

HIT THE BAR!

February 2022

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EDITOR'S BLEAT



Welcome to HTB! 320

The defeats against Forest Green, Sutton and Salford are a salutary reminder of our perilous league position. We reflect on these matches and the frantic last hour of the transfer window. That saw what was: a) the coming together of a careful strategy or b) a series of third and fourth choice options being taken. Time and the league table will tell us which. Golden Gamble tickets anyone?

Keith Millen's post match comments from those three matches show us that he is now in the place most of us have been for years. He's realised that players are in League Two for a reason; irrespective of work rate or indeed skill, they make basic mistakes really quite often. That's much harder to coach out of them than building fitness or skills.

The defeat (and the injuries) at Salford and the other results that evening felt like a significant moment. Wins in the next few weeks will be vital to regain the positive momentum that came from the win against Bradford, so at least one or two of the new strikers need to hit form straight away. The away attendance at Salford was just shy of 1,000, once again showing the support and potential any new owner could unleash.

The game at Orient on 26th February is firmly in my diary. It's a favourite 'proper away-day' sort of match with many London Branch members making a special effort to be there. It's going to be a vital match and we'll be joined for a pre-match drink in the Birkbeck Tavern by Nigel Clibbens. See you there!

Up the Blues, John B

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR



I write this the day after our game at Forest Green. We saw how far we are away from the top of the table in our team's ability, when the game against Bradford had given us so much hope.

However, Keith Millen has made us much harder to beat, **Mark Howard** has re-signed, **Joel Senior** looks like a real find (which makes his injury at Salford a real blow) and I am pleased that **Omari Patrick** has returned and looks a lot more committed on the pitch. **Omatoye** is exactly what you would expect from a young Prem player – hugely talented and very inconsistent – hopefully he will develop quickly.

CUOSC (the Trust) in December finally stated that they would not be prepared to dilute their shares in Carlisle United without a change in the control of the

club i.e. without Andrew Jenkins, John Nixon and Steve Pattison standing down (everyone would be happy for Andrew to remain as President). I applaud CUOSC for this decision as it had been obvious for a long time that the proposed new owner, Purepay (previously Edinburgh Woollen Mill) and still appearing to be controlled by Phillip Day, had no real intentions to become new pro-active owners, had no vision for the club and weren't prepared to engage or communicate with fans.

Unfortunately, that still leaves us with a £2.5m debt payable to Purepay on commercial terms backed up by all the assets of Carlisle United and by personal guarantees from Jenkins, Nixon and Pattison. This debt is repayable on demand which leaves us in a very difficult position and makes the possibility of a new owner unlikely to happen until that loan is renegotiated to a long-term loan repayable over, say, 10 years.

A new group of fans, Unita Fortior, launched last week. As this had been trailed for some time, I wasn't sure what to expect as yet another fragmented supporters' group was the last thing needed but was delighted to see

that their over-riding aim was to get 1000+ fans to join CUOSC and make their views felt. I couldn't agree more. CUOSC owns 25.4% of Carlisle United and has directors on the holdings board and the operations board. I have been a member from the start and am regularly critical of many of the things they do and always say that to their face. Don't moan, pay your tenner and

(Carlisle born and bred) friend from Sicily and she immediately wanted a shirt. She knew that Sicilians would love anything that embarrassed the Northerners (Romans).



let your views be known. Hopefully get more involved and make a difference.

It was great to meet old and new members at Forest Green and reminded me that the match day experience is such a central part of the London Branch. Sitting in a lovely pub in Nails-

In the last 2 months we have sold over 250 "Roma 2 v Carlisle 3" tee shirts. Mike Carruthers has been researching this and it seems that 9 of the team that played us had international caps including the player that scored the winning goal for Brazil in the 1962 world cup final. The manager was Hellenio Herrera who had won the European cup many times with Italian and Spanish clubs. I met up with my



worth chatting with members from London, Surrey, Hertfordshire, Staffordshire, Nottinghamshire, Berkshire, Manchester and Cumbria left me with a very warm feeling.

I do hope that as many members as possible can **join us at Leyton Orient**



Nigel Clibbens launches the MCMS exhibition

on Saturday February 26th at the Birkbeck Tavern. Nigel Clibbens, CEO at the club, will be joining us and has offered to do a Q&A. If you have a question or complaint about our club, you will be delighted how open, honest and passionate Nigel is.

London Branch members have always been very generous in delivering funds to support club, Carlisle and Cumbrian causes. It has been great this month in seeing our funding aid the Disabled group to make an application for grants to improve the disabled facilities at Carlisle United, deliver further improvements to the planned Glass Bar (the Sunset Suite) to provide better facilities for fans, continue supporting the club academy and raise over £500 for the Alzheimer's Society through the £2 a shirt donation from the Roma v Carlisle tee shirt sales.

Huge thanks to all the people I haven't mentioned that play such an important part in delivering the benefits of being a London Branch member.

Regards
Dave



KEEP THE FAITH



It was good to actually attend a game again after a break of a few weeks, even if it was a 3-0 defeat at the hands of Forest Green.

The last match I'd been to prior to Saturday was Barrow at home on November 13th, although I had managed a couple of games on I-follow which at least provided me with a victory and some goals. Unfortunately though, the last 5 games I have actually attended have delivered just 1 point with no goals scored and 13 against. Am I a jinx? Of course not; it's just that we support a team that's not very good.

Hopefully, the recent improvement in performances will be maintained as we go forward and, at the same time, give me something to cheer. **There's still a week of the transfer window left as I write this** and we need to make the most of it with a couple

more brought in. We still need a goal scorer and preferably someone creative to beef up the midfield and get us into striking distance of goal more often.

Fifty points should see us safe. Although Bristol Rovers were relegated on 50 points in 2014 and Barnet with 51 the season before, those are the only 2 times since 2 down was introduced for the fourth tier in 2003. **We need 23 points from 20 games to get us to 50.** You'd think we should be able to do that but there's no room for complacency. The inability to get more than 2 points from the home games against Crawley and Hartlepool shows we're still battling against the teams near the bottom of the league.

It seems unlikely to me that Scunthorpe and Oldham will both continue with the poor form they have shown to date. We certainly can't rely upon it. **Another bad run for us would see us down at the bottom again.**

It's been good to see that those behind the **new fan's group Unita Fortior** have concluded that the best way to get better representation for fans, and achieve change, is to join CUOSC en masse. I hope the movement is successful.

I've been saying for a long time that if fans want change then they should

join and use their vote to achieve it. I was even invited to go on Radio Cumbria post match about 3 years ago to elaborate after I'd tweeted to that effect. For some reason my tweet had annoyed a few folk. It seemed to be a no brainer to me.

It's promising that a lot of fans have now applied to join and, hopefully, a lot more will. **A reinvigorated trust / supporters' club is going to be important for Carlisle United going forward given the circumstances the Club is in. I urge people to join if they want a thriving football club responsive to the supporters.**

Ultimately, there will have to be a focus on how to achieve a change in ownership of the Club. In the meantime the focus has to be on ensuring that we will still be watching League football next season.

Finally, if you think professional football in this country needs a fairer distribution of wealth and should be overseen by a properly independent regulator, then you ought to sign the petition promoted by Fair Game, an organisation that Carlisle United is a member of. You can find the petition at:

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/save-the-future-of-football>

Up the Blues and keep the faith

Ken

Keith Millen enjoys the victory at Stevenage and the prospect of a night at home.



FUNDING UPDATE

Dave Brown gives an update on the allocation of branch funds to initiatives at Brunton Park and beyond.

My Chairmans Notes reported that in the last 2 months we have sold over 250 “Roma 2 v Carlisle 3” tee shirts. The £2 per shirt donation to the Alzheimer’s Society means that over £500 has already been raised in respect to Stan Bowles. **Thanks to everyone who has bought a shirt** and make sure you encourage your friends and colleagues to grab a piece of history (it won’t happen again!) and support a really worthy cause.



Keith’s got his—have you got yours?

Back at Brunton Park, we’ve approved a further donation of £1,000 to purchase vinyls which will deliver major improvements to the look of the **Sunset Suite** (soon to be renamed the “Glass Bar” to commemorate Jimmy Glass). We had already donated the profits from our Jimmy Glass shirt from a couple of years ago and have also provided funds to improve **Murphy’s Bar**. Do visit – these bars are a massive improvement on the facilities for fans and you should also see recognition for the branch’s help in these areas.

We also provided another donation to the **Disabled group** and they are now able to put forward their request for grants to deliver major improvements to the disabled fans facilities at Brunton Park to take us to the best level possible.

We continue to support the Academy and it is good to see the **London Branch Goal of the Month** award regularly appearing on the club website. We still have funds that have been ringfenced for further projects with the academy which we hope to announce soon.

At our February branch committee meeting we’ll consider an application from Andy and Amy - the media team

at Brunton Park. This is to replace their camera and tripod and also provide another camera for pitch-side coverage.

Andy and Amy have been massively supportive to the London Branch. We asked that they put forward an application for funding for anything that could help them in their role and deliver additional benefits to Carlisle fans in terms of media coverage. I am delighted they are putting forward a proposal.

I try to give you a feel for how we use your money but please get in touch if you agree, disagree, or have other suggestions for projects or initiatives we should support.

Were you at any of the games in the 1972 Anglo-Italian competition?

We are producing a special HtB! to mark the 50th anniversary. Send you story or pictures to the HTB! editor now.



GETTING TO A GAME

Dave Brown reflects on his experiences before, during and after the match at Forest Green Rovers. As has been the case for too many years now, it was a great day out spoiled by 90 minutes at a football match.

My wife and a few friends often tell me I am mad when I travel around the country watching my football team.

I sent out a message prior to the Forest Green game “ *There is a bus replacement service from Reading to Swindon, but Stroud is a lovely place with at least 1 great pub however the ground is 5 miles away from Stroud and taxi drivers seem incredibly unwilling to book a return journey from the ground in advance and don’t even think that Uber exists in the area, the last time I went the bus left 10 minutes early to avoid picking up football fans for the return journey.*

DESPITE all of that I am up for it. I have the feeling that we could give the league leaders a bloody nose and it really is a lovely part of the world. Also it is quite a few years since my last bus replacement trip and we always win on those days! By the way have the lovely

vegan grub off the BBQ before the game as they also sell it expensively at half time stone cold and congealed in ghee. Train charges at the moment are around the £30-35 level and then we will need to book a taxi or take the bus from Stroud and return.

I really hope that you can make it cos I think it could be a great day out.”

Al Millington responded with “*I think the email sums up the London Branch wonderfully. It will be a shit show but we’re up for it anyway. I’m 99% in. I’ll confirm tonight once I get final, absolute clearance from the bosses! 😊*”

2 days before we set off, I got 2 separate emails from GWR cancelling our trip out and our trip back. I called GWR customer service – 30 minute wait. Checked the website – trains still running. Called Ken Hullock who was also going – “We’re going – I will drive. We agreed to meet at Watford Junction but I said that I would keep checking with GWR”.

Next day I left the phone ringing GWR and eventually got through – “no, the trains are running. It’s probably that there is a replacement bus service from Reading. There was when I booked – I

retorted. Why did you send me a cancellation email? I will put a complaint in says the operative.”

Called Ken and Al and we agreed to meet at Paddington fully expecting a bus replacement service all the way to Stroud at best.

Next day, we met up at the Bishop and Bear in Paddington to have a decent breakfast and then onto the train. Quickly got a seat and then watched as the train was inundated with Leinster rugby fans on the way to Bath. The train was rammed – I wondered how the Paddington staff would have coped with 500 rugby fans if the train had been cancelled.

At Reading we met, accidentally, Robert – a new member recently returned from Mexico. At Stroud, we met Josh who had come down from Stockport. At the bus stop we chatted with **Nigel Clibbens** on his way to the ground. At Nailsworth, we walked past **David Holdsworth** only realising afterwards.

The Village Inn in Nailsworth was a cracker – good beers, their own brewery and the weirdest urinals I have ever seen. Mostly it was great to be with loads of Carlisle fans that had come from all over.



A few pints and then we got the bus up the hill to the ground to get the rude awakening. Initially it wasn't too bad –

we were holding our own and then Morgan Feeney sliced into our own net. We still looked okay first half without threatening their goal once. Second half we fell apart and we realised how far we are off the top.

Back onto the bus and we saw how ludicrous Dale Vince's (owner of FGR) claim is to be the greenest football club in the world. We spent 40 minutes watching cars belch out fumes in the traffic jam down the hill. His next stadium is going to be located next to a junction on the M4 – **where is the green transport policy?**

A quick pint in the Lord John, Josh went off in search of beers and stuffed them into our hands as we got on the train home and we said goodbye at Paddington Station after another great day out despite the football.

I thought afterwards what modes of transport I had been on and counted up in the order used – Car, train, bus, train, bus, bus, bus, train, bus, train, bus, train, taxi.

Yes, I am probably mad.

Dave Brown

ROMA 2 V CARLISLE 3

JUNE 1ST 1972

Anglo Italian Cup Was this Carlisle's greatest ever result?



Use the QR code below to buy your Roma Tee Shirt . £2 from every shirt donated to Alzheimer's Society. Sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL Please allow 28 days for delivery.



MY CLUB, MY SHIRT

My Club, My Shirt was launched on 31st January online by Carlisle United and at a launch event at Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery the same day.

There are 25 images on display at Tullie House in the garden spaces from 31st January. **The main exhibit will be on display in the Pioneer Stand from the 8th of February at the home game versus Port Vale.**

My Club, My Shirt is a **Football Supporter's Association** and Kick it Out initiative and the FSA Campaign's Manager, **Anwar Uddin**, attended the

ed CEO **Nigel Clibbens**, London branch members, many of the supporters who have had their images taken and some of the photographers.

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who has been involved including **Jill Goodfellow and Katie Mitchell from Tullie House, Nigel Clibbens from Carlisle United, Photographers Mark Fuller, Matt McPake, Amy Nix-on and myself and of course to all the supporters.**

There are 68 images in the main exhibition and the 25 images from Tullie House will become part of the main



launch event along with Carlisle Unit-

exhibit at Brunton Park when their

I went to the 1990 World Cup as a Wimbledon fan and due to the kindness and banter of a few Carlisle fans I returned with Carlisle as my no2 team. I started going to matches in Carlisle when I went to visit my new pals and joined the London Branch in 1992, so I could get them cheap/guaranteed tickets. I got involved in the various APSFCL teams, Footie, Darts and pool. I managed the pool team for 5 years during the late 90's and have been doing cartoons and the odd match report since I started. I rarely get to more than 10 matches per season, but it's a great occasion when I do with so many familiar faces.



delighted they, other supporter groups and the club have all worked together alongside Kick it Out and the FSA.

Our very own Jason Casey and Liz and Barry Spark

stay at Tullie House comes to an end. It's been great to see the wider supporter base and supporter groups working so well together in a positive and forward-thinking way.

You can also find the online exhibit on the Carlisle United and Tullie House websites.

Carlisle United CEO Nigel Clibbens said: *"It's been really positive and great to be part of the project. The Supporters' Trust led by Nigel Davidson has done a superb job on this and we are*

"The club and supporters' groups have made real strides on building relations to increase inclusion and diversity around the club in the last year, despite Covid and this will continue. We all think it is really important to be open and welcoming for all."

I hope London Branch members will have a chance to see the exhibition the next time they attend Brunton Park. **Thanks for all your amazing support with this wonderful initiative.** Please look out for more events and initiatives coming on the back of this successful project.

Up the Blues!

Nigel Davidson, CUSG EDI Lead



My name is Martin Broad. Born in Harraby in 1956, my dad took me to matches from a very early age and indeed since I was 5, I was allowed to go to first team matches. That means I have been following the Blues for nigh on 60 years. Success and failures, laughter, jubilation with tears and utter frustrations. But as a Carlisle fan through and through. I work in the Community and Voluntary sector and as a gay man, have always been a strong advocate of LGBTQ+ rights and long for the day when in the wider footballing world, there is a more inclusive environment of acceptance and tolerance for all, whomever they are.

I SUPPORT CARLISLE AS IT'S MY CITY OF BIRTH.

I started regularly attending games the year when we were demoted to the conference league, which was very southern based, so lots of games. The atmosphere that year had me hooked, regularly we seemed to outnumber the southern home supporters (and certainly out sing them!) And with promotion at the end of that season. Best part is enjoying games with friends, preferably a win, but if not commiserations together.



Brunton Park Diary 2021/22



It's been a while since the last HTB!, so Mike Kilner's diary takes us back to late November....

Nov 22nd (Mon)

Wigan's former United striker **Charlie Wyke** is reported to be in a stable condition after going into cardiac arrest and collapsing during a training session.

Nov 23rd (Tue)

CUFC (0) 0 HARROGATE TOWN (1) 2

The only positive from his latest smash-and-grab humbling at the hands of the tearoom boys was that we made a number of gilt-edged chances but lacked a finisher at the top of the spear, the story of the 2021/2 season. At the moment we're hitting teams with the force of a soft pillow. We rarely looked threatening once the visitors had capitalised on stand-in left-back Dickenson's mistake to open the scoring, Young missing the target when through from Guy's pass.

Player Ratings*: Howard 6, Mellor 5, Dickenson 6, McDonald 7, Whelan 6,

Devine 6, Guy 4, Gibson 7, Clough 5, Abrahams 5, Young 6. Subs: Mampala 6, Fishburn 6, Charters 5.

Nov 24th (Wed)

Forgotten man **Toure** hobbles back crooked from Aldershot Town following three brief and less than impressive appearances on loan.

Former gaffer **Beech** is strongly linked with the vacant hot seat at his hometown club Fleetwood Town while **Mysterious Curle** is the latest manager to feel the boot of owner Lemsagam at struggling Oldham, who are under a transfer embargo.

Nov 27th (Sat)

CUFC YOUTH 4 ACCRINGTON YOUTH 0

Two more goals each for Ballado and Harvey earned a comfortable victory for Birch's Babes in a game played in high winds.

CUFC (0) 1 WALSALL (0) 0

For the lucky few of us who saw **Tammy Abrahams** fastest sprint of the en-



excitement.

Player Ratings (MK):
Howard 6, Mellor 6,
Armer 6, McDonald 8,
Feeney 7, Whelan 5,
Guy 6, Riley 6, Gibson
6, Young 5, Fishburn
6. Subs: Charters 5,
Abrahams 6

tire season

- the one after he came on to a warm round of indifference to finally end the Blues' win drought and hurried off to celebrate in front of the Paddock - there's renewed hope we might drag ourselves out of the current mess. The back four were solid after being given a first-minute scare and we didn't look like conceding.



At the same time, United's chances were few and far between before the goal, Riley providing a memorable 8-iron pitch just over both a scrambling keeper and the Warwick end bar from close to the half-way line before being shamelessly taken out in front of the fourth official. Gibson clipped the post in the first half in one of the few other moments of

It's congratulations to **Scott Simons** following his selection for the England Men's Goalkeeping Development Camp at St George's Park.

Nov 30th (Tue)

CUFC (0) 1 LINCOLN CITY (1) 1 (CUFC win 4-3 on penalties) - PAPA'S DIRTY LONG JOHNS SECOND ROUND

Successful spot-kicks from Armer, Whelan, Young and Charters sent the Blues through against their higher opponents in the one competition we look quite handy at this season. The Imps enjoyed the majority of possession as expected without too much while McDonald had an effort deflected onto the woodwork and Gibson missed a great chance after rounding the keeper. The Blues fought back from Maguire's goal just before the break after (rubs his eyes) a defence-splitting pass from Mampala was met on the run by Armer who finished smartly into the bottom-right corner.

United (no ratings): Howard, Mellor, Armer, McDonald, Feeney, Guy, Mellish, Clough (Whelan 85), Gibson (Charters 63), Abrahams (Young 46), Fishburn (Mampala 63).

Dec 4th (Sat)

FLEETWOOD YOUTH (3) 3 CUFC YOUTH (0) 0

A very disappointing result against the second bottom team in a game played in horrendous conditions, which eased in the second half when the wind was

meant to be behind the Blues.

CUFC (0) 1 SHREWSBURY TOWN (1) 2 – FA CUP SECOND ROUND

The game will be remembered for two things, the laughable tennis ball protest and the Shrews' win landing them a plum 3rd round pay day at Anfield (with the same ball number). Young by name and nature, the moment he spurned a simple pass to an unmarked Abrahams in the box and instead shot seemed to put the writing on the wall. The old Cumbrian adage on the only certainties being death, taxes and former strikers scoring against you continued as Ryan Bowman put the game out of reach, even if Gibson curled in a fine late consolation.

United (no ratings): Howard, Mellor (Devine 27), Feeney, McDonald, Armer, Clough (Gibson 35), Guy (c), Whelan, Dickenson (Fishburn 61), Abrahams (Mampala 61), Young (Charters 61).

The Blues are drawn away to Tranmere Rovers or Harrogate Town in the Stuffed Crust Trophy Third Round.

Former skipper **Danny Grainger** is placed in caretaker charge of Falkirk after they sack Paul Sheerin.

Dec 6th (Mon)

Three years after receiving a charge for bribery from the sweet FA, arrow-suited former Assistant Manager **Tommy Wright** is suspended from all football and football-related activity, except for coaching, for six years.

United have been drawn away to Cleator Moor Celtic in the quarter-finals of the Cumberland Cup.

Other ties: Kirkoswald v Wetheriggs Utd; Pirelli v Workington Ath; Carlisle City v Workington AFC

Dec 7th (Tue)

MANSFIELD TOWN (1) 1 CUFC (0) 0

The hosts didn't look like a team that could claim seven wins from their previous eight, the Blues coughing up an early lead through some slack back-post marking and then vainly searching for that elusive equaliser. We were arguably the better team once past the half-hour mark with the usual mix of near things and someone hitting the bar - this time it was Gibson's turn to throw his hands in the air in despair.

Player Ratings*: Howard 6, Whelan 5, Armer 6, McDonald 5, Feeney 6, Guy 7, Mellish 4, Gibson 6, Young 5, Dickenson 6, Abrahams 4

Plymouth Argyle appoint former mid-

fielder **Steven Schumacher** as their new First-Team Manager.

Dec 10th (Fri)

Bank of Branthwaite signs a new three-and-a-half-year contract with the Toffees.

It's hardly worth the mention but the **world's worst secret is confirmed with the announcement that the takeover talks at Brunton Park have been flung into the round filing cabinet.** The club cites the reluctance of supporters' trust CUOSC to agree to a revised deal as the major reason, one that had been first agreed around summer 2019 and included the dilution of the CUOSC shareholding to just under 10% with only EFL approval in its way before proceeding. The assurances required by the EFL were not acceptable to EWM and they would not sign it off. The Trust countered that the new deal was conditional on it delivering an immediate change of control, which it did not.

The search is now on for new investment and meanwhile the £2.4m debt now owed to Purepay Retail mounts up (fade to circus clown music).

Indianapolis-based USA!! USL Championship USA!! side Indy Eleven announce the signing of a certain **Alex 'Project' McQueen** Get In The HOLE!!

for the remainder of the season. The side's current Player Coach is the familiar figure of ex-Exeter City midfielder Nicky Law, who played his final EFL game at Brunton Park last January as the Grecians were sent packing.

Dec 11th (Sat)

SALFORD YTH (0) 1 CUFC YOUTH (1) 1

Spoils shared in the top of the table clash; all three points denied with a late equaliser after skipper Ellis' goal.

STEVENAGE (0) 0 CUFC (1) 2

Jingle Bloody Bells all the way. A sleeves rolled up team effort where we again took a little time to get into the game as at Mansfield without on this occasion, shipping a soft opening goal. A strong conclusion to the first half and **Mellish**, moved into a free forward role alongside Fishburn and looking like someone with weight taken off his shoulders, adeptly finished after Mel-

lor's initial header had been saved. The upward trajectory continued into the second half. An increasingly confident



Gibson was finding gaps all over the left wing and was brought down after a trademark teasing run into the box was clumsily halted, the winger converting the resulting spot kick.

Player Ratings*: Howard 9, Mellor 6, Armer 6, McDonald 6, Feeney 7, Devine 7, Guy 8, Mellish 7, Gibson 7, Fishburn 6, Dickenson 4.



Dec 14th (Tue)

Former skipper **Danny Grainger** departs Falkirk as part of the new management team rejiggery. His one game in charge was a 3-0 home shellacking to Cove Rangers.

Dec 16th (Thu)

Wigton's favourite son slides in an equaliser for Everton as his first appearance of the season aligns with his first ever Premier League goal. Take a bow, **Jarrad Branthwaite**.

Dec 17th (Fri)

SHREWSBURY YOUTH (0) 0 CUFC YOUTH (2) 2

Goals from the increasingly impressive Ellis and Kilsby helped the Blues to dominant win that could have been wider in scoreline.

Bradford City's squad return several positive Covid tests leading to the postponement of Saturday's first team fixture.

Dec 18th (Sat)

Young ex-Blue Liam McCarron makes his PL debut for Leeds as a late substitute in their home gubbing by the Gooners.

Dec 19th (Sun)

Adam Collin hangs up his playing

gloves with Basford Town at the age of 37 to concentrate on his head of academy goalkeeping role with the Stags and his goalkeeping business. Collin made 159 appearances for United between 2009-2013 and added another 91 in his second spell.

Dec 20th (Mon)

United's January transfers rumours kick off with a move for Rangers winger/playmaker Josh McPake, who featured impressively on loan with Harrogate Town last season but has since found opportunities limited with third tier Morecambe. The Blues face a fight with Tranmere Rovers, Barrow, Hartlepool United and Oldham Athletic amongst his suitors.

The next is Halifax Town's skipper Niall Maher with Rochdale, Scunthorpe United and Walsall all in the hunt for the ex-Bury defender.

Dec 25th - 27th (Sat-Mon)

United's Boxing Day date at home to Rochdale is scuppered by several positive tests in the Blues' squad, which is inevitably swiftly followed by the away beano at Salford on the 28th meeting the same fate.

Jan 1st (Sat)

SCUNNY (0) 0 CUFC (1) 1

Never mind the quality, feel the width.

Concrete Rod broke his personal goal drought with a header from Guy's cor-

Player Ratings*: Howard 7.5, Mellor 7.0, Armer 6.0, McDonald 8.0, Feeney 7.5, Whelan 7.0, Guy 6.0, Mellish 6.5, Gibson 8.0, Fishburn 5.0, Dickenson 4.0.



ner that come May, could make all the difference between planning for League Two and preparing for life back in the fifth tier. Ex-Blue Loft fluffed their best chance just for old time's sake, perhaps distracted by talk of a transfer down to the Gasheads. Howard had by far his quietest game with the back four looking like a cohesive, well-drilled unit. If Millen can work the same magic with the forward line, there's hope of a mid-table finish yet.

Jan 3rd (Mon)

A busy start to the transfer window with one in and two out. **Dinzeyi** returns to the Gooners while injury-impacted young midfielder **Keelan Leslie** leaves the club at the end of his six-month pro deal.

22-year-old Altrincham right-back **Joel Senior** joins for an undisclosed fee on an 18-month deal after impressing with his attacking wing-back play. Senior

was released as a 15 year-old but rebuilt his career the hard way with men's football at Maine Road, FC United of Manchester and Curzon Ashton before being picked up by Burnley's Academy. Injuries and Covid then halted his second crack at the big time and he left for Altrincham in summer 2020, picking up the club's Player of the Season gong last term.

Jan 4th (Tue)

HARROGATE (1) 1 CUFC (0) - PAPA'S DIRTY LONG JOHNS THIRD ROUND

A strong Blues side exited at the hands of one of our bogey sides (to be fair, there's an increasing list), the goal coming early doors when Howard's wayward kick was cut out to leave an easy chance to finish. and Armstrong went through to dink a shot over the keeper. Feeney headed a Guy corner against the bar, McDonald was unlucky with a well saved volley and Dickenson missed a couple of half chances in the Blues most threatening moments. Senior came on for his first trot out in a Blues shirt and didn't look out of place. Young's absence from the team sheet was explained by the decision to end the Villa man's loan spell early by mutual agreement.

United (no ratings): Howard, Mellor (Mampala 80), Armer, McDonald, Feeney, Guy (Senior 80), Whelan, Dickenson

(Charters 86), Gibson, Mellish (Abrahams 80), Fishburn (Riley 46)

As expected, ex-Blues striker **Ryan Loft** joins Bristol Rovers in return for a duffel bag filled with a rumoured £50,000 used notes. Well done Scunny, you saw them coming although his 6 goals in 35 games for the Blues is starting to look prolific compared with this season's forward line.

Jan 5th (Wed)

Young's immediate 19-year-old like-for-like replacement is Norwich City forward **Tyrese Omotoye** on a half-season loan deal following his recall from a fruitless loan spell at Leyton Orient. The former Belgium under-16 player joined the Canaries from Cray Wanderers at the age of 17 and was on loan with Swinedung last season.

Jan 6th (Thu)

Fresh from going for a Burton, the familiar face of **Omari Patrick** re-joins United on an 18-month deal. After starting all six games for the Brewers in August, he had found himself increasingly on the periphery with only 30 minutes from the bench in two games since then.

A good day for the Blues is complete when after what seems several weeks of talks, veteran keeper Howard agrees to

stay until the end of the season before he jets off to start filming the new 'Cocoon' re-boot (ok, last part not true). Calmer than a cup of camomile tea, his signing should allow one or both of our newbie pros to find regular football somewhere further down the pyramid.

a short illness. Martin was instrumental in the long-term sponsorship deal with Eddie Stobart and very much part of the early boom years under Knighton, resigning when his friend Mervyn Day received his shock sacking.

CUFC YTH (1) 5 WALSALL YOUTH (0) 0

Six years after his last spell in a blue shirt, it's confirmed that **Brandon Comley** has been training with the squad for a prolonged spell in the hope of an offer following the midfielder's release from Bolton.

The Saddlers could get back on their horses and trot off back down the M6 after this hammering from United thanks to a hat-trick from Mason Hardy and goals from Bollado and Garvey.

CUFC (1) 2 BRADFORD CITY (0) 0

Jan 8th (Sat)

It's announced that highly respected former commercial manager Martin Hudson had passed away at the end of last week at the age of just 61 following

The new look Blues proved that revenge is a dish best served cold with the quintet of former Bantams eager to see their old club put to the sword. Omotoye's dream debut had everything but a goal,



running into the channels and constantly stretching their back line. The supporting Gibson could then weave his magic, his goal coming from a sweetly hit shot from the edge of the box past the keeper. Mellor ran him close for the man of the match although it was hard to pick just one. Patrick put the cherry on top of the cake ten minutes from the end, using his pace and strength to surge into the box from a break and open his body

A day to remember for former midfielder **Russell Penn**, now in charge of National League North side Kidderminster Harriers, as he takes his team into the FA Cup Fourth Round after a terrific 2-1 win over Championship side Reading.

Jan 10th (Mon)

Barrow misfit **Offy Zanzala** is loaned out to Exeter City in an effort to get some game time.



up for a shot into the opposite corner.

Jan 12th (Wed)

Player Ratings*: Howard 6, Mellor 8, Armer 7, McDonald 8, Feeney 7, Whelan 8, Guy 8, Mellish 8, Gibson 8, Omotoye 9, Dickenson 6. Sub: Patrick 9

Computer says no for a return of **Comley** to Brunton Park following a recent in-house game. Alessandra and Clough returned to action in the same kickabout

and if you can't look the better option against them, what chance have you got?

Highly rated ex-United Academy keeper **James Trafford** joins Bolton from Man City on loan for the second half of the season following his first half of 2021/22 with Accrington Stanley.

The combined transfer fees for **Hayden and Tanner** are revealed as £450,000.

Jan 14th (Fri)

After falling out of recent squads, **Taylor Charters** heads out to National League North table toppers Gateshead on a month's loan, hoping to continue to provide the bullets for free-scoring Cedwyn Scott.

Peter Murphy wins Scottish League Two Manager of the Month after helping third place Annan to a 100 per cent record in December.

Jan 15th (Sat)

BOLTON W YOUTH (1) 2 CUFC YOUTH (0) 2

The babes came from two down to grab a draw through Bollado and Watt.

CUFC (0) 1 CRAWLEY TOWN (1) 1

A point each was about right after an early set back when Whelan's poor back

pass to Feeney put him in trouble and allowed Nadesan to pick his pocket and finish comfortably past Howard, Ash classily not celebrating in front of the Warwick. A soft penalty given to Crawley with twenty left on the clock could have closed the game, but Nadders granted one last favour for old times' sake by sending it into the waterworks. Alessandra's return to action almost immediately resulted in an equaliser, but the crowd didn't have to wait long when he met Dickenson's inswinging at the front post to power in his header.

Player Ratings*: Howard 7.50, Mellor 5.50, Armer 5.50, McDonald 7.00, Feeney 5.50, Whelan 5.75, Guy 6.00, Mellish 4.50, Gibson 5.00, Omotoye 5.50, Dickenson 5.50. Subs: Patrick 6.00, Alessandra 7.00

Fresh from his release, Keelan Leslie joins Workington Reds having been training with them recently.

Jan 18th (Tue)

CUFC (0) 0 MONKEY HANGERS (0) 0

A point and a clean sheet but boy, was it a tough watch with Howard having to pull out two excellent stops to even give us that. The other positive was Senior came on for his CUFC league debut. United were closest to scoring, Dickenson slamming a fine free-kick

from just outside the box onto the underside of the bar.

Player Ratings*: Howard 7.00, Mellor 5.67, Armer 5.67, McDonald 7.33, Feeney 7.00, Guy 6.00, Mellish 6.83, Gibson 5.33, Omotoye 4.33, Patrick 5.33, Dickenson 4.83. Subs: Senior 7.00, Alessandra 5.67

Jan 20th (Thu)

And breathe. Blues striker (chuckle) **Abrahams** as allowed to join National League side Grimsby Town with Millen driving him down himself. Also going out on loan is young **Lewis Bell**, this time on an initial month to Northern Premier League Premier Division Warrington Town.

Supported by various outlets, new supporters' organisation '**Unita Fortior**' break cover with their aim to drive up numbers within **CUOSC**.

Jan 22nd (Sat)

BLACKPOOL YOUTH (1) 1 CUFC YOUTH (0) 1

The Blues had plenty of chances to win it but had to settle for a Watt spot-kick.

Oldham resurrect ex-gaffer **John Sheridan** from the football management scrapheap as they welcome him back for a sixth spell in charge. If anyone

fancies a good booing, we play them at Boundary Park on 5 March.

Previous trial gloveman **Adam Smith** departs Stevenage.

FOREST GREEN (1) 3 CUFC (0) 0

Well beaten and outplayed by a better team, the attacking formation didn't work, and we would have been far better off flooding the midfield with playmakers such as Riley and Devine.

United (no Player Ratings): Howard, Senior, McDonald, Feeney, Armer, Gibson (Clough 78), Guy (c), Dickenson (Fishburn 68), Mellish, Omotoye (Alessandra 68), Patrick.





Is this the future of football?

A Forest Green vegan burger



Jan 24th (Mon)

The rumour mill has Harrogate and Carlisle vying for the signature of the Barcode's **Matty Longstaff** on loan.

Jan 25th (Tue)

After being pursued heavily by Millen, Southampton's 19-year-old centre-half **Dynel Simeu** (below) arrives on a half-season loan deal. The Cameroon-born but England Under-19-representing player was reportedly bought by the Saints from Chelski for a cool £1.5m last July. Described as "big, strong, aggressive and quick.... and he's good on the ball.", there's a danger that the hyperbole may be difficult to live up to.

Former loan striker **Brad Young** is reportedly showing some flirtatious leg for Swindon Town, Northampton Town, Mansfield Town and Port Vale ahead of the transfer window.

Ex-Blue **Mark Ellis** goes from Barrow to National League Solihull Moors on loan until the end of the season while **Josh Galloway** completes a loan move to FC United of Manchester from Leeds.

One old boy not returning is **Adam Clayton** with Doncaster Rovers signing the midfielder on an 18-month deal.

Jan 27th (Thu)



Fresh back from another injury Workington Reds sign fringe midfielder **Josh Dixon** on a month's loan.

Following an outstanding period of recent form for Birch's Bairns, second-year youth scholar and U18 captain **Jack**

Ellis agrees to his first professional contract with a two-year deal. Jack arrived at the club as an under-9 player so has genuinely progressed through the system. He may even remember when we used to be a decent League One side!

Having enjoyed a previously successful loan spell with Hull City, former loan midfielder Regan Slater makes it a permanent move as he leaves the Blades for an undisclosed fee on a two-and-a-half-year deal.

Morecambe is the latest football hot-bed for **Rhys Bennett** as he signs on a short team deal after being released by freefalling Gillingham (who then lost their next game 2-7 at home).

Jan 29th (Sat)

CUFC (0) 0 SUTTON UTD (2) 2

The general feeling was that the team selection was all wrong (again), the first half performance possibly the worst of the season (and that's saying something) and the second half only slightly better. Guy's set pieces seem more like watching someone's 5 year-old daughter playing 'FIFA' for the first time with every passing week. For the second time this season we bent over and had our bottom spanked by a team that's spent most of the past two decades treading water in the Conference South

and led up front by Richie 'reject' Bennett, deemed surplus to requirements by most Carlisle fans within a few weeks of his debut. Armer's headed response against a post when 0-1 down was about the only time we came close to laying a glove on them with the visitors play as breezy as the weather.

United (no ratings): Howard, Senior, McDonald, Simeu, Armer, Patrick, Guy (c), Whelan (Clough 86), Dickenson (Alessandra 73), Omotoye (Gibson 60), Mellish.

Dean Furman signs for ambitious Northern Premier League North-West outfit Warrington Rylands after his departure from National League club Altrincham. Rylands are the current FA Vase holders and sit seven points behind Workington at the time of his move.

Matt Jansen's brief stay as manager of North-West Counties First Division South side Stockport Town comes to a close as the former star returns to nearby County in a playing and coaching staff support role.

Jan 31st (Mon) – TRANSFER DEADLINE DAYAGEDDON!!

United's throw it against the wall and see what sticks approach to the Janu-

ary window continues with several new bodies to support the depleted ranks. First in is 21-year-old left-back **Mitchell Roberts, (below)** borrowed from the Blue Noses until the end of the season where he is their Under-23s captain. Roberts featured four times for Harrogate last term (11 goals shipped in 3 league games) and twice for his parent club this campaign, the last a 1-2 home reverse to struggling Reading.



Big wage roller **Zach Clough** makes a sudden exit out of Brunton Park's gates half-way through the day, Adelaide United of the Australia A-League being the rumoured destination. The early promise of a bountiful season driven by some fine performances in pre-season soon evaporated and he had cut an increasingly forlorn-looking figure.

Just as knives were being sharpened

for the lack of new strikers through the door, three appear all at once. Sutton United's 26-year-old **Tobi Sho-Silva** joins for a small fee on an 18-month deal having come off the bench for them on Saturday at Brunton Park. The former Charlton youth trainee has had loan (Welling, Inverness CT, Chelmsford, Margate) and permanent (Bromley, Dover, Halifax) spells at various clubs without being particularly prolific and netted 4 times in 38 games for Sutton in their promotion season.

West Brom's 26-year-old **Owen Windsor** appears on a half-season loan having joined them from Cirencester. He's league experience CV amounts to a dozen or so games on loan for Grimsby in the season they went down, departing early after falling out with rent-an-idiot Ian Holloway, and then a single substitute appearance for Newport County last January.

A more likely candidate for a regular spot is 31-year-old **Kristian Dennis** on an 18-month deal. Despite lean times recently with St Mirren in the Scottish

Premiership, the player has a decent scoring record in and around our level with the likes of Stockport, Macclesfield, Chesterfield and Notts County.

31 year-old fans' favourite **Jamie Devitt** is the fifth and final addition to the squad, desperate to get back after barely managing two successive games on the pitch following three injury hit seasons since leaving for the Donkey Lashers. The deal is only until the end of the season and likely to feature an element of 'pay-as-you-play' within the terms.

Elsewhere, WeBuyAnyPlayer.com end a successful, long-running chase to sign former midfield starlet **Kyle Dempsey** for an undisclosed fee on a two-and-a-half-year-deal from Gillingham. AFC Wombles bring in **Sam Cosgrove** on loan from the Brummies until the end of the season following his 2 from 22 return with the Shrews. £2m, yes, I know.

Feb 1st (Tue)

SALFORD (0) 2 CUFC (0) 1

A shambolic night that started with penalty magnet Mellish all at sea within a midfield two again, quickly worsened by the first-half loss of McDonald, Guy and Senior to injury and tin-hatted by Dickenson serving up Salford's winner on a plate as part of a desperate per-

formance. Clutching at straws time for positives, Riley and Feeney both looked good when they came on and the equaliser was a thing of beauty, Alessandra slipping Gibson into space behind the defence and Patrick keeping his composure to finish under pressure in front of 958 rapturous travelling fans.

Player Ratings*: Howard 4.50, Senior 6.00, McDonald n/a, Simeu 5.00, Armer 5.00, Gibson 5.50, Guy 5.00, Mellish 4.00, Dickenson 3.50, Patrick 6.00, Alessandra 5.00. Subs: Whelan 4.50, Feeney 6.50, Riley 5.50

Manny Mampala heads out to National League side Weymouth on a half-season loan deal in a bid for some game time.

Feb 3rd (Thu)

Devastating news for young **Joel Senior** as it's confirmed by a knee specialist that he'll need surgery that will almost certainly rule him out for the rest of the season. Guy's hamstring knock and Concrete Rod's calf tweak should see them return to training before the end of February.

* Player Ratings calculated from the average of all marks given on TheCumbrians.net forum

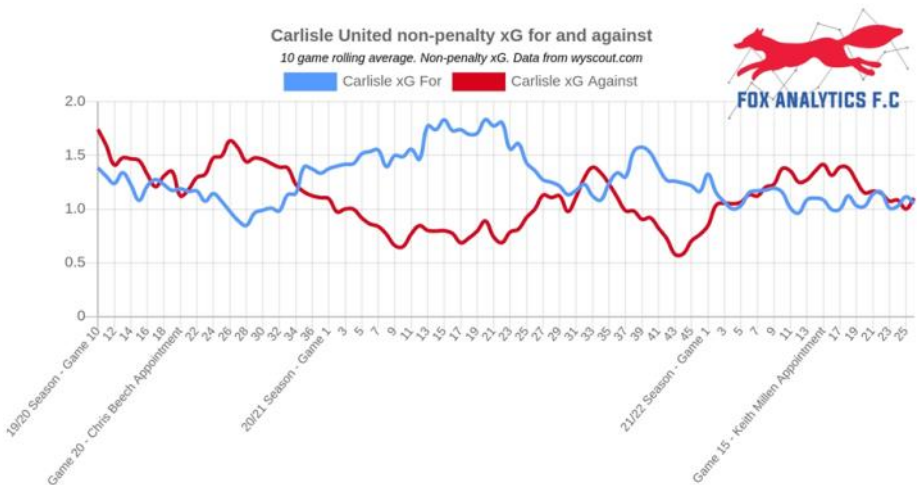
Mike Kilner

THE BLUES PLAY KEITH MILLEN

Our resident 'Statto', CUFC Goose takes a look at how the blues have fared in league games since Keith Millen took over.

I will be using league games since Millen took over for this article. I will start from the Barrow game on 13th November 2021 as I feel that Northampton was too soon after he joined for him to have a real impact. So that gives 11 games of data to play with (up until the 3-0 Forest Green defeat on 22nd January 2022).

ROLLING EXPECTED GOALS



No better place to start than the chances Carlisle have created/conceded. This shows a 10 game rolling average of chances created (in blue) and chances conceded (in red) measured in the probability that the chances in the game typically result in a goal.

Based on this if the blue line is above the red line Carlisle are creating better chances than their opponents. If the red line is above blue then Carlisle's opponents are creating the better chances. As you can see since Millen took over defence has improved considerably. Carlisle were conceding roughly 1.5xG per game and now it is roughly 1xG. So they are giving up a fair bit less to the opposition than they were beforehand.

Carlisle were creating roughly 1xG before Millen took over and that figure has remained pretty consistent.

But the fact that defence has improved (and attack hasn't) means that a lot of those games Carlisle were losing before are a lot closer now and results have changed from a lot of losses to more draws and narrow victories.

DEFENSIVE IMPROVEMENTS

As the graph above shows defence has clearly improved, so why is this? Let's look at the league fixtures Carlisle have played since Millen's arrival.

I've ranked teams in points per game order as some teams have played more matches than others.

The points per game league position shows red if the team is in the top 7, green if

Team	Home/Away	Result	League position (points per game)
Barrow	Home	Draw (0-0)	21
Exeter	Away	Loss (1-2)	8
Harrogate	Home	Loss (0-2)	11
Walsall	Home	Win (1-0)	18
Mansfield	Away	Loss (0-1)	6
Stevenage	Away	Win (2-0)	19
Scunthorpe	Away	Win (1-0)	24
Bradford	Home	Win (2-0)	10
Crawley	Home	Draw (1-1)	15
Hartlepool	Home	Draw (0-0)	17
Forest Green	Away	Loss (0-3)	1

they are in the bottom 7 and orange if they are anywhere in between.

Carlisle's two "hardest" games have come against top 6 teams away from home. They have had four "easy" games (two at home and two away). **Overall it seems like a fairly average set of 11 games - not a particularly hard or easy run.**

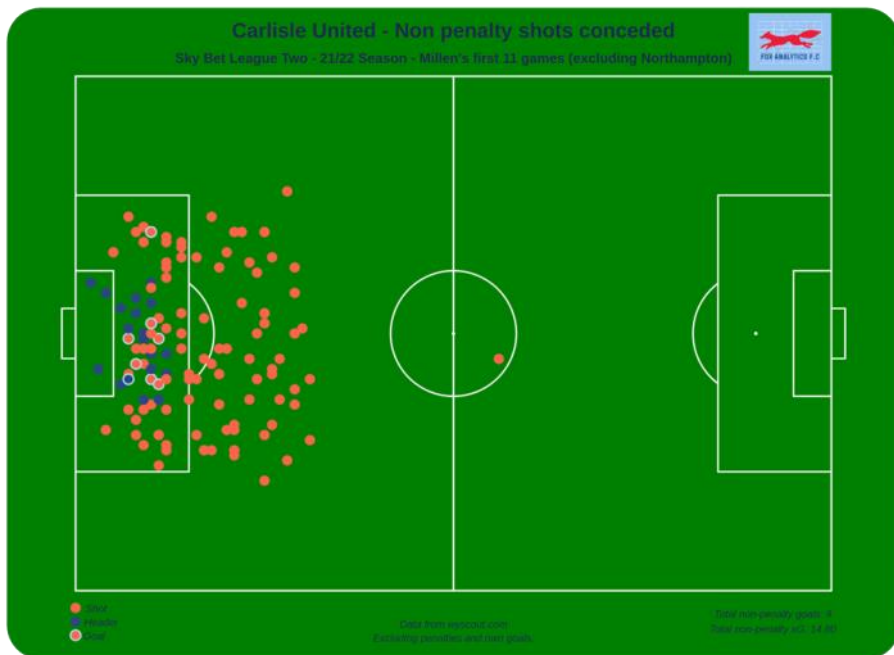
The average points per game ranked position of the 11 opponents is 13.6. Given that there are 24 teams in the division, the run has been very slightly easier than an average set of games could be expected to be (also take into account that there has been 1 home game more too).

According to @OptaAnalyst Carlisle now rank 9th best in open play defence (based on xG conceded) in League two.

SHOTS CONCEDED

A few things jump out from this:

No shots have been taken by opposition players in the six yard box using their heads. Carlisle have defended deep and cut out any dangerous low balls into this area.



The opposition aren't managing many headed shots (an average of less than 2 per game). Carlisle are winning high balls in their box.

Teams are being forced to take plenty of shots from outside the box. Again, Carlisle have been getting plenty of men behind the ball.

Carlisle have conceded shots worth 14.8xG but only conceded 9 goals from these chances. Have teams finished poorly or has Mark Howard made good saves? (probably a bit of both).

GOALKEEPING

Howard has been particularly good at saving high shots and conceded mainly difficult shots down to his bottom right.

Based on the shots on target you'd expect a goalkeeper to have conceded roughly 10 goals (9.83xG).

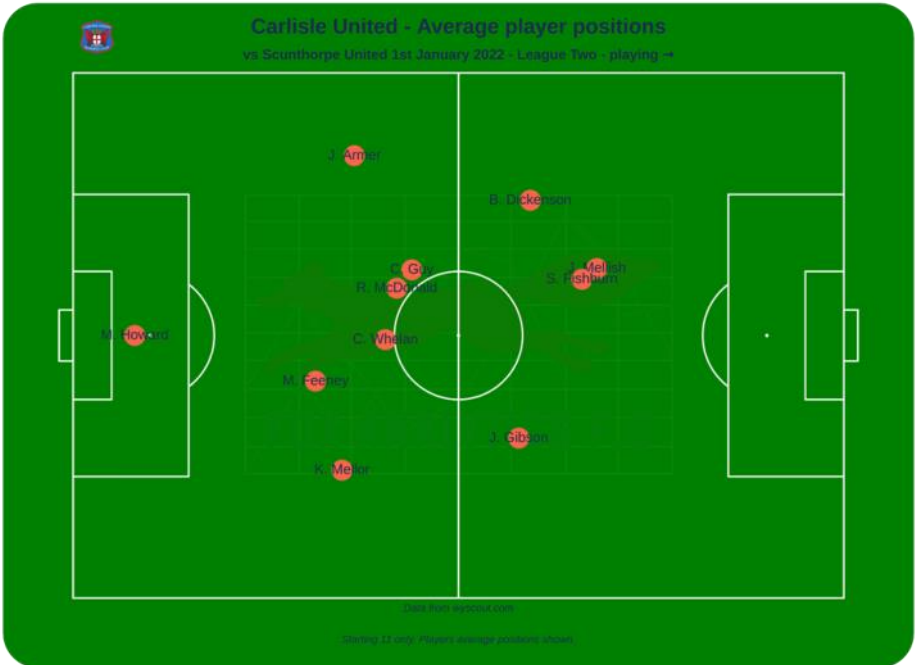
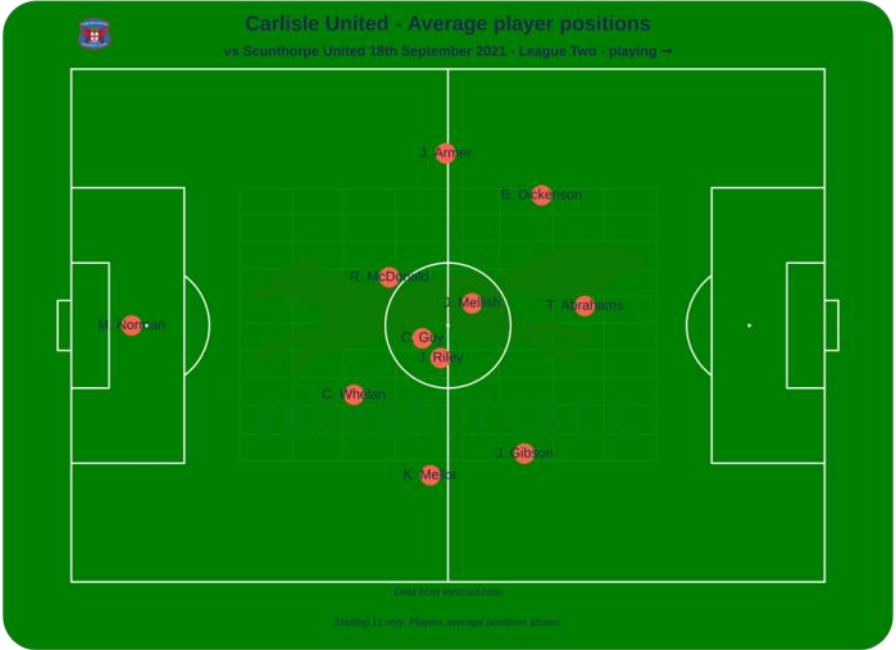
Howard only conceded 8 goals in this time.



DEFENSIVE POSITIONING

Compare the positioning of players in Beech's Carlisle team that played **Scunthorpe at home** (first image) and Millen's team that played **Scunthorpe away** (second image).

This is one way in which Carlisle have limited opposition chances.

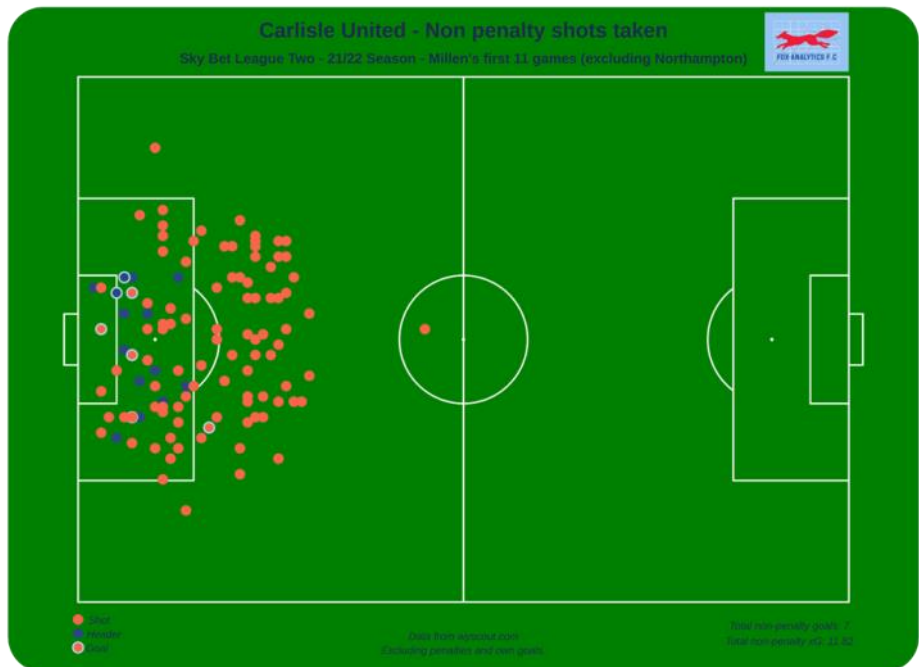


.**Players are noticeably narrower and deeper in Millen's set up.** It has been obvious that he wants players to concentrate on defending first and foremost. The biggest change has been with the fullbacks. Mellor and Armer have dropped much deeper than they were used to playing in games under Beech.

This has had positive impacts in terms of chances being conceded but perhaps the opposite effect going forwards.

ATTACKING

Carlisle's finishing has been better since Millen came in but in terms of chances created per game that has remained constant.



According to @OptaAnalyst Carlisle rank 3rd worst in open play chance creation in League two. They are getting some headed shots now (2 goals from these) although they are still lacking in this area I feel especially as Brennan Dickenson ranks 11th across the division for cross accuracy and averages over 4 crosses per game (19th highest in the division). **Data from Wyscout.**

A forward player good in the air would be very effective in this set up I feel.

Shooting from distance when better options are available is also something that seems to keep happening. This seems to be as a result of a lack of movement or players having to drop deep to defend and not being available to get forwards.

Ultimately you can't blame Millen for dropping players behind the ball to address Carlisle's defensive issues but at some point a balance needs to be struck in order to create more chances by getting more players forward.

CHANGES I'D LIKE TO SEE

A player good in the air to take advantage of the chances being created by wide players and set pieces.

4-4-2 is working with deep fullbacks to nullify opposition attacks but it is sacrificing getting forward too much? I feel forwards are isolated and the midfield is getting overrun often in games. Is there potential to play with wingbacks? Senior and Armer like to get forwards and would free up an extra player to get forward. In games where teams have gone with this setup Carlisle tend to get pinned back.

Is Joe Riley back to full fitness and could he make an impact in progressing the ball and freeing up other players to make runs in the final third?

**Lots more Carlisle United stats and analysis on twitter: @f_analytics
and on the blog: <https://foxanalyticsfc.co.uk>**



PREDICTION COMPETITION 2021/22: TABLE ON JAN 6TH

POS	NAME	PTS	POS	NAME	PTS
1	Chris Holmes A	39	43	Alex Tyson	18
2	Mike Kilner A	37	44	Ian Kellitt A	18
3	Simon Clarkson A	34	45	Jay Puskas	18
4	Chris Holmes B	33	46	Neil Nixon B	18
5	Martyn Lundie	33	47	David Hebson B	18
6	Mike Kilner B	33	48	Paul Sawyers	18
7	Dave Brown	32	49	Terry McCarthy	17
8	Dave Croxford B	31	50	Colin Hopkins	17
9	Iain Davidson A	30	51	Bryan Hemingway A	16
10	Richard Coughlan	29	52	Martin Thomas A	16
11	Ken Hullock A	29	53	Ian Kellitt B	16
12	John Kukuc	28	54	Jonathan McLoughlin	16
13	Matt Juma	28	55	Alex McGeorge	16
14	Chris Sabater	27	56	Robert Calvert B	16
15	Chris Clapham	27	57	Sam Harwood White	15
16	Martin Coughlan	27	58	Howard Atkinson A	15
17	Iain Davidson B	27	59	Dave Mayo	15
18	James Lee A	26	60	David Whitfield B	15
19	Matt Power	26	61	Neil Nixon A	15
20	Rob Watson A	26	62	Adam Bracegirdle B	15
21	Ken Hullock B	25	63	Kevin McGeorge	15
22	Dan Coughlan	25	64	Steve Tyson	14
23	Sandro Scapin	25	65	Ian Smith	14
24	Stuart Mundy	25	66	Peter Scott B	14
25	Mark Temple	25	67	Martin Thomas B	14
26	Simon Clarkson B	24	68	Robert Calvert A	13
27	Peter Edwards	24	69	James Lee B	13
28	Marley Vamadevan	23	70	Tegan Thompson	13
29	David Hebson A	23	71	David Swallow	13
30	Mike Temple	22	72	Adam Bracegirdle A	12
31	Bryan Hemingway B	21	73	Thomas Craig	12
32	Stuart McFarlane	21	74	Peter Scott A	11
33	Dave Croxford A	20	75	Martin Broad A	11
34	Rick Wilkes A	20	76	Shaun Craig	10
35	Marc Mayo	20	77	Jamie Craig	7
36	Mark Scott	20	78	Rick Wilkes B	6
37	Bradley Devlin	20	79	Kimberley Thompson	6
38	Martin Broad B	19	80	Mike Carruthers LD2	5
39	Scott Thompson	19	81	Mike Carruthers LD1	5
40	David Whitfield A	19	82	Rob Watson B	0
41	Buddy Caderni	19	83	Howard Atkinson B	0
42	Jeremy Cumaraswamy	19			

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Branch Meetings

Our Branch meetings take place in central London at the Civil Service Club, off Whitehall. Virtual Hit the Bar! carries new of all our forthcoming meetings and events.



virtual

Hit The Bar!

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SEE YOU SOON !

**Look out for details of matches, meeting places
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The copy deadline for HTB! 321 will be notified in Virtual HtB.

Send your photos and articles to editor@cusclb.com.

Thank you to all contributors to this edition of Hit the Bar!

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