

= John Nutter =

John Robert William Nutter (born 13 June 1982) is a former professional footballer who played for Wycombe Wanderers , Aldershot Town , Grays Athletic , Stevenage Borough , Gillingham , Lincoln City and Woking as a defender .

Nutter began his career at Blackburn Rovers ' youth academy in 1998 , spending two years on the books with the club before being released . In early 2001 , he joined Wycombe Wanderers , and later signed for Aldershot Town in May 2001 . He enjoyed a promotion with Aldershot during the 2002 ? 03 campaign , helping the club secure the Isthmian League Premier Division title . During his time at Aldershot , Nutter spent time out on loan at St Albans City and Gravesend & Northfleet respectively .

Nutter then enjoyed a fruitful two @-@ year spell at Grays Athletic , and was part of the side that won the Conference South title , as well as two FA Trophy successes . In May 2006 , he signed for Stevenage Borough , and again tasted FA Trophy success during the 2006 ? 07 season . Nutter moved back into the Football League in November 2007 , signing for Gillingham . He spent three @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half seasons there , with the club moving between League One and League Two during his tenure . He was released when his contract expired at the end of the 2010 ? 11 campaign , subsequently signing for Lincoln City of the Conference National in July 2011 . He was loaned out to Woking in November 2012 , a move that was later made permanent in January 2013 .

Nutter decided to retire from playing football at the end of the 2014 ? 15 season so he could focus on his career as a teacher of Physical Education at a school .

= = Club career = =

= = = Early career = = =

Nutter began his career on the books at Blackburn Rovers ' youth academy , joining the club 's YTS programme in 1998 at the age of 16 , before later becoming a first @-@ year scholar . During his time at Blackburn , he was part of the side that won the Under 17s Academy Cup as they beat Manchester City in the final . He was released by Blackburn in 2000 , and was subsequently signed by Wycombe Wanderers in the early part of 2001 . Nutter made one first @-@ team appearance for the club , making his Football League debut in the club 's 3 ? 2 away defeat to Peterborough United on 24 February 2001 . He was also part of the squad that travelled to the FA Cup semi @-@ final against Liverpool at Villa Park , although did not feature . His time at Wycombe was hampered by an ankle injury , which resulted in " limited opportunities " . He subsequently left Wycombe at the end of the 2000 ? 01 season .

In May 2001 , Nutter joined Aldershot Town , then of the Isthmian League Premier Division . He made his debut in Aldershot 's 3 ? 1 home victory over Enfield on 18 August 2001 , and scored his first goal for the club shortly after in a 2 ? 1 away win over Heybridge Swifts . Nutter made 19 appearances for Aldershot during the 2001 ? 02 season , scoring twice . He also made eight appearances for divisional rivals St Albans City during a two @-@ month loan spell . Nutter remained at Aldershot the following season , making sporadic appearances throughout the campaign . He spent a month on loan at Conference National side Gravesend & Northfleet in November 2002 , making four appearances . During the campaign , he scored three times in 21 appearances for Aldershot , in a season that saw the club earn promotion to the Conference National after winning the Isthmian League Premier Division . Nutter featured regularly during Aldershot 's return to the highest tier of non @-@ League football , making 28 appearances in all competitions and netting once in a 4 ? 2 away victory over Bishop 's Stortford in the FA Trophy in January 2004 . Aldershot narrowly missed out on back @-@ to @-@ back promotions , losing on penalties in the play @-@ off final to Shrewsbury Town . Although Nutter did not play in the final , he did feature in both legs of the semi @-@ final as Aldershot defeated Hereford United on penalties . During his three years at Aldershot , Nutter made 68 appearances in league , FA Cup and FA

Trophy fixtures , scoring six times .

= = = Grays Athletic = = =

Ahead of the 2004 ? 05 season , in July 2004 , Nutter signed for Conference South side Grays Athletic , managed by Mark Stimson . He made his Grays debut on the opening day of the season , playing the first 57 minutes in a 1 ? 1 away draw against Hayes on 14 August 2004 . Three days later , he scored his only goal of the season as Grays beat Redbridge comfortably at the New Recreation Ground . In Nutter 's first season with Grays , the club secured the Conference South title in comprehensive fashion , winning the division by 23 points . During the same season , Grays also won the FA Trophy , beating Hucknall Town on penalties in the final at Villa Park , with Nutter playing the whole match . As a result of Grays ' promotion , the 2005 ? 06 season gave Nutter another opportunity to play in the Conference National . He was almost ever @-@ present during yet another successful season for the Essex club , with Grays finishing third in the league . His only goal of the season came in the Conference play @-@ off semi @-@ final second leg , as Grays eventually lost to Halifax Town 5 ? 4 on aggregate . Shortly after the play @-@ off defeat , Nutter was part of the side that secured back @-@ to @-@ back FA Trophy titles courtesy of a 2 ? 0 win against Woking at Upton Park . It was to be Nutter 's last game for the club . On securing successive FA Trophy victories with Grays , Nutter stated ? " The FA Trophy wins for Grays Athletic were great , a fantastic achievement for the club , we had some terrific players at the time " .

= = = Stevenage Borough = = =

With his Grays contract expiring in May 2006 , Nutter opted to sign for Conference National side Stevenage Borough at the end of the month . He joined on a free transfer and on a two @-@ year contract . The move reunited him with Stimson , who made Nutter his first signing following his switch from Grays to Stevenage . Nutter revealed that he had rejected the offer of a contract extension at Grays , as well as an offer from Peterborough United . He made his Stevenage debut against Altrincham on 12 August 2006 , playing the whole match in a 2 ? 1 away defeat . Nutter scored his first goal for Stevenage in a 3 ? 2 home win against Woking on 3 October 2006 , a late penalty to restore parity in the match , before Stevenage went on to score a winner in injury @-@ time . He went on to score further penalties in home victories against Gravesend & Northfleet and Cambridge United , and also scored against Burton Albion with a long @-@ range drive in a 2 ? 1 win . He added to his most fruitful season in front of goal by scoring twice in April 2007 , both from the penalty spot , against Forest Green Rovers and Rushden & Diamonds respectively . He was ever @-@ present during his first season with the club , playing in all 46 leagues matches , as well as making a further ten appearances in cup competitions , scoring six times . Nutter was part of the squad that reached the FA Trophy final in May 2007 , the first competitive match at the new Wembley Stadium . He played the whole match in Stevenage 's 3 ? 2 win over Kidderminster Harriers , a game in which Stevenage trailed by two goals , meaning he had won the FA Trophy for three successive years .

Nutter scored his first goal of the 2007 ? 08 season in Stevenage 's 3 ? 0 home victory over Weymouth in August 2007 , scoring a free kick that found the top corner of the goal . He was part of the defence that broke a club record and equalled a Conference National record when Stevenage went eight games without conceding a goal , spanning from August to October 2007 . Following the departure of manager Mark Stimson to Gillingham in November 2007 , it was revealed that Stevenage rejected several offers for Nutter from Gillingham . He remained at Stevenage for a further three weeks ; his last game for the club a 3 ? 2 home loss to Halifax Town . He scored eight times in 73 appearances for the club in all competitions .

= = = Gillingham = = =

Later that month , Nutter joined Gillingham , along with Stevenage midfielder Adam Miller , for a

combined fee of £ 65 @, @ 000 . The move was initially on loan until January 2008 , when the deal was made permanent . He made his debut for Gillingham in a 1 ? 1 home draw with Southend United on 26 December 2007 , playing the whole match . Nutter went on to make 25 appearances for the club during the second half of the 2007 ? 08 campaign , a season that witnessed Gillingham suffer relegation to League Two . He scored one goal during the campaign , netting in a 1 ? 1 draw against Bristol Rovers at the Memorial Stadium in April 2008 . The 2008 ? 09 campaign brought about Nutter 's first full season at Gillingham . He had been joined by former Stevenage players Barry Fuller , Alan Julian , and Stuart Lewis , as well as Dennis Oli , who he played alongside at Grays . Nutter made 54 appearances during the campaign , a season in which Gillingham earned promotion back to League One following a 1 ? 0 win over Shrewsbury Town in the play @-@ off final at Wembley Stadium in May 2009 . Although he failed to find the scoresheet during the successful campaign , he did provide the assist for eleven goals . The promotion meant that it was the third of Nutter 's career , having also tasted league success at Aldershot and Grays .

Nutter started in the club 's first game of the 2009 ? 10 season ; as Gillingham marked their return to the third tier of English football with a 5 ? 0 victory over Swindon Town at Priestfield . He scored his only goal of the campaign , the second of his Gillingham career , in a 3 ? 1 win over bottom @-@ placed Stockport County in December 2009 , marking his 100th appearance for the club with an " angled volley " that beat Owain Fôn Williams in the Stockport goal . Gillingham were relegated at the end of the season , finishing in 21st place . A 3 ? 0 away loss to one of Nutter 's former employers , Wycombe Wanderers , cemented their fate . Nutter made 41 appearances during the campaign . Stimson left the club by mutual consent days after the Wycombe match , and was replaced by Andy Hessenthaler . This meant that Nutter would be playing under a manager other than Stimson for the first time in six years (aside from a three @-@ week spell under Peter Taylor at Stevenage) . Nutter 's contract was extended for a further year in June 2010 after he had " played sufficient games last season to trigger a new deal " . During the campaign , Nutter received the first red card of his career in a 2 ? 0 home defeat to Dover Athletic in the FA Cup , earning the dismissal for a " professional foul " . He made 37 appearances during the 2010 ? 11 season , scoring once , as Gillingham narrowly missed out on a play @-@ off position . In May 2011 , Nutter left Gillingham when his contract expired at the end of the month . During his three @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half @-@ year spell with the Kent side , he made 157 appearances and scored three goals .

= = = Lincoln City = = =

Nutter joined Conference National side Lincoln City on a free transfer in July 2011 . Signing a two @-@ year deal with Lincoln , Nutter stated ? " I think it will benefit me to have a fresh start , play in front of new people and show what I can do . I feel I 'm better than this level but I 've got to show that and we have to show that as a team " . His Lincoln debut came on the opening day of the 2011 ? 12 season , playing the whole match as Lincoln twice squandered a lead to draw 2 ? 2 with Southport at Haig Avenue . He scored his first goal for the club in November 2011 , netting Lincoln 's third with a shot from outside the area in a 3 ? 0 home win over Ebbsfleet United . Nutter would add to his goal tally once more during the campaign when he scored a 20 @-@ yard free @-@ kick in an important 2 ? 0 win against relegation rivals Newport County on 24 March 2012 . Nutter played in all 51 of Lincoln 's matches during the season , with the club struggling to adapt during their first season back in non @-@ league , finishing just above the relegation places .

He was made club captain ahead of the 2012 ? 13 season , and continued to play regularly during the early months of the new campaign . He opened his goalscoring account courtesy of free @-@ kick in a 3 ? 3 home draw against Stockport County in October 2012 . Shortly after , Nutter admitted that his family struggled relocating to Lincolnshire , and a move down south was a much more suitable location given his personal circumstances . He scored three times in 66 appearances for Lincoln . On his time at Lincoln , Nutter stated ? " Lincoln is a really nice , friendly club with very patient and loyal supporters . But with my personal circumstances , it was time to move on ? I wish them well " .

== Woking ==

In November 2012 , he joined fellow Conference National side Woking on a two @-@ month loan deal . He made his first appearance for Woking two days after signing , playing the whole match in a 2 ? 1 loss to Alfreton Town at Kingfield , and went on to make a further four appearances during the loan agreement . He briefly returned to Lincoln , before it was agreed that he would leave the club by mutual consent at the end of 2012 . Nutter subsequently signed for Woking on a permanent basis on 6 January 2013 .

== International career ==

Nutter has played for the England C team , who represent England at non @-@ league level . He has also made several appearances for the England futsal side .

== Style of play ==

Nutter predominantly played as a left @-@ sided full @-@ back , although he did play on the left wing in the early stages of his career . He was left @-@ footed . Gillingham manager Mark Stimson described him as " an attacking full @-@ back with plenty of technical ability " , and stated that Nutter would " offer plenty of width down the left hand side " , in @-@ turn being " a constant attacking threat " . He expressed a passion to pass the ball along the floor , and always prefers to pass the ball out as opposed to hitting it long . Talking about his time at Stevenage , Nutter stated he would like to be remembered as a player " who tried to play football the right way , passing the ball , technically good to watch and an honest player " .

He also provided an attacking outlet from set @-@ pieces . Throughout his career , Nutter scored from several long @-@ range free @-@ kicks , and also regularly took corner kicks . During his time at Stevenage , he was the club 's penalty taker , and scored six out of seven penalties .

== Personal life ==

Nutter is married to Hayley and has two sons , Walter and Benedict . He has a brother and a sister . His brother , Tom , has played football for Burnham and Beaconsfield SYCOB , and won a number of awards during a four @-@ year stint in America playing for West Texas A & M University .

He has stated that his closest friend in football is Adam Miller , who he played alongside at Stevenage and Gillingham . John is now a teacher at a school in Berkshire , teaching Physical Education to pupils at a Preparatory school .

== Honours ==

Isthmian League Premier Division : 2002 ? 03
FA Trophy : 2004 ? 05 , 2005 ? 06 , 2006 ? 07
Conference South : 2004 ? 05
League Two play @-@ offs : 2008 ? 09

== Career statistics ==

As of matches played 21 March 2015 .