

LINE UPS

WEALDSTONE v FULHAM U-23

all yellow

white/black

Jonathan North	<input type="checkbox"/>	Julian Schwarzer
Eddie Oshodi	<input type="checkbox"/>	Felix Norman
Ryan Sellers	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joe Felix
Ciaron Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>	Aron Davies
Josh Hill	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moritz Jenz
Sam Cox (c)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Daniel Martin
Danny Green	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sean Kavanagh
Elliott Benyon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jayden Harris
Dan Fitchett	<input type="checkbox"/>	Atli Andrason
Matt Whichelow	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stephen Humphrys
Ricky Wellard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Isaac Pearce
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Elliott Godfrey	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michael Elstone
Nathan Mavila	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elijah Adebayo
Abobaker Eisa	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reece York
Benji Crilley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chris Kelly
Omar Koroma	<input type="checkbox"/>	Foday Nabay
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Referee: Alex Rayment **Assistants:** Corey Snuggs and Ceri Williams

MATCH SPONSOR: Nick Woolford, in memory of his friend Karl Schmitt

MATCHBALL DONATION: Peter Smallwood

NEXT HOME GAMES: v WATFORD U-23s (Friendly) next Saturday July 15, 3pm; v MAIDENHEAD UTD (Friendly) on Tuesday July 18, kick-off 7.45pm

gpflewis 

HIGHLIGHT OF THE SEASON

Gordon Bartlett is about to start his 22nd year in the Wealdstone hotseat... but there have been fewer more exhilarating moments than when the final whistle signalled that great 2-1 FA Trophy win at Southport in January

Picture: STEVE FOSTER



www.wealdstone-fc.com 2017-18

STONES

Wealdstone v Fulham

Sat July 8, 2017, 3pm Pre-season friendly

pre-season programme **£1**

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NEXT AT THE VALE

Watford bring their impressive Under-23s side to Ruislip next Saturday, July 15 for a 3pm kick-off

Quiet confidence at the Vale greets another new season

Welcome back to the Vale for this eagerly-anticipated 2017-18 season.

It's an awkward time to announce club news, with so much up in the air regarding the lease and prospective new players - but there will be news filtering out of the Vale over the next few weeks that will hopefully leave everyone with a sense of excitement and anticipation.

Meanwhile, a big hello to new signings Josh Hill (from Chelmsford), Shaquille Hippolyte-Patrick (Hampton), Benji Crilley (Chesham) and Abobaker Eisa (Uxbridge), while a degree of sadness surrounds the departures of former skipper Wes Parker (to Wingate & Finchley, where he joins fellow speedster Sean Cronin) and frontman Johnny Wright. Both are bona fide Stones

legends. We wish them well.

A big thanks to Championship side Fulham for sending their under-23s over to Ruislip this afternoon - they helped us out by loaning talented wingback Ryheem Sheckleford (right) last season and he was instrumental in getting our season back on track at the end of 2016. We've not met the Cottagers since 1982 (more on that clash on page 7) so it's great to renew acquaintance today... and we follow up this clash by meeting Premier League Watford's Under-23s next Saturday in another good test.

We are looking for match sponsors and matchball donors for our remaining friendlies, so contact Paul Rumens (07710929692) or Peter Worby (07967698370) for details. You



can also give those gentlemen a buzz if you fancy taking up the microphone as our new PA announcer - or if you can help us out as club photographer or videographer next season. Come and be a part of the happy Stones family!

You will also notice today that our fantastic band of volunteers have transformed the top end of the ground with new hard standing and a much better position for Lynn's Gourmet Burger van. Now we can watch the game while we're queuing! **Tim Parks**

Nick Woolford on his Fulham FC friend Karl Schmitt

Today's match is sponsored by our generous long-time supporter Nick Woolford in memory of his friend of almost 50 years, Karl Schmitt. Karl (right), a Fulham season ticket holder, died suddenly just three months ago at the age of 66.

Nick writes... "I met Karl in the summer of 1968 when we started work together, fresh out of school, at the British shipping company, Athel Line Limited (a subsidiary of Tate & Lyle) which operated a fleet of tankers, mostly dedicated to carrying molasses. Although we were in different departments we were thrown together by the company at its insistence that we attend night school to study for the membership examinations to



the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers. This did not go down well with either of us as we had only recently escaped the school environment - so when Karl suggested one Wednesday evening that we skipped the lecture on Marine Insurance and go to Highbury instead to see Arsenal in some European match, I jumped at the suggestion.

It was the very first football match that I had attended and I was instantly hooked! My passion for football remains as strong today as it was then, and so my lifetime devotion to football (and Wealdstone) is all Karl's fault!

I kept him informed by text of

every Wealdstone game I attended and we would have a bit of banter about the results on a Monday morning.

He was a season ticket holder at Craven Cottage for about 15 years but started out as a Tottenham fan, switching allegiance when he found that he couldn't stomach something that Lord Sugar did! He's the only person I have known to change teams like that.

Unfortunately, when you read this I shall be in France with my grandchildren, but hopefully Karl's family will be attending today: his widow, Sonya, his brother, Geoff, and his two sons, Mark and Paul. We did a lot of business together and I spoke with Karl every working day, sometimes three or four times a day. I miss him terribly."



We were all set to give Bankzzy some stick for wearing a 'half and half scarf' ...but if Wealdstone ever reached a Europa League final against Atletico Madrid I'd probably do the same

We've found a Fulham and Wealdstone fan to feature today... Mark Banks, who loves his football but has been known to give it a miss 'if there's a cracking music gig on' ...

Name: Mark Banks

Where do you live? Borough of Hillingdon - all my life.

Are you working, and where? Work for one of the big accountancy firms in central London. I've worked there 14 years.

First Stones game attended? I think it was the last game of the 1989/90 season v Moor Green at Lower Mead, but the first Wealdstone programme I have is from 30/10/1990, Wealdstone v Burnham in the Larchimage Windows Cup 1st Round 2nd Leg according to my list!

What or who persuaded you to become a Stones fan? I went along with school friends as I was too young to go to watch Fulham (my other team) on my own.

Do you follow any other team? Yes - Fulham, my first game was 1980ish, then a regular from

1983-1986 and a season ticket holder since 1993 (I was old enough to go on my own then)!

Do you prefer lower-League football? It has its positives and it's negatives!

Any disadvantages? Lots, but that adds to the charm some-times....

How do you fit watching football, and Wealdstone, into your family/working life? I am 'young', free & single so can go where I want when I want... although Fulham and Stones home games did clash a lot last season. I only really go to Fulham games at The Cottage, otherwise it's Wealdstone home and a select few away games... but if a cracking music gig comes up mid-week I might miss the football completely - although that's only happened a

few times so far!

Who are your favourite bands/ style of music? I mainly follow the blues circuit which is far from being the 'blues' and is jam-packed with talent. I also help James Klarfeld with the fundraising gigs at the club and the Tropic on occasions. Favourite live act at the moment is the awesome Rebecca Downes, go check her band out!!

How big a part of your life is the game? A big part, been to well over 1,000 games but equally I don't tend to get sucked into the crazy emotion that seems to linger for days on end with some fans. Once the game is over, it's over, move on to the next one. As I also attend over 100 music gigs a year there is not the time or inclination to

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dwell on a result/performance that cannot be changed!

Most memorable game/s you've EVER seen? Fulham v Juventus, 18/3/2010, Europa League last 16, 2nd leg - UNBELIEVABLE!!!!

And most memorable Wealdstone game, and moment? Been a few, one that sticks in the mind for travelling support & atmosphere, Braintree away, 31/3/1998. Dartford at home in that FA Trophy replay was a bit special too...

What really gets your goat watching football? Diving/play-acting/cheating - call it what you like but it needs to be stamped out with retrospective bans.

Have you ever played the game yourself (to any level) and most memorable moments? Primary school level only (senior school played rugby)...

Any suggestions to improve your Stones watching experience at the Vale? Padded, heated seats...and maybe a few wins wouldn't go amiss!!!

Best away trips to watch football? Any trip that involves going outside London is a good one, makes a day of it.

What was your highlight of last season? Neither of my teams being in a relegation battle!

Best stadium you've EVER visited?. I like the new Wembley and having been to the London Olympic Stadium recently (Depeche Mode gig, VIP seat freebie!) it is so vastly superior to



GREATEST NIGHT OF HIS LIFE Fulham's Zoltan Gera levels the scores on aggregate, 4-4 v Juventus in 2010 after being 3-1 down from the first leg. Clint Dempsey chipped in a glorious winner

that it is unreal!

Where do you like to stand (or sit) at the Vale? Main stand by the halfway line...labelled home officials haha!

What are your expectations for the Stones for this season? With extra play-off positions due to come in then a challenge for a one of those is a must.

How does the current programme compare with others you see (such as Fulham's)? Great programme (I have hundreds!) considering our level (ie not full time staff compiling it). Fulham's annoyed me last season with its numerous errors and ridiculous type fonts/colours making some of it unreadable in places.

What do you think of the bars and catering at The Vale? Any beers or food you'd like to be

added? They have served us well so far but as we head into a new era (hopefully) then they also need to move up to the next level. Catering van is in the wrong place, far too hidden to tempt those that are undecided.

Do you buy much at the club-shop? I'd love a Wealdstone mouse mat and/or Oyster card holder! I have bought and also donated items.

Finally, where do you see both clubs in five years' time? Fulham, hopefully back in the Premier league achieving mid-table mediocrity, playing some nice football, a decent cup run or two and the new stand finally built. Wealdstone - stability. Certainly at this level, would love it to be National league but that is a big step up both on and off the pitch and to sustain that we will need to see some huge changes and be able to afford them.

Julian Schwarzer, 17, the son of FFC legend Mark may be in goal for Fulham today!



Seventeen-year-old Julian Schwarzer is expected to play in goal today for the West London side. His dad, 44-year-old Australian Mark is of course a legend at Fulham where he played for five years into his forties - and then ended his career on a high by joining Prem champions Chelsea and becoming their oldest-ever player to appear in a Premier League game (at 41). He then signed for Leicester as cover for Kaspar Schmeichel and won another title!

Then came a wait of 35 years until the Cottagers once again visited Lower Mead: Saturday August 7, 1982.

It was an intriguing clash. Fulham put out pretty much a full-strength side - the one that had just won promotion back to Division Two - while the Stones were on an absolute high having won the Southern League South, the Southern League Cup, the Southern Challenge Shield and the Southern League Champions Trophy on the way to promotion back to the Alliance Premier League (today's Conference National).

Allen Batsford had lined up a tough list of pre-season opposition (all at Lower Mead) but the super-confident Stones drew with Wimbledon (who ended up Div 4 champions), beat Second Division sides Charlton Athletic and Crystal Palace both by 2-1... before ending up drawing 2-2 with Malcolm Macdonald's Fulham.

The Cottagers were no mugs: they had just signed Ray Houghton from West Ham (astonishingly on a free transfer) and had a team studded with solid pros like Tony Gale and Ray Lewington, while Gordon Davies and Dean Coney provided the threat up front. I remember Gerry Peyton, the experienced Irish Republic international, played in goal for Fulham that day half a dozen years after he had faced us as a youngster for Atherstone in the Southern League.

But he was helpless to prevent the Stones coming from behind to force a 2-2 draw with Nigel Johnson and Ray Knowles-the-Goals hitting the net. What an interesting team that was... Ray Goddard in goal, Steve Perkins and Stuart Pearce the full-backs; Paul Bowgett and Dennis Byatt rock solid in the middle; Gary Churchouse, Robin Wainwright and Johnson in midfield and new signing Mark Graves, triallist John Peachey and Knowles up front. Midfielder Paul Waites was on the bench.

Alan and Neil Cordice were unavailable, and Roy Davies and Fred Barwick saved for the first league game at Altrincham the following Saturday so it was an intriguing look at the former Plymouth Argyle pair of Graves and Peachey.

STONES

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35 years ago and what a forward line..Knowles, Graves & Peachey. Who?

Gravesey would, of course, go on to become a Stones goalscoring legend but it wasn't until I googled the mysterious Peachey that I realised they had played in the same side at Home Park.

The 30-year-old Peachey had scored a decent number of goals for Barnsley and Darlington in a bit of a journeyman career, and it appeared to be a toss-up as to who Batsford would sign to pad out his thin squad. The manager was well known for only wanting a 15 or 16 players maximum - but happily it was the 21-year-old Graves who got the nod despite only netting once in pre-season.

What happened to John Peachey (pictured right)? He was next seen playing for Barnstaple Town in the Western League and (according to Google) ended his career in the north as coach at Ossett Albion.

And what about Fulham under Supermac? Midfielder Ray Lewington described him as 'very laid back, while coach Ray Harford was the hard man', and that combination pushed high-scoring Fulham up Division Two until they reached the last game of the season within reach of the top division.

But their threadbare squad, which had lost three games in a row in April, lost their last game 1-0 at Derby County in controversial circumstances - Derby had to win to stay up and the jubilant Baseball Ground crowd swarmed onto the pitch before the final

whistle thinking the game was over. Several Fulham players were bruised and battered as they sought refuge in the changing rooms - and after the referee had at first told Fulham they would have to return to play out the final few minutes, he later changed his mind under police advice.

Poor Fulham were left in limbo. They were left waiting to see if the FA would order the game to be finished behind closed doors and carried on training for a week after the season had finished, just in case... only to find out the FA's decision was to

let the result stand. Fulham therefore missed out, finishing one point behind the third promoted club, Leicester. QPR had won Division Two with Wolves runners-up.

As for the Stones... well it was a glorious return to non-League's top flight. Former Fulham maestro John Margerrison signed

for Batsford early in the new year and the superbly balanced squad - with the pace and power of the Cordices allied to the guile of Davies, Graves, Wainwright and Margerrison, backed by the solidity of Byatt, Bowgett, Pearce, Barwick and Perkins - pushed eventual champions Enfield and Maidstone United all the way.

We finished third to build the platform that would eventually carry the club to its unprecedented double, two years down the line.

