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OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE OF HARTLEPOOL UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

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 Reserve Team Coach: Micky Barron
 Head of Youth: John Hewitson
 Physiotherapist: Ian Gallagher
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 Colin Foster

Club Honours

League One Play-Offs: 2003/04
 League One Play-Off Finalists: 2004/05
 League Two Play-Offs:
 1999/2000, 2000/01, 2001/02
 League Two Runners-Up and Promotion:
 2002/03, 2006/07
 North East Team of the Year: 2002/03
 Reserves Division One East Champions:
 2003/04
 Youth Alliance Champions: 2002/03
 USA Dallas Cup Under 19s Champions:
 2003/04
 USA Dallas Cup Super Group Third Place:
 2004/05
 Durham Benevolent Bowl Winners: 1936/37
 Durham Challenge Cup Winners:
 1956/57, 1957/58
 Durham Orphanage Cup Winners: 1923/24,
 1926/27, 1927/28, 1929/30, 1930/31
 Durham Senior Cup Winners: 1908/09,
 1909/10, 1936/37, 1937/38, 1951/52,
 1953/54, 1986/87, 1987/88
 Monkwearmouth Charity Cup Winners:
 1973/74
 North Eastern League Challenge:
 Cup Winners: 1926/1927, 1927/28
 Northern Intermediate League Champions:
 1980/81
 Sunderland Shipowners Cup Winners:
 1923/24, 1932/33
 Wearside League Champions: 1979/80
 Wearside League Cup Winners: 1971/72

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The Response Has To Be Right

The Boss
Neale Cooper



The Pools boss gives us his thoughts as the players prepare to kick-off their 2012/13 League One campaign.

Good afternoon and welcome to Victoria Park for the start of what we hope will be a really entertaining, enjoyable and successful season of football at Hartlepool United.

This is an exciting fixture for us to kick-off our league campaign with and I'd like to welcome Paolo Di Canio and his Swindon Town players, staff, officials and supporters to the north east.

They did extremely well to get themselves back in to League One at the first attempt last year and it seems that Paolo is building a really strong squad there so we know that today will be a big test.

One thing is for sure, and that is that we will have to defend a lot better than we did in the Capital One Cup tie at Crewe Alexandra last week which was a very big disappointment for everyone.

I was so excited and upbeat about the game and I thought we started pretty well, but then we suddenly shot ourselves in the foot and the defending for the five goals we conceded was terrible.

It was so unlike us to perform like that defensively because last year we boasted one of the best records in the league in terms of goals conceded and we need to get back to that kind of solidity today. I'm sure we will.

The lads we have here are an honest bunch and they know that last week wasn't acceptable so our job now is to make sure that the response today is a strong one and we go out there and get the result we all want.

In fairness, having looked back on the game,

“One thing is for sure, and that is that we will have to defend a lot better than we did in the Capital One Cup tie at Crewe Alexandra last week which was a very big disappointment for everyone.”

we did actually also create some decent chances and on another day could certainly have scored at least a couple of times ourselves. I was encouraged by the amount of crosses we got in to the box and if we can continue to provide that service then I'm confident we will find the net regularly.

I would like to thank all the fans who made the trip to Crewe and also thank you all for backing the Club by buying your Season Tickets for the new campaign – the best way we can repay you now is to play some good, winning football.

The pre season overall has been a very positive time for us. The lads worked extremely hard and I think they must be among the fittest group of boys in this division which will definitely help us over the course of a long season.

I'm happy with the players I've been able to bring in to the Club and they have all slotted in to the squad really well and been made extremely welcome. Hopefully they can continue to prove their worth because they have shown many encouraging signs so far.

We're all looking forward to getting the league campaign going here today and I hope you all are too. I guarantee that myself, Micky and all the staff and players will be doing all we can to ensure we enjoy a fruitful 2012/13.

Enjoy the game and thank you for your ongoing support.

Neale Cooper

04
05

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Pools Ready To Tee Off In Charity Golf Day

HARTLEPOOL UNITED HAVE ENTERED A COMPETITION TO FIND THE BEST GOLFING FOOTBALL CLUB IN THE NORTH.

Pools are the latest club to join the contest, which will raise money for the Great North Air Ambulance Service.

On Tuesday, Club Captain Sam Collins, Reserve Team Coach Micky Barron, along with team members Evan Horwood and James Poole signed-up to take on the likes of Middlesbrough FC in the competition, which takes place on Wednesday 5th September at Rockliffe Hall Golf Club.

The general public are also being invited to enter and test their skills against some of the region's most accomplished sportsmen.

The competition is being organised by David Hodgson, former Liverpool striker and ex-manager of Darlington, who hopes to make it an annual event.

"I'm sure with some of the standard of players entered that the competition will be fierce," he said.

"It's a great opportunity for fans of the Northern clubs to compete with some of their favourite players."

More clubs are expected to be announced over the next few days.

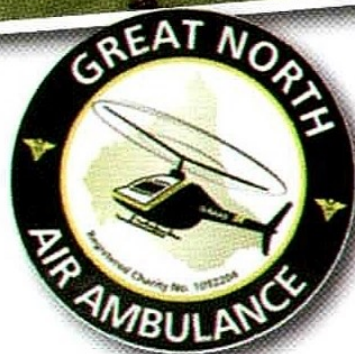
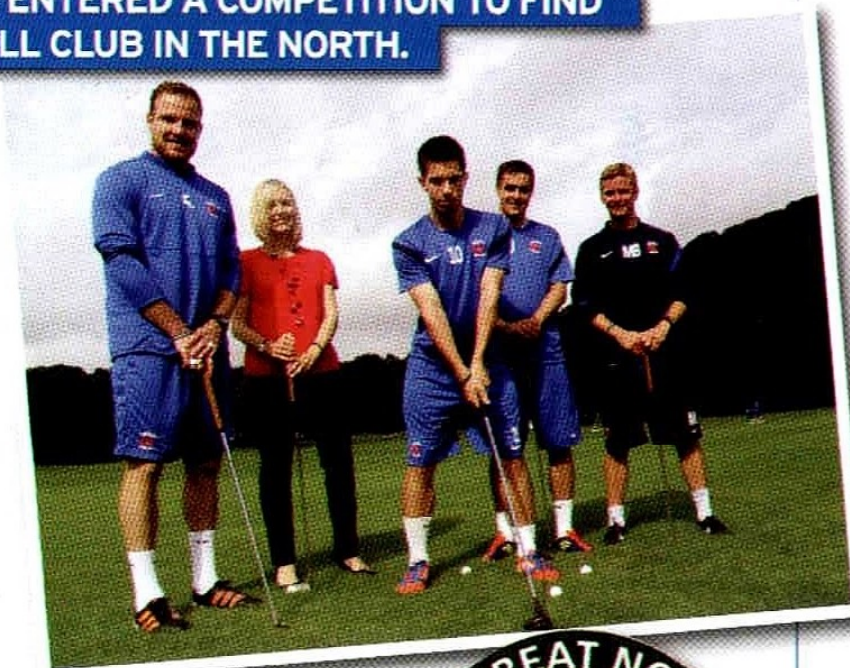
“It's a great opportunity for fans of the Northern clubs to compete with some of their favourite players.”

Micky Barron said: "We've put a good team of four together for the competition so we are looking forward to having a go at bringing back the trophy."

"It's all in aid of a great charity as well so let's hope we raise a good sum."

A team of four costs £500 and includes breakfast, 18 holes of championship golf and a two-course evening meal designed by Rockliffe's award-winning chef Kenny Atkinson.

Breakfast is available from 10.30am, golf starts at 1pm, and the evening meal will commence at 7.30pm.



Following the meal there will be entertainment from Kevin Connolly, an auction and a raffle.

Sponsors are needed for prizes throughout the day, including longest drives and nearest the pins, plus team and individual trophies. Any auction or raffle prizes would be gratefully received.

For more information, please contact Ruth Davey at the Great North Air Ambulance on 01325-487263 or email Ruth@greatnorthairambulance.co.uk



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A Summer Of Realisation

Chief Executive
Russ Green



Russ Green brings us his thoughts ahead of the 2012/13 kick off

Good afternoon and a warm welcome to our first home league game of the season against our old friends from Swindon Town. It's good to see them back in League One, I know the guys at Swindon have worked really hard to get back up and their hard work has certainly been rewarded.

I hope that you have all had a good summer break and are ready for the new campaign, refreshed and ready to go. Our summer Season Ticket campaign has gone really well once again with ticket sales reaching almost 4000, which is fantastic when you consider only two years ago we were hovering around 1400.

Let's hope that we can reward you this season with some memorable home results and a good League One campaign.

This summer has been one of football realisation, realisation that clubs cannot spend more on wages than they receive in income, quite a basic business fact but one that has generally been ignored in football. The SCM (Salary Cap Management) has now been implemented in League one following a successful test in League Two and clubs are now having to run on a business footing, with common sense prevailing.

We are working within the 65% threshold, it is difficult in football to say no to that extra signing that will 'give you the edge', the common phrase 'two more signings and we'd be in the top two' but now, reality has kicked in and if you can't afford 'the extra two', you can't get them, it's as simple as that.

League Two introduced this a couple of years ago and you have to say that that division has become more stable during that period which can only be good for the game. It was also good to see that this summer, the Championship are falling into line with SCM, albeit this does not affect this season as theirs will begin next year. This is the division that has had the majority of problems with administration etc. As we have covered many times in these notes, the clubs in the Championship all chase the 'golden chalice' promotion to the promised land of the

“Today we will have the Season Ticket presentations with three lucky winners receiving £5,000, £3,000 and £2,000 respectively. We have Pools legend Brian Honour handing out the cheques just before kick off.”

Premier League but at the end of the day, only three clubs can achieve this and the rest have to suffer the consequences of ridiculously high wages/long contracts etc etc.

The Championship are £700million in debt so it desperately needs some form of financial management from above to address this. Portsmouth are a classic case of mismanagement and living beyond their means. Let's hope that the SCM will keep our game in check and put an end to fans worrying if their clubs will even exist.

We have been busy in the transfer market during the summer (working within our means) and brought in some excellent signings which we hope will enhance our squad for the year ahead and I would like to say a big welcome to Jonathan Franks, Simon Walton and Steve Howard to Victoria Park and hope we enjoy some success together.

Preseason has been hectic this year with four games in two weeks. The North East clubs have been brilliant with us, each one sending quality teams to The Vic and bringing in fans in good numbers. To have Sunderland, Middlesbrough and Newcastle United here in one preseason is fantastic for the Club and helps with Club finances, even though the police charges for the Newcastle game were £12,000 – quite high for a Club who have had one arrest in three years, but we got on with the job and the game went ahead even though we were - £12,000 before kick off!! Just when you think you can capitalise on extra income, so do the police I guess.

Today we will have the Season Ticket presentations with three lucky winners receiving £5,000, £3,000 and £2,000 respectively. We have Pools legend Brian Honour handing out the cheques just before kick off.

Finally, get behind Neale, Micky and the lads and let's kick off the season in style.

Thanks for your continued, loyal and fantastic support.
Russ

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The Captain
Ritchie Humphreys



Club Captain
**Ritchie
Humphreys**
brings us his views
ahead of this
afternoon's fixture
at Victoria Park.

Good afternoon and welcome back to The Vic for our opening League One game of the 2012/13 season.

I trust you've all enjoyed a good summer and are looking forward to the new campaign as much as all the players and staff are. We're determined to have a successful and entertaining season and I'm sure we can with your support.

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome all three new signings to Victoria Park. They've all settled in to the Club very well and I'm sure they can go on to have very successful careers here.

I know The Gaffer knew what type of players he wanted to bring in to the Club at the end of last season and we're all confident that the three who have arrived will add something to the squad and help us improve.

Last weekend at Crewe was a disappointing way to kick-off the season. I think we were all shocked at the way the game panned out and we know that we have to defend much better than that as a team.

We looked back on the DVD during the week and had a talk about how we can improve on that and hopefully we will see a much stronger display this afternoon.

We know that it will be difficult because Swindon will be on the crest of a wave having secured promotion but we're on our home patch and we want to make a solid start here and build on that at The Vic throughout the season.

I'd like to thank everyone who has got down to the ground during the summer to buy Season Tickets for this term. It was great that the Club were able to put on another brilliant offer and

Hopefully we can have a
really good atmosphere here
again throughout the season
and that can help us prosper
and become really hard to
beat at The Vic.

the players are all delighted with the response.

Hopefully we can have a really good atmosphere here again throughout the season and that can help us prosper and become really hard to beat at The Vic.

Finally, over the summer I've really enjoyed watching the sport that was available, first with the Euro 2012 competition but then also with the Olympics which I thought was just superb.

If the achievements of those athletes at the London Games don't inspire the next generation of sports men and women then I don't know what will because I just loved every minute of it. It was awesome watching the dedicated athletes excel in their fields and there were some wonderful moments for Great Britain on the medal front too. So come on, get off your X-Box and get your trainers on!

Enjoy the game and thank you for your backing.



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In mid-July the squad made their now annual pre season trip to Holland on pre season tour. During their stay they played in two friendly games but also got through plenty of work on the training ground. Here's our diary of events from the trip abroad.

Dutch Diary

Friday 13th July

The players landed in Amsterdam after flying out of Leeds-Bradford Airport on the early flight. After a little rest period, they squeeze in a late afternoon training session planned to avoid the heavy rain storms.

Saturday 14th July

A double training session put the lads through their paces on their first full day in Holland. Scott Flinders was struggling with a thigh injury so did some alternative training with Physio Ian Gallagher to help with his upper-body strength.

Sunday 15th July 2012

On the morning of the first game the lads did a hard training session which finished with some shooting drills. It gave the chance for young keeper Dominic Scott to get his eye in ahead of the fixture which would see him pitched in to the action in the absence of Scott Flinders.



Sunday 15th July - Ritchie Humphreys during shooting practice

Sunday 15th July - Dominic Scott makes a save in training

Sunday 15th July 2012

Telstar 2 Hartlepool United 0

The first friendly of the tour was against local outfit Telstar in Heiloo. The opposition has hired a new boss and signed seven new players during the summer so were always likely to provide a stern test. It was a solid work out for the lads but two goals were enough to secure victory for the Dutch outfit in a competitive friendly.



Sunday 15th July - Telstar v Pools

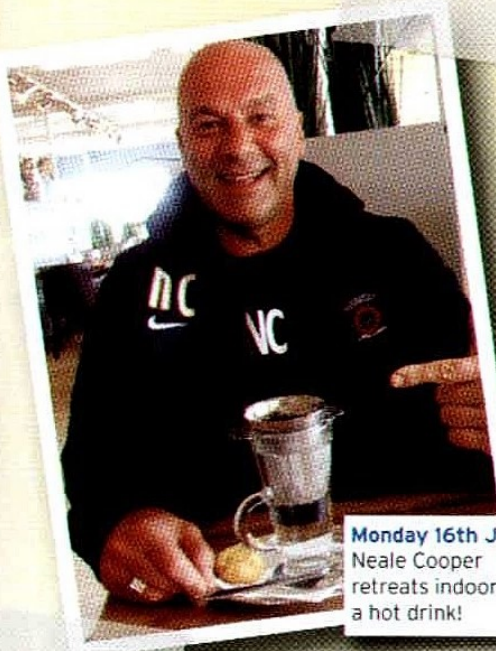
Monday 16th July

After training in the morning the lads braved the beach in the afternoon despite some seriously atrocious weather. Some of the players made it in to the water but others quickly made the five-minute dash back to the safety of the team hotel! Meanwhile, Neale Cooper grabbed a posh tea in the nearby café...



Tuesday 17th July - The players turn back as the waves crash in!

Sunday 15th July - Scott Flinders swaps his keeper gloves for boxing gloves



Monday 16th July -
Neale Cooper
retreats indoors for
a hot drink!



Tuesday 17th July - The
lads warm down with a
hard exercise routine

Tuesday 17th July

The lads were up bright and early for another sharp session of training, and then they were on the training ground again after lunch. To wind down in the evening the lads took part in a quiz separated in to five teams – not surprisingly perhaps the coaching staff ran out winners but the Yorkshire team pushed them close!

Wednesday 18th July 2012

A light training session started the day and a little work on team shape ahead of the second friendly of the tour.



Tuesday 17th July -
Micky Barron shows his
keeping skills with Scott
Flinders still sidelined

Thursday 19th July

After a light training session in the morning, the players were given some relaxation time in the afternoon. Some took a walk in to the village where they were staying, while others chose to take advantage of the tenpin bowling facilities in the hotel.



Wednesday 18th July -
Micky Barron speaks to
the lads ahead of training

Friday 20th July

An early start marked the return journey to England as the players checked out of the hotel at 6am to reach Amsterdam airport for their flight. Another successful trip to Holland – if only the weather had been a little kinder!

Wednesday 18th July 2012 Almere City 3 Hartlepool United 0

This game was played on the artificial turf of SV Heiloo's ground and was again a highly-competitive affair. Despite the 3-0 scoreline, Pools had looked stronger in all areas, particularly in the second half when they got more crosses in to the box.



Wednesday 18th July
Almere City v Pools

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Good Luck Lads!

We compile a list of good luck messages sent in by supporters for the team ahead of the start of the 2012/13 League One campaign.

Good luck lads, like most seasons good start but keep it up as far as possible, push for promotion, come on you blues!
Jamie Tumilty

To Neale and the lads, here's to a good season.
David Hall

Come on lads, I've followed you since I was 12 years old. I'm 50 now. So make me proud.
Ken Davison

Let's get promoted! C'mon lads!
Sam Tucker

To all the lads at Pools, do your best and do us proud.
David Gray

Do us proud Hartlepool United – better than last Saturday at least!!! Poolies fan in Scotland.
Shaun Gallighan

Never Say Die!!! I've been a South Wales Pools fan since the days of Dominic Sarkey. This year is the one.
Martin James Gough

To all the lads, the back room staff and the gaffer, let's get it on... You can do this...
Simon Lloyd

Never say die!! In Cooper we trust.
Neil Young

Good luck Pools, we know you're the best!
Courtney, Amy, Bradley and Mike Lewis

Good luck Pools, let's hope for a good season and we'll have a push for play offs.
Connor Lamb

Good luck for the new season, give us 100% and we will back you home and away.
Mark Carroll

Good luck with the promotion push this season! I will attend the Crawley game at Victoria Park in October and the play-off final at Wembley in May! Greetings from a Poolie in Norway.
Askild Gjerstad

Haway Pools.
Wayne Julian

Good luck Hartlepool.
Connor Charles Williams

Good luck lads, if pre season is anything to go by we should have a decent season. COME ON POOLS!
Kieron Johnson

Best wishes for the New Season. Win, lose or draw you make the town proud. Thanks also to the owners, management and back-office staff for making a 'little' club a great place to visit.
KT

Good Luck to all the Hartlepool United FC staff for the 2012/13 campaign. We are looking like we are making progress towards becoming the team we once were again, which is a fantastic thing. I hope we can push for a play-off spot as i feel the team is there if they can gel together to achieve this. Come on Hartlepool United make the fans proud :)
Colin Moore

I just want to say good luck to all of the pools squad for the new season, especially to my favourite player Luke James, I hope you finish top scorer in the league! It would be really nice to see us get in the play offs/promoted, because I am not old enough to remember the last time we did and my dad never stops talking about it!
Daniel Fletcher, age 6

We turn to Twitter for your tweets of support...



#GoodLuck Lads! We've had a great pre-season and all the fans are behind ya! There's no reason why we can't go up!
Jordan Richardson (@JR_240797)

#goodluck lads hope @JackBaldwin18 plays n does well!!!
Ryan Poulloura (@ryan_poulloura)

#goodluck and wellbeing wishes 2 the team from a local small business. We're just around the corner and wud love 2 work with u guys
Totally Laughter Yoga (@1laughter)

Massive good luck to the players and staff best wishes from Gary, Karen, Oliver, Issy, Samuel & Harry, sarfern poolies #goodluck
Gary Marquick (@pooliemayhem72)

#goodluck boys!!!
@Carltonesc

Good luck to all the squad, Neale Cooper and Micky Barron
#promotionseason #goodluck
Ethan (@HUFC2012)

#goodluck All the best for the forthcoming season. I'm sure you'll do all us Poolies proud from Cath, Stuart and Sam xx
Catherine McLaughlin (@stucath70)

Hello, I am from Brazil. I follow forever Hartlepool United, I believe in victory in Swindon Town,
#goodluck
@gui431

#goodluck forget crewe lads and go for it in the league. Make the Vic bounce, onwards and upwards to glory.
@Codyakker

#goodluck Scott Flinders, one of the best keepers I've had the pleasure to watch. He keeps trying and NEVER gives up!
@Jebs





Commercial News

Hartlepool United would like to welcome today's sponsors to our first League One home fixture against Swindon Town.

Seasonal Sponsors 2012/2013

Blackhall Rafa

Club & Pyeroy Ltd

Hartlepool United would like to welcome the seasonal sponsors above to this afternoon's game against Swindon Town and once again thank all of the lads for once again supporting their club and we look forward to sharing another new and exciting campaign ahead.



Hartlepool United welcome back seasonal sponsors Cablecom Training who have once again shown their support for the club.

Hartlepool United are proud to work in partnership with Cablecom Training who provide various training opportunities to people of the town enabling them to study for nationally accredited qualifications which can lead to a career within the telecommunications, media and cable industry. Telecommunications is one of the fastest growing technologies in the world with an average 110,500 new entrants in to the IT and Telecoms industry over the past five years.

To receive further information regarding the courses, please contact
Tel: 01642 804000
Email: info@cablecomtraining.co.uk

Hartlepool Beer & Wine Company Ltd

Hartlepool United would like to

warmly welcome for a second season, sponsors Phil and Steve Gallagher and guests from Hartlepool Beer & Wine Company.

To Contact:

Security House Usworth Road,
Hartlepool, TS25 1PD

Tel: 01429 265087

Fax: 01429 867931

Website: www.hartlepoolbeer.com

Dyke House Sports and Technology College

Hartlepool United would like to warmly our new seasonal sponsors Dyke House Sports and Technology College and Guests.

Dyke House has been designated a Sports and Technology College in 2009. This specialist status has allowed investment in the quality of students' learning through improved facilities, enhanced ICT provision and leadership and enrichment activities as well as specialized teaching staff. Being a specialist Sports and Technology College allows the college:

- To raise attainment and achievement in Physical Education and Technology.
- To raise whole college attainment and achievement.
- To raise standards in Physical Education and Technology in partner schools.
- To learn through Sport and Technology in the community.
- To raise attainment and achievement in literacy through the specialisms.

The sports and technology facilities

provide for the needs not only of our students but also of the community. A large number of sports clubs and organizations use the college's facilities which are managed by Dyke House Sports & Technology College staff.

We use Sport and Technology and the values they represent; determination, commitment, leadership, coaching, perseverance and teamwork to provide a learning experience that is tailor made for their students. Through Sport and Technology they deliver high quality and well-resourced lessons that enable all students to achieve above national averages in Sport and Technology. Matchball Sponsors

Box Clever

Hartlepool United would like to welcome Liam Dineen and his guests to today's game to enjoy an afternoon of top class hospitality whilst taking in an exciting game, opening our new 2012/2013 season.

We would also like to welcome back our sponsors in the CK Carvery Restaurant below:

- Dean Construction
- Headway Contracting Services Ltd
- Universal Coatings
- Drive Vauxhall
- Eden Park Self Drive
- Smith & Graham
- Mr Stockburn & Guests
- Travis Perkins
- Frank Yeates
- Mr Caldwell & Guest
- Wrighton Decorators
- Colin Foster & Guests

On The Podium



First up to take the challenge in our new feature is **Ritchie Humphreys** - how will he cope with our relentless quizzing?

To celebrate the summer's London Olympics, we've come up with a brilliant new feature, incorporating a number of 'events' to help us get to know the players in the Pools squad.

The Events

The Road Race (Blue)

We have an index of ten questions all focused on travelling around the country - players pick five at random to answer.

The Dressage (Yellow)

It's less equestrian and more questioning as the players pick from five from our index of ten teasers about their sense of style.

The Heptathlon (Black)

A mix of events is mirrored by our mix of random questions here - again we have a selection of ten of which the players need to select five.

The 100 Metres (Green)

Don't think about it, just give us your answer. This quick-fire round will separate the men from the boys, the wheat from the chaff and the gold from the silver.

The National Anthem (Red)

It's always polite to round off competition with the National Anthem - here the players choose from five questions at random from our ten to probe their musical tastes.

The Road Race

- 1 Where is the best place you've visited in Britain? "I'll say London. Every time I go, I think it's amazing but then I'm gone again after a couple of days. I think I could probably live there but don't know if I ever will."

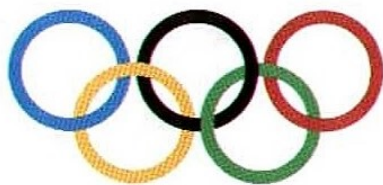


- 2 What do you do to pass time on away trips on the bus? "I'm usually reading a magazine or something really, or having a chat with people. I do like to ask Shaun (the driver) how far away we are all the time!"
- 3 Who do you room with at away games? "I haven't actually been given one this season yet. I think it'll be Antony Sweeney, who should be a good room mate because he's got OCD about neatness - plus, he's younger than me so will have to make the tea! My room mate from last season was Steve Haslam but obviously he left."
- 4 Which away game do you enjoy the most? "I really enjoyed going to Sheffield United last year. I'd never played there in a First Team fixture, only ever in the Reserves and it was my team as a kid. Plus, I could have walked there from my house!"
- 5 Which away ground don't you like going to? "Scunthorpe. We always seem to play there loads but not get a result. I know we won there last season but before that it has been one of those grounds - we even got beat the day we were promoted there!"

The Dressage

- 2 Who has the best clobber in the squad? "I've noticed early doors that Simon Walton has some decent kit but it has been summer hasn't it? I'll have to see what his winter collection brings!"
- 4 What's your most expensive item of clothing? "I don't tend to spend that much really. I reckon it'll be shoes - I have two pairs of Gucci shoes from the late nineties that I've never worn but won't throw out because I think they'll come back round!"
- 6 What football boots do you wear? "We'll get a good selection of Nike boots to choose from with being part of the PFA so I'll be wearing some of them."
- 8 Would you wear jeans or trousers on a night out? "Jeans. Generally, I would only wear trousers with a suit."
- 10 Have you ever had a name other than your own on the back of a football shirt? "No. If I had it would probably have been Deane or Agana, but I'm not sure they even did names at that point! I had 'Humphreys' spelt wrong when I was at Sheffield Wednesday once - I played at St James' Park with 'Humphries' on my back!"





The Heptathlon

- 1 What cartoon do you still like to watch?

"I'd say Toy Story, probably the third one because it's the best and that's the one which seems to be on constant repeat in our house!"



- 3 Did you ever have an imaginary friend?

"No, move on."

- 5 How many tattoos have you got?

"None, I don't think I'd ever have one. I do like the look of them on some people but it's not for me."

- 7 How did you celebrate the Millennium?

"I think I was just in the house. I was on loan at Cardiff from Sheffield Wednesday at the time. I was back in Sheffield but had to be up early for training so had a quiet night."

- 9 When you were younger how often did you get grounded?

"Rarely. It was more likely to be a threat to stop me playing football if I was naughty so I wasn't naughty very often! Seeing as this is an Olympic-style feature I remember once trying to do a frosbee flop over the couch and knocking a plant off the side which smashed all over. My dad wasn't happy and sent me to my room!"

The 100 Metres

- 1 X Factor or The Voice?
Neither!

- 2 Georgie Shore or The Only Way Is Essex?
Georgie Shore.

- 3 iPhone or BlackBerry?
iPhone! What's a BlackBerry?

- 4 Left-handed or right-handed?
Left-handed.

- 5 Savoury or sweet?
Savoury.

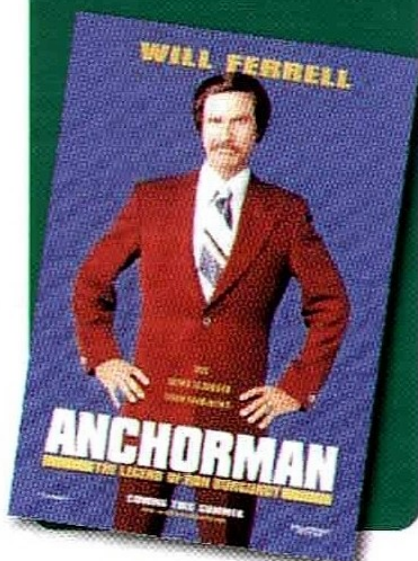
- 6 Indian or Chinese?
Indian.

- 7 Football Manager or Call Of Duty? Neither.

- 8 Batman or Superman?
Batman.

- 9 Anchorman or Happy Gilmore? Anchorman.

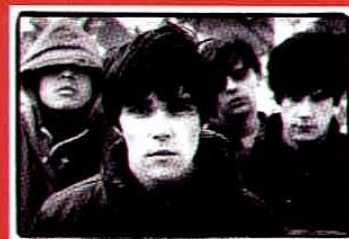
- 10 Twitter or Facebook?
Twitter.



The National Anthem

- 4 What is the best gig you've ever been to?

"It was a recent one actually, I went to see Stone Roses at Heaton Park during the summer and it was brilliant."



- 6 Are you a good singer?

Yes. Well I think I am! I like to sing the type of music I like and I think that sort of Indie stuff sounds good with my accent!"

- 7 Are you a good dancer?

"Probably not, but I do like to have a go. I always like to get on the dance floor during a night out."

- 9 Have you got a song as your ringtone?

"No, I did have when you could first get them and it was more of a novelty. These days I just have it on vibrate most of the time."

- 5 Do you play a musical instrument?

"I play the guitar and I also played the drums as a kid. I had some lessons at school and even had a mini drum kit when I was about 10. I also had a go at the cornet at junior school, but it wasn't until I left school that I started with the guitar."

Phil Dunn looks back on some of Hartlepool United's most successful players and takes them back to the very first time they pulled on a Pools shirt.

The Start of Something Big

Number 1:
Steve Howard



**Chester City
Hartlepool United**

Season: 1995/96
Date: Saturday, 12th August 1995
Competition: Division Three
Round: 1
Opposition: Chester City
Venue: Deva Stadium, Chester
Score: 0-2
Attendance: 2286
Referee: Mike Fletcher (Worcestershire)

Lineups:

HARTLEPOOL UTD	CHESTER CITY
1 Steven Jones	1 Billy Stewart
2 Denny Ingram	2 Iain Jenkins
3 Sean McAuley	3 Jason Burnham
4 Peter Billing	4 Roger Preece (-45')
5 Ian McGuckin	5 Peter Jackson
6 Steve Howard	6 Spencer Whelan
7 Stephen Halliday	7 Neil Fisher
8 Mick Tait	8 Chris Priest
9 Keith Houchen	9 Cyrille Regis (-82')
10 Damian Henderson	10 Andy Milner
11 Tony Canham	11 Eddie Bishop
Subs:	Subs:
12 Shane Reddish	12 John Murphy (+82')
13 Chris Lynch	13 David Flitcroft (+45')
14 Keith Oliver	14 Julian Alsford

2
0

When Manager Keith Houchen signed 19-year old Tow Law midfielder Steve Howard in the summer of 1995 there was little to suggest that the former roofer would go on to be one of the Football League's most prolific strikers, or indeed play in the Premier League. Yet that's exactly what happened during a career that blossomed the second he left The Vic in 1999.



Pools had been in a three-year slump since the shock departure of Alan Murray in 1992 with neither Viv Busby, David McCreery nor John McPhail able to arrest the alarming fall. Keith Houchen had returned to The Vic to see out his playing days, but was almost instantly thrown into the managerial hot-seat with the unenviable task of turning the Club's fortunes around. One of the first things that needed sorting was our lack of goals, somebody to play up front alongside the manager. Damien Henderson was brought into the squad initially on loan but it was Howard who had caught the eye in the pre season friendlies and it was no surprise when he was named in the starting line-up for his League debut at The Deva Stadium, Chester.

Pools' midfield that sunny August day was, let's say, a mixture of youth and experience. Old-stager Tony Canham had been brought in from Houchen's old club York City, and would line-up alongside 39-year-old Mick Tait. The younger element that would bring the average age down to a respectable level were

In the Box

**Player Profile -
Steve Howard**

Pools central midfield pairing this season has involved two players at opposing ends of the football spectrum.

Mick Tait, starting his 21st season in professional football, is joined by Steve Howard, who made his professional debut in Chester on the opening day of the season.

And it was really a dream debut for Steve. With 20 minutes gone he fired a cross by follow-up boy Sean McAuley and fired a header towards the bottom corner.

Only a great save by the Chester keeper prevented Steve getting on the scoreboard - and he couldn't believe it.

"In the house! I thought it was in and was ready to celebrate," he admitted. "But somehow the keeper got to it."

After setting 14 goals from midfield for Tow Law last season, Steve came to Pools in the summer, originally on loan.

"I had made last season at Ipswich and Middlesbrough and Gordon McQueen, the Middlesbrough reserve manager, recommended me to Hartlepool. I played at headband in a friendly and then Keith Houchen asked me to go to Scotland with Pools."

"I felt at ease straight away on joining Pools. The rest of the lads have been great. Playing alongside Mick Tait has been a good help..."

"I felt at ease straight away on joining Pools. The rest of the lads have been great. Playing alongside Mick Tait has been a good help."

"He talks me through the game and helps with the team. Mick will be in midfield and I will be allowed to push on and support the forwards."

As well as hopefully setting a few goals, Steve's long-term ambition is to be a professional footballer.

But he admits it is not something he has practised in the past.

"Keith Houchen told me to drop one of the balls at the pitch before the first friendly game. I kicked it up and threw it in for he asked me to do it. I didn't know that was how you did it. I was a bit nervous but he was difficult at Chester but what I want to do is to be a professional and the last was not."

Mick Campbell

THE VICTORIA LINE 0891 - 66 - 41 47
Call now 0891 66 41 47 and 0891 66 41 47

pre-season round-up

Pools were given a thorough workout during pre season and enjoyed a collection of competitive friendlies after returning from their trip to Holland.

Pre Season Round-Up

Results were mixed but overall boss Neale Cooper was happy with the work his players got through and was happy to pick up few injuries during the course of the warm-up period.

Wednesday 25th July

Whitby Town 1 Pools 1

A fiercely competitive encounter at The Turnbull Ground was just what Pools needed as they began their domestic pre season campaign. It was goalless during a battling first forty-five minutes but Pools stole in front

through Paul Murray early in the second period when he got on the end of a nice move involving Nathan Luscombe and Ritchie Humphreys. However, it didn't prove to be the winner as Whitby scrambled the ball past trialist keeper Adam McHugh five minutes from time to secure a creditable draw.



Luke James in action against Whitby

Friday 27th July

Pools 1 Sunderland 0

An early goal from Steve Howard was enough to give Pools a confidence-boosting victory over Sunderland in front of bumper crowd at Victoria Park. The forward bundled his way past Titus Bramble and fired low under Simon Mignolet in what proved the game's only goal. However, Pools were extremely thankful to some brilliant defending and a collection of magnificent saves from Scott Flinders as the Black Cats upped the ante in the second half. The Pools keeper left the visitors stunned when he somehow managed

Jonathan Franks fires in a shot against Sunderland

Scott Flinders catches the ball under pressure from Sunderland's Ryan Noble

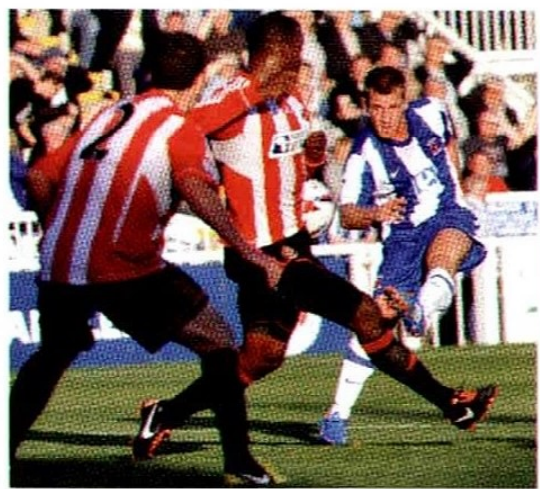


to claw away Fraizer Campbell's header low to his right – a save he will do better to top during the whole of the 2012/13 campaign.

Tuesday 31st July

Pools 2 Middlesbrough 2

Neale Cooper's men again took an early lead against the north east neighbours when Antony Sweeney guided a back post header in to the net after brilliant work down the left from Steve Howard and Luke James. Boro looked lively though and were back on level terms when Scott McDonald found space to fire home and then went ahead almost immediately through Adam Reach. The visitors had other chances to have extended their lead but Pools came back in to it in the closing period and Sam Collins powered home a header from Jonathan Franks' superb corner to level the game at 2-2.



Antony Sweeney scores the opener against Middlesbrough



Wednesday 1st August

Bishop Auckland 1 Pools 3

Pools were forced to come from behind to take a victory against Northern League outfit Bishop Auckland. After falling behind early in the second half, Pools issued an immediate response when James Poole hooked the ball home acrobatically from twelve yards. And Poole then helped himself to a second when he applied a deft finish at the front post to Jordan Richards' pinpoint delivery from the right. Substitute Ben Wignall added gloss to the win in the final minute when he got on the end of a deep corner to force the ball in to the net.



Nathan Luscombe sends a header over in Hull game

Saturday 4th August

Pools 1 Hull City 1

Pools collected another creditable result against higher-division opposition when they held Championship outfit Hull City to a draw at Victoria Park. Neale Cooper's men had actually gone ahead in the game when Jonathan Franks drove home his first goal in Pools colours but Cameron Stewart pounced on a rebound inside the Pools penalty area shortly afterwards to tie the game at 1-1.

Tuesday 7th August

Pools 1 Newcastle United 5

Pools were outclassed by a superb Newcastle performance as Alan Pardew's Magpies ran riot in front of a large crowd at The Vic. The visitors began with real venom and were two goals up inside a crazy three minutes as Shola Ameobi scored an opener before setting up Sylvain Marveaux for a second. Ameobi was then upended by Flinders inside the area and Marveaux placed the penalty home for 3-0 on twelve minutes. Newcastle eased off a little but grabbed a fourth ten minutes after the break when substitute Haris Vuckic lifted the ball over Flinders, before Antony Sweeney rifled home a consolation goal for Pools. The Premier League side had the last word though, when Gabriel Obertan burst to the edge of the area and scored the fifth.

Steve Howard fires in a shot against Newcastle



Franks Very Much!

Player Interview
Jonathan Franks



New signing
Jonathan Franks
talks to **Never Say
Die** about how
quickly he's been
made welcome at
Victoria Park.

Jonathan Franks says he has been wishing away his summer as he looks to get his Pools career off to a strong start following his switch from Middlesbrough.

The 22-year-old winger joined the Club back in May and admitted that the days have dragged since then as the excitement built towards the new campaign.

And now he is settling in to his new surroundings, Franks insists that he's ready to prove his worth to his new team-mates and supporters.

"I'm thoroughly enjoying it so far," he told *Never Say Die*.

"The lads and the coaching staff have made me really welcome from day one and now we've done some hard work over pre season we're looking forward to getting the league campaign underway.

"It's been a tough pre season and very different to what I've been used to. We've spent lots of time in the gym and done plenty of running so we all feel fit and raring to go.

"I certainly feel ready myself, as a new signing I've been wishing the weeks away and it has felt like an age for the season to finally arrive.

"When I signed I think it was quite quickly after last season so I have had to wait a long time and then get through the six weeks or so of pre season but now I'm really excited."

The start of the League One campaign also can't come quick enough for Franks and the players following the Capital One Cup setback at Crewe last weekend.

After building much of their success last term on strength in defence, Pools were left stunned by the 5-0 defeat – but Franks insists it was a one-off and the players will be ready to go this afternoon.

The lads and the coaching staff have made me really welcome from day one and now we've done some hard work over pre season we're looking forward to getting the league campaign underway

“

“

"Obviously it was very disappointing because we went there so high on confidence," he explained.

"Hopefully that will prove to be just a blip and we can put things right today – we have to put things right today.

"Last week we still had some chances; I feel like I got plenty of crosses in to the box and people were getting on the end of them but it just wasn't our day on that front.

"I think the keeper made a few good saves, Andy Monkhouse hit the post, it just didn't go for us and we didn't do well enough keeping them out at the other end.

"The defensive record was good here last season though which is why Saturday was such a disappointment; we have to work on that as a team, not just the lads at the back but all eleven players have

to play their part to be more solid.

"If we do that then I am more than confident that we can create the chances.

"I think the manager wants me to be positive when I get on the ball, to get at the



defender if I can and then if I get the opportunity to put the ball in to the box I'll take it.

"Hopefully I can do that a lot and with plenty of quality because I know we have players in there who can profit from that – big Steve Howard is sure to be a massive asset.

"We've scored goals from crosses during our pre season games so we have to put Crewe firmly behind us and get on doing the things that will win us matches."

The visitors today are newly-promoted Swindon Town who were led to the League Two title by Italian star Paolo Di Canio.

And while Franks knows the Robins will be enjoying the momentum gained by that and a midweek cup win over Brighton, he is looking forward to his first taste of competitive action in front of the Pools fans.

“I certainly feel ready myself, as a new signing I've been wishing the weeks away and it has felt like an age for the season to finally arrive.”

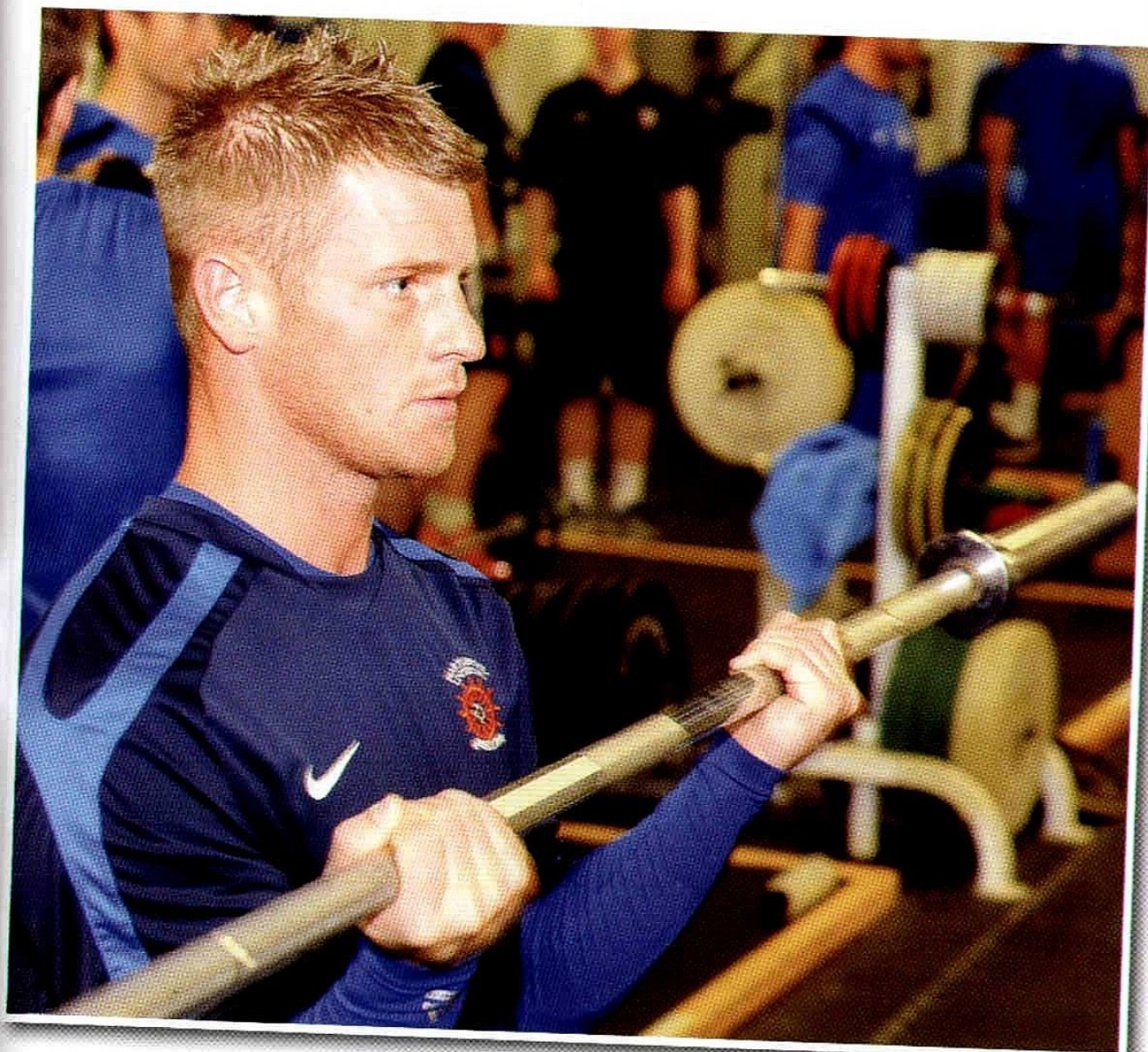
"It's a tough start for us because Swindon did really well last year and had a good result on Tuesday so they will be on a big high.

"But we want to try and bring them down a peg or two by putting on a strong performance and getting the result we all need.

"I'm really excited about playing at The Vic in the league for the first time – the pre season games were great and had a good atmosphere but this is our bread and butter now.

"We want to make a strong start and I want to play a part in that so we're all really looking forward to getting out there.

"We have to learn from Saturday but we have the strength and character in the squad which I'm sure can help us right some wrongs."



Hartlepool United 2012/13



Back Row: Jordan Richards, Josh Rowbotham, Lewis Hawkins, Nathan Buddle, Jack Baldwin, Greg Rutherford, Paul Johnson, Darren Holden, Nathan Luscombe

Middle Row: Ian Gallagher (Physiotherapist), Andy Collett (Goalkeeping Coach), Peter Hartley, Simon Walton, Colin Nish, Andy Rafferty, Scott Flinders, Steve Howard, Andy Monkhouse, Evan Horwood, Martyn Brown (Kit Manager), Micky Barron (Reserve Team Coach)

Front Row: Jonathan Franks, Luke James, Antony Sweeney, Ritchie Humphreys, Neale Cooper (First Team Coach), Sam Collins, Neil Austin, Paul Murray, James Poole.

MANAGERIAL RECORDS

Neale Cooper

Played 115 Won 47 Drawn 29 Lost 39
For 174 Against 151
Av Pts/game 1.48
Biggest Win(s) Hartlepool 8 Grimsby 1
(12/09/2003). Biggest Loss(es)
Wycombe 5 Hartlepool 0 (25/02/2012).

Paolo Di Canio

Played 46 Won 29 Drawn 6 Lost 11
For 75 Against 32
Av Pts/game 2.02
Biggest Win(s) Swindon 5 Port Vale 0
(28/04/2012). Biggest Loss(es)
Gillingham 3 Swindon 1 (21/04/2012).

MANAGER HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played...0 Neale Cooper.....0 Paolo Di Canio.....0
Draws ...0 Goals 0 Goals 0

Player with the most... shots

Andy ..
Monkhouse 64

shots on target

Andy
Monkhouse 30

shots off target

Andy
Monkhouse 34

assists

Evan
Horwood 8

crosses

Evan
Horwood 108

fouls

Andy
Monkhouse 57

free-kicks-won

Andy
Monkhouse 48



GAMES SINCE

2	a win	1
0	a home win	0
4	an away win	3
0	a defeat	2
1	a home defeat	25
0	an away defeat	1
3	a score draw	25
5	a no score draw	0
0	conceding a goal	2
1	scoring a goal	1
0	conceding > 1	2
1	scoring > 1	1
5	keeping a clean sheet	0
0	failing to score	0
39	back to back wins	4
0	back to back defeats	2
2	gaining a point	0
0	losing a point	0
16	win by > one	1
0	loss by > one	2

Player with the most... shots

Matt
Ritchie 92

shots on target

Matt
Ritchie 46

shots off target

Matt
Ritchie 46

assists

Matt
Ritchie 14

crosses

Matt
Ritchie 58

fouls

Jonathan
Smith 44

free-kicks-won

Matt
Ritchie 62

SHARP SHOOTERS

Hartlepool	FL Cup	Tot	Swindon	FL Cup	Tot	
Antony Sweeney	8	1	9	11	2	13
James Poole	7	0	7	11	1	12
Adam Boyd	6	0	6	10	1	11

TEAM HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played....26 Hartlepool wins6 Swindon wins10
Draws10 Goals 29 (1.1 per game) Goals 34 (1.3 per game)
0-0's.....1 Times failed to score 6 Times failed to score 7

Biggest League win at Hartlepool for each team:

02/04/2005 Hartlepool 3-0 Swindon

23/04/1983 Hartlepool 1-2 Swindon

PRESS ASSOCIATION Sport



LEAGUE STATS



13	Position	1
46	Played	46
14	Won	29
14	Drawn	6
18	Lost	11
50	Goals For	75
55	Goals Against	32
56	Points	93



Record Against Top Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
4	10	10	14	14	0	8	1

Record Against Bottom Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
10	4	8	13	15	6	3	1

Record When Scoring First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
12	5	2	12	26	2	1	1

Record When Conceding First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
2	3	16	20	3	1	10	13

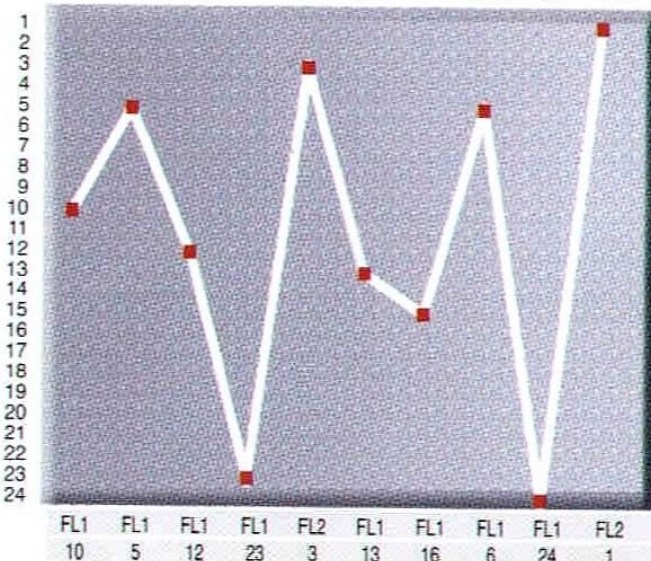
Match Scores

Wins: 1-0[2], 2-0[3], 2-1[4], 3-0[2],
3-1[1], 3-2[1], 4-0[1], Losses: 0-1[8],
0-2[1], 0-3[1], 0-4[1], 0-5[1], 1-2[3],
1-3[2], 2-3[1], Draws: 0-0[6], 1-1[5],
2-2[3]

Wins: 1-0[6], 2-0[10], 2-1[4], 3-0[4],
3-2[1], 4-0[2], 4-1[1], 5-0[1], Losses:
0-1[3], 0-2[4], 1-2[3], 1-3[1], Draws:
0-0[3], 1-1[2], 3-3[1]

SWINDON - TEN SEASON RECORD

02/03 03/04 04/05 05/06 06/07 07/08 08/09 09/10 10/11 11/12



*Stats from the 2011/12 season

Formed: 1881
Nickname: The Robins
Stadium: The County Ground
Last Season: 1st in League Two



Swindon Town arrive in our division as the proud Champions of League Two, bouncing back from relegation at the first time of asking last term.

It was a surprise to many when the Robins slipped out of League One during 2010/11, but the hangover from a Play-Off Final defeat to Millwall loitered much longer than Town fans had hoped.

Few stories highlighted the fine margins of the beautiful game as starkly as the fact that the Wiltshire outfit came so close to achieving Championship football only to find themselves in League Two a mere twelve months later.

Of course it's a feeling that Pools fans will be able to empathise with having suffered the same fate on the back of our Play-Off Final loss in 2005 – and just like Town, Pools roared back to League One at the first time of asking.

They did so in style – perhaps something that should have been expected under the flamboyant leadership of Paolo Di Canio – and secured promotion with time to spare.

It's been a busy summer at the County Ground with an influx of new players arriving to bolster the squad – including former Pools star Tommy Miller – for what many hope will be a tilt at a second successive elevation.



Famous Fan

Jamie Cullum was born in Essex but grew up in Wiltshire and followed in his father's footsteps in becoming a Swindon Town fan. The singer/songwriter has been married to former model Sophie Dahl since 2010 and will no doubt be passing on his Robins' roots to their young daughter Lyra. At one gig he thanked fans for coming out on Champions League Final night, explaining that as a Swindon fan such dilemmas were unlikely to be a problem for him!



Introducing...

Swindon Town

In The Hotseat

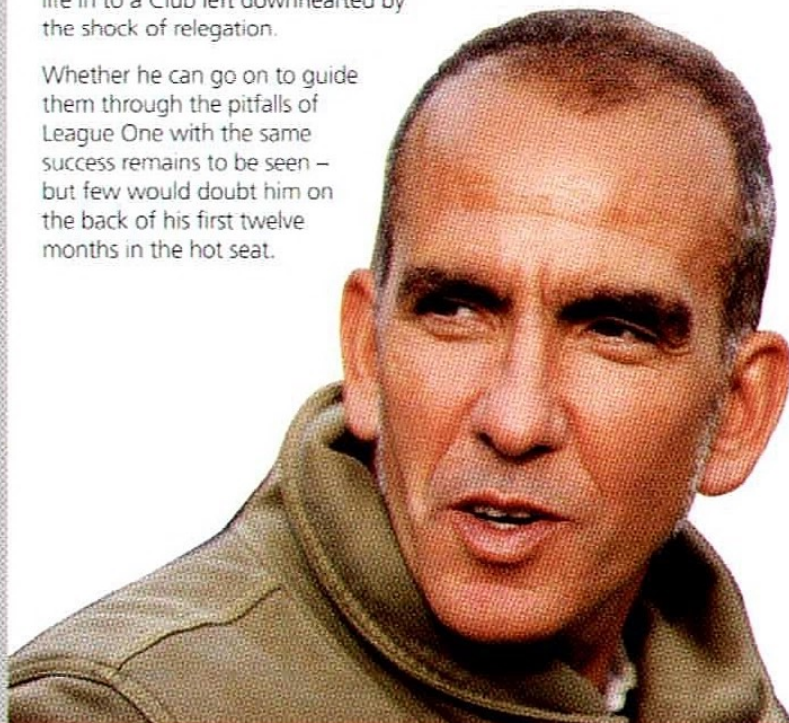
Paolo Di Canio is the type of personality who requires little introduction and his successful start to life as a manager will surely mean he remains in the spotlight for a while to come yet.

The Italian has never been far away from the headlines since he arrived in British football with Celtic in 1996, before enjoying fruitful spells with Sheffield Wednesday, West Ham United and Charlton Athletic.

With the potential to pull off the seemingly impossible, there were many memorable moments during Di Canio's classy playing career – indeed his incredible volley for West Ham against Wimbledon in March 2000 was voted Goal of the Season by the BBC and Goal of the Decade in a Sky Sports News vote.

He took the job at Swindon last May and, despite a shaky start, delivered the desired promotion and breathed new life in to a Club left downhearted by the shock of relegation.

Whether he can go on to guide them through the pitfalls of League One with the same success remains to be seen – but few would doubt him on the back of his first twelve months in the hot seat.



On The Record:

Last Time Out

Tuesday 14th August

Swindon Town 3

Brighton & Hove Albion 0

Capital One Cup at The County Ground



Celebrations:
Monday
night's
Capital One
Cup win
against
Brighton &
Hove Albion



Last Six Games

Wednesday 18th July

Weston-Super-Mare 1

Swindon Town 6

Pre Season Friendly

Wednesday 25th July

Forest Green Rovers 0

Swindon Town 4

Pre Season Friendly

Monday 30th July

Swindon Supermarine 0

Swindon Town 1

Pre Season Friendly

Friday 3rd August

Salisbury City 0

Swindon Town 3

Pre Season Friendly

Wednesday 8th August

Swindon Town 0

Crystal Palace 1

Pre Season Friendly

Tuesday 14th August

Swindon Town 3

Brighton & Hove Albion 0

Capital One Cup

Last Meeting

Saturday 2nd April 2011

Swindon Town 1 Hartlepool United 1

With the Robins scrapping for points in a desperate bid to escape relegation, Pools made the long-haul to the County Ground at the start of last April. Things started to go wrong for the hosts in the warm-up when keeper David Lucas was injured and Phil Smith was called-up to be his late replacement.

Unfortunately, Smith had a helping hand in the opening goal of the game when he collected a corner but rushed a throw. It only reached Evan Horwood who didn't even stop to take a touch before sending the ball back first time over the head of the stranded keeper and in to the unguarded net.

It was a wonderful strike worthy of being a winner, but it didn't turn out to be in the end as Pools were reduced to ten men shortly after the break when Gary Liddle was sent-off for a strong challenge on Paul Caddis.



The man advantage seemed to inspire Town, who grabbed a leveller ten minutes later when Matt Ritchie got up highest to convert a deep cross and it ended all-square.

Swindon Town: Smith, Frampton, Caddis, Jean-Francois, Sheehan, Douglas, McGovern, Prutton, Ritchie, Benyon, Andrew.

Pools: Flinders, Haslam, Collins, Hartley, Horwood, Gamble, Murray, Liddle, McSweeney, Monkhouse, Larkin.

Four In Focus

We take a look at some of the key members of the Swindon Town squad.



Goalkeeper
Wes
Foderingham

Swindon Town initially signed Crystal Palace goalkeeper Wes Foderingham on a three-month loan deal in October 2011, a move made permanent in January following a string of impressive displays.

The former England Under 19 keeper came through the ranks with Fulham but was released and moved on to Bromley where he caught the eye of Palace during a pre season game against the Eagles.

His eye-catching start for the Robins saw him keep clean sheets in each of his first five games and go on to concede just six goals in fifteen games – enough to convince Paolo Di Canio to sign him on a longer contract.

Now 21, Foderingham was rated as one of the most talented keepers in League Two last term and he'll be keen to enhance his growing reputation at a higher level this season.

Defender
Troy
Archibald
-Henville

Town boss Paolo Di Canio swooped for Exeter City defender Troy Archibald-Henville on a two-year deal in late June 2012 as part of the strengthening for League One.

The 23-year old was a regular for the Grecians last term after joining the club in January 2010 on a permanent deal from Tottenham Hotspur after spending time at St James' Park on loan prior to that.

After a frustrating loan spell with Norwich City, the powerful and athletic central defender found his feet with Exeter and became a mainstay in the backline for Paul Tisdale's side.

He made his debut in a 2-1 at Dagenham & Redbridge and went on to impress sufficiently to earn a permanent contract following his release from White Hart Lane.

Midfielder
Tommy
Miller

A vastly experienced midfielder, Tommy Miller signed for Swindon on a one-year deal following his release from Championship new boys Huddersfield Town.

At 33, Miller has over 400 league appearances to draw upon having cut his teeth here at Pools before going on to gain plenty of experience from spells at Ipswich Town, Sunderland and Sheffield Wednesday.

The County Durham born midfielder started his youth career at Ipswich Town and following his release at 15 from Portman Road he headed to Victoria Park where he started to catch the eye.

It was here at Pools that Miller signed his first professional contract and he went on to make his name as a free scoring midfielder and in the process gained the admiration of a number of higher-division clubs.

Striker
Andy
Williams

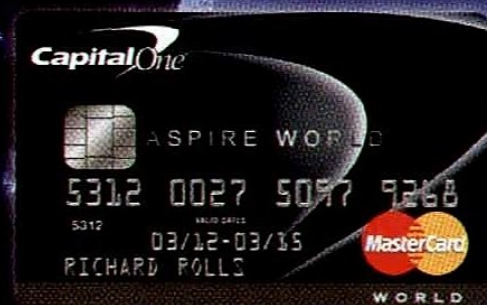
Yeovil Town were desperate to hang on to prize asset Andy Williams at the end of last season after he scored 17 goals in 39 appearances during 2012/13.

However, Paolo Di Canio persuaded the front man that his future lay at The County Ground and he became one of the Robins' first summer signings.

The 26-year-old will add strength to the Town forward line but also offers the flexibility of being able to perform on the wing if necessary too.

Having started his career with hometown club Hereford United, Williams moved to Bristol Rovers in 2007 and then on to Yeovil in 2010 as his reputation continued to grow.

**Capital One wishes
both teams all
the very best in
today's game.**



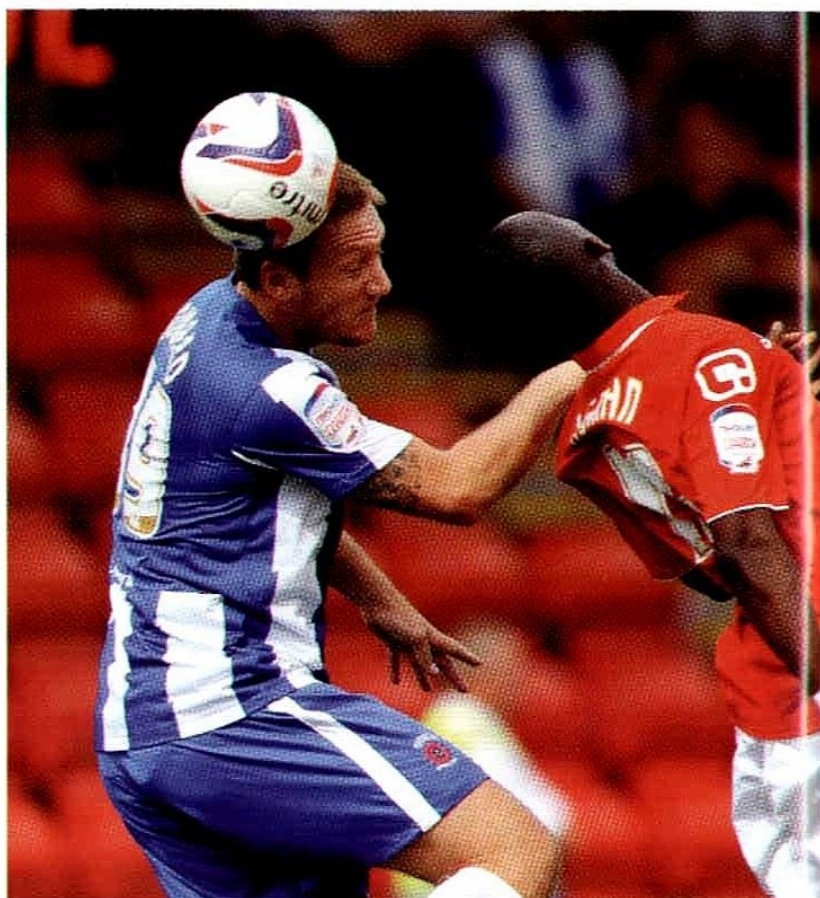
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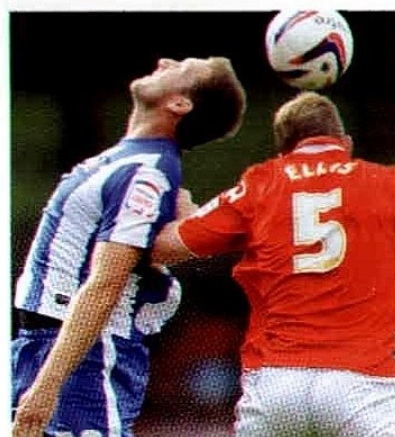


Swindon Town Kitted Out

We can all remember our favourite kits from the past so we thought we'd cast our eye over some of the strips worn by the opposition in years gone by.

We've left off the dates on these classic kits – can you guess what years they were worn?





Crewe Alexandra

(Leitch-Smith 7, Clayton 13, 39, Pogba 34, 90)

Hartlepool United

5

0

Date: Saturday 11th August 2012 | Competition: Capital One Cup
Attendance: 2,501 | Venue: The Alexandra Stadium | Photos: Hartlepool Mail

Pools: Flinders, Austin, Collins, Hartley, Horwood, Franks, Walton, Sweeney, Monkhouse, Howard, James (Poole 46)

Subs not used: Humphreys, Baldwin, Holden, Luscombe, Murray, Nish

Match Summary:

Pools suffered a terrible start to the new campaign as they were soundly beaten by Crewe Alexandra in the First Round of the newly-named Capital One Cup. Neale Cooper's men made a positive start to the game but fell behind against the run of play on seven minutes, conceded again three minutes later and never recovered. By half time it was 4-0 to the buoyant hosts who picked up where they left off last season after putting together an astonishing unbeaten run to secure promotion to League One. Despite the one-sided nature of the scoreline, Pools did have their own chances in the game, many provided by the encouraging wing play of Jonathan Franks who delivered several enticing deliveries. However, the concession of sloppy goals meant the game was more or less over by the break and led Pools boss Cooper to demand an instant response when the league campaign kicks-off against Swindon this afternoon.

34
35

www.hartlepoolunited.co.uk

On The Road

Tuesday 21st August 2012, 7.45pm

**Notts County v
Hartlepool United**



We have been issued 206 tickets for our game at Meadow Lane which are on sale now and will remain available until 4pm on Monday 20th August.

Tickets will also be available to buy at Notts County prior to kick-off.

Prices:

Adults:	£24.00
Over 60s:	£15.00
16-21s:	£15.00
Unemployed:	£15.00
Under 16s:	£6.00

Wheelchair and ambulant disabled supporters are priced as per the relevant category, and carer is free of charge. There are a limited number of parking spaces for disabled supporters which can be booked direct with Notts County by calling Wendy Cox on 0115 955 724.

Identification will be required when purchasing a concession ticket.

Saturday 25th August 2012, 3pm

**Leyton Orient v
Hartlepool United**



We have received 210 tickets for our game at Leyton Orient, which are on sale now and will remain available until 3pm on Thursday 23rd August.

Fans can make a saving by buying tickets in advance from the Victoria Park Ticket Office.

Prices (price in brackets is on the day rate)

Adults:	£23.00	(£25.00)
Over 65s:	£15.00	(£16.00)
Students:	£15.00	(£16.00)
Armed Forces:	£15.00	(£16.00)
Unemployed:	£15.00	(£16.00)
Under 18s:	£5.00	(£16.00)

Ambulant disabled supporters are free of charge providing they are claiming DLA on Middle to High rate - this must be shown at time of purchase at the Victoria Park Ticket Office. Wheelchair and ambulant disabled supporters need to contact Leyton Orient direct on 0871 310 1883 to organise tickets. Identification will be required when purchasing any concession ticket.

Away Game Coverage

Pools Player is the best place to get all the coverage on away games this season with full live and uninterrupted commentary on each and every Pools fixture.

Plus, we provide exclusive post-match video reaction and special extended highlights on every game which aren't available anywhere else.

To sign-up to Pools Player simply visit us at www.player.hartlepoolunited.co.uk and we'll take you closer to the action than ever before!

Ticket Office

To buy tickets for any forthcoming game visit our Ticket Office at Victoria Park, call **01429 272 584 (Option 2)** or email tickets@hartlepoolunited.co.uk For Ticket Office opening hours and more information visit the Official Website at www.hartlepoolunited.co.uk



Youth Team Report

John Hewitson brings us up to date with the Youth Team's first game.

The Youth Team got off to a disappointing start last weekend when we were defeated 3-1 in our opening game at Lincoln City.

We've all had a really strong and encouraging pre season so we came in to the game high on confidence but we were forced on to the back foot from the off as Lincoln started the game with a higher intensity.

We made so many mistakes which is unlike us really, and we fell behind when the referee awarded the home side a penalty for a foul by Ryan Tuck.

After the break we were able to get on the ball a little more and we began to show a bit more composure and start to create a few chances. We were causing Lincoln some real problems but an miskick from keeper Dominic Scott at the other end helped our opposition double their lead and make it 2-0.

It was 3-0 shortly afterwards which gave the lads a real mountain to climb and it was really disappointing given the way we had begun the second half.

Ben Wignall did pull us a goal back when he looped a header over the goalkeeper but it was mere consolation because overall the performance was a difficult one to accept.

After the positivity and good work we've seen during pre season I just didn't expect that type of display and we are definitely going to have to be much better than that if we want to get any type of result against Hull in our next game.

Pools: Scott, Jones, Brown, Nearney, Tuck, Wright, Green, Wignall, Harbottle (Walker 60), Hedley (Halpin 60), Turner (Bridges 80).

Subs not used: Mitchinson, Nellis.





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The Academy

John Hewitson brings us the latest news from Youth Development

Good afternoon and welcome to the first game of 2012/13 at Victoria Park. It's great to have the season back in full swing after the summer break.

It has been an eventful preseason so far with the Youth Team. We have played fixtures against the three big clubs in the north east in Sunderland, Middlesbrough and Newcastle United. We also played games further a field in which we competed against Blackburn Rovers and Stoke City.

In all of the games I was happy with how the players progressed in their fitness levels and overall performances as individuals and as a squad. Long gone are the days when Hartlepool United were seen as an "easy game". I was encouraged by how much our players kept possession and created chance after chance. The spirit of the team is excellent and a non-stop work ethic is drilled into them which is apparent in games.

On another note Ben Wignall and Dominic Scott (pictured) also travelled to Holland with the First Team which was a fantastic boost for them and the Youth Department. Dominic played both games due to the Scott Flinders' injury and this was a fantastic experience for him.

Ben Wignall and Ryan Tuck also were rewarded for their good performances with a place on the First Team bench against Newcastle United. Ben was given his first substitute appearance for the First Team and will be

something he will treasure for the rest of his life. With him being Hartlepool born and bred, a Manor College graduate, it was extra special for him.

The Academy also started back last week after their summer break and was great to see everyone back. The squads will play friendlies against Newcastle United, Sunderland and Middlesbrough for preseason and their league commences on September 2nd.

All the best for today and enjoy the game.
John



U9's	Connor Macleod	SPONSOR	P. Lodge Builders
Tom Payne	The Till Roll Co Ltd		
Stephen Bolam	S. Francis Haulage		
Ethan Ord	Parents		
Samuel Haynes	Different		
U10's	SPONSOR		
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Rhys Hood	Taylorhood Metalworks Ltd		
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Tom Spark	Miaziak Machine Tools UK		
Dominic Agnew	T&T Injury Law		
	07958531435		
Charlie Ede	Pro-Build NE Ltd		
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Daniel Boyle	www.polygonallstars.co.uk		
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Jacob Owen	www.darkstarplants.co.uk		
Kyle Davidson	Ellen Davidson		
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Lewis King	Mr Martin King		
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Harry Johnson	Mr & Mrs Johnson		
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Robbie Gratton	CJP - Intelligent Marketing		
Lee Hume	Mr & Mrs Hume		
Ethan Wood	Mam, Dad and Adam		
Joe Belshaw	Mum and Dad		
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Kai Watson	Nana & Grandad		
Jack Harrison	Neil Harrison		
Joseph Posthill	Tony Hamilton		
Scott Howes	Blue Bell Greenhouses		
James Dawson	Carl Dawson		
Jack Rose	Rose & Sons Photography		
David Vincent	Darren Vincent		
Conah Allen	Julie Allen		
Jack Turnbull	Mam & Dad		
Harry Dawson	Philip Dawson		
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Jonathon Carr	Joan, Ina, Bill		
Charlie Grant	Dyke House Sports and Technology College		
	Ashbourne Guest House -		
	5653997		
Jak Ashton	Grandma		
Paul Braithwaite	Mr & Mrs Smith		
Connor Smith	Mr J Armstrong		
Dylan Armstrong	Parents		
Jason Blackburn	V McCarthy		
Matthew McCarthy	Gull Wing Coffee Shop		
Kieran Green	Greg Little Floor Specialist		
Daniel Peterkin	Taylor Wimpey N.E		
Callum Dobson	Morgan Sindall		
Daniel Roberts			

HUDSA

Neil Appleyard brings us his first update of the season from **HUDSA**

Hello everyone and a warm welcome to our first game of the 2012-2013 season against Swindon Town. It makes a pleasant change to start off with a home match and hopefully we can start the season with a great performance.

There has been so much sport and football on the TV recently that the closed season has passed very quickly. For everyone at HUDSA it has been a time when we are all waiting for the new season to start.

Our caravan project has again been widely used and more and more people are going for short break holidays. So far this year we have been fully booked for a number of months and we are also having bookings at the moment for October. We are actively looking at purchasing another caravan and we have found a suitable site near to the southern Lake District hopefully we can conclude this venture very shortly and give even greater opportunities for more short break holidays and respite care.

Our football team have taken part in a number of tournaments and both teams were runners up in their sections at the Harrogate festival and we are really pleased for those who took part. However we did have some really sad news that one of the team passed away very suddenly only a few days after that event. Colin Bates was a very enthusiastic and talented member of the team who lived for sport and football. He shall be greatly missed.

Let's hope that we can gain three points from today's game.
All the best, Neil

South East Poolies

Stuart Miller brings us the latest news from our friends in the South East supporters branch.

We start the season at home to a team who in the eyes of the South East Poolies make a welcome return to our division.

Swindon is a relatively easy and popular trip for our members, none more so than Ben Forbes, who only has about three miles to travel when we play them at the County Ground!

We have our first meeting of the season at Leyton Orient next Saturday, which will take place in the Coach & Horses right near to the away turnstiles. The meeting will start at 1pm and non-members are welcome to join us.

We will be paying particular focus in that meeting to our RAISE £2K campaign that will be running throughout the season.

We will be producing a new batch of SEP Polo Shirts over the next month or so. These will of course be the latest fashion accessory and popular around swimming pools in Ibiza!

If you would like to order one of these or find out more about the SEP visit our website at www.southeastpoolies.co.uk.



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<http://www.officialsoccerschools.co.uk/hartlepoolunited>

Keith Nobbs updates us on the latest from the Community Sports Foundation

Hartlepool United Community Sports Foundation would like to wish IOR and Hartlepool United all the best for the season as I'm sure with the professional way the Club is run that Neale and his staff will be pushing for promotion

Hartlepool United Futsal Team

Hartlepool United FC is offering a unique opportunity for talented 16-17 year old football players to pursue a 2-year Futsal & Education Scholarship. HUCSF is recruiting 17 players for two five-a-side futsal teams to compete in a North East League playing against teams from Hull, Bradford, Leeds, Scunthorpe, Huddersfield, Grimsby and Middlesbrough. Matches will be played every fortnight on a Wednesday at a new Futsal Arena in Leeds, this will also allow players to still play for their weekend teams.

The scholarship has impressed Pools defender Evan Horwood, who said "I've heard all about the new Futsal scholarship with the Club and I think it sounds like a really good opportunity. The scholars will get to enjoy two years with the Community Sports Foundation, learning plenty of new skills and will leave with a decent qualification. I'd recommend any 16-17 year old who is interested in a career in football to take a look into the course and see if it's suitable for them."

Want to:

...get a first class education that will get you to University? ...gain qualifications to work in the sports industry? ...train and compete in a professional futsal environment? ...represent your local professional club? ...become a Futsal coach or referee?

To ensure that learners are fully prepared for the future, the scholarship

includes a full-time education package, incorporating:

- BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma, worth up to 3 A Levels
- Allows access to university and further study
- Opens the door to a coaching career in football or Futsal.
- Opens the door to a career in refereeing

Futsal is the only form of indoor football approved by FIFA, UEFA and the FA. With over 2 million players regularly participating in fast-paced 5-a-side action that rewards good technique and game intelligence, Futsal is globally recognised as one of the fastest growing indoor sports in the world. Learners will have the opportunity to train in Futsal for up to 8 hours a week with Hartlepool United coaches, under the direction of the Football League Trust and in conjunction with Guildford College.



Training will be supplemented with fortnightly regular fixtures against other teams, representing professional clubs, in the Football League Trust Futsal League. Visit www.tvseducation.com for all the latest league news!

Please visit www.futsalandeducation.org, or email scholarship@futsalandeducation.org for more information

For more details contact Hartlepool United Community Sports Foundation (HUCSF)

Keith Nobbs Mobile 07788724588 or email hucsf@hartlepoolunited.co.uk Tel: 01429 862595

- Scholarship Offer Subject to Exam Results: 4 GCSE's C or above including (Eng/Maths)

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Week Five | 20th - 24th August

£25.00
Week Five | 20th - 24th August

£20 | Week Six | 28th - 31st August



Junior Poolies Membership



Now we are back why not show your colours at The Vic and join our fantastic Junior Poolies Club. The Junior Poolies get a host of great gifts and a chance to meet our Junior Poolies Captain Peter 'Pistol' Hartley here is what you get:-

- Gym Bag,
- Water Bottle,
- Junior Poolies
- Pin badge,
- Hartlepool Monkey,
- Exclusive Junior Poolies Scarf,
- Membership Card,
- Favorite Player Picture,
- Team Photo
- Welcome letter from 'Pistol' Pete Hartley himself –

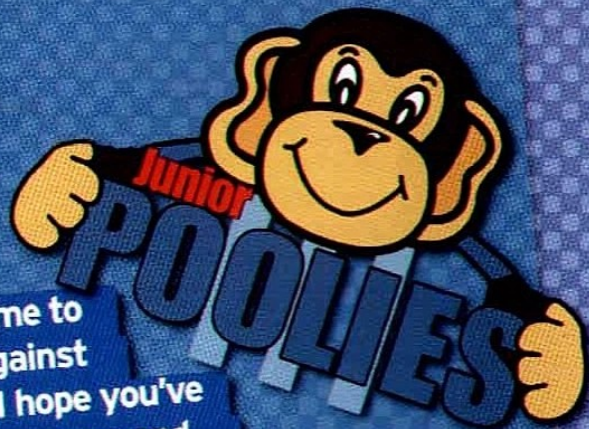
Not only that we have some exciting offers with discounts with UKSuperbowl, Tweddle Farm, Little stars Boutique and Cocken Lodge Golf centre.

**All this for just £15??
You'd be mad to miss it!!**

If you would like to sign up or anyone you know may like too then you can download your forms from hartlepoolunited.co.uk or email juniormembers@hartlepoolunited.co.uk

Competition Time Guess the Attendance

We are going to run a 'Guess the Attendance Competition' though out the season with a great prize at the end of the season where the winner will present the Junior Poolies Player of the Year Trophy to our best player from this season. Send your entries to me no later than 12pm on matchday to be in with a chance of winning and I wish you good Luck.



Hello and welcome to today's game against Swindon Town, I hope you've all had a great summer and been to some exciting places

Junior Poolies Member Feature

Today we start to feature some of our Junior Poolies members who have answered a range of question sent to them by me. Our first member is Jonathan Barker

Name: **Jonathan Barker**
School: **Framwellgate School Durham**

Hobbies: **Football, Cycling, Playing on my XBOX, Watching TV and Swimming**

Favourite Teams: **Hartlepool United and England**

Favourite Hartlepool United Player: **Scott Flinders**

Favourite Ex-Hartlepool United Player: **Joel Porter**

My best 5-a-side squad:
Joe Hart, Philipp Lahm, Ashley Cole, Steven Gerrard and Robin Van Persie

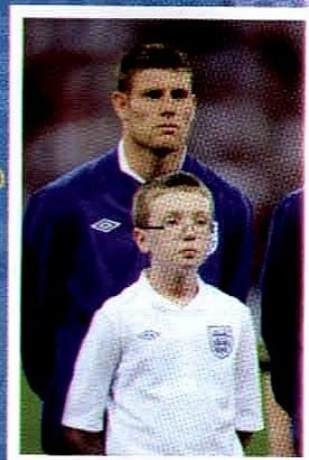
Best Game attended:
England v Bulgaria 2010

Seasons Prediction:
10th or 11th

Anything else:

I was a player mascot for England against Bulgaria. My player was James Milner.

So if you would like to feature right here on my page and are a Junior Poolies member, then e-mail me your answers to juniormembers@hartlepoolunited.co.uk



Junior Poolies Matchday Reporter

Would you like to be our Matchday reporter for my page and write a Junior Poolies match report for us, whether it's a home game or an away game send your reports to me and I will let get them printed in here for all to see.

Junior Poolies Birthdays

With only one home game in August we have three Junior Poolies who will be celebrating their birthday this month we have Adam Mincher (16th August), Joseph Thebe (24th August) and Thomas Buchanan (29th August). Happy Birthday to you all.

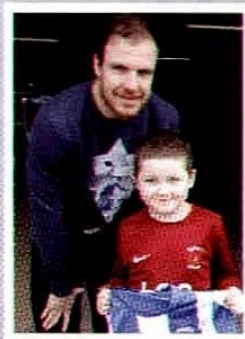


MASCOT MAYHEM

Here's me pictured with my old mate Tim Lovejoy and a couple of my mascot mates following a competition called the Daffodil Derby a couple of years ago.

I like to keep in touch with the mascots at other clubs as much as I can but I've gone and forgotten which teams the other two in this photo support!

I know they're called Rammie and Lucas but other than that my mind is a blank – can you guess which clubs they are from and help me out?



Junior Poolies H'Angus Hangout

THREE IN ONE

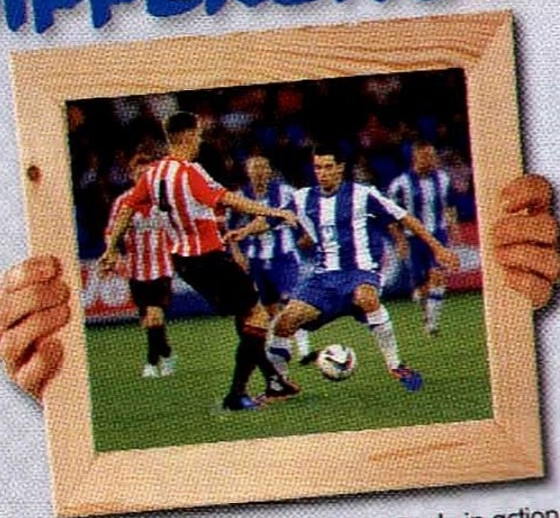
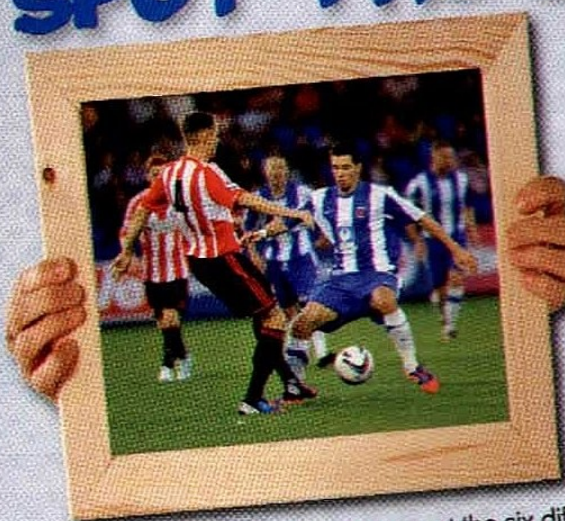
Oh no! Three of our players got well and truly confused during our recent team photograph and we need your help to sort things out!

There are three players who make up the photo here and we want to see whether you can name them all? It looks a bit tricky to us – and also a little creepy!!!

TODAY'S MASCOT

Welcome to our mascot for the afternoon Charlie Foster. Everyone at Pools hopes you have a brilliant day! In the picture you can see Charlie with his favourite player Sam Collins.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



Can you spot the six differences in the two pictures of James Poole in action during our recent pre season friendly against Sunderland? I've made them as difficult as possible – I bet you can't get them all!!!!

Answers: Three in One: Evan Horwood, Andy Markhouse, Steve Howard. Mascot Mayhem: Rammie the Ram (Derby County), Lucas the Top Cat (Leeds United). Spot The Difference: James' wristband is gone; Pools badge is gone; The Nike swoosh on James' sock is gone; The toe of James' boot is blue not red; The red stripes on the Sunderland player's shorts are gone; The stripes off the heel of the Sunderland player's boot are gone.

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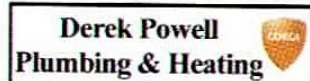
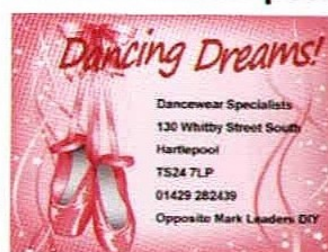
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When Will We See You Again?

Following the demise of our neighbours Darlington and their drop down the non-league pyramid, we here at The Vic have realised that over the years, there are many a club that we will not play for a while as they are no longer in the league. With Pools being an established League One Club, then we look in this article at the clubs we used to play, some more regular than others, some more recent than others. Colin Foster investigates...

This week we focus on a team that we haven't played in a league fixture since February 2007, when we were in the midst of a promotion challenge from League Two and a long unbeaten run. I am talking about Macclesfield Town, who finished bottom of the Football League last year and were automatically relegated to the Conference.

We first played Macclesfield when they were in the old Northern Premier League back in November 1985 in the FA Cup. Their ground, Moss Rose, was an odd one at the time, a decent main stand and the rest of it a little run down. In a game plagued by rain and more rain, Pools won 2-1 with goals two goals from Alan Shoulder. We played them again in the Cup six years later and we lost 2-0 with Paul Olsson seeing red. At that time the Silkmen were in their fifth season as a Conference outfit but their ground still wasn't up to much and two seasons later this would be a nightmare for them, for they won the Conference but were refused admission to the League on the basis that their ground didn't haven't sufficient capacity or seats. However, two years later in May 1997, after they had made improvements to their ground, they again won the title and replaced Hereford in the League.

The First Meeting

Lineups

MACCLESFIELD TOWN	
1	Alan Zelem
2	Mark Fielding
3	Neil Fairclough
4	Neil Griffiths
5	Mike Hardman
6	Nigel Shaw
7	Colin Kersley
8	Graham Tobin
9	John Askey
10	Peter Hall
11	Keith Mountford

HARTLEPOOL UNITED	
1	Eddie Blackburn
2	Keith Nobbs
3	Phil Chambers
4	Roy Hogan
5	Tony Smith
6	David Linlithgow
7	Brian Honour
8	Paul Proudlock
9	John Borthwick
10	Nigel Walker
11	Alan Shoulder

Stats courtesy of John Phillips of www.inthetadcrowd.co.uk

We struggled against them in the League to start with, a goalless draw at the Vic being the first meeting on 30th August 1997. In fact, it wasn't until our sixth league meeting that we turned them over, winning 1-0 thanks to a Mark Tinkler effort on their manor in February 2001. Even after this date when Pools' fortunes on the pitch improved massively under the progress made under IOR, Pools still never managed to do the double over them. Definitely a "bogey" team, a frustrating team for Pools more home than away.



Their Place

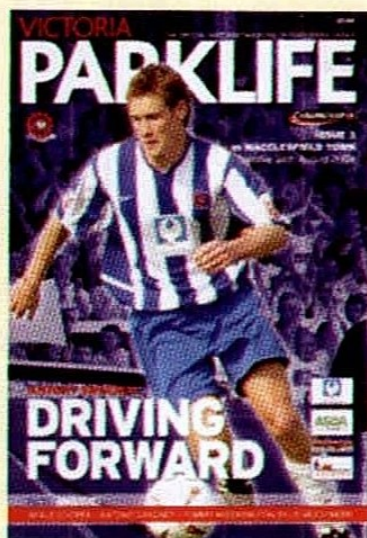
Moss Rose, last visited on 2nd December 2006

The Stats

Competition	P	HW	HD	HL	HF	HA	AW	AD	AL	AF	AA
League	12	1	2	3	7	12	3	2	1	7	5
FA Cup	4	0	0	1	2	4	1	0	2	3	5
League Cup	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	17	2	2	4	11	17	4	2	3	10	10

During their time in the League, the Silkmen won nothing, bar promotion in their first season, followed by instant relegation. The last time the clubs met was the 20th February 2007, with Pools winning a close game 3-2 courtesy of an own goal with minutes remaining.

After Pools won promotion in 2007, Macclesfield finished third-bottom and just managed to escape the drop. Every season since they flirted with danger, their highest finish being 15th in 2010/11 before finishing bottom last season. Not only have they struggled on the pitch but the Silkmen have suffered off it with the sad loss of popular manager Keith Alexander in March 2010 and just ten months later midfielder Richard Butcher passed away aged just 29, due to a heart condition. The number 21 was retired from their squad list in his memory.



Because of the results, Macclesfield were never the most looked forward to matches for Pools add to that their poor support – their home support was bad enough but for a team that falls into the category of “The North” their away support was atrocious, doing well or not. The last time we played them on a Saturday at home, in what will have been their second away game, they brought a painful 158 fans, the last match ever saw an easily countable from the Town End 66 fans.

From most points of view they won't be missed here at The Vic. They are one of the few non-league teams that have come through the ranks in recent years that have been northern and I expected more from them. More support for sure and a better go of it. Even though they seemed to put Pools to the sword, the writing was on the wall for them a couple of seasons back.

There are none of their players that really stood out for me as stars except two former Poolies, current Bury manager



Richard Barker and "The Beast" Jon Parkin. Both rattled in plenty of goals in Cheshire, before moving on to better things. Also making his league bow there was Rickie Lambert who has now just powered Southampton via successive promotions to the Premier League. Other than that, they instill little pleasure, a dreary place to visit, a team that we regularly struggled against, and no real players who stood out (the three aforementioned aside) as players you would love to hate. A shade non-descript really.

It's difficult to tell what the future holds for them. Their squad has been reduced since relegation and they won't have the funding to compete with the likes of (nearby to a degree) Wrexham and Luton when it comes to attracting players to their flock. Their only hope can be a bit of form and some high revenue from local derbies against Stockport, newly promoted Hyde and Wrexham. Once thing is for sure though - the Conference must be one of the tightest leagues out there, and I don't rate their chances highly.

Most goals in games v Macclesfield

Pools

4 Richard Barker

Macclesfield

2 Adam Boyd, Ian Clark, Tommy Miller, Alan Shoulder, Antony Sweeney

League places between both clubs

36

2012-2013

Match Stats

KEY: BOOKED: ■ SENT OFF: ■ SUBBED: (1) | HOME FIXTURES: BLUE | Scorer: 1, 2, 3



nPower League Two Table 2012/13

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Bournemouth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 Brentford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Bury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Carlisle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 Colchester	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Coventry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7 Crawley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8 Crewe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9 Doncaster	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 Hartlepool	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11 Leyton Orient	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 MK Dons	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13 Notts County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14 Oldham	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 Portsmouth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16 Preston	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17 Scunthorpe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18 Sheff Utd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19 Shrewsbury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20 Stevenage	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21 Swindon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22 Tranmere	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23 Walsall	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24 Yeovil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Player Appearances 2012/13

	League		Cup		Total	
	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals
Scott Flinders	0	0	1	0	1	0
Neil Austin	0	0	1	0	1	0
Ritchie Humphreys	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sam Collins	0	0	1	0	1	0
Evan Horwood	0	0	1	0	1	0
Jonathan Franks	0	0	1	0	1	0
Simon Walton	0	0	1	0	1	0
Colin Nish	0	0	0	0	0	0
James Poole	0	0	(1)	0	(1)	0
Andy Monkhouse	0	0	1	0	1	0
Nathan Luscombe	0	0	0	0	0	0
Antony Sweeney	0	0	1	0	1	0
Josh Rowbotham	0	0	0	0	0	0
Greg Rutherford	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jack Baldwin	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jordan Richards	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paul Murray	0	0	0	0	0	0
Andy Rafferty	0	0	0	0	0	0
Darren Holden	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nathan Buddle	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paul Johnson	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lewis Hawkins	0	0	0	0	0	0
Peter Hartley	0	0	1	0	1	0
Luke James	0	0	1	0	1	0
Steve Howard	0	0	1	0	1	0

Date	Opposition	Comp	F-A	Crowd
Sat 11 Aug	Crewe	LC1	0-5	2501
Sat 18 Aug	Swindon	FL1	15:00	
Tue 21 Aug	Notts County	FL1	19:45	
Sat 25 Aug	Leyton Orient	FL1	15:00	
Sat 1 Sep	Scunthorpe	FL1	15:00	
Sat 8 Sep	Carlisle	FL1	15:00	
Sat 15 Sep	Bournemouth	FL1	15:00	
Tue 18 Sep	Preston	FL1	19:45	
Sat 22 Sep	Shrewsbury	FL1	15:00	
Sat 29 Sep	Colchester	FL1	15:00	
Tue 2 Oct	Sheff Utd	FL1	19:45	
Sat 6 Oct	Crewe	FL1	15:00	
Sat 13 Oct	Doncaster	FL1	15:00	
Sat 20 Oct	Crawley	FL1	15:00	
Tue 23 Oct	Bury	FL1	19:45	
Sat 27 Oct	Brentford	FL1	15:00	
Tue 6 Nov	Tranmere	FL1	19:45	
Sat 10 Nov	Yeovil	FL1	15:00	
Sat 17 Nov	Coventry	FL1	15:00	
Tue 20 Nov	Oldham	FL1	19:45	
Sat 24 Nov	Walsall	FL1	15:00	
Sat 8 Dec	Stevenage	FL1	15:00	
Sat 15 Dec	Mk Dons	FL1	15:00	
Sat 22 Dec	Portsmouth	FL1	15:00	
Wed 26 Dec	Carlisle	FL1	15:00	
Sat 29 Dec	Sheff Utd	FL1	15:00	
Tue 1 Jan	Preston	FL1	15:00	
Sat 5 Jan	Bournemouth	FL1	15:00	
Sat 12 Jan	Shrewsbury	FL1	15:00	
Sat 19 Jan	Colchester	FL1	15:00	
Sat 26 Jan	Portsmouth	FL1	15:00	
Sat 2 Feb	Notts County	FL1	15:00	
Sat 9 Feb	Swindon	FL1	15:00	
Sat 16 Feb	Leyton Orient	FL1	15:00	
Sat 23 Feb	Scunthorpe	FL1	15:00	
Tue 26 Feb	Crewe	FL1	19:45	
Sat 2 Mar	Doncaster	FL1	15:00	
Sat 9 Mar	Yeovil	FL1	15:00	
Tue 12 Mar	Oldham	FL1	19:45	
Sat 16 Mar	Coventry	FL1	15:00	
Sat 23 Mar	Walsall	FL1	15:00	
Fri 29 Mar	Mk Dons	FL1	15:00	
Mon 1 Apr	Stevenage	FL1	15:00	
Sat 6 Apr	Bury	FL1	15:00	
Sat 13 Apr	Tranmere	FL1	15:00	
Sat 20 Apr	Brentford	FL1	15:00	
Sat 27 Apr	Crawley	FL1	15:00	

Flinders Austin Collins

supporting Hartlepool FC



Compass Royston

Coach Hire for all Occasions

Subs
Pool (1)

Subs Not Used

Baldwin, Holden, Humphreys, Luscombe, Murray, Nish,

References

Hartley ■

Franks

Walter

Monkhous

Sweeney

James (1

Howard

Poolle (1)

48

49

Player Career Stats

Hartlepool United.

Name	League				Hartlepool United Other				Total				League				Career Other			Total			
	Pl	Sub	Total Apps	Sco	Pl	Sub	Sco		Pl	Sub	Total Apps	Sco	Pl	Sub	Total Apps	Sco	Pl	Sub	Sco	Pl	Sub	Total Apps	Sco
Scott Flinders	117	0	117	1	11	0	0		128	0	128	1	176	1	177	1	23	0	0	199	1	200	1
Neil Austin	106	3	109	6	12	0	0		118	3	121	6	290	20	310	11	34	3	0	324	23	347	11
Ritchie Humphreys	411	39	450	33	57	4	3		468	43	511	36	478	75	553	44	61	10	7	539	85	624	51
Sam Collins	171	1	172	6	19	0	0		190	1	191	6	444	9	453	19	52	3	0	496	12	508	19
Evan Horwood	82	4	86	3	13	0	1		95	4	99	4	206	7	213	4	31	2	2	237	9	246	6
Jonathan Franks	0	0	0	0	1	0	0		1	0	1	0	23	20	43	6	5	1	0	28	21	49	6
Simon Walton	0	0	0	0	1	0	0		1	0	1	0	130	37	167	16	11	2	0	141	39	180	16
Colin Nish	12	7	19	4	1	0	0		13	7	20	4	220	102	322	79	27	5	9	247	107	354	88
James Poole	15	15	30	8	3	4	0		18	19	37	8	19	20	39	8	3	4	0	22	24	46	8
Andy Monkhouse	213	14	227	36	21	6	3		234	20	254	39	290	75	365	47	33	14	7	323	89	412	54
Nathan Luscombe	3	10	13	1	1	2	0		4	12	16	1	3	10	13	1	1	3	0	4	13	17	1
Antony Sweeney	303	34	337	52	46	2	8		349	36	385	59	303	34	337	52	46	2	8	349	36	385	60
Josh Rowbotham	2	0	2	0	0	0	0		1	0	1	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0
Greg Rutherford	0	1	1	0	0	0	0		0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Jack Baldwin	14	3	17	0	0	0	0		14	3	17	0	14	3	17	0	0	0	0	14	3	17	0
Jordan Richards	1	1	2	0	0	0	0		1	1	2	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0
Paul Murray	79	2	81	2	5	1	0		84	3	87	2	420	48	468	29	43	3	1	463	51	514	30
Andy Rafferty	2	0	2	0	0	1	0		2	1	3	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	2	1	3	0
Darren Holden	3	1	4	0	0	0	0		3	1	4	0	3	1	4	0	0	0	0	3	1	4	0
Nathan Buddie	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paul Johnson	1	0	1	0	0	0	0		1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Lewis Hawkins	1	0	1	0	0	0	0		1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Peter Hartley	120	2	122	8	12	1	0		132	3	135	8	132	3	135	8	12	1	0	144	4	148	8
Luke James	12	7	19	3	0	0	0		12	7	19	3	12	7	19	3	0	0	0	12	7	19	3
Steve Howard	0	0	0	0	1	0	0		1	0	1	0	544	109	653	0	73	6	20	617	115	732	20

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Every Shirt Tells A Story...

John Phillips continues his study of Pools kits from the past.

Shirt #1: 1982/3

At the end of last season we looked at the 1981/82 season, which finished with Pools in an underwhelming but fairly stable 15th position in division Four. Billy Horner was six years into his reign as manager and was looking to recapture the form that had seen his side make a credible push for promotion a year earlier. With funds limited, such an improvement looked unlikely, but on the whole things could have been worse... as we were about to discover.

THE SHIRT

WORN: 1981/82
MANUFACTURER: Umbro



MEMORABLE MATCHES

First Match:

Saturday 14th August 1982
(Football League Trophy)
Pools 1 Hull City 1 (Lawrence)

Last Match:

Saturday 14th May 1983
(Division Four)
Blackpool 1 Pools 2
(D Linighan, Dobson)

Big Win:

Saturday 25th September 1982
(Division Four)
Pools 4 Tranmere Rovers 0
(Linacre, A Linighan, 2, Lawrence Pen)

Stats

1982/83 - P46 W13 D7 L24 (22nd)

IN THE SHIRT

CUP WOES

Just as it had twelve months earlier, the 1981/82 campaign began with cup football. The second season of the Football League Group Cup saw the lower division competition rebranded as the Football League Trophy. The cup was a dismal failure for Pools. Billy Horner's side lost all three games, including a 4-0 home defeat to Bradford witnessed by just 655 people, and all of this before the league season even started.

OFF TO A BAD START

With the early cup games extinguishing enthusiasm from day one, Pools limped into the new season. The opening league game is traditionally a well-attended fixture, yet a depressingly low crowd of just 1009 was there to watch a dull goalless draw with Scunthorpe, by some distance the lowest opening day league crowd in the Cub's history.

ON THE BRINK?

Crowds barely improved over the season. An average of less than 1400 saw finances hit crisis point. Star forward Bob Newton was sold to Port Vale for a pitiful sum, and other players had their contracts renegotiated. Horner did what he could, drafting in players from semi-retirement or the local



leagues, but the wheels were coming off. Pools ended the season in 22nd place.

A NOVEL SOLUTION?

With the future looking perilous, beleaguered chairman Vince Barker hit upon what might generously be called "thinking outside the box". His suggestion was that Pools should secure their future by merging with their greatest rivals, Darlington. Unsurprisingly, his idea was greeted with a mixture of anger and bewilderment.

MANAGING THE TEAM

With things falling apart all around him, it was no surprise that 1983 finally saw the end of Billy Horner's long stint in charge. A 1-0 defeat at home to Hereford in March proved to be the tipping point, and Horner returned to a coaching role.

Former Spurs and Derby player John Duncan was appointed as Horner's replacement and the new man could hardly have taken over in less enviable circumstances. A lot of hard work lay ahead, beginning with another election campaign.



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Squad Check

Hartlepool United



First Team Coach:
Neale COOPER

- | | | |
|----|-------------------|--|
| 1 | Scott FLINDERS | |
| 2 | Neil AUSTIN | |
| 3 | Ritchie HUMPHREYS | |
| 5 | Sam COLLINS | |
| 6 | Evan HORWOOD | |
| 7 | Jonathan FRANKS | |
| 8 | Simon WALTON | |
| 9 | Colin NISH | |
| 10 | James POOLE | |
| 11 | Andy MONKHOUSE | |
| 14 | Nathan LUSCOMBE | |
| 15 | Antony SWEENEY | |
| 16 | Josh ROWBOTHAM | |
| 17 | Greg RUTHERFORD | |
| 18 | Jack BALDWIN | |
| 19 | Jordan RICHARDS | |
| 20 | Paul MURRAY | |
| 21 | Andy RAFFERTY | |
| 22 | Darren HOLDEN | |
| 23 | Nathan BUDDLE | |
| 26 | Paul JOHNSON | |
| 28 | Lewis HAWKINS | |
| 29 | Peter HARTLEY | |
| 33 | Luke JAMES | |
| 39 | Steve HOWARD | |

Swindon Town



Manager:
Paolo DI CANIO

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------|--|
| 1 | Wes FODDERINGHAM | |
| 2 | Troy ARCHIBALD-HENVILLE | |
| 3 | Jay McEVELEY | |
| 4 | Aden FLINT | |
| 5 | Joe DEVERA | |
| 6 | Alan NAVARRO | |
| 7 | Luke ROONEY | |
| 8 | Simon FERRY | |
| 9 | James COLLINS | |
| 10 | Matt RITCHIE | |
| 11 | Gary ROBERTS | |
| 12 | Alan McCORMACK | |
| 13 | Oliver RISSER | |
| 14 | Paul BENSON | |
| 15 | Nathan THOMPSON | |
| 16 | Andy WILLIAMS | |
| 17 | Paul CADDIS | |
| 18 | Tommy MILLER | |
| 19 | Louis THOMPSON | |
| 20 | Miles STOREY | |
| 23 | Raffaele DE VITA | |
| 27 | Alessandro CIBOCCHI | |
| 30 | Leigh BEDWELL | |
| 32 | Chris SMITH | |

Match Officials



Referee:
Mr M. Brown
(East Yorks)



Assistant Referee:
Mr B. Gordon
(County Durham)



Assistant Referee:
Mr A. Tankard
(South Yorkshire)



Fourth Official:
Mr P. Curry
(Northumberland)

Today's Fixtures

Bury v Brentford
Crawley v Scunthorpe
Crewe v Notts County
MK Dons v Oldham
Portsmouth v Bournemouth
Preston v Colchester
Sheff Utd v Shrewsbury
Stevenage v Carlisle
Tranmere v Leyton Orient
Walsall v Doncaster
Yeovil v Coventry

Forthcoming Fixtures

Tuesday 21st August 2012
nPower League One
Notts County
v Hartlepool United
Kick-Off: 19:45
Meadow Lane



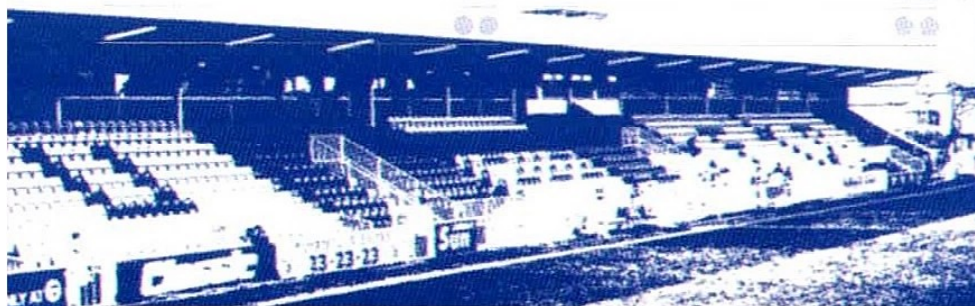
Saturday 25th August 2012
nPower League One
Leyton Orient
v Hartlepool United
Kick-Off: 15:00
Matchroom Stadium



Saturday 1st September 2012
nPower League One
Hartlepool United
v Scunthorpe United
Kick-Off: 15:00
Victoria Park



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