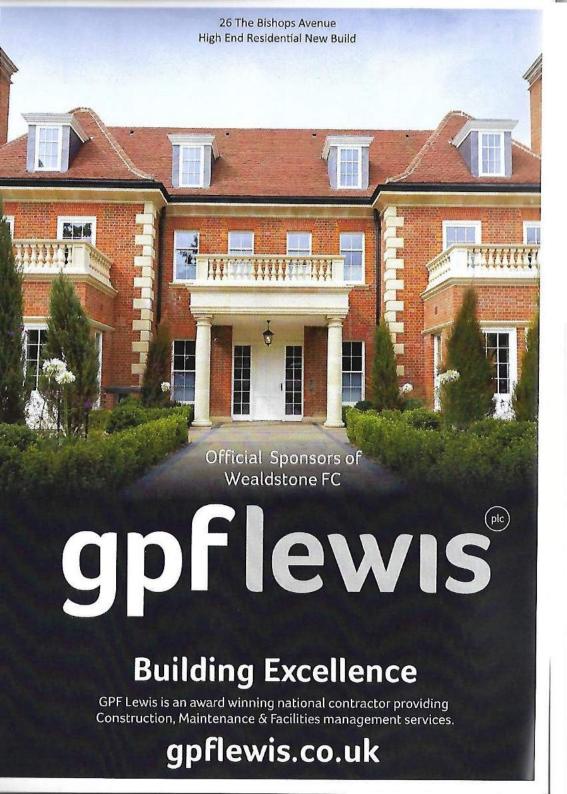
TODAY'S LINE-UPS WEALDSTONE ME YEOVIL TOWN ROYAL BLUE/WHITE/WHITE GREEN/GREEN/GREEN G Archie MATTHEWS I Oliver WRIGHT G Jack COOK 2 2 Jordan THOMAS Anthony GEORGIOU 3 3 Alex WHITTLE 4 Morgan WILLIAMS Deon WOODMAN 4 5 Finn COUSIN-DAWSON Alex DYER 5 Mason BARRETT 6 6 Jake WANNELL 7 Sam PEARSON Enzio BOLDEWIIN 7 8 Matt WORTHINGTON Craig EASTMOND 8 9 Aaron | ARVIS Sean ADARKWA 9 10 Frank NOUBLE Max KRETZSCHMAR 10 **II** Warren YOUNG Todd MILLER II G Jacob ADAMS 13 14 Brett McGAVIN 16 Sonny Blu LO-EVERTON Micah OBIERO 14 Luke DREHER 16 17 Dylan MORGAN 19 Josh SIMS Dom HUTCHINSON 17 20 Raphael ARAOYE Christian SCOTT 18 22 Matt GOULD G Adrian MARIAPPA © 19 23 Michael SMITH Sam ASHFORD 20 24 Charlie COOPER Kallum CESAY 21 Alex REID 22 27 Harvey GREENSLADE **James PLANT** Jaydn MUNDLE-SMITH 23 Ciaran McGUCKIN Henry SANDAT 24 lack WELLS-MORRISON 25 Will BUSE G 33 Dominic BERNARD Elliot THORPE 26 Declan PHILLIPS 28 Callum McFARLANE 29 G Sam HOWES 31 Brandon MASON 32 Officials Referee: Sam Mulhall Assistants: Daniel Robinson and Andy Bennett Fourth Official: Daniel Baines Observer: lan Corner **YEOVIL TOWN** TODAY'S RESULT: WEALDSTONE NEXT AT THE VALE V BRAINTREE, WEDS OCT 23, KO 7.45PM @vanarama v FULHAM U-21s, TUES NOVEMBER 5, KO 7PM NATIONAL LGE CUP GROUP A Brunel MAIN University London **CLUB**

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MIGHTY, MIGHTY MATCHDAY PROGRAMME 2024-25 £3 Yeovil Town What a debut for Alex Reid last Saturday! Here he goes around Vanarama National League Saturday Oct 18, 2024, 3pm the Gosport keeper for his middle goal of the hat-trick- and then celebrates the third (right) in the last minute **PICTURES:** ION TAFFEL and



YEOVIL TOWN - NATIONAL LEAGUE - 19TH OCTOBER 2024



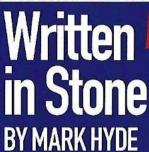
A very warm welcome to you all. We are back in National league action this afternoon

and welcome the Officials, players, management, and supporters from Yeovil who have made the long trip up from Somerset.

We love a debut Hat-trick here at Wealdstone don't we? More than one person called Alex Reid's three goals in the build up to Saturdays in FA Cup victory and they all mentioned Bradley Bubb's in the FA Trophy against Billericay in 2018 as inspiration. The similarities don't stop there either, Bradley was making his first competitive start that afternoon following 11 months out with a ruptured Achilles and Alex was starting his first game since last November!

Alex's fantastic achievement wasn't the only bright spot last Saturday either, Progression into the FA Cup 1st round for the first time since 2015 and the long awaited debut for Craig Eastmond after his lengthy injury also put a smile on supporters faces.

The prize for our first FA Cup victory since a replay win against Bristol Manor Farm in 2019? - A trip back to Blundell Park where we will face Grimsby Town. Honours are even between our two clubs after out fantastic floodlit 1-0 win here at the Vale back in October 2021 and a narrow 2-1 defeat on the east coast the following January,





FA CUP 1ST ROUND. **GRIMSBY TOWN** WEALDSTONE

We have been drawn to play away at Grimsby Town. At the time of writing the date for this tie will be Saturday 2nd of November at 3pm (Subject to change). Please keep an eye on the main club and supporters club media for updateson timings and



With our FA Cup destiny and a busy league programme coming up it is fantastic that we are now seeing the return of some important senior players including now which includes Craig mentioned earlier along with Max Kretzschmar and Deon Woodman who has gone on loan to St. Albans to build match fitness all of who will obviously please the management team as they look to convert some of our nearly moments into 3 pointers and further Cup progress.

A final bit of housekeeping, please note that our away fixture at Aldershot Town on the 9th of November has been chosen for TV Coverage and the KO time will now be 12.30.

Up the Stones

Mark

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RAI DARBAR

Today is a double celebration for ball donor Raj who is celebrating with his guests and some of our 'Middle Youthers' his Birthday Weekend and his recent Engagement... Congratulations Raj.

WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2024/2025

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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

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NON TITLE-WINNING PROMOTIONS

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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:

Mike Benny

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

Entering the ground through any means other than through the turnstiles or entrances

· Entering the field of play before, during or after a game without prior authorisation

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

2) No spectator ball games.

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

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

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

Wealdstone FC Board of Directors

WHAT THEY SAID... ABOUT GOSPORT & THAT HAT TRICK!

MATT TAYLOR, MANAGER "After the FA Cup game last week we've now got players coming back into the squad for this clash with Yeovil - that makes my job a lot more difficult!

It's all about how we're going to set up and we should have Jaydn (Mundle-Smith) back after suspension while Craig (Eastmond) has had three or four weeks training behind him and is now at the point where we can expose him to more minutes.

And Max (Kretzschmar) is still coming back from injury... we pushed the limit last Saturday with him in terms of time on the pitch.

He was down to have 30 minutes but we had to push him on and you saw the leadership he brought to the team.

Anthony Georgiou has had to be patient but when he came in at half time he provided that great ball in - and Max is there to do what Max does! The goals he has historically in this league show he has kept this level for quite a few seasons. Yet we didn't play as well as we have done in pre-

vious games. The difference was that we now have a guy up top who wants to put the ball in the back of the net.





The difference is that we now have a guy at the top of the pitch who can put the ball in the back of the net

the players will grow in terms of them understanding how he plays, and and him understanding what they want to do with the ball. We just looked more of a threat at the top of the pitch today and it always helps in the second half to be kicking down towards our supporters. Henry (Sandat) also came back into the team and he had some some excellent moments in the game despite us having to change his position slightly. He affected the game but what we need now are leaders on the pitch and in the dressing room."

ALEX REID, HAT-TRICK HERO "I'm buzzing after that! It was my first start since November 2023 - I've not played a lot but it feels good to be back out there, playing and scoring and winning the game.

Now we're in the First Round and it's exciting! It was a dream to score the first one, in the six-yard box right in front of the goal and as a striker that 's perfect, just a few yards out to just tap it in. The second one came from a mistake by the defender, I just had to go round the goalkeeper and the third was a penalty ... about the first I've scored in four attempts!

> Though I've not started any game for a while I'm planning to get as many goals as I can - if I can get double figures by January (when the loan ends) then we will be in a better position. The gaffer wants me to be arrogant and ruthless in front of goal. I've played against Wealdstone a few times and I know the team have just been missing that goalscoring element."

©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

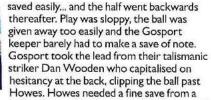
So we finally won an FA Cup 4th Qual Rd game...but Grimsby isn't much reward!

BY SUDHIR RAWAL

FOR THE first time in nine years, Wealdstone won a FA Cup fourth qualifying round game with last week's 4-I success against Southern Leaguers Gosport Borough.

The scoreline might seem to suggest it was an easy game, but the first half in particular was anything but.

There was no doubt that the selection was geared towards attacking the opposition, with no defensive midfielder being picked - and that certainly raised a few eyebrows when the team was announced. The game started so well when Stones were awarded a penalty after the lively Henry Sandat was taken out by the Gosport keeper. The penalty from Sam Ashford, though, was at a nice height and



similar chance this time from Ash Yearwood to deny Gosport doubling the lead - and possibly taking the tie.

But right on half time, new boy Alex Reid was in the right place at the right time to tap in from close range. For once, we took a simple chance, something that has eluded us all season.

The game then swung on the half-time introduction of Max Kretzschmar

> and Anthony Georgiou. Georgiou gave the team an outlet on the left and as we have seen when he has played this season, his delivery is excellent. Much has been said about Kretzschmar. his effect on the team and our performance. When he's on song, Wealdstone play. He's the link between the midfield and the forward line, he also provides leadership on the pitch and has a real desire to win that we saw so evidently in the "Great Escape" at the end of last season.

The pair combined for

Wealdstone to take the



lead. The match became simpler when Morrison was sent off after the livewire Reid was set free by Kretzschmar and hauled down. Stones added two more with Reid completing his hat trick and you have to say the Oldham striker's contribution to the game was immense. Not only a hat-trick but effectively settling the game by causing the sending off. On another day, he could have had at least five goals.

Alex Reid is going to be very important over the next few months until his loan spell runs out. If he ticks, we will move up the table.

So now we now find ourselves in heady territory, the first round of the FA Cup. Our record in this competition is pretty shocking. This is only the 16th time we have reached the first round in 125 years and for a club of our stature that's appalling. We were hoping to draw either the lowest-ranked team in the competition at home or a heavyweight like Birmingham City home or away - maybe Notts County for a Maynard reunion, or a local league club like Charlton or Wimbledon.

Instead, Grimsby Town away. The crowd at Blundell Park is likely to be well short of the 4,747 when we met in there in the National League in Janyary 2022. But as Darren Linden posted on the forum: "It's the FA Cup, you get what you get

GREENE KING IPA That's the hat-trick! Alex Reid slots in the perfect penalty in the final minutes against Gosport to earn him the matchball on his Stones debut Picture: JON TAFFEL

and our aim is now to go there and cause an upset". It looks like a coach is already mobilised and there will be dozens by train and by by car so let's get mobilised!

 We have had some interesting post-match interviews over the past few years, with David Noble's in particular a snooze-fest cure for insomnia. But you can't say that about the Horndean manager, Michael Birmingham. Horndean play in the same division as the two social clubs from HA2. You can catch it on X (twitter) @IHadTrialsOnce. His first line is an all time classic: "I hope my players have got plenty of Sudacream because they have had their arses slapped today."

Well, it's time we won a 1st rd tie after 41 years...

THE STONES have reached the first round proper on 16 previous occasions, but had to wait until 50 years into the club's history before the first trip into Big Boys territory.

Here's the full list:

1949 Port Vale (Division Three/Lge I) Away lost 0-1

1965 Millwall (Division Three/Lge 1) Away lost 1-3

1966 Nuneaton Borough (Southern League) Home lost 0-2

1968 St Albans (Isthmian League) Home drew 1-1, replay lost 0-1

1975 Aldershot (Division Three/Lge I) Away lost 3-4

1976 Reading (Division Three/Lge I) Away lost 0-1

1977 Hereford United (Division Three/Lge I) drew 0-0, replay won 3-2. In second round Stones won 2-1 v Reading (Division Four) Lge 2) at home but lost 0-4 at QPR (Division One/Prem) in round 3.

1978 Enfield (Isthmian League) Home lost 0-5

1979 Southend (Division Three/Lge I) Home lost 0-1

1982 Swindon Town (Division Four/Lge 2) away lost 0-2

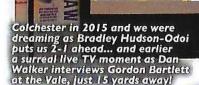
1983 Enfield (Alliance Premier League) Home drew 1-1,

replay Away drew 2-2, second replay (Home) won 2-0. In Second Round Stones lost 0-4 at Colchester Utd (Division Four/Lge 2)

1985 Reading (Division Three/Lge I) Away Lost 0-1

1986 Swansea (Div Three/Lge I) Home drew 1-1, replay lost 1-4

2009 Rotherham (League One) Home lost 2-3 2015 Colchester (League One) Home lost 2-6





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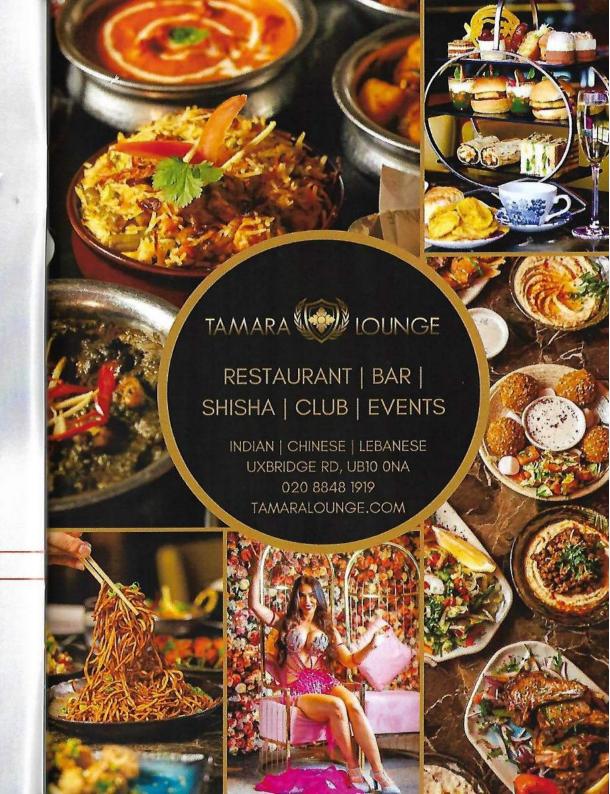


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THE No.10 VIEW: MAX KRETZSCHMAR TAKES IT TO THE M₃ A₁ X₈

GOOD afternoon all welcome to a Yeovil Town side who have adapted to their return to the National League very well having bounced back from the NL South last season.

I'm sure it will be a tough game - as every National League game is.

I'm currently writing these programme notes on Monday evening in front of the television awaiting the exciting FA Cup 1st Round draw...We're out of the hat and it's a trip up to Grimsby for a shot at the 2nd Round. No doubt we will be underdogs for that game but I believe that it's a great position to be in. I don't think we will feel

any pressure. We 'finally' made the first round after several years thanks to our 4-I victory over Gosport Boro. After a stale opening 35 minutes with some nervy moments, I thought we navigated the tie well. Reidy's goal before half time proved very impor-

tant as the tide turned after the break. Psychologically it would have been huge for Gosport to take a lead into half time and it may have really galvanised them in the second half to hold on to what they had. They may have sat even

'The show was stolen by Reidy last Saturday but I was delighted to get on the scoresheet... I've been hungry all week for a goal'



Max enjoys his goal v Gosport! Pic: JON TAFFEL

deeper and may have been difficult to break down with the aid of good defending and some 'smart' time wasting.
But it wasn't to be

and having come on as a substitute at half time, I was delighted to get on the scoresheet so quickly. I had been scoring goals all week in training and had discussed with Wayne, our strength and conditioning coach, that I was hungry for my first goal of the season.

It was nice for Anthony Georgiou to assist me too. It was a sign of the connections we as players are hopefully beginning to make, as I knew what An-

thony was going to do as he received the ball on the left hand side. A little dart to the front post across my defender was enough to get on the end of the

I've found it difficult in my time at Wealdstone to get on the end of crosses as I've felt the wingers I've played with have had the profile of

cross to divert the ball home.

an inverted winger - inverted meaning that the player is often cutting inside to use their strong foot, therefore, limiting the amount of crosses that come from going down the line. Hopefully, the ammunition can continue in this vein and I can continue to find space in the box and get on the end of things.

No doubt the show was stolen by new boy Alex Reid. His three goals apart, he gave us a physical target up front which we've maybe lacked all season.

This should really help us in our endeavours to mix our patterns of play up from short to long and vice versa. Reidy's National League experience and record is clear for all to see and I hope the goals continue to flow for him and the team.

I think us players should be excited about the challenges that await us over the next few weeks. Three winnable fixtures in quick succession including a televised game against Braintree. With the squad returning to near full health we should be confident of producing positive results. It's important we stick together but start racking up these points sooner rather than later. Stick with us! UTS

Don't miss my revealing vlog >>> youtube.com/@maxtalksfootball



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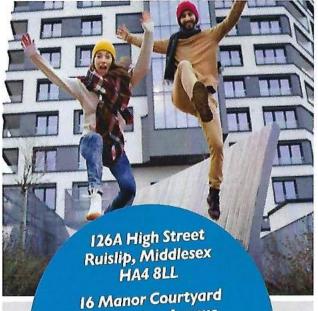






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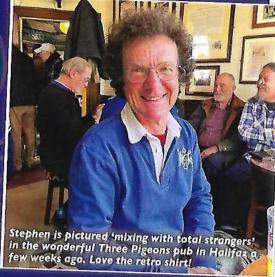
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The Fan in the Stand ... AND TODAY'S THE

1 live 258 miles from the Vale in the

Lake District but now my youthful obsession with the Stones is fully re-awakened... 60 years later!



Your name and age? I'm Stephen Lockwood, 71. Where do you live Stephen, and have you always lived there? I moved to Kendal in Cumbria in 2011, having lived previously in Birmingham and-Nottingham - but I was brought up in Kenton. Both my parents had lived within earshot of Lower Mead. I first went to watch Wealdstone in 1963 against Carshalton in the Amateur Cup (match report, right)

F.A. Amateur Cup

WEALDSTONE'S

BETTER FORM

Wealdstone 1. Carshalton Athletic 1 RELAPSING into their earlier indifferent form Weald-

RELAPSING into their earner motherent form weather stone shambled their way to a 1-1 draw with a livelier Carshalton Attliets, side at Lower Mead on Saturday. The replay is at Carshalton this Saturday and perhaps the most hopeful prospect for Wealdstone is that they are unlikely to play worse than in this first

Small crowd

and would walk to Lower Mead through Kenton Rec. That season ended in Stones winning the Middlesex Senior Cup against Finchley. With my schoolfriend we edged our way into the dressing room and collected autographs (pictured below right) of the whole team... I can still smell the embrocation!

At about that time I wrote in a notebook "I the deceased leave all my worldly goods to Wealdstone FC" - I must have been a very serious child! Now my wife is concerned that this last will and testament may surface after my

Did you see the great moments in the Stones' history - 60s, 70s and 80s? I don't know how I missed some golden years - and even the Amateur Cup Final at Wembley in 1966 - but I came back regularly in 1970 home and away till going to University in 1971. ground, one of the corner flags was hard up against the perimeter wall; arriving at Claremont Road against Hendon only to see the match snowed off; and Toot-

United where the game was called off at halftime as the pitch was so frozen you could hear all the players studs clattering on the pitch. Loakes Park was the Wycombe Wanderers ground and it had an amazing slope saw us lose there I-0 in the Amateur Cup in 1971, in our last season as amateurs, with three of our ex-stars playing Bremer and John Hutchinson. Travelling on the supporters coach with Barbara Robson et al became a habit.

In those days the atmoways encouraging but critical too.

Assorted memories: Leytonstone was a dreadful ing and Mitcham

across the width. A huge crowd against us: Keith Searle, Bernie and Eric Metcalfe (the bellman)

sphere in the crowd was al-

CHANCE FOR STEPHEN LOCKWOOD TO ROLL BACK THE YEARS

The manager was seen as too defensive and so many of our best players left for Enfield, Hendon or Wycombe. Then came the great season of 1973-4 (the Duck and Byrne years) but I was still a student in the north and so saw too few games.

I moved away but did come back to see the FA Cup win against Reading, defeat at QPR and the Trophy Final. My first visit to The Vale was for the FA Cup game against Rotherham United in 2009 and I'm still using the souvenir mug every match day.

Now, in the National League I can get to a few games each season from Kendal and at home too. It was great at Southport, getting off the train and just following blue and white scarves to the ground... and what a game that was! I sat in the stand next to Jonathan North's dad and realised that I knew him when we were both growing up in Kenton.

I almost shed a tear when Rory tweeted the announcement that Stones were National League South Champions in spring of 2020 - and after weeks of waiting it was confirmed that we were going up into the Na-

tional League. I did blink another tear back when we won at Oldham this year ensuring we stayed up.

Where do you get your football 'fix' nowadays? Here in Kendal I watch Kendal Town in the Northern League. When I first saw them, the Mintcakes were at the same point on the pyramid as the Stones. Since then they've been relegated twice and we have had two promotions. Round here folk support Carlisle United and Preston North End. About 400 watch Kendal but I suspect that more go to Liverpool, Everton, United and City week by week. Apart from my student years I've always followed non league football ...and even then my mother would post me Wealdstone reports from the Observer every week!

What's your most memorable Stones game? This is a hard one, but for me the FA Cup 4th Qualifying Round tie against mighty Enfield in 1969-70 was one of the most exciting. The crowd was 2,850

BUT SO UNFAIR

Just three minutes from the end of this FA Cup Final qualifying round match at Lower Mead on Saturday, a long bail to the right of the Wealdstone goal found Enfield centre-forward Paddy Feely with both substitute George Clayton and England Kenny Gray within

The lanky, truculent Feely, lacky to be only warned for fouling. Wealdstone keeper Andy Williams in his area four minutes be fore and after kicking the ball away in dissent after a Wealdstone freekick had been given, sent a short header down to Gray, ust three yards out.

The best amateur for towers followed for tild's ward in England decept tout.

Dave Bullock heads over under pressure from Enfield keeper lan Wolstenholme in front of a



the 88th minute and we saw so many shots headed off the line... a great game. My son-in-law comes from Hawarden, near Wrexham (who he supports) so we saw our 0-0 draw there in front of nearly 9,000 in 2021 under relentless pressure - it felt like a win.

Of course wins last

(though seemed many,

fair'. Ken Gray scored in

many more) and the

Harrow Observer

headline (left) was "Gray End But So Un-

season at Fylde and Oldham were special for Who first introduced you to Wealdstone? Both my parents grew up in Harrow, a few streets from Lower Mead and I remember our kitten's mother was said to have lived at the ground. When I was 10 and all my friends were

football-mad over

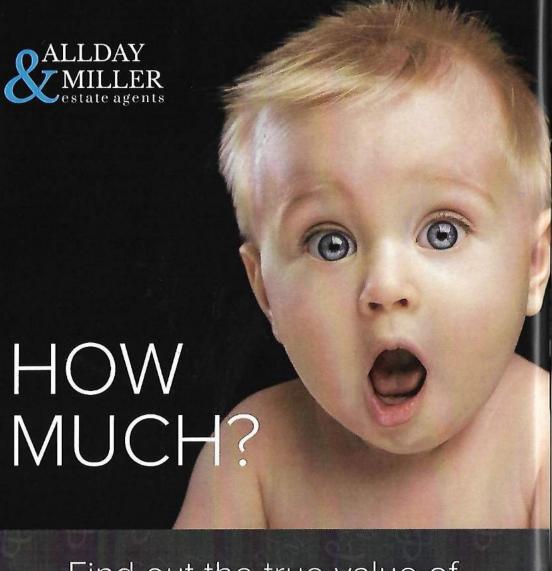
etc and I wanted a

Chelsea, Fulham, Spurs

team to support, my mother said why not go and watch Wealdstone? So I did and I couldn't understand why all my friends didn't come too. And | still can't!

How do you fit football in with your family life? I never tried to watch football while my children were at home, it's only now, living 258 miles from the Vale that my obsession with Wealdstone is fully reawakened. I am full of admiration for those who have worked tirelessly for decades to keep the football club that I love not only on the road but in such a successful and sustainable way. Lower Mead and The Vale do have similarities, both very friendly and especially now to me as a visitor. At away games I love mixing with total strangers who've become more like family because we all share a passion for Wealdstone FC.

I hope the plans for a new stadium are progressing -I'm sure they are and I'll be able to get there and back to Cumbria in a day. The EFL is a real possibility we should dream about. I just need to live long enough!



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TODAY WE WELCOME FANS OF YEOVIL TOWN
TO GROSVENOR VALE
WFCSC

Good afternoon, everyone and a very warm welcome to Grosvenor Vale for what we hope to be an exciting National League game.

Firstly, I would like to welcome the Yeovil Town supporters and playing staff to The Vale. So, to introduce myself to you all as this is my first time this season in

writing any sort of programme notes, my name is Tony, and I am a volunteer for the football club and have become a member of the Wealdstone Supporters Club committee.

I was born in Wembley in 1960, so football basically runs through my veins having attended most if not all finals and other events that occurred in the old stadium from about 1968 through to the demolition in 2003 which included World Cup, Rallying/Stock Cars, Speedway, Greyhound racing, Evel Knievel and various music concerts! Wembley of course has renewed relevance for us on the committee as we regularly host fans at The Vale travelling to Wembley for Cup Finals and Playoffs etc.

Throughout my life I have been a Chelsea supporter (one of quite a few that now attend Stones matches!) and I have attended all 92 league grounds between 1970 to 1990 except one, the only ground I hadn't visited was Yeovil Town so when I saw my now local club Wealdstone were playing there in 2021 I jumped at the chance to go and I was made to feel very welcome by the Stones fans. I then decided that I would like to do some volunteering work for the club, and it has just snowballed from there. I can be found most if not at all match days in the ticket booth selling match tickets and programmes.

I have really enjoyed the involvement in the various activities at the club and you will have noticed in previous notes that we are always looking for new volunteers to help us out on match days on a variety of roles.

So, without further ado let's move on to Supporters Club news. The 50/50 match day draws are gathering momentum with ever increasing winnings as support and interest increases. We are always looking for volunteers to help sell 50/50 tickets so if you can help us out, please get in touch.

James Klarfeld continues to organise various gigs at the club so please keep an eye out for news on

WFCSC update

BY TONY BURGIN



these and he has also put on a Christmas disco on Saturday 23rd November as unfortunately not dates were available to do this in December. Next Year Saturday 15th February we have the return of "Big 10" our Ska band who performed for the first time this year and was a complete sell out. All these events are great for socialising at The Vale and help generate much needed funds for the club.

The SC Committee at the time of writing is also planning a 125 Year Anniversary event and more news on this will follow.

The Megastore and programme huts are also well worth a visit, and we are also sorting out and planning future events to help raise funds so please watch this space and get your tickets early.

Finally, don't forget to keep up you support on our away coach travel when we are able to arrange this so, please keep a look out for announcements and information.

Come on You Stones!

Tony





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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 outingthey 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

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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ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT YEOVIL TOWN THE GLOVERS"

Today's opposition in focus

Founded in 1895, the club initially joined the Somerset Senior League and competed in a multitude of leagues up until the outbreak of World War II. During this time they won titles in the Southern League, Western League, Bristol Charity League, Dorset District League and Somerset Senior League.

The Glovers (named due to the long history of glove making in the town) played in the Southern League after the war ended, winning the championship in 1954-55, 1963-64 and 1970-71. before becoming members of the Alliance Premier League from 1979 to 1985. They spent the next three years in the Isthmian League, and were elevated into the Conference after finishing as champions in 1987-88. Relegated in 1995, they were promoted again two years later after winning another Isthmian League title. Yeovil won the 2002 FA Trophy Final and secured a place in the Football League after winning the Conference in 2002-03 under the stewardship of Gary Johnson. They then won the League Two title in 2004-05, before reaching the Championship with victory in the 2013 League One play-off final in Johnson's second spell as manager. However they suffered consecutive relegations, and were relegated once more following the 2018-19 season, ending their 16-season spell in the Football League. Following relegation in the 2022/23 season Yeovil successfuly returned to the National League this season having won the NLS title.

Yeovil are one of the most successful non-league teams in the FA Cup, having defeated major Football League teams, most famously Sunderland in the fourth round in 1949, before going on to play in front of more than 81,000 spectators away at Manchester United in the next round. For some years, as the only Football League side in Somerset, they had few local rivals since Dorset-based side Weymouth declined as Yeovil climbed the divisions in the 1990s and 2000s. It was in 1990 the club moved into their current home 'Huish Park', with a capacity of 9,565. Much of the club's success has been in this stadium.

I. OLLIE WRIGHT -Goalkeeper

Ollie joined Yeavil Town on loan for the 2024/25 season from

Southampton where he has progressed through the ranks at Saints since joining the club over a decade ago in the Under-10s.

2. JORDAN **THOMAS - Defence**

Thomas joined Barnet on a two-year deal in July 2021 and moved to Hampton & Richmond Borough in March 2023. In June 2024, he signed a two-year contract with Yeovil Town.

3. ALEX WHITTLE -Defence 4. MORGAN WILLIAMS -

Defence

A familiar face to most Glovers fans, Williams enjoyed two short term loan spells with the club from Coventry City. After the expiry of his contract at the Ricoh Arena, Williams returned to Somerset on a permanent basis.

5. FINN COUSIN-DAWSON - Defence

Born in Stockton-on-Tees, Cousin-Dawson began his career with the Bradford City youth team. Released by Bradford City at the end of the 2023-24 season, Cousin-Dawson signed a two-year contract with Yeovil Town on 12 June 2024.

6. JAKE WANNELL- Defence

Wannell joined the Glovers in June 2023. Starting his career in the Exeter City Academy, he enjoyed loan spells in the Southern League, with the likes of Chippenham Town, Dorchester Town and Poole Town. Permanent spells with Weymouth and Sailsbury City followed by a switch to Taunton

7. SAM PEARSON -Forward

In 2022, Pearson joined Yeovil Town on an initial one-month loan. His loan was extended until January 2023. In January 2023, he moved to League Two club AFC Wimbledon on loan for the rest of the season. In January 2024, Pearson and Bristol City mutually agreed to terminate his contract. He rejoined Yeovil Town on a permanent deal.

8. MATTHEW WORTHINGTON Midfield

The longest serving Glover, Matt Worthington has well over 100 Yeovil appearances to his name. Having joined permanently in 2019 after a successful

loan spell the year before, Worthington has been an ever present since Yeovil returned to the National

9. AARON JARVIS - Forward

Jarvis was born in Basingstoke, Hampshire, and signed his first-team contract with Basingstoke Town in May 2016 after progressing through their youth system. In 2017 he joined Luton Town. He signed for Sutton United in 2019 and was later loaned to Hemel Hempstead Town. Jarvis joined Scunthorpe United on a two-year contract in 2020. In 2022, he signed with Torquay United. On 14 June 2024, Jarvis signed a two-year deal with Yeovil Town.

10. FRANK NOUBLE - Forward II. JORDAN YOUNG - Midfield/Forward

Starting his career with Swindon Town, Young is already familiar with manager Mark Cooper, who was the first manager to name him in a professional match day squad as a teenager. He scored his first Swindon goal later that season against Shrewsbury Town at the County Ground.

14. BRETT MCGAVIN - Midfield

McGavin progressed through Ipswich Town's youth system after joining their academy in 2009 and signed his first professional contract in 2019. Following brief loan spells at Bury Town and Concord Rangers, he made his Ipswich debut on 12 November 2019. In February 2021, McGavin joined Ayr United on loan until the end of the 2020-21. He then signed on loan for King's Lynn Town for the 2021-22 season. Released by Ipswich in 2022, he signed a three-year contract with Torquay United. On 4 June 2024, McGavin joined Yeovil Town on a two-year deal.

16. SONNY BLU LO-EVERTON - Midfield Lo-Everton began his career at Watford, joining the club's academy in 2011. He was later featured in The Guardian's Next Generation 2019 list, recognised as one of the top young talents in Premier League academies. He went on loan to Wealdstone for a short spell. After making several appearances for Watford in pre-season friendlies, Lo-Everton was loaned out once more at the start of the 2021-22 season to Yeovil Town. There, he reunited with former Watford youth coach Darren Sarll. In September 2022, Lo-Everton signed a one-year contract with Derby County. On 27 February 2023, he rejoined National League side Wealdstone on loan until the end of the 2022-23 season. He was released by Derby County at the conclusion of the 2022-23 season. In July 2023, Lo-Everton signed for Yeovil Town following a successful trial.

17. DYLAN MORGAN - Midfield 19. JOSH SIMS - Midfield

Sims joined Southampton's Academy from the Elite Training Centre in 2011. After impressing with the under-23s, he made his senior debut on 27

November 2016 in a Premier League match against Everton. In August 2018, Sims joined Reading on a season-long loan but was recalled in January. He then moved on loan to New York Red Bulls in August 2019. After a brief loan at Doncaster Rovers in 2020, he rejoined them for the remainder of the season. Released by Southampton in June 2021, Sims signed for Ross County in February 2022, leaving when his contract expired in July 2024. On 15 August 2024, Sims joined Yeovil Town.

20. RAPHAEL ARAOYE - Defence 22. MATT GOULD - Goalkeeper

In 2014, after making four appearances for Hawke's Bay United in the New Zealand Football Championship, Gould signed with Cheltenham Town. Following a loan spell at Bishop's Cleeve, he joined Livingston in 2015. In 2016, after loan spells at Stenhousemuir and Stourbridge, Gould signed permanently with Stourbridge. In August 2020, Gould signed with Altrincham and was loaned to Nantwich Town for three months. In May 2022, Gould signed an extension with Altrincham. In July 2024, Gould joined Yeovil Town as a player and goalkeeping coach.

23. MICHAEL SMITH - Defence

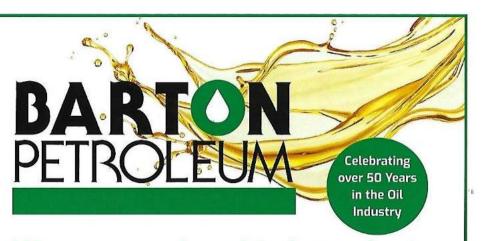
Smith began his football career at Greenisland Boys Club then joined his first senior club, Ballyclare Comrades, in 2005. He signed for Ballymena United in January 2009, where he made over 100 appearances before moving to England to join Bristol Rovers in 2011. In July 2014, Smith signed a three-year deal with Peterborough United, Smith joined Heart of Midlothian in June 2017. In September 2023, Smith signed for Yeovil Town.

24. CHARLIE COOPER - Midfield

A Birmingham City academy graduate, he has played in the Football League for both Forest Green & Newport County. His time in the National League has been spent with York City, Boreham Wood, FC Halifax Town, Woking, Wealdstone alongside Oldham and Forest Green.

27. HARVEY GREENSLADE - Forward

Greenslade initially joined Bristol Rovers at the under-7s level. In May 2022, Greenslade secured his first professional contract with Bristol Rovers In September 2022, Greenslade joined National League South side Chippenham Town on loan until January 2023. In February 2023, he was loaned to Truro City. In August 2023, Greenslade returned to Truro City. In February 2024, Greenslade joined Oxford City on loan. On 29 May 2024, Yeovil Town announced the signing of Greenslade following the expiry of his contract with Bristol Rovers. 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.



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FACTS TO MAKE YOU THINK ... STAT ATTACK



BY ADAM HILLS

LAST weekend's FA Cup success, whilst not entirely straightforward, gave Wealdstone

a much needed first win since August Bank Holiday.

Ruthless Alex Reid grabbed a hat-trick on his debut as Wealdstone scored more than two goals in a game for first time this season. The lure (?!) of a trip to Grimsby Town in 2 weeks awaits, however it's back to league action today as Yeovil Town visit the Vale. For many Stones fans, today signals the start of a run of vitally important league fixtures over the coming weeks against teams in and around the lower end of the table. That's perhaps a strange thing to say given the visitors arrive sat rather cosily in 10th place in the league. The league table never lies, right? Well let's hope it does as many

Stones fans, as highlighted in episode 63 of the Stones Cast, are clinging to the hope that Stones' general performances this season have warranted more than the

| League Pos | Team | AOP | Diff | • |
|------------|----------------------|-------|-------|---|
| | Wealdstone | 9.77 | -2.73 | • |
| 23 | Boston United | 9.92 | -2.58 | |
| 7 | Eastleigh | 10.77 | -1.73 | |
| 24 | Ebbsfleet United | 10.92 | -1.58 | |
| 20 | Braintree Town | 11.00 | -1.50 | |
| | AFC Fylde | 11.31 | -1.19 | b |
| 13 | Dagenham & Redbridge | 11.69 | -0.81 | |
| 12 | Solihuli Moors | 11.85 | -0.65 | |
| 2 | Forest Green Rovers | 11.92 | -0.58 | |
| | Aldershot Town | 11.92 | -0.58 | |
| 18 | Southend United | 12.00 | -0.50 | |
| | Tamworth | 12.23 | -0.27 | |
| 14 | Gateshead | 12.46 | -0.04 | |
| | Altrincham | 12.46 | -0.04 | |
| 11 | Woking | 12.46 | -0.04 | |
| | Maldenhead United | 13.31 | 0.81 | |
| 19 | FC Halifax Town | 13.46 | 0.96 | į |
| 8 | Sutton United | 13.62 | 1.12 | į |
| 9 | Rochdale | 13.69 | 1.19 | 1 |
| 5 | Hartlepool United | 14.00 | 1.50 | ł |
| 16 | Yeovil Town | 13.92 | 1.42 | Ì |
| 10 | Oldham Athletic | 14.23 | 1.73 | |
| 6 | York City | 15.08 | 2.58 | |
| 3 | Percel | 15.46 | 2.96 | 1 |

Impressive 'mini-league' stats ..we need to replicate them now

| Season | P | W | D | | | T . | T - | | | |
|------------|------|-------|---|---|----|-----|-----|----|------|------|
| | | 75000 | U | L | F | A | Pts | GD | PPG | % TP |
| 2021-22 | 14 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 25 | 17 | 30 | 8 | 2.14 | 56.6 |
| 2022-23 | 14 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 20 | 16 | 26 | 1 | 1.86 | |
| 2023-24 | 14 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 22 | 22 | 24 | | | 43.3 |
| All Home | - 04 | | | - | _ | 22 | 24 | 0 | 1.71 | 42.9 |
| All Hollie | 21 | 13 | 6 | 2 | 39 | 24 | 45 | 15 | 2.14 | 44.1 |

eight points and nine goals to date. There's also a belief that Stones have been unlucky with the opening-quarter fixture list as nearly all of the teams currently occupying the promotion/playoff places have already faced Matt Taylor's side. So let's introduce the notion of the 'mini-league'. For the last three seasons (since the nonsense Covid 2020-21 season), Wealdstone have built their league status on being good (very good!) in the mini-league stakes. The mini-league is generally seen as the bottom 7/8 teams in the National League who are all fighting to get to the magic (or not so as last season proved!) 50 point mark to secure National League football

for another season. Of course, the mini-league becomes clearer as the season progresses and there is usually one side that claws themselves out - and one that will drop like a stone after Xmas and find themselves in trouble. The latter was us last season. The former needs to be us this season!

As the table above shows, our performance against sides in and around the relegation places have proved pivotal. The percentage of total points (%TP - against minileague teams) over the whole season number reflects how much we have relied on that pocket of games. But that reliance is slowly declining: We are picking up more points from teams higher up the table. Our general home form against mini-league teams over the last three seasons has seen an awesome 45 points harvested at 2.14 points per game!

Here's the table that shows we HAVE had a harder start than anyone, fixture-wise

So why, with the Glovers sat nicely in 10th place - would this two-bob-wannabe-journo be considering Yeovil as a mini-league fixture? Aside from the obvious that Yeovil are a newly-promoted team there could be a suspicion that, inverse to Wealdstone, they have had an 'easier' start to the season. The table (left) shows the 'average' position of each opposition (AOP) team faced in the 13 league games played so far. The average is 12.5 and therefore any team with a lower (minus) average has therefore, in theory faced a tougher-than-average set of fixtures. Yeovil's five wins this season have come against the teams currently sat in 13th, 20th, 21st, 22nd and 24th. The average position of their thirteen opponents to date is 13.92 which is +1.42 above the average. The good news for us fans is that Wealdstone have had the toughest set of fixtures for all teams in the league, with average position of those teams being 9.77 (-2.73 lower than average). It might be a pointer. It might be a load of rubbish. But we desperately need to kickstart things with a win today.

FOOTBALL HISTORIAN LEIGH EDWARDS PROFILES TEN LEADING YEOVIL TOWN MANAGERS

MANAGING TO SUCCEED BY LEIGH EDWARDS

LOUIS PAGE

Ex-England international winger Louis Page guided Yeovil to the FA Cup third round for the first time in 1934-35. One of four footballing brothers, he played for Stoke and Northampton prior to joining Burnley in May 1925. He starred as they finished fifth in the top-flight in 1926-27 and moved to Manchester United in March 1932. Briefly captain, he joined Port Vale in October 1932. Appointed Yeovil's player-boss in July 1933, he led them to the Southern League (Western) title and Cup final in 1934-35. He became Newport County's boss in June 1935, then managed Swindon and Chester. He died in Birkenhead in October 1959.

DAVE HALLIDAY

Player-manager Dave Halliday guided Yeovil to the FA Cup third round in 1937-38. Initially with Queen of the South, the centre-forward moved via St Mirren to Dundee in July 1921 and was a Scottish Cup finalist shortly before joining Sunderland in April 1925. He scored a club record 43 goals in 1928-29, then had spells with Arsenal, Manchester City and Clapton Orient, becoming Yeovil's player-boss in June 1935. Taking charge of Aberdeen in January 1938, he plotted

their 1947 Scottish Cup final success and 1954-55 title triumph, then managed Leicester to the Second Division title in 1956-57. He died in January 1970.

ALEC STOCK

One of the best-known figures in Yeovil Town's history, player-manager Alec Stock plotted the Glovers' epic 1948-49 FA Cup fourth round defeat of top-flight Sunderland. He played for Charlton and QPR

prior to becoming Yeovil's player-boss in Jur 1946. Also guiding the Glovers to two Soutl ern League Cup finals, he took charge of Le; ton Orient in May 1949 and led them to the Third Division (South) title in 1955-56. Returning to QPR as manager in August 195

he plotted their 1966-67 Third Divisic title and League Cup 'double' succes then managed Luton, Fulham and Bournemouth. He died in April 2001.

IKE CLARKE

Player-manager Ike Clarke plotted Yeovil Town's 1954-55 Southern League and Cup 'double' triumph. T centre-forward moved from Toll End Wesley to West Brom in January 1937 an

was a prolific scorer in wartime matches, guesting for Walsall and Nottingham Forest. Joining Portsmouth in November 1947, he starred as they wer League Champions in two consecutive seasons. Appointed Yeovil's player-boss in July 1953, he ne ted 47 goals in 103 games before leaving Huish in May 1957. He managed Sittingbourne and Canterbury City, then was a Kent CCC fund raiser and r sided in Herne Bay until his death in April 2002.

JIMMY BALDWIN

ALEC STOCK

Player-manager Jimmy Baldwin steered Yeovil Town to the FA Cup third round in 1957-58. Signi professional for Blackburn Rovers in December 1945, the wing-half appeared in the top-flight and moved to Leicester City in February 1950. He starred in their 1953-54 Second Division title triumph and had a season as Great Yarmouth's playe boss before joining Yeovil in a similar capacity in May 1957. Also taking Colchester to an FA Cup second round replay in 1958-59, he scored once in

96 games for the Glovers and remained in charge until May 1960. He resided in Blackburn until his death in February 1985.

BASIL HAYWARD

Basil Hayward built Yeovil
Town's 1963-64 Southern
League championship tean
Moving to Port Vale from
Northwood Mission in May
1946, the centre-forward
was top scorer as they just
missed promotion in 1952-53
then won the Third Division
(North) title and were FA Cup
semi-finalists in 1953-54. He also fea-

tured at centre-half and was ever-present in 1956-57, moving to Portsmouth in July 1958. Appointed Yeovil's player-boss in June 1960, he plotted their 1961 Southern League Cup final triumph and took charge of Bedford in February 1964, then managed Gillingham and Telford. He died in December 1989.

MIKE HUGHES

Player-manager Mike Hughes guided Yeovil Town to the Southern League title in 1970-71. Signing professional for Cardiff City in December 1958, the midfielder moved to Exeter City in July 1961. Joining Chesterfield in July 1963,

he helped take Stoke City to a League Cup third round replay in 1965-66. He became Yeovil's player-boss in April 1969 and led them to an FA Cup third round tie against Arsenal in 1970-71, scoring twice in 129 games, becoming Torquay's coach in May 1972. Later managing Salisbury, Shaftesbury and Cirencester, he rejoined Yeovil as community officer. He died in December 2018

BRIAN HALL

Brian Hall managed Yeovil Town's 1987-88 Isthmian League and Cup 'double' success. He coached alongside Allen Batsford at Walton & Hersham and Wimbledon, then assisted Slough and Wycombe Wanderers before linking up with Batsford again at **Wealdstone** in July 1981. Succeeding him as manager two years later, he plotted their 1984-85 Conference title and FA Trophy 'double' success and became Yeovil's boss in January 1987. He led them to the FA Cup third round in 1987-88 but was sacked in October 1990 and rejoined **Wealdstone**, briefly managing Yeovil again during the 1994-95 campaign.

GARY JOHNSON

Gary Johnson guided Yeovil Town to the Confer-

We dont need much prompting to use this Iconic Wealdstone picture Wembley 1985 ... The Late, Great BRIAN HALL

title in 2002-03. A former player with Watford, he was coach/manager at Cambridge United, then rejoined Watford as Academy director. He coached Latvia before appointed Yeovil's boss in June 2001. Plotting their 2002 FA Trophy success and 2004-05 League Two title triumph, he left in September 2005 to manage Bristol City, taking them to promotion in 2006-07. He managed Peterborough and Northampton, then rejoined Yeovil from January 2012 until February 2015. Guiding them to the Championship in 2012-13, he then led both Cheltenham and Torquay to promotion.

RUSSELL SLADE

Russell Slade managed Yeovil Town to the League One play-off final in 2006-07. He concentrated on coaching from a young age, his League management break occurring with caretaker spells at Notts County and Sheffield United. After guiding Scarborough to the FA Cup fourth round in 2003-04, he became Grimsby Town's boss in May 2004, taking the Mariners to the League Two play-off final in 2005-06. He replaced Steve Thompson as Yeovil's manager from June 2006 until February 2009 and has since had spells in charge of Brighton, Leyton Orient, Cardiff, Charlton, Coventry, Grimsby again





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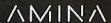
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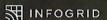




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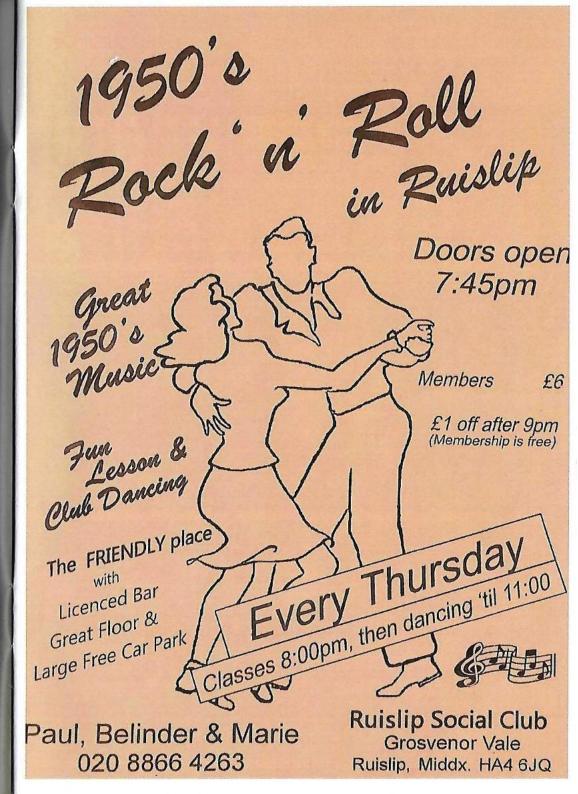








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2 Grimsby Town 5 FULHAM U21s

9 Aldershot Town

12 SOUTHAMPTON

16 ROCHDALE

26 TAMWORTH

30 ALTRINCHAM

3 DERBY COUNTY U21s

26 Maidenhead United

18 HARTLEPOOL UNITED

21 BRIGHTON & HOVE A U21s

BOSTON UNITED

11 Altrincham

25 AFC Fylde

8 GATESHEAD

15 Yeovil Town

4 Tamworth

8 Rochdale

22 WOKING

29 York City

12 Barnet

8 Boston United

26 Southend United

5 FC HALIFAX TOWN

15 EASTLEIGH

18 Braintree Town

22 EBBSFLEET UNITED

5 FOREST GREEN ROYERS

21 MAIDENHEAD UNITED

Date in Red = MIDWEEK fixture

1 ALDERSHOT TOWN

1 SOLIHULL MOORS

14 Sutton United

JANUARY

21 DAGENHAM & REOBRIDGE

YET TO BE DRAWN

14 Oldham Athletic

23 Eastleigh

| A | UGUST | Comp | Score | Crowd | (Away) | Lge Goal scorers | Archie | Jack C | Anthor | Deon V | Alex D | Mason | Enzio | Sean A | Мах К | Todd N | Jacob | Micah | Elliot S | Domin | Christi | Adrian | Sam A | Kallum | Alex P | Jaydn | Henry | Jack W | Declan Elliot 1 | Jahma | Sam H | Brando |
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OLDEWIJN

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KEY

Starter

O 1st player off
O 2nd player off
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We've met before TIM PARKS LOOKS BACK ON

SOME REMARKABLE STALEMATES FROM RECENT CLASHES

Right: Alex Dyer sees red for a foul on ex-Stone Sonny Blu Lo-Everton in the May 2022 0-0; then Lewis Kinsella is sent off in the August 2022 0-0 at The Vale; then Yeovil's Owen Bevan sees red for a foul on Dyer in the January 2023 bore draw







But it wasn't all fouls and boredom: here Jack Cook sees his header hit the bar in the draw at Huish Park on May Bank Holiday two years ago, in 2022



THE FIRST indication that Wealdstone v Yeovil games had become less than exciting came as we wandered out of Huish Park on a bitterly cold January evening last year.

A couple of elderly home fans were shaking their heads at the dreary spectacle we had just seen. "That Wealdstun, we just carnt seem to score any goals against 'em" said one.

His friend nodded back. "But they carnt score any goals against us, can they neither?".

"No, wozzn't a great game, woz it? I saw more excitement this afternoon at the launderette".

And with that little overheard gem we parted company for the long trek back to Ruislip.

The old boys weren't wrong. The Glovers ended up relegated four months later purely for the reason that they couldn't score enough goals - but they found defences much easier to crack in the National League South as they rocketed to the title last season.

But will things be any different this afternoon? Will our two teams be able to shrug off the burden of having chalked up three consecutive 0-0 draws in our last three meetings? I can just hear the ironic cheers now if either teammanages to break the 270+ minutes duck here at the Vale. I can

Stones v Glovers in the last 3 meetings: 270 minutes played with NO goals but THREE red cards!

hear you yawning already but here come the highlights from those last three meetings...

Monday May 2, 2022, National League: Yeovil 0 Wealdstone 0

IT WAS the final few games of the season and Yeovil were destined to finish slap-bang in the middle of the table. We were pretty much safe, too, in 16th but probably deserved to take three points home despite having Alex Dyer sent off for a clumsy challenge on the exStones loanee Sonny Blu Lo-Everton after just 37 minutes.

Dyer had earlier been denied by another brief ex-Stone, Grant Smith while lack Cook was inches away from netting a header.. and then saw his 25-yarder fingertipped over the bar. But no goals!

Saturday August 30, 2022, National League: Wealdstone 0 Yeovil 0

ONCE AGAIN Stones had to play with a man short - this time for 80 minutes after Lewis Kinsella's early reckless challenge on Malachi Lintor gave the referee little option but to brandish the red. Then, that rare thing - a goal - looked on the cards a Sam Howes toppled Alex Fisher on the hour mark for a penalty. Linton stepped up but cracked his shot just

The worst

over the angle of post and bar. So that's two games; no goals; two red cards.

Cookle's so close with a 25-yarder that was saved by Grant Smith two years ago

Tuesday January 31, 2023, National League: Yeovil 0 Wealdstone 0

THE RETURN game, at the Huish, pitted a back-to-form Stones with the floundering Glovers. Yeovil couldn't buy a win under manager Mark Cooper - who brought his

son Charlie (another ex-Stone) back into the side but they ended up finishing third from bottom, joining Torquay, Scunthorpe and Maidstone back in level six. You could see why, although on this occasion it was Stuart Maynard's side who had the man advantage when Owen Bevan was shown red midway through the first half for a lunge on Alex Dyer. Poor

Alex must be nailed on for a leading role when the makers of Ted Lasso decide to branch out with a three-part series: The Stones v Glovers No-Goals-Three Reds-Trilogy.

You shouldn't laugh though. With just one league goal at home for Matt Taylor's side this season, and Yeovil not setting the league on fire there will doubtless be a rush to the bookies this afternoon to back another goalless draw.

And yet.....

Since the Stones returned to the National League four years ago the early clashes with the Glovers have delivered a few goals. Our very first



game back saw an entertaining 2-2 draw behind closed doors at Huish Park while Yeovil were emphatic 2-0 winners at the Vale in the return game on May 1st.

While on Tuesday February 8th 2022 we notched our first win over the Somerset side for 40 years when Josh Umerah and Nik Tavares (celebration pictured above) clinched a 2-1 win.

Overpage: They played for both





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They played for both clubs LEGEND Neil Cordice..a

Stones legenderime also fondly remembered by Yeovil fans of the rollercoaster **1980s and 90s** Oct 1992: Neil Cordice is back in blue and pictured pulsating FA Cup tie with Dagenham & Redbridge at

ON THE face of it you'd not expect there to have been much interaction, player-wise, between Wealdstone and Yeovil.

125 miles apart. One in the London suburbs, the other in cider-swilling Somerset.

Yeovil famous giant-killers of the 1950s and 60s, Wealdstone a powerhouse of the mid-80s while the Glovers were on the slide, and only re-acquainting themselves four years ago after Stones had spent three decades in the doldrums - a period when Yeovil had finally broken into the Football League and even reached the Championship!

Football's Swingometer had never seen such a gap between our clubs. In 2003, when Gary Johnson's Glovers won promotion into the League, Gordon Bartlett's Stones were just avoiding relegation to the Ryman Div Two... four levels below.

And ten years later, as Yeovil made it to the Championship, Stones were in the Ryman Prem, six levels below.

So who has worn Wealdstone blue and Yeovil green in the past? An awful lot of players in fact. In recent years, Sonny Blu-Everton has turned out for both in loan spells while Charlie Cooper spent 2021-22 at the Vale before joining up with his dad Mark who was managing the Glov- ance kicked off: Aug 1979

ers. But most of the interaction was due to one Trophy) double in 1985 and was then persuaded to travel West and revive the fortunes of Yeovil who were mired in the Southern League.

The Glovers, with some 50 years of history in the SL, surprised the football world by announcing that they had applied to move across to the Isthmian League (the other feeder league to the Conference) despite the absurdity of a Somerset club competing

| The thinking was that the Isth- |
|-----------------------------------|
| mian League was a weaker prop- |
| osition, and that Hall would be |
| casting his net wide for London- |
| based players to boost his squad. |
| And so of course he first raided |
| the Stones for members of his |
| history-making squad. The Glov- |
| ers' line-up on the opposite page |
| shows a lot of the ex-Stones |
| from that era but absent are key |
| performers Steve Rutter, Barry |
| Blackman and Steve Browne |
| (Rhys Browne's dad). |
| |

he first Stone on Hall's shopping list, is one of the genuine Wealdstone legends, having spent II years with

Brian Hall, the manager who steered the Stones to that incredible first non-League (Conference and FA

in that M25-based competition.

| | | | The dilliking was |
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| j | ALLIANCE | PREMIER | mian League was a |
| - | Murphy, Owen Hoghes | LEAMINGTON 2 Gardner 2 | osition, and that H casting his net wid |
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| | WORCESTER 2 Pemberton, Stevens | WEALDSTONE 1 Cordice-2,158 | Neil Cordice, th |
| | | | |

Goal on his debut as the Alli-

NEIL WAS JUST ONE OF MANY WHO STARRED IN BLUE & GREEN

the club over two spells, playing a total of 459 games (second only to Charlie Townsend in the all-time stats) and scoring 102 goals. He's devilishly difficult to catch up with, but I managed to speak with 'Mr Busy' recently and quiz him on his time at both clubs. He spent half a dozen years at Yeovil - again over two spells - and was the first one Brian Hall approached with this vision of the New Yeovil.

"It was a time when Wealdstone were in a bad place, on the way to relegation from the Conference under Colin Meldrum but I had a reputation for loyalty. When Yeovil came in for me they were being well-backed and had potential to get into the League, never mind just the Conference... and Meldrum obviously wasn't bothered if I stayed or went. So I went."

The travelling must have been difficult though, I asked him. Living in Amersham and commuting to Yeovil?

"It worked out okay, they gave me a car and I could stay down there with one of the directors. My last game for the Stones, in that spell was early in the 87-88 season and the club

were relegated into the Southern League while Yeovil came back up in the other direction, winning the Isthmian League, the league cup and the challenge shield.

Neil's little-known claim to fame is having scored on every one of his debuts!

"It's true.... I didn't play for lots of clubs but I scored at Worcester on my Wealdstone debut (see Sunday Express cutting on opposite page) in the first-ever Alliance Premier League match in August 1979, and also for Yeovil on my debut against Northwich Victoria. On my

debut for Northampton in '79 (against Bradford City) I was being marked by the ex-Leeds and England player Paul Reaney but still scored! And I also scored in my first games for Flackwell Heath, Walton & Hersham and Chesham United."

centre) in a

he Vicarage

That's not a bad record for someone who played only half of his games as a striker. He's best remembered at both Yeovil and the Stones for his gunslinger of a shot, with the rare ability to hit the ball so cleanly that keepers were often left helpless from 30 yards.

His goal for the Stones - against Yeovil, funnily enough, in a 5-0 Lower Mead pasting 45 years ago - was voted 'Best Stones goal ever' in a poll in this programme a dozen years ago. A screamer, on the volley, from close to 35 yards.

It's another little-known fact that Neil

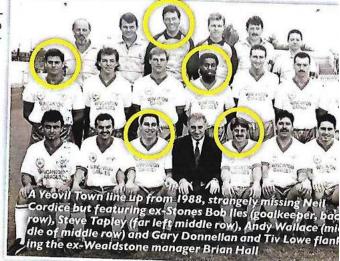


scored the last competitive goal at our old Lower Mead ground in a Capital League 1-1 draw with Sutton United in April 1991. And he also scored a memorable 35-yarder in the last-ever game at Yeovil's old Huish ground in April 2000. That goal (pictured above) was captured on video and Neil is fondly remembered by the crowd for his part in Yeovil's climb back to prominence.

But racism was very prevalent the 1980s and 90s and is still, sadly, creating headlines today. 'Rambling Stone', a contributor to the YTFC Blog wrote candidly about it and admits that his club were one of the worst offenders. "I recall one home game, against a team from London in Isthmian League days. As a player came to take a throw-in, someone a few rows behind me shouted out a racist term. Neil Cordice, the Yeovil midfielder walked straight over. The guy behind then said (as if it made it better): "I didn't mean you Neil."

"The response was one I never forgot: "We're all the same. You abuse him, you abuse me. Think about it.' No swearing. No aggression. Zen-like calm. The best lesson you could ever have. Delivered within touching distance."

A class act was Neil, in every possible way.



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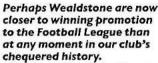






TIM PARKS LOOKS AT THE LONG, LONG LIST OF IMPOSTERS WHO TRIED AND FAILED TO JOIN THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE BIG BOYS

The clubs like Yeovil who have been there and done that.. and how badly they want to get back in the Big League!



Members of the National League, itself studded with many ex-League outfits and with a shiny new stadium just down the road in prospect, the Stones are surviving among non-League's heavyweights and it doesn't take much imagination (though probably some serious investors) to see a future in which the Stones march proudly into the EFL League Two.

Thank goodness for the intense lobbying of the Alliance Premier League (now the National League) throughout the 1980s! It was their constant pleas for automatic promotion that finally saw the Football League buckle and reluctantly allow the 1987 champions Scarborough into Division Four (as it was then) and sent Lincoln City plummeting

into non-League.

Of course, it's a different conversation if you're asking do we want Wealdstone to leave non League behind? Football is all about upward movement and despite the Stones being mere amateurs when I began my own 55-year-old journey with the club, there were certainly brave men in charge when the nettle of progression was grasped back in the early and late 1970s. Firstly, in 1970 the Board realised that the 'shamateur' game would soon be abolished and - despite being a very average Isthmian League club - they listened to the vocal fanbase and accepted the offer of a place in the part-time professional Southern League (Division One).

As supporters, we dreamed of rubbing shoulders with the serial FL applicants like Kettering Town and tonight's visitors Yeovil, with their big grounds and glossy bro-

chures which they circulated amongst the Football League delegates at the annual meeting every year. How they dreamed of automatic promotion!

In those far-off days there was a historic 'old pals act' that shamelessly maintained the status quo. The FL club chairmen routinely voted to keep lame ducks like Workington, Darlington and Barrow in Division Four despite progressive clubs like Yeovil, Cambridge United and Peterborough hammering at the door.

It wasn't until I was idly looking through The Southern League seasons on Wikipedia (as you do) that I realised just how many non-League clubs applied to join the full-time ranks every year. Was this with genuine hopes of being elected, or the vanity of over-ambitious chairmen hoping to keep their club's profile relatively high?

Records prove-New faces, bigger gates

Falling attendances are perhaps the biggest problem facing Football League clubs these days, yet Yeovil Town have figures to prove that election to the competition would lead to a boom, not only in their own gates but wherever they class.

The supporters of the club have made it clear that they want to see League soccer in the space of 20 days in May last year more than 22,000 fans turned out to see League sides in four testimonial games at Huish. More than 7,000 in fact watched a 3-2 win over First Division Wolverhampton

Cup ties against League sides have always been a big attraction for the Yeovil fans. Figures in recent years have included 14,500 (v. Arsenal), 10,577 (v. Plymouth Argyle) and 9,447 (v. Brentford) Of course, the week-in, week-out attendances are the club's bread and butter and here again Yeovil can score over many Fourth Division and some Third Division sides. Consider the figures the past three seasons. At home Yeovil acted an average of 3,417 for all their games. npare that with some League attendances for same period—Crewe (2,399), Darlington

72), Hartlepool (3,296), Stockport County 38) and Workington (2,053). yeekly attraction of League competition 1 give Yeovil's gates a tremendous further lift. erage of 5,500 is a conservative estimate. new face would prove a popular drawing ound the Fourth Division, as Hereford proved in 1972-73.

riget that since 1967-68 the average ice for a Fourth Division match has from 6,077 to 3,771.

No Football League club need worry about its gates when Yeovil Town are elected to the competition. Unlike many areas crowded with too many succer clubs, Somerset, like neighbouring Dorset, has no League club

Census figures show that more than 170,000 live within a 20 mile radius of Yeovil Town's ground. Yet the nearest Football League clubs are 42 miles away Yeovil can therefore draw from a huge catchment area without taking supporters away from any

Yet Yeovil is far from being isolated. The M.5 comes within 26 miles of the town and the completion of the motorway will make it even more accessible There is a regular and direct rail link with London and the North and the Midlands are also easily reached by train.



170,000 people not catered

Above and left: 1973 promotional brochures weren't enough to help Yeovil who finally went up automatically

There was no real pecking order in the 50s and 60s, with the Southern League, Northern League and Midland League all vying for attention.

In 1961, for example, 26 clubs applied for Football League status and 15 clubs of them failed to poll even one vote. Southern League champions Oxford United did poll 19 but it wasn't enough to oust Hartlepools United or Barrow who received 35 and 32 votes respectively... however, the following season Oxford won the Southern League again and, lo and behold, they were elected to the League. Although only because Accrington Stanley resigned!

So why didn't Wealdstone join the masses of applicants? Well our quaint Lower Mead ground wasn't a bad size (15,000 apparently, in the days when health & safety was a phrase nobody was acquainted with) but nobody in their right

mind associated the Stones with the Football League.

That is, until the mid-70s when grandiose ideas of turning the pitch around and utilising the rest of the freehold site for offices, shops and car parking actually appeared to have some traction. From the reports (over page) dating from 1973 the future appeared not just bright but dazzling... but in the end the scheme fizzeld out due to local opposition and difficulties in relocating the shops alongside the Dominion Cinema.

We did, however, join the ranks of the no-hopers in 1978 when on the back of the FA Cup run to the Third Round, chairman David Martle insisted on paying the fee to apply... and suffered the indignity of polling less that one vote. In 1985, after winning the APL title (which would have ensured automatic promotion two years later) ground-grading had become a fac-

tor for applicants and thus the decaying Lower Mead was laughed out of court. Neither the grounds of runners-up Nuneaton Borough or third placed Dartford passed muster either, and 4th-placed Bath City were handed the baton. Twerton Park was deemed suitable but unsurprisingly they polled just eight votes to Halifax's 48.

These clubs weren't alone. Scrolling back through the 1960s, Weymouth won the Southern League twice but after polling just one vote in 1965 the champions didn't even bother applying in 1966 when Fourth Division stragglers Rochdale and Wrexham each won 40 votes.

The FL chairman were steadfast in their refusal to allow even a glimmer of hope to the regular aspirants (Kettering, Scarborough, Bedford, Cambridge City, Guild-

Continued overpage>>>

DELVING BACK INTO THE HISTORY BOOKS TO REVEAL OUR OWN HOPES AND FRUITLESS ASPIRATIONS AT HITTING THE BIG TIME... From previous page ord and Romford all applied every year but won barely half a dozen votes between them) but in 1969 there was

a chink of light when Cambridge United won the Southern League and polled SIXTEEN votes. Newport County (27 votes) and Bradford Park Avenue (38) were reprieved by their pals but the gap was narrowing.

And the following year Cambridge smashed down the gates by winning the SL again and were rewarded with 31 votes and a coveted place in the Big League! Bradford Park Avenue were the club left looking betrayed at their mates, garnering just 17 votes.. and they were cast out into the wilderness.

Maybe the tide was turning. Were the FL chairmen becoming a little seduced by the charms of the easilyaccessible University cities? Who would rather visit Oxford or Cambridge compared with the less heady delights of Workington, Barrow, or Bradford?

Two years later, Hereford United (finishing second in the SL table behind Chelmsford, and only fourth the previous year) embarked on their famous FA Cup run that took in the legendary beating of top flight Newcastle at Edgar Street and the narrow defeat at West Ham in the 4th Round - and were handed a place in the League

at the end of that 1971-72 season at the expense of Barrow. It went to a re-count as both clubs tied on 20 votes, but in the end the remote Cumbrian shipbuilding town lost out to the glitz and glamour of The Bulls. This was the era of Yeovil and Kettering - and Wigan in the North

CAR PARK

PLANS for the development of Wealdstone Football Club's ground at Lower Mead Stadium were disclosed this week. The club said that plans being prepared by E.M.I. Ltd., including the building of an office block complex and public multi-storey car park, would guarantee it an income of about £20,000 a year in two years' time.

fulfilled it will mean a dramatic change from rags to riches. At the club's annual meeting on Friday members were told of an £11,000 loss on the 1972-73 season, this including over £4,000 on a pop concert which it had been hoped would help revive the club's dwindling fortunes.

They were given better news in the cleb programme the fol-lowing day when it was an-nounced that Trumans, the brewers, had made proposals which would put the club in the fortunate position of being able to look ahead without the cripping burden of bank over-drafts at grossly inflated rates

On Wednesday, Mr. Colin Pope, the dub's public relations officer, said he could now con-firm that Trumans had made a "substantial loan" for the use of the football and social sides of the club.

'Taking shape'

In a statement the previous day Mr. Pope had said:

Plans are gradually taking shape to turn Lower Mead Stations not one of the funest in non-leapse soon; and better than many Football League than many Football League than many Football Cargon of the Mediature F.C. beyond its wide frame.

Tolker frame.

Following months of nego-tions with the club's solice ters, EMIL the vast entertain ment and source prosp, who was the ABC Cinema adjacent to the pround are now in the family stages of previous.

multi-storey car park on part of the stadium. "It would mean that Wealdnt would mean that Weald stone's pitch would be turned 90 degrees and space-age facilities, including lush gressing rooms and offices, a new social club with a huge separate ball-room, anual courts. room, squash courts, and sauna baths provided.

The remodelled ground will still have the same capacity of some 16,000, but a new 2,000 seat stand is incorporated, plus as much terracing as already

"The goals would face High Mead and there is sufficient space to allow a near-maximum

Rents

"But the over-riding factor is that rents from the office block would mean a revenue in excess of £20,000 per year to Weald-

or £20,000 per year to Weald-stone F.C.

"The club has already reached agreement with Har-row Borough F.C. to use their pitch for the two years that Lower Mead Stadium will be out of action (Marsan Borous). out of action (Harrow Borough are using Weaklstone's pitch at present, until their own re-seed pitch is ready in the New

The whole scheme, of course, is dependent upon EMI obtaining the necessary planning permission but Weald-stone's advisers feel that they would not already have expended such money and effort enless they felt the project had more than a reasonable chance of being a reasonable chance of being the project had more than a reasonable chance of being the project had the project had the project had more than a reasonable chance of being the project had the project

being accepted in its entirety.
"One of the major planks, of course, is the provision of a public car part, which is sorely needed in central Harrow

"Also now imminent is the preparation of the articles of as sociation for turning Weald stone into a public limited com

- piling on the charm offensive but

never quite managing to prise a

place from the quavering Work-

ington who routinely finished

bottom of the Football League

Batsford's Wimbledon, that is.

pile. Until the emergence of Allen

The Dons won three successive

pany, and an extraordinary meeting of members is expected to be called by the end of this month to approve them. The company will then be formed almost immediately and 61 almost immediately, and £1 shares will be available to the general public."

Bought for £1,670

If the negotiations with E.M.I. are successful history will be repeating itself. For the club 'original'y owned the land on which the A.B.C. cinema stands and by selling it cleared its mortgage and so achieved completely freehold premises, administered by trustees. The original full-size security of the complete of t

administered by trustees.

The original full-size ground, on which there were once two pitches, was bought for £1,670 and was first occupied in 1922. The northern part was sold as a cinema size shortly in the mid thirties, the cinema opening as the Dominion in 1936.

Mr. Michael Hardy, the Harrow Borough Planner, told the Observer on Wednesday that there had been informal consultations with him, but nothing more. No application had yet been submitted and he was surposed that the proposals in its proto the proposals in its pro-

Dog bit boy

A nine year old boy from Locket Road, Wealdstone was bitten by a dog near his home on Monday.

The incident occurred when

Richard Cosgrove walked be-tween two girls, both with dogs. on Monday evening. He was taken to Wembley hospital where a laceration on his elbow was treated. He was not de

Southern League titles in 1975, 1976 and 1977 but even that wouldn't have been enough had the FL Management Committee not insisted that summer that the two premier non-League competitions (the Southern League and Northern Premier League) put

Fifty years ago, Stones jumped the gun by revealing details of an exciting 'Football League' upgrade to Lower Mead Stadium. But ? planning permisson was never : granted

their heads together and presented just one applicant from each league to try and win a place.

Dur! How many decades had the charade of multiple clubs applying been played out? Surely this was obvious?

The upshot was that Wimbledon (triple SL Champions) and the powerful Altrincham outfit (NPL champions) applied., and Wimbledon polled 27 votes, Altrincham 12 and Workington 21. Goodbye to another remote Cumbrian club and hello to the London-based Dons! Triple gins all round!

The free-for-all vanity project of chairmen pushing the clubs forward for promotion on the flimsiest of grounds was over. And talking of flimsy grounds, the reality of clubs being unprepared when offered promotion - which is why the Alliance Premier League was formed in 1979, to concentrate the top non-League outfits in one league and offer just ONE applicant at the end of the season - came to the fore in the 1980s.

Wealdstone were founder members of the APL but that league was nothing like the National League today, which is peppered with ex-League clubs. There are currently 14 ex-Football League clubs in the National League Premier: Barnet, Forest Green Rovers, York City, Rochdale, Oldham Athletic, Gateshead, Dagenham & Redbridge, Halifax Town, Sutton United, Southend, Aldershot, Hartlepool, Yeovil and Boston United. When the league kicked off in 1979 there was just one: Barrow. And seven years later, when the Stones were relegated, there was still just one: Lincoln City. Barrow had been relegated into the Northern Premier League and Lincoln City were the first FL club to suffer automatic relother way.

Before that the aspirant club's stadium had to meet Football League requirements. Altrincham were the first APL winners, in 1980 and 1981 and their Moss Lane ground was given the rubberstamp... but they were outvoted by first Rochdale (26 votes to 25) and then Halifax Town (41-15). The 1982 winners Runcorn, could not apply as their Canal Street ground wasn't up to scratch... runners-up Enfield didn't meet the strict reauirements either so thirdplaced Telford were pushed forward, only to be outvoted by Hartlepool (48-13). Ditto in 1983 with Enfield

again turned down, second-placed Maidstone polling 26 votes to Hartlepool's 36, and in 1984 champions Maidstone pulled in 22 points only for Hartlepool to again win favour with 32. We know all about 1985 but 1986 winners Enfield were, of course, famously the last club not to go up automatically - and they had spent a small fortune on their Southbury Road ground to qualify to take place in the vote. Their 7.5 votes were annihilated by Torquay's 61. Thus to the present day, with the change to two up, two down between the EFL and the National League now providing free movement and a much richer (in every sense) pool of clubs in Step Five. Personally, I love it just where we are. No higher and no lower, if that can be arranged...

When the National League kicked off in 1979 there was just one ex-League club: Barrow



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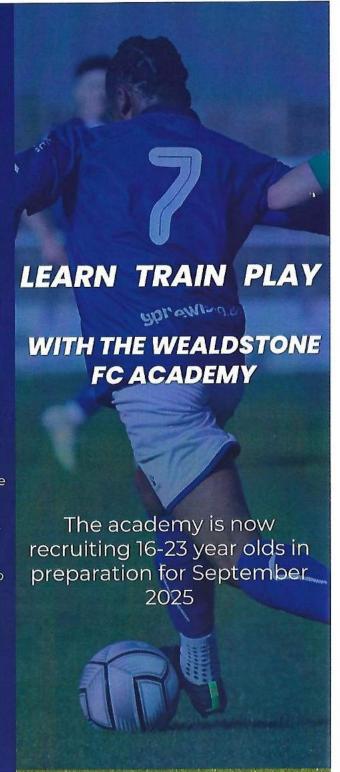
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WEALDSTONE 4 - 1 GOSPORT BOROUGH FACUP 4QR **GROSVENOR VALE** 12TH OCT 2024

A wet Saturday afternoon saw Wealdstone host Southern Premier Division South side Gosport Borough in the FA Cub Fourth Round Qualifying.

Matt Taylor made two changes to the starting || that narrowly lost 1-0 to Gateshead last Saturday. Alex Reid, who

signed on loan from Oldham in midweek, was handed his first start in a Stones kit with Dominic Hutchinson also coming into the team in place of Callum McFarlane and Elliot Thorpe.

Gosport arrived at the Vale in good form, with only one loss in their last six games, keeping three clean sheets in those games.

A bright start for the home side resulted in Wealdstone receiving a penalty in the first minute of the game. The Gosport keeper brought down Reid in the box after the debutant took the ball past him. Samuel Ashford stepped up for the Stones but was denied by a fantastic save by Ryan Gosney.

Despite the difference in leagues, it was Gosport who would have the next big chances of the game, as Daniel Wooden had a well struck shot from the edge of the box parried away by Sam Howes, who also denied the rebound.

Ten minutes later, Gosport's attacking mindset was rewarded as they took the lead in the 21st minute through Wooden. The number nine was put slipped through on one and slotted it past Howes.

Halfway through the first half and Wealdstone were in search of their second penalty of the game. as Dominic Hutchinson was seemingly taken out in the box after chopping his defender, but the referee waved it away.

Despite this, it was Gosport once again with a massive chance to double their lead. A clever onetwo left Asher Yearwood in acres of space in the box, but his powerful effort was denied by Howes.

After giving Gosport the lead, Wooden was substituted in the 32nd minute, in place of Samuel Faniyan.

After a slow 15 minutes following the change, Wealdstone eventually levelled the game just before half time. Brandon Mason's shot from inside the box was initially saved, but the ball fell kindly to new boy Alex Reid who fired home from close range on his

Although they had the better chances of the half.

MATCH REPORT

BY MAX ALLISON







Gosport found themselves lucky to be level at half time, after two greatchances from the Stones weren't converted just before half time.

Two changes during the interval for Wealdstone, as Max Kretzschnar and Anthony Georgiou replaced Dominic Hutchinson and Brandon Mason.

Into the second half and it was Wealdstone who got the first big chance. An audacious bicycle kick attempt from Henry Sandat bounced through a crowd of players, rooted the keeper, but only hit the

After ten minutes into the second half, the two substitutes for Wealdstone combined to break the deadlock at The Vale. Georgiou fizzed in a ball across the box from the left-hand side and Kretzschnar was first to meet it, slotting it past Ryan Gosney. Matt Taylor's men had turned it around.

Things went from bad to worse for Gosport as their centre back Joseph Morrison was shown a red card after he pulled down Reid who was the last man and through on goal.

Samuel Ashford was the next Stones player to be substituted to make way for Craig Eastmond, for his first appearance of the season for Wealdstone.

Following a quiet spell of play, Reid doubled his goal tally on his debut in the 88th minute. A mix-up from Gosport's defence left Reid one on one with the keeper, and he calmly rounded Gosney and finished to make it 3-1 to Wealdstone.

In the 93rd minute, Reid rounded off a superb debut with a hattrick and wrapped up the game from the penalty spot, after Micah Obiero was tripped up in the box.

WEALDSTONE:

Howes, Boldewijn, Cook, Barrett, Mason (Georgiou 45'), Wells-Morrison (Cesay 90'), Obiero, Ashford (Eastmond 74'), Sandat (Scott 90'), Hutchinson (Kretzschmar 45'), Reid.

Attendance: 1005















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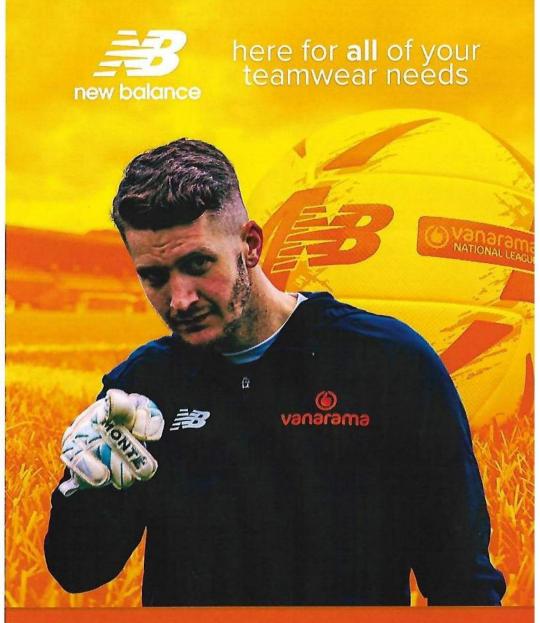
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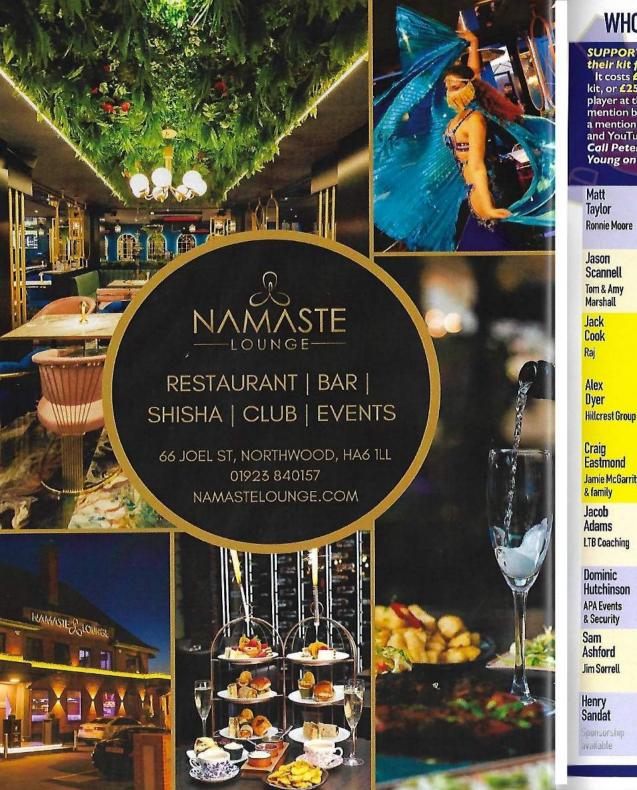
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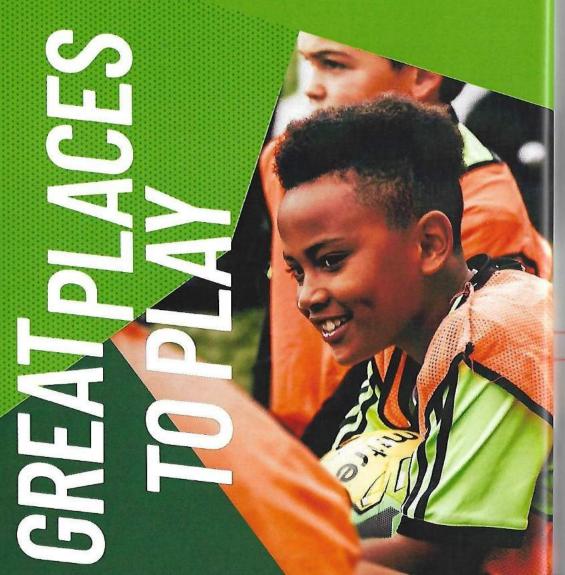


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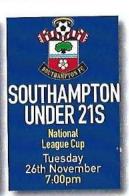
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| 17 | Southend United | 13 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 17 | 19 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 11 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 8 | -2 | 14 | 1-1 | |
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| | Ebbsfleet United | 13 | | 3 | 9 | 11 | 27 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 10 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 17 | -16 | 6 | | |

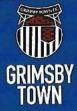
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