2 thrashing of Yeovil on the opening day back in August and after Stevenage and then Cambridge came to Kenilworth Road and went for seven each we all knew something special was happening.

Add in fine wins over Swindon, Lincoln and Crawley among others, that wonderful day at Newcastle in January and the special scenes at Carlisle last weekend, it really has been one of the most enjoyable seasons to be a Luton fan.

We have two matches left to enjoy and I know they will be turned into two amazing parties as we celebrate the fantastic achievement of getting back into League One.

### The Trust

It has been a really good year for the Trust too. I am lucky to chair a committee that is made up of some fine people and everyone has worked hard throughout the season.

Our aim is always to finish a season in better shape than when we start it and with the fantastic work that has gone in we are definitely in that position as we approach the upcoming summer.

### Media

Since the beginning of the season we have taken our media output to a whole new level. Our media officer Kevin Harper has worked tirelessly in his spare time to come up with new ideas of how we can raise the profile of the Trust and make sure our public presence is strong.

Our social media accounts on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook are updated regularly, as is our website and we have also begun a monthly podcast this season which has gone down very well judging by your feedback.

I am honoured to be involved each month and it really is a pleasure to work with James and Kev on it. We have a chat

to a different player each month and they have all been great to talk to. If you haven't listened already it is well worth a listen. The links are on our website and you can download the podcasts on iTunes and Soundcloud.

### Membership

Our new membership database is allowing more people to join us online and our membership is growing as a result. Our membership secretary, Nigel Green, does a wonderful job and we now have a facility to update our members with what is going on with the Trust through regular emails.

Our membership is important to us. The more members we have the bigger the voice we have. We work closely with the club at all times as your representatives. If you are not currently a member and would like to join you can do so on our website.

### Social Events

We held our three regular events this season which were extremely popular as always. We were delighted to host an evening with Nathan Jones in October which was followed by our Annual Quiz in January. All efforts then went into the organisation of our Presentation Evening last Sunday which I'll come onto shortly.

My thanks go to Mark Chapman, Helen Gatward, June and Colin Adamson, June Pyper and the rest of our social events committee who worked so hard to put these events on and ensure they run so smoothly, and to the staff at the ticket office who kindly sell tickets to those evenings on our behalf.

### Presentation Evening

Our annual Presentation Evening was held at Venue 360 last Sunday and following on from promotion at Carlisle the day before it was a wonderful occasion, where the players and management of the club were honoured for their efforts.



Seven different players won awards which, as Alan Sheehan tweeted on Monday, highlights just how many members of the team have had a big impact this season. My congratulations go to Alan for winning the big award of Player of the Season and to everyone else who deservedly picked up an award on the night.

I was also delighted to give out our Outstanding Achievement award which this year went to Kevin Catlin. Kevin was a very good friend of mine, as he was of a number of our committee, and as we pass a year since he left us there is not a day goes by that we do not miss him.

I said on the evening that without Kevin we may not have a Luton Town FC to support and therefore it is fitting that we have renamed the award the Kevin Catlin Outstanding Achievement award going forward. Kevin would have hated that but he deserves to be remembered in this way. His daughter Siobhan picked up the award on Sunday and I'm pleased she got to see how much her father meant to everyone present.

### Fundraising

We have spent the season raising funds for the supporters' charity of the year – Keech Hospice - and I'm so proud of the total that all the fans groups and events have

raised, which was announced at the Presentation Evening. £7,374.31 is a phenomenal amount. Well done to everyone who has contributed to that incredible figure.

### Summary

I'll finish off by thanking my fellow committee members for their hard work over the last year, our members for their continued support, to the players and management of the club for a really enjoyable season and to 2020 for continuing to work so closely with us.

There is only one way this season can get any more special than it already is and that is if we finally get that long awaited go ahead for the developments at Power Court and Newlands Park which all fans crave and more importantly the town of Luton deserve.

Finally I would like to wish everyone connected with LTFC a great summer. Have a good one and I'll see you in August ready for our first season back in League One.

Now let's party!

Tony Murray  
Chairman



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Opening day success against Yeovil – a taste of what was to come!

# THE SEASON IN REVIEW

## CHARLIE HANSON LOOKS BACK ON THE 2017-18 CAMPAIGN

### AUGUST

The '8-2 to be a Yeovil fan' jokes had already begun by the time the final whistle of our opening day thumping of the Glovers had been blown – an unbelievable start, but maybe a taste of what was to come for the rest of the campaign.

It wasn't the easiest of beginnings though. A Carabao Cup first round exit to Ipswich Town before a last-minute defeat at Barnet came in the seven days that followed.

Our Checkatrade Trophy campaign got off to a strong yet confusing start, as after it finished 2-2, we had to contend with the new ABBA penalty system. The Winner Takes It All – well, an additional point anyway.

A comprehensive victory over Colchester saw us return to winning ways, before a 2-2 draw at Mansfield – with new signing Luke Berry making his debut as a sub – might on paper not seem like the most enthralling affair, but on the day it couldn't have been more so.

James Collins banged in his fifth strike in four league games, before Hylton got his first after returning from injury as we came from two down to 2-2. That was on 89 minutes, but there was still time to Marek Stech earn cult hero status with a 95th-minute penalty save to preserve a point!



A disappointing outing to the Hive – but over 2,000 Hatters comfortably made up more than half the crowd



Dan Potts netted his first of the campaign in the 3-0 win over Colchester and yes, Alan Sheehan got the assist

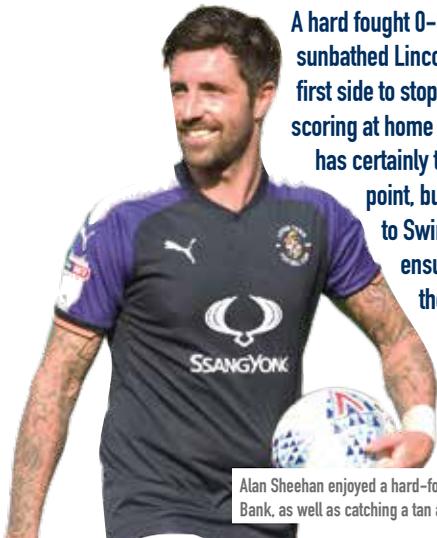
Collins made it five goals for August, whilst Hylton got his first at Mansfield





James Collins couldn't quite believe his luck as he headed in with eight minutes of added time played at Wycombe

## SEPTEMBER



A hard fought 0-0 draw at a sunbathed Lincoln, becoming the first side to stop the Imps from scoring at home in almost a year, has certainly turned into a good point, but a heavy defeat to Swindon at home ensured any hopes of the league being a walk in the park were brought to a crashing halt.

Alan Sheehan enjoyed a hard-fought battle at Sincil Bank, as well as catching a tan at the same time!

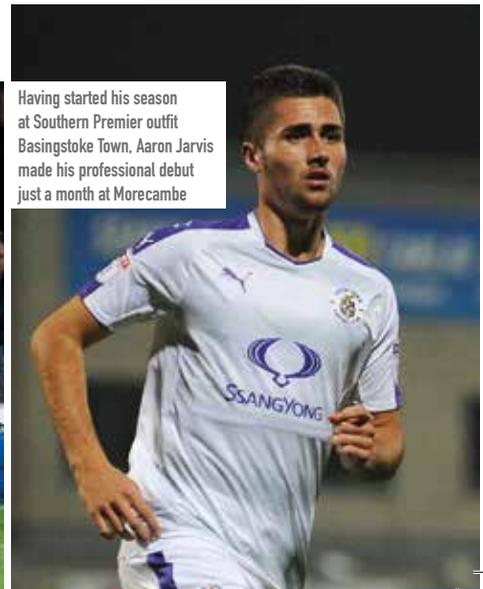
A comfortable midweek win over Port Vale including a stunning Jack Stacey strike got us back on the horse, with James Collins' 98th-minute winner against Wycombe the following Saturday, after Scott Cuthbert had netted a 90th-minute equaliser, sending the away supporters into raptures!

Another straight-forward win against Chesterfield made it three victories on the bounce, a feat that took us until the final three games of the previous season to achieve.

A goalless draw at Morecambe was as glamorous as it sounds – Dan Potts spurning the Hatters' best chance to win it, though things would soon change on the goalscoring front for the left-back – then the Town put three past an in-form Newport to round off the month and set us up nicely to climb into the automatic promotion spots.



Danny Hylton backheels the ball into the back of the Newport net in impressive fashion



Having started his season at Southern Premier outfit Basingstoke Town, Aaron Jarvis made his professional debut just a month at Morecambe

# OCTOBER

**Elliot Lee gave us a taste of what the right foot could do with a sumptuous effort in our 1-1 draw against Barnet in the Checktrade Trophy – another ABBA penalty shoot-out had us shouting ‘Mamma Mia’ as again we picked up an extra point.**

Accrington were unbeaten at home...until the Hatters turned up in Lancashire. The two who ‘couldn’t play together’ – James Collins and Danny Hylton – both got a goal in a 2-0 victory. Another win by a six-goal margin was on the horizon – Luke Berry firing in a perfect hat-trick against Stevenage to really showcase what the midfielder was capable of on another exciting afternoon at Kenilworth Road.

A tricky test at Exeter was just around the corner – well it was a bit further away than that! But after a hard-fought opening half, a devastating nine-minute period in the second half saw us run out 4-1 winners and move back to the top of the table for the first time since the opening day.

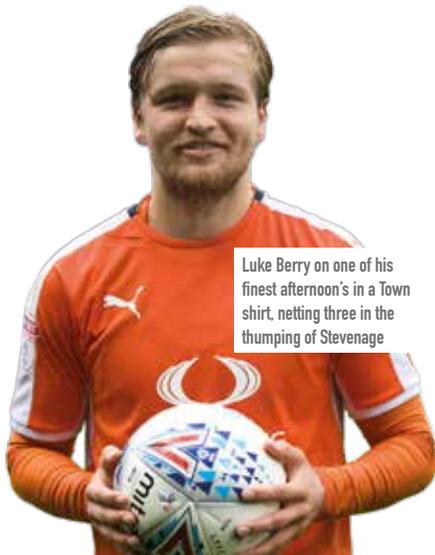
A 0-0 draw at Crawley before a 3-0 defeat to Coventry was difficult to take, but triumph over AFC Wimbledon in the Checktrade Trophy ensured we reached the knock-out stages top of our group. Town’s league form saw Nathan Jones pick up Manager of the Month.



A sight we’d get used to this season. Elliot Lee cutting in on his right and curling an effort in against Barnet



Nathan Jones’ face summed up a frustrating afternoon at Kenilworth Road in the defeat against Coventry. Overall though a fantastic month, with the gaffer winning his first Manager of the Month award



Luke Berry on one of his finest afternoon’s in a Town shirt, netting three in the thumping of Stevenage



Unbeaten at home Accy? Sorry about that!



Goal of the Day. Week. Month. Season. Ever.

## NOVEMBER

Our Emirates FA Cup run got off to a wonderful start as last year's League Two champions Portsmouth rolled into town, when we witnessed one of the finer goals of the campaign as James Collins half-volleyed in from Danny Hylton's knock-down in a 1-0 win.

Dan Potts went on a run any striker would be jealous of, as he bagged a goal in three consecutive games. The first in a frustrating 2-2 draw at Cheltenham, before we achieved our biggest scoreline of the campaign as the Luke Berry boo-boys from Cambridge were silenced as Olly Lee fired his 'Goal From Another Post Code' from 70 yards!

As if that wasn't enough, Elliot Lee scored two outstanding goals and Danny Hylton netted a hat-trick as we put seven past Shaun Derry's side without reply.

Carlisle visited in decent away form, but they were put to the sword at Kenilworth Road, with Andrew Shinnie netting a superb curling effort as a 3-0 win took us back to the top. A trip to Crewe saw Berry and Hylton bag us three more points and the gaffer pick up his second consecutive Manager of the Month award.



Sheehan lets his pal Johnny Mullins know he's not that bothered about the own goal which set up a tense ending against the Railwaymen



Pottsy hadn't scored a professional goal until his strike against Blackpool in the play-offs last season. What an outlet he's been this year



You wait ages for a London bus...



A wonderful afternoon in Wiltshire

## DECEMBER

Our exploits against Pompey earned us a tasty trip to Gateshead, and as we pulled into the International Stadium car park in the shadow of St James' Park, the Hatters media team spoke about what a game that would be if we drew Newcastle in the next round.

It was a tie Toon fan Olly Lee declared that he wanted too after scoring in a comfortable 5-0 win over the National League side, which was followed four days later by a 4-0 rout of West Ham U21s in the Checkatrade Trophy.

Our first top-of-the-table game of the season came when we faced Notts County – big Johnny Mullins' header was cancelled out by even bigger Shola Ameobi's similar effort. Hylton and Sheehan were on target in our 2-0 win at Forest Green Rovers before Berry curled in a glorious effort against Grimsby in a win by the same scoreline.

Those who sacrificed Boxing Day to watch the Town take on Swindon were rewarded with an emphatic 5-0 win, Collins' effort the pick of the bunch in a devastating second-half display. However, an unexpected heavy defeat at Port Vale was not the most enjoyable way to end 2017.

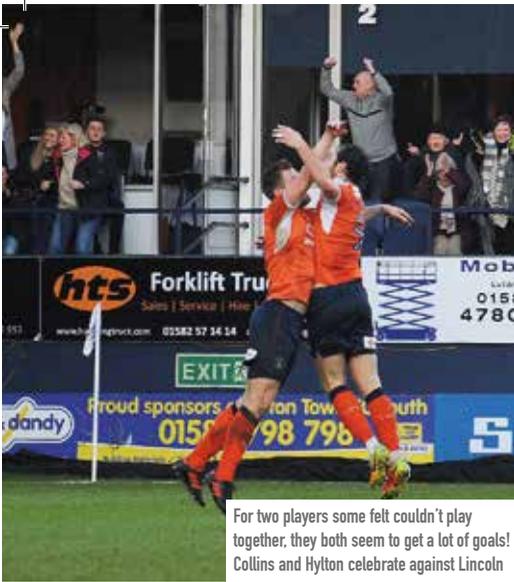
WEST HAM: Nice try Frankie, but maybe leave the shooting to the strikers!



Johnny Mullins puts us ahead against Notts County, but Shola Ameobi equalised for the Magpies



A performance to forget at Vale Park



For two players some felt couldn't play together, they both seem to get a lot of goals! Collins and Hylton celebrate against Lincoln



NEWCASTLE: Up in the Gods, but doing us proud

## JANUARY

2018 couldn't have got off to a greater start though. Well, maybe for Alan Sheehan, who saw red for a coming together with Lincoln striker Matt Rhead after just four minutes – but what a comeback though, as we ran out 4-2 winners in one of the games of the season at Kenilworth Road. Danny Cowley was highly complimentary of the Hatters and seemed like the first away manager to actually give us a little credit.

What followed was spectacular. The largest away following ever to head up to St James' Park – 7,500 Hatters travelled up to Newcastle as we bowed out of the Emirates FA Cup with a huge amount of pride, Danny Hylton netting two quality goals, one wrongly judged offside, as Nathan Jones' lads gave the Premier League side a run for their money after half-time.



Out of two competitions in the space of four days as we crash out of the Checkatrade Trophy

Peterborough and Jack Marriott visited three days later in the Checkatrade Trophy – the Posh defeating us on penalties. A defeat at Chesterfield felt like another anomaly, before consecutive 1-0 wins against Morecambe and Grimsby followed. Defeat to Wycombe was a frustrating way to round the month off, but on a busy deadline day we brought in Flynn Downes, Lloyd Jones and Jake Jervis to strengthen the squad for the run-in.

Wycombe's new keeper kit made to distract strikers certainly proved that way as the Chairboys defeated us 3-2 at the Kenny





Collo bags a brace against his former side Crawley

## FEBRUARY

Ipswich supporters didn't seem best pleased with Flynn being allowed to join us, and he proved his quality with a terrific performance against Exeter City. Harry Cornick this time netting the all-important goal in a 1-0 home win to kick-off the month.

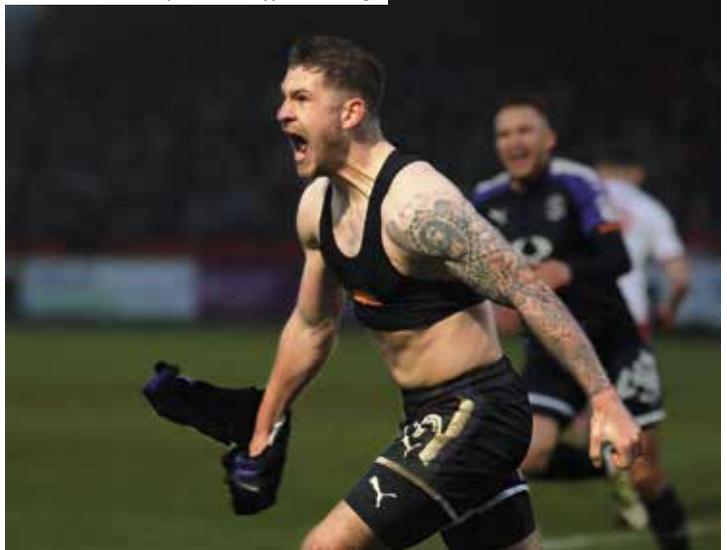
A draw at Stevenage after taking the lead late on with a James Collins penalty saw the whispers begin of a blip, but one of the performances of the campaign came the Tuesday after in a fantastic 4-1 win over Crawley when two goals from Collins, one from Olly Lee and a wonderful team goal finished by Luke Berry sealed the points.

Controversy against Cheltenham saw the game end 2-2, captain Alan Sheehan heading in the late leveller as the Town battled back from two goals down, but an advantage not played when Olly volleyed in at the far post – the referee awarding a penalty that was saved – is all that needs to be said for the blood to begin to boil. We were still top, but the lead we had built up was being ebbled away at by an Accrington side who were in phenomenal form.



Downes delights in excellent performance against Exeter

The shirt was off, but the points were dropped at Stevenage



Sheehan strikes for his second of the campaign, but it's a disappointing draw against Cheltenham





## MARCH

**Results wise, March – similarly to last season – was our worst. Spring showers were more like snow storms as we questioned how the Cambridge game could be on after the treacherous conditions, but on the day they were actually fine and the U's pitch was in remarkably good nick.**

Collins scored again, but then picked up a red card as we dropped points ahead of a huge clash against Stanley at Kenilworth Road.

A point each seemed like a fair result, despite a blatant handball and Dan Potts having two headers cleared off the line in the opening stages, but Billy Kee's dramatic injury-time winner for John Coleman's side saw us knocked off top spot for the first time since November.

Draws at Coventry and Newport were actually decent points when you look at how good those teams have been at home this season, and a win against Barnet in front of the cameras lifted us back to the summit of the league, although briefly.

When it rains in Colchester, it pours for the Hatters. The pitch was close to a pond by kick-off and just two minutes in, Luke Berry suffered a horrible dislocated ankle and fractured fibula. Bezza being Bezza though, he was all smiles a few days later after seeing the surgeon and being operated on. His contribution to this campaign cannot be underplayed.

84

Elliot Lee equalises, but Billy Kee strikes late on for Stanley



Collins nets against boyhood club Coventry, as Town grab a late equaliser



Berry booed and battered at Cambridge, as the Hatters take a point



Promotion party anyone?

## APRIL

It's been an unbeaten month. But to be honest, that's not what people will remember. Wins over Mansfield, Yeovil and Crewe were great, but the result at Carlisle tops the lot.

A draw at Brunton Park any other day would have been just another point in the bag. But this was the point that took us up. All the hard work, the unbelievable highs and the lows we had suffered in the past 12 months – remember that Blackpool feeling? – all paled into insignificance last Saturday.

Nathan Jones, in his second full season in charge of the Hatters led us back to Sky Bet League One, as Olly Lee scored on the hour mark to bring the game level. It was more like seven yards rather than 70, but it will be remembered with the same delight.

Crawley took the lead before going behind at Exeter, so any celebrations for the Town were put on hold for another week. But Olly scored and then the news filtered through from St James Park that as it stood, we were going up.

Nerves jangled, legs jiggled, the longest 30 minutes in the world was all worth it though, as 1,404 Hatters cheered on the boys as they sprinted across the pitch to celebrate with the travelling support. To put it simply....

**THE TOWN ARE GOING UP!**



He's Rea-lly done it! Glen finally gets a goal in the win over Mansfield



Elliot makes it in to double figures for the season and the first time in his career, with a typical curling finish – the Glovers on the wrong end of this one



Like a bat out of Hell! Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu unleashes a simply sumptuous strike that puts the Town in front against the Railwaymen

# LEAGUE LOOK

## LAST SATURDAY'S LEAGUE 2 RESULTS:

Barnet <b>2-0</b> Newport	Lincoln <b>2-1</b> Colchester
Cambridge <b>4-3</b> Cheltenham	Mansfield <b>1-1</b> Port Vale
Carlisle <b>1-1</b> Luton	Notts County <b>4-1</b> Yeovil
Crewe <b>1-0</b> Morecambe	Swindon <b>0-1</b> Grimsby
Exeter <b>2-2</b> Crawley	Wycombe <b>0-4</b> Accrington
Forest Green <b>4-1</b> Chesterfield	

## TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Coventry <b>2-4</b> Lincoln
Morecambe <b>0-0</b> Cambridge
Newport <b>2-1</b> Accrington
Yeovil <b>0-0</b> Forest Green

## LEAGUE TWO TOP SCORERS:

(League goals only)

Billy Kee (Accrington)	25
Mohamed Eisa (Cheltenham)	22
Marc McNulty (Coventry)	20
<b>DANNY HYLTON (LUTON)</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>JAMES COLLINS (LUTON)</b>	<b>19</b>
Christian Doidge (Forest Green)	19
Jayden Stockley (Exeter)	19
Kristian Dennis (Chesterfield)	18

## TODAY'S LEAGUE 2 FIXTURES

Accrington Stanley <b>v</b> Lincoln City	Luton Town <b>v</b> Forest Green Rovers
Cheltenham Town <b>v</b> Coventry City	Morecambe <b>v</b> Barnet
Chesterfield <b>v</b> Wycombe Wanderers	Newport County <b>v</b> Cambridge United
Colchester United <b>v</b> Swindon Town	Port Vale <b>v</b> Carlisle United
Crawley Town <b>v</b> Crewe Alexandra	Stevenage <b>v</b> Exeter City
Grimsby Town <b>v</b> Notts County	Yeovil Town <b>v</b> Mansfield Town

## LEAGUE TABLE 2017/18

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
P Accrington Stanley	44	28	6	10	75	43	32	90
<b>P LUTON TOWN</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>84</b>
3 Wycombe Wanderers	44	22	12	10	76	59	17	78
4 Exeter City	44	23	8	13	62	51	11	77
5 Notts County	44	21	13	10	70	46	24	76
6 Lincoln City	44	20	14	10	63	46	17	74
7 Coventry City	44	21	8	15	58	46	12	71
8 Mansfield Town	44	17	17	10	63	49	14	68
9 Swindon Town	44	19	7	18	64	65	-1	64
10 Carlisle United	44	16	15	13	59	52	7	63
11 Colchester United	44	16	13	15	53	51	2	61
12 Cambridge United	44	16	13	15	50	58	-8	61
13 Newport County AFC	43	15	15	13	53	55	-2	60
14 Crawley Town	44	16	10	18	56	63	-7	58
15 Stevenage	44	13	13	18	57	63	-6	52
16 Cheltenham Town	44	13	12	19	65	65	0	51
17 Crewe Alexandra	44	15	5	24	58	73	-15	50
18 Port Vale	44	11	14	19	48	60	-12	47
19 Yeovil Town	44	12	11	21	56	71	-15	47
20 Forest Green Rovers	44	13	8	23	53	71	-18	47
21 Morecambe	44	9	18	17	41	55	-14	45
22 Grimsby Town	44	11	12	21	37	65	-28	45
23 Barnet	44	10	10	24	42	65	-23	40
R Chesterfield	43	9	8	26	45	78	-33	35

## PLAYER STATS 2017/18

	THIS SEASON										LIFC CAREER TOT		
	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		DISP		Y	R			
	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS	APPS	GLS							
Tyreeq Bakinson	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	1	(0)	0	0	0	6	0
Luke Berry	31	(3)	7	4	(1)	1	35	(4)	8	5	1	39	8
James Collins	37	(3)	19	3	(0)	1	40	(3)	20	5	1	43	20
Jordan Cook	1	(9)	0	5	(1)	1	6	(10)	1	3	1	58	5
Harry Cornick	16	(19)	5	2	(2)	0	18	(21)	5	1	0	39	5
Kavan Cotter	0	(0)	0	1	(0)	1	1	(0)	1	0	0	2	1
Scott Cuthbert	20	(2)	2	2	(0)	0	22	(2)	2	3	1	110	4
Lawson D'Ath	3	(6)	0	4	(0)	1	7	(6)	1	1	0	26	1
Flynn Downes	7	(2)	0	0	(0)	0	7	(2)	0	3	0	9	0
Akin Famewo	1	(2)	0	5	(0)	0	6	(2)	0	0	0	14	0
Luke Gambin	4	(9)	1	4	(3)	1	8	(12)	2	1	0	37	3
Danny Hylton	35	(2)	20	4	(0)	2	39	(2)	22	11	0	88	49
Jack James	0	(0)	0	0	(1)	0	0	(1)	0	0	0	1	0
Aaron Jarvis	0	(1)	0	2	(1)	1	2	(2)	1	0	0	4	1
Jake Jervis	2	(8)	0	0	(0)	0	2	(8)	0	0	0	10	0
Lloyd Jones	0	(1)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(1)	0	0	0	1	0
James Justin	10	(7)	2	5	(0)	0	15	(7)	2	1	0	62	3
Elliott Lee	14	(16)	10	5	(1)	2	19	(17)	12	2	0	47	15
Oilly Lee	36	(0)	5	4	(1)	1	40	(1)	6	6	0	121	10
Alan McCormack	13	(1)	1	0	(0)	0	13	(1)	1	6	0	14	1
Josh McQuoid	0	(0)	0	0	(2)	1	0	(2)	1	0	0	45	8
Pelly-Ruddock Mpanzu	15	(11)	1	7	(1)	0	22	(12)	1	2	1	152	8
Johnny Mullins	14	(3)	2	4	(1)	0	18	(4)	2	1	0	51	3
Frankie Musonda	0	(0)	0	3	(1)	0	3	(1)	0	0	0	12	1
Dan Potts	40	(0)	6	3	(0)	1	43	(0)	7	13	0	87	8
Glen Rea	37	(7)	1	4	(0)	0	41	(7)	1	5	1	107	4
Arthur Read	0	(0)	0	0	(2)	0	0	(2)	0	0	0	3	0
Jack Senior	0	(0)	0	5	(0)	0	5	(0)	0	1	0	21	0
James Shea	6	(0)	0	5	(0)	0	11	(0)	0	2	0	11	0
Alan Sheehan	40	(0)	3	4	(0)	0	44	(0)	3	11	1	105	7
Andrew Shinnie	24	(4)	1	5	(1)	2	29	(5)	3	3	0	34	3
Jack Stacey	38	(1)	1	4	(0)	0	42	(1)	1	2	1	43	1
Marek Stech	38	(0)	0	4	(0)	0	42	(0)	0	2	0	42	0
Connor Tomlinson	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	(0)	0	0	0	1	0
Isaac Vassell	2	(0)	2	0	(0)	0	2	(0)	2	0	0	55	16



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



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Academy and development manager Andy Awford

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# ANDY AWFORD'S ACADEMY UPDATE

Good afternoon everyone and welcome to the final 1st team fixture of the season versus Forest Green Rovers.

## 1ST TEAM - PROMOTION

I must start by congratulating everyone on a thoroughly deserved promotion to League 1. Get in there!!

We at the academy are in a privileged position, at the training ground, to see first-hand the amount of work, energy, planning, detail and preparation that goes in every hour, every day, every week to try and get three points on a Tuesday night or a Saturday afternoon.

The effort is immense and we are all so pleased for everyone connected with the club.

A massive well done to the Gaffer, his staff and the players - they have been awesome this season and we are all thrilled that we will be a League One club next season.

## U18S - EFL YOUTH ALLIANCE NATIONAL CUP FINAL

For the second time in three seasons we have made it through to the EFL Youth Alliance National Cup Final. Winning away at Shrewsbury Town two seasons ago was a great occasion and we hope that hosting the final versus Wigan Athletic on Wednesday evening (7pm kick off and free entry for everyone) at Kenilworth Road will be another great night under the lights.

Wigan are a strong side who have won their (Northern) league quite comfortably, whilst they also reached this final last season, going down to AFC Bournemouth, who beat us in the Southern Area Final.

It will be a tough game, but one we will be thoroughly prepared for. I'm delighted for the players that we were drawn at home as they now have an opportunity to put behind them the poor showing in the FA Youth Cup earlier in the season.

We simply did not turn up on the night and paid a heavy price. In fairness to the players, since that night the performance levels have increased both individually and as a team, and therefore we are confident that if we play to the recent levels we have hit we have every chance of winning.

The club have made a fantastic gesture in allowing free entry on the night and I encourage as many of you as possible to head to the stadium and give the boys all your support, as your backing really does make a difference.

Good luck to Inigo and the players!

## THANK YOU

We have again been aided by some great sponsors this season - SoLYD, Richard Ware, SKF and Govia Thameslink Railway have again all contributed to helping the academy, and we are extremely grateful for your continued support. In addition, there have been the numerous individual kit sponsors, fan card donations on season ticket purchases and the new club Lotto that have all helped the Academy this season.

Thank you also to you, the supporters. Not only have you supported the first team so passionately this season, you have also been fantastic in backing the Academy and everything that we try to do - thank you.

Well done to the Academy players, parents and family members for their co-operation, commitment and support - I hope you all have a great summer and we look forward to welcoming you back soon for another enjoyable season.

## FINALLY

Thank you to the Academy Staff for their hard work and dedication this season. An 'audit' season is always slightly harder than others, and this season has been no different.

Well done everyone, enjoy the summer break and make sure you come back refreshed and raring to go as now the bar has been raised as we are a League One club - sounds great doesn't it!!

Well done everyone!!

Andy

# YOUTH TEAM SPONSORS 17/18

TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT KIT SPONSORSHIPS, CONTACT OUR COMMERCIAL TEAM ON 01582 411622

<p><b>Scott Belgrove</b> H: Bobbers Travel A: AVAILABLE</p> 	<p><b>Ciaran Gordon-Stearn</b> H: AVAILABLE A: AVAILABLE</p> 	<p><b>Jack James</b> H: The Family Of Brett Beasey-Webb A: Sue Miller – Miller &amp; Company</p> 	<p><b>Ciaran Jones</b> H: Luton Town Supporters Trust A: AVAILABLE</p> 
<p><b>Joe Mead</b> H: Andrew J Finch A: Luton Town Supporters Trust</p> 	<p><b>Michael Shamalo</b> H: DM Specialists A: AVAILABLE</p> 	<p><b>Kitan Sorunke</b> H: Crownking Accounting Services A: AVAILABLE</p> 	<p><b>Drew Richardson</b> H: RCP Parking A: Blakeney Estates</p> 
<p><b>Connor Tomlinson</b> H: Football 262 A: Michael &amp; Vicky Wilson</p> 	<p><b>Tiernan Parker</b> H: Richard Cochrane A: Gallictos Personal Services</p> 	<p><b>Corey Panter</b> H: AVAILABLE A: AVAILABLE</p> 	<p><b>Kai Phelan</b> H: AVAILABLE A: AVAILABLE</p> 
<p><b>Josh Neufville</b> H: CME Heating A: AVAILABLE</p> 	<p><b>Toby Byron</b> H: AVAILABLE A: AVAILABLE</p> 	<p><b>Jake Peck</b> H: AVAILABLE A: AVAILABLE</p> 	<p><b>Inigo Idiakez</b> H: RCP Parking A: AVAILABLE</p> 

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A PRIMARY TEACHER?

Do you have experience of working with children in schools?  
Do you have GCSEs (or equivalent) at grade C/4 or above in English Language, Mathematics and Science?  
Do you have an Honours degree at 2:2 or above (or are working towards this)?

Yes! Then we would love to hear from you.



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## YOUTH TEAM FIXTURES

### MERIT LEAGUE 1 FIXTURES:

Sat Feb 17	Swindon Town	H	L 1-3
Sat Feb 24	Exeter City	H	L 0-1
Sat Mar 3	Crystal Palace	A	P-P
Sat Mar 10	MK Dons	H	W 3-1
Sat Mar 17	Stevenage	A	P-P
Sat Mar 24	Gillingham	A	L 1-3
Mon Mar 26	Biggleswade Town	H	W 4-3
Sat Mar 31	Oxford United	A	D 2-2 (W 7-6 pens)
(LC Southern Area Final)			
Tue Apr 3	Bournemouth	A	D 3-3
Sat Apr 7	Southend United	A	W 4-1
Tue Apr 10	Oxford United	H	W 3-2
Sat Apr 14	Cambridge United	H	W 4-0
Tue Apr 17	Stevenage	A	L 1-2
Sat Apr 21	Bristol Rovers	A	W 1-0
Sat Apr 28	Portsmouth	H	KO 11.30am
Wed May 2	Wigan Athletic	H	KO 7pm
(LC National Final) NB: This fixture is at Kenilworth Road			
All home fixtures are played at Ely Way, Luton, LU4 9QN			

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# WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

## PART TWENTY THREE

In the summer of 1967, a 15-year-old Luton schoolboy decided to keep a comprehensive scrapbook of the forthcoming Division Four (now League Two) campaign.

It is easy to say now that he knew this was about to become one of the most glorious seasons in the club's history, but looking back it was merely the labours of a boy with too much time on his hands in the days before the internet, social media and mobile phones (or normal phones in his case).

Step back 50 years and let the boy who grew into club historian **ROGER WASH** remind us of the highs and lows of that ultimately successful 1967/68 season...



The Town had clinched the Division Four title with three games to go but had then gone off the boil and had lost their next two games, admittedly against promotion rivals with something to play for.

The prospect of breaking the divisional points record had now gone and all the Town could do now was match the record of 66 points assuming they won their final game of the campaign – at home to mid-table Brentford.

Heavy showers on the morning of the game had left standing water on the pitch, and with black clouds hovering ominously above it was felt that the crowd would be affected. But Luton supporters were not likely to miss this game and a Saturday best of the season crowd of 14,643 braved the conditions to see the trophy paraded.

Rather than risk a crowd invasion which would spoil the trophy presentation ceremony, if it were to be held after the game, the Board decided that the handing out of the cup and medals should take place before kick-off.

Len Shipman, the President of the Football League, kept to

a promise he made earlier in the campaign and was there to make the presentations from a trestle table in front of the Main Stand. He was assisted by Town chairman Tom Hodgson.

First out was skipper Terry Branston to receive his medal followed one at a time by the rest of the team in positional order. The biggest cheer was reserved for manager Allan Brown, who accepted his medal plus one for Ian Buxton who was now on cricketing duty with Derbyshire.

The players then paraded the trophy around the pitch to ecstatic applause from the crowd and, apart from a few isolated incursions from behind the Oak Road goal (not me!) everything was well observed.

It was almost an anti-climax when the teams re-appeared for the kick-off in a game that was recorded by the ATV cameras for broadcasting the following afternoon. Apart from Rodney Green, in the team in place of Buxton, it was a full-strength Luton side that took the game to the Bees from the off.





A tumultuous reception as the champions complete their last of honour

POST  
11-5-68

# IT ALL ENDS IN JUBILANT ERUPTION

LUTON TOWN 2, BRENTFORD 1

**F**ITTINGLY, the Town rounded off the season with a victory, before their biggest Saturday crowd, of 14,643. At the end of the game the pitch was invaded by hundreds of the younger supporters, who mobbed the players, and the scenes demonstrated the wisdom of the Town's decision to hold the presentation ceremony before the kick-off.

Otherwise, things might have been completely different.

When the players escaped, hundreds of supporters lined up in front of the television cameras waving black and white scarves, chanting, "We are the champions."

So, a memorable season came to a fitting end with the excitement that attends success.

As for the game with Brentford, considering the conditions, I feel that the crowd had value for money, especially in the second half, when the Town clicked into something like their most high-powered form. Moore, who was always the most dangerous forward, led them on the way to victory with a brilliant solo goal, and was desperately unlucky not to have another. Shortly after his success, Whittaker got one, and at that stage there was every appearance that the Brentford defence might be torn apart. In the main, however, the Town did not have the best of luck with their finishing, and towards the finish they had to withstand terrific pressure by Brentford as they battled for an equaliser.

This followed the encouragement given to the Londoners by an unlucky own goal by Moore. On the other hand, the possibility of an equaliser by Brentford should have been discounted, but Whittaker, usually so sure with penalties, missed one after Green had been pulled down. In the end, it was a nailbiting finish, with the Town having to fight tooth and nail to hold on to their slender lead.

In fact, the Town's lead nearly disappeared a couple of times in the dying minutes, but had it done so, justice would scarcely have been served, because the Town were the better side in difficult conditions, which placed skill and accuracy at a marked premium.

The first half was keenly fought, but did not produce anything like the excitement of the second, when both sides scored, particularly Brentford's had many narrow chances.



Terry Branston holds the cup high

GREEN  
LUTON  
11-5-68

FINAL  
PLACINGS

A FITTING  
END TO A  
MEMORABLE  
SEASON

# RIOCH'S SWITCH PAYS OFF

## Brentford battle at Luton's party

Luton 2, Brentford 1

A FRANTIC Brentford rally had Division Four's Championship hanging on a thread. Only a wonder save by Scott halted the celebration win.

Luton looked ragged till Rioch, their most dangerous attacker, was given a change of role. He was ambushed by a striker after the interval.

This paid off handsomely because Rioch exploded a gap down the middle to score a sensational solo goal score in 10 minutes.

Four minutes later Whiteaker helped in a shot as Green and Brentford seemed set for a drubbing. Brentford were always better and were encouraged to stage a storming comeback when Moore deflected a leather shot in his own half after seven or eight minutes.

Their comeback attempt has been crushed when Luton were awarded a penalty after a foul by Whiteaker. The goal was scored by the keeper aided by anticipation Whiteaker's side.

This brilliant full length save was overruled by Rioch's side. He took from the end, Leach and all the goalkeepers at from ten yards, but made a fantastic dive to push the ball outside.

After that, Brentford called panic and forced Luton corners so unnerve Rioch's defence. Saturday night's goal was the only one of the season to be scored by Brentford.

SUNDAY  
MIRROR  
12-5-68

**LUTON 2, BRENTFORD 1**  
**LEADER** President Len Spinks presented Luton with their Division Four championship trophy. Then they only just scraped through against Brentford.  
Luton, cheered by their biggest following crowd of the season, looked set for a glory moment but determined Brentford only just missed equalising two minutes from time.  
Luton's Jimmy Adams would have been avoided if Whiteaker had not failed from the penalty spot. Phillips made the right pass about the kick and his second-best save came just before Scott touched over a second strike.  
Rioch put Luton ahead after a frustrating goalless first half and Whiteaker hit in for the second.  
A leather shot, which Rioch had ordered, ricocheted off Moore for Brentford's reply.  
Luton: Scott T, Bennett T, Bennett T, Scott S, Davies S, Evans S, Green S, Whiteaker T, Adams S.  
Brentford: Phillips T, Harvey S, Whiteaker S, Leach T, Evans S, Bennett S, Scott S, Moore S, Adams S.

PEOPLE  
12-5-68

A BRILLIANT FULL-LENGTH SAVE BY PHILLIPS



POST  
13-5-68





Skipper Terry Branston holds up the Division Four trophy



Attacking the boggy Oak Road goal the Town enjoyed the majority of the early play with winger Ray Whittaker putting over a series of tantalising crosses, and Bruce Rioch surging through from midfield with the ball at regular intervals.

The breakthrough had to wait until the 55th minute however, when Rioch accepted a clever pass from Green and ran through the Brentford defence before side-footing the ball

past John Phillips with defenders converging on him from all angles.

Four minutes later Whittaker appeared to make the game safe when he raced in at speed to fire the ball home following a goalmouth scramble.

The supporters now sat back to watch the Town, now seemingly back to their best, tear the Bees defence apart but a third goal would not

come, despite several close efforts and some desperate defending.

Brentford were then awarded a lifeline on 74 minutes with a goal they barely deserved. In a rare breakaway, Bees forward Ian Lawther fired in a shot that goalkeeper Tony Read had well covered until John Moore ran across its path and deflected the ball into the net.

Brentford now suddenly smelled blood and sensed an equaliser, but it was from a breakaway attack that the Town had the chance to make the game safe for a second time when Green was pulled down by Phillips in the area.

The normally reliable Whittaker saw his spot-kick saved at full length by the goalkeeper, which then set up a nail-biting last few minutes as Brentford piled on the pressure. The Town managed to hang on and as the final whistle sounded the fans invaded the muddy pitch as the players disappeared sharpish. A successful end to a magical season.

There were two friendly games still to play with the Town, including guest players Johnny Haynes and Johnny Byrne, forcing a 1-1 draw at Watford in a testimonial for Hornets physiotherapist Pat Molloy, before travelling to Oxford United on a wet night in a benefit match for their former trainer Tom Webb.

Oxford had won the championship of Division Three so the match was likely to be a sounding board for what was to come the following season.

The Town certainly gave Division Three a warning when going in at the interval 3-0 up, and although Oxford pulled back two goals in the second period, the performance promised much for 1968-69.

## MARTIN VARNEY



The Hatters would like to wish an early Happy Birthday to Martin Varney who will be turning 60 over the summer. He is also celebrating 50 years of being a Hatter this week, having attended his first ever Luton game at Kenilworth Road in April 1968! Your

daughter Samantha and everybody at the club hopes you have a fantastic day.

## HAPPY 30TH BIRTHDAY DANI!



Happy birthday to Dani McCaffery who turns 30 today! Dani has been a season ticket holder in the Main Stand with her mum and nan for many years. Mum, Nannie, Conor and the rest of the family all send their love on this special day, as well as everyone at Luton Town!

## WELCOME ELI!



The Hatters would like to welcome Eli Miley to Kenilworth Road for the first time this afternoon! We hope you have a fantastic day and enjoy the occasion. Hopefully you won't cause as many problems as the picture of you in a police car your dad sent us might suggest!

## WELCOME HOME CRAWLEY GREEN FC!

Luton Town have further enhanced their relationship with Crawley Green FC with the announcement that the Spartan South Midlands League club will play their home games at The Brache training ground from next season.

Crawley Green, who are the only Luton based team to play at Step 5 or above of the National League System, have been trying since 2008 to get permission to build a suitable stadium - a decade in which they have played their first team games at Barton Rovers' Sharpshoe Road ground.

Crawley Green will use the new all-weather surface the Hatters installed as part of the renovations of The Brache last year. To comply with national ground grading criteria Crawley Green will complete the remaining requirements, which will include new changing rooms, dugouts, turnstile and spectator standing area.

## PATRICK CURRAN



Town would like to wish an extremely early happy birthday to supporter Patrick Curran who turns 16 at the end of July. Marek Stech is Patrick's favourite player, who is also a season ticket holder in Block F - we hope you have a fantastic day!

## ANOTHER HODGE HATTER!



All at Kenilworth Road were delighted to hear last week that our head of retail Siobhan Kos-Hodge had given birth to daughter Saoirse Aleida. Congratulations to Siobhan and husband Jeff, a

Town season ticket holder. We're looking forward to meeting little Hatter soon!



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# THE CAMERA NEVER LIES

CLUB HISTORIAN ROGER WASH DELVES INTO HIS ARCHIVES...



Is it only four years ago that we celebrated promotion back to the Football League with a 4-1 home win over Forest Green Rovers, co-incidentally our opponents this afternoon? Andre Gray looks rather pleased with himself when scoring his 30th goal of a memorable campaign against Rovers.

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# HATTERSLADIES

## DO YOU WANT TO PLAY IN THE WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE? COME & JOIN US!

Luton Town Ladies are recruiting players of all ages to come and join the Hatters. From age 5 to 11, the club are running Wildcat taster sessions, run by our youth team and senior coaches.

The sessions start on May 5th for just £2 each! They will take place at the home of our youth teams, at Lancaster Avenue, from 10-11am every Saturday. If you are interested please contact Steve on 07973 762850 or [stephen.worrell@btinternet.com](mailto:stephen.worrell@btinternet.com).

We run girls' teams in several age groups and are looking to recruit players for all youth sections. If you are older than 11 and want to join us, then contact Steve (details above) for further details.

We currently have three senior teams from age 16 upwards. Our first team play in the FA Women's Premier League and compete against professional clubs such as Ipswich Town, AFC Wimbledon, Leyton Orient, Stevenage, MK Dons & Norwich City.

As well as this, we have two Development squads who play in the competitive London regional leagues.

If you aspire to be a footballer then come along and join us! The first team are a consistent top 4 club in the FAWPL South East and are Bedfordshire County Champions. This season we also made it to the National FAWPL Plate Final where we faced a very good West Ham side.

For the senior section we will be running trials during the close season so look out for these dates on our website [www.lutontownladiesfc.co.uk](http://www.lutontownladiesfc.co.uk), our Twitter page @LTLFC\_Official or find us on Facebook - Luton Town Ladies FC. For any information on joining us as a Senior player (aged 16 and above) then please contact [lutontownlfc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lutontownlfc@hotmail.co.uk)

### FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE SOUTH EAST DIVISION ONE FIXTURES 2017/18

Sun Aug 20	Stevenage	H	W 5-2
Sun Aug 27	Enfield Town	A	W 2-1
Sun Sep 3	Leyton Orient (Cup)	H	L 2-4
Sun Sep 10	Haringey Borough	H	W 5-1
Sun Sep 17	AFC Wimbledon	A	L 1-4
Sun Sep 24	Leyton Orient	H	L 0-4
Sun Oct 1	MK Dons	H	D 2-1
Wed Oct 4	Denham United	H	W 5-4
Sun Oct 8	Maidenhead Utd (FAC3QR)	A	W 1-0
Wed Oct 18	Denham United	A	W 5-1
Sun Oct 22	Gillingham (WPL Plate) (AET)	A	W 4-3
Sun Oct 29	MK Dons	A	L 1-2
Sun Nov 5	Enfield Town	H	D 0-0
Sun Nov 12	AFC Dunstable (FACR1)	A	W 0-4
Sun Nov 19	Actonians	A	W 3-2
Sun Nov 26	Norwich City	H	W 8-2
Sun Dec 3	Harlow Town (FACR2)	H	W 3-2(AET)
Sun Jan 7	Chichester City (FACR3)	A	L 1-2
Sun Jan 14	Southampton Saints (Plate)	H	W 3-1
Sun Jan 28	Woburn (Beds County Cup)	A	W 17-0
Sun Feb 4	Leyton Orient	A	W 4-0
Sun Feb 18	AFC Dunstable (County Cup)	H	W 2-1
Sun Feb 25	MK Dons (Plate QF)	H	W 3-2
Sun Mar 11	Fylde (Plate SF)	H	L 1-2
Sun Mar 18	Norwich City	A	P-P
Sun Mar 25	Cambridge	A	L 0-1
Wed Apr 4	Stevenage	A	L 0-1
Sun Apr 8	Haringey	A	W 14-0
Sun Apr 15	West Ham	A	L 5-0
Sun Apr 22	Ipswich	A	L 1-2



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# LUTON TOWN IN THE COMMUNITY

BY **KEVIN THOBURN** HEAD OF THE HATTERS COMMUNITY TRUST



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## COMMUNITY COHESION PROJECTS – YOUR CHANCE TO PLAY ON THE PITCH!

With League fixtures completed, the Club have donated the stadium to the Trust to allow us to allocate pitch slots to hold our 'Luton Street League' football championships for U16s, U18s, U21s and U25 age groups over three nights from Monday 21st to Wednesday 23rd May.

The 'Luton Street League' project is a joint project between the Hatters Trust and East cricket that seeks to use sport to improve community cohesion and life chances for young people in Luton.

The overall project involves investment from both the Trust, our partners Beds Cricket and the European Union, through the European Social Fund with Luton Council managing the project.

Luton Street League operates ten centres across town that offer free weekly football, cricket, basketball and other sports to young people from right across Luton, and as well as aimed at improving community cohesion all centres offer employment training and skills workshops to help participants either improve their current employability opportunities or future employment chances.

While the project concentrates on Luton's most deprived 11 wards covering the North and South of Town, our stadium tournament is open to all teams or groups who want the chance to show off their skills on the hallowed turf.

All games will be 7-a-side with U16 and U18s on the evening of Monday 21st, U21s are on Tuesday 22nd with U25's finishing off their nights on Wednesday 23rd May. The tournament will be affiliated, but non-affiliated teams or groups will be able to enter.

Full details of the tournaments are available at [www.lutonstreetleague.co.uk](http://www.lutonstreetleague.co.uk) and you can register your team online by paying a £20 deposit, which will be refunded on the night.

Full details of our weekly centres are also online.



The Luton Street League project falls within the Council's Community Local Led Development (CLLD) strategy that sets out a vision and action plan centred around six strategic objectives that all address in one way or another the many barriers to employment that certain sections of the Town's population face, as well as focusing on the importance of community cohesion in raising the outside perception of Luton to employers and potential visitors.

We'll also be offering training and work skills workshops at our centres later in the year, so if you are currently unemployed or maybe just looking to improve your skills and find a better job or get back into education, then you can find details of future courses on the Luton Street League website at [www.lutonstreetleague.co.uk](http://www.lutonstreetleague.co.uk), or if you want to get in touch drop us an email at [lutonstreetleague@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:lutonstreetleague@lutontown.co.uk) or give us a ring at the community offices on 01582 561622.



## PL KICKS BOYS IN MANCHESTER

**Luton Street League is actually only one of several community projects the Trust is involved in rolling out across the Town to target young men in particular.**

Premier League Kicks also seeks to promote sport in deprived areas of high unemployment where lots of students under-achieve at school or college, and now find the jobs market challenging.

Kicks projects aim to use football as a hook to engage and target young people aged 11 to 24 and attempt to divert them away from anti-social behaviour by providing training and employment and volunteering opportunities.

Longer term it all leads to improved health and self-esteem, where they can feel safer through bringing different communities together.

The Trust run three-weekly KICKS centres in Farley Hill, Marsh Farm and Lewsey Farm, and earlier in the month we sent our PL Kicks U16 boys up to Manchester for the Premier League National Kicks Cup. The boys enjoyed an overnight stay and visit to Old Trafford before taking part in the competition, gaining a good win against Bristol City followed by four draws against Bournemouth, Wolves, Leyton Orient and Crawley Town, but two defeats to Brentford and Liverpool meant failing to qualify for the knock outs. A good experience for the boys who came from all over Luton.

Both Luton Street League and PL KICKS are part of a portfolio of projects the Trust deliver aimed at tackling some of the trickier problems in the town around gangs, knife crime and extremism that often attract young people who maybe feel excluded from the mainstream, either in terms of getting a job or better training or skills to get a job.



Our 'Football for Peace' project funded by the Home Office through the 'Building a Stronger Britain Together' community cohesion initiative and our support from the Laureus Sport for Good Foundation backed by Mercedes Benz also both demonstrate the power of sport to bring people together and help the trust engage regularly with traditionally hard to reach young men who might fall into crime.

We also recognise that early intervention is especially effective, and our 'Schools Link' project funded by the Beds & Luton Community Foundation involving six primary schools in North Luton seeks to steer young 11-year-olds away from gang culture and crime.

The trust's aim is that all of these projects together are big enough to have a real impact, and If you want further information on any of our community cohesion projects then give us a ring and speak to our Community Operations Manager, Daniel Douglas, on 01582 561 622 or email [Daniel.douglas@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:Daniel.douglas@lutontown.co.uk)



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## LEAGUE TWO TOP FIVES

### GOALS

1		KEE	25
2		EISA	22
3		HYLTON	20
4		MCNULTY	20
5		COLLINS	19

### ASSISTS

1		ADEBAYO AKI...	12
2		TAYLOR	12
3		MCCONVILLE	11
4		COOPER	9
5		STEAD	9

### SHOTS ON TARGET

1		EISA	63
2		ADEBAYO AKI...	58
3		MCNULTY	57
4		KEE	53
5		JACKSON	52

### MINUTES PER GOAL

1		LANG	134
2		LEE	137
3		RICHARDS	146
4		HYLTON	148
5		KEE	154

### % OF GOALS INVOLVED IN

1		POPE	46
2		DOIDGE	45
3		MCNULTY	45
4		DENNIS	44
5		KEE	44

### MINUTES PER CHANCE CREATED

1		REID	220
2		COOPER	221
3		TAYLOR	246
4		MCALINDEN	281
5		ADEBAYO AKI...	301

### FOULS

1		UCHE IKPEAZU	120
2		ADEBAYO AKI...	112
3		NEWTON	104
4		MANDRON	99
5		POPE	93

### MINUTES PER GOAL CONCEDED

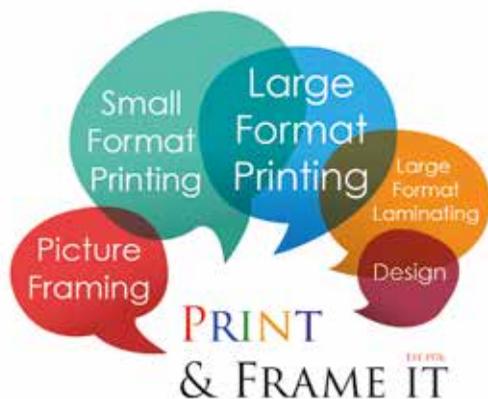
1		RAMSDALE	49
2		KRYSIK	55
3		ROSS	55
4		GARRATT	55
5		FRYER	60

## LEAGUE TWO SPOTLIGHT

Each of Danny Hylton's 20 goals in League Two this season have been scored from inside the box.

## LEAGUE TWO SPOTLIGHT

Exeter's Christy Pym has made more saves than any other goalkeeper in League Two this season (167).



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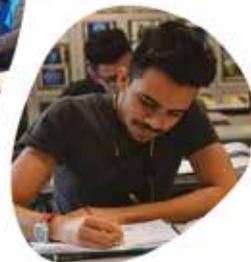
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# DIAMOND SEASON TICKETS

Upgrade your standard season ticket to a 'Diamond'. You'll receive loads of extra benefits while enjoying the feeling of knowing your money is helping develop important areas of the club.

The benefits as a diamond season ticket holder provide over £280 worth of extra-value, plus money can't buy experiences.

## ARMED FORCES SEASON TICKET

We're proud to offer serving members of the armed forces a special seasonal pass, giving access to 5 matches per season as well as a number of other benefits (highlighted on the following page). The armed forces season ticket costs £120 - please contact the ticket office to book. Call **01582 416976** or email: [ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk](mailto:ticketoffice@lutontown.co.uk)

## DIAMOND ADULTS

Adults can upgrade to a Diamond season ticket for £150, with upgrades for concessions costing £130.

- ◆ ● One replica first team shirt of your choice OR a £20 club shop voucher.
- ◆ ● Five complimentary adult tickets vouchers redeemable for any home league match.
- ◆ Five complimentary junior/youth vouchers for any home league game.
- ◆ FREE away season ticket if requested (see application form).
- ◆ £100 hospitality voucher for use on a single hospitality event, or a £50 retail voucher.  
(First come first served basis and subject to specific game availability).
- ◆ ● Priority access to purchase away tickets and cup match tickets.
- ◆ ● FREE admittance to the first home cup game played in the season.
- ◆ ● Vote in the 'Diamond Player of the Month' award, and you could be presenting the trophy, with the chance to win two hospitality tickets in the Eric Morecambe Lounge.
- ◆ ● Invitation to the exclusive 'Meet the Manager' evening.
- ◆ ● Distinctive leather season ticket wallet.
- ◆ ● One free ticket for 'Specs Comedy' – the excellent comedy club held in the Eric Morecambe Lounge at Kenilworth Road on the first Friday of each month.

◆ All of these great benefits are available to Diamond season ticket holders.

● Benefits marked with this symbol also apply to Armed Forces season ticket holders.

## DIAMOND JUNIORS & YOUTHS

Junior and youth season ticket holders who upgrade to a Diamond for £60 will receive these fantastic additional benefits:

- ◆ One replica first team shirt of your choice OR a £20 club shop voucher.
- ◆ Five complimentary junior/youth vouchers for any home league game.
- ◆ FREE away season ticket if requested (see application form).
- ◆ Priority access to purchase away tickets and cup match tickets.
- ◆ FREE admittance to the first home cup game played in the season.
- ◆ Junior / youth match day experience. The opportunity to take part in a penalty shoot-out on the Kenilworth Road pitch at half-time of a home league game.
- ◆ Distinctive leather season ticket wallet.
- ◆ Training Day – your chance to watch a training day free-of-charge at Kenilworth Road for you and an adult, with the opportunity to meet players and management. Refreshments provided.
- ◆ Chance to vote in the 'Diamond Player of the Month' award and present the trophy. Includes Diamond Mascot package.
- ◆ Diamond children's Christmas event.
- ◆ Free signed player picture card of your choice.

# FIXTURES PILE-UP

DATE	TIME	H/A	OPPOSITION	SCORE	ATT	AWAY	POS	STARTING XI							
<b>AUGUST</b>															
Sat 5	3.00pm	H	Yeovil Town	W 8-2	8,101	258	1	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Potts	McCORMACK 1	• O. LEE 1	
Tue 8	7.45pm	H	Ipswich Town (Cup 1)	L 0-2	4,610	794	-	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Cook •	Rea	O. Lee	
Sat 12	3.00pm	A	Barnet	L 0-1	3,555	2,109	8	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert •	Sheehan	Potts	McCormack	O. Lee	
Tue 15	7.45pm	H	Tottenham U21 (Trophy)	D 2-2*	2,699	404	-	Shea	Justin •	Mullins	Famewo	Senior	Bakinson	Cook	
Sat 19	3.00pm	H	Colchester United	W 3-0	7,865	445	3	Stech	Stacey	Rea	Sheehan	POTTS 1	McCormack	O. LEE 1	
Sat 26	3.00pm	A	Mansfield Town	D 2-2	4,665	987	5	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Potts	McCormack •	O. Lee ▲	
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>															
Sat 2	3.00pm	A	Lincoln City	D 0-0	9,332	1,268	6	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Potts	McCormack •	Rea	
Sat 9	3.00pm	H	Swindon Town	L 0-3	8,455	832	13	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert ■	Sheehan	Potts	McCormack	O. Lee •	
Tue 12	7.45pm	H	Port Vale	W 2-0	7,046	136	9	Stech	STACEY 1	Rea	Sheehan	Potts	McCormack	Berry	
Sat 16	3.00pm	A	Wycombe Wanderers	W 2-1	5,512	1,459	4	Stech	Stacey	Rea ▲	Sheehan	Potts	McCormack •	Berry	
Sat 23	3.00pm	H	Chesterfield	W 1-0	7,575	310	3	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Potts	Gambin •	O. Lee •	
Tue 26	7.45pm	A	Morecambe	D 0-0	1,354	326	5	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Potts	Gambin	O. Lee	
Sat 30	3.00pm	H	Newport County AFC	W 3-1	7,681	296	5	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert	Sheehan	POTTS	Gambin •	O. Lee	
<b>OCTOBER</b>															
Tue 3	7.45pm	H	Barnet (Trophy)	D 1-1**	1,530	68	-	Shea	Justin	Mullins	Famewo	Senior	Jarvis	Cook	
Sat 7	3.00pm	A	Accrington Stanley	W 2-0	2,193	587	3	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	O. LEE	
Sat 14	3.00pm	H	Stevenage	W 7-1	9,208	595	3	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert	Mullins	JUSTIN 1	Rea •	O. Lee	
Tue 17	7.45pm	A	Exeter City	W 4-1	4,209	353	1	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert	Sheehan	POTTS 1	Rea	O. Lee	
Sat 21	3.00pm	A	Crawley Town	D 0-0	3,494	1,642	1	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Potts	McCormack	O. Lee •	
Sat 28	3.00pm	H	Coventry City	L 0-3	9,670	1,067	3	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert	Mullins •	Potts	Rea ■	O. LEE	
Tue 31	7.45pm	A	AFC Wimbledon (Trophy)	W 2-1	581	98	-	Shea	Justin	Musonda	Famewo	Senior	E. Lee	SHINNIE 2 •	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>															
Sat 4	3.00	H	Portsmouth (FACR1)	W 1-0	5,333	1,143	-	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Potts	Mpanzu	O. Lee	
Sat 11	3.00pm	A	Cheltenham Town	D 2-2	3,900	1,007	4	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert	Sheehan	POTTS 1	Rea	O. Lee	
Sat 18	3.00pm	H	Cambridge United	W 7-0	8,721	642	2	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert •	Sheehan	POTTS 1 ▲	Rea	O. LEE 1	
Tue 21	7.45pm	H	Carlisle United	W 3-0	7,644	215	1	Stech	Stacey	Mullins •	Sheehan	POTTS 1	Rea	Berry	
Sat 25	3.00pm	A	Crewe Alexandra	W 2-1	4,571	1,244	1	Stech	Stacey	Mullins	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	O. Lee ▲	
<b>DECEMBER</b>															
Sun 3	2.00pm	A	Gateshead (FACR2)	W 5-0	1,339	381	-	Stech	Stacey	Mullins	Sheehan	POTTS 1	Rea ▲	O. LEE 1 •	
Tue 5	7.45pm	H	West Ham U21 (Trophy R2)	W 4-0	1,670	108	-	Shea	Justin	Musonda	Famewo	Senior	COTTER 1	COOK 1	
Sat 9	3.00pm	H	Notts County	D 1-1	10,063	810	1	Stech	Stacey	MULLINS 1	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	O. Lee	
Sat 16	3.00pm	A	Forest Green Rovers	W 2-0	2,546	841	1	Stech	Stacey ■	Mullins	SHEEHAN 1	Potts	Rea	O. Lee •	
Sat 23	3.00pm	H	Grimsby Town	W 2-0	9,102	446	1	Stech	Justin	Mullins	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	O. Lee	
Tue 26	3.00pm	A	Swindon Town	W 5-0	8,526	1,408	1	Stech	Justin	Mullins	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	O. Lee ▲	
Sat 30	3.00pm	A	Port Vale	L 0-4	5,523	1,175	1	Stech	Justin	Mullins	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	D'Ath •	
<b>JANUARY</b>															
Mon 1	3.00pm	H	Lincoln City	W 4-2	9,659	1,044	1	Stech	Stacey	Mullins	Sheehan ■	JUSTIN 1	Rea	O. Lee	
Sat 6	3.00pm	A	Newcastle United (FACR3)	L 1-3	47,069	7,477	-	Stech	Justin	Mullins	Rea	Potts	Mpanzu •	O. Lee	
Tue 9	7.45pm	H	P'boro United (Trophy R3)	D 0-0***	2,253	408	-	Shea	Famewo	Musonda	Sheehan	Stacey	Senior	Gambin •	
Sat 13	3.00pm	A	Chesterfield	L 0-2	5,715	1,244	1	Stech	Justin	Mullins	Famewo	Potts	Rea	O. Lee •	
Sat 20	3.00pm	H	Morecambe	W 1-0	8,476	61	1	Stech	Stacey	MULLINS 1	Rea	Potts	D'Ath •	O. Lee	
Sat 27	3.00pm	A	Grimsby Town	W 1-0	4,159	522	1	Stech	Stacey	Mullins	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	Cook ■	
Tue 30	7.45pm	H	Wycombe Wanderers	L 2-3	8,564	791	1	Stech	Stacey	Mullins •	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	O. Lee ▲	
<b>FEBRUARY</b>															
Sat 3	3.00pm	H	Exeter City	W 1-0	8,788	464	1	Stech	Stacey	Downes	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	O. Lee	
Sat 10	3.00pm	A	Stevenage	D 1-1	4,365	1,899	1	Stech	Stacey	Downes •	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	O. Lee	
Tue 13	7.45pm	H	Crawley Town	W 4-1	8,020	267	1	Stech	Stacey	Downes	Sheehan	Justin	Rea	O. LEE 1	
Sat 24	3.00pm	H	Cheltenham Town	D 2-2	8,453	142	1	Stech	Stacey	Downes	SHEEHAN 1	Justin	Rea	O. Lee ▲	
<b>MARCH</b>															
Sat 3	3.00pm	A	Cambridge United	D 1-1	6,722	2,405	1	Stech	Stacey	Downes	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	O. Lee ▲	
Sat 10	3.00pm	H	Accrington Stanley	L 1-2	9,503	205	2	Stech	Stacey	Downes •	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	O. Lee	
Tue 13	7.45pm	A	Coventry City	D 2-2	8,863	2,002	2	Stech	Stacey	CUTHBERT 1	Sheehan	Potts	Rea •	Downes	
Sat 17	3.00pm	A	Newport County AFC	D 1-1	3,512	589	2	Stech	Stacey	Cuthbert	Sheehan	POTTS 1	Rea	Gambin ▲	
Sat 24	5.15pm	H	Barnet	W 2-0	8,140	272	1	Shea	Justin	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Potts	McCormack	O. Lee ▲	
Fri 30	3.00pm	A	Colchester United	L 1-2	5,461	1,942	2	Shea	Justin	Cuthbert	Sheehan	Potts	Rea ▲	O. Lee	
<b>APRIL</b>															
Mon 2	3.00pm	H	Mansfield Town	W 2-1	9,592	725	2	Shea	Stacey	Cuthbert •	Sheehan	Potts	McCormack	O. Lee	
Sat 7	3.00pm	A	Yeovil Town	W 3-0	4,316	1,126	2	Shea	Stacey	McCormack •	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	O. Lee	
Sat 14	3.00pm	H	Crewe Alexandra	W 3-1	9,202	189	2	Shea	Stacey	McCormack	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	O. Lee	
Sat 21	3.00pm	A	Carlisle United	D 1-1	5,523	1,404	2	Shea	Stacey	McCormack •	Sheehan	Potts	Rea	O. LEE 1	
Sat 28	3.00pm	H	Forest Green Rovers												
<b>MAY</b>															
Sat 5	3.00pm	A	Notts County												

\*Score at full-time: 2-2. (Hatters won 4-2 on penalties for a bonus point) \*\* Score at full-time: 1-1. (Hatters won 4-3 on penalties for a bonus point) \*\*\*Score at full-time 0-0. (Hatters lost 7-6 on penalties)

# WHO, WHEN AND WHERE THE HATTERS ARE PLAYING THIS SEASON

KEY: ● First Substitute | ◆ Second Substitute | ▲ Third Substitute | ■ Sent off | GOALSCORER

## SUBS

Mpanzu	Shinnie ▲	COLLINS 3 ◆	VASSELL 2	Rea ●	E. LEE 1 ◆	Mullins ▲	Cook	Senior	Gambin	Shea
Mpanzu	Shinnie ●	Collins	E. Lee ●	Gambin ●	Mullins ◆	Senior	McQuoid	Bakinson	Musonda	Shea
Mpanzu	Shinnie ●	Collins	Vassell ●	Rea ●	Cook ◆	E. Lee ▲	Mullins	Cornick	Gambin	Shea
GAMBIN 1	Cornick ▲	Hylton ◆	E. Lee	James ●	MCQUOID 1 ◆	Read ▲	Peck	Jones	Shamalo	Isted
Mpanzu	Shinnie ◆	COLLINS 1 ●	Hylton ▲	Cornick ●	Cook ◆	E. Lee ▲	Justin	Mullins	Gambin	Shea
Mpanzu	Shinnie ◆	COLLINS 1	HYLTON 1	Rea ●	Berry ◆	Cornick ▲	Justin	Gambin	E. Lee	Shea
Mpanzu	Berry	Collins ●	Hylton	Cornick ●	Cook ◆	Mullins	O. Lee	Shinnie	E. Lee	Shea
Mpanzu	Shinnie ●	Collins	Hylton ▲	Rea ●	Cornick ◆	Berry ▲	Justin	Gambin	E. Lee	Shea
Mpanzu	Shinnie ●	Collins ◆	Hylton	Cornick ●	E. Lee ◆	Justin	Mullins	Gambin	O. Lee	Shea
Mpanzu	Shinnie ●	COLLINS 1	Hylton	CUTHBERT 1 ●	Cornick ◆	E. Lee ▲	Justin	Mullins	O. Lee	Shea
Mpanzu ■	Shinnie ●	Collins	HYLTON 1	Cook ●	Rea ◆	Cornick ▲	Justin	Senior	Jarvis	Shea
Rea	Cornick ●	Collins ◆	Hylton	Cook ●	Jarvis ◆	Justin	Senior	Musonda	Famewo	Shea
Rea	Cornick ◆	Collins	HYLTON 2	Cook ●	Justin ◆	Mullins	Jarvis	E. Lee	Famewo	Shea
Mpanzu	D'Ath ●	E. LEE 1	Berry	Musonda ●	Read	James	Mead	Tomlinson	Neufville	Isted
Berry ●	Cornick ◆	COLLINS 1	HYLTON 1	D'Ath ●	Justin ◆	Mullins	Cook	E. Lee	Famewo	Shea
BERRY 3	Cornick ◆	Collins	HYLTON 2 ▲	Mpanzu ●	GAMBIN 1 ◆	E. Lee ▲	Cook	D'Ath	Famewo	Shea
Berry ▲	CORNICK 1 ●	COLLINS 1 ◆	HYLTON 1	Justin	E. Lee ◆	Mpanzu ▲	Mullins	Cook	Gambin	Shea
Berry	Cornick ▲	Collins	Hylton	E. Lee ●	Mpanzu ◆	Cook ▲	Justin	Mullins	Gambin	Shea
Berry	Cornick ◆	Collins ▲	Hylton	Mpanzu ●	Shinnie ◆	E. Lee ▲	Justin	Gambin	D'Ath	Shea
Mpanzu	D'Ath	Gambin	E. Lee ●	Jarvis ●	Berry ◆	Potts	O. Lee	Sheehan	Richardson	Isted
Berry	Shinnie ●	COLLINS 1	Hylton	Cornick ●	Justin	Gambin	D'Ath	E. Lee	Famewo	Shea
Berry	Cornick ●	Collins ●	Hylton	E. LEE 1 ●	Mpanzu ◆	Justin	Cook	Shinnie	D'Ath	Shea
Berry	Shinnie ◆	E. LEE 2	HYLTON 3	Mpanzu ●	Cook ◆	Justin ▲	Mullins	Cornick	Gambin	Shea
Mpanzu	SHINNIE 1 ▲	E. Lee ●	Hylton	CORNICK 1 ●	D'Ath ◆	Famewo ▲	Justin	Cook	Gambin	Shea
BERRY 1	Cornick ●	E. Lee ◆	HYLTON 1	Shinnie ●	Mpanzu ◆	Famewo ▲	Justin	Cook	Gambin	Shea
BERRY 1	Shinnie	E. LEE 1 ●	HYLTON 1	Cook ●	Gambin	Mpanzu ▲	Justin	Senior	D'Ath	Shea
Mpanzu	D'ATH 1 ●	Gambin	JARVIS 1	Read ●	Potts	O. Lee	Rea	Berry	E. Lee	Isted
Berry	Shinnie ◆	E. Lee ●	Hylton	Collins ●	Gambin ◆	Justin	Cook	Mpanzu	D'Ath	Shea
Berry	Shinnie ▲	E. Lee ◆	HYLTON 1	Cornick ●	Justin	Collins ▲	Mpanzu	Gambin	D'Ath	Shea
BERRY 1	Shinnie ●	COLLINS 1 ◆	Hylton	Cornick ●	E. Lee ◆	D'Ath ▲	Mpanzu	Gambin	Famewo	Shea
Berry	Shinnie ●	COLLINS 1	HYLTON 1 ◆	CORNICK 1 ●	E. LEE 1 ◆	Mpanzu ▲	Gambin	D'Ath	Famewo	Shea
Mpanzu	Cornick ▲	E. Lee ◆	Hylton	Berry ●	Collins ◆	Shinnie ▲	Cook	Gambin	Famewo	Shea
Berry	Shinnie ●	COLLINS 1	HYLTON 1	CORNICK 1 ●	Cook	Mpanzu	Gambin	E. Lee	Famewo	Shea
Berry	Shinnie ▲	Collins ◆	HYLTON 1	Cornick ●	E. Lee ◆	Gambin ▲	Stacey	Cook	Famewo	Shea
Mpanzu	D'Ath ▲	Cornick ◆	Cook	McQuoid ●	Shinnie ◆	O. Lee ▲	Justin	Potts	Cotter	Isted
Berry	Shinnie ▲	Collins ◆	E. Lee	Cornick ●	Cook ◆	Mpanzu ▲	Stacey	Senior	D'Ath	Shea
Berry	Shinnie	Collins	Hylton ●	E. Lee ●	Cornick ◆	Justin	Cook	Mpanzu	Famewo	Shea
Berry	Shinnie ●	Cornick ▲	COLLINS 1 ◆	D'Ath ●	Justin ◆	E. Lee ▲	O. Lee	Mpanzu	Famewo	Shea
Berry	Shinnie ◆	E. LEE 2	Collins	Mpanzu ●	Cornick ◆	D'Ath ▲	Justin	Jarvis	Famewo	Shea
Berry	CORNICK 1 ◆	Jervis ●	Collins	Hylton ●	Jones ●	Justin	Shinnie	Mpanzu	D'Ath	Shea
Berry ▲	Cornick	Jervis ●	COLLINS 1	Shinnie ●	Mpanzu ◆	D'Ath ▲	Justin	Gambin	Jones	Shea
BERRY 1	Cornick ◆	Shinnie ●	COLLINS 2	Jervis ●	Gambin ◆	Mullins	Cook	Mpanzu	D'Ath	Shea
BERRY 1	Cornick	Shinnie ●	Collins ◆	Jervis ●	Hylton ◆	Gambin ▲	Mullins	D'Ath	Jones	Shea
Berry	D'Ath ●	COLLINS 1 ■	Hylton ◆	Gambin ●	Jervis ◆	Cuthbert ▲	Justin	Shinnie	E. Lee	Shea
Berry	Shinnie ◆	E. LEE 1 ▲	Hylton	Cornick ●	Gambin ◆	Jervis ▲	Justin	Cuthbert	Mpanzu	Shea
Berry	Cornick ◆	COLLINS 1	Hylton	Gambin ●	E. Lee ◆	Justin	Mullins	O. Lee	Jervis	Shea
Berry	E. Lee ●	Collins	Hylton ◆	Cornick ●	Jervis ◆	McCormack ▲	Justin	Mullins	O. Lee	Shea
Berry	Shinnie ●	COLLINS 1	HYLTON 1 ◆	Rea ●	Jervis ◆	Stacey ▲	Cook	Mpanzu	E. Lee	Stech
Berry ●	Shinnie ●	Collins	HYLTON 1	Gambin ●	E. Lee ◆	Cornick ▲	Stacey	Jervis	Downes	Stech
Mpanzu	E. Lee ▲	COLLINS 1	Hylton ◆	REA 1 ●	Jervis ◆	Justin ▲	Cornick	Downes	Gambin	Stech
Mpanzu	E. LEE 1 ▲	Collins	HYLTON 2 ●	Jervis ●	Downes ◆	Gambin ▲	Justin	Mullins	Cornick	Stech
Mpanzu	E. LEE 1 ●	Collins	HYLTON 1 ◆	Cornick ●	Mullins ◆	Justin	Justin	Downes	Gambin	Stech
Mpanzu	E. Lee ◆	Collins	Hylton	Mullins ●	Downes ◆	Justin	Cornick	Jervis	Gambin	Stech



# HOLD THE BACKPAGE

WITH SIMON PITTS iFOLLOW HATTERS COMMENTATOR

**It should be really easy to write this article after the celebrations of last weekend, but when you realise you're limited by the number of words that fit onto the page it suddenly becomes a challenge to cover everything that this season deserves.**

Previously it's been a bit of a rollercoaster ride following Luton Town FC, with plenty of ups and downs, but whilst last Saturday confirmed the end of our current journey in League Two, it will soon be the start of another trip through our emotions with the Hatters in League One next season. If the last few years are anything to go by, there are hopefully not so many downs ahead of us, but instead a very bright and positive future to look forward to.

There was always going to be a great expectation for the season ahead back in August and, wow, what a start we had here at Kenilworth Road! A record breaking opening day win, scoring an incredible eight goals on a dream opening to the 2017/18 campaign.

James Collins, one of 13 players to join, and play for, the club since the end of last season, scored a hat-trick on his dream debut. Collins was the first of three different Luton players to score a Football League hat-trick during the season, a feat achieved for the first time since 1935/36. Both of these other hat-tricks were in games when seven goals were scored, with Luton setting another record in the process by scoring seven or more three times before Christmas!

A record equalling away Football League win, 5-0 at Swindon on Boxing Day, just added to the successes and achievements of the season.

A fantastic FA Cup tie at Newcastle may not have given us the result we were hoping for but there wasn't a single fan who couldn't be impressed with that second half performance. We're all still thinking "if only" though as Danny's perfectly good goal was ruled out for offside and Elliot thundered a free-kick agonisingly off the bar!

We even won a game in front of the SKY cameras too, and the weather was just a little better than the last time a fixture against Barnet was televised at Kenilworth Road!

Luke Berry's injury was a real low point of the season but how pleasing was it to see that he was able to attend both the EFL and PFA award dinners where he was included in the team of the year. Congratulations also to Danny Hylton, Dan Potts, Alan Sheehan, Jack Stacey and Marek Stech for their inclusion between the two teams as well.

Olly Lee quite rightly took goal of the season, not only at last week's Supporters' Trust presentation night

but it was also voted as the best goal scored in the Football League! As well as those players already congratulated, we can add Elliot Lee and Harry Cornick to the list as they picked up home and away player of the season respectively last weekend. A total of nine different players being recognised with awards really shows the quality that we have in this squad.

Promotion was secured last weekend and what a celebration and sense of relief there was at Carlisle! It was the first time since Swansea away in 2001/02 that we've actually been able to celebrate as the final whistle blew at a Luton match. In both 2004/05 and 2013/14 it was results in a midweek fixture on a night the Hatters weren't playing that guaranteed us promotion.

It is ten years since we were last in League One, but what a different club we have now! We've seen incredible progress on and off the pitch in the last decade. As I said at the beginning we really do have a very bright and positive future to look forward to.

Enjoy this last League Two fixture at Kenilworth Road, have a great summer, and don't forget the fixtures for League One are released on Thursday 21st June!