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WEALDSTONE boss delights at level of support

Bartlett hails the fans making trek to Truro

WEALDSTONE fans will travel to Saturday's final match of the season at Truro City by trains, planes and automobiles – and manager Gordon Bartlett says it is their support that makes the club so special and makes him happy to put in the extra hours for them.

As many as 300 Stones fans are expected to be in Cornwall for a match that has nothing hanging on it for the side, who mathematically secured their National League South status with last weekend's 1-1 draw at home to St Albans City.

But that won't stop the loyal fans from heading west on their 556-mile round trip. One fan is flying a Cessna to Cornwall, some are booked on scheduled flights from Gatwick, others are on trains and some will be hitting the road.

Bartlett said: "It's been said many times before but we are a unique club with fantastic support. These fans have got us through so many things over the years. They have been there through thick and thin. It typifies what the club is all about and I'm very proud to be the manager."

With support like that, Bartlett is determined to build on this sea-

By Dave Peters

son, which sees the Stones sitting in mid-table, and push on again next season for the club's fans.

He revealed that while the team will be taking their summer holidays after the Truro trek, he will be working hard throughout the close season to keep the club on an upward trajectory.

He will be taking in the play-off games after the regular season closes and he has already been in talks with some summer targets as he looks to strengthen the squad.

He said: "The summer is just as busy as the season for me. The only difference is that there is not a match on Saturdays."

But despite the overtime he and the backroom boys will be putting in over the coming months, he says the club are always going to be up against it as they try to compete in a league where some of their rivals are full-time.

He said: "Compared with many clubs we are playing at it. Lots of clubs are full-time and paying out much more."

Wealdstone's position was underlined by star man Bradley Hudson-



The Stones play their final game of the season at Truro City this weekend.
Picture: ALAN PALMER

Odoi at the club's end of season awards night.

He swept the board, winning four awards, despite missing the first chapter of the season because he wasn't match fit.

Hudson-Odoi missed pre-season because he was away on holiday, having to fit in his vacation around his work and family commitments.

Bartlett said: "Bradley cleaned up and has done very well this year. He had a slow start and wasn't fit because he didn't have a pre-season."

He wasn't the only one who was undercooked when the first competitive ball was kicked.

Bartlett said: "We wanted to hit the ground running but we didn't even hit the ground."

Late draw for Boro in final game

LEWIS DRIVER STEERS SIDE TO POINT WITH LEVELLER AS REDS FINISH 17TH

HARROW Borough brought the curtain down on their season with a 2-2 draw at home to Leatherhead on Saturday.

Lewis Driver's equaliser four minutes from time ensured Boro beat their previous season's points total of 53 by a single point as they finished 17th in the Ryman Premier Division table.

The Reds had staved off the threat of relegation two weeks earlier so the shackles were off against Leatherhead.

Boro drew first blood when Harry Newman drove home from close range after Fejiri Okenabirhie's dummy.

Driver then had a good chance to extend their advantage but was denied by an excellent stop from the Tanners keeper.

Harrow were frustrated again when Driver and Okenabirhie combined to tee up Dylan Cascoe who failed to convert.

They were made to pay when, not for the first time this season, a slow start to the second half was punished as the Tanners equalised.

Spencer McCall and Driver both went close to restoring Harrow's advantage but it was Leatherhead who went ahead in the 61st minute when Ryan Mahal clipped the ball over McDonnell.

Boro rallied though, and when Okenabirhie's right wing cross was met by Driver's right boot it finished honours even in the final match of the campaign.

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