

TODAY'S LINE-UPS

WEALDSTONE ROYAL BLUE/WHITE/WHITE



GOSPORT BOROUGH YELLOW/NAVY/NAVY

- G Archie MATTHEWS 1
- Jack COOK 2
- Anthony GEORGIU 3
- Deon WOODMAN 4
- Alex DYER 5
- Mason BARRETT 6
- Enzio BOLDEWIJN 7
- Craig EASTMOND 8
- Sean ADARKWA 9
- Max KRETZSCHMAR 10
- Todd MILLER 11
- G Jacob ADAMS 13
- Micah OBIERO 14
- Luke DREHER 16
- Dom HUTCHINSON 17
- Christian SCOTT 18
- Adrian MARIAPPA © 19
- Sam ASHFORD 20
- Kallum CESAY 21
- Alex REID 22
- Jaydn MUNDLE-SMITH 23
- Henry SANDAT 24
- Jack WELLS-MORRISON 25
- Elliot THORPE 26
- Declan PHILLIPS 28
- Callum McFARLANE 29
- G Sam HOWES 31
- Brandon MASON 32

- Ryan GOSNEY G
- Max EVANS G
- Callum SMART G
- Harry KAVANAGH
- Zak SHARPE
- Rory WILLIAMS
- Finlay WALSH-SMITH
- Charlie WASSMER
- Richard McINTYRE
- Joe MORRISON
- Harry LEE
- Cameron MURRAY
- Danny HOLLANDS
- Samuel FANIYAN
- Alexandr BARSА
- Paul AGBESEYI
- Alfie STANLEY
- Dan WOODEN
- Asher YEARWOOD
- Bradley TARBUCK
- Jake COPE
- Kian TOWSE
- Danny ROWE
- Elliot WHEELER
- Henry SEARLE

Officials Referee: George Laffin Assistants: Marcus Carmichael and Ryan Head
Fourth Official: Tom Ellsmore Observer: TBC Coach: Ray Ellingham

TODAY'S RESULT: WEALDSTONE GOSPORT BORO

NEXT AT THE VALE v YEovil TOWN, SAT OCTOBER 19, 3PM **v BRAINTREE TOWN**, WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 22, KO 7.45PM

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Moments from glory: Callum McFarlane is mobbed after his 90th-minute goal in our last home game. But then Southend equalised PICTURE: SEAN TROUP

THE MIGHTY, MIGHTY stones

2024-25 MATCHDAY PROGRAMME £3



v Gosport Borough

Emirates FA Cup Fourth Qualifying Round
Saturday October 12, 2024, kick-off 3pm



**Emirates
FA CUP**



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GOSPORT BOROUGH - FA CUP 4TH QR - 12TH OCTOBER 2024



*A very warm
welcome to
you all this
afternoon as
we make our
much
anticipated
(and often*

*feared) entry into this
seasons FA Cup.*

Welcome also to everybody involved with today's opponents Gosport Borough who are making their first appearance here at Grosvenor Vale since we ran out 2-0 winners in the 2016/17 National League South.

The FA Cup brings a slightly welcome break to the relentless pace that has been the first two months of the National League season. The last two away fixtures against Halifax and Gateshead have seen the team and supporters travel by road and air, just under 1,000 miles in 7 days for a return of no points in the case of the team and 'Several' pints and pies in the case of the supporters.

I think it is fair to say that we haven't exactly had much luck in the FA Cup over recent years. In fact our last win in the competition came in the 3rd QR in a 4-0 replay win against Bristol Manor Farm in the 2019/20 season! Since that win we have fallen at the first hurdle to Hayes & Yeading, Dagenham & Redbridge, Boreham Wood and last season to Bromley.

Progression today brings a place in the 1st round draw where the big guns from League 2 & 1 could be the prize and our previous features at this stage have both come at the Vale, in 2009/2010 v Rotherham and in 2015/16 v Colchester.

As we are wallowing in the romance of the FA Cup our older supporters will be able to entertain

Written in Stone

BY MARK HYDE



Emirates
FA CUP

you with stories from our greatest ever FA Cup run in 1977/78 when we defeated Hereford in the 1st Round, Reading in the 2nd Round before defeat in the 3rd Round against QPR.

Finally, welcome to club striker Alex Reid who has signed on loan from fellow National League club Oldham Athletic. Alex will wear the number 22 shirt and is available for selection this afternoon.

Up the Stones

Mark

SEPTEMBER TEAMDRAW WINNERS

1. £125 - COLIN BUNNER
 2. £75 - IAN STAPLETON
 3. £50 - NICOLA BROWN
 4. £25 - JEZ ALBERT
 5. £25 - BARRY BENVENISTE
 6. £10 - GERALD JACOBS
 7. £10 - JAMES SORRELL
 8. £10 - RAY CORNER
 9. £10 - ANDREW GIBBS
 10. £10 - NICK SYMMONS
- VOUCHER - STEPHEN PAULL

QUARTERLY BONUS PRIZE FOR HOLDERS OF 3 OR MORE
ENTRIES - £200 - GARY SMITH

BALL DONORS

'THE THURSDAY CLUB'
Andy Richards, Daniel Richards,
Mark Pope & Del Franklin

Daniel used to play for a Wealdstone Youth team which led his father Andy to regularly watch the Stones and he's been a season ticket holder for a few years now.

Mark, Del and Andy have been friends for years and with them also having season tickets they get to most home games and occasional away matches when work commitments allow.

They are looking forward to sponsoring the ball for the Gosport match, and hopefully seeing a good Stones win. UTS

WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2024/2025

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Club Secretary & Welfare Officer Paul Fruin (07790 038095)
Company Secretary Andrew Lane

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First Team Coach Pete Stanford
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MAJOR HONOURS SINCE 1950

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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

1997 / 1998 Isthmian League Division 2 (3rd)
1998 / 1999 Isthmian League Division 1 (3rd, annulled)
2003 / 2004 Isthmian League Premier Division

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:

- 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.
- 6) No Smoking or Vaping inside the ground.

Wealdstone FC Board of Directors

THE GAFFER'S COLUMN: MATTY TAYLOR'S INSIDE TAKE

WELCOME to the Vale for today's FA Cup test against Gosport Borough. They beat Oxford City 3-2 away in the last round so we'll be very aware of the real dangers they pose.



'An interesting stat this week: Our XG factor should put us in 10th place in the table. We're just not getting the results that we deserve'

Saturday's 1-0 defeat at Gateshead was another frustrating one - to be honest, more than slightly frustrating - as they are one of the top teams in our league and at half-time it was hard for me to say anything negative to the players because we created some unbelievable chances.

But again I'm sat here writing about missing chances and not winning games so that's the disappointing thing for me.

Let's be perfectly frank, open and honest. We were missing Sean Adarkwa (probably still a month away), Craig Eastmond (close to being in the squad), Jaydn Mundle-Smith (suspended), Adrian Mariappa (should be back today) and Max Kretzschmar who is again close to fitness - all five of those would be in the team. If you take any team's five best players out you're going to have issues.

I thought the supporters, almost 100 of them travelling up were fantastic and I'm sure they made the long journey home, like us, thinking how did we not score?!

There comes a point where I have to take accountability for that and it's on my shoulders. What we've got to do is find the solution, which will be helped when players come back. We're in a tough spot but we're not playing badly. Every team we play get that 10-15 minutes of pressure and create a half chance and they take it. We have to be better.

We tried something different at Gateshead and I felt it worked. Elliot (Thorpe) hasn't played football for 15/16 months and you can see he's lacking match fitness but his quality and delivery has been excellent so I was really pleased with him again.

We asked Enzo to be positive and deliver good balls and he did

that, but it's the bit in the middle if we really believe we are going to score.

We've only won the one game but collectively we've been just nine minutes away from registering three other wins due to goals conceded late on. That's what stings in my perspective and it's difficult because this is an exceptional group of people, brilliant and highly competitive players who give their all every week.

I saw an interesting statistic this week concerning the XG factor in the National League (goals expected per game due to the chances created and possession won) and our factor should have us in 10th place. We're just not getting the results we deserve.

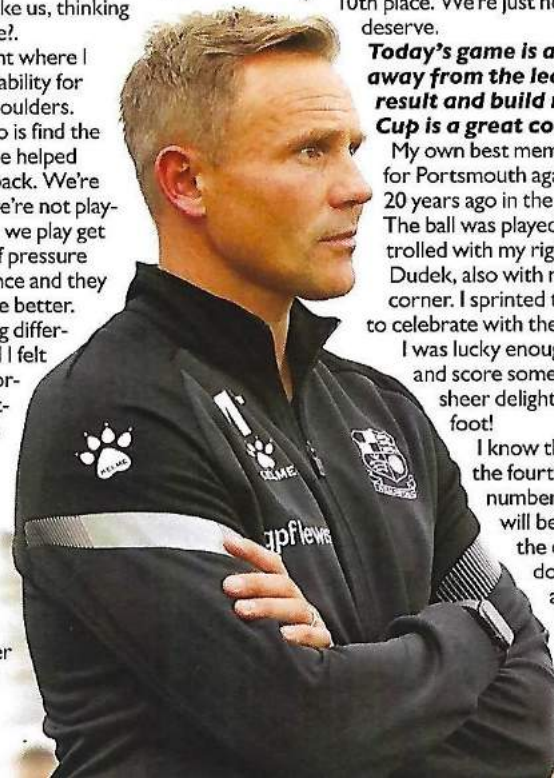
Today's game is an opportunity to get away from the league, hopefully get a result and build momentum, for the FA Cup is a great competition.

My own best memory was an equalising goal for Portsmouth against Liverpool at Anfield 20 years ago in the 4th Round, at the Kop end. The ball was played across the box and I controlled with my right foot before beating Jerzy Dudek, also with my right foot, into the corner. I sprinted the whole length of the field to celebrate with the Pompey fans.

I was lucky enough to have a good career and score some decent goals, but that was sheer delight at netting with my 'wrong' foot!

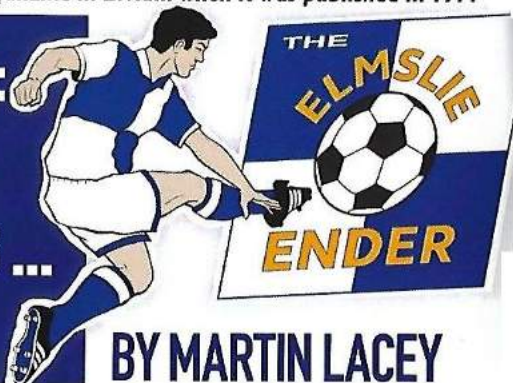
I know the Stones have struggled in the fourth qualifying round for a number of years, so the message will be the same - we have to put the chances away and if we don't then it'll be a tough afternoon for us.

Enjoy the game and be the 12th man this afternoon. UTS!



©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

Football away trips: A story of planes, trains, automobiles ... and, er, pedalos



BY MARTIN LACEY

I'M aware that a large part of what we grandiosely and pretentiously refer to as 'the programme team' travelled to our fixture at Gateshead last week by plane.

Just don't tell the chairman of one of our rival National League clubs, who would undoubtedly have made the journey himself by tandem (with one lucky travelling supporter on the other seat.) As fellow fan Clive Leaper also opined: "surely the prog team can't be allowed to travel together? A crash and civilisation would effectively come to an end".

I was half tempted to point out that once you've got to Heathrow, battled your way through the security nightmare, been herded into the holding pen like sheep waiting to be dipped in preparation for boarding, made the flight, disembarked and got into town at the other end, you might just have been better off jumping on the LNER from Kings Cross with a four-pack. This would, of course, have been missing



the point.

Following Wealdstone away from home is not about the 90 minutes of football, particularly not at the moment. It's about the whole experience, the travel, the beer, meeting rival fans, the increasingly slurred conversations (OK, that's just me...), the anticipation, the largely misplaced pre-match flicker of optimism, the glimmer of hope when we score, even the masochistic fatalism when the inevitable happens.

I know a lot of you can't wait for Guernsey or Jersey to come up through the leagues (rather than us descending to their level which is also a possibility).

I live in Sheffield, roughly in the middle of England, and the largest city in Europe without an airport after the short-lived Sheffield City Airport and the ambitiously named Doncaster-Sheffield-Robin Hood Airport (not very near Doncaster or Sheffield and I don't believe Robin Hood ever took a flight from there) both closed, which means opportunities for air travel to away matches has been limited. Not that that's stopped me...

My son, who some of you know, has been a travel obsessive from an early age, especially where it involves planes. During our Isthmian and Southern League seasons we would travel to matches in East Anglia and the Midlands by train, usually by the most complicated and convoluted route possible and more than once leading to a desperate phone call to the beloved wife: do you mind making a 100 mile round trip to pick us up from some godforsaken place in Eastern England where we

have been stranded by missed connections or storm damage to the railway.

Merthyr away though, offered the exciting and slightly ridiculous prospect of actually, for the first time, flying to a match. This would have made sense only if I'd taken my own executive jet from Sheffield City (probably then still open) to Merthyr Tydfil International (so far as I am aware, not built yet). Instead it was car to Manchester, South West Airlines to Cardiff, shuttle bus to Cardiff Airport Station, train to Cardiff, wait for a connection, another train to Merthyr, then a steep walk up hill to the ground (though not as steep as Forest Green). I reckon, door-to-turnstile about eight hours. For comparison, on my previous trip to Merthyr (memorable, regrettably, for Alan Cordice's second and final career-ending injury) I drove it in two and a half.

I think we lost 3-0 and my abiding memory is of our left back Josh Carbon appropriately looking about as mobile as a lump of coal. It wasn't a great season.

Undeterred, no, emboldened by the experience, later that same season we again travelled by air for our fixture at Tiverton, this time flying from Manchester to Exeter. We did, however, nearly miss the match due to transport issues; not involving trains, planes or buses but a pedalo.

Arriving early in Exeter we decided to take in the sights, which occupied a pleasant ten minutes. So with time still to kill we had the bright idea of renting a pedalo on the River Exe. We set off upstream at a surprisingly good pace; logically, if it was easy enough heading upstream it would be even easier going downstream. You think? No.

After about twenty minutes heading into the interior we thought it might be time to head back in good time for the train to Tiverton. What we hadn't realised was that our progress had been fa-

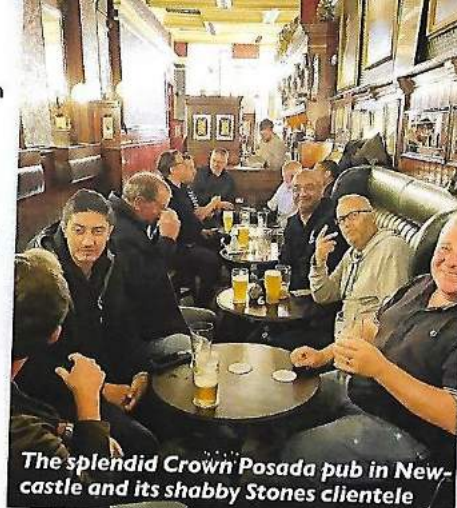
cilitated by a stiff wind at our backs and every time we tried to turn the pedalo round to go in the opposite direction the wind would catch us side on, turn the pedalo back upstream and push us a bit further away from our destination.

After maybe a dozen attempts we found us drifting perilously close to a bridge with a big sign saying 'No pedalos beyond this point.' At this juncture several things were going through my head. Are we going to go under the bridge and be swallowed up by Devon's equivalent of Niagara Falls? Does the RNLI operate on the River Exe? How deep is this river and should I try getting out and pulling the pedalo to the shore from where I can summon assistance? Or does the River Exe flow through Tiverton, in which case maybe we should just keep going?

Then a stroke of luck: the wind briefly dropped and with a final titanic effort we managed to turn round and start heading in the right direction. To say it was hard going is an understatement. Obviously we couldn't stop to rest as inevitably we would have found ourselves heading back upstream. Honestly, by the time we got back I could barely stand up, much to the hilarity of the pedalo rental guy.

I can't remember much about the match. I think we lost. But was a great to see such a good Stones turn-out at Gateshead, reassuring evidence that the travel can be as much fun as the destination, or in this case, rather more.

● The 'Silly Arse' award of the day went to photographer extraordinaire Mike Renny (aka Tommy Cockles) who managed to leave his photo ID at home (essential for an internal flight) and was reduced to begging the customer manager at Heathrow to be allowed to board. Despite looking the identikit of an international terrorist (see picture above) he got away with it. Worrying.



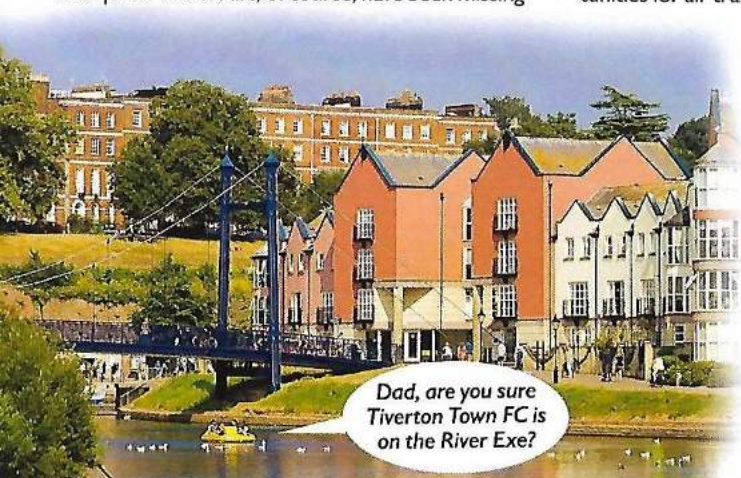
The splendid Crown Posada pub in Newcastle and its shabby Stones clientele



Parks & Renny see the sights in Toon, and Wembley from the plane (below)



Are you sure that's not the Stones' new stadium?



Dad, are you sure Tiverton Town FC is on the River Exe?

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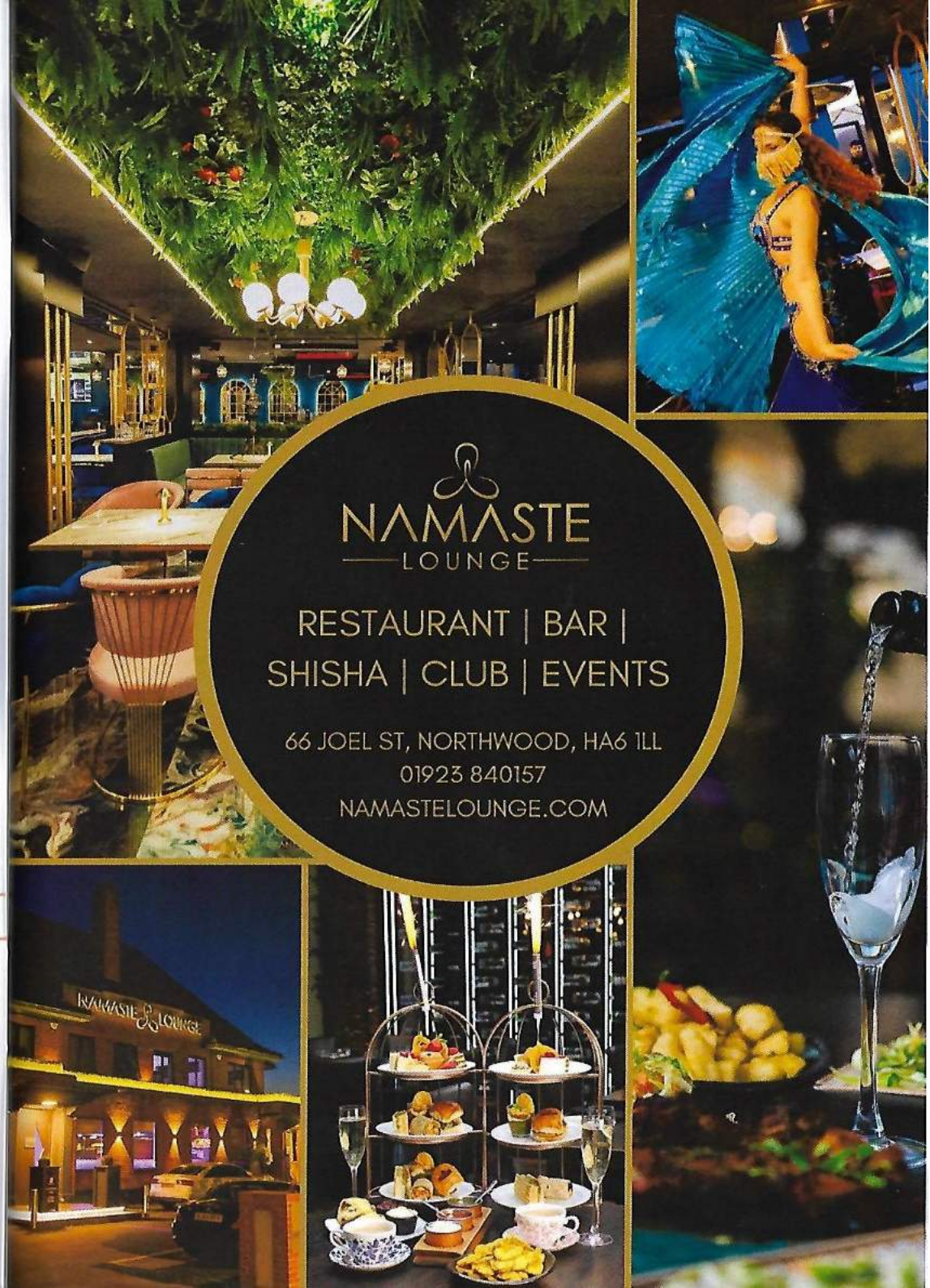


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WEALDSTONE FC FOUNDATION: AT THE HEART OF OUR CLUB

On Wednesday, October 23rd, Wealdstone FC takes on Braintree Town FC in a special Community Trust Game dedicated to the Wealdstone FC Foundation. This match will be broadcast live on DAZN, showcasing our Foundation's ongoing efforts to use the power of football to create lasting change in our local community.

The Wealdstone FC Foundation has been delivering a variety of impactful programs focused on community engagement, health and wellbeing, education, and sports development. Here's a closer look at some of the initiatives that are making a difference:

Summer HAF Camps:

These camps are part of the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) program and provide children and young people with access to free activities during the school holidays. Participants enjoy healthy meals, engage in fun and educational sports activities, and develop valuable life skills. The camps are a lifeline for families in need, ensuring children remain active, fed, and socially engaged during the long breaks. With a focus on inclusivity, the HAF Camps cater to a broad range of participants, including those with special educational needs, ensuring that no one is left behind.

Tea Dancing:

Our Tea Dancing program is a shining example of how we engage older adults in the community. These events offer more than just a social outing—they provide much-needed opportunities for physical activity and social interaction. Regular dance sessions help to combat loneliness, promote fitness, and encourage older residents to remain active and engaged with others. It's a joyful program that brings smiles and connections, while also contributing to participants' mental and physical well-being. Walking Football: This initiative is designed to help older members of the community stay physically active in a way that's accessible and enjoyable.

Walking Football

Reduces the physical intensity of the game, allowing participants to enjoy football at a slower pace. For many, this program has been a gateway to improved fitness, social connections, and a renewed sense of belonging within the Wealdstone FC community. It fosters inclusivity and a sense of camaraderie among fans who may have supported the club for years.



Community Schools Programme:

Education is at the core of our Foundation's mission. Through our Community Schools Programme, we work with local schools to deliver football sessions that link physical activity with learning. These programs integrate subjects like math and literacy with football coaching, making education fun and engaging for children. By encouraging teamwork and discipline, we also aim to foster life skills that will benefit students both in and out of the classroom. The program helps bridge the gap between sport and academic achievement, giving young people the tools they need to succeed.

With **tickets priced at just £5**, all proceeds from this game will be donated directly to the Foundation, allowing us to expand these vital initiatives.

Danny Kindell, Club Director responsible for the Strategy and Direction of the Community Foundation, says: "This game highlights the strategic importance of the Wealdstone FC Foundation in our broader vision for the Club. Through this re-launch and renewed focus, we aim to inspire even greater change in the lives of those around us. I encourage everyone to get involved—whether through donations, volunteering, or attending the match."

Bring your family and friends to Grosvenor Vale on the 23rd and be part of something bigger. Together, we can help our Foundation continue to make a lasting impact in the lives of many.

Get involved today—whether it's volunteering, donating, or simply attending the match, your support matters.



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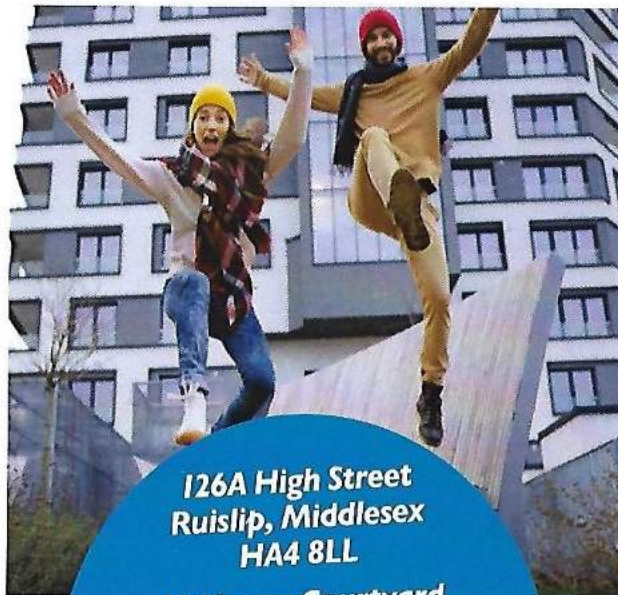


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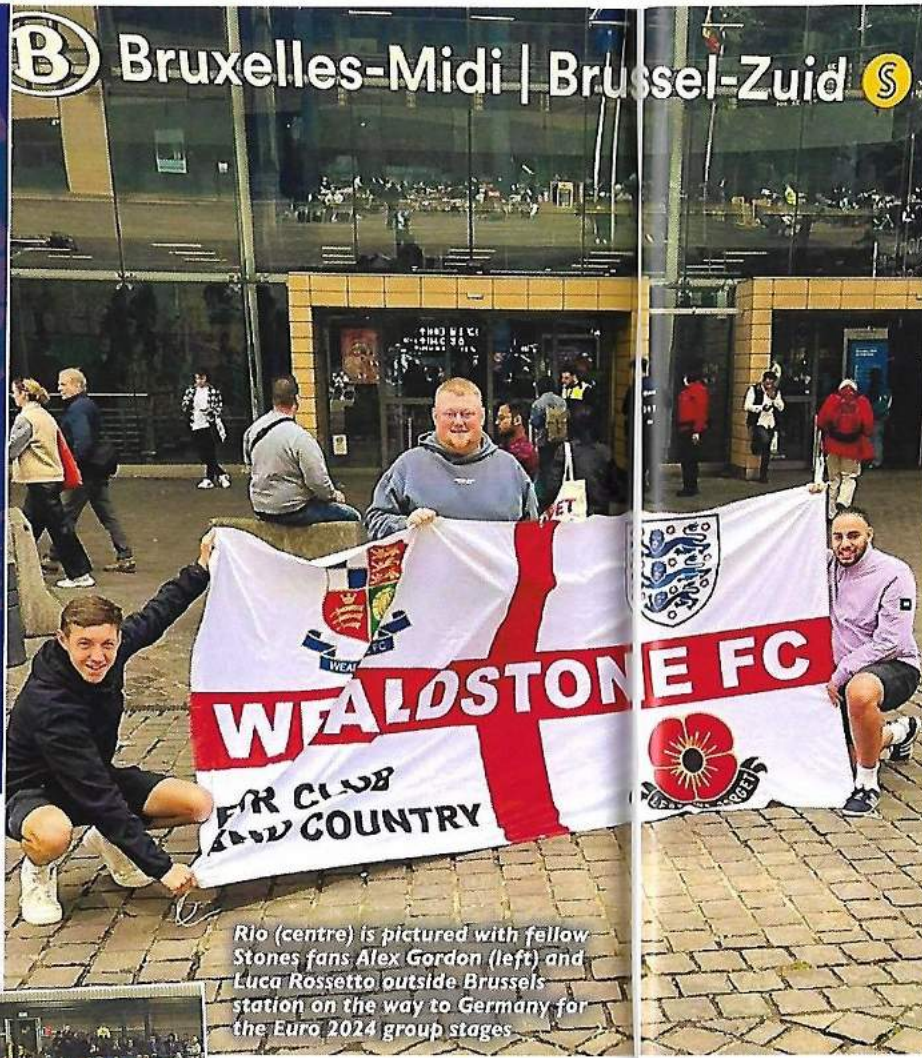
The Fan in the Stand ...AND NOW IT'S THE

TURN OF RIO BEARE TO COME UNDER THE STONES SPOTLIGHT

'My very first Stones game was the day after my family moved from Dorset to Ruislip! We drew 2-2 with Aldershot and it was an instant hook to learn more about the club'

Your name and age? My name is Rio Beare (pronounced beer), I'm 22 years old. **Whereabouts do you live, Rio?** I'm currently living in Ruislip, near-on neighbouring the Vale. I spent the first 18 years of my life growing up in Poole (down south in Dorset for those unaware) meaning I'm a newcomer to the Stones compared to most! I went to see Poole Town a couple of times but never really found a love for it - I stuck with following West Ham in my school days. My dad Mike has been going to West Ham from Dorset since he was a young lad and obviously the more I grew up the more he'd take me up there. However since finding a love for Wealdstone it's brought back the feeling of football how I remembered it growing up, away from the money/customer value of Premier League clubs nowadays.

When was your first Stones game? My first-ever game was home to Aldershot in 2021 which was the day after my family moved to Ruislip! I didn't



Rio (centre) is pictured with fellow Stones fans Alex Gordon (left) and Luca Rossetto outside Brussels station on the way to Germany for the Euro 2024 group stages



The flag is prominent at Rio's first away trip, to Dover

know the Stones played in Ruislip until we were due to move house... and I saw on the map it was about a 2 min walk away from where we were going! The Aldershot game ended 2-2 and instantly I was hooked to learn more about the club. Then around a month later and after seeing a couple more home games, something told me it was a good idea to go to Dover away on the coach on a Tuesday night. The game ended 3-2 to the Stones (pictured thanking the fans, above) and the away support stuck with me forever - I met friends as mad for football as myself. That was the moment I

knew I was hooked... although I wish someone told me away wins like that were rare to see! haha.

Do you follow any other team? Obviously I have always been a West Ham fan since I was a little boy (due to family) so my first game I probably remember going to was Southampton away in 2012 when I was 10 years old.

What's the most memorable game you've EVER seen?

I've been lucky to attend some brilliant matches watching football at my age, such as West Ham winning a European Cup and England losing two European finals ... I travelled out to Prague for the European final which is just about is my favourite ever day so far. but in terms of Wealdstone my favourite game in these last two or three years has just got to be the 3-2 win last season over Barnet with that last-minute winner. It was one of those moments you always dream of happening and on the day it just all fell into place.

Do you prefer this level of football over the EFL/ Premier

League? I think the biggest factor that draws me nowadays to this level of football (especially at Wealdstone) is knowing and seeing people go above and beyond for this club, alongside working normal jobs day in day out to keep this club ticking over. Nobody is here for the money side of things and when

you get these moments against Barnet and staying in the division each year it makes you realise how special non league football is.

Who introduced you to the Stones?

It was actually Alex Gordon I first met out of our friendship group now - I think probably because of the flag (as seen in the picture) which was when I met him at Dover away. We kept in touch throughout the season in and out but we all really met as a group the pre season of the 2022/23.

How do you fit watching football in with your family/working life? Since finishing education I've always worked in the construction industry down south which makes it relatively easy to follow the Stones on weekends, however trying to explain to people why I've got to leave at midday to make it to Rochdale for a 7:45pm kick off on a Tuesday evening can sometimes be tricky...

In terms of family I've even managed to persuade my old man to have a season ticket for the last two seasons.... if someone told me before we moved he'd give up having one at West Ham for Wealdstone I would've never believed it. Although he's not quite come to terms with the 6hr round trips on Tuesday nights yet! We actually both work together and we had a job funnily enough in Ruislip for our old company, which is how we found out about the area and Wealdstone FC. **Who are the best Wealdstone players you've ever seen? Could you name your best-ever Stones side?** Now, my best-ever Stones XI certainly won't be as impressive as most fans you have feature before but I'll give it my best effort...

GK: Wickens; RB: Nikl Tavares; CBs: Connor Stevens and Jack Cook; LB: Jaydn Mundle-Smith; RM: Max Kretzschmar; CMs: Ashley Charles and Alex Dyer; LM: Tarryn Allarakhia; STs: Rhys Browne and Josh Umerah. Some dubious positions I'll admit!

Do you think Stones can aspire to playing in the EFL? Every Stones fan would dream of being in the EFL but I think it's always got to come at the right moment. At the minute I think just staying put and doing what we've been doing the last few years is more than acceptable. When you look at the squads and budgets of probably now a good 70% of the league it's not even in the same world as what we can match so some of the achievements in the past seasons have been just brilliant.

The club is in the right hands to keep progressing and I think everyone is on the same page from top to bottom which is exactly what's needed.

"Something told me it was a good idea to go to Dover away on the coach on a Tuesday night. The game ended 3-2 to the Stones and the away support stuck with me forever - I met friends as just mad for football as myself"



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THE No.10 VIEW: MAX KRETZSCHMAR TAKES IT TO THE M₃ A₁ X₈

HELLO and welcome back to The Vale for our first of many (fingers crossed) games in this year's FA Cup.

The 'magic of the cup' lives on further down the footballing pyramid that's for sure. No doubt both sets of fans today will agree with me on that, as we are often surrounded these days with talk of 'squad rotation' and 'league priority' when the Premier League big boys arrive in the third round.

In my two years at Wealdstone, both seasons we were dealt tough away draws against National League play-off teams in Boreham Wood and Bromley. Both fixtures were full of goals and on both occasions we went home knowing we had to watch the draw on Monday with no chance of seeing our name pop out of the hat. A home draw this time was warmly received by the players and fans - and of course we know that we will be favourites to advance today.

But as anyone aware of the notoriety of the FA Cup - even just a little bit - will know that this cup competition is famous for its upsets. Gosport Borough have already seen off Oxford City this year so we will treat them with the respect they deserve. We will have to play well to win and certainly be more productive in front of goal than we've been in recent weeks.

I think this today comes as a nice distraction from the league and is an opportunity for players to lay down their markers for the season and treat this as a springboard for our season turnaround.

Although the league table suggests otherwise, there are so many positives to take from our opening quarter of the season. I'd say we've played well in all but two games and possibly yet haven't recorded the wins and points which we may should've had.

I don't want us to be a team that plays lovely, possession based, attractive football team who lose more often than not when playing well. It's probably more infuriating playing like this and losing than playing terribly and losing. A message that has been continuously being drummed into us this season is that we must



The joy of a Stones goal.. more today please! Pic: JON TAFEL

'The harder you work, the luckier you get' must be our FA Cup mantra today

get better in both boxes, especially the opposition's box. It's no use being nice and tidy in between the boxes and sloppy in the 18-yard zones. That's where games are won and cup heroes are made.

Another positive is that we have big players returning to the squad now or very soon. I'm excited to play with Craig Eastmond, a vastly experienced midfielder who oozed quality and combativeness in pre season before he injured his groin.

Moreover, I will be very pleased to see Sean Adarkwa return whenever that is. I think it has been clear we've missed his pace, power and hold up play. Not to mention his goals too. Sean is the epitome of the group of lads we have in the changing room. Hardworking, honest and respectful.

It should be known that the changing room is as strong and lively as ever.

Negative results can easily affect the mood of the dressing room but this simply isn't the case at our Brunel Sports Park base. The analysis of our games is detailed. The match preparation is good and training standards are strong. So in these types of periods it is vital you just get hungrier and work harder as a player. It's the best way. "The harder you work, the luckier you get."

Let's stick together and get into that hat on Monday.

Don't miss my revealing vlog >>> [youtube.com/@maxtalksfootball](https://www.youtube.com/@maxtalksfootball)



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ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT GOSPORT BOROUGH THE BORO"

Today's opposition in focus

Gosport Borough Athletic Club as the club were originally known, were formed just two weeks after D-Day in the summer of 1944.

Despite winning the Hampshire League at their first attempt in 1945/46, dropping "Athletic" in the 1960s, and over the decades being a major force in county football, silverware was rare at Privett Park and the title was not realised again until back-to-back titles in 1976/77 and 1977/78.

The two Hampshire League titles led to a successful application to join Southern League for 1978/79 and a period of 14 seasons in the (then) upper echelons of the non-league game began.

After four seasons at the top end of the Southern League's Southern Division, promotion was won to the Premier Division for 1982/83 - at the time an equivalent level to the later Conference South.

Boro spent seven seasons in the Premier Division before relegation in season 1989/90.

Despite surviving the following season, Gosport finished bottom in 1991/92 and were relegated back to county football (Wessex League).

The club competed for a couple of seasons and did lift the Wessex League Cup in 1993 but with the Club struggling for money, Chairman Ian Hay set up a trustee scheme which kept the club alive through their darkest days, helping to support the club with fans providing regular income.

At the start of the century, things started to turn for the better at The Boro.

Reserve team manager Mick Marsh was put in charge of the 1st XI and with the Club emerging from their financial difficulties, a return to the Southern League was back on the agenda. Marsh chased the dream for five seasons, finishing in the top four on four occasions before he retired in 2005.

Under manager Alex Pike, Boro won the Wessex League title on goal difference in Pike's first



season (2006/07).

With the club back in the Southern League in 2007/08, it wasn't until season 2011/12 that success came when Boro achieved third spot and a play-off place, winning the Play-Off Final after a Steve Claridge strike sent the game to extra time. Two goals without reply in the additional 30 minutes saw Boro promoted back to the Southern League Premier Division.

In season 2012/13, Pike's men enjoyed FA Cup success as a precursor to an unbeaten run of 23 games which lifted Boro

into a play-off place.

Boro saw off second placed Stourbridge in the semi, before beating Hemel Hempstead Town 2-0 in the final only to concede two late goals before winning promotion on penalties.

So the board's planned rise from county football to Conference South was complete and Gosport started 2013/14 again looking to establish themselves at a new level.

Like the season before, Boro struggled to find their feet at the new level and after flirting with the relegation zone for much of the season, it took another cup run to gain the belief needed to lift the team clear of danger.

An FA Trophy run which started in November, ended with The Boro playing beneath the Wembley Arch in a final against Cambridge United in front of over 18,000. The result saw United run out 4-0 winners, but the belief that flowed through the squad as a result of the Trophy run put Gosport back on track and lifted them into a comfortable mid-table league place.

The club were able to plough the financial windfall from the FA Trophy run back into the infrastructure at Privett Park. During the summer of 2014, a number of improvements were made including the installation of a new hospitality suite/club office building and a state-of-the-art pitch irrigation system.

A solid start to the 2014/15 league season saw Boro well placed in the league. The confidence gained from the league campaign helped the club finally make the First Round Proper of the FA Cup for the first time.



GOSPORT BOROUGH'S 4,500 CAPACITY PRIVETT PARK

Boro hosted Colchester United of League One in a tie that attracted over 2,000. Gosport acquitted themselves well in a memorable match, but ultimately lost to the Football League side 6-3.

Boro were well placed for a play-off place until a little wobble in March saw them drop just too far off the pace - eventually finishing sixth. But the club did have the consolation of lifting the Hampshire Senior Cup for the first time since 1988 and seeing Justin Bennett pick up the award for the Conference South's leading goal-scorer.

The 2015-16 season got off to a good start, with the club pushing into play-off contention from the off. But as the New Year came, the club were hit with financial problems.

But the campaign did at least end on a high with a 2-1 win against AFC Portchester in the Russell Coates Cup Final, with talismanic striker Justin Bennett recording his 262nd and 263rd goals for Gosport.

In 2016-17 Boro were relegated to the Southern League Premier Division and former Portsmouth FC Chairman Iain McInnes took control of the club in the following autumn. After a couple of narrow relegation escapes, the club consolidated under Lee Molyneux in the 2019-20 season, but the pandemic put an outside hope of a late play-off run to bed and the club parted company with Lee in June 2020.

For the 2021-22 season Shaun Gale is the club's head coach, assisted by Ben Kneller and with the highly experienced Graham Rix as first team coach.

At the end of the 22/23 season Pat Suraci and Joe Lea were appointed head coaches and asked to take the Club forward achieving a play off position at the

OUR RECORD AGAINST GOSPORT
P12 W6 D4 L2 F20 A10 GD +10

LAST MEETINGS

SAT 22ND OCT 2016 NLS- W 3-1 (A)
SAT 4TH MAR 2017 NLS W 2-1 (H)

end of the 23/24 season.

Boro's principal honours are:

1945-46 Hampshire League Winners
1969-70 Russell Coates Winners
1976-77 Hampshire League Winners
1977-78 Hampshire League Winners
1977-78 South West Counties Cup Winners
1987-88 Hampshire Senior Cup Winners
1992-93 Wessex League Cup Winners
2005-06 Russell Coates Cup Winners
2006-07 Wessex League Champions
2011-12 Southern Div One Play Off Winners
2012-13 Southern Premier Play Off Winners
2012-13 Russell Coates Cup Winners
2013-14 FA Trophy Runners Up
2014-15 Hampshire Senior Cup Winners
2015-16 Russell Coates Cup Winners
2021-22 Portsmouth Senior Cup Winners

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IT'S A BIG SUPPORTERS CLUB WELCOME TO ALL FANS HERE TODAY



**46 years since we last
made the Third Round...
maybe this is the season
to make some memories**

BY TERRY HISSEY



HELLO and good afternoon to all from Gosport Borough FC, and in particular their fans.

I hope you enjoy your afternoon at the Vale (I know that Gosport filled a supporters' coach within hours of the draw being made) and have a safe journey back to the south coast.

Today we can take our minds off the stress of our lowly League position and focus on the Football Association Challenge Cup.

This is the world's oldest football competition and respected all over the globe. It would be great to reach the Third Round Proper to give today's generation of fans something to tell their grandchildren in years to come.

Our solitary 3rd Rd appearance in 1978 (right) is a very long time ago now... Of course, thanks to our League status we enter at an advanced stage, but for some clubs this would be their sixth FA Cup game, having entered the Extra Preliminary Round which was played on the 3rd of August.

I would love to progress and to be drawn at a home on Saturday 2 November 2024 so we

can hold our annual Remembrance ceremony too. Watch this space...

Your Supporters Club Committee continue to discuss plans and ideas, almost on a daily basis via the medium of WhatsApp. There is lots of debate and consensus of opinion which is a healthy aspect. We are always looking forward to new ideas and thank you those who contributed to our requests for the proposed 125th Anniversary event.

Military duties have meant that I missed the Southend game and I'm now writing this from RAF Wittering near Peterborough. Although the Barnet game did not bring the result we wanted, the support of the 50-50 Draw was fantastic!

We had a record prize of £380 - and a special mention to Lottie Randall who sold over £300 worth. But a big thanks to all of those who regularly give up their time to sell tickets, and often miss seeing part of the match

while counting the monies collected and folding up tickets for the draw.

Electromantics next
SALES for the next music fundraiser are going well so if you want to see 'Electromantics' perform their renowned 1980s Electronic and New Wave set (they are top drawer), then please contact James on 07979 795414 and he can sell you an advance ticket for Saturday 26th October at £17.

This rises to £19 on the door so be quick. James is also selling tickets for our Xmas disco as well, to be held on Saturday 23rd November priced at £10 in advance and £12.50 on the door. Doors open from 8 o'clock and all attendees get a free party hat.

Half-price membership!
THIS month the Supporters Club are running a promotion. Please collect a form from myself or Adam Edwards in the Megastore and hand over with £20 for LIFE membership! That is 50 %

off the normal rate and annual membership is still available at £10. Forms can be downloaded from the SC website or posted if needed. Do spread the word.
Up the Stones!
Terry



Who's who for the visitors

MAX EVANS - Goalkeeper

Previous Clubs: Oxford United, Yeovil Town, Frome Town (Loan), Larkhill Athletic (Loan), Bedford Town (Loan), Hungerford Town (Loan), Poole Town joined the Boro in summer 2024 from Poole Town and has made an impressive start to his Boro career. Commanding goalkeeper.

RYAN GOSNEY- Goalkeeper

Previous Clubs: Salisbury, Sholing, Winchester City, Folland Sports Signed in September on loan for the 2024/25 season from Conference South side Salisbury. Having previously made over 400 appearances for Sholing.

CALLUM SMART- Goalkeeper

Previous Clubs: Alresford Town Young goalkeeper who joined the Boro in early 22/23 from Wessex League Alresford Town. Callum joined Fleet Town on loan after Christmas 22 and spent time at Ipswich Town at the end of the 22/23 season.

HARRY KAVANAGH- Defence

Harry Kavanagh was released by Portsmouth FC in the summer of 22, but the then head coach Shaun Gale moved quickly to persuade the mobile defender to continue his career development at Gosport. He knows Privett Park well, having spent the start of the 2020-21 season on loan at the club.

RORY WILLIAMS- Defence

Previous Clubs: Havant & Waterlooville, Andover, GE Hamble Pacey left-back Rory Williams started his footballing life in the Boro' youth ranks, before departing the club in 2011. He was re-signed part-way through the 2012/2013 campaign and instantly struck up a fine strike partnership with Dan Wooden. The pair fired Boro' to Conference South promotion and Rory went on to feature in the FA Trophy final at Wembley in 2014. He departed Gosport for Havant & Waterlooville in 2016, starring for the Hawks' as they won back-to-back promotions. Just after



1st Team Coach
PAT SURACI

signing a new deal at Westleigh Park, he moved to Conference South side Dorking Wanderers in 2019, staying just a few weeks before returning home to Privett Park. Awarded a Testimonial this season by the Club.

HARRY LEE- Defence

Joined in August 2024, on six month loan from premier League Brighton & Hove Albion. England Junior International who is a regular starter in Brighton U21s

JOE MORRISON- Defence

Previous Clubs: Woking, Egham Town, Walton Casuals, Hartley Wintney, Beaconsfield

Town.

Joined the Borough in October 2023 from Beaconsfield Town, no nonsense centre half been outstanding since joining and has become a fans favourite at Privett Park.

CHARLIE WASSMER- Defence

Previous Clubs: Crawley Town, Cambridge United, Margate, Maidenhead United, Hampton & Richmond Borough, Woking & Hayes & Yeading United. Joined the Boro at the end of 22/23 for a loan period from Hayes and Yeading United. After moving to the south coast in the Summer signed a contract at Privett Park in June 23.

PAUL AGBESEYI - Defence

Previous Clubs: Bromley, Petersfield Town (Loan) Joined Gosport in 2021 from Bromley, loaned out to Petersfield Town in the Wessex League for a couple of seasons. Paul has now rejoined the squad after two impressive seasons for The Rams.

RICHARD MCINTYRE- Defence

Previous Clubs: Oxford United, Salisbury (Loan) Richard joined Gosport in August 24 on loan from Oxford United. Made is Football League debut again AFC Wimbledon last season before being on the bench for Salisbury in our playoff Semi Final.

FINLAY WALSH-SMITH Defence

Previous Clubs: Horndean (Loan) Product of the Club Academy and Youth Team. Broke into the 1st team two years ago. Last season went on loan to Horndean before returning to finish

the season well for the Boro.

HENRY SEARLE- Defence/Midfield

UI8s Captain who has forced is way into the 1st Team squad after so very impressive pre season displays. Captaining the UI8s last season to a unbeaten League season.

ZAK SHARP - Defence

Previous Clubs: Gosport Borough, Moneyfields, AFC Portchester, Baffins Milton Rovers, Petersfield Town.

Rejoined the boro in July 23 from Petersfield Town after helping them to promotion to The Wessex Preimer League

BRAD TARBUCK- Midfield

Previous Clubs: Portsmouth, Dartford, Dorchester Town, Havant & Waterlooville, Weymouth Tricky winger Bradley Tarbuck began his career at Portsmouth, making his two appearances for his boyhood club and also enjoying a loan spell at National League Dartford. He was released by Pompey in May 2015, signing for Dorchester Town shortly after. Havant & Waterlooville then snapped him up in 2016, with Bradley playing as both a wing-back and advanced wideman as the Hawks won back-to-back promotions. He found first team opportunities hard to come by during the 2019/2020 campaign, signing for Gosport shortly after his release in the summer of 2021

DANNY HOLLANDS- Midfield

Previous Clubs: Chelsea, AFC Bournemouth, Charlton Athletic, Portsmouth, Crewe, Eastleigh. Signed in July 22 from Conference side Eastleigh. over 500 Football League appearances tough but measured midfielder. Won the Football League Division 1 with Charlton Athletic.

ASHER YEARWOOD- Midfield

Previous Clubs: Thame United, Risborough Rangers, Beaconsfield Town.

Joined in July 24 from Beaconsfield Town, already become a fans favourite scoring against Portsmouth in pre-season. Box to box midfield player.

CAMERON MURRAY- Midfield

Previous Clubs: Leeds United, Bradford City, Weymouth, Dorchester Town, Poole Town. A talented and industrious central midfielder, Once on the books at Yorkshire giants Leeds United and Bradford City, Halifax-born Murray moved south in 2018.



BRAD TARBUCK

JAKE COPE - Midfield

Previous Clubs: AFC Bournemouth, Gosport Borough (Loan), Poole Town, Bognor Regis Town, Sholing. Rejoined Gosport Borough in February 2024 from Sholing. Attacking midfielder player with a eye for a goal.

KIAN TOWSE- Forward

Product of The Boro Academy and UI8b side who has forced his way into the first team squad after some impressive Cup performances last season and a good preaseanon.

DAN WOODEN - Forward

York Previous Clubs: Moneyfields, AFC Portchester Gosport legend Dan Wooden first joined the club all the way back in 2010 after impressing coach Tony Stares during his time at Moneyfields. Operating as a left winger or striker, Woody helped the Boro to back-to-back promotions from the Southern League Division One South & West to the Conference South - both via the playoffs. The success kept on coming with Dan featuring in the 2014 FA Trophy final at Wembley and in an FA Cup First Round tie against Colchester United. After a fruitful spell, he re joined Moneys in 2017 before moving to AFC Portchester, where he reunited with former Boro' boss Mike Catlin. Wooden finally returned home to Privett Park in 2021, much to the delight of fans. Awarded a testimonial this season by the Club.

ALFIE STANLEY- Forward

Previous Clubs: Portsmouth, Bognor Regis Town (Loan), Dorchester Town, AFC Totton Joined the Boro in early 2024 scoring vital goals in our play off push last season. Alfie progressed through Pompey's youth categories after joining the club at the age of 6.

DANNY ROWE- Forward

Previous Clubs: Leicester City, QPR, Braintree, Oxford City, Hanwell Town, Hampton & Richmond, Basingstoke Town

Talented Forward who joined the Boro in the summer. Danny has scored goals at every level on non league football.

SAMUEL (AYO) FANIYAN- Forward

Previous Clubs: Reading, Hertford Town, Tooting & Mitcham, Hayes & Yeading United

Nigeria born striker or winger. Joined the Boro from Hayes in the summer where he finished top scorer last season.

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FACTS TO MAKE YOU THINK.. **STAT ATTACK**



BY ADAM HILLS
AS manager Matt Taylor delivered his honest assessment of Wealdstone's precarious league position following another narrow (but didn't score) defeat to Gateshead last weekend, he alluded to today's FA Cup game as being a welcome distraction from the rigours of the league campaign.

He also referenced the troubles that Wealdstone have had in recent seasons in the FA Cup and most Stones fans will know that our relationship with England's premier cup competition is a fractious one at best. Indeed, just 12 months ago, then-manager Stuart Maynard made a tongue-in-cheek comment on the *StonesCast* about the upcoming fixture against Bromley in the FA Cup (pictured above) as being 'Wealdstone's annual FA Cup fixture'.

Indeed, you have to go back to October 2019 for the last time Wealdstone tasted success in an FA Cup game, that being a 4-0 win in a third qualifying round replay

against plucky Southern League Division One (South) side Bristol Manor Farm. Since then, of course after promotion that same season we have since entered the FA Cup in the final (4th) qualifying round, and it's been nothing but anguish and heartbreak. In 2020, Wealdstone were soundly beaten by Southern League side Hayes & Yeading (then managed by our assistant manager Paul Hughes) in a dreadful behind-closed-doors game at The Vale. The gloom has continued in the 2020s as for the last three seasons, we've found ourselves drawn against the highest ranked (southern-based) National League side. In 2021 we conspired to turn a 1-0, 87th minute lead against 10-man Dag & Red into a 1-2 defeat and then slow-starts

Welcome to what Stu Maynard called 'our annual FA Cup fixture'!



have cost us in the last two seasons with 3-5 and 2-3 reversals to Boreham Wood and Bromley respectively. At least the draw has been kinder this time... but guess what? Wealdstone fans know only too well what it feels like to be on the end of a 'giant-killing'. More of that in a moment!

I looked back at Wealdstone's overall performance in the FA Cup since the non-league restructuring at the end of the 2003/04 season - that pivotal season where we won 'promotion' at Dulwich Hamlet. Our record during that 20 year period (left) includes those oh-so-rare forays (both of them!) into the competition proper when we we lost to Rotherham (then League Two) and Colchester (League One) at The Vale.

Ptd	55
W	27
D	9
L	19
F	116
A	77

We're often the slain giants..and not giant killed for 15 years

Season	Round	Opponent	Oppo League (Level)	Venue	Score
2005/06	3Q	Burnham	Southern West (-1)	Home	2-4
2006/07	1Q	Potters Bar Town	Isthmian One North (-1)	Away	1-2
2010/11	3Q	Met Police	Isthmian One South (-1)	Home	1-2
2011/12	1Q	Beaconsfield SYCOB	Southern One Central (-1)	Home	0-2
2017/18	3Q	Burgess Hill Town	Isthmian Premier (-1)	Away	0-1
2020/21	4Q	Hayes & Yeading Utd	Southern Premier South (-2)	Home	0-2

SO, back to giant-killing and Stones have been dumped out of the FA Cup a whopping six times over the last 19 seasons by a side from a lower level.

There are some epic failings in that list (see above) and a few of them were met with 'much chagrin' from Stones fans at the final whistle. So while many welcomed the draw against Gosport Borough (two levels below), they will not be taking today's result for granted. On the plus side, our overall record against teams two (or more) levels below is reasonable with 10 wins and 2 draws from thirteen ties during that same period. For many reasons, Wealdstone will be desperate for a result today and the opportunity for a money-spinning crack at one of

the League One big guns like Birmingham City, Bolton Wanderers or Charlton Athletic. However, it's been a while since Wealdstone recorded their own 'giant killing' - you have to go back to 2009/10 season when we beat (a desperately struggling) Lewes of the National League South 3-0 at The Vale. Prior to that there was a 1-0 win over Bishop's Stortford in 2007/08 and, for those who were around in the Edgware days, a brilliant 3-1 win over well-monied and high-flying Grays Athletic side, one that included a certain Dean Brennan in their line up that day. It was the likes of Hector Valdez and Norbert Michnowicz's finest moments in a Stones shirt. This would be a great time to end that barren run!





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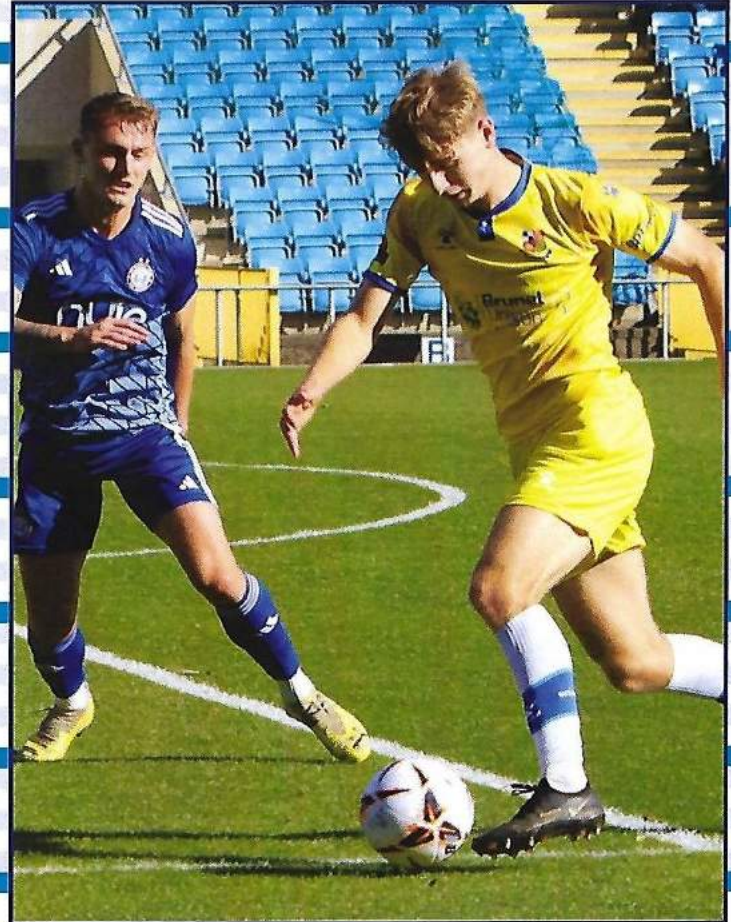
FIRST TEAM RESULTS & FIXTURES 2024-2025

Month	Comp	Score	Att	(Away)	Le	Goal scorers
AUGUST						
10 Dagenham and Redbridge	VNL	1-2	1,523	215	16	Ashford
17 OLDHAM ATHLETIC	VNL	0-1	1,825	517	19	
20 SUTTON UNITED	VNL	0-1	1,566	310	21	
24 Hartlepool United	VNL	1-1	3,614	33	21	Obiero
26 AFC FYLDE	VNL	1-0	1,325	50	21	Sandat
31 Solihull Moors	VNL	1-1	948	180	20	(Own goal)
SEPTEMBER						
7 YORK CITY	VNL	0-2	1,904	427	22	
10 Woking	VNL	0-1	2,125	127	21	
14 Forest Green Rovers	VNL	2-2	2,265	200	21	McFarlane (2)
21 BARNET	VNL	0-3	2,590	TBD	22	
24 SOUTHEND UNITED	VNL	1-1	1,947	746	23	McFarlane
28 FC Halifax Town	VNL	2-2	1,442	97	23	Ashford (pen), Obiero
OCTOBER						
5 Gateshead	VNL					
12 GOSPORT BOROUGH	FAC40					
19 YEOVIL TOWN	VNL					
22 BRAINTREE TOWN	VNL					
26 Ebbsfleet United	VNL					
NOVEMBER						
5 FULHAM U21s	NLC					
9 Aldershot Town	VNL					
12 SOUTHAMPTON U21s	VNL					
16 ROCHDALE	VNL					
23 Eastleigh	VNL					
26 TAMWORTH	VNL					
30 ALTRINCHAM	VNL					
DECEMBER						
3 DERBY COUNTY U21s	NLC					
7 YET TO BE DRAWN	FATR3					
14 Oldham Athletic	VNL					
21 DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE	VNL					
26 Maidenhead United	VNL					
JANUARY						
1 BOSTON UNITED	VNL					
11 Altrincham	VNL					
14 Sutton United	VNL					
18 HARTLEPOOL UNITED	VNL					
21 BRIGHTON & HOVE A U21s	NLC					
25 AFC Fylde	VNL					
FEBRUARY						
1 SOLIHULL MOORS	VNL					
8 GATESHEAD	VNL					
15 Yeovil Town	VNL					
18 Braintree Town	VNL					
22 EBBSFLEET UNITED	VNL					
MARCH						
1 ALDERSHOT TOWN	VNL					
4 Tamworth	VNL					
8 Rochdale	VNL					
15 EASTLEIGH	VNL					
22 WOKING	VNL					
29 York City	VNL					
APRIL						
5 FOREST GREEN ROVERS	VNL					
12 Barnet	VNL					
18 Boston United	VNL					
21 MAIDENHEAD UNITED	VNL					
26 Southend United	VNL					
MAY						
5 FC HALIFAX TOWN	VNL					

Player	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Archie MATTHEWS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Jack COOK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Anthony GEORGIU	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Dean WOODMAN	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Alex DYER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Mason BARRETT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Enzio BOLDEWIJN	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Craig EASTMOND	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Sean ADARKWA	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Max KRETZSCHMAR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Todd MILLER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Jacob ADAMS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Micah OBIERO	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Elliott SIMMONS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Luke DREHER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Dominic HUTCHINSON	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Christian SCOTT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Adrian MARIAPPA	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Sam ASHFORD	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Kallum CESAY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Yacou TRAORE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Jaydn MUNDLE-SMITH	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Henry SANDAT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Jack WELLS-MORRISON	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Declan PHILLIPS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Elliott THORPE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Jahmar CLARKE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Callum MCFARLANE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Sam HOWES	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Brandon MASON	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32

KEY

- Starter
- 1st player off
- 2nd player off
- 3rd player off
- 4th player off
- 5th player off
- Substitute
- 1st on
- 2nd on
- 3rd on
- 4th on
- 5th on



Date in Red = MIDWEEK fixture
Picture from our recent battling draw up in Halifax courtesy of @RonnieRaffle

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Rio Rosenberg

BA (Hons) Football Business and Media student and Women's Content Creator at Chelsea FC



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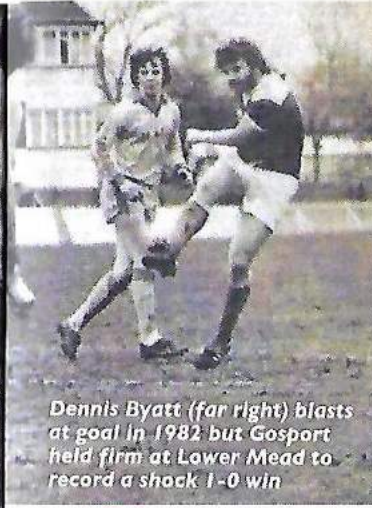
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We've met before...AND IT'S BEEN ALL DRAMA AND SURPRISES WHEN WE'VE PLAYED GOSPORT IN THE PAST

Soft penalties...a goal disallowed for a hole in the net...Gosport v Stones had it all



Dennis Byatt (far right) blasts at goal in 1982 but Gosport held firm at Lower Mead to record a shock 1-0 win

Sat 4 Mar 2017	Vanarama National League South Home	W 2 - 1	Wellard, Tajbaksh
Sat 22 Oct 2016	Vanarama National League South Away	W 3 - 1	Beryon (2), Whichelow
Mon 18 Jan 2016	Vanarama National League South Home	D 1 - 1	Hudson-Odoi
Sat 9 Jan 2016	Vanarama National League South Away	D 1 - 1	Louis (P)
Mon 16 Mar 2015	Vanarama Conference South Home	W 3 - 0	Bair, McGleish, Louis
Sat 16 Aug 2014	Vanarama Conference South Away	D 0 - 0	
Tue 13 Feb 1990	Beazer Homes League Premier Division Home	W 2 - 1	Kelly, Goyette (P)
Mon 11 Sep 1989	Beazer Homes League Premier Division Away	L 0 - 1	
Thu 20 Apr 1989	Beazer Homes League Premier Division Home	W 3 - 0	Wilkins 2, Risk
Tue 23 Aug 1988	Beazer Homes League Premier Division Away	D 2 - 2	Lynch 2
Thu 18 Mar 1982	Southern League Southern Division Away	W 3 - 1	Cordice A, Knowles, Bowgett
Sat 6 Mar 1982	Southern League Southern Division Home	L 0 - 1	

The First

IN TWELVE meetings with our Hampshire visitors today, the Stones have been beaten just twice.. and the first-ever clash in March 1982 was a notable 1-0 win for the Borough.

Stones were marching to the Southern League (South) title and had not lost at home for almost seven months, yet found themselves on the end of a shock defeat that almost derailed our progress. Hastings United - and Gosport themselves - were credible challengers and a blistering 25-yard volley from Tony Callaghan won the points.

Ten days later, however, Allen Batsford's side had their revenge with a 3-1 win at Privett Park that was riddled with drama. The good number of travelling Stones fans were aghast when the referee awarded Gosport a very soft penalty to put them back in the game at 2-1 down in the 75th minute, after Ray Knowles and Paul Bowgett had found the net in a commanding performance.

And then the ref compounded his incompetence by disallowing a 'goal' from Paul Waites after the ball found a hole in the net from his

Gosport flare-up

GOSPORT 1, WEALDSTONE 3

Controversy flared at Privett Park as Gosport's slim hopes of carrying off the Southern League title were shattered.

With 15 minutes left, Gosport seemed dead and buried at 2-0 down.

A short corner found Mark Foster, who was shrugged off the ball — and he must have been as surprised as anyone when the referee pointed to the spot.

The full-back himself took the kick, drilling the ball past former Football League veteran Ray Goddard.

That was the signal for the most hectic period of the game as Wealdstone hauled all 11 men back into defence to stave off Gosport's attacks.

And then came the most dramatic incident. Wealdstone broke forward and when the ball ran free Paul Waites hammered it home.

SWARMED

But the ball found a hole in the net and squirmed through — and the referee gave a goal kick.

Players swarmed around referee Pitman and furious Wealdstone fans invaded the pitch — but the referee would not change his mind.

In the relative calm of the clubhouse after the game, goalkeeper Tony Stares admitted: "Yes, it was a goal — but you don't admit it to the referee at the time, do you?"

hard, low shot. Surrounded by players and protesting misupporters, Mr Pitman refused to check the net or even the evidence of his own eyes! The local Gosport paper (left) reported the home goalkeeper Tony Stares as saying "It was a goal but you don't admit it to the referee at the time, do you?"

Alan Cordice broke away to hit a clinching third goal. Paul Waites is a keen Stones follower to this day, often turning up at the Vale and he reminded me of this incident a few years ago after Stones had conceded a ball-through-a-hole-in-the-net goal at Eastbourne Borough.

We were the aggrieved party again, with our keeper Jonathan North perplexed that the officials did not spot the illegal nature of the home team's late equaliser in a 1-1 draw.

"I was furious back in '82!" said Waites. "I didn't score many goals and it was so obvious that the ball had gone through the net... it wasn't even close to the post or anything!" BuBut

It was a sparkling finale to a game which largely bordered on the mundane. In an uneventful first period Ally Unitt and Andy Lowman missed good chances before Ray Knowles scored Wealdstone's opener. Centre-half Paul Bowgett nodded in the second, minutes after the restart.

Gosport: Stares, Dawson, Foster, Buckland, Mahoney, Callaghan, Frimby, Urnt, Lappago, Berrin, Lowman, Bob Stevens
Wealdstone: Goddard, Pevsley, Pearce, Byatt, Boney, Barwick, Walters, Vasswright, A. Condon, Davies, Knowles, Sub: N. Cordice
Referee: R. M. Pitman (Oxfordshire)

By COLIN CHANNON

The Last

THE most recent clash between the two sides came in March 2017 as Gosport were on their way to relegation from the NL South.

The Stones, under Gordon Bartlett's management for his final full season, ended the campaign strongly but this was a very patchy performance. Aaron Dawson put Borough ahead after just seven minutes and it took a wicked deflection of Ricky Wellard's 20-yarder - flicking off Charlie Wassmer - to level the scores. Our Turkish midfielder Aryan Tajbaksh (pictured right celebrating) then hit the net at the Turret End from Joe White's

clever through pass.. and it seemed Stones were set to fill their boots when Gosport had Tom Bird sent off for a rugby tackle on Tajbaksh after the break. But Stones were alarmingly off target as they attacked the Bulla Stand, Danny Green wasteful on two occasions and Wellard shooting high and wide a further three times. Yet the points were ours for a late charge at the play-offs, though fading away to finish eighth despite losing just once in the final 21 games.



The worst

2014 was probably Gosport's best-ever year, reaching the FA Trophy final against Cambridge United in May (though losing 4-0) and finishing the next season's National League South campaign just three points from the play-offs. That 2014-15 season saw a controversial clash with the Stones

at Privett Park... the game was level at 0-0 in the final minutes when Jack Mills' long throw (above) was flicked on and Scott McGleish volleyed acrobatically into the net (pictured left, above) to spark wild celebrations. But then the linesman had his flag raised for Mills putting one foot over the line. More Gosport controversy!



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TIM PARKS



PULLS OUT THE WFC HISTORY BOOKS FOR A DEEP

From Colchester to Bromley... all the joy and anguish of Stones in the 4th Qualifying Round



First with the news: the BBC TV gantry at Lower Mead in 1949

So near and yet so far... for non-League clubs such as ours, the final qualifying round of the FA Cup is a tantalising afternoon. Win, and the carrot of facing a League club is well and truly dangled. Lose, and, well.. that's not worth even contemplating is it? Here we chronicle Wealdstone FC's history at this do-or-die stage...

Saturday November 12, 1949: Wealdstone 1 Colchester U 0
HISTORY was made 75 years ago when the Stones - who had already been in existence for half a century - finally made it to the FA Cup First Round Proper on a glorious afternoon at Lower Mead.

But not only was club history being made. These were the early days of television and this match was shown live on BBC1 - only the second-ever such game, the first being our 1-0 win at Edgware Town in the previous round!

Ironically, supporter Lew Sheppard (who died recently in his

90s), was on National Service at the time of this epic encounter, based at Colchester Barracks of all places. But he remembered being able to watch the game live "on a screen the size of a postcard" in the army canteen, along with a hundred or so other squaddies.

Through the haze of embryonic TV they would have seen a tale of endless Colchester possession. The professional Southern League side were expected to win easily but once Bill Saunders had put the Stones ahead they became ever more desperate. The hero of the day was our keeper Danny Wiltshire, who was yet to concede a goal in four rounds of the cup - and he kept another clean sheet here with save after save and catch after catch to keep the 9,300 crowd

spellbound. They spilled onto the pitch at the end to acclaim the men in blue and white quarters. Colchester had beaten top-flight Huddersfield Town and Bradford the previous season but the boot was on the other foot at Lower Mead, and the next 48 hours, apparently, were spent in contemplation of the draw for the First Round.

Most were hoping for Watford or Notts County and their England centre-forward Tommy Lawton. But there was disappointment when our name was paired with the strong Third Division side Port Vale, the game to be played at Vale Park

Nevertheless, four coachloads of fans plus a special train laid on from Harrow & Wealdstone (fare 18s 9d - that's about 94p today) meant 500 Stones were cheering on the blues among the 15,300 crowd when the big day arrived.

It was another backs-to-the-wall display but in the end Vale centre-forward Pinchbeck scrambled in the winner - the only goal Danny Wiltshire conceded in the FA Cup that season. As the 23-year-old left the field the Vale fans crowded around and pleaded with his team mates "Leave us your goalkeeper Mister!"



The brilliant Danny Wiltshire saves from a dark-shirted Colchester forward

DELVE INTO THE AGONY AND ECSTASY OF THE 4TH QUAL ROUND...

Saturday November 10 1951: Tonbridge 2 Wealdstone 0
THIS was a great Wealdstone team, another historic Stones team as they finished this season winning the club's first-ever major title: The Athenian League Championship.

It was a powerful and interesting league with clubs like Bromley, Hendon, Enfield, Sutton, Barnet, Tooting and Cambridge City all in the mix, but our devastating forward line with two Polish amateur internationals Henryk Mikrut and Henryk Wegrzyk, and speedy winger Phil White finally won the day.

Long-term Stones fan Alan Couch maintained that this team was the best of the club's amateur days and that's quite an accolade for the boys of 51-52!

But the FA Cup ended in disappointment at the hands of Southern League Tonbridge. We had steamed through all the previous

rounds, smashing Slough 5-0 in the 3rd Qual Rd, but the trip to Kent was always going to be difficult.

Tonbridge had only lost to Norwich the previous season in the First Round by a dubious goal, and ended our hopes of further glory in front of a 4,200 crowd at the Angel Ground. Nothing Danny Wilshire could do about either goal. Tonbridge went out to Football league side Aldershot in the next round.

Saturday November 7 1953: Wealdstone 0 Headington Utd 3
THE STONES were in decline two years later - in fact we were to finish third-bottom of the Athenian League table - but earlier in the season had put together another decent FA Cup run only to be drawn against Southern League semi-pros Headington United (the fore-runners of Oxford United) in the final qualifying round.

The tie came just five days after a tough London Challenge Cup semi-

final at Highbury against Arsenal - the first time a Wealdstone side had played under floodlights.

There was no disgrace to lose that one 4-1 to a strong Gunners side featuring half a dozen of their First Division stars and Headington United were also formidable opponents. They were on their way to winning the Southern League title but suffered several early scares in a gung-ho

Wealdstone display in front of a 6,529 Lower Mead crowd. But unfortunately reserve striker Bristow, standing in for the injured Mikrut, missed two glorious chances and a grateful Headington scored through K. Smith, Middleton and the speedy winger Steel.

Just nine years later, after changing their name to Oxford United, the visitors were elected to the Football League in place of Accrington Stanley.

1965: Stones finally make it through

Saturday October 16, 1965: Wealdstone 2 Oxford City 0
TWELVE years had elapsed since the club's first-ever appearance in the First Round proper... and the Stones' prospects of making it again in the 1960s seemed remote after a series of frankly awful seasons.

Among them came exits at the hands of Barnet (9-0) and Enfield (5-1), and even little Hertford Town (1-0).

But when we got past Hertford again in the 1st Qualifying Round in 1965 (2-1), and then Harlow (5-1) the belief in coach Vinny Burgess's side seemed to blossom. The famous and extraordinary 6-5 win over Stevenage in the Third Qualifying Round at Lower Mead (after being 5-3 behind with 10 minutes to play) saw the Stones go into this final qualifier with a lot of confidence... and goals from Jim Cooley and Brian Allen saw us

into the First Round draw. Oxford City were fellow Isthmian Leaguers and a crowd of 2,900 roared the blues into the First Round draw.

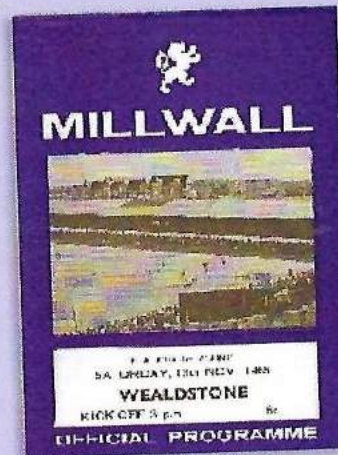
As with Port Vale in 1952, however, we couldn't have ended up with a tougher Football League side: Millwall, from the Third Division, who had the best home record in the whole league with 10 wins from 12 matches.

The Lions would go on to win a second successive promotion, but in the meantime Stones gave them a terrific fight at their old Cold Blow Lane ground after the home side had gone 2-0 ahead.

The 11,794 crowd were quietened when our centre-forward Cooley beat keeper Alex Stepney (later of Mn Utd and Chelsea) to make it 2-1 but Millwall added a third in the 82nd minute.

I remember fellow fan Ray Kemp telling me that the last thing he wanted was a Stones equaliser as the notorious Millwall supporters were circling our fans menacingly!

Continued over page >>>



INTO THE 1960S, 70s AND 80s AS GLORY AND DISGRACE WENT

First Round Proper, Saturday November 26th 1966:
Wealdstone 0 Nuneaton Boro 2
 A BIT of a strange one, this... the Stones were allowed to bypass ALL the qualifying rounds in 1966 as reward for winning the FA Amateur Cup the previous season - much as in 1985 when we stepped straight into the First Round after winning the Conference/FA Trophy double.

It was a huge compliment for the club, but unfortunately the draw was an unkind one as we were paired with possibly the best team outside the Football League.

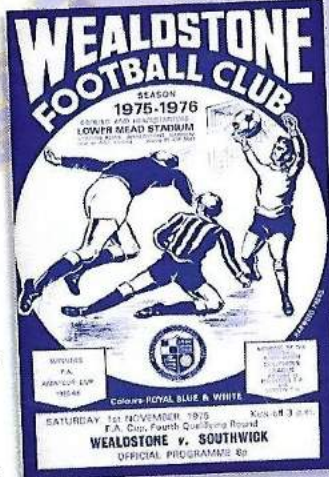
Nuneaton Borough had finished the previous season as Southern League runners-up to Romford, and their side was studded with ex-League pros from Aston Villa, Walsall and Port Vale.

Yet the Stones almost blew Nuneaton away in the first half, though, with our amateur-internationals Charlie Townsend and Hughie Lindsay pulling all the strings - but a bad injury to centre-back Mike Stanley upset the whole balance of the side. The Stones eventually succumbed to two late goals, and the Southern Leaguers went on to beat Swansea 2-0 in Round Two before going out of the Cup at Rotherham.

Saturday November 2nd 1968:
Slough Town 1 Wealdstone 1
 (Replay: Wealdstone 2 Slough 0)
 THIS was the year Stones fans were convinced they'd be reaching the Second Round Proper for the first time. After drawing with Athenian League champions Slough Town at the Dolphin Stadium in the 4th Qualifying Round, we went into the replay at Lower Mead four days later knowing the winners would be facing fellow Isthmians St Albans at home in the First Round.

Close to 3,000 were at both Slough games - Keith Searle scoring in the 1-1 draw, and then getting the

1975: Eddie Presland's side sparkle at Shots



Saturday November 1, 1975:
Wealdstone 3 Southwick 1
 THE AUTUMN of 1975 was perhaps my favourite time to be a Stones fan. My rose-tinted specs had us winning every week at home, even beating Bath City, spanking Gravesend 7-1, putting four past Oxford City, coming back from 3-1 down to win 5-3 at Woking.... did these things really happen? Well actually they did!

Eddie Presland's side had run up six successive home wins by the time we faced Sussex County League side Southwick at Lower Mead in the final qualifying round. If you could have chosen a team to play it would have had to be the Brighton-based side, especially at home where we were playing with joyful abandon. It was my seventh season watching the Stones and my dearest wish was to see us finally having

a decent Cup run, as we'd been depressingly giant-killed each and every season. And finally it happened!

Southwick's star player, midfielder Brian Powney, had made 400 appearances IN GOAL for Brighton & Hove Albion, that's how good they were, but we appeared pretty nervous until John Henderson beat their keeper gangly Chris Porter towards the end of the first half. George Duck and Bill Byrne wrapped it up, and even a Southwick consolation couldn't spoil the party as we finally made it to the First Round again.

The result was another monumentally tough away tie - at **Aldershot**, motoring along in Division Three (League One in today's money) - but our Stones threw caution to the wind to give Shots a real fright before bowing out 4-3.

vital first goal in the 2-0 replay win - and then all eyes turned to the visit of St Albans on November 16, the club's first-ever home game in the competition proper. But alas! In front of a 3,505 crowd, a Hughie Lindsay penalty wasn't enough to beat St Albans, who levelled late on to take the tie back to Clarence Park. By this time we knew the winners would face Third Division Walsall at home in Round Two... a huge incentive that drew over 5,000 to the replay, settled by a ferocious

Dave Neville freekick as St Albans went through 1-0.

Saturday November 1 1969:
Wealdstone 0 Enfield 1
 THIS single-goal defeat in front of a 2,850 Lower Mead crowd signalled the end of an era, according to coach Dave Underwood who claimed he 'lost the dressing room' after Ken Gray's second-half strike put the Isthmian League champions into the First Round. Underwood was gone

HAND IN HAND FOR OUR SOUTHERN LEAGUE & CONFERENCE LADS

within a few weeks, replaced by skipper Howard Moxon who fought (and failed) to halt the sudden exodus of our 'boot money' star players to the other leading lights of the late 1960s - notably Enfield and Wycombe Wanderers. The result was that the club's committee decided in the next year to quit the 'shamateurism' of the Isthmian League when they were invited to turn semi-pro and join the Southern League.

Saturday November 6 1976:
Wealdstone 3 Bishops Stortf'd 2
 DRAMA in the mud at Lower Mead, George Duck and winger John Arnold scoring the goals that put us into the First Round for a second successive season. But Arnold and full-back Alan Fursdon were sent off as we went out unluckily 1-0 at Reading in front of a 5,000 crowd, full back Lennie Prince 'freezing' on the goalline for the vital goal.

Saturday November 5, 1977:
Wealdstone 2 Maidstone Utd 1
 ANOTHER terrific afternoon at Lower Mead as we saw off Southern League Prem rivals Maidstone on a

stormy afternoon thanks to the predatory Duck. This, of course, was the season when we went all the way to the third round - gloriously beating Third Division Hereford United 3-2 in a replay at Edgar Street after a goalless draw at Lower Mead in the First Round (our first-ever home game against League opposition), and then seeing off Fourth Division Reading in front of a 7,000 crowd, again at Lower Mead. Then came QPR away in Round Three and an honourable 4-0 defeat in front of our biggest FA Cup crowd, 18,000.

Saturday November 4 1978:
Wealdstone 1 Kempston Rov 0
 STONES were a poor side just a year later, but we had a lucky draw against little Kempston and squeezed through. But mighty Enfield at home was a poor reward in Round One and we were embarrassed 5-0.

Saturday November 3 1979:
Wealdstone 1 Woking 0
 A GREAT win over Isthmian top dogs Woking thanks to Nigel Johnson's goal... and nearly glory as we took on Southend United at Lower

Mead only to lose unluckily 1-0.
Saturday November 1 1980:
Harlow 1 Wealdstone 1
 (replay: Wealdstone 0 Harlow 1)
 TRAGEDY as we went out to famous giantkillers Harlow in a replay, knowing that the winners would have a home tie with Div Three Charlton Athletic.

Saturday October 30 1982:
Wealdstone 3 Sutton Utd 1
 THIS brilliant Stones side brushed aside Sutton, but had a tough First Round draw at Swindon and went out 2-0 at the County Ground.

Saturday October 29 1983:
Wealdstone 1 Bishops Stortf'd 0
 ALAN Cordice's header saw us through in yet another 4th Qual battle with the Bishops... and then we got past Enfield in Round One after a replay. But then crashed 4-0 at Third Division Colchester.

Saturday October 25 1986:
Dagenham 0 Wealdstone 3
 FANTASTIC win set up home tie v. Swansea and an unlucky 1-1 draw - but Stones beaten 4-1 in the replay.

1987: Stones humbled by Midland League Tamworth

Saturday October 24 1987:
Tamworth 2 Wealdstone 0
 THIS crushing defeat 28 years ago was perhaps the most predictable giant-killing in FA Cup history. The Stones were in disarray under new boss Terry Bur-

ton and on our way to relegation from the Conference National having won just one game.

Tamworth were just beginning their climb up the pyramid and had won 12 of their previous 13 games in the Midland League... and there was the added distraction of a nasty, baying, firework-throwing crowd of over 2,000 in the Lamb ground to further unsettle the Stones.

Once Tamworth's Andy Maddocks had



Francisco Rivero (left), one of our few successes on the day, attempts to win this ball



Martin Hirst (centre) is out-muscled by the combative Tamworth midfield

beaten Alex Welsh with a tremendous volley after 20 minutes there was only one winner... and it certainly wasn't the toothless Stones. A grim, dark and frightening day.
Continued overpage>>>

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INTO THE NOUGHTIES AND UPS AND DOWNS CONTINUE... A GREAT

Saturday October 30 2004:
Wealdstone 0 Histon 2

'DAYLIGHT ROBBERY' and 'smash and grab' were two of the more polite descriptions flying around after we had been beaten at the White Lion ground by Southern Prem high-flyers Histon in this final qualifier.

It was particularly galling as we had buried Banbury United (3-1) and Conference South sides Boreham Wood (5-1) and Grays (3-1) in previous rounds with Marvin Morgan netting in each game - and then missing a gilt-edged hat-trick against Histon. And it turned out to be his last game for the Stones, signing for Yeading the very next week!

One of his misses, hitting a prone defender on the line with the goal gaping, was pure farce. And Histon's chunky keeper Lance Key proved an unbeatable obstacle every time we bore down on goal. The Stones were brilliant in that first half in every respect (apart from goalscoring) and it should have been four or 5-0 as the teams turned around ... but, of course, when the Cambridgeshire side created two second half chances they scored from both. Kennedy and Ian Cambridge got the goals that put them into a home first-round moneyspinner with Shrewsbury, whom they duly beat. Grrrrr....

Saturday Oct 27, 2007: Hampton & Richmond Bor 1 Wealdstone 0
STONES were playing in the final qualifying round for the first time in 3 years and Gordon Bartlett's Ryman Premier Division strugglers came within 60 seconds minutes of forcing a replay against the Conf South leaders.

A revamped midfield of James Gray, Ryan Ashe and Lee O'Leary neutralised Hampton's dangerous Elliott Godfrey (yes, our Ells!), Glenn Hodges and former Stone Lawrence Yaku.... but after Ashe had hit the bar in the first half, Hampton turned the screw and our keeper Sean Thomas excelled with a series of heart-in-mouth stops. But he was finally beaten by substitute Glenn Harris's 89th-minute header. Bravehearts all.

2009: Drama in deepest Bucks..



Saturday October 24 2009: Aylesbury 2 Wealdstone 4
TWO GOALS behind after just 11 minutes, this looked like being a classic Wealdstone let-down in front of 450 travelling fans in Aylesbury's picturesque ground.

Stones looked stricken by nerves as Gareth Price, from 20 yards, and then a Craig Henney penalty - after Alan Massey had horribly mistimed his challenge on Dean Brennan - gave the Moles a decisive early lead. But slowly and surely, we gained a midfield foothold and Greg Ngoyi (above) put us back in the game

with a blistering shot into the roof of the net before the break.

Roared on by the fans, Ryan Ashe scuffed in an equaliser and Aylesbury were wilting under mounting pressure... and finally cracked when Keiron Forbes set off on a trademark 40-yard run, slaloming through tackles and slotting the ball past home keeper Steve Smith. There was a mini-disaster when Ngoyi was sent off for raising his hands in an incident with ex-Stone Mark Joyce, but the ten men wrapped it up when Ashe hit his second as the home defence capitulated.

The win brought a home draw against League One high-flyers Rotherham United, of course - and the loss of Ngoyi might have proved crucial as our only goal threat came from midfield, Ashe's double so nearly forcing a replay with the Yorkshire side.

Pictured left: Keiron Forbes celebrates



DAY AT AYLESBURY IS REWARDED WITH A HOME TIE v ROTHERHAM

Two penalty saves.. and Bognor beaten

Saturday November 24, 2015:
Wealdstone 2 Bognor Regis 1

WASN'T this just the perfect day? The Stones had started their second season in the National League South with one draw and five defeats in our first six games.. then began a run of 12 games unbeaten which culminated in this nerve-shredding win over Ryman League top dogs Bognor at The Vale.

The Cup run had started with a tame 1-1 home draw with Biggleswade, but victory in the replay sent us off to Brockenhurst in the New Forest for another winnable tie. Scotty Davies scored an unforgettable 60-yarder as we won though 5-2... and our hopes for another kind draw for the final qualifying round came true. Bognor at home wouldn't be easy, but we had the rub of the green that afternoon as The Rocks' top scorer Jason Prior failed from penalty spot twice, denied by the agility of our keeper Jonathan North.

He was rightly carried from the pitch (right) on the shoulders of his team-mates.

After his first-half save, Stones roared to the other end and Bradley Hudson-Odoi finished sweetly from an angle for 1-0. And North's second penalty stop preceded Tom Hamblin's header from a corner (below) that made it 2-0. Bognor's late consolation was not enough to stop us setting up the memorable home tie with Colchester Utd in the First Round, which we lost 6-2.



Hero Northy as he saves twice from Jason Prior

Saturday October 15, 2016: Dagenham & Redbridge 3 Wealdstone 1

THIS was the game that demonstrated to the watching Peter Marsden that the club were worth investing in. The soon-to-be chairman was among a noisy contingent of around 350 in the away end whose non-stop support reached a crescendo as Matty Whichelow fired in a first half equaliser after the National League Daggers had taken the lead with their first attack. Stones keeper Northy was concussed just before their goal, and his departure for Greek Futsal International Paschalis Xanthos further weakened a team already missing key defenders Wes Parker and Tom Hamblin. Stones then missed good chances through Jonny Wright and Danny Green and Oliver Hawkins capitalised by heading Daggers ahead. Cocky home striker Jordan Maguire-Drew wrapped it up with the third goal.

Below: Magnificent support in the away end!

Continued overpage>>>



Tom Hamblin's header hits the net... and the packed Bulla stand is about to raise the roof!



AND INTO THE 2010s AND 20s IT'S A TALE OF ANGUISH AND YET

Saturday October 20 2018: Wealdstone 1 Sutton United 2

JUST about the most agonising big-match FA Cup defeat in Stones history unfolded at The Vale... Stones' Bradley Bubb fluffing an injury time penalty with the game poised at 1-1, and Sutton racing to the other end from keeper Jamie Butler's throw out for Drinan to score a 94th-minute winner and send the away fans into raptures.

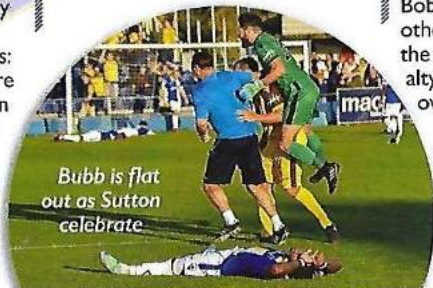
It was a game of three penalties: National League Sutton had more of the play but went behind when a rash challenge on the rampaging Rhys Tyler allowed Bubb to blast the ball confidently home. That was on 50 minutes and 13 mins later - after Dave Pratt had somehow been denied on the goalline - Sutton levelled



with Nicky Bailey's spot kick. Fumnaya Shomoton was the ace in the Stones' pack but Pratt's header from his cross (above) was

denied by a flying save from Butler... and with Elliott Charles adding muscle off the bench and the crowd baying for late drama, Bobby Wilkinson's side threw another long ball into the box and the referee blew for another penalty as the big man was bundled over.

But a despairing Bubb tried to place his shot inside the post, Butler guessed right and moments later we were in disbelief as Drinan put Sutton into the First Round draw. Simply unbelievable!



Bubb is flat out as Sutton celebrate

Late leveller and Mendy sending-off KOs Stones

Saturday October 19, 2019: Maidenhead Utd 1 Wealdstone 1 replay 2-0 to Maidenhead
FIVE YEARS ago the Stones hordes trooped down to the banks of the River Thames to see if our then National League South pacesetters were good enough to beat a team from the higher division.

Yet after bossing most of this first encounter, Dean Brennan's side - who had been beaten just once in 16 games and with 13 wins - were finally ousted by the tactical nous of Alan Devonshire's men.

The Stones comfortably played keep-ball for 75 minutes of the first game with Billy Clifford and Danny Green in total control. Jerome Okimo was unlucky not to score, his header bouncing off a post, and a sharp swivel and shot from Ross Lafayette just after half time put the away side ahead. Yet Maidenhead went Route One into the final 15 minute with the imposing ex-Stone Alan Massey and Joe Ellul using their height, and with just four minutes remaining a cleverly flighted free kick saw keeper Aston Oxbor-

ough only half save, the ball crashing off midfielder Ryan Upward and into the net (pictured below).

Stones were still confident of success in the replay, but as boss Brennan lamented: "They did a job on us tonight. Their full-time status allowed them to adjust tactically; they blotted out our passing and dominated us".

A goal in each half from Josh Kelly took the Magpies through, but the key moment came just before half time when Stones' left back Jacob Mendy Mendy was red-carded for what seemed a fair challenge on Remy Clerima on the edge of the box.

It was hard enough dealing with energised Maidenhead with 11 men; ten men made it impossible.



MORE MISERY AS WE SEEK A PLACE IN THAT FIRST ROUND DRAW



Four years ago: Nobody was watching this awful defeat to Hayes & Yeading ...and that was too many

Saturday October 24 2020: Wealdstone 0 Hayes & Yead 2

THIS WAS one of the most pathetic performances in Wealdstone Cup history. In terms of being red-hot favourites who fell to earth, it's right up there with the Amateur Cup semi-final shambles v Chesham United at Fulham in 1968.

It was, of course, an all-time low attendance as this game came four weeks into the club's first National League season and Covid-19 was in many other ways.

The Stones had stacked up successive wins against Wrexham and

Chesterfield at the Vale and were about to stack up three more (at Kings Layne and Halifax, and at home to Altrincham) to actually sit on top of the table at the start of November.

And so Hayes & Yeading Utd, three levels below, were almost disregarded. Just turn up and win, we thought and possibly another all-time low watched on the live stream in disbelief as H & Y called the shots from almost minute one. We had Grant Smith (later of Yeovil and Bromley fame) deputising for Harry Isted in goal but he had no chance as the prolific

Francis Amartey fired Hayes ahead. They were first to the ball all over the field with Scott Donnelly to the fore - and Jordan Norville Williams hit the post. Then Smith's misdirected pass was picked up for sub Omar Rowe to swerve his shot past the keeper (see picture above). A red card for our winger Charlie Wakefield (for a 64th minute off-the-ball clash with Jack Williams) didn't help matters - and it was Hayes who came closest to adding to the score when Bay Downing also hit the upright.

Disappointing? That wasn't the half of it.

But somehow, predictably, it was to get worse!

Saturday October 16 2021: Wealdstone 1 Dagenham & R 2
STUART MAYNARD'S Stones somehow managed to pass up a man advantage for 88 minutes, a lovely goal from loan striker Jay Bird after six minutes and even a fabulous penalty save from George Wickens.... only to throw it all away in the last three minutes!

The 718 crowd were in dreamland after that start (visiting hot-shot Paul McCallum shown red for a foul on Alex Dyer after two minutes) and the Bird volley - but the canny Daggers slowly wormed their way back into the game. Their ace striker Angelo Balanta was handed a glorious chance to level but was denied by Wickens from the spot. It seemed the Daggers' chance had gone but Balanta atoned for his miss in the 86th minute... and then

remarkably won the game as the ref prepaerd to blow his full-time whistle. Arrgghh!

Saturday October 15 2022: Boreham Wood 5 Wealdstone 3
Stones were handed possibly the toughest draw, away to a Wood side who had made it through to the Fifth Round the previous season and a money-spinning game at Everton.

And fans were already walking out in disgust after Cameron Coxie headed Wood 3-0 up from Dennon Lewis' cross in the 67th minute to add to a George Broadbent strike and a Zac Brunt penalty. They even went 4-1 ahead after an Olufela Olomola header thanks to a Denton potshot - but Stones roared their defiance, too late, with Simeon Akinola and and Fela again bringing the scores back

to 4-3. And then Giovanni McGregor was inches away from an improbable equaliser as Wood were rocking in added-on time! Yet there was still a fifth for Wood, with Stones committed upfield, through Danny Elliot who celebrated wildly in front of the remaining away fans. Classy.

Saturday October 14 2023: Bromley 3 Wealdstone 2
ANOTHER God-awful away draw saw Stones beaten at high-fliers Bromley in scenes eerily similar to the defeat at Boreham Wood - 3-0 down at half time with Kirk, Cheek and Krauhaus all netting. Again some fans were heading back to the pub ... and again the Blues fought valiantly with Max Kretzschmar and Nathan Ferguson beating Grant Smith to bring it back to 3-2. All too little, too late.

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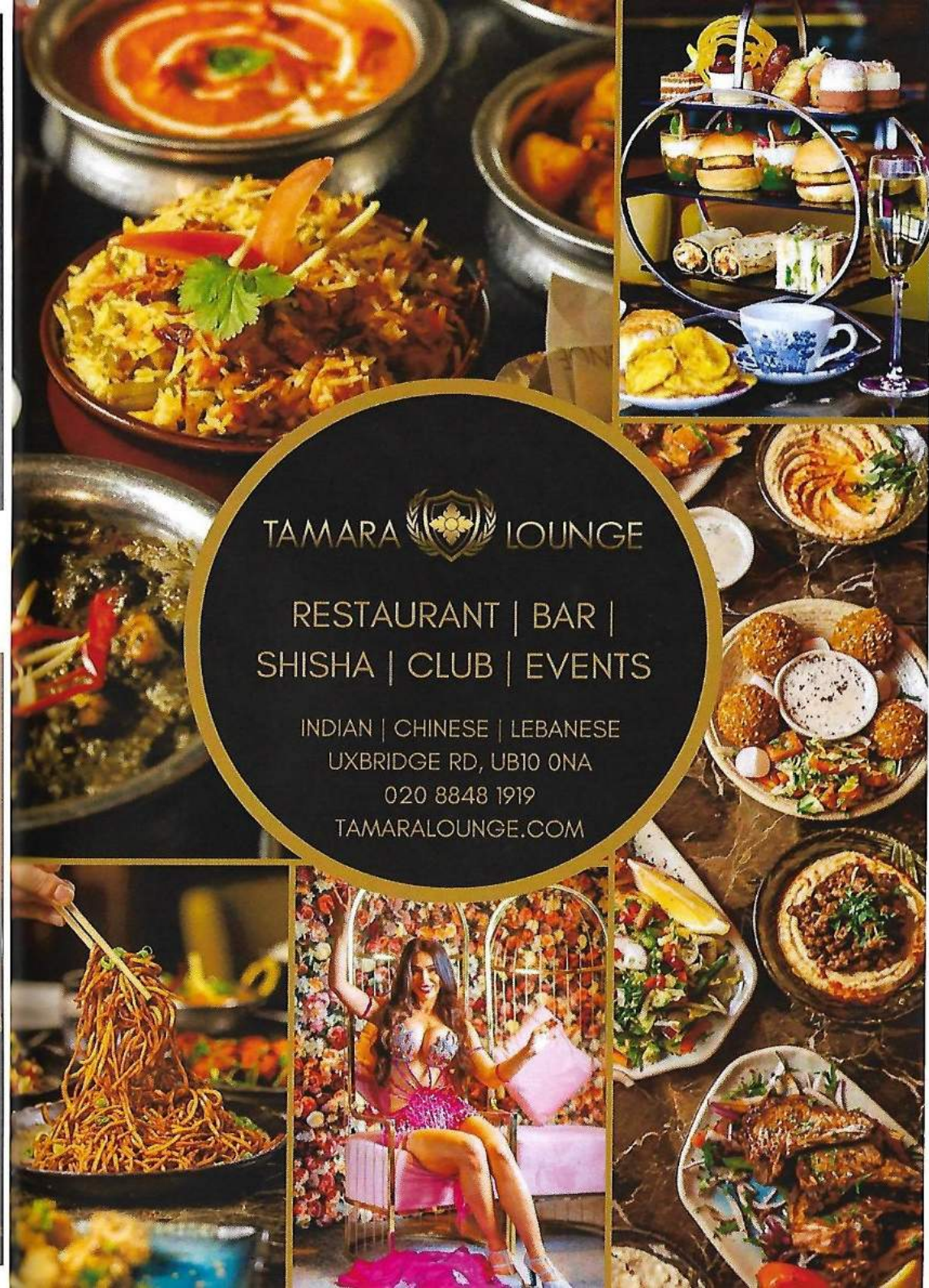
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LIST OF FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES SEASON 2024-2025

A = APPEARANCES AS STARTER
 S = APPEARANCES AS SUBSTITUTE
 G = GOALS SCORED
 * = HAS SINCE LEFT CLUB

	CORRECT AS AT 28TH SEPTEMBER 2024			VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE			FA CUP			FA TROPHY			MIDDLESEX SENIOR CUP			MIDDLESEX CHARITY CUP			TOTALS			STONES CAREER		
	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G
Adams, Jacob			1																		1		1	
Adarkwa, Sean																					20	15	10	
Ashford, Sam	4	2	2																	4	2	2		
Barrett, Mason	5																			5				
Boldewijn, Enzo	12																			12				
Cesay, Kallum	9	2																		9	2			
Clarke, Jahmari *		2																		2				
Cook, Jack	11																			11				
Dreher, Luke	2	1																		2	1			
Dyer, Alex	8	2																		8	2			
Georgio, Anthony	5	4																		5	4			
Hutchinson, Dominic	5	7																		5	7			
Kretschmar, Max	5	2																		5	2			
Mariappa, Adrian	12																			12				
Mason, Brandon	3	3																		3	3			
Matthews, Archie	9																			9				
McFarlane, Callum	5	2	3																	5	2	3		
Miller, Todd		3																		3				
Mundle-Smith, Jaydn	2	1																		2	1			
Obiero, Micah	10	2	2																	10	2	2		
Sandat Henry	6	4	1																	6	4	1		
Scott, Christian	3	5																		3	5			
Thorpe, Elliot	3	1																		3	1			
Traore, Yacou *	3	4																		3	4			
Wells-Morrison, Jack	6	1																		6	1			
Woodman, Deon	1	2																		1	2			



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Call Peter Worby on **07967 698370** or John Young on **07874 846785** for more details.

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SUPPORT THE STONES HERE AT HOME AND ACROSS ENGLAND

Coming up here at The Vale >



YEOVIL TOWN
Vanarama National League
Saturday 19th October 3:00pm




BRAINTREE TOWN
Vanarama National League
Tuesday 22nd October 7:45pm




FULHAM UNDER 21S
National League Cup
Tuesday 5th November 7:00pm

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE – TABLE, AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER	ALL															STONES RESULTS					
	HOME					AWAY					GD	Pts	H	A							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L					F	A					
1 Barnet	12	9	0	3	25	11	6	6	0	0	17	3	6	3	0	3	8	8	14	27	0-3
2 York City	12	7	4	1	18	6	6	4	1	1	8	3	6	3	3	0	10	3	12	25	0-2
3 Forest Green Rovers	12	7	3	2	20	9	4	3	1	0	8	3	8	4	2	2	12	6	11	24	2-2
4 Rochdale	12	7	2	3	20	9	6	3	2	1	9	4	6	4	0	2	11	5	11	23	
5 Gateshead	11	7	2	2	22	15	6	5	0	1	14	5	5	2	2	1	8	10	7	23	
6 Oldham Athletic	12	6	5	1	17	11	6	3	3	0	8	3	6	3	2	1	9	8	6	23	0-1
7 Eastleigh	12	6	3	3	19	15	6	4	2	0	14	8	6	2	1	3	5	7	4	21	
8 Sutton United	12	5	4	3	19	16	6	2	2	2	11	9	6	3	2	1	8	7	3	19	0-1
9 Altrincham	12	5	3	4	15	15	6	3	2	1	10	5	6	2	1	3	5	10	0	18	
10 Dagenham & Redbridge	12	4	5	3	20	13	6	3	2	1	14	6	6	1	3	2	6	7	7	17	1-2
11 Halifax Town	12	4	5	3	12	10	7	2	3	2	9	8	5	2	2	1	3	2	2	17	2-2
12 Yeovil Town	12	4	3	5	13	14	6	1	2	3	4	6	6	3	1	2	9	8	-1	15	
13 Woking	12	4	3	5	13	16	6	3	0	3	7	9	6	1	3	2	6	7	-3	15	0-1
14 Solihull Moors	12	4	3	5	14	18	6	1	2	3	6	11	6	3	1	2	8	7	-4	15	1-1
15 Aldershot Town	12	3	5	4	17	17	6	2	2	2	11	10	6	1	3	2	6	7	+0	14	
16 Southend United	12	3	5	4	17	17	6	2	2	2	9	9	6	1	3	2	8	8	+0	14	1-1
17 Tamworth	11	4	2	5	12	19	5	2	1	2	8	7	6	2	1	3	4	12	-7	14	
18 Hartlepool United	12	3	4	5	7	11	6	0	4	2	1	5	6	3	0	3	6	6	-4	13	1-1
19 Maidenhead United	12	3	2	7	14	20	6	2	1	3	6	7	6	1	1	4	8	13	-6	11	
20 Braintree Town	12	2	4	6	6	13	6	2	2	2	3	3	6	0	2	4	3	10	-7	10	
21 Boston United	12	2	3	7	12	22	7	0	2	5	5	16	5	2	1	2	7	6	-10	9	
22 AFC Fylde	12	2	3	7	13	24	6	2	2	2	10	10	6	0	1	5	3	14	-11	9	1-0
23 Wealdstone	12	1	5	6	9	17	6	1	1	4	2	8	6	0	4	2	7	9	-8	8	-- --
24 Ebbsfleet United	12	1	2	9	9	25	6	1	1	4	3	8	6	0	1	5	6	17	-16	5	


Follow the Stones on the road >



EBBSFLEET UNITED
Vanarama National League
Saturday 26th October 3:00pm



ALDERSHOT TOWN
Vanarama National League
Saturday 9th November 3:00pm



EASTLEIGH
Vanarama National League
Saturday 23rd November 3:00pm



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