



Nuneaton's Footballing Heritage

Nuneaton Town 2008-2018 - Part 2

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Billy Atkinson Dies

Former Nuneaton Borough forward Billy Atkinson has passed away following a long illness, aged 68. The former Birmingham City player joined Boro from Torquay United in 1965. Billy was the first player to score under floodlights at Manor Park, beating a young Peter Shilton in a 3-1 victory.

Taylor And Pearson Join Boro

Boro have made a double signing, having netted former Burton Albion striker Greg Pearson, who joins the club after being released by Grimsby Town. Also on his way to Liberty Way is Connor Taylor who joins from Walsall on a one-year deal. The youngster was with Boro on loan last year, but a broken arm cut short his time with the club.

Boro Announce More Signings

Kevin Wilkin has secured the services of 19-year-old Amari'i Bell, who joins on loan from Birmingham City until January and Phil Trainer, the ex-Oxford United and AFC Telford United player.

Forsdick Out For Season

Nuneaton Town have lost the services of Simon Forsdick for the entire season after it was revealed that he would require surgery to repair a torn cruciate knee ligament. In other news, the club have signed Mark Bell, a winger, from Oxford City.

2013-2014

Nuneaton Town v Coventry City 13-07-2013

Boro: L. Walker, McNamee (Blakely 46), Dean (Gordon 46), Streete (Ashton 46), Bell (Andrew 46), York (Taylor 46), Armson (Adams 46), Trainer (Sleath 46), Bellamy (A. Walker 46), Pearson (Newton 46), Moulton (Nyoni 53). Subs: Recki, Ivey Ward, I. Christie.

Coventry: Murphy (Burge 46), Phillips (C. Christie 46), Finch, J. Clarke, Adams (Haynes 46), Fleck (Daniels 46), Barton (Thomas 46), Baker (Lobjoit 46), Bako (Garner 46), Wilson (Daniels 46), Maund (L. Clarke).

Boro welcomed Coventry City to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Coventry City finally got back to action after a summer of discontent. There were fears that the temperature, the fans' continuing fury at the thought of playing at Northampton and a beer festival next door in the grounds of the rugby club would produce the perfect storm. But, in reality, it all passed off peacefully apart from a couple of early pitch invaders.

Disappointingly, Boro came up short this year as the away fans were treated to three second-half goals that rounded off an impressive first outing of the pre-season for the City manager's threadbare squad that remains at least half a dozen players light due to the on-going transfer embargo. But both sides acquitted themselves admirably after dusting themselves down. The visitors conceded an early goal after a stray pass from Carl Baker allowed Louis Moulton to glide past the youngster and take a second stab from Clarke's

initial block to score the opener for the home side in only the sixth minute. However, any thoughts of Nuneaton getting a foothold in the game soon evaporated when Callum Wilson, who started up front with another untried teenager Ben Maund, was played in on the left and finished neatly from an acute angle with 14 minutes on the clock.

City proceeded to enjoy plenty of possession with John Fleck ping-ponging the ball about in midfield but had very little to show for their efforts until the second half when they really bossed the game, so much so that returning goalkeeper Lee Burge – who had helped Boro avoid the drop during his late season loan spell – never had a single save to make during his 45 minute shift. Spearhead striker Leon Clarke was one of nine changes and quickly made his presence felt as a lone centre-forward, finding the back of the net with a well-placed header from a Cyrus Christie cross eight minutes into the re-start.

City stroked the ball about well, got it wide and back in to the box with several players looking sharp and lively, including the likes of midfielder Billy Daniels who forced trialist Boro keeper Laurie Walker to tip wide at full-stretch. But the former Leamington and Kettering stopper could do nothing to stop Clarke who thumped home his second from the penalty spot after the impressive Franck Moussa was tripped by another trialist, Danny Andrew, for the first of two late goals in as many minutes when Moussa turned smartly in the box to wrap things up with a neat finish in the 86th minute.

Boro Sign Bulgarian U-21 International

Nuneaton Town have secured the signature of Bulgarian Under-21 international goalkeeper Dimitar Evtimov, who joins Boro on loan from Nottingham Forest for 93 days.

Nuneaton Town v Burton Albion 16-07-2013

Boro: Evtimov (L. Walker), Cowan, Dean, Armson, Adams, Brown, York, Pearson, Trainer, Andrew, Omar.

Burton: Jensen, Edwards (Slade, 46), Hussey (Phillips, 46), Diamond (Sharps, 62), Weir (Harness, 62), MacDonald (Dyer, 46), McCrory (Holness, 46), Knowles, Palmer (Bell, 46), Symes (Kee, 46), Rowe-Turner. Subs: Lyness, Sharps, Holness, Bell, Dyer, Phillips, Kee, Slade, Harness, Doyle, Currie.

Boro welcomed Burton Albion to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Boro frustrated the Brewers as both sides had chances to score in a lively encounter but goalkeepers came out on top with both attacks frustrated. Albion asked all the early questions most notably down the left flank where Chris Hussey and Damien McCrory were together for the first time.

Gavin Cowan headed Dominic Knowles' centre over the top after ten minutes before some industrious work through the centre eventually worked an opportunity for Wes York to send a cross to the far post that was met with a firm volley by Phil Trainer who could only watch as his effort flew just wide.

Burton had a goal disallowed for offside but came back



strongly and Knowles was able to work a chance for himself on the edge of the area on 23 minutes but his shot lacked power. Albion were close to opening the scoring on 41 minutes when Chris Hussey's cross in from the right hand side was headed back across goal by Alex MacDonald only for skipper Gareth Dean to clear the ball off the goal line. All in all it was a relatively quiet half for Jensen and Rowe-Turner as they looked to impress although there had been one or two nervy moments on crosses that Albion got away with.

Second-half substitute Kee almost immediately set up a chance for Knowles but his pass carried a little too much and Evtimov was out smartly to reach the ball before the Albion striker as he tried to latch onto it. Kee then worked a chance for himself from the edge of the area which failed to trouble the Boro keeper. Jensen was certainly being asked more questions in this half and he responded by getting behind several long range efforts and coming off his line well to cut out a couple of testing crosses.

Jensen was forced to make an excellent save low to his left on 71 minutes. A teasing cross was met by a firm header from Andy Brown but it was pushed to safety by the big stopper just when it looked like he might be beaten. Burton weathered some pressure and then almost caught Nuneaton with a swift counter. Dominic Knowles broke the offside trap and laid a pass off to Jimmy Phillips and his curling effort had the substitute Nuneaton keeper scrambling and grateful to see the ball bounce wide of the upright.

Laurie Walker produced an excellent save late on to deny Knowles. Some neat passing in and around the edge of the penalty area eventually enabled Kee to find his fellow striker and as the young ex-Burnley man tried to lift the ball over the keeper, Walker instinctively put up a hand to block the shot. A late chance for Kee went begging as Harness swung over a teasing cross and the striker headed the ball wide of the post.

Nuneaton Town v Worcester City 20-07-2013

Boro welcomed Worcester City to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Boro's stuttering start to pre-season continued as they failed to break down a stubborn Worcester City side. The home side had the greater share of possession, but they struggled to carve out many clear-cut opportunities against their Conference North opponents. And City almost made them pay, but Danny Glover missed the target after Tom Thorley laid the ball back to the former Boro player late on.

After losing heavily to Coventry and then holding Burton to a goal-less draw, Boro boss Kevin Wilkin would have been looking for his men to step up against Worcester. But the visitors had other ideas as they stood up to whatever Boro could throw at them. Jose Veiga was also in good form in City's goal as he did well to keep hold of Aman Verma's powerful header before denying Connor Taylor at the near post.

Boro's new keeper Dimitar Evtimov, meanwhile, did not

have a shot to save until the hour mark when Glover failed to convert after defender Gavin Cowan allowed the ball to drop over his head and into the striker's path. Cowan was among a number of players Boro brought on in the second period as the hosts tried to up the ante. First-team regulars Louis Moulton and Simon Forsdick were also introduced and they immediately combined well in attack.

But Worcester refused to buckle and they should have snatched it in the final few minutes. Thorley burst into the box before knocking the ball inside for Glover, who sliced wide.

Nuneaton Griff v Nuneaton Town 16-07-2013

Nuneaton Griff hosted a home game at Liberty Way when they played a pre-season friendly game against Boro.

Aman Verna came on as a second-half substitute to score a hat-trick in 15 minutes as Boro finally eased to victory over their Midland Combination neighbours. It was goalless at half-time but that all changed when Adam Walker scored from 22 yards in the 53rd minute.

The lead was doubled when Phil Trainer thumped an unstoppable 30-yard volley past Dave Watson. Griff were three down a minute later when Danny Newton's cross from the left was turned in off the post by Greg Pearson. Verna came on after the third goal and got a fourth from the spot. His second came ten minutes later and a third seven minutes from time.

Cambridge City v Nuneaton Town 27-07-2013

Cambridge: Barrett, Smith (Ramm), Brighton, Lawton, Chaffey, Farrell (Abbs), Beech (Midgley), Ieuan Lewis (Sparrow), Beasant (Darling), Marriott (Pitharas), Dawkins (Allen).

Boro: Evtimov (Belshaw 46), McNamee (Recci 46), Dean, Streeete, Bell, York (Taylor 63), Armson, Adams, Bell (Trainer 46), Moulton (Newton 60), Pearson.

Boro made the journey to The Glassworld Stadium, Histon, to play Cambridge City in a pre-season friendly game.

Striker Louis Moulton bagged a brace as Boro came from behind for the second pre-season win. Want-away forward Wes York was also on target as Boro won 3-1. The Calor League side took the lead when Josh Beech beat Dimitar Evtimov. But Moulton soon grabbed the equaliser against Boro boss Kevin Wilkin's former team, smashing a shot past keeper Zac Barrett and into the bottom corner of the net.

The goal lifted the visitors and their pressure paid off just before half-time as Moulton scored his second through a crowded penalty area following a corner. Wilkin made three changes at the break, including bringing on trialist goalkeeper James Belshaw.

The former Walsall keeper had been on the books of MLS side Chicago Fire after a four-year scholarship in America at Duke University in North Carolina. He had little chance to make an impression as Boro dominated the second half. York sealed the win with a goal from close in with around 30 minutes left.



Bell Offered Terms

Nuneaton Town have offered non-contract terms to former Oxford City and Bedford winger Mark Bell after a successful trial period with the club.

Solihull Moors v Nuneaton Town 30-07-2013

Solihull: Singh, Connolly, Joseph, Denny, Elvins, Pierpoint, Till, Fleet (Braithwaite 46), Bogle, Birch, Birley. Subs: R. Walker, Acton, Haywood, Gorman.

Boro: Belshaw (Evtimov 49), McNamee (Streete 57), Gordon, Cowan, A. Bell, Taylor (M. Bell 76), Sleath, Trainer, A. Walker, Moul, Pearson (York 65). Subs: Dean, Armson, Adams, Newton.

Boro made the journey to Damson Park to play Solihull Moors in a pre-season friendly game.

Solihull Moors forced a narrow victory over Boro as striker Gary Birch scored the only goal of the game. Birch's second half header was enough to keep Solihull's impressive pre-season form going, but they had keeper Jasbir Singh to thank for keeping Nuneaton at bay. Solihull's number one made a string of impressive saves, two from point-blank range.

Nuneaton created the first opening when Daniel Sleath's shot was grasped well by Singh. Moors only opportunity of the first half came after 22 minutes when Omar Bogle advanced into the box, controlled the ball on his chest but dragged his shot wide of the post. Soon after, Singh was forced to make the first of many impressive saves.

An in-swinging corner found the head of former Stoke City striker Louis Moul, however the keeper showed great reactions to tip the ball over. Just before half time Singh had to make an almost identical save, this time from Greg Pearson, to keep the side's level going into the interval.

After Moul had headed wide from a free-kick, Solihull took the lead. The ball broke to midfielder Peter Till who supplied a pin-point cross to the far post where Birch was on hand to head the ball in off the post and into the corner of the net. Two minutes later Moors should have doubled their advantage. Bogle's shot just inside the area was parried by keeper James Belshaw into the path of Jay Denny who managed to miss the target when it looked easier to score.

Straight from that attack, Nuneaton pushed forward and were unlucky not to have drawn level after a flurry of chances. An Adam Walker chip looked to have found the bottom corner before the alert Sampson Joseph was on hand to hook the ball clear off the line. A rare error by Singh was nearly seized upon by Moul when his skewed clearance found the striker only to see his shot acrobatically tipped over. Walker must be wondering how he hadn't scored when, again, his header was cleared off the line this time by Denny.

Nuneaton looked dangerous for the majority of the last 20 minutes, however failed to get past a resolute Moors defence. At the death, Singh made another glorious save, tipping Walker's curling effort onto the crossbar just as it looked as though the Moors keeper had finally been beaten.

Leamington v Nuneaton Town 03-08-2013

Leamington: Breeden, Taylor (Adkins 38), Morley, Magunda, Daly, Oji, Dodd (Thompson 76), Owen (Bukasa 85), Moore (Coyle 79), Johnson (Moore 67), Chilton (Husband 73).

Boro: Evtimov (Belshaw 50), Dean, Walker, Adams (Cowan 46), Moul (Taylor 73), Streete, McNamee, Sleath, York, Pearson (Trainer 68), Bell (Gordon 46).

Boro made the journey to The New Windmill to play Leamington in a pre-season friendly game.

Boro boss Kevin Wilkin was left with plenty to ponder ahead of the new season as a Craig Owen double gave Leamington a well-deserved win. Meanwhile, Boro were left to mull over a third defeat in pre-season. Owen opened the scoring when he smashed home Ricky Johnson's knock down before the midfielder notched his second just before the interval.

The visitors upped the ante in the second period, but the Brakes held firm to comfortably see out the win. Southern League champions Leamington took the game to their opponents, and it did not take long before they got the first shot away. Matt Dodd sliced over after receiving Owen's lofted pass.

But the net was soon bulging when Johnson headed down Dodd's cross for Owen to find the top corner with a powerful strike. Boro were struggling to come to terms with the hosts as Dodd and Johnson were proving a constant threat down the flanks. And it was a defensive error which led to the Brakes' second goal. Jon Adams lost control of the ball in midfield, which opened up space for Owen – and the midfielder took full advantage as he shot low past keeper Dimitar Evtimov.

Facing a 2-0 deficit, Nuneaton knew they needed to step things up in the second period. And they were presented with their best opportunity of the match just five minutes in, but Greg Pearson's shot clipped the top of the bar. Boro introduced new signing James Belshaw for the final half an hour, but the keeper did not have much to do as both sides cancelled each other out for the remaining minutes.

Macclesfield Town v Nuneaton Town 10-08-2013

Macclesfield: Taylor, Andrew, Rowe (Winn 70), Connor, Williams, Bolton, Kissock (Holroyd 54), Whitaker, Kay, Jennings, Mackreth (Gnahoua 82). Subs: Boden, Lewis.

Boro: Evtimov, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Bell, Adams, Armson, Walker, Brown, Moul (Pearson 87), York (Taylor 78). Subs: Gordon, McNamee, Sleath.

Boro made the journey to The Moss Rose to play Macclesfield Town in a Conference Premier game.

Boro got their Skrill Conference Premier campaign off to a flying start with a win at Moss Rose thanks to a Louis Moul header. The former Northampton Town striker got the only goal of the game midway through the first half when he connected with a James Armson corner and headed straight past the stranded Macclesfield goalkeeper.



Louis Moult's header finds the net to give Boro a 1-0 lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Macclesfield did start the better and nearly went ahead after six minutes when Connor Jennings latched on to a cross but was denied by Boro's Bulgarian keeper Dimitar Evtimov.

Nuneaton woke up on 22 minutes when Armson's free kick found Andy Brown but his header was tipped over by the home keeper Rhys Taylor. It was from the resulting corner that Moults found the net.

With 37 minutes gone the Silkmen went close to grabbing an equaliser when midweek signing Danny Whitaker fired over from close range after finding some space in the box.

In the second half, Kevin Wilkin's men nearly doubled their lead on 63 minutes when Armson put a free-kick into the box which pinged around the area before being cleared by Macclesfield's Jennings. Nuneaton captain Gareth Dean and Theo Streete formed a solid barrier in front of Evtimov's goal, limiting the home side to a few half chances.

However with four minutes left on the clock, Macclesfield were presented with a glorious chance to claim an unlikely point when the Boro defence missed a corner and Scott Kay headed powerfully towards goal only for the keeper to deny him with a smart save.

Nuneaton Town v Forest Green Rovers 13-08-2013

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Bell, Adams, Armson, Walker, Brown, Moults, York (C. Taylor 90). **Subs:** Gordon, McNamee, Sleath, Pearson.

Forest Green: Russell, Hodgkiss, Pilkington, Bennett, Stokes, Bangura, Kelly, Barry (Klukowski 66), Wright (Barnes-Homer 53), M. Taylor, Norwood. **Subs:** Asafu-Adjaye, Bulman, Williams.

Boro welcomed Forest Green Rovers to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Boro grabbed a deserved point – and probably should have had three – against the moneybags Conference Premier promotion-favourites. The visitors had the first serious attempt on goal after eight minutes, James Norwood's surging run ending with a left-foot shot that debutant keeper James Belshaw saved comfortably. Kevin Wilkin's men took a deserved lead in the 18th minute when Theo Streete intercepted and used his strength to win a corner on the right.

Adam Walker took it and his in-swinging flag kick was met at the near post by Andy Brown who expertly directed his header past Forest Green keeper Sam Russell. Five minutes later there was another opening as Amari'i Bell, on a season's loan from Birmingham City, and Louis Moults linked down the right and the latter found Wes York in space but his shot was too close to Russell.



Andy Brown scores the opening goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Bell started the game brightly but his over-confidence almost cost Boro as Norwood robbed him of possession but, with only Belshaw to beat, shot a yard over from 20 yards. Forest Green went close just before the interval when Matt Taylor played the ball in, Belshaw couldn't gather but Jon Adams was on hand to clear the danger.

Chris Stokes almost found a way through in the inside left position from Matt Taylor's pass but he fired the ball wide of Belshaw's far post. Brown was inches away from adding a second 16 minutes from time when Gareth Dean headed the ball goalwards but the striker just failed to get a touch as it dropped over his shoulder in the six yard box.

But Boro were undone in the 77th minute when they were caught short at the back and left-back Stokes slid a ball across goal and it somehow found its way to right-back Jared Hodgkiss at the far post and he bundled it past Belshaw. Substitute Jan Klukowski then had a sight of goal but his volley bounced up into the arms of Belshaw and a minute from time a Taylor cross was missed by Matthew Barnes-Homer.

Nuneaton Town v Southport 17-08-2013

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Bell, Armson (Trainer 77), Sleath, Walker, A. Brown, Moults, York (Taylor 90 + 1). **Subs:** Gordon, McNamee, Pearson.

Southport: Hurst, Flynn, Fitzpatrick, George, Challoner, Milligan (Akkrigg 62), Rutherford (Tarnes 46), S. Brown, Chalmers, Hattersley, Almond (Ledsham 46). **Subs:** Stevenson, Osawe.

Boro welcomed Southport to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Boro moved up to third in the Conference Skril Premier with a comfortable win. An absorbing first ten minutes ultimately decided the outcome of the game, with the windy conditions more than playing their part. But it was Nuneaton who coped the better of the two sides over the 90 minutes. Kevin Wilkin

made one change to the team that drew with Forest Green Rovers in midweek, as midfielder Daniel Sleath replaced Jon Adams, who was suffering from a tight hamstring.

Nuneaton got off to the perfect start thanks to Louis Mould smashing home Theo Streete's long throw on two minutes, but Aaron Chalmers soon levelled when diverting David Fitzpatrick's cross in off the post. Mould didn't waste any time in grabbing his brace, though, with a superb strike into the bottom corner. From this point on, Boro enjoyed a dominant hold on the rest of the contest.

Nevertheless, James Belshaw needed to be on hand to tip Chalmers' free-kick round the post on 17 minutes. Boro then caused havoc from a free-kick of their own, as the wind almost blew Adam Walker's delivery from the right into the back of the net. Nuneaton continued to turn the screw and Mould's curling attempt drifted just over the crossbar. However, Wes York should have done better after jinking his way into the box, only for the youngster to blast his shot straight at Hurst's legs.

The Warwickshire outfit subsequently controlled proceedings in the second-half, but were guilty of wasting a number of opportunities. After Belshaw pulled off a smart save at his near post to deny Danny Hattersley, Hurst then flung himself in the way of York's shot on the turn at the other end.

A third Nuneaton goal remained elusive as they struck the woodwork three times in the space of two minutes. Headers from Gareth Dean and Andy Brown struck the frame of the goal, then James Armson's rising thunderbolt was tipped on to the bar by Hurst. But victory was eventually secured seven minutes from time when Walker drilled his effort past Hurst.

Barnet v Nuneaton Town

24-08-2013

Barnet: Stack, Stephens, Acheampong, Johnson, Byrne, Weston, Casabella (Crawford 64), Yiadom, Marsh-Brown, Gambin (Mangerink 80), Saville. Subs: Vihete, Jupp.

Boro: Evtimov, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Bell, Armson, Sleath (Taylor 81), Walker, Brown, Mould, York. Subs: Gordon, McNamee, Pearson, Adams.

Boro made the journey to The Hive Stadium to play Barnet in a Conference Premier game.

Boro's impressive start to the season continued as they picked up a valuable point at unbeaten Barnet, thanks to Andy Brown's first-half strike.

Both sides went into the game yet to taste defeat in the Skril Premier and came out of it with those records still intact.

Barnet, as would be expected of a side very much in form, made the brighter start and could have been ahead early on though Keanu Marsh-Brown, who saw his shot saved.

They were rewarded, however, after only 16 minutes when Jake Hyde tapped home his fourth goal of the campaign in as many games after good work by Luke Gambin.

Even without their player-manager, former Dutch

international Edgar Davids, the hosts were well on top during the opening period as they looked to build on their early breakthrough. Louis Mould did threaten for the visitors in the 23rd minute, firing over, but for long spells the hosts dominated possession.

Boro's Bulgarian international keeper Dimitar Evtimov, who got the nod ahead of James Belshaw after a two-game absence, kept out a long-range drive from Marsh-Brown

But just as it looked as though Kevin Wilkin's side would go in at the break behind and with plenty to think about, they found themselves level on 43 minutes.



Andy Brown celebrates his equalising goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Mould did well to release Danny Sleath and Brown, showed his goalscoring instincts and found enough space from marker David Stephens and converted from six yards to add to the goal he scored against Forest Green Rovers last week.

Clearly growing in confidence as a result of the goal, Boro were much more controlled and threatening in the second period. Wes York saw his shot blocked as the game moved into its final third but two evenly matched sides struggled to find a way to break the deadlock.

Gambin, Marsh-Brown and Harry Crawford, the latter denied by Theo Streete's block, went close to a winner for the Bees and at the other end Boro had the final say, with Connor Taylor's shot hitting Andy Yiadom, but in the end both sides had to settle for a point.

Former Striker Dies



Gerry Baker, who turned out for Nuneaton Borough in the early 1970s has passed away aged 75. The striker, who won seven caps for the USA represented Manchester City, Hibernian, Ipswich Town and Coventry City among others.

Nuneaton Town v Kidderminster Harriers 26-08-2013

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Bell, Armson, Sleath (M. Bell 77), Walker, Brown, Moul, York (Pearson 71). **Subs:** Taylor, Gordon, Adams.

Kidderminster: Lewis, Vaughan, Gowling, Jackman (Fowler 71), Demetriou, Dunkley, Storer, Gash, Byrne, Malbon (Dance 74), Angus (Lolley 71). **Subs:** Johnson, Vaughan.

Boro welcomed Kidderminster Harriers to Liberty Way to play Nuneaton Town in a Conference Premier game.

There was one change to the team which drew 1-1 with Barnet as James Belshaw returned. The only other change in the squad saw Mark Bell make his first appearance. Ex-Nuneaton midfielder Storer skippered the team and James Dance, who had a loan spell with Boro last season, was on the bench. Nuneaton were behind after just four minutes through a moment of real quality from Malbon. Michael Gash bundled through a robust challenge from Dean and the ball broke for Malbon on the corner of the box and he curled a brilliant shot over Belshaw and into the far corner of the net.

Jack Byrne fired a 20 yard shot straight at Belshaw before the keeper made a good save from Angus after he combined with Gash. The hosts almost conjured an unlikely equaliser after 23 minutes when Armson's free-kick was met at the back post by Gavin Cowan with a fine header. Moul and Theo Streete threw themselves at it but Storer cleared off the line.

The rebound fell for Gaz Dean but he missed his kick when he should have done much better. Three minutes later Nuneaton went close again when Armson drilled a corner in and Andy Brown's header was cleared off the line by Lee Vaughan.

Boro almost fell two behind a minute after the restart. Belshaw could only punch to the edge of the box. Gash scuffed his shot from 16 yards but it would have gone in if Amari'i Bell had not cleared off the line. The danger was not gone and Dean was called on to make another excellent block. Boro's first chance of the second half came after 58 minutes when Amari'i Bell and Danny Sleath combined to cross for Brown, who headed a yard over. Jack Byrne burst through after 63 minutes but he fired wide under heavy pressure from Dean. Nuneaton were getting into good areas but were unable to find the killer ball.



Armson's poorly hit penalty is saved by Lewis but the Boro midfielder scores from the rebound.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Although Moul fired over from distance a change was needed and it came after 71 minutes when Greg Pearson replaced

Wes York. Kidderminster remained a big threat to get the second, Che Dunkley forcing a sharp save from Belshaw with 15 minutes to go. Sleath's final act of the game was to fire wide from 20 yards as Mark Bell came on for his debut. Boro stayed 4-4-2 but Moul shifted to the right wing.

It worked perfectly as Moul levelled after 83 minutes. He drifted into the centre to receive the ball 20 yards out, turned and fired into the bottom right corner. It looked set to finish 1-1 but in injury time Boro won it.

Harriers had given away a plethora of free-kicks but the most important came at the death. Mark Bell fired in a powerful shot that struck Storer on the upper arm. No one appealed but the referee pointed to the spot for a harsh spot kick. Armson looked to have blown it when his poorly hit penalty was saved, but the rebound hit Demetriou and was bundled over the line by Armson despite Pearson being credited with the goal.

Grimsby Town v Nuneaton Town 31-08-2013

Grimsby: McKeown, Bignot, Doig, Thomas, S. Pearson, McLaughlin (Hearn 37), Rodman, Colbeck (Walker 46), Disley, Thanoj, John-Lewis (Cook 77). **Subs:** Kerr, Neilson.

Boro: Evtimov, Streete, Cowan, Dean, A. Bell, Armson, Sleath, Walker, Brown, Moul, York (Taylor 53). **Subs:** Gordon, Pearson, Adams, M. Bell.

Boro made the journey to Blundell Park to play Grimsby Town in a Conference Premier game.

Only goal difference is keeping Boro off top spot after they beat Grimsby Town 2-1. They stay third as Gavin Cowan and Andy Brown scored in a first half master class before Mariners left-back Aswad Thomas was sent off for violent conduct in the 42nd minute. Andy Cook pulled a goal back after 85 minutes but the final score flattered the home side, who were booed off by an expectant crowd.



Andy Brown scores Boro's second goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Grimsby were the first to threaten though as Patrick McLaughlin floated a free-kick over the bar from 20 yards and Craig Disley blazed over after a fantastic tackle in the box from Gaz Dean. It was all Nuneaton from there. There were warning signs as Wes York fired wide from distance and Brown failed to hit the target as he met Louis Moul's cross.

The first goal came in the 26th minute when James Armson

won a corner. He drilled it in perfectly and Cowan met it with a towering header. How he must have wished to be meeting such deliveries last season having seen the vast majority floated poorly to the back post for him to challenge for.

Brown added the second in the 32nd minute. Danny Sleath looked to have nowhere to go when he got the ball on the edge of the box on his weaker right foot. However, he did brilliantly to get his head up and pick out Brown with a clever cross. There was little pace on it, but the striker hit the ball back across James McKeown into the corner.

The visitors were on fire as Moulton saw a shot well saved by the keeper in the 41st minute. It was hard to believe it could get any better for Nuneaton, but it did a minute later when Thomas saw red. Theo Streete was winding up for a long throw when the referee blew. He immediately flashed a red card at the left back, seemingly for a kick at York in the box.

There was no penalty as the ball was not in play but the Mariners' ship was sinking fast. The second half had far less action as Nuneaton put in a composed performance to contain Grimsby and break when they could. There was a blow for the visitors in the 52nd minute when York hobbled off to be replaced by Connor Taylor.

Streete twice came as close as anyone to getting the third goal. First he headed over from close range under pressure from Andi Thanoj before shooting tamely straight at McKeown from six yards when Dean headed down. Sleath also went close as he was fed by Moulton, forcing a good save from McKeown at his near post. The game looked to be petering out as Boro cruised to the final whistle but with five minutes to go former Nuneaton Borough forward Alex Rodman won and took a corner.

Cook got up six yards out and planted a fine header into the corner. The home crowd were suddenly fired up again as they briefly got behind their team. It meant a nervy finish in the stands, but on the pitch Boro stayed cool and fully deserved the magnificent win.

Wilkin Wins Manager Of The Month

Nuneaton Town manager Kevin Wilkin has been nominated the Skryll Conference Premier manager of the month in recognition of the club's fantastic start to the season.

Nuneaton Town v Wrexham

07-09-2013

Boro: Belshaw, McNamee (Gordon 89), Streete, Cowan, Dean, Armson, Sleath, Walker, Brown, Moulton, York (Taylor 90). **Subs:** Pearson, Adams, M. Bell.

Wrexham: Mayebi, Ashton, Clowes, Tomassen, Anyinsah (Cieslewicz 15), Thornton (Morrell 78), Clarke, Hunt, Evans, Ormerod, Bishop. **Subs:** Coughlin, Royle, N'Tame.

Boro welcomed Wrexham to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Wrexham pressed early on and Belshaw was forced to punch the ball off Bishop's head before great play by Joe Clarke saw

him retrieve the ball then beat his man, before setting up Robbie Evans for a 25-yard shot that was saved by the keeper. Substitute Cieslewicz produced a teasing cross that was met by Kevin Thornton, but the midfielder headed wide. A five man move ended with Evans curling in a great effort from 25 yards that had Belshaw scrambling, but the ball was off target.

Wrexham keeper Mayebi was called into action on 28 minutes, when a high ball to the back post saw Daniel Sleath stab the ball goalwards but the Cameroonian blocked with his legs. Gareth Dean managed to get the better of Clowes at the back post but headed wide. In time added on, another break saw Moulton chase a long ball and as Mayebi raced from his line he forced the striker into a lob that struck an upright.

The game became a great deal more open as the second half got underway with Adam Walker twice seeing shots fly outside of Mayebi's left hand post, while at the other end a lovely one-touch passing move from Wrexham ended with Cieslewicz firing high from 25-yards. Clowes made a great saving tackle on Moulton, denying the striker a run at goal when he looked favourite to break away on the left.



Andy Brown converts Sleath's cross.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Having survived a long run by Armson, the ball broke upfield for Cieslewicz to run onto and shoot from distance, but the effort carried over the home crossbar. With 20 minutes remaining Ashton had to stretch his frame and put the ball out for a corner. The flag kick went deep and Cowan's header sailed over the visitors' crossbar. Shortly afterwards, Thornton set off a 70 yard run following a Nuneaton free kick and he was unlucky to see his shot scrape the far post.

On 74 minutes, the deadlock was broken, when Andy Brown was left unmarked at the back post to fire home after Sleath had found him with a cross from the left. Nuneaton pushed forward from the restart and it took a brilliant save by Mayebi to deny Brown's header that looked a goal all the way.

Nuneaton looked dangerous again on 84 minutes, as Moulton cut in from the left and fired across the face of the Wrexham goal, forcing Mayebi to tip the ball away for a corner. Another

quick home attack saw Sleath cut the ball back for Moul, but his shot drifted just wide when well placed. Two minutes into added time, as Wrexham pushed men up for a leveller, they were caught on the break and Walker had the space to set up Moul for a second.

Boro Sign Posh Full-back

Nuneaton Town have signed Michael Richens, an 18-year-old full-back from Peterborough United, who joins the club on loan until January. The defender started as a youth team player with the Posh and has been out on loan at Histon prior to joining Boro.

Dartford v Nuneaton Town 14-09-2013

Dartford: Julian, Clark, Fry (Ibemere 88), Burns, Harris, Collier, Bradbrook, Noble, Hayes, Woodward (Prior 54), Birchall (Sterling 83).
Subs: Monger, Rogers.

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Bell, Armson, Sleath (Taylor 90), Walker, Brown, Moul (Pearson 90 + 3), York (Richens 62). **Subs:** McNamee, Adams.

Boro made the journey to Princes Park to play Dartford in a Conference Premier game.

Boro did not play well in many senses against Dartford. They were as poor as they have been all season across midfield and Amari'i Bell's propensity for trying to do way too much on the ball was a factor in the left back being below the high standard he has set. When goalkeeper James Belshaw gifted Dartford a goal to let them back into it after 28 minutes it was far from certain Boro would win a sixth game of the season.

That was the bad, but there was plenty of good, not least the form of Louis Moul. It was his two goals which put Kevin Wilkin's side two up in the first eight minutes. The first was a crisp header in the fifth minute and then three minutes later he whipped in a brilliant free-kick from 25 yards that Darts keeper Alan Julian could only watch fly in.



Louis Moul gives Boro an early lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Moul almost scored in the second minute with a header from a Bell cross that Julian kept out well. He was on the scoresheet three minutes later though as Boro took the lead. Dean was hacked down on the right, earning Kenny

Clark a caution. James Armson drilled over a good ball and when it dipped over Streete, Moul was there to meet it with a powerful header. That was good finish but it was nothing compared to his second goal. Andy Brown was fouled 25 yards out and Moul stood over the ball. He took a short run up before clipping the ball brilliantly under the bar and away from a static Julian.

From there it was wide open with both sides trading attacking blows. Belshaw made a great save from Danny Harris' deft shot in the 11th minute before doing well to hold Alex Woodyard's 25 yard drive soon after.

Boro had their chances too, Wes York firing over before being denied by Julian from the edge of the box. Dartford pulled one back when Belshaw came for a corner but only succeeded in palming the ball down for Elliot Bradbrook to tap into the empty net from a couple of yards.

Brown responded with the crispest of volleys two minutes later, but again Julian was equal to the task, saving the shot at the second attempt. Boro had two great chances to extend the advantage at the start of the second half.

First Armson blazed over from 10 yards after Bradbrook tried to run the ball out of his own box but only succeeded in running it into the Boro man's path. Sleath then had the ball in acres down the left. He did well to pull back for Moul to run on to. He had a great chance for his hat-trick but Clark raced over to make an excellent block.

Throughout the second half Boro had looked comfortable with Dartford giving their forwards no service whatsoever. However, with three minutes left there was a scramble in the box and Streete was called on to make a goal saving block, not for the first time this season. Dartford's final hurrah saw Lee Noble drill a well struck shot in from 25 yards that Belshaw held on to on a slippery surface.

Nuneaton Town v Hereford United 17-09-2013

Boro: Evtimov, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Bell, Armson, Sleath, Walker, Brown, Moul, York (Taylor 90 + 2). **Subs:** McNamee, Pearson, Adams, Richens.

Hereford: Evans, Graham, Green, Bush, McDonald, Leadbitter, Artus (James 46), Purdie (West 74), Smith, Brodie, Walker (J. Brown 75). **Subs:** Sharp, Collins.

Boro welcomed Hereford United to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Boro are top of Skril Premier after they beat Hereford United 2-1 and Cambridge United drew at Alfreton Town. Boro and Cambridge started the night locked on 20 points, but goals from Wes York and the league's top scorer Louis Moul moved Nuneaton two points clear after the U's drew 1-1. York scored his first of the season as he rediscovered his form before going off injured in stoppage time.

Hereford levelled through Rod McDonald after 53 minutes, but Moul earned a fifth straight win in the 61st minute with

his eighth goal in nine games. There was one change to the team which beat Dartford as James Belshaw was replaced by Dimi Evtimov in goal, the on loan Nottingham Forest keeper returning after two games out. He was called on to make a brilliant last minute save, pushing the ball onto the bar to preserve the points.

After a quiet opening 10 minutes, Boro seized the advantage gradually. Andy Brown made a lot out of an average York cross to force Rhys Evans to tip over his header. A minute later James Armson went close with a great left footed strike from 20 yards which the keeper did well to turn away.

The opening goal came in the 23rd minute and it was all about York. He showed his blistering pace by racing away from two opponents before releasing Danny Sleath in the left hand channel of the box. He hit a low shot that skidded on the surface. Evans could only tip it out and York was there to slam in the rebound from eight yards.



Wes York gives Boro the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Moult must have fancied his chances of a repeat of his free kick heroics at Dartford soon after, but his shot from a similar distance hit the wall before he blazed the rebound comfortably wide. Hereford chances were rare before the break. Evtimov had to come out quickly to dive at Smith's feet before keeping out a swerving shot from distance by Frankie Artus.

The visitors started the second half much the better and Evtimov did well to keep a Sam Smith header after 50 minutes. There was nothing he could do three minutes later though as substitute Kingsley James whipped in a cross that begged to be headed in – and it was by McDonald from six yards.

The Bulls had a brief spell of dominance, but it was Boro who surged back in front after 61 minutes. Armson sped away from Paul Green before releasing Andy Brown down the right of the box. He fired a low shot into the near post and Moult showed his goal scoring instincts to get across his man and stab in from close range.

Just like in the game against Kidderminster Harriers there was a late scare as Chris Bush's shot was brilliantly deflected onto the bar by Boro's on-loan goalkeeper Evtimov. The rebound sat up for Luke Graham but he scuffed it wide of the post. Boro held on though for another thoroughly deserved win to get top of the league.

Nuneaton Town v Salisbury City

21-09-2013

Boro: Belshaw, Brown, Walker, Taylor (Bell 54), McNamee, Sleath (Pearson 90), Cowan, Dean, Armson, Moul, Streete. **Subs:** Gordon, Richens.

Salisbury: Puddy, Kamdjo, McPhee, Fitchett, Frear, Belezika (Brett 70), Wilson, Clarke, Ruddick (Wright 85), Sinclair, Lewis (Thomson 76). **Subs:** Dutton, Wellard.

Boro welcomed Salisbury City to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Nuneaton Town slumped to their first defeat of the season after conceding two goals in the last three minutes.

The first half was a scrappy affair although Boro did have the first and best chance of the half in the 13th minute. A long ball was pumped into the box and James Armson did well to head it on. Moul repeated the trick with another flick on into the path of Connor Taylor. He looked set to score from eight yards, but his header flashed just wide when he should have scored. Moul was in the action two minutes later as his free kick from 25 yards was spilled by Will Puddy, but Boro could make nothing of the loose ball.



Louis Moul opens the scoring.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Belshaw was an assured presence before the break as he held Fitchett's shot from the edge of the box after a poor clearance from Cowan. Salisbury tested Belshaw from distance when Glenn Wilson shot from 30 yards, but the keeper held it well as it bounced in front of him. Pritchett was doing well up front on his own and he forced Belshaw into another competent save from the edge of the box. Boro's only other chance of the half saw Moul come desperately close with a 20 yarder after Taylor did well drifting off his wing.

The Whites were the first to threaten after the break as Fitchett got one on one with Gaz Dean in the box, but the defender did well to block the shot. The hosts were forced into a change after 54 minutes when Taylor limped off with Mark Bell coming on for his second appearance of the season. There was really nothing in the game as Boro struggled

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desperately to put any quality into the box. That was the case even as they took the lead after 73 minutes. Armson was the architect as he picked the ball up in midfield and scuffed in a shot from 30 yards.

It fell perfectly for Moulton just inside the area and he showed the composure of a man in form by bending the ball around Puddy and inside the post as Salisbury appealed in vain for offside. The visitors made attacking changes but didn't look like threatening. That was until they levelled though as Cowan was all over Fitchett as they tussled over a clearance in the box. There was stunned silence as the referee pointed to the spot, but he was certainly wrestling the player.

Wright had only been on the pitch for two minutes. However, he stayed cool and side footed it into the top corner after 87 minutes.

A draw would have been right, but Salisbury weren't finished as they won it two minutes later. Fitchett got free of Cowan from a throw in and pulled the back for Frear. He had a lot of work to do when he received it 14 yards out and took a touch and lashed the ball into the top corner.

Bell Recalled

Birmingham City have recalled Amari'i Bell from his loan period with Nuneaton Town. However, Kevin Wilkin has secured the services of another Blues' player, teenager Emmitt Delfouneso

Cambridge United v Nuneaton Town 24-09-2013

Cambridge: Maxwell, Coulson, Tait, Miller, Taylor, Arnold (Hughes 53), Champion, Berry (Spillane 70), Dunk, Appiah, Cunningham (Sam-Yorke 62). **Subs:** Austin, Norris.

Boro: Belshaw, McNamee (Richens 77), Streete, Cowan (Gordon 86), Dean, Armson, Sleath (Adams 79), Walker, Brown, Moulton, York. **Subs:** Pearson, Bell.

Boro made the journey to the Abbey Stadium to play Cambridge United in a Conference Premier game.

Boro lost their top of their table clash at Cambridge United despite producing a much improved performance. Boro showed they were up for the fight but they were unable to match the impressive league leaders. They had their share of chances, but the hosts were clinical as Luke Berry and excellent Crystal Palace loanee Kwesi Appiah scored either side of half-time. Harrison Dunk scored a third with a minute to go to give an unfair gloss on the scoreline.

There was one change to the team which lost to Salisbury City as Wes York passed a fitness test to return on the right of midfield. He replaced Connor Taylor, who failed his own fitness test after bruising his foot on Saturday.

Boro trailed at the break despite playing well for the vast majority of the half. United took the lead after 22 minutes with an excellent goal on the break as Nathan Arnold cut through midfield and released Berry, who made room in the

box before sliding the ball under James Belshaw from 10 yards with aplomb.

The goal capped off a spell of Cambridge pressure as the visitors were penned in and resorted to pumping the ball long. Either side of that they passed the ball well with York looking particularly dangerous.

Louis Moulton had Boro's best chances of the half as first he fired straight at Chris Maxwell after 29 minutes. He missed a glorious chance five minutes later when Maxwell punched the ball straight to him. He beat Ian Miller as he slid in but with the goal gaping in front of him the league's top scorer dragged his finish wide from eight yards. Despite Cambridge looking good on the break, Belshaw was largely untroubled. However, he was called on to dive at the feet of Adam Cunningham as the striker broke into the box.

Boro made an excellent start to the second half but they could not level. First Theo Streete headed straight at Maxwell before Moulton forced the keeper into a fine save with a left footed drive from just outside the box. The best chance in a three minute spell fell to Andy Brown as Maxwell spilled a Danny Sleath cross but the striker could not react to turn it in from two yards.



Wes York looks to break through.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Cambridge responded as Appiah cut in from the left and forced Belshaw to make a good save, low to his right. Belshaw won the next duel with Appiah as he made a tremendous stop from 20 yards, turning the ball over the bar with a strong hand. Boro were performing admirably but the killer second arrived after 73 minutes as David McNamee fouled Delano Sam-Yorke on the right wing. Tait whipped a good ball in and the dangerous Appiah powered a header into the top corner as Belshaw got a hand to it but could not keep it out.

There was another blow soon after as McNamee hobbled off to be replaced by Michael Richens. Gavin Cowan went off with four minutes left with what looked like an injury as well. Salt was rubbed in the wounds with a minute to go as Appiah fed Dunk and he fired the ball past an exposed Belshaw.



Bell Back

Birmingham City have allowed full-back Amari'i Bell to return to Nuneaton Town on loan.

Woking v Nuneaton Town 28-09-2013

Woking: Beasant, McNamee (Goddard 46), Murphy (Cestor 77), Williams (Sole 82), McNerney, Nutter, Parkinson, Payne, Betsy, Ricketts, Rendell. **Subs:** Howe, Frith.

Boro: Belshaw, A. Bell (Gordon 88), Dean, Cowan, Walker, Sleath (Pearson 52), Armson, Streete, Brown, Moul, York (Delfouneso 80). **Subs:** Adams, Richens.

Boro made the journey to the Kingfield Stadium to play Woking in a Conference Premier game.

Boro were left to rue an inept performance that saw them slip to a third straight league defeat in eight days.

On the back of the surprise home defeat by Salisbury and the loss to leaders Cambridge, Woking, themselves struggling at the foot of the table, was the perfect chance to get the bandwagon rolling again. But it was not to be as a 12th-minute goal from Scott Rendell and another early in the second-half from Josh Payne were more than enough to see off Kevin Wilkin's side.

Any thoughts that it was going to be a comfortable ride were soon dispelled as the hosts started strongly and Boro laboured. They soon found themselves behind when in the 12th minute Kevin Betsy worked a useful position on the right and his cross was turned in at the near post by Rendell. Cue response from the visitors – but there was none – and in fact James Belshaw had to turn away a Payne free-kick after Theo Streete had been penalised for handball.

Louis Moul did manage a shot on goal but he lacked his usual cutting edge with home keeper Sam Beasant saving comfortably while Gavin Cowan's aerial prowess resulted only in a header off target. Belshaw was twice more called into action before the break making an excellent save from Rendell.

Whatever Wilkin impressed on his players at half-time it appeared to have little effect as Woking doubled their money in the 49th minute. This time Gavin Williams was the provider with Payne controlling smartly before firing past Belshaw from close range. Adam Walker did test Beasant with a shot the keeper kept out with his fingertips four minutes later but that was about as good as it got for Boro. Andy Brown was wide with a rare opening and Cowan was wide with another header while at the other end Payne was denied a second by brave save from Belshaw in the 68th minute.

Stratford Town v Nuneaton Town 01-10-2013

Boro made the journey to Kingt's Lane to play Stratford Town in a Birmingham Senior Cup first round tie.

A goal in each half from James Armson helped Boro ease into the second round. Mark Bell bagged the other Boro effort and the winning margin would have been far greater had it not been for the heroics of young keeper Sam Brady.

The home side made a good start and Matt West forced a save from James Belshaw inside five minutes. But after that early scare, the Boro proceeded to play some impressive football and should have been clear by the break.

Armson bagged his opener in the tenth minute, sending an effort beyond keeper Brady after his initial shot had hit the upright. Greg Pearson was denied at the foot of the post by Brady before the Stratford keeper pulled off a brilliant double save to deny Connor Taylor and Pearson.

But the pick of their chances came on 44 minutes when Taylor was shoved over in the box but Pearson's penalty was blocked by the legs of Brady. Nuneaton were made to pay for those missed chances when the home side levelled deep into injury time. Richard Gregory exchanged passes with Matt West before blasting his shot beyond keeper Belshaw.

Boro continued to dominate after the break and regained the lead on the hour when Armson threaded his shot just inside the foot of the post from 20 yards. The Stratford keeper then pulled off a string of fine saves to keep the visitors at bay.

On 64 minutes he kept out Emmet Delfouneso's effort and then stopped another from Taylor soon after. Delroy Gordon headed wide from a corner before Armson put an effort just over the target following some excellent work by Taylor out wide. Nuneaton wrapped up the win six minutes from time when Michael Richens forced his way into the box before picking out Bell on the far side of the area and the midfielder drilled home from 15 yards. Armson should have completed his hat-trick in the final seconds but the excellent Brady produced another outstanding save.

Boro Sign Briscoe

Nuneaton Town have signed Louis Briscoe from Mansfield Town on a one-month loan deal. The winger, who has made 175 appearances for Mansfield, started his career with Port Vale and has represented Hednesford Town, Stafford Rangers and Ilkeston Town amongst others.

Nuneaton Town v Lincoln City 05-10-2013

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Cowan (Richens 74), Dean, Bell, Armson, Walker, A. Brown, Briscoe (Sleath 27), Moul, York (Taylor 83). **Subs:** Gordon, Pearson.

Lincoln: Farman, Foster, Boyce, Newton, N. Brown, Miller, Power (Fofana 90), Nolan, Jordan, Wright (Dixon 64), Tomlinson. **Subs:** Gray, Sheridan, Fairhurst.

Boro welcomed Lincoln City to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Andy Brown's late goal earned Boro a point as they halted their three game losing streak. However, the Imps will be disappointed not to have inflicted further misery on Kevin Wilkin's side who struggled for confidence and fluency in the second half despite their admirable show of fighting spirit.

Boro got a dream start with a goal after two and a half minutes. A good passing move saw Adam Walker release

Louis Moulton down the left. His cross was flicked on by Brown and Wes York was there at the back post to nod in from a couple of yards. There were few chances for the next half hour or so as both teams battled for control.



York opens the scoring.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Louis Briscoe's debut was an unhappy one as he looked off the pace before picking up an injury in the 25th minute when he was clattered by Tom Miller. He was replaced by Danny Sleath, who was left ball watching as Lincoln levelled in the 37th minute.

Jon Nolan played an excellent ball behind Amari'i Bell, who was looking well below his best. Both Bell and Sleath could only stand and watch as Miller raced in behind them and slotted a neat finish past James Belshaw at his near post.

Lincoln's tails were up as they almost went in front two minutes later when Sean Newton got past Theo Streete and fired in a low cross which an unmarked Nick Wright slid wide at the near post.

If the start to the first half was a dream, the start to the second was a nightmare, especially for Belshaw. There looked to be no danger when Miller hung up a soft cross in the 47th minute. Belshaw called for a routine take but inexplicably dropped the ball. He knew his fate straight away as he barely moved with Nolan there to roll the ball into an empty net.

A bottle was flung on the pitch from the away end during the celebrations but fortunately it missed a desperately disappointed Belshaw. The keeper was given no help by Bell two minutes later when he continued his own poor display with a weak header back that forced Belshaw to dive at Ben Tomlinson's feet to clear.

Boro needed a response but they offered nothing and suffered further disappointment when Gavin Cowan hobbled off with 16 minutes to go.

Just when the game looked to be up Boro levelled after 84 minutes. Michael Richens, who replaced Cowan, over hit a cross to the back post. Sleath got on the end of it though and volleyed back across goal for Brown to nod in his fifth of the season and first in six games.

FC Halifax Town v Nuneaton Town

08-10-2013

Halifax: Glennon, McManus, Toulson, Pearson, Roberts, Marshall, McReady (Maynard 67), Wilson, Ainge, Holsgrove (Lowe 46), Gardner.
Subs: Worthington, Senior, Williams.

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Dean, Gordon, A. Bell, Adams, Armson, Walker, Pearson (Taylor 55), Moulton, York. **Subs:** Delfouneso, M. Bell, Richens.

Boro made the journey to The Shay Stadium to play FC Halifax Town in a Conference Premier game.

Wes York scored seconds after FC Halifax Town took the lead in injury time to earn Boro an impressive 2-2 draw. Boro went into the game without key men Andy Brown and Gavin Cowan, plus recent arrival Louis Briscoe. However, they merited their point as York scored first after five minutes following good work by Louis Moulton to set him up, York tucking the ball away from six yards.

There were chances at either end before Halifax drew level after 40 minutes as James Belshaw saved from Josh Wilson and opposite number Matt Glennon kept out a Gaz Dean shot from the edge of the box.

Dan Gardner got the equaliser when Boro failed to defend a long throw from Marc Roberts and Gardner slotted home at the far post. James Armson and Theo Streete missed great chances in the second half and they looked set to be punished when Halifax took the lead in stoppage time. Streete failed to clear and Ryan Toulson was unmarked in the box to break Boro hearts – or so it seemed.

Almost straight from the kick-off York broke clear to stab the ball over the line for his fourth of the season. Boro climb one place to third in Skryll Premier despite making it no wins in five, however, they will be delighted with the second late fight back in a week.



Two goal hero Wes York comes away with the ball. Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro Sign Hibbert

Nuneaton Town have signed former Port Vale and Shrewsbury Town striker David Hibbert. The striker started his career with Port Vale and has also represented Preston North End and Peterborough United.

Nuneaton Town v Braintree Town 12-10-2013

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Dean, Gordon, A. Bell, Adams, Armson, Walker, Pearson (Hibbert 46), Moul, York. **Subs:** Taylor, Sleath, M. Bell, Richens.

Braintree: McDonald, Wells, Paine, Davis, Habergham, Peters, Massey, Sparkes, Isaac, Strutton (Holman 68), Cox (Enver-Marum 72). **Subs:** Carney, Hamann, Griffiths.

Boro welcomed Braintree Town to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Theo Streete was Boro's unlikely hero as they came from behind in the second-half for the third game in a row to claim another precious point. In conditions at times bordering on monsoon-like, Streete arrived on the corner of the penalty area to pick up Jon Adams' pass and his cross-shot sailed over Braintree keeper Nathan McDonald and nestled in the net.

Intentional it may not have been – Streete will no doubt have talked long into the night about seeing the keeper slightly out of position – but nonetheless it was just reward for a resurgent performance after the break. It was just as well, as for 30 long, gruelling minutes, Braintree gave Kevin Wilkin's side a torrid going over.



Dave Hibbert celebrates as Theo Streete's shot nestles in the net.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The ball was like a bad word for the hosts, no-one seemed to want it and it came back like a yo-yo whenever they attempted to move out of defence. Jordan Cox in particular gave Gareth Dean and keeper James Belshaw a tough time as the visitors clearly played to the imposing frontman's strengths.

That said, clear-cut chances were at a premium although Charlie Strutton should have done better with an early opening when clear on the right but shot high and wide into the Britannia Tyres Stand.

The breakthrough for Braintree, when it did come, was as much about poor Boro defending as it was incisive attacking. Kenny Davis fired a corner to the near post on the half-hour, Strutton got to it first and flicked on to where central defender Matt Paine waited unattended, and needed to do no more than head it into an almost unguarded net.

The goal clearly awoke Boro from their slumber as James Armson had keeper McDonald at full stretch with a curling effort. Then, just before the interval, Amari'i Bell combined with Louis Moul and crossed into the danger area. Greg Pearson could only flick it on and Armson then put it back into the mix before Streete finally lashed a rising drive over the bar.

Boro continued to press after the interval with conditions worsening by the second with torrential rain making the simplest of passes tricky. There was lots to admire about the home side's play although no end product as such until Streete timely intervention deservedly put them back on level terms.

Boro's new signing David Hibbert came on at the break, picked up an almost immediate yellow card, and almost won it with a header that was blocked by Paine.

Braintree too had their moments with Davis thumping a deflected shot into the side netting after Streete had done well to divert Dean Wells' teasing centre, but in the end a draw was probably a fair result.

Nuneaton Town v Gateshead 19-10-2013

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Dean, Gordon (Richens 59), A. Bell, Adams (Briscoe 64), Armson, Walker, Hibbert (M. Bell 75), Moul, York. **Subs:** Taylor, Sleath.

Gateshead: Bartlett, Baxter, Curtis, Clark, Oster (Chandler 25), Turnbull, Marwood, Ramshaw, Sirrell, Larkin (Brown 81), Hugill (Brodie 64). **Subs:** Lelan, Hatch.

Boro welcomed Gateshead to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Boro were left to rue a day of defensive errors as their winless run continued with a comprehensive home defeat. The home side created more than their fair share of chances but came up against a resolute defence, while the same could not be said for Boro after four soft goals saw them out of the contest by the hour mark.

Louis Moul did grab his tenth of the season late on, but Kevin Wilkin's side continue to slip down the table, with the flying start becoming a distant memory.

The visitors took the lead on 15 minutes as James Marwood's shot squirmed under the outstretched arms of James Belshaw, and five minutes later the lead was doubled as a long ball over the top found Jordan Hugill with plenty of room to slide the ball past Belshaw.

Boro started to dominate as the half wore on, and were unlucky not to get on the score sheet before the break as Adam Walker saw a shot narrowly miss the top corner. Gareth Dean also put a header wide, while from a corner David Hibbert and Louis Moul were both denied by goal-line clearances in quick succession.

Boro continued to press after the interval, Moul seeing another effort blocked, before the visitors' keeper produced a

wonderful save, diving at full stretch to tip Walker's powerful volley onto the bar. That would prove to be crucial as shortly after Gateshead struck the decisive blow. They were again aided by Boro as Delroy Gordon fouled Colin Larkin inside the area, Larkin picking himself up to convert from the spot.

And the visitors were out of sight three minutes later as Dean was dispossessed far too easily, and from the resulting cross Rob Ramshaw headed in from close range. Moulton did get Boro onto the score sheet on 73 minutes, after being sent clear by Louis Briscoe, but by that stage the damage had been done.

James Armson had a chance to further reduce the deficit from the penalty spot with seven minutes remaining after being chopped down inside the area, but his effort was weak and easily saved by Bartlett.

Boro Sign Lapado

Nuneaton Town have secured the signature of Freddie Lapado, who joins the club on a month's loan from Colchester United.

Hyde United v Nuneaton Town

02-11-2013

Hyde: Vigouroux, Ashworth, Brizell, Belezika, Griffin, Mainwaring (Hughes 79), Brown, Tomsett, Almond, Spencer, Gray. **Subs:** Thurston, Poole, Collins, Haining.

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Dean, Gordon, Bell, Adams (Hibbert 74), Armson, Trainer, Moulton, Lapado (Sleath 84), York (Taylor 77). **Subs:** Walker, Richens.

Boro made the journey to Ewan Fields to play Hyde United in a Conference Premier game.

Dave Hibbert scored deep in added time to rescue a point for Boro after they looked to be sliding to defeat against rock-bottom Hyde.

Scott Spencer thought he had secured Hyde's first win of the season when he scored in the first minute of injury time, but Hibbert had other ideas as Boro went straight up the other end and levelled in the third added minute. Before the late drama, new loan signing Freddie Lapado had given Nuneaton the lead 18 minutes into his debut, only for Louis Almond to draw the hosts level shortly afterwards.

The draw, against a Hyde side who had lost their previous 13 matches, sees Kevin Wilkin's team slip further down the table to tenth, after a ninth game without a win in all competitions.

Boro started strongly and almost took an early lead as Lapado's shot was deflected wide, while Theo Street's header from the resulting corner was well saved. Lapado only signed from Colchester United on Friday but the striker made an immediate impact, bundling in from close range after a header had been parried out.

Despite their woeful run, Hyde's heads didn't drop and instead they battled back to equalise eight minutes later, Reece Gray finding Almond in plenty of space to score their

first goal at Ewan Fields in six matches. Lapado almost restored Boro's lead just before half time, but after the interval it was the hosts who took control, Gray blazing over when well placed, while James Belshaw saved a long range effort from Adam Griffin.



Dave Hibbert rescues a point with a late goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Belshaw was called into action again, making a terrific save as Spencer's deflected shot looked to be looping over him. Just as the match looked to be drifting to a draw, it exploded into life in injury time, as Spencer looked to have given Hyde a first league victory at the 17th attempt when he fired in from the edge of the box. The wild celebrations would prove premature however, as a minute later, Boro launched a long ball into the box, which fell for Hibbert to smash in his first goal for the club.

International Calls

Nuneaton Town goalkeeper James Belshaw and midfielder James Armson are in the England C squad to face the Czech Republic Under-21 side.

Forest Green Rovers v Nuneaton Town

12-11-2013

Forest Green: Russell, Hodgkiss, Green, Asafu-Adjaye, Turley, Bennett, Bangura, Kelly, Klukowski, Wright, Norwood (Vieira 75 (Styche 84)). **Subs:** McHugh, Racine, Forbes.

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Dean, Gordon, Bell, Armson, Sleath, Trainer, Hibbert, Moulton, York. **Subs:** Walker, Taylor, Delfouneso, Ladapo, Adams.

Boro made the journey to The New Lawn to play Forest Green Rovers in a Conference Premier game.

Boro slipped to a frustrating defeat against mis-firing Forest Green and are now without a league victory since September. It's now ten games without a win but on chances and possession this was a game boss Kevin Wilkin will feel his side should have won – and comfortably.

Nuneaton made two changes from the trip to Hyde ten days earlier recalling David Hibbert and Danny Sleath and they made a lively start. Wes York was unlucky as he was denied what seemed a certain goal by Paul Green's last-ditch intervention after good work by Phil Trainer. From the corner that resulted the visitors were twice denied when Hibbert's



header from James Armson's cross was saved by goalkeeper Sam Russell, who then got up to block Gareth Dean's follow-up on the line.

James Norwood was wide with a speculative left-foot shot from outside the box as Forest Green looked to get into the game but at the other end Theo Streete headed over from another Armson cross. Boro looked the more lively with Delroy Gordon's header from Armson's cross saved comfortably by Russell. But with Nuneaton looking like they were in the driving seat and the more likely to break the deadlock, it was the home side who took the lead when Streete was unable to deal with Norwood's cross and Marcus Kelly smashed a left-foot shot past James Belshaw from the corner of the box.

Boro's start to the second period was as poor as their start to the first was crisp with the hosts seeing a chance to turn the screw. But Boro did go close 11 minutes after the restart when Armson's corner was met by the head of Trainer but he could only direct it over the bar.

There was another half chance for the visitors when Trainer fired in a low shot that Russell gathered hurriedly at his near post. Louis Moulton then found York, who did everything right, and with Russell committed he slid the ball across for a sliding Sleath who was just unable to get a touch on it.

Welling United v Nuneaton Town 16-11-2013

Welling: Butcher, Franks, Hudson, Dyer, Healy, Fazakerley, Beautyman (Pires 37 (Webb 84)), Gallagher, Clark, Lafayette, Guthrie (Hughes-Mason 60). Subs: Williams, Ekim.

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Dean, Gordon, Bell, Armson (York 83), Sleath, Trainer, Walker, Hibbert, Moulton (Ladapo 86). Subs: Taylor, Delfouneso, Adams.

Boro made the journey to Park View Road to play Welling United in a Conference Premier game.

Freddie Ladapo scored with his first touch to give Boro an injury time win. Ladapo came on for Louis Moulton in the 86th minute to race on to Danny Sleath's long ball and lob Lee Butcher for a first win in 11 games. James Armson had equalised a minute after Boro fell behind to Ross Lafayette's 53rd minute penalty.

It was a highly competitive game that could easily have ended in a draw but a tremendously hard working performance meant the visitors probably deserved it. They are now eighth in the league, one point off the play-offs.

Boro started the game well and competed thereafter in the first half. Dave Hibbert missed the target twice from distance in the first 10 minutes, but the visitors' best chance broke down before it got going. Tremendous play by Phil Trainer released James Armson to race through midfield. He had Hibbert in acres to his right but he looked to play a reverse ball to Louis Moulton and Welling picked the pass off.

From there the home side came back into the game as a Joe Healy free-kick was flicked on by Kurtis Guthrie but

Lafayette could not apply the finishing touch. James Belshaw was largely untroubled but he was called on to make a couple of decent saves. The first saw him gather in an Alex Dyer shot at the second attempt before he pushed away Lafayette's 20-yard drive that went low to his left.

Boro got off to a terrible start in the second half as Theo Streete gave away a penalty for a clumsy foul on Lafayette as he cleverly cut across the right-back. There were few complaints from the away side as Lafayette took responsibility and sent Belshaw the wrong way to put Welling 1-0 up.

Nuneaton were level just over a minute later though as Amari'i Bell fed a low cross in that was actually scuffed. It fell for Moulton though and he showed great composure to lift the ball over Butcher, only for it to bounce back off the post. However, Armson was there to take a touch and volley over the line from two yards.

Boro came desperately close to taking the lead after 63 minutes when Gaz Dean flicked on Armson's free-kick but Butcher made a tremendous reaction save. It would have been a goal if he had been able to make a more significant contact.

Hearts were in mouths were three minutes left as Bell missed a simple chance to clear. Dyer was in on goal but he shot wide with the offside flag up. The game looked set to end in a draw but Sleath hooked on a long ball that was perfectly weighted for Ladapo to race onto between the centre halves. He showed great composure to lob Butcher from 20 yards and win the game.

Boro Pair Get International Clearance

Nuneaton Town have received international clearance to play goalkeeper Kelle Roos and forward Richard Barroilhet. Roos played for the Netherlands at Under-15 level and has experience with PSV Eindhoven and Willem II, while Barroilhet is a former Fullham youth player, who has represented France at Under-19 level.

Nuneaton Town v Chester 23-11-2013

Boro: Roos, Streete (Delfouneso 46), Dean, Gordon, Bell, Armson, Sleath, Trainer, Walker (York 68), Hibbert, Lapado (Moulton 72). Subs: Adams, Barroilhet.

Chester: Danby, Higginbotham, McIntyre, Killock (Linwood 36), Jarrett, Williams, Mahon, Turner, Lester, Lindfield (Reed 64), Seddon (Wilkinson 43). Subs: Heath, Kay.

Boro welcomed Chester to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Louis Moulton came off the bench to earn Nuneaton Town a second straight win as they beat Chester 1-0. He scored his 11th of the season with one of the few moments of quality in the game, which should probably have ended in a draw.

The first half was a scrappy affair as neither keeper was truly tested. Nuneaton struggled to break down Chester's 4-5-1 formation with the only chance of the half falling to Freddie

Ladapo. He made crisp contact with a volley, but Danny Higginbotham proved his pedigree with an outstanding block.

Chester failed to have a shot on target and they lost two key players to injury. Both Gareth Seddon and Ross Killock were forced to come off, while Nuneaton also lost Theo Streete when he was wiped out by debutant keeper Kelle Roos.

Chester came out of their shells more after the break and should have taken the lead as Paul Linwood headed wide from six yards after 77 minutes when unmarked. He was made to pay for his wastefulness as Boro won it with minutes to go. Half time substitute Emmitt Delfouneso had already rattled the bar with a brilliant effort when Moults scored.



Louis Moults pokes the ball past Danby for Boro's winner.

Photo: Simon Kimber

He latched onto a loose ball to coolly clip a shot beyond John Danby and into the net from 10 yards. Chester surrounded the assistant referee on the far side. They were convinced Moults had handballed it but their protests were waved away. Chester rarely threatened an equaliser, in fact they could have conceded a second in stoppage time when Dave Hibbert volleyed over having shown good strength.

Nuneaton Town v Alfreton Town

26-11-2013

Boro: Roos, Dean, Gordon, Delfouneso, Bell, Armson (York 82), Sleath, Trainer, Walker, Hibbert (Barroiht 89), Moults (Ladapo 90).

Subs: Adams, Belshaw.

Alfreton: Atkins, Law, Fenton (Wylde 78), Westwood, Rowe-Turner, Wood, McGrath, Shaw (Taylor 52), J. Akinde, Wishart (Clayton 52), Bradley. Subs: Franklin, S. Akinde

Boro welcomed Alfreton Town to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Boro moved back into the top five with a comprehensive win over Alfreton. There was early danger for the hosts when a free-kick from Josh Law was met by the head of Christopher Westwood but he directed off target.

Louis Moults went down the right for Boro and his ball across ran for Phil Trainer on the edge of the box who hit the ball with the outside of his left foot and Ross Atkins did well to push it hurriedly over. The resulting corner from Armson caused panic and Westwood had to clear acrobatically from under his own crossbar. A good move involving Emmitt

Delfouneso stepping out of defence saw him find Moults who laid the ball off to Adam Walker and his shot was charged down. Atkins was called into action again diving low to his left to push away Moults's long-range effort.

Nuneaton went ahead in the 27th minute when Danny Sleath collected the ball on the left, cut back onto his right foot and cross to where Walker lurked unmarked and he lifted a header over Atkins with James Armson on hand to make sure the ball had crossed the line. Another half chance fell the way of Moults after Delfouneso's ball into the box was only partially cleared but his volley fizzed wide of the near post.



Armson makes sure Walker's shot goes in.

Photo: Simon Kimber

More good work by Moults saw him win possession in midfield, before finding Armson who picked out Trainer's run into the box and he looked certain to score but again Atkins did well to beat the ball away. The lead was doubled three minutes before the break when David Hibbert held off two markers to drill a low shot past Atkins from 20 yards.

Boro could have gone three up just after the break but Hibbert opted to shoot when he should have played the ball square for an unmarked Trainer.

John Akinde volleyed over from an Alaistair Taylor cross and then Akinde's run into the box was halted moments later but substitute Paul Clayton shot over from a tight angle. A mistake by Westwood almost let in Hibbert but Atkins got down well to his left to make the save.

Atkins made yet another fine stop in the 70th minute. Trainer picked out Sleath with a superb crossfield ball and the midfielder pulled the ball down and beat his marker before lashing a shot the keeper did well to keep out.

Boro wrapped up the points two minutes from time when a throw from the left found substitute Wes York and he turned on a sixpence to thump a volley past Atkins from 12 yards. Law curled a late free-kick wide for the visitors which just about summed up their night.

Pearson Joins Hednesford

Nuneaton Town have sent Greg Pearson out on loan to Hednesford Town until January 2014. Meanwhile, Mickey Moore has left the club to become first-team coach at Mansfield Town.



Banbury United v Nuneaton Town

03-12-2013

Boro made the journey to the Spencer Stadium to play Banbury United in a Birmingham Senior Cup first round tie.

French striker Richard Barroilhet made his Boro debut but failed to stop his side from being dumped out of the competition. The former Fulham trainee looked off the pace in the opening half but improved after the break before being replaced by Louis Moulton for the final ten minutes.

Banbury, who also knocked Boro out of the same competition last season, were the better side in the opening period but had just a solitary goal to show for their dominance. That came after 15 minutes when Kynan Isaac eased past Delroy Gordon and drilled a low ball across goal for Adeyinka Talabi to power home at the far post.

Isaac put an effort wide and another at keeper James Belshaw before Talabi missed another glorious chance when clear of the Nuneaton defence. The visitors rarely threatened, their best chance of a lacklustre first half coming from a corner when Gordon's flick was saved by home keeper Leigh Bedwell.

But it was a different tale after the break as Boro looked for an equaliser. A delightful Theo Streete cross on 48 minutes picked out Connor Taylor but he headed wide from six yards. On the hour it was debutant Barroilhet's turn to squander a chance, heading over from close range from Jimmy Armson's cross.

The visitors continued to push and with 73 minutes on the clock they went closer still when Wes York let fly from 20 yards only for Bedwell to deny him with a spectacular flying save. The arrival of Moulton and Adam Walker off the bench could not prise open the Banbury defence and the home side nearly doubled their lead in the closing stages when the excellent Scott Bridges drilled a 22-yard free-kick goalwards only for Belshaw to scramble it around the foot of the post.

Barroilhet Has Contract Cancelled

Striker Richard Barroilhet has had his contract cancelled by mutual consent after just 25 days and two appearances.

Hereford United v Nuneaton Town

07-12-2013

Hereford: Lloyd-Weston, Graham, Collins, McDonald, Leadbitter, O'Keefe, Artus (D. Walker 66), Lathrope, Odhiambo (Williams 81), Rankine, Evans. Subs: Murphy, Bush, Edwards.

Boro: Roos, Streete, Dean, Gordon, Bell, Sleath, Trainer, A. Walker, Hibbert, Moulton (Armson 86), York (Ladapo 78). Subs: Taylor, Adams, Belshaw.

Boro made the journey to Edgar Street to play Hereford United in a Conference Premier game.

Amari'i Bell came in at left-back and Theo Streete moved to right-back as Emmitt Delfouneso missed out with a thigh strain. York kept his place on the right wing, despite the return of England C international James Armson, who was only on the bench for the first time this season.

The first half was a poor one as Boro struggled to get going.

That said, they created all the chances in the opening 45 minutes. The first opportunity came in the 20th minute as Adam Walker's corner went all the way to the back post where York was waiting.

He met it with a lunging header, but put it wide from six yards when he should have probably scored. Scares for Boro were limited despite Hereford having more of the ball.

They were almost the architects of their own downfall as Bell's awkward looking back header was pounced upon by Kelle Roos ahead of an opponent.

Roos also watched a near post shot by Frankie Artus flash wide, but the limited action was up the other end. It took 34 minutes for a true chance to arrive as Danny Sleath hooked in a high ball and Moulton's well aimed header was brilliantly saved by former Port Vale goalkeeper Daniel Lloyd-Weston, diving to his right.

The first goal came after 40 minutes as York raced into the box and was challenged by Artus. He looked to lever York down but no one appealed as the ball ran out for what looked like a goal kick.

To the amazement of the Bulls players and fans a penalty was given. After the protests died down Moulton sent Lloyd-Weston the wrong way for his 13th goal of a tremendously productive season. He almost doubled the lead two minutes before the break with a free-kick that had the keeper beaten but rippled the side netting.

Moulton was in the mood for goals as he came close with an outrageous effort two minutes after the restart. He robbed Graham on the byline and looked to curl the ball in from a tight angle, forcing Lloyd-Weston into a good stop.

Ten minutes later he was at it again, flicking the ball up on the edge of the box before volleying just over with the keeper stranded. Hereford struggled to threaten, although substitute Dan Walker did at least give them an injection of pace when he came on.

However, all they had to show for their efforts in the second half was a tame Eric Odhiambo shot that was well held by Roos. That was it in terms of chances – nothing more in the final 30 minutes. That suited Boro, who coped tremendously even when Hereford threw defender Dom Collins up front with 10 minutes left.

Mark Noon Appointed Assistant Manager

Nuneaton Town have appointed the former club captain Mark Noon as assistant manager, replacing Mickey Moore, who has left to become first team coach at Mansfield. Noon is currently fighting his way back to fitness after breaking an ankle in a pre-season friendly at Brackley Town.

Meanwhile, Birmingham City have recalled Amari'i Bell due to an injury crisis at the club. Boro have taken steps to replace the Birmingham man by signing 19-year-old Chimidi Akubuine from Kettering Town.

Nuneaton Town v Woking 21-12-2013

Boro: Roos, Dean, Gordon, Akubuine (Adams 68), Armson, Sleath, Trainer, Walker (Taylor 77), Hibbert, Moul, York. **Subs:** Ladapo, Belshaw.

Woking: Beasant, Ricketts (Newton 90), Nutter, McNemey, Cestor, Betsy, Murtagh, Payne, Banya (Goddard 81), Rendell, Marriott (Sole 86). **Subs:** Howe, Johnson.

Boro welcomed Woking to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

It was 0-0 at the break but the first half was an open affair. The tone was set after just 37 seconds when Scott Rendell fired over from the edge of the box. Moul responded when his audacious lob from the halfway line drifted wide.

Slack play from James Armson gifted the ball to Woking, who slipped in Betsy, but Armson redeemed himself with an excellent saving tackle. Chances were coming thick and fast as the impressive Jack Payne clipped a great ball for in Marriot, who could not glance it past Roos.

To this point the hosts had been on the back foot but they came into the game when Hibbert got away from the defence and forced Beasant into a good save as he watched the ball roll agonisingly wide. Hibbert met the ball from the resulting corner but John Nutter was there to head it clear off the line.

Woking seized control again when Charles Banya crossed from the right and Rendell planted in a header that had Roos beaten but flashed inches over. It was end to end stuff with Banya firing wide for Woking after 34 minutes. Sixty seconds later Armson took the ball down on the edge of box and beat Beasant, but not the bar as the ball cannoned off the woodwork. Walker met the rebound with a crisp drive, but Beasant reacted with a tremendous save to turn it away.

Woking were on fire at the start of the second half as they won it. The first goal came when Betsy beat Akubuine to the ball and slipped it to Marriott in the space the right-back had vacated. Marriott showed a cool head to clip over Roos from 10 yards. Walker came close to pulling one back but Beasant saved well at his near post.



Louis Moul battles for possession.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Before Boro could fully recover Woking stretched their lead. This time Betsy had too much pace for Akubuine and he raced away before firing the ball past Roos on the hour. It should have been game over a minute later when Banya fired in a low cross and an unmarked Marriott met it eight yards out. He thought he'd scored, but Roos threw himself to his left to make a great save.

Akubuine went some way to redeeming himself with a good clearance when the ball was put back in, but Wilkin had seen enough as he brought on forgotten man Jon Adams. It was an instant education for Akubuine, who will have learned stepping up three leagues is not easy.

Boro needed a route back and they almost got it when Beasant dropped the ball. Moul met it with a clean strike but Mark Ricketts did brilliantly to clear it off the line. There was almost a third goal in stoppage time when Payne's free-kick left Roos rooted as it rippled the side netting.

Tamworth v Nuneaton Town 26-12-2013

Tamworth: Belford, Courtney, Evans, Capaldi, Hildreth, Kerry, Haworth (Todd 89), Keane, Chadwick (Wright 78), Richards, Peniket. **Subs:** Gudger, Morgan, Woolery.

Boro: Roos, Streete, Dean, Gordon, Armson, Sleath, Trainer (Adams 52), Walker, Hibbert, Moul, York (Ladapo 86). **Subs:** Taylor, Akubuine, Belshaw.

Boro made the journey to The Lamb to play Tamworth in a Conference Premier game.

A game of two goalkeeping errors could have gone either way as the two teams played out a spirited derby. Tamworth's style was brutal in every sense but they made plenty of chances to win it – including Andy Howarth hitting the bar. Boro too could have won it but Wes York and Dave Hibbert could not finish great openings.

The first half was a scrappy affair as Tamworth made their intentions clear by bypassing midfield from the start. It was they who took the lead in the 10th minute when former Nuneaton Griff midfielder Lee Hildreth whipped a good ball in. It was an awkward one for Roos, who fumbled the ball through his legs and saw it drop for Chadwick, who was left with a tap in.



Kelle Roos makes a hash of a save and Chadwick scores.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Nuneaton Town 2008-2018 - Part 2



It could have been two a couple of minutes later when Chadwick fired over after Justin Richards had knocked down. From there Boro came in to the game and occasionally looked dangerous. Their best chance fell for Phil Trainer, but he could only nod Delroy Gordon's header across goal straight at Belford.

Richard Peniket headed another chance over before Tony Capaldi drilled a shot a yard wide from 20 yards. Tamworth had a glorious chance at the end of the half when Gaz Dean could only clear to Chadwick, who fired straight at Roos.

The Lambs were quick out of the blocks as Roos was forced into excellent saves from Peniket and Chadwick. The game was really hotting up with Tamworth putting in some cynical tackles. Capaldi was cautioned for a foul on Streete before Kerry saw yellow for a shocking tackle on Jon Adams.

Boro levelled after 69 minutes when James Armson clipped the ball down the line. It was Belford's, but he dropped it as he slid out and Streete was there to run it into the empty goal. It looked to be Boro's to win, but Tamworth almost went in front when Andy Howarth broke and was desperately unlucky to see a brilliant chip over Roos come back off the bar.

Boro's best chance to win it came with seven minutes to go when Sleath fired in a low cross and York somehow failed to turn it in. They could still have won it when Belford saved from Freddie Ladapo and then sprung up to save the rebound expertly from Dave Hibbert.

Nuneaton Town v Cambridge United 28-12-2013

Boro: Roos, Streete, Dean, Gordon, Adams (Trainer 67), Armson, Sleath, Walker, Hibbert (A. Brown 75), Moulton, York (C. Taylor 90 + 2).
Subs: Ladapo, Akubuine.

Cambridge: Maxwell, Spillane (Arnold 81), Coulson, Tait, Miller, G. Taylor, Champion, Berry, Dunk, Elliott, Cunnington (Donaldson 46).
Subs: Sam-Yorke, J. Brown, Bonner.

Boro welcomed Cambridge United to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.



Andy Brown - made a welcome return to the side. Photo: Simon Kimber

Andy Brown handed Nuneaton Town a late Christmas present with a shock return to the bench. Boro were full value for the

0-0 draw which knocked United off the top spot. Jon Adams started a league game for the first time since November 2nd as he replaced Phil Trainer and he did well as his ability to keep the ball was evident throughout. Boro were not the only team to welcome back last season's top scorer as United had Tom Elliott in their starting line-up after a long spell out.

The game was slow to get going, but when it did it was the home side on top. It took 27 minutes for either team to threaten a goal as Streete drove forwards and unleashed a screamer that crashed into the side netting. Dave Hibbert was winning the battle with the centre halves as he made the most of very limited service.

He knocked down for Moulton, who forced Chris Maxwell into a comfortable save. Moulton came close with Boro's best effort of the half as he volleyed just wide from the edge of the box after 33 minutes after Cambridge failed to clear. The visitors had struggled to live up to their top of the table billing as they failed to test Roos in the first half. Their best effort came after 40 minutes when Adam Cunnington nodded down Richard Tait's corner. His header was blocked into the path of Tom Champion, who fired wide.

Cambridge replaced the below par Cunnington at the break with Ryan Donaldson and promptly looked a much better side. Elliott fired over after 51 minutes as the U's began to crank up the pressure. They had the ball in the net after 65 minutes when Roos pushed Donaldson's fierce free-kick back into the danger area. Berry was there to fire in from six yards, but the flag was up for offside before the ball hit the back of the net.

Cambridge were demanding a penalty after 68 minutes when the ball hit Streete on the arm, but the referee stood firm as he was surrounded by yellow shirts. Boro were in need of inspiration and so they turned to Brown, who replaced Hibbert with 15 minutes left.

Cambridge remained in the ascendancy though and they could have won it after 86 minutes when Elliott fed a low ball in for Dunk, who was denied by a brilliant save from Roos from eight yards. Moulton put a volley wide and forced Maxwell into one more comfortable save as he gathered his 90th minute header. Despite being left to contain for the most part after the break, Boro were deservedly clapped off.

Southport v Nuneaton Town 04-01-2014

Southport: Hurst, Flynn, Smith, Fitzpatrick, Akrigg, George, Milligan (Osawe 80), S. Brown, Brodie, Hattersley, Almond (Tames 73).
Subs: Challoner, Rutherford, Hand.

Boro: Roos, Streete, Dean, Gordon, Adams, Armson, Sleath, Walker, Hibbert (Cowan 58), Moulton (A. Brown 79), York. **Subs:** Taylor, Delfouneso, Trainer.

Boro made the journey to Haig Avenue to play Southport in a Conference Premier game.

Despite their lowly league position, the home side were intent on getting the ball down, with Jamie Milligan at the heart of most of their forays forward, and Boro were almost

undone when Richard Brodie headed just over. But the visitors were moving it around even better and looked the more likely to score. In the 16th minute David Hibbert slipped as he tried to bring down a ball from Louis Moulton and the ball was scrambled out for a corner.

James Armson took it and Dean had two bites of the cherry before the ball was gratefully grabbed by keeper Danny Hurst. Still the chances came. Moulton fired straight at Hurst, then Adam Walker, ghosting in at the far post, steered his shot off target from Theo Streete's cross.

Kelle Roos had to come to Boro's rescue, tipping over a powerful Brodie header from Milligan's ball into the area. Southport threatened again when Brodie pounced as Delroy Gordon was unable to clear, but his shot from a narrow angle was deflected for a corner by Streete, when he really should have done better.

Boro's task, though, became harder early in the second period when skipper Dean collected a yellow card for ending a Southport break with a foul on Hattersley and then, four minutes later in the 55th minute, picked up another and subsequently a red for a foul just outside the box. Brodie tested Roos with a low shot as the hosts tried to take advantage of the situation.

Boro were forced to sacrifice Hibbert, bringing on Gavin Cowan for his first game since October and he almost made an instant impact, heading wide from Walker's cross. Despite their man advantage, Southport were far from on top, although Steve Akrigg headed over from another Milligan ball into the box and substitute Steven Tames shot wide. Brodie curled a late free-kick over the wall and straight at Roos.

Then, two minutes from time, substitute Osayamen Osawe found Hattersley at the far post who added the finishing touch from barely a yard. Andy Brown hit a shot straight at Hurst on the turn from a Danny Sleath cross as Boro looked for a way back, but it was not to be.

Gateshead v Nuneaton Town

11-01-2014

Gateshead: Bartlett, Baxter, Curtis, Clark, J. Walker, Turnbull, Chandler, Maddison, J. Brown, Marwood, Sirrell. **Subs:** Maganay, Larkin, Cummins, Boyes, Ramshaw.

Boro: Roos, Streete, Cowan, Gordon, Sleath, York, Adams, Armson, A. Walker, Moulton, Hibbert. **Subs:** Akubue, A. Brown, Taylor, Trainer, Delfuenseso.

Boro made the journey to The International Stadium to play Gateshead in a Conference Premier game.

Boro had a strong penalty appeal turned down in the 10th minute when Dave Hibbert appeared to be clipped by Lewis Sirrell in the box before Boro had their best spell around the 25 minute mark when Adam Walker's cross found Wes York at the far post and he fired just wide with the outside of his right boot. Adam Walker then broke towards the edge of the box and fired just wide. The best moment of the half saw Marcus

Maddison's near post corner met by Josh Walker, but Kelle Roos made a brilliant save at his near post.

If the first half had started slowly, the second set off at a fierce pace. Gateshead were in front just 52 seconds after the restart as a corner was half cleared and fed back out to Madison. He fired over a low cross and James Brown was there to slide in from two yards. Out of nothing it was 1-1 though. Sirrell was under pressure from York and he gave it to the Boro winger in terrible fashion. York raced along the byline and did well to get his head up and pick out Walker at the far post for a tap in.

The game then became more even as Boro failed to retain possession up front and Gateshead broke through striker James Marwood who ran in on Roos, but the keeper made a good stop with his foot. Manager Kevin Wilkin moved to address Boro's attacking problems by bringing Andy Brown on for Louis Moulton.

The reshuffle almost paid swift dividends though as Hibbert turned in the box, he was probably looking to set himself up, but it fell for Armson and he rattled a shot off the inside of the post with Adam Bartlett rooted.

Gateshead were the next to land a blow as they took the lead in the softest fashion. Jamie Chandler had just headed wide but there was no mistake from Marwood. He met Colin Larkin's corner with a well directed but gentle header. Time seemed to stand still as the ball rolled in the corner with Roos and his team-mates watching. Nuneaton had one chance to level as Gavin Cowan met Connor Taylor's cross but Craig Baxter did well to clear it off the line.



Adam Walker levels the scores.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Nuneaton Town v Macclesfield Town

18-01-2014

Boro: Roos, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Adams, Sleath, Walker, Brown, Hibbert, Moulton (Taylor 84), York. **Subs:** Gordon, Delfuenseso, Armson, Armson, Trainer.

Macclesfield: Taylor, Andrew, Halls (Martin 73), Rowe (Kissock 56), Connor, Williams, Whittaker (Kay 64), Turnbull, Holroyd, Boden, Mackreth. **Subs:** Lewis, Wynn.

Boro welcomed Macclesfield Town to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Kevin Wilkin took direct action to tackle Nuneaton Town's struggles in front of goal and it worked – just. Boro had gone

seven games without a win going into Saturday's game, mostly because they could not finish a chance. Their goals to shots ratio was hardly boosted after this encounter but Wilkin's move to name Dave Hibbert, Louis Moult, Wes York and Andy Brown in the same side paid dividends.

No doubt Boro were worth the three points by virtue of Brown's 70th minute tenacious strike as he marked his first start since October 5th. If they had taken half the chances they made the margin of victory could easily have been far greater. That was because they played with far more energy and quality than a Silkmen side who were clearly drained by their 4-1 defeat to Sheffield Wednesday in the FA Cup.



Andy Brown hits the winning goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

It was an open first half with both sides looking to move the ball. Boro really should have gone at least one, if not two or three up. As early as the second minute Walker floated a great ball to the far post for Hibbert. He nodded it back across goal behind Brown when he should surely have tried to score himself. The home side enjoyed a real purple patch after the 20 minute mark, but missed a host of chances.

First Dean showed a touch that belies his reputation as an uncompromising defender. He pulled the ball down stylishly in the box and unleashed a left footed volley that was well saved by Rhys Taylor. That was unlucky for Dean, but York missed two glorious chances in the next couple of minutes. First he looked to square it from 10 yards when he had a great chance to shoot. Then he headed over Walker's cross from all of two yards. Boro could have been punished for such wastefulness, but Roos made two quality stops. First he pushed aside Chris Holroyd's left footed drive from the edge of the box before clawing away a dipping right footed shot from Danny Andrew, who was on trial with Boro last summer.

As has been the case in recent weeks, Boro started the second half badly and had Roos to thank for keeping them level. First he denied Andrew again, this time from a 25 yard free-kick he will have expected to save. A minute later Jack Mackreth crossed to the back post and Roos made a better stop, palming away Danny Whittaker's volley from six yards. The first goal was looking crucial and it went Nuneaton's way.

Players were struggling to move the ball on a deteriorating pitch but Theo Streete made little of that as he stormed down the right and fired in a low cross. Brown had three stabs at it, but he showed great tenacity to force the ball over the line

from six yards. Wilkin's side looked the more likely as Joe Connor denied Brown with a brilliant tackle after he was set up by York. Brown came close again with eight minutes to go as he swivelled on the edge of the box and forced Taylor into a good stop.



Andy Brown celebrates the winning goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Kelle Roos Goes To Derby County

Nuneaton Town keeper Kelle Roos has joined Derby County for a fee rumoured to be in the region of £30,000.

Luton Town v Nuneaton Town

25-01-2014

Luton: Tyler, McNulty, Henry, Griffiths, Howells (Martin 84), Inniss, Guttridge, McGeehan, Robinson, Benson (Cullen 79), Gray.
Subs: Justham, Ferdinand, Franks.

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Adams (Armson 65), Sleath, Walker (Trainer 79), Brown, Hibbert (Taylor 65), Moult, York.
Subs: Gordon, Delfouneso.

Boro made the journey to Kenilworth Road to play Luton Town in a Conference Premier game.

Andre Gray scored a second half hat-trick to condemn Boro to defeat. The visitors gave a good account of themselves in the first half, but were blown away, quite literally, in the second half as Gray fired the hosts to victory after a freak storm had briefly forced the players off the field.

James Belshaw returned in goal in place of the departed Kelle Roos, but was largely untested for much of the opening period as Nuneaton frustrated their high flying hosts. Dave Hibbert saw a shot deflected into the hands of Mark Tyler, while Luton's best opening in a half of few chances came when Cameron McGeehan volleyed over. Boro were looking solid at the back, while finding space on the break, with Hibbert glancing a header wide, before Adam Walker sliced his effort over high and wide.

It was a different story in the second half however, with Gray opening his account five minutes in, finding space in the box to fire under Belshaw. Moments later Kenilworth Road was hit by a remarkable thunder storm that had the players running

for the dressing rooms as torrential rain forced the referee to suspend the match.



Hurricane season arrives at Kenilworth Road.

Photo: Simon Kimber

After a short delay play resumed, but there was no let up for Nuneaton as Gray doubled his account ten minutes later. Ryan Inniss' header caused a scramble in the Boro goalmouth, and although that was cleared, it was soon returned as Scott Griffiths crossed for Gray to tap in from close range.

The hosts were now dominating play and only a fine save from Belshaw denied Luke Guttridge two minutes later. Louis Moulton curled an effort narrowly over, but it was only a brief respite as Paul Benson headed over for Luton.

The third goal eventually came with twelve minutes remaining, as Gavin Cowan misjudged a long ball forward, allowing Gray to get in behind the defence and complete his treble with a composed finish. Luton saw a fourth ruled out for offside, while Gaz Dean got on the end of a late Boro corner, but could only head straight at the keeper.

Nuneaton Town v Aldershot Town	28-01-2014
Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Delfouneso, Adams (Armson 24), Sleath, Walker, Brown, Moulton, York. Subs: Taylor, Gordon, Pearson, Trainer.	
Aldershot: Morris, Barker, Oastler, Partington, Stanley, Mekki (Plummer 60), Oyeleke (Rowlands 60), Roberts (Scott 59), Gibbs, Williams, Bubb. Subs: Webster, Williams.	

Boro welcomed Aldershot Town to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Louis Moulton spared his own blushes for an incredible miss as he added to an incredible fluke from Andy Brown. Moulton missed an open goal by a massive margin on the half hour but he made up for it with a smart finish to effectively seal the points just before the break. That followed Brown's opener – surely a massive slice of fortune as his apparent cross went in off the post to break the deadlock soon after Moulton's miss. Tristan Plummer pulled one back after 84 minutes but it was not enough. The win lifted Boro up to sixth place, just outside the play-offs on goal difference. There was one change to the team which lost 3-0 to Luton Town as Emmitt Delfouneso replaced Dave Hibbert, who had what was described as a minor injury.

It took 18 minutes for either side to threaten a goal – Gaz Dean seeing his header tipped over comfortably. Boro were forced into an early change as Jon Adams went off after

23 minutes with a thigh strain. He was replaced by James Armson, who almost scored with his first touch as a cross evaded keeper Glen Morris and flashed across goal.

The game looked set to finally come to life after 31 minutes but Moulton conspired to miss a sitter. He latched onto a long ball and rounded the keeper with ease. A few weeks ago he would have rolled it into the open net for a 13th goal of the season, but he somehow put it yards wide on his favoured right foot. If Moulton's luck was out, Brown's was most certainly in as he gave Boro the lead after 38 minutes. He sprinted down the right and clipped in what was surely a cross.

The ball went over Morris, who could only look back as it hit the far post and nestled in the net. Brown's sheepish celebration certainly suggested he did not mean it. Aldershot almost hit back immediately but James Belshaw made a great save from Bradley Bubb, a key moment in the game.

Moulton then spared his own blushes after 44 minutes as he made it 2-0. He latched on to Brown's flick on and without the time to think about his previous miss he fired the ball beyond Morris with his first touch from 14 yards. Boro came close to a third goal on three occasions early in the second half. Firstly, Wes York got in behind the defence but saw his shot well saved by Morris. Then Morris almost gifted Sleath the ball as he came to the edge of his box to gather, but he recovered well.

Aldershot responded with a triple change but it made little difference initially as Gavin Cowan saw his header scrambled off the line. The visitors did come into the game though as Boro struggled to keep the ball. They pulled one back with six minutes to go as Plummer made space in the box and fired into the roof of the net from 12 yards.

There was a desperate moment in stoppage time as a combination of Belshaw and Adam Walker scrambled Joe Partington's header off the line.

Salisbury City v Nuneaton Town	01-02-2014
Salisbury: Puddy, Clarke, Dutton, Wilson, MacDonald, Lewis, Kamdjo, Brett, Frear, White, Feeney. Subs: Wellard, Sinclair, Bittner, Wright, Fitchett.	
Boro: Belshaw, Delfouneso, Dean, Cowan, Streete, York, Armson, Walker, Sleath, Moulton, Brown. Subs: Gordon, Taylor, Pearson, Trainer, Hibbert.	

Boro made the journey to The Raymond McEnhill Stadium to play Salisbury City in a Conference Premier game.

A pair of defensive howlers saw Boro's away-day blues continue as they threw away a winning position. Danny Sleath had given Boro a first-half lead, but Gaz Dean's error allowed Salisbury to level just before half time, before the hosts took the lead ten minutes into the second half after Emmitt Delfouneso's mistake.

Those slip-ups allowed Salisbury to complete the double over Boro this season, while it was also a fourth consecutive away defeat for Kevin Wilkin's men who missed out on the chance

to move back into the play-off places. Adam Walker fired wide early on, before Louis Moults missed a great chance on the half hour, when he also shot wide when clean through on goal.

Boro had been on top for most of the half and they got the goal that their play deserved four minutes later, albeit from an unlikely source. Sleath had scored just once in his 56 previous appearances for the club, but was playing in a more advanced left midfield role and took advantage by turning in Wes York's low cross. They couldn't take that lead into half-time however, as two minutes before the interval Dean made a mess of a back header, leaving James White to nip in behind and fire past James Belshaw to level the scores.

That gave the hosts confidence and they came out stronger after the break. Angus MacDonald headed wide before another moment of calamitous Boro defending saw Salisbury take the lead ten minutes into the second period. From a Nuneaton corner, Salisbury cleared upfield only for Delfouneso to take out his own man, Sleath, allowing White to run free once again as the hosts enjoyed a three-on-one, Elliott Frear scoring with a simple tap in.

That goal knocked the stuffing out of Boro and only a fine Belshaw save from McDonald's free-kick shortly afterwards prevented the hosts from extending their lead. James Armson saw a couple of late efforts saved but Nuneaton never seriously looked like getting back into the contest as Salisbury saw out the victory with comfort.

Lincoln City v Nuneaton Town	04-02-2014
Lincoln: Farman, Miller, Foster, Audel, Newton, Power, Jordan, C. Adams (Sheridan), Yorkie, Tomlinson, Robinson (Austin). Subs: Gray, Nolan, Rowe.	
Boro: Belshaw, Cowan, Dean, Delfouneso, Sleath, Streete, Armson, Walker, Hibbert (Pearson), Brown, York. Subs: Gordon, Akubuine, Trainer, Moults, Taylor	

Boro made the journey to Sincil Bank to play Lincoln City in a Conference Premier game.

Boro ended their run of four straight away league defeats with a 2-1 win as they climbed to fifth in the league. A brilliant strike from Adam Walker and a Theo Streete header made for what looked like a comfortable evening. However, they wobbled over the line as Alan Power pulled one back for the Imps with 20 minutes to go.

Hibbert made a nuisance of himself after two minutes but he couldn't find Wes York with his cross. James Armson was bright in the first half as he forced Paul Farman into two saves from distance. Boro took the lead after 18 minutes as the ball was headed out to the edge of the box. It dropped nicely for Walker on his left foot and he took a touch before bending a glorious shot beyond Farman into the top corner from 25 yards.

There were more chances for the visitors as Sleath crossed beyond the far post before great work by Armson and Delfouneso ended with Brown testing Farman, the move drawing applause from the home crowd.

Lincoln offered nothing going forwards in the first half. Hibbert's replacement Pearson forced Farman into a good stop after 50 minutes but the keeper was powerless eight minutes later as Boro made it 2-0.



Walker's shot beats Paul Farman.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Armson drilled a flat free-kick into the box and Streete wanted it more as he powered in a header from six yards. It was so close to being three after 68 minutes when Brown acrobatically volleyed York's cross on to the bar. That slice of misfortune was magnified two minutes later when the Imps pulled a goal back with their first effort on target.

Power fired in a low free-kick from the right hand corner of the box that bobbed through the crowd and beyond Belshaw into the net. Another bad goal conceded by Nuneaton. Walker had the chance to settle nerves with nine minutes to go but he volleyed wide from the edge of the box.

Lincoln were back in the game as Boro were pressured. They defended a Todd Jordan shot well and then watched anxiously as Power fired a 30 yard rocket that beat Belshaw but went just wide. Jordan had another chance with the last kick but Streete scrambled his shot off the line to the away side's relief.

Nuneaton Town v Hyde United	15-02-2014
Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Delfouneso, Armson, Sleath, Walker, Brown, Moults (Pearson 80), York. Subs: Taylor, Gordon, Adams, Trainer.	
Hyde: Kettings, Haining, Lomax, Brizell, Blakeman, Thurston, Brown, Tomsett, Hughes (Clark 68), Carlton, Spencer. Subs: Thornton, Kirby, Pollard, Day.	

Boro welcomed Hyde United to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

It took James Armson just 66 seconds to push Nuneaton Town up to fourth and improve their hopes of an unlikely play-off berth. The key moment of the game came when Gavin Cowan sent Armson clear in the inside left position and he controlled before curling a shot into the far top corner.

Andy Brown could have made it two with just four minutes on the clock racing down the right but getting too close to Chris Kettings who came out to block. Kettings then had a horrible moment allowing a harmless looking cross from Wes York

to slip through his hands but luckily it bounced off the post for a corner. James Belshaw was called into action midway through the half getting down low to keep out a shot from Scott Spencer at his near post.

Boro had another chance when Brown played in Louis Moulton but he took too long and the ball eventually made its way to Danny Sleath whose header was easily dealt with by Kettings. There was a real scare for the hosts as Adam Thurston found himself in space just before the break and he curled a shot towards the top right-hand corner that Belshaw did well to tip onto the bar and out for a corner.



James Armson scores the winning goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

After a cagey start to the second period Adam Walker worked an opening but his left-foot shot was just a foot too high. Boro it seemed were finding things more difficult playing with the wind at their backs as the second half turned into a very disappointing affair.

Kettings did well to push away a cross by Sleath that was inches too high for Brown. Alex Brown was yellow carded for halting York's run down the right and the resulting free-kick was fired in low by Walker but gathered comfortably by Kettings.



Daniel Sleath is outnumbered as Boro press for a second goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Moulton then had a chance cutting in from the right but his shot sailed harmlessly wide before a hanging cross by Sleath in Brown's direction saw the striker glance a header past the far

post. Boro pushed looking for a second and Moulton crossed for Brown to land a header on top of the goal.

Substitute Greg Pearson then drilled a low shot well wide of target when he probably had better options both right and left of him. Emmitt Delfouneso had arguably the best effort of the second period picking up the ball 35 yards out and lashing in a shot that Kettings was glad to push away. Danny Chalton was then cautioned for hacking down Theo Streete and Armson's stinging free-kick was tipped round the post.

Gerry Kavanagh Dies

Former Nuneaton Borough full-back Gerry Kavanagh has passed away in his sleep after suffering with Parkinson's Disease since 2010. Gerry joined the Boro in the 1969-70 season before moving to AP Leamington.

Nuneaton Town v Luton Town

22-02-2014

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Delfouneso (Hibbert 74), Armson, Sleath, Walker (Trainer 81), Brown, York, Taylor (Moulton 56).
Subs: Gordon, Adams.

Luton: Tyler, McNulty, Henry, Griffiths, Howells, Franks, Guttridge (Robinson 87), McGeehan, Ruddock, Benson (Shaw 83), Gray (Lawless 84).
Subs: Charles, Justham.

Boro welcomed Luton Town to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Pacy, powerful, direct, free-flowing are all words you can use to describe the league leaders this season. But at the weekend the only one that seemed fitting was relentless. The Hatters were sharks who smelt blood, they were not happy until 3-0 became 4-0 and 4-0 became 5-0. Take nothing away from the Boro, for 45 minutes at the weekend they matched the stand-out side in Conference football.

But for a sloppy defensive mistake and a bit better finishing, the Boro may have even gone into the break ahead. As it was, the visitors were the ones who took the lead and they never looked back. In a tight opening, it was the home side who asked the early questions, Wes York was unlucky to see his effort from just inside the area well saved by Mark Tyler.

The Boro were showing why they are flying in the league this season as they worked hard from the front to the back, Andy Brown personifying the effort with non-stop running early doors. Luton are not top for no reason though, and James Belshaw had to have quick hands to help Jake Howells effort over the bar after the wide man struck a fierce shot goalwards from the edge of the box.

In swirling winds the sides continued to trade half chances, that was until Paul Benson took advantage of a defensive lapse to give the visitors the lead in the 33rd minute. A long ball by Luke Guttridge was flicked on by Andre Gray and Benson beat both Gaz Dean and Belshaw to the knock-on, sliding the ball into an empty net after neither Boro player could deal with the situation.

The goal proved an easy one for Benson in the end, but it was

from a far more difficult chance that the front man nearly doubled the Hatters lead six minutes later.

Guttridge flicked the ball over Dean on the edge of the box and from the angle Benson tried a flamboyant half volley with the outside of his boot that only just missed the far post. That was the last chance in the first half but the visitors started the second in the same form.

In a bid to stem the tide, Boro boss Kev Wilkin brought on leading scorer Louis Moul, the front man having reverted to the bench after a midweek knock in training. Despite the show of attacking intent, it was the visitors who were the ones to strike again. Guttridge was again the architect, this time crossing low and hard across the box to Benson. The front man dived full length to beat Belshaw to the ball with Gray adding the finishing touch at the far post.

The Hatters were flying and in the 70th minute their domination brought goal number three. Guttridge had been goal creator until this point, but he turned goal grabber, smashing home a low effort past Belshaw from the edge of the box, brilliantly teed up by the in-form Gray.

There was no stopping the Hatters, as try as they might the Boro defence was getting opened up time after time.

It was a case of when, not if, the visitors would score again, with the answer being in the 80th minute via Benson. The forward was left unmarked at the far post and given plenty of time to head past Belshaw from a deep Howells cross.

John Still moved to rest some of his table-topping stars after goal number four, but the replacements were proving just as hard to stop. John Shaw, on for Benson, was quickly into the action, crossing from the left and Howells had the easy task of heading home.

In the grand scheme of things a loss at home to Luton, however heavy a loss that may be, will not determine where Nuneaton Town go and finish in the league this season. What will though, is how they bounce back from this.

Chester v Nuneaton Town

01-03-2014

Chester: Chapman, Bond, Mahon, Seddon, Jarrett, Rooney, Turner, Taylor, Linwood, Bridge (Turner 71), Killock. Subs: Danby, Daniels, Lindfield, Menagh.

Boro: Belshaw, Gordon (Hibbert 74), Dean, Cowan, Streete, Sleath, Armson, Walker, Moul, Brown, York. Subs: Taylor, Delfouneso, Adams, Trainer.

Boro made the journey to The Deva Stadium to play Chester in a Conference Premier game.

The game changed in the eighth minute when the home side were reduced to ten men after a dangerous challenge from midfielder Jason Jarrett. The experienced midfielder looked like he won the ball in a tackle with Adam Walker, but he took the man as well in a high and out of control sliding challenge. That did not hold the home side back though as less than ten minutes later they were ahead. Lewis Turner was allowed too

much room by Theo Streete out wide, and he capitalised from it by whipping in a low cross into the box. John Rooney was the beneficiary of the cross as he was completely unmarked in the penalty area and smashed the ball in off the far post to break the deadlock.

Chester simply dominated the Boro after the goal and in terms of possession alone they deserved to double their lead in the minutes that followed. They were made to pay for not turning the screw though as Nuneaton came back with aplomb on the half hour mark. Wes York looked like he was without an option on the right wing by the corner flag, but he dug out a superb lofted cross with Louis Moul rising highest at the far post to head home. It was the first chance that the visitors had really mustered in a poor opening to the match for Kev Wilkins men.



Louis Moul equalizes for Boro.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Parity was enjoyed for just four minutes for the visitors though, as Chester once again took the game to play-off chasing Boro. Nuneaton could not live with the home side and defensively they were getting caught out time after time. The second goal came from a defensive lapse as a deflection off the far post, from a Craig Mahon cross, found Matty Taylor. The former Forest Green man slid the ball home into an empty net with the Boro defence static around him.

If Nuneaton were bad at the back, their hosts were equally inept and somehow they allowed the Boro to go in level at the break. Once again a ball into the box was the undoing for Chester as Moul turned provider this time. He crossed for strike partner Andy Brown who headed home easily past Aaron Chapman from six-yards out. That goal was the perfect end to an entertaining first half and also the last chance for the fans to see any action until way into the second period.

The two teams came out after the break and served up a much tamer affair. That was until the home side re-took the lead with 20 minutes to go. The Boro defence had been out of sorts all afternoon and they were found wanting again in the 71st minute. A corner was not cleared in any fashion and that allowed Ross Killock the chance to bury the ball from 12-yards out through the crowded area.

If the first half taught the Boro one thing though, it was that there were goals to be had at the other end but they left it late to grab one. Brown had already netted late on in one

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half, and he did the same in the second. It was the turn of the home side to not clear a corner and Brown was on hand to smash home from six yards out.

Nuneaton Town v Welling United 08-03-2014

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Dean, Cowan, Sleath, Delfouneso, Armson, Walker (Trainer 59), Moulton (Hibbert 59), Brown (Adams 90+3), York.
Subs: Taylor, Gordon.

Welling: Butcher, Mawson, Hudson, Beautyman (Wakefield 72), Gallagher (Clarke 78), Healy, Fazakerley, Lafayette, Ajala (Guthrie 70), Bender, Sho-Silva. **Subs:** Turner, McLaren.

Boro welcomed Welling United to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

The first half must go down as one of the worst the home fans will have seen this season as neither side looked settled or comfortable on the ball. The first shot on target came from Harry Beautyman in the 40th minute, and even then it was a speculative effort from fully 25 yards out.

The best chance actually came in the dying moments when Toby Ajala fired a shot-come-cross across goal that was met by Joe Healy at the back post, but he could only side foot his effort past the post from two yards out.

Welling started the second half the same way they finished the first, in the driving seat, and had a couple of half chances missed by Healy that he really should have done better with.

They were made to pay for their wastefulness in the 62nd minute when the home side sprung into life and took the lead in somewhat controversial circumstances. A free-kick from James Armson was sent to the back post where Dave Hibbert headed it back across goal. Andy Brown was able to meet the knock-back and head an effort goalwards. It seemed to be cleared off the line, but the linesman gave the goal after Theo Streete ran away encouraging his team mates to celebrate the strike.



Boro claim a goal after a Welling defender looked to have cleared off the line, but the linesman thought otherwise. Photo: Simon Kimber

The goal was out of the blue as Nuneaton had not really threatened until taking the lead and continued to look poor after doing so. Welling were the ones asking all the questions

as the Boro faithful became more and more anxious as the minutes ticked away. After dealing with the Welling pressure for so long, it was the Boro on the break who looked dangerous with Wes York taking on, and skinning, Thomas Bender before firing a cross that was only inches away from Andy Brown at the far post.

Nuneaton were playing on the break at this stage and they were rewarded for it with only three minutes remaining. A Welling corner saw them throw everyone but the keeper into the Boro box, but when the ball broke the visitors were left short. Danny Sleath was able to take advantage of it as he ran into acres of space, making his way to the byline before floating in a lovely cross that Dave Hibbert headed home.

Nuneaton Town v Tamworth 11-03-2014

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Delfouneso (Walker 57), Armson, Sleath, Trainer, Brown, Hibbert (Moulton 82), York. **Subs:** Taylor, Gordon, Adams.

Tamworth: Belford, Evans, Richards-Everton, Mahon, Thornton, Kerry, Haworth (Todd 24 (Reindorf 75)), Aimson (Townsend 67), Keane, Barnes-Homer, Godden. **Subs:** Richards, Baker.

Boro welcomed Tamworth to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

A first-half goal from Emmitt Delfouneso was enough to give Boro all three points. It was the Lambs who started the brighter of the two sides, enjoying a solid opening ten minute spell. That was all for nothing on 13 minutes, though, as Emmitt Delfouneso, scored his first goal for the club in somewhat fortunate circumstances. A long 35-yard up-and-under from the right back, looked to be heading straight into the arms of Cameron Belford, but somehow the Lambs keeper let it slip through his fingers – dropping the ball into the net from right under the crossbar.



Cameron Belford fails to stop Delfouneso's effort from entering the net. Photo: Simon Kimber

Belford was left helpless from Andy Brown's shot on 24 minutes, as the Lambs keeper had to rely on his post

to bail him out on that occasion. Brown found space in the area before unleashing a fierce drive that cannoned back off the woodwork.

Boro were dominating in terms of chances – if not possession – at this stage, as Theo Streete was unlucky to see Belford touch his header over the bar just before the break.

The Lambs must have had a severe talking to at half-time as Kev Wilkin's men found themselves on the back foot after the restart. A series of corners from the visitors tested the Boro defence, as Gaz Dean and Gavin Cowan had to be on top of their game to stem the Lambs attack.

The pattern of the game stayed the same for most of the half as the visitors continued to press and push the home side back. James Armson was needed to keep the scores level on 60 minutes as he put in an amazing block tackle to deny Andy Todd from drawing the two sides level from close range.

Despite the pressure from the Lambs, it was Belford who made the first key save of the half in the 80th minute. Adam Walker sent a stinging half volley goalward from 20-yards, and Belford was at full stretch to tip it wide for a corner.

Boro Sign Magri

Nuneaton Town have signed 19-year-old Queen's Park Rangers defender Sam Magri on loan until the end of the season. The former Portsmouth player has represented England at every level up to Under-19.

Aldershot Town v Nuneaton Town 15-03-2014

Aldershot: Morris, Mekki (Molesley 66), Tonkin, Webster (Oastler 46), Bubb, Williams, Barker, Stanley, Butler (Scott 46), Gibbs, Rowlands.
Subs: Martin, Taiwo.

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Dean, Cowan, Magri, Armson, Trainer, Sleath, Brown, Hibbert, York. **Subs:** Taylor, Gordon, Pearson, Adams, Moul.

Boro made the journey to The Recreation Ground to play Aldershot Town in a Conference Premier game.

The Boro will be kicking themselves after they threw away two points. It was an even start, perhaps with the home side just edging it, but it was still Boro who came closest to breaking the deadlock. A right wing cross from Phil Trainer found Andy Brown in the middle, the Boro frontman showed speed of thought to get across his man and flash a header just inches over the bar in the 18th minute.

That chance was close, but the one from Bradley Bubb just two minutes later for the home side was closer still. The Aldershot number 11 chased down what looked like a lost ball in the channel, somehow chipping it over a static James Belshaw before unluckily seeing it bounce back off the far post.

It was time for a defender to show the forwards how to do it, and that is exactly what Gavin Cowan did for Boro in the 27th minute. A fantastic free-kick was whipped into Cowan in a crowded area, and he held his ground well before heading the ball past Glenn Morris in the home goal.



Gavin Cowan powers a header into the net.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Aldershot saw the fight go out of them after the goal and it was no surprise when Boro made it 2-0 three minutes before half-time. Dave Hibbert was pushed in the back by Adam Webster in the box, enabling James Armson to step up and smash home the spot-kick in calm fashion.

Andy Scott knew he had to make changes at the break and he did, making a double substitution as a signal of intent. His words, and actions, must have had some effect as the first ten minutes of the second-half was all Aldershot. It was a case of when the home side would halve the deficit, not if, and the answer came in the 63rd minute. The Boro defence was caught all ends up as a long ball found both Gav Cowan and Gaz Dean unable to clear the danger.

Aldershot substitute Josh Scott could hardly believe his luck as he smashed home past Belshaw from 12-yards out. Boro had no response to the home onslaught and only managed to hang on to their lead for another 20 minutes. Martin Rowlands grabbed the equaliser for the home side leaving the keeper with no chance with a well taken volley from 15-yards.

Wilkin Joins Wrexham

Nuneaton Town manager Kevin Wilkin has joined Wrexham as their new manager, where he will succeed Andy Morrell. Wilkin has guided Nuneaton Town from the Southern League Midland after their reformation to the Skryll Conference Premier and is widely recognised as one of the best young managers outside the football league.



Mark Noon is to take over at Liberty Way with Simon Forsdick named as his assistant.

Nuneaton Town v Grimsby Town 22-03-2014

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Cowan, Deane, Magri (Moult 62), Sleath, Trainer, Walker, Brown, Hibbert (Pearson 86), York. **Subs:** Taylor, Adams, Gordon.

Grimsby: McKeown, Bignot (McDonald 57), Boyce, Thomas, Pearson, Rodman, Kerr, Disley, Neilson (Thanoj 73), John-Lewis (Cook 90). **Subs:** Tounkara, Hannah.

Boro welcomed Grimsby Town to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Life without Wilkin started with a defeat for Boro. Grimsby made the better start to the game and were rewarded for that with the opening goal in the eighth minute. Former Boro man Alex Rodman was the player who struck the opening goal, a volley from eight yards out, side-footing it past James Belshaw with wonderful control.

The Boro regrouped well despite the early setback and were soon asking questions of the visitors defence. It was not until the 34th minute though that they really tested James McKeown in the Mariners goal, Dave Hibbert seeing his snatched volley from close range superbly clawed out from the Grimsby number 13. That was the only save either keeper had to make in the first-half as both defences were winning their personal battles.

Simon Forsdick, in charge while Mark Noon was at a family wedding, obviously had some strong words at the break as the Boro came out firing in the second-half. They were obviously told to test McKeown more often as the first ten minutes of the half saw the home side attacking with pace and vigour in a bid to get back into the game.

In the 53rd minute they did manage to work the keeper, but once again he was up to the task as he got down low to stop Hibbert's close range effort. McKeown relied on his ability to stop that chance, but it was luck that stopped the Boro from drawing level on the hour mark. Wes York was played through by Andy Brown, the nippy winger watching in horror as his poked effort only just skimmed the far post with McKeown beaten. Grimsby seemed to be hampered by the same setting sun conditions that cost the Boro so dear against Aldershot, as the home side were simply dominating proceedings.

If substitute Louis Moult had the composure of Rodman the sides would have been level in the 76th minute. The Boro forward swung and missed from an identical position to where the Grimsby man scored from. The half was becoming a list of missed chances for Nuneaton Town as another, this time a free header from Brown, came and went without the scores being brought back to parity.

Ken Plant Dies

Nuneaton Borough goalscoring legend Ken Plant has passed away aged 88. The prolific goalscorer scored 126 goals for the club in two spells – from 1946-1950 and from 1958-1961. He also scored over 130 for Bury and Colchester United in the Football League.

Boro Make Loan Signings

Nuneaton Town have signed Bermudian international goalkeeper Dale Eve from Stoke City and also left back Jordan Cranston from Wolverhampton Wanderers.

Braintree Town v Nuneaton Town 27-03-2014

Braintree: Hamann, Wells, Paine, Davis, Habbergham, Peters, Mulley, Sparkes, Marks, Isaac, Holman (Jakubiak 80). **Subs:** Holdsworth, Laurent, Daley, McDonald.

Boro: Eve, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Cranston, Sleath (Armson 46), Trainer, Walker (Taylor 46), Hibbert, Pearson (Adams 67). **Subs:** Gordon, Magri.

Boro made the journey to Cressing Road to play Braintree Town in a Conference Premier game.

Boro slipped out of the play-off places after Mark Noon's first game in charge ended in defeat. A Theo Streete own goal and Dan Holman's strike were enough to give the hosts a deserved victory, despite Dave Hibbert's second-half goal. The defeat was the second in a row against fellow play-off contenders.

Noon was dealt a huge blow before even arriving in Essex with strikers Andy Brown and Louis Moult both unable to make the trip due to work commitments and a closure on the M6 motorway. In their absence Greg Pearson partnered Hibbert up front, while Noon handed debuts to the on-loan duo of goalkeeper Dale Eve and left-back Jordan Cranston.



Hibbert is about to pull a goal back for Boro.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Braintree were playing their third game of the week but were given an early gift on eight minutes as Streete turned James Mulley's low cross into his own net. Ten minutes later it was two as a quick Braintree counter-attack saw Sean Marks play in Holman, who raced into the area and slotted past Eve. Boro failed to create a chance of note in the first half, and only a double save from Eve prevented Braintree from extending their lead, firstly keeping out Holman's header at point-blank range before denying Mulley.

The hosts continued to dominate after the break, Eve saving from Dan Sparkes, while Holman wasted another chance

when he shot wide. Nuneaton had gone 70 minutes without an attempt on goal but Hibbert gave them hope when out of nowhere he got in behind the defence and fired into the bottom corner from the edge of the box.

Boro couldn't build on their goal, however, and Braintree almost restored their two-goal cushion immediately as Dan Wells' header was cleared by Streete on the line before Holman shot straight at Eve. It took until injury time for Boro to enjoy some pressure, but Wes York's low shot across the face of goal was as close as they came to snatching an unlikely point.

Alfreton Town v Nuneaton Town 29-03-2014

Alfreton: Worsnop, Law, Fenton (Kempson 62), Rowe-Turner, Wood, Jones, Hoganson, Shaw (Meadows 87), Whitehouse, Harrad (Bradley 74), J. Akinde. Subs: Franklin, Wildsmith.

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Cranston, Armson, Sleath, Trainer (Adams 72), Brown, Hibbert, York (Moult 55). Subs: Walker, Taylor, Gordon.

Boro made the journey to The Impact Arena to play Alfreton Town in a Conference Premier game.

The home side went into the game in the better form and it showed as the first few minutes were all Alfreton. They should have taken the lead in this time but Shaun Harrad could only blast the ball against the bar from six yards out, somehow finding the angle of post and bar with the goal gaping. The Boro reacted well to the onslaught and were soon asking a few questions of their own with Dave Hibbert missing the best of them.

The big front man was found by a superb cutback from Theo Streete but he could only find Jon Worsnop in the Alfreton goal when unmarked in the six yard box. Boro were made to pay for that missed chance as Alfreton were ahead just six minutes later. A through ball from Bradley Wood found John Akinde on his own with the goal in front of him. The Reds' forward took the most of the chance by sliding it past James Belshaw and into the back of the net. Neither side could claim they were on top after the goal as the game became a scrappy one leading up to the break.

After the restart the Boro had their tails up as they started knocking the ball around with a pace and purpose that was missing in the first half. Caretaker boss Mark Noon, brought on Louis Moult for Wes York as he switched from a 4-4-2 to a diamond formation in the middle of the pitch, but still the Alfreton rear guard held strong.

The only save of note Worsnop had to make in the first 20 minutes of the second half was a long distance effort from Danny Sleath that the keeper dealt with comfortably and pushed wide. Boro were seeing plenty of the ball but, frustratingly for the 137 away fans, they were not testing the home keeper enough. The home side had luck as well as a resolute defence on their side.

That all changed though with six minutes to go as James

Armson drilled Nuneaton Town right back into the play-off race. The England C man was in the right place at the right time as a corner was not cleared by the home side and Armson took advantage of that by drilling home the equalizer from ten yards out.



James Armson celebrates his equalizer.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Nuneaton Town v FC Halifax Town 05-04-2014

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Cranston, Armson, Sleath (Walker 70), Trainer, Brown, Hibbert, Moult (York 70). Subs: Gordon, G. Pearson, Adams.

Halifax: Glennon, Lowe, Smith, McManus, Bolton, M. Pearson, Maynard, Marshall (Wilson 46), Jackson (Spencer 64), Crowther, Gregory. Subs: McReady, Worthington, Senior.

Boro welcomed AFC Halifax Town to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

The play-off dream is all but dead for Boro after a 1-0 defeat at home to Halifax Town. Both sides were obviously aware of the magnitude of the game as they both started as if it was a cup final. After a couple of half chances for the Boro, a Louis Moult free-kick and an Andy Brown header, it was the visitors who came closest to breaking the deadlock.

The game was only 16 minutes old when Lee Gregory turned smartly in the box and smashed an effort from 10-yards out that cannoned back off the bar and rocketed to safety for the home side. It was a vicious effort from the Shaymen marksman and one that deserved a goal after the quality of the turn in the box.

At the other end Boro were almost rewarded for that renewed attacking intent when a cross-cum-shot from Louis Moult sailed over the head of Matty Glennon in the visitors goal, but bounced back off the bar. Despite the change from a 4-4-2 to a 4-3-3, and despite Halifax boasting one of the leagues most feared forwards in Lee Gregory, the chances were rare after those two opportunities.

In the 15 minutes before the break, and the 15 minutes after it, neither side were able to make the opposition keeper work, as nerves and frustration began to replace the passing and passion from earlier in the game. In the 66th minute the first clear chance of the half came from a set-piece as Andy Brown rose superbly to meet Danny Sleath's ball in, only to be stopped from celebrating by a wonderful save from Glennon in the Town goal.



Gareth Dean climbs high above the Halifax defence. Photo: Simon Kimber

His opposite number, Boro's own James Belshaw, had to be equally alert to stop a fine effort from Gregory just minutes later as the tempo of the game started to creep up once again. In the 78th minute the Shaymen thought they had scored the goal that both sides craved, but Scott Spencer's header into an empty net was ruled out after Belshaw had been dumped to the ground by a charging challenge from Gregory.

Halifax were starting to look the more likely to score and with six minutes of the game left they did just that. Former Tamworth man Chris Smith, making his debut for Halifax, rose highest at the far post from a left hand corner and delivered a bullet of a header that Belshaw had no chance with.

Wrexham v Nuneaton Town

12-04-2014

Wrexham: Mayebi, Carrington, Livesey, Artell, Ashton, Keates (Evans 87), Bailey-Jones, Hunt; Clarke, Ogleby (Reid 71), Bishop (Williams 90).
Subs: Wright, Tomassen.

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Cranston (Magri 46), York (Moult 64), Trainer (Adams 64), Armison, Sleath, Brown, Hibbert.
Subs: Gordon, Walker.

Boro made the journey to The Racecourse Ground to play Wrexham in a Conference Premier game.

The best of the early chances fell to the home side and Theo Bailey-Jones was enjoying a strong opening. It was from his through ball that Rob Ogleby found himself through on James Belshaw, who was lucky to see the effort flash just wide.

Belshaw was required to make a save just minutes later though, when he got down low to tip a fierce drive from Bailey-Jones wide of the post. Andy Bishop really should have tested Belshaw again in the 37th minute but he could only direct an Ogleby cross over the bar.

Mark Noon brought Sam Magri on at the break, taking off Jordan Cranston, as he moved the athletic Theo Streete out to deal with the Bailey-Jones threat. Belshaw had to be at his best in the 53rd minute to deal with the winger as a chipped ball flew over

the head of Streete and found Bailey-Jones. The winger then calmly side-footed an effort that Belshaw kept out. The keeper was having a great game, although there was nothing he could do to stop the Dragons taking the lead in the 54th minute.

A driving effort from Joe Clarke was superbly stopped by the keeper, but he could not get up to deny Johnny Hunt who buried the rebound from 10-yards out. It seemed a matter of when the second goal would come and it duly did in the 74th minute. A cross from Neil Ashton bypassed the Boro defence, and from 10 yards out Bishop volleyed the ball past Belshaw.

The home side capped an impressive performance when Bradley Reid chased down Magri on the wing, nicking the ball off the full-back before running in on goal. He jinked past Gaz Dean, who was unable to move his leg away and the forward went down. Belshaw saved the spot-kick from Ashton, but was left helpless as the same player slammed home the rebound. The third goal was the least the home side deserved as a poor Boro performance showed little resistance.

Boro Announce New Manager

Nuneaton Town have appointed former Ayr United manager Brian Reid as their new manager. The 43-year-old has been working on the scouting staff with Coventry City and has also managed a team in the Philippines. Reid started his playing career at Glasgow Rangers before seeing service with Blackpool. He then moved back to Scotland, representing Falkirk and Queen of the South before moving to Ayr United.

Nuneaton Town v Barnet

19-04-2014

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Magri, Sleath (Brown 60), Trainer (Cranston 72), Walker, Hibbert, Moult, York (Taylor 58).
Subs: Eve, Gordon.

Barnet: Jupp, Stephens, Gjokaj, Muggleton, Yiadom, Warren, Abdulla, Gambin, Lowe (Luisma 60), Allen (Vihete 60), Crawford. **Subs:** Barnes, Nurse.

Boro welcomed Barnet to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

New boss Brian Reid was unable to halt Boro's slump in form as his first game ended in a single-goal defeat to Barnet. Bees' defender Valentin Gjokaj's stunning 25-yard strike ensured Reid's reign got off to a losing start as Boro's winless run was stretched to seven games.

The first 15 minutes were a scrappy affair and the first shot on goal came just after the quarter-hour but it was a weak 20-yard effort from Wes York that barely troubled visiting keeper Nicky Jupp after a driving run through the centre of the park from the Boro winger.

It took until the half-hour mark for the next moment of excitement as Dave Hibbert crashed a 25-yard drive against the bar but the flag had long been up for an offside in the build-up to the shot. Barnet's first real threat arrived a couple of minutes later as Iffy Allen cleverly made space for himself in the area and fired goalwards but his goalbound effort was superbly blocked by Gavin Cowan.

A couple of set-pieces almost yielded the opening goal for the Boro towards the end of the half but no-one could get a touch on Daniel Sleath's teasing free-kick across the face of goal and Hibbert was unable to get enough power on a header from a lofted delivery and Jupp saved comfortably. The lively York looked Boro's likeliest source of a breakthrough and after he cut into the box from the right, his goalbound curler was blocked by Barnet defender Valentin Gjokaj.

Having been poor in the first half, Barnet came out of the blocks on fire after the break and had four chances to break the deadlock inside the first five minutes as Boro keeper James Belshaw earned his corn. The first chance was perhaps the best of the bunch as Sam Muggleton's long throw – a weapon that caused Boro trouble all afternoon – fell to Allen at the far post but he did not connect as well with his effort as he would have liked and James Belshaw grasped it gratefully.

Belshaw was beaten moments later as Harry Crawford's 25-yard drive looped up horribly off Gaz Dean but fortunately for the keeper the ball landed on the roof of the net. The resultant series of corners produced two further opportunities for the Bees but Belshaw pushed Allen's near-post effort wide and tipped a Crawford shot over.

However, Barnet's pressure finally produced the opening goal on 56 minutes and this time Belshaw had no chance as Gjokaj's rocket from 25 yards flew into his top corner. Boro huffed and puffed in their search for a leveller and they almost found one 14 minutes from time as centre-half Cowan lobbed Jupp but the recovering Gjokaj cleared off the line.

Theo Streete headed wide from a late corner as Boro's pressure mounted but Barnet defended stubbornly to protect the victory that, on the balance of play, they probably deserved.

Kidderminster Harriers v Nuneaton Town 21-04-2014

Kidderminster: Lewis, L. Vaughan, Grimes, Demetriou, Dunkley, Bell (Storer 77), O'Keefe, Gittings (Cieslewicz 54), Gash (Morgan-Smith 45), Byrne, Blissett. Subs: N. Vaughan, Wright.

Boro: Eve, Streete, Dean, Gordon, Cranston, Sleath, Trainer, Walker, Brown, Pearson (Moult 76), Taylor (York 80). Sub: Belshaw.

Boro made the journey to Aggborough to play Kidderminster Harriers in a Conference Premier game.

Harriers went close to making a breakthrough early on when Callum Gittings burst past a couple of Boro players before hooking a shot at goal that glanced just wide of the target.

With just seven minutes gone Che Dunkley nodded a header down that crashed into the side netting; Josh O'Keefe's volley off a Nathan Blissett knock-down then deflected just over the top as chances kept on coming and Blissett got in a powerful header from a free-kick delivery which was just wide.

Adam Walker crossed for Nuneaton on 26 minutes as they fashioned their first opening of the day but Connor Taylor fluffed his lines in front of goal with a miss-kick; Gash then went close up at the other end as he looked to latch on to Dunkley's long pass.



Gareth Dean heads away from goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro slowly edged themselves further into the game and five minutes before the break Danny Lewis was forced into a good save – he got down well to secure the ball off Michael Gash's header as the striker tried to clear a Town free-kick.

Early in the second half, headers from defensive duo Dunkley and Jamie Grimes sent Harriers close once more, but it was the visitors who went within inches of a first goal near the hour mark as a Danny Sleath free-kick curled towards goal and clipped the post before heading out. Jack Byrne was next to have a chance for the home side as they kept racking up the attempts on goal – the midfielder's rising effort from 20 yards almost dipping into the net before Eve intervened with a strong palm over the bar.

With just a quarter of an hour to go a trademark, powerful run from sub Adrian Cieslewicz sliced the visitors open and after he managed to beat Eve to the ball, it spilled to the feet of Mickey Demetriou who saw his goal-bound attempt cleared from almost on the line. Soon after, Walker blazed over the bar for Nuneaton from close range when placed to do much better but, all in all, a frustrating afternoon came to an end without any more goal mouth action.

Nuneaton Town v Dartford 19-04-2014

19-04-2014

Boro: Belshaw, Streete, Dean, Gordon, Cranston, Sleath, Trainer, Walker, Brown (Pearson 68), Moult (Delfouneso 88), York (Taylor 46). Subs: Eve, Cowan.

Dartford: Julian, Clark, McAuley, Burns (Vint 68), Swallow (Dembele 46), Collier, Bradbrook, Stevenson, Woodyard (Adams 61). Subs: Holloway, Harris.

Boro welcomed Dartford to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

A hat-trick from Louis Moult ensured that Boro's season ended on a high note. The game was only seven minutes old when Boro came close to breaking the deadlock. Without a goal in the whole of April, Nuneaton did not look shot-shy, as

Phil Trainer saw his scruffy looking volley cannon back off the bar after it looped over Alan Julian in the Dartford goal.

Dartford were not getting a look in at this stage and were hanging on. However, against the run of play the visitors took the lead on 17 minutes. A corner from Ben Swallow evaded everyone in the box, the ball falling at the feet of Rory McAuley who stabbed it home from two yards out.

Boro continued to dominate and Adam Walker and Wes York flashed efforts off target as the home side continued to create chances. It was only a matter of time until they drew level and they did just that in the 27th minute. Jordan Cranston was the creator after he jinked his way to the byline and pulled the ball back to Louis Moul. The Boro striker had the easy task of side footing an effort past Julian from five yards out. Moul's second on 37 minutes was nothing short of quality. A through ball found him in acres of space in the penalty area, and he brought the ball down and side footed it past Julian in one fluid movement.

Moul really should have tied up his hat-trick in the 62nd minute but after being delightfully fed through by Danny Sleath he could only blast his effort straight at Julian in the Dartford goal. One minute later and Moul did make it a treble, once again Cranston was the provider, and once again Moul finished the cutback with ease from close range.

Conference Premier 2013-2014

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Luton Town	46	30	11	5	102	35	101
Cambridge United	46	23	13	10	72	35	82
Gateshead	46	22	13	11	72	50	79
Grimsby Town	46	22	12	12	65	46	78
F.C. Halifax Town	46	22	11	13	85	58	77
Braintree Town	46	21	11	14	57	39	74
Kidderminster Harriers	46	20	12	14	66	59	72
Barnet	46	19	13	14	58	53	70
Woking	46	20	8	18	66	69	68
Forest Green Rovers	46	19	10	17	80	66	67
Alfreton Town	46	21	7	18	69	74	67
Salisbury City	46	19	10	17	58	63	67
Nuneaton Town	46	18	12	16	54	60	66
Lincoln City	46	17	14	15	60	59	65
Macclesfield Town	46	18	7	21	62	63	61
Welling United	46	16	12	18	59	61	60
Wrexham	46	16	11	19	61	61	59
Southport	46	14	11	21	53	71	53
Aldershot Town	46	16	13	17	69	62	51
Hereford United	46	13	12	21	44	63	51
Chester	46	12	15	19	49	70	51
Dartford	46	12	8	26	49	74	44
Tamworth	46	10	9	27	43	81	39
Hyde	46	1	7	38	38	119	10

Boro Release Five

Nuneaton Town have released five players. They are: Jon Adams, Greg Pearson, Phil Trainer, Emmitt Delfouneso and Wes York. The retained list includes Theo Streete, Delroy Gordon, Gareth Dean and Andy Brown. Those offered new contracts are: Adam Walker, James Armson and Louis Moul. Invited back for pre-season are Dave Hibbert, Danny Sleath, Connor Taylor and Simon Forsdick.

Players Agree New Contracts

Five players have committed to the club for next season with Adam Walker, James Armson, Theo Streete, Gavin Cowan and Delroy Gordon all accepting new one year deals.

Also on board for next season are Ben Starosta, who joins from Global in The Philippines and Connor Franklin who joins from Alfreton Town, having previously played for Nuneaton Borough in the Conference.

Streete Cleans Up

Defender Theo Streete has cleaned up at the Player of the Year Awards Ceremony. He walked away with all four first-team player of the year awards – Supporters' Player of the Year, Away Player of the Year, manager's Player of the Year and Players' Player of the Year.

Terry Bell Dies



Former Nuneaton Borough player Terry Bell has died aged 69 following a long battle with Alzheimer's Disease. Bell joined Boro in the close season of 1965 from Portsmouth after spells with Nottingham Forest and Manchester City.

The cultured inside-forward was released by Dudley Kernick at the end of the 1965-66 season but he did have the honour of scoring twice against Leicester City in the first-ever floodlit match at Manor Park in October 1965.

In the summer of 1966 he became Brian Clough's first signing for Hartlepool United. After leaving Hartlepool he had successful spells with Reading and Aldershot before moving back into non-league football with Wokingham Town and Hillingdon Borough.



AFC Halifax Town — 4th Qualifying Round

Borough welcomed AFC Halifax Town to Liberty Way to play a FA Cup 4th Qualifying Round tie.

Boro: Belshaw, A. Bell, Walker (M. Bell 71), Dean, Adams (Hibbert 68), Armson, Moulton, Richens (Pearson 88). Subs: Taylor, Gordon, Sleath, McNamee.

Halifax: Glennon, Smith, Gardner (Worthington 71), Lowe, Gregory, Maynard, Pearson, Roberts, Toulson, Ainge, McManus. Subs: Senior, Johnson, McReady, Wilson, Holsgrove, Marshall.

Boro's alarming slide continued as they were dumped out of the FA Cup by Conference Premier rivals Halifax.

Two quality strikes from Lee Gregory and Scott McManus were enough as the home side again failed to turn possession and chances into goals.



Matt Glennon collects a cross under pressure from Louis Moulton.

Photo: Simon Kimber



Wes York challenges Simon Ainge for a header.

Photo: Simon Kimber

A re-shaped side featured Theo Streete moved from right-back to the centre of defence with Phil Trainer recalled from a loan spell at Stratford to play in the heart of midfield. Wes York pushed up front to partner Louis Moulton.

It seemed to be working – for 17 minutes at least – in an even start to the tie. But then Boro's luck ran out.

Adam Smith tried to trick his way in on the right and promptly fell over but his unplanned tumble wrong-footed the

home defence and he got up quickly to cross waist-high towards Gregory, who volleyed down and in off the post, giving James Belshaw no chance. It was the striker's fourth goal in the last two games.

But that setback only seemed to spur the home side on and they were a whisker away from being level when Adam Walker's swerving shot brought a terrific one-handed save at full stretch from Matty Glennon.

The pressure mounted on Halifax with a succession of corners, one of which – supplied by James Armson – dropped kindly for Moulton, whose shot went under Glennon but was hacked off the line by Ryan Toulson.

Jon Adams then lashed in a long-range drive that took a slight deflection as it fizzed just a foot wide of the target,

Michael Richens was off target with an audacious 40-yard lob while Walker was just over with another 20-yarder.

But that was as close as Boro got and they fell further behind in the 62nd minute.



Dave Hibbert battles for possession with a Halifax defender.

Photo: Nuneaton News

Danny Lowe clattered into Moulton and sent the ball forward to McManus, who left Belshaw grasping at thin air with a stunning 20-yard left-foot finish.

The writing was on the wall and two glancing headers from substitute David Hibbert apart there was little in the way of tangible threat on the Halifax goal.

And but for a late block from Belshaw when a Smith cross dropped nicely for McManus, the margin of defeat would have been greater.

Alfreton Town — 1st Round Proper

Boro made the journey to The Impact Arena to play Alfreton Town in the FA Trophy 1st Round Proper.

Alfreton: Atkins, Law (Meadows 63), Franklin, Wylde, Westwood, Wood, McGrath (Shaw 74), A. Taylor, Clayton, Bradley, Hooper (Wishart 63). Subs: Kempson, Rowe-Turner.

Boro: Roos, Streete, Dean, Gordon, Delfouneso, Sleath, Trainer, Walker, Hibbert, Moul, York (C. Taylor). Subs: Adams, Belshaw, Barroihet.

A brilliant free-kick by Louis Moul gave Nuneaton Town a second victory against Alfreton Town in a week as they won their FA Trophy first round tie 1-0 on Saturday.

Moul's curler from 25 yards after 53 minutes was enough to earn a deserved win and £5,000 in the process.

There was little between the sides in the first half as chances and entertainment were limited.

It took 18 minutes for either keeper to be tested as Dave Hibbert linked up with Moul, the latter seeing his shot comfortably gathered in by Ross Atkins.

Alfreton's closest effort of the half came four minutes later as Paul Clayton met Alastair Taylor's cross with a good header from fully 18 yards that went a yard over Kelle Roos' bar.

On the half hour Hibbert and Moul continued to show signs they are on the same wavelength as Hibbert released Moul.

He couldn't get away from Michael Wylde so was forced to shoot early, firing wide from the edge of the box.

Roos was finally tested with a shot on target, but even that was pretty tame as he gathered in Taylor's shot from 20 yards.

Just like against Chester, Moul lit up a poor game with a moment of brilliance. This time he lined up a free-kick 25 yards out and buried the ball in the bottom corner with a fantastic curler.

Atkins gave him a fair amount to aim at, but just like his free-kick at Dartford, this was some effort.

Boro almost gifted Alfreton a route back into the game soon after as Roos and Delroy Gordon hesitated. Clayton nipped in but he could only head wide from a difficult angle.

The game had opened up somewhat for a spell as Hibbert and Moul again combined, but this time it was Hibbert who dragged a shot wide.

With James Armson out of the side Moul was on corner duty and he whipped a great ball in after an hour that had Atkins flapping.

Gaz Dean and Emmitt Delfouneso both got shots in but they were blocked as Boro pressed for a second.

A terrible free-kick almost led to another Nuneaton chance as the ball was presented to Adam Walker. He and Moul raced over halfway but Alfreton got sufficient numbers back to snuff out the danger.

Without playing that well Boro were on top and creating half chances, one of which saw Hibbert show his power before shooting wide from 20 yards.

Alfreton were struggling to make chances, leaving central defender Wylde to shoot from fully 35 yards. There looked to be little on but he had Roos scrambling as it went just wide.

Danny Sleath had the chance to kill the game off with two minutes to go when he raced on to Moul's hook on but his lob was gathered in easily by Atkins.

There was a final chance in stoppage time for Alfreton as Clayton's scissor kick fell for Tom Shaw but he could only slide the ball straight at Roos from six yards.

Gosport Borough — 2nd Round Proper

Borough made the journey to Privett Park to play Gosport Borough in the FA Trophy 2nd Round Proper.

Gosport: Ashmore, Poate, Pearce, Molyneaux, Woodward, Smith, Gosney, Dunford, Forbes, Sills (Williams 74), Bennett (Wooden 74). Subs: Wilde, Barfoot, Igoe.

Boro: Roos, Streete, Dean, Gordon, Armson, Sleath, Trainer, Walker, Hibbert (Ladapo 71), Moul, York (Taylor 86). Subs: Adams, Belshaw.

Boro came into the match on the back of five consecutive wins in all competitions but couldn't find a way past their Conference South opponents, and the two sides will now meet again at Liberty Way.

Kevin Wilkin's men could have had the tie sown up by half time but for a number of missed chances, before the windy south coast conditions allowed the hosts to get back into the game in the second period, almost snatching the victory late on.

Wilkin named a strong team for the Trophy tie, with James Armson replacing Amari'i Bell in the only change from last Saturday's win at Hereford, following Bell's recall by Birmingham City.

Boro almost took the lead inside the first minute as Louis Moul caught the hosts' keeper out of position but his shot from the edge of the area went narrowly wide.

Dave Hibbert headed straight at the keeper as Nuneaton continued to press, while at the other end Kelle Roos had to be alert to keep out Tom Dunford's shot. The best chance of the half came ten minutes before the interval as Hibbert released Wes York, whose lob looked to be goalbound, but unfortunately it hit the crossbar.

Moul went close again soon after, when his 30-yard effort just cleared the bar, before Sleath also fired over at the end of the half.

It was a different story after the break however as Boro struggled playing against the strong costal wind. Gosport started to come into the contest, and mid-way through the half Justin Bennett saw a long-range effort almost



catch out Roos, only to land on the roof of the net.

With four minutes remaining Dan Wooden was sent clear, but with only Roos to beat, the substitute lifted his effort wide of the post.

Roos had yet to concede a goal in his previous four Boro appearances, and ensured that run would continue when, in the last minute, he tipped Rory Williams' effort round the post, meaning the two teams will have to meet again.

Gosport Borough — 2nd Round Proper Replay

Borough welcomed Gosport Borough to Liberty Way to play a FA Trophy 2nd Round Proper replay.

Boro: Roos, Streete, Dean, Gordon, Armson, Sleath, Trainer, Walker, Ladapo, York, Taylor (Moult 65). Subs: Adams, Belshaw.

Gosport: Ashmore, Poate, Pearce, Molyneaux (Igoe 120), Brown, Smith, Gosney, Wooden, Dunford, Forbes, Williams (Bennett 94). Subs: Wilde, Woodward, Barfoot.

A desperately depleted Nuneaton Town team were knocked out of the FA Trophy on penalties by Conference South strugglers Gosport Borough on Tuesday night.

The hosts were without key players and it showed as they turned in a terrible performance against a deserving but distinctly average Gosport side.

It was 0-0 after 120 turgid minutes where the visitors could easily have won but for poor finishing and good saves from Nuneaton keeper Kelle Roos.

It went to the almost inevitable penalties and Louis Moult and James Belshaw, on as a specialist penalty taker, missed.

Gosport scored four of their penalties,

giving them a 4-2 win and a trip to Southern League side Hungerford Town in the third round.

Boro's desperate injury problems were there for all to see when the teams were announced as they were able to name just three substitutes, including a goalkeeper.

Top scorer Moult and strike partner Dave Hibbert were the latest to go down, Moult through illness and Hibbert due to a hamstring strain.

Moult was at least fit enough for the bench, but with Andy Brown (eye) still out, it was Freddie Ladapo and Connor Taylor upfront.

Manager Kevin Wilkin named a 3-5-2 formation due to their plethora of problems. Wes York and Danny Sleath were the wing-backs with James Armson moving into central midfield.

By the end of the game Theo Streete was on the list as he hobbled through extra-time when he really should have come off.

Injury problems were not confined to the host team as scheduled match official Richard Wigglesworth slipped on the way into the ground and hurt his head according to Boro officials. He was replaced by Matthew Jones.

The new shape did not work at all as Boro struggled terribly for any rhythm. Their only opening of the half came when Gaz Dean's well aimed clearance released Ladapo.

He looked to be in on goal when he was hauled down by Brett Poate, but the replacement referee was unmoved.

When Gosport cleared Delroy Gordon's back header fell short to put Dan Wooden in on goal. He was the man who missed a one-on-one on Saturday and once again he put a glaring chance past the post.

That was on 17 minutes. Six minutes later the visitors slipped Jamie Brown in but Roos flew out to make a fine diving block.

The keeper denied the same player on the half hour as he took no chances, tipping over his shot from 25 yards.

The 3-5-2 experiment was then not surprisingly abandoned as Boro reverted to 4-4-2 with York making his first appearance as a right-back.

It was no better at the start of the second half, prompting Wilkin to introduce Moult with 25 minutes to play. York's full-back stint was a short one as he went up front in a switch to a 4-3-3 formation. Armson was the new right-back.

Gosport had a strong claim for a penalty turned down when Armson appeared to handle in the box but once again the referee was unmoved.

There was one final chance when Mike Gosney fired wide, but it went to the inevitable extra time. Boro picked up slightly in the first half as Adam Walker fired just wide and Danny Sleath saw a header saved – their first effort on target coming after 104 minutes.

Gosport could have won it with eight minutes to go when two players missed the ball at the far post, but it was not to be.

They had a final chance when Justin Bennett got away from Dean with two minutes to go, but Roos made another good save, blocking as he stood up.

As penalties loomed both sides made changes, including Belshaw for Boro with the shoot-out in mind. However, they were denied as Moult's effort was well saved and Belshaw hit the post. Adam Wilde missed for Gosport as Roos saved. It mattered not.



Skill Conference Premier: Fixtures, Results & Scorers - 2013-14

Nuneaton Scores First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers	Attendance
07.13	Coventry City	H	PSF	1-4	Moult	1595
07.16	Burton Albion	H	PSF	0-0		
07.20	Worcester City	H	PSF	0-0		
07.25	Nuneaton Griff	A	PSF	6-0	Verna (3), Walker, Trainer, Pearson	280
07.27	Cambridge City	A	PSF	3-1	Moult (2), York	
07.30	Solihull Moors	A	PSF	0-1		
08.03	Leamington	A	PSF	0-2		
08.10	Macclesfield Town	A	SP	1-0	Moult	1585
08.13	Forest Green Rovers	H	SP	1-1	Brown	1005
08.17	Southport	H	SP	3-1	Moult (2), Walker	919
08.24	Barnet	A	SP	1-1	Brown	1507
08.26	Kidderminster Harriers	H	SP	0-1		1481
08.31	Grimsby Town	A	SP	2-1	Cowan, Brown	3321
09.07	Wrexham	H	SP	2-0	Brown, Moult	1561
09.14	Dartford	A	SP	2-1	Moult (2)	1155
09.17	Hereford United	H	SP	2-1	York, Moult	1085
09.21	Salisbury City	H	SP	1-2	Moult	1355
09.24	Cambridge United	A	SP	0-3		3740
09.28	Woking	A	SP	0-2		1272
10.01	Stratford Town	A	BSC 1	3-1	Armson (2), M. Bell	180
10.05	Lincoln City	H	SP	2-2	York, Brown	1634
10.08	FC Halifax Town	A	SP	2-2	York (2)	1197
10.12	Braintree Town	H	SP	1-1	Streete	1031
10.19	Gateshead	H	SP	1.4	Moult	946
10.26	AFC Halifax Town	H	FAC 4Q	0-2		1043
11.02	Hyde United	A	SP	2-2	Lapado, Hibbert	447
11.12	Forest Green Rovers	A	SP	0-1		933
11.16	Welling United	A	SP	2-1	Armson, Lapado	807
11.23	Chester	H	SP	1-0	Moult	1220
11.26	Alfreton Town	H	SP	3-0	Walker, Hibbert, York	715
11.30	Alfreton Town	A	FAT 1	1-0	Moult	343
12.03	Banbury United	A	BSC 1	0-1		58
12.07	Hereford United	A	SP	1-0	Moult (pen)	1292
12.14	Gosport Borough	A	FAT 2	0-0		284
12.17	Gosport Borough	H	FAT 2 R	0-0	Lost 4-2 on penalties	426
12.21	Woking	H	SP	0-2		895
12.26	Tamworth	A	SP	1-1	Streete	1347
12.28	Cambridge United	H	SP	0-0		1478
01.04	Southport	A	SP	0-1		811
01.11	Gateshead	A	SP	1-2	Walker	726
01.18	Macclesfield Town	H	SP	1-0	Brown	1002
01.25	Luton Town	A	SP	0-3		7310
01.28	Aldershot Town	H	SP	2-1	Brown, Moult	718
02.01	Salisbury City	A	SP	1-2	Sleath	740
02.04	Lincoln City	A	SP	2-1	Walker, Streete	1772
02.15	Hyde United	H	SP	1-0	Armson	876
02.22	Luton Town	H	SP	0-5		3480
03.01	Chester	A	SP	3-3	Moult, Brown (2)	2214
03.08	Welling United	H	SP	2-0	Brown, Hibbert	929
03.11	Tamworth	H	SP	1-0	Delfouneso	1097
03.15	Aldershot Town	A	SP	2-2	Cowan, Armson (pen)	1606
03.22	Grimsby Town	H	SP	0-1		1585
03.27	Braintree Town	A	SP	1-2	Hibbert	802

Skrill Conference Premier: Fixtures, Results & Scorers - 2013-14

Nuneaton Scores First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers	Attendance
03.29	Alfreton Town	A	SP	1-1	Armson	789
04.05	FC Halifax Town	H	SP	0-1		1041
04.12	Wrexham	A	SP	0-3		2706
04.19	Barnet	H	SP	0-1		852
04.21	Kidderminster Harriers	A	SP	0-0		2022
04.26	Dartford	H	SP	3-1	Moult (3)	903

KEY : SP = Skrill Conference Premier, FAC = F.A.Cup, FAT = F.A. Trophy, BSC = Birmingham Senior Cup, PSF = Pre season friendly



Nuneaton Town 2013-14

Back row (left to right): Paul Egan (physio), John Warren (fitness coach), Theo Streeete, Gareth Dean, Dimitar Evtimov, Gavin Cowan, James Belshaw, Adam Walker, Phil Trainer, Richard Hearn, Darryl Strong.

Middle row (left to right): Martin Winstanley (catering manager), Jason Hood (commercial manager), Mark Bell, James Armson, Greg Pearson, David McNamee, Danny Sleath, Louis Moult, Omar Reiki, Richie Norman (physio), Gemma Brown (office staff), Jodie Faries (office staff).

Front row (left to right): Delroy Gordon, Andy Brown, Connor Taylor, Kevin Wilkin (manager), Mickey Moore (assistant manager), Wes York, Jon Adams, Amari'i Bell.

Moult To Wrexham

Nuneaton Town striker Louis Moult has joined Wrexham, signing a one year deal at the Racecourse Ground. Any compensation due to Nuneaton may have to be decided by a tribunal.

Boro Sign Dyer

Nuneaton Town have signed 22-year-old midfielder Jack Dyer on a two-year contract from Burton Albion. Dyer started his career as a youth team player with Aston Villa before moving to the Pirelli Stadium.

John Joins Boro

Nuneaton Town have completed the signing of former Leicestershire City academy player Jorrin John. The midfielder has represented England at every level up to U-19.

Boro Sign Anton Brown

Nuneaton Town manager Brian Reid has swooped to sign Harrogate Town midfielder Anton Brown. The 27-year-old central midfielder has previously played with Alfreton Town and Coalville Town.

2014-2015

Nuneaton Town v Derby County

08-07-2014

Boro (from): Charles-Cooke, John, Franklin, Cowan, Dean, Streete, Armson, Walker, Brown, Wright, Dyer, Starosta, Gordon, Deeney, Simmonds, Yussef.

Boro welcomed Derby County to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly match.

The first 15 minutes started well for Boro as they managed to adapt to the new 5-3-2 formation that manager Brian Reid had them start out with. Gavin Cowan, Gareth Dean and Theo Streete made up the new central defensive trio with Connor Franklin and Jorrin John asked to play the wing-back roles. The back-line went largely untroubled during that opening period, meaning keeper Reice Charles-Cooke had little to do.



Boro defend in depth.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Derby, who had named a strong team for the first half that included the likes of Will Hughes, Jeff Hendrick, Kelle Roos and Richard Keogh, were always going to have spells on the ball though. The middle third of the half saw them do just that as the visitors showed a willingness to play the ball around and they began to pick pockets of space in the Boro midfield and beyond. Dean and Cowan both had to make smart tackles to deny Chris Martin and Jamie Ward in quick succession.

The Rams very nearly opened the scoring on the half hour mark, but Charles-Cook came out and saved smartly at the feet of Hendrick after the youngster had danced his way into the area. The best chance of the half came in the last minute for Boro and it fell to a mystery trialist.

The number nine was first to the ball after Derby failed to clear a cross from Jorrin John but he could not keep his effort down and Roos was able to watch it go flying over the bar from eight yards out. Boro were expected to make a number of changes at half-time, but it was the same 11 who came out for the second half. After 50 minutes the Boro were 1-0 down as a mix-up between Gavin Cowan and keeper Charles-Cooke saw Jamie Ward curl in an effort from the edge of the area that somehow found the back of the net.

The next ten minutes saw less action on the pitch than off it as the mass substitutions that dominate this stage of the season took place. Boro used the chance to take a look at a number of trialists during this time. The changes made by both teams saw Boro come on strong with former keeper Kelle Roos forced into making a strong save from one of the Boro trialists.

It was against the run of play then, when the Rams doubled their lead in the 76th minute. A deep cross from Lee Naylor eluded everyone in the Boro defence with Mason Bennett on hand at the far post to head past the substitute keeper, Saul Deeney. Nuneaton deserved a goal for their efforts and they got one in the 89th minute from former Tamworth and Lincoln man Nick Wright who played as a trialist. Wright cut inside well and curled an effort past Roos with supreme confidence.

Barwell v Nuneaton Town

12-07-2014

Boro (from): Wren, John, Franklin, Cowan, Dean, Streete, Armson, Walker, Andy Brown, Wright, Dyer, Starosta, Gordon, Simmonds, Yussef, Quinn, Mekki, Gott, Anton Brown, Nti, Kavanagh, Diyuka, Zanni.

Boro made the journey to Kirkby Lane to play Barwell in a pre-season friendly game.

Jimmy Ginnelly had set his Barwell side up as a physical and intimidating team in the first half, and playing with a number of trialists, the Boro could not match their lower league hosts. Boro just never settled and it was no surprise that it was the home side who went into the break with the lead. That opening goal did not come until the 40th minute though, as a long ball simply caught the Boro defence unaware, allowing Olly Brown-Hill the chance to run in one-on-one with trialist keeper James Wren.



Wren managed to deny the Barwell frontman at the first time of asking, but the rebound cruelly fell at the feet of the number nine once again, allowing him the easy task of rolling the ball past the grounded Wren and into the empty net. The lead was no less than the home side deserved.

Reid was quick to make changes in the second half as he sent on some Boro favourites with skipper Gaz Dean, midfielder James Armson and striker Andy Brown all coming off the bench at the break. Their introduction saw the Boro begin to match their hosts physically for the first time. It also saw the Boro begin to ask questions of their own. And, with 20 minutes to go Boro drew level.

Brown deserved the goal himself after brushing aside his marker and turning neatly in the box, but the Boro number 10 was unselfish, as he teed-up trialist Pablo Diyuka instead. The Argentinean showed an amazing eye for goal as he drilled the ball low and hard into the bottom corner of the net from 10-yards out. If that finish was good from Diyuka then his second just minutes later was even better. He managed to connect to a close range cross and pulled off a remarkable swivelled header that nestled into the far corner of the net. The quick-fire double took the spirit from Barwell as they could not muster a response in the last 15 minutes.

Quinn Signs Up

Nuneaton Town manager Brian Reid has secured the signature of former Coventry City youth player Ryan Quinn on a free-transfer. Also, 17-year-old youth team player Daniel Kavanagh has been awarded a contract.

Nuneaton Town v Notts County 15-07-2014

Boro: Charles-Cook, Dean, Cowan (Gordon 54), Streete; Zanni (Kavanagh 67), Dyer (Starosta 67), Anton Brown (Walker 54), Armson (Quinn 63), John (Mekki 63); Diyuka (Nti 76), Andy Brown. **Sub:** Wren.
Notts County (starting XI): Spiess, Thompson, Hollis, Mullins, Keane, A. Dawson, Smith, Noble, Wroe, Ismail, Murray. **Subs:** Andrews, Dixon, McKenzie, McGowan, Symons, Whitehouse, L. Dawson, Balmy, Waite, Fyfe.

Boro welcomed Notts County to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

No trophies are won and lost in pre-season, no league standings are decided either. The games are often littered with substitutions and at times, like on Tuesday night, the players identities are kept from the fans and media alike. But every so often, the football breaks out, and for the 510 supporters who saw Nuneaton hold their own against Notts County they were able to see a changing of the tide. Gone is the 4-4-2 that the Boro used week in, week out last time round.

In the three games so far Brian Reid has favoured a back three, and against County that was beginning to bear fruit. Nuneaton looked comfortable in possession and, truth be told, they were the better side against League One opponents. From the safety of the stands it was impossible

to see any difference in quality as the Reid revolution put on its best 90 minute showing yet. Notts County were certainly not here to mess about as they named a strong line-up that included former England and Leeds United man Alan Smith.

The Boro managed to hold their own though, as Theo Streete in particular was proving a defensive rock. The Magpies had a lot of possession, but in their new back three formation, the Boro were stopping them from doing anything with it. At the other end, one of the two Argentinian trialists, Hernan Zanni, was showing his array of skills, looking tricky whenever he picked up the ball.

He should have scored when he linked up with Andy Brown in the 37th minute, but he was thwarted by Fabian Speiss in the County goal. From the resulting corner Gaz Dean saw his header cleared off the line by Speiss. The Boro were asking plenty of questions at this point as only a stray leg denied James Armson after the Boro midfielder struck a wonderful effort from the edge of the area, the ball clearing a flurry of players before it was blocked just short of the line.

It was not all Boro though, as skipper Gaz Dean had to produce a wonderful tackle to deny Zeli Osmail, nipping in and sliding the ball away when the Magpies forward was clean through. The second half did not see wholesale changes as both managers gave their sides a little more time to enjoy the run-out. The changes did eventually come as Brian Reid had another look at Adam Mekki from the bench. Whereas Reid made his changes in twos and threes, County boss Shaun Derry made them all in one go, bringing on eight players with 15 minutes to go.

One player who did survive the changes was trialist Reice Charles-Cook, and he was called into action with 12 minutes to go. The former Arsenal keeper did well to deny Elliott Whitehouse as the Magpies man jumped highest at the far post and sent a header goalwards. That proved to be the last real goalmouth action of the night as neither side got out of second gear late on. Reid will not be worried by that though, as his Boro team did more than enough to leave people excited by the season to come.

Nuneaton Town v Coventry City 19-07-2014

Boro: Wren, Cowan, Dean, Streete, John, Walker, Anton Brown, Armson, Mekki, Zanni, Diyuka. **Subs:** Starosta, Quinn, Gordon, Franklin, Kavanagh.

Coventry: **First half:** Burge, Phillips, Webster, Urqhart, Pugh, O'Brien, Finch, Shipley, Swanson, Thomas, Maddison. **Second half:** Alsopp, Willis, Clarke, Seaborne, Haynes, Kelly-Evans, Thomas, Fleck, Lawton, Tudgay, Miller.

Boro welcomed Coventry City to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Coventry's first pre-season friendly came to a spectacularly premature end when a ferocious thunder storm engulfed Liberty Way eight minutes into the second half. The two teams were forced to retreat to the dressing rooms as the

spectators scrambled for shelter and although the downpour ended as suddenly as it began inside ten minutes, the large pools of water all over the pitch made referee Wayne Barratt's inspection a soggy formality.

The Sky Blues conjured up the first genuine chance in the 25th minute as O'Brien whipped a free-kick round the wall but James Wren dived full-length to turn it round the post. But it was Boro who broke through in the 37th minute from another dead-ball situation as City old boy Adam Walker curled in a perfectly-judged delivery from the right and although Lee Burge parried Gavin Cowan's initial header the ball looped up for skipper Gaz Dean to convert with a gentle back-header from virtually on the goal-line.

The second period opened with the floodlights on to combat the gloom produced by the thunderclouds drifting over Liberty Way and after City had almost snatched an equaliser – Conor Thomas' flick beating Wren but ricocheting wide off the far post – but the heavens duly opened.



Gareth Dean's header is goalbound, giving Boro a 1-0 lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro Sign Keeper

Nuneaton Town have signed former Burton Albion and Tamworth goalkeeper James Wren. The 21-year-old joined the Lambs in 2012, but never made a first-team appearance.

Nuneaton Town v West Brom XI

29-07-2014

Boro welcomed a West Bromwich Albion XI to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Boro let slip a two-goal lead after a sparkling first half. Goals from trialists Jordan Robertson and Ben Hutchinson were just reward for Boro's efforts in the opening 45 minutes.

The lively Hutchinson had his first sight of goal three minutes into the contest when he slashed a right-footed strike wide from 20 yards out. James Armson went agonisingly close to opening the scoring a minute later when his close-range prod was scrambled to safety by the Albion goalkeeper. Gavin Cowan endured an indifferent first half but leapt well to head Adam Walker's deep free-kick across goal and just wide.

Walker was key to the game's first goal when his stinging strike

was parried straight to Hutchinson who anticipated well to direct a right-footed shot home on 16 minutes. Boro's lead was almost cancelled out when Cowan was robbed on the edge of his own box, but Reice Charles-Cook raced off his line to tackle a Baggies forward. Great athleticism from Hutchinson at the far post almost saw him climb high enough to divert Trevor Mutero's cross home, and soon after, Armson's toe-poke from six yards out landed at the keeper's toes.

Boro doubled their lead on 34 minutes as Robertson wrong-footed the keeper after Mutero's shot was blocked. The closest the Baggies came to reducing the deficit before the interval was when Gaz Dean overreached failing to meet a cross but Mutero was alert to clear up the danger.

Good work from Armson out wide saw a low cross find Akumbi, only a strong stop from the goalkeeper's legs denying him a goal minutes after being subbed on. Wren saved well from a one-on-one chip, but could do nothing when West Bromwich's Donervon Daniels headed home a free-kick on 66 minutes to halve the deficit. Wren was picking the ball out of his net just three minutes later when Samir Nabi curled a beautiful right-footed strike into the top-right-hand corner of the net.

The high tempo remained after a glut of substitutions but opportunities in front of goal were scant entering the last ten minutes of the game. Zanni blazed a half chance high over the bar as an otherwise entertaining pre-season friendly drew to sedate conclusion.



Ben Hutchinson is congratulated on his goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Vieira Signs

Nuneaton Town have signed Magno Vieira on loan for a month, from Forest Green Rovers. Vieira is a vastly experienced striker, having played for Wigan Athletic, Northampton Town, Barnet, Crawley Town and Wycombe Wanderers amongst others.

The 29-year-old has fallen down the pecking order at The Lawn, and is now in competition with Jon Parkin, Lee Hughes and Luke Rodgers.



Nuneaton Griff v Nuneaton Town 31-07-2014

Griff: Watson, Hutchinson, Aston, D.Faulconbridge, Evans, MG Williams, Barrett, Slinn, Ford, Swan, Bates, Webb. Subs; Mitchell, Davies, Bouable, C. Faulconbridge, M. Williams, Moore.

Boro: Wren, Starosta, Gordon, Smith, Zanni, Quinn, Kearns, Ball, Cadby, Hutchinson, Baker-Richardson. Subs: Micklewaite, Bird, King, Rayson, Donovan, Charles-Cook.

Nuneaton Griff hosted a game against Boro at Liberty Way in a pre-season friendly game.

Griff came from behind to secure a memorable victory over Boro. Corey Faulconbridge's composed one-on-one finish past James Wren settled the result. The Heartlanders had taken an early lead through Michael Swan just five minutes in.

Having scored in Tuesday's draw, striker Ben Hutchinson was one of only two Boro players to start both midweek games and went close from a header on 15 minutes that was foiled by goalkeeper Dave Watson. It was to be a key theme of the first half as Watson made a number of commanding saves, including another from the lively Hutchinson on the half-hour mark and again a few minutes later. Courtney Baker-Richardson was denied by Watson but returned on 34 minutes to thump a header home and level the scores. Hernan Zanni and Baker-Richardson both had chances before half time was called.

Hutchinson grabbed his second goal in 48 hours with a splendid strike off the underside of the bar five minutes into the second half. Griff levelled matters on the hour mark through Ryan Slinn, but Boro missed a chance to regain the lead when Hernan Zanni saw his penalty saved by Watson.

Boro Sign Experienced Striker

Nuneaton Town have signed former Middlesbrough and Glasgow Celtic striker Ben Hutchinson on a one-year deal. The 26-year-old was released by Mansfield during the summer. Boro have also secured the services of goalkeeper Charles Reice-Cook on loan from Coventry City.

Nuneaton Town v Leamington 02-08-2014

Boro: Charles-Cook, Gordon, Cowan, Dyer, Dean, Walker, John, Armson, Viera, Andy Brown, Franklin, Hutchinson (Viera 73). Subs: Quinn, Smith, Wren.

Leamington: Collett, Mace, Morley, Magunda, Pierpoint, Tank, Wint, Goddard, Moore, Newton, Batchelor. Subs: Connolly, Edwards, Moore, Dodd, Hubbins, Maher.

Boro made the journey to the New Windmill ground to play Leamington in a pre-season friendly match.

Debutant striker Magno Viera made a goalscoring start to his Boro career in a stormy encounter. Boro first threatened the Brakes' goal when Connor Franklin headed John's cross firmly into former Boro keeper Neil Collett's hands three minutes in. Collett was less assured moments later when he parried John's shot from the right side of the box but managed to recover the ball.

Indecision at the back for Boro allowed Danny Newton to shoot low across goal, finding the hands of a diving Reice Charles-Cook. Jack Dyer had two stabs at goal with the second fizzing wide after ten minutes. Brave glove work from Collett denied Viera, diving forward to prevent a telling connection from Franklin's low cross from the left.

The goal Boro threatened arrived on 19 minutes when Dyer's speculative long-range shot was diverted sideways by Viera into the path of Brown, who had time and space to fire clinically across Collett and into the net.

Magunda received a red card on 23 minutes allowing Adam Walker, Dyer and James Armson to dictate the pace of the game. Boro doubled their advantage eight minutes before the interval when Franklin's low cross was helped on by Brown, and Viera finished firmly at the far post from close range. It was a neat piece of anticipation from the loanee, adding a finishing touch to his gutsy endeavours alongside strike partner Andy Brown.

Dyer's quick distribution from midfield was allowing Boro to play in dangerous areas and Viera received one such pass with his back to goal, battling hard to work enough space to shoot low and into the keeper's hands in the last chance of the half.

Brown had a snapshot saved minutes after the restart after Matt Dodd slipped in the box as thunder and lightning rattled overhead. A splendid spell of possession from Boro on the hour should have yielded a goal when Dyer's delicate chip was headed tamely wide by John. Driving rain failed to curtail Boro's passing game, forcing Leamington deep inside their own half and earning a raft of corners. Only the post denied Armson when he met Dyer's corner from the right from 10 yards out.

Leamington's best chance of the game arrived on 69 minutes when Jack Edwards met a left wing cross to head just wide. Frustration grew within the Boro ranks as wastefulness on the attack failed to yield clear cut opportunities. Leamington had half chances through Edwards and Luke Hubbins, but both were fielded by Charles-Cook. The final 15 minutes saw the hosts rally and push for a goal in their best spell of the game.

Thorn Appointed Chairman

Former Kettering Town director Lee Thorn has been appointed chairman of Nuneaton Town Football Club and is also now joint owner of the club's Liberty Way stadium.

Nuneaton Town v Eastleigh 09-08-2014

Boro: Charles-Cook, Streete, Cowan (Gordon 68), Franklin (Anton Brown 63), Dean, Dyer (Hutchinson 61), Armson, Walker, John, Vieira. Subs: Starosta, Wren.

Eastleigh: Fitney, Reid, Beckwith, Spence, Green, Reason, Stanley (Wright 80), Midson (McAllister 61), Fleetwood, Strevens, Constable (Evans 75). Subs: Noice, Odubade.

Boro welcomed Eastleigh to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

It was the new-look Boro side, who came closest to breaking

the deadlock – and it was one of their five debutantes who had the chance. A cross from the left-hand side eluded Andy Brown in the box, but it fell nicely for John coming in at the far post. The wing-back smashed the ball sweetly, but it met the crossbar – and not the back of the net – much to the horror of the former Leicester City man.

It was all Nuneaton at this stage, but the opening goal came from Eastleigh nonetheless. A static defence thought that Jai Reason was offside when a scuffed shot found him clear in the box. New keeper Reice Charles-Cook came to narrow the angle, but Reason still managed to prod the ball past him, giving Eastleigh their first goal of the new season. Nuneaton were up against it after the goal as Eastleigh had their tails up.

They held on though, and started to ask more questions as the half wore on. The closest the Boro came to drawing level was with about five minutes to go in the half. An up-and-under by Gaz Dean found Adam Walker in the box, but the midfield man could only poke it out of play as Ross Flitney rushed out.

The Boro must have had a stern word from boss Brian Reid at the break as they came out like a team possessed in the second half. The problem was that they were not creating any real goalscoring chances with their possession. That gave Eastleigh hope and in the 56th minute they made the most of that hope by grabbing their second goal of the game. Craig Stanley was the scorer, picking his spot from the edge of the box and sending a sweet curling effort past the diving Charles-Cook and into the back of the net.



Boro's central defenders push forward.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Reid tried to freshen things up after the goal, bringing on Ben Hutchinson and going to a 4-3-3 formation – but whatever the manager did the chances were not materialising. Eastleigh were not seeing much of the ball, but they had the goals needed to give them comfort. And things were soon to get a lot more comfortable for Richard Hill's side. Just like the first goal, the third was one that left the Boro fuming as Theo Streete was adjudged to have ran the ball out for a throw-in.

Eastleigh managed to work the set-piece to a crossing position where it was flung in – finding Ben Strevens unmarked – and despite the calls for off-side once again, he was allowed to smash it home past Charles-Cook from close range. The goal signalled the end of the game as a competitive affair as neither side went for it after that.

Grimsby Town v Nuneaton Town

12-08-2014

Grimsby: McKeown, Boyce, Thomas (Winfarrah 15), Magnay, Nsiala, McLaughlin, Disley, S. Brown, Clay, Connell, John-Lewis.
Subs: Humble, Bemrose, Walker, Bastock.

Boro: Charles-Cook, Streete, Cowan, Franklin, Dean, Dyer, Anton Brown, Walker, John (Gordon 89), Hutchinson (Armson 72), Andy Brown. **Subs:** Starosta, Wren, Vieira.

Boro made the journey to Blundell Park to play Grimsby Town in a Conference Premier game.

The clouds have lifted over Liberty Way as the Boro pulled off an unlikely draw. Boro showed the kind of fight and desire that has made the club such a success after their rebirth as Town – as they came away from the pre-season favourites for promotion with a well earned point. It was a point that could have turned into three in the second half, after a good Adam Walker effort.



Reice Charles-Cook makes a full-length save to deny The Mariners.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Grimsby started the game the better side in the first half, but the Boro grew into the challenge. The home side had the first chances as Lennell John-Lewis saw his effort well saved by Reice Charles-Cook – the Boro keeper getting up quickly to deny Alan Connell straight after. The quick-fire double effort was the start of a series of half chances for Grimsby, but the Boro were never realistically tested. The first chance for the visitors came in the 16th minute when Andy Brown saw his effort saved by James McKeown.

It seemed to give Boro hope as less than two minutes later former Celtic man Ben Hutchinson headed just wide – before the same man brought a smart save out of McKeown. This was not a game of many chances, though, as the first half turned into a midfield battle. Neither defence was being toughly

tested. That was until just before the break when Charles-Cook had to show his very best to dive full-length and stop a Craig Clay header from creeping in just inside the far post.



Gareth Dean battles with John-Lewis.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Jack Dyer gave the Boro their first chance after the break, but his effort from distance curled over the bar. Andy Brown saw his effort just before the hour mark follow the same path. The Mariners, who were being well marshalled by the resolute Boro backline, did find the occasional opening, as well though, but John-Lewis could not make the most of it, firing wide when left unmarked in a central position. Toto Nsiala fared little better with his effort late-on, the Grimsby man seeing his header deflected onto the bar, though, as the Boro hung-on.

Despite a couple of late chances for the home side, Boro stood firm – putting the defensive disaster from Saturday well out of their systems with a well earned clean sheet. It may not have got the win that Brian Reid wanted – but it went a long way to showing the doubters that the Boro will not be a team to be messed with this season.

Wrexham v Nuneaton Town 16-08-2014

Wrexham: Coughlin, Ashton, Smith, Hudson, Durrell (Bailey-Jones 74), Carrington, Clarke, Harris, Jennings, Moulton, York. **Subs:** Stephens, Rushton, Evans, White.

Boro: Charles-Cook, Streete, Cowan (Vieira 71), Franklin, Dean, Dyer, Anton Brown, Walker, John (Armson 61), Hutchinson, Andy Brown. **Subs:** Starosta, Gordon, Wren.

Boro made the journey to The Racecourse Ground to play Wrexham in a Conference Premier League game.

The wait for a first win of the season – as well as a first goal – must go on for Nuneaton Town after a 1-0 defeat. The game was only four minutes old when Louis Moulton came back to haunt his old club – the former Boro man did what he did so often last season – finding room in the area and side-footing coolly home past Reice Charles-Cook after Elliott Durrell's back-heel was stopped by Theo Streete.

The goal did not kick Boro into life, though, it merely signalled the start of a devastating passage of play from the home team. Firstly Joe Clarke fired wide from the edge of the area, then minutes later Durrell somehow flashed a shot past the post after Moulton had found the tiny forward unmarked

in the box. Boro somehow managed to see-out that period of pressure without conceding again, but they did not look a threat going forward in the process. A header from Andy Brown was the closest they came, but it was never troubling Andy Coughlin in the home goal.

The Boro would have been hoping to emulate their hosts and start the second half on the front foot but it was Kev Wilkin's team that had the best of the play after the restart. They could, and should, have doubled their lead in the 50th minute, but a mixture of some terrible finishing by Durrell – and some great keeping by Charles-Cook – ensured that Boro stayed only one down. Brian Reid brought on James Armson for Jorin John on the hour mark, but still the chances did not come from the switch.

That is why with 20 minutes of the game to go the Boro boss gambled again, swapping Gav Cowan for striker Magno Vieira in a bid to draw level. The switch did not lead to a change in the pattern of play though, as worryingly for Reid, even with three up front the Boro did not pose any threat to Wrexham.

Boro Sign Three

Boro have secured the signings of Tyrell Waite, Jordan Cranston and Exodus Geohaghton. Waite joins on a month-long loan from Notts County while defenders Cranston, 21 and Geohaghton, 29, have agreed permanent deals. Geohaghton has been a free agent since leaving Solihull Moors.

Nuneaton Town v Barnet 23-08-2014

Boro: Charles-Cook, Streete, Franklin, Dean, Dyer (Walker 61), Gordon, Anton Brown, Armson (Quinn 84), John, Andy Brown, Waite. **Subs:** Hutchinson, Wren, Vieira.

Barnet: Stack, N'Gala, Stephens, Johnson, Cook (Mugleton 71), Togwell, Weston, Vilhete, Yiadom, Akinde (Lowe 84), MacDonald (Marsh-Brown 69). **Subs:** Saville, Cowler.

Boro welcomed Barnet to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

Boro have now gone more than six hours without a goal as they lost their third game of the season, although they started brightly, but that was of no help to them in the seventh minute when Charlie MacDonald slammed home an early spot-kick. The decision was given when Andy Yiadom crossed into a group of Boro defenders, with the referee Lee Sabey adjudging the ball had hit the hand of Anton Brown in the box. Boro were stunned by the goal and it was no surprise when the Bees doubled their advantage on 12 minutes.

John Akinde was denied by Reice Charles-Cook in the 10th minute, but despite making a great near post save from MacDonald two minutes later, the Boro keeper was helpless to stop the Bees skipper from slamming home the rebound. If Boro reacted badly to going one down they made amends after going two behind. Heads did not drop and they could have halved the deficit on 15 minutes, Theo Streete having to watch his far post header somehow fly inches past the far post after a James Armson free-kick was excellently swung in.

The same man came even closer on 18 minutes as well. His pacy cross catching a deflection off Lee Cook and cannoning back off the Barnet bar. The Boro could not keep up that momentum, though, as the first half fizzled out. The second half seemed to be suffering from the malaise – that was until Andy Brown tried a speculative volley from fully 35 yards.

The effort brought cheers of appreciation from the Boro faithful, but more importantly for boss Brian Reid, it sparked a bit of life into the home side. Suddenly Anton Brown was flying into tackles again and Tyrell Waite had the bit between his teeth.

For the second time, though, it looked like the Boro had conceded when they had were on top. Delroy Gordon was adjudged to have fouled Akinde in the box but MacDonald was unable to complete his hat-trick, Charles-Cook producing a phenomenal save to keep the score at two-nil.

With 11 minutes to go Charles-Cook was needed again. His double save from Akinde keeping the Boro within touching distance of the Bees but with time running out.

Boro Sign Fowler And Curran

Nuneaton Town have strengthened their squad with the addition of much travelled midfielder Lee Fowler, who is a Welsh U-21 international and Craig Curran, who began his career with Tranmere Rovers before moving on to Carlisle United and Rochdale.

Fowler started his career with Coventry City and went on to spend time with a number of clubs, including more recently Welsh sides TNS and Cefn Druids.

Braintree Town v Nuneaton Town 25-08-2014

Braintree: Hamann, Davis, Habbergham, Peters, Massey, Clerima, Brundle, Sparkes, D. Walker (Marks 78), Isaac (S. Smith 84), Cox (Bakare 78). **Subs:** Pentney, Maybanks.

Boro: Charles-Cook, Streete, Franklin, Dean (Dyer 80), Geohaghan, Gordon, Smith, Armson, Walker, John (Waite 58), Hutchinson. **Subs:** Vieira, Quinn.

Boro made the journey to Cressing Road to play Braintree Town in a Conference Premier game.

As was the case against Barnet, Boro started well, but once again an early defensive lapse let the opposition in. Whereas Barnet were able to take advantage of that, Braintree were not as Dan Walker rounded Reice Charles-Cook after a routine long-ball, but only found the massive frame of Exodus Geohaghan instead of the back of the net. Braintree looked the more likely to score after that as Kenny Davis sent a lovely volley just over and Mitch Brundle somehow headed over from six yards out.

On the half hour Mark Brundle was able to hit the target but he found Charles-Cook in fine form, the on-loan Boro man was also up quickly to deny Jordan Cox from the rebound. The best Boro chance of the half came out of nowhere, and

with only five minutes to go before the break, as James Armson picked the ball up fully 40-yards from goal and fired a stinging effort that Nick Hamann had to be at his best to tip past the post.

The second half saw a continuation of that pattern as the home side were on the front foot almost from the off, with the Boro seemingly happy to sit back and hit them on the break when the chance arose.

Due to the chosen tactics of both sides the first 20 minutes of the second half was a stalemate. Braintree lacking the quality to break the Boro backline down, Nuneaton lacking the numbers in advanced positions to ask their hosts any meaningful questions. It would have been more than frustrating for Brian Reid then, when his centre-forward Ben Hutchinson saw red in the 73rd minute.



Brundle guides a free-kick round Boro's wall to give the home side their first goal of the game.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The tackle was right in front of the dugouts and saw Hutchinson go in hard and late on Ryan Peters. There were no complaints from the Boro bench as the former Mansfield Town man made his way back to the dressing rooms. Hutchinson had moments earlier headed a Tyrell Waite cross superbly back into the path of Armson but he was unable to get his shot off before he was tackled.

Without the big front man up top the threat that Nuneaton were looking to build seemed to vanish. It was no surprise then when Braintree went 1-0 up, the home side taking advantage of some indecision by Boro to earn a free-kick on the edge of the box that Brundle despatched into the net with top, top quality.

An injury to skipper Gaz Dean saw him go off straight after the goal, compounding a miserable five minute spell for Boro boss Reid. The fight seemed to just evaporate from Nuneaton in the final ten minutes, so a second goal from Braintree was not an unexpected one.

It was taken with style by substitute Michael Bakare as he cut in from the right hand side and curled a fabulous effort past Charles-Cook from the edge of the box. It was a thoroughly miserable end to what had earlier looked like a promising day for Boro. As it stands though, they are goalless, winless and in need of a massive dose of luck and some fighting spirit.

Boro Sign Full-back

Nuneaton Town have signed ex-Wolves player Jordan Cranston, who has been released by the Molyneaux side. The Wales U-19 international had a previous spell at Liberty Way at the end of last season.

Nuneaton Town v Altrincham

30-08-2014

Boro: Charles-Cook, Starosta, Franklin, Geohaghon, Streete, Smith (John 89), Dyer, Armson (Walker 58), Cranston, Brown, Curran (Anton Brown 90). Subs: Wren, Vieira.

Altrincham: Parton, Griffin (Moult 79), Havern, Leather, Richman (Crowther 64) Gillespie (Perry 69), Reeves, Clee, Marshall, Williams, Cavanagh. Subs: Coburn, King.

Boro welcomed Altrincham to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

Boro failed to create an opening in the first 20 minutes, but nor did Altrincham, in what can only be described as a stale start to the match. The closest chance for Nuneaton came in the 29th minute, but Andy Brown was unable to get his head to a drilled cross from Theo Streete, the Boro forward diving full-length, but missing his contact by a matter of inches.

But, with the switch to four across the middle giving the Boro a lot more width, Brown was finally starting to get the service he has been waiting for this season. In the 36th minute he took full advantage of that fact as the number ten rose magnificently in the area and slammed home a wonderful cross from deep by Ben Starosta. David Parton was given no chance by the effort as Brown embraced the Boro fans behind the goal.

The tension visibly lifted from the Nuneaton players after the goal as the touch that had eluded one or two of them in the opening month of the season suddenly returned. They did not create any further chances of note in the half, but they played with a fluidity that had been missing at times this season, making it by far the best 45 minutes Reid will have watched of the campaign.

Boro continued the second half in the same vein as Starosta and Ryan Smith especially were showing a real understanding on the right hand side. It was from the other flank though, that Boro grabbed their second goal after 67 minutes, and it came about after some lovely play by substitute Adam Walker. The midfield man skipped inside two men on the left-hand side before slipping a low cross into the Altrincham box. It was cleared by the defence, but only as far as Jack Dyer, the former Burton Albion man showing remarkable composure to side foot the ball past Parton from 20-yards out.

Boro were coasting at this point, so it was against the run of play when Damian Reeves halved the deficit on 87 minutes. Former Boro man Kyle Perry was involved in the goal and it was his through ball that found Reeves in the box. The Altrincham frontman did the rest, slamming home past Charles-Cook with a venomous effort. Boro defended well after the goal seeing off the challenge of Altrincham.

Torquay United v Nuneaton Town

06-09-2014

Torquay: Rice, Tonge, Downes, Cruise, MacDonald, Richards (Wakefield 80), Young, Cameron (Chapell 31), Ajala, Bowman, Ofori-Acheampong 72). Subs: Seabright, Pearce.

Boro: Charles-Cook, Streete, Franklin (Quinn 69), Starosta, Geohaghon, Smith, Fowler (Dyer 46), A. Brown, Walker, A. Brown, Curran. Subs: John, Wren, Waite.

Boro made the journey to Plainmoor to play Torquay United in a Conference Premier game.

Boro were well beaten as Torquay ran out easy winners. In the eighth minute the home side went close to breaking the deadlock, skipper Luke Young firing a low free-kick from 25-yards that skimmed across the ground and out off the near post. The Gulls continued to look dangerous after that but it was the Boro who came closest to scoring next, Ryan Smith desperately unlucky to see his effort just inside the box fantastically saved by Martin Rice. That save was given more importance on the 20 minute mark as it was the home side – through the dangerous Young – who did indeed score first.

Once again the skipper tried his luck from distance, this time a fortunate bobble in the six-yard box meaning the effort was well out of the reach of the diving Charles-Cook. Young was enjoying his afternoon and in the 28th minute he put his side firmly in the driving seat with a truly wonderful improvised finish. The skipper was found in the penalty area by Duane Ofori-Acheampong, but he did superbly well to find the back of the net from there with a wonderful back-heel flick.



Despite an appalling start to the season, Boro supporters turn out in force at Torquay.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Nuneaton were well in the game up until the first goal and it seemed like they simply faded away after that. One became two and two became three – and there was nothing special about the third whatsoever. A far post corner evaded the whole Boro defence, allowing Aaron Downes the seemingly easy task of heading home from close range.

Brian Reid tried to shake things up a bit at half-time, bringing on Jack Dyer for Lee Fowler, but the change did not alter the pattern of play. Torquay had stretched their lead just 15 minutes into the half and once again the Boro had only themselves to blame. A toe-poked shot-cum-cross by Toby Ajala seemed to pass through a crowd of players in the Boro

box, remarkably finding Ryan Bowman unmarked at the far post where he had the simple task of prodding home past Charles-Cook.

The goal knocked the stuffing out of Boro, but luckily for Reid and his side it also saw the home side drop down the gears once again. The Gulls were content to play some exhibition football, knocking the ball around with the confidence a 4-0 lead after an hour gives a team. This approach led to tempers rising in the Boro team – and it was no surprise when they were reduced to ten men with two minutes remaining. Anton Brown had only just been booked when he picked up his second yellow of the afternoon after a scuffle with Angus MacDonald.

Reid Moves On

Nuneaton Town manager, Brian Reid, has left the club by mutual consent after a disastrous start to the league programme. Mark Noon has been put in temporary charge and will be assisted by Nicky Eaden and James Ellis.

Nuneaton Town v Forest Green Rovers 09-09-2014

Boro: Charles-Cook, Streete, Franklin, Dean, Geohagbon, Dyer, Smith (John 69), Fowler, Walker, Andy Brown, Curran. **Subs:** Starosta, Wren, Quinn, Waite.

Forest Green: Russell, Oliver, Coles, Kamdjo, Stokes, Pipe, Wedgbury, Frear (Kelly 83), Parkin, Sinclair (Guthrie 62), Norwood. **Subs:** Oshodi, Rodgers, Arnold.

Boro welcomed Forest Green Rovers to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

Boro started well, but the closest they came to gaining a reward for their efforts was in the 15th minute, but Adam Walker's effort from distance sailed harmlessly over the bar. That chance, or half-chance, was one of the few created in what was a spirited showing from the Boro boys. They were showing battling qualities that had seemed so few and far between for most of the season, an attitude that was personified by a driving run by Gaz Dean that saw the skipper make a fine tackle in his own half before driving with the ball deep into Rovers territory. The Boro continued to shut Forest Green out in the first half – and they took that attitude into the second.

They did get an early chance after the restart, though, but Connor Franklin saw his effort blocked on the line after a bit of pinball in the penalty area. That chance did not herald the start of a Boro spell of pressure as once again they played the spoiling card on their quality filled opponents. They were stopping Forest Green before they could get going, treating the game much like an away one.

It was ironic then that the Boro scored what would have been a perfect away-day goal as Jorrin John gave the home side the lead with 15 minutes remaining. The deadlock was broken after Adam Walker fed Jack Dyer with a quick slide-rule ball from back to front. The former Burton Albion man took the gauntlet on, passing it on to John who did the rest,

picking up the ball on the edge of the area before beating a man and sending a sizzling effort into the back of the net past a diving Sam Russell.



Jorrin John scores Boro's winner.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The strike was a bolt from the blue, but that hard earned lead was nearly wiped out just ten minutes later. However, Forest Green were denied by the reactions of Reice Charles-Cook. The on-loan Coventry man was at his agile best, somehow getting a hand to a Luke Oliver header from close range and pushing it out of harm's way. It was a save that the on-looking Steve Ogrizovic would have been proud of.

Nuneaton Town v Aldershot Town 13-09-2014

Boro: Charles-Cook, Streete (Waite 85), Franklin (John 42), Dean, Geohagbon, R. Smith, Fowler, Armson (Anton Brown), Walker, Andy Brown, Curran. **Subs:** Hutchinson, Wren.

Aldershot: P. Smith, G. Wilson, Tonkin (Scott 63), Oastler, Lathrope, Forbes (Halton 28), Roberts, Gibbs, Plummer, Williams, Fitchett (Derry 85). **Subs:** Thomas, Diallo.

Boro welcomed Aldershot Town to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

Boro had to settle for a draw but would have been buoyed by their performance and were unlucky not to keep that feel-good factor going inside the opening ten minutes. A free-kick was played into the box by Theo Streete and Andy Brown got on the end of it, unluckily seeing his effort cannon back off the post with Phil Smith beaten all ends up. They went close again five minutes later when Craig Curran was through on goal, he could only fire his effort straight at the onrushing Smith, though.

The two players did not let their heads drop though, as they combined to devastating effect in the 19th minute. Curran sending a fantastic ball into the box where Brown was

unmarked and allowed to head home from close range. Boro continued to threaten after the goal, but Aldershot did start to ask a few questions of their own. Twice Aldershot's Brett Williams watched crosses flash past him at the back post as he was unable to poke them home from close range.



Andy Brown's header is on its way into the net. Photo: Simon Kimber

The Shots continued their revival at the start of the second half as the Boro were defending deep in a bid to keep hold of their first half lead. When they did push forward they still looked dangerous, as Lee Fowler showed, the midfielder absolutely drilling a free-kick from distance that moved in the air before crashing back off the crossbar. Aldershot were lucky to be let off the hook, and they took full advantage of that luck in the 57th minute. A fine cross from Brett Williams was played into the middle of the danger-zone, finding Sam Hatton who did the rest with a wonderful effort that left Reice Charles-Cook with no chance from 10-yards out.

The goal was no less than the visitors deserved as they went for an attacking approach. The game once again fell into a lull after that though, as neither side were able to do enough to grab all three points.

Boro Sign Irish Full-back

Nuneaton Town have signed Leon McSweeney, who most recently was playing for Northampton Town. The 31-year-old had a trial period with Nuneaton Borough in 2005 before moving to Hucknall Town. He then went on to play in the Football League for Stockport County, Hartlepool United, Leyton Orient and Carlisle United before joining the Cobblers.

Bristol Rovers v Nuneaton Town 16-09-2014

Bristol: Mildenhall, Cunnington (Harrison 70), Martin, Gosling (Clarke 85), L. Brown, Mansell, Taylor (White 90+1), Trotman, Sinclair, Lockyer, Parkes. Subs: Puddy, McChrystal.

Boro: Charles-Cook, Streete (Armson 46), Dean, Geohaghan, Smith (Hutchinson 79), Walker, Anton Brown (John 56), McSweeney, Andy Brown, Fowler, Curran. Subs: Wren, Quinn.

Boro made the journey to The Memorial Stadium to play Bristol Rovers in a Conference Premier game.

Cheered on by a near 5,000 crowd, Rovers took the lead from a free-kick five yards out from the by-line. Dave Martin crossed dangerously into a congested penalty area and Boro

keeper Reice Charles-Cook flapped at a clearance and the well positioned Tom Parkes nodded the ball home.

Only heroics from Dean prevented Bristol from doubling their lead with a brave sliding block to deny Stuart Sinclair. Taylor slashed at a half-volley that skidded wide on 10 minutes before Charles-Cook atoned for his error with a magnificent save to deny former Tamworth striker Adam Cunnington a minute later. Rovers broke down Theo Streete's right full-back channel through Martin whose low cross was half-cleared to Cunnington but Charles-Cook raced out bravely to block.

Boro's first chance of the half arrived from Exodus Geohagan's long throw from the left that found Anton Brown, but his header drifted just wide. Boro endured two nervy moments on the half-hour as Charles-Cook flapped at a cross then Dean made a wonderful slide tackle to make up for his own poor clearance. Eight minutes before the break Cunnington held the ball up well inside the box before cutting back to Gosling to side foot wide. Andy Brown went close to levelling when his improvised flick from Craig Curran's left-wing cross just failed to hit the target. Rovers had one more great chance before half time but Lee Brown failed to make a telling connection inside the box as Charles-Cook claimed at the second attempt.

The second-half started as dismally as the first when Taylor brought down Lee Mansell's dinked ball to drill past a helpless Charles-Cook. A minute later, Cunnington had a free header at the far post but his effort looped over. Boro fashioned a good chance on 53 minutes when Lee Fowler's angled pass to Craig Curran saw the forward work space in the box before firing goalwards. Anton Brown deflected the ball but Steve Mildenhall was well-positioned to tip over the bar.

Sensing the need for more energy in midfield, Jorin John entered proceedings in place of Anton Brown after 56 minutes, joining James Armson who arrived at half time in place of Streete. It seemed to have the desired impact as Boro forced a corner on 68 minutes that Fowler delivered perfectly for Dean to power a header home. Rovers sub Ellis Harrison brought the best out of Charles-Cook, diving low to palm a drive around the post.



Gareth Dean's header is on its way into the net. Photo: Simon Kimber

Despite looking slick and comfortable in possession, Rovers still had vulnerabilities and nervously saw off a big penalty appeal when Ryan Smith appeared to be bundled over inside the box. This non-award was punished further a minute later when Gosling showed a calm head to slot home after Boro were caught flat-footed.

Alfreton Town v Nuneaton Town 20-09-2014

Alfreton Town: Dawson, Wood, Rowe-Turner, Graham, Smith, Shaw, Howell, Thanoj (Keane 58), Mellor, Ironside, Hawley (Bradley 90).
Subs: Clayton, Sheridan, McDonald.

Boro: Charles-Cook, McSweeney (Armson 81), Dean, Geohaghton, Franklin, Streete, Fowler, Smith (Hutchinson 69), Walker, Curran (John 83), Andy Brown. **Subs:** Wren, Anton Brown.

Boro made the journey to The Impact Arena to play Alfreton Town in a Conference Premier game.

Lee Fowler, a surprise inclusion after ruling himself out earlier in the day, took the protagonist's role of Boro's architect-in-chief – pulling the strings of Nuneaton's most threatening forays forward, but Boro failed to deliver the finishing touch his build-up play deserved. The omens looked good for Nuneaton's travelling contingent within the opening minutes, as Exodus Geohaghton flicked on a deep Lee Fowler free kick to Craig Curran, whose turn and shot was saved smartly by Cameron Dawson.

Curran and strike partner Andy Brown continued to press Alfreton's backline and, despite some rough treatment from The Reds' defence, looked to have a growing understanding. Alfreton fashioned out the best chance of the first half, as forward Karl Hawley dropped off Geohaghton, but the former Notts County hitman was thwarted by an excellent double stop from the alert Reice Charles-Cook. Boro responded almost immediately to the scare and, after a neat interchange between Fowler and Walker, Curran saw a curling effort flash just wide from the edge of the area. Fowler's set-piece delivery caused the hosts several problems, with Curran's glancing header from a right-wing free kick just creeping over the bar shortly before half time.



Boro put the Alfreton defence under pressure.

Photo: Simon Kimber

It took until the 57th minute for the first clear chance of the second half and Boro should have gone ahead. Geohaghton's long throw fell perfectly for Fowler, but his volley was well saved by Dawson before the ball was returned to Brown, who couldn't find a finish from five yards out.

The home side punished Boro when Hawley was too strong for Gaz Dean as he burst into the box and got to the byline to cut back a great cross for David Mellor to convert from close range. The goal shook Nuneaton and they shrunk back into their shell as the home side asserted themselves. The tricky Hawley saw a deflected 25-yarder stopped by Charles-Cook as Alfreton looked to double their lead and a Tom Shaw free kick required a good save soon afterwards.

Boro threw on Ben Hutchinson, James Armson and Jorrin John as they tried to rescue at least a point from the game, but struggled to create a telling chance in the final third. The closest they came was when another searching Fowler free kick was touched down by Dean, only for Geohaghton to wallop an effort wide from a few yards out. The defeat sees Boro drop further into the relegation zone.

Boro Appoint New Manager

Nuneaton Town have appointed former Coventry City centre-half Liam Daish as their new manager. The 42-year-old Republic of Ireland international has replaced Brian Reid. Daish's playing career saw him represent Cambridge United, Birmingham City and Coventry City before he moved into non-league football with Havant and Waterlooville. He then became manager of Gravesend and Northfleet, where as the newly named Ebbsfleet United they won the FA Trophy and secured a promotion to the Football Conference in 2011.

Mark Noon has parted company with the club after being involved for 11 years.

Nuneaton Town v Dartford 27-09-2014

Boro: Charles-Cook, Franklin, Geohaghton, Dean, Fowler, Walker, Curran, Armson (John 90), McSweeney (Anton Brown 68), Andy Brown (Hutchinson 21), Streete. **Subs:** Wren, John, Anton Brown, Starosta, Hutchinson.

Dartford: J. Brown, E. Bradbrook, Crawford (Harris 58), Burns, Daley (Cornhill 72), Mitchel-King, Collier, Sweeney, Hayes (Bender 71), McAuley, T. Bradbrook. **Subs:** Ibrahim, Green.

Boro welcomed Dartford to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

There was early work for Reice Charles-Cook to do when Tom Bradbrook tested him with a shot before Armson supplied a corner to the head of Andy Brown but under pressure he could not direct the ball on target. Boro were looking sharp in the early exchanges and another Armson effort, curling to the right of Jason Brown's goal, forced the keeper to make a save.

There was danger at the other end when a Luke Daly free-kick found two players unmarked but centre-half Rory McCauley headed wide. Andy Brown limped off and was replaced by



Ben Hutchinson midway through the first half before Boro took the lead in the 35th minute. Jason Brown made a mess of Theo Streete's hanging cross, conceding a corner. The resulting flag kick from Armson wasn't cleared and Curran hooked in his first goal for the club from 12 yards. Harry Crawford fired wide from just inside the area, while Armson played a deft ball over the top for Streete to fizz an effort dangerously across the six-yard box.

At the start of the second half there was a chance for Crawford who got in behind Boro but he lashed his shot well wide of the left-hand post. Hesitancy in the home defence then almost let in Tom Bradbrook who was first to Streete's header back towards Charles-Cook but the Dartford man stabbed the ball over the top. Boro had a real chance to go further ahead, Hutchinson and Adam Walker eventually getting the ball to Armson who twisted and turned the Dartford defence but his left-foot shot was blocked.

Peter Sweeney was a whisker away from levelling, his curling left-foot free-kick going inches wide after Lee Fowler was adjudged to have impeded Tom Bradbrook. Dartford were level in the 78th minute when Jason Brown's long clearance went over the Boro defence. Dean allowed it to bounce then got himself in a mess before wrestling Tom Bradbrook to the ground, conceding a penalty and also receiving a yellow card. Elliot Bradbrook coolly converted the penalty. Boro then had huge appeals for handball in the area turned down.

Seconds later the hosts were made to pay as Sweeney floated the ball in and Harris was unmarked as he headed past Charles-Cook who got a hand on it, but could not keep it out. Anton Brown almost rescued a point with a flicked header from Exodus Geohaghon's enormous throw but Jason Brown at full stretch palmed the ball to safety.

Geohaghon Released

Nuneaton Town have released Exodus Geohaghon. He made his last appearance for the club against Dartford, which was Liam Daish's first game as manager.

Woking v Nuneaton Town 30-09-2014

Woking: Worner, Mc Nerney, Cestor, Murtagh, Arthur, Jones, Goddard, Rendell, Morgan (Betsy 75), Lewis (Newton 66), Marriott (Sole 76).
Subs: Cole, Arnold.

Boro: Charles-Cook, Franklin, Dean, Walker, Armson, Hutchinson, Streete, Anton Brown, Curran (John 75), Fowler, McSweeney.
Subs: Starosta, John, Gordon, Wren, Quinn.

Boro made the journey to The Kingfield Stadium to play Woking in a Conference Premier game.

The visitors started brightly when a slip from Mike Cestor allowed Leon McSweeney to race into the box but his pull back was deflected behind. Woking top goalscorer Scott Rendell flashed a header wide from Dean Morgan's cross. John Goddard fired a low shot across Reice Charles-Cook who saved well low to his right. The Boro keeper was called into

action again minutes later to bravely intercept Jack Marriott's low cross after a surging run from Chris Arthur. Lee Fowler stood up an inviting central ball that Ben Hutchinson glanced wide. Marriott had a glorious opportunity to open the scoring when Arthur's surging left-wing run and low cross located the midfielder, but he blazed over with the goal at his mercy.

Anton Brown was booked for bringing down Goddard, and from the resulting free-kick Charles-Cook fumbled but the ball was hooked away. Nine minutes before the break Cards' captain Joe McNerney hooked a corner wide and Charles-Cook was caught in no-man's land after racing off his line but Woking couldn't capitalise. Arthur pounced on Streete's lapse in concentration to surge beyond Franklin, his pull back found Goddard but Boro piled bodies in front of him to divert the strike over. From the corner, Charles-Cook clawed away a loose ball following a goalmouth scramble.

The momentum of the game swung as Boro created three chances. Curran headed Walker's glorious left-wing cross just over while Curran pulled the ball back onto his right foot and forced a good save from Worner. Hutchinson also had a close-range over-head kick zip just over. Rendell blazed over as the game became wide open. Kevin Betsy entered the game and was immediately in the thick of the action as McSweeney wrestled him to the ground inside the box. Pottage pointed towards the spot but the flag was raised for offside.

With ten minutes to go Armson pounced on a slip to race through one-on-one, the midfielder pulled back onto his left foot inside the box but curled tamely over. Boro rallied in the last ten minutes and put two balls into the Woking box but Worner's rapid work off the line snuffed out the danger.

Sole lunged into a collision with Charles-Cook and the keeper reacted poorly squaring up to the Woking man, both were booked. But Sole was back in the last minute of normal time to curl a free-kick beyond Charles-Cook's despairing dive.

Daish Makes Double Signing

Liam Daish has secured the loan signing of Adam Dawson from Leicester City and ex-Luton Town defender Anthony Charles. Dawson has gained non-league experience with FC United of Manchester and Barrow while Charles has league experience with Plymouth Argyle and Luton Town.

Nuneaton Town v Lincoln City 04-10-2014

Boro: Charles-Cooke, Franklin, Dean, Charles, Streete, Armson, Fowler (Anton Brown 90), Dawson, Curran, Hutchinson, Dyer (Walker 53).
Subs: Cowan, Smith, Wren.

Lincoln: Townsend, Newton, N. Brown, Miller, Anderson (Diagne 26), Marshall, Mendy, Ledsham, Nolan (Power 59), Sam-Yorke, Tomlinson.
Subs: Preece, Caprice, Jordan.

Boro welcomed Lincoln City to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

Liam Daish went in search of his first Boro win at the third attempt by handing debuts to Dawson and Anthony Charles

while Jack Dyer was preferred in midfield to Anton Brown. Reice Charles-Cook was called into early action when he saved bravely low down from Marcus Marshall's dangerous low cross, and soon afterwards was nearly caught out in possession on the edge of his penalty area but he did enough to stop Ben Tomlinson from capitalising. Charles came to Boro's rescue on 14 minutes when he cleared Tomlinson's strike off the line after a half-cleared long throw from the left. A powerful, but fair challenge from Charles-Cook ended Tom Anderson's afternoon for the visitors after just 26 minutes, Tony Diagne coming on in his place.

Boro took the lead on the half-hour mark when Fowler's central floated free kick caused havoc in the Lincoln backline as Dean appeared to get the final touch. Dean was mobbed by his teammates but the goal was announced as Fowler's.

Streete was adjudged to have fouled close to the corner flag six minutes before the break. Sean Newton's cross found the unmarked Miller to head home the equaliser.

The second half started with a flurry of activity as Ledsham crashed a volley from the edge of the box against the bar, and a minute later Craig Curran's header across goal bounced agonisingly back off the post. Ben Hutchinson flashed a free kick wide from 25 yards out to end a lull in activity after the early pair of opportunities. The game once again came to life on 67 minutes when the lively Dawson crossed from the right all the way into the top left-hand corner of the net.

Charles-Cook came to Boro's rescue five minutes later after Miller's long throw was headed tamely away by Streete into the path of Nat Brown. The Lincoln captain shot low to the keeper's right but the Coventry City loanee was equal to it with a strong right-arm intervention. Fowler's class in the heart of the Boro midfield allowed them to dictate play going into the final ten minutes, and it was his beautiful turn and low strike from 30 yards that nearly extended the lead for Boro as it flew just wide.

John Called Up For International Duty

Nuneaton Town midfielder Jorrin John has been called up for international duty by Antigua and Barbuda, meaning that he will miss the games against Dover Athletic and Welling United.



Boro Sign Nigerian Striker

Nuneaton Town have signed former Charlton Athletic, Ebbsfleet, York City, Barnsley and Oxford United striker Onome Sodje. The Nigerian striker last played for Albanian outfit Partizani Tirana and has a wealth of experience both in England and further afield.

Gordon Joins Hereford

Following a successful loan spell earlier in the season, Delroy Gordon has joined Hereford United on a full-time basis.

Nuneaton Town v Dover Athletic

07-10-2014

Boro: Charles-Cook, Streete, Franklin, Dean, Charles, Fowler, Armson, Walker (Smith 90), Dawson, Curran (Hutchinson 61), Sodje.
Subs: McSweeney, Anton Brown, Dyer.

Dover: Rafferty, Bonner, Essam, Orlu, Deverdics, Lock, Stone, Sterling (Raggett 15 (Murphy 83)), Payne (Reid 63), Miller, Nanetti.
Subs: Kinnear, Hook.

Boro welcomed Dover Athletic to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

Boro won back-to-back matches for the first time in 23 games, as they beat their fellow strugglers. Last time Boro took maximum points from successive matches, on March 11th, they had play-off ambitions, but now the victory took on a different significance as they climbed closer to safety.

This was new manager Liam Daish's second win since taking over and it came courtesy of goals from debutant Onome Sodje, James Armson and Connor Franklin in a topsy-turvy encounter.

It was Sodje, fresh from getting international clearance to join from Albania, who opened the scoring as he capitalised on a defensive slip in the 16th minute. As Sodje broke clear in the box, he still had a lot to do but showed the sort of confident finishing the hosts have missed all season by dinking it over Dover goalkeeper Andrew Rafferty.



Connor Franklin scores Boro's winner.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The hosts doubled their lead on 33 minutes, as Armson scored an incredible half volley from 35 yards out after a cleared corner sat up perfectly for him to strike. But despite an impressive opening, Boro soon fell victim to sloppy defending when they allowed Ricky Miller too much space in the area to fire past Reice Charles-Cook.

Dover levelled just after the break when Boro failed to deal with a corner and Stefan Payne smashed home from a yard out. From a team full of potential in the first half, Boro looked like a rag-tag bunch of strangers for most of the second –

struggling to keep the ball and clear their lines convincingly. However, on 77 minutes Franklin found himself on the end of a deep Lee Fowler cross to head emphatically beyond Rafferty and save Boro's blushes.

Boro Sign Youngster

Nuneaton Town have secured the services of Dane Griffiths from Cardiff City. The youngster arrives at Liberty Way on a month-long loan deal. Boro have gained international clearance for the striker and he will be included in the squad to play Welling United.

Welling United v Nuneaton Town 11-10-2014

Welling: Turner, Fyfield, Williams, Jefford, Day (Corne 80), Healy, Beautyman, Gallagher, Hudson (Nouble 77), Marsh, Bassele (St Aime 77). **Sub:** Henly.

Boro: Charles-Cook, Franklin, Starosta, Charles, Dean, Fowler (Anton Brown), Armson, Walker, Dawson (Wren 45), Sodje, Griffiths (Curran 75). **Subs:** Hutchinson, Smith.

Boro made the journey to Park View Road to play Welling United in a Conference Premier game.

It was clear from the kick-off at the weekend just how much Daish had to do as Welling took control early on. They deservedly took the lead in the 19th minute as Harry Beautyman curled in a free kick that somehow evaded everyone in the Boro box to nestle into the back of the net. The goal seemed to bring a response out of Boro as they were level four minutes later. Skipper Gaz Dean grabbed the goal as he was left all alone in the Welling box after a set-piece, and he did not waste the chance, heading past Jamie Turner with ease.



Gaz Dean heads the equaliser.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The Boro did not kick-on after drawing level though, as it was the home side who retook the initiative after Dean's header. They had a couple of chances to go back ahead, but it took the dismissal of Charles-Cook in the 43rd minute for Nuneaton to see their defensive line breached again. The Boro keeper saw red after he brought down Aristide Bassele when the Welling frontman had rounded him on the edge of the area.

The first action of sub keeper James Wren was to pick the ball out of the net as Welling took immediate advantage of their hosts lack of numbers, Beautyman once again finding

the back of the net with a deflected free-kick. That goal, on the stroke of half time, all but put an end to Boro's chances of taking anything from the game.

They hung on until 18 minutes before the end, but eventually Welling saw their dominance rewarded. Beautyman was once again involved, but this time as goal provider, he sent Tyrone Marsh clear before he fired past a helpless Wren in the visiting goal. Then, to rub salt in the wounds, Marsh grabbed a second two minutes later, the on-loan man from Oxford stealing in inside the box to poke home past Wren with the Boro defence caught napping. The 4-1 scoreline may have flattered Welling a little, but the victory was a deserved one on the balance of play throughout the 90 minutes.

Eastleigh v Nuneaton Town 18-10-2014

Eastleigh: Flitney, Reid, Beckwith, Green, Evans, Reason (Constable 59), Stanley, Collins, Fleetwood (Todd 90+2), Strevens, McAllister. **Subs:** Wright, Spence, Odubade.

Boro: Wren, Streete, Franklin, Charles, Dean, Fowler, Brown, Armson (Dyer 80), Dawson, Sodje (Hutchinson 74), Griffiths (Curran 60). **Subs:** Walker, Starosta.

Boro made the journey to Ten Acres Stadium to play Eastleigh in a Conference Premier game.

Boro slipped to a fifth consecutive away defeat but a spirited second-half display almost saw them fight back to claim a point at Eastleigh. Goals either side of half time from Craig McAllister and Jamie Collins had looked to put Eastleigh on course for a comfortable win until Nuneaton came alive in the final half hour. Lee Fowler reduced the arrears with a fine free-kick and Boro pushed their hosts all the way, but were unable to convert a number of late chances to grab an equaliser.

Liam Daish made three changes from the side that lost 4-1 at Welling, with James Hogarth-Wren replacing the suspended Reice Charles-Cook in goal, while Theo Streete and Anton Brown came in for Ben Starosta and Adam Walker. After a quiet opening, Gareth Dean headed wide from a corner on 17 minutes and Boro found themselves behind just a minute later as McAllister fired in a half-volley from the edge of the box.

Hogarth-Wren was making his full debut for Nuneaton, having come off the bench at Welling, and the youngster was by far the busier keeper as the hosts dominated much of the opening period. Jai Reason missed the target from close range, while Hogarth-Wren produced a pair of fine saves to deny Stuart Fleetwood twice in quick succession.

The pressure finally told ten minutes into the second half as Eastleigh doubled their lead. Boro failed to clear a long throw and McAllister's back-heel fell for Collins who rather scuffed his shot into the net. With seven defeats and only two goals to show from eight away games this season, Daish's side could easily have folded but, instead, they went from strength to strength. Oneme Sodje should have done better when left in plenty of space but could only slice his effort on to the post.



However, on 68 minutes Fowler halved the deficit with a powerful free-kick.

Fowler almost struck again two minutes later as his effort burst through the keepers' hands and on to the bar. Boro continued to press, but the equaliser would prove elusive as Ben Hutchinson headed over from close range and Sodje dragged a shot wide.

Tommy Whitcroft Dies

Nuneaton Borough legend Tommy Whitcroft has passed away aged 89. Tommy joined the club in 1949 from Ansley Hall Colliery FC and although he missed the Third Round tie at Exeter in 1949, he was an integral part of the team that beat Watford 3-0 in November 1953 forming a powerful partnership with Dudley Kernick.

Tommy played more than 300 games for Nuneaton Borough and scored 72 goals and was renowned for his hard tackling and his powerful shooting.

Nuneaton Town v Macclesfield Town 01-11-2014

Boro: Charles-Cook, Streete (Starosta 79), Charles (Walker 63), Dean, Cowan, Fowler, Brown, Dawson, Franklin, Curran (Smith 15), Griffiths.
Subs: Wren, Armson.

Macclesfield: Taylor, Halls, Barrow, Waterfall, Pilkington, Holroyd, Turnbull, Whitaker, Gnahoua, Fairhurst (Gonzalez-Diaz 73), Barnes-Homer. **Subs:** Lavelle-Moore, Cowan, Branagan, Moke.

Boro welcomed Macclesfield Town to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

Adam Dawson's last kick in a Boro shirt rescued an unlikely point for Boro, as they stole a late 1-1 draw with Macclesfield Town. On-loan Dawson, who returns to parent club Leicester City this week, poached a close range equaliser in the second minute of stoppage time to win Boro a share of the spoils.

Macclesfield looked set to take all three points from Liberty Way, after captain Paul Turnbull curled in a 25-yard free kick and the visitors should have wrapped the game up long before Dawson's leveller.

Goalkeeper Reice Charles-Cook was the difference, as he made three close-range saves to deny The Silkmen and keep Boro in the match. The point means that Boro have now lost just one of their past eight home games – a statistic that will give manager Liam Daish and his charges some solace. And on this display, they need it.

When forward Craig Curran limped off for Boro after a quarter of an hour, their main attacking threat was nullified. Macclesfield striker Waide Fairhurst almost opened the scoring on 20 minutes, as he struck a rasping 25-yard drive that smashed back off Charles-Cook's crossbar. Despite picking up the rebound, Boro failed to keep hold of the ball and were opened up again immediately, as Matthew Barnes-Homer escaped his marker to race clean through. Thankfully the former Nuneaton striker's normally reliable finishing let him down, as he scuffed his effort tamely wide.

The hosts lacked creativity, but kept plugging away and created their best chance early in the second half. After a driving Theo Streete run caused havoc in the Macclesfield box, Connor Franklin found space to steer a low shot goalwards – only for a green shirt to hack it off the line. Then Turnbull struck. After a cheap foul was given away on the edge of the Boro box, the Silkmen's skipper stepped up to whip an unstoppable free kick into the roof of the net.

Boro were rocked by the blow and it started to look as though it was only a matter of time before they'd fall further behind. Barnes-Homer had another one-on-one charged down by Charles-Cook, and speedy winger Arthur Gnahoua and Chris Holroyd flashed shots narrowly over as the visitors turned the screw.

With the final whistle looming, Gnahoua escaped Gaz Dean once more and looked destined to score until Charles-Cook leapt to his feet to make a superb block. But just as the on-loan Coventry City keeper's efforts looked to be in vain, teenage winger Ryan Smith produced the moment of quality Boro had lacked all afternoon. Smith manoeuvred some space on the right wing before cutting a teasing ball back to Adam Dawson, who took a touch before slotting home beneath Macclesfield goalkeeper Rhys Taylor to steal a point.

Tividale v Nuneaton Town 04-11-2014

Tividale: Hayfield, Plows, Paskin, Parsons, Wardle, (Taylor-Boyce), Williams, Downing (Bottfield), Jukes, Rock, Winwood, Hadley (Ashton).
Wren, Starosta, Franklin, Charles, Streete, Quinn, John, Armson, Walker, Smith, Griffiths. Subs: Brown, Fowler, Dean, Kavanagh.
Subs: Price, Penney.

Boro made the journey to Packwood Road to play Tividale in a Birmingham Senior Cup first round tie.

An Adam Walker hat-trick on Tuesday night helped book Boro a tie at home to Wolves in the 2nd Round of the Birmingham Senior Cup.

Walker, who was restored to the Boro line-up in a number of changes that Liam Daish made on the night, was the stand-out performer in a 6-2 win for Nuneaton. Walker needed just 14 minutes to make his mark as he smashed home a volley past Jack Hayfield after the home side had failed to deal with a Nuneaton corner. Boro did not look back after that as they cut loose from the pressure of the league and started to enjoy themselves.

Ryan Smith, who along with Walker was restored to the first-team, grabbed the next goal 12 minutes later. He linked up well with winger Jorin John before helping the ball into the bottom of the net. Nuneaton let their guard slip after that, but it was still a shock when Tividale halved the deficit not long after. Leigh Downing got the goal for the home side as he slotted past James Wren to give Tividale some hope.

That had all but vanished before half-time, though, as Nuneaton eased through the gears to net three goals in five

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minutes to ensure the victory. The first was a penalty from James Armson after the Boro midfielder picked himself up after being fouled in the box and buried the spot-kick.

Walker then grabbed his second of the night almost straight away as he took advantage of some static Tividale defending to find the back of the net. The flurry of late goals in the first half was completed by Dane Griffiths just before the whistle went, the on-loan Cardiff City man making space for himself in the box before turning neatly and smashing an effort past Hayfield.

With a four goal lead the second half was always going to be a relaxing affair for the Boro. They put the cherry on top nine minutes after the break as Walker completed his hat-trick after he raced onto a loose ball to finish past Hayfield. Substitute Lewis Taylor-Boyce netted a consolation goal for the home side before the end, but it was the Boro who eased through, ensuring a game against Wolves in the next round.

Boro Sign Gash

Nuneaton Town have signed Michael Gash on loan from Kidderminster Harriers for a two month period. The experienced striker has represented Cambridge City, Ebbsfleet United, York City and Cambridge United having started as a youth team player with Peterborough United.

Aldershot Town v Nuneaton Town 15-11-2014

Aldershot: Smith, Oastler, Wilson, Barker, Hatton, Williams (N'Guessan 84), Forbes, Diallo (Derry 75), Oyeleke (Fitchett 65), McCollin, Holman
Subs: Thomas, Welch.

Boro: Wren, Franklin, Cowan, Dean, Streete, Smith, Armson, Anton Brown (Starosta 71), Walker, Sodje (Griffiths 20 (Quinn 45)), Gash.
Subs: Charles, Richards.

Boro made the journey to The Recreation Ground to play Aldershot Town in a Conference Premier game.

Nuneaton Town put up a spirited defensive display but were unable to take anything back to Warwickshire for their efforts against The Shots. The game started quietly as the midfield players from both sides struggled to stamp their authority on proceedings.

It took until the 20th minute for Gavin Cowan to test Phil Smith in the home goal, while the closest Aldershot came to breaking the deadlock was six minutes later when first Manny Oyeleke and then Dan Holman both failed to connect with a superb whipped in ball by Brett Williams. Holman did manage to connect in the 33rd minute, he cleverly made room on the edge of the box before sending a rasping effort goalwards, James Wren did well to parry the shot to safety.

Moments later a neck injury to Dane Griffiths, on himself as a substitute for the injured Sodje, left the forward motionless on the pitch for nine minutes.

The on-loan Cardiff City man went up for a header with Joe Oastler and was seemingly out cold as soon as he hit the

floor. Medics from both teams rushed onto the pitch and took their time to ensure the forward was safe to be moved before taking him from the pitch. Understandably the game lost any momentum that had built up during that break as both sets of players took their time to get back into proceedings after the injury.



Gavin Cowan wins an aerial battle.

Photo: Simon Kimber



James Armson receives instructions from Liam Daish.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Aldershot did manage to find that momentum in the second half as they were the better side from the off – and were rewarded for that in the 53rd minute. A cross from the right hand side from Sam Hatton found Holman unmarked in the



box, the frontman given the easy task of heading past Wren and a diving Cowan to give his side the lead. Only a fantastic last ditch tackle from Gaz Dean on Williams minutes later stopped the lead being doubled as the Boro were facing a determined spell of pressure from the home side.

The same man somehow got a toe on a Dan Fitchett shot in the 75th minute to once again keep the score at 1-0. Nuneaton looked the most likely side to concede again and in the 86th minute Fitchett could not direct his header downward as the substitute was once again afforded too much room in the box.

The home side were nearly made to pay for that late on as Wren came forward for a corner in stoppage time and helped create confusion in the Aldershot back-line. Ryan Smith nearly took advantage of that but could only stab his effort past the post in a crowded box.

Boro Sign Striker

Nuneaton Town have signed 19-year-old Simonas Stankevicius, a 6ft 2in striker who is a Lithuanian international and who joins the Liberty Way outfit from Leicester City.

Nuneaton Town v Southport

22-11-2014

Boro: Wren, Streete (Starosta 87), Dean, Cowan, Franklin, Walker, Armson (Quinn 87), Smith, Fowler, Sodje (Stankevicius 77), Gash.
Subs: Anton Brown, Charles.

Southport: Raya-Martin, Connor, Fitzpatrick, Foster, McDonald, George, Joyce, Rutherford, Austin, Brodie (Bakayoko 66), Marsden.
Subs: Lloyd-Weston, Kay, Evans, Mitchell.

Boro welcomed Southport to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

Boro started the better of the two sides and Adam Walker had a couple of efforts that went close in the opening ten minutes while Onome Sodje was unlucky that he could not bring Lee Fowler's cut-back under control in the box as he was momentarily unmarked but danger was soon cleared.

It was against the run of play then when the home side went behind. Mitchell Austin broke clear of the Boro midfield after the home side raced upfield, he was dumped on his backside, though, by a clumsy challenge by Gaz Dean.

The referee allowed John Marsden the chance to run through on goal and he took full advantage as he smashed home past James Wren with an unstoppable drive. Boro seemed shell-shocked by the goal and were two down eight minutes later. Theo Streete was left without support on the right hand side and Paul Rutherford turned the Boro man inside out before pulling the ball back to Richard Brodie who had the easy task of tapping home from close range.

It looked at this stage like Boro could be on the end of a hammering but to their credit they fought back. Onome Sodje gave the home fans hope with a fine header in the 38th

minute when he found space in the box and glanced home a Connor Franklin centre in superb style. That goal breathed life back into the home side – but for Wren that fire would have been extinguished as Southport broke and won a free-kick from which they gained a penalty but Wren stepped up when his side needed him most and pulled off a fantastic save to deny Brodie a second of the afternoon.

That save was given extra importance just four minutes into the second half as Ryan Smith completed the comeback for the Boro with a tight finish from the angle. The chance was created by Adam Walker who cut the ball back from the byline. Gash was inches away from poking it home himself, but Smith finished the job when the opportunity looked to be lost. The game went into a lull after the goal, but it was still the Boro who were asking most of the questions.

James Armson went close to giving Boro the lead for the first time in the match, but Raya-Martin saved well. Just like Wren's in the first half, that save was given extra importance soon after when Amadou Bakayoko who took advantage of fine work from Paul Rutherford after the winger turned Dean inside out before laying it off for the substitute to slam home past Wren from close range.

Dean had endured a tough afternoon all-round and it was no surprise when the Boro skipper was sent off for a second yellow card late on, his first was for a late tackle on Luke Foster and his second was for an equally late challenge on goalscorer Bakayoko.

Two More Join Boro

Nuneaton Town have signed Leicester City youngster Marcel Barrington on a two-month loan deal. The forward started his career with Stoke City before being picked up by Leicester. Also on his way to Liberty Way is Christian Dibble, a goalkeeper from Barnsley, who is the son of former Manchester City goalkeeper Andy Dibble.

Adam Dawson is remaining at Liberty Way for the time being having signed for another month.

Dover Athletic v Nuneaton Town

25-11-2014

Boro: Wren, Streete, Charles, Cowan, Franklin, Anton Brown (Walker 66), Fowler (Quinn 46), Armson, Smith, Gash, Sodje (Stanevicius 46).
Subs: Starosta, Walker, John.

Dover: Rafferty, Essam, Bonner, Orlu, Francis, Sterling, Kinnear (Raggett 85), Taiwo, Deverdics (Nanetti 74), Murphy (Rutherford 70), Payne. **Subs:** Wynter, Bellamy.

Boro made the journey to The Crabble to play Dover Athletic in a Conference Premier game.

Time is rapidly running out for Boro as they suffered their heaviest defeat of the season. After their comeback was cut-short by a late winner from Southport, the key question this week was always going to be how Liam Daish and his team would react – the answer was not very well at all.

Boro were lucky to come away with a 5-0 defeat, such was the gulf in class between the two sides. Something drastically needs to change – and soon – if Boro are going to stand any chance of avoiding the drop this season. There were no positives whatsoever to take from this defeat, apart from one – Nuneaton simply cannot get any worse this season.

They were undone in just the 21st minute, and just like on Saturday, the goal came via the flanks. This time Tom Murphy was the man who was on hand to take advantage, the Dover frontman was left unmarked in the box and headed home with ease. The Boro looked solid up until that point, but just like the weekend again, the 1-0 lead soon became 2-0 as Nuneaton were unable to react to going behind.

The second goal was headed home by Connor Essam who was afforded too much room in the box following a corner for the home side. James Wren could do nothing about those opening two goals – but the third was one he should have prevented. The keeper chased down a ball by the corner flag and made a hash of clearing it. That left Stefan Payne with the easy task of dispossessing the injured keeper before he cut the ball back to Nick Deverdics who was able to steer the ball into the back of the empty net from the penalty spot.

Wren was beaten again soon after the break though, as this time Payne went from goal provider to goal finisher. The Dover man needed two bites at the cherry, but he finally slotted past Wren to move the home side even further ahead. Nuneaton rallied a little after the fourth, but it always looked like a fifth goal could be just around the corner – and so it proved. Payne was the scorer once again, the Dover frontman reacted to an Adam Walker mistake to beat the off-side trap and race through on goal, coolly slotting past the injured Wren.

Nuneaton Town v Chester

29-11-2014

Boro: Dibble, Starosta, Franklin, Charles, Streete, Fowler (Smith 89), Anton Brown, Dawson, Armson, Sodje (Barrington 59), Gash.
Subs: Cowan, Stankevicius, Quinn.

Chester: Worsnop, Roberts (Touray 46), Kay, Charnock, Brown, Harrison (Hobson 46), Rooney, McConville, Mahon, Hughes, Oates.
Subs: Roberts, Peers, Menagh.

Boro welcomed Chester to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

Nuneaton got back to winning ways in impressive style as they saw off in-form Chester. Boro boss Liam Daish made brave decisions before the game as he dropped skipper Gaz Dean and midfielder Adam Walker from his first team squad. It looked like it could be a decision that backfired early on.

Despite being under pressure for the first five minutes, it was Boro who came closest to breaking the deadlock through Anton Brown. Ben Starosta crossed the ball in and Brown received it with his back to goal, swivelling smartly before sending an overhead kick just wide of Jon Worsnop's far post. That chance breathed life into the home side as they started to enjoy

the occasion. Loan signing Adam Dawson looked especially dangerous in an impressive 15 minute spell for Boro.

The home side were rewarded for their positive approach in the 20th minute when James Armson volleyed home the opening goal of the game from inside the box. Dawson was heavily involved as he pulled the ball back for Armson to slam home. Boro have looked vulnerable in recent matches, but it was their turn to put their opponents under pressure as Lee Fowler doubled the home sides' lead just three minutes later.

The Nuneaton man smashed home a free-kick from the edge of the box that cannoned off a defenders head on it's way into the net. Chester came back into the game after the second goal, but new Boro keeper Christian Dibble was only forced into making one real save, rushing out to deny Danny Harrison smartly, saving with his feet.



Armson gives Boro the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Chester boss Steve Burr made a double substitution at half-time and Craig Hobson, took less than five minutes to make an impact, the frontman got across the Boro defence to glance home a Rhys Oates cross from the left hand side.

Chester certainly came out fired up, and the goal only lifted their spirits further but the Boro did well to repel the visitors. Dibble was forced into action to deny a John Rooney free-kick, while Worsnop needed to be at his best at the other end to deny a Dawson effort from distance. The Boro keeper produced his best save 15 minutes before the end of the game, somehow reacting to deny Oates a leveller for the visitors. The full importance of that save was felt two minutes later as Dawson combined well with fellow Leicester loanee Marcel Barrington, the latter tapping home from close range. That goal looked like it was the final nail in the Chester coffin, but Burr's side refused to throw in the towel and came back once again.

Hobson was the man who struck when he headed home from under the crossbar after a corner from the left hand side for the visitors. Nuneaton hung on well after the goal, and could have added another through Barrington, but a 3-2 win, and a valuable three points, was more than satisfactory.

Jorin John Leaves

Antigua and Barbuda international midfielder Jorin John has left Nuneaton Town after being unable to hold down a first-team place under Liam Daish.

Kidderminster Harriers v Nuneaton Town 02-12-2014

Kidderminster: Lewis, Hodgkiss, Storer, Byrne, Johnson, Reid (Hales 82), Grimes, Verma, Gittings, Nicholson, Gowling. Subs: Mayebi, Green, Obeng, Tunnicliffe.

Boro: Dibble, Starosta, Franklin, Charles, Streete, Armson (Barrington 56), Fowler (Walker 77), Anton Brown, Dawson, Stankevicius, Sodje. Subs: Cowan, Smith, Quinn.

Boro made the journey to Aggborough to play Kidderminster Harriers in a Conference Premier game.

The succession of abject away day performances continues for Boro this season. They suffered their 11th defeat in 12 outings, this time to an ordinary Harriers side. The game was only seven minutes old when – just like against Dover seven days before – Liam Daish's men were the architects of their own downfall.

A long ball from back to front was flicked on, rather than headed out, by Anthony Charles, and the unexpected assist was pounced upon by Craig Reid who was free in the box and slid the ball calmly through the legs of Boro keeper Christian Dibble.

The Harriers dominated all aspects of the game after the early goal and it was to their credit that Nuneaton kept the score at just one. The closest the home side came to stretching their lead came from former Boro boy Kyle Storer, his fierce effort flying straight past the right hand post. Storer was clearly enjoying the outing against his former club and it was no surprise that it was the midfield man who stretched their lead in the 39th minute.

A fantastic sliding block by Theo Streete gave the home side a corner, it was from that set-piece that Storer struck. Finding room in the box the Harriers number four produced a left footed volley that left Dibble with no chance. To his credit Storer refused to celebrate the strike while all around him were going wild.

A lack of width on the left hand side had been a problem for the Boro in the first half. It was a problem boss Liam Daish solved ten minutes into the second period when he swapped James Armson for Marcel Barrington.

Ironically though, it was from the right that Boro got back into the match. Adam Dawson found room out wide before whipping in a wonderful cross that Josh Gowling headed into his own net under serious pressure from Onome Sodje. Despite being thoroughly outplayed in the first half Boro were right back in it after the goal and were turning the match into an even – and end to end – encounter.

It was harsh then when the home side re-established their two goal cushion in the 71st minute. The goal was wonderfully worked by the Harriers as they hit Boro on the break. First Anthony Charles was left exposed and then Connor Franklin was unable to get across in time to deny Jack Byrne who slid the ball past Dibble from just inside the box.

Nuneaton Town v Alfreton Town

06-12-2014

Boro: Dibble, Starosta, Franklin, Streete, Charles, Dawson (Sodje 84) Fowler, Anton Brown, Armson, Barrington, Gash (Stankevicius 65). Subs: Cowan, Walker, Smith.

Alfreton: Johnson, Byrne, Rowe-Turner, Wood, Johnston, Graham, Bradley, Shaw, Davies, Hawley, Howell. Subs: Keane, Courtney, Sheridan, Clayton, Lamb.

Boro welcomed Alfreton Town to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

This was billed as a game that the Boro could not afford to lose – it turned out to be one they never looked like winning. Easily a two out of ten in terms of match entertainment, neither Boro nor Alfreton gave their fans any reason to think that anything but relegation will be theirs come the end of the season. The simple truth is this was just two poor teams playing out an overwhelmingly poor game with only a penalty separating them.

Before the game Boro boss Liam Daish spoke about wanting to shore up his team ahead of the visit of Alfreton. He did that by dropping Onome Sodje up-front and bringing in Marcel Barrington for his first full start for the club.

That move meant that James Armson was moved back into the centre of the pitch in his 300th game for the Boro and he nearly took advantage of that in the 12th minute. The midfielder collected the ball in plenty of space, drove forward and sent a stinging drive goalwards that Sam Johnson only managed to grab at the second attempt.

The chance was the first the home side had mustered and three minutes later Alfreton found the back of the net with theirs. It came via a penalty in the 15th minute, Bradley Wood stepping up and smashing home the spot-kick after the referee blew for an infringement in the box.

The goal did not breathe fresh life into the game – it did the opposite in fact – as the match spiralled into a miserable midfield encounter. The problem was neither side were able to get the ball down and play, the Boro simply lacked the drive needed to find a way back into the match.



Bradley Wood scores the winner for Alfreton.

Photo: Simon Kimber

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That continued until the end of the first half and beyond – it was the 65th minute when the Boro next went close when Armson fired over after Marcel Barrington had found him unmarked on the edge of the box.

Sam Johnson in the Alfreton goal could not have had an easier afternoon. Even when Anton Brown missed a Lee Fowler free-kick by just inches with five minutes remaining, Johnson was still not tested. The near chance summed up what truly was a poor afternoon of football.

Secretary Stands Down

Nuneaton Town secretary Richard Dean, the father of Gareth Dean, has stood down from his position with the club.

Lincoln City v Nuneaton Town 09-12-2014

Lincoln: Farman, Caprice, Miller, Bencherif, Newton, Adams (Mendy 68), Nolan, Power, Marshall (Waite 80), Tomlinson, Burrow.
Subs: Mendy, Robinson, Audel, Townsend.

Boro: Dibble, Starosta, Streete, Charles (Cowan 17), Franklin, Smith (Sodje 64), Fowler (Walker 63), Anton Brown, Armson, Dawson, Gash.
Subs: Dean, Quinn.

Boro made the journey to Sincil Bank to play Lincoln City in a Conference Premier game.

Boro's away woes rumbled on as they shipped three goals and ended the game with ten men. Boro manager, Liam Daish was without the services of two of his Leicester City loanees. Simonas Stankevicius and Marcel Barrington were absent forcing the Boro boss to thrust Ryan Smith into a starting role.

Lincoln started the game at a vibrant pace forcing two corners and then it was Marcus Marshall that out-paced Anthony Charles, cutting back to Burrow to audaciously back-heel the ball home after just six minutes.

Boro had barely got a foot on the ball in their search for an equaliser when Lincoln doubled their lead. Again it was Marshall along the right channel outpacing Charles before squaring to Tomlinson who slammed the ball past a helpless Christian Dibble in the Boro goal. Charles was immediately withdrawn and Cowan subbed on after 17 minutes.

Lincoln moved the ball swiftly and with purpose earning corners and ensuring Boro's back four were kept deep. But spirited chasing saw Anton Brown twice earn free kicks in dangerous positions. Lee Fowler crossed invitingly into the penalty area but Paul Farman in the Lincoln goal was alert to punch clear. Charlee Adams then robbed Lee Fowler with ease before driving infield and firing a right-footed drive just wide of the target on 27 minutes.

From a rare piece of link-up play 12 minutes before the break, Brown reversed the ball well to Adam Dawson whose cut back and cross from the left deflected high into no man's land between Farman and James Armson. The Boro midfielder got something on it before it was hooked clear – although Dawson seemed convinced it had crossed the line.

Boro started the second half in lively manner but all their hard work was undone when full-back Ben Starosta blindly headed back to Christian Dibble who could only dive and parry the ball to the lucky Burrow to tap home into an unguarded net. Adam Walker and Onome Sodje entered the fray and it was Walker's drive that was headed out for a corner as Boro sought an unlikely route back into the game.

Hamza Bencherif headed over from a Lincoln corner and substitute Conner Robinson side footed wide after Cowan's sloppy pass was intercepted. A glorious chance to cut the deficit was fluffed by Anton Brown after Gash and Dawson linked up well to release the midfielder inside the box, but he showed no composure and scuffed wide. With a quarter-of-an-hour to play, Streete was forced to bundle over Nolan a yard outside the box giving the referee no choice but to award a red card. From the resulting free kick, Sean Newton's strike was finger tipped over by Dibble. The hardy few who had travelled to support the Boro were given something to cheer in the 90th minute when Dawson's left-wing free kick was headed powerfully home by Cowan at the far post.

FC Halifax Town v Nuneaton Town 20-12-2014

Halifax: Glennon, Roberts, McManus, Roberts, Bolton, Peniket (Jackson 62), Smith (Pearson 83), Schofield (Dyer 67), Boden, Maynard, Hatfield. **Subs:** Senior, Pearson, Williams.

Boro: Dibble, Starosta (Smith 84), Franklin, Cowan (Stankevicius 75), Streete, Dawson, Anton Brown, Walker, Armson, Gash, Sodje (Barrington 71) **Subs:** Quinn, Richards.

Boro made the journey to The Shay Stadium to play FC Halifax Town in a Conference Premier game.

Liam Daish said on Friday that his sides' away-day record was not a true reflection of how they had performed this season – it turned out to be a pretty good way of summing up the game 24 hours later. Boro lost their 12th away match but, for 65 minutes or so, they were more than in this encounter. However, after a red card for midfielder James Armson, ten-man Boro were simply unable to keep the pace up.

Boro have not been able to maintain a performance over the full 90 minutes all season and however well they have played at times, mistakes or ill-discipline are costing them dear and undoing all the good work. Both teams made decent starts, and Boro forced a couple of corners, but they were unable to test Halifax stopper Matt Glennon with any of them.

It was in the 35th minute though that the game really came to life as only some sensational defending from Nuneaton kept the game goalless. Halifax were first denied by Christian Dibble as the big stopper got down fantastically well to claw away a Richard Peniket header. Scott Boden latched onto the clearance though, and only an alert Theo Streete was able to stop the ball from crossing the line as the stand-in skipper got in the way. The danger was not cleared though, as Peniket had a second bite of the cherry but this time Starosta cleared off the line.

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Dibble had already shown his class in his first few outings for Nuneaton, but he reaffirmed his quality five minutes into the second half as the Barnsley man got up well to fingertip a Boden header over the bar.

It was not all one-way traffic though, as Boro were giving as good as they got in the second half. The closest the away side came to breaking the deadlock was via an Anton Brown shot. The midfield man found himself in space wide on the left – but was unable to test the keeper after shooting from the edge of the box. Boro were to regret that Brown did not do better as their task was made so much harder minutes later.

For the second time in successive games Nuneaton were made to play the last 25 minutes with ten-men, this time Armson was the one who was sent to the stands. The Boro number seven was adjudged to have led with his elbow in a 50-50 challenge on the halfway line. Seven days earlier Boro were unable to keep the game goalless when they were a man down, and history repeated itself. The goal came in the 72nd minute, and there was a touch of fortune when it arrived.

A far-post cross from Jamie Jackson eluded the Boro defence – and Dibble – but got the slightest of touches from James Bolton as it nestled in the far corner of the net. Dibble had played his part in keeping Boro in the game up until the sending off, but it was the big keeper from Barnsley who was at fault as the home side doubled that lead late on. A corner from the right was met by Maynard, whose header was far from perfect but somehow Dibble lost the flight of the ball and the keeper was left on one-knee as it bounced over him and into the back of the net.

Boro Keeper Crisis

Nuneaton Town found themselves with a keeper crisis after Barnsley recalled Christian Dibble, leaving the club with only 16-year-old Liam Richards. However, manager Liam Daish has received permission to bring in an emergency loan and Shrewsbury Town keeper Callum Burton has joined the club.

Nuneaton Town v AFC Telford United 26-12-2014

Boro: Burton, Franklin, Cowan, Walker, Armson, Dawson (Quinn 87), Streete, Smith, Anton Brown, Gash, Sodje. **Subs:** Starosta, Kavanagh, Fowler, Richards.

Telford: Hedge, Owens, Byrne, Grogan, Barnett, Todd, Brownhill, Higgins, Gray (Cooke 71), Smith, Farrell. **Subs:** Pryce, Hall, Deacey.

Boro welcomed AFC Telford United to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

Liam Daish's side were left ruing defensive mistakes as they failed to secure a vital three points against the team at the bottom of the table. The Bucks scored twice in stoppage time to salvage a draw in an extraordinary encounter. In a game littered with errors, goal-mouth scrambles and missed opportunities, the best was saved until the final 20 minutes.

James Armson had scored twice to add to goals from Adam

Dawson and Onome Sodje as Boro twice came from behind and appeared to be coasting to a vital win in this relegation battle. But Sam Smith headed his second as the game move into added time and, before the dust had settled, Sean Cooke thumped in from 35 yards.

Smith made the initial breakthrough after six minutes with a low shot Callum Burton will feel he should have done better with. But on a day of mistakes a clumsy challenge by Mike Grogan on Michael Gash handed Armson the chance to slam home the resulting penalty four minutes before the break.

Telford were back in front three minutes after the interval when Adam Farrell squeezed the ball past Burton at his near post from the tightest of angles. Adam Dawson, Boro's best player on the day, levelled with a free-kick that squirmed out of Jonathan Hedge's hands, through his legs and over the goal line. Armson then put the home side ahead when Telford made a hash of clearing another Dawson cross, allowing the midfielder to steer a low shot into the bottom corner.



Armson scores from the penalty spot.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Sodje's perseverance resulted in a fourth, hustling Neil Byrne off Theo Streete's hopeful ball forward and calmly slotting past Hedge. Armson then lashed a great chance for a hat-trick over, but it appeared not to matter until Boro switched off, allowing Cooke and Ryan Higgins to take a corner quickly and feed the ball in for Smith to score from close range. Then straight from the kick-off Boro gave the ball away and Cooke made them pay with a stunning strike which flew past Burton.

Altrincham v Nuneaton Town 28-12-2014

Altrincham: Coburn, Griffin, Moul, Havern, Leather, Lawrie, Reeves, Clee (Gillespie 81) Marshall, Williams (Perry 76), Crowther (Wilkinson 62). **Subs:** Parton, Swift.

Boro: Burton, Smith (Dean 75), Cowan, Streete, Franklin, Armson, Walker (Quinn 87), Anton Brown, Dawson, Sodje, Gash. **Subs:** Starosta, Fowler, Richards.

Boro made the journey to Moss Lane to play Altrincham in a Conference Premier game.

Boro put their awful away form to bed as they made it four points out of six over the festive period with a hard-earned 1-0 win. Not since the beginning of February have Boro



managed to bring back three points from their travels, but they did so in dramatic circumstances as Callum Burton produced a man-of-the-match performance to deny the home side.

Nuneaton ended their Boxing Day clash by conceding two goals in the last 30 seconds to throw away a 4-2 lead – but there was no sign of any hangover.

Boro lined-up with the same starting eleven that began the Telford match and they looked solid and began with some composed play. However, they nearly conceded early on but Callum Burton pulled off a dramatic double save, stopping Damian Reeves not once but twice to deny the prolific Altrincham frontman.

Around the half-hour mark the Boro came close to breaking the deadlock themselves when James Armson fired just wide after some neat play on the edge of the area. The same player then took too long in the box when picked out from an Adam Dawson corner.

Altrincham came closest to taking the lead though, as Tom Marshall saw his effort ruled out by an offside decision after the defender found space following a free-kick on the edge of the box.

It wasn't the officials who stopped Boro from enjoying a dream start to the second period, but the woodwork. Ryan Smith produced some fancy footwork on the edge of the box but had to watch as his looping effort cannoned back off the crossbar before bouncing away to safety. The chances were coming at regular intervals for both sides and Burton in particular was showing what a talent he could become with another top save.

The on-loan Shrewsbury man had already denied Reeves twice in the first half and 15 minutes into the second he did so again, getting up high to punch over a close-range header from the frontman – an effort that the Boro goalkeeper had no right to get to.

That save came at a crucial time as less than ten minutes later Boro were ahead. Michael Gash joined the club earlier in the season with a reputation for goals, and he showed a glimpse of why that was as he tapped home a Gavin Cowan volleyed effort from four yards out. The striker was in the right place at the right time to net his first Boro goal.

Under normal circumstances Gash would be the hero with a goal as important as that, but Burton was taking all the plaudits after he continued to deny Altrincham – and most notably Reeves – all on his own.

The stopper showed he was good on the deck as Reeves shot low and true with just five minutes of the game remaining. Burton was again up to the task though, and tipped the ball wide for a corner. The keeper was not finished there though, far from it, as he denied Reeves once again in the last of six minutes of stoppage time to ensure the Boro took all three points back home.

AFC Telford United v Nuneaton Town 01-01-2015

Telford: Hall, Hancock, Brownhill, Byrne, Grogan, Todd, Barnett, Gray, Farrell, Owens, Smith (Cooke 84). Subs: Hedge, Hancock, Poku.

Boro: Burton, Smith, Streete, Cowan, Franklin, Dawson, Walker, Armson, Anton Brown, Gash, Sodje. Subs: Dean, Quinn, Fowler, Richards, Charles.

Boro made the journey to The Bucks Head to play AFC Telford United in a Conference Premier game.

The two teams played out a 0-0 draw, but game that could have finished 5-5 if not for Callum Burton in the Boro goal and Telford shot-stopper Freddy Hall. Nil-nil draws are supposed to be dull, drab affairs, but this was anything but as both sides went toe-to-toe for 90 minutes in a fantastic advert for Conference football.

Telford found Boro's defence in resilient mood though, as Gavin Cowan and Anton Brown were forced into last ditch tackles to keep the game goalless. Meanwhile, at the other end, Onome Sodje was guilty of wasting the best of the early Boro chances, as the frontman took so long when put through one-on-one with Hall that the keeper was allowed to come rushing out and make a superb sliding tackle.

Telford were creating most of the first half opportunities, though, as for the second time in as many games Callum Burton was needed to produce his best. This time, in the 35th minute, he had to deny Tony Gray with a fine diving save. The on-loan Shrewsbury Town man somehow getting his hand to an effort that looked destined to creep in just inside the near post.

The driving rain and howling wind was making both keepers' life a nightmare, but only in terms of clearances. When it came to shot-stopping both custodians were excelling, as Hall proved just before the break as he dived full length to tip a James Armson effort round the post from just inside the area.

The second half looked to carry on in the same vein in terms of the number of chances created and the home side had a goal disallowed just 30 seconds after the restart. Gray sent an effort goalwards that Burton did well to keep out and Sam Smith tucked home the rebound but it was disallowed after the frontman was adjudged to have been in an offside position when the initial shot was struck.

Boro responded well after the let-off as Adam Walker tested Hall twice in quick succession, while the Telford keeper would have been delighted that Michael Gash could only send a Ryan Smith cross into his arms from just inside the box. Whatever Hall was doing at one end, Burton was emulating at the other and the Boro stopper produced another special save to deny Mike Grogan as the Telford man got up high at the far post from a corner but Burton got down to stop his header with his feet.

Neither side was able to go that close again, but not for the want of trying, as they battled it out for one of the most

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entertaining draws of the season. Where exactly that leaves both teams in terms of pulling off a great escape and beating the drop is anyone's guess – but keep playing like this and they have got a great chance of doing just that.

Dibble Re-signs

Christian Dibble has rejoined Nuneaton Town on loan from Barnsley for the rest of the season.

Nuneaton Town v Bristol Rovers 04-01-2015

Boro: Dibble, Streete, Cowan, Dean, Franklin, Smith, Anton Brown (Fowler 60), Walker (Quinn 80) Armson, Sodje (Baker-Richardson 60), Gash. **Subs:** Starosta, Charles.

Bristol: Puddy, Brown, Lockyer, McChrystal, Parkes, Mansell (Clarke 90), Taylor (Goldberg 79) Gosling, Monkhouse, Sinclair, Blissett (Harrison 86). **Subs:** Leadbitter, Balanta.

Boro welcomed Bristol Rovers to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

The Boro were unable to make it four games unbeaten as Rovers continued their relentless pursuit of leaders Barnet. Boro looked up to the challenge, but overall Rovers superiority did shine through. It is how they do against the other, not so illustrious, clubs that will determine if Boro can stay up or not this year. They certainly do have the fight in them, as they showed in the opening 40 minutes.

Boro more than matched their former Football League visitors in the first 20 minutes, but not for the first time this season, they were indebted to an on-loan keeper to keep the scores level. This time it was the returning Christian Dibble, brought in from Barnsley, who shone, the stopper diving full length to tip a Matty Taylor header from six yards onto the post. It was the only save of note either keeper had to make – that was until Dibble was called into action again in the 40th minute – when the Gas took the lead.

A cross from the left-hand side was slid goalwards by Nathan Blissett and Dibble did well to get a hand to it, but Taylor was on hand to poke home the rebound from centimetres out. The goal was not exactly against the run of play, but it was harsh on a Boro side that had coped so well with an in-form Rovers side for most of the opening half. It was key for Liam Daish and his struggling side to put the disappointment of the goal behind them and come out fighting in the second half – they did the opposite, though.

The half was just three minutes old when the away side managed to double their lead, Blissett finishing the job on his own this time as the Rovers frontman rose unchallenged to meet a corner from the left, slamming his header past Dibble to leave the keeper with no chance. Blissett was proving to be the danger man for Rovers and he should have added to his tally in the 68th minute when Andy Monkhouse sent a fizzing cross in low and hard, but the striker was unable to steer the ball goalwards from close range, tapping it just wide of a diving Dibble and his far post. The closest Boro came

was when Michael Gash had his shot blocked before it could threaten Will Puddy in the visitor's goal.



Nathan Blissett scores the second goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Smith Signs

Nuneaton Town midfielder Ryan Smith has signed a new contract which will keep him at Liberty Way until 2016.

Nuneaton Town v Boston United 10-01-2015

Boro welcomed Boston United to Liberty Way to play a friendly game.

Andy Brown scored the goal that gave Boro a 1-1 in this friendly encounter.

Boro Sign Two

Nuneaton Town have signed Rob Ogleby and Jack Nardiello. The 23-year-old Ogleby is a former Coventry City academy player, who has been released by Scottish championship club Livingston FC while Nardiello is 22 and has been with Stoke City after starting his career with Leicester City. Nardiello's father Don represented Nuneaton Borough.

Nuneaton Town v Gateshead 17-01-2015

Boro: Dibble, Franklin, Dean, Streete, Smith, Ogleby, Mafuta, Fowler, Walker, Andy Brown (Sodje 46), Nardiello (Armson 21). **Subs:** Cowan, Quinn, Charles.

Gateshead: Bartlett, Jones, Curtis, Clark, Oster, Turnbull, Baxter, Mattison (Gjokoj 65), Sainte-Luce (Ramshaw 87), Roberts, Campbell. **Subs:** Chandler, Rankine, Wright.

Boro welcomed Gateshead to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

On-loan Newcastle United man Adam Campbell proved to be the difference between a struggling Boro side and their visitors. Campbell had three chances throughout the match, he found the net with two of them and hit the woodwork with the other – as Boro were simply not able to offer anyone with a similar eye for goal at the other end. The returning Andy Brown may be good, to a lot of Boro fans he is irreplaceable, but he is not Premier League quality and there are many who believe that is exactly what the Gateshead frontman Campbell is.

That is not a slight on Brown, who managed 45 minutes on

his long awaited league comeback from injury, but a way of showing just what the Boro are up against at times, taking on full-time teams and ones who occasionally are littered with stars of the future.

Despite the stellar name in the Heed line-up Boro started well but it did not take long for the visitors to let their quality shine through. After a couple of near misses they finally broke the deadlock after just 16 minutes, the on-loan Newcastle man Campbell grabbing the goal after a nice turn on the edge of the box and an even smarter finish past Christian Dibble from the angle.

Boro threatened fleetingly after the goal but it was the visitors who always looked the more dangerous when going forward and it was no surprise when they doubled their lead – through Campbell again – this time the tiny frontman was left unmarked at the far post where he had the easy task of tapping home a Calum Roberts cross from four yards out.

The best chance the Boro could muster in the first 45 minutes saw them hit the woodwork, Theo Streete looping a header back across goal after a free-kick had bounced off the bar.

Gateshead were certainly worth their lead at the break and they were unlucky not to add to it just after the restart. Once again Campbell was the man going close, this time he managed to beat Dibble but was unable to beat the woodwork from just outside the box. Boro had been given some harsh words by boss Liam Daish at the break though, and it showed as they cancelled out the visitors in the second half. The problem was they did not offer enough going forward – but with Brown back in their ranks – and more signings to come – that could all change in the coming weeks.

Nuneaton Town v Grimsby Town

24-01-2015

Boro: Dibble, Smith, Dean, Streete (Cowan 87), Franklin, Anton Brown, Fowler (Nardiello 76), Mafuta, Ogleby, Andy Brown, Sodje.
Subs: Walker, Quinn, Charles.

Grimsby: McKeown, Pearson, Magnay, Mackreth, Disley, Clay, Pitman (Hannah 60), Parslow, Arnold (McLaughlin 76), Nsiala, Palmer.
Subs: Bignot, Walker, Watson.

Boro welcomed Grimsby Town to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier League game.

Liam Daish said he would not give up until it was impossible for the Boro to stay up – but he is going to need a bit of quality to go with that dogged spirit in the remaining fixtures. For large parts of this game the Boro players personified their managers musings, fighting for every ball and showing that there is reason to be hopeful in the last third of the campaign. Unfortunately, when it mattered most, they lacked the cutting edge, letting a good team performance turn into another bad result.

Boro had started brightly, not creating much but equally not letting Grimsby settle, and they should have been rewarded for their effort 25 minutes in. Rob Ogleby was allowed to run

one-on-one but he squandered the chance, hitting his effort straight at the legs of the oncoming James McKeown when it looked certain he would score. Boro had their tails up after the chance and enjoyed possibly their best ten minute spell of the season, taking the game to their promotion chasing visitors in an impressive fashion.

It would have been against the run of the play then, had Grimsby taken the lead in the 37th minute. But Christian Dibble ensured they didn't, throwing out a leg to deny Nathan Arnold after a mistake by Theo Streete let the Grimsby man through on goal. The Mariners went even closer just before the break as Jon-Paul Pitman smashed an effort against the bar with Dibble well beaten.

Boro almost got off to a terrific start to the second half and once again it was Ogleby with the chance, this time the Boro man found space on the edge of the area but he could only fire straight at McKeown again.

Minutes later Boro were made to pay for that chance going astray as the visitors took the lead with a close range finish from Pitman.

The Mariners frontman was the last in a trio of players to shoot in succession, Ollie Palmer struck the post with Arnold then forcing a good save from Dibble before Pitman was on-hand to tap home the rebound.

Just as in recent weeks the Boro seemed to lose their attacking threat after going behind as they failed to muster a comeback of any sort. Grimsby looked comfortable at 1-0 and they managed to add to their lead late on, substitute Ross Hannah tapping in right under the crossbar after Aristote Nsiala had headed down a corner from the right hand side.



Anton Brown gets in a header.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Fowler Out – Two In

Nuneaton Town midfielder Lee Fowler has left the club to join Crawley Town on a 93-day loan. However, Liam Daish has brought in two new players in his place. Elliott Whitehouse is a former Sheffield United midfielder who has been playing with Notts County, from where he joins Boro on loan.

George Maris is an attacking midfielder and he joins the club on loan from Barnsley where he first started as a youth team player.

Forest Green Rovers v Nuneaton Town 31-01-2015

Forest Green: Russell, Clough, Wedgbury, Fleetwood (Marwood 63), Kelly, Kamjdo, Racine, Guthrie (Norwood 63), Frear, Sinclair (Pipe 82), Parkin. Subs: Pipe, Arnold, Coles.

Boro: Dibble, Smith, Dean, Streete, Franklin, Mafuta, Whitehouse, Ogleby (Armson 60), Sodje (Nardiello 77), Andy Brown, Maris (Walker 78). Subs: Cowan, Anton Brown.

Boro made the journey to The New Lawn to play Forest Green Rovers in a Conference Premier game.

The first half was far from impressive from the men in blue and white and Forest Green were well worth their lead at the break. But, for the second 45 minutes at least, Boro were more than a match for big spending Rovers and few in the ground would have been complaining had the Boro managed to earn a point.

They didn't though, and that is largely because of a poor start in the first 20 minutes. The game was only five minutes old when Jon Parkin showed what a dangerous opponent he can be. The towering frontman showing his undoubted talent by swivelling and sending a fantastic 30-yard effort goalwards on the turn. It was a shot that skimmed the woodwork as it fired just wide of Christian Dibble's left hand post.



Andy Brown challenges the keeper.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The Forest Green number 20 was always going to be the man to watch for the Boro, and it was no surprise when the opening goal came from his boot in the 19th minute. Parkin found space in the area before slamming home past Dibble – the goal ironically coming when Nuneaton were enjoying their best spell of the game so far. Parkin

was involved in everything the home team were creating, his superb ball out wide found Elliott Frear, but his cross saw Stuart Fleetwood denied by a great save from Dibble in the Boro goal.

Boro boss Liam Daish obviously had strong words for his team at the break as they came out fighting in the second half and bossed the opening 15 minutes after the restart – but crucially were not able to create any telling chances with the possession they enjoyed. In fact it took until the 78th minute for Sam Russell to be tested in the home goal, the keeper had to be at his very best as substitute James Armson sent a fantastic drilled effort goalwards from just outside the box.

It proved to be the last chance either side managed to create in the game – meaning it is now the whole month of January that Nuneaton have failed to score a goal in. Liam Daish will be hoping that statistic changes soon or it will be a year that ends with Boro in the Conference North.

Boro Sign Wheeler

Nuneaton Town have signed Elliott Wheeler from Stoke City where he is the captain of the under-21 side.

Nuneaton Town v Wolverhampton W. 07-02-2015

Boro: Dibble, Wheeler, Franklin, Streete, Dean, Whitehouse, Mafuta (Walker 77), Maris, Armson (Dyer 60), Nardiello, Andy Brown (Ogleby 60). Subs: Sodje, Cowan.

Wolves: McCarey, Matinyadze, O'Hanlon, Weeks, Upton, Matgreitter, Reid, Kellerman, Wilson, Enobakhare (Rainey 39), Hunte. Subs: Hyden, Burgoyne, Ortega, Graham.

Boro welcomed Wolverhampton Wanderers to Liberty Way to play a Birmingham Senior Cup second round tie.

Boro boss Liam Daish named an almost full-strength side for the knock-out encounter – and was rewarded with the first four goals his side have scored in 2015. It is no surprise that returning frontman Andy Brown got two of them – he is going to be crucial in the last few months of the season. Daish would also have been pleased to see Rob Ogleby get off the mark, as well as a goal from his skipper Theo Streete, in a fine all-round display.

The game was only 10 minutes old when George Maris spurned a fantastic opportunity to give the home side the lead, smashing over from just inside the box. Maris was set-up wonderfully by a great run from Jack Nardiello, the Boro winger taking on a couple of men before shooting straight at Aaron McCarey, but Maris rushed his effort on the rebound.

It was not long before Boro did grab the opener though, as Andy Brown scored his first competitive goal since returning from injury with a fine header from close range after some smart work by James Armson and Elliot Wheeler on the right hand side. Brown had a great chance to double his total moments later but he scuffed wide after a wonderful defence



splitting pass found the frontman free on goal. Brown is not known as a man who wastes many chances though, and he made no mistake when he grabbed his second goal just minutes into the second half.

A corner from the left hand side looked to be sailing into the hands of McCarey in the Wolves goal, but the stopper made a hash of it, dropping the set-piece right into the path of Brown who headed home from close range. Brown was denied the chance to make it a hat-trick after he was subbed on the hour mark, but that did not stop the goals from coming.

Skipper Theo Streete got in on the act on 65 minutes, heading home past McCarey after the Boro got a free-kick half way inside the Wolves half. The young Wolves defence were simply unable to deal with the power of the Boro captain.

Nuneaton had not scored a goal in 2015 and they were making up for lost time in this match with Rob Ogleby netting a fourth with just minutes remaining. The goal was the best of the bunch for the home side as Ogleby deftly lifted the ball over McCarey from the edge of the area after he found space with a good run behind the Wolves back line. It proved to be the last action of any merit on a fine day all round for Daish and his team.

Gateshead v Nuneaton Town 14-02-2015

Gateshead: Bartlett, Curtis, Clark, Oster, Ramshaw (Rodman 38), Baxter, Robson, Pattison, Gjakaj, Roberts (Shaw 46), Campbell (Rankine 67). Subs: Chandler, Allan.

Boro: Dibble, Wheeler, Dean, Streete, Franklin, Mafuta, Whitehouse, Maris, Ogleby (Armson 35), Dyer (Walker 46), Andy Brown. Subs: Cowan, Wren, Nardiello.

Boro made the journey to The International Stadium to play Gateshead in a Conference Premier game.

Boro were superb throughout and deserved the three points. Despite Boro having a solid opening five minutes they were still indebted to keeper Christian Dibble as he stopped them going behind in the sixth minute. Adam Campbell fed Rob Ramshaw but the Gateshead man could only blast his effort straight at Dibble, the keeper doing well though to adjust his body and palm the ball back out to safety. After that the game fell into a period of attack versus defence as the home side began to dictate proceedings. They were, though, unable to test Dibble with any meaningful efforts during this time.

That was until the 31st minute when Gaz Dean was adjudged to have fouled Matty Pattison in the penalty area, the decision looked all the more harsh when not a single player from the home side appealed for the spot-kick. It was given nonetheless, and it allowed Campbell to stroke home his third goal in two games against Boro.

Nuneaton did not let their heads drop after going behind and indeed could have been level just ten minutes later. Elliott Whitehouse showed great determination as he drove down the right hand side. He then pulled the ball back to Jack Dyer on the edge of the box. The former Burton Albion man had his

body position all wrong though, and sliced his effort high and wide rather than testing Adam Bartlett in the home goal.

However, Andy Brown showed him how to do it on the stroke of half time. The frontman was found by George Maris and he shot first time, his effort taking a massive deflection as it wrong footed Bartlett and found its way into the back of the net. That goal was the first the Boro had scored in the league since late December.

The second half was 15 minutes old when Adam Walker, on as a sub for Jack Dyer, was found by Brown on the edge of the area, he was so unlucky though, as his curling effort was fantastically saved by Bartlett. The Boro had their tails up after the near miss and in the 64th minute they scored a deserved second. James Armson, also on as a sub, showed fantastic footwork to draw a penalty off Matty Robson. The Boro number seven then saw his spot-kick well saved by Bartlett but Theo Streete showed a strikers instinct as he followed up the rebound to give the visitors the lead.

The home fans demanded an onslaught after the goal but instead they were given a masterclass by Boro who went on the attack, rather than sit back, after making it two. Andy Brown was unlucky not to be awarded a second spot kick for the visitors after it looked like he was brought down in the box – the referee awarded a free-kick instead, while both George Maris and Elliott Whitehouse had efforts go close.

Barwell v Nuneaton Town 17-02-2015

Boro made the journey to Kirkby Road to play Barwell in a friendly game.

Boro and Barwell played out a 0-0 draw in this hastily arranged fixture.

Boro Sign Another Keeper

Nuneaton Town have been forced to change their keeper for the fifth time this season after Christian Dibble was recalled from his loan by Barnsley. The new keeper is Max Crocombe from Oxford United, who is a New Zealand under-23 international.

Nuneaton Town v Kidderminster Harriers 24-02-2015

Boro: Crocombe, Wheeler, Dean, Streete, Franklin, Mafuta, Whitehouse, Walker (Nardiello 70), Armson (Sodje 88), Maris, Andy Brown. Subs: Smith, Cowan, Wren.

Kidderminster: Lewis, Hodgkiss, Byrne, Wright, Grimes, Verma (Gittings 79), Wildig (Reffell 55), Knowles (Obeng 65), Nicholson, Gowling, Hughes. Subs: Green, Asante.

Boro welcomed Kidderminster Harriers to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

The first half saw former Coventry City man Lee Hughes miss a clear cut chance for the visitors, the second half, though, saw the Boro take centre stage when it came to wasted opportunities. Whether it was one of the three that

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Adam Walker carved out for himself, or either of the two half chances that youngster George Maris spurned. Even the normally reliable Andy Brown could not muster a finish of note as the home side could not find a breakthrough.

The pitch was in poor condition and neither side dealt well with it as the ball stuck up in the bog like conditions in the middle and made it almost impossible for any free-flowing football to break out.

But that did not stop both sides from giving it a go and after a quiet start it was the away side who came closest. Money would be on Lee Hughes being the man with it, but he could not make it count, as he was denied by Boro debutante Max Crocombe who showed lightning reactions to get both hands to the well-struck effort from inside the area.

That chance was golden, but the Boro had a couple of their own, James Armson flashing an effort goalwards from 30-yards and Walker making space in the area but firing straight at Danny Lewis in the away goal. That was as good as it got in the first half, but the second half saw an improvement.

The Boro bossed it from the off and had chances from Brown, Walker three times and Maris twice that all either tested Lewis or went wide of the target – none of them were really worthy of the description of ‘close’ though.

That was until the 88th minute when left-back Connor Franklin tried a volley from the edge of the box, the ball whistling past the far post with Lewis all but beaten. It would have been a fitting end to a stellar performance from the Boro – as it was, though, they had to settle for a supporting role rather than a star turn.

Nuneaton Town v Welling United 28-02-2015

Boro: Crocombe, Wheeler, Streete, Dean, Franklin, Walker, Mafuta (Nardiello 83), Whitehouse, Armson, Maris, Andy Brown. **Subs:** Cowan, Ogleby, Wren, Sodje.

Welling: Henly, Fyfield, Vose (Akinde 70), Berry, Jeffry, Harris, J. Williams, B Williams, Purse, Healy, Dugid (Fagan 62). **Subs:** Bush, Young, Carmichael.

Boro welcomed Welling United to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Hope has replaced despair on the terraces as a club that was deemed to be out of sight is threatening to pull off a miracle – but let’s not get ahead of ourselves, just yet. This three points earned is just that, three points that has put the Boro back within touching distance of safety. They have played more games than those around them though, and have some tricky fixtures still to come but, the Boro fans can afford to smile this week.

A scrappy first half saw Nuneaton ease into the break as the better team, the problem was they had nothing to show for their superiority in the first 45 minutes. Elliott Whitehouse did go close with a long-range drive just four minutes in, but truth be told, clear cut chances were few and far between.



Adam Walker’s shot is on its way into the net.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The second half was a different matter altogether though, as the Boro just blitzed a free-falling Welling. The half was only four-and-a-half minutes old when Adam Walker struck what proved to be the decisive goal.

He was guilty of missing chance after chance against Kidderminster last weekend, but he took the first one that came to him this time. He was in the right place at the right time to smash the ball home after George Maris had been tackled when through on goal.

Walker had the easy task of getting his body behind the rebound as it ricocheted towards him, the midfielder expertly slotting it home from the edge of the box. Boro – and Walker – had their tails up after the goal and only some desperate defending from the visitors stopped one from becoming two not long after. First Walker saw his goal-bound cross superbly headed off the line by Jamal Fyfield, then he had to watch on again as this time Barney Williams slid in to deny him after his shot looked like it was sneaking in at the back post.

With seven minutes remaining Gus Mafuta was forced off with a nasty looking injury and Jack Nardiello came off the bench to take his place. Welling offered little threat though and only a late flurry of corners in the last five minutes gave the Boro backline any reason to be concerned. They came through the test though and now they are back in touch with the pack.

Causeway United v Nuneaton Town 03-03-2015

Boro: Crocombe, Smith, Wheeler, Dean (Streete 46), Cowan, Quinn, Anton Brown, Walker (Armson 46), Ogleby, Sodje, Nardiello (Franklin 75). **Sub:** Andy Brown.

Boro made the journey to The Grove, Halesowen, to play Causeway United in a Birmingham Senior Cup third round tie.

Nuneaton eased into the semi-finals with a brace from Jack Nardiello. Boro named a strong squad in a welcome break from their league relegation battle but there was little action in

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a low-key start until home defender Mark Smith cleared from Nardiello following a 25th-minute corner. Robert Ogleby was then caught offside in front of goal and Matt Aston held off Onome Sodje, allowing home keeper Tom Turner to collect.

Causeway's only chance of the first half was wasted when Josh March struck a promising 32nd-minute free-kick straight at the Nuneaton defensive wall. Four minutes later, Nardiello's shot was deflected away and Gavin Cowan fired wide on the turn from Adam Walker's resulting corner. Nardiello gave Nuneaton the lead in the 38th minute after letting fly with a 25-yard shot that went in off the underside of Turner's crossbar. Theo Streete and James Armson were introduced as Boro made a double substitution at the interval.

Nardiello doubled Nuneaton's lead by driving into the corner of Turner's net from the edge of the area ten minutes into the second half. The rest of the game was more than comfortable for the visitors with a 67th minute shot from substitute James Armson well saved by Turner before the home keeper tipped over the bar from Robert Ogleby five minutes later.

Match winner Nardiello unfortunately hobbled off with an ankle injury with 20 minutes remaining but he had already done the damage to the hosts, who finally mustered an 85th minute shot on target when sub R'mar Murray fired straight at Max Crocombe.

Boro have won the fewest number of points on their travels of any team in non-League's top tier and Southport have the league's second worst home record, so a goalless draw was perhaps no surprise. A blustery wind and tricky pitch didn't help either side but Boro could have grabbed the winner in stoppage time, only for Rob Ogleby to drag a shot across goal before a George Maris corner was scrambled clear.

Headers from Dean and Adam Walker flew off target and Anton Brown fired too high, while Southport keeper Peter Brezovan saved from a Maris free-kick. At the other end, Boro keeper Max Crocombe was also in action to deny Richard Brodie, while Charlie Joyce was off target with a long-range effort and Luke Foster headed wide.



Gareth Dean – was in outstanding form.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Southport v Nuneaton Town 07-03-2015

Southport: Brezovan, Challoner, Foster, Connor, Beesley, George, Donnelly, Joyce, Kay (Paul Smith 72), Rutherford (McCarthy 58), Brodie. Subs Lloyd-Weston, Fitzpatrick, Davies.

Boro: Crocombe, Smith, Streete, Dean, Franklin, Whitehouse, Anton Brown, Armson (Sodje, 90), Walker (Ogleby, 70), Maris, Andy Brown. Subs: Cowan, Quinn, Wren.

Boro made the journey to Haig Avenue to play Southport in a Conference Premier game.

Battling Boro defended for their lives and on most occasions a hard-fought away-day point would be celebrated. Make no mistake, this was another sign that Daish's men are getting stronger and stronger and they are now four games unbeaten in the Conference Premier. With Gaz Dean outstanding, they chalked up a third clean sheet in four games but Southport, just above the drop zone, could feel the happier as they kept the gap to their third-from-bottom rivals to six points.



Theo Streete pushes forward.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Whitehouse Recalled

Elliott Whitehouse has been recalled from his loan period by Notts County, but Boro have arranged two new loan deals in Josh Rees, who plays for the Nottingham Forest academy, and is a graduate of the Arsenal Academy and Lucas Dawson, who joins from Stoke City.

Nuneaton Town v Torquay United 14-03-2015

Boro: Crocombe, Wheeler, Dean, Streete, Franklin, Walker, Armson, Anton Brown, Maris, Ogleby (Sodje 33), Andy Brown. Subs: Cowan, Quinn, Smith, Wren.

Torquay: Rice, Downes, Briscoe (Ajala 53), Young, Bowman, Richards, MacDonald (Pearce 61), Ives, Gueguen, Dawson, Campbell (Reid 90). Subs: Harding, Chapell.

Boro welcomed Torquay United to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

There is no doubting it – Boro are a lot more solid than they were at the start of the season – but a lack of goals means they are left staring relegation in the face. For the fourth successive league match Boro managed to engineer a shut-out, meaning keeper Max Crocombe has still to concede since he joined the club back in February.

But, it is at the other end that Boro are facing problems, for the second week in a row they were unable to build on their defensive solidarity and barely registered a chance in anger at the Torquay goal. The first chance they did muster came in the 12th minute as Rob Ogleby showed the turn of pace that



could make him a vital cog in the Boro machine. He burnt past his man from a Max Crocombe goal kick but smashed his half-volleyed effort at a nice height for Martin Rice to punch clear.

That chance did not herald the beginning of an open, end-to-end encounter, instead it stood out as a rare bright spot in an otherwise poor first half. With seconds to go until half-time it was upstaged as the best moment of the half though, as Max Crocombe pulled off two fantastic stops in a matter of minutes to keep his side level. First he came out well and used his feet to deny John Campbell when the Torquay man was one-on-one. Then, from the resulting corner the Boro stopper pulled off arguably the save of the season as he somehow managed to get a hand to a fantastic Courtney Richards volley, getting enough behind it to tip it over the bar.

The second half was a non-affair chances wise as neither side seemed able to break down their opponents. George Maris had the best of the few chances that were created, the Boro man was fed through by Andy Brown late-on, but he could only manage to fire his effort straight at Rice.

How costly that missed chance will be – with Alfreton, Southport and Welling all winning, is anyone's guess – but with the gap now standing at eight points, and with tough games to come, the Boro are going to need to do more than just shut teams out if they are to survive in the Vanarama Conference Premier.

Macclesfield Town v Nuneaton Town	21-03-2015
<p>Macclesfield: Taylor, Halls, Audel, Pilkington, Turnbull (Fairhurst 59), Moke (Phenix 46), Bell, Whitaker (Lewis 46), Grant, Barnes-Homer, Bailey-Jones. Subs: Cowan, Branagan.</p> <p>Boro: Crocombe, Franklin, Dean, Streete, Wheeler, Anton Brown, Rees, Armson, Maris (Dawson 66), Ogleby (Cowan 87), Andy Brown (Sodje 79). Subs: Walker, Wren.</p>	

Boro made the journey to The Moss Rose to play Macclesfield Town in a Conference Premier game.

Nuneaton turned the league table on its head as they earned three massive points at title chasing Macclesfield. The win, coupled with a draw between Alfreton and Chester, means Boro have narrowed the gap to seven points with the last month of the season on the horizon. Despite almost the length of the division separating the two sides Nuneaton gave as good as they got in the early exchanges, just failing in the last third of the pitch.

Defensively Max Crocombe was untested throughout the opening 45 minutes, Gaz Dean and Theo Streete marshalling well in-front of him once again and leaving the on-loan Oxford man with a mere spectator role. It was at the front-end though, that the Boro lacked the cutting edge, Rhys Taylor – although having more to do than Crocombe – was still not tested truly.

The Boro had chances, George Maris was guilty of missing the most clear-cut, heading wide when a deep cross to the far

post found him unmarked. It was not just the Barnsley man who should have done better though. James Armson also wasted an opportunity, scuffing his volley into the ground before it reached Taylor, the Boro midfielder was well placed before his effort was miscued. Rob Ogleby also went close, but just like his team mates he could not find the net.

The second half saw the home side come into the game more, their need for points being just as strong as that of Nuneaton. Dean and Streete ensured that the gung-ho approach from Macclesfield did not convert into chances on goal though, a toe here, a head there, the defensive duo mopping up superbly to snuff out any trouble that came their way.

At the other end the introduction of new-man Lucas Dawson nearly had an immediate impact for Liam Daish, the midfielder's first touch for Boro saw him set himself up on the edge of the box, his second touch sent a shot goalwards that brought a smart save out of Taylor in the Silkmen's goal. Despite the game being far from poor, it was in the last minutes that things really bounced into life.

First, with time ticking away, skipper Theo Streete missed a glorious chance to give the visitors all three points, his one-on-one effort with Taylor saw the keeper coming off best. But moments later, Taylor was left with no chance as a cross-come-shot from new man Josh Rees looked to be heading wide but substitute Onome Sodje stole in, sliding the ball home to give Nuneaton a well deserved – if unexpected – victory.

Nuneaton Town v Wrexham	24-03-2015
<p>Boro: Lincoln, Wheeler, Streete, Dean, Franklin, Anton Brown, Rees, Maris (Dawson 93), Ogleby, Walker (Armson 66), Andy Brown (Sodje 82). Subs: Cowan, Smith.</p> <p>Wrexham: Coughlin, Carrington, Ashton, Smith, Clarke, Durrell, Bishop, Keates (Finley 72), Tomassen, Jennings (Moult 76), Storer (Evans 78). Subs: Stevens, Roper.</p>	

Boro welcomed Wrexham to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Nuneaton Town made it a homecoming to forget for former boss Kevin Wilkin as they made it seven games unbeaten – six without conceding – with yet another solid display. The first real chance of the game came in the 12th minute and it fell to midfield man Adam Walker. The Boro number six, picked ahead of James Armson in one of only two changes Liam Daish made to his team from Saturday, was found well by Rob Ogleby in the box, but he could not lift his effort over the bodies throwing themselves in front of him.

He more than made up for it in the 36th minute though, as he scored one of the goals of the season for the home side to give Boro the lead. Walker picked the ball up on the edge of the area, took it past his man and sent a stunning curling effort round a crowd of players. It was a fine shot that left Andy Coughlin simply helpless as it nestled into the far corner of the net.

It was the final clear cut chance of the half, and the last until



Walker went close again on the hour mark. He picked the ball up on the edge of the area, but this time could not hit the target as he smashed it high and wide when he probably should have done better. That was the first of a series of chances for the home side, the last of which saw them double their lead through former Wrexham man Ogleby.

The winger was first on the scene after George Maris had seen his effort saved by Andy Cloughin in the Dragons' goal, leaving Ogleby the easy task of tapping home for his first goal for Nuneaton. The goal came just minutes after Cloughin had kept the deficit at one as he got up well to tip an Andy Brown header against the bar from just inside the area.

Wrexham failed to offer anything in return – and with a Wembley final on Sunday you can see why – but despite that it still needed a great last-ditch tackle from Gaz Dean to keep the score at 2-0 as the minutes ticked away. With this win coming on the same night as Alfreton dropped points again, it now means the Boro are just five points adrift of safety.

More Loan Deals For Boro

Nuneaton Town have signed 19-year-old West Ham United striker Jaanai Gordon on loan. Gordon started his career with Peterborough United and has also been on loan at Chelmsford City. The Liberty Way club have also secured a week long loan deal for Reading keeper Daniel Lincoln.

Nuneaton Town v FC Halifax Town 28-03-2015

Boro: Lincoln, Wheeler, Franklin, Dean, Streete, Anton Brown, Walker (Sodje 58), Rees, Ogleby (Andy Brown 59), Armson (Dawson 86), Gordon. Subs: Cowan, Smith.

Halifax: Glennon, Bolton, McManus, Roberts, Pearson, Williams, Boden (Jackson 78), Maynard, Schofield (Smith 84), Hutchinson, Muldon. Subs: Senior, Roberts, Hattersley.

Boro welcomed FC Halifax Town to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Fresh from a seven game unbeaten run – one that saw them win twice in the last week alone – Nuneaton Town were flying going into this game. But West Ham loanee Jaanai Gordon was brought in for Andy Brown – a decision that may prove costly. Liam Daish defended the move after the game saying Brown needed resting after a hard slog during recent weeks.

But, tired or not, Brown shone when he came on in the second half, almost single handedly bringing the Boro into the game, grabbing one goal and almost netting another near the end. It was not all about Brown though, as the other outfield players simply did not get going in the first half.

Boro were undone by the first chance Halifax created as they fell behind in just the third minute. A flick-on from Scot Boden found Jack Muldon in the box, he showed composure as he got a shot away quickly, leaving Dan Lincoln no chance as it rocketed into the back of the net from close range.

The closest Boro came to drawing level was a long range shot from Adam Walker, but Glennon was more than equal to the effort, diving full length to push it to safety. At the other end it took a last-gasp diving clearance from Gaz Dean – right under the crossbar – to stop the visitors from doubling their lead, Dean showing an amazing fleet of foot to get himself to James Bolton's header. It was always going to be hard for the Boro to get any momentum going in the first half with the wind against them, the goal they conceded 16 minutes into the second half though, would have been a tough one to accept.

Boro had the weather working in their favour at this stage, but despite that it was still Halifax who struck next as a ball across the box from Scott Boden found Muldon in the middle, the Shayman star given the easy task of tapping home his second from close range once again.

Just before that goal went in Boro boss Liam Daish went all out attack as he brought on forwards Andy Brown and Onome Sodje from the bench. The duo were powerless to stop the second goal going in, but Brown at least showed what he could do in an attacking sense as not long after he rose highest in the box to head home a corner from the right hand side to halve the deficit. Brown obviously had a point to prove after being on the bench for the start of the game and he was proving it in some style as he almost drew Boro level five minutes later. His shot on the turn deserved to find the back of the net, and it would have, if not for Glennon who got down to his left and palmed it to safety.

Boro were very much knocking on the door at this stage and only a series of last-ditch tackles, coupled with some well timed blocks, stopped them from completing the comeback. With Alfreton getting a last minute goal at home to Barnet to earn a point in their game, Boro would have been hoping to follow their lead, but it was not to be as Halifax proved all good things come to an end as they shattered Boro's unbeaten run.

Former Boro Boss Sacked

Former Nuneaton Town manager Kevin Wilkin has been sacked by Wrexham, after a disappointing Vanarama Conference campaign.

Barnet v Nuneaton Town 04-04-2015

Barnet: Stack, Yiadom, N'Gala, Stephens, Johnson, Vilhete (Gambin 62), Western, Togwell, Villa, Akinde (Saville 90), MacDonald (Gash 57). Subs: Clifford, Muggleton.

Boro: Crocombe, Wheeler (Ogleby 87), Dean, Street, Franklin, Dawson, Rees, Armson (Walker 67), Anton Brown, Gordon (Sodje 57), Andy Brown. Subs: Cowan, Smith.

Boro made the journey to The Hive Stadium to play Barnet in a Conference Premier game.

Nuneaton Town put in a battling display at Conference leaders Barnet but it proved to be in vain as they left empty handed suffering another blow to their dwindling survival hopes. Boro matched their high-flying hosts for much of the

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game, but the division's leading scorer, John Akinde, scored the only goal of the game 20 minutes from time to give Barnet victory.

Nuneaton remain six points adrift of safety ahead of Easter Monday's home clash with Braintree Town, but with only four games remaining time is starting to run out for Boro. Liam Daish brought Andy Brown back into the starting line up as one of three changes, with keeper Max Crocombe returning from international duty while Lucas Dawson also came in.

Clear cut chances were at a premium for both sides early on, Jaanai Gordon heading over the bar for Boro, while Lucas Dawson saw a low shot from 25 yards easily saved. Josh Rees went close from a free kick before the hosts started to assert some pressure as the first half wore on, Mauro Vilhete shooting straight at Crocombe. Charlie MacDonald should have fired Barnet ahead shortly before half time, but struck the inside of the post, before Andy Brown shot narrowly wide as Boro went into the break deservedly level.

The hosts frustrations continued after the interval as Andy Yiadom headed over from a corner, while at the other end Dawson's effort hit the roof of the stand. Barnet introduced former Boro loanee Michael Gash, but after Akinde had beaten Crocombe to a high ball, Gash misjudged his angles and hooked his overhead effort wide.

Nuneaton were growing in confidence, but on 70 minutes their hopes were dashed as Akinde struck the decisive blow. The big striker was allowed enough space to take down a cross on his chest and hit a powerful volley to record his 30th league goal of the season. Andy Brown almost got in behind as Boro pushed for an equaliser, only to be tackled before getting a shot away and it would prove as close as they came, with Barnet holding on in relative comfort.

Nuneaton Town v Braintree Town 06-04-2015

Boro: Crocombe, Wheeler, Streete, Cowan, Franklin, Rees, Smith (Gordon 69), Ogleby (Sodje 75), Dawson, Walker, Andy Brown.
Subs: Dean, Wren.

Braintree: Hamann, Habergham, Isaac, Paine, Massey, Davis, Sparkes, Akinola, Mensah (Mulley 71), Cox (Brundle 30), Peters.
Subs: Maybanks, Moore, Pentley.

Boro welcomed Braintree Town to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Boro have been all-but relegated after a home defeat to Braintree left them with an almost-impossible task to avoid the drop. Defeats for fellow strugglers Alfreton and Welling meant that Boro had the chance to close the gap at the bottom of the table – but they failed to take that opportunity as they let a relaxed Braintree outfit take all three points.

The defeat means Boro are currently six points inside the relegation zone, but have only three games left to turn that situation round. In truth it was always going to be hard, especially after the start they had to the season but after a recent revival, hope was on the up. Three defeats on the spin

have now put paid to that as the Boro are set to lock horns with the likes of Hednesford and Tamworth in the Conference North next season.



Andy Brown rises above the Braintree centre-half. Photo: Simon Kimber

Despite the stakes going into this game yesterday, it was an open start as both sides had early efforts on goal inside the first ten minutes. Dan Sparkes saw his free-kick from distance well saved by Max Crocombe in the Nuneaton goal, while at the other end, Rob Ogleby saw his tame side-footed effort gratefully gathered by Nick Hamann in the Braintree goal.

Crocombe was called into action again on 27 minutes as he got down low to use his feet to divert a close-range effort from Bernard Mensah onto the crossbar, but not much had happened in-between the chances as both sides slipped into a stale period of play.

That stale feel continued deep into the second half as it took 20 minutes after the restart for either keeper to be tested. Hamann made a save to deny Josh Rees, but from inside the area, he should have been left with no chance. That miss was made to look all the more significant as ten minutes from the end Braintree netted the all-important opening goal.

It was the danger man Dan Sparkes who got it, with a well placed shot from just inside the box after he was allowed far too much room. Boro failed to muster a response of note after the goal as the game ended like their season... with a whimper.

Boro Docked Three Points

Nuneaton Town have been docked three points and fined £500 for fielding an ineligible player. The club pleaded guilty to selecting George Maris against Welling on February 28 – two days after his loan period from Barnsley ended. Boro have until Friday, April 17 to appeal against the judgement.

Dartford v Nuneaton Town 11-04-2015

Dartford: Ibrahim, Richards, McAuley, Elliott Bradbrook, Hayes, Noble, Pugh, Collier, Crawford (Green 55), Dallison, Driver (Tom Bradbrook 66). Subs: Daley, Kessell, Adams.

Boro: Crocombe, Wheeler, Dean, Cowan, Franklin, Dawson, Rees, Anton Brown (Smith 67), Walker, Sodje, Andy Brown. Subs: Ogleby, Gordon, Wren, Nardiello.

Boro made the journey to Princes Park to play Dartford in a Conference Premier game.

Boro have not scored enough goals, or looked solid enough at the back for large parts of the season and they have lacked the consistency needed to remain at the top table of non-league football. Boro enjoyed plenty of possession, they should have taken the lead long before the 22nd minute opener from Andy Brown. They missed chances through Brown and Adam Walker, both of which should have been converted, before the Nuneaton number ten finally found the back of the net. He rose highest in the box to show his aerial prowess, attacking the ball well to power the ball into the net off the crossbar.



Andy Brown's header is on its way into the net. Photo: Simon Kimber

Liam Daish's side continued to press after that, but it was only the one goal lead they took into the half time break with them. Nuneaton are not where they are in the league due to playing football like that though, and in the second 45 minutes they put in a performance that showed why they are facing life in the Conference North next season.

Boro handed the initiative to the home side as soon as the whistle went. An innocuous ball was put into the Nuneaton box and was cleared, but the referee saw an infringement and pointed to the spot. Elliott Bradbrook made no mistake with the resulting spot-kick as he sent Max Crocombe the wrong way to draw his side level.

It was another Bradbrook, Tom, who grabbed the second goal just ten minutes before the end of the game. He headed home after a goalmouth scramble as he was left unmarked in the six yard box. Nuneaton had lost their belief at this point and a third goal for Dartford was always on the cards. Harry

Crawford was the man who delivered it, and he will never score an easier goal. Nathan Green twisted and turned in the Boro box before sliding the ball across to Crawford who simply tapped it home from under the crossbar.



Elliott Bradbrook sends Crocombe the wrong way. Photo: Simon Kimber

Nuneaton Town v West Bromwich Albion 14-04-2015

Boro: Crocombe, Wheeler, Dean, Cowan, Smith, Rees, Dawson, Ogleby (Brown 112), Gordon, Nardiello (Walker 67), Sodje. Subs: Franklin, Wren.

West Brom: Palmer, Gamboa, Pocognoli (S.Nabi 98), Birch, Davidson, Wisdom (Atkinson 91), McManaman (Leko 62) O'Sullivan, Roberts, A.Nabi, Garmston. Subs: Cleet, Ross.

Boro welcomed West Bromwich Albion to Liberty Way to play a Birmingham Senior Cup semi-final tie.

Boro showed tremendous character as they out-fought a strong Premier League outfit to book their place in the final. It could have been so easy at 1-0 down, against a team with five players with top league experience, to just throw in the towel, but Nuneaton refused to wilt. They battled back well and showed the kind of tenacity and drive that surely would have seen them in the top half of the Conference if it had been evident more often this season.

Boro had started well with early chances from Lucas Dawson from distance and Gavin Cowan with a header, but despite that it was the visitors who took the lead. They had an effort that sailed well over from Adil Nabi on 15 minutes before the same man gave the Baggies the lead just eight minutes later. He picked up the ball in the box before side footing it home past Max Crocombe, leaving the Boro keeper with no chance with the well taken effort.

Nabi was proving to be a real handful for the Boro defence and he really did deserve a second goal in the 37th minute. His free-kick from the edge of the box looked destined to find the top corner, somehow though, Crocombe managed to get across and tip it over the bar at full-stretch with a one handed save.

The first half was certainly not lacking in terms of chances created, a far cry from what was to be a poor second period. Neither side managed to create an opening of note, neither keeper was fully tested as the game stagnated. That was until the 76th minute when Rob Ogleby pulled out a finish of true quality, a shot that left Alex Palmer with no chance as the former Wrexham man found the bottom corner.



Boro had their tails up after the goal and sensed a final place was in the offing. Adam Walker nearly delivered it to them late on but his shot from the edge of the box was smartly saved by Palmer. That was to be the last effort of any worth on goal until the second half of extra time, when Josh Rees hit the post with a powerful effort from just inside the penalty area. That was the end of the excitement, from open play at least, as the game moved into the lottery of the penalty shoot-out. Sodje, Cowan, Dawson and Gordon all netted for Nuneaton, while Crocombe saved efforts from Tyler Roberts and Cristian Gamboa to see his side through to the final.

Nuneaton Town v Woking

18-04-2015

Boro: Crocombe, Franklin, Cowan, Dean, Ogleby (Smith 62), Gordon-Hutton (Walker 60), Rees, Wheeler, Nardiello (Maris 46), Dawson, Sodje. **Subs:** Andy Brown, Wren.

Woking: Cole, Jones (Murtagh 75), Saah, McNerney, Arthur, Betsy, Ricketts, Payne, Goddard (Oyeleke 78), Odubade (Sole 75), Rendell. **Subs:** Newton, Crowe.

Boro welcomed Woking to Liberty Way to play a Conference Premier game.

Boro were largely good value for a draw, with Max Crocombe's man of the match performance helping to deny the visitors. While Woking lacked invention in the first half, they were the better side after the break. In the end, a lone strike from Kevin Betsy – saved the blushes, on a day when results elsewhere sent Boro rock bottom.

It all started promisingly for the visitors, the lively Yemi Odubade with an early swerving snapshot, while the next attack saw Boro teeter, Odubade the main threat again from a Josh Payne free kick aided by Joey Jones. Nigerian striker Onome Sodje was on target for Boro with an overhead kick, but his finish lacked power, while Jones and fellow live wire John Goddard caused a stir at the other end.

Boro pressure continued and Jaanai Gordon-Hutton hit a powerful 20-yard strike for the opener on 18 minutes. Ogleby was nearly through soon after, while confusion between Joe McNerney and Cole led to a needless corner as the Cards struggled. A swift move involving Odubade and Payne led to the latter's cross, just too deep for top-scorer Scott Rendell.

A Lucas Dawson corner brought a further test for the visitors' defence, but this time they stood their ground, a promising spell following. Brian Saah let loose with a cracking strike from distance, Oxford United loanee Crocombe doing well to turn the effort on to his post. Then fellow central defender McNerney headed over Payne's searching cross.

After the break Crocombe turned the ball around his post from a Rendell header following nice touches from Goddard and Payne. Sodje tested Cole at the other end before Woking's equaliser arrived, a swift attack ending with a looping Betsy lob which bounced up and struck the crossbar. The former Fulham man just beat Rendell to the rebound, heading home at close quarters on 53 minutes.

Another swift move followed, the Cards turning up the heat, with several passes before skipper Mark Ricketts' volley from distance brought another close call. But Boro weren't done yet and sub Adam Walker lobbed over.

Garry Hill made three changes in a bid to find a winner, with subs Keiran Murtagh and Giuseppe Sole quickly involved, Manny Oyeleke then joining them as a left-wing raid started by Arthur led to a corner. Payne's first centre was put behind and the second caught by the keeper. Sodje still seemed capable of creating a shock home lead, but the Cards remained most likely to succeed, a Payne free kick causing flutters before Sole was kept out at the near post, Crocombe then gathering the following corner. And after the inspired keeper had punched away a Ricketts' danger ball and Payne's injury-time free kick was headed away, the visitors ran out of time.

Chester v Nuneaton Town

25-04-2015

Chester: Worsnop (Viscosi 86), Higgins, Heneghan, Charnock, Roberts, Mahon (McConville 65), James, Rooney, Hughes, McBurnie (Thomson 66), Hobson. **Subs:** Peers, Touray.

Boro: Crocombe, Smith, Cowan (Anton Brown 63), Dean, Franklin, Ogleby (Walker 67), Rees, Dawson, Sodje (Nardiello 76), Gordon, Andy Brown. **Sub:** Wren.

Boro made the journey to The Diva Stadium to play Chester in a Conference Premier game.

Chester seemed up for this dead rubber as they went straight on the attack from the kick-off. But all they could muster during three minutes of mayhem were two half chances that Max Crocombe wasn't really troubled with.

Boro took the lead through Andy Brown as he did what he does best, managing to find room in the box and get his head to a right wing cross from Jaanai Gordon. The second came from a more unusual source as Gav Cowan first had a shot that led to a corner in the 28th minute – and then got his head to the corner to power Boro into a 2-0 lead. Chester pulled a goal back on the stroke of half time. A free-kick was punted into the box where it was met by the head of Oli McBurnie, whose towering header left Crocombe with no chance.

All three goals in the first half were from within the area, albeit taken well. The start of the second half saw one smashed in from 25 yards out that outshone all that came before it. Josh Rees was the scorer as he curled home a fantastic effort from distance. It gave the Boro a two goal advantage once again and was just reward for the form the midfield player has shown since coming to the club in March.

Boro looked to be cruising once again at this stage but they were dealt a massive blow when Cowan went down in the centre circle after a collision. Boro were unable to get him off, and Anton Brown on quick enough, and as Cowan played on while the change was waiting to happen, the home side capitalised. Matty Hughes stole through the Nuneaton midfield before feeding Kinglsey James, the midfield man slotting it coolly under Crocombe to cut the deficit once again.



Nuneaton went from looking in control to looking panicked, with midfielder Anton Brown being exposed whilst playing out of position in defence. It was only a matter of time before the home side made that count in their favour and they did so in the 70th minute as substitute Sean McConville was awarded plenty of room in the penalty area – and he took full advantage of it by simply picking his spot and sliding it under Crocombe’s body.

Boro seemed shell-shocked and unable to stop the Chester onslaught. Just six minutes after drawing level the home side then went ahead for the first time in the match as that man, McConville, was in the right place at the right time once again, as he tapped home a right wing corner to swing the game Chester’s way. Nuneaton’s misery was complete when they conceded a fifth with five minutes to go thanks to a fantastic run and drilled finish from George Thomson.

Daish To Step Down

It has been announced by the board of Nuneaton Town Football Club that current manager Liam Daish is to step down after the Birmingham Senior Cup final.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham City 30-04-2015

Boro: Crocombe, Smith, Dean, Streete, Franklin, Dawson (Walker 85), Rees, Armson (Anton Brown 76), Gordon, Andy Brown, Ogleby (Sodje 64). **Subs:** Cowan, Wren.

Birmingham: Townsend, Dacres-Cogley, Hancox, Cooper, Harding, Bernard, Solomon-Otabor (Cotton 78), Brown, Zigic, Green, Guthmy (O’Neill 46). **Subs:** Kelly, Weaver, McFarlane.

Boro welcomed Birmingham City to Liberty Way to play the Birmingham Senior Cup Final.

Boro huffed and puffed, but Blues held firm, as a young squad, sprinkled with the likes of Nikola Zigic proved too strong for Nuneaton. The game was just eight minutes old when Nuneaton came close to breaking the deadlock. Jannai Gordon did all the hard work, as he twisted this way and that and left the defence flat footed. His shot was diverted goalwards by the head of Andy Brown, and the frontman was unlucky to see it cannon out of play off the crossbar.

Max Crocombe somehow got a hand to a close range header from Matt Green but was nothing he could do two minutes later as a corner from the left was not cleared and Wesley Harding took the chance to head home from under the crossbar. Nuneaton did not learn their lesson as it did not take that long for Birmingham to double their advantage – and once again it was a headed goal. This time it was Matt Green who did the damage, the Blues number ten was afforded far too much room in the penalty area, heading home from close range under no pressure whatsoever.

Nuneaton began to get a footing in the game after the second goal, but it was not until after the half time break that they really began to threaten. Their more adventurous approach was rewarded in the 58th minute as Josh Rees

halved the deficit with a thunderous volley from inside the penalty area.

The midfielder was not pressured in the box, and he took full advantage to smash it home past Nick Townsend. The second half was like chalk and cheese to the first as it was Nuneaton who looked to press and they were asking all the questions. They could have drawn level on a number of occasions as they created numerous half chances, the best of which saw Andy Brown head over when inside the six yard box, the frontman would have wanted to test the keeper at least after being well placed.

Conference Premier 2014-2015

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barnet	46	28	8	10	94	46	92
Bristol Rovers	46	25	16	5	73	34	91
Grimsby Town	46	25	11	10	74	40	86
Eastleigh	46	24	10	12	87	61	82
Forest Green Rovers	46	22	16	8	80	54	79
Macclesfield Town	46	21	15	10	60	46	78
Woking	46	21	13	12	77	52	76
Dover Athletic	46	19	11	16	69	58	68
Halifax Town	46	17	15	14	60	54	66
Gateshead	46	17	15	14	66	62	66
Wrexham	46	17	15	14	56	52	66
Chester	46	19	6	21	64	76	63
Torquay United	46	16	13	17	64	60	61
Braintree Town	46	18	5	23	56	57	59
Lincoln City	46	16	10	20	62	71	58
Kidderminster Harriers	46	15	12	19	51	60	57
Altrincham	46	16	8	22	54	73	56
Aldershot Town	46	14	11	21	51	61	53
Southport	46	13	12	21	47	72	51
Welling United	46	11	12	23	52	73	45
Alfreton Town	46	12	9	25	49	90	45
Dartford	46	8	15	23	44	74	39
Telford United	46	10	9	27	58	84	36
Nuneaton Town	46	10	9	27	38	76	36



Hemel Hempstead Town — 4th Qualifying Round

Boro welcomed Hemel Hempstead Town to Liberty Way to play a FA Cup 4th Qualifying Round replay.

Boro: Wren, Franklin, Streete, Dean, Cowan, Brown, Dyer (Armson 16 (Smith 82)), Fowler, Dawson, Curran, Hutchinson. Subs: Walker, Starosta, Quinn, McSweeney, Richards.

Hemel: Walker, Asafu-Adjaye, Connolly, Parkes, Johnson, Diarra, Hawkins, Lobjoit (Lowe 61), Potton, Simmonds (Brighton 81), Toomey (Allen 61). Subs: Oporu, King, Oli, May.

The game was only three minutes old when the Boro came close to breaking the deadlock, only the width of the post denying Jack Dyer an early goal after the midfielder smashed an effort in from fully 25 yards.

The home side continued to push after that with Ben Hutchinson looking particularly dangerous on his return to the first team fold.

The frontman had a couple of headed opportunities – and a fizzed effort that went just over from 20 yards – but he was unable to test Laurie Walker in the Hemel goal.

The pressure did not continue for the Boro though, as Hemel came back into the match when the tempo died down from the home side.

The lower league visitors did not create any clear cut chances as such, but they were doing enough to worry the Boro.

Despite that, Boro managed to see out what in all honesty turned into a poor half, leaving Hemel the happier of the two sides going into the break.

The match was between a Conference Premier and a Conference South outfit, but both teams share the same problem – a lack of form.

That was obvious in the lack of momentum either of the sides could build. Poor passing and frustrated shouting featuring more than clear cut chances and end-to-end play.

When the Boro did break Hemel down

in the 68th minute they were unable to take the chance, Craig Curran reacted quickly to get onto a Ben Hutchinson flick-on, but he could not do enough to force it past Walker.

Minutes later James Wren showed his own ability as a goalkeeper, superbly tipping a fierce Luke Allen shot over the bar with one hand, the best chance Hemel had created all game.

Despite a late flurry of corners for the visitors neither keeper was tested after that leaving a replay on Tuesday night as the outcome.

Hemel Hempstead Town — 4th Qualifying Round Replay

Borough travelled to Vauxhall Road to face Hemel Hempstead Town in a FA Cup 4th Qualifying Round replay.

Hemel: Walker, Asafu-Adjaye, Connolly (Brighton 46), Parkes, Johnson, Diarra, Talbot, Daly, Hawkins, Potton, Toomey (Lowe 64). Subs : Allen, Lobjoit, Opoku, King, May.

Boro: Wren, Streete, Franklin, Cowan, Dean, Walker (Armson 85), Anton Brown, Fowler, Dawson, Hutchinson, Curran (John 67). Subs: Starosta, Smith, Quinn, McSweeney, Richards.

There were no positives for Boro in this FA Cup tie and the truth is that Boro were simply not good enough. Any team can go out of the FA Cup to lower league opponents, that is what makes the FA Cup as magical as it is.

The only guarantee normally is that both teams will give their all to try and make sure it is them that books safe passage into the next round.

Boro did not meet that standard on Tuesday night, though. They created little and lacked the drive needed to see-off a spirited lower league side. They deserved what they got in the end – an early exit from the most famous knock-out competition in the world.

Things could have been so different if Ben Hutchinson had put one of his headed chances away in the first half Hemel may have folded.

Just like at the weekend though, the

Boro frontman failed to find the target when free in the box, giving Hemel a second chance which they looked in the mood to make the most of.

The home side – although not creating much themselves – seemed content to watch the Boro be the masters of their own downfall. Anton Brown was afforded too much room in the box in the second half but, just like Hutchinson, the midfielder could only head wide when unmarked.

Those chances summed up the Boro performance. They lacked the killer instinct needed to ensure it was them who would be facing Bury.

They were also some of the most clear-cut chances in a game void of any real openings. That fact must be one that worries Daish the most – what with meaner defences to be faced in the Conference Premier in upcoming games.

Despite all their shortcomings Boro could still have nicked it late on, Adam Dawson was unlucky to see his fine run into the box end with his curled shot clipping the crossbar rather than nestling into the back of the net.

That was the last time that Boro looked an attacking force in the game and extra-time saw them simply blown away by their lower league hosts.

Hemel decided it was time to take the gloves off and once they upped the tempo Boro could not live with them.

Jamel Lowe had an effort cleared off the line but a minute later he was on hand at the back post to turn in Jordan Parks low cross.

Boro couldn't find a response and in the final minute of the opening period of extra time their hopes were ended as James Potton fired into the bottom corner from the edge of the area.

That goal brought an end to the FA Cup for another year for Nuneaton, if they do not find a way to get goals – and soon – then their Conference Premier standing may also be coming to an end come May.



Grimsby Town — 1st Round

Boro welcomed Grimsby Town to Liberty Way to play a FA Trophy 1st Round tie.

Boro: Dibble (Quinn 69), Starostsa, Franklin, Cowan, Dean, Anton Brown, Armson, Walker, Dawson (Barrington 81), Sodje, Stankevicius.
Subs: Fowler, Smith, Kavanagh.

Grimsby: McKeown, Thomas, Brown, Pearson, Magnay, Mackreth, Disley (Clay 55), John-Lewis (Hannah 81), Pittman, Parslow, Arnold (Walker 81). Subs: Bignot, Nielson .

Liam Daish said he felt like he had run over the club cat last month – such had been his luck since he took over at the Boro in September.

If that was the case back then, then goodness knows what bad-luck omen Daish has crossed now as Boro saw their fortunes go from bad to worse in a terrible Saturday afternoon's football at Liberty Way.

Starting from the earliest moments, the club were up against it.

The Grimsby coach did not arrive until nearly 3.40pm, thus delaying kick off until 4.15pm.

The hour-and-a-quarter delay saw the Boro attendance dip to just 344, many unwilling to wait the extra time to see the game start.

When it did begin it was obvious that the five-hour plus journey down to Nuneaton had not had an affect on the travelling Mariners.

It was the visitors who started the brighter, with Lenell John-Lewis having two chances within the space of a few seconds 14 minutes in. For the first, the Mariners frontman smashed straight at Christian Dibble, the second he fired wide when left unmarked in the Boro box.

The Boro were very much in the game though, and Adam Dawson sent the visitors a warning 20 minutes in when he flashed an effort that flew just over James McKeown's goal with the keeper beaten.

It was typical of the Boro luck this season then that they went behind when they were enjoying a decent spell of pressure.

It was Jon-Paul Pittman who smashed the opener, the Grimsby striker turned Gavin Cowan on the edge of the box before firing past Dibble.

In the 65th minute things went from bad to worse for Nuneaton as their returning skipper Gaz Dean was sent to the stands after a last-man lunge on John-Lewis. Dean started walking before the referee

even produced the card, compounding a tough month for the captain.

If that was not bad enough, from the resulting free-kick Boro were dealt a double blow, as Dibble hit his head on the post after Aswad Thomas curled his effort goalwards.

Left dazed, the on-loan Barnsley man was told by medical officials he had to go off.

With no sub keeper on the bench James Armson was left to take over between the sticks.

Grimsby were obviously buoyed by the happenings – but they were still made to wait 12 minutes to take advantage.

It was Jack Mackreth who struck for the visitors, he broke free of the depleted Boro defence before rounding Armson in goal and tucking the ball into the empty net.

Nuneaton simply had no reply after that – while Grimsby mercifully seemed content with the two-goal margin.

Boro cannot solely blame bad luck. Somehow they have got to rise above adversity when it comes or their Conference place will go the same way as their Trophy campaign at the end of the season.

Conference Premier: Fixtures, Results & Scorers - 2014-15

Nuneaton Scores First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers	Attendance
07.08	Derby County	H	PSF	1-2	Wright	760
07.12	Barwell	A	PSF	2-1	Diyuka (2)	
07.15	Notts County	H	PSF	0-0		
07.19	Coventry City	H	PSF	1-0	Dean. Abandoned after 53 minutes	1690
07.29	West Brom XI	H	PSF	2-2	Robertson, Hutchinson	
07.31	Nuneaton Griff	H	PSF	2-3	Baker-Richards, Hutchinson	
08.02	Leamington	A	PSF	2-0	Vieira, Brown	345
08.09	Eastleigh	H	CP	0-3		935
08.12	Grimsby Town	A	CP	0-0		3710
08.16	Wrexham	A	CP	0-1		3292
08.23	Barnet	H	CP	0-2		863
08.25	Braintree Town	A	CP	0-2		658
08.30	Altrincham	H	CP	2-1	Andy Brown, Dyer	774
09.06	Torquay United	A	CP	0-4		2177
09.09	Forest Green Rovers	H	CP	1-0	John	789

Nuneaton Town 2008-2018 - Part 2



Conference Premier: Fixtures, Results & Scorers - 2014-15

Nuneaton Scores First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers	Attendance
09.13	Aldershot Town	H	CP	1-1	Brown	803
09.16	Bristol Rovers	A	CP	1-3	Dean	4891
09.20	Alfreton Town	A	CP	0-1		800
09.27	Dartford	H	CP	1-2	Curran	759
09.30	Woking	A	CP	0-1		1313
10.04	Lincoln City	H	CP	2-1	Dean, Dawson	920
10.07	Dover Athletic	H	CP	3-2	Sodje, Armson, Franklin	753
10.11	Welling United	A	CP	1-4	Dean	614
10.18	Eastleigh	A	CP	1-2	Fowler	1009
10.25	Hemel Hempstead Town	H	FAC 4Q	0-0		930
10.28	Hemel Hempstead Town	A	FAC 4Q R	0-2		1222
11.01	Macclesfield Town	H	CP	1-1	Dawson	853
11.04	Tividale	A	BSC 1	6-2	Walker (3), Smith, Armson, Griffiths	
11.15	Aldershot Town	A	CP	0-1		1656
11.22	Southport	H	CP	2-3	Sodje, Smith	743
11.25	Dover Athletic	A	CP	0-5		727
11.29	Chester	H	CP	3-2	Armson, Fowler, Barrington	973
12.02	Kidderminster Harriers	A	CP	1-3	Gowling (o.g.)	1377
12.06	Alfreton Town	H	CP	0-1		727
12.09	Lincoln City	A	CP	1-3	Cowan	1421
12.13	Grimsby Town	H	FAT 1	0-2		344
12.20	FC Halifax Town	A	CP	0-2		1227
12.26	AFC Telford United	H	CP	4-4	Armson (2, 1 pen), Dawson, Sodje	1017
12.28	Altrincham	A	CP	1-0	Gash	1025
01.01	AFC Telford United	A	CP	0-0		1797
01.04	Bristol Rovers	H	CP	0-2		1661
01.10	Boston United	H	CP	1-1	Andy Brown	
01.17	Gateshead	H	CP	0-2		637
01.24	Grimsby Town	H	CP	0-2		989
01.31	Forest Green Rovers	A	CP	0-1		1333
02.07	Wolverhampton Wanderers	H	BSC 2	4-0	Brown (2), Streete, Ogleby	255
02..14	Gateshead	A	CP	2-1	Brown, Streete	1047
02.21	Kidderminster Harriers	H	CP	0-0		983
02.28	Welling United	H	CP	1-0	Walker	763
03.03	Causeway United	A	BSC3	2-0	Nardiello (2)	63
03.07	Southport	A	CP	0-0		1040
03.14	Torquay United	H	CP	0-0		862
03.21	Macclesfield Town	A	CP	1-0	Sodje	1514
03.24	Wrexham	H	CP	2-0	Walker, Ogleby	818
03.28	FC Halifax Town	H	CP	1-2	Brown	947
04.04	Barnet	A	CP	0-1		2006
04.06	Braintree Town	H	CP	0-1		636
04.11	Dartford	A	CP	1-3	Brown	808
04.14	West Bromwich Albion	H	BSC S-F	1-1	Ogleby. Boro won 4-2 on penalties	254
04.18	Woking	H	CP	1-1	J. Gordon	709
04.25	Chester	A	CP	3-5	Brown, Cowan, Rees	2614
04.30	Birmingham City	St Andrews	BSC Final	1-2	Rees	

KEY : CP = Conference Premier, FAC= F.A.Cup, FAT= F.A.Trophy, BSC= Birmingham Senior Cup, PSF= Pre season friendly



Nuneaton Town 2014-15

Back: (left to right): Andy Brown, Jack Dyer, James Armson, Gareth Dean, Reice Charles-Cook, James Hogarth-Wren, Gavin Cowan, Ben Starosta, Theo Streete, Anton Brown.

Front (left to right): Magno Vieira, Herve Pepe N'Goma, Jorrin John, Adam Walker, Mark Noon, Brian Reid, Ryan Quinn, Delroy Gordon, Ben Hutchinson, Connor Franklin, Ryan Smith.

Boro Announce New Manager

Nuneaton Town have appointed former Northampton Town and Ilkeston Town boss Kevin Wilson as their new manager. Wilson has quit Ilkeston Town after leading them to the Northern Premier Division play-off final. Wilson is the club's fifth manager in the 14 months since Kevin Wilkin left Boro for Wrexham in March 2014.

The Banbury-born player started his career with his home town club before signing for Derby County for a fee of £20,000. He then went on to play for Ipswich, Chelsea, Notts County, Bradford City, Walsall and Northampton Town, while at international level he played 42 times for Northern Ireland, scoring six times.

After his success in getting Northampton Town promoted, he was sacked the following year and moved into non-league football and managed Bedford Town and Aylesbury United before joining Kettering Town where he was ousted by controversial chairman Imraan Ladak, who replaced Wilson with Paul Gascoigne. The troubled ex-England man lasted just 39 days before Wilson was offered his job back, but only lasted three months before joining Corby.

Wilson was then appointed manager at Ilkeston Town who went bust mid-season but the ex-Derby man stayed with the phoenix club, from where he joined Nuneaton Town.





Franklin Wins Player Of The Year

The presentation evening, arranged by the club's two main supporter groups, Nuneaton Town Supporters' Co-operative and the Boro Independent Supporters' Club, saw Connor Franklin pick up prizes for the Manager's Player of the Year and the Players' Player of the Year; Theo Streete won the Supporters' Player of the Year and the BISC Away Player of the Year. Gaz Dean won the BISC Home Player of the Year.

During the evening it was announced by the chairman of the football club that he is now the 100% owner of the companies that own the football club and the football ground.

Chettle Named Assistant Manager

Nuneaton Town manager Kevin Wilson has brought in former Nottingham Forest and Barnsley defender Steve Chettle as his assistant manager.

Boro Players Leave

Theo Streete and Gavin Cowan have left Nuneaton Town to join Solihull Moors. Meanwhile Gaz Dean and James Armson have told manager Kevin Wilson that they see their futures away from the club and will also be leaving.

Brown Quits Boro

Andy Brown became the third player to quit the club to join Solihull Moors as the exodus continues. Brown joined Nuneaton Borough from Hinckley United in 2007 and finished his first season as top scorer. Brown achieved cult status in the 2011-12 season when he scored the goals that powered the club back to the highest level of non-league football, notching the winner in both the play-off semi-final and final.

Wilson Makes First Signings

Nuneaton Town manager Kevin Wilson has made his first signings since joining the club. They are Luke Delaney, a former Walsall midfielder, who was on the verge of the first-team at the Bescot Stadium before being released; Lynas King is a former Stoke City youngster who is comfortable in defence and 23-year-old James Clifton is an attacking full-back who was with Aston Villa as a youngster and recently played for Brackley Town and Kettering Town where he was player of the year.

Armson And Walker Join Solihull

James Armson, who started his career in Nuneaton Borough's youth team and Adam Walker, who signed for Nuneaton Town after being released by Coventry City are the latest players to join Solihull Moors.

Boro Sign Midfielder

Nuneaton Town have signed attacking midfielder Sam Bobes-Gilroy. The 21-year-old has previously played for Hereford and Marbella.

More Former Players Join Solihull

Former Nuneaton Town captain Gareth Dean and Player of the Year Connor Franklin have joined Solihull Moors, taking the number of former players at Damson Park to seven. Dean graduated from Boro's youth team set-up and made his debut in 2008 as an 18-year-old. He has also captained the England C non-league international side.

Nathan Hicks Signs

Nuneaton Town have signed midfielder Nathan Hicks, who is a product of the Leicester City youth team. He has experience with Evesham United, Daventry, Kettering Town, Histon, Leamington and Alfreton Town, who released him from his contract in February.

Boro have also signed Liam Canavan, who scored 38 goals for Thurnby Nirvana in the United Counties League Premier Division last season.

James Reid Signs

Nuneaton Town have signed former Ilkeston player of the year James Reid. The former Nottingham Forest player can play on the left side of midfield, central midfield or left back. He has also played for Telford, Hinckley United and Rushden and Diamonds.

Tenth Summer Signing For Boro

Nuneaton Town have captured the signature of Bilal Yafai, who is described as an "exciting young talent". The 19-year-old has previously represented Solihull Moors, Chasetown and Hereford United.

Ladies Team For Boro

FA Women's Premier League side Copsewood Ladies have chosen to join forces with Nuneaton Town for the coming season and will play under the banner of Nuneaton Town Ladies for the 2015-16 season.

Lane Joins Boro

Nuneaton Town have signed 22-year-old centre back Jack Lane from Ilkeston. Lane is the third player to follow ex-manager Kevin Wilson to Liberty Way. Also joining Boro will be 19-year-old forward Aaron Opoku, who has previously played for Hereford United and Coventry Sphinx.

Prolific Scorer Joins Boro

Nuneaton Town have secured the services of Rushall Olympic's prolific goalscorer Aaron Williams, who scored 28 goals in the Evo-Stik Northern Premier League last season.

The 21-year-old began his career with Walsall and has since represented Worcester City. While at Walsall he was sent out on loan to Redditch United, Romulus and AFC Telford.

Boro's Transfer Coup



Nuneaton Town have signed former Aston Villa and West Ham striker Marlon Harewood. The prolific scorer started his career at Nottingham Forest from where he joined West Ham United for a fee of £500,000. The striker then joined Aston Villa in 2007 for a fee of £4 million.

More recently Harewood has represented Barnsley, Bristol City and Hartlepool United, where he scored six goals in 53 appearances last season.

Boro Sign Duffy

Nuneaton Town have signed Ilkeston striker Robert Duffy, who joins the club as player/coach. The 6ft 2in striker was leading scorer at Ilkeston last season with 21 goals and joins his old boss Kevin Wilson at Liberty Way.

The much-travelled striker began his career as a youngster with Charlton Athletic and includes Cambridge United, Oxford United and Grimsby Town among his many clubs.

Shaun Byrne Signs

Nuneaton Town have secured the signature of Shane Byrne, who joins the club from Corby Town, having played a major part in their winning the Southern League Premier Division last season. The Irish U-17 and U-19 international has previously represented Leicester City and Bury as well as Bray Wanderers in his native Ireland.

Rex Spencer Named Club President



Rex Spencer, who is 84-years-old and has been supporting the Nuneaton club since he was ten, has been announced

as the new club president. Rex started working as doorman at Manor Park and has had the opportunity to meet many celebrity visitors including George Best and Muhammad Ali.

Harold Cox Dies

Former Nuneaton Borough player Harold Cox, who captained the side, has passed away aged 77. The centre-half joined Boro from Birmingham City in 1961-62 and went on to represent Kidderminster Harriers, Lockheed Leamington and Tamworth, where he became manager in 1972-73.

Maguire Joins Boro

Nuneaton Town have signed Ilkeston Town captain Joe Maguire. The centre-half has previous played with Scunthorpe United.

Boro Continue To Build

Kevin Wilson has signed Claudio Hoban, 23, a midfielder/winger, who started his career with Leicester City and has also represented Histon and Oxford City. Last season he helped Corby Town to the Southern League Premier Division title, but was keen to play at a higher level.

2015-2016

Nuneaton Town v Coventry City

11-07-2015

Boro (first-half): Rowley, Clifton, Reid, Byrne, Maguire, Lane (Hicks 20), Dawes, Keane, Duffy, Williams, Hoban. **(Second-half):** Fondop, Smith, Keane, Grocott, Pepe, King, Yafai, Bobes-Gilroy, Diop (Harewood 67), Dyer (Delaney 70), Opoku. **Subs:** Taylor, Bothwell, Repstad.

Coventry (first-half): Charles-Cook, Phillips, Willis, Martin, Haynes, O'Brien, Finch, Fleck, Maddison, Trialist, Tudgay. **Subs:** Kelly-Evans, Ricketts, Harries, Stokes, Vincelot, Thomas, Lawton, Swanson, Thomas, Trialist, Apoai. **(Second-half):** Charles-Cook, Kelly-Evans, Harries, Ricketts, Stokes, Trialist, C. Thomas, Vincelot, Lawton, Swanson, G Thomas.

Boro welcomed Coventry City to Liberty Way for a pre-season friendly game.

Just what can you learn from a pre-season outing? In Kevin Wilson's first outing as Boro boss the answer seems to be quite a lot. Obviously no trophies are ever handed out in July and August, but there are statements that can be made. Inside the first ten minutes of this annual clash against the Sky Blues Nuneaton did just that, with one passage of play in particular summing up what Nuneaton will be all about this season.

A ball from the back was played into the feet of new midfielder man Shane Byrne, the Boro number four seemingly in trouble with players closing in and his back to goal. No pass was rushed, though, no random kick was placed, instead the former Corby man turned nicely and kept the ball moving in style, calmness personified.

The new look Nuneaton side settled well, with Aaron Williams going close inside the opening five minutes, but for all their



good work they were so close to going behind in the 15th minute. They were indebted to keeper Shawn Rowley as the scores stayed level when he first denied James Madison before getting up and doing the same again to stop a Sky Blues trialist from slamming home the rebound. His double save was good, but the singular one he produced in the 32nd minute was even better.

The youngster once again denied the same Sky Blues trialist, this time throwing himself full length to turn a curling effort round the post, after the Coventry number 12 looked to have given his side the lead with a great shot from the edge of the box. There was nothing Rowley could do in the 40th minute though, as the keeper had to rely on the woodwork – and good luck – to keep the Boro level.

He was left helpless when Maddison's quality free kick went goalwards, but bounced off the crossbar and onto the goalline before swerving away to safety. That was as good as the action got as 21 changes at half-time did not see fresh impetus after the break. The ebb and flow went with the half-time whistle, the second period saw few chances as both sets of players played for minutes under their belts more than anything else.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham City	14-07-2015
<p>Boro (first-half): Rowley, Clifton, Lane, Byrne, Maguire, Pepe, Canavan, Keane, Harewood, Williams, Reid. (Second-half) Taylor, Smith, Keane, Grocott, King (Duffy 60), Kelly, Hicks, Delaney, Repstad, Dyer, Hoban. Subs: Bobes-Gilroy, Dawes, Opoku, Baker-Richardson, Grier.</p> <p>Birmingham (first-half): Kuszczak, Caddis, Spector, Harding, Grounds, Gleeson, Brown, Arthur, Novak, Gray, Thomas. (Second-half) Legdinzs, Eardley, Morrison, Robinson, Hancox, Davis, Griffiths, Cotterill, Shinnie, Maghoma, Donaldson. Subs: Townsend, Cooper, Bernard, O'Neill, Solomon-Otabor</p>	

Boro welcomed Birmingham City to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly match.

Despite the 3-0 scoreline, this was a first team squad from Birmingham after-all, Boro managed to hold their own for large parts, and will have left their new boss feeling satisfied.

The home side never looked like beating Birmingham but they looked their equal for large parts. They certainly started out playing as equals as both teams had made solid start with plenty of possession football being played. That led to a couple of half chances from both teams, a hastily rushed shot from Lee Novak, an effort from distance from Marlon Harewood that skimmed just wide at the other end, but nothing clear cut to make note of.

That was until the 25th minute when the Blues took the lead with a scrappy goal. A corner from the right hand side was not cleared by the Boro back line and it allowed Novak the chance to tap it home from just inside the six-yard box. Birmingham upped the ante a little after the goal with Shawn Rowley being called into action twice in quick succession to keep the lead at just one. The increased pace did not last for

long, though, as both teams settled back into their passing routines until the half time break.

Those players were all given a rest after the half-time break as both teams opted to completely change their starting XIs for the second half – a fact that seemed to work in Nuneaton's favour initially. They saw Jack Dyer go close with a free-kick on the edge of the box and Nathan Hicks only narrowly miss out on a deflected through ball, it was somewhat against the run of play then when the visitors doubled their lead in the 70th minute.

Once again it came from a set-piece as David Cotterill was the player afforded the chance this time, the Blues winger tapped home from close range to make a static defence pay.

Boro boss Kevin Wilson would have been disappointed to see his side concede a second set-piece goal like that, but there was nothing his side could have done to stop 2-0 from becoming 3-0 two minutes later. The Boro defence was left helpless as David Davis scored a wonder goal, curling home a speculative effort from 20-yards that left Elliot Taylor with no chance. It was to be the last real talking point of an entertaining match, one that will have left Kevin Wilson with more to smile about than the scoreline will have suggested.

Banbury United v Nuneaton Town	18-07-2015
<p>Boro: Smith, Keane (Tooney 80), Lane, Byrne, Maguire (Keane 63), Pepe, Repstad (Hoban 58), Dyer (Delaney 50), Harewood (Duffy 58), Williams (Hicks 67), Reid (Smith 70).</p> <p>Banbury: Harding, Eadle (McLaughin 20), Steedman, Bowles, Johnson, Gunn, McEachren, Tappin, Howards, Browne, Bell. Subs: Cox, Higgins, Partner, Bayliss, Martin.</p>	

Boro made the journey to the Spencer Stadium to play Banbury United in a pre-season friendly game.

Boro grabbed an emphatic win over a spirited home side and were worthy winners. Boro continued to thrive with their new approach as goals from Aaron Williams, Nathan Hicks and Courtney Baker-Richardson saw them to victory.

In what was a competitive first half, chances were few and far between, with those that were created coming courtesy of the visiting Boro side. First James Reid sent a volley high, wide and handsome when well placed at the far post, only for Jack Lane to then head over from a similar position.

A more difficult chance resulted in Boro taking the lead. It came from new-man Aaron Williams as he did what he did so often last season, finding the back of the net in devastating style. The former Rushall man picked the ball up on the edge of the box and left keeper Jack Harding with no chance as he curled the ball just inside the right hand post and into the back of the net. That was the last chance of a high-tempo first half.

The second half started with no changes from Boro, but that didn't last long as the first 15 minutes of play was disrupted



by a series of substitutions. As a result, all of the pace went out of the game, but that all changed with less than 20 minutes remaining, as Nathan Hicks doubled the Boro lead with another smart finish. He hit a well-struck effort into the top corner from inside the box, but the credit has to go to Ryan Smith as creator. The youngster turned his man inside out on the right wing before sending over a left-footed cross that Hicks converted to extend Boro's lead.

Pre-season is normally a time for players to get fitness levels up and for new players to gel. This one, though, was also a game to watch if you want to learn how to finish as substitute Courtney Baker-Richardson added his own spectacular touch to proceedings with a wonderful curling effort on the stroke of full-time, and once again the Banbury keeper Jack Harding had no chance.

Nuneaton Town v Wolverhampton U-21 22-07-2015

Boro: Smith (De La Puz 46), Duggan (King 75), Lane (Keane 46), Jago (Trialist 59), Maguire, Pepe, Harness (Brothwell 63), Keane (Smith 80), Harewood (Duffy 67), Williams (Repstad 80), Reid (Hoban 80).

Boro welcomed Wolverhampton Wanderers' U-21 side to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

A 4-1 scoreline against a young Wolves side was somewhat harsh on Kevin Wilson and his new Boro squad. Two goals in injury time gave the impression that it was one-way traffic in this pre-season outing, but it was a lot closer than that. Nuneaton had not shown some of the quality they had in previous friendlies, but the 4-1 defeat was harsh. Only a desire to get back into the game at 2-1 led to Wolves hitting them on the break and getting a quickfire double late on.

The evening had started well as Boro settled into their passing style effortlessly, taking on the Wolves' youngsters at their own game. They were unable to carve out a clear-cut chance though, despite enjoying plenty of possession, a fact they were made to pay for in the 34th minute.

Bradley Reid was the man who struck, with a tidy finish from inside the six-yard box. He was expertly set-up after a fine run and drilled cross from Connor Ronan on the right hand side. Wolves were not really deserving of their 1-0 lead – and they certainly were flattered by the 2-0 scoreline just before half time. A soft penalty was awarded by the referee, after a foul by Herve Pepe on Connor Ronan. Zeli Ismail took the penalty and smashed the ball past Jordan Smith, who was unlucky not to keep it out after getting a good hand to it.

The tempo of the match did not return with the players after the break as the first 20 minutes were among the slowest of pre-season for the Boro. They were nearly awoken out of their slumber by their most high-profile player, but Marlon Harewood was unable to stretch and convert a fantastic far-post cross from James Reid. The ex-West Ham man got a clean connection but could only send the ball over the bar.

Substitutions were the name of the game after that chance

as both teams exercised their right to swap and change their teams. It was Nuneaton who came through that period the stronger as they pulled a goal back with minutes remaining through the poaching ability of Rob Duffy. He did what all forwards should do and followed in a goal attempt as Joe Maguire saw his header glance off the bar, and Duffy was on-hand to finish the job.

It was not the end of the scoring though as Wolves took advantage of Boro pushing forward to hit them on the break twice late on. A second-half trialist was the man with the first finish as he slid it past onrushing substitute keeper De La Paz to seal the win. Then, the wonderfully named Eusebio Bancessi added his name to the scoring by stepping up and giving Smith no chance with the second penalty of the game for the Black Country side.

Nuneaton Town v Nuneaton Griff 14-07-2015

Boro welcomed Nuneaton Griff to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Griff fell behind against Boro when Courtney Baker-Richardson netted before half time. Ryan Millerchip equalised shortly after the break but Boro regained their lead through Ryan Smith. However, Griff levelled for a second time when Kieron Brehon scored late on.

Nuneaton Town v Hemel Hempstead Town 25-07-2015

Boro: J. Smith, Pepe, Reid, Byrne, Maguire, Kalonji, Williams (Hoban 82), J. Keane, Duffy (C. Keane 60), Canavan (Harewood 60), Brothwell (Daniels 60). **Subs:** Taylor, King, R. Smith.

Boro welcomed Hemel Hempstead Town to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Matty Harriot had the first shot in anger in the fifth minute after Will Ghanore's run had been cut out but it was a comfortable gather for Jordan Smith. Ghanore was finding plenty of space behind frontman Oliver Hawkins in the early stages and on the left Jamal Lowe had a half chance after being picked out by James Potton but after cutting back inside he could only drag a shot from 18 yards wide of the left-hand upright.

Boro then enjoyed a good spell of possession which ended with Shane Byrne's putting a hanging cross to the far post where Rob Duffy was unable to direct his header on target. Then with Hemel on the attack James Reid broke up the move and found Liam Canavan, who helped the ball forward for Aaron Williams to be picked out by Duffy, but the striker swept his first-time effort a yard too high.

Hemel were asking for a penalty in the 19th minute when Hawkins was nudged in a crowded six-yard box as he attempted to get on the end of a Kyle Connolly cross, but there was nothing doing for the visitors. Ghanore had the ball in the net when Ben Herd sprung the offside trap and pulled the ball back for Potton to hit a shot that fell into his path but



the flag was immediately raised for offside as the Hemel man steered the ball under Smith from eight yards.

In the 37th minute Potton was again involved, finding the influential Ghanore free on the right edge of the area and he cut inside but shot straight at Smith from 16 yards. Two minutes later Hawkins wrestled his way clear and tried to lob Smith from fully 35 yards but his shot lacked height and accuracy. Five minutes before the break the best opening fell to Canavan, he was put in by Herve Pepe's neat pass but with only Jamie Butler to beat he pulled his shot wide of the far post.

At the other end Lowe had Smith scrambling to his left and grateful to see a 20-yard curling effort fly just wide. Reid fired a free-kick well over in the opening seconds of the second period and a neat build-up in the 50th minute ended with Duffy well off target from 18 yards on the turn. Almost immediately at the other end Hemel took the lead when Boro were unable to deal with a long ball forward and Hawkins was able to virtually walk the ball in after going past Smith.

Boro made a trio of substitutions on the hour and within a minute were level, Williams finding space inside the box to turn and curl a lovely right-foot finish past Butler. Maguire went close to winning it for Boro five minutes from time but saw his scrambled effort come back off the post and substitute Billy Daniels' follow-up somehow went wide.

Boro Sign Ilkeston Pair

Nuneaton Town have signed Callum Chettle and David Morgan from Ilkeston for an undisclosed fee. Chettle, 18, is the son of Boro's assistant manager, Steve and was picked for the England C squad at the end of last season and has been offered a trial at Queen's Park Rangers. Midfielder Morgan, is a Northern Ireland youth international.

Nuneaton Town v Crawley Town	29-07-2015
<p>Boro: J. Smith, Clifton (R. Smith 60), Reid (C. Keane 60), J. Keane, Maguire, King, Byrne (Hoban 72), Chettle (Morgan 45), Harewood (Duffy 60), Williams, Daniels (Canavan 60). Sub: Taylor.</p> <p>Crawley: Woodman, Berry, Van De Bogaert (Niheme 15), Walton (Smith 46), Bradley (McNerney 46), Henderson, Young (Edwards 60), Fenelon (Deacon 70), Ashton, Bawling (Rooney 70), Harrold. Subs: Preston, Summerfield.</p>	

Boro welcomed Crawley Town to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Boro keeper Jordan Smith made the first save on 12 minutes, bravely denying the onrushing Lewis Young after Crawley had made good progress down the left but moments later the visitors suffered a blow when De Bogaert, who had been prominent, had to go off with an injury to his left knee. Smith made another good save on 20 minutes, blocking Sonny Bradley's effort from a half-cleared corner as Crawley continued to move the ball around crisply in the early stages.

Boro tried to play a passing game too, with midfielders Shane Byrne and Callum Chettle good in possession and the home side won a couple of corners before Woodman was called

into action on 27 minutes when he pushed an angled drive from Aaron Williams, who had been well found in space by James Reid, onto the post. Seconds before the break Crawley were awarded a penalty when Jon Ashton was fouled as he challenged for the ball at a corner and Simon Walton stepped up and sent Smith the wrong way from the spot.

The visitors made three changes for the second half and moments later Nuneaton failed to clear Smith's left-wing corner and when the ball broke in the six-yard box McNerney turned to fire home. Crawley got a third on 63 minutes. Conor Henderson's free kick from the right was met with a powerful header by Matt Harrold that gave Smith no chance. Deacon and Luke Rooney came on with 20 minutes to go and Deacon nearly scored with his first touch when he rattled the upright from 20 yards with Smith beaten.

Brothers Join Boro

Brothers Jordan and Cieron Kean are the latest additions to Kevin Wilson's squad. Jordan can play centre-half or midfield and came through the ranks at Stoke City before having a loan spell with Tamworth. He then joined Alfreton Town and played more than 30 times for them before joining Lincoln City on loan towards the end of last season. Cieron can play anywhere on the left-hand side and was on the books at Wolverhampton Wanderers before being released in February 2014. He then joined Notts County, making two first-team appearances. He left the Meadow Lane club at the end of last season. The Keanes will be joined by Billy Daniels, the former Coventry City and Notts County player.

Also joining the club is Joe Brothwell, who joins from Carlton Town and can play out wide or as a centre-forward.

Leamington v Nuneaton Town	01-08-2015
<p>Leamington: Breeden, George (Westwood 46), Jones (Williams 69), Magunda, Hood, Mace (Williams 35), Ogleby, Edwards, Mackey, Taundry, Moore (Mitchell 84). Subs: Gudger, Naylor, Fenney.</p> <p>Boro: J. Smith, Clifton (R. Smith, 74), Reid, J. Keane, Maguire, Lane, Morgan, Byrne, Harewood (Duffy 74 (Daniels 76)), Williams, Chettle. Subs: C. Keane, Hoban.</p>	

Boro made the journey to the New Windmill to play Leamington in a pre-season friendly game.

Aaron Williams scored twice as Boro showed the killer instinct that may yet make them strong contenders in the National League North. Billy Daniels also added a third late on as their plucky Southern Premier League opponents finally succumbed. After what can only be described as a scrappy first few minutes the home side were almost in front when Ben George lifted in a cross for Ben Mackey who saw his header well tipped over by Jordan Smith.

But it was Boro who were ahead in the fifth minute when James Reid's angled ball caught the hosts napping and Williams pounced to calmly clip the ball over an exposed Tony Breeden. Leamington had penalty claims waved away when Jack Edwards went down under Joe Maguire's challenge.



Richard Taundry fired a free kick from 20 yards wide of the target in the 23rd minute. There was another moment of danger for Nuneaton when Jack Lane was caught in possession by Rob Ogleby and Smith, at full stretch, did well to divert the ball over the bar.

Then at the other end a sweeping break saw Marlon Harewood pull the ball back invitingly for Williams but Jamie Hood made a timely block to deny an almost certain goal. Mackey should have levelled in the 33rd minute when Taundry split the Boro defence with a pass into the inside right channel but the striker shot weakly at Smith.

Harewood could have added a second using his strength as he burst forward, but after creating space he dragged his right-foot shot wide. Leamington did, though, finally find a way past Smith in the 36th minute when Boro were unable to clear Lee Moore's cross and Taundry slammed home the loose ball from 18 yards. Boro then went close from two free kicks in the space of a minute, Breeden flying to his left to push away from Williams and then from Reid whose left-foot effort was inches wide after Harewood had been hauled down.

Mackey blasted over from four yards before Boro regained the lead seven minutes after the break with a lovely move. Shane Byrne found James Clifton on the right and his low cross was tapped in at the far post by Williams. After that, the second period had much less on show than the first as the visitors were content just to keep hold of the ball.

There was a worrying moment when Rob Duffy came on as a 74th-minute substitute for Harewood only to limp off two minutes later having picked up a knock almost immediately. Then, with time running out, Daniels slipped a shot under Breeden to wrap up what was in the end a comfortable win.

Chorley v Nuneaton Town

08-08-2015

Chorley: Ashton, Ross, Dodd, Teague, Flynn, Sheridan (Roscoe 57), Hine, Whitham, Dean (Guy 79), Carver, Almond (Stephenson 65).
Subs: Charnock, Jarvis.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton (R. Smith 90), Maguire, J. Keane, Lane, Reid (C. Keane 90), Morgan, Chettle, Byrne, Harewood, Williams.
Subs: Duffy, Dyer, Canavan.

Boro made the journey to Victory Park to play Chorley in a National League North game.

Boro showed all the characteristics a side need to be successful. They were good on the ball in the first half and full of character to withstand a Chorley onslaught in the second, everything Wilson would have wanted, and more, from a tough opening day clash. The game was just five minutes old when Nuneaton first started to show what they could do, as new captain Joe Maguire made it a competitive debut to remember, rising highest to head the Boro into an early lead.

It was fitting that, after 33 minutes, the next goal of the game, Nuneaton's second, came from such flowing football, as Callum Chettle and Aaron Williams combined to score what

can only be described as a wonderful goal to watch. Chettle dropped his shoulder in the middle of the pitch before hitting the accelerator and carving a path for himself through the thirds that Boro boss Kevin Wilson likes to play through.

If the run was good then the through ball was even better as Chettle perfectly weighted a pass that Aaron Williams took full advantage of, collecting it well and side footing it past Sam Ashton with aplomb. Chorley were not two down for long, though, as they deployed a more direct approach to half the deficit minutes later. Chris Almond made space for himself on the wing before cutting back a cross that Marcus Carver did superbly well to divert past Jordan Smith.

If the first half was all about Nuneaton, and their impressive football, then the second was all about Chorley trying to force an equaliser, a feat they came close to achieving on more than one occasion in the opening 20 minutes after the restart.

The Boro defence was being tested from every angle, with Maguire in particular involved in a physical battle with James Dean that saw the home fans calling for a red card every time the Boro skipper made a challenge. It looked as if it would be a matter of when the home side would get back into the match, but Nuneaton had other ideas, as with 16 minutes to go they went up the other end and stretched their lead again. David Morgan was the scorer this time, as he found the bottom corner of the net with a thunderous effort from the edge of the box. The ball, never leaving the ground, had passed Ashton before he could even think about saving it.

Chorley were well worth a goal for the way they bossed the second half proceedings, and they got one with time ticking away as Josh Hine side footed the ball into an empty net from a matter of two yards out. It was nothing more than a consolation in the end, though, as both Maguire and Jack Lane put in some fantastic last-gasp blocks.

Nuneaton Town v Brackley Town

11-08-2015

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Reid (C. Keane 88), J. Keane, Maguire, Lane, Morgan, Chettle, Harewood (Duffy 90), Byrne, Williams. **Subs:** Dyer, Canavan, R. Smith.

Brackley: Crane, Graham, Morley (Kazaboni 65), Odhiambo, McDonald, Austin, Walker, Mills, Smith (Moyo 71), Diggin (Burton 52), Batchelor. **Subs:** Story, Winters.

Boro welcomed Brackley Town to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro made it six points out of six as they showed a defensive steel to go alongside their free-flowing football. Boro took the lead in just the second minute in what was their first home outing of the season – and never looked like surrendering it – as they outplayed the visitors. Truth be told the result should have been a lot more than the 1-0 it ended up as Aaron Williams and Marlon Harewood both had chances to put the game to bed. The former could easily have walked away with a hat-trick on another night.



Harewood opens the scoring.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The game was only two minutes old when Harewood opened his account for the club, tapping home from two yards out after a cut back from the left hand side by James Reid. Things nearly got better minutes later but Aaron Williams was unable to add the second goal after he was fed through by a quality ball from midfielder Shane Byrne.

The chances kept coming after that as Williams had a pop shot from the edge of the box that fizzed wide and Harewood sent a long distance, angled, effort wide when Dan Crane was caught out of his goal. Despite those openings the score remained at 1-0.



Aaron Williams puts Danny Crane under pressure.

Photo: Simon Kimber

It really should have been two inside the opening ten minutes of the second half but that man Williams was twice denied, first by Crane and then by Curtis McDonald, after the former Rushall Olympic man had pounced on some sloppy play by the Brackley backline. McDonald soon went from hero to villain as 15 minutes later he was shown a straight red card for a horrible challenge on Boro right back James Clifton.

The Brackley man went in two footed – and late - and was sent back to the showers early for one of the easiest decisions referee Neil Hair will get to make all season. Despite having a man advantage Nuneaton were unable to make their guests pay, instead opting to see the game out with periods of controlled possession. It was not as exciting as Saturday,

but it was a lot more solid, proof that this Nuneaton team are evolving – and fast.

Nuneaton Town v Bradford Park Avenue 15-08-2015

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton (R. Smith 77), J. Keane, Maguire, Lane, Reid, Morgan, Chettle, Byrne (Dyer 85), Williams, Harewood (Duffy 68).
Subs: Canavan, C.Keane.

Bradford: Stewart, Pursehouse (Walshaw 82) Mather, Dean, Clayton, Ainge, P. Marshall, Schofield (Walker 67), Chilaka, Potts, King (R. Marshall 75). **Subs:** Burgin, Carole.

Boro welcomed Bradford Park Avenue to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro did not play the easy on the eye football that they produced in their opening two games of the campaign, but they got the job done. Boro were forced to dig deep at times and the last five minutes was testament to that, but as a new squad, an emerging talent, it was never going to be a case of one 90 minutes of scintillating football after another.

Early goals have been something of an early season habit for Nuneaton and it almost happened again against Bradford. The match was just 30 seconds old when Aaron Williams was causing problems on the edge of the Avenue box, and his presence – coupled with some nervous defending – saw the ball cannon off the post and to the feet of Marlon Harewood. The former Forest man was unlucky to see his chipped effort land wide of the post.

James Reid has settled in quickly since joining Nuneaton and it was from his shot that the opener came. The ball took a massive deflection off Simon Ainge leaving keeper Jon Stewart with no chance. On the balance of the few chances that had been created Nuneaton deserved their lead, but it was close to being cancelled out just before the break.

The only reason it wasn't was the poor finishing of Chib Chilaka, who when put through on goal, rolled the ball past the far post from the angle, not worrying Jordan Smith in the Boro goal. Smith stayed unworried for most of the second half – despite Bradford being the team in ascendancy. The visitors were the ones enjoying the lions' share of possession, but they were unable to make it count as Nuneaton were proving solid in defence. In fact it was Boro who had the best chance to change the scoreline in the 80th minute as Aaron Williams could – and should – have put the game beyond Bradford.

The former Rushall man was well picked out in the box by Reid, but was unable to make it count, blazing the ball over the bar when he had space and time to find the target. Bradford nearly made the home side pay for that late on – and if it was not for keeper Smith they would have. The on-loan Nottingham Forest man made a great save with the minutes ticking down, throwing himself across goal to deny Chilaka from levelling things.

The save was impressive, but it was somehow outdone via the same combination deep into stoppage time as Smith managed to fingertip a curling effort from the same man over

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the bar, a shot that looked destined to bring the sides level right at the death. It proved to be a match winning save as it ensured Nuneaton continued their 100 per cent start.

Coventry Youngster Joins

Boro have secured a deal to bring in 19-year-old Coventry City midfielder Ivor Lawton on a month's loan.

Lowestoft Town v Nuneaton Town 18-08-2015

Lowestoft: Jessup, Barker, Smith (Woods-Garness 85), Fisk, Ainsley, Jarvis, Okay (Eagle 74), Reed, Crow, Henderson. Subs: Bammant, Mason, Garnham.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, J. Keane, Maguire, Lane, Reid (C. Keane 77), Chettle, Morgan, Byrne, Harewood (Duffy 77), Williams. Subs: Dyer, R. Smith, Canavan.

Boro made the journey to Crown Meadow to play Lowestoft Town in a National League North game.

Boro made it four wins out of four but the winning run did not look like it would be maintained in the first half as it was the home side who made the more lively start – and they were nearly rewarded for it twice within the opening 15 minutes.



Jordan Smith takes a high ball under pressure. Photo: Simon Kimber

First it took a tackle from Jordan Keane to steal the ball off the toes of Jake Reed after the Lowestoft frontman had danced through the Boro defence, then just minutes later it was keeper Jordan Smith who was needed to deny him. The on-loan Forest man getting down low and fast to get a strong hand to a cross-shot from the angle of the box.

The first real chance Nuneaton had on goal didn't come until the 27th minute and it was Marlon Harewood who had it, smashing the ball wide from just inside the box. It was the home side who were the team in control, however, so it was no surprise that the next clear cut chance came from them. This time it was Chris Henderson who was spectacularly denied,

his shot on the turn from ten yards out cannoned off one of a number of Boro bodies in the six-yard box, flying just inches wide of Smith's far post.

The half-time break was a welcome one for Boro as they regrouped and came out stronger after the restart. Aaron Williams had a great chance almost straight from the off, but he was denied well by Jake Jessup when one-on-one. Then just moments later Harewood won the ball back off the Lowestoft defence, charging down a rebounded clearance. His ball across the box was a good one but there was nobody on-hand to tap in the chance.

Boro bounced back from the near miss and in the 60th minute Williams was on hand to do what good strikers do best – poaching the opening goal from just under the crossbar following a cross from the right from James Clifton. Williams made sure he was right on the spot to convert it.



Aaron Williams wheels away in celebration. Photo: Simon Kimber

In a real game of two halves it was Boro who were the team with their tails up, with David Morgan and Harewood both sending fizzing low shots that Jessup had to do well with on a wet pitch.

Chances were not clear cut, though, as the game was being won and lost in midfield as much as anything. In the end Nuneaton didn't need to create anything else as the Williams goal was enough to give them all three points.

Nuneaton Town v Stockport County 22-08-2015

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, J. Keane, Lawton, Lane, Reid (C. Keane 64), Morgan, Chettle (Canavan 77), Byrne, Williams, Harewood. Subs: Duffy, Dyer, R. Smith.

Stockport: Hurst, Morton, Roberts, O'Hanlon, Thornley, Rule, Dyson, Montrose, Odejayi (Garvin 59), Robinson (Gonzales 59), Colley (Ledsham 84). Subs: Ellison, Evans.

Boro welcomed Stockport County to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

The game started cagey, with both teams feeling each other out like it was the opening rounds of a boxing bout. It was Stockport who pressed early on, but they found the Nuneaton defensive guard an impenetrable one, Jordan

Smith in the Boro goal relegated to a mere spectator. As the minutes ticked on, the Boro let their passing play dominate and it was the home team who ended the half on the front foot. They could, and probably should have been in the lead as three separate cutbacks from the right hand side were all met by County defenders with no Boro player ready in the box to finish the chances off.

Then, when someone was in the box in the shape of Aaron Williams, a shot was taken instead by Marlon Harewood. However, he could only shoot straight at Danny Hurst when a through ball seemed on. It would have been against the run of play then had Stockport gone into the break in the lead, but that was very nearly the case if not for Smith in the Boro goal.

On-loan Everton man Calum Dyson, hit a speculative effort from the edge of the box with only seconds left until the break and it looked destined to find the top corner. Smith was on-hand to deny him, though, using his fingertips to touch the ball onto the crossbar before it bounced out to safety.

That near-miss seemed to give Stockport renewed focus at the beginning of the second half as they were the ones asking the early questions after the restart. They were not creating any clear-cut openings with their possession, but they were getting into positions that suggested chances were coming. It was no surprise then when they took the lead in the 69th minute, the only surprise was the quality of the goal.

Glenn Rule was lambasted for his crossing in the first half by County fans, but they had nothing to complain about as the midfielder hit a full volley from 25-yards out that rocketed into the top corner of the net, leaving Smith with no chance. It was a goal of a lifetime for the Stockport number six, the first that Nuneaton had conceded in more than five and a half hours of football. It was also the first time the Boro had gone behind this season – a fact they rectified with ten minutes to go.

Harewood had deserved a goal for the way he played and the veteran frontman found room in the area to beautifully place a header into the far corner of the net to draw the sides level. That was how things finished as Nuneaton remain unbeaten.

Tamworth v Nuneaton Town

29-08-2015

Tamworth: Belshaw, Burns, Warlow (Morrell 79), Taylor, Tomassen, Preston, Durrell, Clarke, Dyer (Hubbins 60) Green, Newton.
Subs: Wilkins, Ezeweke, Davies.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, J. Keane, Maguire, Lane, C. Keane (Lawton 67), Morgan, Chettle, Byrne, Harewood, Williams. **Subs:** Duffy, Dyer, R. Smith, Canavan.

Boro made the journey to The Lamb to play Tamworth in a National League North game.

Honours were even as the home side rescued a point in the last minute. In a derby day clash that lived up to its billing in terms of passion and desire, neither team was able to take home the bragging rights and both stay unbeaten as a result. Nuneaton had the best of the early chances – if not the

possession – with Aaron Williams once again the man going close. The striker tested the home defence in the opening ten minutes, but his shot from the angle was well parried by former Nuneaton keeper James Belshaw in the home goal.

Just minutes later Belshaw was left helpless, though, as a delicate chip from Williams sailed over his head, but also over the bar. The best chance the Nuneaton number 11 had, came on the half hour mark, but his curled effort from just inside the box was somehow kept out by Tamworth full-back Andy Burns, who got his head to the ball on the line and ensured parity was saved. Nuneaton had the best of the chances in the first half but overall Tamworth slightly edged it.

Boro came out much the better side in the second half and were just starting to turn the screw when they were indebted to keeper Jordan Smith for keeping the scores level. The on-loan Nottingham Forest man made a fantastic double save to deny Danny Newton.

Shortly afterwards, the games opening goal came from the head of Williams as he did what he could not do in the first half and beat Belshaw from close range. The goal was well set-up by Cieron Keane on the left-hand side, with Williams doing the rest with the header.



Aaron Williams celebrates his goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Tamworth seemed stunned by the double blow of failing to score and then conceding in quick succession, and in their daze they nearly allowed things to get worse, the woodwork coming to their rescue as David Morgan smashed the ball against the bar from just inside the box. Boro spurned two more glorious chances with Byrne blazing over from close range and then Williams was just inches away from a Harewood ball across the six yard box.

After that the game descended into a traditional derby day encounter with passions running high and tempers flaring from every mis-timed tackle. The match was in the 90th minute when Tamworth player-manager Andy Morrell rose highest in the box and headed home the equalising goal to rescue a point for the home side.



Nuneaton Town v Gloucester City 31-08-2015

Boro: J. Smith, Lawton (Pepe-N’Goma 80), Reid, J. Keane, Maguire, Lane, Morgan, Chettle (Canavan 80), Harewood (Duffy 64), Byrne, Williams. Subs: Dyer, C. Keane.

Gloucester: Singh, Hamilton, Jones, Williams, Avery, Hanks, Liddiard, Connolly (Thompson 41), Anoruo (Parker 86), Symons, Bowen. Subs: Hicks, Hall, Miller.

Boro welcomed Gloucester City to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

The unbeaten start to the season is over for Boro as they lost out in a match in which they never really hit their recent heights. Perhaps fatigued after a fiercely-contested derby clash against Tamworth just 48 hours earlier, Boro seemed flat and did not deserve to make it seven without defeat.

It didn’t look like it would be the tame affair it turned out to be, in terms of chances at least, as the opening 15 minutes saw both teams having chances to break the deadlock – but both keepers proved their worth to keep them out. Jas Singh was the first to be called into action as he got up well to deny a long-range effort from the returning James Reid and just minutes later Jordan Smith showed he was equally adept in the shot-stopping department as he somehow managed to use his feet to stop James Bowen from finding the back of the net from the angle of the penalty area.

One of the best chances of the half, though, did not need a keeper to stop it going in, as Singh was caught out of his goal by Harewood, who was unable to steer it in from out wide, his effort clipping the side netting as it ran behind the goal. Truth be told, though, it was not a great half as those first 15 minutes aside neither team was able to stamp their authority on a game that got more and more scrappy as time wore on.

The second half started little better as perhaps leggy from action on Saturday, neither side played with any real urgency. Half chances were created, but none that had either keeper really worried, until the 67th minute when Smith was beaten with a thunderous strike from Bowen, who smashed home an unstoppable drive from the edge of the box that flew straight into the top left hand corner of the net.

The goal woke Nuneaton from their malaise as within minutes of it going in they could – and should – have been level. Singh was the reason they were not as he first denied Williams who fired in a free-kick from the edge of the box, but he also got up quickly to deny Shane Byrne who was on-hand for the follow-up. The Irishman really should have left the keeper with no chance with the rebound.

Those chances did not herald an onslaught, however, as it took until injury time for Singh to be really tested again. It was new signing Herve Pepe-N’Goma who did so, curling an effort from just inside the box that the City keeper did well to parry out. Williams was unlucky not to get his toe to the rebound, though and in the end Boro did not warrant anything from the match.

Whitehouse Joins Boro

Nuneaton Town have signed former Sheffield United youngster Elliott Whitehouse for an undisclosed fee from AFC Halifax Town.

Curzon Ashton v Nuneaton Town 05-09-2015

Curzon: Burton, Rowney (Wright 69), Lakeland (Atkinson 69), Shaw, Watson, Frost, Guest, Brown, Burnett (Eckersley 80), Warburton, Tomsett. Subs: Cummins, Mason.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Reid, J. Keane (Duffy 76), Maguire, Lane, Morgan, Chettle, Harewood, Byrne, Williams (Daniels 61). Subs: Dyer, C. Keane, Pepe-N’Goma.

Boro made the journey to The Tameside Stadium to play Curzon Ashton in a National League North game.

Boro did not look like adding to their points tally even though they had the best of the early chances when Shane Byrne was unable to divert a stinging cross from Marlon Harewood when well placed in the area, but nonetheless it was the home side who took the lead in the 17th minute.

Matthew Warburton it was with the goal, one he should not have been able to score really, as the Boro defence had ample opportunity to clear the danger. Joe Maguire was guilty of overplaying, allowing the Curzon number nine the chance to lift the ball over Jordan Smith and into the back of the net from just inside the box. Nuneaton had reacted well after going behind the two previous times it had happened this season, they did not this time though, as Curzon enjoyed a comfortable 20 minutes after the goal, pushing forward without worrying overly about the Boro threat.

David Morgan was trying his best to change that, while creating a barrier in front of his back three, the Nuneaton midfield man was physically unable, however hard he tried, to drive forward as well.

Boro knew that they needed to do more in the second half if they were to take anything from the game, and once again it was Byrne who was involved in the best of the early openings, this time turning sharply and sending in a fizzing low drive that Hakan Burton had to get down to and palm round his near post. The chance kick-started some momentum for the visiting Nuneaton side as moments later James Reid was unlucky to see his effort cleared off the line by Chris Rowney, the wing-back deserved more after turning his man and sending a shot goalwards.

A double substitution from the home side, one that saw both full-backs replaced, soon put paid to that though, as the momentum disappeared. In fact, the next clear cut chance could have seen the home side double their lead. Only the smart reflexes of Jordan Smith stopped them from doing so. He reacted quickly to deny Gary Burnett when the Curzon frontman was in on goal – and really should have scored. As it was that turned out to be the last real effort any side had at goal on what turned out to be a disappointing day for Boro.

Brothwell Joins Gresley

Joe Brothwell, who Boro signed from Carlton Town, has gone out on loan to Gresley Rovers.

Nuneaton Town v Gainsborough Trinity 12-09-2015

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Reid, J. Keane, Maguire, Lane, Morgan (Dyer 69), Whitehouse (Chettle 90), Duffy (Harewood 83), Byrne, Williams.
Subs: C. Keane, Daniels.

Gainsborough: Budtz, Roma, Lacey, Picton, Quinn, Binns (Stamp 58), Russell, D'Laryea, Bignall, Newsham (Yates 69), Forrest (Rigby 73).
Sub: Karkach.

Boro welcomed Gainsborough Trinity to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

The game was far from a classic at times, especially in the first half, but where the quality was short the domination was not, as Boro earned a victory in what was likened to a training match by some, with Jordan Smith in the Boro goal never really tested.



Shaun Byrne scores the second goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The game started with talking points off the pitch before there were any on it as Nuneaton boss Kevin Wilson rung the changes after successive defeats, bringing in Rob Duffy for his most high-profile player, Marlon Harewood, and also giving a debut to Elliott Whitehouse in place of Callum Chettle. Those changes seemed to pay dividends early on as Boro started brightly, with James Clifton going close in just the eighth minute.

Clifton broke down the wing and then smashed a shot into the side netting once he had cut inside. There were other chances, but not clear cut ones, until a through ball in the 37th minute by Elliott Whitehouse changed the whole complexion of the game. The midfield man fed in Aaron Williams who found himself one-on-one with Trinity keeper Jan Budtz. It was a duel that the former Rushall man did well to win, sliding the ball under the keeper and into the back of the net.

It was a lead that Nuneaton had deserved, and one which they ever so nearly stretched in the opening minutes of the second half. Williams went from scorer to provider as he whipped in a cross for strike partner Rob Duffy, the former Ilkeston man saw his close-range header superbly saved by the lightning quick reflexes of Budtz, though.

There was nothing those reflexes could do in the 60th minute as Nuneaton got the second goal that their play had merited after a fine start to the second half. The goal came via the boot of Shane Byrne, as the Irishman opened his account with a slightly deflected effort that left Budtz with no chance as it curled into the left hand corner of the net.

Nuneaton Town v Stalybridge Celtic 15-09-2015

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Maguire, Lane, J. Keane, Reid (Chettle 70), Morgan, Whitehouse, Byrne, Duffy (Harewood 50), Williams.
Subs: C. Keane, Dyer, Daniels.

Stalybridge: McMillan, Crowley, Chippendale, Hughes, Higgins, Shaw, Dixon, Chalmers (McKenna 45), Johnson (Osei 82), Tames, Wright (Burgess 86). **Subs:** Wylie, Hill.

Boro welcomed Stalybridge Celtic to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro were dealt an early blow – a self-inflicted one at that – as within the first ten minutes David Morgan committed two late tackles and was shown two yellow cards and ordered from the field of play. The first could have been down to the conditions, the rain was lashing down and creating a tricky surface, but the second there was no excuse for. It came just 90 seconds after the first, and was a tackle Morgan should not really have gone in for so soon after a caution.



David Morgan receives his marching orders.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Many could have forgiven Nuneaton for shutting up shop after such an early dismissal, they did the opposite and were rewarded for it in the 27th minute. Despite being down a man, Boro boss Kevin Wilson moved to a back four, adding James Reid to his depleted midfield. It was an approach that led to the opening goal as Reid was involved in a move that saw Aaron Williams cross to Rob Duffy, who slid the ball back across to his strike partner, who in turn lashed it home.

Celtic were unable to deal with the attacking approach from Boro and it was no surprise that they doubled their lead soon after – even if the goal came from an unlikely source. It was right-back James Clifton who got it, reacting quickly to a long ball from back to front and sliding it under Tony McMillan in the visitors' goal. If Clifton getting one was unlikely, the odds on him getting two must have been astronomic, but he did just that in stunning fashion in the 41st minute. The right-



back sent in a fizzing low shot from fully 35-yards and it was past McMillan before he could move and gave Nuneaton a well-deserved 3-0 lead.

Celtic needed half-time to regroup – and regroup they did – coming out a different proposition in the second period. They took their time coming back into the game though, but they did begin to ask questions of Nuneaton. They were well worth their opening goal in the 65th minute and a fine goal it was. Aiden Chippendale curling an effort from the right hand side of the pitch up and over Jordan Smith and into the back of the net. Boro barely had time to register the fact that they had conceded before they did so again, this time it was not from a quality strike but some sloppy defending.

Boro failed to deal with a ball into the box and Alex Johnson was able to poke it home past Smith to leave the deficit at one. Nuneaton brought on Callum Chettle to try and stem the flow of pressure, and it worked to an extent as once again it was the Boro who were on the front foot and looking to put the game to bed. They had some half chances to do so, but failed to take them, and they were made to pay for that in the 86th minute as Darius Osei was left unmarked at the far post after a long ball into the box sailed over the Boro defence. The Celtic substitute simply collected it and prodded it through the legs of Smith to level the scores.

Harrogate Town v Nuneaton Town	19-09-2015
Harrogate: Crook, Turner, McWilliams, Platt, Shiels, McGurk, Colbeck, Nyoni (Thewlis 59), Clayton (Kerry 59), Knowles, Daniels (Emmett 63). Subs: Swain, Bloomer.	
Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Reid (C. Keane 87), J. Keane, Maguire, Lane, Morgan (Chettle 85), Whitehouse, Byrne, Williams (Daniels 89), Harewood. Subs: Repstad, Dyer.	

Boro made the journey to Wetherby Road to play Harrogate Town in a National League North game.

Nuneaton started slowly, allowing Harrogate too much time on the ball. It was a fault they could easily have been punished for a number of times in the opening five minutes as the home side created numerous half-chances, and it was against the run of play, then, when Boro took the lead after seven minutes with their first chance. It was superbly taken as Aaron Williams linked up well with Marlon Harewood on the edge of the box before slotting the ball expertly through a defenders legs and in off the far post.

The goal came out of the blue and in a way did nothing to change the flow of the match as Harrogate continued to pour forward whenever possible. They launched balls into the Boro box from distance as they looked to test the Nuneaton defence as much as they could. That defence was a lot more solid than it was in the second half on Tuesday, though, as the Boro dealt with everything Harrogate threw at them, although the home side must have been thinking they would be unlucky to go into the break one goal down after the chances they had created.

It was worse than that, though, as they were to go in two down after Harewood made it a scoring return to the first team in stoppage time. The former Nottingham Forest man was left unmarked at the back post from a corner and simply headed home under no pressure whatsoever.

Twenty minutes into the second half, Boro went 3-0 up after an Elliott Whitehouse shot from 30 yards cannoned off a defender before whistling past Peter Crook in the Harrogate goal and hitting the post before spinning backwards and somehow finding the back of the net. Harrogate had the odd chance late on. One near post effort from Jordan Thewlis was superbly saved by Jordan Smith, but it was not a back against the walls job, as Boro comfortably eased towards all three points.

Boro Legend Dies

Tommy Crawley, a hero of Nuneaton Borough's titanic FA Cup run of 1966-67 has passed away. The inside-forward joined Boro from Worcester City, and also saw service with Bedworth Town and Corby Town.

Nuneaton Town v Boston United	03-10-2015
Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Reid (C. Keane 74), J. Keane, Maguire, Lane, Chettle, Whitehouse, Byrne, Harewood (Duffy 56), Williams. Subs: De la Paz, Dyer, Daniels.	
Boston: Ravas, Marrs, Greene, Richards, Garner, Piergianni, Roberts, Mills, Southwell (Felix 68), Jones, Robbins (Walker 77). Subs: Dowie, Dixon, Johnson.	

Boro welcomed Boston United to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

The Pilgrims were gifted several chances in the opening stages and could have been one up within 10 minutes. The usually reliable James Clifton passed the ball straight to Robbins and it took a smart Jordan Smith save to keep the scores level. Fortune was Nuneaton's next saviour, as a cross was allowed to travel across the box, with Southwell waiting to convert, but Jack Lane blocked the ball on the line.

After the early exchanges, it was no surprise when the visitors took the lead. A surging forward run by Grant Roberts drew several weak challenges as he approached Smith's goal and the midfielder squared it for Robbins to tap into the empty net. Callum Chettle came close to levelling after a good move down the left broke to the former Forest trainee, but his effort was stopped by Henrich Ravas.

Boston took full advantage as Southwell made it two. Roberts wriggled clear in the middle again and threaded a through ball to the number nine, who poked the ball beyond Smith to make the score 2-0 to the visitors.

Boro were being beaten at their own game and weren't being given any time to get into their rhythm. On countless occasions, marauding wing back James Reid was caught too far up the pitch as Boston turned over possession rapidly.

The closest Kevin Wilson's men came to reducing the arrears was when Aaron Williams – looking to notch in his fifth consecutive match – turned and shot, but Ravas got down quickly to turn it around the post.



Rob Duffy heads Boro's consolation goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro almost fell further behind at the start of the second half after a long throw was allowed to bounce by the hesitant backline and Southwell managed to hit the bar with a placed effort when it looked easier to score.

Nuneaton started to show shoots of recovery when James Reid saw a rasping drive turned round by Havas, but it proved to be a false dawn.

First Southwell came within inches of grabbing his second before Garner got his goal. The Boston skipper reacted quickest when yet another cross wasn't properly dealt with and he steered beyond Smith to make it three-nil.

After a disappointing performance by Marlon Harewood, Duffy's introduction did help and he gave Boston's centre back pairing of Garner and Carl Piergianni something different to think about and he managed to pull one back with a close-range header. Williams sent another chance flashing across the face of Havas' goal as Boro finally started to take control of the ball, although they couldn't find the incisive pass to create a clear opening. Boston came close to adding to their lead when Nicky Walker saw his effort headed off the line by Joe Maguire.

Worcester City v Nuneaton Town 18-10-2015

Worcester: Vaughan, Minihan (Harrad 78), Gudger, Thomas, Sharpe, Gater, Nti, Deeney, Burton, Geddes, Dunkley, (Vincent 78).
Subs: Morris, Waldron.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, J. Keane, Maguire, C. Keane, Morgan, Whitehouse, Byrne, Williams, Daniels (Harewood 78) Duffy.
Subs: De La Paz, Dyer, Chettle, Reid.

Boro made the journey to Aggborough, Kidderminster, to play Worcester City in a National League North game.

A change of formation led to a change of result for the Boro as they showed a battling spirit to take all three points. After successive defeats to Boston and North Ferriby United, gone was the 5-3-2 line-up that Wilson has trusted in all season and a new 4-3-3 was used instead. It was not a formation

that heralded immediate results, though, as the first half was anything but a classic. Both sides had the attacking talent on show to make it an entertaining affair, but failed to produce the goods on the pitch as neither keeper was really tested throughout a somewhat frustrating 45 minutes.

In-fact the only danger Nathan Vaughn was called upon to repel saw him get down well to block a 25-yard effort from Shane Byrne on 27 minutes. At the other end, Jordan Smith was forced to watch numerous efforts go high and wide over his bar in comparison.

The second half had to be better, and thanks to Elliott Whitehouse it was. The Boro midfielder produced a moment of magic on the hour mark, showing a quickness of thought to take a free-kick before the home side were ready. It led to a penalty as an outstretched arm in the Worcester wall stopped the ball in mid-flight. Rob Duffy stepped up to dispatch the spot-kick with ease, but all the credit needed to go to Whitehouse.

In-fact both the allowing of the early set-piece, plus the awarding of the subsequent penalty seemed to rile the home side as every decision was being met with complaints by the Worcester team. Those complaints were always going to go too far, and so they did as Sean Geddes was sent off halfway through the first-half for what looked like something he said to referee Darren Strain. The home support met the decision with a volley of abuse, but it was not long until they had something to cheer, as Strain levelled up the teams, if not the score, as he sent Jordan Keane off for a second yellow card – much to the confusion of those on the pitch.

Worcester were buoyed by the dismissal, but despite throwing everything they had at the Boro, they could not break through. Joe Maguire personified the defensive display for the visitors with a fantastic lunging tackle in the area with minutes remaining.

Hednesford Town v Nuneaton Town 24-10-2015

Hednesford: Crane, Digie, Regan, Bailey, Williams, Trainer, Williams (Johnson 46), Thorley, Modest (Perry 46), Thomas, Todd (Ennis 76).
Subs: James, Ransome.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, J. Keane, Lane, C. Keane, Morgan, Chettle, Byrne, Daniels (Dyer 82) Williams (Harewood 70), Duffy. **Subs:** Reid, R. Smith, De La Paz.

Boro made the journey to Keys Park to play Hednesford Town in a National League North game.

Boro took three points for the second successive weekend after they overcame a ten-minute blip in the second half. Boro were quick out of the blocks and were rewarded for their assured start with the opening goal in just the sixth minute. It was scored by Billy Daniels, his first for the club, but it was very much created by the returning Callum Chettle, as the former Ilkeston man drove through the heart of the midfield before laying it off to Cieron Keane, who in turn found Daniels, who finished superbly.



Nuneaton gained renewed confidence, and they began to play the ball around nicely. They were unable to create any clear-cut openings in that time, and, ironically it was when Hednesford started to come back into the match that the second goal came. It was scored by Jack Lane after a corner from Chettle was poorly cleared by the home defence, allowing Chettle a second bite at the cherry. He took full advantage as he slipped a low cross into the box and Lane was on-hand to slot it home past Dan Crane.

Nuneaton were well worth that 2-0 lead at the break and would have been confident of building on it after the restart. As it turned out it was the home side who came out with their tails up after the break and that 2-0 lead was soon cancelled out as two goals in quick succession before the hour mark levelled things up. First, debutant Danico Johnson managed to get his foot to the ball in the box, sliding it past Jordan Smith in the process to halve the deficit.

Then, just moments later, former Boro man Kyle Perry drew the sides level as he got his head onto what looked like a poor cross, beating Smith with a cushioned effort that found the inside of the keeper's near post. Nuneaton were completely rattled at this stage and what looked like a certain three points could have been leading to nothing.

But, out of the blue, Boro found themselves back in front. Rob Duffy won what looked like a soft penalty, and then got up to convert it himself, putting Nuneaton back in the lead after a crazy opening 20 minutes of the second half. The game calmed down somewhat after the flurry of activity, as Nuneaton began to take the sting out of proceedings.

They regained their composure, and their two goal lead again late on, as Rob Duffy scored his second spot-kick of the game in the last minute. Phil Trainer all but sealed the Hednesford defeat as the former Boro man was sent-off for a second booking in the awarding of the penalty.

Nuneaton Town v North Ferriby United	31-10-2015
Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Maguire, Lane, C. Keane, Morgan, Chettle (Reid 88), Byrne, Daniels (Dyer 72), Williams, Duffy (Harewood 77). Subs: De La Paz, J. Keane North Ferriby: Nicklin, Topliss, Wilde (Middleton 59), King, Palmer, Gray, Clarke (Emerton 43), Fry (Armstrong 16), Denton, Bolder, Bateson. Subs: Nicholson, Kendall.	

Boro welcomed North Ferriby United to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro avenged their FA Cup exit, while at the same time making it nine points out of nine with a 3-1 win over the Villagers. It was a result that was never really in doubt – not a surprise really considering Ferriby played 120 minutes and endured a penalty shoot-out against Stalybridge Celtic in the FA Cup only days before – but nevertheless there was a job to do and the Boro did it well.

The game was just four minutes old when the Boro broke the deadlock and unsurprisingly it was Aaron Williams who did

the damage. The former Rushall man, who was awarded his England C cap on the pitch before the game, was once again in the right place at the right time as he connected to a Cieron Keane cross from the left hand side and toe-poked it into the roof of the net, leaving Adam Nicklin with no chance.

North Ferriby were not given a chance to get into their stride thanks to the speed at which Nuneaton started the game. It was no surprise then when Williams doubled the lead after 22 minutes, this time the sharpshooter controlled a deep cross from David Morgan before turning his man and slotting it past Nicklin. Nuneaton had almost strolled to the two-goal lead, and they did not have to get out of second gear to add a third before the half time whistle went.

Once again it was a hopeful ball into the box that did the damage, this time from Shane Byrne, but instead of Williams turning it home it was Rob Duffy, who made it four goals from his last three games with a nice headed finish from inside the six-yard box.

Nuneaton did not need to exert themselves at all to gain such a commanding lead, and perhaps complacency crept in, as the second half was only minutes old when the Boro were caught overplaying in front of their own box. The ball eventually fell to Adam Bolder who rifled it low and hard past Jordan Smith and into the bottom corner of the net.

That goal was not the start of a spirited comeback, far from it, it was more a reminder that the Boro could not afford to sit-back if they were to complete the job.

The home side regained their composure superbly and despite not threatening to add to their lead during what was a low-key second-half, they never looked like losing it either, making it three straight wins since manager Kevin Wilson moved from five at the back to four in his first big switch as Boro boss.

Nuneaton Town v Alfreton Town	07-11-2015
Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Lane, Maguire, C. Keane (Reid 77), Morgan, Byrne, Chettle, Whitehouse (Daniels 83), Williams, Duffy. Subs: Harewood, De La Paz, R. Smith. Alfreton: Duke, Moyo, Gaunski, Allan, Heaton, (Jackson 72) Wilson, Leesley (Thanoj 66), Johnston (Smith 81), Jones, Ironside, Robertson. Subs: Pailing, Draper.	

Boro welcomed Alfreton Town to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

After a storming start to life in the Vanarama National League North, the Boro look like a club on the up. A fourth straight win is testament to that. Their class was evident from the off as straight from the kick-off Elliott Whitehouse went on a driving run into the Alfreton box – his final effort did not match the preceding run, though, as he sent his effort into the side netting.

That opening foray set the tone for the first half, as although the chances were not free-flowing, they nearly all went to



Whitehouse. He tested Alfreton keeper Matt Duke with one of them, but saw two others fly over and then one trickle wide of the post. The only other attempt of note came from James Clifton who sent a rasping drive just wide of the upright after breaking forward from full-back, cutting inside his man and hitting a well-struck shot with his left foot.

Boro would have been disappointed not to be ahead at the break, but they didn't have to wait long to open their account. There were just two minutes of the second half gone when Shane Byrne struck. The midfielder sent a precise, low, curling effort past the outstretched hand of Duke and into the far corner of the net. A wonderful finish from arguably Nuneaton's player of the season so far.

The chances continued to come for the home side after that with Byrne going close to doubling his own, and the Nuneaton tally, moments later, with Aaron Williams also testing Duke with a thunderous effort from close range.

The former Rushall man could be forgiven for not finding the net with that effort as Duke more than matched it with a fine save, but on the hour mark Williams could, and should, have added to his ten goals already this season.

Clifton once again found room on the right hand side, sliding a fine through ball to Williams in the box. The England C man rushed at the chance, though, sending it skywards when well placed, an effort he should have converted. All good strikers miss chances at some point, it is how they respond that counts, and Williams responded in devastating fashion in the 75th minute.

Playing on the shoulder of the last defender Williams was given a slice of luck when a ball over the top left him with the whole of the Alfreton half to run into unopposed. He remained calm, moved in towards goal and slotted it past Duke to double the Boro lead.

AFC Telford United v Nuneaton Town 14-11-2015

Telford: Montgomery, Samuels (Brownhill 76), Champion, McCone (Deaman 36), Tilt, Rea, Hibbs, Paratore (Dawson 87), Hibbert, McCarthy, Hassan. Subs: Flint, Wilkinson.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, C. Keane (J. Keane 75), Lane, Morgan, Maguire, Chettle, Byrne, Duffy (Harewood 70), Whitehouse (Reid 75), Williams. Subs: De La Paz, Daniels.

Boro made the journey to The Bucks Head to play AFC Telford United in a National League North game.

Boro took just five minutes to take the lead, and then spent the next 85 putting on a season's best performance. On paper at least this always looked like a game the Boro should win – and they started with a couple of half chances in the opening few moments before Elliott Whitehouse broke the deadlock. He picked up a knock-back by Rob Duffy, hitting it first time low and hard past the diving James Montgomery.

Aaron Williams had a shot well saved by Montgomery before Callum Chettle smashed the rebound against the crossbar

from the edge of the box. There was only one side in the contest and despite not showing the same attacking threat after that initial flurry, it was always going to be Boro who grabbed the next goal.

It came just after the half hour mark and once again it was Whitehouse who grabbed it, this time hanging back on the edge of the box where Shane Byrne found him at the second attempt after some fine work on the right hand side. Whitehouse simply side footed the ball into the top corner while in plenty of space. Telford were just not being allowed to operate as an attacking entity and when they did get going they found that the Boro defence was proving resolute while Jordan Smith showed his own ability as he produced a moment of magic in goal, somehow pushing over a Connor McCarthy half-volley from just inside the box.

Chettle scored a third for Boro just after the restart – an effort that would have graced any pitch. The former Ilkeston man was afforded a lot of room around 25-yards out, and he punished Telford for it, collecting the ball and sending a low rasping drive with venom that thundered its way past Montgomery and into the back of the net.

Boro had a shock in store as Telford narrowed the deficit. McCarthy scored after a deep free-kick into the Boro box eluded everyone before Robert Paratore headed into the path of the Telford number 10. The goal sparked the contest into life and ensured that the Boro were not long out of top-gear.

They defended well as Telford began to pour men forward, Smith was called into action once or twice, but on the whole it was the Boro who looked the more likely to score. They did just that in the 67th minute as Aaron Williams continued his own run of form, picking up the ball on the edge of the box before jinking his way through and sending a curling effort past Montgomery and into the back of the net.

Boro were in total control at this stage and Whitehouse notched his hat-trick in the 73rd minute when he was given too much room and smashed the ball home from distance. Nuneaton just needed to see the game out at this stage, but they saw a blot on their copy book, as Shane Byrne was given his marching orders late on.

Nuneaton Town v FC United of Manchester 21-11-2015

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, C. Keane (Reid 64), Lane, Maguire, Morgan, Chettle, Byrne, Whitehouse (Daniels 81) Williams (Harewood 77), Duffy. Subs: De La Paz, J. Keane.

FC United: Carnell, Thurston, Brownhill, Sheridan, Stutt, Ashworth, Fallon (Brown 89), Winter, Greaves (Patterson 72), Thomson, Madely (Daniels 72). Subs: Wolfenden, Lindfield.

Boro welcomed FC United of Manchester to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

FC United were the quickest out of the blocks, testing Jordan Smith with a couple of half chances early on, before finally beating him in the 13th minute. The goal was well tucked away by Tom Greaves, but he cannot take all of the credit,



that has to go to Dean Stutt who simply cut the Boro defence in two with a sublime through ball, leaving his number nine clean through.

United continued to enjoy the better of the play after the opener, playing the ball around and were nearly rewarded for their approach with a second goal on the half hour mark, but luckily for Boro the woodwork came to their rescue, as a fantastic free-kick from George Thomson clipped the bar with Smith beaten.

Boro almost pulled level just minutes after the restart from a near-identical move to the FC United goal. But where Greaves had managed to tuck his effort past Smith, Williams could only push it past the far post, with the finish not matching the quality of the through ball from Rob Duffy.

Boro were punished for that miss not long after as once again they were undone by a set-piece. A free-kick from deep was sent in by Adam Thurston with Harry Winter doing the rest as he headed past Smith to double the lead.

Boro responded strongly to the setback and halved the deficit just before the hour mark as Rob Duffy headed home with a neat effort. Carnell in the FC United goal was left stationary as the ball nestled into the back of the net. Nuneaton continued to press, but did not look threatening enough to force a leveller – until stoppage time. First, Callum Chettle saw his goal-bound effort come back off the post, then, after Joe Maguire was bundled over in the box, Duffy was able to step-up and put Boro level from the resulting penalty.

Boro Sign Striker On Loan

Nuneaton Town have signed Congolese forward Kabongo Tshimanga on loan from Milton Keynes. He has recently had loan spells with Aldershot Town, Chelmsford City and Corby Town.

North Ferriby United v Nuneaton Town 24-11-2015

North Ferriby: Nicholson, Bruce, Wilde, King, Palmer, Gray, Clarke, Bolder, Denton, Emerton (Fry 66), Bateson (Kendall 81). Subs: Topliss, Armstrong, Hotte.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, C. Keane, Lane, Maguire, Morgan, Chettle, Byrne, Williams (Harewood 64), Duffy (Tshimanga 68), Whitehouse. Subs: Daniels, J. Keane, De La Paz.

Boro made the journey to Grange Lane to play North Ferriby United in a National League North game.

Nuneaton Town cemented their place at the top of the league as they took all three points in the battle of top versus second. In a match they dominated for large periods, Boro left it late to take the three points they deserved, but did so thanks to a goal 12 minutes from time from new signing Kabongo Tshimanga.

Boro started much brighter than they did at the weekend and they were rewarded for their efforts with a couple of half chances early on. David Morgan sent a stinging drive right down the throat of Tom Nicholson, while Callum Chettle sent

a half volley high, wide and handsome when well placed on the edge of the box. It was clear that it would be a matter of when – and not if – Nuneaton broke the deadlock, the only surprise was it took them 27 minutes to do so.

The goal came via the right foot of Chettle as he was calmness personified after racing onto a fine through ball by Elliott Whitehouse before opening his body up and simply stroking it past Nicholson and into the bottom right hand corner of the goal.

Nuneaton deserved the goal, but they failed to build on it and they were made to pay the price on the stroke of half time, when a cross from the right hand side was pinged into the box where Tom Denton did what he does best. The big number nine got ahead of Joe Maguire and headed it past Jordan Smith to draw the home side level.

North Ferriby were obviously buoyed by their late goal as they came out with all guns blazing after the restart. They dominated possession, but failed to create anything clear cut, with Boro doing well to keep them at bay.

Rob Duffy could have made them pay just before the hour mark, but his header from a corner looped onto the crossbar, instead of under it. The next opening came with 12 minutes to go – and it was taken by new boy Kabongo Tshimanga who added to his nine goals in six games for Corby earlier in the season, by grabbing his first goal for the Boro.

The goal lifted Nuneaton as moments later they could have ended the contest, but Chettle saw his fierce drive cannon back off the post rather than nestle into the back of the net.

Wilson Wins Manager Of The Month

Nuneaton Town manager Kevin Wilson has been named as the Vanarama National League North Manager of the Month for November.

Nuneaton Town v Corby Town 05-12-2015

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Lane, Maguire, C. Keane (Reid 69), Morgan, Chettle, Whitehouse, Williams, Tshimanga (Harewood 25), Duffy. Subs: De Le Paz, Daniels, J. Keane.

Corby: Burgoyne, Courtney, O'Hanlon (Kennedy 57), Malone, McDonald, Brown, Mills, Taylor, Ball (Johnson 68), Milnes, Downey. Subs: Donkin, Revan, Wright.

Boro welcomed Corby Town to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro had to battle to master the awful weather for the second Saturday in a row, but came up against a stubborn wall of Corby defenders time after time in a frustrating game for the home side. In a match they dominated throughout, Boro were unable to convert their chances and had to settle for a point to keep their impressive unbeaten run intact.

It was Corby who almost broke the deadlock in the tenth minute when Jordan Smith brilliantly tipped Callum Ball's well-hit shot against the crossbar. From that point on,

though, it was all about the Boro as they played with the fierce wind on their backs and peppered the visitors goal. On another day Aaron Williams, David Morgan, Marlon Harewood and Elliott Whitehouse would have had a goal or two each, but keeper Harry Burgoyne denied them, as did a host of Corby defenders who threw their bodies in the way to block goal-bound shots.



Burgoyne collects under pressure from Williams. Photo: Simon Kimber

Elliott Whitehouse saw his superb curling shot come back off the crossbar with half-time approaching and then, in somewhat comical fashion, Marlon Harewood saw his effort bounce off the keepers shoulder and out for a corner with Burgoyne wondering where the ball was.

Nuneaton maintained their dominance in the second half, but continued to miss chances, notably Marlon Harewood who turned his man superbly on the edge of the box, only to see his rushed finish fly wide. Boro continued to create chances – Williams saw one effort go begging when well-placed inside the box, while Joe Maguire was inches away from getting his head to a James Clifton corner.

It just wasn't going to be Boro's day and the afternoon was summed up when they struck the woodwork for the second time in the dying minutes. Williams turned well, but agonisingly saw his shot hit the underside of the crossbar, down onto the goal line and out to safety. There was good news for Boro though – their lead at the top of the table being extended to four points after Solihull lost their unbeaten record at home to Boston United.

FC United of Manchester v Nuneaton Town 09-12-2015

FC United: Carnell, Stott, Thurston, Kay, Smyth, Ashworth, Fallon, Winter, Greaves (Patterson 75), Thomson (Daniels 87), Madeley (Wolfenden 83). Subs: Lindfield, Brown.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Maguire, Lane, C. Keane (Reid 72), Morgan, J. Keane, Chettle (Daniels 78), Whitehouse, Williams, Duffy (Harewood 72). Subs: Hicks, De La Paz.

Boro made the journey to Broadhurst Park to play FC United of Manchester in a National League North game.

Despite an assured start from Nuneaton it was United who struck first as they exposed Boro on the break. Nuneaton were caught pushing forward with plenty of men committed in the United half, but Callum Chettle lost possession and the home

side made him and the Boro pay. Sam Madeley ran through on the Nuneaton goal where he let fly with an effort from the edge of the box which took a big deflection off an outstretched Boro leg and nestled into the net beyond Jordan Smith.

The goal should have been a wake-up call for Nuneaton, but their sloppiness was punished again a short time later. The ball was given away on the edge of the box and George Thomson had plenty of time, and room, to move forward before shooting past Smith.

The second goal saw Nuneaton react positively and they halved the deficit with a wonderfully worked goal of their own. A series of slick passes were exchanged in the final third before Aaron Williams laid the ball off to Rob Duffy who calmly finished the move off with a sweet side-footed effort that left keeper David Carnell with no chance.



Rob Duffy scores Boro's consolation goal. Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro had the bit between their teeth and continued to press United and it was no surprise that they drew level just before the break. Elliott Whitehouse once again showed his ability to be in the right place at the right time and thundered a cut-back from Jordan Keane into the roof of the net.

United retook the lead early in the second half in somewhat fortuitous fashion. A cross from the right hand side from Madeley was steered into his own net by defender James Clifton from close range giving Smith no chance to react.

Boro struggled to get into their stride throughout the second half and a drilled effort from Marlon Harewood that hit the side netting was the closest they came to drawing level.

Nuneaton Town v Chorley

19-12-2015

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Lane, J. Keane, Reid, Morgan (Tshimanga 65), Chettle (C. Keane 85), Byrne, Whitehouse, Williams, Duffy (Harewood 65). Subs: Maguire, Daniels.

Chorley: Ashton, Ross, Cartwright, Teague, Roscoe, Cottrell, Hine (Guy 87), Whitham, Dean (Jarvis 75), Bond, Stephenson. Subs: Charnock, Cosgrove, Lynch.

Boro welcomed Chorley to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Nuneaton Town will top the Vanarama National League North this Christmas after they came from behind twice to draw 2-2. Chorley took the lead early in the game – a corner kick from the right hand side found Andy Teague unmarked at the back post and his downward header squirmed under the body of Jordan Smith and over the goal line.



Boro responded positively and they were level just moments later. The ball was delivered high into the box from the left side and Aaron Williams was left unmarked at the far post to head home for his thirteenth goal of the season. Nuneaton were looking dangerous going forward, but once again found themselves behind in the 32nd minute. Darren Stephenson still had work to do when he picked the ball up inside the box, but he sent a fierce half volley across Smith and into the far corner of the net to make it 2-1.

Boro started the second half brightly, but it was Chorley who came closest to scoring when Jake Cottrell saw his shot hit the crossbar from just inside the penalty area. Kevin Wilson bought on Harewood and Tshimanga and soon after the Boro showed why they are ahead of the chasing pack when their persistence and graft resulted in a second equaliser 11 minutes from time.

Reid sent a great delivery into the box which bounced through to Williams who controlled the ball neatly before sending his low strike past the goalkeeper and into the far corner of the net. Boro showed good team spirit and character to get themselves back into the game and finished the stronger of the two sides. Results elsewhere also provided good cheer as Nuneaton extended their lead at the top of the division to two points.

AFC Wulfrunians v Nuneaton Town 22-12-2015

AFC Wulfrunians: Beech, Waterhouse, Aulak, Palmer (Brady 75), Hill (Bridgen 68), Hunt, Webb, Gregg, Minto (Thompson 84), King, Jevons.
Boro: J. Smith (Taylor 68), Clifton, Lane, Byrne (Morgan 61), Maguire, J. Keane, Daniels, Reid, Harewood, Hicks, Tshimanga (Williams 57).
Subs: Chettle, Whitehouse.

Boro made the journey to Castlecroft to play AFC Wulfrunians in a Birmingham Senior Cup second round tie.

AFC Wulfrunians were handed a comprehensive defeat as the difference in class was clear to see. The visitors ran away with the game from an early stage and Wulfs fell behind after just four minutes when Marlon Harewood put Tshimanga Kabonga in behind the defence. His shot was saved by Tim Beech but James Reid was on hand to fire into the empty net.

Boro's lead was doubled in the 19th minute as Jack Lane's shot from the edge of the area curled just past Beech's outstretched hand. Ten minutes before half-time, Harewood added a third goal when he hit a powerful shot into the top corner.

Although the home side looked livelier to begin the second half, the goals began to flood in again after 56 minutes. Kabonga began the scoring in the second half as he fired in from a tight angle. A close range header from Joe Maguire extended the lead further after 60 minutes as Wulfrunians failed to deal with a corner. Harewood grabbed another assist shortly after, as he fired in a low cross that was turned in from inside the six-yard box by Aaron Williams, who added his second of the game 14 minutes from time, as he latched onto a through ball by Reid and put the ball through the keeper's legs.

Three goals in the final eleven minutes rounded off a disappointing night for the home side. Billy Daniels grabbed a goal, before Williams turned provider for Nathan Hicks, who then grabbed his second, and Boro's tenth, when his strike was deflected into the net by a Wulfs defender in the 89th minute.

Lyttle Joins Boro

Nuneaton Town have brought in Tyler Lyttle from Bristol Rovers on a month's loan deal. The 19-year-old is the son of ex-Nottingham Forest defender Des Lyttle and began his career as a youth team player with Wolverhampton Wanderers. He can play either right or left full back.

Solihull Moors v Nuneaton Town 26-12-2015

Moors: Siegrist, Nottingham, Gough (Leslie 67) Daly, Streete, Dean, Moore (Asante 74), Byrne, Brown, Beswick (Walker 80), Knights.
Subs: Bignot, Armson.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Lyttle, J. Keane, Lane, Morgan (Tshimanga 70), Byrne, Chettle (Reid 83), Whitehouse, Williams, Duffy (Harewood 70).
Subs: De La Paz, Daniels.

Boro made the journey to Damson Park to play Solihull Moors in a National League North game.

Boro bossed the first-half, but were undone in the second as a red card for Elliott Whitehouse and two quick-fire goals all but gifted Solihull a festive three points. Despite enjoying plenty of the ball early on the Boro could have found themselves behind inside the opening ten minutes. Stefan Moore muscled his way into a goal scoring position just inside the box but sent his effort just wide of the far post with Jordan Smith beaten.

The next chance fell to Elliott Whitehouse who was left unmarked in the box. After a cross from the right he shifted his feet superbly, side-footing a lofted volley goalwards that Ben Siegrist had to be alert to tip over the bar. Siegrist was proving to be the busier of the two keepers as Nuneaton were enjoying more of the ball than the home side. It was a fact they nearly took advantage of in the 32nd minute when the Solihull stopper had to be at his best to turn a Rob Duffy header round the post. Nuneaton failed to test the Solihull keeper further in the remaining 13 minutes of the half, despite having four efforts from distance – all of which sailed over the bar.

Solihull would certainly have been the happier of the two sides going in level at the break, such was the amount of possession the Boro enjoyed – however, they would be happier still 15 minutes after the restart. In a catastrophic spell for the Boro they found themselves down to ten men and also two goals behind. The first blow came when Whitehouse was sent packing after a tackle on former Nuneaton captain Gaz Dean. It was a challenge that left the defender limping, but one Whitehouse did not feel warranted a straight red.

Before Nuneaton could react to the dismissal – and adapt accordingly – they were behind as Andy Brown came back

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to haunt them with a well taken goal that left Smith with no chance. The double blow seemed to leave the Boro reeling as one became two almost instantly when former Aston Villa forward Stefan Moore capitalised on some sloppy play at the back and fired home a second.



Tshimanga puts Siegrist under pressure.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Solihull had not outplayed the Boro, they had just punished them whenever the opportunity presented itself. They grabbed a third with 11 minutes remaining, substitute Steve Leslie scored with a low drive that found the bottom corner of the net from inside the box.

It was not the end of the scoring, though, as the Boro grabbed themselves a consolation goal with time running out, Marlon Harewood sliding home a spot-kick after Kabonga Tshimanga was brought down in the box.

Nuneaton Town v Tamworth

28-12-2015

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Lyttle, J. Keane, Lane, Byrne, Chettle, Reid (Morgan 71), Whitehouse, Harewood (Duffy 57), Tshimanga (Williams 57). **Subs:** De La Paz, Daniels.

Tamworth: Belshaw, Burns, Strong, Fowler (Davies 70), Tomassen, Preston, Durrell (Hubbins 70), Clarke, Dyer (Taylor 19), Mettam, Green. **Subs:** Heaton, Smith.

Boro welcomed Tamworth to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro got back to winning ways in emphatic style as they rolled over rivals Tamworth for a comprehensive derby day victory. Two first half goals from Marlon Harewood got things going in a match in which Boro were back to their best. After going four without a win in the league the Boro could have been forgiven for being somewhat anxious going into a Bank Holiday fixture against their near neighbours. But it did not pan out like that as Boro flew out of the blocks and were in control from the off.

Nuneaton started brightly and were rewarded for their efforts with the opening goal in just the eighth minute. They had gone close with six minutes on the clock as James Reid skimmed an effort just wide of the far post, but two minutes later there was no mistake as a surging run down the right

flank from Callum Chettle ended with a lovely ball into the box that Marlon Harewood finished emphatically.

After the frustration of Boxing Day the home side were certainly letting off a bit of steam in the early exchanges as Tamworth had no answer to wave after wave of Boro attacks. Boro were denied the chance to make it 2-0 in the 12th minute as Elliott Whitehouse was brought down by Stephen Tomassen but the referee showed no interest.

Boro were not to be denied for long, as on 17 minutes they did get that deserved second goal. Shane Byrne was afforded acres of room on the edge of the Tamworth area and with that he sent a low shot goalwards. It took a big deflection which stopped it reaching Belshaw – but it did find Harewood – and the former Nottingham Forest man did not waste the chance as he lifted it over the advancing keeper and into the back of the net. Boro slipped into cruise control after the second as they continued to enjoy the better of the play and that pattern continued into the second half.

When they did apply pressure on the visitors they looked vulnerable and it came as no surprise that when Nuneaton upped the ante a third goal soon followed. It came from the returning James Reid – and it was a beauty – as he smashed home a free-kick on the edge of the box, one that Belshaw had no chance of stopping. Belshaw had to deal with a Jack Lane header not long after, and he did superbly well to tip it over the bar, while at the other end Jordan Smith did not get a chance to show what he could do as Tamworth failed to threaten as an attacking entity.



Marlon Harewood lifts the ball over Belshaw.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Nuneaton Town v Solihull Moors

02-01-2016

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Lyttle, J. Keane, Lane, Morgan, Chettle (Byrne 56), Reid (Daniels 75), Whitehouse, Harewood (Duffy 56) Williams. **Subs:** De La Paz, Tshimanga.

Solihull: Siegrist, Nottingham, Gough (Leslie 46), Daly, Streete, Dean, Armson, Byrne, Brown, Beswick, Walker (Knights 64). **Subs:** Bignot, Moore, Asante.

Boro welcomed Solihull Moors to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Solihull made it a festive double over Nuneaton as a Jack Byrne goal gave the visitors the victory. Solihull played the



opening ten minutes with plenty of vigour, but only had the one half chance for Adam Walker to show for it, as the former Boro man blasted his effort straight at Jordan Smith from a difficult angle.

After that Nuneaton took over, but could not make their superiority pay. Aaron Williams had a chance that he blazed over, David Morgan shot straight at Ben Siegrist and Elliott Whitehouse did the same when well placed on the edge of the box. The best chance of the half fell to Marlon Harewood as his half volley looked like it could be the one to break the deadlock, but Siegrist tipped the shot round the post when it looked to be burying itself in the corner of the net.

Nuneaton began the second half well, but not with the same control they ended the first and Solihull began to make more of a fight of it. There were no real clear cut chances though as both sides probed for a weakness, but when it was finally found it was from a high ball into the home side's box. Boro's defence failed to deal with the delivery as both Andy Brown and James Armson caused problems and the ball fell to Jack Byrne who was able to slot home for a simple finish.

Solihull are a team built on defensive stability and after scoring they retreated behind that wall as they seemed content to let the Boro come onto them. It was a dangerous tactic as Nuneaton began to push forward with Aaron Williams seeing his effort from inside the box saved down low by Siegrist, while the Moors keeper did even better minutes later to stop a Shane Byrne shot from the edge of the box.

Stockport County v Nuneaton Town	16-01-2016
Stockport: Henderson, Morton, Garvin, Smalley, O'Hanlon, Montrose, Menagh (Odejayi 64), Rule (Evans 87), Brewster, Marsden, Ledsham (Russell 87). Subs: Ormson, Tonge.	
Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Lyttle, Lane, J. Keane, Morgan, Chettle (McFarlane 84), Byrne, C. Keane (Reid 84), Williams, Duffy (Harewood 73). Subs: Maguire, Daniels.	

Boro made the journey to Edgeley Park to play Stockport County in a National League North game.

Boro had to settle for a draw in a match they looked comfortable in for the majority of the game. Stockport started well, and finished with a bang, but for at least two-thirds of this game Boro were the better side, but failed to take home the points to prove it. Stockport had been on a poor run in the league over the last month, but after the resignation of former boss Neil Young in the week a resurgent showing was expected. It looked like it would come early on as the home side played with purpose, but they were unable to test Boro keeper Jordan Smith throughout that time. It was a surprise then, after an inconspicuous start, that it was Boro who broke the deadlock in the 20th minute.

Rob Duffy was the scorer, and an easier goal he will never net. A free-kick from the halfway line was pumped into the Stockport half where, for some reason, debutant keeper Dean Henderson decided to come for it on the edge of the box. He

was nowhere near collecting it, though, which allowed Duffy to simply head it over the stranded keeper and into the back of the net. The wind was somewhat taken out of the Hatters sails after that and despite having a couple of long-distance shots, they never looked like troubling the Boro.

With the snow coming down Stockport came out for the second half hoping to start it like they did the first, but Boro were happy as the momentum from the first 45 minutes followed them into the second half. They again nullified the County threat, and lining up with a flat 4-4-2, they managed to get wide and cause the home side a problem or two themselves. It was from those wide areas that Nuneaton could have doubled their lead on the hour mark.

James Clifton darted down the right hand side, before cutting in and unleashing a stunning shot that only just fizzed over the crossbar. It was the only real chance of note for the majority of what was a scrappy second period, the teams battling against the conditions as much as one another.

John Marsden had a half chance and Karl Ledsham also had an effort, but nothing for the Boro keeper Jordan Smith to really worry about. That all changed in the 86th minute, though, as Stockport managed to break through what had been a resolute Boro backline with devastating results.

It was a simple ball from back to front that did the damage as it was nodded on through the Boro defence right in to the path of Delial Brewster who closed in one-on-one with Smith, before rounding him and slotting home into an empty net.

Nuneaton Town v Burton Albion	19-01-2016
Boro: De La Paz, Clifton, Reid (C. Keane 68), J. Keane, Lane, Morgan, Maguire (Duffy 54), Byrne, Daniels, Harewood (Williams 58), Chettle. Subs: Hicks, R. Smith.	
Burton: Bywater, Shelton, Austin, Slade, Gatter, Palmer (Hallahan 69), Reilly (Fox 69), Ferguson, Joachim, Thiele, Harness. Subs: O'Brien, Hornby, Dinanga.	

Boro welcomed Burton Albion to Liberty Way to play a Birmingham Senior Cup third round tie.

Boro put in one of their best performances this season, taking on a Brewers' team that included full internationals. Kevin Wilson and his near full-strength Boro team came out on top in a seven-goal thriller.

Burton started well and it was no surprise when the League One side were rewarded with the opening goal in just the seventh minute. Timmy Thiele was the architect, and Luxembourg international Aurelien Joachim the scorer. The Burton number ten did superbly well to muscle his way through before laying the ball on a plate for his number nine to slide home. That one goal soon became two as Burton, with their tails up, smelt blood. Former Boro trialist Marcus Harness adding his name to the score sheet with a well taken snap-shot from the edge of the box.

Nuneaton then began to ask a question or two of their



visitors. Upping the ante brought almost instant reward for the home side as a fine cross from James Clifton found Marlon Harewood unmarked in the box, from where he sent a bullet header into the back of the net.

In a real see-saw battle Burton regained their two-goal advantage within five minutes, Joachim adding to his tally on the night after picking up the ball on the edge of the box and sliding it past an onrushing De La Paz.

Burton had proved that they could score almost at will, but also that they were vulnerable to Boro's attack. Callum Chettle proved the point as he scored a great goal after a stunning run from midfield saw him break through the backline and send a powerful low drive across Stephen Bywater and into the back of the net.

Boro equalised at the start of the second half and Harewood was the man who scored it. The 36-year-old front man rolled back the years with an incredible over-head kick from inside the box that hit the back of the net before Bywater had even seen it. The chances continued to come after that, even if the goals did not, as Burton striker Joachim was guilty of squandering three gilt-edged opportunities before De La Paz pulled off an amazing stop to deny him with 20 minutes to go.

That save was good, but it was given even more importance moments later as Boro went up the other end and took the lead for the first time on the night. James Clifton was the scorer, and another good goal it was, with the wing-back making a run into the box and sending a fine half-volley past Bywater and into the back of the net.

Boro Make Double Signing

Nuneaton Town have secured the signatures of Lathaniel Rowe-Turner, who has been signed on loan from Kidderminster Harriers and free agent Tyrell Waite, who played for the club in 2012-13 when he made four appearances.

Chettle And Williams Join Posh

Nuneaton Town have sold Callum Chettle and Aaron Williams to Peterborough United for an undisclosed fee. Williams is the club's leading goalscorer in the current season having scored 16 goals in 32 appearances. Chettle has made 25 appearances for the club and has scored twice.

Nuneaton Town v Curzon Ashton 23-01-2016

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Lyttle, Rowe-Turner, J. Keane, Lane (McFarlane 56), Morgan, Byrne, Daniels, Waite, Duffy (Harewood 68).
Subs: C. Keane, Reid, Maguire.

Curzon: Burton, Woodford, Hampson, Hunt, Shaw, Tomsett (Guest 76), Rowney, Brown, Cummins (Brooke 78), Warburton, Wright.
Subs: Mason, Norton, Lowe.

Boro welcomed Curzon Ashton to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

A second half goal from Daniel Shaw was enough to give

Curzon all three points even though Boro came into this game with their tails up and started brightly. In just the eighth minute they created a glorious chance when right wing-back James Clifton darted down the wing and sent in a delightful cross that an unmarked Rob Duffy headed wide. Neither side were able to gain control in midfield and the strikers were not given the service they needed. This resulted in an even, but stale first half in which neither keeper had a save to make.

The second half started better and once again it was the home side who were setting the agenda. Tyrrell Waite had a good chance while Duffy once again missed a golden opportunity set up by Waite, but his header from close range went over the bar. Boro were made to pay for that miss in the 65th minute when Curzon took the lead.

The goal came via a corner. The ball was whipped into the box where Daniel Shaw was allowed to volley past Smith and a despairing Clifton who was on the line. Boro upped the ante after going behind and it looked like they had their chance to level things up in the 76th minute as the referee blew-up when Tyler Lyttle went tumbling in the box. However, the decision went against the home-side as the on-loan wing-back was booked for diving.

Ken Satchwell Dies

Former Nuneaton Borough player Ken Satchwell has passed away aged 77. He joined Boro from Coventry City in 1962 for £2,500 and became the club's leading scorer in season 1962-63 when they were promoted to the Southern League Premier Division. He was signed by Walsall in January 1965 for a fee of £1,200.

Alfreton Town v Nuneaton Town 30-01-2016

Alfreton: Duke, Moyo, Jordan, Allan, McGowan, Thanoj, Leesley, Meikle, Jones, Smith (Jackson 71) Bradley. **Subs:** Robertson, Wilson, Nyoni, Heaton.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Rowe-Turner, J. Keane, C. Keane, Reid (Maguire 77), Byrne, Whitehouse, Morgan, Waite, Harewood. **Subs:** Daniels, Duffy, McFarlane, De La Paz.

Boro made the journey to The Impact Arena to play Alfreton Town in a National League North game.

Boro twice let a lead slip against their in-form hosts but gained a well earned point for their efforts. Goals from Marlon Harewood and Elliott Whitehouse were cancelled out quickly by the home side, as individual errors spoiled what would have been a good away day win.

In what was a poor first half it was Boro who started the brighter, Tyrell Waite sending a shot into the side-netting inside the first ten minutes. Elliott Whitehouse then fired one wide not long after. It was not a half of clear-cut chances, though, as Alfreton keeper Matt Duke was not that busy, but was called on to deny a low effort from Marlon Harewood and also a shot from James Reid. Jordan Smith at the other end, meanwhile, had even less to do.

The action was confined to the middle of the park as Alfreton battled well but only showed glimpses of real quality. In the bitter cold the fans would have been hoping for a better second half – and they got it. Only four minutes had been played after the restart before the opening goal was scored, and a controversial one it was at that. Shane Byrne was fouled in the box by Todd Jordan and Marlon Harewood slotted home the spot-kick, but only at the second attempt as Duke had saved his first effort.

Boro had only won once in their previous nine league games, so knew that they now had to defend well to gain all three points, but less than 10 minutes after taking the lead the Boro were pegged back after Lathaniel Rowe-Turner delayed a clearance that in the next passage of play saw Sam Jones score a smart equaliser. Alfreton failed to capitalise on their goal, though, as although shaken, Boro were never really tested after Jones drew his side level.

Instead it was Boro who put on pressure and were rewarded for upping the ante with a second goal. It was a fantastically worked goal from Nuneaton as a series of sharp passes ended with a fine one-two in the box between Whitehouse and Harewood with Whitehouse sending a low shot past Duke.

Boro once again knew that a big ten minutes of defensive stability was needed, but once again they allowed Alfreton back into the game. An injury had led Boro to take off midfielder James Reid and bring on defender Joe Maguire – but even with the extra man at the back, Alfreton's Jones was allowed far too much room in the box.

The striker was left almost unmarked from a right wing cross, and he adapted his body well to send the ball back across goal and past a helpless Smith. It was the final goal of what had been an action packed second half, one which the Boro did enough to win the game, but one in which they also showed a sloppiness that could yet cost them a place in the play-offs.

Ironside Joins Boro

Nuneaton Town have signed former Sheffield United player, Joe Ironside from Alfreton Town. The 23-year-old striker had been sent out on loan by Sheffield United to Halifax, Harrogate, Alfreton and Hartlepool before joining Alfreton on a full-time basis at the start of this season.

Brackley Town v Nuneaton Town 13-02-2016

Brackley: Hornby, English, McDonald, Clarke, Slade, Mills (Ndlovu 87), Lowe, Walker, Moyo, Diggin, Batchelor (Cameron 82). Subs: Marsden, Winters, Graham.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, C. Keane, Morgan, J. Keane (Maguire 68), Rowe-Turner, Waite, Byrne, Harewood (Ironside 63), Whitehouse, McDonald (Warburton 87). Subs: Duffy, Daniels.

Boro made the journey to St James' Park to play Brackley Town in a National League North game.

Boro earned their first win of 2016 in a hard-fought battle and showed that there is a fair amount of spirit to go along with

the undoubted quality in Kevin Wilson's team. Things didn't start well for the visitors – the game was less than a minute old when Lowe let rip with a stunning side-footed finish that left Jordan Smith with no chance.

Boro hit back well and immediately took the game to their hosts and were rewarded in the 14th minute when Shane Byrne scored the equaliser.

The Boro skipper found room on the edge of the box and struck his shot well, and it took a deflection, leaving Brackley keeper Sam Hornby with no chance as it skidded over his leg and into the back of the net.

Neither keeper was tested after that as the first half ended with both teams working hard, but unable to add to the score, though James Clifton did see an effort go wide when he was through on goal.

Despite the stop-start nature of the game, Boro were still managing to be the more attack minded of the two sides and it was a deserved second goal that came their way early in the second half.

A run from Tyrell Waite saw him power into the box where he crossed to Elliott Whitehouse who did the rest with a header into the far corner of the net.



Marlon Harewood lifts the ball over Belshaw.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro looked in control at this point so it came as something of a surprise when Brackley drew level with a somewhat fortunate goal. There appeared to be little danger when David Morgan picked the ball up in his own box.

However, his attempted clearance cannoned back off Richard Batchelor and fizzed straight past Jordan Smith and into the net. Despite the set-back Boro continued to push forward and once again their talisman – Elliott Whitehouse – came up with the goods at the right time.

His first goal was about being in the right place at the right time, his second, was all about ability, as the number ten was found on the edge of the box by debutant Wes McDonald.

Whitehouse turned and smashed an unstoppable effort past Hornby to give the away side the lead once again. It proved to be the final goal of the game, although Boro had to withstand some late pressure to finally bring to an end their winless run this year.

Nuneaton Town v Worcester City 20-02-2016

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, C. Keane, Duffy, Rowe-Turner, McDonald (Warburton 87), Byrne, Morgan, Whitehouse, Waite (R. Smith 68), Harewood (Ironsides 63). **Subs:** Daniels, De La Paz.

Worcester: Vaughn, Minihan, Gudger, Sharpe, Thomas, Jackman (Ologu 82), Nti, Donnellan, Hughes (Bakayoko 72) Gater, Murphy (Burton 82). **Subs:** Ross, Waldron.

Boro welcomed Worcester City to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Worcester City struck in the 90th minute to earn a point – Amadou Bakayoko serving up a bitter blow to Nuneaton who had led through David Morgan’s goal.

The wind blowing around Liberty Way certainly caused problems in the first half as neither side adapted well to the conditions – producing few chances in the process. The closest either side came to testing the opposition keeper – came from a keeper – as Worcester stopper Nathan Vaughn sent a free-kick forward on the halfway line which caught in the wind and very nearly sailed over the head of Jordan Smith. The Boro keeper did well to grab it and this effort proved to be the only time he would be needed before the break.

Boro struggled to create chances and had to wait until the 56th minute before Marlon Harewood broke through the Worcester defence, but they saw the chance go begging. Worcester almost broke the deadlock in the 70th minute, but Jordan Smith did well to get down low and use his feet to deny Sam Minihan. The City right back smashed a near post shot from the angle of the box, but Smith was equal to it.



Morgan gives Boro the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Nuneaton hadn’t really threatened Vaughn at all, but in the space of five minutes they forced him to save from Elliott Whitehouse after he headed goalwards from a corner – and then pick the ball out of the back of the net after a truly wonderful strike by David Morgan. It was a strike of real quality, Vaughn had no chance as the ball flew over his head and into the top corner of the net from the edge of the box.

Suddenly a game that had been poor for so long became an end-to-end affair with both teams going for it. The openness of the game suited Nuneaton as they were able to

hit Worcester on the break and chances were created for Joe Ironside and Elliott Whitehouse – both players will have been frustrated they were not taken. Even more so when Worcester equalised dead on 90 minutes. Amadou Bakayoko flicked up a free-kick before turning sharply and heading home his own assist to deny Boro all three points.

Corby Town v Nuneaton Town 27-02-2016

Corby: Donkin, Myles, Thomas, Courtney, Appleton, Brown, Mills, Taylor, McDonald, Milnes, Evans (Robbins 46). **Subs:** Draper, Reay, Manship, Downey.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Lyttle, J. Keane, Rowe-Turner, Morgan, Whitehouse, Byrne, Waite, McDonald (C. Keane 58), Ironside. **Subs:** Duffy, Harewood, Warburton, Lane.

Boro made the journey to Steel Park to play Corby Town in a National League North game.

Boro were the only play-off chasing team to record a victory in the National League North as goals from Tyrell Waite, Joe Ironside and Elliott Whitehouse gave Boro all three points.

Just 33 seconds were on the clock when Kevin Wilson’s side had the ball in the back of the net, with Tyrell Waite the scorer. The mid-season signing collected a through ball from Joe Ironside and slotted it smartly past Sam Donkin from an acute angle.

That goal did not signal a dominant outing for the visitors, though, far from it, as Nuneaton like their hosts, played out a disappointing 45 minutes.

Neither side were able to stamp their authority on the half as the game descended into a stop-start affair with the referee being the busiest person on the pitch.

Boro were punished for not commanding the game more and Corby drew level on 56 minutes. The goal came after a ball into the box was not dealt with and Greg Mills was on-hand to smash it past Jordan Smith and into the back of the net.

At this stage it looked like Corby would turn the screw as they continued to push forward – but it was Nuneaton who grabbed the third goal of the afternoon. It came from the head of Joe Ironside in the 69th minute. The former Sheffield United man sent a bullet header into the net from a James Clifton cross. Donkin had no chance as it thundered past him and put the Boro back in the lead.

If there was doubt at 1-0, there was none at 2-1, as the Boro pressed for another goal to seal the game. They were rewarded for their efforts with a deserved goal ten minutes later from the penalty spot.

Waite was once again involved as he was brought down by former Boro man Anton Brown for the spot-kick. With no Rob Duffy or Marlon Harewood on the pitch Elliott Whitehouse picked up the ball and made no mistake, sending Donkin the wrong way to give Nuneaton a two-goal cushion. It proved to be the last action worthy of note in what turned out to be a satisfying afternoon for Nuneaton.

Nuneaton Town v AFC Fylde 01-03-2016

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, C. Keane (Warburton 89), J. Keane, Rowe-Turner, Byrne, Whitehouse, Morgan, McDonald (Lane 28), Waite (Dawson 61), Ironside. **Subs:** Duffy, De La Paz.

Fylde: Urwin, Hughes, Crainey, Langley, Hannigan, Baker, Hughes (Charles 60), Barnes (Blinkhorn 55), Rowe, Dixon, Lloyd (Hardy 65). **Subs:** Hinchcliffe, Summer.

Boro welcomed AFC Fylde to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro moved up to third spot in the Vanarama National League North as they came back from 1-0 down to earn a deserved draw with play-off chasing AFC Fylde. Boro were forced to play most of the match with just ten men after midfielder David Morgan was shown a straight red in the first half. Despite the disadvantage, Boro held their own and leap-frogged above Boston and into third spot.

After a solid start for the home team they were dealt a hammer blow in the 24th minute as David Morgan went straight through Richie Baker on the halfway line – it was to be the last thing the Boro number four did all game as he was immediately given his marching orders. Boro boss Kevin Wilson quickly moved to rearrange his depleted team as he brought Jack Lane in for Wes McDonald at the back.

Unfortunately Fylde struck almost straight after Lane came on, Danny Rowe flicking a header past Jordan Smith from inside the area. The same man had an almost identical chance to double the lead not long after, but this time he headed over and Nuneaton were on the ropes with their play-off rivals pushing to put the game to bed.

They failed to do so, though, and the Boro made them pay for that just four minutes into the second half. Elliott Whitehouse soon showed what he can do in front of goal when the Boro number ten picked the ball up on the edge of the box and powerfully placed a shot past Matt Urwin and into the back of the net. It heralded a frenzied start to the second half for the home team as they made a mockery of their man disadvantage and put Fylde under some serious pressure.

Boro, like the visitors in the first half, could not make their pressure count, though. Their pace understandably dropped and as a result Nuneaton began to sit deeper and deeper and Fylde were more or less invited to press onto the Boro, but they coped well with any pressure. Jordan Smith was not called into action in any meaningful way as the Boro defence were proving more able than the Fylde attack. The visitors did create the odd half chance, but nothing to panic Boro fans.

Boro Sign Tom Elliott

Nuneaton Town have signed highly-rated 20-year-old midfielder Tom Elliott from Worksop Town, where he was last season's player of the year. He has been on trial with Sheffield Wednesday and is believed to have attracted the attention of Sheffield United and Bury. He signs for an undisclosed fee.

Gainsborough Trinity v Nuneaton Town 12-03-2016

Gainsborough: Budtz, Lacey, Brogan, D'Laryea, Quinn, Picton, Hodge (Yates 62), Russell, Reid, Jarman, Davis. **Subs:** Stamp, Roma, Binns, Hedge.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, J. Keane, Rowe-Turner, Lane, Morgan (Harewood 64), Byrne, Whitehouse, C. Keane, Matthews (Dawson 70), Ironside. **Subs:** Duffy, Elliott, Maguire.

Boro made the journey to Northolme to play Gainsborough Trinity in a National League North game.

With an enforced 12 day break between matches, Boro looked a little ring rusty and failed to fire on all cylinders in the first half. They failed to hit top gear in the opening 45 minutes, only registering one shot on goal in what was a stagnant opening half of football.

In recent weeks the Boro have reserved their best for after the half-time whistle, and it looked like that would be the case again in Lincolnshire.

In the opening minutes of the restart they went close on two occasions with efforts from Ironside and then Byrne but neither effort required the home keeper Jan Budtz to be called into action.

It seemed as if the Boro would be following a recent pattern but this time they were unable to kick on when on the front foot. In fact it was the home side who created the better and more dangerous chances after that. This was especially true of the former Grimsby striker Nathan Jarman missed the best opening when he really should have netted.



Elliott Whitehouse gets in a rare shot for Boro.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro were giving their hosts plenty of chances and it was no surprise when Jarman took the next one that fell his way in the 90th minute, coolly chesting a ball into the box before taking it past Lathaniel Rowe-Turner and slotting the ball wide of the helpless Boro keeper Jordan Smith.

Boro briefly rallied with a shot from distance from Jack Lane, but it was too little too late and Boro's sketchy form since the turn of the year continues.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham City 16-03-2016

Boro: De La Paz, Clifton, C. Keane, Scott, Maguire, Lane, Elliott, Byrne, Harewood (Matthews 90) Whitehouse (Duffy 46), Ironside (Waite 14).
Subs: J. Keane, J. Smith.

Birmingham: Weaver, O'Keeffe, Bernard, Baba, Martin, Seddon, McFarlane, Cooper, Pop (Jones 63), McDonald (Maxwell 59) O'Neill (Harding 72). **Subs:** Mbende, Trueman.

AFC Fylde v Nuneaton Town 19-03-2016

Fylde: Hinchcliffe, Hughes, Sumner (Blinkhorn 87), Langley, Hannigan, Barnes, Hughes (Lloyd 74), Baker, Rowe, Dixon (Charles 60) Finley.
Subs: Crainey, Hardy.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, C. Keane, Maguire, Rowe-Turner, J. Keane, Byrne, Elliott (Waite 89), Whitehouse, Ironside, Harewood (Duffy 52).
Subs: De La Paz, Scott, Lane.

Boro welcomed Birmingham City to Liberty Way to play a Birmingham Senior Cup semi-final tie.

Nuneaton bowed out of the competition in a patchy game. A goal from Corey O'Keeffe five minutes from time was the difference between the two teams in a game that could easily have gone either way. Boro started on the front-foot – and were close to scoring the opening goal.



Clifton tries his luck.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The game was barely 30 seconds old when a quick move down the left flank opened up the Blues defence and it took a last-gasp block to stop Shane Byrne from applying the finishing touch. Nuneaton were buoyed by that initial opening and played with plenty of vigour after that. They had plenty of possession in key areas but were unable to make it count as the Blues defence did not let them create anything of note.

At the other end the Nuneaton defence, marshalled by the returning Joe Maguire, was just as resolute, as neither Zeus De La Paz nor Jake Weaver were called into any serious action.

In fact it was not until the 68th minute that either keeper needed to do anything worthwhile – but it was worth the wait when it came. The stop was made by Blues custodian Weaver as he did superbly well to deny Boro new-boy Tom Elliott, the number seven getting on the end of a left-wing cross but somehow his improvised volley was kept out.

It looked at that stage like the Boro would be going from strength to strength as Rob Duffy saw his effort fly wide on the edge of the box not long after – but it was the away side who struck first. The goal came after a defensive mistake, Corey O'Keeffe broke through a static backline and when one-on-one lifted it coolly over the onrushing De La Paz.

It proved to be the first – and only – goal of the game, and one that sent Nuneaton out of the competition.

Boro made the journey to Kellamergh Park to play AFC Fylde in a National League North game.

Width from the full-backs was always going to be key, and within the first 90 seconds right back James Clifton showed why. He found himself on the edge of the area and sent a stunning drive past Ben Hinchcliffe and into the top corner. The goal came in the 2nd minute but if not for Jordan Smith in the Boro goal it would have been 1-1 in the fourth minute.

A lifted ball into the box found a home head in a crowded box, but Smith pulled off a reflex save to stave off the danger. Nuneaton suffered a couple of further scares as the home side piled on the pressure, earning four corners in the next five minutes.

Boro's defence, though, was resolute, keeping the home side at bay through to half-time. Nuneaton offered little threat themselves as the middle of the pitch became the battle ground – and an entertaining one at that – as although chances were scarce the football continued to impress.

The second half was always going to be a difficult one as the home side pushed for an equaliser. Fylde had the better of the opening exchanges and continued to push forward. Nuneaton seemed content to sit back and try and hit the home side on the break.

It was from one of those breaks, in the 68th minute, that they nearly doubled their lead as Cieron Keane had a go, but he was unlucky to see his curling effort go just over the top with Hinchcliffe well beaten.

However, that effort was a rarity in what was all Fylde in the second half. The home side gradually upping the pressure. In the end it took until the 82nd minute for Richie Baker to apply the finishing touch after Smith had made a far post save from a header. It was a soft goal to concede after the Nuneaton defence had held out so well for so long. Further disappointment was only a few minutes away - a corner into the box in the 86th minute eluded every Boro head, allowing Josh Langley to bundle home unchallenged, a sickening blow for Wilson and his team.

Wilson responded by bringing on Tyrrell Waite for Tom Elliott as Boro looked to spring from defence to attack. With their play-off place on the line they threw everything at their hosts – and they got some reward with a late goal. It came from the penalty spot after Elliott Whitehouse was brought down by the onrushing Hinchcliffe. Rob Duffy was calmness personified as he stepped up and stroked it home with ease.

Boro Sign French Striker

Nuneaton Town have signed Vamara Sanogo from Fleetwood Town, on a loan deal until the end of the season. The 20-year-old played for French Ligue 1 side FC Metz before joining The Trawlermen.

Boro Docked Points Again!

Nuneaton Town have been deducted three points for fielding an ineligible player, putting a huge dent in the club's hopes of securing a National League North play-off spot. Boro were found guilty of breaching National League Rule 6.1.1 by fielding an ineligible player in the 3-1 win at Corby Town on Saturday, February 27. However, the three points gained in that fixture have been taken away, dropping the club down to seventh and out of the play-off positions.

Nuneaton have eight league games left to play and will need to improve on their record of just two wins in ten matches if they want to climb back into the top five.

Nuneaton Town v Lowestoft Town 26-03-2016

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, C. Keane, Maguire, Rowe-Turner, J. Keane (Scott 82), Byrne, Elliott, Whitehouse, Ironside (Harewood 88), Sanogo. Subs: Duffy, Waite, Lyttle.

Lowestoft: Killip, Barker, Smith (Mason 70), Henderson, Spillane, Kyprianou, Marsden (Nyadzayo 81), Rossi Jarvis, Ryan Jarvis, Crow, Eagle. Subs: Bammant, Putnins.

Boro welcomed Lowestoft Town to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Nuneaton's win against Lowestoft – coupled with results elsewhere – cancelled out a potential three point deduction and moved Boro back into the top five places, ensuring that Boro were back in control of their own fate.

Neither side managed to put together a significant spell of possession, neither did they manage to build up any sort of momentum. Only a snap shot from Joe Ironside on the edge of the box and a near-post toe-poke from new signing Vamara Sanogo gave Lowestoft anything to worry about during an uneventful first half.

The second was better for those braving the conditions, but Boro did not come out all guns blazing after the restart, it was more a gradual increasing of pressure that led to the breakthrough in the 62nd minute.

It came from another new-signing, Tom Elliott, who was calmness personified as he picked up a pass from Elliott Whitehouse and poked the ball past keeper Ben Killip and into the back of the net.

Unfortunately for the home side the goal came at the same time that the worst of the weather arrived. The rain lashing down – coupled with the wind – turned the game into a battle of attrition and not quality.

That suited the home side more as they had the lead, a lead that could have stretched when Elliott Whitehouse sent a

superb shot towards the bottom corner when well placed in the box – somehow Killip kept it out though.

It was to be the last real chance of what was a poor game, but one the Boro did what they had to in – take the three points and put themselves right back in the play-off hunt.



Tom Elliott nets the winner.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Nuneaton Town v AFC Telford United 02-04-2016

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, C. Keane, Maguire, Rowe-Turner, Elliott, J. Keane, Byrne, Sanogo (Harewood 80), Whitehouse, Ironside (Duffy 74). Subs: De La Paz, Scott, Warburton.

Telford: Montgomery, Samuels, Champion, Dawson, Grogan, Tilt, Wynter, Wilson, Hibbert (Cofie 82), McCarthy (Reid 65), Rea (Clancy 90). Subs: Hutchinson, Brownhill.

Boro welcomed AFC Telford United to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

There was no point gained or two points dropped dilemma at the end of this 0-0 encounter for the Boro as with games ticking away – and having had the lion's share of possession – this was definitely two points lost.

They enjoyed all the possession in what was a one-sided 45 minutes, but failed to cut open the in-form visitors, as James Montgomery in Telford's goal was a mere spectator for most of the half.

In fact the only time the Telford keeper was called in to action was to deny Shane Byrne as the Boro skipper sent a fantastic free-kick goalwards from the edge of the box, but Montgomery did superbly well to tip it round the post.

That was the closest the Boro got to a goal, as despite having all of the play, Telford defended deep and denied Boro the chance to hurt them.

The second half was a different affair, though, as the visitors – on the back of a five match winning run – came out and began to ask questions of the home side. In the process they allowed a couple of gaps to open up at the other end.

One of them saw Vamara Sanogo produce a lovely step-over in the box, but his resulting shot was well saved by Montgomery.



Sanogo's shot is saved by Montgomery.

Photo: Simon Kimber



Rob Duffy scores the opening goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Then, only moments later, James Clifton came close to breaking the deadlock. He pushed on from his right back role, cut inside from the wing and sent a shot that flew past the post by inches – with the Telford stopper left static by the speed of the effort.

It was not all Nuneaton, though, as the visitors had chances of their own, the best of which fell to Isaac Reid late on. The Telford substitute was left unmarked at the back post after a break, he somehow dragged his shot well wide, though, when he had the whole goal to aim for.

It would have been an unjust goal if it had gone in as the visitors played well defensively, but Nuneaton did more than enough to warrant a win – they just lacked the cutting edge to make it happen. With games in hand on those fighting for the play-offs they will need to find that cutting edge or their season, like this game, could end in frustrating fashion.

Stalybridge Celtic v Nuneaton Town 09-04-2016

Stalybridge: McMillan, Wylie (Crowley 46), Wisdom, Hughes, Higgins, Chalmers, Joyce, Mudimu (Tames 54), Farrell, McKenna, Chippendale (Burns 64). Subs: Lingouba, Shaw.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, C. Keane, Morgan (Scott 82), J. Keane, Rowe-Turner, Elliott (Ironsides 89), Byrne, Duffy (Harewood 68), Whitehouse, Sanogo. Subs: Lane, de la Paz.

Boro made the journey to the Bower Field to play Stalybridge Celtic in a National League North game.

This game never looked like anything but an away-day win, as Boro once again showed their class against a struggling Celtic side. After a solid, if not spectacular, start it was Boro who broke the deadlock just before the half-hour mark.

Rob Duffy was the man with the goal – and it was a fine one at that – as the front man finished off a slick passing move with a wonderful strike from the edge of the box. Tony McMillan had no chance as it was curled past him with pace and accuracy. The goal came just as Nuneaton began to up the ante. They broke down the Celtic defence with ease and as such it was no surprise when they doubled their lead soon after.

The goal came from the boot of Elliott Whitehouse as the midfielder grabbed his 12th of the campaign with a rasping drive from just inside the box. Once again McMillan had no chance as it was past him before he could react. Boro continued to dominate after the second goal, but resorted to a more measured, possession based game plan.

That continued into the second half, where despite Celtic pushing on, Boro once again took control. They managed to make that control count as they grabbed a third goal twelve minutes after the restart. It came via Whitehouse again, this time the midfielder man calmly beat McMillan when one-on-one.

Adam Farrell grabbed a goal for Celtic with a little over 20 minutes remaining. It was a poor one to concede from the visitors who allowed the number nine far too much room in the box. However, Nuneaton stopped the comeback before it could start this time with Marlon Harewood sliding home a fourth from six-yards out to give the Boro their three goal lead back. Stalybridge had never really been in the game since Duffy grabbed the first goal, but that goal from Harewood really did knock the stuffing out of them.

Boro had chances to make it five as Whitehouse had a goal disallowed for off-side, but it was a case of when and not if they would score again.

The goal came from captain Shane Byrne as he placed the ball past McMillan after another slick passing move from the Boro tore the home team open. With the rain lashing down Stalybridge did grab a consolation as Danny Burns put the ball into an empty net, but it was too little too late as the damage had already been done.

Nuneaton Town v Harrogate Town 12-04-2016

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton (Lane 16), C. Keane, Rowe-Turner, J. Keane, Elliott, Morgan, Byrne, Whitehouse, Duffy (Harewood 70), Sanogo (Ironsides 81). Subs: De La Paz, Scott, Lane.

Harrogate: Crook, Turner, Swain, Platt, Ellis, McGurk, Emmett (Thewlis 61) Kerry, Clayton (Beesley 86) Warren, Daniels. Subs: Colbeck, Thirwell, Foster.

Boro welcomed Harrogate Town to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro were held to a goalless draw for the second successive home game. It was back down to earth with a bump for Boro against a team who are looking good for a top five finish

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themselves. The pressure was on both teams, as neither was able to put together any real momentum. Nuneaton did try, especially early on, as Vamara Sanogo and Elliott Whitehouse both sent shots flying towards Peter Crook but neither caused the keeper any trouble though.



Whitehouse shoots from the edge of the box.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Those efforts were not the start of a half to remember, though, as Harrogate covered any defensive holes that may have been there, and the Boro remained resolute. The match was turning into a midfield battle with hopeful crosses taking the place of any well-worked attacking moves.

It was clear that both managers had asked for more in an attacking sense during the half-time break as Brendon Daniels went close for the visitors and Shane Byrne saw a fierce drive blocked on the edge of the box early in the second half.

Unlike the first half, the chances continued to come after the initial flurry. Paul Clayton was guilty of missing one of the best of them as he rode a couple of challenges before stroking his effort just past the post.

Harrogate kept knocking on the door, though, and if the chance for Clayton was close, the one from Tom Platt was even closer. The visiting number four rose highest to meet a corner from the left hand side and was only denied the opener by Cieron Keane on the line. Boro had a penalty appeal waved away ten minutes from time when Tom Elliott went down in the box, but the referee saw nothing wrong with the challenge despite the appeals of the home fans and a number of disgruntled players.

Gloucester City v Nuneaton Town

19-04-2016

Gloucester: Singh, Green, Jones, Cundy, Avery, Hanks, Webb, Sterling-James (Robles 73) Bishop, Hopper (Dinsley 64) Williams (Hall 64).
Subs: Knowles, Hannah.

Boro: J. Smith, Warburton, Maguire, Rowe-Turner, C. Keane, Morgan, Scott, Byrne (Waite 71), Sanogo, Whitehouse, Duffy (Harewood 62).
Subs: Lane, Ironside, De La Paz.

Boro made the journey to Whaddon Road to play Gloucester City in a National League North game.

Boro took a huge step towards sealing a play-off spot this season as they dug deep to take all three points. In a perfect away day outing the Boro defended faultlessly, took their

chance when it came, and did not look like losing a game they could not afford to slip up in, as it was essential to keep up the pressure on fifth placed Boston.

The home side had obviously not read the script as they started quickly and really took the game to the visitors. Omari Sterling-James was looking particularly dangerous and up against Sam Warbuton, on his full debut, the Gloucester man proceeded to create havoc in the opening 15 minutes.

He could, and maybe should, have grabbed a goal in that time but one shot hit Colby Bishop when struck from outside the box and another went sailing well wide – both let-offs for Nuneaton.

Despite those misses the pressure kept coming from the home side and if not for outstanding individual performances from Joe Maguire and Lathaniel Rowe-Turner the deadlock could have been broken at any stage. The duo were simply unbeatable and threw themselves into tackle after tackle to keep the score level.

Gloucester continued to push forward after the break and were continually denied, as Nuneaton dug deep time after time. The heroic efforts of those Nuneaton defenders was rewarded shortly before the hour mark as out of nowhere Boro struck what proved to be the only goal of the game.

It was taken by Elliott Whitehouse as the midfielder latched on to an acute ball from Kristian Scott and slotted it past former Kidderminster Harriers' keeper Jasbir Singh.

Gloucester looked visibly shaken after the goal as they failed to muster another shot until the final ten minutes. In the closing stages they pushed forward once again, but were restricted to efforts from distance as Jordan Smith saw his only real contribution being a well collected corner.

This took the sting out of what could have been a testing five minutes injury time. As it was, Boro held on and heaped the pressure on Boston in what looks like being a play-off decider at York Street.



Whitehouse scores the only goal of the game.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boston United v Nuneaton Town 23-04-2016

Boston: Speiss, Mills, McEvoy, Roberts, Brown, Piergianni, Felix, Garner, Southwell (Burgess 84), Hilliard, Rollins (Jones 77).
Subs: Robinson, Lavelle-Moore, Johnson.

Boro: J. Smith, Warburton, C. Keane (Reid 86), Morgan, Maguire, Rowe-Turner, Scott, Byrne, Duffy (Ironsides 67), Whitehouse, Sanogo (Waite 87). **Subs:** Lane, De La Paz.

Boro made the journey to York Street to play Boston United in a National League North game.

Boro lost this vital game as their play-off dreams were left hanging by a thread. The home side were a point ahead of them before kick-off – but had played a game more. Boro knew that they simply had to avoid defeat.

Boro started strongly and the game was less than a minute old when they threatened to break the deadlock. Vamara Sanogo beat his man, but not the keeper, as Fabian Speiss got down low to push his shot wide. Boro stunned the home supporters with a goal after 19 minutes when Sanogo found room in the box from a corner and sent a bullet header past Speiss and into the back of the net.



Sanogo heads Boro into the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The lead could have been short-lived, as almost straight from the kick-off Scott Garner sent a header crashing against the Boro bar. That reprieve was not one that Boro took advantage of, as Boston pegged them back seven minutes before the break with a real goal of the season contender. Boston No. 7 Kaine Felix was the scorer, smashing a volley from the edge of the box that curled away from Jordan Smith and into the back of the net. The goal brought the large home crowd to life and they continued to find their voice in the second half.

They were given plenty more to sing about early in the half as a through ball out of nowhere completely dissected the Boro defence. It found Jay Rollins in plenty of space and he sent in a fine shot which once again left Smith with no chance. The home side continued to look the more likely to score after the goal as Nuneaton looked shell shocked and Smith needed to make a fantastic save to stop Rollins from putting the game

to bed. Boro took until 15 minutes from time before they began to regain the initiative, but it was too little too late by then as Speiss was not needed to make a notable save in what was a poor second half by the visitors.

The result means that Boro must now beat Bradford Park Avenue and Hednesford on the final day of the season – and hope Boston drop points at Stalybridge. A win for Corby at home to Harrogate could also see Boro in the play-offs.

Bradford Park Avenue v Nuneaton Town 27-04-2016

Bradford: Jones, Scott, Gordon, Dean (Patterson 78), Qualter, Ainge, Colley (Marshall 90) Woodland, Chilaka, Mottley-Henry, King (Thorton 78). **Subs:** Schofield, Wilkinson.

Boro: J. Smith, Elliott, Warburton, Morgan, Maguire, Rowe-Turner, Scott, Byrne, Harewood (Duffy 53, Daniels 74), Whitehouse, Sanogo (Ironsides 59). **Subs:** Lane, Reid.

Boro made the journey to The Horsfall Stadium to play Bradford Park Avenue in a National League North game.

Boro gave their play-off hopes the lifeline they needed as they recorded one of the two wins they are targeting this week. Boro knew that anything less than three points would leave them needing more than a miracle on the final day.

After a flat opening 15 minutes the game needed a spark and it nearly got one from an unlikely source in the 17th minute as defensive midfielder David Morgan sent a fierce drive goalwards, only being denied by the woodwork with Ryan Jones beaten all ends up. The chance came out of nowhere but it acted like a catalyst for Nuneaton as minutes later they took the lead. The goal came from Vamara Sanogo, his second in two games, as the front man latched on to a through ball from Joe Maguire and helped ease the ball past Jones.

Boro extended their lead shortly afterwards when veteran front man Marlon Harewood turned quickly on the edge of the box and fired past Jones with real skill. It was a true striker's goal from the former Aston Villa forward. Nuneaton seemed to be cruising at this stage and it seemed a case of if – and not when – the lead was stretched further. It was to the credit of the home side that it was not as they battled back well to gain a footing in the game before the break.

They took that on after the restart and managed to halve the deficit with 64 minutes played. The goal was a soft one for the Boro to concede, though, as Chib Chilaka was given far too much room in the box as he slotted home from close range to give Jordan Smith no chance. Nuneaton seemed rocked by the Bradford goal and had to defend well to stop one becoming two.

Jordan Smith was called upon to collect a couple of crosses, while Lathaniel Rowe-Turner and Joe Maguire were both solid. It was crucial they were as Nuneaton built on their strength by hitting back and grabbing a third on the night – and reinstating the two goal lead. It came via substitute Joe Ironsides as he finished off a flowing move with a fantastic finish. That looked like being game, set and match as

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Nuneaton had to hold out for less than ten minutes to ensure those points were safe. However, Chilaka grabbed his second of the game in the closing minutes to make it a tense end to the game.

Nuneaton Town v Hednesford Town	12-04-2016
Boro: J. Smith, Elliott, Warburton, Maguire, Rowe-Turner, Scott, Byrne, Morgan, Whitehouse (Reid 52), Daniels, Harewood (Ironsides 64). Subs: De La Paz, Waite, Lane.	
Hednesford: Ransome, Digie (Robinson 62 (Crane 85)), Fitzwater, Bailey, Francis, Ennis, Williams, Royce, Glover, Thomas, Peers. Sub: Patterson.	

Boro welcomed Hednesford Town to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro ended their season with a comprehensive win but results elsewhere meant that their play-off dream could not be realised. Denied the chance to fight for promotion via the play-offs by just one point, Boro face another season in the Conference North after a campaign which surpassed the expectations of most.

Despite Hednesford already being relegated they did not look like they would make it easy for the home side. Nuneaton stopper Jordan Smith was the busier of the two keepers in the first half although Boro dominated the possession and territorial statistics. Smith earned his money with wonderful reaction save to deny Sean Williams when he sent a fierce volley goalwards from the edge of the box.

Smith was also needed ten minutes before the break as he got down low to stop Tom Peers when he sent a tricky shot goalwards. Hednesford needed that little bit of quality to convert those chances into goals, Shane Byrne showed them what they were missing on that front on the stroke of half time. The Boro captain stepped up to take a free-kick on the edge of the area and he left the Pitmen keeper Lloyd Ransome with no chance as he curled the ball fantastically into the top corner.

Either the goal, or the timing of it, had a profound effect on the away side as they just did not come out with the same drive after the break. That could have been because the Boro simply overran them. Nuneaton started brightly and just did not give Hednesford a look in.

It was only a matter of time before Boro would make that advantage pay. There was less than an hour was on the clock when Marlon Harewood rolled back the years to slot one in from 10 yards out. Hednesford were getting frustrated with the game and perhaps with their season, and that frustration came to a head with the dismissal of Jonathan Royce.

With the game descending into an end of season encounter the Pitmen's number eight decided to spice up the occasion, producing a horrible over the top tackle on the halfway line for which he was dismissed.

Nuneaton enjoyed the comfort of the extra man and made it pay with another goal – and another quality one at that.

Substitute James Reid was the man who got it as he was fed a free-kick via a back-heel from Byrne, Reid did the rest, though, as he smashed it past Ransome.



Harewood extends Boro's lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Conference North 2015-2016

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Solihull Moors	42	25	10	7	84	48	85
North Ferriby United	42	22	10	10	82	49	76
Fylde	42	22	9	11	76	53	75
Harrogate Town	42	21	9	12	73	46	72
Boston United	42	22	5	15	73	60	71
Nuneaton Town	42	20	13	9	71	46	70
Tamworth	42	16	15	11	55	45	63
Chorley	42	18	9	15	64	55	63
Stockport County	42	15	14	13	50	49	59
Alfreton Town	42	15	13	14	58	54	58
Curzon Ashton	42	14	15	13	55	52	57
Stalybridge Celtic	42	14	11	17	62	75	53
F.C. Utd of Manchester	42	15	8	19	60	75	53
Bradford Park Avenue	42	13	11	18	51	59	50
Gloucester City	42	12	14	16	39	49	50
Gainsborough Trinity	42	14	8	20	46	62	50
Worcester City	42	12	12	18	55	61	48
A.F.C. Telford United	42	13	8	21	47	60	47
Brackley Town	42	11	13	18	45	54	46
Lowestoft Town	42	12	10	20	48	69	46
Hednesford Town	42	8	14	20	50	77	38
Corby Town	42	7	11	24	47	93	32



Boro President Receives Recognition

Nuneaton Town president Rex Spencer was presented with a crystal decanter at the National League AGM in recognition of his 65 years service to the club.

Boro Players Released

Nuneaton Town have released Tyrell Waite, James Reid, Ryan Smith and Nathan Hicks. Also, defender Jack Lane has rejected a new contract, ending his one-year stay with the club because he wants regular football.

Whitehouse Player Of The Year



Boro midfielder Elliott Whitehouse went close to a full house at the Player of the Year awards ceremony. He was denied a clean sweep by Jordan Smith, who bagged the Manager's Player of the Season.

Boro Release Four

Nuneaton Town have released four players in an end-of-season clearout. Former Nottingham Forest midfielder James Reid, striker Tyrell Waite, former Coventry youngster Ryan Smith and midfielder Nathan Hicks have all been let go.

Whitehouse For England

Boro midfielder Elliott Whitehouse has been named in the England C squad to face Slovakia U-21 in the International Challenge Trophy in June.

Lane Joins Tamworth

Nuneaton Town defender Jack Lane has turned down a new contract, saying that he wants regular first team football and has agreed to join Tamworth.

Boro Make First Signing

Nuneaton Town have made their first close season signing in Greg Tempest from Lincoln City. Also joining the Liberty Way club is Shaquille McDonald, who joins on a one-year deal from Derby County. Meanwhile, Joe Maguire has left the club and has signed for league rivals Boston United.

Staying And Leaving

Jordan Keane has accepted a new one-year contract to stay with Nuneaton Town, while his brother, defender Cieran Keane has rejected the chance to stay. Another departure sees Helen Thompson leave, as she has decided to retire.

Clifton Re-Signs

Nuneaton Town defender James Clifton has accepted the offer a further 12 month contract, while striker Rob Duffy has turned down the opportunity to stay with the club.

Meanwhile, Kevin Wilson has made his third new signing of the close season in Alex Penny, a 20-year-old centre-half, who has previous experience with Bedworth United and AFC Hinckley, and has joined on a 12 month contract.

Langmead Signs

Nuneaton Town manager Kevin Wilson has made his fourth close season signing, capturing the services of experienced defender Kelvin Langmead. The former Preston North End player began his career as a striker but then converted to centre-half.



He has a vast amount of experience and made over 200 appearances for Shrewsbury Town and also represented Peterborough United and Northampton Town. On his release from the Cobblers, he joined Ebbsfleet United from where he joined Kidderminster on loan.



Halesowen Town — 2nd Qualifying Round

Borough travelled to The Grove to play Halesowen Town in a FA Cup 2nd Qualifying Round tie.

Halesowen: Sargeant, Connolly, Griffiths (Cooper 75), Denny, Hull, Elvins, Charlton, Westwood (McGee 70), Refell, Pearson (Gueyes 70), Hales. Subs: Bragoli, Morrison.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Maguire, J. Keane, Lane, Reid, Morgan, Whitehouse, Byrne (Chettle 85), Harewood (Duffy 75), Williams. Subs: Dyer, Daniels, C. Keane, R. Smith, Repstad.

Boro booked their place in the FA Cup Third Qualifying Round draw as they eased to a somewhat comfortable win.

In a first half void of any real excitement it was the Boro that managed to carve out the best of the openings.

James Reid could have given them the lead inside ten minutes, but his run into the box was not followed by a shot of equal quality as he fired past Matt Sargeant but also the far post.

The only other chance of note did result in a goal as Aaron Williams chased in a spilled shot from Elliott Whitehouse and poked it home, only for the assistant to rule it out for offside.

Halesowen came back into the game after that as the first half petered out in a flurry of midfield malaise.

The second half looked like it was going down the same route as the opening ten minutes were uninspiring.

All that changed, though, in a crazy five minute spell as the home side came so close to breaking the deadlock – only for Boro to score up the other end.

Halesowen hit the woodwork as Greg Pearson smashed a shot out of nowhere on the edge of the box, the speed at which he took the effort caught Jordan Smith in the Boro goal unaware, luckily for him the woodwork was on-hand to keep the scores level.

Then, just a few minutes later, Nuneaton struck, as Aaron Williams continued his fine away-day scoring

run, heading home a close range opener after Sargeant had denied him seconds earlier when he tried to turn home a James Clifton effort.

Boro wrapped up the match with a stunning second goal from Elliott Whitehouse. The midfield man got his foot to a loose ball on the edge of the box and slamming it into the top right hand corner of the net.

North Ferriby United — 3rd Qualifying Round

Borough travelled to Grange Lane to play North Ferriby United in a FA Cup 3rd Qualifying Round tie.

North Ferriby United: Nicklin, Topliss, Wilde, King, Palmer, Gray, Clarke, Fry (Bruce 86), Emerton, Bolder, Bateson. Subs: Middleton, Nicholson, Davie, Taylor.

Boro: J. Smith, C. Keane, Reid, J. Keane, Maguire, Lane, Morgan (Chettle 79), Whitehouse, Duffy (Harewood 75), Byrne (Dyer 79), Williams. Subs: R. Smith, Daniels, Repstad, De la Paz.

A tight contest swung in the home side's favour thanks to goals from Russ Fry and Liam King, either side of Aaron Williams' sixth goal in seven matches.

Defender Joe Maguire was sent-off late on as Boro suffered back-to-back defeats for the second time this season.

Boro were a match for the home side throughout, but lacked the quality in both boxes to take the spoils.

The Humberiders have now lost only once in their last 15 cup ties and showed why, as they produced a solid display to edge past Boro.

The game started at a lively pace and both sides had chances. Williams was unlucky not to get more on a dangerous Cieron Keane cross before Danny Clarke flashed an effort just wide.

It proved to be the home side that struck first. Morgan, who was sorely missed when serving a suspension last week, surrendered possession on the edge of his own box and Fry punished him by firing an unstoppable 20-yard effort into the net.

Fortunately for Morgan, Boro were back level soon afterwards. A low cross from the right wasn't dealt with by the hosts' back line and Williams prodded a scrappy effort over the line.

The chances were coming thick and fast, with Mark Gray next to see an effort just miss the target. The centre-half rose highest to direct a header over the bar with Jordan Smith struggling.

Morgan was close to atoning for his error on the half hour when he had two driven efforts at goal, but saw them both blocked by former Derby County man Adam Bolder.

Cieron Keane and Williams both had half chances before the half was up as Boro threatened to get on top.

The second half started energetically, but with few clear chances. Smith was lucky to get away with a rush of blood as he charged out to reach a cross he was never likely to make – but just as disaster was about to strike, the assistant's flag rescued Boro.

Cieron Keane was a constant thorn in North Ferriby's side and seemed to be carrying the fight on his own at times as a combination of direct running and a dangerous left foot posed problems.

The game burst into life in the final 20 minutes. Boro's susceptibility to high balls reared its head again as they failed to get close to King, who headed past Smith to give The Villagers the lead.

Kevin Wilson threw on Harewood, Jack Dyer and Chettle as he tried to rescue the tie, but their task was made harder when another cross caused consternation at the back.

As the ball bounced around in the six-yard box, Maguire was judged to have handled the ball on the line. Not only did the defender's indiscretion concede a penalty, but he was also sent off.

While Maguire's handy work was punished, Smith's was the saviour. The keeper dived to his right to deny King his second of the game from the penalty spot.

Alfreton Town — 3rd Qualifying Round

Borough welcomed Alfreton Town to Liberty Way to play a FA Trophy 3rd Qualifying Round game.

Boro: De La Paz, C. Keane, Lane, Maguire, Clifton, Morgan, Chettle, Whitehouse, Tshimanga (J. Keane 90), Williams, Duffy (Harewood 72). Subs: Daniels, J. Smith.

Alfreton: Duke, Moyo, Heaton, Allan, Galinski, Leesley, Jones, Jordan, Ironside (Johnson 72), Jackson, Robertson (Thanoj 78). Subs: Smith, Wilson, Draper.

Nuneaton Town booked their place in the next round of the FA Trophy after a hard-fought win in difficult weather conditions at Liberty Way on Saturday.

Second half goals from Rob Duffy and Callum Chettle were enough to separate the two sides as Boro claimed their second victory over Alfreton in November – the home side having eased to a league win by the same scoreline earlier in the month.

Both teams struggled with the driving rain and fierce wind, but it was Nuneaton who created the better of the chances without causing too many problems for custodians De La Paz and Duke.



Rob Duffy – scored from the spot.

Photo: Simon Kimber

That all changed, however, in the 53rd minute when front man Rob Duffy picked up the ball after a storming run down the left by Cieron Keane and his powerful shot was parried by Matt Duke in the Alfreton goal.

Boro were beginning to take control and took the lead shortly after when Duffy slotted home from the penalty spot. Kabonga Tshimanga, on loan from MK Dons, was brought down in the box after he burst past a couple of Alfreton defenders and the referee didn't hesitate to award the spot kick.

Alfreton were unable to raise their own game and test debutante keeper Zeus De La Paz, though they did come close in the 82nd minute when Stefan Galinski's diving header cannoned off the foot of the post and out to safety.

They also had an effort cleared off the line by Jack Lane – but Nuneaton were defending resolutely and subsequently put the game to bed in stoppage time when Callum Chettle continued his run of goal scoring form.

Marlon Harewood took on and beat the stranded Alfreton keeper on the right hand side and neatly picked out Chettle who was able to slot the ball into an empty net to seal the win.

Curzon Ashton — 1st Round Proper

Borough made the journey to the Tameside Stadium to play Curzon Ashton in a FA Trophy 1st Round Proper tie.

Curzon: Burton, Rowney, Truelove (Hampson 70), Hunt, Shaw, Tomsett, Wright (Woodford 87) Brown, Cummins (Brooke 75), Warburton, Guest. Subs: Norton, Mason.

Boro: J. Smith, Clifton, Maguire (C. Keane 46), J. Keane, Lane, Morgan, Whitehouse, Byrne, Chettle (Reid 46), Williams, Harewood (Duffy 75). Subs: Daniels, De La Paz.

Boro exited the FA Trophy on Monday night following this 3-1 defeat to Curzon Ashton.

Despite a spirited second half showing Boro failed to recover from a poor first

half performance that saw Curzon race into a 3-0 lead.

Boro were behind after just four minutes – Jordan Wright slipping a smart ball into the path of Matt Warburton who fired it into the back of the net from the middle of the penalty area.

The Mancunian side seemed content to let the Boro enjoy plenty of possession after the goal, but Nuneaton were unable to take advantage of the time they were being afforded in possession.

The visitors fell further behind in the 24th minute when Niall Cummins got his head to a Jack Truelove cross and diverted the ball goalwards and into the net.

Boro's best effort on goal came in the 37th minute from a set-piece. Callum Chettle's sweet shot was heading for the top corner but Hakan Burton produced a wonderful diving save to keep the score at 2-0.

Cummins grabbed his second goal of the game – and Curzon's third – just before the break when he headed home at the near post direct from a corner.

Nuneaton started the second half with real purpose. Kevin Wilson had rung the changes at the break with Cieron Keane and James Reid replacing Callum Chettle and Joe Maguire.

The new additions and new spirit caused the home side plenty of problems and it was no surprise when Boro got a goal back early on as Marlon Harewood powered his effort firmly into the back of the net.

The lead should have been reduced further shortly after but once again Burton showed his class as he reacted superbly to get a hand to a close-range curler from Aaron Williams.

Elliott Whitehouse also side-footed his shot at the keeper inside the box, but Nuneaton couldn't find the goals they needed to get themselves back into the game.

Nuneaton Town 2008-2018 - Part 2



National League North: Fixtures, Results & Scorers - 2015-16

Nuneaton Scores First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers	Attendance
07.11	Coventry City	H	PSF	0-0		1502
07.14	Birmingham City	H	PSF	0-3		1071
07.18	Banbury United	A	PSF	3-0	Williams, Hicks, Baker-Richardson	236
07.22	Wolves U-21	H	PSF	1-4	Duffy	252
07.23	Nuneaton Griff	A	PSF	2-2	Baker-Richardson, Ryan Smith	345
07.25	Hemel Hempstead Town	H	PSF	1-1	Williams	293
07.29	Crawley Town	H	PSF	0-3		292
08.01	Leamington	A	PSF	3-1	Williams (2), Daniels	251
08.08	Chorley	A	NLN	3-2	Maguire, Williams, Morgan	1011
08.11	Brackley Town	H	NLN	1-0	Harewood	829
08.15	Bradford Park Avenue	H	NLN	1-0	Reid	765
08.18	Lowestoft Town	A	NLN	1-0	Williams	507
08.22	Stockport County	H	NLN	1-1	Harewood	1047
08.29	Tamworth	A	NLN	1-1	Williams	1436
08.31	Gloucester City	H	NLN	0-1		815
09.05	Curzon Ashton	A	NLN	0-1		337
09.12	Gainsborough Trinity	H	NLN	2-0	Williams, Byrne	625
09.15	Stalybridge Celtic	H	NLN	3-3	Williams, Clifton (2)	613
09.19	Harrogate Town	A	NLN	3-0	Williams, Harewood, Whitehouse	503
09.26	Halesowen Town	A	FAC 2Q	2-0	Williams, Whitehouse	549
10.03	Boston United	H	NLN	1-3	Duffy	774
10.10	North Ferriby United	A	FAC 3Q	1-2	Williams	531
10.18	Worcester City	A	NLN	1-0	Duffy (pen)	716
10.24	Hednesford Town	A	NLN	4-2	Daniels, Lane, Duffy (2 pens)	525
10.31	North Ferriby United	H	NLN	3-1	Williams (2), Duffy	637
11.07	Alfreton Town	H	NLN	2-0	Byrne, Williams	654
11.14	AFC Telford United	A	NLN	5-1	Whitehouse (3), Chettle, Williams	1416
11.21	FC United of Manchester	H	NLN	2-2	Duffy (2, 1 pen)	1167
11.24	North Ferriby United	A	NLN	2-1	Chettle, Tshimanga	425
11.28	Alfreton Town	H	FAT 3Q	2-0	Duffy (pen), Chettle	457
12.05	Corby Town	H	NLN	0-0		713
12.09	FC United of Manchester	A	NLN	2-3	Duffy, Whitehouse	2781
12.14	Curzon Ashton	A	FAT 4Q	1-3	Harewood	121
12.19	Chorley	H	NLN	2-2	Williams (2)	620
12.22	AFC Wulfrunians	A	BSC 2	10-0	Reid, Lane, Harewood, Tshimanga, Maguire Williams (2), Daniels, Hicks (2)	73
12.26	Solihull Moors	A	NLN	1-3	Harewood (pen)	1242
12.28	Tamworth	H	NLN	3-0	Harewood (2), Reid	1165
01.02	Solihull Moors	H	NLN	0-1		1242
01.16	Stockport County	A	NLN	1-1	Duffy	2823
01.19	Burton Albion	H	BSC 3	4-3	Harewood (2), Chettle, Clifton	252
01.23	Curzon Ashton	H	NLN	0-1		702
01.30	Alfreton Town	A	NLN	2-2	Harewood, Whitehouse	610
02.13	Brackley Town	A	NLN	3-2	Byrne, Whitehouse (2)	365
02.20	Worcester City	H	NLN	1-1	Morgan	825
02.27	Corby Town	A	NLN	3-1	Waite, Ironside, Whitehouse (pen)	651
03.01	AFC Fylde	H	NLN	1-1	Whitehouse	528
03.12	Gainsborough Trinity	A	NLN	0-1		505
03.16	Birmingham City	H	BSC S-F	0-1		219
03.19	AFC Fylde	A	NLN	2-2	Clifton, Duffy	555
03.26	Lowestoft Town	H	NLN	1-0	Elliott	537
04.02	AFC Telford United	H	NLN	0-0		754
04.09	Stalybridge Celtic	A	NLN	5-2	Duffy, Whitehouse (2), Harewood, Byrne	324

National League North: Fixtures, Results & Scorers - 2015-16

Nuneaton Scores First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers	Attendance
04.12	Harrogate Town	H	NLN	0-0		612
04.19	Gloucester City	A	NLN	1-0	Whitehouse	301
04.23	Boston United	A	NLN	1-2	Sanogo	2037
04.27	Bradford Park Avenue	A	NLN	3-2	Sanogo, Harewood, Ironside	287
04.30	Hednesford Town	H	NLN	3-0	Byrne, Harewood, Reid	866

KEY : NLN = National League North, FAC = F.A.Cup, FAT = F.A.Trophy, BSC = Birmingham Senior Cup, PSF= Pre season friendly



Nuneaton Town 2015-16

Back: (left to right): Kevin Wilson (manager), Paul Egan (physio), Rob Duffy, Aaron Williams, Rasmus Repstad, Ryan Smith, Shane Byrne, Jordan Smith, Joe Maguire, Jordan Keane, Jack Lane, Herve Pepe, Joe Brothwell, Richie Norman (physio), Steve Chettle (assistant manager).

Front (left to right): Jack Dyer, David Morgan, James Clifton, Callum Chettle, Lynas King, Cieron Keane, Marlon Harewood, Liam Canavan.

Rowe-Turner Leaves

Defender Lathaniel Rowe-Turner has turned down the offer of a contract with Nuneaton Town and will be joining his former club Torquay United in the Vanarama Conference Premier.

Boro Signings

Nuneaton Town have acquired the services of Daniel Demkiv from Salisbury FC. The 19-year-old is described by manager Kevin Wilson as an exciting prospect. The winger started his career at Southampton before moving into the non-league game. Also arriving at Liberty Way are Iwan Cartwright and Jordan Wheatley, who joins on a two-year deal.

Cartwright arrives at the club from Wrexham, while Wheatley was previously at Ilkeston Town and turned down the chance to play for Mansfield to join Boro.

Byrne On The Transfer List

Midfielder Shane Byrne has been placed on the transfer list after refusing the offer of a new contract. The club captain's details have been circulated to other clubs.

2016-2017

Nuneaton Town v Coventry City

09-07-2016

Boro: First Half: De La Paz, Clifton, Warburton, Scott, Langmead, Wheatley, Cartwright, Tempest, Ironside, McDonald, Daniels. Second Half: Snedker, Pilbeam, De Bayo, Mitter, Keane, Penny, Cameron, Shaw, Bishop, Whitehouse, Demkiv. Subs: Hawksworth, Hodgett-Young, Rigg, Shorthouse.

City first-half: Burge, Vincelot, Ricketts, Leahy, Whitmore, Rose, Maycock, Haynes, Lameiras, Dev Kelly-Evans, Tudgay. Second half: Charles-Cook, Willis, Harries, Finch, Devon Kelly-Evans (Spence 71), Gadzhev, Stevenson, Shipley (Sayoud 73), Thomas, Jones, Sordell.

Boro welcomed Coventry City to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Boro were the brighter and more pro-active of the two sides early on when striker Joe Ironside went close to scoring with a close-range header that was clawed out by Burge, although Ironside insisted that the ball had crossed the line. Ruben Lameiras and Devon Kelly-Evans were on target for the visitors who dominated the first half with their new signing Marvin Sordell making his debut. Trialist Luke Shorthouse pulled one back for Boro 11 minutes from time.

Coventry started with a mixed team of youth and experience where newly re-signed veteran pair Sam Ricketts and Marcus Tudgay joined fellow first team regulars from last season Romain Vincleot, Ruben Lameiras with Lee Burge in goal.

Coventry grew into the opening half with Devon Kelly-Evans constantly looking to get involved in the forward line, making driving runs at every opportunity, and Haynes providing a decent outlet on the left where he tested keeper Zeus de la Paz for the first time with a low shot to his near post.

Ruben Lameiras beat the keeper but not the bar midway through the half with a delightful shot from just outside the

box as Coventry asserted their authority with the majority of possession. Boro were limited to counter attack football with trialist Shaq McDonald – a former Birmingham City Academy player – providing explosive pace for the home side.

But City's dominance was rewarded on 37 minutes when excellent work from Haynes ended with a neat pass to Lameiras who fired the ball inside the far post. Terrific persistence and desire from Kelly-Evans paid off six minutes later when the teenager chased down a back-pass to the keeper, De La Paz, who was unable to control at his feet and Kelly-Evans dispossessed him and slotted the ball into an empty net.

Both sides completely changed their teams at half time with Boro fielding a total of seven trialists. And with so many out to impress there was a distinct surge in endeavour which went close to bearing fruit from a fine header from last season's leading scorer Elliott Whitehouse, only for the Town skipper to be denied by a superb save on the line from Reice Charles-Cook.



Luke Shorthouse scores for Boro.

Photo: Simon Kimber

That seemed to spark the Sky Blues back into life with Jodi Jones proving a threat down the right with his tricky close control but Boro pulled one back in the 79th minute when former Nuneaton Griff forward Luke Shorthouse hit an impressive finish past the keeper. The visitors finished strongly with Sordell hitting the woodwork and Bilal Sayoud being blocked in the box.

Nuneaton Town v Northampton Town

12-07-2016

Boro first half: De La Paz, Penny, Grayson, Scott, Langmead, Anderson, Warburton, Daniels, Bishop, Whitehouse, McDonald. Second half: Snedker, Clifton, Gibson, Cleet, J. Keane, Wheatley, Cartwright, Fry, Ironside, Kabeya, Demkiu.

Northampton first half: Smith, Phillips, Diamond, Zakuani, Buchanan, Hall, O'Toole, Byrom, Hammond, Hoskins, Richards. Second half: Cornell, Phillips, Cresswell, McDonald, Hammond, D'Ath, McWilliams, McCourt, Hanley (McCammon 53), Iacofano, Revell.

Boro welcomed Northampton Town to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Ex-Northampton players Kelvin Langmead, Sam Warburton and Dean Snedker all featured for Boro. A 30-yard drive from



Aaron Phillips was tipped around the post by Zeus de la Paz in the Cobblers first sight at goal. Sam Hoskins fired just wide after a good solo run down the right while from a Boro corner, Sam Warburton saw a shot blocked.

Boro took the lead just after the half hour mark, Shaq McDonald finishing from 8-yards after Colby Bishop capitalised on a loose ball in the Cobblers defence. As the first half neared its conclusion, Marc Richards went close to scoring an equaliser, heading narrowly over the bar.

David Cornell saved from Joe Ironside at the start of the second half while for the Cobblers Joe Iacofano had a shot blocked after a good run down the left by Raheem Hanley. Ryan Cresswell headed over from a Lawson D'Ath corner and D'Ath forced a save from Dean Snedker as the Cobblers pushed hard for an equaliser. A header from Rod McDonald came back off the post as another D'Ath corner threatened to prise an opening.

Boro almost doubled their lead when Jordan Keane connected with a corner but Josh McCammon was well placed to head off the line. The Cobblers had pressed hard for an equaliser in the second half but Nuneaton saw the game out to edge it 1-0. Unfortunately the game had to end prematurely on the 88th minute after Jak McCourt picked up a nasty looking injury after a clash in his own penalty area, although he was back on his feet after lengthy treatment

Shorthouse Signs

Local youngster Luke Shorthouse has signed for Nuneaton Town. The striker scored 44 goals in 51 games at Midland League Division 1 outfit Nuneaton Griff last season.

Matlock Town v Nuneaton Town 15-07-2016

Boro: De La Paz, Clifton, Grayson, Scott, Langmead, Penny, Warburton, Daniels, Ironside, Cameron, McDonald.

Boro made the journey to Causeway Lane to play Matlock Town in a pre-season friendly game.

The two teams were literally a league apart going into the game and it showed out on the field as Boro outplayed, and outworked, their Northern Premier League counterparts. As soon as the game began Nuneaton set about their work, moving the ball around quickly and comfortably winning a series of corners in the opening five minutes. It was no surprise that the visitors would also get the first real effort on goal, too. Six minutes in recent signing Shaq McDonald got his shot away on the edge of Matlock's box. The Boro forward found himself a yard of space but his strike was deflected into the arms of Dean Snedker – on loan to Matlock for the fixture as they were without their first choice goalkeeper due to illness.

After a couple of wayward efforts for the home side, Nuneaton continued to go about executing their game plan as Courtney Cameron skipped past two defenders but dragged his shot across the face of goal, the ball rolling agonisingly through the six-yard box with nobody on hand to finish his trickery.

Despite Boro's pressure it was the lower league side that almost opened the scoring through Niall McManus 20 minutes in. The 21-year-old cut inside his defender to shoot hard and low beating the right hand of diving Zeus De La Paz but not the post – as the ball struck the woodwork and went behind for a goal kick, sparing Boro's blushes.

Fifteen minutes later Boro almost came up with the perfect response, Cameron curling his left-footed effort past Snedker but also a few inches wide of the target. Moments later Shaq McDonald passed up a golden opportunity for Boro as his lifted shot with the outside of his right boot drifted narrowly wide, the anguish on his face clear to see. Five minutes before the interval the deadlock was broken when Billy Daniels gathered the ball deep in Matlock's half and drove through the centre of midfield before burying his shot into the bottom corner for a 1-0 lead at the break.

Normal service was resumed in the second-half and Boro doubled their lead through James Fry, the former Birmingham City man picked his spot to find the back of the net just inside the penalty area for 2-0 to the delight of the travelling fans. Matlock almost pulled a goal back, and perhaps should have done, but Wiley's powerful header was superbly saved by Boro's and Curaçao's shot stopper – De La Paz.

Daniel Demkiv almost made it three for the visitors with a quarter of an hour left to play. His run down the left wing before cutting inside and sending his defender the wrong way to shoot across goal was brilliantly saved by Snedker who tipped the ball past the post for a corner.

Rushall Olympic v Nuneaton Town 19-07-2016

Boro: De La Paz, Clifton, Grayson, Scott, Langmead, Keane, Tempest, Cartwright, Bishop, Demkiv, McDonalds. Subs: Penny, Hodgett-Young, Warburton, Cameron, Moli, Snedker, Ironside, King, Wheatley.

Boro made the journey to Dales Lane to play Rushall Olympic in a pre-season friendly game.

Boro were denied their third straight pre-season victory by a last-minute equaliser. David Moli's fine strike gave Boro a second-half lead which was cancelled by the final kick of the game by Sam Whittall.

There was plenty of reasons for encouragement for Kevin Wilson as central midfielder Christian Scott pulled the strings in midfield and Kelvin Langmead marshalled a defence that remained organised until the final ten minutes. Boro bossed possession in the first-half and had the lion's share of the chances, albeit largely from long range.

The midfield duo of Greg Tempest and Scott linked well, with the former being the first to test Jose Veiga in the Rushall goal with a 20-yard effort from a central position. One of the chances of the half fell to Iwan Cartwright when he was put in via a lovely diagonal lofted pass from Dan Demkiv but the shot was meek and sailed tamely over.

Scott's energy from deep was denying Rushall access to their

strikers and it was his exchange with Tempest that got Boro moving for their best chance of the half. A free-kick on the right allowed Tempest to whip in a ball which Langmead leapt unchallenged from 12 yards out to head inches over.

Ten minutes before the interval Rushall had their best effort when Zak Martin's shot was redirected by Dubidat, the ball spiralling in the air forcing a back-tracking parry from Zeus de la Paz. Shaq McDonald stung the fingers of Veiga twice when well-placed and a third effort was scuffed wide as Boro closed the half on a positive note.

Half-time substitute Alex Penny's lovely ball nine minutes after the restart released fellow new arrival to the match Sam Warburton down the right flank. He ghosted into the box but his centre was well defended. Just a minute later and Langmead was located once more but this time by Scott's delicate short-range free-kick which was headed over.

Warburton's introduction was making all the difference to Boro, as was Moli who came on in place of McDonald. So it was no surprise when the two combined to create a lovely goal. Sensing indecision in the Rushall defence, Warburton lofted the ball into the path of the onrushing Moli who steadied himself well before drilling home via the underside of the bar.

Alex Reid tested Dean Snedker with a low drive and Randane Larmond's low shot was also well parried by the Boro keeper in the space of two minutes as Boro lost much of their tempo – largely due to the many substitutions.

Reid again had a great chance late on but his header was parried away by Snedker. The pressure Rushall were applying finally paid dividends when Luke Delaney's corner was headed goalwards by Mo Diop and bundled into the net by Sam Whittall.

Boro Sign Defender

Nuneaton Town have signed Elliot Hodgett-Young from Carlton Town. The 19-year-old who plays at centre-half or left-back was previously involved at Ilkeston under Kevin Wilson and Steve Chettle. In other news Shane Byrne, who has been in dispute with the club, has joined Brackley Town.

Nuneaton Town v Leicester City XI 23-07-2016

Boro: De La Paz, Clifton, Warbuton, Scott, Langmead, Keane, Tempest, Daniels, Bishop, McDonald, Ironside. **Subs:** Grayson, Snedker, Wheatley, Penny, Young, King, Cameron, Demkiv, Cartwright, Moli.

City: Hamer, De Laet, Elder, Cain, Johnson, Moore, Rowe, Inler, Mitchell, Lawrence, Muskwe. **Subs:** Iversen, Ndukwu, Knight, Miles, Trialist, Choudhury, Barnes.

Boro welcomed a Leicester City XI to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

A strong Leicester side included a handful of players with Premiership experience, in Ben Hamer, Ritchie De Laet, Gokhan Inler and Tom Lawrence and were clearly the

stronger of the two sides. The visitors took the lead on eleven minutes when defender Darnell Johnson's shot found the bottom corner. The Foxes doubled their lead in the second-half when Lawrence's powerful free-kick beat Zeus De La Paz.

Boro Sign Former Liverpool Youngster



Nuneaton Town have signed former England U-16 and Liverpool player David Moli. The 21-year-old striker was signed by Liverpool from Luton Town as a 14-year-old and became a prolific scorer in the club's junior sides, but failed to force his way into the first team squad and moved to Wolverhampton Wanderers. After being released by Wolves he moved into non-league football with Boreham Wood and Hayes and Yeading.

Belper Town FC v Nuneaton Town

27-07-2016

Boro made the journey to Christchurch Meadow to play Belper Town in a pre-season friendly game.

Boro ran riot against a home side playing their first pre-season friendly. However, the home side were the first to show and Jonathan Williams curled the ball around the Nuneaton wall and into the net to give the home side an early lead. However, Boro took charge of the game and the lead didn't last for long as Boro equalised. Billy Daniels took the ball down the right hand side before putting in a fantastic cross and Belper defender Jack O'Brian turned the ball past his own keeper and into the net.

Boro soon took the lead when Shaq McDonald scored from close range to give Boro a 2-1 advantage. Unfortunately for Belper the goals would continue to pour in for Boro, another bad pass leading to a goal. Dominic Allen gave the ball away to David Moli, who took the ball around Ross Parker and then slotted home a very good finish into the bottom right corner.

Whenever Belper Town got a chance to go forward, Nuneaton counter attacked very quickly and put the Nailers' defenders under a lot of pressure. On the 36th minute Boro made the most of this, after a Belper corner, Nuneaton turned defence



into attack very quickly, leading to a shot which was saved well by Danny Haystead, but the ball was deflected to Billy Daniels who tapped it into the open goal to make it 4-1.

Just a couple of minutes later Boro countered again and Shaq McDonald gained possession inside the Nailers' penalty area and slotted home low into the left of Danny Haystead's goal.

The home side took advantage of the half-time break to re-arrange their side and came out for the second half a much tighter unit and managed to restrict the visitors to a single goal after the interval. This came after a long period of Belper possession when the ball was knocked long and Danny Haystead came out for the ball, but was beaten to it by Shaq McDonald, who took the ball round the keeper and slotted it into an empty net.

Coventry City v Nuneaton Town 29-07-2016

Coventry: Charles-Cook, Willis (Whitmore, 77), Haynes, Leahy, Harries, Rose (Maycock 75), Dion Kelly-Evans, Gadzhev (Jones 60), Sordell (Tudgay 67), Lameiras (Trialist 46), Thomas (Stevenson 60).
Subs: Skuza, Devon Kelly-Evans, Spence, Shipley.

Boro: De La Paz (Snedeker 46), Clifton, Warburton, Scott (Wheatley 60), Langmead, Keane, Tempest, Cartwright, Moli (Ironsides 75), Mbanje (Shorthouse 67), McDonald. **Subs:** Waters, Grayson, Hodgett-Young.

Boro were the visitors for this Coventry City home game at Liberty Way after Doncaster Rovers pulled out of the fixture.

Coventry City showed their League One class as Boro stepped up to the mark, and how they must wish they hadn't, as the Football League side simply oozed class in what turned out to be an exhibition outing for Tony Mowbray and his team.

The game was less than two minutes old when the 'home' side struck first, Ruben Lamerias sending a rasping drive into the back of the net – it was a shot which Boro stopper Zeus De La Paz may have hoped to have stopped considering it was at his near post.

If the Boro keeper was disappointed in conceding early he would have been doubly disappointed just four minutes later as he was beaten again, this time by Dion Kelly-Evans, the Sky Blues number seven sending a looping header over the big keeper and into the back of the net. It was a frantic start by the Sky Blues, one which they did not need to prolong, as they opted to knock the ball around – almost at their leisure – as Boro were simply unable to get near them.

The second half saw the pattern continue as substitute keeper Dean Snedker twice denied the Sky Blues with smart saves – one from Jodi Jones the other denying Marvin Sordell – but he could do nothing to stem the attacking flow forever.

He was finally beaten by the right boot of Marcus Tudgay – a fellow substitute – as the Coventry number 21 raced onto a through ball and delightfully scooped it over the onrushing keeper and into the back of the net.

With the sun setting Coventry dropped what pace there was in the game after the third goal, a distinct advantage to

the Boro who showed that the fitness was there, if not the quality. They began to press and in Shaq McDonald have a real goal threat this year. The former Derby County man grabbed a consolation goal with a great finish, giving the Nuneaton fans in the unfamiliar away end, something to smile about.

It proved to be the last goalmouth action in what was a frustrating night for Boro boss Kevin Wilson, but nonetheless one he will sleep soundly from after seeing his little magician McDonald in action again.

Barwell Town FC v Nuneaton Town 30-07-2016

Boro: O'Brien, Waters (Glover 78), Grayson (Springer 78), Morgan (Elliott 45), Wheatley, Hodgett-Young, Cumberbatch (Demikev 45) Ettington (Adesida 78), Shorthouse (Soumah 78), Ironside, Weston-Hayes (Tweed 45). **Subs:** Snedker, De La Paz.

Barwell: Varnham (Preston 46), Sinton (Bailey 74), Nisevic (Mitchell 70), Rowe, Ballinger, Edgington, Spencer (Montero 88), Hickey, Ward-Cochrane (Story 65), Bell (Shannon-Lewis 65), Anderson (Sandhu 65). **Subs:** Taylor, Baldwin, Willis, Gomes-Montero, Bailey.

Boro made the journey to Kirkby Road to play Barwell Town in a pre-season friendly game.

An under-strength Boro side lost their second pre-season outing in less than 24 hours as their near-neighbours followed the example of Coventry City and put the Boro to the sword. The young looking team saw 11 changes from the starting line-up of the night before, which the hosts took advantage of and looked the more dangerous of the two teams inside what was a slow opening half. There were chances, most of which fell to Barwell, but there was no real tempo, as both sides looked like they were leaving something in the tank ahead of the season starting next weekend.

Those chances that were created could easily have seen Barwell take the lead if not for the fine form of Boro keeper Liam O'Brien as he did well to deny Ben Ward-Cochrane on a couple of occasions. It was not relentless pressure but it was certainly the home team who were trying to dictate the flow of the game. Ironically it was Nuneaton who mustered the most clear cut opportunity. It came from the boot of Luke Shorthouse who swivelled well to connect with a volley in the area – he was superbly denied by Max Varnham in the home goal, though.

The second half followed the same pattern as Barwell pushed forward when they could, with Nuneaton looking solid at the back – if not creative in midfield. A series of substitutions from both sides broke up the play even more as the game became the perfect advert for a pre-season friendly. In truth the match did not deserve a goal – Tyler Shannon-Lewis showed that with a dreadful penalty late on – his effort was high, wide and not even a little bit handsome, summing up the action as a whole.

It looked like it would be the last chance of the afternoon, but there was late drama to come, as a second spot-kick

was this time dispatched by Brady Hickey, giving the game a goal that was hardly merited, but it would be harsh to deny that Barwell deserved it. Tougher tests, with stronger teams named, will come for Nuneaton in the weeks and months to come. How many of the squad that took the field against Barwell will see any of that action is not certain.



Brady Hickey slots home a late winner.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro Sign Defender And Keeper

Nuneaton Town have signed 19-year-old Connor Anderson, a 6ft 5in Northern Ireland U-19 international, who has been released by Leicester City. Also arriving at Liberty Way is 21-year-old goalkeeper Dean Snedker, who began his career at Northampton Town before moving into the non-league game with Brackley Town and Kidderminster Harriers.

Peterborough Pair Join Boro

Kevin Wilson has signed Aaron Williams and Jordan Nicholson from Peterborough United on loan until January 1, 2017. Meanwhile, goalkeeper Zeus de la Paz has had his contract terminated by mutual consent and will be returning to Holland.

Nuneaton Town v FC Halifax Town 06-08-2016

Boro: Snedker, Clifton, Nicholson, Langmead, Keane, Morgan, Tempest, Scott (Daniels 69), McDonald, Williams, Moli (Shorthouse 69).
Subs: Wheatley, Demkiv, Ironside.

Halifax: Drench, Moyo, Wilde, Roberts, Hone, Garner, MacDonald (Sinnott 63), Hatte, Denton, Burrow (Hibbs 75), Peniket.
Subs: Nicholson, Hughes, Hibbs, Koslyo.

Boro welcomed FC Halifax Town to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro saw their season get off to the worse possible start as an error from keeper Dean Snedker – plus some set-piece problems – allowed Tom Denton get an opening day hat-trick as title favourites Halifax took the points. Nuneaton had brought in a number of players throughout the summer, but it was a familiar problem that came back to haunt them early on as the first corner they faced this season ended in the first goal conceded.

It was Tom Denton who grabbed it, powering home a header past Dean Snedker, it was all too easy for the former North

Ferriby United man, though, as Boro's inability to deal with set-pieces reared its ugly head again.

Despite the goal coming before three minutes had been played the Boro did not let their heads drop – far from it – as within two minutes they were level. It was on-loan Aaron Williams who got it, putting his head bravely into the mix from a chipped free-kick, the Peterborough man grabbing his first Nuneaton goal since leaving the club earlier in the year.



Aaron Williams nets the equaliser.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Both teams were going toe-to-toe at this stage as the first 15 minutes became a series of attacks and counter attacks – no further goals were to come from it, though.

The pace dropped dramatically after that as the 25 degree heat began to take its toll. Halifax resorted to looking to feed Denton with aerial balls while Boro looked to utilise the likes of Williams and Shaq McDonald on the wings.

Half time was always going to be crucial as both teams looked to regroup. What Boro did not want to do was to concede again straight after the break – but thanks to keeper Snedker that is exactly what happened. The half was just eight minutes old when he inexplicably allowed a Denton shot, a loose use of the term shot, to dribble between his legs and ease over the line. It was a huge mistake from a player who was only officially signed to the club this week.

The goal instantly gave life to Halifax once again as before the hour mark they were celebrating again when Denton took full advantage of some slack marking from a set-piece to tower another header into the back of the net. Nuneaton looked down and out at this stage, but there is a lot of character in this young team.

They showed that in the form of their captain and leader Kelvin Langmead as he netted a goal on his debut with a fantastic diving header to draw his team back within touching distance of the Shaymen. The goal although impressive in nature, failed to ignite the desired comeback as Halifax eased through to an opening day three point haul.

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Callum Burton Back With Boro

Shrewsbury Town keeper Callum Burton has returned to Liberty Way on a six-month loan deal. The 20-year-old has played for England at U-16, U-17 and U-18 level.

Bradford Park Avenue v Nuneaton Town 13-08-2016

Bradford: Jones, Toulson, Hill, Dean, Coates, McWilliams, McKenna, Wroe, Sharp (Osborne 89), Dickinson (Ryan 65), Boshell (Davie 87).
Subs: Payne, Eccles.

Boro: Burton, Clifton, Warburton, Langmead, Keane, Scott (Daniels 67), Morgan, Tempest, Williams, McDonald (Ironsides 78), Moli (Demkiv 53)
Subs: Wheatley, Snedker, Ironside.

Boro made the journey to The Horsfall Stadium to play Bradford Park Avenue in a National League North game.

Trailing 1-0 deep into stoppage time it looked like the Boro would make it two successive defeats to begin the campaign. That was not the case though, as Joe Ironside capitalised on a mistake by keeper Ryan Young to rescue a point for Boro.

Despite how it ended, it was the home side who enjoyed the better of the starts and they nearly capitalised in the eighth minute but Liam Dickenson saw his shot from close range cannon back off the post rather than find the back of the net. Boro failed to use the let-off as a catalyst and they continued to be second best all over the pitch, with the feeling that it would be when, and not if, the home side would score.

It took them until the 38th minute to do so and the visitors played their own part in the goal, a miss-kick from keeper Callum Burton being punished by Nicky Wroe who fed Chris Sharp who did the rest with a smart finish in the area. It was a poor goal to concede but a deserved one as the Boro had not been at the races at all throughout the opening 45 minutes.

Worryingly, for Nuneaton fans at least, they failed to react in the second half, Bradford keeper Ryan Jones continuing to be a spectator for the home side. When he was needed for the first time in the 70th minute, the Bradford stopper was up the task, coming out quickly to deny substitute Daniel Demkiv when the young winger found himself in space at the back post. He then denied Ironside with time ticking away, but it was his mistake, and not his heroics that will be remembered. In the last two minutes of added time he came running out to head away a long ball – but only fed Ironside – who did the rest with a smart finish from distance.

Nuneaton Town v Kidderminster Harriers 16-08-2016

Boro: Burton, Clifton, Warburton, Langmead, Keane, Demkiv (Elliott 60), Morgan, Daniels, Tempest, McDonald (Ironsides 52), Williams.
Subs: Wheatley, Scott, Moli.

Kidderminster: Hornby, Williams, Francis-Angol, Carter, Lowe, Tunnicliffe, Waite (Brown 76), McCoulkin, Dieseuruwe, Ngwatala (Trustlove 81), Gnahoua (Austin 70). **Subs:** Hancocks, Brown.

Boro welcomed Kidderminster Harriers to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Goals courtesy of James McQuilkin and Emmanuel Dieseuruwe

were enough to gift the visitors all three points. Just six minutes in the visitors' gave their travelling contingent something to cheer as James McQuilkin fired a low, driven shot across the face of Boro's goal, leaving new signing Callum Burton, helpless as the ball clipped the inside of the post on its way over the line for a goal.

Boro did then aim to get themselves back into the game and found space down the left flank as Harrier's right-back, Tyrone Williams, looked to commit himself forward in attack but Greg Tempest's balls into the box posed little threat.



James Clifton forces Hornby to save.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro's defence were tested midway through the half. First Sam Warburton cleared a Kidderminster header off the line, before Burton was called into action as he saved Williams' powerful shot superbly with his outstretched right leg.

Six minutes before the break Kidderminster's Emmanuel Dieseuruwe's goal bound header found its way into the back of the net, giving the visitors a 2-0 lead following a goalmouth scramble to clear the ball from the out-swinging corner. It was an advantage the away side would take with them into the interval.

Boro upped the tempo in the second-half but it was Kidderminster with the first real effort of note as the lively Tyrell Waite dribbled the ball from half way before cutting inside on his left foot to see his shot drift over the bar. Joe Ironside was introduced into the action as Shaq McDonald made way for the energetic striker on 56 minutes.

The home side felt they should have had a penalty after Ironside's shot struck a Kidderminster arm six minutes later, but appeals were waved away by the referee. Boro almost pulled a goal back through midfielder David Morgan with 15 minutes left to play. Billy Daniels laid the ball off for Morgan to strike but his effort was hit viciously onto the crossbar and behind for a goal kick, to the relief of Harrier's keeper Samuel Hornby. Although Boro were the far more dangerous side in the second-half, Kidderminster maintained their clean sheet and with it three precious points to take away with them.

Nuneaton Town v Salford City 20-08-2016

Boro: Burton, Clifton, Warburton, Morgan, Langmead, Keane, Elliott (Scott 45), Daniels, Ironside, Williams, Tempest (Anderson 45).
Subs: Wheatley, McDonald, Moli.

Salford: Lynch, Nottingham, O'Halloran, Burton, Grand, Priestley, Warburton, Walker, Phenix (Allen 70), Poole (Johnson 70), Hulme (King 90). **Subs:** Clark, Barnes.

Boro welcomed Salford City to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Salford started the game in confident mood, but it was Boro who created the first chance when Greg Tempest found Aaron Williams inside the box. The striker did well to control the ball with his back to goal before laying off a pass to Tom Elliott, who drove in a low angled effort that went just wide of the far post. Boro made another opening after nine minutes when Billy Daniels found James Clifton, who clipped the ball in for Elliott to square for Williams to hit a rising drive a foot over.

Salford continued to look dangerous and after 15 minutes they took the lead when Mike Phenix ran into the box to get on to the end of a cross and half-volleyed an unstoppable shot past Callum Burton and inside the far post. But Boro hit back and could have been back on level terms within a couple of minutes when Tempest started a move with a ball inside to Elliott who found Ironside. The Boro striker did well to control the ball before spinning off a defender and drilling in a low shot just wide of Jay Lynch's left-hand post. Salford threatened again and Michael Nottingham robbed Tempest and played the ball up the wing, where Phenix beat Jordan Keane and looked set to score, but his shot flew inches past the far post with Callum Burton beaten.



Mike Phenix scores for Salford.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Ironside was stopped by a robust challenge from Scott Burton, who was booked and from the resulting free-kick Daniels knocked a short ball to David Morgan who slammed a shot against Lynch's crossbar. Salford then had a chance from Nottingham's long throw, but Hulme sliced his shot which was fortunate to find Priestley who headed wide. The visitors finished the half strongly and Warburton put a shot wide before the same player found Hulme, who shot straight at Callum Burton.

The second half was a decidedly closer affair and lacked the excitement of the first-half. The defences looked solid and gave little away, but on 52 minutes Salford were appealing for a penalty after Morgan appeared to handle the ball following Walker's corner. Three minutes later Salford were threatening again and Phenix crashed a shot into the chest of Burton, with the ball flying out for a corner and Simon Grand headed wide from Walker's flag-kick.

Salford again went close when Scott Burton hit a thunderbolt 25-yard drive against the post before Boro started to dominate possession. Clinton pushed forward before finding Daniels who tapped the ball inside to Ironside, but O'Halloran made a tremendous block and the follow-up effort was also charged down. Lynch saved a late effort from Ironside but Salford still threatened and Allen crashed in a shot that struck Anderson and went out for a corner. McDonald had one last effort for Boro, but his shot was weak and easily saved.

Harrogate Town v Nuneaton Town 27-08-2016

Boro: Burton, Clifton, Warburton, Wheatley (Demkiv 77) Langmead, Keane, Morgan, Scott, Ironside, Williams (McDonald 71), Daniels.
Subs: Anderson, Tempest, Demkiv, Moli.

Harrogate: Crook, Turner, Barker, Burnell, Aigne, Shiels (Thanoj 74), Kerry, Leesley, Pittman (Robertson 71), Platt, Emmett (Colbeck 77).
Subs: Chilaka, Ellis.

Boro made the journey to Wetherby Road to play Harrogate Town in a National League North game.

The game was just eight minutes old when the Boro went behind and the goal had been coming. Harrogate, on their new artificial surface started like a team who had promotion on their minds this season. Boro meanwhile looked like a team who should be worried about leaving the division via the other end.

Boro allowed the home side room on the ball, and it was from a shot from distance that the opening goal came. Callum Burton did well to get his hands to the ball, and even managed to get up and deny Jon Paul Pittman from the rebound. However, the striker managed to head home at the third attempt, much to the annoyance of the on-loan keeper. It went from bad to worse for Burton and Boro as just before the half hour mark that one goal became two – and once again it was all too easy for the home side.

This time it was a routine cross from deep sent into the Nuneaton box where Joe Leesley rose highest at the far post to head home. In their defence, Boro did respond after going two down, playing their best football of the half and asking one or two questions of the home side.

Ten minutes into the second half and against the run of play Nuneaton forced their way back into the game. The goal came via a quick break in which James Clifton raced down the right wing before sending over a centre that Joe Ironside showed true heart in winning as he beat the keeper and his marker to head it home.

After that goal Nuneaton became the team on the front foot, pushing forward and trying to make things happen. However, in the 73rd minute and enjoying their best spell of the game they found themselves 3-1 down. The goal came via the penalty spot as a soft spot-kick was awarded allowing Jordan Robertson the easy job of stroking the ball past Burton and into the back of the net. There was still 20 minutes left when that ball found the back of the net, but for what it was worth the referee could have blown for time just then, as Harrogate simply eased to a much deserved win, leaving Nuneaton still bottom of the table in the process.

Nuneaton Town v AFC Telford United 29-08-2016

Boro: Burton, Clifton, Warburton, Anderson, Langmead, Keane, Morgan, Daniels, Ironside (Moli 74), McDonald (Whitehouse 65) Williams. **Subs:** Tempest, Demkiv, Cartwright.

AFC Telford: Montgomery, Samuels, Campion, Bailey, Havern, Rea, Williams, Wilson, Hibbert (Gittings 60), Reynolds (Peers 59), Hurst (Evans 45). **Subs:** Dawson, Edge.

Boro welcomed AFC Telford United to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

First half performances have been a problem for Boro all season as they have looked poor in the opening 45 against most opposition and many had tipped them to struggle against Telford. From the early exchanges it looked like they would find it tough, as the visitors settled quickly and began to ask questions of what had been a brittle Boro backline.

Boro held firm, though, and kept themselves in the game, earning their right to play which they took full advantage of in the 23rd minute. Truth be told there was a touch of fortune about the goal Boro scored. It was the first time they had taken the lead in a game this season, but a touch of fortune is what they had been missing in those opening five games.

It came after a poor clearance from James Montgomery fell at the feet of Aaron Williams, who did the rest, bearing down on goal and finishing with aplomb past the aforementioned keeper. Boro looked like a team who had the pressure taken off after the goal as they began to play some of the best football they had produced since late last season. That enabled them to take that lead into the half time break.

Despite three quick-fire changes from the visitors Nuneaton continued to hold their lead deep into the second half, even looking comfortable enough to bring on last year's player of the season, Elliott Whitehouse, for his first appearance of the season.

It looked too good to be true and sadly it was as out of nowhere Telford equalised with less than 15 minutes to go. The goal was such a sloppy one for Nuneaton to concede as a ball over the top caught the back three napping for the Boro. Josh Wilson was allowed to find space in the area where he slipped the ball past Callum Burton to draw his side level.

The confidence Nuneaton had worked so hard to build in the opening exchanges of the match soon evaporated after the

goal as they reverted to sitting deep to defend what they had. They did so but settling for just one point when it looked for so long like all three were there for the taking will be a bitter pill for the Boro to swallow.



Aaron Williams puts Boro into the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro Sign Full-Back

Nuneaton Town have signed 20-year-old full-back Ben O'Hanlon on an initial one month loan deal from Championship side Wolverhampton Wanderers. O'Hanlon has represented England at U-16, U-17 and U-18 level. Meanwhile recent signing Dean Snedker has left the club.

Academy Keeper Steps Up

Nuneaton Town Academy keeper Elliott Taylor has signed a contract which will see him compete for a place in the first team. The talented keeper is the first player to make the step up from the Academy to the first team.

Stalybridge Celtic v Nuneaton Town 03-09-2016

Stalybridge: McMillan, Wylie, Kelly, Hughes, Ryan, Chalmers, Ball (Pilkington 53), Wisdom, Owens, Tames (Platt 61), Mukendi (Chippendale 53). **Subs:** Jacobs, Farrell.

Boro: Burton, Clifton, O'Hanlon (Warburton 82), Langmead, Keane, Morgan, Tempest, Daniels, Whitehouse (Moli 68), Williams, Ironside. **Subs:** McDonald, Scott, Penny.

Boro made the journey to The Bower Fold to play Stalybridge Celtic in a National League North game.

Two goals from captain Kelvin Langmead helped Boro thrash basement boys Stalybridge Celtic 4-0 making it the first time they have enjoyed a three point haul all season. In what was a battle of two out-of-form teams, Boro had the air of one able to do something about their predicament – the return of talisman Elliott Whitehouse having no small part to play in their success.

It took just 20 minutes for him to make his mark as he was first denied by Tony McMillan when through on goal, but when Aaron Williams found him with the rebound he did the rest by slotting home with ease. It was the least Nuneaton deserved as they made a mockery of their league position going into the match. They were in the bottom two, creating

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chances at will and simply dominating a Celtic team void of any sort of confidence themselves.



Elliott Whitehouse wheels away after giving Boro the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

It was no surprise then that the 1-0 lead became two before half time – the only surprise was the scorer. It was skipper Langmead who got it as he took advantage of far too much room in the penalty area, heading home a corner that McMillan had no chance in stopping. The goal, which came right at the stroke of half time, killed off Celtic in the second half as the visitors ran riot.



Kelvin Langmead scores Boro's second.

Photo: Simon Kimber

It was no surprise then that the 1-0 lead became two before half time – the only surprise was the scorer. It was skipper Langmead who got it as he took advantage of far too much room in the penalty area, heading home a corner that McMillan had no chance in stopping. The goal, which came right at the stroke of half time, killed off Celtic in the second half as the visitors ran riot.

The first goal of the second-half came from Langmead once again as he headed home his second just three minutes after the restart, this time after a lovely cross from Joe Ironside with poor marking playing a part in the Celtic downfall. The next, and last, goal came from workhorse frontman Ironside

as he went from goal provider to goal getter, doing superbly well to toe a well-weighted through ball from Greg Tempest into the back of the net.

Despite dominating after the fourth goal, which came with some 30 minutes still to play, Nuneaton were unable to add to their tally, settling for just the four goals, and more importantly three points, in what hopefully will be a season changing afternoon.

Dibble Joins Boro

Nuneaton Town have signed former loanee keeper Christian Dibble who has terminated his contract with Boston United by mutual consent. Another player joining the club is Ukasyah Nasrullah Wallace, who is an 18-year-old centre-half or defensive midfielder who is 6ft 4in tall and has been with the Arsenal Academy.

Brackley Town v Nuneaton Town

06-09-2016

Brackley: Walker, Myles, Gudger, Byrne, Graham, Dean, G Walker, Armson (Lowe 90), Ndlovu (Moyo 71), Diggin (Pitt 89), A Walker.
Subs: Dias, Bowen

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, O'Hanlon, Morgan, Langmead, Keane, Tempest (Warburton 80), Daniels (Demkiv 83), Ironside, Whitehouse, Williams.
Subs: Penny, Scott, McDonald.

Boro made the journey to St James' Park to play Brackley Town in a National League North game.



Joe Ironside grabs a consolation.

Photo: Simon Kimber

A second half effort from Joe Ironside wasn't enough to stop Nuneaton from slumping to defeat. There was little between the two sides throughout but it was the home side who were the sharper in front of goal. That said, Brackley should have opened the scoring on 13 minutes when a delightful cross from James Armson picked out Steve Diggin six yards out but his header bounced into the ground and over the crossbar.

Three minutes later, Boro had their best chance of the half. Greg Tempest broke down the left flank, squared to Elliott Whitehouse and when he failed to connect, the ball fell for

James Clifton. The defender was impeded by home keeper Laurie Walker earning him a yellow card and giving Nuneaton a penalty only for Whitehouse's kick to be saved by the Brackley keeper. Billy Daniels was having an excellent game in midfield for the visitors but it was from his mistake that the home side took the lead. Glenn Walker pounced on a loose pass, exchanged passes with Lee Ndlovu and then fired his shot over the head of keeper Christian Dibble.



Elliott Whitehouse misses from the spot.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Brackley then had chances to extend their advantage before half-time. On 32 minutes, Alex Gudger sent a looping header just the wrong side of the post before Adam Walker chipped Dibble from 20 yards only for the ball to roll inches wide.

Nuneaton started the second half the stronger but solid defending meant the Brackley keeper went untested. And after soaking up the pressure, it was the home side who added to the scoreline on 63 minutes when Ellis Myles drilled the ball across goal for Diggin who made no mistake from eight yards.

Boro reduced the deficit four minutes later when Ben O'Hanlon lifted a cross into the danger zone and Joe Ironside bundled the ball over the line. But this was as good as it was to get for Kevin Wilson's side. O'Hanlon continued to torment the Brackley defence out wide but his teasing crosses could not be converted and the home side held on for the points.

Boro Sign Defender

Nuneaton Town have signed Ukasyah Nasrullah Wallace, an American-born 6ft 4in centre half who has been part of the Arsenal academy side.



Players Go Out On Loan

Nuneaton Town have sent Luke Shorthouse, Jordan Wheatley and Elliott Hodgett-Young out on loan to get some game time. Shorthouse and Wheatley have joined Barwell while Hodgett-Young will be at Basford United.

Nuneaton Town v Darlington 1883

10-09-2016

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, O'Hanlon, Langmead, Keane, Morgan, Tempest, Daniels, Whitehouse (Demkiv 81) Williams, Ironside (McDonald 86).
Subs: Penny, Scott, Warburton,

Darlington: Jameson, Marrs, Galbraith, Turnbull (Nowakowski 30), Watson, Hunter, Thompson (Gillies 77), Portas, Beck, Hardy, Mitchell (Brown 74). **Subs:** Cartman, Bell.

Boro welcomed Darlington 1889 to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro had to settle for a point – in a performance that deserved all three – as they failed to take their chances in a free-flowing match. They had to come back from 1-0 down but failed to turn one point into three as chance after chance went begging in what turned into a frustrating afternoon.

Nuneaton did not enjoy the best of starts and could have gone behind inside the opening 15 minutes after Darlington frontman Liam Hardy took the ball round an onrushing Christian Dibble. However, he failed to make it count as he saw his effort deflected wide of the goal.

The let-off should have acted as a wake-up call for the Boro, but it did not as in the 21st minute they did fall behind. The goal is one Nuneaton supporters will be sick of seeing their side concede this season as big man Mark Beck peeled off to the back post, jumping highest to head home over the head of Dibble for one of the easiest goals he will score this season.

Despite the disappointment the home side responded well and fought back before the half time break but still went in with a one goal deficit.



Mark Beck gives Darlington the lead.

Photo: Theresa Clear

They carried that into the second half where they simply flew out of the traps, Jordan Keane and Billy Daniels both seeing their efforts blocked as Boro went searching for an equaliser. Boro had a shout for a penalty after 63 minutes when full-back Ben O'Hanlon burst into the box. He looked to have been clipped after going round Liam Marrs, but the referee was

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not moved. Boro kept their heads after that and pushed and pushed before they finally got the goal their efforts deserved. It came in the 73rd minute and was scored by Greg Tempest as he slammed a shot across goal after being found in space on the edge of the box giving Peter Jameson no chance.

The Boro were not happy with simply drawing level, though, and continued to put their foot down although Darlington defended with both passion and intelligence to keep their point intact. The visitors had their fair share of luck, and also relied on poor finishing from the home side and the odd bit of last-ditch blocking to keep the score level after what was a thoroughly entertaining 90 minutes.

Nuneaton Town v Altrincham 13-09-2016

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, Langmead, O'Hanlon, Morgan (Penny 46), Whitehouse, Tempest (Warburton 65), Keane, Daniels, Ironside, Williams (McDonald 74). Subs: Demkiv, Cartwright.

Altrincham: Dawber, Moulton, Richman (Moran 64), Doherty, Joyce, Patterson, Reeves (Lynch 64), Lawrie, Hobson, Hattersley (Cain 64), Miller. Subs: Bassangue, Jones.

Boro welcomed Altrincham to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

The visitors were first to show and Reeves shot wide from 30 yards with just two minutes on the clock, but Boro hit back strongly after eight minutes and a Doherty miskick led to a shot which Dawber failed to hold and Whitehouse was able to force the ball into the net. Alty seemed in total disarray and a minute after the opening goal Joyce was dispossessed before giving away a penalty and earning himself a red card. However, Whitehouse's spot kick was beaten away by Dawber at the expense of a corner.

With Boro running riot Altrincham were carved open again and it took another fine save from the keeper to stop Williams' close-range effort before Boro missed another chance to extend their lead. But, instead of enjoying a healthy lead Boro found themselves on level terms as Reeves laid the ball off to Miller who hammered a superb shot into Dibble's top left hand corner from 25 yards for the equaliser.

Langmead headed over the bar as did Aaron Williams before Reeves also fired over the top. Dawber made another save, this time from Ironside as Nuneaton continued to boss the game and with 28 minutes gone Whitehouse headed Clifton's cross over. There were appeals for a penalty when Hobson barged Ironside, which went unheeded. But it didn't matter as Ironside restored Boro's lead after 34 minutes, lobbing Dawber from ten yards to make the score 2-1.

Two minutes from the break Boro further extended their lead when an O'Hanlon cross found Williams, whose shot struck the bar and Whitehouse netted from the rebound. And the excitement continued in time added on at the end of the first half after Hobson conceded a corner and although Langmead's effort was blocked the ball found its way to Williams who gave Boro a 4-1 half-time lead.



Whitehouse extends Boro's lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Altrincham, despite being reduced to ten men, made life difficult for Boro in the second half and chances were at a premium, although Whitehouse shot over the bar early in the second half before Williams shot wide. Dawber dropped a cross as Boro continued to press, although the visitors were working hard to keep the score down and the game drifted to its inevitable conclusion.

Gloucester City v Nuneaton Town 20-09-2016

Gloucester: Singh, Deaman, Avery, Thomas, Webb, Hanks, Kotwica (Parker 65), Williams, Hall, Knowles (Dinsley 32), Hopper. Subs: Reid, Fitzgibbon, Hamilton.

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, Langmead, O'Hanlon, Penny, Morgan, Whitehouse, Warburton (Demkiv 76), Daniels, Ironside (Williams 76), McDonald (Moli). Subs: Keane, Scott.

Boro made the journey to Whaddon Road to play Gloucester City in a National League North game.

A 94th-minute goal by Aaron Williams salvaged a point for Boro as they came back from 2-0 down to snatch a draw at the death. Goals from Zack Kotwica and Sam Avery either side of half-time saw Gloucester cruising, but a spectacular strike from Shaq McDonald and Williams' last gasp effort saw the visitors rescue a draw.

Anderson Goes On Loan

Nuneaton Town defender Connor Anderson, who joined the club after being released by Leicester City is to join Barwell on a loan deal.

Worcester City v Nuneaton Town 24-09-2016

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, O'Hanlon (Demkiv 45), Langmead, Penny, Warburton, Daniels, Morgan, Whitehouse, Ironside, McDonald (Williams 40). Subs: Keane, Moli, Scott.

Worcester: Boot, Gallinagh, Weir, Sharpe, Hutchinson, Jackman (Murphy 64), Steele, Nelso-Addy, Hughes, Bishop (Batchelor 64) Keane (Olukanmi 75). Subs: Ross, Oji.

Boro made the journey to The Victoria Ground, Bromsgrove, to play Worcester City in a National League North game.

Boro turned in one of their best performances of the season, just seven days after one of their worst, as they earned just their third victory of the campaign. Two goals from Elliott

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Whitehouse and one from Aaron Williams saw Boro take all the points, a fine achievement considering their hosts had not lost in the month of September leading up to the game. After a solid start, in which they dictated much of the early play, Boro were undone by a familiar face as Cieron Keane came back to haunt his old club with the opening goal in the 19th minute. It was not the most aesthetically pleasing of goals, but they all count, as the former Nuneaton man found space at the back of the box and was on hand to slam home a strike after the Boro had denied both Colby Bishop and Lee Hughes before him.

Nuneaton kept plugging away regardless of being behind and they were rewarded for their endeavour with a quick-fire double which started in the 31st minute. They came from the boot – and head – of Elliott Whitehouse as the Boro number ten was in the right place at the right time twice in just three minutes. His first was a poacher's goal from a pull-back from Billy Daniels, his second was a header at the back post after a corner from the right hand side.

Five minutes before the break Hughes equalised. His goal was one of real class as he turned sharply on the edge of the box before sending a curling effort past the outstretched hands of Christian Dibble. It was the last goalmouth action of what was an end-to-end first half.

It was all Worcester after the break, the home side buoyed by the leveller before half-time. Despite all their possession Worcester were unable to do anything with it and Boro made them pay just before the hour mark as substitute Aaron Williams did what he does best, finding just enough space from a Billy Daniels corner to head home inside the box.

Worcester did their best to come back for a second time, the Boro having to defend well to stop them, but stop them they did as Nuneaton took just their third win this season. It was hard earned at times with luck going their way, especially in the first half.

Boro Sign Higham

Nuneaton Town have signed left-back Luke Higham from Blackpool on a month's loan. The 20-year-old has made eleven first team appearances for the Seaside.

Nuneaton Town v Curzon Ashton 08-10-2016

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, Higham (Scott 77), Langmead, Penny, Morgan, Elliott (Moli 53), Tempest, Whitehouse, Williams, Ironside (McDonald 77). **Subs:** Keane, Demkiv.

Curzon: Burton, Baillie, Hampson, Hunt, Stott, Rowney (Howard 75), Hall, Brown, Cummins, Clarke (Tomsett 82), Guest (Gurman 90). **Subs:** Ennis, Mason.

Boro welcomed Curzon Ashton to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro got exactly what they deserved this from this encounter as they failed to pick up any points from a dour game. A first half goal from Niall Cummins was enough to give visitors

Curzon Ashton all three points in a game from which neither side came away with any credit.



Whitehouse tries his luck.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The difference was Curzon scored when they were on top, whereas Nuneaton could just not get going in a real chalk and cheese performance from the Boro considering they went into this outing on the back of a thrilling 3-2 win away last time out. It was nothing like that this time, as after what was a stagnant start to the match it was the visitors who struck first in what was the only real action of the opening 45 minutes.

The goal was a well taken one when it came around, netted by Niall Cummins in the 23rd minute, but it was out of place in a half dominated by slow build-up play and a lack of urgency from either side. The Curzon number nine somehow found himself all alone in the Boro box where he was picked out with a chipped through ball. The former Burscough striker did the rest with a smart finish past the onrushing Christian Dibble. The goal failed to spark any life into proceedings as Nuneaton continued to flounder while Curzon seemed content to let their hosts enjoy the majority of possession – especially as Boro did nothing with that possession.

The second half went from bad to worse as both sides served up a dour exhibition of 'football', with skill and tempo severely lacking. Boro keeper Christian Dibble was forced into action twice, both routine saves, but aside from that chances were at a premium as the match descended into a midfield battle out of which neither side could assert themselves.

That suited Curzon as they had the lead to hold on to. Although the visitors saw off a couple of half-hearted late penalty appeals, they held out to take a big three points towards their battle to pull away from the relegation zone.

Tommy Wright Joins Boro

Nuneaton Town have brought in former Leicester City player Tommy Wright as player-coach. The much-travelled forward was player-manager at Corby Town and guided them to the 2014-15 Southern League premier title but the Steelmen were relegated from the National League North the following season.



AFC Fylde v Nuneaton Town

15-10-2016

AFC Fylde: Taylor, Holmes, Kennedy, Langley, Collins, Bond, Hardy, Finley, Rowe, Dixon, Jennings (Hughes). **Subs:** Thompson, Baker, Hughes, Blinkhorn.

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, Higham, Langmead, Penny, Morgan, Tempest, Daniels (Demkiv 78), Whitehouse, Ironside (Wright 83), Williams (Moli 82). **Subs:** Keane, Elliott.

Boro made the journey to Mill Farm to play AFC Fylde in a National League North game.

Boro put in one of their best performances of the season – but it was still not enough. Despite holding the league leaders for much of the game Boro were unable to take anything from the game, a disappointing statistic considering how well Kevin Wilson's team played. Despite the difference in league positions going into the match the game got off to an even start, with Nuneaton showing why many tipped them to push for a play-off place this season.

On what was a gorgeous playing surface at the brand new Mill Farm stadium, as flat as any surface in English football at any level, the Boro boys looked relaxed and were able to play some of the best football they have throughout what has been a disappointing campaign so far.

They were far from over-awed by the league leaders and in fact could have taken the lead in the 25th minute, but Joe Ironside blasted a shot straight at Rhys Taylor when there was plenty of goal there for him to find. It was nearly a costly error on Ironside's part as shortly after Christian Dibble had to produce a save to deny Sam Finley after the Fylde midfielder man sent a rasping effort goalwards.

Dibble was outstanding in producing the save, but it soon went from the sublime to ridiculous for the Boro keeper as a mix-up following a free-kick enabled the home side to break the deadlock. The goal, an own goal from David Morgan, came about after a lack of communication from inside the Boro ranks. Dibble was guilty of not coming to claim the cross and Nuneaton were forced to pay the price for his error.

It could be said that was scrappy goal to concede, there is no way the same accusation could be thrown at the Boro equaliser just before half time. It was scored by Elliott Whitehouse as the Boro number ten swooped down low and somehow arched his neck to generate some power on a diving header. It was enough to see the ball fly past Taylor and into the far corner of the net.

The goal, and the timing of it, changed the complexion of the match as the second half saw Fylde emerge somewhat shaken, unable to find the same sort of flow that saw them take the lead in the opening 45 minutes.

Boro, and Alex Penny in particular, frustrated the home side time after time and showed why just six months earlier the two teams met in what was a top of the table clash. Fylde have been spectacular at home, though, and there is a reason why they are the top of the table – as Danny Rowe showed.

With his 20th goal of the season the in-form frontman turned the game on its head as he broke through the Boro backline and sent a thunderbolt in off the crossbar when bearing down on Dibble, a goal that would not look out of place at any level. It proved to be the last goal of the game as Nuneaton were unable to switch from containment to attack leading to a disappointing defeat, but one which Boro can take some consolation from.

Whitehouse Joins Lincoln

Nuneaton Town and England C international midfielder Elliott Whitehouse has been transferred to Lincoln City for an undisclosed fee.

Warburton Loan

Nuneaton Town have sent full-back Sam Warburton out on loan to King's Lynn on a three month deal. Meanwhile, former Nuneaton Griff striker Luke Shorthouse has decided not to pursue a full-time career in football and has joined Midland League Colehill Town.

Gainsborough Trinity v Nuneaton Town

22-10-2016

Gainsborough: Willis, Picton, Lacey, Sparrow, Quinn, Wilson, Reid, Thornhill, Thewlis (Worsfold 85), Jarman, Templeton (Wiles 89). **Subs:** Beatson, Hands, Roma.

Boro: Dibble, Penny, Higham, Morgan, Langmead, Keane (Cartwright 45), Daniels, Tempest, Ironside, Williams, Moli (Demkiv 73). **Subs:** Anderson, Nicholson, Wright.

Boro made the journey to Northolme to play Gainsborough Trinity in a National League North game.

Boro fought out a good draw against a side who have not lost at home in six games, twice taking the lead. Gainsborough were dominant in the first half and were dangerous going forward, playing some excellent football with no end result. Boro on the other hand defended deep and looked to hit the home side on the break.

Boro took the lead with a scrappy goal as Joe Ironside miscued a cross, the ball bobbed around the box and Aaron Williams poked home. The home side then went close with two headers, the first from Jarman forced a good save from Christian Dibble and from the corner Wilson fired over. The Blues levelled in that fashion with Adam Quinn powering a bullet header into the back of the net from a James Reid corner.

Two minutes later Jarman rattled the crossbar with a thunderous free kick and Gainsborough controlled the remainder of the half without fashioning a clear opening and the quiet Nuneaton side again took the lead.

Wilson blocked a shot in the area and was adjudged to have used his arm. David Morgan dispatched the penalty straight down the middle. The lead was short-lived as a deep free kick was heading for Wilson and he was dragged to the floor. Reid stepped up and coolly found the bottom corner to send the sides in at half-time all square.

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The second half was more even with Boro playing much narrower, giving them more control over the game, although they again struggled to create chances. Thewlis, the former Harrogate man burst through onto a Jarman through ball to force Dibble into a good save with his feet.

Morgan had the best opportunity for Boro, jinking through tackles and leaving a couple of Trinity defenders on the floor before shooting inches wide from the edge of the box. Dibble was the main reason Trinity were not ahead at this stage, making a stunning stop to keep things all square.

A superb cross from Jarman to the far post found Templeton running in late and his firm shot was pushed away on the line by the experienced stopper. A draw was probably the correct result on the second half performance.

Nuneaton Town v Rushall Olympic 25-10-2016

Boro: Dibble, Wheatley, Tempest, Cartwright, Anderson, Penny, Elliott (Higham 82), Nicholson (Clifton 59), Moli, McDonald, Demkiv (Scott 59). **Subs:** Williams, Taylor.

Rushall: Arnold, Mugisha (Bottomer 63), Antonio (Brown 60), Hull, Whittall, Eze, Partodikromo, Squire, Luckie (Reid 69), Jeys, Fitzpatrick. **Subs:** Christophorou, Veiga.

Boro welcomed Rushall Olympic to Liberty Way to play a Birmingham Senior Cup first round tie.

Chances were at a premium during the opening 20 minutes or so before a neat move from the home side ended with David Moli firing over from the edge of the area. Then a powerful strike from Jordan Nicholson produced a smart save from Sam Arnold. There was a chance for Jazz Luckie for The Pics as he burst through the middle only to lose his footing as he tried to round the keeper before Jak Jeys showed a good turn of pace before being denied by a timely block from Christian Dibble.

After a long free-kick from Jordan Fitzpatrick was headed into the side-netting by Stan Mugisha, Boro opened the scoring on 37 minutes courtesy of a powerful strike from Nicholson. There were good chances at either end in quick succession as Moli clipped the outside of the post for Nuneaton whilst Luckie saw his effort acrobatically tipped over by the keeper. The second goal arrived for the home side on 43 minutes when Moli picked out Nicholson in space to tap home.

For all of Rushall's possession early in the second half, it was the home side who had the best chance when Shaq McDonald's shot on the turn was well pushed out by Arnold. Some good play from Moli saw him manage to dig out a low strike that rattled the base of the post.

The home side extended their lead with 11 minutes to go when Moli's strike was pushed out by Arnold and James Clifton was on hand to rifle home the rebound to make it 3-0. The goal that Moli had been threatening came towards the end when he lashed home before in stoppage time Alex Reid won and converted a penalty to make it 4-1.

There were some impressive displays from The Pics' youngsters with Sam Arnold giving a good account of himself

in goal, whilst Jack Squire slotted into the team well and fellow youth teamer, Kadeem Brown also got some game time under his belt as a second half substitute.

Nuneaton Town v Boston United 29-10-2016

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, Higham (Cartwright 64), Anderson, Langmead, Morgan, Daniels (Ironsides 64) Tempest, Nicholson, Williams, Moli. **Subs:** Cartwright, Elliott, Demkiv, Ironsides, Wright.

Boston: Curtis-Henry, Wildin, Gordon, Marshall, Brown, Robinson, Rollins, Chippendale, Hilliard, Fairhurst (Johnson 70), St Juste. **Subs:** Adams, Emery, Colley, Johnson, Couzens.

Boro welcomed Boston United to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro battled back from two goals down as a last minute goal from Jordan Nicholson rescued them a point at home to Boston United. It was a poor start from two teams who were without a win in their last three games – the lack of confidence showed. Neither was able to get hold of the ball and dictate proceedings although Boston did look marginally the better side.

It was a surprise then that the first real shot in anger came from David Morgan, the Boro number four pinging an effort goalwards that Dion Curtis-Henry had to be alert to push round the post. It was the only effort that the Boston stopper had to worry about in a tame half hour. Christian Dibble at the other end had no such luck as just after the 30 minute mark he was beaten by a fantastic shot from Lewis Hilliard. The Boston man was allowed far too much room on the edge of the box and he simply thumped one home which left Dibble no chance.

In front of their home fans Nuneaton would have been expected to rally after going behind, that rally never materialised. They had a couple of half chances, if that, but nothing for Curtis-Henry to worry about. It was Dibble once again who was the busier of the two keepers and in the second half it was Dibble once again who was beaten. The goal was one Boro fans have seen all too often as a cross into the box from the left hand side found Joe Robinson all alone in the box, he had plenty of time to rise and head it past the Boro keeper.



Langmead cuts the deficit.

Photo: Simon Kimber

If the Boro didn't rally after going 1-0 behind they certainly

did after going 2-0 down as within ten minutes they could have been level. Their first goal came from a corner into the box which was met by skipper Kelvin Langmead who threw himself at the ball and powered it past the keeper and into the back of the net. Moments later that one should have been two as a bursting run forward from James Clifton saw him upended in the box. The resulting penalty was well saved by Curtis-Henry, though, as David Morgan aimed to beat him low to his right hand side.

Boro did not let their heads drop – despite the set-back – as they kept plugging away, seeking that all important equaliser. When it came in the 91st minute it was worth the wait as the goal was an absolute thunderbolt from Jordan Nicholson. The on-loan youngster picked the ball up some way out and sent an effort goalwards that was still rising as it found the back of the net. It was a justified goal as Boro deserved the point for their application after going 2-0 down if nothing else. If they can get their first half performances to match their second they could still make something of this season.

Chorley v Nuneaton Town 05-11-2016

Chorley: Rowley, Challoner, Beesley, Cowan, Leather, Jordan, Blakeman, Whitham, Carver, Walker, Cottrell. Subs: Jarvis, O’Keefe, Roscoe, Azam, Caunce.

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, Langmead, Anderson, Tempest, Scott, Cartwright, Daniels (Elliott 73) Williams (McDonald 85), Nicholson, Moli (Ironsides 73). Subs: Wheatley, Higham.

Boro made the journey to Victory Park to play Chorley in a National League North game.

Kevin Wilson praised his side for more than matching their league rivals throughout the 90 minutes, saying only luck stopped them from taking more from the game. Wilson said: “I think we deserved more than we got from this one. We are talking about small margins.

“We made one mistake and we were punished for it. Chorley on the other hand have only one shot in the second half. I have no qualms with our performance we put on. I think the disappointing thing is we have come away to a team who are chasing a place in the play-offs and we come away with nothing – despite more than holding our own in the game.”



Nicholson gets in a shot.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Chorley may have struggled in the second half, at least in terms of shots, but in the first 45 minutes they had the best of the openings. The first 20 minutes were not without incident – just without goals.

Chorley did their best to break the deadlock, but saw Christian Dibble punch over a close range header while Jordan Nicholson somehow headed one off the line. The on-loan Peterborough player then pushed wide the best chance for Boro at the other end. All in all it was a poor start though, as both sides struggled on what was a heavy pitch which was not conducive to knocking the ball around in any sort of fluid fashion. The tempo was there, but the quality was lacking, a fact that looked like making it a goalless 45 minutes – that was until Marcus Carver stepped up. The Chorley number nine had twice been denied by smart stops from Dibble, but was not to be denied third time, as he latched onto a simple ball over the top, raced clear of Kelvin Langmead and deftly pushed the ball past the keeper who was rushing out to close the angle. The half time whistle came just moments later.

The goal did seem to have an effect after the break as Boro just did not get going in the second half. Chorley may not have tested Dibble all that often, but they were the ones playing on the front foot. Nuneaton looked lacklustre and void of any ideas going forward. The home side were unable to make that count, though, as they saw efforts go high wide and handsome while Dibble remained untested.

Disappointingly Nuneaton were unable to capitalise on that as they themselves only had a soft header from Shaq McDonald that looped into the keepers hands that could be counted as a goal effort.

Boro Loan Sky Blues’ Defender

Nuneaton Town have signed 18-year-old Darragh Leahy on a youth loan basis. The Republic of Ireland youth international is a member of the Sky Blues’ Development side.

Nuneaton Town v Stockport County 12-11-2016

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, Leahy, Langmead, Anderson, Scott (Penny 90), Cartwright, Daniels, Nicholson, Williams, Ironside. Subs: Elliott, Moli, McDonald, Keane.

Stockport: Hinchcliffe, Ross, Cartwright, Meppen Walters, Clarke, Smalley (Minihan 86), Stopforth, Montrose, Amis (Odejayi 63), Ball (Marsden 86), Lloyd. Subs: Ormson, West.

Boro welcomed Stockport County to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro saw themselves sucked closer into a relegation dog fight as despite a credible draw at home to Stockport County, a win for Bradford Park Avenue means they are just three points above the relegation positions.

Frustratingly after they put in an impressive second half performance Nuneaton had nothing more than a point to show for it, meaning they now go into an away day trip to FC United next weekend needing to take three points. That

is because, as always seems to be the case at Liberty Way, Boro started slowly and were indebted to keeper Christian Dibble for keeping them in the game early on. He produced a fantastic one-handed save in just the third minute, somehow having the reactions fast enough to deny a close range header from Lewis Montrose.



Aaron Williams notches the equaliser.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Dibble was again called into action half hour later as he produced another smart stop, this time denying Josh Amis after the Stockport number nine ingeniously back headed an effort goalwards. There was no stopping Amis from the resulting corner, though, as he picked the ball up on the edge of the box and let off a quick fire shot, one which took a huge deflection off James Clifton and left Dibble with no chance as it flew past him and into the back of the net.



Kelvin Langmead in the thick of the action.

Photo: Simon Kimber

On the back of a five match winless run the Boro could have been forgiven for letting their heads drop but they did the complete opposite and were level less than five minutes later. The goal came from frontman Aaron Williams as he did what all good forwards do and found himself in the right place at the right time to head home from inside the six yard box to draw the Boro level. The equaliser gave the home side plenty of confidence going into the second half and they used that to keep the visitors on the back foot after the break.

Without really testing Stockport keeper Ben Hinchcliffe the Boro dictated the play, asking questions of the County defence, while looking resolute at the other end. The problem was, despite enjoying so much of the ball, Nuneaton did not look like creating any openings with it, and with Bradford Park Avenue winning to close the gap at the bottom of the table, they needed to.

Leamington v Nuneaton Town

15-11-2016

Leamington: Breeden, George, James, Gittings, Hood (Baker-Richardson 69), Mace, Thompson-Brown, Magunda, Rowe (Olukanmi, 83), Edwards (Taundry 79), Obeng. Subs: Gudger, Pond.

Boro: Dibble, Penny, Clifton, Keane, Wheatley, Anderson, Cartwright, Elliott, Moli, Ramos (Williams 69), McDonald (Ogilvie 79). Subs: Scott, Richmond, Elliot Taylor.

Boro made the journey to The New Windmill to play Leamington in a Birmingham Senior Cup second round tie.

A young Boro side pushed Leamington all the way and gave them a torrid second half, but were unable to make progress in the competition.

Boro found themselves a goal down after ten minutes when Rob Thompson-Brown's near-post corner was met by a firm header from Edwards. The visitors tried to hit back and neat play between David Moli and James Clifton allowed the latter to put in a cross that Moli eventually won but his shot was easily saved by Tony Breeden, who then kept out Shaquille McDonald's shot. Brakes extended their lead in the 24th minute after Tom Elliott brought down Callum Gittings. Rowe sent Christian Dibble the wrong way from the spot to make it 2-0, a lead the home side took into the second half.

Boro totally dominated the second period and Elliott drew a fine save low down from Breeden who was relieved to see Jean Paul Ramos' first-time shot graze the outside of the post after he could only palm Jordan Keane's cross into his path. However, with Leamington penned back, Nuneaton gained their reward when the ball was laid across to Moli whose first touch on the edge of the box created space for a shot across Breeden and into the far corner.

Buoyed by his goal, Moli started to wreak havoc as Brakes lost their defensive composure. Good feet allowed him get in a powerful shot which was straight at Breeden and he was also central to the substitution of Hood who was suffering from dizzy spells after being caught by an accidental boot from the striker. Moli was unlucky not to double his, and Boro's, tally after being slipped in by a quick free-kick by Elliott. His strike beat Breeden but bounced away to safety off the inside of the far post. He then shot straight at Breeden after again being afforded too much space on the edge of the box. In a rare foray, Brakes had a gilt-edged chance to restore their two-goal cushion but Rowe glanced a header just wide.

Aaron Williams glanced Elliott's curling shot into the net late on but the assistant referee's flag was already up, while Clifton's powerful free-kick again found Breeden well

positioned. Nuneaton's belief that they could take the game to penalties all but evaporated in the 88th minute, however. A Breeden clearance was charged down by Michael Ogilvie who kept his composure to cut the ball back from the byeline to the onrushing Williams. But with the goal gaping, he ballooned his shot way over the bar.



Wilson Sacked

Nuneaton Town manager Kevin Wilson has been relieved of his duties at Liberty Way and has decided not to stay with the club despite being offered a director of football role. Former Corby Town manager Tommy Wright has been appointed as the club's new manager and will keep Steve Chettle on as first-team coach.

Despite high hopes going into this season, Boro find themselves just one place above the drop zone after winning only three of their first 18 games.

FC United of Manchester v Nuneaton Town 19-11-2016

FC United: Carnell, Tonge, Chantler, Brown (Sheridan 76), Kay, Ashworth, Glynn, Winter, Glichrist (Greaves 72), Wright, Thomson.
Subs: Wolfenden, Williams, Arnison.

Boro: Dibble, Penny, Leahy, Langmead, Anderson, Morgan, Daniels (Moli 58 (Elliott 85)), Keane, Ironside, Nicholson (Clifton 58), Williams.
Subs: Cartwright, Taylor.

Boro made the journey to Broadhurst Park to play FC United of Manchester in a National League North game.

In what was new manager Tommy Wright's first game in charge Nuneaton did start well, using David Morgan and Jordan Keane as a shield in midfield, the away side looked to nullify the home support early on. They did that, in a fashion, but were allowing far too much room at the back, something FC United were always looking to exploit, which they did before 20 minutes had been played.



Kieran Glynn gives FC United the lead. Photo: FC United of Manchester

The goal came from Kieran Glynn with the midfield man afforded far too much time in the box as he was allowed to turn and fire the ball high into the roof of the net without a challenge being made on him. One nil could have become

two a few minutes later as Connor Anderson wanted time on the ball, a luxury at any level. The Boro defender was dispossessed and keeper Christian Dibble was forced to come rushing out, bringing Jason Gilchrist down before he could fire a shot away at goal.

Dibble was hardly to blame for the spot kick being awarded, but he made amends anyway, producing a smart stop to deny Jerome Wright from 12-yards out. Wright, unlike the Boro, did not let his head drop, though, and moments later he got his goal, taking a first time shot from the edge of the area and firing it back across goal. Dibble was forced to watch on helplessly as it found the far corner of the net.

The Boro struggling for the rest of the half and looked shell-shocked. These were not the circumstances under which Tommy Wright would have wanted to be conducting his first half time team talk in charge.

Nor would the start of the second half been pleasing for him either. That is because before an hour had been played the home side had made it 3-0. The goal came from centre back Luke Ashworth, who fired home with consummate ease, putting FC United out of reach as Nuneaton simply had no answer to the home side.

The only drama after the goal came late in the second half when after already bringing David Moli on as a substitute Wright then took the same player off, much to the bemusement of the frontman.

Wright was less than impressed, though, watching on as the summer signing stormed down the tunnel. It was the most fight the Boro had shown all afternoon as they put themselves right in the thick of a relegation fight this season.



Styche Signs

Nuneaton Town have signed Gibraltar international Reece Styche on loan from Gateshead until January 2. The much-travelled striker has seen service with a number of non-league football clubs including Forest Green Rovers, Kidderminster Harriers and Macclesfield Town. The striker also has an England C cap to his name.

Boro Sign Geohaghen

Nuneaton Town have signed experienced centre-half Exodus Geohaghen. The 6ft 5in defender has previously played for Kettering, Peterborough and Kidderminster among others. He is an imposing presence and possesses a long throw. In other news Darragh Leahy, who is on loan from Coventry, has agreed an extension to the loan.

Jordan Keane has agreed with the club to terminate his contract and will join Worcester City.



Nuneaton Town v Alfreton Town 03-12-2016

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, Penny, Langmead, Geohaghon, Leahy, Morgan (Tempest 81), Elliott, Nicholson, Styche (Williams 71), Ironside (Daniels 88). Subs: Anderson, Taylor.

Alfreton: Spiess, Mantack, Heaton, Kennedy, Wilson, Marshall, Monkhouse, Smith (Priestly 79), Clayton, Westcarr (Allan 79), Hearn (Shelton 58). Subs: Priestly, Smith, Jordan.

Boro welcomed Alfreton Town to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Joe Ironside grabbed all four goals in a 4-1 win for Boro in what was a must win match. Boro started well as both James Clifton and Joe Ironside sent efforts goalwards – but neither troubled Fabian Spiess.

In true Boro fashion they soon let that good start go to waste. It was from a simple cross from the left hand side, one that was not played in with any height or pace, that Adam Smith was able to waltz in and tap home unchallenged.

One thing that Wright will be looking to utilise in his rebuilding job is the workrate of Ironside, and it was from the number nine that Boro drew level before the half hour mark. The former Blades' man made and finished the goal, as he was brought down by Kallum Mantack in the box to enable the referee to award a penalty, which he then stepped up and slotted home. That proved to be the last of the meaningful action in the first half as both sides cancelled each other out – more through poor quality than anything else – as neither wanted to give anything away before the break.

That theme continued after the restart as it took until after the hour mark before the game reignited. The spark came from on-loan youngster Jordan Nicholson as he fired a ferocious shot goalwards from inside the area, one that Fabian Spiess somehow not only got a hand to, but also managed to make it strong enough to push the effort away to safety.

Nuneaton took heart from that chance as they began to up the ante, with Ironside capping their increased attacking endeavours with his second of the game. The goal came after a run into the box and a simple side-footed finish round the on-rushing Spiess. It was a fine all-round strike and one which Ironside deserved for his efforts this season.

That is because goals had been the one thing the frontman had been missing this season. He had netted, but not in the kind of numbers his efforts deserved. He certainly could not be accused of that in this game, though, as he added number three with a second penalty late on.

The spot-kick was awarded after Terry Kennedy was adjudged to have handled in the box. Ironside took no time in stepping up to slot home the penalty, though, putting the game to bed in the process.

Alfreton may have been finished, but Ironside was not, as with time running out he added to his tally, this time with his head, as his close range effort left Spiess with no chance.

Nuneaton Town v Stalybridge Celtic 17-12-2016

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, Geohaghon, Langmead, Tempest, Leahy, Elliott, Morgan, Nicholson (Williams 75), Ironside (Cartwright 82), Styche (Daniels 90). Subs: Wheatley, Taylor.

Stalybridge: Shenton, Morton, Mather, O'Brien, Hall, Chalmers (Chippendale 69), Dunbar, Gee, Wilkins, Da Silva (Dickinson 66), Morning. Subs: Honeyball, Platt, McKnight.

Boro welcomed Stalybridge Celtic to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro made it four wins on the bounce as they put some daylight between themselves and the drop zone. Coming from behind Boro needed a bit of luck to continue their winning run, but continue it they did as Stalybridge were unable to stop Boro from making it four wins from five since Wright took over.

The opening half hour was void of any real clear cut chances – until the visitors had one handed to them on a plate, having been awarded a soft penalty, after a trip by Darragh Leahy inside the box. Gary Gee stepped up to slot it past Christian Dibble to give Celtic the lead.

Nuneaton had scored 12 goals in their previous three games going into this clash and they were expected to add to that tally against a Stalybridge side who look destined for the drop this season.

It took them until just before half time to do so, though, and even then it came about in somewhat fortuitous circumstances. That is because the Boro leveller came from off the head of Stalybridge skipper Kiel O'Brien who somehow looped a header over his own keeper and into the back of the net.

The goal was a lucky one for Nuneaton, but the one that gave them a lead going into the break was anything but. It was scored by Boro number ten Reece Styche who was left unmarked at the back post following a corner on the right. He produced a wonderful acrobatic volley to send a stunning shot goalwards, one that Shenton never had a chance of stopping.

In the second half Celtic just did not get going, playing into the hands of the Boro who had a lead, and the players to defend it. True Dibble had to produce a wonderful save to deny substitute Liam Dickinson with 20 minutes to go, but the move that led to it was a hit and hope manoeuvre not a well worked passage of play that wore the Boro down.

Nuneaton looked comfortable – that was until the rangy ex-Stockport County striker Dickinson started proving a handful. He tried almost single handedly to bring Celtic back into the game, but the task was too big for even his powerful shoulders, leaving Stalybridge in an almighty mess this season and in real danger of being relegated. But Boro have a little breathing space heading into the festive double header with near-neighbours Tamworth.

Tamworth v Nuneaton Town 26-12-2016

Tamworth: Belshaw, Burns, Tomassen, Fox (Deeney 60), Jones, Lane, Briscoe (Opoku 82) Clarke, Mills, Dyer, Davies (Morrell 60).
Subs: Ezewe, Morley.

Boro: Dibble, Penny, Tempest (Leahy 56), Langmead, Geohagbon, Clifton, Morgan, Scott (Daniels 84), Nicholson, Styche, Ironside.
Subs: Wheatley, Williams, Taylor.

Boro made the journey to The Lamb to play Tamworth in a National League North game.

Boro made it five wins on the spin as they gave their fans a treat with a derby day win over their local rivals. First half goals from Joe Ironside and Jordan Nicholson proved to be the difference between the two sides in what was an entertaining afternoon at the Lamb, one which made it five wins out of six for Tommy Wright since he took over as manager.

After what was an even start to the game it was Boro who struck first and Joe Ironside was the man who was on the spot to break the deadlock. The striker was well placed to benefit from Jordan Nicholson's effort which came back off the bar, but Ironside was in the right place at the right time to dispatch the rebound, despite the off-side calls from the home side.

Ironside could have doubled his tally just moments later but the Boro frontman saw his far post header superbly tipped over by James Belshaw. That save was good but the one from Christian Dibble to deny Ben Fox at the other end was better. The Boro stopper had to show lightning quick reactions as the shot from the Tamworth midfield man was struck from within ten yards of goal. Tamworth looked at that stage like they were about to force their way back into the game, but as is often the case in football – the home side then conceded again.

Nicholson was not to be denied by the woodwork this time as after finding himself one-on-one with Belshaw he simply passed the ball past the keeper and into the back of the net, a calm finish from the youngster. The jubilation soon turned to despair for Nuneaton as less than a minute after making it 2-0 they were pegged back to 2-1 after Ross Dyer slammed home an unstoppable effort past Dibble from inside the box. There was nothing the Boro keeper could do this time to keep Tamworth at bay.

There was plenty Tamworth stopper James Belshaw could do in the second half, though, as he proved to be a constant thorn in the Nuneaton side. First he denied Kelvin Langmead after the Boro skipper found room at the back stick from a corner. Then he produced one of the saves of the season to somehow claw a near post Reece Styche shot away to safety.

At the other end Tamworth had a couple of goalmouth scrambles that David Morgan was on hand to mop up, nothing that overly tested Dibble, though. Boro were able to see out the win with some tactical play late on.

Ironside Player Of The Month

Joe Ironside's goalscoring feats in December have landed him the Conference North Player of the Month award.

Nuneaton Town v Tamworth 01-01-2017

Boro: Dibble, Penny, Wheatley, Langmead, Geohagbon, Clifton (Leahy 90), Tempest (Elliott 80), Morgan, Nicholson, Styche (Daniels 82), Ironside. **Subs:** Scott, Taylor.

Tamworth: Belshaw, Burns, Morley, Deeney, Jones, Tomassen, Mills (Briscoe 75), Clarke, Newton, Dyer, Fox. **Subs:** Lane, Davies, Morrell, Opoku.

Boro welcomed Tamworth to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro started 2017 by beating near neighbours Tamworth. A first half goal from Jordan Nicholson was the only difference between the two sides in what was a at times bad tempered affair, as the Boro made it six straight wins under Tommy Wright, four of them in the league. There were chances created at either end following a frantic start to the game with both keepers being called upon to help keep the score level.

At one end former Boro man James Belshaw continued the kind of form he showed in the first match as he reacted superbly to punch over a Reece Styche shot from an almost impossible angle. Then, at the other end, Christian Dibble showed his own array of talents as he fantastically tipped a shot from Ross Dyer onto the woodwork, a great stop to deny the former Mansfield Town man.



Nicholson scores the winning goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The fast paced start was not to last, though, as on a pitch that was cutting up quickly neither team was able to wrestle any momentum leading to a somewhat stale affair. Despite the lacklustre start Boro took the lead in the 39th minute as out of nowhere Jordan Nicholson fired them into the lead. The goal was not the best the number 11 has scored this season, the strike from distance owing as much to the goalkeeping mistake from Belshaw as anything Nicholson did, but nonetheless it counted all the same. It meant that for the second time in less than a week Nuneaton would be enjoying a half time lead over Tamworth, one which the Lambs did their best to cancel out after the break.

But despite all their best efforts Tamworth could not penetrate the home defence. They had efforts from Danny Newton, which was blocked by Langmead, and a couple of other near misses, but nothing that left Dibble with much work to do. That was unlike the referee, who with tempers flaring, was forced to send off Tamworth defender Luke Jones for an off the ball incident, one which all but killed any chance the Lambs had of getting anything from the game. That suited Nuneaton who for the second time in less than a week saw the game out superbly.

Nicholson And Styche Loans Extended

Jordan Nicholson's loan period from Peterborough has been extended until the end of the season. Also extending his loan period is Reece Styche, who will be with the club until February 11.

Darlington v Nuneaton Town

07-01-2017

Darlington: Jameson, Hunter, Galbraith, Turnbull, Brown, Burgess, Gillies, Scott, Beck, Cartman (Saunders 74) Thompson (Syers 64).
Subs: Bell, Falkingham, Watson.

Boro: Dibble, Penny, Leahy, Geohaghon, Langmead, Clifton, Morgan, Elliott (Tempest 89), Nicholson, Ironside, Styche (Daniels 83).
Subs: Scott, Anderson, Taylor.

Boro made the journey to Blackwell Meadows to play Darlington 1883 in a National League North game.

A late strike from Jordan Nicholson ensured that Boro made it seven wins on the spin. The goal, which came moments after David Syers looked like he had earned a point for the home side, came deep into injury time and saw Tommy Wright's side stretch their winning run into another week.

In what was a poor first half neither side really created anything of note, as neither Christian Dibble or Peter Jameson were called into action. Dibble was nearly beaten halfway through the half when Leon Scott saw his header cannon back off the post, but aside from that chance the pickings were slim.

That was mainly due to a lack of killer touch from both sides going forward, with Reece Styche and Jordan Nicholson being guilty of holding onto the ball too long at one end, while Nathan Cartman and Leon Scott were unable to find any sort of room to make anything happen at the other.

That all changed in the second half, though, as both teams came out with renewed vigour. Darlington were the first to try their luck as Cartman fizzed a shot just wide of the far post before Terry Galbraith beat his man and sent over a cross that took a deflection and flew just over the bar. Despite that it was the visitors who took the lead and it was the National League North player of the month Joe Ironside who got it. The goal came from the penalty spot after Reece Styche won the spot kick with a dazzling display of footwork, Ironside capping it off with a coolly taken effort.

Darlington were far from out of the game after going behind, though, and could have forced themselves level with 15 minutes remaining but substitute Harvey Saunders saw his low shot fantastically palmed wide by Dibble.

The home side continued to press but that chance looked like being the only one Darlington would muster – until some late pressure saw them draw level. Their goal came with 90 minutes on the clock as fellow substitute David Syers rose well in the box and managed to glance a header home – one that Dibble could only watch sail into the far corner.

Darlington must have thought that with injury time being played they had done enough to guarantee themselves a point – but this Nuneaton team are a spirited bunch under Tommy Wright. They refused to let their heads drop and were rewarded for their approach when Nicholson sent a stunning strike into the back of the net with only seconds remaining.

Nuns Block Liberty Way Turnstiles

Nuneaton Rugby Club have escalated a row over a ground share agreement by blocking both home and away turnstiles. The rugby club reported on its website that it was “extremely disappointed” but had “been forced to take steps to restrict access” over their land.

The football club has moved to reassure fans that games will go ahead and that they will be advised of changes regarding access to the stadium. The rugby club has complained that they have “no permanent first team pitch from which to promote itself.”



The away turnstiles, which require access across Nuns land at Liberty Way have been blocked by large skips in a row about a groundshare agreement.

Photo: Nuneaton News

Mills In – Styche Out

Boro have sensationally swooped to bring in former Tamworth striker Greg Mills. The former Corby Town frontman had his contract cancelled at the Lambs yesterday, and Boro have moved straight away to bring him in.



Boro boss Tommy Wright, who managed Mills at Corby, said: “Greg is a player who I have wanted here since I came to the club. I feel like the cat with the cream.”

With Mills arriving, Boro will not be renewing Reece Styche's loan move from Gateshead.

Nuneaton Town v Brackley Town 21-01-2017

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, O'Hanlon, Penny, Langmead, Geohaghton, Morgan, Elliott, Nicholson (Moli 80), Mills (Tempest 69), Ironside (Daniels 85). **Subs:** Anderson, Taylor.

Brackley: Laurie Walker, Moyo, Gudger, Byrne, Graham (Bowen 80), Adam Walker, Dean, Armson, Glen Walker, Ndlovu, Diggin (Lowe 58). **Subs:** Gough, Cox, Pitt.

Boro welcomed Brackley Town to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro conceded two goals in the last 20 minutes to bring an end to their eight game winning run. First half goals from Jordan Nicholson and Greg Mills looked like they had put the Boro on the road to victory, but it was not to be as late efforts from Lee Ndlovu and Alex Gudger ensured the spoils were shared.

It was the visitors who enjoyed the better opening as they created one half chance which Adam Walker blazed over and another glorious opportunity which James Armson headed wide. They were spurned opportunities which would come back to bite the former Boro boys. That is because a current Boro man, Jordan Nicholson, is bang in form right now, and he was not afraid to show Brackley what he can do, smashing home the opening goal in the 18th minute from just inside the box. The goal came after some great build-up play from new man Greg Mills and Joe Ironside, the latter feeding Nicholson who did the rest with a stunning finish.

Fresh from a 6-1 drubbing of Guiseley last week, Boro were not short of confidence going into this game and it showed as 1-0 soon became 2-0 as Mills grabbed a debut goal to double the lead. There were calls for offside from some, but Mills ignored them to slot home his first for Nuneaton, a club he only signed for 24 hours earlier.



Greg Mills gives Boro a 2-0 lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Nuneaton continued to press leading into the half time break with Brackley unable to stop the likes of Nicholson, Ironside and Mills from finding space among their back three.

That carried on into the second half as the Boro were guilty

of wasting the final ball early on as they continued to hit the visitors on the break. They were nearly punished for that moments later as Brackley substitute Matt Lowe brought the best out of Christian Dibble on the hour mark. A close range effort looked like it was going to be one the Boro stopper would not have time to see, let alone save, but he did just that, somehow tipping it wide of the post.

There was nothing he could do with 20 minutes remaining, though, as a cross into the box found Lee Ndlovu unmarked, the Brackley number nine sending a sensational header looping into the back of the net.

Brackley upped the ante after scoring and threw everything bar the kitchen sink at the Boro backline – an approach that eventually saw them prosper. The all-important goal came with less than five minutes remaining and it was scrappy to say the least. A corner from former Boro man Shane Byrne saw one attempt cleared off the line but it was merely delaying the inevitable as Alex Gudger headed home the rebound, despite the best efforts of Greg Tempest who endeavoured to head it to safety. It proved to be the last action of an enthralling encounter, one which ended the Boro winning run, but still means they are riding high on a nine match unbeaten run.

Boro Sign Al Bangura

Nuneaton Town have signed former Premier League footballer Alhassan Bangura. The Sierra Leone international came through the ranks at Watford and broke into the first team, making 75 appearances before playing for Blackpool, Forest Green Rovers and Coventry City.

It has also been confirmed that youngsters Jordan Wheatley and Kash Wallace have been allowed to join Northern Premier League outfit Halesowen Town.

Salford City v Nuneaton Town 24-01-2017

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, Penny, Langmead, Tempest, O Hanlon, Morgan, Nicholson, Bangura (Daniels 75), Ironside, Mills. **Subs:** Saye, Geohaghton, Ogilvie, Taylor.

Salford: Lynch, Nottingham, Brough, Lynch (Poole 65), Grand, Priestly, King, Barnes, Phenix (Allen 68), Hine (Johnston 75), Hulme. **Subs:** O'Halloran, Howson.

Boro made the journey to Moor Lane to play Salford City in a National League North game.

Boro saw their nine game unbeaten run brought to an end in abrupt style. Injuries and suspensions played a part but Nuneaton were the architects of their own downfall in large parts, a lack of strength from set-pieces costing them dear over the 90 minutes. It was the home side who enjoyed the brighter start and they could have been ahead before two minutes had been played. The chance fell to Jordan Hulme but he saw his shot cannon back off the post, before rolling across the goal line.

Boro were not in the game at this point and it was no surprise

when the home side took the lead. The quality of the finish was worth the 27 minute wait, and the goal came from Mike Phenix as he took advantage of a poor back-pass before skipping round the onrushing Christian Dibble with ease, passing the ball into an unguarded net. Things did not get better for the Boro after that as in what was a close encounter they were unable to find the killer ball and Jay Lynch had an untroubled time in the Salford goal.

The keeper's workload did not increase after the break as the Boro continued to struggle when it came to creating clear-cut chances with Dibble once again being the busier of the two stoppers. However, there was anything Dibble could do to stop the home side from doubling their lead before the hour mark. The goal was called an own goal by the Salford PA, but it was hard to call, Kelvin Langmead was adjudged to have got the last touch from within a crowd of bodies, but either way the ball sailed past Dibble and into the back of the net.

If Dibble could do nothing to stop that one, there was plenty he could do to deny Michael Nottingham from making it three in the 61st minute. Once again the goal came after a ball was launched into the box. Nottingham got his head to it but Dibble should have done better, after getting enough on the ball but somehow allowing it to get beyond him and make its way over the line.

Salford were flying at this stage and it was no surprise that they grabbed another with time running out – or that it came from another set-piece. This time it was Simon Grand with the goal, once again the Nuneaton defence did not do enough.

After nine games in which they have done almost no wrong it was a night in which Nuneaton did little right – a fact Tommy Wright will want to put right before the trip to Kidderminster Harriers this weekend.



Mills shoots over the top from a couple of yards out. Photo: Simon Kimber

Scott Joins Coasters

Nuneaton Town's Kristian Scott has joined league leaders AFC Fylde. No details of the transfer are available. Also on his way out of Liberty Way is David Moli.

Kidderminster Harriers v Nuneaton Town 28-01-2017

Kidderminster: Palmer, Lowe, Tunnicliffe, Williams, Ezewe (Carter 76), McQuilkin, N'Gwatala, Croasdale, Knights, Gnahoua (Waite 67), Browne (Dieseruvwe 71). Subs: Truslove, Austin.

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, Langmead, Penny, O'Hanlon, Mills, Morgan (Bangura 79), Tempest, Nicholson (Ogilvie 88), Elliott, Ironside. Subs: Daniels, Geohaghton, Taylor.

Boro made the journey to Aggborough to play Kidderminster Harriers in a National League North game.

The game started off at a frantic pace as the home side settled into their passing game, while Boro pressed hard to negate that tactic and also create some openings of their own. The home side had the first chance inside the first 15 minutes with Daryl Knights hitting a post and Andre Brown forced Dibble into a good save a couple of minutes later.

Dibble almost put the visitors in trouble with a stray pass which was put over the bar by Gnahoua before Brown was again involved as he got onto the end of a McQuilkin cross but was forced to shoot wide. Knights had a chance on 28 minutes but shot wide after he followed up on John Ezewe's effort on goal.

Kidderminster got their noses in front ten minutes from the break when Brown picked up the ball following a corner and turned well before firing a shot through a crowd of bodies and into the top corner.



Joe Ironside wins a header.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Five minutes later McQuilkin got in a shot from 20 yards that beat Dibble but cannoned off the angle of post and bar. Boro had their first sight of goal two minutes before the break when Nicholson picked up a stray pass and drove the ball hard at the goal, but Palmer got a strong hand on the ball and pushed it away.

Kidderminster continued to dominate after the break and Dibble was again kept busy dealing with half-chances from Jordan Tunnicliffe and Ty Williams. Shortly after that he was beaten by Ngwatala's low drive from distance that thumped against the inside of a post and rebounded out to McQuilkin whose cross was headed over the top by Brown.



Joe Ironside had a shot deflected wide by Tunnicliffe before Harriers added to their lead following a piece of individual skill from N'gwatala, who charged half the length of the field before firing a great shot into the bottom corner.

Boro had a chance to pull one back when Nicholson bent a low shot just beyond the post with Palmer struggling. However, Kidderminster were soon back in charge and added to their lead when Croasdale won the ball on the edge of the 18 yard box and held it up before firing past the despairing dive of Dibble.

The final action of the game saw Kidderminster's French midfielder Elton N'gwatala cap a great performance by netting from almost under the bar as Dieseruvwe's header came back off the post.

Mutton Arrives, Clifton Departs

Boro have completed the signing of powerful central defender, Jim Mutton, from Redditch United. Standing at 6ft 4in, he started his career as a trainee at Birmingham City, where he came through the ranks but failed to make the first-team. He then moved on to Coleshill Town, during which time he had a trial at Colchester United in November 2012, before moving on to Stratford Town and helping them win the Midland Alliance title.

Meanwhile, leaving Liberty Way is James Clifton, who has left the club by mutual consent.

Nuneaton Town Issue Statement

Mr Mitchell & Mr Robinson,

We do not and cannot accept the points made in relation to the legal position of the Rugby Club in relation to access over the land to south side of our stadium. All the stadium owner's rights are reserved in this regard, including but not limited to, if necessary, seeking declaratory relief from the court as to the nature and extent of the implied rights which exist in connection with the express right to use the parking spaces. I accept that the parties are not going to agree on this point. Whilst a compromise has been discussed, I cannot agree to the terms of your proposal.

In order to resolve the situation, we have taken the commercial decision to reconfigure the stadium to provide turnstiles in a different location. This reconfiguration will mean that access at this time is no longer required over the land to the south side of the stadium, save for over the access road in relation to which we enjoy an express right of way. This action should not be viewed as an acceptance of the position the Rugby Club has taken or an acknowledgement of your asserted legal position.

Leahy Loan Extended

Coventry City full-back Darragh Leahy will be staying at Liberty Way for another month after his loan was extended until February 11.

Boro Sign Grimsby Man

Nuneaton Town have signed Grimsby Town striker Ashley Chambers on loan until the end of the season. The 26-year-old striker started his career with Leicester City from where he went out on loan to Wycombe Wanderers and Grimsby Town before joining York City in 2010.

Chambers then went out to Cambridge United and Dagenham and Redbridge, where his loan was made permanent and he spent two years at Victoria Road before returning to Grimsby at the start of this season.

Boro Sign Kelly-Evans

Nuneaton Town have added to their squad by signing Coventry City's Under-23 captain Devon Kelly-Evans. The 20-year-old came up through the Sky Blues youth system before signing a professional contract in May 2015.

Boro Sign Belford

Nuneaton Town have completed the signing of goalkeeper Tyrell Belford. The 22-year-old started his career as a junior with Coventry City before moving to the Liverpool Academy where he earned international recognition, representing England at U-16 and U-17 level. He then joined Swindon Town, where he played 22 times before joining Southport on a season-long loan. However, a change of management saw him released and he joined Oxford City in the National League South.

FC Halifax Town v Nuneaton Town

11-02-2017

Halifax: Johnson, Roberts, Wilde, King, Garner, Brown, Kosylo, Lynch, Nti (Denton 65) Morgan (Sinnott 76), Peniket. Subs: Drench, Moyo, Hone.

Boro: Belford, Penny (Nicholson 74), Mutton, Langmead, Geohagbon, O'Hanlon, Bangura (Elliott 59), Morgan, Mills, Chambers, Ironside (Kelly-Evans 75). Subs: Tempest, Dibble.

Boro made the journey to The Shay Stadium to play AFC Halifax Town in a National League North game.

Boro are proving that momentum is everything in football as an away day defeat at Halifax, their fourth straight loss, put them right back in the relegation mixer – even with their current run coming on the back of eight wins and a draw in their previous nine.

The home side were so quick out of the traps and that was mainly down to one man – Matty Kosylo. The winger was a constant thorn in the Boro side early on using a mixture of pace, tricks and an eye for a ball to keep the visitors pegged back, an onslaught that was always going to lead to an opener.

It came in the 15th minute, inevitably after some good work from Kosylo when he produced a piece of magic to set-up Adam Morgan. The Halifax number ten smashed the ball past Boro's debutante keeper Ty Belford from just inside the area with an unstoppable effort.

Nuneaton Town 2008-2018 - Part 2



Boro started to claw their way back into the game as the half wore on. In fact they could have gone in level at the break if not for the quick reactions of Halifax keeper Sam Johnson. The home stopper got down low to deny an effort from Al Bangura, who should probably have done better.

As it was that near miss looked all the more costly inside the first 90 seconds after the restart as Halifax once again came out of the blocks quickest – and once again got a goal as a reward. Just like in the first half it had so much to do with Kosylo as he first won – and then scored – a spot kick to double the Halifax lead.

It could have been even worse for the visitors not long after but an acrobatic overhead kick from Morgan was ruled out for offside. It ended up mattering not as Boro were unable to muster up any sort of response and slipped to their fourth straight defeat in all competitions.

Nuneaton Town v Bradford Park Avenue 18-02-2017

Boro: Belford, Mutton, Tempest (O'Hanlon 82), Morgan, Langmead, Geohaghon, Mills, Elliott, Ironside, Chambers (Kelly-Evans 73), Nicholson. Subs: Bangura, Anderson, Dibble.

Bradford PA: Worsnop, Toulson, Hill, Wroe (Killock 31), Nowakowski, Knowles, Brooksby, Boshell, Sinclair (Sharp 82), Johnson, Chippendale (Dean 90). Subs: Payne, Hall.

Boro welcomed Bradford Park Avenue to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Both teams were out of the traps quickly and the Boro could have taken the lead in the first minute with a dangerous ball into the Bradford box, which was put behind for a corner. But three minutes later Bradford would have been 1-0 up had it not been for the fingertips of Belford, who pushed Ryan Toulson's low shot out of danger. Boro looked the stronger of the two though as the half wore on as Chambers, Nicholson and Ironside pushed hard on the Bradford defence.

On 17 minutes Ironside tried to pick his way through the Bradford defence, but his weak shot was easily saved. Bradford, who are battling for survival in the National League North, did have flashes up front as Danny Boshell and Aiden Chippendale tried to create chances down the left hand side, and they went close on 32 minutes when clever play from Nowakowski put Johnson in on goal, but his shot went wide.

Boro's Nicholson messed up his lines and the chance to take the lead for Nuneaton on 38 minutes when he hammered Mills' throw-in wide of goal. Despite Nuneaton's dominance though, Shane Killock, who had only been on the field 10 minutes after coming on for the injured Nicky Wroe, gave Bradford the lead after 40 minutes. His shot sliced off his right foot right through the hands of Belford and struck the net.

With the wind in their sails, Bradford could have made it two almost immediately afterwards when Aiden Chippendale embarked on an impressive run through the Boro midfield, but his shot was straight at Belford. Nuneaton lost their attacking spirit and despite picking up a free kick on the

stroke of half time, it was squandered when Greg Tempest kicked the ball over everybody and put it out for a goal-kick.



Boro players hold an inquest into the opening goal. Photo: Simon Kimber

Desperate to get back in the game, Nuneaton pressed right from the start of the second half pinning Bradford in their own 18 yard box, but they still could not find a breakthrough. On 61 minutes David Morgan tried to grab the game by the scruff of its neck and take the fight to Bradford, running toward goal, but as Bradford looked to shut up shop, there was no way through. Sinclair nearly made it two for Bradford on 64 minutes when he powered forward but his shot was just wide of the target.

The visitors continued to pressure Boro and doubled their lead on 71 minutes when some slick passing between Chippendale and Boshell weaved the ball through the home defence, leaving Oli Johnson a tap-in.

Tommy Wright tried to change things and brought Kelly-Evans on for Chambers and Boro got the break they deserved on 78 minutes when Jordan Nicholson headed a Mills cross into the net, for what turned out to be a consolation goal.

Bradford could have sealed the game on 81 minutes when Sinclair escaped his man and had just the keeper to beat, but to the relief of Boro fans, he hit the ball wide. Boro fought tooth and nail for an equaliser, but Bradford held firm to take all three points.



Nicholson cuts the deficit.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Kristian Scott Back With Boro

Nuneaton Town have re-signed Kristian Scott from league leaders AFC Fylde. The former Leicester City youngster is available to travel to Boston United.



Boston United v Nuneaton Town 25-02-2017

Boston: Durrant, Gatter (Hilliard 71), Yeomans, Robinson, Batchelor, Chapman, Simmons, Clarke (Fitzpatrick 59), Hawley, Bishop, Rollins (Thomas 13). **Subs:** Gordon, Chippendale.

Boro: Belford, Kelly-Evans, Mutton, Langmead, Geohaghton, O'Hanlon, Elliott, Morgan, Nicholson (Anderson 62) Chambers (Mills 76) Ironside. **Subs:** Tempest, Dibble, Scott.

Boro made the journey to York Street to play Boston United in a National League North game.

Boro started slowly and rode their luck considerably. First they had Ty Belford to thank as he tipped an Adam Chapman free-kick round the post. From the resulting corner Ben O'Hanlon was then needed as Jan Yeomans sent a shot goalwards, but the Boro number three was in the right place at the right time to clear.

That was not the only near miss as David Morgan was also forced to clear from underneath his own crossbar while Kelvin Langmead threw himself at a far post cross to deny Karl Hawley a tap-in, Nuneaton hanging on against a Boston side that sensed blood.

Their flurry of attacks found no weak point in the Nuneaton defence, though, and the Boro gained confidence from that, and started to create a few chances at the other end that had Boston thinking. It was from one such chance in the 42nd minute that the Boro could, and should, have taken the lead.

A cross from Ashley Chambers found Joe Ironside unmarked in the box, the Boro number nine completely miscued his header, though, as Boston somehow escaped. That escape was to last just 60 seconds, though, as a minute later Chambers turned from creator to scorer, slamming home from the edge of the box to give Nuneaton a half-time lead.

That lead was then doubled after the break, when in the 55th minute Ashley Chambers once again showed his talent, tearing into the box and side-footing the ball across the box where Jordan Nicholson was afforded the time to pick his spot. What followed next was a hectic ten minute spell in which Nuneaton added to their lead – but lost one from their ranks.

They went forced down to ten men when Exodus Geohaghton allegedly reacted after Josh Robinson went straight through the back of Ironside near the half way line. The Nuneaton fans closest to the incident were furious but they saw their fury turn to jubilation as the Boro reacted in the best possible way to losing a man – as they added to their lead.

The goal was scored by Ironside, eventually, as the frontman skipped through on goal, saw his first effort saved and then curled home the rebound. The goal putting paid to any Boston comebacks. They did try, albeit their consolation curled home from Alex Simmons came in stoppage time, but Boro were comfortable as they saw out the match. The home side simply failed to push home their man advantage and eased to what was their first win since January.

Morgan Joins Fylde

Nuneaton Town midfielder David Morgan has joined Fylde for a five figure fee. He has joined the Coasters on an eighteen month deal, with an option of a further year. Morgan has four caps for Northern Ireland at U-21 level.

Nuneaton Town v Gainsborough Trinity 04-03-2017

Boro: Belford, Kelly-Evans, O'Hanlon, Mutton, Langmead, Mills, Scott, Elliott, Nicholson, Chambers, Ironside. **Subs:** Wheatley, Bangura, Tempest, Daniels, Dibble.

Gainsborough: Nicholson, Bailey-King, Jacklin, Wilson, Quinn (Picton 64), Evans, Worsfold, Wilson, Jarman (Reid 72), Thewlis, Davie. **Subs:** Wiles, Thornhill, Beatson.

Boro welcomed Gainsborough Trinity to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro made it back-to-back wins for the first time since mid-January as they took a giant step to ensuring they will be playing at the same level next season. The win means the Boro now have a healthy gap between themselves and the relegation zone.

Boro were up for this match, which was less than 60 seconds old when the home side fashioned the first chance. Ashley Chambers could only watch on, though, as his lofted effort beat Tom Nicholson but not the far post.

Further chances for Tom Elliott and Chambers again soon followed but the Boro start soon fizzled out as the visitors began to find their feet. Despite that it was still against the run of play when Gainsborough took the lead in the 22nd minute. The goal came after a smart finish from Ashley Worsfold, the Trinity number seven, finishing a fine run from Jordan Thewlis that Nuneaton failed to deal with.

Goals change games, usually for the better, but in this case it turned what was threatening to be an entertaining half of football into a dour affair. That is because neither side got a grip of the game after it was scored. Nuneaton retreated into the half time break with their tail between their legs, Gainsborough were happy to have a lead at the interval.

One goal leads are always dangerous, though, and less than 15 minutes of the second half had been played before the home side were level. The goal was scored by Joe Ironside, fresh from a week of speculation linking him with a move to league leaders Fylde. Ironside had the easy job really, though, as he simply tapped home from close range after some fine work from Chambers out wide. If that goal was routine the one from Jordan Nicholson moments later was far from it.

The majestic little loan man curled home a free kick from the edge of the box and his namesake Tom was nowhere near it as the ball cushioned into the corner of the net to give Boro the lead. Ironside went close again late on but in fact the job was done as soon as Nicholson's shot found the back of the net. Gainsborough were never able to test Ty Belford in the Boro goal as the home side hung on for three valuable points.

Boro Sign Striker

Nuneaton Town have signed 19-year-old striker Kalian Gould from Paulton Rovers. The highly-rated player has scored sixteen goals so far this season.

Boro have also landed defender Brad Gascoigne from Alfreton Town. The central defender came through the ranks at Birmingham City before moving on to Ilkeston Town. He also played with Corby, Hereford United and Stalybridge Celtic.

Former Notts County man Greg Tempest has gone out on loan to Gainsborough Trinity.

Nuneaton Town v Worcester City 11-03-2017

Boro: Belford, Mutton, O'Hanlon (Wheatley 58), Scott, Langmead, Gascoigne (Gould 68), Mills, Elliott (Daniels 68), Ironside, Chambers, Nicholson. Subs: Bangura, Dibble.

Worcester: Ross, Gallinagh, Weir, Sharpe, Oji, Jackman (Njie 77), Nelson-Addy (Rose 77), J. Keane, Murphy, English, C. Keane (Scrivens 73). Subs: Hutchison, Vaughan.

Boro welcomed Worcester City to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro were punished for a below par second half showing as they gifted the visitors a point they hardly deserved. The home side led after an opening 45 minutes from which they emerged with a 1-0 lead but they were unable to keep up the pace, letting Worcester back into the game after a terrible second half showing.

Playing a team who had not won in the league since November 12, a run of 15 games, Nuneaton would have been expected to be the ones asking the early questions, and inside the opening two minutes they came close to taking the lead when a corner was headed against the crossbar by Kelvin Langmead.

That chance was then followed by two more near misses before five minutes had been played. That sort of pressure was always going to tell finally and it did in the 12th minute when Nuneaton finally took the lead.



Joe Ironside gives Boro the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The goal was scored by Joe Ironside, who else, as he grabbed league goal number 15 for the season with a fantastic finish

past an onrushing Ethan Ross. Boro continued to create chances at will after taking the lead and had efforts from Ashley Chambers and Jordan Nicholson go just wide from distance. Nicholson hit the woodwork from a free-kick on the edge of the box as well, as the home side went in search of a second goal.

That first half action kept the fans entertained – and it was a good job – as the second half was frightfully poor. A series of free-kicks didn't help the action flow, but the players didn't help themselves either, as the game became stop-start and stale, with neither side able to get any sort of momentum going. Nuneaton lost Ben O'Hanlon, Brad Gascoigne and Tom Elliott with knocks as the half went on, but the injuries were no excuse for the home side letting the lead slip.

The Worcester equaliser came with just over five minutes remaining and a sloppy goal it was too. It was scored by Jordan Murphy after some abject defending from the home side. Worcester once again showed that although they were 15 games without a win going into this match, they have not resigned themselves to relegation just yet.

Nuneaton rallied, albeit briefly, after being pegged back but Ross was on-hand to deny debutant Kailan Gould with time ticking away. Truth be told the goal would not have sat right after a half in which Boro showed they can be just as bad as they were good in the first 45 minutes

Boro Pair Chosen For Representative Match

Billy Daniels and Kalian Gould have been chosen to play for a National League representative side against the Army at Tamworth's Kettlebrook ground.

Curzon Ashton v Nuneaton Town 18-03-2017

Curzon: Burton, Wright (Baillie 76), Stott, Shaw, Brown, Hall (McKenzie 79), Rowney, Cummins, Warburton, Guest. Subs: Clarke, Barber, Thornley.

Boro: Belford, Mutton, O'Hanlon, Langmead, Gascoigne, Mills (Gould 77), Elliott, Scott (Glover 83), Daniels (Wheatley 71) Chambers, Nicholson. Subs: Bangura, Dibble.

Boro made the journey to The Tameside Stadium to play Curzon Ashton in a National League North game.

Boro were once again found guilty of being one half wonders as for the second successive week they failed to emerge in the second half, in the process surrendering a 1-0 lead – and all three points – in a bottom half of the table battle. The game was less than two minutes old when the Boro showed there is life after leading goalscorer Joe Ironside, who is set to leave the club this week, as Ashley Chambers scored what could be described as a goal of the season contender, chipping the keeper from outside the box with a simply stunning effort.

The goal buoyed the Boro as they enjoyed the best of the opening exchanges with Jordan Nicholson firing a chance just wide of the post before the on-loan Peterborough man sent a stinging shot right down the throat of Hakan Burton.

The closest Boro came to stretching their lead, though, was when captain Kelvin Langmead met a corner with his head, but Burton somehow dived full length to tip it away from danger. Curzon were simply not in the game at this stage and would have been happy to go in the break just one goal down.

The half-time break brought about a sea change, for where Curzon were a non-existent threat before the break suddenly their attack found its teeth, and Boro were forced to defend with purpose after a somewhat comfortable first-half. The home side first went close when Niall Cummins flashed a far post volley high wide and handsome when the Curzon frontman had time to bring the chance down. The home side need not have worried, though, as they were soon level. Matty Warburton glancing a near post header past Ty Belford to bring the home side back into the game.

Nuneaton have been guilty of putting in 45 minute shifts of late and that showed no sign of abating after the Curzon equaliser as the home side continued to press. That pressure was always going to tell and so it did in the 75th minute as Joe Guest picked up a loose ball in the penalty area before jinking round his man and sending an unstoppable shot past Belford and into the back of the net. It was all too simple, as was seeing out the last 15 minutes for the home side, as Nuneaton once again only turned up for 45 minutes in a game they could, and should, have taken all three points in.

Altrincham v Nuneaton Town 21-03-2017

Altrincham: A. Jones, Lynch (Owens 68), McWilliams, Moulton, Heathcote (Reeves 44), Cyrus, Newby, G. Jones, Richman, Lawrie, Clee.
Subs: Brownhill, Taylor, Goodall.

Boro: Belford, Penny (Wheatley 46), O'Hanlon, Gascoigne, Langmead, Geohaghton, Mills (Gould 81), Elliott, Chambers, Scott (Glover 89), Daniels. **Subs:** Mutton, Dibble.

Boro made the journey to Moss Lane to play Altrincham in a National League North game.

Boro dominated the early stages and should have taken the lead in the fifth minute when Greg Mills fired in a low cross from the right to Tom Elliott who somehow failed to find the net from two yards, the ball bobbling into the arms of grateful Alty keeper Andrew Jones. Six minutes later it was Chambers who went close with a shot on the turn only for his effort to fly the wrong side of the post.

Elliott Newby had an effort blocked for the home side but Nuneaton's early dominance was finally rewarded on 25 minutes. Elliott was denied by a last ditch tackle from Robins defender Chris Lynch but from the resulting corner, Exodus Geohaghton turned the ball on for Chambers to prod home from close range.



Chambers gives Boro the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Altrincham's best chance of the half came a minute later when Simon Richman skied an effort over the target following a near passing move but it was the visitors who added to the scoreline on 32 minutes in bizarre circumstances.

Keeper Jones strode out of his area to hoof the ball upfield but his clearance struck defender Sam Heathcote and fell to Nuneaton's Billy Daniels who calmly steered his shot beyond Jones and into the gaping goal. The home side, deep in relegation trouble at the foot of the table, pushed for a way back into the game as the interval beckoned and a scrambled Richman effort was diverted behind for a corner. But the better chances were still being created by Boro and Chambers should have done better in injury time with a shot that he dragged wide of the far post after sneaking in behind the Altrincham defence.



Billy Hails Dies

Billy Hails, who was one of the 1966-67 side that reached the Third Round of the FA Cup has passed away, aged 82. Billy joined Nuneaton Borough from Northampton Town having previously played for Lincoln City and Peterborough United. He joined the backroom staff at Watford in 1979 and worked under Graham Taylor.

Ironside Joins Kidderminster

Joe Ironside has joined Kidderminster Harriers for an undisclosed fee on a contract that will keep him at the Aggborough club until summer 2019.

The 23 year-old joined Nuneaton Town in February 2016 from Alfreton Town, having previously played for Sheffield United, where he was a youth player.

Ironside also gained experience with Harrogate Town and Halifax.



After controlling the opening period, it was the same old story after the break as Boro reached for the self-destruct button. Substitute Jordan Wheatley replaced Alex Penny at kick-off and inside four minutes he had Nicky Clee darting past him down the left flank before pulling the ball back to Richman who fired into the roof of the net from eight yards. Four minutes later Damian Reeves, who replaced the injured Heathcote for the hosts late in the first half, was denied by Geohaghon in front of goal before Reeves had another effort saved by Tyrell Belford.

And then, just when the basement side looked like grabbing an equaliser, Boro broke upfield through Elliott who worked the ball to Chambers on the edge of the area and his low shot flew past the leaden-footed Jones. Alty tried to claw their way back but could find no way through Nuneaton's three central defenders Ben Gascoigne, Kelvin Langmead and Geohaghon. And when Andy Owens did get a sight on goal, he succeeded only in blasting his shot straight at the Boro keeper.

Boro Sign Thomas

Nuneaton Town have signed Joe Thomas, a striker, on a dual registration deal from Chasetown. Thomas started his career with the Wolves Academy and has also spent times with Leicester City and Barnsley before serving Stafford Rangers, from where he moved to Chasetown.

Nuneaton Town v AFC Fylde	25-03-2017
Boro: Belford, Elliot, O'Hanlon, Langmead, Gascoigne, Geohaghon (Penny 45), Daniels, Nicholson, Kelly-Evans (Thomas 90), Scott, Chambers (Mills 90). Subs: Gould, Dibble.	
Fylde: Taylor, Hughes, Kennedy, Baker, Cowgill (Dixon 61), Bond, Hughes (Blinkhorn 45), Finlay, Rowe, Bradley, Daniels (Hardy 45). Subs: Kay, Kennedy.	

Boro welcomed AFC Fylde to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro were dominant against the league leaders and potential champions, scoring four goals to take all three points. In what was an even start it was the Boro who came closest to opening the scoring as Billy Daniels sent a fizzing shot from distance and was unlucky to see it rebound back off the post.

Daniels, was pulling the strings for Nuneaton and it was fitting that in the 27th minute he was in the right place at the right time to break the deadlock. His goal was scored from just yards out but it had been coming with Kelvin Langmead seeing his header fantastically saved by Rhys Taylor before Ashley Chambers sent the rebound against the post and Daniels finally put the finishing touches to the move. Fylde had been poor leading up the goal and they continued to be poor after it as the home side attacked at will.

It was no surprise then when 1-0 became 2-0 five minutes before the half time break, Langmead directing his header past Taylor this time to give the game a more realistic scoreline. Not many people would have predicted Nuneaton taking a 2-0 lead

against the league leaders, fewer still would have foreseen the 3-0 lead the Boro took into the half time break.



Billy Daniels shapes up to score.

Photo: Simon Kimber

It was Chambers who did the damage this time after he broke free of a tackle just inside the Fylde half before slotting the ball past Taylor with aplomb. However, The Coasters are not top of the league without reason and after ringing the changes at half time they came back fighting. They began to chip away at the home defence and when they brought on Bohan Dixon with 25 minutes to go they cut the deficit. Dixon had only been on the pitch a matter of minutes before he grabbed his goal, smashing the ball home on the half volley from outside the box. Tyrell Belford was left with no chance.

Fylde smelt blood at this stage and let loose the handbrake. Despite netting 95 times already this season, and with an array of attacking talent on the pitch, they could not break down Boro again as Nuneaton held firm. In fact it was the home side who went on and had the last laugh as on-loan youngster Devon Kelly-Evans capped a stunning showing with a last minute goal.

Stockport County v Nuneaton Town	01-04-2017
Stockport: Hinchcliffe, Ross, Hampson, Montrose, Clarke, Smalley (Felix 45), Minihan, Winter, Gonzales (Odejayi 86), Ball (Duxbury 76), Lloyd. Subs: Ormson, Meppen-Walters.	
Boro: Belford, Penny (Mills 63), O'Hanlon, Scott, Langmead, Gascoigne, Daniels, Kelly-Evans, Nicholson, Elliott, Chambers. Subs: Wallace, Mutton, Gould, Dibble.	

Boro made the journey to Edgeley Park to play Stockport County in a National League North game.

Fresh from a 4-1 win against AFC Fylde, Boro once again showed why they are a team to be feared, as they gave Stockport something to think about. In what was an entertaining, if goalless first half, both sides served up an end-to-end encounter that kept the crowd entertained.

It was the visitors who set the tone as the Boro, with their three prong attack, started fast out of the blocks with Ashley Chambers bringing the best out of Ben Hinchcliffe before ten minutes had been played. The longer the half went on, though, the better the home side began to play as Kelvin

Langmead and Alex Penny were both required to clear off their own goalline to keep the Boro level.

The only thing the first half lacked was a goal – something the second half served up within the first four minutes. It went to the home side via the penalty spot after Sefton Gonzales was adjudged to have been brought down by Alex Penny. Danny Lloyd did the rest by stepping up and calmly slotting the ball past Tyrell Belford.

Boro had shown in the first half that they were not afraid of their high-profile hosts and they went about trying to draw level – which they did somewhat fortunately with an hour played. The goal was credited to Ashley Chambers, but he had some help along the way via a timely deflection. Hinchcliffe was simply unable to change the direction of his body quick enough to deny the on-loan Grimsby man.

The second half mirrored the first in that it was end-to-end and Stockport, who are chasing a play-off place this season, were throwing numbers forward as they continue to fight for that top five finish. They came close to aiding their cause through Lloyd once again as the diminutive frontman drove at the heart of the Boro defence before unleashing a shot that cannoned back off the post and spun away to safety. It proved to be the last chance of a game that neither side deserved to lose.

Nuneaton Town v Gloucester City 04-04-2017

Boro: Belford, O'Hanlon, Langmead, Gascoigne, Mills, Nicholson, Elliott, Scott, Kelly-Evans (Penny 10), Chambers, Daniels (Gould 70).
Subs: Dibble, Wheatley, Wallace.

Gloucester: Singh, Deaman, Avery, Thomas, Hall, Knowles (Hanks 51), King, Hopper, Parker (Kotwica 63), McGrory (Williams 58), Thomas.
Subs: Moseley, Hamilton.

Boro welcomed Gloucester City to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro saw their hopes of a home win dashed in injury time as they conceded late on. In a game Nuneaton looked like they had all but wrapped up, Gloucester managed to take home a point, leaving the Boro with their second successive 1-1 draw.

After what was an even start, in which both teams had their chances to score, it was the Boro who broke the deadlock. The goal came from their in-form midfielder man Billy Daniels who stepped up and slotted past Jasbir Singh. It was Singh himself who gave away the set-piece after rushing out and bringing down Jordan Nicholson when the on-loan midfielder was through on goal.

The goal continued what has been a fantastic few weeks for Daniels who is finally showing the Boro fans what he can do after first arriving at the club back in 2015. He nearly added to his tally minutes into the second half after he linked up with Ashley Chambers on the edge of the box before sending a fierce drive against the crossbar. The effort deserved a goal but Daniels could only stand, head in hands, as the ball cannoned away to safety.

The chances were at a premium after that as both teams stagnated, although the crowd did have something to cheer when Jordan Nicholson thundered an effort against the woodwork from distance with only nine minutes left. The shot, like the effort from Daniels at the start of the half, had Singh well beaten, but once again the woodwork came to the rescue.

Football is often cited as a cruel game and it proved to be just that as in injury time, after seeing their best chances denied by the crossbar, Boro then went and conceded late on.

The goal came after Gloucester put together a five minute period of pressure which Boro could not deal with, and Sam Avery rose and thundered a header past Tyrell Belford and into the back of the net.

Nuneaton Town v Chorley

08-04-2017

Boro: Belford, Penny (Mills 55), O'Hanlon, Langmead, Gascoigne, Kelly-Evans (Richmond 85) Scott, Elliott, Daniels, Nicholson, Chambers. **Subs:** Saye, Wallace, Taylor.

Chorley: Branagan, Challoner, Jarvis, Teague, Leather, Jordan, Blakeman (O'Keefe 87), Whitham, Carver, Walker (Sampson 72), Cottrell. **Subs:** Charnock, Beasley, Roscoe.

Boro welcomed Chorley to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro continued to prove themselves difficult opposition with a 1-1 draw against play-off hopefuls Chorley. After beating long-time league leaders Fylde and taking points against play-off chasing Stockport, Boro this time came from 1-0 down to share the spoils.

With nothing to play for but pride Boro could afford to play with a certain amount of freedom. Jordan Nicholson pushed forward early on and forced Ritchie Branagan into making a diving save from his powerful shot from the edge of the area. However, Chorley are doggedly fighting for a play-off place, and they closed down Boro's attacking options to stop Boro from building on their good start to the game.

Having shut Boro's attacking options down they took more control of the game and went in front with a goal from Dale Whitham who curled home an effort with his left foot, which gave Tyrell Belford no chance. The goal put Chorley in the box seat and they tightened their defensive grip on the game, shutting Boro out and taking the life out of the game.



Chambers grabs the equalising goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

That continued into the second half as in the searing sun the two teams failed to test one another – that was until Ash Chambers breathed life into proceedings with 20 minutes remaining. The on-loan Grimsby man has been in fine form since Joe Ironside left to join Kidderminster, scoring five goals in the seven games since his departure, and he took his chance once again, picking the ball up inside the box and finishing with a shot over Branagan who made a brave attempt to stop the shot, but to no avail.

Chorley, though, continued to carry the bigger threat and Boro had Tyrell Belford to thank for keeping the game level, as he somehow managed to get something on a close-range Whitham effort. It was a pure reaction save from the Boro keeper and showed why Belford was once on the fringe of Premiership football. However, that proved to be the last action as Nuneaton continue to pick up points with the season winding down.

Ray Paul Dies

Former Nuneaton Borough centre-forward Ray Paul has passed away aged 94. The prolific striker scored 42 goals in the 1941-42 season and played throughout the war years including games for both Coventry City and Nottingham Forest who he joined at the end of the Second World War.

Nuneaton Town v Harrogate Town 15-04-2017

Boro: Belford, Wheatley, O’Hanlon, Langmead, Gascoigne, Mills (Gould 90), Scott, Elliott (Tweed 87), Nicholson, Kelly-Evans, Chambers (Thomas 90). **Subs:** Penny, Dibble.

Harrogate: Elliott, Turner (Emmett 30), Parker, Thanoj (Platt 48), Ellis, Shiels, Colbeck, Burrell, Ainge, Pittman, Leesley. **Subs:** King, Day, Crook.

Boro welcomed Harrogate Town to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro started brightly and it was no surprise when they created the best chance of the opening exchanges, a chance that Devon Kelly-Evans really should have done better with. The on-loan Coventry City man was fed through on goal by Ashley Chambers, but he skied his effort high, wide and handsome when left with only the keeper to beat.

That chance was the first, and almost the last, one of the half as the remainder of the first 45 blurred into one big midfield battle. It looked as if half-time would come with the score goalless, but just before the break the Boro broke the deadlock – in somewhat fortunate circumstances.

The goal came from Greg Mills who sent a free-kick into the back of the net from distance, the wind played a part, though, as it gave an almighty assist to give Chris Elliott no chance of stopping it. That strike put paid to Harrogate as an attacking force as after the break they failed to fire once again.

The visitors failed to put pressure on the Nuneaton backline as the Boro looked to be easing to the three points in what was their penultimate home game of the season. Boro’s

cause was helped when the lead was doubled with just four minutes remaining. The goal was scored by Devon Kelly-Evans, making up for his earlier miss, as the winger burst forward after a corner was cleared, smashing the ball past Elliott low into the corner of the net.



Kelly-Evans extends Boro’s lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Harrogate were not out of it quite yet, though, as they did grab a goal back with time ticking away. The goal was a bolt out of the blue as Warren Burrell beat Tyrell Belford in what was one of the only attacks Harrogate could muster all day.

It was all too little too late, though, as Nuneaton had nothing else to worry about in what turned out to be one of the most comprehensive three points they have taken all season.

AFC Telford United v Nuneaton Town 17-04-2017

Telford: Burton, Samuels (Jones 56), Dielna, Havern, Bailey, McCone (McCarthy 45), Rea, Fitzpatrick, Hughes (Westwood 79), Wilson, Marsden. **Subs:** Lilly, Higham.

Boro: Belford, Geohaghton (Penny 72), Langmead, Gascoigne, O’Hanlon, Mills, Scott, Elliott, Nicholson (Thomas 90), Kelly-Evans (Gyasi 90), Chambers. **Subs:** Tweed, Dibble.

Boro made the journey to The Bucks Head to play AFC Telford United in a National League North game.

Despite a convincing scoreline, it was not all plain sailing for Boro and the game was less than two minutes old when the home side had their first effort on goal. Jack Rea was in the right place at the right time when the ball cannoned off him and headed goalwards – but Ty Belford managed to get down low and palm the ball around the post.

Although Belford was not required to be at his best against Telford, the home side continued to dominate, pushing the Boro back time after time and the visitors were unable to get out of their half in the opening 15 minutes. Despite the pressure Boro managed to keep it goalless and it was from that base that they launched an attack in the 19th minute that led to the opening goal. It was against the run of play, but it was a wonderful goal nonetheless as Ashley Chambers sold a dummy that put in Jordan Nicholson, who put over a cross that Greg Mills poked home at the back post. Nicholson played a huge part in that goal and he played an even bigger part in the next one as he turned from provider to scorer when he doubled the Boro lead in the 36th minute. The goal once again showcased

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how dangerous the midfield man is on the edge of the box as he shimmied this way and that before slamming an effort back across goal and into the far corner of the net.

Boro looked comfortable at 2-0, but that is a lead that is often described as dangerous. It proved to be just that for the Boro as by half time they were pegged back level. The first goal came after a free-kick fell kindly to Ben Bailey in Boro's box. The former Hednesford man made no mistake with a thundering drive past Belford. The second came right on the stroke of half time and it saw Lee Hughes bring an end to his five match drought as the veteran rose highest in the box to glance home a free-kick to send the sides in level at the break.



Greg Mills restores Boro's lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Less than 60 seconds after the restart the Boro were back ahead again. And Mills was again the scorer, as he smashed home the fifth goal of the afternoon from outside the box to stun the home support. Telford had no answer to the strike as although they continued to push forward their attacks always left them open to being hit on the counter. It was from such a move that Nuneaton grabbed their fourth with time ticking away. Telford had committed men forward but the Boro regained possession, fed Ashley Chambers who ran through on goal before pulling it across to Nicholson who found the back of the empty net.

Nuneaton Town v FC United of Manchester 22-04-2017

Boro: Belford, Elliott, Geohagbon (Penny 72), O'Hanlon, Langmead, Gascoigne, Scott (Tweed 85), Nicholson, Mills, Chambers, Kelly-Evans (Gyasi 85) Subs: Wheatley, Taylor.

FC United: Schofield, Williams, Chantler, Kay, Fagbola, Ashworth (Baird 76), Wolfenden, Sheriden (Jones 71), Adeloje (Lowe 59) Wright, Thomson. Subs: Greaves, Brown.

Boro welcomed FC United of Manchester to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

In a match that seemed to sum up the season as a whole, Boro were never able to get going and as a result saw their home campaign end the same way it started with a heavy defeat at the hands of a well backed team from up north.

The game started slowly as the first 40-odd minutes involved

crisp passing in the beautiful spring sunshine, but the last five of the first half saw two goals and two teams showing a desire that was not there from the off. Neither keeper was tested at all in the opening exchanges as the game was steady and not spectacular, FC United changed all that, though, when they found a breakthrough in the 42nd minute.

The goal came after the visitors upped the ante, twice forcing the Boro to clear off the line before Sam Sheridan finally got the job done, firing home inside the box with a shot that cannoned off the post before finding the back of the net.

That lead only lasted two minutes, though, as the Boro were back level before the half time whistle was blown. The goal was scored by Jordan Nicholson in what was his last home outing before his loan spell from Peterborough comes to an end. The number 11 doing what he has done so well all season as he broke through on goal and simply passed the ball round the on-rushing keeper and into the far corner.



Nicholson scores a consolation goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

That goal turned out to be a rare reason to smile for Boro fans as the second half saw them totally blown away in a desperate final 45 minutes. It started with less than ten minutes of the second half played as Jordan Fagbola scored his first United goal after turning sharply in the box and burying a shot that Tyrell Belford had no chance of stopping.

Then moments later that 2-1 lead became 3-1 when Matthew Wolfenden finished from close range to put paid to any final home game celebrations for Nuneaton. In-fact it was more like commiserations as with 20 minutes to go George Thomson beat the offside trap on the right and when left one-on-one with Belford he provided a fantastic finish to put the icing on the cake.

Boro Announce Tournament

Nuneaton Town have announced plans to hold a summer tournament which will include teams from Liverpool, Glasgow Rangers, Wolverhampton Wanderers, Coventry, PSV Eindhoven and Nuneaton Town. Manager Tommy Wright who has previously organised two other similar tournaments to this one while he was manager at Corby Town

Langmead Wins Player Of The Year Award



Kelvin Langmead won the Player of the Year award at a presentation after the game against FC United of Manchester. The centre-half also won the Players' Player of the Year award and the Boro Independent Supporters' Club Player of the Season. Tom Elliott won the Manager's Player of the Year award.

Alfreton Town v Nuneaton Town

29-04-2017

Boro: Taylor, Elliott, Penny, Langmead, Gascoigne, Tweed (Wheatley 70), Scott, Mills (Jones 87), Nicholson, Richmond (Gould 60) Chambers. Subs: Wheatley, Jones, Geohaghon, Gould, Belford.

Alfreton: Wright, Atkinson, McFadzean, Heaton, Wilson (Cox 51), Monkhouse, Evans, Marshall, Westcarr, Hearn, Allan (Clayton 81). Subs: Brough, Spiess.

Boro made the journey to The Impact Arena to play Alfreton Town in a National League North game.

Boro twice led in a six-goal thriller, but it was not enough, as a last gasp hat-trick goal from Liam Hearn ensured the points were shared. In a team containing three academy graduates Nuneaton could have been forgiven for taking some time to find their feet – and they did just that.

They went 1-0 down early on as Craig Westcarr fed through Liam Hearn and the powerful number ten did the rest, calmly finishing past youngster Elliott Taylor to give the home side the lead. Boro were not daunted by the goal, though, and within ten minutes they were level. It was a former Alfreton man who got the goal as Brad Gascoigne leapt highest to superbly power home a Jordan Nicholson cross.

The goal was good but the one that gave the Boro the lead ten minutes before the half time break was better. Ashley Chambers was the man who scored it as he rocketed an effort into the bottom far corner of the net from the edge of the box,

finishing a move in which youngster Michael Tweed and Greg Mills link up well before Chambers did the rest.

Nuneaton were flying at this stage but with the half time break came a resurgence from Alfreton – and an equaliser to go with it. It was again scored by Hearn as a shot deflected his way inside the box and he did the rest, simply tapping home from close range to bring his side level.

Nuneaton owed a debt to keeper Taylor who ensured that Alfreton didn't complete a comeback as he got down low to deny Callum McFadzean. It was a smart save and one that looked all the more important when Boro regained the lead with 20 minutes to go. Like Hearn it was Chambers who added his second of the day as he superbly controlled a long ball from the back before finishing well past Wright, who had no chance.

Boro were awarded a penalty with time running out – and Wright kept his side in the match. Tom Elliott was the guilty party for Nuneaton as he stepped up when Chambers was brought down in the box. Wright was equal to it, though, and pulled off an outstanding stop to deny the Boro man.

The true significance of the save was only felt when Alfreton went down the other end and grabbed a late leveller. It was Hearn who finished off his hat-trick as he was once again in the right place at the right time, this time grabbing a rebound from a Taylor save and slotting it home from close range to bring the scores level.

Conference North 2016-2017

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AFC Fylde	42	26	10	6	109	60	88
Kidderminster Harriers	42	25	7	10	76	41	82
FC Halifax Town	42	24	8	10	81	43	80
Salford City	42	22	11	9	79	44	77
Darlington 1883	42	22	10	10	89	67	76
Chorley	42	20	14	8	60	41	74
Brackley Town	42	20	13	9	66	43	73
Stockport County	42	19	16	7	59	41	73
Tamworth	42	21	6	15	73	67	69
Gloucester City	42	18	10	14	69	61	64
Harrogate Town	42	16	11	15	71	63	59
Nuneaton Town	42	14	13	15	67	69	55
FC Utd of Manchester	42	14	12	16	69	68	54
Curzon Ashton	42	14	10	18	63	72	52
Boston United	42	12	11	19	54	72	47
Bradford Park Avenue	42	12	7	23	46	74	43
AFC Telford United	42	10	12	20	38	57	42
Alfreton Town	42	11	9	22	62	95	42
Gainsborough Trinity	42	8	12	22	51	84	36
Worcester City	42	7	14	21	44	63	35
Stalybridge Celtic	42	8	5	29	40	89	29
Altrincham	42	4	9	29	39	91	21



Lincoln United – 2nd Qualifying Round

Boro welcomed Lincoln United to Liberty Way to play a FA Cup 2nd Qualifying Round tie.

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, O'Hanlon, Langmead, Keane, Morgan, Warburton (McDonald 59), Daniels (Moli. 88), Whitehouse, Ironside, Williams (Demkiv 59). Subs: Penny, McDonald, Anderson, Taylor.

Lincoln: Ziccardi, Hornsey, Wright, Jacklin, Smith, Cotton, Millard (Maddison), Norris (Wilkinson), Mullarkey (Hempenstall), McGovern. Subs: Cann, Reddington. McGann.

Boro started well and were passing the ball around neatly, but the visitors were quick to close down and get the ball forward, a tactic that made Boro look vulnerable to a quick break.

The visitors looked very dangerous when they got possession and inside the first six minutes took the lead. A neat first time pass from Rob Norris set up Harry Millard who fed Sam Mullarkey. His turn took two Boro defenders out of the game and his pass freed Jack McGovern. United's leading scorer controlled and from twenty five yards rifled an unstoppable shot into the top corner.

The pattern didn't change and as the half progressed Nuneaton had the ball and United had the chances.

A great move led to a Lincoln corner and from Norris' kick the ball broke for McGovern but he shot wide.

Towards half time a great run from Matt Cotton saw the young midfielder burst into the box and as he glided between two defenders he appeared to be brought down but to the surprise of both dug outs nothing was given.

Mullarkey and McGovern combined to free Kallum Smith on the left. United's left back ran clear, paused to allow support to arrive and curled a superb ball around the penalty spot. Millard had made sixty yards to get in the box he headed goalwards but his effort rebounded off the bar to safety.

In between all of this the visitors defended stoutly with Sean Wright putting in a good performance alongside skipper Michael Jacklin. Luke Hornsey and Cotton were superb defensively and quick to attack on the counter, as were Norris and Smith. Behind them Mario Ziccardi was in imperious form.

Boro may have expected to become more dominant after the break but the pattern remained the same.

United were still a threat on the break and when Mullarkey burst clear in the 53rd minute, it looked as though he was through. Good cover play shut off his run but a smart back-heel from United's leading scorer saw Cotton one on one with Jordan Smith, who blocked his shot. However, it ran just to Cotton's right and he made no mistake with his second opportunity.

Boro then began to increase the pressure but United led by Jacklin and Ziccardi held firm.

However, Boro hit back and in the 73rd minute Joe Ironside rose to head home following a throw in.

As time ran out so the pressure grew. Ziccardi made two superb saves, and the rest of the Lincoln defence continued their stalwart rearguard action.



Mario Ziccardi – an outstanding performance.
Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro hit the post and had the ball in the net but an offside flag came to United's rescue.

The tiger-like Lincoln defenders got blocks in and made numerous tackles, showing real grit and determination.

Lincoln continued to look dangerous on the break and Smith had to move smartly to cut out a dangerous cross from substitute Jordan Hempenstall.

Boro launched more attacks on the visitors' goal, but the United defence held firm and Hornsey rose above everyone to head the ball to safety. Cotton ran it clear, which was fitting as he had been superb in a more defensive role than usual.

At full time Lincoln celebrated a fine victory that no-one could deny them. Their fighting spirit and dogged determination has seen them defy the odds and pull off a famous victory.



Jack McGovern rifles a 25-yard shot into the top corner.

Photo: Lincoln United FC



FC United of Manchester — 3rd Qualifying Round

Boro made the journey to the Broadfield Stadium to play FC United of Manchester in a FA Trophy 3rd Qualifying Round game.

FC United: Carnell, Tonge, Chantler, Brown, Kay, Ashworth, Glynn, Winter, Gilchrist, Wright, Thomson. Subs: Greaves, Wolfenden, Sheridan.

Boro: Dibble, Wheatley, Leahy, Morgan, Langmead, Tempest, Clifton, Elliott, Ironside, Styche, Nicholson. Subs: Cartwright, Daniels, Williams.

Boro brought an end to FC United's recent unbeaten run with a resounding 5-1 victory.

The two teams met in the league just over two weeks ago, with United running out 3-0 winners.

The game got off to the best possible start when Reece Styche found himself through one-on-one with goalkeeper Dave Carnell, firing home to give Boro the lead after just three minutes.

And just three minutes after that the lead was doubled after a clumsy challenge in the box gifted a penalty to Nuneaton. Joe Ironside stepped up to put the ball away from 12 yards for 2-0.

It wasn't the one-sided game that the scoreline would suggest for a large part of the game. FC United nearly found a way back into the game from a long-range Jason Gilchrist effort and a George Thomson free-kick which went inches wide of the post.

But just before the half hour mark Boro extended their lead. A clinical through ball split the FC United defence in two and Jordan Nicholson slotted home to make it 3-0.

A goal early in the second half could possibly put some fire back into the home side and just three minutes into the second half Jason Gilchrist finished off a lovely move to get it back to 3-1.

But there was not to be a fightback and despite the early goal the comeback never built any momentum.

A deflected free-kick from David Morgan left Carnell no chance as Nuneaton went 4-1 up midway through the second half.

The rout was completed in stoppage time as Carnell could only push a shot back into the path of David Morgan who had an almost open goal to put the ball into.

Stocksbridge Park Steels — 1st Round Proper

Borough welcomed Stocksbridge Park Steels to Liberty Way to play a FA Trophy 1st Round Proper tie.

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, Geohagbon, Langmead, Tempest, Leahy, Morgan, Elliott, Nicholson (Moli 81), Styche (Williams 81), Ironside (Daniels 81). Subs: Wheatley, Taylor.

Steels: Reay, Meade, Grayson, Gregory, McFadyen, Reay, Hinchcliffe, Biggins, Burbeary, Ruthven, Crofts. Subs: Rhodes, Poulton, Laight, Thompson, Greaves.

Boro booked safe passage to the last 32 of the FA Trophy this afternoon as they continued to bang in the goals in a routine win.

Fresh from a 4-1 win over Alfreton last weekend and a 5-1 away day victory over FC United on Tuesday night the Boro were full of confidence – and it showed – as they made no mistake in booking their place in the second round draw on Monday.

What with the difference in leagues Nuneaton were expected to dictate the play and enjoy plenty of openings – they did that early on as David Reay had to be inspired form to keep the visitors in it.

First he dived full length across goal to palm a David Morgan free kick onto the crossbar, the former Nottingham Forest man was desperately unlucky to see his effort cannon back off the woodwork.

Reay then needed to be quick on his feet moments later as he got down low to deny a far post header from Reece Styche. Both saves came before 20 minutes had been played and had either effort found the back of the net Stocksbridge would have struggled.

As it was they were able to grow into the game and as the first half started to enter the dying moments they enjoyed one or two half chances of their own.

None of them were what could be called clear cut, though, which is what made their opening goal on 42 minutes all the more surprising.



David Morgan makes the score 4-1 with a superb free-kick.

Photo: Simon Kimber

It came from Harrison Biggins and it was a stunning effort. The Stocksbridge midfielder pulled the trigger from fully 25 yards and sent a shot goalwards that left Dibble standing.

Boro did not waste any time in hitting back and 90 seconds later they were on level terms.

Morgan had already shown the power in his shooting, and he did so again, letting fly from distance and seeing the ball sail into the net.

Less than nine minutes had been played after the restart when the home side took the lead. Joe Ironside got his head to a cross to thunder a header past Reay and into the back of the net.

When Boro extended their lead it came from an unlikely source as James Clifton showed the reactions of a striker. The right wing back was in the right place at the right time to tap home after Reay had spilled a routine cross.

It proved to be the final goalmouth action in what was another impressive win for the Boro.

Guseley — 2nd Round Proper

Borough welcomed Guseley to Liberty Way to play a FA Trophy 2nd Round Proper tie.

Boro: Dibble, Clifton, Penny, Langmead, Geohaghon, Tempest, Elliot, Morgan (Daniels 78), Nicholson (Moli 86), Styche, Ironside.
Subs: Leahy, Anderson, Taylor.

Guseley: Maxted, Lowe, Vidal (Brown 56) Lawlor, Boyes, Rankine, Johnston (Preston 61), Palmer (Williams 28), Walton, Cassidy, Green. Subs: Hatfield, Williams, Porritt.

Boro showed just how good they are as a five goal haul from Jordan Nicholson saw them dismantle a disappointing Guseley side to book their place in the last 16 of the FA Trophy.

The visitors were rarely in the game and it was all Nuneaton, who stretched their winning run to eight straight games – a sequence that should have all those left in the Trophy fearing them.

Despite taking on a team from the



One of Jordan Nicholson's five goal haul.

Photo: Simon Kimber

league above the Boro wasted no time in tearing into their visitors.

Straight from the kick off Reece Styche ploughed through the Guseley backline. His cutback to David Morgan saw the midfield blaze over, though.

The onslaught did not let up there as Joe Ironside could have given the Boro the lead soon after, but he shot straight at Jonathan Maxted when he was one-on-one with the stopper.

The same outcome awaited skipper Kelvin Langmead before 20 minutes had been played as a free-kick into the box found the captain unmarked in the six yard box, but he could not divert his shot past Maxted, as the keeper stood his ground.

After doing so much to keep Guseley level it was an error from Maxted that saw The Lions fall behind.

The error was as frustrating as they come for the stopper as a weak shot from Jordan Nicholson from outside the box simply trickled through the hands of the keeper before finding its way into the far corner of the net.

Nuneaton were well worth their lead, the problem was it did not last long once the second half started.

That was because the Boro simply didn't get going after the break. They

were pushed back almost immediately and clawed their way level after Michael Rankine poked home a corner from close range, only 60 seconds after the half started.

Boro had a great chance to draw level moments later but it was wasted as Reece Styche was tripped in the box, and a penalty was awarded. It was a spot-kick with which Joe Ironside lacked conviction though, as his effort was an easy one for Maxted to save.

Ironside is in top form and the miss spurred him on as less than a minute after the spot-kick he gave Boro the lead – with some help from Danny Lowe.

The striker sent in a rasping shot that took a huge deflection off Lowe before finding the back of the net.

Despite their appalling start to the half Boro were showing the confidence seven straight wins gives – confidence that saw them make it 3-1 before an hour had been played.

It was Nicholson again with the goal and it was determined play from the Peterborough loanee who won a 50/50 challenge with keeper Maxted on the edge of the box before calmly getting up and slotting home the ball into an empty net.



Boro players celebrate Ironside's goal.
Photo: Simon Kimber

The goal was a great one for the number ten to get – but things were about to get better as less than five minutes later he completed a hat-trick.

The goal had as much to do with Ironside as Nicholson as it was unselfish play from the Boro number nine to set-up the Boro number 11 who did the rest with a simple finish inside the box.

He added his fourth – and the Boro fifth – with the easiest of tap-ins after Geohaghon won a header from a free-kick. The visitors not learning their lesson when it came to picking up the in-form midfielder man.

To their credit Guiseley were continuing to show spirit in pushing forward and they were awarded a penalty for their efforts with time ticking away.

However, it was not their day and even that was missed as Simon Walton sent an effort goalwards that Christian Dibble had no trouble in stopping.

After that save from the Boro keeper salt was rubbed in the wound at the other end as a mistake from Maxted allowed the home side to make it 6-1.

Once again it was Nicholson who scored it as he was on-hand to capitalise when the Guiseley stopper came out and missed the ball, the Boro man having the easiest of tasks as he once again slotted into an empty net.

York City — 3rd Round Proper

Borough welcomed York City to Liberty Way to play a FA Trophy 3rd Round Proper tie.

Boro: Dibble, Clifton (Daniels 79), Penny, Langmead, Geohaghan, Tempest, Elliott, Nicholson, Morgan, Mills, Ironside (Anderson 66). Subs: Saye, Bangura, Taylor.

York: Letheren, Whittle, Heslop, Morgan-Smith (Moke 88), Kluwowski, Lappin, Fenwick, Oliver (Rooney 85), Newton, Parslow, Bencherif. Subs: Simpson, Woodland, Holmes.

Boro crashed out of the FA Trophy in spectacular style as a devastating 20-minute spell put paid to any chance of the Boro continuing their run.

The scoreline suggested a game in which Boro were out-played, the reality was a lot different, as Boro simply failed to show up until the game was all but over – offering something in the second half, but only after York had booked their passage into the last eight.

After conceding four goals in each of their last two outings Boro were after a solid start, but it was only three minutes before they conceded.

The goal was a gift if there ever was one as Boro stopper Christian Dibble failed to deal with the ball at his feet, losing possession outside the area, allowing Amari Morgan-Smith the easiest of tasks of shooting into an empty net.

Things went from bad to worse after

that as although Boro had a chance to draw level, Joe Ironside heading straight at Letheren from Penny's cross, it was at the other end they struggled.

York took full advantage of the ordinary opposition they were facing in the Boro backline and put paid the contest in the first half with a fantastic five minute spell from the 14th minute onwards.

It started when Sean Newton broke down the left hand side, galloping into the space on the flank before cutting the ball back to Vidaine Oliver who finished first time through Dibble's legs.

It was a poor goal to concede, but there was nothing they could do moments later when Newton went from provider to finisher, turning sharply on the edge of the box before sending a shot low and hard into the net.

The strike all but killed the half as a contest as the Boro had no answer to the onslaught from the visitors.

The second half was little better as although Nuneaton rolled their sleeves up and dug in, they were unable to offer anything as an attacking threat, making it far too easy for a York side who are struggling in the Conference Premier.

It made for a less than thrilling contest for the 687 fans, a preview for what could be to come for Boro fans who now have nothing but a mid-table finish in the league to look forward to.



Joe Ironside threatens the York goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Nuneaton Town 2008-2018 - Part 2



National League North: Fixtures, Results & Scorers - 2016-17

Nuneaton Scores First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers	Attendance
07.09	Coventry City	H	PSF	1-2	Shorhouse	1675
07.12	Northampton Town	H	PSF	1-0	McDonald	393
07.15	Matlock Town	A	PSF	2-0	Daniels, Fry	
07.19	Rushall Olympic	A	PSF	1-1	Moli	
07.23	Leicester City XI	H	PSF	0-2		
07.27	Belper Town	A	PSF	6-1	O'Brian (o.g.), McDonald (3), Moli, Daniels	
07.29	Coventry City	A	PSF	1-3	McDonald	
07.30	Barwell	A	PSF	0-1		
08.06	FC Halifax Town	H	NLN	2-3	Williams, Langmead	933
08.13	Bradford Park Avenue	A	NLN	1-1	Ironside	314
08.16	Kidderminster Harriers	H	NLN	0-2		667
08.20	Salford City	H	NLN	0-1		621
08.27	Harrogate Town	A	NLN	1-3	Ironside	653
08.29	AFC Telford United	H	NLN	1-1	Williams	633
09.03	Stalybridge Celtic	A	NLN	4-0	Langmead (2), Whitehouse, Ironside	345
09.06	Brackley Town	A	NLN	1-2	Ironside	424
09.10	Darlington 1883	H	NLN	1-1	Tempest	655
09.13	Altrincham	H	NLN	4-1	Whitehouse (2), Ironside, Williams	542
09.17	Lincoln United	H	FAC 3Q	1-2	Ironside	438
09.20	Gloucester City	A	NLN	2-2	McDonald, Williams	417
09.24	Worcester City	A	NLN	3-2	Whitehouse (2), Williams	635
10.08	Curzon Ashton	H	NLN	0-1		588
10.15	AFC Fylde	A	NLN	1-2	Whitehouse	1627
10.22	Gainsborough Trinity	A	NLN	2-2	Williams, Morgan	571
10.25	Rushall Olympic	H	BSC 1	4-1	Nicholson (2), Clifton, Moli	
10.29	Boston United	H	NLN	2-2	Langmead, Nicholson	577
11.05	Chorley	A	NLN	0-1		969
11.12	Stockport County	H	NLN	1-1	Williams	806
11.15	Leamington	A	BSC 2	1-2	Moli	126
11.19	FC United of Manchester	A	NLN	0-3		2313
12.03	Alfreton Town	H	NLN	4-1	Ironside (4)	465
12.06	FC United of Manchester	A	FAT 3Q	5-1	Styche, Ironside (pen), Nicholson, Morgan (2)	736
12.10	Stocksbridge Park Steels	H	FAT 1	3-1	Morgan, Ironside, Clifton	346
12.17	Stalybridge Celtic	H	NLN	2-1	O'Brien (o.g.), Styche	503
12.26	Tamworth	A	NLN	2-1	Ironside, Nicholson	1304
01.01	Tamworth	H	NLN	1-0	Nicholson	1002
01.07	Darlington 1883	A	NLN	2-1	Ironside, Nicholson	2313
01.14	Guiseley	H	NLN	6-1	Ironside, Nicholson (5),	554
01.21	Brackley Town	H	NLN	2-2	Nicholson, Mills	661
01.24	Salford City	A	NLN	0-4		867
01.28	Kidderminster Harrier	A	NLN	0-4		1764
02.04	York City	H	FAT 2	0-3		687
02.11	FC Halifax Town	A	NLN	0-2		1573
02.18	Bradford Park Avenue	H	NLN	1-2	Nicholson	573
02.25	Boston United	A	NLN	3-1	Chambers, Nicholson, Ironside	956
03.04	Gainsborough Trinity	H	NLN	2-1	Ironside, Nicholson	474
03.11	Worcester City	H	NLN	1-1	Ironside	485
03.18	Curzon Ashton	A	NLN	1-2	Chambers	206
03.21	Altrincham	A	NLN	3-1	Chambers (2), Daniels	646
03.25	AFC Fylde	H	NLN	4-1	Daniels, Langmead, Chambers, Kelly-Evans	480
04.01	Stockport County	A	NLN	1-1	Chambers	3416
04.04	Gloucester City	H	NLN	1-1	Daniels	415
04.08	Chorley	H	NLN	1-1	Chambers	501

National League North: Fixtures, Results & Scorers - 2016-17

Nuneaton Scores First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers	Attendance
04.15	Harrogate Town	H	NLN	2-1	Mills, Kelly-Evans	543
04.17	AFC Telford United	A	NLN	4-2	Mills (2), Nicholson (2)	1246
04.22	FC United of Manchester	H	NLN	1-4	Nicholson	777
04.29	Alfreton Town	A	NLN	3-3	Gascoigne, Chambers (2)	580

KEY: NLN = National League North, FAC = F.A.Cup, FAT = F.A.Trophy, BSC = Birmingham Senior Cup, PSF= Pre season friendly



Nuneaton Town 2016-17

Back: (left to right): Amro Khalid (goalkeeper coach), Paul Egan (physio), Steve Chettle (assistant manager), David Moli, Elliott Whitehouse, Alex Penny, Kelvin Langmead, Luke Shorthouse, Dean Snedker, Zeus de la Paz, Elliott Hodgett-Young, Joe Ironside, Jordan Keane, Connor Anderson, Guy Branston, Richie Norman (physio), Kevin Wilson (manager), Ben Shakespeare (office staff).

Front (left to right): James Clifton, Kristian Scott, Shaquille McDonald, Sam Warburton, Tom Elliott, Daniel Demkiv, Jordan Wheatley, David Morgan, Billy Daniels, Greg Tempest, Iwan Cartwright.



Management Team Sign New Deals

Nuneaton Town boss Tommy Wright and assistant-manager Steve Chettle have signed new deals with the club. Also extending his stay with the club is Academy boss Liam O'Neill.

New Deals Signed

Nuneaton Town have their eyes on next season with skipper Kelvin Langmead signing a new deal for 2017-18 and midfielder Tom Elliott has also signed a 12 month contract. Alex Penny and Elliott Taylor have also signed new deals.

Chambers Signs

Nuneaton Town have beaten off competition from a host of other clubs to secure the signature of ex-Grimsby striker Ashley Chambers. The Former Leicester City and Dagenham striker was released by the Mariners and has signed a two-year contract with Boro.

Former Solihull Captain Signs

Nuneaton Town have signed former Solihull Moors captain Ryan Beswick on a two-year deal. The 28-year-old started his career with Milton Keynes Dons before being snapped up by Leicester City. He then moved on to Kettering Town before joining Solihull.

Rising Star Signs

Boro have signed 20-year-old Luke Trotman who started his career with Luton Town before a broken leg stalled his career. He is a pacy and athletic player who can play anywhere down the right hand side.

Heaton Signs

Nuneaton Town have signed former Liverpool defender Niall Heaton from Alfreton Town. The 20-year-old started his career at Bradford City but was signed on a youth contract by Liverpool, aged 15, and progressed through the youth set up and made his first team debut in a 2-0 defeat to Manchester City, but was unable to forge a place in side and was released at the end of the season and rejoined Bradford City.

Following loan spells at Bradford Park Avenue and Ossett Town he moved on to Alfreton Town where he made 86 appearances before joining Boro.

Ground Share Agreement Press Release

Nuneaton's biggest sporting organisations will be working in co-operation next season after a new ground share agreement was brought into being at Liberty Way.

Lack of a groundshare agreement and an ongoing dispute between Nuneaton Rugby Club and Nuneaton Town Football Club led to a number of skips being put in place at various access points on Nuneaton RFC's land this year. Now, after negotiations between club officials, the clubs are in agreement going into the 2017-18 campaign.

Nuneaton Town chairman Lee Thorn said: "I am delighted to announce that a new GSA has been reached and it will see Nuneaton Rugby Club back on the Stadium pitch for a minimum of ten games in the coming campaign.

"As part of that agreement the Nuns will provide, and maintain, a total of two pitches on-site for the football club to use for their growing academy and first team training. The agreement will see Nuneaton Town be able to train in-house and will give the rugby club the chance to play on the main pitch."

The deal will see Nuns allow Boro to once again have access to the south side entrance points of the main stadium. As part of the agreement the rugby club will supply the football club with two academy pitches and the rugby club will be able to play on the stadium pitch at least ten times throughout the upcoming campaign with a possibility of all 13 home matches being played on the stadium pitch.

Lee Thorn added: "It is great to see the two premier sporting clubs in the town working together once again in such a way. "It has been a long and hard journey for both clubs, that has been the case since the move was first undertaken, but now we are in a position where we can both prosper and move forward with this behind us."

Nuneaton RFC's Committee stated: Nuneaton RFC are very pleased that an agreement has been reached and hope this will establish good relations between the two clubs who carry the name of our town.

As we have consistently stated Nuneaton RFC's only concern was for a fair ground share between the two clubs and we are relieved and pleased that this is now the outcome. It is fitting that this coming season Nuneaton RFC will have a home pitch which befits our status as the town's premier rugby club.

"We wish Nuneaton Town FC and their supporters well for their coming season and look forward to building our relationship in more collaborative manner."

That feeling was echoed by the chairman at Nuneaton Town and also manager Tommy Wright who praised the efforts of both parties in coming to a resolution. Wright said: "It is fantastic for the town that two such prominent sporting clubs have come to an agreement and are now working together.

"This was a situation that I walked into here and it was not a healthy one for anybody connected to it. To see the agreement in place now, and us to get the two academy pitches from it, is great news. "With us running two academy teams next year it enables us to grow as we are hoping to."

Boro Sign Hickey

Nuneaton Town have signed promising youngster Brady Hickey from Barwell. Hickey started his career as a youth team player with St Andrews in the United Counties League from where he was picked up by Barwell, where he scored 23 goals in the 2016-17 season.

Ball Joins Boro

Nuneaton Town have signed former Derby County and Coventry City striker Callum Ball. The 24-year-old started his career with Nottingham Forest before making the move to Pride Park. Following loan periods with Coventry, Torquay and Notts County he drifted into non-league football with Corby Town and Barwell.

Winger Signs

Nuneaton Town have signed Alex Henshall, 23, a former England U-17 international. Henshall began his career in the youth set up at Swindon before attracting the interest of Manchester City. While at the Etihad he spent loan periods at Chesterfield, Bristol Rovers and Ipswich Town, where he earned a two year contract.

However, following a knee injury his contract was cancelled by mutual consent in February, before he moved north of the border to join Kilmarnock in March, agreeing a contract until the end of the season. The winger then moved into non-league with Margate and then Braintree Town.

Boro Fans Vote For Name Change

A vote organised by Nuneaton Town Supporters' Co-operative to gauge enthusiasm for changing the club's name back to Nuneaton Borough resulted in a total vote of 476 fans, 97% of whom voted in favour of the name change. It is hoped by the Co-operative that the club will revert to its previous name for the 2018-19 season.

2017-2018

Barwell v Nuneaton Town

15-07-2017

Boro made the journey to Kirkby Road to play Barwell in a pre-season friendly game.

Ashley Chambers got Boro's pre-season off to a fine start when he latched onto Luther Wildin's lofted ball down the right channel, beating the offside trap to cut inside and slam past a stranded Castle in the Barwell goal with just three minutes on the clock. The lead wasn't to last long. Alex Penny reacted to a Barwell knock down by upending Owen Story. Ryan Seal confidently sent Tyrell Belford the wrong way from the spot.



Greg Mills hits a shot at the Barwell goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Greg Mills went close for the visitors when he smashed a shot into Castle's body but Boro regained the lead a minute later when Tom Elliott turned on the edge of the box before beating Castle with a shot from 20 yards out. But once again Boro let the home side back into the game when Matt Stenson nudged the ball past Belford and into an empty net. Things went from bad to worse just before the break when Boro got caught too far forward and Tom Bates whipped in a superb ball which was headed powerfully home by Luke Barlone from six yards.

Just before the break Boro were awarded a penalty after Mills had been brought down in the area. Despite Barwell's protests, Ryan Beswick stepped up to take the shot, but Castle dived full length to tip the ball round the post for a corner.

Straight after the break substitute Michael Tweed brought the best out of the home keeper with a stinging shot from 25 yards that was well handled by Castle. Mills almost caught Castle unawares as his inswinging corner forced the keeper to back-pedal furiously to keep the ball out of the net.

Callum Ball joined the fray 15 minutes into the second half and was soon involved against his old club, hooking the ball over the bar after Chambers had knocked the ball down to his feet. A raft of substitutions followed and Ryan Richmond kept Castle on his toes with a glancing header from Daniels' cross. Barwell hit back and Lavery headed Bates' free-kick against the bar and the home side went close again when a trialist headed over the top with 15 minutes to go.

Barwell's misses were put into perspective with eight minutes to go when Billy Daniels jinked in from the left, created some space and blasted the ball into the top corner of the net, leaving Castle helpless. The so-called friendly ended on a bitter note when Barlone was dismissed for an incident off the ball.

Coalville Town v Nuneaton Town

18-07-2017

Boro made the journey to Owen Street to play Coalville Town in a pre-season friendly game.

Goals from Callum Ball and a bullet header from Niall Heaton gave Boro a 2-1 victory.

Nuneaton Town v Peterborough United

11-07-2017

Boro: Belford, Penny, Wildin, Scott, Heaton, Gascoigne, Trotman, Elliott, Chambers, Daniels, Ball. **Subs:** Wildin, Taylor, Mills, Beswick, Richmond, Collins, Steele, Glover, Henshaw, Tweed, Brennan.

Posh 1st half: Bond, Freestone, Edwards (Gurney 40), Baldwin, Cartwright, Tafazolli, Forrester, Chettle, Maddison, Miller, Morais. **Posh 2nd half:** Tibbetts, Hughes, Bostwick, Shephard, Da Silva Lopes, Borg, Doughty, Grant, Lloyd, Nichols, Penfold.

Boro welcomed Peterborough United to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Boro slipped to defeat in an entertaining game against a strong League 1 side. The Posh were quickly into their stride and opened the scoring after three minutes when Ricky Miller and Junior Morais linked up for the latter to score.

Miller was involved again when the visitors doubled their lead in the 13th minute, firing home a powerful shot past a helpless Belford. But Boro were not about to lie down and hit back after a powerful run from Penny took him into the box, where he was brought down, which gave Billy Daniels the opportunity to score from the spot.



Billy Daniels scores from the spot.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Buoyed by their success Boro pushed on and Trotman hit the woodwork as Boro pushed Peterborough back into their own half and the under-pressure Posh were helpless to stop Daniels from notching his second goal of the game and levelling the scores. Just before the break Tyrell Belford was called into action and did well to stop Forrester's effort.

The Boro keeper was again in action straight after the break, making a good save from Nichols. Despite the fact that the visitors were bossing possession at this stage, Boro broke away and took the lead as Ryan Beswick fired home to put Boro 3-2 ahead. Peterborough, however, were not to be denied and Morgan Penfold levelled the scores and then laid on a chance for Nichols, who put the visitors into a 4-3 lead. With the game drifting towards its conclusion Michael Doughty hit a shot into the top corner to see Posh home.

Penny Joins Posh

Alex Penny has been transferred to Peterborough United for what it reputed to be a £50,000 transfer fee.

Nuneaton Town v Aston Villa U-23 14-07-2017

Boro welcomed the Aston Villa Under-23 side to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Boro were streets ahead of a youthful Villa side and ran out easy winners. The home side opened their account when ex-Barwell midfielder Brady Hickey scored. Another ex-Barwell player, Callum Ball, put Boro further ahead before curling home a free-kick from the edge of the box to double his personal score and put Boro 3-0 up.

The home side were virtually out of sight when Ashley Chambers hit a powerful shot which gave Brad Watkins in the Villa goal absolutely no chance.

Boro were still chasing goals at the start of the second half and it came as no surprise when Alex Henshall smashed an unstoppable shot into the back of the net with just a minute

of the second half gone. The Boro midfielder was then joined on the scoresheet by Ryan Beswick as the former Solihull Moors' skipper volleyed in a ferocious volley from the edge of the box that entered the net like a guided missile. The game then evened itself out and the Villa youngsters won themselves a penalty which was put over the bar.



Callum Ball scores.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Chettle Leaves

Assistant manager Steve Chettle has left Nuneaton Town to join new start-up club Ilkeston Town, who play in the Midland League Division One.

Nuneaton Town v Leicester City XI 22-07-2017

Boro: Taylor, Elliott, C. Wildin, Scott, Gascoigne, Heaton, Henshall, Beswick, Chambers, Hickey, Ball. **Subs:** L. Wildin, Belford, Trotman, Brennan, Glover, Collins, Tweed, Richmond, Steele, Chechlacz, Jhonnes-Ramos.

Leicester: Iversen, Knight, Wood, Choudry, Hughes, Nielsen, Martins, Watts, Eppiah, Muskwe, Gordon. **Subs:** Bolkiah, Bramley, Sherif, Leshabela, Pascanu, Ndwuku, Bassey.

Boro welcomed a Leicester City XI to Liberty Way to play a pre-season friendly game.

Callum Ball gave Boro the lead with a well-taken goal and seven minutes later Boro had extended their lead with a goal from Ashley Chambers, who picked up on a dreadful clearance from Daniel Iversen before clipping the ball into an empty net. Reeling from the home side's start, Leicester picked their game up and forced their way back in, albeit with some help from Boro keeper Elliott Taylor, whose mistake allowed Josh Gordon to head the ball home from on the goal line.

Leicester were now in the box seat and Boro's lead was wiped out when Josh Eppiah lashed the ball into the net from the angle of the 18-yard box and the teams went in at half-time level at 2-2. After a number of second half substitutions, Leicester continued to press and again took the lead with a soft goal courtesy of the substitute goalkeeper Tyrell Belford, who allowed a soft header from Fred Neilsen to squirm through his grasp before nestling in the back of the net.

Boro though, refused to yield and Ashley Chambers scored his

second goal of the afternoon when he ran in behind the Foxes' defence before chipping the ball over Leicester's replacement goalkeeper Faik Bolkiah and into the corner of the net.



Ashley Chambers scores.

Photo: Simon Kimber

AFC Hinckley v Nuneaton Town

15-07-2017

Boro made the journey to St John's Park, Heather, to play AFC Hinckley in a pre-season friendly game.

This was a well contested pre-season match with neither side giving any quarter. Hinckley started strongly and were soon in the lead as Darkin beat his man down the right, but his cross was blocked and a lack of concentration allowed Darkin to dispossess a defender and slot the ball past Ty Belford.

Boro levelled the scores against the run of play after Haydn Whitcombe spilled the ball at the feet of Luke Trotman, who reacted quickly and rolled the ball into an empty net from just inside the area. Both sides had the opportunity to score just before the break with Bekir Halil shooting over from 18 yards out while a good save from Whitcombe kept Boro out.

Isaac Cooper was denied by a last ditch tackle before Boro came back into the game and were rewarded when Alex Henshall's 20 yard shot wrong-footed Jack Hartopp and nestled into the back of the net. Hinckley were back on level terms with ten minutes to go after James Williams' cross found Halil, who delivered a pinpoint cross to Healy who showed great composure to drive the ball across Belford.

Boro refused to lie down, though, and hit back through a back post header, before Ashley Chambers finished off a chance which left Hartopp with no chance.



Malcolm Allen Dies

Boro legend Malcolm Allen has passed away in the George Eliot Hospital, aged 79. Malcolm represented the club as a player, manager and was an avid supporter of the club. He was a member of the team that beat Swansea Town in the 1966-67 FA Cup before taking Rotherham United to a replay in the third round of the competition.

Nuneaton Town v Wolverhampton W.

29-07-2017

Boro: Taylor, Trotman, C. Wildin (L. Wildin 82), Gascoigne (Brennan 82), Heaton, Scott (Kromah 64), Hickey (Daniels 82), Tweed (Beswick 82), Henshall (Mills 64), Chambers (Elliott 45), Ball (Collins 82).
Subs: Belford, Richmond, Glover.

Boro welcomed Wolverhampton Wanderers to Liberty Way to play UK Flooring Direct Cup game.

Boro went down 1-0 to a young Wolves side, despite a good start, during which Ashley Chambers could have scored. But it was the visitors who struck first via an own goal from Kristian Scott, who headed a cross into his own net. The goal was the highlight of an uninteresting opening half, which was characterised by the period after the goal, which was sedantry in nature.

A number of substitutions and some very laboured build-up work contributed nothing to the excitement, but Boro had a decent chance after 68 minutes when Courtney Wildin broke forward from the full-back position before letting fly with a stinging shot from some distance. The shot was well-saved by Wolves' keeper Harry Beasley, but it was nothing compared to the triple stop Elliott Taylor made soon after as the Boro keeper used his hands, his feet and his body in order to stop Wolves from doubling their lead. That was as good as it got though and the time ran out with Wolves still in the lead.

Nuneaton Town v Coventry City

30-07-2017

Boro: Belford, L. Wildin, C. Wildin, Beswick, Gascoigne, Heaton, Mills, Daniels, Chambers (Ball 43), Hickey, Henshall (Scott 43). **Subs:** Trotman, Taylor, Brennan, Rowe, Zuqolli, Richmond, Chechlac, Freestone, Glover.
Coventry: Charles-Cook, Kelly-Evans, Hyam, Trialist, Leahy (Camwell 67), Stevenson, Shipley (Bayliss 73), Jones, K. Thomas (Finn 67), Ponticelli, Beavon. **Subs:** Addai, Hickman, Thompson, Ford, Maycock, Sayoud.

Boro welcomed Coventry City to Liberty Way to play UK Flooring Direct Cup game.

There was an early chance for Ashley Chambers as he was played through, but he fired just wide from a good position. The first opening for the Sky Blues came when Stuart Beavon tried his luck from distance only for Ty Belford to make a smart save. As the half went on, Coventry started to get into their stride and they eventually took the lead when Jordan Ponticelli did well before delivering an inviting cross for Beavon to find the net.

Shortly afterwards Ponticelli almost got his name onto the scoresheet but Belford was alert to deny him. Boro continued to battle away and Alex Henshall did well to link up with Chambers whose effort was saved and as the rebound fell to Henshall, he fired over. There was action at both ends as the opening period came to an end. First Ryan Beswick's cross was almost turned into his own net by a Coventry defender and then Beavon lashed an effort wide for the visitors.

It was the Sky Blues who started the second half with more purpose as Kwame Thomas went close and then Darragh



Leahy fired over following a neat move. Just before the hour-mark Brady Hickey had a chance to level matters but his strike was well saved.

After Beavon went close to doubling his side's lead, Boro equalised when Callum Ball did well to get in a cross which found Beswick at the far post and he headed home. The visitors managed to grab a winning goal with just eight minutes left on the clock when Jordi Jones curled a shot home from distance.

Boro Announce New Assistant Manager

Local lad Jon Ashton has been appointed as Nuneaton Town's new player/assistant manager. Ashton, who is 35, started his career as a youth team player with Leicester City before joining Oxford United, where he made 91 appearances.

He then moved on to Rushden and Diamonds before spells with Grays Athletic, Stevenage, Crawley Town and Braintree Town. The defender has four England C international caps to his credit.

Boro Make Late Signing

Nuneaton Town have made an eve-of-season swoop to sign Jordan Nicholson from Peterborough United on loan. The 24-year-old had a loan spell with the club last season and has previously played with Cambridge City and Histon from where he joined Peterborough in 2015.

Harrogate Town v Nuneaton Town 05-08-2017

Harrogate: Belshaw, Fallowfield, Parker, Falkingham, Middleton, Burrell, Thomson, Emmett, Ainge, Thewlis, Leesley. Subs: Kennedy, Cracknell, Lees, Day, Vann.

Boro: Belford, Trotman, C. Wildin, Gascoigne, Heaton, Scott (Tweed 52), Daniels, Beswick (Nicholson 52), Hickey, Ball (Brennan 74), Chambers. Subs: L. Wildin, Taylor.

Boro made the journey to Wetherby Road to face Harrogate Town in a National League North game.

Boro rarely looked likely to take anything from this game, even though they started off well enough. They never really looked capable of turning over a strong home side who in the end were easy winners.



Harrogate take the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Harrogate started the demolition of Boro with their first real attack when the visiting defence failed to cope with a corner and George Thomson headed home, virtually unchallenged. After the goal the game slipped into a midfield battle with little by way of goalmouth action, until Chambers raced onto a through ball and rounded James Belshaw, but proceeded to miss the target with just a defender between him and the open goal.

The miss proved costly as after the break Harrogate piled on the pressure and put Boro to the sword. The alarm bells started to ring after Simon Ainge crashed a header against the bar and moments later Simon Thewlis tapped the ball home after Boro had failed to clear a corner. The visitors soon conceded a third goal after a Joe Leesley free-kick on the edge of the area somehow evaded all of Boro's defenders, including Belford as it flew into the back of the net.

By this stage the home side were in total control and confirmed their superiority with a fourth goal, scored by Simon Ainge who smashed home a penalty after Danny Brennan had made a clumsy challenge in the area. The margin of the win was fully justified as Boro looked a long way second best to one of the title favourites.

Boro Sign Keeper

Nuneaton Town have signed former Birmingham City goalkeeper Dean Lyness. The keeper has previous experience with Heart of Midlothian, Kidderminster Harriers, Burton Albion and Blackpool, as well as having represented England at U-17 level.

Nuneaton Town v Kidderminster Harriers 08-08-2017

Boro: Lyness, Trotman, C. Wildin, L. Wildin, Ashton, Heaton, Beswick, Daniels, Chambers, Hickey, Nicholson. Subs: Glover, Taylor, Tweed, Collins, Ball.

Kidderminster: Hall, Webb, Keane, Daly, Williams, Croasdale, Nti, McQuilkin, Ironside, Weeks (Bradley 46), Austin (Ngwatala 68). Subs: Digie, Truslove, Brown

Boro welcomed Kidderminster Harriers to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro started strongly and Chambers had a couple of early openings, the first of which was pushed away by Hall before Boro won a corner. At the other end Joe Ironside's stooping header was wide of the post.

Kidderminster got back into contention but Nti saw his effort pushed away by Dean Lyness, and although the ball fell to Webb, he was unable to make the best of his chance. Jordan Nicholson curled a shot just over the bar and then fired wide after taking the ball forward from midfield. A shot from Courtney Wildin lacked the power to trouble Hall, while Nicholson hit a low shot inches wide of the post.

Trotman went close before Hickey teed up Chambers who saw his strike fly well wide of the post before the visitors forced their way back into the game and Lyness had to be

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alert to deny Croasdale. Boro could have taken the lead when Nicholson's shot beat Hall, but Liam Daly cleared off the line. The end-to-end nature of the game continued and Ryan Beswick's free-kick went over the bar before Daly's header was cleared by Trotman from right in front of the Boro goal.

Harriers' substitute, Bradley, embarked upon a powerful run that almost brought joy for Harriers only for his effort to go wide, but his side ended the game strongly as they searched for a winner.



Ashley Chambers celebrates his late winner. Photo: Simon Kimber

Lyness had to be alert to gather the ball ahead of Ironside before Boro launched a break out wide and the ball fell to Callum Ball who whipped the ball into the path of Chambers and the striker made no mistake to guide the ball home beyond Hall giving Boro a narrow victory and three points.

Scott Leaves

Nuneaton Town midfielder Kristian Scott has parted company with the club by mutual consent.

Nuneaton Town v Gainsborough Trinity 12-08-2017

Boro: Lyness, Trotman, C. Wildin, L. Wildin, Ashton, Heaton, Beswick, Daniels, Nicholson, Hickey (Ball 46), Chambers. Subs: Glover, Taylor, Tweed, Gascoigne.

Gainsborough: Jones, Lacey, Davie, Clarke (Gatter 71), Jacklin, Evans, Wafula, Richards, Jarman (Williams 60), Worsfold (Wells 76), King. Subs: Storey, Walton.

Boro welcomed Gainsborough Trinity to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

There was little action in the opening exchanges until the visitors took a 13th minute lead when a corner from Craig King was swept home from close range by Michael Jacklin. Ashley Chambers saw yellow for a robust challenge as Boro looked for an instant response. An intelligent ball from Jordan Nicholson looked to play in Chambers but Lewis Jones, who was making his debut in the visitors' goal, was alert to gather well at his feet.

Just past the half-hour mark a foul on Brady Hickey by Shane Clarke resulted in a free-kick in a promising position which was curled goalwards by Ryan Beswick but well saved by the keeper. Then a neat move on the edge of the area involving Hickey and Chambers ended with Nicholson placing his

effort just wide of the target. Boro were starting to ask more questions as the half came to a close but went in at the break trailing by a goal to nil.



Jacklin scores for Gainsborough. Photo: Simon Kimber

It was the visitors who started on the front-foot in the second period and Jonathan Wafula's teasing cross caused concern but Boro managed to scramble the ball clear as Jarman threatened. At the other end an effort from Chambers was bravely blocked and the loose ball fell to Nicholson, but his strike lacked the necessary power to trouble the keeper.

A corner from King curled dangerously goalwards and required Billy Daniels to head clear from under his own crossbar before some more sharp play from Nicholson saw him make room for a low strike on 65 minutes, but the keeper was able to get down to make the save.

It was Boro who were seeing more of the ball but Trinity were defending resolutely to hold on to their lead. Luther Wildin whipped in a cross from the right that was met by the head of Chambers but he couldn't direct his effort on target before Beswick was denied by a clearance off the line from Jacklin to keep his side in front after the Boro skipper latched onto Wildin's pull-back.

The visitors were defending in numbers as Trotman had a strike blocked and then Nicholson fired over in quick succession. The closing stages saw a long throw-in from Heaton fall to Courtney Wildin whose low strike was deflected inches wide and then from the resulting corner Heaton headed onto the roof of the net as the visitors rode their luck but held on to claim the win.

Brackley Town v Nuneaton Town 15-08-2017

Brackley: Lewis, Myles, Gudger, S. Byrne, Graham, Dean, G. Walker, Armson, Ndlovu (Diggin 73), Brown (Lowe 79), A. Walker. Subs: Kaziboni, J. Byrne, Tilney.

Boro: Lyness, Trotman, C. Wildin, Gascoigne (L. Wildin 62), Ashton, Heaton, Beswick, Daniels, Chambers, Nicholson, Ball (Hickey 67). Subs: Taylor, Tweed, Glover.

Boro made the journey to St James' Park to play Brackley Town in a National League North game.

Brackley scored a goal worthy of winning any match when Ellis Myles hit a stunning shot past the helpless keeper, Dean

Lyness, and into the top corner of the goal after cutting inside a defender.



Ellis Myles' shot flashes past Dean Lyness.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The Brackley side, littered with ex-Boro players and managed by Kevin Wilkin started strongly with Adam Walker in particular causing early problems but Boro did have a chance from a Ryan Beswick header, which was deflected wide of the goal. After a slow start Boro came more into the game and Brad Gascoigne headed over from a corner. Another ex-Boro player, James Armson, was creating havoc when he was on the ball and the Boro defence found him difficult to handle. Close to half time he created a chance for Adam Walker, whose shot was saved by Lyness.

Boro started the second half on the front foot and Nicholson put an early shot wide of the post as Boro enjoyed a spell of possession. Lyness made a smart save from Armson after the midfielder had gone past several defenders and when the ball broke to Ndlovu the Boro keeper made another good save. Chambers put a shot just wide before Lyness again came to Boro's rescue as he made two saves in quick succession, the first from Armson and then from Steve Diggin.

The ex-Kidderminster and Solihull Moors keeper Danny Lewis made a routine save from Chambers before the home side pressed again and Matt Lowe's shot hit the woodwork.

York City v Nuneaton Town

19-08-2017

York City: Worsnop, Law, Parslow, Sukar, Whittle, Heslop, Moke (Connolly 63), Newton, Almond (Smith 78), Rankine, Morgan-Smith. Subs: Felix, Muggleton, Wharton.

Boro: Belford, L. Wildin, C. Wildin, Daniels, Ashton (Gascoigne 41), Heaton, Beswick, Elliott (Glover 78), Chambers, Hickey (Ball 78), Nicholson. Subs: Taylor, Henshall.

Boro made the journey to Bootham Crescent to face York City in a National League North game.

Boro almost surprised the home side with a late come-back after being under the hammer for most of the game, as York threatened to throw away a three goal lead. York were quickly out of the blocks and scored in the first minute when Michael Rankine headed home Sean Newton's cross. Boro had a

penalty appeal waved away after Chambers went down in the area while at the other end Tyrell Belford turned Amari Morgan-Smith's header over the top but was beaten by Simon Heslop's volley from Newton's corner.

Rankine went close again before Heslop's mis-hit back-pass put Worsnop under pressure and the keeper's clearance hit Brady Hickey and went wide of the post. Nicholson put in a weak shot which was no trouble for Worsnop, but Boro hit back and Jon Ashton headed over the top from a corner as the visitors enjoyed their best spell of the first-half with Gascoigne heading over from a Ryan Beswick free-kick.

After the break York again took control with Rankine having a shot deflected behind and Heslop driving the ball into the net from the corner to give the home side a 3-0 lead. Rankine headed straight at Belford while Sukar's shot was also dealt with by the keeper. Beswick put a shot wide for Boro and Tom Elliott went close with a shot from distance.

Boro reduced the arrears in the 67th minute after Worsnop had brought down Ashley Chambers, who picked himself up to score from the spot. However, York soon re-established their three goal lead after Gascoigne pushed Rankine and a penalty was awarded. Rankine took the penalty himself and smashed the ball into the net. Morgan-Smith put a shot wide and had a penalty claim denied by the referee before Boro clawed another goal back, with Worsnop making a hash of a Nicholson cross, leaving Chambers with a simple tap-in.

Boro brought about the prospect of an unlikely draw when Nicholson converted Chambers' pass with a minute plus time added to go. Rankine had one final chance for the home side after which they saw out the four minutes of added time with some ease.

Nuneaton Town v Leamington

26-08-2017

Boro: Lynass, Trotman, C. Wildin, Gascoigne, Heaton (Ashton 72), Beswick, Henshall (Ball 70), Elliott (Tweed 78), Hickey, Nicholson, Chambers. Subs: L. Wildin, Taylor.

Leamington: Breeden, Taundry, Gudger, Clark, Hood, Magunda, Revan, English, Bishop, (Moore 72), Canavan (Gittings 45), Thompson-Brown (Butterfield 63). Subs: Moore, Butterfield, James, Mace.

Boro welcomed Leamington to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro cruised to a routine win against a weak Leamington side who contributed to their own downfall by losing all discipline in the second half. Nuneaton started strongly and quickly put the Leamington goal in danger with Alex Henshall twice going close and Ashley Chambers having a shot saved by Tony Breeden. It came as no surprise when Boro took the lead after Nicholson turned one way and then the other before curling a shot into the bottom corner.

The home side pulled further away when Henshall smashed a shot past Breeden in the 21st minute, and before the half-hour mark Boro went further ahead as Nicholson scored again to make the score 3-0.

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Alex Henshall hits home the second goal. Photo: Simon Kimber

After being totally outplayed in the first 45 minutes, Leamington began to look ragged and ill-tempered and Jamie Hood got involved in a ridiculous tussle with Chambers which resulted in him being sent off. Boro topped off an all-round good show with a fourth goal 12 minutes from the end as Brady Hickey hit a fine shot from distance.

Leamington then proceeded to commit a series of fouls as they lost all shape and discipline, which could have led to at least one more sending off before the final whistle.

The Leamington manager Paul Holleran kept his side in the dressing room long after the final whistle discussing what went wrong.



Brady Hickey smashes Boro's fourth goal. Photo: Simon Kimber

<p>Boston United v Nuneaton Town 28-08-2017</p> <p>Boston: Willis, Clifton, Yeomans, Broadhead, McGowan, Keane, Rollins, Chapman, Smith, Hemmings (Waite 68), Tshimanga (Vince 60). Subs: Hare, Hawley, McGuire.</p> <p>Boro: Lyness, C. Wildin, L. Wildin, Gascoigne, Heaton, Beswick, Elliott, Nicholson (Glover 88), Hickey, Henshall (Ball 45), Chambers. Subs: Tweed, Ashton, Taylor.</p>

Boro made the journey to York Street to face Boston United in a National League North game.

Boro were first to show and Ashley Chambers put in a shot that missed the target but almost found Tom Elliott at the back post. Despite making an encouraging start to the game Boro faded away and the two sides proceeded to fight out an

uneventful midfield battle, as both sides struggled to come to terms with the searing heat.



Sixteen-year-old Mitchell Glover scores for Boro. Photo: Simon Kimber

The game livened up after the break and Boston had an effort on goal through Ashley Hemmings, whose shot from distance was saved at full stretch by Dean Lyness. Chambers fluffed a good chance at the other end as he failed to get enough onto a good chance, which he dragged wide. The Boro keeper was again in action as he dived to make a brilliant one-handed save from former Boro man Tyrell Waite.

It looked as though Lyness had laid the foundations for a Boro win when substitute Mitchell Glover popped up in the area to give Boro the lead in the 89th minute, but with the game all but done Boston grabbed an equaliser when Brad McGowan prodded home from inside the six yard box.

<p>Nuneaton Town v Alfreton 02-09-2017</p> <p>Boro: Lyness, L. Wildin, Heaton, Gascoigne, Ashton, Beswick, Hickey, Nicholson (Glover 90), Elliott, Henshall (Ball 18), Chambers. Subs: C. Wildin, Taylor, Tweed.</p> <p>Alfreton: Elliott, Topliss, Allan, Platt, Shiels, Priestley, Wood (Disley 85), Smith, Sharp (Robertson 85), Westcarr, Daniels (Keane 70). Subs: Jennings, German.</p>
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Boro welcomed Alfreton Town to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro were quickly into their stride and scored the opening goal of the game after four minutes. Jordan Nicholson got himself into a perfect position to drive the ball into the net past Chris Elliott. The lead didn't last however, as Chris Sharp worked his way through a stagnant Boro defence to equalise, with just eleven minutes gone.



Jordan Nicholson gives Boro the lead. Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro had enough possession and chances to have retaken the lead before half-time but some good goalkeeping from Elliott and some ordinary finishing from Nuneaton kept the scores level. Brady Hickey missed a decent chance when one-on-one with the Alfreton keeper and then saw the shot-stopper deny him again from some way out. Nicholson had the best chance to restore Boro's lead though, hitting the crossbar with Elliott nowhere in sight.

The second half was just six minutes old when Alfreton grabbed the lead after Craig Westcarr was brought down in the box by Dean Lyness. It looked as though the Boro goalkeeper was the last man and some thought he should have walked but he got away with a yellow card. He was, however, punished from the spot as Westcarr shot home to give Alfreton the lead.

Nuneaton continued to battle and had Alfreton defending deep and conceding a number of free kicks. From one of these, the ball was driven into the box and Tom Allan was the unlucky player to guide the ball into his own net.

After equalising, Boro had a number of chances to secure the three points with Ashley Chambers seeing his shot beaten away by Elliott before Callum Ball drove the ball straight at the keeper from a good position. But, despite all their possession Boro could not force a winner and had to settle for a 2-2 draw.

Telford then went close again when Marsden shot against the post before Elliott Newby's effort was tipped over the bar by Dean Lyness and a melee developed in the Boro box which ended when Gough put the ball wide of the post.

Nicholson then found himself one-on-one with Jas Singh and the keeper wiped the Peterborough youngster out on the edge of the box, but Telford custodian got away with a booking as Nicholson limped off injured. Hickey put the free-kick over the bar before Mitchell Glover came on as substitute.

Boro kept up the pressure and with only a minute left on the clock Ashley Chambers scored from close range, but the goal was disallowed for offside. Telford had a chance to further extend their lead in time added on but Dwyer's shot was well saved by Lyness.



Ashley Chambers scores, but is given offside.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Nuneaton Town v AFC Telford United 05-09-2017

Boro: Lyness, Trotman, Heaton, Gascoigne, L. Wildin, Elliott, Beswick, (Hickey 72), Daniels, Nicholson (Glover 85), Chambers, Ball (Adams 72).
Subs: Ashton, Taylor.

Telford: Singh, Johnson, Sutton, White; Newby, McGrory (Royle 53), Cowans, Marsden, Gough, Dinanga (Strong 87), Dwyer. **Subs:** Hayden, Marsh, Martinez.

Boro welcomed AFC Telford United to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Telford were looking to secure their third consecutive away win and Connor Johnson turned a ball over the bar at the near post following an early corner. But Boro hit back and Jordan Nicholson hit a shot over the bar following good work in midfield. The visitors were proving doughty opposition and took a 25th minute lead after a pass from Louis McGrory found Anthony Dwyer, who slotted the ball past Dean Lyness.

Boro manager Tommy Wright seemed less than pleased that play had been allowed to continue after Tom Elliott appeared to have been fouled in the build-up. Marcus Dinanga had a couple of efforts for the visitors, putting a shot way over the top before slamming another against the post, as Telford finished the half on top with ex-Celtic youngster John Marsden getting in the final shot of the first half.

Boro started the second half in the ascendancy and Jas Singh was forced to save from Callum Ball. Although Telford were not enjoying much of the play, they surprised the home side with a breakaway goal in the 62nd minute, after Jordan Gough's cross was turned into his own net by Heaton.

Boro Make Double Signing

Nuneaton Town have added two new faces to their squad in French defender Joel Dielna and former Worcester City striker Daniel Nti. Dielna, 27, began his career with Caen B and moved to England in 2014 to join Blackpool. He subsequently played Conference football with Solihull Moors and AFC Telford United. Nti made a name for himself in non-league circles with Worcester City before moving on to York who loaned the striker to Halifax and Kidderminster before he was released by his parent club.

Bradford Park Avenue v Nuneaton Town 09-09-2017

Bradford: Hall, Vidal (Spencer 63), Toulson, Ross, Kelly, Knowles, Clee (Lyn 84), Wroe, Brooksby, Boyes, Johnson (Knight). **Subs:** Nowakowski, Drench.

Boro: Lyness, Heaton, Gascoigne, Trotman, Beswick (L. Wildin 57), Hickey (Ball 84), Elliott, Chambers, Dielna, Daniels, Nti. **Subs:** Taylor, Ashton, Glover.

Boro made the journey to The Horsfall Stadium to face Bradford Park Avenue in a National League North game.

The first chance of the game fell to Boro when they hit Bradford on the break and Daniels played a one-two with Chambers before hitting the ball over the top from the edge of the area.

Tom Elliott gave Boro the lead when he converted Daniel Nti's ball in from the left and the visitors had a chance to double their lead when Chambers intercepted a weak back-pass, beating Hall to the ball, but pushing his shot wide of the post.



Bradford had a couple of shots which failed to trouble Dean Lyness, before the home side levelled the scores after Boro failed to clear a corner and the ball fell to Johnson, whose shot took a wicked deflection, leaving Lyness helpless.

The Boro goalkeeper was called into action again when Javan Vidal narrowly failed to get a touch on a through ball and the keeper got a strong hand to the ball to avert the danger. Nti went close and had two efforts blocked after good work from Elliott before Boro had penalty claims rejected in the 34th minute after Elliott appeared to be pushed while competing for a header. Dielna picked up a booking in the 34th minute and was then joined by Beswick before Gascoigne made an appeal for a penalty, claiming he was pushed.

Avenue were first to show after the break and Adam Boyes went close after Ryan Toulson curled in a cross from the right which the Bradford striker headed just wide. Brady Hickey hit the bar with a header after great play from Trotman and Chambers before Boyes broke through on goal and beat Heaton, only to be taken down by Dielna, who received a second yellow card and was given his marching orders. Former Altrincham man Nicky Clee hit the free-kick towards the top corner of the net but Lyness made a tremendous save.

Boro then conceded a penalty after 60 minutes when Elliott handled the ball in the penalty area but Nicky Wroe put the ball high over the bar to keep the scores level. Hickey went close from Daniels' free kick before Bradford almost snatched a win after Mark Ross planted a header against the crossbar. Avenue had another chance to take all three points when Cameron Lyn hit a shot that was deflected wide of the target with Lyness wrong-footed.

Salford City v Nuneaton Town

12-09-2017

Salford: Crocombe, Nottingham, Touray, Burton, Piergianni, Maynard, Dudley (McHale 73), Shelton, Phenix, Redshaw (Dieseruwwe 70), Askew (Beesley 73). **Subs:** Hogan, Aghayere.

Boro: Lyness, Wildin, Dielna, Ashton, Cascoigne, Heaton, Trotman, Elliott, Hickey, Beswick, Ball. **Subs:** Glover, Taylor, Daniels, Nti, Chambers.

Boro made the journey to Moor Lane to face Salford City in a National League North game.

Boro endured a painful evening as they slipped to a comprehensive defeat against one of the league's form teams. They were soon under the hammer in rain-sodden conditions as the home side were the first to press but Jack Redshaw's free-kick failed to trouble Dean Lyness. However, the home side kept up the pressure and Ibou Touray's shot was deflected wide for a corner, from which Anthony Dudley's delivery was headed powerfully home by Lois Maynard. Redshaw was in action again shortly afterwards as he picked up a rebound after Lyness had saved Michael Nottingham's shot, but his effort hit the post.

Boro continued to come under the cosh and soon fell two goals behind after Dudley hit a shot from the edge of the

area which found its way into the corner of the net. After the second goal Boro rallied and carved out a chance when Brad Gascoigne put in a cross that was toe-poked goalwards by Callum Ball, but Max Crocombe made a regulation save.

Boro enjoyed a spell of possession before Salford pressed again and in the 25th minute Mike Phenix flicked the ball on to Nottingham whose cross into the area was bound for Redshaw before Gascoigne stepped in to clear at the expense of a corner. The home side had another half-chance through Josh Askew who prodded his shot wide of the post while Redshaw had a shot blocked before Boro broke away but Crocombe halted the danger ahead of the lurking Ball.

The home side resumed their assault on the visitor's goal and Lyness made a great save from Maynard, but the ball broke to Touray whose pass found former Blackburn Rovers youngster Josh Askew in space and the left wing-back hit a 20-yarder which beat Lyness and entered the net just inside the post.

Although their cause looked hopeless Boro continued to fight gamely and Joel Dielna tested Crocombe from distance, but the keeper collected the ball low down. Tom Elliott hit a shot over the bar before Salford crafted another chance after a Mayard shot was blocked and Askew forced Lyness into a good save.

Salford started the second half on the front foot and in the 50th minute Askew hit a shot into the side netting before Redshaw had a shot charged down and although the ball went loose, Lyness smothered the ball with Phenix threatening. Jonathan Ashton brought Askew's run to a halt and was then booked for dragging back Phenix. Joel Dielna was booked for a bad tackle on Burton before Lyness saved well from Touray's free-kick.

Boro had another short spell of possession and Billy Daniels put a long range effort wide before Dielna headed over the top. Salford again took command and Nottingham put a shot just wide before Boro had their best chance of the evening in time added on when Trotman was free in the Salford box, but he lifted his shot high over the bar. Shelton had one final chance for the home side but put his shot just over the top.

Nuneaton Town v Southport

23-09-2017

Boro: Lyness, Trotman, Wildin, Beswick, Gascoigne, Heaton, Nti, Daniels (Elliott 69), Chambers, Hickey, Henshall (Mills 74). **Subs:** Dielna, Taylor, Nicholson.

Southport: Halstead, Jackson (Zama 86), White, Roberts, Kpohomouh, Smith, Jennings, Lowe (Merrie 73), Cockerline (Sang 63), Sampson, Morgan. **Subs:** Croft, Turner.

Boro welcomed Southport to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro chalked up a deserved 3-0 victory over Southport with Ashley Chambers grabbing a hat-trick for the second successive game. However, there was a scare in the opening three minutes for Boro when the ball squirmed away from Dean Lyness and Niall Heaton had to be alert to clear off the line from Cockerline.

It was the away side who looked the livelier early on as Andy White saw a low effort deflected inches wide. Boro old boy David Morgan was influential in midfield for the visitors who forced the home side into a few errors in the early stages.

Boro were awarded a penalty in the 12th minute after Ashley Chambers' effort was blocked by the hand of Gary Roberts. The spot-kick was given after the referee consulted with his assistant but Chambers blasted the ball just wide of the angle. A well-worked corner from Boro shortly afterwards ended with Chambers firing over again whilst at the other end, Cockerline was denied as Boro got men back to block his effort.

The opening goal arrived on 31 minutes when a Boro attack saw Halstead save well initially to deny Brady Hickey's header, but as the ball stayed alive and Chambers was able to fire home with a shot which seemed to be mishit, but which still found the net. Boosted by the goal, Luke Trotman saw his driving run end with a strike that was inches wide of the target.

Some neat link-up play between Chambers and Alex Henshall saw the latter fire just wide before Billy Daniels tested the Southport keeper Halstead. Right on the stroke of half-time, Hickey was unlucky to see his strike hit the base of the post as Boro ended the half strongly.

The early action in the second half saw the visitors go close as Lowe's strike from just outside the area rattled the crossbar before Boro's lead was doubled on 68 minutes when a sweeping move saw Daniel Nti find Hickey who in turn fed Chambers who made it 2-0 from close range. Boro were very much in control after they scored their second goal although chances were at a premium. Nti did well to make room for a strike that flew over whilst Chambers posed a threat every time he had the ball.

In the closing stages, Chambers completed a second hat-trick in succession as he fired home to make the score 3-0. He could have had a fourth shortly afterwards only to be thwarted by a last-gasp challenge as the visitors were glad to hear the final whistle. Old boy David Morgan, having played well in the first half seemed to lose his head as the match drifted away from Southport and made one lunge out on the touchline and a series of full-blooded tackles that might have been described as reckless.



Ashley Chambers' spot kick is off target.

Photo: Phil Moore

Boro Re-Sign Geohaghton

Nuneaton Town have re-signed central defender Exodus Geohaghton, who has been playing for Evo-Stik Northern Premier League Stafford Rangers recently.

Boro Players Agree Wages Dock?

Nuneaton Town's website has announced that the players have agreed to forego a week's wages following their display at Nantwich Town in the FA Cup.

Blyth Spartans v Nuneaton Town

07-10-2017

Blyth: Jameson, Cartwright, Buddle, Hutchinson, I. Watson, Reid (Laidler), McTiernan, Wrightson (Rivers), Hopson, Dale, Maguire.
Subs: MacDonald, Liddle.

Boro: Lyness, Trotman, Dielna, L. Wildin (Mills 73), Geohaghton, Heaton, Daniels, Elliott, Chambers, Nicholson, Henshall (Nti 68). **Subs:** Hickey, Taylor, Gascoigne.

Boro made the journey to Croft Park to play Blyth Spartans in a National League North game.

Spartans started the game brightly and Robbie Dale lofted a pass to Dan Maguire who was beaten to the ball by Dean Lyness. Minutes later, Luke Trotman was robbed by Ian Watson who laid the ball off for Dale. The Blyth captain found Dan Maguire with a 40 yard pass, but the ball was cleared.

Nuneaton's first chance of the game fell on 11 minutes when Chambers set up Luke Trotman but his sharp effort was well saved by Peter Jameson. The home side hit back and Hopson teed up Adam Wrightson who found David McTiernan, but the midfielder shot wide. Boro then broke the deadlock after Chambers was played clear and he rounded the keeper and scored from a narrow angle, despite the efforts of a defender.

Jordan Nicholson intercepted a back pass and played in Alex Henshall who found himself one-on-one with Jameson, but the keeper thwarted the winger. Boro could have made it two on 30 minutes when Nicholson scuffed his shot wide, but in the 37th minute Spartans equalised with a long ball from keeper Peter Jameson, which was flicked on by Dale, and latched onto by Maguire who beat Lyness to the ball and rolled it between his legs to level the score.



Ashley Chambers' gives Boro the lead.

Photo: Phil Moore

Nuneaton Town 2008-2018 - Part 2



Wrightson earned the home side a penalty on 40 minutes after some trickery in the Nuneaton area and Hopson stepped up to score with a powerful strike which beat Lyness. The home side were now in control and extended their lead with a Maguire shot into the top corner. Just before the half time whistle Hopson nearly made it four with a 25 yard free kick which curled just wide of the post.

Jameson made two point blank saves at the start of the second half, one from Chambers, then with a strong hand to deny Billy Daniels. Boro continued to threaten and Niall Heaton volleyed in at the back post following a cross from the right. Spartans seemed certain to score seconds after the Nuneaton goal when another back post cross found Sean Reid, who headed across goal, over Maguire's head, and Lyness saved at the back post as Dale tried to touch the ball in.

Wrightson went close in the 68th minute, but was unfortunate to have his left footed strike blocked. Lyness had a moment to forget in the 70th minute when Hopson's tame left footed effort from just outside the area bobbed over the keepers hands and into the back of the net, while just two minutes later McTiernan got in on the act when his lofted shot rebounded off the back post and into the goal to give Spartans a 5-2 lead.

Substitute Jordan Laidler was sent off in the 80th minute for a studs up tackle on Exodus Geohaghon, leaving the home side to battle on with ten men, but the sending off had little effect on the home side and they pulled further away when Boro conceded another penalty. Dale Hopson again slotted calmly into the bottom corner from the spot. Straight from the restart Chambers scored a close range header to make the final score 6-3.

Nuneaton Town v Birmingham City	10-10-2017
Boro: Lyness, Trotman, Dielna, Elliott, Gascoigne, Heaton, Mills, Daniels, Nti, Hickey, Nicholson. Subs: L. Wildin, Taylor, Chechlacz, Osoimoejiokhian, Adams.	
Birmingham: Weaver, Hutton, Martin, Seddon, Timms, Mulders, McCoy, O'Keefe, Hale, Lakin, McFarlane. Subs: Lubala, Siviter, Bailey, Redmond.	

Boro welcomed Birmingham City to Liberty Way to play a Birmingham Senior Cup first round tie.

The Blues were a long way second best in this game and tumbled out of the competition to goals before and after the break from Niall Heaton and Jordan Nicholson. The City U-23 side barely troubled Boro defensively and never really looked like troubling the home side.

Boro's first opening came in the 14th minute when a pass was played in on the left for Greg Mills, but before he could get his shot away Remeao Hutton got back to deflect the ball behind. Keeper Jake Weaver was called into action six minutes later when Blues miscued an attempt to clear a corner. The ball skewed nicely for Nicholson who quickly fired at goal from close range but Weaver got down well to parry.

Boro took the lead in the 26th minute following a right wing

corner. Hutton took a wild swing at the ball which looped up for Niall Heaton, who had the easy task of heading the ball in from close range. O'Keefe had a shot blocked and McCoy put the rebound wide as the Blues tried to hit back. However, the visitors had Weaver to thank in the 42nd minute for tipping over a curving free-kick by Mills that was heading towards goal.



Heaton scores the opening goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Blues made a bright start to the second half when Hutton burst in on the right of the area and fired in a cross that rebounded off Heaton, which sparked penalty appeals but the ball spun away and was cleared. Despite the visitors' resurgence Boro were still on top and doubled their lead with a spectacular strike. Nicholson collected a clearance on the angle of the penalty area, chested the ball down and despatched a superb lofted shot into the far top corner, giving Weaver no chance.

Lyness made a good save from a 25-yarder by Mulders and was also brought into action by Bailey, but Boro were looking comfortable. A bit of niggles crept into the game towards the end and Lubala was yellow carded for consecutive fouls.

Nuneaton Town v Darlington	14-10-2017
Boro: Lyness, Trotman, Dielna, Elliott, Gascoigne, Heaton, Nti (Hickey 79), Daniels, Chambers, Nicholson (Beswick 85), Henshall (Mills 76). Subs: Taylor, Geohaghon.	
Darlington: Bartlett, Marrs, Collins, Galbraith, Scott (Burgess 71), Thompson, Turnbull, Portas (Wheatley 51), Gillies, Saunders, Cartman (Syers 46). Subs: Wilczynski, Dawson.	

Boro welcomed Darlington to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro cruised to a comfortable victory over a side with only one win in their last 12 games. The home side controlled the game in the main, but came under some pressure late on when Darlington reshaped their line-up and pushed forward. This was after Boro had missed a raft of chances earlier in the game, but the goal scored by the visitors was far too late in the game to have any influence on the outcome.

Boro were quickly out of the blocks and their fluid attacking

moves and Darlington's sloppy passing resulted in chances almost from the kick-off and Nuneaton took the lead in the eighth minute through Ashley Chambers after he was played in by Jordan Nicholson following some neat build-up play. The in-form striker broke clear of the Darlington rearguard before shooting home past Adam Bartlett.



Chambers gives Boro the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Chambers could have increased Boro's lead shortly afterwards as Terry Galbraith played a catastrophic back pass, but fortunately for the visitors Liam Marris got back to block the striker. More sloppy defending saw Boro's leading scorer through on goal again, but the Darlington centre-half Dom Collins' physical presence forced Chambers wide.

The home side could have been out of sight at this stage, and the chances kept coming. Bartlett was forced to charge off his line to save at Daniel Nti's feet before Josh Gillies made a crucial intervention when he blocked an almost-certain goal by Nicholson, flinging his body into the path of the midfielder's shot.

After their hair-raising start to the game Darlington began to steady the ship and following a decent passing move, Gillies hit a shot against the Nuneaton woodwork from 25 yards. Shortly afterwards Dean Lyness was in action for the first time as he gathered a Stephen Thompson shot at the second attempt.

Late in the first-half Niall Heaton shot wide of an open goal following a corner and the home side were soon asking more questions of the visitors when Collins was dispossessed and Boro surged forward, but Darlington were able to regroup and stem the tide. Billy Daniels put a shot wide of the post as Boro took a slender 1-0 lead into the break despite having created a host of chances.

The start of the second half saw Boro build on their lead when two minutes in, Nicholson volleyed home following a corner. Despite this set-back the Quakers worked hard and the game evened up for a period. Thompson played in substitute Dave Syers, bringing a good save from Lyness, who pushed the ball away at full stretch. The visitors continued to reorganise and a further substitution was made before Darlington again asked questions of the Boro keeper who saved at the feet of Saunders.

With 20 minutes to go the visitors put on central defender Kevin Burgess and pushed him up front to provide an aerial presence. However, Boro broke again and Marris was forced to clear off the line from Luke Trotman's effort. With the game drifting towards its inevitable conclusion Lyness made a fantastic save from a fierce Wheatley shot before, deep into injury time, Syers scored with a deflected shot to make the final score 2-1, which did not in any way reflect the home side's overall superiority.

Wright Quits Boro



Nuneaton Town manager Tommy Wright has quit the club in sensational fashion after previously turning down a chance to join his former club Darlington.

Wright suffered a tough last month at the Boro and was reportedly sacked at one stage, although the club denied that this was the case. The 33-year-old former Leicester City player is adamant though, that he will be looking back on his

time at Nuneaton with nothing but fond memories.

He said: "I did love it there and I think I have left it in a better shape than I found it. People forget Nuneaton were outside the relegation zone on goal difference when I got there. They are now within a few wins of the play-offs. I know it wasn't the best season so far, but I still think the play-offs are there for this group of players.

Nuneaton Town v Stockport County

21-10-2017

Boro: Lyness, Trotman, Gascoigne, Heaton, Dielna, Elliott, Daniels (Hickey 78), Nicholson, Nti, Mills (Beswick 54), Chambers. Subs: Taylor, Geohagbon, Ball.

Stockport: Ormson, Conan, O'Halloran, Ball, Clarke, Smalley, Stopforth, Walker (McKenna 64), Oswald, Warburton (Winter 88), Duxbury (Hampson 77). Subs: Hinchcliffe, Dixon.

Boro welcomed Stockport County to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro were well beaten by a very average looking Stockport side, who in the main contained the home side throughout the game. Both sides had to contend with quite a brisk wind and driving rain. The opening half hour was littered with misplaced passes and generally scrappy play, but gradually, Stockport began to take more of a grip on the game and won battles in midfield which allowed them to push forward.

Sam Walker hit an effort well wide before Nicholson shot wide from a good position after a Chambers shot rebounded into his path. He was left with just the keeper to beat, but he shot narrowly wide when he could have done better. Warburton hit a 20 yard free-kick straight at Dean Lyness and the keeper needed two attempts to collect a fairly

straight forward shot. Jason Oswell was then played clear by Warburton but Gascoigne marshalled him well and blocked the centre-forward's shot.

Boro then won a corner which was whipped in towards the near post where it was collected by Ormson. The Stockport keeper had his foot over the goal line when he collected and Boro players made a collective appeal for a goal, but both linesman and referee were well positioned and the appeals were turned away.

County took the lead after 36 minutes when Duxbury lifted the ball through to Oswell who beat Lyness from close range. Just before half-time Ormson had a rush of blood and came careering out of his goal to cut out a through ball and was left scrambling around on the ground 20 yards out from goal. When the ball broke to Chambers he tried to lob the ball into an open goal with the keeper nowhere in sight, but the ball missed its target and Stockport escaped.

The visitors extended their lead in fortunate fashion on the stroke of half-time. Warburton made his way past three Boro defenders before picking out Gary Stopworth whose shot was charged down and fell to Gascoigne, who blasted his clearance straight at Stopforth from where it looped over Lyness and into the net.

Stockport pressed again at the start of the second half, during which they had the wind at their backs, but the game soon degenerated into a series of high clearances and head tennis. Nicholson picked Chambers out at the far post, but the leading scorer got underneath the ball could only get in a weak header. Some fine play by Stopforth saw him pick out Warburton, whose shot on the turn was easily dealt with by Lyness before Trotman hit a shot wide.



Gascoigne and Trotman battle with Stockport's Matthew Warburton.

Photo: mphotographic

County further extended their lead after 68 minutes when Jimmy Ball smashed a 25-yard free-kick around the wall and into the net. Boro had a chance to cut the deficit with ten minutes to go after Trotman's ball into the box met O'Halloran's outstretched arm and the referee pointed to the spot. Daniel Nti's spot kick was well saved by Ormson, but the

ball rebounded back to the former Worcester City man, who was able to score at the second time of asking.

Lyness made a great save from Warburton after Stockport broke through the Nuneaton defence but Boro's day ended disastrously when Stockport broke away again in injury time and Geohaghon tripped Oswell who was clear through on the keeper and the big defender was given his marching orders.

Lobjoit Joins Boro

Nuneaton Town have signed 22-year-old striker Leon Lobjoit from League One side Northampton Town on a month's loan. The striker will be with the club until November 25.

Boro Announce New Manager

Nuneaton Town have appointed 46-year-old Tunisian Dino Maamria as their new manager. The former Southport and Stevenage boss has put pen to paper following his caretaker role against Southport.

Maamria was a prolific goalscorer in his playing days and represented Doncaster Rovers, Stevenage and Rushden and Diamonds among others.

FC United of Manchester v Nuneaton Town 28-10-2017

FC United: Allinson, Brady, Walker, Kay, Fagbola, Hughes, Logan, Glynn (Connor 62), Greaves, Gilchrist, Lindfield (Senior 90). Subs: Kinsella, Jones, Frith.

Boro: Lyness, Trotman, Dielna, L. Wildin, Heaton, Elliott, Beswick, Nti (Ball 75), Nicholson, Mills (Lobjoit 65), Chambers. Subs: Hickey, Ball, Ashton, Taylor.

Boro made the journey to Broadhurst Park to play FC United of Manchester in a National League North game.



Callum Ball notches Boro's goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

A combination of goalkeeping errors, poor defending and a host of missed chances saw Boro slip to defeat against their fellow strugglers. The visitors started the game on the front foot and Tom Elliott got in a shot that Lloyd Allinson touched behind for an early corner. The keeper was in action again shortly afterwards as Greg Mills had a well struck shot from outside the area, but Allinson had everything behind it and made a comfortable save.

FC United had an effort by Tom Greaves ruled out for offside after he had been played in by Jason Gilchrist. Craig Lindfield hit a shot high and wide before Boro broke at pace and Nicholson slipped the ball inside for Nti who brought a good save out of Allinson.

The home side took the lead in the 38th minute when Lindfield launched a ball into the area from way out on the left and Lyness totally misjudged the flight of the ball and Tom Greaves got in behind him to head into the net. Greaves got in another well-struck shot shortly afterwards but Lyness was right behind it and made a regulation save. Mills then forced Allinson into a decent save after he was played in by Nicholson, but Chambers was unable to force home the rebound. Just after that the home keeper had to be on his toes to keep out a Nti header.

The home side doubled their lead after 62 minutes after Lindfield had again launched the ball into the area, this time from a free-kick. Lyness started to come out, hesitated, and FC United with four players in the six yard box, forced the ball over the line, with Jordan Fagbola getting the final touch.

Nicholson put a shot just wide of the post before substitute Mike Connor almost extended FC United's lead, but Lyness got down well to save. With less than ten minutes to go Boro got themselves back in the game following a fine move. The ball was launched forward from the back and Chambers slipped the ball on to Nicholson who unleashed a shot from 20 yards out that Allinson could only parry and Ball was first to react, hammering the ball into the net.

FC United were left to play out a frantic few minutes and when Allinson's clearance only found Chambers, he hit the ball back over the keeper, but his shot was just too high. A last gasp melee then ensued with some desperate defending from the home side, but they managed to hang on and saw the game out to win 2-1.

Nuneaton Town v Spennymoor Town 04-11-2017

Boro: Lyness, Trotman, L. Wildin, Heaton, Dielna, Beswick, Elliott, Lobjoit (Ball 73), Nicholson, Nti, Chambers. Subs: Daniels, Taylor, Mills, Geohaghon.

Spennymoor: Porter, Griffiths, Chantler, Tait, Curtis, Hall, Ramshaw, Taylor, Anderson (Dixon 63), Chandler, Foley. Subs: Mason, Lawson, Armstrong.

Boro welcomed Spennymoor Town to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro dominated possession in the first-half, but as in previous matches, failed to turn that possession into goals. Spennymoor were forced into some backs to the wall defending in the opening 15 minutes but Lobjoit failed to work the keeper when well placed. The visitors were on the back foot again when an Ashley Chambers' shot was deflected wide before former Huddersfield Town keeper Jordan Porter had to be on his toes to collect a through ball meant for Jordan Nicholson.

Nicholson had a shot blocked before putting in a dangerous cross that was just too long for Chambers. Boro then forced the visitors' keeper into a save as Nicholson went past Griffiths before forcing Porter to push the ball away for a corner.



The outstanding James Curtis heads clear.

Photo: From Town to Town

With 20 minutes gone, Spennymoor began to steady the ship and came more into the game, but Ramshaw fired his shot straight at Lyness. Nicholson's shot was headed wide by Tait for another corner before Anderson tried a shot from distance which Lyness saved comfortably. Nti then found Nicholson on the edge of the box, but the youngster shot wide when he could have done better. Porter made a routine save from Lobjoit with five minutes to go before half-time while at the other end rangy striker Glen Taylor fired straight at Lyness.

Former Gateshead defender James Curtis, who along with fellow central defender Joe Tait had an outstanding game for the visitors, headed the ball out for a corner as Boro continued to press before the referee whistled for half-time.

The second half was a far more even affair and the visitors looked more comfortable, although Nti had a shot charged down just after the break. The visitors began to inch their way into the game and tricky winger David Foley got behind the Boro defence, but his cross was cleared at the expense of a corner which was cleared, but only as far as Mark Anderson, whose shot was blocked.

Tait and Chambers were both shown yellow cards after the latter had kicked out at the centre-half. Anderson found Ryan Hall in space, but the former Curzon Ashton man wanted too much time and his shot was charged down. Boro missed a great opportunity to take the lead with 67 minutes on the clock after Lobjoit put his shot well wide after being played in by Nicholson.

The visitors began to have a greater share of the play and looked solid at the back while Foley and the dangerous Taylor were causing problems. Foley got behind the Boro defence again but Taylor could not get on the end of the winger's cross. Matthew Dixon's effort was comfortably saved by Lyness but Foley again caused problems for Boro's back line and picked out Taylor on the edge of the six yard box and the former Ashington striker tapped the ball into the net. The visitors saw out the remaining time with some ease and took the three points back to County Durham.

Chorley v Nuneaton Town 11-11-2017

Chorley: Urwin, Challoner, Blakeman, Teague, Leather, Jordan (Walker 33), Haughton, O'Keefe, Carver (Jarvis 65), Wilson, Cottrell (Hughes 53).
Subs: Anson, Black.

Boro: Lyness, Trotman, Wildin, Heaton, Dielna, Beswick, Elliott, Nti, Nicholson, Lobjoit (Ashton 64) Chambers. **Subs:** Daniels, Lomax, Mills, Gascoigne.

Boro made the journey to Victory Park to play Chorley in a National League North game.

Boro slipped into the relegation zone after surprising the home side by taking a 2-0 lead. Chorley, however, hit back and the visitors were under the cosh for long spells in the second half. The home side were the first to show and ex-Southport defender Matt Challoner almost forced the ball over the line in the first minute. But Boro were quick to hit back and Scott Leather made a fine block after Nicholson had played Nti clear. Boro continued to push the home side back and a minute later they took the lead after a Chambers effort was blocked and fell to the feet of Jordan Nicholson, who struck a powerful shot into the net from close range.



Jordan Nicholson gives Boro the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Despite their lead, Boro came under increasing pressure and Andy Teague went close with a header before Jake Cottrell deflected a Marcus Carver cross wide of the post. Nicholson put some pressure on the home defence but was unable to bring about a goal. Lyness made a regulation save from Adam Blakeman which saw Boro go in at the break with a 1-0 lead.

Boro shocked Chorley almost immediately after the break as the ball broke kindly for Chambers and put him clean through on the keeper. Boro's leading scorer kept his head and beat Urwin with ease to give the visitors an unlikely 2-0 lead.

Chorley continued to press as they sought to cut the deficit and they got a goal back in controversial circumstances after Josh O'Keefe headed Adam Blakeman's corner firmly at the goal. The Chorley players wheeled away in celebration but the Nuneaton players were far from happy, claiming that the ball hadn't crossed the line. The referee looked across at the linesman, but got no response and pointed to the centre.

After cutting the deficit the home side threw everything at Boro and the travelling fans feared the worse as the pressure intensified and the ball flew into the area from all directions. Then, with seven minutes of normal time remaining the

home side equalised after substitute Matty Hughes was put clear down the right. With acres of open space in front of him, he raced to the edge of the area before unleashing a rocket past Lyness and into the net.



Ashley Chambers extends Boro's lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

After the equaliser Chorley went close on a couple of occasions but Boro had an opening when Chambers had two bites at the cherry in the six yard box, but the home defence scrambled the ball away. Nick Haughton almost won it at the death, but although his shot beat Lyness, it struck the crossbar.

Two Leave For Darlington

Nuneaton Town have lost two of their first team squad as winger Greg Mills and full-back Luke Trotman join former manager Tommy Wright at Darlington. Trotman is a former Luton Town youngster, who has been a first-team regular this season, while Mills has featured in very few games recently due to fitness problems.

Callum Ball Moves To Barwell

Nuneaton Town have agreed to terminate the contract of Callum Ball and the striker will be rejoining his previous club, Barwell. The big front-runner joined Boro last summer, but failed to live up to expectations.

Hickey Goes Out On Loan

Nuneaton Town midfielder Brady Hickey has rejoined his previous club, Barwell, on a three month loan deal. The creative midfielder was signed by Tommy Wright during the summer and was described as 'one of the most highly-rated prospects in non-league football'. The 21-year-old has reportedly been linked with Football League and Premier League teams.

Nuneaton Town v Curzon Ashton 18-11-2017

Boro: Lyness, Wildin, Dielna, Elliott, Ashton, Heaton, Lobjoit (Daniels 22), Beswick, Chambers, Nicholson, Nti. **Subs:** Taylor, Gascoigne, Glover, Edofor.

Curzon: Mason, Shaw, Guest, Rowney, Howson, Stott, Crothers, Wright, Cummins, Wharton, Baillie. **Subs:** Clark, Brooke, Hunt, Madeley, Regan.

Boro welcomed Curzon Ashton to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro and Curzon Ashton battled out an untidy 1-1 draw, which was low on entertainment and saw Boro cement their place in the bottom three in front of a sparse crowd.



Boro were first to show and Jon Ashton threatened the visitors' goal from a Ryan Beswick corner. The home side continued to dominate the early play and Tom Elliott almost put Leon Lobjoit in on goal in the opening minutes.

The visitors hit back, however, and Lyness had to be on his toes to deal with efforts from Joe Guest and Ben Wharton. Elliott was in the thick of things again shortly afterwards, having an effort blocked by the Curzon defence and then Nti had a shot charged down.

Boro took the lead in the 17th minute from the penalty spot after a Steven Howson had slipped and the ball struck the player on the arm. Ashley Chambers kept up his impressive scoring record with a well struck penalty.

The pattern of the game was established early on as foul after niggly foul was awarded by an over-fussy referee and it was only a matter of time before someone went into the official's notebook. Luther Wildin's clumsy challenge on Jamie Stott earned him that honour after 30 minutes, and he was quickly joined by Billy Daniels for a foul on Jordan Wright.

With four minutes to go before the break Nti put Jordan Nicholson clear in the area, but he put his shot wide of the target from a good position.

Tom Elliott then found his way into the referee's book for an elbowing offence, while Nti scuffed a shot wide of the target just before the half-time whistle.

The second half followed the same pattern and although Nicholson had a half-chance, the visitors upped their game slightly and began to get at the Boro defence.

It came as no surprise when Curzon equalised from the penalty spot after Daniel Nti had tripped the dangerous looking Ben Wharton in the 57th minute. Niall Cummins sent Lyness the wrong way from the penalty kick and the visitors were level.

Dean Lyness needed a lengthy spell of treatment after he was injured in a clash with Wharton before Chambers put in a cross intended for Nicholson, but the ball was out of reach for the midfielder. Wildin had an effort saved by keeper Cameron Mason before the referee signalled the end of an eminently forgettable game.

Bromsgrove Sporting v Nuneaton Town 21-11-2017

Bromsgrove: Francis, Roberts, Quaynor, Loveridge, Clark, Morris, Spink, Willis, Cowley, Malley, Brain. Subs: Jones, Wilson, Bunn, Pykett, Deards.

Boro: Taylor, Wildin, Dielna, Edobor, Gascoigne, Heaton, Elliott, Beswick, Chambers, Nicholson, Nti. Subs: Chechlacz, Lomax, Glover, Ashton.

Boro made the journey to The Victoria Ground to play Bromsgrove Sporting in a Birmingham Senior Cup game.

Referee Ben Cooke of Atherstone called a halt to proceedings following an horrendous injury in the 70th minute to Bromsgrove's Liam Spink. The former Alvechurch, Redditch

and Rushall Olympic midfielder suffered a broken leg and a dislocated ankle.

Prior to the injury Nuneaton had led 2-1 with two goals from Jordan Nicholson. The Peterborough loanee opened the scoring with a terrific strike from 18 yards out, which gave Bromsgrove keeper Reece Francis no chance.

Bromsgrove, looking a decent side considering that they play their football in the Midland League premier division, grabbed an equaliser after 20 minutes through prolific striker Jason Cowley.

Play became a little ragged after the equaliser and chances were few and far between, although Nti had a shot blocked and five minutes later had a shot cleared off the line. Four minutes before the break Nicholson restored Boro's lead with another good strike following a one-two with Nti.

The second half started quietly but six minutes in Boro's second choice keeper Elliott Taylor was caught out of position and Wildin was forced to clear off the line. Nicholson was denied a hat-trick after 63 minutes when Francis pulled off a good save.

Four minutes later substitute Charles Chechlacz shot wide after being played in by Ashley Chambers and three minutes later the sickening injury to Spink occurred and the match was abandoned seven minutes later.

Youngsters Joins Boro

Nuneaton Town have signed 19-year-old Darragh Leahy from Coventry City. The youngster had a previous loan spell with the club last season and he will be with Boro until January 6. Another former loanee rejoining the club is Kyle McFarlane, who joins from Birmingham City.

Loan Players Come And Go

Young Northampton Town Leon Lobjoit has returned to his parent club after a month's loan. However, manager Dino Maamria has acted quickly to keep up the strength of the squad by signing Kuda Muskwe from Rotherham United. The 20-year-old striker has plenty of experience at non-league level, having been loaned out by his parent club on several occasions, including loan spells at Mickleover Sports and North Ferriby United.

North Ferriby United v Nuneaton Town 02-12-2017

North Ferriby: Durrant, Cooke, Walters, Bolder, Skelton, Picton, Warren, Russell, Nelthorpe (Harrison 86), Johnson (Ambalu 45), Kyei (Lofts 68). Sub: Exall.

Boro: Lyness, Wildin, Heaton, Elliott, Ashton, Gascoigne, Daniels, Beswick, Chambers, Nicholson, Dielna. Subs: Leahy, Taylor, Muskwe, Nti.

Boro made the journey to Grange Lane to play North Ferriby United in a National League North game.

Boro recorded their first away victory of the season against a much-improved home side. The home side, bolstered by a couple of new signings and a new manager, gave a

good account of themselves, especially in the first-half. The opening minutes were fairly even with Ashton heading a Beswick corner just wide after five minutes before the home side threatened from consecutive corners. Nicholson then had a shot blocked and the home keeper, Ross Durrant, saved from Nicholson's follow-up attempt. The Peterborough loanee then pulled a shot wide of the goal following a Dielna free-kick, which had been headed on by a North Ferriby defender.

After a period of very ordinary football from both sides, that man Nicholson was again on hand to put a weak effort wide after a decent build-up had resulted in a corner. Gascoigne got up well to a Beswick corner but Durrant comfortably saved his powerful header. Former Goole player Bobby Johnson was stretchered off injured just before the break and was replaced by Congolese striker Joel Ambalu.

Boro came out for the second half in a more determined mood and Chambers had an opening five minutes into the half but could only shoot over the top from the edge of the area. Durrant gathered a Tom Elliott shot before Beswick had an effort blocked by a defender as the visitors ramped up the pressure. Billy Daniels won a free kick from which Elliott saw his shot tipped over the top by Durrant before Boro took the lead on 58 minutes.

A Beswick corner was hit long and found Elliott on the angle of the 18 yard box and the former Worksop youngster volleyed the ball first time over the home defence and into the far corner of the net. Four minutes later it was game over after in-form striker Ashley Chambers performed a superb turn before slotting the ball past the home keeper.

North Ferriby looked a beaten side after the second goal and Nuneaton had chances to increase their lead with efforts from Nicholson and Daniels later in the game. The home side, despite a much improved performance from the previous week's FA Trophy thrashing, now look racing certainties for relegation from the Blue Square North.



Stevenage Youngster Comes In

Nuneaton Town have signed 20-year-old midfielder James Ferry on a month's loan from Stevenage. The former Brentford youngster has had loan spells at Wycombe and Welling before joining Stevenage at the start of the current season.

Leahy Moves On

Loan signing Darragh Leahy has had his contract cancelled by his parent club, Coventry City and the young defender has decided to return to his native Ireland to find a club and get his career back on track.

Kidderminster Harriers v Nuneaton Town 23-12-2017

Kidderminster: Hall, Pearson, Taylor, Croasdale, Horsfall, Williams (Austin 46), Weeks (Vaughan 71), McQuilkin (Truslove 61), Ironside, Ngwatala, Sanupe. Subs: Brown, Wright.

Boro: Lyness, Wildin, Heaton, Elliott, Ashton (Dielna 55), Gascoigne, Ferry, Bewick, Chambers, Nicholson, Nti. Subs: Daniels, Taylor, McFarlane, Mitchell.

Boro made the journey to Aggborough to play Kidderminster Harriers in a National League North game.

Ill discipline saw Boro throw away any chance they had of taking anything from what was always going to be a difficult game. Two rash challenges from midfielder Tom Elliott in a two minute spell earned him a red card for two bookable offences and Ryan Beswick's crunching tackle on midfielder Declan Weeks saw him receive a straight red.

Boro had opened in lively fashion and Beswick saw a tenth minute shot curl well wide of the post before Emmanuel Sonupe put an effort into the side netting. French midfielder Elton Ngwatala hit a superb shot from all of 30 yards that took a deflection but Dean Lyness was alert to the danger and made a fine save and the ball was cleared by Jon Ashton.

Boro were well in contention at this stage and Nicholson made a driving run before hitting a looping shot from the edge of the area, but the effort took a deflection off Horsfall and went out for a fruitless corner. Both sides were battling for the first opening but in general the respective defences were handling what pressure there was. However, with just over half-an-hour gone a huge clearance by Harriers' keeper Brandon Hall bounced over Heaton and was latched onto by Sonupe who drove into the area before sliding a shot past a hesitant Lyness.

Nicholson put a shot straight at Hall, but Kidderminster were now looking the more threatening of the two sides and Horsfall put a shot just wide from McQuilkin's free-kick before Tom Elliott lost the plot and committed two needless fouls, which were deemed by the referee to be worthy of a yellow card apiece and ultimately first use of the showers. Three minutes later Ryan Beswick launched himself two footed at Weeks and joined Elliott in the dressing room. With Boro as good as beaten and still 45 minutes to go, McQuilkin put a shot over the bar from the edge of the area.

McQuilkin again shot over the bar at the start of the second half and minutes later had a shot deflected for a corner. Boro's fate was sealed on 51 minutes when Chambers brought down Joel Taylor as he surged into the area. The referee had no hesitation in pointing to the spot and Boro old boy Joe Ironside sent Lyness the wrong way from the spot.

Kidderminster were unfortunate not to go 3-0 up after 55 minutes when McQuilkin's goal bound volley hit Ironside who was standing on the goal line. With two more players on the pitch Kidderminster bossed possession and Lyness was called on to make a number of saves and watched on helplessly as Ngwatala, who outjumped Wildin at the far post, headed

across goal and narrowly wide. Substitute Sam Austin fired over the bar before the home side hammered a final nail into Boro's coffin. Not for the first time Luther Wildin was stranded in no man's land and Ngwatala played a superb ball through for Joel Taylor who ran on before squaring the ball to former Birmingham City player Liam Truslove, who placed a shot wide of Lyness and into the net. Ngwatala broke clear again in the dying minutes and Ironside put his cross into the Boro net, but the linesman's flag cut short any celebrations.

Nuneaton Town v Tamworth

26-12-2017

Boro: Lyness, Wildin, Dielna, Elliot, Ashton, Heaton, Ferry, Beswick, Chambers, Nicholson, Nti (Mitchell 66). **Subs:** Daniels Taylor, McFarlane, Olukanmi.

Tamworth: Jezeph, Burns, Morley, Deeney (Wharton 46), Jones (Ricketts 46), Kettle, Powell (Reid 66), Verma, Taylor, Kotwica, Knights. **Subs:** Shaw, Walters

Boro welcomed Tamworth to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro put the memory of the game at Kidderminster behind them by carrying out a first-half demolition of an extremely disappointing Tamworth side who were fortunate not to be more than four goals behind at the break.

Boro went on the offensive from the kick off and Tamworth were forced back into their own half but the visitors threatened after former Nuneaton man Connor Taylor was brought down but Knights' free-kick came to nothing and the visitors were soon back on the defensive. It came as no surprise when Elliott gave Boro the lead following good work from Chambers and Nicholson, although the Tamworth keeper, Dan Jezeph may have done better.



Tom Elliott gives Boro an 11th minute lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro continued to dominate, although Knights brought a decent save out of Dean Lyness in a rare Tamworth attack before another spell of pressure from the home side saw Jezeph punch away a corner. However, the ball landed at the feet of Nicholson who shot just wide.

Boro doubled their lead after 20 minutes when Beswick played in Nti on the right of the Tamworth area and his low cross was met by Jordan Nicholson, who lifted the ball over the keeper, whose effort in trying to prevent the goal might again be called into question.

The lively Nicholson curled a shot just wide while Wildin headed Taylor's effort clear and then Lyness was called into action to push away a shot from defender Luke Jones. This was but a brief respite for the visitors and they soon found themselves further behind, much to the fury of their fans. The goal looked to many to have been scored by Jordan Nicholson, but Chambers claimed a touch on the ball and added another goal to his impressive tally.

Tamworth's cup of woe was full to overflowing two minutes later when Chambers struck again, superbly volleying home from eight yards out, giving Jezeph no chance of saving. Boro's leading scorer was proving a handful for the Lambs' defence and went close to scoring Boro's fifth when he almost got a touch on Nicholson's corner. James Ferry put an effort way over the top before the referee's whistle brought some welcome relief to a beleaguered Tamworth side who left the field to a chorus of boos from their travelling fans.

The Tamworth manager, Andy Morrell, made a couple of half-time substitutions, which seemed to steady the ship in the second half, although Boro still kept them on their toes and enjoyed the lion's share of possession. Lyness was forced to save from the much travelled Aman Verma who then headed wide from a corner.



Ashley Chambers puts Boro four goals ahead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The visitors were enjoying more possession as the half wore on and almost got a goal after a cross was headed onto the roof of the net. Minutes later Tamworth were gifted a goal when Jon Ashton put a Darryl Knights' cross past Lyness, who was all set to collect the ball. The visitors looked more dangerous after the goal and had a couple of half-chances but Boro took the pace out of the game and played some keep ball in the Tamworth half to see the game out for a comfortable victory.

Boro Sign Kidderminster Defender

Boro have signed 21-year-old Kennedy Digie on loan from Kidderminster Harriers where he graduated from the Aggborough academy in 2014. The young defender has experienced loan spells with Hednesford and Worcester City and last season he was part of the Stourbridge squad that reached the play-off final at step three. Digie's loan period runs until 27th January 2018.

Tamworth v Nuneaton Town 01-01-2018

Tamworth: Jezeph, Burns, Morley, Wharton, Jones, Kettle, Powell (Kotwica 90+3), Verma, Taylor (Reid 71), Ricketts, Knights (Shaw 90+5).
Subs: Walters, Aldhouse.

Boro: Lyness, Wildin, Heaton (Olukanmi 76), Daniels, Ashton, Gascoigne, Nti (Mitchell 71), Ferry, Chambers, Nicholson, McFarlane. **Subs:** Taylor, Elliott.

Boro made the journey to The Lamb to play Tamworth in a National League North game.

Boro hit by the suspensions of Ryan Beswick and Tom Elliott and an injury to defender Joel Dielna put in an abject performance that left fans with little hope that their team could avoid relegation as they slipped to bottom but one in the league table. Nuneaton now face back to back matches against promotion chasing teams and an uphill struggle to get their season back on an even keel.

Tamworth started off on the front foot and pushed Boro back into their own half early on before former Kidderminster Harriers' defender Luke Jones got in a couple of headers.

Billy Daniels had a brief sight of goal after 20 minutes but could only manage a weak shot which was well wide of the goal. Former Boro man Connor Taylor put an effort way over the top after Knights had failed to get on the end of a Theo Wharton cross.

Darryl Knights shot high over the bar after being played clear by Powell and two minutes later Tamworth took the lead after Connor Taylor was played in down the right before driving a shot past Dean Lyness, who got a hand to the ball, but was unable to prevent it from going into the net. Five minutes later the home side doubled their lead through former Wrexham winger Callum Powell, who received the ball in the area after some parks quality defending from Boro and turned on the ball before beating Lyness with a cool finish into the corner of the net.

Full back Stephan Morley hit a shot over the bar before Boro broke and won a free-kick on the edge of the Tamworth 18-yard box, which was awarded for a handball by on-loan defender Joel Kettle, but the free-kick came to nothing and the referee brought a temporary halt to Boro's misery by blowing for half-time.

Boro started the second half quite brightly but were soon pegged back again and Tamworth had penalty appeals turned down following a shot from Taylor. Lyness then made a regulation save from Powell while at the other end Brad Gascoigne got onto the end of a right wing corner, but was only able to bundle the ball wide. Taylor's shot was deflected wide on 65 minutes and Lyness made a comfortable save from the resulting corner.

Tamworth had another penalty shout after Lyness appeared to clash with Taylor and as the ball broke loose Powell put the ball into the side netting before Boro had a brief glimpse

of goal, but Birmingham City youngster Kyle McFarlane's firmly hit shot was well wide of the target. The unusually quiet Ashley Chambers got a shot away in the dying minutes of the game before Boro won a couple of late corners, but the visitors ended the game a well beaten side.



Boro Sign Stevenage Defender

Nuneaton Town have secured the loan signing of Stevenage's Northern Ireland Under-21 international Ryan Johnson on loan until the end of the season. The 21-year-old began his career at West Bromwich Albion before deciding to join Stevenage. He has gained experience at non-league level with Boreham Wood and St Albans City.

Nicholson Loan Extended

Boro have negotiated an agreement with Peterborough United which will see them keep impressive midfielder Jordan Nicholson on loan until the end of the season.

Nuneaton Town v Brackley Town 06-01-2018

Boro: Lyness, Wildin, Heaton, Elliott, Ashton, Gascoigne (Mitchell 46), Ferry, Johnson, Chambers, Nicholson, Nti (Olukanmi 88). **Subs:** Daniels, Taylor, Digie.

Brackley: Lewis, Myles, Franklin, S. Byrne, Gudger, Dean, G. Walker, Armson (A. Walker 86), Brown (Lucas 88), Ndlovu, Lowe. **Subs:** Diggin, Graham, Tilney.

Boro welcomed Brackley Town to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro were a long way second best to a powerful Brackley side that included no less than seven players who had previously worn a Nuneaton shirt.

After a fairly nondescript opening few minutes Brackley took the lead in bizarre circumstances. A Shane Byrne free-kick was played in to the feet of Lee Ndlovu, who, tumbling backwards to the ground, still managed to get a toe-end onto the ball and as Boro defenders looked on Glen Walker nipped in to force the ball into the net. Boro keeper Dean Lyness might have done better, but redeemed himself minutes later as Shane Byrne's shot from the edge of the box was pushed around the post for a fruitless corner.

James Ferry put in a powder-puff effort when well placed, following good work by Ashley Chambers, but in the main Boro's forwards were being well marshalled by a powerful Brackley back line.

The visitors maintained their iron grip on the game for the remainder of the half, but there were few clear-cut chances apart from a weak effort from Matt Lowe, which drifted wide of the far post.

Nuneaton Town 2008-2018 - Part 2



The second-half continued in much the same vein as the first and Armson played in the impressive Ellis Myles, who got to the byline before crossing to Ndlovu, who hit a wild volley well over the top.



Glen Walker puts Brackley into the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Former Boro favourite Andy Brown brought a regulation save from Lyness with a shot from 20 yards before Brackley were awarded a free-kick wide out on the left. Byrne's lofted cross to the far post was palmed away by Lyness, who then set off in pursuit of the loose ball, but Alex Gudger got there first and was sent tumbling to the ground by the Boro keeper. The referee had no hesitation in pointing to the spot and James Armson sent Lyness the wrong way to give the visitors a 2-0 lead.



James Armson sends Dean Lyness the wrong way. Photo: Simon Kimber

Chambers headed just over from Ferry's cross, but Boro looked a beaten side as Gareth Dean kept a tight rein on leading scorer Ashley Chambers. Nicholson hit a free-kick over the top from the edge of the area as the game drifted into its closing stages. The final action of the game saw Niall Heaton put in a weak header which was collected by Danny Lewis.

Nuneaton Town v Harrogate Town 09-01-2018

Boro: Lyness, Wildin, Heaton, Elliott, Johnson, Digie, Daniels, Ferry, Chambers, Nicholson (Mitchell 82), Nti. Subs: Taylor, Olukanmi, Dielna, Ashton.

Harrogate: Belshaw, Vann, Swain, Falingham (Kerry 71), Kennedy, Parker, Thewlis, Emmett, Beck, Agnew (Knowles 60), Leesley. Subs: Lees, Cracknell, Thomson.

Boro welcomed Harrogate Town to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro surprised the title challengers and their own supporters

with a much-improved performance, some of which was down to the new defensive pairing of Kennedy Digie and Ryan Johnson. The home side made a bright start and forced an early corner which came to nothing before Nicholson dragged a shot wide before the same player gave Boro the lead. The home defence worked the ball out well and it was played up field to Chambers whose clever flick on to Nti was played inside to Nicholson and the midfielder slotted the ball home.



Jordan Nicholson gives Boro the lead.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Harrogate looked far from League Championship material, but did briefly threaten Lyness' goal when a shot from Jack Emmett was saved by the Boro keeper and landed at the feet of winger Joe Leesley, who fired wide of the target. So wide of the target that the ball sailed out for a throw-in. Nicholson again threatened the visitors, but Belshaw made a good save to keep Harrogate in the game.

Boro continued to match the visitors in both possession and endeavour but conceded a poor goal in the dying embers of the first half. The way the goal was conceded was reminiscent of many others this season – a long free-kick into the box from Leesley found its way to the back post where Terry Kennedy blasted a powerful volley into the net.

Harrogate came out for the second half in a determined mood and forced Boro onto the back foot for a short time, but the home side regained the lead ten minutes into the second half when a sublime ball from Nicholson played Ashley Chambers clear through one-on-one with the keeper. The star striker kept his nerve and slotted the ball home past a diving Belshaw. Nicholson then blasted wide from a well-worked free-kick.

Harrogate took control of the game after the goal and forced Boro onto the back foot, peppering the home side's area with crosses. Jordan Thewlis put a shot over the bar with 20 minutes to go before former Darlington striker Mark Beck failed to get enough contact on Leesley's cross.

As the game wore on Boro became more creative in using up what time was left on the referee's watch and Nti was booked for heading the ball onto the terrace on the Rugby Club side of the ground after the ball had already gone out of play, earning himself a booking.



Chambers scores the goal that wins the game. Photo: Simon Kimber



Jordan Nicholson gives Boro the lead. Photo: Simon Kimber

Harrogate substitute Dominic Knowles, a former Burnley youngster, went close with four minutes of normal time to go, but his first touch let him down after Thewlis had picked him out in the area. Heaton headed a dangerous corner away, but only as far as substitute Kerry, who lofted the ball back into the area, forcing Lyness to palm the ball over the bar.

In desperation the visitors threw goalkeeper James Belshaw up for free-kicks and corners as the third official raised the board to indicate seven minutes of time added on. However, Boro hung on for a famous victory and climbed out of the relegation zone and put a spoke into the championship wheels of the visitors.



Chambers is denied by Henrich Ravas. Photo: Simon Kimber

Gainsborough Trinity v Nuneaton Town 13-01-2018

Gainsborough: Ravas, Jacklin, Beevers, Clarke (Simmons 64), Stainfield (Evans 45), Richards, C. King, L. King, Wells, Worsfold, Bateson (Storey 64). Subs: Russell, Smith.

Boro: Lyness, Wildin, Heaton, Elliott, Johnson, Digie, Ferry (Daniels 87), Beswick, Chambers, Nicholson, Nti. Subs: Taylor, Mitchell, Delna, Ashton.

Boro made the journey to Northolme to play Gainsborough Trinity in a National League North game.

Boro continued to show improved form against their fellow strugglers and secured their second consecutive win, pulling away from the relegation zone in the process. In fact, the visitors could have won more comfortably if it had not been for a superb goalkeeping performance by the home side's Slovakian U-19 international Henrich Savas.

Nuneaton were the first to show and a through ball from Ferry picked out Wildin, who raced into the box before squaring the ball in the direction of Ashley Chambers, but a fine interception by Stainfield kept Boro at bay.

The visitors continued to cause Trinity problems and took the lead after 17 minutes when James Ferry made ground down the right before crossing into the area. The home defence misjudged the bobbling ball and Nicholson turned and hit a shot past the despairing dive of two defenders and the keeper.

Although enjoying the lion's share of play Boro almost conceded against the run of play but Heaton got a head to Jacklin's dangerous cross. The home side had a let-off when Beevers misjudged a through ball and Chambers ran clear, but although he made room for a shot, it lacked power and was straight at Ravas.

Boro's top scorer was played clear again soon afterwards but he was again denied by Ravas and Johnson's follow-up shot was comfortably dealt with by the busy Trinity keeper. With time running out in the first-half Bateson got past Wildin and got in a shot-cum-cross but Lyness managed to push the ball round the post for a corner. Nicholson was then played clear and shrugged off the challenge of Craig King, but Ravas again came to Trinity's rescue.

The visitors went close again at the start of the second half when Elliott drove into the box and slipped the ball to Nti, but the ex-Worcester City man's weak shot was deflected wide of the target.

The overworked Trinity custodian was called on again throughout the second half and seemed to be fighting a one-man battle at times, but as the game entered its final stages Dean Lyness was called on to save from Worsfold, but Boro held on and secured a priceless three points which lifted them clear of the relegation places.

Gascoigne Leaves

Nuneaton Town have parted company with defender Brad Gascoigne. His release from the club has been described as “by mutual consent”. In other news, James Ferry’s loan spell from Stevenage has been extended to the end of the season.

Bromsgrove Sporting v Nuneaton Town 16-01-2018

Bromsgrove: Francis, Clarke, Quaynor, Loveridge, Jones, Preston, Deards, Holt, Cowley, Brain, Wilson. **Subs:** Roberts, Kelly, Morris, Binner.
Boro: Taylor, Edobor, Dielna, A. Elliott, Langmead, Ashton, Adams, Daniels, Mitchell, Jhannes, Olukanmi. **Subs:** Steele, Baimbridge, Richmond, Osoimoejiokian.

Boro made the journey to The Victoria Ground to play Bromsgrove Sporting in a Birmingham Senior Cup game.

Boro eased past their Midland League opponents with a penalty shoot out win after the game ended 1-1 in normal time. Kairo Mitchell gave Boro an 89th minute lead, but Sporting hit back and Craig Jones headed an equaliser in time added on to take the game into a penalty shoot out.

Billy Daniels scored the first penalty but Josh Quaynor equalised with the home side’s first kick. Ryan Richmond restored Boro’s lead but Sporting again equalised through Jason Cowley. Kairo Mitchell gave the visitors a 3-2 advantage before Elliott Taylor saved Liam Holt’s penalty kick. Jean Jhannes’ had his shot saved by Reece Francis but former Tamworth defender Dan Preston put his spot kick high over the bar leaving Joel Dielna to secure a Boro a 4-2 win and a quarter-final tie against Walsall at Liberty Way.

Etheridge Signs

Boro have secured the services of former Accrington Stanley goalkeeper Ross Etheridge.

Nuneaton Town v Bradford Park Avenue 27-01-2018

Boro: Lyness, Wildin, Heaton, Digie, Johnson, Ferry (Daniels 58), Beswick, Nicholson, Elliott, Chambers, Nti. **Subs:** Etheridge, Dielna, Mitchell, Ashton.

Bradford PA: Drench, Toulson, Hill, Wroe, Killock, Havern, Spencer, Boshell, Boyes (Smith 90), Johnson (Nowakowski 80), Clee (Vidal 75). **Subs:** Hall, Knight.

Boro welcomed Bradford Park Avenue to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

The two sides played out a lively 0-0 draw, which could have gone either way with both sides going close on occasion. Boro had the best of the chances and could have taken all three points as they pushed the visitors back on the defensive in the final stages.

The opening quarter of the game was finely balanced but the visitors were encouraged as Dean Lyness rushed to the very edge of his area, which led to appeals for handball, but the referee showed no interest. As the half progressed Boro came more into the game and Ashley Chambers had a shot

deflected wide from Jordan Nicholson’s cross. Bradford keeper Steve Drench, well known to the home fans through his time with Guiseley, made a good save after Nti got on the end of a nice passing move.



James Ferry gets a first-half shot in.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Having had slightly the better of the first half, Boro continued to hold the whip hand in the opening stages of the second, but James Ferry, having got himself into a good shooting position, hit a tame effort wide of the post. Bradford then hit back and former Altrincham man, Nicky Clee, forced Lyness into a fantastic save as the ball seemed destined for the top corner of the goal. Clee had an effort cleared off the line as Bradford threatened.



Dean Lyness makes a fine save from Nicky Clee.

Photo: Simon Kimber

However, the visitors found themselves down to ten men after Danny Boshell committed a second yellow card offence and found himself trudging off to the dressing room. The home side poured forward after the dismissal, but the ten men of Bradford were resolute in defence, especially ex-Premier League full-back Matt Hill, whose pedigree stood out in a solid Bradford rearguard.

At the final whistle Boro had to settle for a solitary point, but can feel well pleased with their efforts. The visitors were a dogged and skilful side, who will no doubt surprise one or two teams later in the season.

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Nicholson Leaves

Peterborough United have recalled Jordan Nicholson from his loan at Nuneaton and transferred him to League 2 Barnet. The attacking midfielder has signed for the North London club on a permanent deal.

Boro Bring In Two

Nuneaton Town have signed former Everton prodigy George Green, who has been playing in Norway for Viking Stavanger in the Norwegian premier division. He was bought by Everton from Bradford City for £300,000 and was an outstanding prospect representing England at three different age levels and was a member of the Everton side that won the Under-18 Premier League in 2014.

The attacking midfielder has had spells with Tranmere Rovers, Oldham Athletic, Burnley, Kilmarnock and Salford City before making the move to Viking in August 2017.

Also joining the squad is ex-West Bromwich Albion forward Adil Nabi, who is 23 and moves to Liberty Way on loan from Peterborough United until the end of the season. Nabi has also represented England at junior level and had a spell with Delhi Dynamos in the Indian Super League.

Nuneaton Town v FC United of Manchester 03-02-2018

Boro: Lyness, Wildin, Heaton, Johnson, Digie, Ferry, Beswick, Green (Daniels 60 (Nabi 70)), Elliott, Nti, Chambers. **Subs:** Etheridge, Mitchell, Langmead.

FC United: Allinson, Senior, Wisdom, Baird, Fagbola (Tattum 60), Hughes, Palmer (Jones 78), Racchi, Greaves, McCarthy, Linfield (Crawford 60). **Subs:** Basso, Gilchrist, Jones.

Boro welcomed FC United of Manchester to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro secured their third win in four league games, but the narrow 1-0 scoreline did not reflect their overall superiority. They had the visitors on the back foot from the off and FC United employed some questionable tactics with new signing George Green being targetted on more than one occasion early on.



Chambers wheels away after converting Ferry's cross.

Photo: Mark Lee (FC United of Manchester)

The home side had a sight of goal in the early stages when Chambers scooped the ball into the air and it fell kindly for Ryan Johnson, who hit a weak shot straight at former Huddersfield Town goalkeeper Lloyd Allinson. Boro continued to enjoy the lion's share of possession and took the lead on 29 minutes after James Ferry ran at the United defence and made his way into the box before squaring the ball to Chambers, who sidefooted the ball past Allinson and into the net. Green hit a shot wide of the target and Ferry again fed Chambers, who hit the ball well over the top from the edge of the box.

The game followed the same pattern after the break as the visitors had to engage in some last ditch defending to keep the home side at bay, after Allinson spilled a Chambers' shot. FC United then came more into the game and Boro scrambled away a cross from the left before Dean Lyness was forced to dive to his right to collect a long range shot from former Tamworth man Danny Racchi. A dangerous cross from the left then had Lyness back-peddalling and he crashed into the post, but the ball was hammered clear by Kennedy Digie.



Dean Lyness deals with a difficult cross.

Photo: Mark Lee (FC United of Manchester)

United almost shipped a second goal as Heaton's diving header caused panic, but after a short ping-pong session the ball ended up in the arms of Allinson. Boro survived a Daniel Wisdom free-kick from the edge of the box and the visitors had another brief sight of goal after Wildin was dispossessed in the 18-yard box, but Lyness managed to bundle the ball around the post.

George Green, who had made a promising start to his Boro career was replaced by Billy Daniels on 60 minutes. The former Coventry man looked ill at ease and was substituted by new boy Adil Nabi after only ten minutes on the pitch, although it wasn't clear whether he was injured or not.

As the half progressed Boro began to manage the game and Daniel Nti and Ashley Chambers worked hard at winding the clock down by shielding the ball following a series of corner kicks. This tactic seemed to enrage some of FC United's players, especially Racchi, who was clearly agitated by Nti's part in the routine.

Boro Sign Kidderminster Forward

Nuneaton Town have signed 21-year-old Andre Wright from Kidderminster Harriers. The forward started his career with West Bromwich Albion and spent loan spells at Kidderminster, Torquay and Coventry before joining the Harriers on a permanent one year deal following his release from The Baggies.

Spennymoor Town v Nuneaton Town 17-02-2018

Spennymoor: Porter, Griffiths, Mason, Ramshaw, Tait, Curtis, Hall (Lowe 70), Henry, Taylor, Anderson (Fewster 46), Johnson (Foley 83).
Subs: Lowson, Chantler, Foley.

Boro: Lyness, Wildin, Heaton, Elliott, Johnson, Digie, Ferry, Beswick, Chambers, Green (Mitchell 72), Nti. **Subs:** Etheridge, Wright, Nabi, Dielna.

Boro made the journey to The Brewery Field to play Spennymoor Town in a National League North game.

A goal from leading goalscorer Ashley Chambers was enough to see Boro inflict a rare home defeat on The Moors. The game got off to a scrappy start, and although Boro had the lion's share of possession, the first chance fell to the home side when Glen Taylor, an FA Vase winner with Whitley Bay, brought Dean Lyness into action, but the keeper saved the weak shot with some ease.



Daniel Nti is about to play Ashley Chambers clean through on goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The visitors continued to hold the whip hand and they took the lead on 29 minutes following a Spennymoor corner, which was cleared and eventually fell kindly to Tom Elliott who slipped the ball inside for George Green, whose first-time pass found its way through to Daniel Nti. The former Worcester man was clean through on the keeper with Ashley Chambers for company and Nti slipped the ball past the onrushing Jordan Porter and into the path of Ashley Chambers who took the ball to the edge of the six yard box before rolling it into an empty net.

Nti gave Porter some more work to do with a shot from the angle of the 18 yard box, but the former Huddersfield keeper collected the ball from the angle at the near post. The home side then had a sight of goal after Nti carelessly

lost possession on the edge of his own box and Shane Henry curled a shot well wide, but Boro looked comfortable and went in at half-time with a 1-0 lead.

Boro again frustrated the home side after the break when clear cut chances were almost non-existent, however, Boro almost conceded an equaliser after a bemusing intervention by James Ferry, who poked the ball past Lyness as the keeper rushed out to collect. The ball found its way to Henry, but the midfielder could only stab it across goal and wide of the far post.

The home side began to exert some pressure towards the end, but the Boro defence was well disciplined and kept The Moors at bay to record an impressive away win.

Stockport County v Nuneaton Town 20-02-2018

Stockport: Hinchliffe, Cowan, Duxbury, Winter (Dixon 80), Smalley, Stott, Thomas (Oswell 61), Stopforth (Turner 69), Ball, Warburton, Stephenson. **Subs:** Clarke, Ormson.

Boro: Etheridge, Wildin, Heaton, Elliott, Johnson, Digie, Ferry, Beswick, Chambers, Green (Mitchell 84), Wright, Dielna, Chechlacz, Ashton.

Boro made the journey to Edgeley Park to play Stockport County in a National League North game.



James Ferry battles for the ball with Darren Stephenson.

Photo: MPhotographic

Boro continued their recent winning run and saw off Stockport in reasonable comfort. The visitors hardly gave the home side a sight of goal throughout and could have won more comfortably.

Boro started brightly, but it was former Northwich Victoria midfielder Chris Smalley who was first to threaten, although his header drifted wide of the target. Ashley Chambers had first sight of the Hatters goal, but Ben Hinchliffe made a comfortable save before Stockport hit back with a fruitless corner. Boro though, were looking the more dangerous side and put some good passing moves together before Tom Elliott hit a wild shot way over the home goal.

George Green, who again came in for some special attention

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from opposition defenders, won a free-kick and took it himself, but Hinchliffe made a regulation save. The busy Green then picked out Daniel Nti, who shot disappointingly wide before Hinchliffe was again called upon to save from Green.

Ex-Stalybridge Celtic man Jimmy Ball tested Etheridge with a decent effort before Boro grabbed the lead after 41 minutes. Top scorer Ashley Chambers hit a good shot from 25 yards which smacked against the crossbar, rebounded against the unlucky former Worcester City keeper and found its way into the net. Boro deserved their half-time lead and had hardly been troubled by the home side.

The second half started, as the first had ended, with Boro in control and Nti held the ball up well before bringing in Green, who again worked the home keeper, this time with a well hit drive. Boro continued to threaten and put together an expansive passing move, but Hinchliffe saved from Beswick at the second attempt. Green shot over the top following a mazy run before the home side began to shuffle their pack.

The changes began to pay dividends and County started to look more threatening and both Elliott and Beswick were called on to defend before Nti set up Ferry but the Stockport keeper was equal to the shot. Nti went close with a curling shot in the dying minutes, while Stockport continued to pose very little threat and Boro saw the game out with few problems, extending their unbeaten run to six matches.

Nuneaton Town v Chorley

24-02-2018

Boro: Etheridge, Wildin, Heaton, Digie, Johnson, Ferry (Mitchell 74), Beswick, Elliott, Green, Nti, Chambers. Subs: Dielna, Lyness, Wright, Ashton.

Chorley: Unwin, Challoner, Blakeman, Teague, Leather, Jordan (Walker 82), O'Keefe, Witham, Wilson, Newby (Carver 63), Cottrell. Subs: Hughes, Rigg, Molyneaux.

Boro welcomed Chorley to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.



Kennedy Digie heads over the bar.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The game opened in scrappy fashion with a stiff breeze making good football difficult. However, it was soon clear

that the visitors were well disciplined at the back and were prepared to battle for the ball in midfield. The former Tamworth player Andy Teague was dominant in the air and looked a good quality Conference North defender alongside the robust former Preston and Altrincham defender Scott Leather.

The Magpies were the first to offer any real threat when Josh O'Keefe put Alex Newby clear through on goal, but Ross Etheridge saved bravely to deny the recent Chorley acquisition. However, Boro hit back and George Green saw a free-kick flash just wide of the post.

The game was fairly even with ten minutes to go to half-time but Newby again forced the Boro custodian into a save at the expense of a corner before Chambers hit a firm shot into the side netting. But with barely five minutes to go before the break Chorley mounted a devastating attack on the home rearguard.



Ashley Chambers wheels away in celebration.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Dale Whitham, who began his career at Old Trafford, put over a pinpoint cross from the right and the ball found its way onto the head of former England C international Josh Wilson. The 6ft 2in former Telford man headed the ball into the top corner to send the Magpies in at half-time with a 1-0 lead.

After the break, the away side looked content to protect their lead while looking to hit Boro on the break. Whitham and Wilson both had shots from distance before George Green put in a tremendous drive from all of 35 yards which former Blackburn and Bradford City goalkeeper, Matt Urwin, tipped over the bar.

Chorley continued to look defensively solid, but Boro were enjoying the lion's share of the ball at this point and Kennedy Digie put two headers over the crossbar.

Then, with only six minutes remaining, Urwin was forced to beat out Daniel Nti's header and it fell to Ashley Chambers, whose rich vein of goalscoring form was maintained, as he cracked the loose ball into the net.

AFC Telford United v Nuneaton Town 03-03-2018

Telford: B. Wilson, Bignot, Sutton, Johnson, Harris, Deeney, Cowans (Newby, 62), Lussey (Murphy, 82), McAtee (Dinanga, 76), Marsden, Morgan-Smith. Subs: White, Singh.

Boro: Etheridge, Wildin, Digie, Johnson, Heaton, Beswick, Ferry, Elliot, Green (Dielna 65), Nti (Mitchell, 90), Chambers. Subs: Wright, Ashton, Lyness.

Boro made the journey to The Bucks Head to play AFC Telford in a National League North game.

Having survived a number of inspections throughout the day, the frost-covered pitch presented a tricky playing surface for both sides. But in spite of the conditions Boro were, overall, the better side and ran out worthy winners.

The opening 15 minutes were fairly even and Telford's Shrewsbury loanee John McAtee volleyed an effort well wide. Ryan Beswick had a volley go narrowly wide before Boro took the lead with 30 minutes on the clock.

James Ferry got a cross over to Ashley Chambers and Boro's leading scorer got in a sharp shot that was pushed out by the Bucks' keeper Ben Wilson. The ball, however, only rebounded to Ferry, who shot home from close range.



James Ferry scores from almost on the goal line.

Photo: AFC Telford United

Telford were quick to reply as winger McAtee ran through a couple of half-hearted tackles before he got in a telling cross that picked out Amari Morgan-Smith, who controlled and turned before drilling the ball into the net.

Boro tried to hit back before the break, but despite efforts by Ferry and Chambers, the sides went in on level terms at half-time.

Boro came out after the break in determined mood and Kennedy Digie hit a shot over the top before Luther Wildin restored the visitors' lead. Beswick picked out the full back, who raced forward and cut across four defenders before beating Wilson with a crisp left footer into the corner of the net.

After taking the lead for a second time Boro continued to dominate and leading goalscorer Chambers twice hit efforts wide of the target.

Nuneaton Town v North Ferriby United 10-03-2018

Boro: Etheridge, Wildin, Heaton, Elliott, Johnson, Digie, Ferry (Wright 75), Beswick, Chambers, Green (Adil Nabi 83), Nti. Subs: Mitchell, Lyness, Dielna.

North Ferriby: Durrant, Clappison, Cooke, Forrester, Piercy, Mail, AJ George (Bannister 83), Johnson, Harrison, Collins, Lofts (Nicholls 90). Subs: Deacy, Exall.

Boro welcomed North Ferriby United to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro started the game on the front foot and quickly exposed the visitors' defensive frailties when a Ryan Beswick corner was played short into the 18-yard box from where George Green swept the ball home, across the North Ferriby defenders and into the net. Then, Boro almost conceded an equaliser with some very ordinary defending of their own.

They got caught square at the back and Bobby Johnson got clear in the area, held off Kennedy Digie and then took the ball wide of Ross Etheridge before pulling it back to debutant Adriel George, who was unmarked on the edge of the six yard box. The Antigua and Barbuda international had all the time in the world, but skied his shot high over the bar.

Boro recovered quickly though and it was the visitors' turn to have a narrow escape as Luther Wildin broke down the right and fed the ball through to Daniel Nti. The striker held off James Piercy before slipping the ball past Ross Durrant. However, the ball hit the inside of the far post and was scrambled out for a corner by Bobby Johnson.



Jack Mail grabs North Ferriby's equaliser.

Photo: Mark Leighton (North Ferriby)

Ferriby, although some way second best at this stage, stuck to their game well and won a free-kick on the angle of the 18-yard box. The cross was aimed at Jack Mail, who stood alone at the far post with his arms aloft. When the ball arrived he headed it, unchallenged, into the far corner.

Boro were stung by this setback and battled to reimpose themselves on the game. They broke quickly onto the visitors' defence and James Ferry robbed Piercy and sped to the byline from where the former Brentford youngster pulled the ball back into the path of Chambers, who thundered a shot at goal only for it to be charged down by Jamie Forrester before being headed clear.

George Green was a whisker away from a second goal when he shot narrowly wide from 25 yards out and Chambers lashed in another powerful effort that was well blocked by Ross Durrant, before being cleared over his own bar by Piercey. James Ferry then set off on a mazy run which saw him go past two defenders and get to the line.

The wingman hammered the ball across goal and it shaved the far post after getting a deflection off Benjamin Clappison. Then, with time running out at the end of the first-half, Durrant received a disastrous back-pass and was robbed by Chambers. The leading goalscorer played the ball back to Daniel Nti, who made no mistake from ten yards out.

Boro started the second half in style and could have extended their lead when Chambers outstripped Jack Mail and turned him before crossing to Nti, whose shot was blocked but broke to Ferry, who blasted the ball against the upright. Chambers again picked out Nti, who threaded the ball through to Green whose shot was beaten away by Durrant, but only as far as Ferry, who found Chambers on the edge of the area. The former Grimsby man took out two defenders with a pass that found Green in the 18-yard box, but the midfielder's fierce strike was again saved by Durrant.



Boro put North Ferriby under pressure. Photo: Mark Leighton (North Ferriby)

Having weathered the storm North Ferriby went in search of an equaliser and Adriel George, responsible for a glaring first-half miss, pushed the ball past Wildin on his way into the area and was sent tumbling to the ground by the Boro full-back. The referee had no hesitation in pointing to the spot and Etheridge was beaten by Bobby Johnson's spot kick, even though he went the right way.

Boro worked hard to repair the damage, but the visitors defended stubbornly and Durrant made another decent save from Kennedy Digie who then headed over the top as the clock ticked away towards full-time. North Ferriby, though, almost pulled off an unlikely smash and grab when late substitute Alex Bannister fired over the bar from the edge of the box.

Digie Recalled

Boro's on-loan centre-half Kennedy Digie has been recalled by his parent club, Kidderminster Harriers.

Players Receive International Call-ups

Full-back Luther Wildin has been selected to represent Antigua and Barbuda in friendly games against Bermuda and Jamaica. Also chosen to represent his country is Kairo Mitchell, who will turn out for Grenada, who will be playing a friendly against Belize.

Leamington v Nuneaton Town

17-03-2018

Leamington: Breeden, English, Gudger, Gittings, Hood, Mace, Dodd (Clarke 64), Dubar, Udoh (Revan 93), Edwards, Obeng. Subs: Canavan, Moore, Taundry.

Boro: Etheridge, Wildin, Heaton, Elliott, Johnson, Langmead, Ferry, Beswick, Chambers, Green (Daniels 81), Nti (Mitchell 70). Subs: Dielna, Lyness, Ashton.

Boro made the journey to The New Windmill to play Leamington in a National League North game.

A bitterly cold wind cut across the pitch, making for an uncomfortable afternoon for players and supporters alike. Both goalkeepers found the conditions challenging, but Leamington's Tony Breeden had more success during the second period in keeping the ball in play, whereas Ross Etheridge continually put the ball into touch in the first-half.

Leamington were first to show and former Sutton Coldfield winger Matt Dodd almost got a toe on Jack Edwards' through ball. However, Boro looked dangerous despite having to battle against the worst of the conditions in the first-half. Nti put a shot narrowly wide of the far post after being played in by Wildin, although Breeden looked to have the shot covered.

Boro then had an escape after Etheridge allowed a corner to slip through his hands and hit the crossbar. When the ball broke, Edwards found Connor Gudger on the edge of the box. The left back slipped the ball in to Daniel Udoh, who forced Etheridge into an uncomfortable save at the near post.



Leamington score the winning goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Tom Elliott threatened at the other end before Leamington

again put the Boro defence under pressure, but a shot from the edge of the area was high over the bar. Chambers powered into the Leamington box after he was played in by Ferry, but the striker's shot lacked power and Breeden made a comfortable save at the near post.

Then, with 34 minutes on the clock, Boro fell behind after a crossfield ball picked out former Rushall Olympic striker Ahmed Obong, who was clear of Luther Wildin. The Boro full-back made up the ground but Obong pushed the ball to the line and was brought down. The referee immediately pointed to the spot, from where Matthew Dodd sent Etheridge the wrong way.

George Green carved out a chance for himself but his shot from the edge of the box flew over the bar and then Chambers raced beyond the Leamington defence and pulled the ball back to Green, who was totally unmarked. Although it looked a certain goal, the midfielder lifted the ball against the bar to the anguish of the travelling supporters.



George Green misses from point blank range. Photo: Simon Kimber

Immediately afterwards Elliott was picked out by Ryan Beswick but the former Worksop Town player's shot drifted wide of the far post. Daniel Udoh then matched Green's marksmanship skills by lifting the ball over the crossbar when clean through on the keeper.

Boro totally dominated the second period and went close on several occasions. Tony Breeden, however, was in top form and made several top class saves. He was ably assisted by the woodwork, with Langmead's header crashing against the crossbar. Despite almost continuous pressure, Boro were unable to breach the Brakes' rearguard with the home side well served by Jamie Hood, who put in a performance which was in stark contrast to his showing at Liberty Way earlier in the season.

Games Postponed

Boro's next two games, at home against York City on Saturday and away at Curzon Ashton on Tuesday night have been postponed due to international call ups.

Nuneaton Town v Walsall

20-03-2018

Boro: Lyness, Casey, Langmead (Edobor 73), Heaton, Dielna, T. Elliott, Bewick, Nti, Nabi, Green, Wright: **Subs:** Chambers, Etheridge, A. Elliott, Jhannes.

Boro welcomed Walsall to Liberty Way to play a Birmingham Senior Cup quarter-final game.

Boro fought their way into the semi-finals and a game at Keys Park against Hednesford Town. It was a fairly uninspiring first 45 minutes but Boro stepped up the pace in the second period and went through with goals from Adil Nabi and Jean Jhannes. The home side missed a late penalty when Andrew Wright's spot kick was saved by Saddlers' youth team keeper Brandon Ganley.

Maamria Joins Stevenage



Dino Maamria (right) with assistant manager Jon Ashton.

Photo: Coventry Telegraph

Manager Dino Maamria has left Nuneaton Town to join League 2 side Stevenage, who have sacked their manager Darren Sarll. The 46-year-old Tunisian is a former player, assistant manager and coach at Broadhall Way

Ex-Forest Man Appointed



Nuneaton Town have appointed ex-Nottingham Forest full-back Gary Charles as manager. The 47-year-old won two full caps for England as well as six at Under-21 level. He has also represented Derby County, Aston Villa and Benfica. Charles has had managerial experience at Lincoln City where he was assistant manager to David Holdsworth.

Alfreton Town v Nuneaton Town 30-03-2018

Alfreton: Johansson, Topliss, Allan, Disley, Shiels, Beevers, Jennings, Platt (Baxendale 50), Sharp (Bell 64), Brendon Daniels, Westcarr.
Subs: E. Green, Marshall, Wagner.

Boro: Etheridge, Wildin, Heaton, Langmead, Johnson, Ferry, Elliott, Beswick, Nti, Chambers, G. Green. **Subs:** Billy Daniels, Lyness, Dielna, Mitchell, Nabi.

Boro made the journey to The Impact Stadium to play Alfreton Town in a National League North game.

New manager Gary Charles guided Boro to a draw from a fairly ordinary contest played in difficult conditions. The home side were the first to threaten but Craig Westcarr put his free-kick over the top from 25 yards out. A good run from Sam Topliss took him into the penalty area but his shot lacked any real power and Ross Etheridge collected the ball with some ease.

The home side came under pressure briefly when James Ferry played in Daniel Nti at the near post, but the striker tried to pull the ball back across goal and it went straight to Alfreton's on-loan Aston Villa keeper Viktor Johansson. The home side pressed again and Westcarr's cross was deflected to Jennings on the right of the area whose cross back into the danger area was collected by Etheridge.



George Green whips a cross over.

Photo: Simon Kimber

George Green's shot failed to bother the home keeper before Tom Allen got in a header which bounced before reaching Etheridge, who made a mess of collecting the ball and Ryan Johnson was called on to clear.

Then, a couple of minutes before the break, Alfreton took the lead. Westcarr was played clear by Jennings and held up the ball before slipping it through to Brendon Daniels, who was given too much time on the ball and found the far corner of the net with Etheridge nowhere.

Rain made the already heavy pitch even worse for the start of the second half as Nti made Johansson rush off his line, forcing the keeper to save with his body. Chambers had a shot deflected over the bar before Tom Elliott again called the Alfreton keeper into action.



Daniel Nti's header is on its way into the net.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro rescued a point with ten minutes remaining. Niall Heaton's long throw was met by Daniel Nti, virtually unchallenged at the near post, and his glancing header found the far corner of the net. Boro almost grabbed another shortly afterwards when David Shiels' mistimed header fell to Chambers who raced into the area and pulled the ball back to James Ferry whose shot was charged down by Craig Disley. Chambers then curled a shot high and wide from the edge of the box just before the final whistle.

Nuneaton Town v York City 10-04-2018

Boro: Etheridge, Wildin, Langmead, Johnson, Heaton, Ferry, Elliott, Beswick, Nti, Chambers, Green. **Subs:** Daniels, Lyness, Mitchell, Dielna, Nabi.

York City: Bartlett, Burn, Parslow, Bencherif, Law, Moke, Newton, Connolly (Wharton 56), Ferguson (Steels 81), Smith (McNaughton 61), Gray. **Subs:** Brown, Simpson.

Boro welcomed York City to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.



Daniel Nti torments the York defence.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro put in an impressive display against the play-off contenders, who rarely looked like a side challenging for

promotion. The home side quickly put the high-flyers on the back foot and the highly experienced ex-Hartlepool, Gateshead and Hereford United keeper Adam Bartlett was forced to save from Tom Elliott who got on the end of Daniel Nti's cross. The home side claimed that the ball had crossed the line but the referee begged to differ and play continued.

The enigmatic George Green was sent crashing to the ground by Daniel Parslow, who was booked, and Green then went to ground in the box, but the referee was having none of it and waved away the home side's appeals for a penalty. Daniel Nti put a shot wide before York's Sean Newton had a shot deflected wide.

Boro dominated the first 45 minutes but could not score, although Ryan Johnson had a chance at the far post, but bundled the corner kick wide of the goal. Daniel Nti then broke clear onto Tom Elliott's through ball, but wanted far too much time and was forced to shoot wide when one-on-one with the keeper.

The referee's whistle signalled the end of a fairly scrappy half, in which Boro had dominated possession without looking too threatening.

The home side set the pace at the start of the second period and James Ferry hit the post just after the restart while an Elliott shot was deflected wide for a fruitless corner. A long period of midfield play followed with little or no goal action until the 75th minute when Boro took the lead after Chambers raced into the box and rounded Bartlett as he came out to challenge. Boro's leading scorer took the ball wide of the keeper and swivelled on the ball, shooting into a virtually unguarded net.

Home fans may have thought that York would redouble their efforts following this setback, but they continued with their lack-lustre display and hardly threatened the home side.

In fact, Ashley Chambers had a chance to double the home side's lead, but he curled a shot wide of the post from the edge of the box, with only minutes left.



Ashley Chambers scores the winning goal.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Southport v Nuneaton Town

07-04-2018

Southport: Worsnop, Richards, Howson, Priestley, Kelly, Smith (Hannah 58), Morgan (Doyle 90), Osborne, Dawson (Whittle 79), Charles, Gilchrist. Subs: Halstead, Marx.

Boro: Etheridge, Wildin, Langmead, Johnson, Heaton, Ferry, Beswick, Elliot (Daniels 89), Green (Mitchell 54), Nti, Chambers. Subs: Lyness, Dielna, Nabi.

Boro made the journey to Haig Avenue to play Southport in a National League North game.

Boro started the game on the front foot and won a corner almost from the kick-off. Ashley Chambers got his head on Ryan Beswick's flag kick, but the ball hit another Boro player and was scrambled clear by the home team, who quickly hit back. Northern Ireland Under-21 international Dion Charles cut inside Niall Heaton and put a low shot just wide of the post with Ross Etheridge beaten.

Charles was quickly in action again and his well-struck shot forced Etheridge to finger-tip the ball away. The game was fairly even at this stage, but Boro looked threatening at times and former Alfreton keeper Jon Worsnop was forced to push a Luther Wildin shot around the post. The visitors threatened again from the resulting corner kick as Niall Heaton's header was blocked on the line.

Boro broke the deadlock after 26 minutes after James Ferry was picked out down the right and crossed to Daniel Nti, who turned before putting in a shot which took a deflection off a Southport defender, leaving Worsnop helpless as the ball found the net just inside the far post. Southport worked hard to find a way back into the game and got over a couple of crosses but they carried little threat and Boro went in at the break with a deserved 1-0 lead.



Tom Elliott battles with former Boro favourite David Morgan.

Photo: SouthportFCPix

The second half consisted of some fairly ordinary fare, but Boro held the whip hand throughout and there was a sight of goal for substitute Kairo Mitchell, who chased down a long clearance, but was narrowly beaten to the ball by Worsnop. James Ferry and Nti both got in shots, but neither troubled the keeper.



Boro find themselves with some defending to do. Photo: SouthportFCpix

Southport struggled valiantly to rescue something from the game and put Boro under some late pressure as much-travelled striker Ross Hannah threatened at the far post, but he was struggling to reach the ball and could only deflect it wide of the far post. Just before the final whistle Ashley Chambers went close to doubling Boro's lead, hitting a cross-shot against the crossbar. Although the game was not a classic by any stretch of the imagination, Boro were worthy winners and still in with an outside chance of a play-off spot.

Nuneaton Town v Salford City

14-04-2018

Boro: Etheridge, Wildin, Langmead, Johnson, Heaton, Ferry, Elliott, Beswick (Daniels 88), Green (Mitchell 42), Chambers, Nti. Subs: Nabi, Lyness, Dielna.

Salford: Erlandsson, Nottingham, Hogan, Piergianni, Touray, Askew (Allen 73), Haughton (Dudley 72), Burton, Walker, Diesenuvwe (Shelton 85), Mafuta. Subs: Redshaw, Phenix.

Boro welcomed Salford City to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro suffered their first home defeat since losing to Brackley Town in January, but there was no disgrace in losing against the division's leading light. The visitors' success was founded on a rock solid defence, which included the outstanding centre-back pairing of Carl Piergianni and Liam Hogan, who nullified any threat that Boro posed.



Daniel Nti gets in an early effort.

Photo: Simon Kimber

The home side got off to a good start and Daniel Nti got in a 6th minute shot which clipped a defender before being collected by on-loan Nottingham Forest keeper Tim Erlandsson. Salford hit back though, and ex-Solihull Moors full back Michael Nottingham got in a shot that was comfortably saved by Ross Etheridge before Ashley Chambers had a sight of goal at the other end. However, he was unable to get the ball down and Hogan denied him a shot.

Boro had a real let-off after 17 minutes when Tom Walker picked out Nick Haughton who drove the ball into the danger area where it struck a defender and spun over the bar. It was a close call for the home side, but two minutes later they fell behind after Haughton raced towards the home penalty area where he was brought down. The former Fleetwood man took the free-kick himself and his well-hit effort went round the wall and into the net, leaving Etheridge to admire the quality of the strike.

Ryan Beswick put a speculative 25-yarder over the bar as Boro looked to get back into the game. George Green was booked for a foul on Scott Burton and was then carried off on a stretcher after incurring what looked to be a serious injury. After a five minute break while Green received treatment, Salford went further ahead with just two minutes to go before the half-time whistle. Tom Walker put in a dangerous free-kick which found the imposing Carl Piergianni, who headed firmly past Etheridge to make the score 2-0 at the break.

Boro enjoyed their fair share of possession after the break, but never seemed to have enough ammunition to damage the visitors, who looked very comfortable. Chambers hooked a ball into the danger zone from Elliott's pass, but once again Salford looked untroubled. James Ferry played a one-two with Tom Elliott, but the former Worksop Town player couldn't get enough on the ball and it was cleared.

Boro continued to enjoy ample possession, but didn't really look that threatening and the Ammies reasserted themselves as the game entered the final throes. Richie Allen missed a good opportunity from close range before the final whistle as the league favourites completed a professional performance.



James Ferry tries his luck.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Curzon Ashton v Nuneaton Town 16-04-2018

Curzon: Mason, Thornley, Guest, Hunt, Shaw, Regan, Baillie, Marshall (Clark 78), Cummins (Wharton 28), Brooke (Baker 82), Dunwoody.
Subs: Beesley, Crothers.

Boro: Etheridge, Wildin, Heaton, T. Elliott, Langmead, Johnson, Ferry, Daniels, Chambers, Mitchell (Nabi 76), Nti. **Subs:** Wright, Lyness, A. Elliott, Casey.

Boro made the journey to The Tameside Stadium to play Curzon Ashton in a National League North game.

Boro were first to threaten and Daniel Nti got in a dangerous cross that sped across the six yard box with Kairo Mitchell just short of getting a touch at the far post. However, the home side hit back and took the lead after 16 minutes when young full-back Oliver Thornley put in what might have been a cross, but which evaded everyone and found its way into the net off the far post.

Boro went close after Luther Wildin played Ashley Chambers clear down the right. The striker got to the line and crossed the ball in to Mitchell, but his firm shot was palmed out for a corner by Curzon keeper Cameron Mason.

The visitors again went close after Billy Daniels hit a ball into the area for Langmead to get in a diving header, but his goalbound effort was headed to safety by Joe Guest.

With just five minutes to go before half-time Boro snatched an equaliser, with a superb move. Wildin set off on a mazy run across the 18-yard box which took him past three defenders. Just as he looked to have lost control, Mitchell back-heeled the ball into the full-back's path. The youngster went past two more defenders before sliding the ball past the keeper and in off the far post from eight yards out.



Wildin beats two more defenders.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro started the second half on the front foot and Mitchell again had a chance but couldn't direct a free header on goal, the ball drifting disappointingly wide of the far post.

Curzon hit back and a superb reverse pass from Jamie Baillie put in Thornley, who cut inside before laying off to Ryan

Brookes, whose shot was blocked by Langmead, but fell again to Baillie, whose cross was headed wide.

Boro found themselves in arrears for a second time after 66 minutes when Tom Elliott had a rush of blood and went through James Baillie, giving away a stonewall penalty. The Curzon defender picked himself up and sent Etheridge the wrong way from the spot.

The home side could have sealed the match when Baillie raced clear of Niall Heaton, but his final effort lacked any great power and Ross Etheridge saved, albeit after a fumble.

The home side continued to pose the greater threat and Etheridge again had to save from substitute Ben Warton who had been played clear by Stoke City loanee Jake Dunwoody. Then, with the 90 minutes up and Boro heading for defeat Billy Daniels hit a speculative ball into the Curzon box where makeshift centre-forward Kelvin Langmead hit a volley past Mason to rescue a last-gasp draw for Boro.



Langmead rescues a point for Boro.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Darlington v Nuneaton Town 21-04-2018

Darlington: Pears, Brown, J. Heaton, Galbraith, O'Hanlon, Turnbull, Wheatley, Thompson (Coton 75), Syers (Portas 69), Gillies (Saunders 84), Styche. **Subs:** Bancroft, Glover.

Boro: Etheridge, Wildin, Langmead, Johnson, N. Heaton, Ferry, Daniels, Elliott, Green (Mitchell 59), Nti, Chambers. **Subs:** Lyness, Dielna, Nabi, Wright.

Boro made the journey to Blackwell Meadows to play Darlington in a National League North game.

The home side started strongly and had the lion's share of the early play. Former Bradford City man Dave Syers put a Steve Thompson cross over the bar from 12 yards out before Joe Wheatley fired a free kick wide of the post after Syers had been pushed in the back by Ryan Beswick.

Darlington continued to dominate the early action and Reece Styche hit a shot way over the top from the edge of the area after Ryan Johnson had misjudged the bounce from a long punt upfield.



Ashley Chambers forces the Darlington keeper into action.

Photo: Darlington FC

A careless clearance from Ross Etheridge then gave Josh Heaton a chance to steam into the box and he reached the edge of the six yard box, but Etheridge redeemed himself by pushing the ball around the post for a fruitless corner. Boro finally managed to mount some pressure of their own and they could have taken the lead after Luther Wildin broke quickly and lifted the ball over a defender to Chambers, whose shot was parried by England Under-19 international Aynsley Pears. The ball broke to Ashley Chambers, but Boro's leading scorer controlled the ball with his hand and he was booked for the offence.

Darlington had the ball in Boro's net just before the break when Reece Styche held the ball up well and played in Wheatley, whose cross was crashed in by Syers, but the linesman's flag cut short the celebrations. Chambers headed over the top and Etheridge made a comfortable save from Styche before the half-time whistle.

Darlington went close straight after the break when Wheatley's 25-yard shot was parried by Etheridge, but Syers put his shot wide from six yards out. Pears made a save from James Ferry's long distance effort before Boro started to come more into the game and Ferry had another shot charged down after a quick break by the visitors.

The home side went close in the dying minutes when Reece Styche was played clear down the right and put a dangerous ball into the area. Etheridge, however, just got to the ball a split-second before Harvey Saunders. Former Southport winger James Caton almost stole the three points for the home side when he unleashed a shot from 25 yards, which Etheridge pushed out for a throw-in on the far side.

The game could be seen as a predictable end-of-season stalemate between two mid-table teams, but it was a hard-earned point against a team who have only lost once in their last eight games.

Boston Game Postponed

Nuneaton Town have announced that the Vanarama North League fixture scheduled for Tuesday night against Boston United has been postponed due to floodlight failure. Since

the postponement it has been announced that the game will be played on Wednesday night, albeit almost 60 miles away at Alfreton Town's ground.

Winding Up Proceedings

Following hard on the heels of Tuesday night's postponement, it has been widely rumoured on a fan's forum, Facebook and Twitter that the club faces a winding up petition in the High Court.

Rumours abounded on social media regarding unpaid bills and staff wages not being being met, but the club has not commented on the rumours. It has, though, been announced that Saturday's game against Blyth Spartans will take place at Liberty Way, barring any problems with the weather.

It was later announced by local radio station BBC CWR journalist Dave Deakin's Twitter account that the club did not face a winding up order, despite being listed.

Nuneaton Town v Boston United

25-04-2018

Boro: Etheridge, Dielna, Heaton, T. Elliott, Langmead, Johnson, Ferry, Nti (Nabi 46), Chambers, Green, Mitchell (Wright 75). **Subs:** Steele, A. Elliott, Lyness.

Boston: Willis, Clifton, Brogan (Smith 85), Thanoj, Keane, Qualter, Wafula (Middleton 75), Abbott, Thompson, Tshimanga, Hemmings. **Subs:** McGuire, Beesley, Smith.

Boro travelled to North Street, Alfreton to play a National League North home game against Boston United.

The game started slowly, but Boro had the first real chance after 12 minutes when ex-Boro defender Jordan Keane made an acrobatic clearance from under the crossbar after Ashley Chambers had chipped former Gainsborough Trinity keeper George Willis.

Boston had a good spell of possession without really creating anything but Boro shocked the Pilgrims with a goal after 21 minutes from James Ferry, who headed home Chambers' cross at the far post. Etheridge tipped a Hemmings' cross wide before Boro survived a penalty scare after Niall Heaton appeared to handle the ball.



Ryan Johnson and Tom Elliott challenge Kabongo Tshimanga.

Photo: Eric Brown (Boston United)

Former Buxton midfielder Brad Abbott put a shot well wide of the post before Boro had a penalty appeal of their own following Qualter's rash tackle on Kairo Mitchell, but the referee showed no interest. Joel Dielna put a free-kick over the top from 20 yards out while former Dagenham and Redbridge winger Ashley Hemmings headed wide from James Clifton's cross.

Boston came out for the second half in determined mood and pushed Boro back. Former Boro full-back James Clifton tested Ross Etheridge, who was in action again shortly afterwards, saving Abbott's long-range effort with his legs. Boston drew level just before the hour mark after Hemmings drove the ball across the Boro penalty area and Ryan Johnson turned the ball into his own net.

The game then became the Ross Etheridge show as the Boro keeper made a string of fine saves from Boston substitute Jame Beesley and Abbott, twice, in a frantic spell for the 'home' side. Kelvin Langmead joined in the rearguard action heading away Beesley's effort from Abbott's shot. However, despite being under the cosh for long periods, Boro had a chance to snatch all three points with 90 minutes on the clock when George Green clipped the outside of the post. Beesley had a chance for Boston deep into injury time, but his shot from Hemmings' cross flew over the crossbar.

Hednesford Town v Nuneaton Town 26-04-2018

Hednesford: Wren, Thorley, Mendez-Jones, Bailey, Gatter, Rea (Harris 58), Dwyer, King, (Fitzpatrick 68), Butlin, Glover, Lawrie (Veiga 76). Sub: Fitzgibbon.

Boro: Lyness, Casey, Steele (Richmond 62), Elliott, Wildin, Edobor, Adams, Checlasz, Wright, Nabi, Mitchell (Blackham 85). Sub: Flack.

Boro made the journey to Keys Park to take on Hednesford Town in a Birmingham Senior Cup semi-final tie.

A Boro side comprised of mainly Academy players was given a harsh lesson by the Pitmen, who have won only one league game in ten matches. The home side who were quickly on the offensive, dominated the early exchanges and took the lead after only four minutes through former Boro striker Danny Glover who converted Tom Thorley's cross.



Danny Glover puts pressure on Boro's inexperienced defence.

Photo: Chris Holly (Hednesford Town)

Boro struggled to get out of their own half as Hednesford continued to boss the game but Adil Nabi offered some relief with a shot over the bar before the home side extended their lead after 27 minutes. Former Gloucester City midfielder Reece King got a ball into the area and the unfortunate Josh Steele headed the ball over Dean Lyness and into his own net.

Hednesford continued to dominate as Boro's youngsters struggled to come to terms with semi-professional football. The home side had several opportunities to extend their lead before the break, but Boro held on and went in at half-time only two goals down, but clearly struggling.

The home side picked up where they had left off in the second half and Glover almost made it three, but his header from Anthony Dwyer's cross crashed against the post. It was only a matter of time before Hednesford extended their lead and Dyer made it 3-0 following good work by Glover and Thorley.

The dangerous Dwyer continued to torment the Boro defence and was instrumental in the home side further extending their lead after 65 minutes. The former Telford United man was given the freedom of the pitch by Boro's defence and made good use of the space by feeding the ball into Glover, who made no mistake in making it 4-0.

The Pitmen had several other chances to score and rubbed salt into the wound by bringing on veteran goalkeeper Jose Veiga. However, former Boro keeper James Wren wasn't taken off, but pushed up front where he almost made it 5-0, forcing Lyness into a full-stretch save.

Nuneaton Town v Blyth Spartans 28-04-2018

Boro: Etheridge, Wildin, Heaton, Elliott, Langmead, Johnson, Ferry, Daniels, Chambers, Green, Dielna (Nabi, 64). Subs: Mitchell, Lyness, Wright, Richmond.

Blyth: Jameson, Cartwright (Butler, 81), Liddle, Mullen (Hopson, 73), Buddle, Atkinson, Wrightson, McTiernan (Horner, 66), Maguire, Reid, Dale. Subs: I. Watson, MacDonald.

Boro welcomed Blyth Spartans to Liberty Way to play a National League North game.

Boro wound up the season with an entertaining game in which Blyth's play-off ambitions were thwarted, as they needed to win to have any chance of taking part. The Spartans started in determined mood and England C international striker Dan Maguire had the ball in the Boro net as early as the fourth minute, but the linesman's flag cut short any celebrations.

Sean Reid had a chance for the visitors, but failed to convert Robbie Dale's cross before Boro carved out a chance. George Green played in Ashley Chambers and the prolific striker forced the Blyth custodian, Peter Jameson, to make a superb save. However, Boro did not have long to wait for the opening goal, and with 24 minutes on the clock George Green got in behind the Spartans' defence and coolly slid the ball past the onrushing keeper.



George Green's shot is on its way into the Blyth net. Photo: Simon Kimber

Former Sunderland youngster Andrew Cartwright hit a shot wide from distance before Dan Maguire had a shot parried by Ross Etheridge but David McTiernan missed the target from close range. The ever-dangerous Maguire was again unlucky when he once again put the ball into the Boro net, but for the second time a linesman's flag came to the home side's rescue. Chambers curled a shot wide as Boro hit back while former Gateshead winger Adam Wrightson put a shot over.

Blyth started the second half on the front foot and looked to step up the pace. Boro, however, looked solid and dangerous on the break. Maguire threatened again for the visitors, but scuffed his shot wide after creating room for a shot and the long-serving Robbie Dale lost control when well placed. Luther Wildin caused problems for Jameson when his cross somehow found its way onto the crossbar, while at the other end Etheridge came to the rescue after Wrightson had beaten Niall Heaton to the byline. Towering defender Nathan Buddle headed wide before the visitors levelled the scores on 76 minutes after Dale cut inside and hit a shot into the bottom right hand corner.



Ashley Chambers makes it 2-1. Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro stepped up their game after the equaliser and it was only four minutes later that they regained the lead through

leading goalscorer Ashley Chambers who seized onto a loose ball and beat the keeper before slamming the ball into an unguarded net. With time running out Blyth were throwing everything into attack and pulled themselves back onto level terms with a super goal from midfielder Sean Reid who slammed the ball past a helpless Etheridge and into the top corner of the net.

There was some excitement in time added on when Dale Hopson got a sight of goal, but he put his shot straight at Etheridge. With the added time quickly running out Blyth sent goalkeeper Pete Jameson up for two late corners in a desperate attempt to grab the points. It could have gone badly wrong though as a quick ball out of defence saw the visitors' keeper racing to get back, but Boro were unable to get a shot in. Credit goes to both sides who put on a good show in an entertaining game.

Chairman Steps Down

Nuneaton Town chairman Lee Thorn has announced his decision to step down as club chairman with immediate effect. The ex-Kettering Town director and life-long Poppies supporter has also stated that it is his intention to sell the ground and club. No other details have been given and it is unclear whether he will stay on and run the club until a new buyer is found as no formal statement has been issued.

Nuneaton Town Supporters' Co-operative have indicated that they are in negotiations with other parties with a view to saving the club should it become necessary. The news comes on the same day as the announcement that the club will revert back to its previous name of Nuneaton Borough for the 2018-19 season.

Elliott Wins Player Of The Year



Tom Elliott with his impressive haul.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Midfielder Tom Elliott has walked away with the 2017-18 Player of the Year award, having put in many sterling performances for the team. He was also voted the Borough Independent Supporters Club Player of the Year in both home and away categories. The Manager's Player of the Season was leading goalscorer Ashley Chambers, who also scooped the Players' Player of the Year award.



Ashley Chambers with manager Gary Charles and Assistant-Manager Jon Ashton.

Photo: Simon Kimber

Supporters Co-operative Bid For Club

The board of Nuneaton Town Supporters' Cooperative today received the prospectus and statement of terms of sale for Nuneaton Borough F.C. and the ground. A price was quoted within that document, however at this point the supporter group will be keeping that information confidential.

Members of the Co-operative board will be attending a meeting on May 21st, hosted by an intermediary, to discuss the matter with a number of individuals, with the aim of forming a consortium to purchase the club and ground.

The Co-operative will be seeking to raise funds for their portion of the purchase through a community share offer, however the exact terms will need to be negotiated with any potential partners.

Should the Co-operative be unable to reach an agreement, they will be looking at a second option of raising the whole amount necessary to buy the club and ground, again through a community share issue. The group will be working closely with Supporters' Direct who have huge experience in successfully helping fan organisations to raise funds for the purchase of sports clubs.

The long term future of Nuneaton Borough is the top priority and securing a deal for the club as quickly as possible will help ensure the club remain competitive next season.

The Nuneaton Town Supporters' Co-operative AGM will be taking place on May 16th, when an additional Q&A session will be held at the end of the regular business. It is expected that a further open meeting will be announced shortly when the Co-operative will be presenting their plans in detail.

Conference North 2017-2018

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Salford City	42	28	7	7	80	45	91
Harrogate Town	42	26	7	9	100	49	85
Brackley Town	42	23	11	8	72	37	80
Kidderminster Harriers	42	20	12	10	76	50	72
Stockport County	42	20	9	13	75	57	69
Chorley	42	18	14	10	52	39	68
Bradford Park Avenue	42	18	9	15	66	56	63
Spennymoor Town	42	18	9	15	71	67	63
Boston United	42	17	9	16	67	66	60
Blyth Spartans	42	19	2	21	76	69	59
York City	42	16	10	16	65	62	58
Darlington	42	14	13	15	58	58	55
Nuneaton Town	42	14	13	15	50	57	55
AFC Telford United	42	16	5	21	55	69	53
Southport	42	14	8	20	60	72	50
FC Utd of Manchester	42	14	8	20	58	72	50
Alfreton Town	42	14	7	21	67	71	49
Curzon Ashton	42	12	13	17	52	66	49
Leamington	42	13	19	19	51	65	49
Gainsborough Trinity	42	14	4	24	47	73	46
Tamworth	42	11	9	22	55	77	42
North Ferriby United	42	4	9	29	25	101	21

Wildin Joins Stevenage



Boro full-back Luther Wildin has been transferred to Stevenage for an undisclosed fee. The 20-year-old, who



was born in Leicester began his career with Notts County's youth team and recently made his full international debut for Antigua and Barbuda in a 3-2 win against Bermuda. The promising youngster was selected to join Jamie Vardy's V9 Academy in March of this year.

Nuneaton Town Supporters' Co-operative AGM

The AGM of the Supporters' Co-operative was held at Coton Liberal Club and was well attended by comparison to recent years with extra seating having to be provided for the influx of members and non-members.

After normal business had been conducted a Q&A session was held, although it was felt by the board that some of the information available should be confidential until after the supporter group had a meeting which had been arranged with local businessmen, whose financial support for a bid for the club was seen as crucial.

Co-operative Meeting With Potential Business Partners

Nuneaton Borough Supporter's Cooperative chair Harry Warren, and treasurer Mike Turner met with a number of people from the local community who had expressed an interest in supporting the Co-operative and their aims for a community run football club.

They delivered their vision to the business people in attendance regarding the future of the club, something which was widely bought into by the group, all of whom actively want to help the group should they secure ownership of the football club.

However, the price that had been quoted, coupled with information available in public domain about the operational situation of the football club, was deemed to be too high a risk for anyone to be interested in making financial support for the Co-operative's bid.

Details of the meeting have been relayed to Lee Thorn, and the Co-operative asked him to engage with them and Supporter's Direct as they move on to plan B, which is to launch a community share order to secure the football club. Should the club owner be willing to move forward with this, there will be an open meeting to discuss how the Co-operative will raise the required monies.

The ball now firmly rests in the court of Mr. Thorn, and it is hoped that he will meet with the Co-operative in an attempt to secure the future of this football club for the community.

The Co-operative were extremely disappointed with the outcome of the meeting with prospective business partners, but understand completely the views of those present, but the group were delighted at the enthusiasm of those present who had shown a willingness to support the Co-operative and the football club in the future.

On receipt of a reply from Lee Thorn, a public meeting will be held to discuss the options to secure the future of the club.

Statement From Lee Thorn

Late on Monday night I was informed that the Nuneaton Town Supporters Cooperative were not able to put together any offer for the football club and its Liberty Way home.

I was very disappointed to hear this as I really wanted them to take over and make it a community and fan run club.

Two options were presented to the Coop:

Option 1 to buy the club and stadium at a figure supplied to them.

Option 2 to rent the stadium on a long-term lease which satisfied the competition criteria, based on an under market value rental figure (this option included taking over the clubs trading debts).

At no stage was any financial information requested by the Co-op regarding the running costs, trading debts, or any other costs involved in taking on a club of our standing.

The last few weeks have also proven that there is not a group of local businessmen waiting in the wings to invest in this club. They have had a chance to come forward and talk to me, yet none have taken it.

The Co-op have shown, for a second time under my four-year tenure, that they are not able to take over the running of the club either.

Since taking over at the club I have had to fight battle after battle to keep the club going. People inside the club have tried to sabotage it, people outside have tried to undermine it and people who want to cause the club to fail have tried to turn the town, and Boro fans, against the club for their own ends.

I have fought hard for over the past four seasons for a club that I have grown to love, but it has taken a toll and I'm now tired of the fight.

I told members of the Co-op about my intention to step down as Chairman and sell the club prior to my planned announcement. I did this to allow them time to prepare and plan, so they could spring into action when the announcement came.

I also informed them that the application to change the club name back to Borough, had been successful and when I had planned to announce it. However, the Co-op, for their own reasons announced those two things the day before I was going to, which made any statement from the club pointless.

This meant our contracted players, employed staff, sponsors and fans found out from the Coop, rather than officially from the club, this alone created a huge amount of turmoil and uncertainty. This action has damaged relationships between the club and some sponsors, maybe irreversibly, and could cost the club thousands of pounds in lost sponsorship.

Prior to this I had not spoken to anyone about sponsorship for the coming season because I wanted to give the Coop a clean slate and a chance to earn as much money as possible upon taking over.



I had also not set season ticket and admission prices, as I wanted the Co-op to be able to set the prices they wanted, if they were to take over.

Now it is clear they cannot table a serious bid, I must move on, as does the club. Other offers have been tabled which we hope to progress now that a line can be drawn, once again, under the Coop's ambitions.

The club must meet certain conditions to fulfil our licence to compete in the competition. We had three things to tick off to enable this to happen, we now have one item outstanding.

It is not my intention, at this time, to re-enter the club, and I hope that a new owner is found as soon as possible, so that the work required to start the new season can commence.

Lee Thorn

Coop response to Mr. Thorn

We read with interest Lee Thorn's statement regarding the sale of the club and his interaction with the Cooperative.

There were a number of inaccuracies in it, we could point them out, but rather than drag the club further through the mire, we will do the following.

On Tuesday, following our meeting, we e-mailed Lee stating that we would: "need in writing what the debts at the club currently are, what we would be taking on, what would be written off and who would be liable for maintenance of the facilities at the ground.

To do this, no doubt you would want an NDA in place and meeting with us and Supporters' Direct is the way that we would do this as they are the organisation that can help us through the purchase...

...We can still negotiate a deal where we take on this football club, however, we need you to cooperate with the process."

That offer still stands. It will not be withdrawn at any point.

Open Meeting Announced

Following Monday's meeting, the board of the Co-operative would like to take this chance to clarify their status and to invite all interested parties to an open meeting where we will be available to take questions on our role in the future of Nuneaton Borough.

At this point, there are a number of options still open to us, however we believe this option is the best way to secure the safety and validity of the football club in the short term.

We have invited Lee Thorn to meet with us to purchase the football club ONLY. Also present at that meeting would be an official from Supporters' Direct who would be there to aid us, and also carry out a preliminary financial overview of the club. This offer to Lee has no expiry date, other than new owners coming in, or the club ceasing to exist. He is free to take us up on this at any time.

Upon acceptance of the terms by both us and Lee, a thorough due diligence would be entered into by SD so we completely understand the liabilities of the club.

Once that is cleared we would take ownership of the club and launch a community share order which would allow people like yourselves to buy into the club. Other revenue streams would include sponsorship, season tickets, gate receipts and so forth.

The fee for the F.C. alone is not prohibitive and Mr Thorn is well aware we can meet that.

We know many people have questions about the club and therefore our next meeting will be an open forum where we will make a brief presentation outlining any developments, before opening the floor to questions.

This is your chance to find out how you can play a part. The board of the Coop are not buying the club for the Coop, this is merely a vehicle for the fans to have representation, a notion that sometimes gets overlooked.

This will take place next Wednesday, May 30th, at 7:30 pm at Coton Sports & Social Club, aka The Lib. All are welcome.

Co-operative Chairman Steps Down

The chairman of Nuneaton Borough Supporters Co-operative, Harry Warren, has decided to stand down.

Football Club Tweet

The club tonight has relayed to the @NuneatonBoroSC it's take on the conversation that took place with Supporters Direct earlier today, we now hope that we can move forward together after full clarification of the information shared is conveyed to the Cooperative from Supporters' Direct.

Co-operative Statement

Nuneaton Town Supporters Co-operative would like to publicly thank Lee Thorn for speaking to Supporters' Direct.

We would like to clarify that if the Co-operative were to enter a formal process with Mr Thorn in order to purchase the football club for the benefit of the community, it would be essential for an initial financial analysis of the football club facilitated through Supporters' Direct to be completed before any financial commitments are made.

This information would be critical for the Co-operative and the wider community to raise capital through community shares and sponsorship.

We are also aware that Mr Thorn made reference in the statement to the Football Club's website and in conversations with Supporters' Direct that there are 'other options' available to him. If these other options secure the future of Nuneaton Borough, playing football in Nuneaton, we would not stand in the way of this, and would look to forge a positive relationship with the new ownership as soon as possible.

Academy Manager Leaves



Liam O'Neill – off to Rugby Town.

Photo: Nuneaton Borough

Nuneaton Town Academy Manager Liam O'Neill has departed from Liberty Way to start a new project at Rugby Town. The Butlin Road club have announced their intention to start their own Academy and have invited O'Neill to build it from the ground up.

“To be given the opportunity to lead this exciting new project with my home town club, having played for, and having grown up watching them week in week out as a kid, was something I couldn't overlook” said O'Neill. “I've had a great couple of years at The Boro' and have enjoyed some amazing highs along the way in terms of players moving into the league, first team debuts and my Under 19s winning a league and cup double last season.”

O'Neill, who's affectionately known as Biz, joined the Boro' in 2016 and has worked as Academy Manager throughout whilst also assisting with the first team. In that time the Academy has seen graduates such as Michael Tweed, Ryan Richmond and Elliot Taylor break in to the first team, as well as young goalkeeper Sam Lomax moving on to Barnsley.

Feedback From Open Meeting

A press release concerning the Open Meeting hosted by Nuneaton Town Supporters' Co-operative was released via spokesman Ben Bruce, who summarised the matters raised by Co-operative members and the wider support in general.

Mr Bruce said that it was encouraging that the townspeople had turned out in numbers and that it was clear that the people of Nuneaton were prepared to fight for their club. He reassured the people of Nuneaton that the Co-operative would not rest until the club was safe.

Much of the discussion focussed on the financial state of the club and it was reported that the Co-operative had asked to view the books so that they could determine what was required to launch a bid for the club. It was thought that the cost of running the club at its present level would be between £250-£350,000 not including any inherited debts.

The Co-operative treasurer Mike Turner revealed that discussions with local businessmen were very positive and that there was an amount of confidence that sponsorship would be forthcoming should the group have to take over the running of the club.

Questions were asked from the floor as to what the situation would be if the club had to start again down the pyramid and it was revealed that the cost of this had been researched and that to fund a club matching the top budgets in the Midland League Division 1 would be around £150,000.

Following questions regarding starting a phoenix club, it was stated that it would be impractical while the current club was still functioning, but Mr Bruce promised to contact the Midland League and ask the question. The Co-operative spokesman went on to say that it was clear that the club was crying out for a new start and that the fans of the club needed some certainty.

Port Vale Chairman May Buy Liberty Way

Norman Smurthwaite, chairman of Port Vale FC, has revealed that he is considering the purchase of Liberty Way following an approach from the Nuneaton owner Lee Thorne. Mr Smurthwaite is hoping that the Football League rules on an individual's eligibility to be involved financially in two clubs won't prevent him from being involved as landlord at Liberty Way and that it will enable the club to be accepted as member's of the Vanarama Conference North at the League's AGM on Friday.

The Port Vale chairman told the local press that he was confident that he would be allowed to own the ground, which would free up funds for the Boro to continue at the same level as last year. He explained: “I can't personally put any funds into another football club, but I can buy the assets, i.e. the stadium. What they then do with the funds is up to them.”

Co-operative Meeting With Norman Smurthwaite

It has been revealed that Nuneaton Town Supporters' Co-operative have held talks with Norman Smurthwaite, chairman of Port Vale FC, who is hoping that his efforts to buy Liberty Way from the current club chairman, will be approved by the EFL. Should this happen Mr Smurthwaite will act as landlord to Nuneaton Borough FC.

During the conversation Mr Smurthwaite revealed that he believed that the football club should be a community owned asset and added that the sale would allow the club to meet its current liabilities so that they could retain their status as members of the Vanarama Conference North.

Co-operative spokesman, Ben Bruce, said: “This represents a real chance for us to get what so many of you have been looking for, for so long. A football club that belongs to YOU.”

Members of the Co-operative will be meeting with Mr Smurthwaite as soon as the deal is completed and its position in the Conference North confirmed.

Nuneaton Defender Joins Guiseley

Boro defender Niall Heaton has signed for league rivals Guiseley. The Lions, who were relegated from the Conference Premier at the end of last season. The Yorkshire side are now managed by former Solihull Moors and Grimsby manager Marcus Bignot.

New Manager Announced

Boro have announced the appointment of Nicky Eaden as first team manager. The former Barnsley, Birmingham City and Wigan Athletic full back has previously been involved on the management team at Kettering Town, Peterborough United and Rotherham United amongst others.

Boro Announce First Summer Signing

Former Coventry City midfielder Devon Kelly-Evans has been announced as the club's first signing for the upcoming season. The 21-year-old made 14 first team appearances for the Sky Blues and also enjoyed a loan spell with the Liberty Way club in 2016-17, when he made eleven appearances and scored two goals.



Club Confirm Name Change

Nuneaton Town FC have been given permission to revert to their previous name of Nuneaton Borough FC after a fan-led campaign to bring back the name much cherished by many of the club's supporters. In keeping with the name change the club's badge has been redesigned to reflect the change.



Boro Sign Former Derby Defender



New Boro boss Nicky Eaden has secured his second signing in the shape of former Derby County and Bournemouth centre-half Miles Addison. The 6ft 2in defender, who can also play in midfield, made 65 appearances for Derby between 2006 and 2012. He then joined Bournemouth but has most recently been with Kilmarnock, where he made 17 appearances in 2016-17.

Jon Ashton Leaves

Assistant Manager Jon Ashton has left Liberty Way and will be joining Stevenage where he will take up the role of fitness coach under former Boro boss Dino Maamria.

Boro Announce New Assistant Manager

Nuneaton Borough have announced the appointment, as assistant manager, of former player Lee Fowler. The 35-year-old former Boro midfielder made 21 appearances for the club in 2014. Fowler, who started his league career with Coventry City, played under manager Nicky Eaden at Kettering Town.

Boro Secretary Leaves

It has been announced that club secretary John Mayne has left the club.

Boro Sign Obeng

Nuneaton Borough have announced the signing of former Manchester City and Swansea City full-back Curtis Obeng. The 29-year-old had retired but has made the decision to make a comeback.

Obeng has represented England at U-19 and C international level and represented Solihull Moors during the 2016-17 season.

Carter Joins For Four Figure Fee



Nuneaton Borough have completed the signing of former Wolverhampton Wanderers and Kidderminster Harriers player Ash Carter from Southern League side Alvechurch. The centre-half has also spend time on loan at both Chesterfield and Tamworth.

Boro Sign Jones

Nuneaton Borough have completed the signing of striker Owain Jones. The 21-year-old Welsh U-21 international, who also plays as a winger, started his career as a youngster with Swansea from where he was loaned out to Yeovil Town. After being released by Swansea he joined Merthyr Town of the Southern League Premier Division and made 12 appearances for the Martyrs, scoring four goals.

Panayiotou Joins Boro

Boro have signed former Leicester City youngster Harry Panayiotou after his release by Barrow. The St Kitts & Nevis international made 30 appearances for the Cumbrian side in the 2017-18 season

Co-operative Meeting With Norman Smurthwaite

Norman Smurthwaite kindly accepted an invitation from Nuneaton Town Supporters' Co-operative and met with four Board members on 15 June. The new stadium owner explained a little about his background. He is a Coventry kid and has a property portfolio in the region of £120 million, including hotels.

He received an approach from Lee Thorn to purchase the

football stadium at Liberty Way and this was concluded shortly afterwards on 8 June 2018. Mr Smurthwaite explained that Lee Thorn remained the owner of the football club. As he is currently owner of Port Vale FC, Mr Smurthwaite is unable to become involved with the running of the football club. However, as landlord he is aware that he is responsible for the upkeep of the ground and it is in need of attention.

The groundsmen from Port Vale have already met up with Phil Williams (Boro groundsman) and drawn up a plan of action. Essential renovation work on the pitch is underway, and the Port Vale groundsmen will continue to work with Boro ground staff in the lead up to the new season.

Mr Smurthwaite has arranged the loan of a generator and purchased diesel which means the pitch is now being irrigated. The generator will also be a stop gap until the electric supply is restored, which could take a few months.

Other work to be undertaken as landlord includes roof repairs, bar refurbishment, and installation of a PA system previously used by Port Vale.

Board members mentioned their thoughts regarding a disabled facility at the ground, something which the Co-op had been working towards for a number of years. Mr Smurthwaite stated that Port Vale had an excellent disabled stand and invited the group to submit their plans to him directly.

Although Mr Smurthwaite is unable to get involved with running of the football club, he is able to use his experience to advise Lee Thorn on certain issues, including changing catering arrangements to in house and recommending Port Vale's kit supplier to provide a new kit. He will also be offering Lee advice on stocking the club shop.

Mr Smurthwaite understands that the football club are looking to issue season tickets from the beginning of July and that the football club are also looking for offsite training facilities and are keen to re-engage with Bramcote. The Co-op said that they had contact with Bramcote and would put them back in touch with the football club.

Mr Smurthwaite explained that he was keen to get in touch with previous sponsors of the football club to explore opportunities for them in respect of the ground, and the Co-op said it would contact the people/businesses it knew regarding this.

The Co-operative thanked Mr Smurthwaite for his time and emphasised their desire to work with him as ground owner and hoped this will be the start of regular dialogue.



King's Lynn Town — 2nd Qualifying Round

Borough welcomed King's Lynn Town to Liberty Way to play a FA Cup 2nd Qualifying Round tie.

Boro: Lyness, Trotman, Wildin, Beswick, Gascoigne, Heaton, Nti (Mills), Daniels, Chambers (Glover 81), Hickey, Henshall (Collins 70). Subs: Taylor, Tweed, Ashton, Steele.

King's Lynn: Street, Norman, Blake-Tracy (Ward 45), Fryatt, Gaughran, Jarvis, Clunan, Parker (Hilliard 72), Gash, Mettam, Hawkins (McQuaid 70). Subs: Siddons, Gillies, Watson.

Boro made Emirates FA Cup progress with a 3-1 victory over King's Lynn Town as Ashley Chambers grabbed a hat-trick – the first one of his entire career.

The opening exchanges saw Billy Daniels get in a teasing cross that found the head of Ashley Chambers, but his effort dipped just over.

With 15 minutes on the clock, the visitors carved their first opportunity when Ryan Hawkins found space on the left-hand side of the area only for his strike to be well blocked by Dean Lyness.

As Boro started to see more of the ball, Ashley Chambers did well to hold off the attentions of Gaughran before making room for a strike that was saved by the feet of Alex Street.

Craig Parker's shot lacked the power to trouble Lyness before a great strike from distance by Michael Gash was superbly tipped onto the crossbar by the Boro keeper. At the other end, Alex Henshall got in a dangerous cross from the left that was scrambled clear ahead of Chambers.

Some pressure from Boro at the start of the second half saw Henshall go close as his effort was deflected onto the woodwork and then from the resulting corner, Chambers put an effort over.

Boro took the lead on 57 minutes when Brad Gascoigne delivered a free-kick onto the head of Chambers who guided the ball home from 12 yards out.



Ashley Chambers scores the opening goal.

Photo: From Town To Town



Ashley Chambers beats goalkeeper Alex Street for his second.

Photo: From Town To Town

The lead could have been doubled moments later when Daniel Nti went close and then Chambers put an inviting ball across the face of goal but no-one was on hand to profit.

Boro's lead was doubled with 20 minutes to go when Chambers was played through by Daniels and he stayed cool to slot home.

Boro were looking good value for their lead as the clock ticked down and Chambers completed his hat-trick from the penalty spot late on after Gaughran fouled Brady Hickey inside the area.

There was time for Cameron Norman to pull a goal back for the visitors but the game ended in a 3-1 victory for Boro.



Ashley Chambers completes his hat-trick from the spot.

Photo: From Town To Town



Nantwich Town — 3rd Qualifying Round

Boro made the journey to the Weaver Stadium to play a FA Cup 3rd Qualifying Round tie.

Nantwich: Burzynski, Bourne (Jones 85), Morgan, Stair, Mullarkey, Hall, Hughes, Bell, Clayton, Cooke, Forbes (Davies 77). Subs: Quinn, McDonald, Brooke, Rowntree, Griggs.

Boro: Lyness, Trotman, Gascoigne, Heaton, L. Wildin, Henshall, Daniels (Nicholson 63), Beswick, Hickey (Mills 63), Nti (Elliott 63), Chambers. Subs: Ashton, Taylor, Dielna, Glover.

Other than the final ten minutes of the game, by which time it was too late, Nantwich were the better side and deserved their win.

Nantwich came into the game on the back of three consecutive defeats, but it counted for nothing as the home side battled hard, outfought Boro in midfield and were defensively sound.

The home side were first to threaten when a cross from the right was just over the head of David Forbes.

Boro were then gifted a half-chance when a disastrous pass across his own area by a Nantwich defender allowed Daniel Nti to drive towards the dead ball line before shooting from a narrow angle, but Krystian Burzynski saved.

Nantwich took the lead after 30 minutes when a cross towards Troy Bourne was headed back across his own area by Luther Wildin and David Forbes swept the ball home from the edge of the six yard box.

Ashley Chambers spurned the chance of an equaliser when he found himself with time and space on the edge of the six yard box, but headed wide.

Matt Bell tried his luck from 30 yards, but his speculative effort did not trouble Dean Lyness.

Nantwich then broke away and Forbes was played clear, one-on-one with Lyness, who made a tremendous save to keep Boro in the game.

Boro looked to have equalised just before the break after Chambers had



Greg Mills' free kick finds its way around the wall and into the net.

Photo: Simon Kimber

an effort cleared and the ball came back to Heaton, but his shot was scrambled away, despite appeals that the ball had crossed the line.

After the break Nantwich continued to look sound at the back and Troy Bourne cleared away a dangerous Boro corner and then Jamie Morgan blocked a 20-yard effort from Ryan Beswick.

Boro fell further behind when a Matt Bell corner was met by Tony Mullarkey who had a free header at the back post. Lyness made another tremendous save, but could only push the ball out to Joel Stair, who headed the ball into the net.

Three minutes later, some disastrous defending by Boro saw Trotman hit the ball blind back towards his own area. The ball was intercepted by Clayton, who took the ball wide of Lyness and Sean Cooke completed the move, pushing the ball into an empty net.

Boro manager Tommy Wright responded to this setback by introducing three substitutes, Elliott, Nicholson and Mills, but the home side kept their shape, and the ball, as Boro tried to force their way back into the game.

Lyness prevented Boro any further embarrassment when he finger-tipped a Cooke free-kick over the bar.

With seventy five minutes gone, Boro finally gained some reward after they won a free-kick 20 yards out. Greg Mills curled the ball around the wall and just inside the post.

Towards the end of the game Boro forced Burzynski into another couple of saves, but the home side had already booked their place by then and a miserable Boro side trooped off the pitch with their fans' displeasure ringing in their ears.



Boro fans show their displeasure after an appalling display by their favourites.

Photo: Simon Kimber

North Ferriby United — 3rd Qualifying Round

Boro welcomed North Ferriby United to Liberty Way to play a FA Trophy 3rd Qualifying Round game.

Boro: Lyness, Wildin, Heaton, Elliott (McFarland 70), Ashton, Gascoigne, Nti (Leahy 84), Beswick, Chambers, Nicholson, Dielna (Daniels 57). Subs: Taylor, Edobar.

North Ferriby: Durrant, Cooke, Keyi, Picton, Skelton (Ambalu 46), Gray, Johnson, Russell, Pugh, Rzonca, Warren. Subs: Lofts, Exall, Gomes.

Boro cruised to an easy win against the Conference North whipping boys who have shipped 13 goals in their last three games.

The home side completely dominated the opposition in the first half and were unlucky not to be at least two goals to the good before they took the lead on 16 minutes.

Chambers picked out Nicholson on the edge of the area and the on-loan midfielder worked himself into a good position before firing a well-struck shot past Durrant, who was left helpless.



Jordan Nicholson – two more goals from the Peterborough man. Photo: Simon Kimber

Boro extended their lead after 31 minutes when Daniel Nti forced the ball

home from in the six yard box following Ryan Beswick's corner.

Seconds later Boro scored again through Chambers, whose shot on the turn got a deflection on its way into the net and with just over half-an-hour gone the game was as good as over.

To rub salt into the wounds Chambers scored again minutes later after Jordan Nicholson had broken away in midfield and crossed for Boro's in-form striker to add to his season's tally, hitting a well-struck shot into the North Ferriby net.

Warren hit a free-kick straight at Dean Lyness just before the break, but the visitors were struggling to compete with a dominant Boro side.

North Ferriby, although all but dead and buried, made a better fist of the second period and reorganised themselves to good effect.

For the first time in the match Boro were forced to defend and the visitors had a chance early in the second half when Mason Warren's shot was deflected for a corner.

The flag kick was nicely placed and caused one or two problems for Boro's defenders before they managed to scramble the ball clear.

Ashley Chambers went close to achieving his hat-trick when he hit the bar, but The Villagers cut the deficit on the hour mark after Dean Lyness pushed out a close range effort from substitute Joel Ambalu, but only as far as Callum Rzonca, who had the fairly straight forward task of putting the ball into the net.

Boro upped their game a little after conceding the goal and had more chances, one from Nti and another from Chambers, but they finally added to their tally in the closing seconds when Nicholson scored his second goal of the game to complete the rout.

Nicholson had a chance to complete a hat-trick in the closing seconds, but his shot was narrowly wide of the target.



Ashley Chambers – more impressive finishing. Photo: Simon Kimber

Barrow — 1st Round Proper

Boro welcomed Barrow to Liberty Way to play a FA Trophy 1st Round Proper tie.

Boro: Lyness, Wildin, Heaton, Ashton, Gascoigne, Elliott, Beswick, Nicholson, Daniels (Muskwe 80), Dielna (McFarlane 70), Chambers. Subs: Taylor, Ferry, Leahy.

Barrow: Dixon, Barthram, MacDonald, Dunne, Diarra, Walters, Hall, Makoma (Gomis 74), White (Yussuf 70), Harrison, Jones (Fitzpatrick 57). Subs: Moore, Audel.

The game started quietly and was evenly-contested, but Barrow posed the first real threat after a long throw-in from former Hartlepool defender Dan Jones which was headed on by French defender Moussa Diarra, but the ball drifted wide of the far post with no-one on hand.

Barrow threatened again soon after when the widely travelled Byron Harrison saw a header drift wide of the far post. But Boro hit back and Nicholson saw a shot from outside the area saved by keeper Joel Dixon.

The Barrow keeper then launched a long ball upfield and the ball was headed on by 6ft 4in defender Diarra and his fellow defender Jimmy Dunne hit a shot that was parried by Dean Lyness and gathered by the keeper at the second attempt.

Barrow put Boro under more pressure when a ball down the line was touched



Billy Daniels' shot is on its way into the net, but for the intervention of Jimmy Dunne, who scoops the ball over the top.

Photo: From Town to Town

back towards goal and Lyness raced out of his goal to rescue the situation but only succeeded in scything down Byron Harrison, for which the keeper received a booking. Asa Hall hit a weak shot straight at Lyness from the resulting free-kick.

A Dan Jones free-kick was headed over by Jordan White before Nicholson found his way into the Barrow area and slipped the ball inside to Chambers, who shielded the ball and allowed it to run on to the unmarked Billy Daniels. The Boro midfielder saw the goal looming before him, but could only hold his head in disbelief as Barrow's Jimmy Dunne got his foot to the ball and looped it over the bar and onto the roof of the net.

Another looping cross from left-back Jones was headed wide of the target at the end of the first-half.

Boro started the second-half on the front foot and Nicholson pulled a shot across Dixon, but the ball drifted narrowly wide of the far post. Just afterwards on-loan Rotherham striker Kuda Muskwe, on as a substitute for Daniels, caused some concern in the Barrow back division with a teasing cross, but a defender got the slightest of touches and the resulting corner came to nothing.

Lyness had a regulation save to make

as the visitors began to dominate the possession with the game heading for a replay.

And, with the game already into the four added minutes, the visitors scored the winner. A driven cross by former Tottenham youngster Jack Barthram was spooned into the air by Tom Elliott, who recovered to head clear, but only as far Asa Hall on the edge of the box, who played in Barthram. The midfielder's cross to the far post saw Lyness make a hash of his attempted punch and the ball was headed back

across goal by substitute Adi Yussuf for Byron Harrison to head into an unguarded goal.

The game had been neither exciting or dull and was fairly evenly contested in the main. The visitors had some players who looked more comfortable and accomplished on the ball, but it was a cruel defeat after Boro had fought so hard. On a positive note, missing out on the prospect of an almost 300 mile round trip to Cumbria, with every possibility of defeat, will have been some consolation to the home side.



Dean Lyness – at fault for goal.

Photo: Nuneaton News



Dean Lyness misses his punch and the ball is headed back across goal for Harrison to head into the net.

Photo: From Town to Town

Nuneaton Town 2008-2018 - Part 2



National League North: Fixtures, Results & Scorers - 2017-18

Nuneaton Scores First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers	Attendance
07.08	Barwell	A	PSF	3-3	Chambers, Elliott, Daniels	
07.11	Peterborough United	H	PSF	3-5	Daniels (2), Hensall	
07.14	Aston Villa U-23	H	PSF	6-0	Hickey, Ball (2), Chambers, Hensall, Beswick	
07.22	Leicester City XI	H	PSF	3-3	Ball, Chambers (2)	
07.25	AFC Hinckley	A	PSF	4-2	Trotman, Henshall, Not Known, Chambers	
07.29	Wolverhampton Wanderers	H	UKFDC	0-1		
07.30	Coventry City	H	UKFDC	1-2	Beswick	
08.05	Harrogate Town	A	NLN	0-4		663
08.08	Kidderminster Harriers	H	NLN	1-0	Chambers	781
08.12	Gainsborough Trinity	H	NLN	0-1		559
08.15	Brackley Town	A	NLN	0-1		530
08.19	York City	A	NLN	3-4	Chambers (2), Nicholson	2340
08.26	Leamington	H	NLN	4-0	Nicholson (2), Henshall, Hickey	731
08.28	Boston United	A	NLN	1-1	Glover	1020
09.02	Alfreton Town	H	NLN	2-2	Nicholson, Allan (o.g.)	632
09.05	AFC Telford United	H	NLN	0-2		569
09.09	Bradford Park Avenue	A	NLN	1-1	Elliott	319
09.12	Salford City	A	NLN	0-3		902
09.16	King's Lynn Town	H	FAC 2Q	3-1	Chambers (3, 1 pen)	627
09.23	Southport	H	NLN	3-0	Chambers (3)	553
09.30	Nantwich Town	A	FAC 3Q	1-3	Mills	479
10.07	Blyth Spartans	A	NLN	3-6	Chambers (2), Heaton,	901
10.10	Birmingham City	H	BSC 1	2-0	Heaton, Nicholson	154
10.14	Darlington	H	NLN	2-1	Chambers, Nicholson	694
10.21	Stockport County	H	NLN	1-3	Nti	737
10.28	FC United of Manchester	A	NLN	1-2	Ball	1781
11.04	Spennymoor Town	H	NLN	0-1		491
11.11	Chorley	A	NLN	2-2	Nicholson, Chambers	1306
11.18	Curzon Ashton	H	NLN	1-1	Chambers (pen)	481
11.21	Bromsgrove Sporting	A	BSC 3	2-1	Match Abandoned	
11.25	North Ferriby United	H	FAT 3Q	5-1	Nicholson (2), Chambers (2), Nti	306
12.02	North Ferriby United	A	NLN	2-0	Nicholson, Chambers	311
12.16	Barrow	H	FAT 1	0-1		415
12.23	Kidderminster Harriers	A	NLN	0-3		1510
12.26	Tamworth	H	NLN	4-1	Chambers (2), Nicholson, Elliott	929
01.01	Tamworth	A	NLN	0-2		1023
01.06	Brackley Town	H	NLN	0-2		532
01.09	Harrogate Town	H	NLN	2-1	Nicholson, Chambers	365
01.13	Gainsborough Trinity	A	NLN	1-0	Nicholson	463
01.20	Bromsgrove Sporting	A	BSC3	1-1	Mitchell (Boro won 4-2 on penalties)	317
01.27	Bradford Park Avenue	H	NLN	0-0		513
02.03	FC United of Manchester	H	NLN	1-0	Chambers	730
02.17	Spennymoor Town	A	NLN	1-0	Chambers	852
02.10	Stockport County	A	NLN	1-0	Hinchcliffe (o.g.)	2629
02.24	Chorley	H	NLN	1-1	Chambers	535
02.27	AFC Telford United	A	NLN	2-1	Ferry, Wildin	771
03.10	North Ferriby United	H	NLN	2-2	Green, Nti	478
03.17	Leamington	A	NLN	0-1		353
03.20	Walsall	H	BSC Q-F	2-0	Nabi, Jhonnes	
03.30	Alfreton Town	A	NLN	1-1	Nti	535
04.07	Southport	A	NLN	1-0	Nti	814
04.10	York City	A	NLN	1-0	Chambers	479
04.14	Salford City	H	NLN	0-2		937

National League North: Fixtures, Results & Scorers - 2017-18

Nuneaton Scores First

Date	Opposition	Venue	Competition	Score	Scorers	Attendance
04.16	Curzon Ashton	A	NLN	2-2	Wildin, Langmead	173
04.21	Darlington	A	NLN	0-0		1409
04.25	Boston United	H	NLN	1-1	Ferry	154
04.26	Hednesford Town	A	BSC S-F	0-4		147
04.28	Blyth Spartans	H	NLN	2-2	Green, Chambers	597

KEY : NLN = National League North, FAC = F.A.Cup, FAT = F.A.Trophy, BSC = Birmingham Senior Cup, PSF= Pre season friendly, UKFDC = UK Flooring Direct Cup



Nuneaton Town 2017-18

Back: (left to right): Daniel Nti, Luke Trotman, Brady Hickey, Luther Wildin, Brad Gascoigne, Tyrell Belford, Dean Lyness, Elliott Taylor, Niall Heaton, Callum Ball, Joel Dielna, Alex Henshall, Jordan Nicholson.

Middle row: Veejay Seenath, Jai Rowe, Josh Steele, Jean Jhonnes, Charles Chechlacz, Alan Zuqolli, Jamal Adams, Reece Saye, Dan Flack, Sam Lomax, Harry Smith, Charlie Jones, Ryan Richmond, Lewis Collins, Ashley Elliott, Harry Freestone, Mitchell Glover, Michael Tweed.

Front (left to right): Liam O'Neill, Richie Norman, Billy Daniels, Tom Elliott, Kelvin Langmead, Frankie Fry, Tommy Wright (manager), Stuart Elliott (sponsor), Rex Spencer (president), Sponsor (Elliott Plumbing), Jon Ashton, John Mayne (secretary), Ryan Beswick, Ashley Chambers, Greg Mills, Dave Driver (goalkeeping coach), Ben Warren (physio).

Acknowledgments

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Many thanks to Simon Kimber for permission to use his professional photography

Others, too numerous to mention, have also contributed - their names may not be mentioned but their services and knowledge of both the football club and the town have been invaluable.



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