

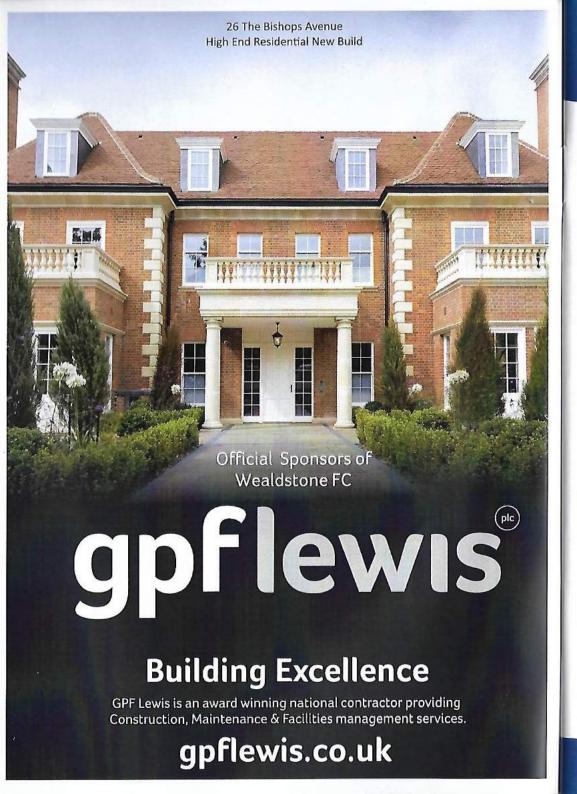
SEASON 2022-23 PROGRAMME £3 WEALDSTONE FC BY HOOK OR BY COOK Stones' skipper Jack Cook makes whoopee after his sensational smash and grab winner at York PICTURE: JON TAFFEL



V SCUNTHORPE U

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 26, 2022, KO 3PM





Written in Stone

3 POINTS AND SOME LONG AWAITED 'LIMBS'

elcome to Planet Wealdstone for the visit of ex-Football League side Scunthorpe United

'The Iron' have had their problems in the last few years but will no doubt stabilise and start moving up the table... it's great to see these football institutions rolling into town and with the big league' games halted due to the World Cup let's hope we have a bumper crowd this afternoon. If it's your first visit we hope you have a terrific afternoon.. and tell your friends!

Life at the Vale is certainly a lot happier with two wins and a draw from our last three games but the away fans certainly had to suffer for their enjoyment with an 8-hour return trip from the first of the trio at Altrincham, followed by an agonising wait for buses out to York's retail park stadium last Saturday. Probably 30 or 40 of our fans only got there at half time having spent a weekend in that (otherwise) wonderful city. But that is a lot more palatable when you come home with three points... especially when it's an injury-time winner! Jack Cook's late, late headed goal (with two assists from the excellent Lewis Kinsella) brought the first genuine 'limbs' moment of the season in the stands. And I bet the players' overnighter in Manchester was made that much sweeter!

Sandwiched between those two wins was the excellent goalless draw with big-hitters Wrexham in front of a record 2,817 crowd at the Vale. The fact that the ground felt far from uncomfortably full means that one day we'll get close to the 4,000 capacity... maybe the game with Barnet later in the season?

On Wednesday we make the short trip to Silver Jubilee Park, Kingsbury to take on Edgware & Kingsbury in the Middlesex Senior Cup (7.45pm) but next Saturday is, of course the 'Big One' over in Canons Park when we traditionally take the majority of the crowd to The Hive. Barnet are clearly a better side than last season... but then so are the Stones and a mouth-watering game is in prospect.

Don't forget that the kick-off is at 12.30pm to avoid a possible England World Cup last-16 game, and that the Canons Park approach to the ground is closed due to flood prevention work. Fans will have to approach from the southerly entrance off Camrose Avenue. A bit easier than the trek to York!

Today's programme carries tributes to ex-player and coach Francis Joseph who died last week, and also supporter Gordon Shead. Our thoughts are with their families.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

LUCAS WERIN Popular young supporter Lucas is 16 today PATSY FRANKLIN

Patsy will be 69 today and will be spending her afternoon amongst friends and family watching the mighty Stones.



MASCOT

NOAH SZURGOT (9)

Noah's favourite players are David Sesay & Fela Olomola

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RIP FRANCIS JOSEPH, 1960-2022

Farewell Francis, revered at Dons & the Bees ...even if his Stones finest hours were on the training ground and not on the pitch Francis terrorises defence at Brentford, watched by Chris Kamara. Right: He also played alongside Stan Bowles

ootball was saddened to hear of the death of Francis Joseph on November 18.

The much-loved striker became a cult hero at Brentford and Wimbledon in the 1980s but he could easily have become of the Stones' greatestever players if he hadn't been misinformed and failed to turn up for a game at Lower Mead when he was just 16!

Francis had nearly as many clubs as Jefferson Louis (26 including loans) in a playing career that lasted between 1976 and 1995 - with the highlight probably his 50 goals for Brentford in two spectacular seasons between 1982-84. And then when injuries curtailed his marauding goalscoring instincts he joined Wealdstone as a coach in the club's youth and academy set up

Yet, for me, the most extraordinary tale played out in January 1977 when the Stones were having an indifferent season in the Southern

League Premier Division. In those pre-Pyramid days, the SLP was technically just one step from the Football League (although winning a vote for promotion was well-nigh impossible) and Wealdstone were struggling to hold their own.

Manager Geoff Coleman had a wafer-thin squad but 16-year-old Francis Joseph had impressed in the youth team and was thrown into action in a midweek Middlesex Senior Cup tie at Athenian Leaguers Willesden. It was a cold, grim night at the Sports Arena athetlics stadium (which almost became our home, coincidentally, when Lower Mead was sold a dozen years later) but we took the lead when Francis, full of tricks. pace and close ball control came alive in the box and netted a smart finish after a George Duck shot had ben half saved. He was the only shining light on a miserable evening for the 300-odd crowd as Willesden levelled late in the game for a deserved draw.

> The replay was scheduled for the two weeks later at Tuesday at Lower Mead and although we won the game 3-0 with goals from Dave Parratt (2) and Billy Byrne there was huge



disappointment (from fellow teenagers like myself anyway) that Francis had not featured in the game. And even more consternation when the 16-year-old then popped up playing for our SLP rivals Hillingdon Borough.

We watched his progress from afar over the next few years as he became a regular in Wimbledon's Third and Fourth division side, and then joined Fred Callaghan and Brentford for £40,000 in 1982. As mentioned, he became a real fans favourite with the chant: "Have a go, Jo" belting out from the

terraces. o what happened to his

Wealdstone career? Years later, when chatting to Francis one Sunday morning

when the supporters football team (SFC Wealdstone) happened to be at home at Birkbeck College in Greenford at the same time as the youth team he was coaching, he filled me in on the story.

"I was so excited to play that game at Willesden and knew that I'd done well. The players were clapping me on the back and were relieved that we'd got a replay" he said.

"But I was only 16 and naiive I suppose. I didn't ask when the replay was and no-one told me. I knew there were a couple of league games coming up but with only one substitute in those days. and players coming back from injury, I wasn't needed. So two weeks after the Willesden game I turned up for Tuesday night training at 7.30pm as usual and thought it was busy. Then I realised there was a game on... the manager Geoff Coleman was really angry that I wasn't there

Joseph goal the only bright spon said I would for sad 'Stone's only bright spon said in the said is said in the sa on time, said I would have been playing and left me out of the squad".

Coleman, the ex-Nuneaton manager, was sacked a fortnight later and his assistant Alan Fogarty put in charge of the first team... and Francis was never given another chance.

Weidstone wer made to struggle throughout tiddlesex Senlor Cup, first round the at Donnin Acad on Tuesday with group the at Donnin Acad on Tuesday with the structure of the str Instead, he joined Hillingdon Borough, was then snapped up by Wimbledon - becoming the first-ever black player to appear for the Dons, which seems extraordinary in the late 1970s - and then joining for his goalladen stint at Griffin Park.

Early in the 1984/85 season he suffered a badly

broken leg and made only a handful of appearances in the following three campaigns as he struggled to recover full fitness, adding just two league goals in the process.

By Alan Coventry

Willesden 1, Wealdstone 1

Following loan spells with Wimbledon and HJK Helsinki he was eventually sold by then-Brentford boss Steve Perryman to Reading for £25,000 in the summer of 1987and his career petered out with spells at Bristol Rovers (loan). Aldershot (loan), Sheffield United, Gillingham, Crewe Alexandra, Fulham and Barnet (non-contract) and then stints in Belgium and the USA before retiring and taking on that training role with the

Francis Joseph was truly an inspiration to supporters, players and his fellow coaches and football is the poorer for his loss. RIP

Stones youth side.

-Tim Parks



Adam Hills @hillsy945 · 3d Replying to @WealdstoneFC

So sad! A ferocious and fiercely passionate man with who leaves behind a wonderful legacy of players who have taken so much from him. Make no mistake, his contribution to getting Stones (back to) where they are today is massive. RIP big man, sleep well (19)

Callum Martin @CoachCallu... · 3d

Jermaine Beckford @ @jerm... · 2d

Thank you for the advice and belief.

Replying to @WealdstoneFC

Replying to @WealdstoneFC

RIP Francis.

Rest easy Francis.



James @jimmysmith_76 · 3d Replying to @WealdstoneFC

Shocked and saddened. Loved being involved with the youth team when I started my journey as a therapist. The Liverpool game is always on my mind as a special moment in my footballing life. A great man and person who got the best out of a brilliant team. A true character 👑 💜

His fiery will-to-win inspired the youngsters to over-achieve... to the extent that in the winter of 2004, while the Stones' first team was struggling in the Ryman Premier Division, the youth team enjoyed a run in the FA Youth Cup that took them all the way to an away tie at Anfield to face Liverpool! ANFIELD



Above: Francis is proudly pictured in the tunnel at Anfield in December 2004 Far right; just a few of the many tweets and tributes that followed news of his death earlier this month

WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2022/2023

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MAJOR HONOURS SINCE 1950 LEAGUE TITLES

1951 / 1952 Athenian League

1973 / 1974 Southern League Division One South 1981 / 1982 Southern League Southern Division

1981 / 1982 Southern League Championship 1984 / 1985 National League Premier (Gola League)

1996 / 1997 Isthmian League Division Three 2013 / 2014 Isthmian League Premier Division

2019 / 2020 National League South

NATIONAL CUPS

1965 / 1966 FA Amateur Cup 1984 / 1985 FA Trophy

LEAGUE CUPS

1981 / 1982 Southern League Cup

MIDDLESEX COUNTY CUPS

1958 / 1959 Senior Cup 1962 / 1963 Senior Cup

1964 / 1965 Senior Cup 1967 / 1968 Senior Cup

1984 / 1985 Senior Cup 2003 / 2004 Charity Cup

2010 / 2011 Charity Cup

NON TITLE-WINNING PROMOTIONS

2003 / 2004 Isthmian League Premier Division

1997 / 1998 Isthmian League Division 2 (3rd) 1998 / 1999 Isthmian League Division 1 (3rd,annulled)

The legal name of Wealdstone Football Club is Wealdstone Football Club (2000) Ltd (Registered Number 03953962). Shares in excess of 10% are held by Peter Marsden Property Finance Ltd & Wealdstone FC Supporters Club

GROUND REGULATIONS

People are only allowed entry to The Vale on match days subject to the following rules and regulations:

Rachel Hill

Performance Analysts

Yusef Ahmed, James West

1) The club reserves the right to eject from the ground any person who is considered to have committed any of the following acts:

• Entering the ground through any means other than through the turnstiles or entrances
• Entering the field of play before, during or after a game without prior authorisation

· Being drunk, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs · Using violence of any nature • Carrying items which may be considered a danger to others, including cans, bottles, or glasses containing alcoholic beverages
• Throwing any article onto the field of play • Climbing floodlight pylons, fences, stands or any structure or building
• Using obscene or bad language likely to cause offence to others • Hitting the side or back panels of the Bulla stand

2) No spectator ball games.

3) The consumption of alcoholic drinks is permitted INSIDE the social club bar, garden and boardroom areas.

4) Vehicles parked on the Grosvenor Vale site are at the owners' risk.

5) Wealdstone Football Club supports the FA's campaign on pyrotechnics (e.g. flares and smoke bombs). Any misuse of such items in and around the Ground will result in those responsible being asked to leave the ground and, in line with football authority guidance, may result in a report to the Police, potential prosecution and a ban from the Club of up to three years. Smoking or Vaping inside the ground.

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BY SUDHIR RAWAL The Elystie

Soulless new stadium, a ticket system that didn't work, buses that just didn't exist and locked doors when we finally got there. But what a Yorktastic weekend!

here is a Shambles in York. It's a historic street in the city, featuring some fantastic medieval buildings, some dating back as far as the fourteenth century.

The street is narrow with many timberframed structures with jettied floors overhanging the cobbles... arguably the best-preserved medieval street in the world and thought to be the most visited 'small' city in Europe.

But just as medieval was the transportation in York last Saturday a wholly different type of shambles.

It was the first week of the Christmas market, the streets were heaving with people, pubs overflowing, and the roads gridlocked. The LNER Community stadium, a soulless new-build three miles from the city centre. is only served by buses and those buses seemed to disappear from the face of the network.

Queues in the city grew, for both York and Stones fans. Buses didn't appear, falling off the indicator boards and taxis which had been booked never materialised. Some people waited and

waited, some walked the three miles, some gave up and went back to the pub, whilst others persevered for the transportation system to come back to life. Some used ingenuity and threw money at passing drivers to take them to the ground.

Once you arrived at the around, even those that were there on time. were faced with stewards who seemed to be on their first day of work experience and didn't have much clue how things worked.

The automatic turnstile scanners malfunctioned, tickets had to be reprinted, it was chaos and those that arrived late due to the inability of the transportation system to work, found themselves locked out and resorting to banging on the gates to try and get in. What a

Just a 'Little

Shambles'? Are you

sure?

palaver. A horse and cart from the 1300s would have

Once you were in the stadium, nice and new, but a shared home for both the football and rugby league club which had the feel of a leisure centre - and there is already

been of more use.

Ender



Fantastic scenes at the final whistle followed the first proper flimbs' moment of the season as Captain Cook headed the winner to score his first senior goal - then,

one of those on site. Not a sign to say it was the home of York City or York Knights, but a community stadium, decked out in a multi-coloured design which bears no resemblance to either club. One of the entrances is even through a library! Don't get me wrong, I'd have a stadium like that in Ruislip in a shot, but it seemed all rather strange.

So I said it was a shambles, yet at 16:55, there was mayhem and joy in the away stand as Lewis Kinsella's wand like left peg sent in a free-kick that was met by the head of Jack Cook and arrowed into the bottom corner of the net to send nearly 300 Stones into ecstasy as Wealdstone had secured a smash and grab win.

I say nearly 300 as there is no way of anyone actually knowing how many Stones were there. Officials total suggested 230, but with scanners not working, late comers getting in for free, actual estimates range from 260-280 joyous Stones at the end, celebrating widely.

he game hadn't started well at all, in keeping with the shambles on the way to the stadium. York, shorn of their popular manager John Askew who had been relieved of his duties. with mutiny in the air from the stands, tore in Wealdstone from the off. They harried and bullied us across the park and would have taken the lead within the opening minutes but for a decent save from Sam Howes, more from him later.

Another free header was crashed against the bar before they finally took the lead on the quarter hour from a corner and an unmarked Duku, formerly of Haves, gave them the lead with a header. We did come more into the game towards the end of the half, but to be honest, had we gone in more than a goal behind we couldn't have had much to complain about.

The aforementioned Duku went off at half time, and with Kretchschmar and Nathan Ferguson coming on at various stages, as happens quite often. Stones came to life in the second period. Firstly, Kinsella sent over another long freekick this time for the jubilant Miguel Freckleton as Stones became dominant York seemed to run out of puff and their

intensity levels dropped.

They still looked dangerous from set -pieces and there was time for a wonder save from Sam Howes late on, before the madness of Cook's winner. Howes appears to be a marmite figure (much as Josh Umerah was last season) to some on social media but crucial saves in the last two games have gone a long way to securing four points against Wrexham and York.

he week before, a record Vale crowd of 2.817 saw the multi-millionaires from Wrexham come to Ruislip and draw a very rare scoring blank. Apparently, they were tired after their third game in seven days.

Bless, they have such a small threadbare squad to play with and it must be tough when Mullins and Palmer, who are probably on 50% more combined than our total budget, can't score freely against the Wealdstone part-timers.

Next week, of course it's the big one down at PEPF. With the World Cup in full flow, can we take even more than the 848 we did last season to the cuckoos' nest?

Ex- Harrow councillor Keith Ferry is apparently a supporter and season ticket holder there, who knew? Should be feisty again. They definitely look better than they did last season but then we are better too. Be there and make it a home game again!

The 'Elmslie Ender' was among the first wave of football club magazines when it replaced 'Long Ball Down the Middle' as the Wealdstone fanzine in the mid-1980s. LBDTM's forerunner 'Wealdstone Whispers' was famously the THE very first football fanzine in Britain when it was published in 1971

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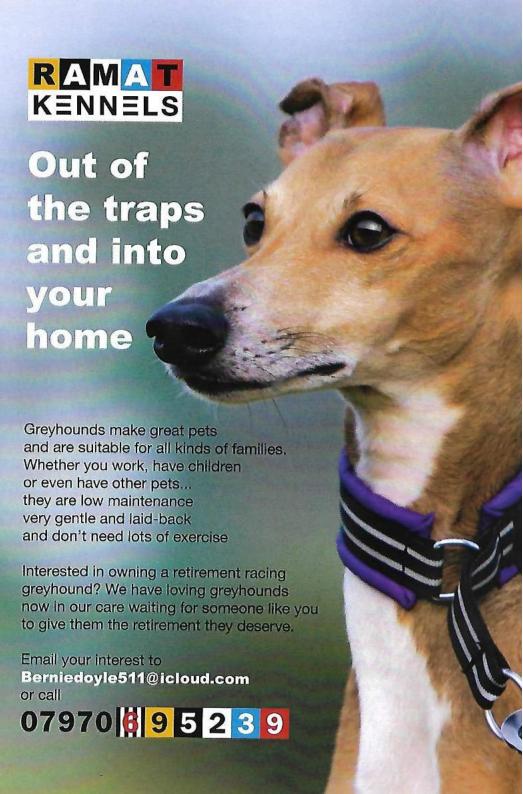


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oday we pay tribute to wellknown Stones fan Gordon Shead. who passed away on Sunday 13 November. His son Alan says: "He slept well after hearing the news of the point against Wrexham on Saturday.

"Dad was a lifelong Stone after many years at Lower Mead. continuing to support the Blues via Vicarage Road, Yeading, Edgware, Northwood and finally the Vale. He would travel everywhere by train and bus and would be recognisable by the Wolves hat and Wolves coat he wore (Wolves were his other love).

His last game was the 3-1 win away at Barnet, and that seems rather fitting!

"Away from the Vale he spent many days at Lords, Stanmore or Eastcote where he would bump into many a Stone and discuss the latest gossip."

Gordon leaves two children, and four grandchildren who were all taken to the Vale in his footsteps - and not only did he appear in Fan in the Stand in the programme (see right), but he was also followed into these

CONTINUED ON **NEXT PAGE**



'What gets my goat at football? People on mobile

That doesn't look like the Wenzel's stand! Fan in the Stand

e seem to be having a bit of a 'family' theme recently - last time it was the last of the Werins, 10-year-old Lucas, and this week we start with the Shead dynasty.

GORDON is first off with his memories of watching the Stones for an amazing 56

years (obviously originally as a babe-in-arms) and then we"ll follow up with his son Alan and 15-year-old grandson Zak in the next two programmes. All fascinating tales and a reflection of how our club is becoming more family-friendly. Or at least the football is good enough to inspire new generations of support

Where do you live, Gordon? I've lived in Northwood for the past 34 years. Before that, in Belmont Circle as a

Are you working? I'm retired after being a postman in Harrow for 34 years.

First Stones game attended? Barnet away, at Underhill, London Senior Cup, midweek in the 1961/62 season... lost 5-0!

What or who persuaded you to become a Stones fan? A group of friends from Belmont secondary school.

Do you follow any other team? Yes, Wolves, (Pictured left, they win

the 2003 play-off final at the Millennium Stadium and Gordon's in there somewhere)

Do vou prefer lower-League football?

Yes, I like swapping ends at

Any disadvantages? If the weather is bad the game often gets called off (sorry Fingers).

How do you fit watching football, and Wealdstone, Into your family/working life? Easy as I'm retired. I don't drive, so away games have to be near to public transport.

How big a part of your life is the game?

GORDON SHEAD

Large part in the season, but cricket, Middlesex CC and Lord's takes over in the summer.

Most memorable game/s you've EVER seen? England vs Portugal 1966 World Cup semi-final and Wolves vs Sheff Utd at the Millennium Stadium play off final., attended both. Great games.

And most memorable Wealdstone game. and moment? Boston at Wembley! And Stones vs Scarborough, the game played on a Sunday morning at Lower Mead in 1985 when we were chasing ther Conferenbce title. Won 1-0.

What really gets your goat watching football? People on mobile phones.

Have you ever played the game yourself?

Any suggestions to improve your Stones -watching experience at the Vale? Make Wenzels stand longer, and go the full length

Favourite current Wealdstone line-up? Too early to say, got to be better than last year. More passion, drive and desire please! Favourite all-time Stones line-up? Can't pick an 11 but love to remember my old heroes, Viv Evans, Arthur Peel, Charlie Townsend, Matt Farrell and Ray Fowler. The Cordice brothers are in there too, with the modern legends of North and Jolly.

Best away trips to watch football? Coastal trips.

What was your highlight of last season? It's hard, probably the FA Trophy run especially the game versus Hereford.

Best non-League ground you've visited? Maidenhead, anywhere really except Earlsmorque.

Best stadium you've EVER visited?

Where do you like to stand (or sit) at the Vale? To the left behind the goal.

What are your expectations for the Stones for this season? Playoffs.

How does the current programme compare with others you see? Best there is Any articles or features that you'd like to see? Elmslie Ender is always a good read. What do you think of the bars and catering at The Vale? Any beers or food you'd like to be added? Don't use them but my grandson Zak says the burgers are very

Do you buy much at the clubshop? Not really - occasionally a mug from the cup run. Finally, where do you see the club in five vears' time? Conference - national league. But club has to be secure with the right infrastructure, and safe and secure.

pages with Alan and grandson Zak appearing in the following two issues!

Gordon's funeral is at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip next Thursday (December 1st) at midday. All are welcome to celebrate his life - football shirts are preferred and no ties.

Fellow fan

- Sudhir Rawal (Elmslie Ender in this programme) commented: "Gordon was a unique character. passionate about sport and I fondly look back at days we played cricket together. His medium pace trundlers were deadly. He was a keen fan of Middlesex, Wolves and Wealdstone."
- Said Woodman from the Stones Forum: "Very sad news, I knew Gordon really well from the (Northwood) local pubs. Always chatting about Fulham, Wolves, and the Stones. A lovely chap. RIP Gordon.



field in protest. Ten minutes later they were persuaded to return and George Duck rifled in his penalty hat-trick... we won 5-2. penally of the affernoon, a Hastings defender was sent off for arguing and skipper John Jefferson (far right) led his team off the Wealdstone v Hastings United at Lower Mead in the FA Trophy 2nd round, February 197A. Stones had just been awarded their third

THE STONES INTERVIEW

BY TIM PARKS

gpfle

Micah celebrates Jack

Cook's late, late winner

at York last week

Picture: JON TAFFEL

Meet Stones' new striker Micah.. and while we're at it, the whole family!

Micant

like Brazilian really.... I'm very impressed with the way they play". I asked Aggrey, now 52, if he played football in

this country... he said that there were no restrictions when he arrived from Kenya, but it was very difficult to secure a work permit. Then when he did, around the mid-late 90s he played for a succession of non League clubs like Bromley, Gravesend, Dagenham and Romford.

"But English football was a big shock to the system! It was all 'hit the channels' and 'send it long

artistry to please the fans that I was used

icah says that the Stones' style of football was a big factor in W bringing him back to London after two years as a pro at Huddersfield Town. Like 17-year-old Zech. Micah started off at Orient as a 14 year

"It was an awkward time as it was the Covid season, behind close doors with no crowds. I was playing for the under-23s but then they closed the academy and just had a 'B' team ... the same sort of model that Brentford have.

"But I was doing well. The B team played lots

Micah (right) with his dad and younge brother Zech., the Obiero Boys!

> of friendly matches, at home and abroad and we were travelling to play against teams like Bayern Munich, and to Spain and the Czech Republic".

"A great schooling in continental football styles... what was your highlight at that time?" Lasked him.

"Well, at the end of that season I scored a hat trick at Hertha Berlin and that helped me make the first team squad for a game at Millwall, though we lost 4-1".

He was then loaned out to a Carlisle United team who were flying along in Div Three. "I was mainly on the bench as the team was doing so well, but I did manage to get my first goal in men's football when I scored at home to Aston Villa in a Papa John's Trophy game".

Micah was away from London but living in club accommodation right next to Brunton Park, Carlisle's ground but his next move, in the summer, was a bit less convenient.

"My two-year deal at Huddersfield ran out and a few clubs were interested" explained Micah. "Wealdstone got in touch but I'd already committed to sign for Boston United. And because I didn't drive then it was a long, long train journey up to training and games from Hainault and all the way back again!

"Paul Cox had brought me in, but then he was sacked as manager and lan Culverhouse

(ex Kings Lynn manager) took over. It was good playing there, a decent new stadium and big crowds but the travelling was terrible and I was so pleased that Wealdstone got back in touch"

Did he know any of the Stones players before signing? 'Well only Dom Hutchinson and Mason Barrett, having played against them in under-23s, but come to think of it Tarryn (Aklarakhia) was at the same secondary school as me, Seven Kings in Ilford....but his hair wasn't quite as slick in those days!"

icah made his debut off the bench in the 2-1 home defeat to Boreham Wood, help-2-1 nome deleat to boronam 12-1 ing spark a late revival. He missed the FA Cup elimination by Wood (being cup tied while at Boston) but has started the last four games and his driving runs were a feature of the games against Altrincham and Wrexham.

"The Wrexham performance is my highlight so far - I thought we kept the ball really well and that's what the manager wants - Stuart and Matt want us to be brave on the ball and it's great to have that freedom to play".

So what's Micah's favourite position? "Ideally it would be up front, just off the main striker - even as a 10 - but I also enjoy playing wide and even at wing back.... I'm going to play high in that position and threaten the opposition".

He certainly gave Wrexham's highly rated left wing back Callum MacFadzean one of his toughest games of the season as the Welsh side struggled to get any meaningful possession.

Away fans were astonished at how dominant the Stones were in that first half. And they shared possession 50-50 after the break with Micah constantly trying to offer options in his wide role.

"I like to think I can be tricky to defend against. by making smart runs in behind - and I can score goals. I think I'm quite versatile too".

Notts County keeper Sam Slocombe certainly knows he can score goals - beaten by Micah on his near post for a consolation goal in the 6-1 drubbing at the Vale. That was Micah's full home debut but he was much happier at the end of the Wrexham game.

"It was great to hear the fans as we came off the pitch - a record home crowd at the Vale - and they were amazing too at York last week... now we've got to repeat those levels of performance in every game".

hink of Kenyan footballers and probably the only one who comes to mind is Victor Wanyama - the first player from that African country to score in the UEFA Champions League as he starred in Celtic's shock 2-1 win over Barcelona ten years ago.

But now step forward The Obiero Boys! Micah, here at Wealdstone, and his younger brother Zech (on Orient's books) are following in the footsteps of proud dad Aggrey who played for his country in the early 1990s before coming to live in East London.

"It's a real football family" said 21-yearold Micah when I caught up with him for a chat before the trip to York.

"We are living in Hainault, in Essex now so I'm travelling across to Wealdstone training with Alex Dyer and Malachi Napa. Zech is training at Orient but we also do some Power League in the evenings and dad comes over and joins in - and he's still quite decent!" he laughs.

There is the sound of merriment in the background and dad Aggrey joins in.

"My boys are just like me, both strikers, a lot of pace and play wide" he said. "I come over to watch Micah at Wealdstone and, you know, the football is more like African football, a lot of keeping the ball,

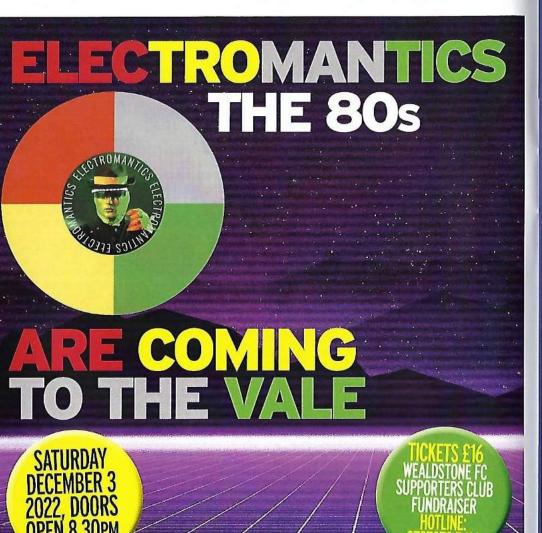
to the big man up front' ... there wasn't a lot of

to, playing in Kenya and Egypt".

old before he was scouted by championship side

Huddersfield while playing sunday football.

He also wore blue! Above, Aggrey Obiero pictured in African football



2022, DOORS OPEN 8.30PM

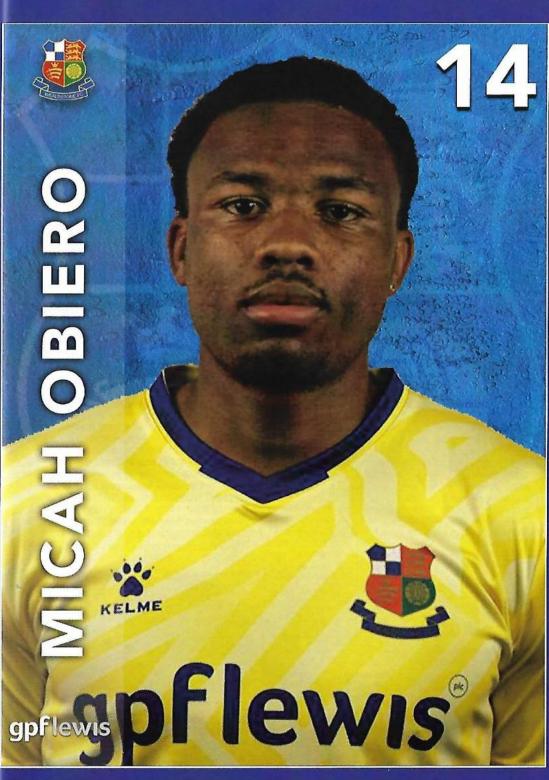
PLAYING THE MUSIC OF

- HUMAN L'ÉAGUE
- DURAN DURAN

- DEPECHE MODE AND MORE



THE VALE, GROSVENOR VALE, RUISLIP HA4 6JO DON'T MISS OUT! NO REFUNDS



Ender SPECIAL

How many

still-regulai

fans do you

reecognise,

Martin's also chipping in this week with some memories of Lower **Mead and the Pinner** chalk mines. No? Me neither.

vid readers of this 'Substitute Elmslie Ender's' occasional columns will already know I come from the world's least sporting family. I don't think the word 'football' was heard in our house during my formative years. So, how did I end up a lifelong and unhealthily obsessed Wealdstone fanatic? When I was maybe five years old I was round at my friend Trevor's for what in modern parlance would be called a 'playdate'. He said, "Let's play football'. I said, "What's that?' And he patiently explained, "You try and kick the ball between these two sticks and I'll try and

And to this day I'm certain my response was, "What a bloody stupid game that is (maybe not

stop you."

The Cinema End at Lower 🦟 Mead with the charismatic Kevin Bright centre stage

> the 'bloody'), couldn't we just re-enact the second world war instead?"

Things changed for me, like probably many of my genera-

tion, in 1966. Sadly I don't mean Wealdstone's glorious triumph over Hendon in the Amateur Cup final, which I was unsurprisingly unaware of, but that other match that happened at Wembley that year. I was on holiday in Cornwall with no access to television, but I recall listening to the radio, the mounting sense of excitement as England reached the final and then the joyful celebrations on the day itself. I think I realised something truly momentous had happened, even though I was the only one in the family who noticed or cared.

School, Pinner, where break times were fully occupied chasing a small plastic ball with holes in it round the tarmac playground, and I soon gathered that you were supposed to have a team to support. I flicked through my dad's Daily Telegraph and settled on Arsenal. I certainly didn't know at the time they were a London club, and relatively local, I guess I just liked the name. Yes, I've always been interested in a... er... military things. As it happened, Arsenal wasn't a great choice as my father grew up in Wood Green and - I only found out years later - his entire family were Spurs fans. No wonder I didn't inherit anything.

nce I found out Arsenal was in London, the next challenge was getting to a match. My father and older brother were more likely to take me to the South Pole than to a football match, so I resorted to 'tagging along'. I had a friend whose family had moved from Preston, so whenever Preston North End were in town I 'tagged along'. But that meant Watford and Crystal Palace, never Arsenal.

Then there was my Uncle Patrick, one of those 'uncles' who is no relation whatsoever. Uncle Patrick was a giant Irish aircraft engineer who took me to a few games, usually Chelsea. By the time I was ten I had managed to 'tag along' to every big ground in London. Except Highbury.

Around this time Saturday mornings would invariably be spent kicking a ball around and deciding whether we dared trying to break into the old

chalk mine at Montesofe Playing Fields Incidentally - and if I'm going off at a bizarre tangent here - my wife. Rotherham born, steadfastly refuses to accept that I grew up in a mining village. Last time I was in Pinner I bought an excellent book about the Waxwell Lane area from the Heath Robinson museum, and I now feel qualified to give her a tour of Pinner's surprising industrial heritage. Though at some point I will have to admit my assertion that ocean-going cargo vessels used to steam up the River Pinn to load up with prized Pinner chalk which would be transported to the four corners of the earth was, actually, a lie.

here was I? Yes, Montesole Playing Fields. So, once we tired of low level vandalism and getting muddy we would sometimes stop by the pitch nearest Pinner Hill Road which had changing rooms, real goal-nets and grass that had been mowed and where the grown-ups played in actual matching kits with an actual black-clad referee. and we'd whisper to each other in awestruck tones, "They're amateurs." Now, you may think calling a footballer an amateur isn't necessarily a compliment. But the ten year old me had no concept of the dictionary definition of 'amateur' as somebody who does something without payment. To me 'amateur' meant Amateur Cup, Amateur International, Rugby Union, the Olympics. Amateur meant good.

As well as the Daily Telegraph the other paper that came through our letter box was, naturally, the Harrow Observer. The only interesting bit was the sports pages, from which I learned that the big amateur team in the area was Wealdstone.

Eventually I plucked up the courage to ask my parents if I could go and watch Wealdstone, and the answer was yes. Their view was that going to Arsenal was out of the question, far too far and too dangerous, even Watford had nasty hooligans, but Wealdstone? Amateur football? Surely I could never get in trouble there? Hmm...

So I toddled off to Lower Mead, expecting it to be just like watching the grown-ups at Montesole Playing Fields and, well, you know what I discovered, and I've been going ever since. For about 30 years I swore my first ever Wealdstone game was versus Woking on April 13, 1971. Then a detailed history of the club and I realised I remembered several games I'd been at before that. So I don't know what my first Wealdstone game was, I know only that I was inspired by Townsend and Yerby and, above all, the leader of the Elmslie End, the manic and immortal Kev Bright, who I recall being dressed something like a Dick Emery caricature of a skinhead! Thank you everyone.



The late lamented Elmslie End at our old Lower Mead ground in Harrow.. hence the eponymous 'Elmslie Ender' magazine which has prompted this article. EE was among the first-ever football fanzines in the 1980s, following on from the Stones' 'Long Ball Down The Middle' mag of the 1970s

Opposition in focus

SCUNTHORPE UNITED FC



THE IRON

Scunthorpe United has been in existence since 1899 with 72 of those years played in the English Football League between 1950 and 2022.

In 1910 they merged with local rivals North Lindsey United to become Scunthorpe & Lindsey United and joined the Midland Football League in 1912.

Turning professional in 1912, United were crowned Midland League champions in the 1926-27 and 1938-39 seasons.

The "& Lindsey" was dropped from the club's name in 1958.

The 1957-58 season saw the club win the Division Three (North) title and earn promotion to the then Second Division, where the club stayed for six further years.

The Iron's best campaign finish saw the club end up Fourth in the Second Division in 1961-62.

Scunthorpe were relegated in 1964 and then down to the Fourth Division in 1968. United spent 34 of the next 37 seasons in the basement tier, punctuated by one-season stays in the third tier after they secured promotions in 1971–72, 1982–83 and 1998–99.

Brian Laws saw the club promoted out of League Two at the end of the 2004–05 season and his successor, Nigel Adkins, led the club to the League One title in 2006–07. Scunthorpe spent just one season in the Championship, but victory in the 2009 League One play-off Final saw the club promoted back into the Championship. They remained in the second tier until two relegations in as many years saw them back into the fourth tier by 2013.

Scunthorpe were promoted to League
One at the end of the 2013–14 campaign. They
missed out on a return to the Championship

Scunthorpe were promoted to League
One at the end of the 2013–14 campaign. They
missed out on a return to the Championship
via the play-offs before being relegated back
to League Two in 2019 and, in 2022, being
relegated to the National League.

Notable former players include all-time top appearance maker Jack Brownsword, Barrie Thomas, Steve Cammack, the three England captain of Ray Clemence, Kevin Keegan and lan Both, while in the early 21st century, the club developed a reputation for developing promising young strikers, having sold Billy Sharp, Martin Paterson and Gary Hooper on for seven-figure sums.

In terms of stadia, the Old Show Ground was club's original home from 1899 to 1988. The Old Show Ground needed significant investment to maintain its fabric and ensure compliance with new regulations introduced in the wake of the Bradford City stadium fire. In 1987, with the club hampered by financial difficulties, it announced plans to relocate. The ground was sold to the former supermarket chain Safeway (now Sainsbury's) and the search was started for a new location. In 1988 Scunthorpe United became the first English football club in the

modern

era to move to a new, purpose-built stadium, Glanford Park.

The club's nickname, the Iron, marks the town's association with the iron and steel industry. The club's first choice playing colours are claret and blue.

GLANFORD PARK

CAPACITY - 9,088 MANAGER - TONY DAWS (INTRIM) 2021/22 - EFL LEAGUE 2 - 24TH

HOME GROUND - GLANFORD PARK

HONOURS

League One champions: 2006-07

League One play-off winners: 2008-09

Division Three North champions: 1957-58

Runners-up in League Two: 2004-05, 2013-14

Promotion Division Four: 1971-72, 1982-83

Division Three play-off winners: 1998-99

Lincolnshire Senior Cup winners: 1939, 1940, 1952, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1958, 1959, 1961, 1964, 1966, 1978, 1997, 1999, 2002, 2004, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2022

San-An Cup winners: 2006

Interim First Team Manager TONY DAWS



Interim first team manager Tony Daws has been the Academy Manager at Scunthorpe United since 2005 following roles at

Sheffield United and Sheffield Wednesday.

Daws' professional playing career saw him start at Notts County before a year at Sheffield United. He'd then sign for the Iron in 1987 and enjoy six seasons at the club, entering himself into the top ten all-time Scunthorpe goalscorers before his departure to Grimsby Town in 1993.

He'd play for the Mariners for a season before featuring for Lincoln City, Halifax Town, Scarborough, Altrincham and Bradford Park Avenue before his retirement in 1997.

In 1981/82 he played for Englands U15 side, while he also made an appearance for the U18's side in 1984/85. After retiring, he took up coaching positions at Sheffield United as part-time Youth Development Officer (1996-2000), before taking roles as Assisant Academy and U19 coach until 2004. He'd then join the Owls for a campaign in 2004 before joining the Iron in 2005.

Opposition in focus scunthorpe united

1. MARCUS DEWHURST - GOALKEEPER

Marcus signed on loan from Sheffield United in July . Dewhurst has represented England at under 17, 18, 19 and 20 levels, Previously, he also spent time on loan at Solihull, Guiseley in 2019, and also made two appearances on loan at Carlisle United in 2020. Last season he was mainly on loan at Boston United.

2. REAGAN OGLE - DEFENCE

Reagan signed from Hartlepool United in July. Starting his career at Accrington Stanley. From there, he joined Ramsbottom United, scoring on his debut in a 4-0 win before further loan spells at Wealdstone, Southport (twice), AFC Fylde and Altrincham.

3. MASON O'MALLEY - DEFENCE

Mason O'Malley joined the Iron in 2019. O'Malley is a left-back who joined following his departure from Huddersfield Town. He signed for the Terriers at Under-14 level from Hunslet Boys and has featured in Republic of Ireland training camps.

4. ELLIOTT WHITEHOUSE - MIDFIELD

The Worksop-born player started his career at Sheffield United, While with the Blades, he enjoyed loan spells at York City and Alfreton Town, before joining Notts County, while also going out on loan to Nuneaton Town. After a brief spell at FC Halifax Town, Lincoln City signed him in 2016. Whitehouse moved on to Grimsby Town, before switching to Forest Green Rovers.

6. ANDREW BOYCE - DEFENCE

Scunthorpe signed Andrew from Eastleigh in June. Signing from Lincoln in 2014, Boyce made 37 appearances for United, including 33 during our 2014-15 League One season. While with us, the former Gainsborough man also had loan spells at Grimsby, Hartlepool and Notts County before making a permanent move to the first of those clubs in 2016. The following year he joined Eastleigh.

7. LIAM FEENEY - MIDFIELD (C)

Signed from Tranmer in January. He started his early career at Haves and then Salisbury City before a loan move to Southend United in the EFL, and then a two-year spell at Bournemouth. A three-year stint in at Millwall followed during which there were loan stays at Bolton Wanderers and Blackburn Rovers and Ipswich before he re-joined Blackburn permanently. He also went out on loan to Cardiff City and from there, he went on Blackpool in 2018 and spent three seasons at Bloomfield Road before signing for





Tranmere on loan last season.

8. ALFIE BEESTIN - MIDFIELD

The Iron signed midfielder Alfie Beestin from Tadcaster Albion in January 2020.

The former Doncaster Rovers player made 50 appearances for them in all competitions and has also previously been out on loan at Chesterfield.

9. JOE NUTTALL - FORWARD

Scunthorpe United signed Joe from Blackpool in January. A former Manchester City academy player, he made the move to Scotland and Aberdeen in 2015 before loan moves to Stranraer and Dumbarton. He joined Blackburn Rovers in 2017. His form attracted the interest of Blackpool who he joined for an undisclosed fee in August 2019.

10. JORDAN HALLAM - FORWARD

During the last two years. Hallam has enjoyed loan spells at Southport and Norwegian second tier team Viking FK. He also signed for Chesterfield on loan in in 2018.

11. MARCUS CARVER - FORWARD

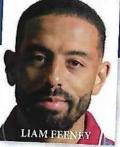
Marcus signed from Hartlepool in August. A prolific forward in non-league, Blackburn-born Carver started his career with Accrington Stanley before loan spells at Marine, Halifax Town, and Barrow before the striker joined Chorley in 2015. After leaving Chorley, Carver joined Southport ...

12. JAI ROWE - DEFENCE

The Nuneaton-based right-back, who can also play in midfield, made his senior debut away at Swindon in March 2020 after a successful campaign for the Under-23s. He penned a new two-year contract in the summer of 2022.

13. CAOLAN LAVERY - FORWARD Born in Canada, the former Northern Ireland

THE PLAYERS TO WATCH





LEADING APPEARANCE MAKER JACK BROWNSWORD 1947 - 1965 783 Appearances

youth international has played a part in three promotions throughout his career - one to Sky Bet League One and two to the Sky Bet Championship, Lavery began his professional career with Sheffield Wednesday in 2012, and has also turned out for the likes of Southend United. Plymouth Argyle, Chesterfield, Portsmouth, Sheffield United, Rotherham United, Bury and Walsall. He spent last season at Bradford City.

14. ETHAN YOUNG - DEFENCE

After featuring regularly on the substitutes' bench for the first team, he ended the 2021-22 season with six appearances in the final group of games.

15. GEORGE TAFT - DEFENCE

He began his career with hometown club Leicester City in 2011, where he progressed through the academy. George has had loan spells Kettering Town, Swedish club Karlstad BK and York City before joining Burton Albion in 2014. He move to Mansfield Town in 2016 then to Cambridge in 2018.

16. OWEN FOSTER - GOALKEEPER

While still in the first year of a 24-month apprenticeship with our academy, Owen Foster signed his first professional deal with the club in April

17. HARRY LEWIS - MIDFIELD

In January 2022, Scunthorpe United was delighted to announce Harry Lewis has signed his first professional contract with the club he joined at U13's.

18. HARVEY CRIBB - MIDFIELD

Harvey became the youngest used player in the club's history at 16 years, 36 days old during the away game at Sutton United in February 2022.

19. JACOB BUTTERFIELD - MIDFIELD

Butterfield came through the Manchester United youth academy before joining Barnsley and making over 100 appearances for the

Oakwell side. Permanent spells at Norwich City, Middlesbrough, Huddersfield Town, Derby County and Luton Town followed.Butterfield, who has most recently been at Melbourne Victory in Australia and St Johnstone in Scotland, has also enjoyed loan stints at Bolton Wanderers, Crystal Palace, Sheffield Wednesday and Bradford City in his career to date.

20. CAMERON WILSON - MIDFIELD

Wilson joined the club at Under-11s level in 2013 from Goole Town Tigers, a local team in his

21. JACK MOORE-BILLAM - MIDFIELD JacK signed his first Iron professional contract in

April 2022. 22. FINLEY SHRIMPTON - MIDFIELD

Finley is a local lad who joined the club in November 2017 as an Under-16 after his release from Barnsley.

23. COLIN DANIEL - DEFENCE

Colin began his career with his local side Eastwood Town but was snapped up by league outfit Crewe Alexandra in 2007 before a 2009 move to Macclesfield Town. He's also represented Mansfield Town, Port Vale and Blackpool, Peterborough, Burton, Exeter and Aldershot.

24. KGOSI NTLHE - DEFENCE

The 28-year-old originally arrived at the club following two years at Rochdale

25. ROB APTER - MIDFIELD

In August Scunthorpe completed the loan signing of Rob from Championship side Blackpool until January 2023.

28. DAN GALLIMORE -

MIDFIELD Gallimore was one of the youngest of the 2019-21 academy intake, signing for the club in May 2011 from Grimsby.

29. AIDEN MARSH - FORWARD

Scunthorpe have signed 19vr old Aiden on loan from Barnsley until January.

30. TOM PUGH - MIDFILED

UNITED F

Formerly of Leeds United, he is a central midfielder who is also capable of playing rightback. He left the Iron this summer before rejoining in September.

SCUNTHORPE FAN EARL PRIESTLEY

The view from the away end

WEALDSTONE FC 2022-23

Any stigma attached to falling into non-League must be attached to the people who've allowed the club to fall so far... we were a proud, well run club 10 years ago

What's your name and age: Earl Priestley, 43 Where do you live: Scunthorpe

How long lived there? Since January 2014
Where do you work: Northside mercedes truck
and van as a delivery driver

First game: Scarborough at home 1/10/88... lost 3-0.

What inspired you to go along? Well, my family moved to a new house which was in-between Scunthorpe and Doncaster. My dad had watched Doncaster in the 1960's and asked me did I want to watch football at Scunthorpe or Doncaster. Scunthorpe had just moved to a new ground and that sounded interesting. So I choose Scunthorpe.

Do you follow another team: None

What are your five greatest moments following The Iron? 1) April 2010, a 2-2 draw with Reading which kept us in the Championship.

2) January 2010, a 4-1 win at Derby in the Championship. A very cold and snowy day, there were hardly any games on. We completely outclassed



Today's featured fan Earl Priestley is pictured friends (from left) John Staff, Nicola Barker, are just too many to name says Earl!

Derby that day, despite the conditions.

3) May 2009, beating Millwall 3-2 in the

league one play-off final, we returned to the championship after being relegated in 2008.

4) May 1999, beating Leyton Orient 1-0 in the League Three play off final - it was our first time out of bottom league since 1984 and first promotion for me as a supporter.

5) May 1992: we lost in the Division four play off final to Blackpool on penalties - but just being at Wembley was an incredible achievement and a great day out regardless.

How many Scunthorpe supporters do you expect there to be at Wealdstone? We have a good amount of ex-pat's in the south and



above in main image (2nd from left) along with Lindsey Brown and Andy Brown. The others

despite our poor season so far, probably 150-200

What is the club's natural level do you think? I think League One lower end, with the occasional run up the table, would be pre-asonable. We were a well-run club at one point and very well managed pre-2013.

Does relegation to non league carry a stigma? It was inevitable over the last three to four years based on how the club was being run. It's being a shocking decline. We've had bad seasons and spells in the past, but for a club that was run so well for many years, to then to become what it is now is heartbreaking. If any stigma is too be attached, it is to those that have allowed the club to fall so far.

What do you know about Wealdstone? I seem to recall you had a good spell in the 1980's... didn't you win the FA Trophy? And didn't you win the Alliance in around 1986? I could have just read Google but honesty is best!

The clue is what Stones have in common with common with both Colchester and Wycombe...

Ah, I'm assuming it's something to do with an achievement in non league. I seem to think Colchester won the league and Trophy in 1992. Did Wycombe do the same in 1993? So based on that, did you also do the same? (Correct! -Ed)

Are there any well-known names you associate with the club? I know Stuart Pearce and Vinnie Jones played for you. Obviously the Wealdstone Raider is one of the most famous football fans in the country.

How many games have you seen this season? All the home games, but only one away game at South Shields in the FA Cup.

What are the fans' expectations for 2022-23?

I initially thought we could have a similar situation to Southend last season, but the longer this season goes on the harder it is to find any positivity watching us. I think most supporters feel until a takeover happens, we will continue to free fall.

Who are the unsung players to watch this afternoon? I find it hard to sing the praises of the majority of our first team players at the moment, so instead I will give a shout out to our academy players. I've seen them a few times this season and appreciate the effort and quality. It gives me some hope for the future.

Is Scunthorpe a big part of your life? I work for the club on a matchday, as a turnstile operator. I do like working on the away end as it's great to see people who may spent all day travelling to watch their club, even if they are struggling. We had this with Maidstone a few weeks, who were so positive despite a poor league position. The enjoyment I get from meeting people and seeing friends at games is great for creating positive mental health. I think that's why the current situation at our club is so hard to take.



For England read Scunthorpe: football's really big occasions can be both international and non-league in nature

oday we entertain Scunthorpe United in a league fixture. Scunthorpe! In the league! And like Oldham Athletic at Boundary Park a couple of months back, it's a game that would have seemed outlandish to us less than five years ago.

There's a link between this and the weird and wonderful World Cup we're currently experiencing. Because while we typically see the big international tournament fixtures as the summit of football, for us non-leaguers both November and June are when the really big regular football distraction games

I'm talking of course about the FA Cup 1st Round 'Proper', and the extent to which the drama of such days can be set so far apart from the (ahem) 'bread and butter' of the league.

This is the month in which we've played Port Vale. And Aldershot. And Southend United, Reading, Hereford United, Reading (again), all the way through to the relatively recent Rotherham United and Colchester United ties. Huge games all, the Rotherham one being particularly big for having come 24 years after our last first round fixture.

In each case, these were huge steps up in terms of fan experience and quality. It wasn't just the opposition, everything else about the games was a step-change. The build-up, the crowd size, the pre and post match reporting, the goal celebrations. Just like England fixtures, these games had an air of tension and huge possibility. Oh yes, and inevitable disappointment too. These were precious occasions; games to celebrate for their own unique spot on the football calendar, regardless of result.

Over the years we've been lucky to have many FA Cup first round games on our home turf, but of course it's the away games that stood out for the sheer size of stadium and that sense, for 90 minutes at least, of being part of an otherwise unknown kind of football experience. Swindon Town and Colchester United come to this fan's mind as huge away games.

And so, to Scunthorpe's visit today. From our end of the telescope, what's happened is the normalisation of the once extraordinary. Just five years ago I recall looking at the FAC1R draw sides and hoping for a big trip to somewhere like Scunthorpe. When we do visit Lincolnshire this season it will, of course, be a big trip; but suddenly ours is a league full of such big trips. Just like those we've recently undertaken to Oldham, York, Chesterfield et al.

And even though we could and should reference our fantastic run back to the non-league big time after a 32 year struggle, let's be frank about it; the reason today's opponents are Scunthorpe United is the now routine promotion and relegation into what we today call the English Football League (EFL); a replacement for the corruption-adjacent 're-election' meetings that so stained the game, and a system finally realised a bare two seasons after we ourselves would have benefited from it in 1985.

The two-up two-down promotion and relegation structure into the EFL has slowly led to today's increasingly strong and full-time National League, some of the country's finest former league clubs failing to get out of the division. It's what makes Grimsby's achievement last season so remarkable (and yes, I'm acutely aware how galling that must be for our visitors today).

Taking it back to the top

Scunthorpe, with Oldham Athletic, are the 2022/2023 season's National League newbies, their fans staring around in stark disbelief at their reduced circumstances (and a very warm



welcome to the Vale, you Iron fans!) And while we continue to marvel at the fixtures list, for Scunthorpe, this normalisation has come the other way around. Those cringemaking ties away to Blyth or whatever which you had to endure just once every November back in the day? When you were worried you might just be embarrassed by a "minnow"? Well, they're now your routine as much as they were ours.



Naturally, for our visitors it's not just England's exploits that represent football's biggest games. In a perfect world, Scunthorpe would emulate the exploits of their fellow relegatees Oldham Athletic by taking part in the Premier League. Just like us today, every Premier League match would feel like a dream as they took on Liverpool, Manchester United, Arsenal, Chelsea et al.

England's dreaming

With England, or indeed Wales, we all come together though. Wherever we are in the football pyramid, the inernational tournaments will always represent thre biggest possible stage. Sure, some Premier League clubs like to think they're above even the international sides, but such clubs are few and far between. Scunthorpe, just like us, will have been wanting the best of the home nations in yesterday's big fixtures.

As for us, how can we get back that sense of something exceptional that always came with an FA Cup first round tie? Could a trip to Stevenage, Crawley or Cheltenham provoke the same kind of thrill we once derived from Swindon or Colchester? Well, who the hell knows seeing as how we seem to have an aversion to that bloody competition these days. Personally, I look forward to the next time we can enjoy an exceptional club game. Perhaps a run to the FA Trophy final? Now that would be a very nice way of doing it.

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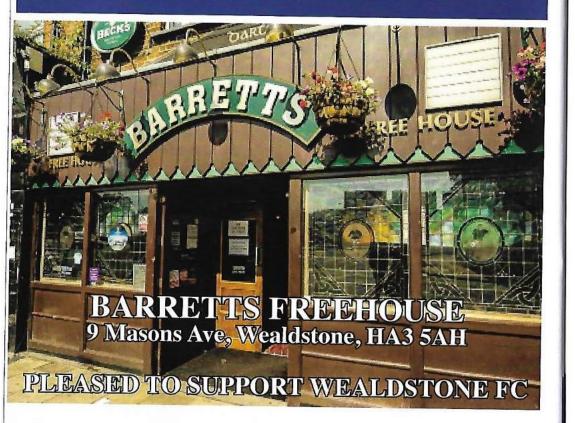


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The Stones Alphabet C



No names, no pack drill...what happens on (coach) tour stays on tour. Unless it's Grumpy Graham as Jon kicks off the **Gs in puckish mood**

is for Goalie. Now I like that term, a bit old fashioned in some respects. Nowadays we invariably refer to goalkeepers as 'keepers'. And so it was refreshing to hear Neil Ardley's interview after our recent match at Solihull. He was full of praise for us, but in particular for 'the

goalle who made 2 or 3 great saves at the start'. For the record, goalies should always wear Green, and Wealdstone goalies should never wear red.

GREEN could lead me on to talk about free-kicks and the inability to make GOALIES work more often from them, but I'll leave that one for today.

Take away a couple of letters and G is also for GOAL... which is what we all want to see when we watch football. But isn't it always pronounced better by excitable commentators from overseas, most notably from South American countries such as Brazil and Colombia? Why simply say the one syllable word goal quickly when it can be spread out using the longer format of GooooooooaaaaaaaaIIIIIII. sometimes for periods of up to 20 or 30 seconds depending on the commentator's lung capacity?



Whilst such legendary outpourings may appear to be a commentator competition to 'outgooooaaaaaaal' each other, my extensive research into the subject offers an alternative explanation. This is that where commentators are positioned

a considerable distance from the pitch, the longer the time spent saying the word goal. then the longer the commentator has to research who has actually scored and get their facts correct.

utting the commentary to one side. goals come in all forms and spark celebrations regardless of whether bundled in via the backside or as a result of a flowing Brazilian style move. So, as I write this article. I can't help myself but have another sneaky look at our goal at Alty. What a 13-pass thing of beauty it was, so hunt out the video if you haven't already done so.

Talking of our win at Alty, for those of us on the coach it was a long evening to say the least. Little did we know as we left Moss Lane that we wouldn't get back to the Vale until 5.30 a.m. Non-functioning windscreen wipers caused the delay, whereby we spent rather a lot of time at Sandbach services on a wet night.

I'm not quite sure what some people

expect from the driver in such situations. having already liaised with both his office and the recovery service. Nonetheless there are always some who feel the need to vent their spleen and offer their expert insight to the driver regardless. So whilst most of the coach occupants were outwardly laid back (or asleep) about the situation, G stands for GRUMPY GRAHAM. I'm sure that the driver appreciated Grumpy Graham's nuggets of wisdom as much as the rest of us did. In fairness, Grumpy Graham did apologise, and his frustration was borne out of needing to be at a hospital appointment at 9 a.m. and genuine concern for not making it in time. Me? I was at my desk at 8.15 a.m. as usual.

In the letter 'E' we featured a letter from Enfield FC, which was in relation to our failed promotion in 1999 due to not achieving the required ground grade. Enfield made it quite clear that they did not support us at the League AGM, so in the interest of balance, G is now for GRAYS Athletic. Now they are not a club I have a great affinity with - probably stemming from another of our great FA Cup 4th qualifying round disasters way back in our 1984-85 double winning season.

Grays were one of the eight clubs that did support us in our promotion bid, but from the



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8 Pargeters Hyam Hockley

13 August 1999

Dear Mr. Taffel

Thank you for your letter of 15 July sent to our Secretary, Jeff Saxton. 1 apologise for the long delay in replying. I assure you it was not due to a lack of interest - more to do with "close season" holidays!

Dealing with your specific questions first, I would answer as follows:-

- We were one of the eight Clubs who voted for you. The Board of Directors at Grays discussed the issue before the AGM and our Chairman was entirely happy to support our manimous view that Wealdstone should be given the promotion their performance on the field had justified
- Definitely no

With regard to v) above, you may recall we had a little local difficulty last season in connection with the height of our goalposts. Our appeal against the Management Committee decision to fine us £500 and replay the match was railed out of order because we had not stated our grounds of appeal within a deadline set by the F.A. under one of their rules! The fact that the Ryman League rules make no reference to the overriding F.A. rule is yet another example of our League making life as difficult as possible for member Clubs to seek redress,

With regard to v) above, you may recall we had a little local difficulty last season in connection with the height of our goalposts. Our appeal against the Management Committee decision to fine us £500 and replay the match was ruled out of order because we had not stated our grounds of appeal within a deadline set by the F.A. under one of their rules! The fact that the Ryman League rules make no reference to the overriding F.A. rule is yet another example of our League making life as difficult as possible for member Clubs to seek redress,

or at least use a reasonably democratic procedure, to challenge their decisions. I can give more examples of decisions involving Grays and other member Clubs which have also shown little regard for the difficulties facing Clubs at our level of the pyramid.

I hope you can now appreciate that we share your concern and will do what we can to active Ultimately, the best way forward is for like-minded people to put their names forward to serve on the Management Committee. Unfortunately, the time commitment involved in managing our Clubs, invariably on a voluntary basis, precludes many people from seeking election. In the meantime, using whatever appeal processes are available and attempting to amend rules where appropriate, is probably the most pragmatic approach.

Finally, a Grays supporter has mentioned to me that there is a reference on a Wealdstone Internet site to a suggestion that your supporters will be hoycotting Clubhouse tenbars etc., of all Ryman League Clubs this season as a continuing protest against the League's decision. This is obviously a matter for them, but I hope our support for you might influence them when you visit us on 28 August. We always look forward to some socialising with our

All the best for the coming season.

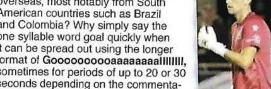
Yours in Sport



CONTINUED OVERPAGE

Grays director G.Jarvis replies to Jon's letter back in 1999. One of the eight 'good guys'





Above: When it comes to GOALIES, green is good and red bad. Absolutely no question about it

Stones Alphabet contd...

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

letter, one can glean that this was most probably borne from their own dispute with the footballing blazers that season. You may recall that we went to Grays at the start of the 1998-99 season and were beaten 3-0. However, the GOALPOSTS were found to be shorter than the legal requirement and the game had to be replayed the following March. We picked up a point that seemed unlikely eight months beforehand. Looking back at the letter, I feel a bit guilty as this is the first time that I have publicly disclosed their support for us, so their request for us not to boycott their tea bar fell on deaf ears.

G is also for GATESHEAD, featured in a previous edition but this season's trip up north is worthy of a mention in its own right. By distance, this is our longest National League awayday, although by time taken, Alty wins. What a trip it was too, many of our supporters taking the opportunity to make a weekend of it.

To be honest a weekend isn't long enough to explore all the wonderful drinking (and sight-seeing) options the area has to offer, but a splendid time was of course enhanced by us picking up three points to extend our unbeaten run to seven against the Heed. That result unexpectedly put us top of the league briefly, wasn't that fun whilst it lasted?

On the subject of away trips, how good was GRIMSBY last year? I for one was very sad that they were promoted. I would have far preferred one of the clubs with plastic pitches to have gone up such as Bromley, or better still somewhere like Borehamwood which is the least favourite awayday of every Stones supporter I know. Grimsby really is a great weekend away destination – yes really – with some friendly people everywhere we went and some excellent ale to boot. We may not have got the result we wanted, nonetheless if we never play them again then we will always have the memory of the cracking home win over them when they were top of the league earlier in the season.

f you haven't gathered by now, whilst football is a very important part of my life then beer also features quite heavily and has literally shaped the person that I am today. I am a beer snob, quality is key and I'd rather drink water than drink crap beer. This then brings me on nicely to Greene King, once upon a time a small regional brewer that could be trusted. However that was many, many decades ago. Now it is a corporate giant that has swallowed up and closed numerous regional breweries as well as pubs, whilst producing sub-standard beer on an industrial scale. No thanks, there are numerous breweries today that

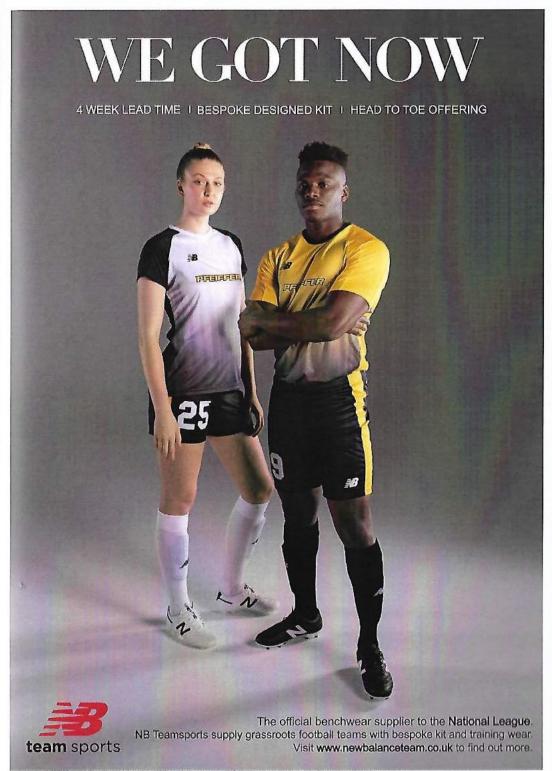
have values that they once may have held.

Our recent trip to Dorking reminded me that back in the 70s we visited the same ground but a vastly different club in GUILDFORD & Dorking United, Guildford City were a reasonably successful Southern League club, winning the title on two occasions, but one that experienced many periods of financial difficulty and turbulence. I first came across Guildford City in 1972 when I saw them defeated 4-2 by Watford in the FA Cup 1st round at Vicarage Road. They were well supported that day, but by that time they had already sold their City centre ground and the club was on its knees. They merged with Dorking in 1974 and our visit there in November that

year resulted in a 2-1 win in front of 658 spectators, a crowd boosted by 200 travelling Stones according to our programme the following week. This also reported that our goals from Jim Godfrey and George Duck were 'real gems', with the day 'only marred by the unfortunate sending off of Bill Byrne'. I'm not so sure a well-aimed right hook can be described as unfortunate even if in retaliation. The Guildford & Dorking United line-up that day included Geoff Chapple, I wonder what happened to him? The club collapsed and folded the following season. We were not to return to a somewhat improved Meadowbank (apart from the ghastly pitch) and a quite different club in Dorking Wanderers until 2019.

So that's Game over for today, back next time for **HORRIBLE H!**





Back in the mists of time when the Stones bounced back from crushing defeats to show that, in football, nothing much changes

WYCOMBE SLAMMED

Putting up their best perfor-mance of the season, Wealdstone hammered Wycombe to a 5-2 defeat before a stunned crowd of 3,000 at Loakes Park on Tuesday.

Not for seven years had Wythis was their first home defeat of the season.

Wealdstone were given a fifty minute lead by Seatle, who went on to complete a splendid hat-trick.

See-saw

Bates then reversed the posi-tion with goals in the 24th and 25th minutes and it was not until right on half-time that Searle put his side back on

Playing against the slope in the second half Wealdstone resisted every Wycombe pres-sure and stole the game when Searle got his third in the 59th

Bremer then made it 4-2 with Childs, who shared the attacking honours with Searle, completing the scoring near the end. Goymer meanwhile, sav-ing a penalty by Bates.

Called in to deputize for Doyle, the 17-year-old Dave Lambert played grandly in the second half and Townsend was at his sparkling best,

Tuesday November 8 1966, Isthmian League: Wycombe Wanderers 2 Wealdstone 5

f Stones fans were weeping and waiting and gnashing their teeth after our recent dismal run in the National League - before the muchneeded win at Altrincham and draw with Wrexham- it's worth looking back 56 years to the 1966/67 season and two remarkable games against Isthmian League powerhouses Wycombe Wanderers.

This world is probably one unknown to Chesterfield or their ex-League brethren. They will recognise the name Wycombe Wanderers but have little idea about the structure of amateur football five and a half decades ago.

But listen on, dear reader: By the time we faced the Wanderers at their old Loakes Park ground that autumn night all the excitement of the Stones finally winning the FA Amateur Cup just six months earlier had dissipated. Four members of a terrific side that was then expected to take the league and cup by storm had moved on - apparently disenchanted by the committee's refusal to pay the sort of boot money that

rivals Hendon and Enfield were offering - to leave the shorn side stuck in mid table.

Yet (witness the result at Altrincham after successive 1-2, 3-5, 1-3, 1-6 and 1-4 defeats) there was still a lot of ability in the depleted squad.

And it was the real Wealdstone to shock a 3,000+ home crowd who were expecting a routine

who turned up in Buckinghamshire

victory - especially as they were unbeaten at home.

Keith Searle was the Stones jewel up front and he smacked in a hat trick after Wycombe had led 2-1 at half time. according to the brief report in the Harrow Observer (pictured left on opposite page). Winger Bernie Bremer then added a fourth and the thousands were streaming out of Wanderers' iconic old ground even before Bobby Childs added the final humiliation of a late fifth goal. Wanderers had even been denied from the penalty spot by Stones keeper Brian Govmer.

ut if the 300 or so joyous Stones fans that evening were thinking that this was the turning point of a disappointing season... well they were sadly wrong. For in a desperate start to the new year, coach Vince Burgess' team first crashed out of the Amateur Cup 1-0 at Lancashire League un-

knowns Skelmersdale United and then went 12 game without a win in the league to plummet into the bottom six.

In one three-week period the Stones lost 3-1 at Kingstonian, 4-2 at Oxford city, 6-1 at home to St Albans City and then 7-0 at Tooting and Mitcham! Does that type of run sound familiar?

Two draws and two defeats then followed. And when highflying Wycombe were the next

DEPUTY SCORES GREAT HAT-TRICK

DILLSWORTH THE

Wealdstone 7, Wycombe Wanderers 0

CELEBRATING the first anniversary of their Amateur Cup triumph Wealdstone recovered some of their faded glory by crushing championship chasing Wicombe Wanderers 7-0 before a faintly incredulous crowd at Lower Mead on Saturday.

It was a double celebration for Eddie Dillaworth, one of Wealdstone's heroes when he spont the afternoon of his 20th hirthday at Wembley Stadium but on Saturday, the eye of his 21st, relegated to 12th man.

Dillworth's chance came when Hugh Lindsay, who had been thowing every sign of returning to his real form, limped off the field with a damaged leg at the interval and did not

Colossus

No tubstitute can have seized his unexpected opportunity with more brilliance. Dancing up and down the Wycombe territory like a feather-footed Colosus, Dillimotth crashed in a hat-trick inside 25 minutes and then delivered the final blow to his reling opponents in the dying stages of a fantastic game. Afmost with his first kick Diliworth banged a shot past Wakelt to make the secore 3-0. Wycombe having failed to clear Tuwnend's free-kick and in the 69th minute he seized on a stip by Rundle and, racing up to Haker, beat him brilliantly to score again from close in.

That was from the right-No wired substitute can have

That was from the right-That was from the right-ning. A minute later he was over on the left and almost in its own half when the ball ame loose. Wycombe stood ippealing for offiside but, taged on by a lineman, Dillworth covered almost ball he length of the field before lashing another cross-shot into he set and so completing his second hat-trick for the club.

Injured

By this time Wycombe were losing their heads and after speaking to Rundle for a ferocity in foul on Orlide the referee "booked" another Wycombe defender. Taking the Ireckick himself, Childa crashed the ball into the defensive wall, whence it bouseed put Maskell for the sixth goal. But it was his himsential.

But it was his last contribuhad it was nis tast contribu-tion to the match for he immediately left the field with a badly bruised shoulder leav-ing Wealdstone to play for the last 13 minutes with only 10

nemen.
In this per I Wycombe abould have scored twice through Merrick, but Dillsworth had the last word, again bebbing up in the middle to setze his chance when the Wycombe defence failed to clear.

Confident

Wycombe, approaching the game with confidence follow-ing a 4-2 mid-week win over ing a 4-2 mid-week win over thosed improved form, with licodon, were not as outplayed Dave Laonard having his best

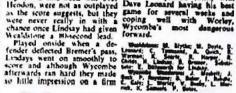
Wealdstone defence that most of their scoring efforts came from right-half Gale and these mere competently dealt with by Blythe, who played with ever-increasing confidence and surely of touch.

Collision

Finding that the ball was beginning to run for them at last Weeldstone maintained the pressure with some intricate forward movements and inminute when between Quick, Bremer and Lindsay ended with Childs side-footing the latter's kneehigh pass into the net.

in the 16th minute Lindsay collided with Maskell and as they both fell to the ground the they both fell to the ground the goalkeeper rolled on the leg that the England international injured earlier in the season. Off the field for four minutes, he returned but could not run and had to retire at half-time.

All the Wealdstone team



The Harrow Observer trumpets Stones' amazing win over high-fliers Wycombe

visitors to Lower Mead, on April 25th, there was palpable nervousness among a 2,500 home crowd who were only too aware that exacty a year earlier the Stones had enjoyed possibly its greatest-ever day with that

3-1 Amateur Cup final win over Hendon at Wembley Stadium.... so what about this!

Saturday April 15 1967. Isthmian League: Wealdstone 7 Wycombe Wanderers 0 CONTD OVERPAGE ...

Above: Stones' Eddie Dillsworth, the hero in the return game with Wycombe was the first Sierra Leonian to play at Wembley Stadium

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

One of the heroes that day at Wembley was Eddie Dilsworth but the powerful wing-half, celebrating his 21st birthday, was relegated to the substitute's bench and itching to get on. But his chances of even getting involved in this return clash with the Wanderers look wafer-thin as Hughie lindsay, our Amateur International and Olympic midfielder fired the Stones into a 90-second lead and Childs added a second before the break.

We were playing our best football in our toughest game for months -belving the 12-match winless run - yet when Lindsay hobbled off with an injury at half time it could surely only be bad news? Not a bit of it!

No.12 Dillsworth loped onto the field and then, according to the beautifully- worded Harry O report."Danced up and down

Wycombe territory like a featherfooted Collissus, crashing in a hat trick within 25 magical minutes'.

It was a devastating performance. Wycombe, hot on the heels of league leaders Sutton were 5-0 down with 70 minutes played and even when Childs - after scoring the sixth goal - also had to withdraw through injury the ten-man stones (in the days if just one substitute) still added a seventh when the irrepressible Eddie popped up in the Middle to beat Maskell for the final time to end up with four goals to his name!



What a day to celebrate a birthday! Born in Freetown, Sierra Leone, 22 years ago on Cup Final Day, Eddie Dillsworth was able to begin the real celebrations by drinking champagne from the Amateur Cup after receiving the most prized of his presents—a gold medal. The first African to play in a Wembley final Eddle may, however, turn professional before the end of the season. In the picture with him are Wealdstone supporters Lynda Small (left) and Lesley Ward

CTOBER last vear was designated Black History Month ... a time to celebrate the rich and remarkable past of black men and women who have been pioneers in many walks of life.

Here at Wealdstone FC, with a wideranging diversity both in the current playing squad and on the terraces, we celebrated the occasion last year with an article about **Eddie Dillsworth that** is worth repeating in part. The wing-half (No4 in today's terms) was the very first non-white player to wear the Wealdstone shirt. And indeed, one of the very first in this country...



The days when footballers in England were white and the crowds were white.. & Eddie Dillsworth was a trailblazer

hen 18-year-old Eddie Dillsworth signed for Wealdstone in time for the start of the 1964/65 season, the world was a very different place to the one we know now writes Tim Parks.

Footballers plying their trade in England, both professionally and as amateurs, were white. Entire teams were white. The crowds were white. Eddie had been born in Sierra Leone, West Africa but had lived in England since the age of nine, and had been a part of Fulham's youth team set up.

Eddie was most definitely black.

"I felt a bit of an oddity, to be honest" said the now 77-year-old mould-breaker when I man-

aged to catch up with him last

weekend.

Eddie has his own place in football history as the first black player to play in a winning cup side at Wembley. The South African Albert Johanesson had appeared there in the 1965 FA Cup final but his Leeds United side were beaten 2-1 by Liverpool. A year later Eddie was a standout performer as Wealdstone lifted the Amateur Cup by beating local rivals Hendon 3-1 on the famous turf.

"I didn't know that" admitted

the striker-turnedsweeper. "I knew all about Johanesson as there so so few black players, but I didn't know I was the first black player to win a trophy there".

"What are your memories of that day?" I asked him. "Well, the whole occasion really. I had played up front and in midfield for the Stones in my 18 months with the club but in the 1-0 semi-final win over Alvechurch at Stamford Bridge the coach, Vinnie Burgess, put me alongside Johnny Ashworth at centre back, telling me to cover and pick up the pieces, but most importantly, to never, ever cross the halfway line!

"We had lost 4-1 at Alvechurch the previous season when I wasn't playing, so Vinnie devised a plan to keep their forwards quiet .. and it worked. I did feel sorry for our keeper that day though. Arthur Paisley came in for Brian Goymer and saved a penalty, but it was Brian who returned from injury to play in the final".

GG Rere there any black faces around in those days?" I asked him. "No, not really. I started playing for the Alexander Boys Club in East London but football was looked down on then - even England players travelled to matches at Wembley on the bus, there wasn't the money around in those days.

"I was brought up in Sierra Leone but nobody had boots, we all played barefoot

CONTD OVERPAGE ...

Left: Eddie (sliding in) gets stuck in as Stones came from behind to beat Hendon to lift the FA Amateur Cup at Wembley in April 1966... on the day of his 20th birthday. Above right: Eddle joined his surviving team mates to celebrate the 50th anniversary here at the Vale in 2016

HISTORY BOYS CONTD >>>>>

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

then as nobody had shoes even. This was the mid-1950s. My family came across to England in dribs and drabs, and when we played football at school our footwear was provided by the school. My friend Michael 'Chick' Maynard was the only other black player - he went on to play for Crystal Palace and Peterborough - and when you look back I was treated differently.

in their South East Counties League, in all sorts of positions - including up front alongside Rodney Marsh! I learned his tricks and scored 38 goals that season when I was 17 or 18. but it seemed they were always looking for excuses not to play me. I even got dropped after we

"Then I went on trial to Portsmouth and thought I'd played really well.. then their coach said he couldn't fault my football but my stride was too long!"

This just sounds like discrimination to me, I told Eddie. "I think I was just strange to them" he said. "They didn't know what to make of me. It's a bit like women's football being fully accepted like it is today, it's taken generations of people mickey taking but now it's part of everyday life"

Eddie admitted, however, that he wasn't always the easiest player to have around the dressing room, "I always said my piece.... after leaving Wealdstone I went to Brentwood in the Southern League, before that club merged with Chelmsford leaving city with two squads of players.

"The manager Dave Bumpstead had some strange ideas and after we'd played Ipswich in the FA Cup 3rd round (and right winger Dillsworth had apparently given England full back Mick Mills a torrid time) we played Wimbledon who set up in a 4-4-2 against our 4-2-4. We were over run in midfield and I pointed it out... but Bumpstead subbed me off, saying "What's up Dilly, no TV cameras today?"

Eddie later found out that Ipswich boss Bobby Robson had put in a £25,000 bid for him - but Bumpstead rejected it saying "you can't afford him".

Bizarrely, a year later Kettering's new manager Ron Atkinson bought Eddie for a reported £8,000 although the new signing reckoned the actual fee was considerably bigger, in those days of bungs and brown paper bags.



hen Eddie arrived at Rockingham Road he didn't fit in immediately and felt he was being wasted out on the wing when

the ball was just launched forward at every opportunity. "I went out and bought a packed of Trill birdseed to sprinkle on the grass" he recalls with a laugh. "I told Big Ron that I'd get the pigeons to come down to pitch level to make more room for



the passes. He found it very funny!"

Lower Mead in October 1976.

Eddie cemented his reputation as one of the

most dangerous wingers in non League football

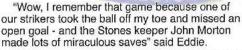
with subsequent seasons back at Chelmsford

(where I saw him petrify the Stones' defence

in two memorable games in 1974-75) and then

again for Bishops Stortford in an FA Cup tie at





"But my most memorable games at Wealdstone were in 1965 when Hughie Lindsay scored those amazing goals as we beat Stevenage 6-5.... and then my last-but-one game at Lower Mead against Wycombe Wanderers the day after my 21st birthday".

As mentioned in previous pages, Eddie was named substitute that day, a year and a day on from the Wembley triumph, and Stones were leading the high-flying Wanderers 2-0 at half time. Then 'Dilly' came on for the injured Hughie Lindsay and things got even better.... he scored four goals and Wealdstone won 7-0!

hese days, Eddie - who latterly ran his own business providing skilled labour - has retired to Harlow, Essex where he's lived for 52 years and spends a lot of time tending his garden.

He was at the Dagenham & Redbridge v Stones game last month as part of an Alexandra FC reunion - the youth team that spawned stars like Rodney Marsh along with Eddie and his Lower

Mead team match Roy Lavender.

But his most treasured memory is six years ago when Wealdstone staged a 50th Anniversary lunch at Grosvenor Vale exactly on the same day as the Amateur Cup

was captured: April 15th.

Almost every one of his Wembley team mates were in attandance in a packed-out main hall although several, including revered skipper Johnny Ashworth have since died. And the suitedand-booted Heroes of 66 were delighted to meet the current players on the pitch before the game (pictured left). And I can tell you that the Stones of 2016 were thrilled to meet them too.



Above right: Stones class of 2016 meets the 1966 heroes. Eddie (ringed) shakes the hand of Scott Davies while, far right, Tom Hamblin is greeted by the trophy-holding Johnny Ashworth

APPEARANCES



2022/2023

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Barker, Charlie	4												4			7		
Barrett, Mason	8	1			- 1								8	2		8		
Browne, Rhys *	10	3	7									_	10	3	7	30	13	13
Charles, Ashley	15			1									16			79	15	1
Cook, Jack	18		3	1									19		3	61		7
Dyer, Alex	6	4		1		1							7	4		177	30	35
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Ferguson, Nathan	13	1											13	-1		30	1	1
Freckleton, Miguel	2		1										2		1	2		1
Habergham, Sam	15	1	1	1		- 1							16	1	1	16		1
Howes, Sam	19	10		1		- 4							20			27		
Hutchinson, Dominic	11	4		1		- 4							12	4		12	4	
Kinsella, Lewis	5	4	- 1										- 5	4		5	4	
Kretzschmar, Max	8	3	1										8	3	1	8	3	1
Matthews, Sam *	1	2											1	2		1	2	
McGregor, Giovanni	6	1		1									7	1		7	1	
Mongoy, Jordy		3							-					3			3	
Mundle-Smith, Jaydn	6	5		- 1					7				7	5		31	12	2
Napa, Malachi	2	7							111				2	7		2	7	
Obiero, Micah	6	1	1										6	1	1	6	1	1
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AWAY DAYS

YORK CITY 1 WEALDSTONE 2 Saturday 19th November 2022

STONE'S MINI REVIVAL CONTINUES

he match was seemingly heading for a draw but Jack Cook (who else?) thumped in a header from a Lewis Kinsella delivery deep into injury time.

It was a result that had all the hallmarks of the win by the same score at Aldershot and showed the full potential of this team when everyone is fit and available. It was just a shame so many fans missed the start of the first match against the Minstermen because of transport issues at the train station but, hopefully, they made it in time to see the turnaround and saw the best version of the Stones.

Wealdstone were second best for at least half the first half and were lucky not to be more than one goal behind. However, they got better and better as the match wore on and definitely finished the game in the ascendancy. York came into the game on the back of a tumultuous week — and the fans started by chanting the name of John Askey, their former manager who was surprisingly sacked in the week. Some supporters had their backs to the play while chanting at the director's box when Olly Dyson shot straight at Sam Howes from close range. There was also a terrific sliding block from Charlie Barker to intercept a cross from Ryan Fallowfield that was bound for trouble. From the resulting corner, Adam Crookes headed against the bar and then Lennell John-Lewis had the follow-up effort cleared off the line. A pumped-up home side really should have been in front by at least one inside 12 minutes. The vociferous home support didn't have to wait too much longer for the opener, Duku powerfully heading in a corner from the left-hand side.

It took 16 minutes for the Stones to fashion their first real chance. Lewis Kinsella galloped down the left and collected a cross-field pass from Barker in his stride. He sent over a left-footed cross that Olufela Olomola glanced over. The Stones became more cohesive and fluent as the half wore on, increasingly threatening down the left-hand side through Kinsella and Tarryn Allarakhia, usually after a diagonal ball from Barker who had a very good first half.

Things followed a similar pattern at the start of the second half, with Stones controlling possession without really looking threatening. The closest they came was just after the hour when a corner from Giovanni McGregor was flicked on by Jack Cook and hit Alex Dyer six yards out without the midfielder knowing too much about it. Shortly after, Maynard summoned Max Kretzschmar from the bench – and three minutes later the Stones were level. The bench were furious that referee David Richardson had blown for a foul on Allarakahia and denied the visitors the advantage, especially with Kretzschmar in a good position with the ball at his feet in the box. But it ended up being a call that benefited the Stones as Kinsella slung over a free-kick and Freckleton deflected it past Ethan Ross. Just before that, Howes had to be alert and unconventional at the near post to keep out Olly Dyson. It proved to be a crucial save in the context of the game. The bold Maynard continued to roll the dice, bringing on Nathan Ferguson for Dyer in a positive move. He then went for broke by chucking on Simeon Akinola for Olufela Olomola. That left the Stones slightly vulnerable at the back and it required a wonderful block from the excellent Barker and a terrific reaction save from Howes to keep the scores level.

The 3 points were secured in dramatic fashion when Cook popped up with the winner, just like he did against Bromley.

Wealdstone: Howes; Cook, Barker, Freckleton; Obiero, McGregor (Kretzschmar 64), Dyer (Ferguson 79), Charles, Kinsella; Allarakhia, Olomola (Akinola 86).

Subs not used: Barrett, Mundle-Smith.

Attendance: 4,770



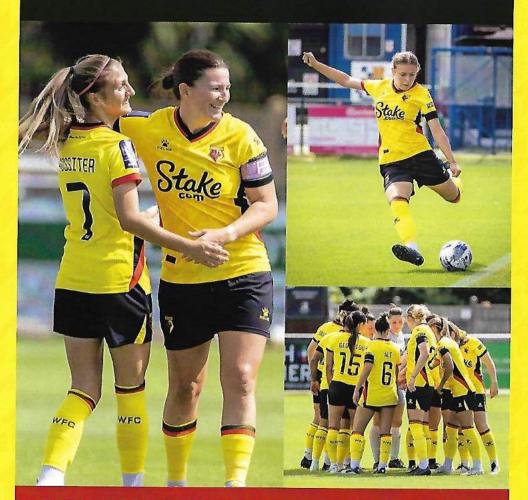
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*All above subject to current COVID restrictions.

	BROMLEY Salurday, 6th August Vanarama National League	Alan Couch
	FC HALIFAX TOWN	Toby Jackson (Lapels)
	YEOVIL TOWN	Duncan & Sandra Towell Sardi's in memory of Arthur Rogers Law Firm
(#)	WOKING Sunday, 4th September Janarama National Lisague	Mike & Val Weston
M	TORQUAY UNITED	Stuart Kane
	SOUTHEND UNITED	In Memory of Kat Kelly
	BOREHAM WOOD	Nick Woolford
	NOTTS COUNTY	The Rawden Family

WREXHAM Source, 12th November Vanerame National League	In Memory of Kat Kelly	Jim Kane
SCUNTHORPE UNITED	Tony F	Platt
OLDHAM ATHLETIC Vanarana National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
MAIDENHEAD UNITED	In Memory of Roy Couch	Mike Pullin & Graham Clark
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DAGENHAM & REDBRID	GE Your name or business here	Your name or business here
YORK CITY Vanarama National League	In Memory of Kat Kelly	Your name or business here
ALTRINCHAM Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
MAIDSTONE UNITED Vanarama National Lengue	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
BARNET Vassarama National League	Alan Couch	Your name or business here
ALDERSHOT TOWN Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or husiness here
SOLIHULL MOORS Justiny 10th April Vanarama Mallisnal League	Mick Fishman	Your name or business here
DORKING WANDERERS	In Memory of Fans No Longer With Us	Your name or business here

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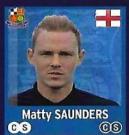
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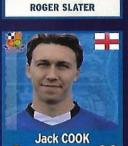






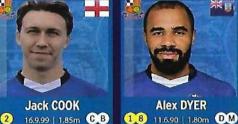






Rhys BROWNE

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DAVID EDWARDS





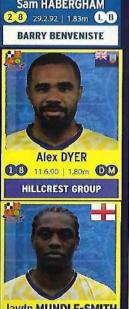


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Sam MATTHEWS

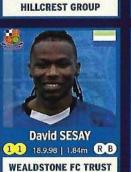
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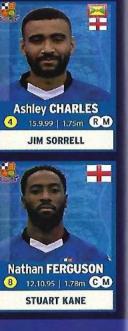
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National League Saturday 7th January 3:00pm



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National League Tuesday 10th January 7:45pm

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3	Chesterfield	19	12	4	3	40	23	10	8	0	2	21	11	9	4	4	1	19	12	17	40		
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5	Southend United	20	9	6	5	28	16	10	5	3	2	13	6	10	4	3	3	15	10	12	33	0-1	
6	Barnet	20	10	3	7	38	38	10	6	1	3	15	15	10	4	2	4	23	23	0	33		
7	Solihull Moors	20	8	6	6	33	23	10	4	4	2	18	11	10	4	2	4	15	12	10	30		1-2
8	Bromley	20	8	5	7	28	26	10	5	3	2	13	8	10	3	2	5	15	18	2	29	3-2	
9	Dagenham & Redbridge	19	8	5	6	34	35	10	6	3	1	24	17	9	2	2	5	10	18	-1	29		1-4
10	Boreham Wood	19	7	7	5	23	19	9	2	4	3	10	11	10	5	3	2	13	8	4	28	1-2	
11	Eastleigh	20	8	4	8	24	25	10	7	2	1	16	8	10	1	2	7	8	17	-1	28		0-1
12	Maidenhead United	20	8	3	9	19	23	10	5	2	3	11	9	10	3	1	6	8	14	-4	27		
13	Wealdstone	19	7	5	7	20	27	9	2	4	3	8	13	10	5	1	4	12	14	-7	26		-
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15	York City	20	6	6	8	23	22	10	3	3	4	10	12	10	3	3	4	13	10	+1	24		2-1
16	Dorking Wanderers	19	6	4	9	35	45	10	4	2	4	19	22	9	2	2	5	16	23	-10	22	4 13	
17	Altrincham	20	5	7	8	26	37	10	4	3	3	14	12	10	1	4	5	12	25	-11	22		1-0
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21	Oldham Athletic	18	4	5	9	17	27	9	4	1	4	14	15	9	0	4	5	3	12	-10	17		2-1
22	Gateshead	19	3	7	9	24	33	10	2	5	3	15	15	9	1	2	6	9	18	-9	16		1-0
23	Scunthorpe United	20	3	6	11	25	40	10	3	2	5	16	21	10	0	4	6	9	19	-15	15		
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Stones on the road



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