

THE SANDGROUNDER

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF SOUTHPORT FC • ISSUE 4 • £2.50



v KETTERING TOWN FC
SATURDAY 31/8/2019 • KICK OFF 3.00PM

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SOUTHPORT FOOTBALL CLUB

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Directors: Ian Kyle, Liam Watson &
Steven Porter

In accordance with paragraph 2.13 of rules of The National League, the Club makes the following statement:

Southport Football Club is a Company, limited by shares, registered in England and Wales with registered number 01486711.

The following individuals hold a significant interest in Southport Football Club (defined as being more than 10% of the voting rights): Ian Kyle

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Kerry Hartwell & Michael Hopkins

Matchday Announcer: Nicola Cave

Photography Julia Urwin

MANAGERS

NOTES

Welcome to The Pure Stadium for today's game against Kettering, a warm welcome to everyone who has made the trip up from Kettering this afternoon.

Our visitors had a remarkable afternoon on Bank Holiday Monday playing out an 8 goal thriller by the sounds of it at home to Kidderminster and coming away losing 3-5 to end the double header weekend like ourselves with two defeats. Both sides will be looking to bounce back from the disappointing weekend so we can expect another tough game this afternoon.

What can I say about our last two games? I honestly thought that against Telford we played well and should have been out of sight at half time, 11 goal attempts tells it's own story but we couldn't convert them and paid the price with a very soft penalty, the second week running that has happened.

The story on Monday was different. We were never in it with just one real attempt on goal all game and we came away with what we deserved.

It was great to see so many of you at Alfreton thank you

for your support. I appreciate travelling 2 ½ hours to get to the game on a Bank Holiday isn't fun so those that made the effort deserve a lot of credit and thanks.

The games have come thick and fast. Today is the eighth game of the season already and I have been rotating the squad to give everyone game time. It was all very well performing in pre-season but we need to put those performances to the back of our minds and perform in these games to the level we know we are capable of. I now know my best starting XI and barring injuries and fatigue Macca and I will be working hard on getting things right on the pitch.

We finally get some breathing space as the Saturday Tuesday games come to an end after

Altrincham's visit on Tuesday so there will be more recovery time for the lads and time to do more work on those niggly injuries.

I'll hopefully see you all back here on Tuesday before the trip to York next Saturday.

Thanks for your support.

Liam

Managers notes sponsored by





WITH IAN KYLE

BOARDROOM BRIEF

Good afternoon, and welcome to this afternoon's National League North game at The Pure Stadium. A particular welcome to the fans, staff, players and Directors of one of the "new" teams in the league this year, Kettering Town.

The game last Saturday here against Telford was a huge disappointment, particularly because of the manner of the defeat. Against Darlington, we played poorly and didn't deserve anything out of the game. Against Telford, we were by far the better, stronger team. At the end of the day and despite the fact that we were robbed by the second dubious penalty in a week, as the old adage goes, if you don't take your chances....We had started the season the season being extremely difficult to beat, but unfortunately over the last three games that mentality has seemingly disappeared. We need to get that back urgently.

Alfreton away was one of those games that you wish to forget, quickly. Quite simply, we can't. We need to learn from it and quickly put right what is going wrong at the moment. Basic mistakes were made and to be honest, we looked like we could have played all day without

creating a chance, never mind scoring it. Opportunities were given to some of the younger players who have been on the fringe of the team. They need to be given these opportunities but it was always going to be tough against a typical big, strong Billy Heath side. That said, I don't think any of the lads came away from Alfreton with their head held up, regardless of experience or lack of.



Kettering is now a chance for us to put the last few games right. We need to create chances, take them, and get back to being a mean team that concedes very few.

Immediately after the Telford game, we did of course have the Q&A with Liam and Jon McCarthy, and I would like to thank them for doing that and to

everyone who turned up to have their questions answered. I have been delighted by the support so far this season, particularly away from home (despite the lack of available coach transport), and the general positive "vibe" throughout the course of pre-season and to date.

Enjoy the game and thank you once again for your continued support.

Ian



AROUND THE CLUB



It was great to have a club legend with us at the last game (and Gary Cooper)

Gary was the latest guest in the Lounge ahead of the game against AFC Telford. Our hospitality package includes a Q&A with a former 'Port player and is well worth listening to.

MAN OF THE MATCH v AFC TELFORD

Reagan Ogle was voted the sponsors man of the match and for once it was a decision most people agreed with! Regan is presented with his bottle of bubbly by Neil from match sponsors Exclusive Cashback.



VOLUNTEERS

As with any club at our level we couldn't operate without our loyal band of volunteers, We have volunteers who are at the club every day helping with numerous tasks around the ground and assisting our groundsman so if you are interested in helping out get in touch with our volunteer co-ordinator Christine Classon by email volunteers@southportfc.net

We also need people on a Matchday to help with the numerous tasks that make a matchday go without a hitch. Programme sellers, 50/50 draw ticket sellers, turnstile operators etc etc are always welcome so please get in touch with Christine if you are able to offer any help in any way.





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Grateful thanks to the Non League Paper for allowing us to reproduce this article celebrating 40 Years Of The National League.



BOSS LIAM IS TREBLE TOPS IN THE NORTH

TALK about final day drama – Liam Watson has been put through the wringer on his way to becoming the most successful Conference North manager.

The 48-year-old is the only boss to win the league three times, twice in separate spells with Southport and the other at AFC Telford which all came in the final fixture of their respective seasons.

“That’s why I’ve got grey hair!” he tells The NLP. “Most successful... it’s probably because all the other managers have moved on!”

Watson is back at Southport for a third time, gunning for a fourth title 14 years after his first.

He originally joined the club in 2003 when the Sandgrounders were struggling to qualify for the newly formed Conference North, but turned their fortunes around.

“We qualified six weeks before the end of the season, it was brilliant, it felt like a promotion,” he recalls. “They were struggling, all of a sudden it just clicked. My signings started settling in and we went on a really



good run.”

Their form continued and Southport became the first ever champions of the new division.

“We went into that season probably as one of the fancied teams. Not favourites but we always thought we’d be challenging for the play-offs. It ended up becoming an unbelievable title race with Droylsden. They put a run together of ten wins. It was a league we should have won comfortably, we never had a bad spell, they just had an unbelievable spell.

“I’m still good friends with their manager Dave Pace and I don’t think he gets enough credit for how well they did that season and eventually they got up to the Conference.

“I always go back and say my first one was most important for my career but also the enjoyment. I think 04-05 we were a million miles the best team in the league.”

After keeping Southport in the Conference, Watson left the club and went to Burscough where he won the Northern Premier League title before he returned to Southport in 2008.

“I think 2009-10 season was the strongest Conference North even to this day,” he says of his second Step 2 title. “The top five sides at the time were Southport, Fleetwood, Alfreton, Workington and Droylsden. You look at the forwards in the league they could all score 20 plus goals.

“Southport had three: Steve Daly, Ciaran Kilheeny, Chris Simm, Fleetwood had four in Nick Rogan, Michael Wilde, Adam Warlow, Gareth Seddon. Telford had Danny Burton and Andy Brown, Droylsden with Jody Banim, Tony Gray, Sean Morley and Alfreton had Liam Hearn, Paul Clayton – those front two were frightening to play against. Anyone could have won that league.

“Bizarrely probably my greatest achievement was going into Stalybridge Celtic in the Conference North in 2015 with eight games to go and nine points adrift. We were dead and buried, we were gone. Miraculously we stayed up on goal difference on the final day. But that was short-term, every time you win the league it’s an amazing experience.”

His most recent success came at AFC

Telford in 2014. A different club this time and different circumstances.

“They had been relegated finishing bottom,” he added. “I inherited two players and had to sign 17 over the summer. I think that’s the only time Telford has won a league. That’s right up there. In this league you don’t know where your points are going to come from. The strength in depth, there’s no gimmes. If you’re not at it you can get rolled over wherever you go.



“It’s moved more towards being full-time, this spell is the first time I’ve managed full-time at Southport. They should have done it years ago. That’s one of my biggest regrets because you look at all the clubs that have gone past us: Accrington, Fleetwood, Fylde, Salford, Harrogate, and Morecambe.

“You see the players leave these levels and it’s amazing how well they do. We had another one this week in Dion Charles going to Accrington. Mark Duffy reached the Premier League last season with Sheffield United, I sold him in the 08-09 season and ten years later he’s there.

“It’s an unbelievable place Non-League and an unbelievable competition.”

By David Richardson

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ACTION



DARLINGTON **2** SOUTHPORT **0** Blackwell Meadows 17 August

Two early goals consigned Southport to their first defeat of the Vanarama National League North season at Darlington.

Tyrone O'Neill and an Adam Campbell penalty proved to be the difference between the teams on what turned out to be a disappointing afternoon for the Port.

O'Neill gave the home team the lead after just four minutes and Southport never looked likely to get back into the contest as Darlington took control.

The Port came into this game on the back of successive wins but they struggled to find their stride, O'Neill opening the scoring after finding space in the area before curling the ball home.

The home team were quick out of the blocks, Justin Donawa dragging a shot wide before Campbell added a second on 15 minutes, converting a penalty after Reagan Ogle was judged to have committed a foul.

Port manager Liam Watson made three changes at half-time in a bid to alter the course of the game, Jack Doyle, Russell Benjamin and Devarn Green coming off the bench.

The visitors saw more of the play after the break but opportunities were always difficult to come by.

Raul Correia did well to turn and shoot but was denied by goalkeeper Chris Elliott, who also saved from Jack Sampson after the striker had connected with an Ogle cross.

Southport: Hanford, Mohammed (Doyle 46), Ogle, Winnard, Astles, Morgan, Glynn (Green 46) Lacey (Benjamin 46), Correia, Sampson, Bauress.

Unused subs: Albinson, Woods.

Referee: John Matthews

Attendance: 1,331

16#ONEPORT



KETTERING TOWN FC

WE WELCOME THE SUPPORTERS, PLAYERS, MANAGERS AND OFFICIALS FROM KETTERING FOR THE GAME THIS AFTERNOON.

It is the first meeting of the sides since the 2011/12 season. As you can see from the record below our visitors hold the upper hand (apart from one stand out occasion) here at Southport. That same season saw the dramatic win for Southport at Nene Park when, as part of our record breaking eight match winning away run we pulled off a 3-2 win. The promotion season of 2004-05 also saw Southport come away with a 5-0 win.

There is quite a history between the two sides as Kettering also sealed our relegation from Conference National in 2010/11 although that was later rescinded due to the demise of their neighbours (and to be hosts) Rushden & Diamonds.



Paul Barratt in action against Kettering in 2010, the last player to score for Southport at home against our visitors.

Kettering have an interesting history one way or another with off field issues, ground problems and owner difficulties mixing in with some notable successes on the field.

They are now based at Burton Latimer a ground I doubt most Southport fans will have ever visited and we will have to wait until the final game of the season before making the trip.

SO FAR THIS SEASON

(Up to and inc Saturday 24 August)

03/08/2019	Kettering Town	AFC Telford United	2-1	959
06/08/2019	King's Lynn Town	Kettering Town	2-1	1114
10/08/2019	Darlington	Kettering Town	3-0	1344
13/08/2019	Kettering Town	Chester	1-1	971
17/08/2019	Kettering Town	Gateshead	1-2	701
24/08/2019	Leamington	Kettering Town	3-1	575

FORM LINE

FORM GUIDE	1	2	3	4	5	6
Kettering	W	L	L	D	L	L
Venue	H	A	A	H	H	A
Score	2-1	1-2	0-3	1-1	1-2	1-3
Pos			17	19	19	19

HOME RECORD V KETTERING

93/94	19-Apr	Lge	L	0-1	1026	
94/95	25-Mar	Lge	D	1-1	919	Penman
95/96	06-Jan	Lge	W	6-1	916	Whittaker(3) Davenport Blackstone
96/97	02-Apr	Lge	D	2-2	676	Whittaker Rogers
97/98	01-Nov	Lge	W	2-1	973	Thompson Bolland
98/99	17-Apr	Lge	L	0-1	1070	
99/00	06-Nov	Lge	L	0-1	1032	
00/01	03-Mar	Lge	L	2-3	1258	Marsh, Arnold
02/03	26-Aug	Lge	D	0-0	1327	
04/05	25-Sep	Lge	L	1-3	835	Fearns(pen)
06/07	28-Oct	FAC4Q	L	0-1	943	
07/08	12-Apr	Lge	L	0-1	1230	
10/11	09-Oct	Lge	L	1-2	1117	Barratt
11/12	13-Mar	Lge	D	0-0	753	

IN THE HOT SEAT IS NICKY EADEN

Nicky was appointed manager of Kettering Town in June 2019 after holding previous spells in the hot seat at Rotherham United, Nuneaton Borough and Hednesford Town. He previously had played for Wigan Athletic, Birmingham City, Nottingham Forest, Barnsley, Lincoln City, Halesowen Town and Solihull Moors, before becoming a Mark Cooper signing in October 2007. For the Poppies, Nicky chipped in with some valuable contributions that belied his advancing years as the Poppies stormed the Blue Square North, to win the Championship. Nicky became the player coach for the club for the 2008-09 season. A valuable asset to any side experience counts and with 'Eads' in the side the quality shines through. Nicky became assistant manager for the onset of the 2009-10 season. A great competitor his last game for the Poppies was the 1-0 FA Cup away win at Hartlepool United, before he left the club with Mark Cooper to join Peterborough United as assistant manager. Nicky briefly returned to the Poppies in June 2011 as Morell Maison's assistant, but soon left as carnage befell the club. Nicky finally became the 58th manager of the club since 1921 and starts the new campaign with the club promoted to the Vanarama Conference North for the 2019-20 campaign.

RECENT HISTORY

After a disappointing start to the 2013-14 Kettering whose Chairman was now Ritchie Jeune, went on a record 21 game unbeaten league run, following that up with 10 consecutive victories (9 in the league) in April to create a National record, ending the season in third place just, 2 points behind Champions Dunstable Town and losing to Slough Town in the Calor League Division One Central Play-off final in front of 2,331 at Latimer Park, the club's most successful season in the last four campaigns. Sensationally though Dean Thomas stood down as manager of the club in mid-May 2014, leaving his assistant Thomas Baillie to return as joint manager along with Scott Machin.

The combination of the joint managers reaped the benefits from the previous season as the 2014-15 Evo-Stik Southern League Division One Central Championship was won in style, at their first attempt, winning the division by 11 points. But the club wanted a sole manager for the 2015-16 season, Tom Baillie soon resigned and after that shock so did Scott Machin, paving the way for the return of Marcus Law to become the club's 57th manager. Marcus steered the club to 6th position in the Evo-Stik Premier missing out on the play-offs by just one point. In 2016-17 the club finished in 9th place while winning the Northamptonshire Hillier Senior Cup (for the first time since 2001) in a thrilling final against rivals Corby Town at Sixfields, Northampton.

The 2018-19 season saw manager Marcus Law guide the Poppies to the Evo-Stik League South Premier Central title, winning the league by a massive 14 points and promotion back to the Conference North. But Marcus resigned his position in June 2019, paving the way for former Poppy Nicky Eaden, to guide the club in the Vanarama National League North for the 2019-20 campaign.



HISTORY



Nicky Eaden



JAMES BRIGHTON

James is an experienced full back who has played for Cambridge United, Cambridge City and Hemel Hempstead Town. He had an outstanding pre-season and signed for the Poppies in August 2015 after impressing during pre-season. His progression within the side earned him a contract with the club during the season, with a string of superb performance James was voted Player of the Season for 2015-16. James had a frustrating 2017-18, 2018-19 seasons being out for most of it through injury, he made a few cameo appearances towards the end of the promotion season, now fully recovered he is champing at the bit to get going again.

JOEL CARTA

Joel is a young midfielder signed by Nicky Eaden in July from neighbours Corby Town, after scoring 28 goals last season. Joel went through the youth ranks at Coventry City, Shrewsbury Town and Mansfield Town, before a spell with Harrowby United.

SAM CARTWRIGHT

Sam, is a young central defender on loan from Peterborough United, having played for St Ives Town last season again on loan from the Posh.

LUKE GRAHAM

Luke originally joined the Poppies from Northampton Town in February 2005. After impressing all at Rockingham Road he returned to the Cobblers at the end of the season, later playing on loan for Forest Green Rovers. Luke returned to the Poppies in May 2006 as one of 6 new signings under Morell Maison's new era at Kettering Town. A defender of true class and ability, Luke continued to impress under Mark Cooper, and popped up to score the only goal of the game against AFC Telford at the New Buck's Head, as the Poppies started to set their stall out for the Blue Square North Championship.

During the 2008-09 Blue Square Premier season he was loaned to King's Lynn during October 2008 for the rest of the season. Luke then joined Mansfield Town in May 2009, he also played for York City before returning to the Poppies in June 2010. In and out of the side during the 2010-11 season, Luke joined Luton Town on loan in January and later signed for Forest Green Rovers in July. Later he played for Hereford United, Alfreton Town and Brackley Town, as well as being the International Academy Director at Kettering Town (while at Brackley). Luke re-joined the Poppies for a fourth time in September 2018. He gained promotion with the club in 2018-19 and became a player coach under Nicky Eaden.

ELLIOTT HODGE

Elliot joined the Poppies in July 2019 after impressing manager Nicky Eaden during pre-season. He has previously played for Lincoln City, Stamford AFC, Gainsborough Trinity, Stafford Rangers, AFC Telford United, Notts County, Alfreton Town and Burton Albion. Elliott is the son of former England, Nottingham Forest and Spurs midfielder, Steve Hodge.

MARCUS KELLY

Kettering born Marcus previously played for Rushden & Diamonds and Oxford United. Before joining the Poppies in November 2009. After a few cameo appearances on loan he joined the Poppies on a permanent basis in January 2010. Marcus scored his first goal for the club away at Barrow as the Poppies ran out 2-0 winners. 2010-11 was a special season for Marcus as he developed as an attacking full back, not only impressing the management, but also winning the Supporters Player of the season and Vice - Presidents Player of the season. Carrying on from where he left off Marcus was the Poppies best player from the start of the 2011-12 season, but with crippling finances, he became the victim of the annual pre-

Christmas clear out, joining rivals Mansfield Town. He returned to the Poppies in January under returning boss Mark Cooper, seeing the season out, but he left the Poppies again in May, linking up with former boss Marcus Law at Tamworth. Later he played for Forest Green Rovers, scoring a hat-trick on his debut. He later also played for Wrexham before making a dramatic return to the Poppies in July 2018 where he was instrumental in the Poppies Championship side.

CONNOR KENNEDY

An impressive midfielder Connor made the switch from Corby Town in June 2019, he was the Steelmen's Supporters Player of the Year and the Players Player of the Year, making 40 appearances, scoring 10 goals as Corby just missed out on promotion. Connor has been on the Poppies radar for quite a while and now has the chance at a higher level to go on and be a success.

LINDON MEIKLE

Lindon a winger / striker was signed by from Barrow during the 2018-19 close season. The former England C international has also played for Eastwood Town, Mansfield Town, York City, Macclesfield Town, Alfreton Town and Southport (on loan). An exciting committed player who should prove to be a valuable asset to the squad. Lindon opened his account for the Poppies with a stunning injury time winner against Redditch United on his home debut.

BEN MILNES

Ben joined the Poppies from Corby Town in June 2017. A highly rated midfielder, whose career began at Leicester City, before a move to Boston United. While at Corby Ben was the Player of the Year and had an exceptional game against the Poppies in the Northants Senior Cup final at Sixfields. Ben scored the scored goal against Slough on the opening day of the season, also on his club debut.

KETTERING TOWN FC

DAN NTI

Dan is an experienced forward signed by Nicky Eaden in July 2019. He has previously played for Brackley Town, Nuneaton Borough, Kidderminster Harriers, Halifax, York City and Worcester City.

AARON O'CONNOR

Aaron a much travelled experienced striker joined the Poppies in September 2016 from Stevenage Town. He previously played for Ilkeston Town, Scunthorpe United, Grays Athletic, Mansfield Town, Rushden & Diamonds, Luton Town, Newport County and Forest Green Rovers, he also had spells at Gresley Rovers and Nuneaton Borough. Aaron had a terrific season with the Poppies ending the 2017-18 campaign as the club's leading scorer with 40 goals, he also won the Overall Player of the Year, Player of the Year at the Club's at the Club's Presentation Evening. Injury curtailed his 2018-19 season, but he came back to steer the Poppies to promotion with some telling goals.

JACK O'CONNOR

Jack is product of the Kettering Town youth Academy and has impressed during pre-season. has also played for Cogenhoe United. Jack captained the Poppies U18's, an excellent centre-back. He started with the U16's showing his quality but soon graduated to the U18's and U21's. He has represented the County, played for Bugbrooke Town's first team. He won the coveted Richard Butcher Foundation Award for 2016-17 and the U19's Scholars Manager's Player of the Season at the Club's Presentation Evening.

MICHAEL RICHENS

Michael originally played for the Poppies on loan in 2015 making 4 appearances before returning to Hemel Hempstead. A highly rated midfielder, Michael has also played for

Peterborough United, Farnborough, Whitehawk, Nuneaton Town, Stevenage, and Bishop Stortford.

Michael re-joined the Poppies in June 2017. Michael opened his Poppies goal scoring account with a 35-yard equalising lob, against Northampton Town in the 2017 Maunsell Cup final. He followed that up with the goal of the season at Stratford, an absolute stunner from 35 yards.

JOSEPH SKARZ

Joe is an experienced defender signed by Nicky Eaden during the 2019-20 pre-season campaign. He has played for Huddersfield Town, Hartlepool United, Shrewsbury Town, Rotherham United, Oxford United, FC Halifax and Bury.

BRETT SOLKHON

Brett primarily plays in midfield but has played in a variety of rolls at the club including goalkeeper. Previously he turned out for Rushden & Diamonds and has also played for Corby Town. Brett re-joined the Poppies from Brackley Town in the 2014 close season, having left the club in 2011. He was a member of the team that won the Blue Square North Championship in 2007-08 while becoming a hero with classic FA Cup goals home and away against Notts County. Throughout his first six seasons, which included representing an England Select XI and a Testimonial game against Oxford United, he was ever-present in the side proving to be one of the finest midfielders to wear a Kettering shirt. Last season he scored his first hat-trick for the club against St Ives Town, etching himself further into the history books. Brett became only the second player in the history of the club to win all of the end of season trophies at the 2014-15 Club Presentation Evening, as well as the first Poppies player to switch on the towns Christmas lights. He also became only the second Poppy in our history to reach 500 hundred games for the club on New Year's Day 2018.

GARY STOHRER

Gary signed for the Poppies in July 2017 from Frickley Athletic. A right back born in Northampton he has also played for Irchester, Long Buckby, Garforth Town, Ossett Town and Shaw Lane. An exciting prospect who has pace and can find the net when pushed forward. A valuable asset to the squad who put in some impressive performances during the 2017-18 season, scoring a brilliant individual goal against Dunstable Town at Latimer Park.

JAVAN VIDAL

Javan, a defender signed for the Poppies in July 2019 after impressing manager Nicky Eaden during pre-season. An experienced campaigner who started his career at Manchester City, previously played for Grimsby Town, Aberdeen, Derby County, Chesterfield, Stockport County, Rochdale, Tamworth, Wrexham, Guiseley, Bradford Park Avenue, Droylsden and Hednesford Town.

PAUL WHITE

Irish born goalkeeper Paul has previously played for Cork City, North Leigh, Gloucester City, Frome Town, Forest Green Rovers and Boreham Wood. The experienced former Republic of Ireland U18 international joined the Poppies in September 2016 making his debut in the 5-1 win at St Neots Town. Paul soon established himself as the Club's number one with a string of excellent passionate performances that have made him a fans favourite. Paul created a record of 20 clean sheets during the 2017-18 season and almost equalled his record during the 2018-19 Championship season but ended the campaign on 19 clean sheets. A well-established player with the Poppies having made over 120 appearances, he is one of a fair few of the Poppies squad to have played at Conference North level before.

A soccer player in a yellow Manchester United jersey is celebrating a goal. He has his right arm raised and is looking down. The background shows a crowd of spectators in a stadium.

"SUPER SEVEN"

RAUL CORREIA

VAR-Good Or Bad: Good

Team Support: Manchester Utd

Food: Portuguese Cuisine

Film: Shawshank Redemption

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Cristiano Ronaldo

Holiday Destination: Portugal

Fascinating Fact:

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ON THE ROAD TO ALFRETON

GOING TO ALFRETON ON AN AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY IS NOT SOMETHING MANY PEOPLE WOULD CHOOSE TO DO BUT FOR THE SECOND SEASON RUNNING WE FOUND OURSELVES FACING THE TRIP ONCE AGAIN.

It was my 13th visit to The Impact Arena. I make no secret of the fact it's my least favourite ground to visit, we never do well there, you feel as though everyone is on top of you, the programme is a poor effort at £3 and taking everything into account it ranks 21st as my looked forward to trips.

We set off early, way too early, last season to allow for extra Bank Holiday traffic and got to the ground at 12 after a clear run through so we thought we would do the same and take the opportunity to have lunch at the local KFC if time permitted. We know how to live me and Mrs Urwin.

For some reason we go the longest way round in terms of mileage but a way we have found much quicker in terms of time. M6 down to Junction 15 then across on the A50 right to the M1 then back up to Alfreton. It works for us as the time we tried the supposed quicker route through Derby it proved a nightmare. This time having left at 9.30 we were parked up at KFC at 11.50 with not one delay despite warnings to allow an hour extra if travelling.

Programmes purchased £3 for a very average programme that had more errors than one of mine. At least mine are usually typo's I don't pick up. Some of these were BAD.

The least said about the game the better. We weren't very good at all with just one attempt at goal on target all game. I said

ahead of the game that one of the players who comes back to haunt us every game is Amari Morgan-Smith and he did with a quickfire double.

I have been doing the Matchday Live with Alan and Amos this season and some of the comments coming through are beyond belief and downright insulting, abusive and crude. The people putting them through hide behind their aliases and then get upset when we don't put their comment through. The MDL goes out across the official club website so we are hardly going to put out obscenities or negative claptrap are we?

It's also worth remembering those people doing MDL are volunteers who give up their time to get to games and shouldn't be subject to such abuse. The comment facility is great as we get to see who is tuning in from all over the world and we love the interaction and don't want to turn the comments off but we will if it continues.

Liam had a long time in the dressing room after the game so by the time we got away from the ground it was 5.40 but with a great run home we were back in Ainsdale at 7.55 with a few hours left to get this programme to print in the morning.

Not an ideal way to spend a Bank Holiday but no matter what, we look forward to our next game and our next away trip to the leaders, York.

Rob

THE 2019-20

Prediction League

We are well underway in this season's Charity Prediction League and we were delighted to hand over £100 to Queenscourt Hospice.



The prize this season is £65 plus a Trophy.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the charity and the competition.

The table appears on our website after every full round of games, usually on a Saturday but occasionally when there is a full midweek programme. We also keep people up to date in The Sandgrounder on a regular basis.

We have had three different leaders so far with Neil Dixon, Shannon Priestley and Marie Monk all at the head of the table.

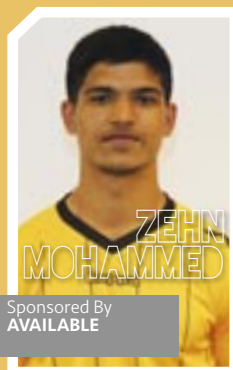
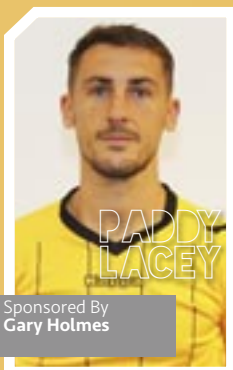
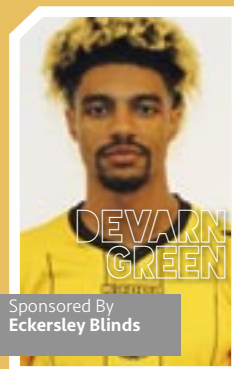
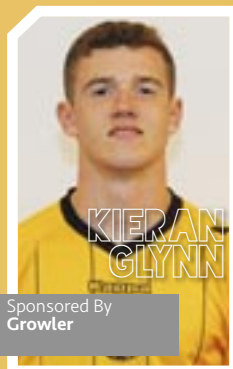
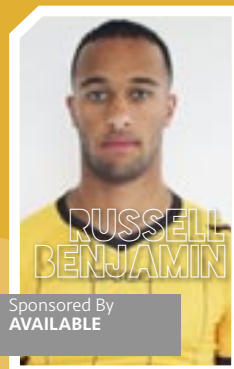
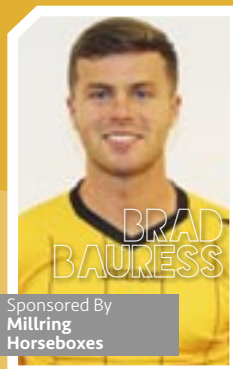
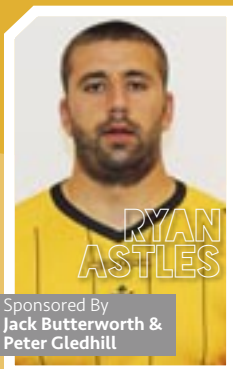
I have decided to remove the Random Entries from the main table but should a random entry that entered the competition rather than donated money to the charity be in the lead after September 7th when the table settles down they will be shown on the leader board if they are in the lead.

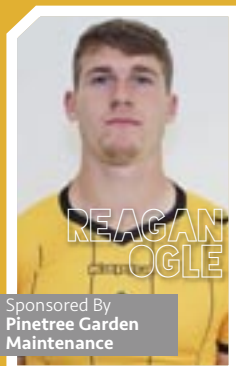
THE TOP 20 IN THE TABLE AS AT 24 AUGUST:

Pos	Name	Score	Entry No	SFC
1	Marie Monk	354	142	21
2	Neil Dixon	352	61	3
3	Alan Stoker	344	3	6
4	Trevor Wall	342	35	2
5	Shannon Priestley	342	141	4
6	Eva Boyle	340	71	10
7	Sue Boyle	338	76	10
8	Daisy Wall	336	32	9
9	Steve Scott	334	19	2
10	Liam Wells	334	20	6
11	Dale Martin	334	23	4
12	Helen Rimmer	332	10	16
13	Finlay Fenton	332	58	6
14	Adam Stirling	330	45	12
15	J.P. Williams	330	69	6
16	Stephen Monk	330	145	11
17	Simon Marshall	328	1	7
18	Rob Urwin 2	326	6	8
19	Ken Rimmer	324	11	5
20	Maheshi Robinson	324	44	2
21	Michelle Urwin	324	138	7

FIRST TEAM PLAYERS

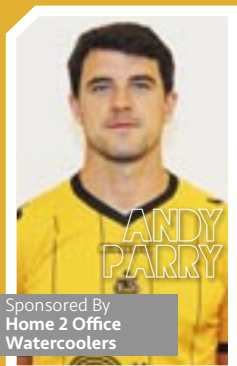
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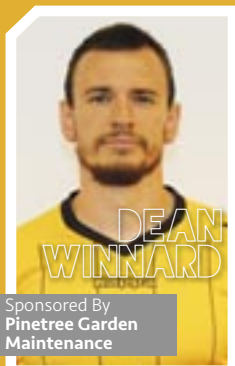
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PARRY

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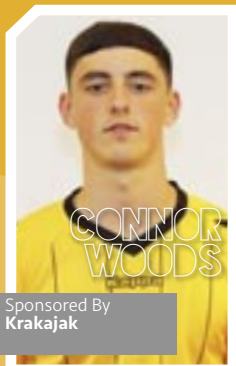
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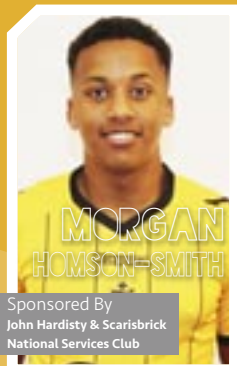
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This type of support allows businesses and individual fans to pledge their backing of the club through their favourite player.

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- Name/logo in every home match-day programme.
- Name/logo on the player profile section of the club website.
- Announcement over the PA system at the ground when your player scores or wins the Man of the Match award.
- Social media coverage of your sponsorship.
- Presented with a shirt from the player.
- Photograph on-the-pitch with the player.

FIXTURES & RESULTS 2019/20

Date	Opponents	F-A	Scorers	Att	Pos	GK	2	3	4	5	
AUGUST											
03-Aug-19	Gateshead	A	0-0	879	14	Hanford	Mohammed	Ogle	Winnard	Astles	
06-Aug-19	Curzon Ashton	H	0-0	1120	14	Hanford	Ogle	Doyle	Winnard	Astles	
10-Aug-19	Guiseley	H	3-0	Sampson, Correia, Clynn	937	5	Hanford	Mohammed	Ogle	Winnard	Astles
13-Aug-19	Farsley Celtic	A	3-0	Morgan, Green, Correia	389	4	Hanford	Mohammed	Doyle	Winnard	Astles
17-Aug-19	Darlington	A	0-2		1331	7	Hanford	Mohammed	Ogle	Winnard	Astles
24-Aug-19	AFC Telford United	H	0-1		910	10	Hanford	Ogle	Doyle	Winnard	Astles
26-Aug-19	Alfreton Town	A	0-2		507	14	Hanford	Mohammed	Ogle	Parry	Astles
31-Aug-19	Kettering Town	H									
SEPTEMBER											
03-Sep-19	Altrincham	H									
07-Sep-19	York City	A									
14-Sep-19	Blyth Spartans	H									
21-Sep-19	(FAC2Q)										
28-Sep-19	Boston United	A									
OCTOBER											
05-Oct-19	(FAC3Q)										
12-Oct-19	Brackley Town	H									
19-Oct-19	Hereford	H									
26-Oct-19	Bradford Park Avenue	A									
29-Oct-19	LANCS CUP										
NOVEMBER											
02-Nov-19	Leamington	H									
09-Nov-19	Spennymoor Town	A									
16-Nov-19	King's Lynn Town	H									
23-Nov-19	FAT 3Q										
30-Nov-19	Kidderminster Harriers	A									
DECEMBER											
07-Dec-19	Gloucester City	H									
14-Dec-19	FAT 1										
21-Dec-19	Blyth Spartans	A									
26-Dec-19	Chester	H									
28-Dec-19	Altrincham	A									
JANUARY											
01-Jan-20	Chester	A									
04-Jan-20	York City	H									
11-Jan-20	Brackley Town	A									
18-Jan-20	Boston United	H									
25-Jan-20	Gloucester City	A									
FEBRUARY											
01-Feb-20	Bradford Park Avenue	H									
08-Feb-20	Hereford	A									
15-Feb-20	Spennymoor Town	H									
22-Feb-20	Leamington	A									
29-Feb-20	King's Lynn Town	A									
MARCH											
07-Mar-20	Kidderminster Harriers	H									
14-Mar-20	Gateshead	H									
21-Mar-20	Curzon Ashton	A									
28-Mar-20	Farsley Celtic	H									
APRIL											
04-Apr-20	Guiseley	A									
10-Apr-20	Alfreton Town	H									
13-Apr-20	AFC Telford United	A									
18-Apr-20	Darlington	H									
25-Apr-20	Kettering Town	A									

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Saturday 14th December - Alfie Benson

Friday 20th December - Claire Simmo
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6	7	8	9	10	11	Sub 1	Sub 2	Sub 3	Unused Subs	Ref
Parry	Green	Morgan	Charles	Sampson	Bauress	Correia 9	**	**	Glynn, Homson-Smith, Benjamin, Albinson	R Aspinall
Morgan	Glynn	Benjamin	Charles	Sampson	Bauress	Homson-Smith 11	Correia 10	Woods 7	Mohammed, Albinson	D Baines
Morgan	Glynn	Lacey	Correia	Sampson	Homson-Smith	Woods 7	Green 9	Benjamin 8	Doyle, Albinson	B Atkinson
Morgan	Green	Benjamin	Correia	Sampson	Bauress	Woods 7				
Morgan	Glynn	Lacey	Correia	Sampson	Bauress	Doyle 2	Green 7	Benjamin 8	Woods & Albinson	J Matthews
Morgan	Green	Benjamin	Correia	Sampson	Bauress	Mohammed 4	Woods 9		Homson-Smith, Parry, Albinson	J Westgate
Morgan	Woods	Benjamin	Glynn	Sampson	Homson-Smith	Correia 7	Doyle 8	Green 11	Bauress & Albinson	A Bannister



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AROUND & ABOUT

SIX GAMES IN AND THE TABLE STARTS TO TAKE SHAPE. I'M WRITING THIS AHEAD OF THE BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY MATCHES.

It didn't take long for the firings to start with two Vanarama National League North managers already biting the dust with Gary Thompson at Bradford along with Marc Richards at Hereford bot being shown the exit door. The first was unbelievable. Massive cutbacks in the playing budget but still held responsible for two 5-0 defeats. As for Richards departure at Hereford, it was on the cards last season and he was everybody's favourite to be the first to go this season so maybe that wasn't such a shock but three games in? Really?

Elsewhere Jason Gilchrist was sent off after half an hour on his debut for South Shields for a centre circle altercation. Very un-Jason like this so something must have gone on. He got his first goal in the next game as Shields won 3-0 against Ashton United.

It's no surprise to see the red hot favourites in York at the top of the table, they look like the strong bet everyone predicted. The one big surprise so far is seeing King's Lynn in second place and Blyth and Spennymoor occupying the two relegation places. We have a nice trip to York to look forward to a week today.

The Moors have catching up to do as they have lost a couple of home games, against Blyth and Boston, due to pitch renewal and ground works at The Brewers Field.

Take York out and it looks like a very open league. It's fair to say we cruised to a win at

Farsley who now sit above us in the table after a couple of good wins at home to Spennymoor and away at Gateshead.

Talking of favourites FC United and Ashton United were both fancied to do well after their relegations but have not had the best of starts and occupy the relegation places in NPL Premier.

In The Vanarama National League Woking are the early pacesetters and confirmed their top spot with a win against Solihull Moors who were top. A decent gate just short of the 2000 mark saw Woking get two early goals. Godfery Poku coming off the bench for Woking and Callum Howe in the Solihull team.

Chorley are finding life tough at the higher level but have picked up four draws from their opening six games. Matty Challoner, Adam Blakeman and Josh O'Keefe all featuring regularly for Chorley.

FC Halifax are fourth with Jamie Allen and Liam Nolan starting for The Shaymen.

There's a long way to go and plenty more twists and turns along the way. We will try and keep you updated on how former 'Port players are doing throughout the season.

We can't fail to mention our Dion who got his first EFL goal for Accrington Stanley. Just a tap in? No it was a beauty from all of 20 yards, well done Dion and we hope to see a few more along the way.

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PLAYER

ROLL CALL

APPEARANCES & SCORERS 2019/20

Player	Minutes Played	Lge 19/20 Apps	Lge 19/20 Sub	Cup 19/20 Apps	Cup 19/20 Sub	Lge Goals 19/20	Assists	Lge Total Goals	Cup Goals 19/20	Total Goals 19/20	Career Cup Goals	Total Career Goals
Charlie Albinson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ryan Astles	630	7	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	3
Bradley Bauress	425	5	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	2	7
Russell Benjamin	381	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dion Charles #	170	2	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	7	25
Raul Correia	387	4	3	0	0	2	1	2	0	2	0	2
Jack Doyle	347	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kieran Glynn	285	4	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1
Devarn Green	331	3	3	0	0	1	1	3	0	1	2	5
Dan Hanford	630	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Morgan Homson-Smith	190	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Patrick Lacey	134	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Zehn Mohammed	433	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
David Morgan	623	7	0	0	0	1	1	8	0	1	1	9
Reagan Ogle	540	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Andy Parry	180	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	3
Jack Sampson	614	7	0	0	0	1	0	23	0	1	3	26
Dean Winnard	512	6	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	4
Connor Woods	118	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ten Men	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Own Goals	*	*	*	*	*	0	*	0	0	0	*	*
# No Longer At The Club												
Total	6930	77	18	0	0	6	67	0	6	22	89	

THE STATS

LEAGUE TABLE 2019/20

26-AUGUST	HOME						AWAY						GS	GA	GD	PTS	H	Att	A	Att.
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A									
1 York City	7	2	2	0	4	1	3	0	0	10	2	14	3	11	17					
2 King's Lynn	7	3	0	0	9	3	2	1	1	6	6	15	9	6	16					
3 Chester	7	3	1	0	11	3	1	2	0	3	2	14	5	9	15					
4 Alfreton Town	7	3	1	0	10	1	1	0	2	6	6	16	7	9	13			0-2	507	
5 Guiseley	7	2	0	1	8	5	2	1	1	10	5	18	10	8	13	3-0	937			
6 Leamington	7	2	1	0	6	2	1	1	2	5	6	11	8	3	11					
7 Brackley Town	7	3	1	0	6	1	0	1	2	1	4	7	5	2	11					
8 Hereford	7	1	2	0	4	3	2	0	2	5	7	9	10	-1	11					
9 Kidderminster Harriers	7	0	1	2	4	6	3	0	1	9	5	13	11	2	10					
10 Farsley Celtic	7	2	0	2	5	6	1	1	1	4	2	9	8	1	10			3-0	389	
11 Gloucester City	7	1	1	1	4	3	2	0	2	5	10	9	13	-4	10					
12 Curzon Ashton	7	2	1	1	9	3	0	2	1	2	5	11	8	3	9	0-0	1120			
13 Boston United	6	2	2	0	8	2	0	1	1	1	4	9	6	3	9					
14 Southport	7	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	2	3	4	6	5	1	8	**	**	**	**	
15 Darlington	7	2	1	1	6	2	0	1	2	3	7	9	9	0	8			0-2	1331	
16 Gateshead	7	0	2	1	1	4	1	3	0	4	3	5	7	-2	8			0-0	879	
17 AFC Telford	7	1	1	2	4	6	1	0	2	2	3	6	9	-3	7	0-1	910			
18 Altrincham	7	1	1	1	5	6	0	2	2	2	8	7	14	-7	6					
19 Bradford Park Avenue	7	0	1	2	0	8	1	1	2	2	10	2	18	-16	5					
20 Kettering	7	1	0	1	2	7	0	0	3	2	8	9	17	-8	4					
21 Spennymoor	5	0	0	1	1	4	0	2	2	4	7	5	11	-6	2					
22 Blyth Spartans	6	0	0	4	2	10	0	1	1	0	3	2	13	-11	1					
TOTAL	150	32	21	22	117	89	22	21	32	89	117	206	0							

LEAGUE MATCH STATS

Times of Goals	For	Ag	H		A		CURRENT SEQUENCES		Home		No	W	D	L
			F	A	F	A	Games Scored In	0	Scoring first	1	1			
1-9 mins	2	1	1		1	1	Wins	0	Conceding first	1			1	
10-19 mins	1	0	1				Defeats	3	Winning at half time	1	1			
20-35 mins	1	1			1	1	Draws	0	Drawing at half time	2			1	1
36-45 mins	1	0			1		GAMES SINCE		Losing at half time	0				
46-60 mins	1	3	1	1		2	A Win	3	Away	No	W	D	L	
61-79 mins	0	0					A Home Win	1	Scoring first	2	1		1	
80-90 mins	0	0					An Away Win	2	Conceding first	1			1	
Added Time	0	0					A Defeat	0	Winning at half time	1	1			
TOTAL	6	5	3	1	3	4	An Away Defeat	0	Drawing at half time	2			1	1
PENALTIES							A Home Defeat	0	Losing at half time	1				1
	For	Ag	F	A	F	A	A Score Draw	7						
Pens Awarded	0	2		1		1	A No Score Draw	5	Goal Frequency	0	1	2	3	
Pens Scored	0	2		1		1	Conceding A Goal	0	Goals Scored	5			2	
							Scoring A Goal	3	Goals Conceded	4	1	2		
WHICH END?	F	A					GOAL METHOD		Winning Margin					2
Blowick End	1	1					Open Play	6	Losing Margin		1	2		
Scarlsbrick End	2						Corner		Draws	2				
TOTAL	3	1					Penalty			F	A			
							Direct Free Kick		RED CARDS	0	0			
							Indirect Free Kick		YELLOW CARDS	6				
							Headed Goals							

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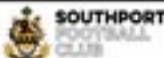
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DAVID FRODSHAM

FROM THE ARCHIVES

SATURDAY JANUARY 14TH 1928 WAS FA CUP THIRD ROUND DAY WHEN HAIG AVENUE STAGED AN IMPORTANT AND AS IT HAS TURNED OUT A UNIQUE FIXTURE. IT WAS OUR FIRST EVER MEETING IN EITHER LEAGUE OR CUP WITH THE LONDON SIDE FULHAM, THE COTTAGERS, NAMED AFTER THEIR GROUND - CRAVEN COTTAGE - ON THE BANKS OF THE RIVER THAMES HAD BEEN RESIDENTS OF THE SECOND DIVISION FOR TWENTY YEARS BUT WERE NOT HAVING A GOOD SEASON WHICH AT THE END WOULD SEE THEM RELEGATED TO THE THIRD DIVISION SOUTH. 8000 SPECTATORS SAW US WIN BY 3-0 AND PROGRESS TO ROUND 4. THIS FIXTURE, AS A CUP TIE, HAS NEVER BEEN REPEATED ALTHOUGH OF COURSE BOTH REAMS STAND READY TO PLAY EACH OTHER AGAIN HERE IN JANUARY 2020. TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO THAT STATEMENT, AS THEY SAY.

There is another game to consider too. On Wednesday evening August 27th 1969, a touch over 50 years ago we paid our one and only visit to date to Craven Cottage for a Third Division fixture. This record will stand for several years yet. You can calculate the possibilities of the teams one day arriving in the same league competition but please bear in mind that we could not play them in National League South.

Both sides had 3 points from 3 games played back in 1969. They had beaten Gillingham, a team destined to play a big part at the conclusion of our season and we had seen off Barrow here on the previous Saturday when Keith Pring netted his first goal for us. Fulham had just suffered two successive relegations to end up in Division 3. They were used to mixing with the Arsenals and Everton's of this World. The Fulham star player was of course Johnny Haynes the first ever English footballer playing in England to be paid £100 a week following the scrapping of the footballer's maximum wage in the early sixties. The Fulham Chairman was Tommy Trinder, a popular star of screen and television and the very first compere of the ITV show Sunday Night at the London Palladium. His catch phrase over the years was "you lucky people". That was certainly true that night. Jimmy Conway had given Fulham a half time lead but in the second half we scored twice through George Andrews and Colin Alty. It was not quite enough as Conway scored a penalty and Stan



Brown completed the scoring for Fulham. Fulham had started their season by failing to score in any of the first three games. They had then won their next two games aided by a penalty success in both from Conway. Three spot kicks on the run all

awarded to the home team and all netted. Interesting but made more so in the light of a prediction in the programme that they Fulham, would be awarded more penalty kicks that season than most other sides. Why? To use their words - playing our way, the way we think football should be played, there is a tendency to carry the ball into the penalty area where defenders offend at their peril. Our players have the skills and it is inevitable that they will be unfairly stopped. Two offences have now been spotted and fully penalised.

There you have it. I have searched the records for the rest of Fulham's season and interestingly after our game against them they were awarded a further three penalty kicks all converted by Jimmy Conway. There is no record that season of any other successful penalties but it may be that some were given whether for fouls in the box or for hand ball and missed by the taker.

Jimmy Conway played 314 games for Fulham and scored 67 times over a ten year career with them. Very sad to report that he has been unwell and hospitalised for a few years now in the USA where he finished his playing career and embarked on a career in coaching.

THE LAST WORD



VAR IS BECOMING QUITE A CONUNDRUM AND THERE SEEMS TO BE MORE CONTROVERSY NOW THAN THERE EVER WAS BEFORE. THOSE IN FAVOUR SEEM TO BE THE ONES WHO HAVE HAD A VAR DECISION GO FOR THEM WHILST IF YOU HAVE HAD A GOAL RULED OUT IT'S THE WORST THING EVER. THAT'S THE WAY IT SEEMED TO BE GOING AS I WAS LISTENING TO THE PHONE IN ON RADIO 5 LIVE ON THE WAY HOME FROM DARLINGTON.

I get that we want to have every decision correct but is it actually doing that? There still remains an element of doubt.

The bit I don't like is football is about passion and celebrating goals as they go in, not waiting up to five minutes to have someone else rule a goal out as happened with Manchester City into added time in their recent game against Spurs. I get that the decision was correct but the euphoria of thinking you have won a game in added time to have it taken away is hard to take? Before anyone even thinks I am a Man City fan, I very definitely am not, it's the whole principle. Hence the conundrum, correct decision against being allowed to celebrate a goal? Give the game back to the ref.

Having said all that if VAR had been at Darlington I doubt very much if the penalty would have been given against us. I can see why it was awarded as the ref got the same view as we did in the Press Area and to us it looked like a pen but seeing it again (which the ref doesn't get the chance to do) it was a blatant dive which should have seen a


yellow card and a goal-kick to us.



The ref at Darlo also forgot the new rule of a subbed player having to go off at the point nearest to the touchline where they stand which wasted more time as both the second half subs went to the halfway line having been stood over in the far corner of the pitch where they should have exited the field of play.

It happened again last Saturday against Telford with another dubious penalty award which having seen it on the video would probably have been overturned. It was a shame because the referee generally had an excellent game but one decision cost us dearly.

After thinking we had missed the chance of seeing a goal of the month contender in Raul's goal at Farsley because the battery had gone on the Farsley cameraman's camera it has somehow miraculously appeared from the footage. We had been told it was missing and only got sent the first two goals. It helps keep my aim of putting all the goals together in an end of season video intact.

Rob

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MANAGER Liam Watson

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Zehn Mohammed	02	■
Reagan Ogle	03	■
Dean Winnard	04	■
Ryan Astles	05	■
David Morgan	06	■
Kieran Glynn	07	■
Paddy Lacey	08	■
Raul Correia	09	■
Jack Sampson	10	■
Brad Bauress	11	■
Charlie Albinson	12	■
Andy Parry	13	■
Morgan Homson-Smith	14	■
Connor Woods	15	■
Jack Doyle	16	■
Devarn Green	17	■
Russell Benjamin	18	■

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE

Nathanael Cox

ASSISTANT REFEREE

Gareth Myers

ASSISTANT REFEREE

Daniel Jarvis



KETTERING TOWN FC

MANAGER Nicky Eaden

01	Paul White
02	Javan Vidal
03	James Brighton
04	Joe Skarz
05	Sam Cartwright
06	Michael Richens
07	Lindon Miekle
08	Aaron O'Connor
09	Dan Nti
10	Joel Carta
11	Connor Kennedy
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