

The

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE

MARINER



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No. 22, Vol. CXXXVII

Being the
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GRIMSBY TOWN



TEAMS

GRIMSBY TOWN
v.
BRAINTREE TOWN
28.02.2015
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*Populus survey conducted for Vanarama August 2013.

After tight defeats against Forest Green and Bristol Rovers the players have responded excellently with back to back victories against teams at opposite ends of the table.

First of all we travelled to Barnet to face what were the League leaders.

In front of a fantastic away following the lads produced an outstanding first half display which should have seen us go into the break with more than our one goal advantage. It was great to see Christian Jolley get his first goal for the club largely thanks to some determined play from Jack Mackreth. It was certainly no more than we deserved and we expected a reaction from Barnet in the second period.

The 'Bees' did ask more questions of us with the wind behind them and some direct play but it was disappointing to concede an equaliser after dealing with most of what our opponents could muster.

Again we missed a couple chances to make our position in the game more comfortable but credit to the players for keeping going and getting a deserved win thanks to two late strikes from Craig Disley and Jon Paul Pittman.

It was extra special to score the goals in front of our own fans and the scenes at the end of the game with some shall we say 'interesting' inflatables made it a very good day for everyone.

That victory set us up nicely for our midweek match against bottom of the table AFC Telford.

I was pleased with how the lads approached the game on the back of Saturday's top of the table clash and on another day we would have been celebrating an emphatic victory.

Instead we had to settle for a one goal margin thanks to a fine finish from Nathan Arnold who was a real threat for us on the night. A combination of some good goalkeeping, missed chances and bad luck saw the score-line become a little too close for comfort and in the end it was good to hear the final whistle. That said there was no doubt we were worthy winners but when there is only a solitary goal between the sides it is natural that everyone can become a little anxious.

Today we will be looking to continue our winning sequence against Braintree but we know that it will not be an easy task.

Although they have lost their last two games they pushed Halifax and Bristol Rovers all the way, despite only having 10 men for an hour against the new League leaders.

Alan Devonshire's side have been very hardworking and physical for the past couple of seasons in this division, so we'll know what to expect from The Iron this afternoon. Last year Braintree went extremely close to achieving a play-off spot, and although they haven't quite been able to reach those heights this year they are sitting comfortably in the table.

We managed to get a good victory at their place earlier this season, in a very close game, so we will be looking for the same outcome today.

Keep supporting the lads.

UTM
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PAUL HURST



"The lads produced an outstanding display in front of a fantastic away following"



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MORRISONS

The MAGNAY Carta



It's been a good week for everyone connected with the club since my last notes, because wins against Barnet and Telford have put us firmly back in the title race.

Barnet, in particular, was a memorable occasion for many reasons not least the attendance of countless inflatables - some more questionable than others... if you know what I mean!

Almost 1,000 Mariners made the journey south to support us and, as players, we were stunned at that level of support.

We knew you were good but the atmosphere you created was capable of gracing any Premier League ground. To get the win in the manner that we did, in injury time, kicking towards the away end, was footballing perfection and I, for one, was proud to be a part of it.

Post-match the lads clambered back on to the bus and began to devour the well-earned Pizzas.

Unfortunately my route to the bus was cut off by a female Gateshead fan that had travelled to our fixture after the Heed's away game to Dartford was postponed. As I stood feeling obliged to talk to the lady after

she'd come out of her way, the conversation went on longer than I'd hoped; long enough for the lads to notice and start to bang on the bus windows behind me suggestively.

Once I'd took the 'is that your girlfriend' banter, I realised there was no pizza left for me. Guttled.

So I had an infamous 'Magnay moan up' and successfully re-routed the bus home to a near-by Marks and Spencer's to get some vital nutrition on board.

This past week's worst trainer title went to the club's stalwart, Shaun Pearson. Personally I thought the decision was a little harsh, after a suspect jury including Craig Clay sealed his fate.

Nevertheless big Shaun went on to subject us to a brutal version of 'Ain't No Mountain High Enough'; sounding almost exactly like drunk uncle at a wedding.

Afterwards, in the club house,

Shaun was to make amends by trying his hand at another sport. He comfortably dispatched Toto on the Pool table with a seven-ball whitewash victory.

This, unfortunately for Toto, is on the clubs fine list. A seven-ball defeat means a £5 penalty and a 24-hour ban from playing the game.

Other fines were awarded to prince charming Ollie Palmer for leaving cutlery on the dinner table and messrs Brown and Mackreth (aka the scouse Chuckle Brothers) for arriving late for training - the rumour is that they sleep together and forgot to set their alarm!

Once again thanks for your wonderful support over the last seven days, let's hear you again today for the visit of Braintree.

Another three points with the teams around us all having tough fixtures themselves could see us close that gap significantly.

Enjoy the game!

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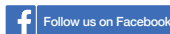
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ALI MILLS

Modern football is rubbish.



“Having the option to watch The Mariners in a relaxed, open terrace is one of the main positives of our current plight”



Well, that's the common consensus anyway. Overpaid players, overpriced tickets, Sky Sports, non 3pm kick-offs, diving, Robbie Savage. And all-seater stadiums.

Thankfully, as a fan of non-league club, we don't have to put up with all of these. Yes the ticket prices could be a bit lower and the players still dive, but Sky couldn't care less about us, most games still take place on Saturday afternoons and - best of all - Robbie Savage rarely sticks his nose in our business.

Another blessing is the lack of all-seater stadiums. Having the option to watch The Mariners in a relaxed, open terrace at most away games is one of the main positives of our current plight (notwithstanding certain recent stewarding incidents). It's a luxury I'm keen not to take for granted, especially after last week's revelation that 96% of football supporters are massively jealous of our current position (i.e. being able to stand at matches, not slogging it out in the 5th tier of English football).

The survey specifically asked 2,364 fans whether they'd like 'safe-standing' to be introduced at grounds in the UK. Currently, all-seater stadiums are compulsory in

England's top two divisions due to legislation introduced after the Hillsborough disaster in 1989. Safe-standing is a popular concept in many European grounds – especially in Germany – which utilise 'rail seats' to allow fans to stand throughout matches.

In this sense, I'm surprised the percentage isn't higher. Firstly - if it's football-related and Germany are involved, it's going to be brilliant; that's a given. Secondly - the innovation appears to offer an improved match-day experience for all fans, including those who prefer to sit. Because currently, if you attend an away game with only a seated allocation, you'll end up on your feet for most of the game anyway if someone in front decides they fancy standing. It's a particularly cruel case of the domino effect which leaves many frustrated, partially sighted and suffering from achy legs. A combination of safe-standing and seating would satisfy everyone.

The main opposition is held by those who intrinsically link standing at football matches with the terrible events of Hillsborough and clearly, such concerns should be handled with sensitivity. But it has been proven that the tragedy which unfolded that April afternoon was caused by negligent policing

and ticketing rather than supporters being allowed to stand. Since 1989, unsavoury instances on the terraces of grounds below the top two divisions have been sparse, while on the continent, the safe-standing model has not only maintained the safety of supporters, but also helped provide a much more enjoyable match-day atmosphere.

Of course, the famously raucous noise created at games in Germany has just as much to do with the cheap tickets which allow a cross-section of the community to attend, as it does with the fact fans are allowed to stand. This is probably where the Premier League clubs who have registered their interest in the concept will come unstuck. You know, the ones who charge £60 to get in and serve half-time oysters rather than pies, yet still can't figure out why nobody's making any noise at their games. Even if safe-standing was introduced at the top level, I wouldn't be surprised if some clubs skyrocketed the price of the tickets now that they know just how much demand there would be amongst supporters.

Or maybe I'm just thinking too much like a modern-football-is-rubbish fan.



INTRODUCING BRAINTREE TOWN

INCONSISTENT IRON LOOK FOR STRONG END TO THE SEASON

It has been an up and down season so far for Braintree Town but they have done enough to establish themselves in the Conference National for another year.

A record of just three draws so far in the campaign shows what it has been like to be an Iron fan this term with Alan Devonshire's side primarily winning or losing most of their games.

Braintree's 13 wins would put them comfortably in mid-table but 16 losses leaves them amongst the bottom five in the division.

Although they are currently eleven points

clear of the drop zone, manager Devonshire will no doubt be wanting two more wins for his team before they can truly breathe easily.

The problem for the Iron has been a lack of goals, which perhaps comes as no surprise with talismanic frontman Dan Holman departing Crossing Road during the summer.

But defensively Braintree have been fairly solid

and have let in less goals than long-time Conference leaders Barnet to-date.

Devonshire will be looking for his side to be more consistent in the final quarter of the season. After finishing sixth last term, the Iron started the new campaign with a run of six wins in their opening ten games and looked set to be once again a darkhorse for the play-off race.

Those hopes were pretty much dashed by an ensuing





“Although The Iron are currently 11 points clear of the drop zone, Devonshire will be wanting two more wins to truly breathe easily”

twelve games without a win in all competitions, including a 1-0 home defeat to Grimsby, which ended the Mariners' own hoodoo in Essex – Lenell John-Lewis scoring the all-important goal.

Things have picked up in recent weeks with five wins in their last eight outings and Devonshire bemoaned his team's bad luck as they slipped to a 1-0 defeat at FC Halifax Town last Saturday, despite dominating the majority of the game.

An FA Trophy exit to rivals Ebbsfleet came as a bitter blow and left the Iron with a fixture backlog from which they will be hoping to pick up some points and boost their current league position.

Braintree have yet to win at Blundell Park and have scored just once in their previous three visits – that being Sean Marks' strike in a 1-1 draw back in March 2012.

Last season John-Lewis was again the difference between the two teams, his early goal sending the Mariners to the three points.

Devonshire will look to Marks and another Braintree veteran, Kenny Davis, to provide the spark for his side. New signing Bernard Mensah has joined on loan from Watford and he will be hoping to make an impact having seen a similar spell cut short last season through injury.

YOUR 60 SECOND GUIDE TO THE IRON



FORMED

Braintree were formed in 1898 as Manor Works, the works team of the Crittall Window Company, from which they gained their nickname Iron.



NAMES

Before becoming Braintree Town in 1983, the Iron went by many names: Crittall Athletic, Braintree & Crittall Athletic and Braintree F.C before adopting their current name.



CHAMPIONS

In 2010–11 the Iron finished as Conference South champions, earning promotion to the Conference Premier.



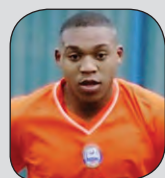
HOME

In 1923 the club moved to a new ground on Crossing Road where they still play to this day.



THE GAFFER

Braintree manager Alan Devonshire is a former England international midfielder, appearing for the Three Lions on eight occasions between 1980 and 1983.



RISING STAR

Current Nottingham Forest hotshot striker Britt Assombalonga scored five goals in five games during a loan spell at Braintree in 2012.



SQUAD LIST

GOALKEEPERS

- 01** Nick Hamann
- 29** Carl Pentney

DEFENDERS

- 02** Mitch Brundle
- 03** Sam Habergham
- 05** Matt Paine
- 06** Alan Massey
- 14** Steven Smith
- 20** Remy Clerima
- 21** Omar Sowunmi
- 23** Ryan Peters
- 24** Joe Moore

MIDFIELDERS

- 04** Chez Isaac
- 08** Kenny Davis
- 11** Daniel Sparkes
- 26** James Mulley

FORWARDS

- 07** Dan Walker
- 09** Sean Marks
- 10** Charlie Strutton
- 12** Michael Bakare
- 15** Simeon Akinola
- 16** Joe Maybanks
- 18** Jordan Cox



29. CARL PENTNEY

Highly-rated goalkeeper Carl Pentney has offered Braintree solid back-up between the sticks this season.

A player with an excellent pedigree, Carl came through the ranks at Leicester, making one appearance for the Foxes in the 2008/09 season.

The stopper did gain experience on loan at York, Leamington, Ilkeston, Fisher and Woking before joining Colchester in 2010. More loan spells followed at Bath, Hayes & Yeading, Histon, Chelmsford and Bishop's Stortford – Carl making permanent moves to the latter two teams and making 55 appearances in two seasons.

A tall and confident shot stopper, Carl can be relied upon to command his penalty area.



02. MITCH BRUNDLE

Right-sided defender Mitch Brundle joined the Iron in the summer from Bristol City and he has settled quickly into Alan Devonshire's team, scoring three times in 30 games.

A product of the Yeovil Academy, Brundle was released at the end of his youth contract with the Glovers and subsequently joined City.

In January 2014 the defender joined Cheltenham on loan, playing seven times for the club. He was released from Ashton Gate in the summer but soon joined Braintree and he has been a regular since the start of the campaign.



23. RYAN PETERS

Experienced midfielder Ryan Peters continues to be one of Braintree's most valuable players with over 100 league appearances for the club.

Coming through the ranks at Brentford, Ryan netted on his debut against Sheffield Wednesday in 2005. Peters' four seasons at Griffin Park also included loan spells at Gravesend, Crawley, AFC Wimbledon and Margate.

It was with the latter that the Wandsworth-born player impressed during the 2007/08 season, netting twice in 30 games from midfield. The move to the Gate was made permanent that summer and Ryan enjoyed a fine 2008/09 season, claiming seven goals from 33 games.

Those performances were enough to earn the player a move to Braintree and he helped the Iron win promotion to the Conference with some excellent performances in midfield.



26. JAMES MULLEY

A product of the Hayes & Yeading United youth side, 26-year-old midfielder James Mulley is a tricky midfielder renowned for his ability to score goals of high quality.

The Edgware-born player played over 50 times for Hayes & Yeading before a short spell with Chelmsford in 2010/11.

Mulley earned a move into the Football League with AFC Wimbledon and made 34 league appearances for the Dons in 2011/12, scoring six times.

Later enjoying loan spells back with Hayes & Yeading and at Wealdstone, Mulley signed for Braintree in May 2012. He has become a regular fixture in Alan Devonshire's squad and is closing in on 100 appearances in all competitions.



12. MICHAEL BAKARE

Versatile performer Michael Bakare is now at his eleventh senior club in just seven years as a professional.

The 28-year-old began his career with Leyton, Welling and Thurrock but it was with Bishop's Stortford that he made his name, scoring 13 times in the 2010/11 season.

It was here that Michael first played as a striker and he enjoyed a similarly prolific spell with Chelmsford the following term.

Short stints with Macclesfield and Southport followed before Bakare rejoined Chelmsford, where he once again found his scoring boots. Further spells at Dover and Tonbridge Angels followed, before Michael joined the Iron.

The Hackney-born player is comfortable at full back, across the midfield or as a main striker.



30. BERNARD MENSAH

Big striker Bernard Mensah has rejoined the Iron on loan, having seen his spell with the club last season cut short by injury.

The Hounslow-born player came through the ranks at Watford, impressing in the youth ranks with 14 goals in just 19 games for the under-18s during the 2012/13 season, which was enough to earn him a professional deal.

The 20-year-old made his senior debut against Bolton in November 2013 and six weeks later he joined the Iron on loan, scoring twice in seven games.

Earlier this season the young frontman joined Barnet on loan and added a further goal in his eight appearances for the Bees.

KEY MAN

10. CHARLIE STRUTTON



IN PROFILE:

Age: 25

Birthplace: Brent

Position: Forward

Past clubs:

Chalfont St Peter

AFC Wimbledon

Maidenhead United

Aldershot Town

“Strutton’s campaign has been hampered by injury, but he can boast a one-in-two goalscoring record”

Striker Charlie Strutton enjoyed a prolific loan spell with the Iron last season, scoring six times in just seven outings.

The player joined Braintree from AFC Wimbledon in the summer and it was hoped he would fill the void left by Dan Holman. Although he can boast a one-in-two goalscoring record, Strutton has since his campaign hampered by injury.

A regular goalscorer for Chalfont St Peter, Charlie netted 42 times in his last full year with the club, before joining AFC Wimbledon in March 2012.

Loan spells at Maidenhead, Aldershot and Braintree followed and the striker has enjoyed another recent loan spell with the Magpies.





DEFINING MOMENT



Braintree Town's first home game in the top tier of the Conference was against Grimsby Town and The Iron made the perfect start to their home campaign with a five-goal victory, with striker Sean Marks (pictured) scoring twice.





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BACK TO THE FUTURE



Football historian **Leigh Edwards** traces what happened to two of Braintree's greatest post-war teams

1997/98: PROMOTION WINNERS

PAUL CATLEY: Experienced goalkeeper who made over 400 appearances during three spells at Braintree. He joined Maldon in June 2003, then Witham and Sudbury. Now Braintree's goalkeeping coach.

LEE HUNTER: The son of former Northern Ireland international Allan Hunter, he had played in the Football League with Colchester United. He later appeared for Diss Town, Clacton Town and Maldon.

RUSSELL TANNER: Versatile defender who spent over ten years at Braintree before joining Heybridge Swifts in July 2001, then AFC Sudbury and Witham Town, becoming Maldon's assistant-manager.

GARY COLLINS: Former Witham midfielder who was Braintree's captain. He overcame injury problems that sidelined him for almost two seasons. He was forced to retire in February 1999, settling locally.

TREVOR GUNN: Much-travelled, experienced central defender who was in his second spell at Braintree and moved to Wivenhoe Town in August 2001. He now lives in Takeley, near Bishop's Stortford.

JOHN BISHOP: Tough-tackling central defender who played a big part in Braintree's meteoric rise. He joined Chelmsford City in July 1999, then AFC Sudbury until hanging up his boots in August 2004.

SHANE BAILEY: Midfielder who was in his second spell at Braintree and moved to Clacton Town in July 2000. He joined Maldon Town in September 2002 and has settled in nearby Black Notley.

BOBBY MAYES: Former England Semi-Pro international who moved to Felixstowe in February 1999, then played for Diss Town, Maldon Town and Clacton Town before finishing with Stowmarket.

GARY BENNETT: Leading marksman and 'Player of the Year' who was in his second spell at Braintree. He joined AFC Sudbury in June 1999, then Chelmsford City, Sudbury again and Witham Town.

MARK FARTHING: Much-travelled striker who was in his second spell at Braintree. He also played football in Finland and moved via Sudbury Wanderers to Clacton Town in July 1999 where he retired.

NICKY SIMPSON: Winger who was a product of Braintree's youth and reserve teams. He joined Heybridge Swifts in November 1998, then Braintree again before spells at Maldon Town and Witham.



Gary Bennett

2000/01: PROMOTION WINNERS



Bradley Quinton

DEAN MAHONEY: Much-travelled goalkeeper who joined Grays Athletic in July 2001, then had spells with Chesham United, Sutton United, Maldon Town, Great Wakering Rovers again and Tilbury.

TERRY HOWARD: Experienced right-back with almost 400 Football League appearances. He joined Great Wakering Rovers in July 2002. Now living in Romford, he works in Billingsgate Fish Market.

MARK JONES: Former Burnham Ramblers, Romford and Billericay Town left-back who featured prominently in Braintree's rise up the non-League pyramid. He moved to Boreham Wood in August 2011.

GAVIN COWAN: England Semi-Pro international who has since played for Canvey Island, Shrewsbury Town, Grays Athletic, Nuneaton Town, AFC Telford, Fleetwood, Gainsborough and Nuneaton again.

RUSSELL TANNER: Versatile defender who spent over ten years at Braintree before joining Heybridge Swifts in July 2001, then AFC Sudbury and Witham Town, becoming Maldon's assistant-manager.

KIRK GAME: Much-travelled central defender who had played in the Football League with Colchester United. He moved to East Thurrock United in August 2001, since holding various coaching posts.

NICKY SMITH: Experienced winger who joined Maldon in July 2002, then Witham Town and AFC Sudbury, where manager between June 2008 and September 2011. He is now coaching Saffron Walden.

BRADLEY QUINTON: Long-serving midfielder who scored Braintree's goal in the history-making FA Cup first round tie at Shrewsbury Town in 2005-06. He now holds the club's appearance record.

ROBBIE REINELT: Experienced striker who was leading marksman, moving to Grays Athletic in May 2002. He joined Maldon Town four months later, then had spells at Ford United and Boreham Wood.

TOMMY NOBLE: Hard-working former Maldon Town striker who scored several great goals for Braintree. He rejoined Maldon in May 2003, then had spells playing for AFC Sudbury and Tiptree United.

LEON GUTZMORE: Striker who joined Cambridge City in December 2001, then Arlesley, Aylesbury, Hemel Hempstead, Histon, Aylesbury again, Barton Rovers, AFC Kempston Rovers and Arlesley again.

1 BARNET

Clifford 56



The Hive
Saturday 21st February 2015
Kick off: 3.00pm
Attendance: 2,756 (969 away)
Vanarama Conference

3 GRIMSBY TOWN

Jolley 27, Disley 90, Pittman 90



BARNET

1 Stack, 2 Yiadom, 6 Stephens (Saville 79), 5 N'Gala, 3 Johnson, 15 Villa Lopez, 14 Togwell (Clifford 34), 8 Weston, 11 Cook (Gambin 72), 10 MacDonald, 40 Gash



GRIMSBY TOWN

1 McKeown, 6 Magnay, 5 Pearson, 22 Nsiala, 35 Robertson, 7 Mackreth, 8 Disley, 16 Clay (Parslow 92), 20 Arnold, 34 Jolley (Pittman 71), 14 John-Lewis

45%	Possession	55%
4	Shots on Target	6
5	Shots off Target	5
4	Corners	4
8	Fouls	6
1	Cards	3



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“Braintree will make it difficult but we have to focus on our strengths & look to keep the run going”

NATHAN ARNOLD

Grimsby Town winger Nathan Arnold is hoping the Mariners can be a cut above the rest as the 2014/15 Vanarama Conference season enters its most crucial stage.

The midfielder netted the only goal as Town triumphed over struggling Telford in midweek and he admits that the patience of the side helped them to that victory.

He said: “I think we have learned from earlier in the season when we would have perhaps drawn or even lost that sort of game.

“We created plenty of chances in both halves and could have been comfortably in front but the main thing is that we didn’t let our heads drop at any point – we kept playing our game and we were eventually rewarded with the goal.”

Speaking about the goal, Arnold reserved praise for full back Gregor Robertson, who swung in the cross from the left.

“It’s a great ball from Gregor; it has plenty of pace on it and that has enabled me to take a

touch, create a space and then get my shot off into the roof of the net,” he said.

“His overlapping has created the space for me to move inside also, which has given us that extra body in the box and it has paid off.”

The former Mansfield man could have opened the scoring in the first half but felt that Bucks’ stopper Freddy Hall pulled off a good save.

He said: “Again it is a great ball from Craig (Clay) to pick me out.

“I have taken it in my stride and looked to place it beyond the keeper but, credit to him, he has got down really well to keep it out – I think most of the ground thought it was heading in.”

Nathan began his career with hometown club Mansfield, where the youngster made an impact with some exciting displays on the wing.

He recalled: “I had been with Mansfield since the age of ten, so it was a great feeling to win a professional contract with them and pull on the shirt each week.

“The seasons in League Two were really good, even when we were struggling against relegation, and there are some great memories.

“Unfortunately when we dropped into the Conference, like a lot of teams, we struggled to settle and it took them a few years to get back into the Football League.”

Nathan looked for a fresh start at the end of his Stags’ contract and actually ended up with the Mariners for a pre-season Errea South West Challenge Cup in 2009.



He impressed fans with a couple of goals in a tournament where Town bested Belgian outfit Montegnee, Yeovil and Rushden and Diamonds but it was not enough to earn a contract at Blundell Park.

In hindsight, Nathan feels that the experience did him more benefit in the long run.

He said: "I felt I had done well, getting a couple of goals and playing in most of the games but I think there was a little confusion over the contract.

"I was told there was one being offered but when I returned back home the offer had been taken away.

"It was disappointing at the time but perhaps it was meant to be – I don't think I was as rounded as a player as I am now."

Nathan dropped into the Conference North with Hyde United and then Alfreton Town and he believes that a lesson for young players is to never give up and to not be deterred by dropping down levels to work your way back up.

"I suppose I am a good example in that regard," he declared.

"I had good times at both Hyde and Alfreton and I have worked my way back up to a level where I am in striking distance of the Football League again.

"I would urge any young player to go look for a club if you suffer a setback – it happens to the majority of players at one time or another in their career!"

Nathan really impressed during his time at Alfreton, helping them into the Conference National and establishing them in the division.

He stated: "I learnt a lot from Nicky Law during my time at Alfreton, we played attacking football and it got us results.

"The fans took to me and I really enjoyed my time there."

After his spell at the Impact Arena,

Nathan joined Cambridge last season and quickly established himself in the U's starting line-up, enjoying FA Trophy and Conference Play Off success.

He said: "It was a good season for the club and I felt like I really made a contribution.

"It is a good club and, like Mansfield, it took them a few seasons to get back into the league but they are there now and have had a decent season so far"

Nathan joined the Mariners at the start of the campaign on loan for the season and is now a regular fixture in Paul Hurst's side but suffered with injury setbacks at the start of the campaign.

"Of course I would like to have been more involved," he stated.

"When you join a new club you want to make an impact immediately but I was soon able to get out there and show what I can do."

Away from football, Nathan has shown his skills in the hairdressing department and the qualified barber has relished the opportunity to do something outside the game and to also work on a profession for after his career is over.

"Football players have such a limited timespan on their careers," he declared.

"So it's important for players to look at something to do after they have finished, which is another thing I would encourage young players to do.

"It has also been nice to interact with the fans, a lot of them come into get their hair done and they are a really good group and they have lots of passion for the club."

Nathan is expecting another tough test against Braintree at Blundell Park today but feels the side have enough in the tank to to register another victory.

He said: "Braintree are a tough, physical side and they will make it very difficult for us to play our game.

"But we have to focus on our game and concentrate on our strengths and look to keep our run going."

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TODAY'S TOWN MASCOTS



Name: Jack Woods
Age: 10
School: Old Clee Primary
Favourite Subject: P.E.
First Mariners Game: v Forest Green Rovers, 2013/14
Favourite Goal: Ross Hannah's goal v Chester this season
Favourite other sport: Badminton
Hobbies: Football, Badminton and Table Tennis
One fascinating fact about me: I'm team captain for Discoveries Town Under 11's.



Name: Kooper Presley Button
Age: 7
School: New Waltham Primary
Favourite Subject: P.E.
First Mariners Game: This one!
Favourite other sport: Basketball
Hobbies: Football
One fascinating fact about me: When I was captain of my team (Clee Town) I scored my first goal and got man of the match!



Name: Elliot Jack Hooper
Age: 7
School: Old Clee Primary Academy
Favourite Subject: Maths
First Mariners Game: v Aldershot Town, 2013/14
Favourite Mariners Player: Ross Hannah
Favourite Goal: Lenell John-Lewis' v Guiseley this season
Favourite other sport: Swimming
Hobbies: Playing football, swimming, reading
One fascinating fact about me: I love playing football for Discoveries Rovers U7's



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Respect 



Flash in the Pan

Mick Halsall

WORDS: Peter Anderson

In the mid-1980s, the writers at Roy of the Rovers left their comfort zone. Instead of writing about last minute winners, they concocted a plotline whereby Melchester Rovers visited a war-torn banana republic and most of the team gets blown up by a suicide bomb.

Roy Race is faced with building a new team and ends up with Bob Wilson in goal and the Kemp brothers from Spandau Ballet and their fancy hair in midfield. It made for traumatic reading although in hindsight, the story arc may just have been a cynical attempt to lure readers from Victor and Smash Hits. Regardless, at about the same time, we at GTFC had our own self-destruct plotline developing in the shape of Mike Lyons.

When Lyons arrived in 1985, the Town side had been picking itself for five or six seasons. Within 18 months, his replacement Bobby Roberts was rebuilding from scratch and with parallels to Melchester Rovers, we too had a famous veteran in goal in the shape of Steve Sherwood and Scott McGarvey's new romantic hairstyle in midfield.

Caught up in this turbulence was Mick Halsall. A midfielder, he joined Town from Division 3 Carlisle along with McGarvey in February 1987 in the same week that icon Kev Moore departed. Carlisle were having a wretched time of it and on their way to a second successive relegation, so the pair must have been happy to escape to the seemingly safe haven of Blundell Park and mid table in Division 2.

A Merseysider, Halsall joined Liverpool as a schoolboy in 1976 and spent seven years at Anfield without making a first team appearance. It was a tough time to be a midfielder at Anfield and something of a catch 22 - learning your trade among legends yet finding those same giants blocking your path to the first team. In

Halsall's case, there was no shame in not being able to crack a midfield that consisted of names like Souness, Whelan, Lee and Kennedy. He did however captain a successful youth team and was a regular in the talented reserve XI that could probably have held its own in the league proper. Halsall's was a fate that befell many players at Liverpool during the 70s and 80s. Some were destined to join Town - Steve Foley, Chris Seagraves and Tom Watson all spent time in the Anfield youth system before signing with Town.

Halsall finally tasted league action with Birmingham City in 1983 and spent two seasons at Carlisle before his move to Town. With Kev Moore's departure leaving the Mariners skipperless, Lyons overlooked more obvious candidates and made Halsall captain on his debut against Sheffield United. The new skipper was busy if unspectacular as he led Town to a 1-0 win. Another home victory v WBA lifted Town to 8th and in sight of the play-offs. Halsall was looking like a decent purchase. Tireless running and prompting were features of his game, even if the Lyons style of play gave him little scope to display his skills with the ball.

What happened next was, for me personally, more traumatic than our relegation from the league. Numbed by years of decline, I was prepared for Burton in 2010. By contrast, 1987 was like having your luxury yacht repossessed and being chucked over the side in the process. Seven defeats and one draw saw us plummet and just 6 weeks after the WBA victory, a 2-2 draw with Hull gave the Tigers the immense pleasure of relegating us. Halsall gave his all during this horrid run but he and his teammates were up against not only the opposition but also their manager. Lyons' hoof ball tactics and penchant for playing himself as an emergency centre forward (maybe he too was a reader of Roy of the Rovers) are well documented. Not so well remembered, yet equally crazy, was

dragging Halsall and the first team across the country to play a reserve match on Preston North End's plastic pitch with a busy Easter programme on the horizon.

Halsall's final game for Town was a 5-1 defeat at Stoke, the perfect punctuation mark on a season that had descended into hell. He must have sensed that the fall was not complete and signed for Peterborough United in the close season. He was not alone. The squad disbanded and the atmosphere at the club was so bad that any exit would do - Nigel Batch, Andy Moore and Bob Cumming even dropped into non-league to sign for Lincoln. In a footnote to his Town career, Halsall wasn't completely tainted by relegation and his value actually increased over the course of his 12 games - joining for £10K and leaving for £25K.

Although his short spell at Town will forever be linked with failure, in common with a number of the relegated 1987 side Halsall's best days lay ahead of him. He captained Peterborough during one of their most successful ever periods as they followed Town's example with back to back promotions in 1991 and 1992. Already regarded as a legend, he cemented his place in Posh lore by scoring a memorable last minute equaliser in the 1992 playoff semi-final against Huddersfield. Halsall had found his niche, going on to serve as coach and manager in over a decade at the club.

Whilst his time as manager didn't bring the same success as a player, the experience and the years spent in the Liverpool youth system have stood him in good stead. He has since forged a successful career as youth coach at a number of clubs including Wolves and Walsall and is currently the youth Academy coach at Notts County. Judging by his success, he is obviously sharing the skills learned at Anfield and London Road and not those acquired in the desperate Spring of 1987.





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- Ian & Joanne (Buckingham Mariners) wishing the Mariners a successful season
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- Kathryn Broadburn
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY GLENN!

Happy 60th birthday to Glenn McLachlan – a life-long GTFC fan.



COLIN KENNEDY

The club were saddened to hear of the passing of Colin Kennedy earlier this month – a lifelong supporter of The Mariners and loyal season ticket holder.



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CALLING NUMBER

29

This season, *The Mariner* will be calling up a trio of players that have adorned a particular squad number for the club. This week, profiling the number 29s

MENNO WILLEMS

Dutch midfielder Menno Willems was one of a crop of international loan signings that manager Lennie Lawrence brought to Blundell Park in the winter of 2000.

A versatile midfielder that made his name with Ajax, Vitesse and Den Bosch in his native Holland, the Amsterdam-born player arrived in Cleethorpes on an initial three-month loan deal.

Becoming a regular in the side, Willems scored once for the club – a free kick in a 2-1 victory at Preston North End.

The midfielder soon endeared himself to the Town faithful with his committed displays, ever-changing hairstyles, as well as sporting black and white wristbands.

His performances earned a permanent deal in the summer of 2001/02, Menno moving to the club for a fee in the region of £150,000.

A regular at the start of the season, Menno scored one more goal for the club, direct from a corner in a 3-1 defeat at Sheffield United.

Falling out of favour under new Town boss Paul Groves, Menno's Mariners' career effectively ended when he was sent off in a televised defeat in Watford during February 2002 – the return to fitness of Alan Pouton seeing him consigned to the sidelines for the remainder of the campaign.

Upon leaving Blundell Park, Menno moved back to Holland with HFC Haarlem, Sparta Rotterdam and Go Ahead Eagles before hanging up his boots in 2006 due to a persistent knee injury.



COLIN CRAMB



Well-travelled Scottish striker Colin Cramb arrived at Blundell Park part-way through the 2004/05 season, scoring twice in eleven outings for the Mariners.

The Lanarkshire frontman had made his name as a youngster with Hamilton, Southampton, Falkirk and Hearts, before becoming a regular lower league goalscorer for Doncaster, Bristol City, Walsall, Crewe, Notts County and Bury.

A move to Holland with Fortuna Sittard was hampered by injury and Colin was soon back on the books of Bury, before enjoying a successful spell with Shrewsbury.

After leaving Blundell Park, Colin returned North of the Border with first club Hamilton and then enjoyed a fine twilight of his career with prolific spells at Stenhousemuir, Stirling Albion and East Stirlingshire.

After retiring from football in 2009, Colin made fleeting appearances for the Hearts senior side and is now residing in Bristol where he has moved into coaching.

ROB EAGLE



Winger Rob Eagle was on trial at Blundell Park during the summer of 2010/11, doing enough to earn a two-year deal with the club.

Having come through the ranks at Norwich, Rob made ten league appearances for the Canaries, before enjoying a successful season with Inverness Caledonian Thistle in 2009/10.

Rob's first season with the Mariners was memorable for the number of spectacular goals he scored – nine in the league in total – including a brace against Forest Green, thumping drives against Kidderminster and Hayes and Yeading, as well as an astonishing 50-yard chip from the centre circle in a 6-1 win at Histon.

The emergence of both Frankie Artus and Serge Makofu meant that Rob's first-team opportunities became limited during the 2011/12 season and he spent much of the first part of the campaign on the bench, before joining Alfreton on loan.

His Town career came to an end in January 2012 and he subsequently joined Lowestoft Town.

“Willems soon endeared himself to the Town faithful with his committed displays, ever-changing hairstyles & black & white wristbands”



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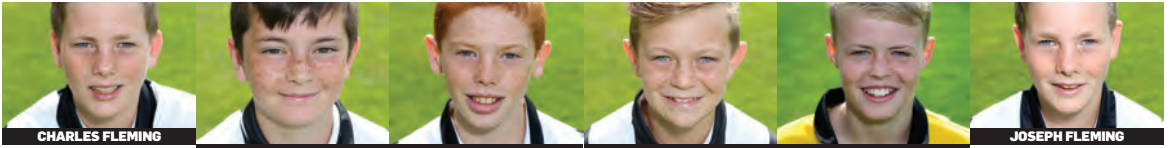
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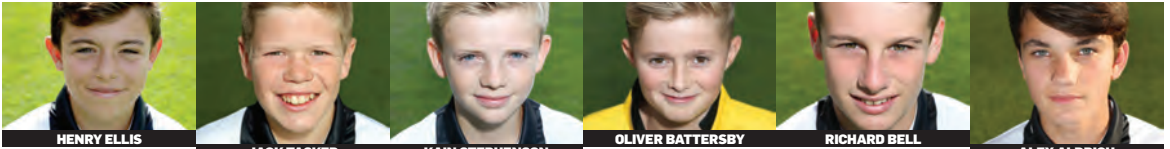
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IN FORM

#05

SHAUN

PEARSON

FULL NAME:

SHAUN MARK PEARSON

DATE OF BIRTH:

28/04/1989

NATIONALITY:

ENGLISH

NICKNAME:

PERCY / FOSHORN

POSITION:

CENTRE HALF

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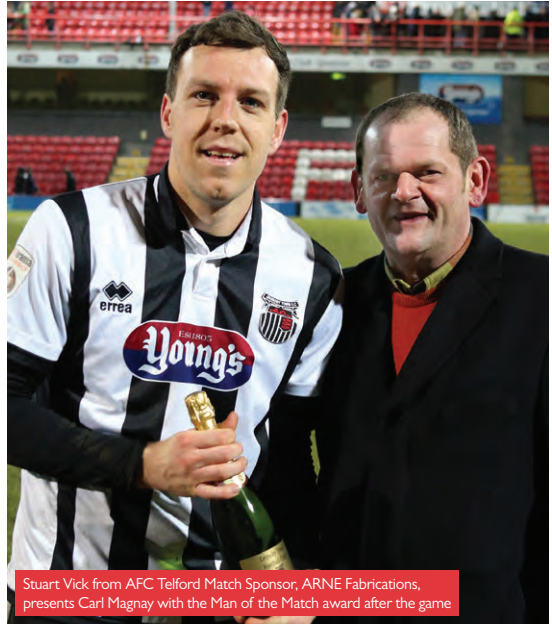
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TEAM MATES

with PAUL BIGNOT

BIGGEST MOANER

There's nobody that really sticks out to me.

WORST ROOMMATE

I room with Paddy McLaughlin and he's a decent roommate. When I'm tired I ask him to tell me stories about Newcastle and York!

MOST VAIN

Jack Mackreth is an undercover one for this - he proper loves himself.

FLASHIEST

Ollie Palmer has got a really flashy Brighton watch.

WORST FASHION SENSE

Definitely between Macca and Shaun Pearson, no contest. They simply do not care at all!

HARDEST TRAINER

Macca puts in the man hours.

MOST SERIOUS

Doigs is a serious man.

BIGGEST LAUGH

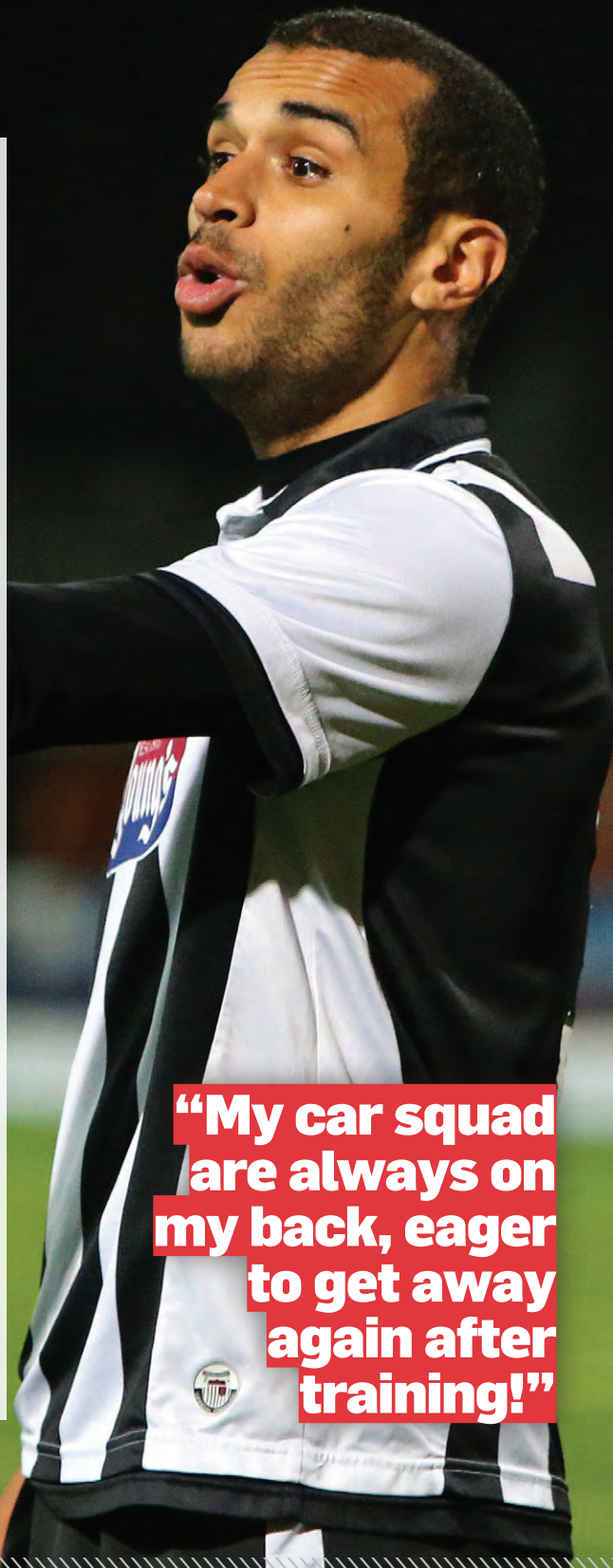
Me and Paddy get our fair share of laughs out of Toto.

FIRST OUT OF THE DOOR

My car squad are always on my back, eager to get away again!

POTENTIAL GAFFER

Shaun would love to manage Grimsby one day.



“My car squad are always on my back, eager to get away again after training!”

**PAUL BIGNOT**

BEST XI

This is the best 'XI' players I've played with during my career.

**GLYN THOMPSON**

You could always rely on him and felt confident with him behind you at Newport. He's retired now.

**JON OTSEMOBOR**

He came on loan from Liverpool at Crewe. I was very surprised he did not find himself a regular in the Premier League.

**GARY WARREN**

Another rock at the back and 'Mr Consistent' at Newport - he's now playing at Inverness.

**MADJID BOUGHERRA**

Crewe was his first club in England and he was an absolute rock at the back. He ripped it up! He's an Algeria international and now playing in Dubai.

**BILLY JONES**

He played all along the back four and made his Championship debut at 16. Another Mr Consistent at Crewe - now he's at Sunderland.

**SAM FOLEY**

Great ability on the ball and also chipped in with goals at Newport. He's still playing in League One with Yeovil.

**LUDO SILVESTER**

Probably the best ability I have seen in real life. He would never give the ball away and he certainly had a trick or two! He played for Barcelona, so his quality speaks for itself really. We were at Blackpool together, now he's in Turkey.

**BARRY FERGUSON**

A true leader - on and off the pitch. A winner, as simple as that.

**DAVID VAUGHAN**

The games I played left back and had him in front of me were brilliant. He's a Welsh wizard with the ball at his feet. We were at Crewe, now he's playing for Nottingham Forest.

**DEAN ASHTON**

A great target man - and his finishing was quality! He would make playing long balls up to him seem easy at Crewe.

**NICKY MAYNARD**

His pace scared defenders and he always seemed to get on the score sheet at Crewe. He's ripping it up at Cardiff now.



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An Unforgettable Year

2006/07 | WORDS: Tom Hardy

For me, 2006/07 was 'An Unforgettable Year', but unfortunately for all the wrong reasons. Certainly from a Grimsby Town perspective, anyway. If you look at the statistics, they will tell you that this period was the beginning of the club's slow but painful demise to non-league football. If you're of a nervous disposition, it might be worth looking away now...

The season began with so much hope and ended with nothing but disappointment and mid-table mediocrity. Mind you, at least we didn't go down. I've already eluded to the 2006/07 campaign in *The Mariner* when I wrote my *Flash In The Pan* feature on Martin Paterson for the *Welling United* programme. One of very few positives during the course of the campaign.

Town were so close to gaining promotion to League One the previous year but fell at the last hurdle following defeat by Cheltenham in the Play-off Final. That Steve Guinan winner stagnated the club at a time when things looked to be on the up again. A brilliant cup run also saw the side pit their wits against the likes of Derby, Tottenham and Newcastle and gave Mariners fans almost everything they could dream of. Apart from promotion, of course.

On the back of the defeat at the Millennium Stadium, manager Russell Slade left for Yeovil, taking influential 'keeper Steve Mildenhall and midfielder Jean-Paul Kamudimba Kalala with him. His assistant Graham Rodger took the helm and the ex-defender won his first game in charge at home to Boston despite going 2-0 down (Peter Bore's debut when he grabbed two goals after coming on as a second half substitute). Regrettably this was about as good as it got for Rodger - which was a real shame for such an outstanding servant to the club - and he was consequently sacked in November with the club



Alan Buckley congratulates Martin Paterson

06/07 LEAGUE TWO

	P	PTS
1	Walsall	46 89
2	Hartlepool United	46 88
3	Swindon Town	46 85
4	Milton Keynes Dons	46 84
5	Lincoln City	46 74
6	Bristol Rovers	46 72
7	Shrewsbury Town	46 71
8	Stockport County	46 71
9	Rochdale	46 66
10	Peterborough United	46 65
11	Darlington	46 65
12	Wycombe Wanderers	46 62
13	Notts County	46 62
14	Barnet	46 59
15	GRIMSBY TOWN	46 59
16	Hereford United	46 55
17	Mansfield Town	46 54
18	Chester City	46 53
19	Wrexham	46 51
20	Accrington Stanley	46 50
21	Bury	46 50
22	Macclesfield Town	46 48
23	Boston United	46 36
24	Torquay United	46 35



Anthony Pulis challenges at Lincoln

sat 22nd in the table, one place off the relegation zone.

Staring at the non-league trap door, the board desperately needed to bring in an individual who was going to steady the ship. They chose Alan Buckley who returned for his third spell as manager to try and revitalise the team and most importantly save them from the drop. The circumstances were very different to what Buckley had been accustomed to in North East Lincolnshire previously. No Peter Handyside. No Paul Groves. No Jack Lester. The squad he inherited were bereft of confidence and lacking in quality.

That's why Buckley brought in the aforementioned Paterson, along with an array of loan signings including Potters

team-mate Anthony Pulis and the first Australian to play for Grimsby, Nicky Rizzo, who only managed one game due to injury. Simon Grand, James Hunt and Peter Till were also loaned to the club although their deals were eventually made permanent by Buckley in an aim to add a little more stability and strength in depth.

League survival was the priority and this certainly made for more groans than cheers. A run of seven straight defeats in December and January was a particular lowlight, but this poor form ended with a 6-0 Lincolnshire derby demolition of Boston – a game in which Bore grabbed a hattrick. The Pilgrims must have been sick of the sight of him.

Buckley steered the team to a 15th

place finish, 23 points clear of relegation. In comparison to the glitz and glamour of the previous year, it was incredibly underwhelming – the seasons were almost polar opposites. The club's top scorers with eight goals were Ciaran Toner - a midfielder - Peter Bore - a first year professional - and Gary Jones - a striker who found life much harder without the energy and pace of strike partner Michael Reddy, who was named in the 2005/06 PFA League Two Team of the Year. There is no doubt that Reddy's injury problems had a detrimental effect on Town's performances and results.

Fast forward to the present day and to contradict absolutely everything I've said, I'm sure many Mariners fans would welcome a season like this now. Not to watch a side finish below half-way in a division filled with 'hoof ball' merchants. No. Simply seeing the club playing in the Football League where they belong would put a smile back on supporters' faces.

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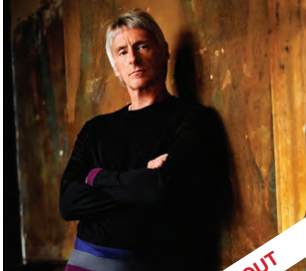
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Or what about Phil Jevons’ stunning winner to knock out league cup holders, Liverpool?

...and turning the clock way back, do you remember the home win over Portsmouth in Division One in 1948, which started one of town’s greatest seasons ever?

a ^{Grimsby} **Telegraph** publication

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Blundell Park: A History

Golden Goal

WORDS: Rob Briggs

Town's return home game in Division Two v Wolves (0-0) was notable for two reasons. Both teams performed creditably despite temperatures soaring to 86 degrees in the shade, while the Mariners fielded their first-ever continental player, German-born Max Seeburg.

One month later, in October 1911, Blundell Park staged not only a memorable game but also one of its greatest goals, both fondly remembered by fans for many years. Chelsea - destined for promotion - led 1-0 with time running out when 'Pecker' Mounteney found Gus Huxford with an accurate pass. In one swift movement the latter got round England defender Ben Warren and beat the keeper with a shot that went 'like a streak of lightning

along the ground into the goal'. The celebrations of the home supporters were still buoyant when a minute later Huxford turned provider for Fred Staniforth to fire home for a famous 2-1 Town win. At the final whistle, the police were unable to prevent a pitch invasion, with Huxford borne shoulder-high to the dressing rooms.

The winter of 1911-12 was a bitter one, and when the home fixture v Forest was postponed in February due to a snow blizzard, Blundell Park's location was, according to the press, to blame. 'The position of the ground...practically on the shore of the North Sea, is the most exposed in all

England'. The elements too, had been responsible for an amazing incident a month before when Town met Leicester Fosse on a day of rain and icy wind.



Ben Warren

Referee Mr. Adams had ignored all the Fosse protests regarding the weather, and before half-time six of their players had left the pitch in protest. Mr. Adams allowed the game to conclude with the remaining five Fosse men, Grimsby though winning only 4-0 despite superior numbers. Leicester declared their intention to report the official, but the F.A. in turn duly took Mr. Adams' side and fined those departed players £5 each!





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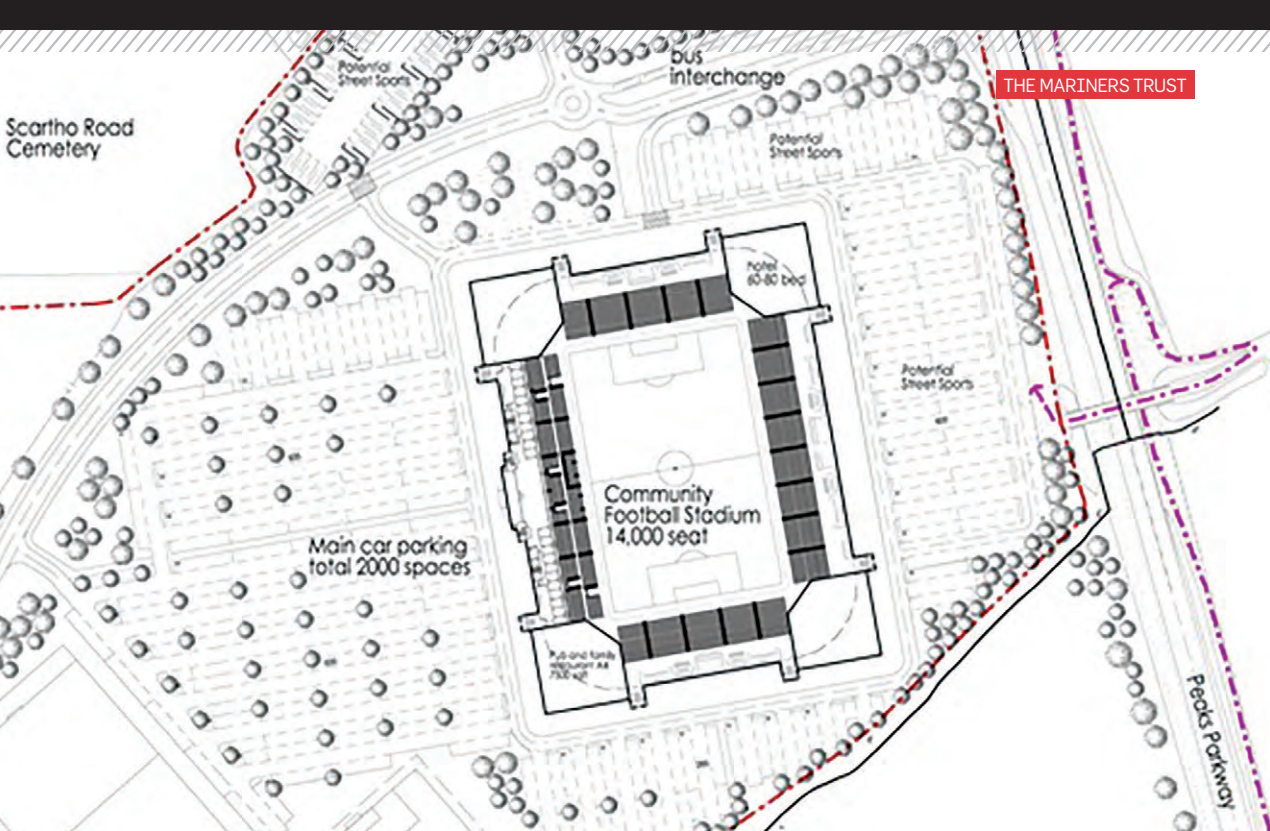
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A photograph of a person's legs running on a treadmill. The person is wearing blue and black athletic shoes. The background is slightly blurred, showing the treadmill's structure and a window. A white outline of a person in a dynamic pose is overlaid on the right side of the image.

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MARINERS TRUST

The Mariners Trust is fully supportive and 100 per cent behind Grimsby Town's new community stadium proposal.

Members of the Trust board attended last weekend's consultation event at the Peaks Parkway site and we will again be attending future events.

From the Trust's point of view, the critical thing is that we get the club onto a sustainable basis, so that we're not heavily reliant on one person.

We need something that gives seven day-a-week revenues so that, on a year-in, year-out basis, that club is sustainable and paying its way – that's got to be the way forward and that's got to be with a new stadium.

As part of the new stadium, the Trust

is supportive of proposals to introduce safe-standing, if such an idea is feasible. We have already spoken to the club extensively about incorporating a safe-standing element to any new stadium.

Last year we did a supporter survey and one of the questions on there was about safe standing in the new stadium, and the response was 80 per cent in favour – that was the proof we needed to show that there was a demand for it.

The club are absolutely in agreement, in principle, with including a safe-standing section – it is something we want to do.

Of course the project is still a long way from coming to fruition and we would encourage all Town fans and their families to show their support.

One way to do that is to complete the

club's survey which will help show how much support there is for the new community stadium.

You can do that by visiting this website: <https://www.survey-me.com/take-a-survey/UK-NS-LP>

As supporters we must come together and show how much support there is for the new ground.

We also wanted to make special mention of the 1,000 supporters who travelled to Barnet last weekend. What a sight to behold as a collection of inflatables helped urge the Mariners towards a late victory. The sight and sound after Craig Disley's late strike will live long in the memory.

Here's hoping we have plenty more memorable away days before the end of the season!



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Springfield Road
Grimsby
01472 879181

39-41 Waltham Road
Scartho
01472 878364



THE STAT MAN

Rob Briggs

ON THE ROAD

Town's goal at Forest Green was the 140th scored on their Conference travels.



LONG SERVING

Craig Disley reached 150 Conference appearances for GTFC in the defeat at Forest Green.



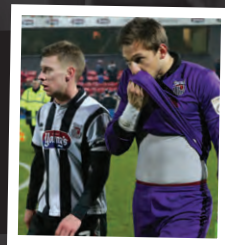
BIG GAME

The 1,586 crowd for Grimsby's visit to Forest Green was the highest for a Conference fixture between the clubs in Gloucestershire.



NARROW LOSSES

The 1-2 defeat at Forest Green was Grimsby's 20th Conference loss by that score.



CROWDS

The attendance v Bristol Rovers included the 375,000th spectator to see a Conference game at Blundell Park.



PENALTY PRESSURE

Matty Taylor's missed penalty during Bristol Rovers' visit was the seventh in Conference football against the Mariners, and the fourth to occur at Blundell Park.



ONE GOAL

The 0-1 defeat to Bristol Rovers was the 10th time that Grimsby have lost a Conference game at Blundell Park by that score.



CONCEDED

Tom Lockyer's decisive strike for Bristol Rovers was the 235th Conference goal conceded by GTFC



2014/15 FIXTURES & RESULTS

AUGUST		COM	RES	ATT	AWAY	POS							
Sat 9	Bristol Rovers	A	VC	0-0	7,019	452	13	McKeown	Magnay	Thomas	Doig	Boyce	Brown
Tue 12	Nuneaton Town	H	VC	0-0	3,710	53	14	McKeown	Magnay	Thomas	Nsiala	Boyce	Brown
Sat 16	Dover Athletic	H	VC	1-1	3,548	87	14	McKeown	Boyce	Nsiala	Pearson	Magnay	McLaughlin
Sat 23	Gateshead	A	VC	6-1	1,782	288	11	McKeown	Nsiala	Magnay	Pearson	Boyce	Brown
Mon 25	Alfreton Town	H	VC	7-0	3,619	67	8	McKeown	Nsiala	Magnay	Pearson	Boyce	Brown
Sat 30	Aldershot Town	A	VC	1-2	1,998	344	12	McKeown	Nsiala	Magnay	Pearson	Boyce	Brown
SEPTEMBER													
Sat 6	Welling United	H	VC	2-0	3,785	53	8	McKeown	Bignot	Magnay	Pearson	Nsiala	Brown
Tue 9	Lincoln City	A	VC	2-3	5,209	1,762	11	McKeown	Bignot	Magnay	Pearson	Nsiala	Brown
Sat 13	Torquay United	H	VC	0-2	3,300	103	14	McKeown	Bignot	Magnay	Pearson	Nsiala	Brown
Tue 16	FC Halifax Town	A	VC	1-1	1,867	456	13	McKeown	Nsiala	Magnay	Pearson	Doig	Brown
Sat 20	Kidderminster Harriers	A	VC	1-0	2,093	373	13	McKeown	Parslow	Magnay	Pearson	Nsiala	Brown
Sat 27	Chester	H	VC	3-0	3,245	146	10	McKeown	Parslow	Magnay	Pearson	Nsiala	Brown
Tue 30	Southport	H	VC	0-1	3,353	15	13	McKeown	Parslow	Magnay	Pearson	Nsiala	Brown
OCTOBER													
Sat 4	Dartford	A	VC	1-1	1,285	350	11	McKeown	Parslow	Magnay	Pearson	Nsiala	Brown
Tue 7	Altrincham	H	VC	0-0	2,535	40	11	McKeown	Parslow	Thomas	Pearson	Magnay	Brown
Sat 11	Wrexham	A	VC	1-0	8,164	360	11	McKeown	Magnay	Thomas	Pearson	Nsiala	Brown
Sat 18	Torquay United	A	VC	3-2	2,353	257	8	McKeown	Magnay	Thomas	Doig	Nsiala	Brown
Sat 25	Guiseley	H	FAC4Q	3-0	1,761	142	-	McKeown	Magnay	Thomas	Pearson	Nsiala	Clay
NOVEMBER													
Sat 1	Dartford	H	VC	3-0	3,116	49	7	McKeown	Magnay	Thomas	Pearson	Nsiala	Clay
Tue 4	Braintree Town	A	VC	1-0	875	-	2	McKeown	Magnay	Thomas	Pearson	Nsiala	Clay
Sat 8	Oxford United	H	FAC1	1-3	3,241	193	-	McKeown	Parslow	Thomas	Pearson	Nsiala	Clay
Tue 11	FC Halifax Town	H	VC	1-0	3,443	167	2	McKeown	Parslow	Thomas	Pearson	Nsiala	Magnay
Sat 15	Altrincham	A	VC	1-1	1,881	717	2	McKeown	Magnay	Thomas	Pearson	Nsiala	Parslow
Sat 22	Kidderminster Harriers	H	VC	0-2	3,446	70	2	McKeown	Magnay	Thomas	Pearson	Nsiala	Brown
Tue 25	Woking	H	VC	3-1	2,663	22	2	McKeown	Parslow	Magnay	Pearson	Nsiala	Brown
Sat 29	AFC Telford United	A	VC	1-1	1,849	482	2	McKeown	Parslow	Magnay	Pearson	Nsiala	Brown
DECEMBER													
Sat 13	Nuneaton Town	A	FAT1	2-0	344	104	-	McKeown	Magnay	Thomas	Pearson	Parslow	Brown
Fri 19	Forest Green Rovers	H	VC	1-1	3,204	16	4	McKeown	Parslow	Magnay	Pearson	Nsiala	Brown
Fri 26	Macclesfield Town	A	VC	1-0	2,786	694	4	McKeown	Parslow	Thomas	Pearson	Nsiala	Brown
Sun 28	Lincoln City	H	VC	1-3	7,136	834	4	McKeown	Magnay	Thomas	Pearson	Parslow	Clay
JANUARY 2015													
Thu 1	Macclesfield Town	H	VC	1-2	3,545	89	4	McKeown	Bignot	Thomas	Pearson	Parslow	Brown
Sat 10	Gateshead	H	FAT2	0-0	1,185	46	-	McKeown	Parslow	Magnay	Pearson	Nsiala	Brown
Sat 17	Barnet	H	VC	3-1	3,116	87	4	McKeown	Parslow	Magnay	Pearson	Nsiala	Brown
Wed 21	Gateshead	A	FAT2R	2-3*	605	53	-	McKeown	Walker	Magnay	Pearson	Nsiala	Clay
Sat 24	Nuneaton Town	A	VC	2-0	989	406	4	McKeown	Parslow	Magnay	Pearson	Nsiala	Clay
Tue 27	Eastleigh	A	VC	1-0	1,515	-	4	McKeown	Magnay	Robertson	Pearson	Nsiala	Clay
FEBRUARY													
Sat 7	Forest Green Rovers	A	VC	1-2	1,586	325	4	McKeown	Magnay	Robertson	Pearson	Nsiala	Clay
Sat 14	Bristol Rovers	H	VC	0-1	4,073	326	4	McKeown	Magnay	Robertson	Pearson	Nsiala	Clay
Sat 21	Barnet	A	VC	3-1	2,756	969	4	McKeown	Magnay	Robertson	Pearson	Nsiala	Clay
Tue 24	AFC Telford United	H	VC	1-0	3,047	9	4	McKeown	Magnay	Robertson	Pearson	Nsiala	Clay
Sat 28	Braintree Town	H	VC	15.00									
MARCH													
Sat 7	Woking	A	VC	15.00									
Sat 14	Chester	A	VC	15.00									
Sat 21	Eastleigh	H	VC	15.00									
Tue 24	Dover Athletic	A	VC	19.45									
Sat 28	Welling United	A	VC	15.00									
APRIL													
Sat 4	Gateshead	H	VC	15.00									
Mon 6	Alfreton Town	A	VC	15.00									
Sat 11	Wrexham	H	VC	15.00									
Sat 18	Southport	A	VC	15.00									
Sat 25	Aldershot Town	H	VC	17.15									

*after extra-time



					SUB 1	SUB 2	SUB 3	UNUSED
Disley	McLaughlin	Mackreth	John-Lewis	Connell	Clay			Bignot, Humble, Winfarrah, Bemrose
Disley	McLaughlin	Clay	John-Lewis	Connell	Winfarrah			Humble, Bastock, P Walker, Bemrose
Brown	Disley	Clay	John-Lewis	Connell	Pittman	Mackreth		Bignot, Mackreth, Winfarrah, Bemrose
Clay	McLaughlin	Neilson ²	John-Lewis ²	Pittman	Mackreth	Disley	Bignot	Connell, Winfarrah
Clay ²	McLaughlin	Neilson	John-Lewis	Pittman	Bignot	Mackreth	Winfarrah	Disley, Connell
Clay	McLaughlin	Neilson	John-Lewis	Pittman	Bignot	Mackreth	Hannah	Disley, Winfarrah
Clay	McLaughlin	Neilson	Mackreth	Pittman	Hannah	Arnold	Disley	Doig, P Walker
Clay	Disley	Neilson	John-Lewis	Pittman	Doig	McLaughlin	Hannah	Mackreth, P Walker
Disley	McLaughlin	Neilson	John-Lewis	Pittman	Hannah	Mackreth	Clay	Doig, P Walker
Clay	Disley	Neilson	Mackreth	Hannah	McLaughlin			Bignot, Humble, P Walker, Winfarrah
Clay	Disley	Neilson	Mackreth	Hannah	Oates	McLaughlin		Bignot, Doig, Winfarrah
Clay	Mackreth	Neilson	Oates	Hannah	John-Lewis	McLaughlin	Arnold	Disley, P Walker
Clay	Mackreth	Neilson	John-Lewis	Hannah	Disley	Oates	McLaughlin	Bignot, P Walker
Disley	McLaughlin	Mackreth	John-Lewis	Hannah	Neilson	Oates		Bignot, Clay, P Walker
Clay	McLaughlin	Mackreth	John-Lewis	Neilson	Hannah	Oates		Bignot, P Walker, Winfarrah
Clay	Parslow	Mackreth	John-Lewis	Neilson	Disley	Arnold		Hannah, Oates, McLaughlin
Disley	Parslow	Mackreth	John-Lewis ²	Neilson	Arnold	McLaughlin	Oates	Bignot, Hannah
Disley	Mackreth	Neilson	John-Lewis ²	Hannah	Arnold	Pittman	P Walker	Bignot, Humble, Winfarrah, McLaughlin
Disley	Pell	Mackreth	John-Lewis	Arnold	Pittman	McLaughlin	Hannah	Neilson, P Walker
Disley	Pell	Mackreth	John-Lewis	Arnold	Pittman	Bignot		Hannah, Neilson, McLaughlin
Disley	Mackreth	Arnold	John-Lewis	Pittman	McLaughlin	Neilson	Hannah	Bignot, Doig, Humble, P Walker
Disley	Pell	Neilson	John-Lewis	Arnold	Clay	Mackreth		Brown, Hannah, Pittman
Disley	Pell	Neilson	John-Lewis	Arnold	Brown	Clay	Mackreth	Hannah, Pittman
Parslow	Pell	Neilson	John-Lewis	Arnold	Pittman	Disley	Hannah	Mackreth, Clay
Disley	Mackreth	Arnold	John-Lewis ²	Pittman	Hannah	Clay	Watson	Bignot, Neilson
Disley	Mackreth	Arnold	John-Lewis	Pittman	Neilson	Hannah		Bignot, Clay, Watson
Disley	Mackreth	Arnold	John-Lewis	Pittman	Clay	Hannah	N Walker	Bignot, Neilson
Disley	Mackreth	Arnold	John-Lewis	Pittman	Clay	Neilson	Bignot	Hannah, Watson
Disley	Mackreth	Arnold	John-Lewis	Pittman	Clay	McLaughlin		Bignot, Hannah, Neilson
Disley	Neilson	Arnold	John-Lewis	Pittman	Mackreth	Bignot	McLaughlin	Brown, Hannah
Clay	Mackreth	Arnold	John-Lewis	Pittman	Hannah	Watson	McLaughlin	Disley, Walker
Disley	Clay	Arnold	John-Lewis	Palmer	Pittman	McLaughlin	Mackreth	Walker, Watson
Disley	Mackreth	Arnold	John-Lewis	Palmer	Clay	Pittman		Bignot, Hannah, McLaughlin
Disley	McLaughlin	Arnold	Pittman	Palmer	Mackreth	John-Lewis	Hannah	Brown, Parslow
Disley	Mackreth	Arnold	Pittman	Palmer	Hannah	McLaughlin	Watson	Bignot, Walker
Disley	Jolley	Arnold	John-Lewis	Palmer	Parslow			Mackreth, Hannah, McLaughlin, Watson
Disley	Jolley	Arnold	John-Lewis	Palmer	Mackreth	Hannah		Parslow, McLaughlin, Watson
Disley	Mackreth	Arnold	John-Lewis	Jolley	Hannah	McLaughlin	Watson	Bignot, Parslow
Disley	Mackreth	Arnold	John-Lewis	Jolley	Pittman	Parslow		Brown, Hannah, Watson
Disley	Mackreth	Arnold	John-Lewis	Jolley	Brown	Pittman		Hannah, Parslow, Watson

CONFERENCE STATISTICS



VANARAMA CONFERENCE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1 Bristol Rovers	36	19	13	4	48	27	+21	70
2 Barnet	35	21	5	9	73	38	+35	68
3 Macclesfield Town	34	18	10	6	49	31	+18	64
4 Grimsby Town	35	18	8	9	55	30	+25	62
5 Forest Green Rovers (-3)	36	16	14	6	57	40	+17	59
6 Eastleigh	33	15	9	9	60	46	+14	54
7 FC Halifax Town	31	16	6	9	47	33	+14	54
8 Kidderminster Harriers	35	14	9	12	43	40	+3	51
9 Woking	34	13	11	10	51	37	+14	50
10 Gateshead	31	13	11	7	49	39	+10	50
11 Chester	35	15	4	16	46	54	-8	49
12 Lincoln City	34	14	6	14	53	57	-4	48
13 Dover Athletic	33	13	8	12	55	45	+10	47
14 Torquay United	33	12	10	11	51	43	+8	46
15 Altrincham	35	13	7	15	43	54	-11	46
16 Braintree Town	33	13	3	17	39	39	0	42
17 Wrexham	31	11	9	11	32	36	-4	42
18 Aldershot Town	34	11	6	17	36	46	-10	39
19 Welling United	34	8	9	17	39	55	-16	33
20 Southport	33	8	9	16	34	54	-20	33
21 Alfreton Town	34	9	4	21	40	70	-30	31
22 Dartford	32	6	9	17	34	58	-24	27
23 Nuneaton Town	35	7	6	22	28	63	-35	27
24 AFC Telford United	34	5	8	21	46	73	-27	23

THE MARINERS ROLL-CALL

	14/15 STARTS	14/15 SUB	14/15 GOALS	GTFC GAMES	GTFC GOALS
James McKeown	40	0	0	208	0
Paul Bignot	4	6	0	38	1
Aswad Thomas	16	0	0	112	1
Scott Brown	26	2	1	28	1
Shaun Pearson	37	0	3	170	15
Carl Magnay	37	0	1	37	1
Jack Mackreth	24	11	4	35	4
Craig Disley	30	4	7	182	29
Ross Hannah	6	16	3	98	28
Scott Neilson	18	4	5	77	14
Chris Doig	3	1	0	31	1
Lenell John-Lewis	34	2	15	96	25
Ellis Humble	0	0	0	0	0
Craig Clay	27	9	2	36	2
Alan Connell	3	0	0	53	29
Jon-Paul Pittman	16	9	8	25	8
Daniel Parslow	21	2	0	23	0
Nathan Arnold	22	5	5	27	5
Aristote Nsiala	35	0	0	35	0
Rhys Oates	1	5	1	6	1
Paul Walker	1	1	0	6	0
Caine Winfarrah	0	2	0	8	0
Paddy McLaughlin	11	14	1	67	6
Lewis Bemrose	0	0	0	0	0
Andrew Boyce	6	0	0	21	0
Harry Pell	5	0	0	5	0
Harnish Watson	0	4	0	4	0
Nicky Walker	0	1	0	1	0
Ollie Palmer	6	0	2	6	2
Christian Jolley	5	0	1	5	1
Gregor Robertson	5	0	0	5	0

RESULTS

Tuesday 24th February

Bristol Rovers 2-1 Braintree
Gateshead 2-0 Kidderminster
Grimsby 1-0 AFC Telford
Wrexham 0-0 Forest Green

FIXTURES

Today

AFC Telford v Alfreton
Aldershot v Dartford
Altrincham v Barnet
Eastleigh v Macclesfield
Forest Green v Southport
Gateshead v Bristol Rovers
Grimsby v Braintree
Kidderminster v FC Halifax
Lincoln v Woking
Nuneaton v Welling

Tuesday 3rd March

Aldershot Town v Dover Athletic
Braintree Town v Macclesfield Town
Dartford v Woking
Gateshead v Wrexham
Southport v FC Halifax Town

Saturday 7th March

Alfreton v Kidderminster
Barnet v Forest Green
Braintree v Gateshead
Bristol Rovers v Eastleigh
Dover v Lincoln
FC Halifax v Dartford
Macclesfield v Aldershot
Southport v Nuneaton
Torquay v AFC Telford
Woking v Grimsby
Wrexham v Chester

GOALSCORERS

PLAYER	TEAM	GLS
1 Akinde	Barnet	24
2 Parkin	Forest Green	17
3 Reeves	Altrincham	15
= Rendell	Woking	15
5 Gray	AFC Telford	13
= John-Lewis	Grimsby	13
7 Constable	Eastleigh	12
= Williams	Aldershot	12
9 Brodie	Southport	11
= Moulton	Wrexham	11



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GRIMSBY TOWN



BRAINTREE TOWN

v.

OFFICIALS

Referee:

J. BROOKS

Assistants:

M. DEXTER

I. SMEDLEY

Fourth Official:

J. BELL

Respect



01 James **McKEOWN**

02 Paul **BIGNOT**

04 Scott **BROWN**

05 Shaun **PEARSON**

06 Carl **MAGNAY**

07 Jack **MACKRETH**

08 Craig **DISLEY**

10 Ross **HANNAH**

12 Chris **DOIG**

13 Nick **DRAPER**

14 Lenell **JOHN-LEWIS**

15 Ellis **HUMBLE**

16 Craig **CLAY**

18 Jon-Paul **PITTMAN**

19 Daniel **PARSLOW**

20 Nathan **ARNOLD**

22 Aristote **NSIALA**

24 Paul **WALKER**

25 Caine **WINFARRAH**

26 Patrick **McLAUGHLIN**

31 Hamish **WATSON**

33 Ollie **PALMER**

34 Christian **JOLLEY**

35 Gregor **ROBERTSON**

01 Nick **HAMANN**

02 Mitch **BRUNDLE**

03 Sam **HABERGHAM**

04 Chez **ISAAC**

05 Matt **PAINE**

06 Alan **MASSEY**

07 Dan **WALKER**

08 Ken **DAVIS**

09 Sean **MARKS**

10 Charlie **STRUTTON**

11 Dan **SPARKES**

12 Michael **BAKARE**

13 Nathan **McDONALD**

14 Steve **SMITH**

15 Simeon **AKINOLA**

16 Joe **MAYBANKS**

17 Ryan **CASE**

18 Jordan **COX**

20 Remy **CLERIMA**

23 Ryan **PETERS**

24 Joe **MOORE**

26 James **MULLEY**

29 Carl **PENTNEY**

30 Bernard **MENSAH**

Highly rated non-league stopper, schooled at the Chelsea academy

Young defender signed this summer after a spell with Cheltenham

The left back has appeared over 100 times for Braintree

Promising midfield-man, a product of the Watford academy

Hardworking defender also comfortable in midfield

Joined the Iron from Wealdstone in 2012

Midfielder re-signed after spending a season with Hereford United

Braintree skipper and mainstay in the centre of the park

Prolific Braintree striker with almost 100 goals for the club

Striker re-signed this year after his release from AFC Wimbledon

Left-side midfielder signed from Histon in 2012

Well-travelled non-league striker signed this summer

Popular Braintree and former England C goalkeeper

Former Republic of Ireland international signed from Leicester City

Spanish striker signed from Ryman League side Harrow Borough

The young forward is a product of the clubs youth system

Joined this summer and has a duel registration with Basingstoke

Young forward looking to cement his place in the Braintree side

French defender signed from Conference North side Brackley Town

Pacy forward has made over 100 appearances for The Iron

Young defender yet to made an appearance for Braintree

Diminutive midfielder, formerly of AFC Wimbledon

Former Leicester & Colchester keeper, signed from Chelmsford

Young striker on loan from Championship Watford

TODAY'S
MATCH SPONSOR:



NEXT GAME:

GRIMSBY TOWN V EASTLEIGH

Blundell Park, Saturday 21st March 2015, 3.00pm, Vanarama Conference



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CLUB
PARTNERS:

