

News briefly

Stones go on

WEALDSTONE have made it into the second qualifying round of the FA Trophy after beating Croydon Athletic 1-0.

Chris O'Leary headed in the only goal of the game in the first half to set up a home tie against Tiverton Town on Saturday, November 1.

The Stones are fourth from bottom in the Ryman Premier and travel to Margate on Saturday.

Payne's gain

NORTHWOOD welcome East Thurrock United in the Ryman Premier on Saturday after securing their spot in the next round of the FA Trophy at the weekend. Colin Payne's side beat Crowborough Athletic 2-0 with goals from Rob Ursell, to progress into the second qualifying round.

Tigers climb up

KINGSBURY LONDON TIGERS are three points from the top of Spartan South Midlands Premier League after Saturday's 3-1 win against Tring Athletic. Adil Salih, Edson Cata and Marco Tagbajumi all scored to cancel out Tring's Chris Salmon goal. The Tigers travel to second place Langford on Saturday for a top-of-the-table clash.

News immediately:
harrowtimes.co.uk

Side all geared up for lucrative series

by FRANK SMITH
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MIDDLESEX's 15-man squad has flown to Antigua for the Stanford Super Series in a bid to get their hands on a \$180,000 prize fund.

The cricket club will be playing three matches in five days, starting with Sunday's game against England.

They will complete the trip by facing the Stanford Superstars on Thursday, October 30, but in between those two games they face Trinidad and Tobago for a pot of almost £110,000.

The main event in the series is the game between England and the Stanford Superstars, who will battle it out for \$20,000,000.

Middlesex earned the right to compete in the lucrative event after their sensational Twenty20 triumph at the Rose Bowl in July.

The club will be without Owais Shah as he is representing his country but the 30-year-old, who celebrated his birthday on Wednesday, will be replaced by Andrew Strauss.

One of the members of the Middlesex squad is Watford-born fast bowler Steven Finn.

The 19-year-old said: "It's a massive stage for me as a young cricketer coming up through the Under-19s in my first full season.

"Every game is going to be a massive showcase. Financially, the Trinidad match is the biggest one but the press are making more of that than ourselves. No one really talks about the money."



Steve Finn and his Middlesex team-mates hope to celebrate in Antigua by winning the \$180,000 prize money in the Stanford Super Series.

Middlesex will also be the sole representative for England in December's inaugural Champions League.

The draw is made tomorrow but Finn insists the squad is only concentrating on the Stanford Super Series.

He said: "It's a dream first season and it's brilliant the club won some silverware for the first time in 15 years but for me I'm always looking to improve my game.

"We're focused on the Stanford tournament. We have to prepare as well as we can for those three games and then

when we come back we can start our preparation for the Champions League.

"We are out there to do our jobs and win a game of cricket. That's what we're paid to do and that's what we're going to do.

"Our focus is on winning these matches no matter who it is against."

Middlesex squad: Shaun Udal (c), Neil Carter, Neil Dexter, Steven Finn, Billy Godleman, Tyron Henderson, Ed Joyce, Murali Kartik, Dawid Malan, Eoin Morgan, Tim Murtagh, David Nash, Alan Richardson, Ben Scott, Andrew Strauss.

Trophy win but Boro still bottom

HARROW BOROUGH will face Hastings United in the second qualifying round of the FA Trophy after beating Chatham Town 2-1 on Saturday.

It was a welcome break from their Ryman Premier campaign after David Howell's men lost 7-0 to Hendon last Wednesday to cement their place at the foot of the table.

Harrow have been handed a home tie for the next round of the FA Trophy on Saturday, November 1.

Saturday's win came courtesy of two goals in as many minutes from Lee Hall and Robin Shroot in the first half.

Despite their heavy midweek defeat, Howell picked an unchanged team but he decided to make a substitution and change to a 4-3-3 formation midway through the first-half and it paid off minutes later.

Shroot was brought down outside the box and right back Hall stepped up and smashed it into the top corner with his side's first shot of the game.

And then Shroot got one himself a minute later when he followed up Jonathan Constant's saved shot.

Borough continued to dominate the rest of the first period and most of the second, with Shroot threatening on numerous occasions.

But in the final ten minutes, Chatham scored when Tom Bines hit a 25-yard shot low past Gary Ross after Harrow's defence were slow to close the midfielder down.

The goal came against the run of play, with Ross rarely being called into making any meaningful saves throughout the second half.

And despite dominating for most of the game, Harrow had to endure a nervous end to the match.

Borough will hope to lift themselves off the bottom of the Ryman Premier when they travel to third-placed Tooting and Mitcham United on Saturday.

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