

# TODAY'S SQUADS

**WEALDSTONE**  
ROYAL BLUE/WHITE/WHITE

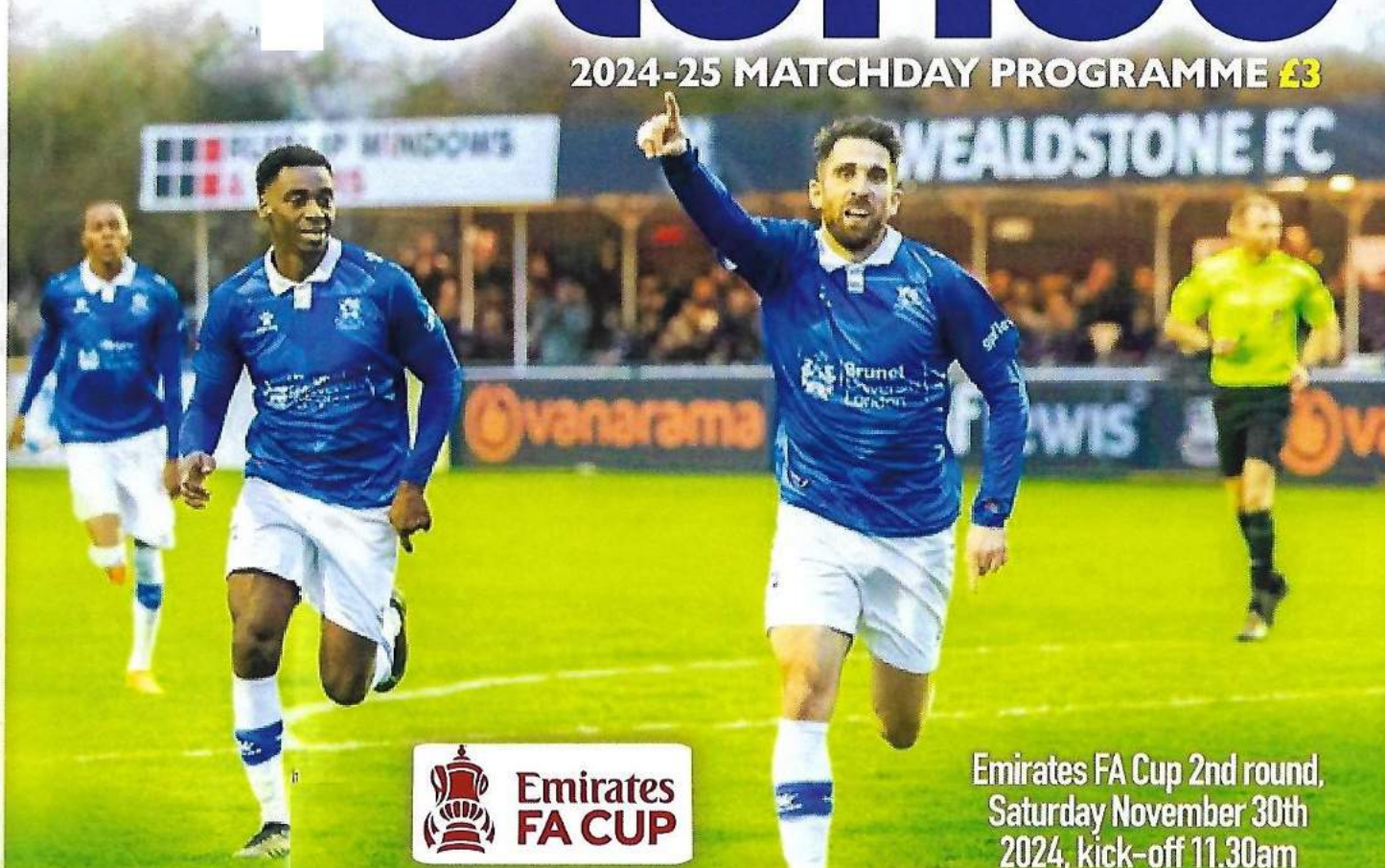


**WYCOMBE WANDS**  
GREEN & WHITE/GREEN/GREEN

- |  |    |                   |
|--|----|-------------------|
| Archie MATTHEWS 1                        | 1  | Franko RAVIZZOLI  |
| Jack COOK 2                              | 2  | Jack GRIMMER      |
| Anthony GEORGIU 3                        | 3  | Daniel HARVIE     |
| Deon WOODMAN 4                           | 4  | Josh SCOWEN       |
| Alex DYER 5                              | 5  | Alex HARTRIDGE    |
| Mason BARRETT 6                          | 6  | Ryan TAFAZOLLI    |
| Enzio BOLDEWIJN 7                        | 7  | David WHEELER     |
| Craig EASTMOND 8                         | 8  | Matt BUTCHER      |
| Sean ADARKWA 9                           | 9  | Sam VOKES         |
| Max KRETZSCHMAR 10                       | 10 | Luke LEAHY        |
| Todd MILLER 11                           | 11 | Daniel UDOH       |
| Jacob ADAMS 13                           | 12 | Garath McCLEARY   |
| Micah OBIERO 14                          | 15 | Jack YOUNG        |
| Dominic HUTCHINSON 17                    | 16 | Tyreeq BAKINSON   |
| Christian SCOTT 18                       | 17 | Joe LOWE          |
| Adrian MARIAPPA © 19                     | 18 | Brandon HANLAN    |
| Sam ASHFORD 20                           | 19 | Shamal GEORGE     |
| Kallum CESAY 21                          | 20 | Cameron HUMPHREYS |
| Alex REID 22                             | 21 | Gideon KODUA      |
| Jaydn MUNDLE-SMITH 23                    | 22 | Nathan BISHOP     |
| Henry SANDAT 24                          | 23 | Kieran SADLIER    |
| Jack WELLS-MORRISON 25                   | 24 | Richard KONE      |
| Elliot THORPE 26                         | 25 | Declan SKURA      |
| Joshua GRANT 27                          | 26 | Jason McCARTHY    |
| Declan PHILLIPS 28                       | 27 | Brody PEART       |
| Callum McFARLANE 29                      | 28 | Aaron MORLEY      |
| Nathan HARNESS 30                        | 29 | Jaiden BARTOLO    |
| Toby STEWARD 31                          | 30 | Beryly LUBULA     |
| Brandon MASON 32                         | 31 | Jasper PATTENDEN  |
| <b>Officials</b> Referee: Alex Chilowicz | 37 | Caleb TAYLOR      |
| Assistants: David Harrison and Leigh     | 44 | Fred ONYEDINMA    |
| Crowhurst Fourth Official: Sam           |    |                   |
| Mulhall Observer: Ian Corner             |    |                   |

# THE MIGHTY, MIGHTY stones

2024-25 MATCHDAY PROGRAMME £3



Emirates FA Cup 2nd round,  
Saturday November 30th  
2024, kick-off 11.30am

## v Wycombe Wanderers

Out to whack  
Wycombe:  
Wanderers old boy  
Max Kretzschmar  
sets the scene with  
the opening goal  
against Rochdale  
on our last outing  
at the Vale  
PICTURE:  
SEAN TROUP



TODAY'S RESULT: WEALDSTONE  WYCOMBE

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# WYCOMBE WANDERERS - SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 2024



The impossible is always possible in football

## Written in Stone BY MARK HYDE



Emirates  
FA CUP



Good Morning and a very warm welcome to Grosvenor Vale, for our historic FA Cup Second round tie against close neighbours Wycombe Wanderers.

This morning will see a record crowd here at Grosvenor Vale, as we take another huge step forward in the recent history of our football club.

The paths taken by Wycombe Wanderers and Wealdstone could not have been more different since our Isthmian League meetings of the 1960's and 70's or our Conference meetings in the 1980's at Lower Mead and Loaks Park. The last competitive meeting between the two clubs was a 1-0 away defeat in the 1990/91 FA Trophy in front of a crowd of 2,692.

It has always been a source of frustration to our longer term supporters that we haven't had the success in the FA Cup we feel we should. Today's second round tie is only the third in our history. The news we would be playing high flying League One leaders and near neighbours Wycombe at home, live on national TV, is finally our chance to showcase ourselves and all that is unique and important to so many.

We are fiercely proud of our place in footballing history. As I'm sure will be remarked upon during today's TV coverage, we were the very first team

to complete the non league double of winning the National League (Conference as it was) and the FA Trophy in the 1984/85 season. An achievement emulated by our guests Wycombe Wanderers in the 1992/93 season.

On the subject of TV punditry, we couldn't be any better represented on ITV as our most famous son Stuart Pearce, who made 176 appearances for the Stones between 1978 and 1983, will, amongst other things be ensuring the other presenters pronounce our name correctly.

Today cannot pass without giving thanks to every single person who over the years has worked tirelessly as a volunteer, a club official or a fundraiser to ensure our great club still exists, when it so easily could have faded away. Many of our great servants are no longer with us, so spare a moment in your thoughts for them.

If this is your first visit to Grosvenor Vale, we hope you have an enjoyable afternoon and we become a regular part of your future footballing plans.

Up the Stones

Mark

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### BALL DONOR TERRY HISSEY

I'm so pleased to be Ball Donor today as history is being made. My guests are Nathan Lambert and his daughters Bethany 10 and Holly 8. They are making their first visit to Grosvenor Vale and I hope they enjoy the day and return soon. Nathan and I met at Brunel University over twenty years ago, long before it became a sponsor.

# WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2024/2025

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## MAJOR HONOURS SINCE 1950

### LEAGUE TITLES

1951 / 1952 Athenian League  
1973 / 1974 Southern League Division One South  
1981 / 1982 Southern League Southern Division  
1981 / 1982 Southern League Championship  
1984 / 1985 National League Premier (Gola League)  
1996 / 1997 Isthmian League Division Three  
2013 / 2014 Isthmian League Premier Division  
2019 / 2020 National League South

### NATIONAL CUPS

1965 / 1966 FA Amateur Cup  
1984 / 1985 FA Trophy

### LEAGUE CUPS

1981 / 1982 Southern League Cup

### MIDDLESEX COUNTY CUPS

1958 / 1959 Senior Cup  
1962 / 1963 Senior Cup  
1964 / 1965 Senior Cup  
1967 / 1968 Senior Cup  
1984 / 1985 Senior Cup  
2003 / 2004 Charity Cup  
2010 / 2011 Charity Cup

### NON TITLE-WINNING PROMOTIONS

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

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Wealdstone FC Board of Directors

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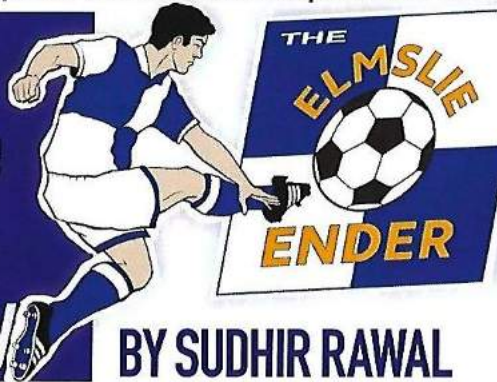


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©Elmslie Ender was among the first wave of football club magazines when it replaced 'Long Ball Down the Middle' as the Wealdstone fanzine in the mid-1980s. LBDTM's forerunner 'Wealdstone Whispers' was famously the THE very first football fanzine in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

# Pain... joy... and why artificial intelligence cannot comprehend the Wealdstone story



BY SUDHIR RAWAL

**I WAS going to use Chat GPT to write my column today.**

Writing prose for this august organ can be a grind at times, so I thought it would be easy to churn out a thousand or so words, top and tail it, personalise it a bit and hope it turned out more believable than Man City blowing the title.

But when I typed the words 'Wealdstone, cup success' even the great AI tool was stumped.

As has been well documented in this column, we have only reached the first round of the FA Cup 16 times in our club's 125 years' history.

Only thrice have we advanced from the first round to the second - and only once have we made it to the third. And after that our FA Cup record drops faster than a pair of trousers after a dodgy curry. Amazingly,



we haven't won a second-round match since beating Enfield in a second replay back in 1983, and in the next round we went out to Colchester United 4-0 after some bizarre player selections by team boss Brian Hall. **It is at moments like this that it is worth taking a step back to see just how far we have come as a club - not just from when we first arrived in Ruislip in the summer of 2008.**

The first match attracted a crowd of 387 against Tonbridge Angels in the Ryman Prem, but that was seen as a success after the years at Northwood where attendances hovered in the late 200s-early 300s. While the Vale was quickly spruced up by our fans, it was still nothing much more than the amateur-standard ground it had been for all its previous history.

Over the years, both the ground and the gates have improved immeasurably. But let's not even talk about the early years: the progress since 2020 when we entered the National League has been massive, unimaginable. Many thought it would be for one season only, though Covid probably allowed us in the behind-closed-doors season to regroup. Then, under the stewardship of Stuart Maynard we became an established National League

side with only his departure to Notts County sending us almost into a death spin to the National League South - until the Great Escape of the last five games of last season kept us in the division.

This current campaign has had its challenges yet we are currently in a run of one defeat in eight games (and even that was in the National League Cup against Fulham). We are sixth in the NL current form table.

The Matty Taylor way is starting to pay dividends: It's not been easy but with some injuries easing, a few tactical tweaks and the signing of a proper forward, it is working.

**The club is now unrecognisable - not just from 2008, but even from 2020. The club is a totally different beast than the one that entered the National League.**

For the first time ever, we are no longer properly part time, but hybrid, with players coming in some days of the week rather than just two evenings. The club is on its way to a professional playing side with an academy that has grown from nothing to nearly 200 students across three different sites and over two boroughs.

These youngsters are gaining an education in the classroom alongside an education on the football field - and the best-known of those graduates is Jaiden Bartolo, who is coincidentally now with Wycombe Wanderers and a Gibraltar full international. Though Stones did not receive a fee, the progress made will ensure and encourage future students to make Wealdstone their academy of choice.

The partnership with Brunel University grows and develops, with our coaches now training their football teams while the club and the academy have use of the fabulous facilities in a training base that rivals, or betters, many of our rivals.

**On the terraces, our fanbase gets younger and draws in more and more people from Hillingdon, Harrow, and further afield too.**

When we entered the National league, our average attendance was 1,030, the first time we had averaged more than a thousand since the mid 1970s. This season, we are averaging 1,739 - the highest since the 1960s.

Today will see a record crowd here of



Joy on the road: Sam Ashford wheels away after scoring the leveller at Eastleigh Picture: JON TAFFEL

close to 3,500 at the Vale. We will have had nearly as many 3,000+ gates in the last two years as we have had in the last fifty! Lower Mead crowds topping 3,000 since we entered the professional era in 1971 have been: 3,400 v Wimbledon (New Year's Day 1975); 4,044 v Reading (FA Cup 2nd round 1977, though nearer 7,000 unofficially); and 3,100 v Southend (FA Cup 1st round, 1979).

When 3,012 watched the Barnet game last season here at the Vale the barrier was broken for the first time since Southend - as will today's match. We now regularly exceed 2,000 for league matches, something we never did even in the heyday of the early to mid 1970s.

There is even disappointment if a gate doesn't reach 1,500 nowadays, which has only happened twice this season.

The board should be applauded for the progress that has been made. People sometimes yearn for the good old days when everyone knew everyone - not necessarily a good thing - but change is inevitable, and change at pace is uncomfortable at best and quite often worrying... but change is a necessity in the modern world.

We can't stay the same if we want to progress.

The holy grail now is the new stadium. As our visitors today have shown, moving from Loakes Park in the centre of town to Adams Park at the end of an industrial estate at the edge of town, has been the catalyst for their success from a decent non-league side to a side capable of reaching the Championship. **Had we not messed up the sale of Lower Mead, who knows where we would be now.**

Stand back, soak in how far we have come, embrace the change that has come and is coming... and enjoy what the future holds for this great club of ours.

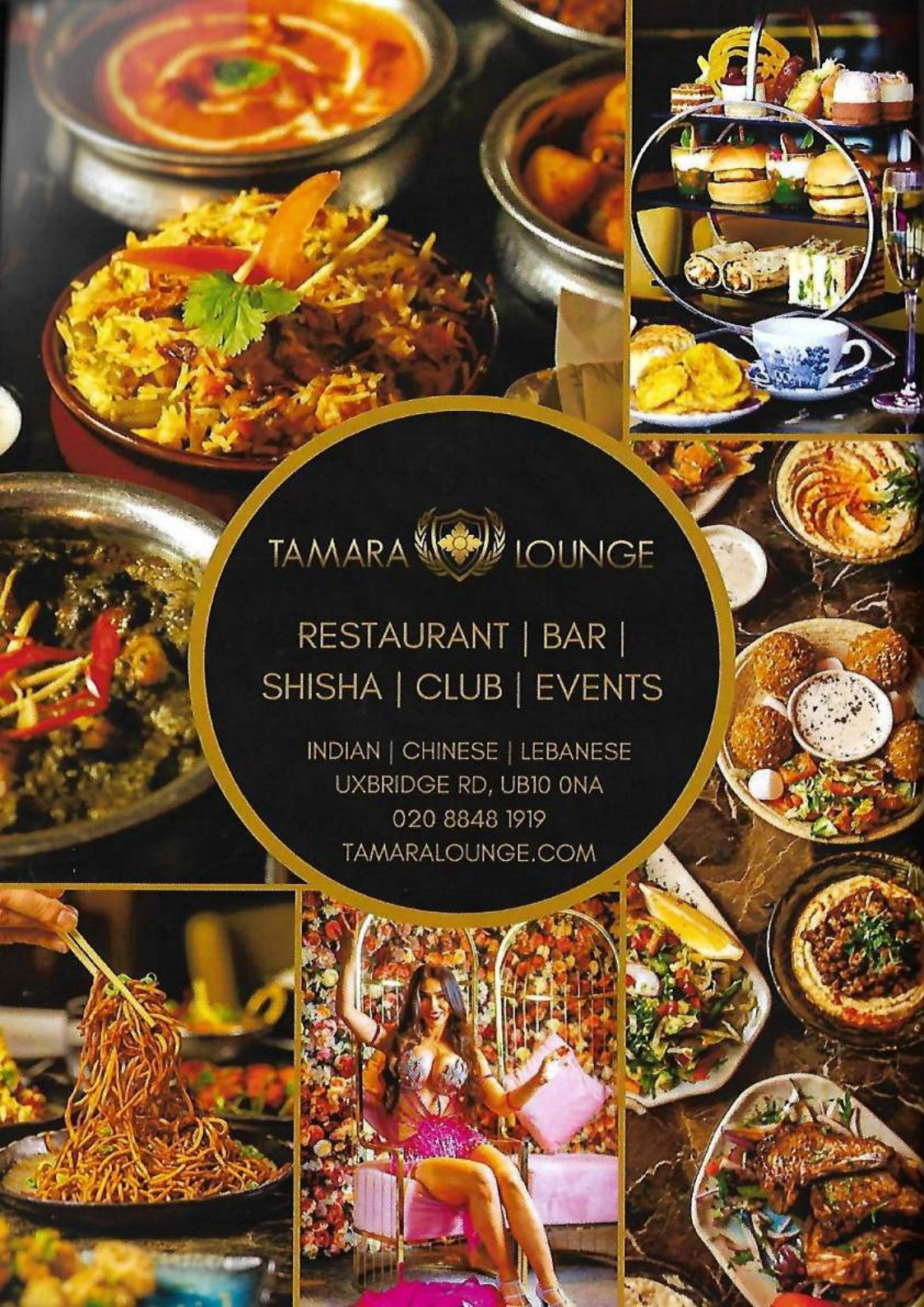


It's 1977 and to keep the FA Cup flavour going, the famous Elmslie Enders celebrate the first goal in our epic 2-1 win over Reading.

We're on our way to Loftus Road! Wealdstone's Kop, the supporters at the Elmslie Stand, salute Keith Furphy's first goal direct from a corner during Saturday's F.A. Cup match against Reading.



New and old fans enjoy the after-match pub following the win at Grimsby



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## THE No.10 VIEW: MAX KRETZSCHMAR TAKES IT TO THE M<sub>3</sub> A<sub>1</sub> X<sub>8</sub>

**I WOULD like to welcome both sets of fans today to what is a fantastic occasion.**

Wealdstone followers have waited far too long for this cup tie... the overall rhetoric around cup competitions since I joined two years ago has been one of tough draws and bitter disappointments. It was incredible to experience that outpouring of joy and emotion from the fans when the final whistle went at Grimsby four weeks ago. Today is the reward.

I know that further down the footballing pyramid the FA Cup is still as special as it was 30 to 40 years ago. My Dad had the 1970 FA Cup final between Chelsea and Leeds United on video cassette which we would watch every once in a while, the early days of colour television showing a terrible pitch and even worse tackles!

We will have no such pitch worries today even if a certain Rochdale manager disagrees! Adam, Dan and his team at Turf Doctors have worked tirelessly on the Vale pitch since I've been here and huge strides have been made over the summer with its drainage and overall condition.

**I was really pleased with our performance against promotion-chasing Rochdale.**

We had planned for a tactical battle where Dale would play from the back and stick to their strong footballing philosophy- but for whatever reason, we heard whispers close to kick off that they may



Jubilant Sam and Max put the wind up Eastleigh Pic: JON TAFFEL

## Wycombe Wanderers hold a special place in my heart...but we have real belief today

not risk the ball near their own goal. This played into our hands as we've been very strong recently at what we call the 'ugly stuff'... Running, pressing, second balls and tackles. We dominated in all departments.

Then came Eastleigh which was very different, in awful conditions. Looking back at the game as a whole you can see how the wind dictated how the match was played but we played really well in the second half and fully deserved at least the point we won thanks to Sam Ashford's header following a fantastic move.

**Something which has struck me in the past three league matches is the manager's problem-solving at half time.**

The gaffer and his staff have identified tactical details (I won't divulge too much) during the first half and relayed it to us at half time. Credit to the players, we have then been able to apply the tweaks resulting in an aggregate second half score in our last three games of 4-0. The squad will take confidence from this and will have real belief that we can be the shock story of the second round.

As most of you will know, Wycombe Wanderers hold a special place in my heart: It was the club where I made my EFL professional debut and I still have framed both my debut shirt and the shirt in which I scored my first professional goals away at Hartlepool. One sits on the wall in my Dad's place and

one is with me.

Wycombe have come a long way since I played there. The year I broke through, we stayed up on the last day in League Two, beating Torquay away 3-0 while relying on Bristol Rovers slipping up at home to ensure our EFL safety. The club was perilously close to not only relegation but financial trouble too. The following season, newly-appointed manager Gareth Ainsworth took us to the play-off final at Wembley where we lost on penalties.

The club is in a fantastic position now. One which most fans couldn't have imagined on that sunny day in Torquay in 2014! Matt Bloomfield had the daunting task of following Ainsworth but he has changed the direct playing style and has Wycombe incredibly top of League 1 ahead of giants like Birmingham.

As a young pro, 'Blooms' was the consummate professional and one who academy manager Richard Dobson would tell us to copy. His work ethic and humility probably makes him the manager he is today.

I used to sit on the same table on the coach to away games with Matt and he once taught me a valuable lesson to not trawl through Twitter (now X) after games looking for possible praise.

**"If you want to read the praise, you'll have to put up with the criticism"** he said. Since then, I rarely log in after a match, win or lose. It's the key to staying level-headed in such a turbulent industry. **UTS! -Max**

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



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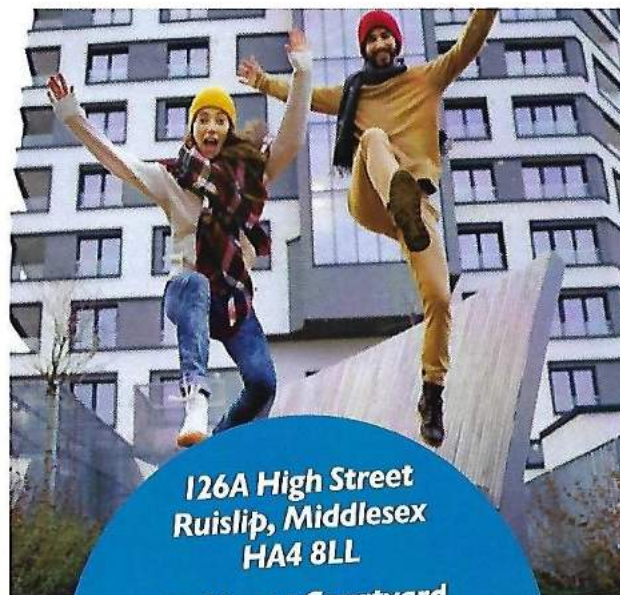


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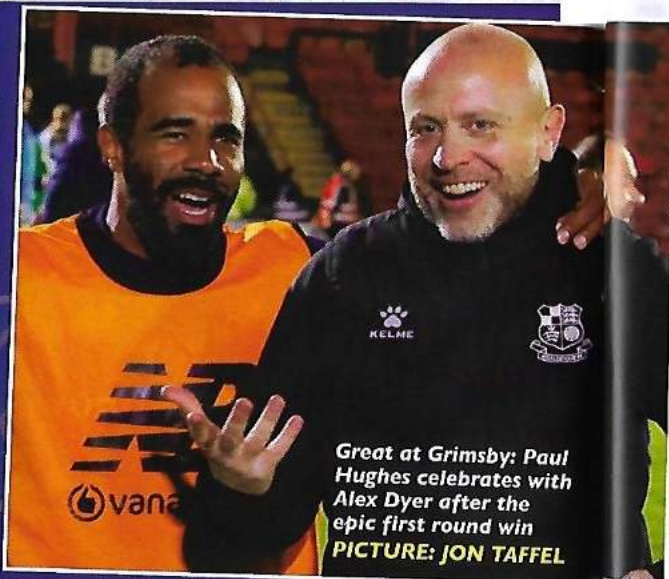
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## TIM PARKS MEETS THE OTHER HALF OF THE STONES'



# Paul Hughes on his star-studded Chelsea days of Gullit and Hoddle .... and just why the Stones are a delight to coach



Great at Grimsby: Paul Hughes celebrates with Alex Dyer after the epic first round win  
PICTURE: JON TAFFEL

**THE STONES assistant manager Paul Hughes was musing on the iconic head coaches he played under at Chelsea.**

"Glenn Hoddle was the best - playing alongside him in training was a real education. His passing range was astonishing: left foot, right foot, and his disguised passing had to be seen to be believed.

"And when he went to manage England, Glenn was succeeded by Ruud Gullit, not just a great player in his day but an excellent tactician who could react cleverly to situations within games. He had a really good footballing IQ.

"As players we had to deal with that aura but he managed to get his ideas of possession-based football across to everyone."

Paul was in the Chelsea first team for the 1996-97 season (though left out for the FA Cup Final win over Middlesbrough after playing in the quarter-final against Portsmouth, missing out on the semi-final through injury) and in 1997-98 which ended with the Blues lifting the European Cup-Winners Cup. Again Paul missed out on a final appearance. He was a key attacking midfielder in a Chelsea team that suddenly attracted the best players from across the globe.

"I was playing with people like Gianfranco Zola, Roberto Di Matteo, Gianluca Vialli, Frank Lebouef, Mark Hughes and Dennis Wise -

who was a really good footballer by way, he didn't just go round kicking people!"

Hughesie scored on his Premier League debut against Derby County in a 3-1 win at the age of 20, and then against Coventry a few games later - but that first season was blighted by a pelvic injury similar to the one that sidelined the Blues' Romanian international Dan Petrescu. They were flown to Italy for specialist physio treatment.

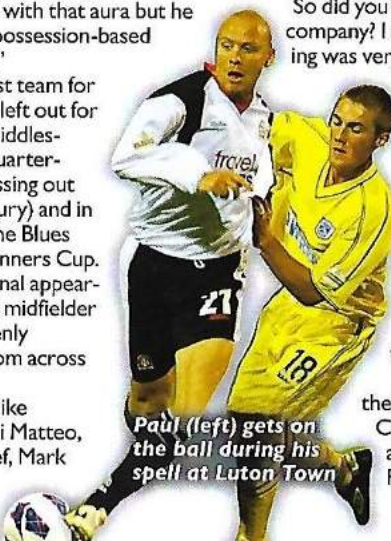
Paul had played 22 times for the Blues, scoring twice but with the bulging Chelsea chequebook getting an airing he knew his days were numbered.

So did you feel comfortable in such exalted company? I asked. "Well, yes, the standard of training was very high. We played a possession game,

one-touch which resulted in every player knowing what he'd be doing in advance of receiving the ball.

"There was one rule that Ruud Gullit used to preach: *It's never the fault of the man on the ball if it's given away.* From that moment we knew the safest place was to be on the ball because the team has to provide two or three options for passes. That's a footballing ethos, an outlook that we've tried to replicate here at Wealdstone."

Paul then went on loan to Stockport in the Championship under Gary Megson; to Crewe Alexandra under Dario Grady and then to Norwich City under Bruce Rioch, all in short spells.



Paul (left) gets on the ball during his spell at Luton Town

## MANAGEMENT TEAM.... WITH A MIGHTY CV OF HIS OWN

Glenn Hoddle, meanwhile, had taken over at Southampton after his England stint and offered Paul a year's contract... but he got injured in pre-season with a torn tendon in his groin and failed to make an appearance. And when Hoddle was lured to his first love, Tottenham, new boss Stuart Gray let Hughesie go.

**He then spent three enjoyable years at Luton Town, winning promotion from League Two in his first season and from League One in his third... making 88 appearances and scoring seven goals.**

"That was where I met Matt Taylor, at his first pro club, and he was quite a player! What was outstanding for me was the fact that although he was only a teenager he wasn't frightened of telling people what to do. He was a very forceful character!

"Matt was sold to Portsmouth, but I got ill in my final year with a virus that caused chronic fatigue along with an auto-immune problem which meant I bruised easily and couldn't train properly."

It was terrible timing for Luton. They had become embroiled in sanctions due to financial irregularities and were eventually docked 30 points after returning to League Two. They fell into non-League.

"So I left the game at the age of 30 and then got involved with my local club, Kings Langley, alongside Ritchie Hanlon who had been with me in the youth system at Chelsea."

Langley, then in the second tier of the London Spartan League, raced to three back-to-back promotions which ended with the village club in the Southern League Premier division.

Paul had needed to focus on a life after leaving professional football and he started a new role coaching communication for *The Impact Factory*, which now takes up 7 to 9 days a month of his busy schedule - but it didn't stop Hayes & Yeading trying to lure him across.

After previously managing H & Y Reserves, he now found himself masterminding the shock 2-0 win over Wealdstone in the FA Cup fourth qualifying round during the Covid season. "We actually reached the first round three years in a row, which I think is a record for a club from the third tier of

the non-league game. We lost 2-0 to Oxford United, who were then top of League One that 2020-21 season, and the following year just 1-0 to Sutton United who were on their way to promotion from the National League. In the third year we lost on penalties to Carlisle United, really unluckily."

But his life took a new direction at the age of 43. He married Maria and they had two boys in quick succession - and suddenly Paul found he was unable

to commit quite so much time to football. Five years down the line with Christian now three and a half and Theo one and a half, he was happy to accept Matt Taylor's offer to become assistant manager at the Vale.

Paul was brought up in Greenford and was soon playing Sunday youth football for Pitsanger Dynamos - and then Bourne End (where new Stones board member Danny Kindell was the standout player) before Chelsea scouted him at the age of 10 or 11 after appearing for the county team.

"We trained behind a stand in the car park at Chelsea and then later on on the Astro turf at Battersea Park... a bit different to the training facilities they have now!

"My dad was born in Birmingham and so I became a Villa fan, although not seeing any matches. I do remember playing for Luton against Villa in the Carling Cup at Villa Park, though, when we lost two or three nil. That was quite awesome."

**As an ex-player at the top level, Paul realises just how good this Wealdstone squad is. Even if the early season results were disappointing.**

"There was a frank discussion after the wasteful draw at Ebbsfleet and since then the players have been pulling in the same direction with the right mentality.

"And the senior players were instrumental in that - the experienced lads here are very good. They're very honest and professional.

"There are no a\*\*holes there: the senior players really set the culture and they help us, the management team, in so many ways.

"The narrative from Matt hasn't really changed from the summer, it's just that we are now winning games and they are getting their just rewards. This is the best group that either of us have managed - it really is a pleasure to coach."



Paul as a Chelsea card collectable: He had arrived!





Spoilt for

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## TODAY WE WELCOME FANS OF WYCOMBE WANDERERS TO GROSVENOR VALE

**Good Morning to all those associated to Wycombe Wanderers, who have made the short journey to the Vale for this 2nd round match in the FA Cup.**

Well it has been a long time coming, an opportunity to be in the bag for the 3rd round draw against the big boys. Yes I appreciate we have to win today, but there is nothing wrong in thinking big. We have another chance to beat a club from a higher league, but today's opponents will be a tough nut to crack. At time of writing they sit proudly at the top of Division 1, having an excellent season. I would think promotion is the number one goal, however like us will want to progress to round 3.

The one thing the clubs have in common is that we both are double winners the Conference and Trophy final in the same year. Stones first in 1985, Wycombe 1993. Clubs have had different paths in the following years.

We welcome ITV today showing the game live, hopefully a big tv audience for our players to show off their skills, hard work and passion and a hard fought victory.

Our away supporter at Grimsby was loud and proud and I urge the home fans to make as much noise as possible and get behind the team. I witnessed the effect it had on our team and it galvanised them to push on and produce a memorable win.

The pundits talk about, has the passion for the FA Cup dwindled, well today those watching will see

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## WFCSC update

BY JOHN YOUNG



and hear how much it still means to the smaller clubs and their fans. As a kid growing up, you dreamed of scoring the winning goal at Wembley to lift the cup, I think for my generation the FA Cup still holds some magic. So today I am hoping all the luck is with the Stones and we produce a bit of Cup magic and our name is in the bag for the 3rd round, and Wycombe can move on and concentrate on gaining promotion which I wish them the best in.

Don't forget to get your 50-50 tickets.

UTS!

John



Wealdstone's favourite son Stuart Pearce, with the Supporters Club player of the year 'Jock Law' trophy.

## ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WYCOMBE WANDERERS

# Today's opposition in focus

Wycombe Wanderers were founded in 1887, at a meeting held at the Steam Engine pub on Station Road. Playing friendly matches in its early years, the club joined the Southern League in 1896, a year after having moved to Loakes Park, which was to be its home for 95 years.

The Chairboys resisted the opportunity to turn professional, remaining amateur and enjoying success as two-time champions of the Spartan League, joining the Isthmian League in 1921.

Ten years later, in 1931, they achieved one of the finest accolades to date, winning the FA Amateur Cup at Highbury in front of 32,000 fans, defeating Hayes 1-0.

In 1947, Frank Adams - a former captain of the club having made 331 appearances for the club - presented the deeds of Loakes Park to Wycombe Wanderers, enabling the club to own its own ground and provide the platform for future success.

Sid Cann was appointed manager in 1952 and led the club to their first Isthmian League title in 1956, which was then successfully defended the following year, in which they also reached a second FA Amateur Cup Final. On this occasion, though, they were defeated 3-1 by Bishop Auckland at Wembley.

Brian Lee became the club's first conventional manager in 1968 - with team selection having previously been chosen by committee - and his arrival heralded three more Isthmian League titles inside four years, while the club also reached the third round of the FA Cup for the very first time, losing 1-0 to top-flight Middlesbrough in a replay after a 0-0 draw at Loakes Park.

A period of transition followed and Wycombe joined a national league - the Gola League - for the first time in 1985. They were relegated and promoted as the division became renamed as the GM Vauxhall Conference, and the departure of boss Jim Kelman at the end of the decade paved the way for a period of unprecedented success at



Wanderers' new home.

Martin O'Neill's appointment as manager came in the same year as the club's move to its current Adams Park home. In 1991, the Chairboys had an FA Trophy title to their name, clinching a 2-1 win over Kidderminster

Harriers at Wembley, and came agonisingly close to winning promotion to the Football League a year later, just missing out on goal difference.

However, success returned

the following season, and in some style, as Wycombe won the double to be crowned Conference champions and FA Trophy winners once again, with Runcorn being swept aside 4-1 at Wembley in the final.

The club's forward progress didn't end there, as their first season in the Football League ended in triumph, winning the play-off final 4-2 against Preston North End to reach the third tier, and they came close to another play-off adventure the following season in 1995.

O'Neill departed that summer and the club survived a couple of relegation scares, most notably in 1999 when Lawrie Sanchez steered the club away from danger with a memorable final day win at Lincoln City.

Two years later, Sanchez masterminded an incredible run to the semi-final of the FA Cup, beating Wolves, Wimbledon and Leicester on the way to a meeting with Liverpool at Villa Park, with the Premier League giants edging through with a 2-1 win.

Tony Adams was appointed manager in 2003 but couldn't halt a relegation back to the fourth tier, but the club turned their fortunes around quickly, building a promotion-chasing squad each year, including a play-off semi-final defeat to Cheltenham in 2006. The following year, Wycombe reached the semi-final of the League Cup in 2007 under Paul Lambert's tutelage, holding Chelsea to a 1-1 draw at Adams Park in the first leg.

Lambert took the club into the play-offs in 2008 but again there was disappointment as Stockport progressed to Wembley, but new manager Peter Taylor secured automatic promotion the following



WYCOMBE'S 10,446 CAPACITY ADAMS PARK

year, only for the Chairboys to struggle in League 1 and they suffered an instant return, with Gary Waddock the new man at the helm.

Waddock rebuilt the squad, including the signing of inspirational captain Gareth Ainsworth, and led the Blues to another promotion in 2011, although again the spell in the third tier was short and sweet.

That summer of 2012 saw the club fall into the hands of its Supporters Trust, becoming one of the few fan-owned clubs in the Football League, and Waddock departed soon after, with Ainsworth taking the reins as manager. A year of consolidation was followed by a season of struggle, but a miraculous final day escape from relegation at Torquay proved to be the catalyst for a period of progress.

The following season (2014/15), the Chairboys accumulated their highest ever points total in the Football League to reach the play-off final at the new Wembley Stadium, losing out to Southend United on penalties, and enjoyed FA Cup adventures against Aston Villa and Tottenham Hotspur in the two years that followed.

Promotion to League 1 was clinched in the 2017/18 as Gareth Ainsworth led his side to a third place finish, sealing their passage to the third tier with a 2-1 win at Chesterfield as Player of the Year Adebayo Akinfenwa led the line once again with 18 goals in all competitions.

A year of consolidation in League 1 was followed

### OUR RECORD V WYCOMBE P56 W17 D12 L27 F85 A94 GD -9

by the most memorable and remarkable season in the club's history, when Ainsworth's men sealed promotion to the Championship for the first time ever, under the new majority ownership of Rob Couhig and his family. The 2019/20 campaign was cut short due to the global Covid-19 pandemic, with Wanderers sitting in the play-offs on a points-per-game basis, and they romped past Fleetwood Town in the semi-finals before defeating Oxford United behind-closed-doors at Wembley Stadium.

The Championship season saw the Blues ultimately fall short of survival by just one point despite a heroic run of form in the final few weeks, returning to League 1 ahead of the 2021/22 season when fans were able to return to stadia after more than a year away.

Ainsworth departed in February 2023 to take up the manager's role at Queens Park Rangers, with club legend Matt Bloomfield installed as his successor, and he led the Blues to Wembley in his first full season in charge, with Wanderers meeting Peterborough United in the Bristol Street Motors Trophy Final. The Couhig family sold their majority stake in the club to successful businessman Mikheil Lomtadze in the summer of 2024.

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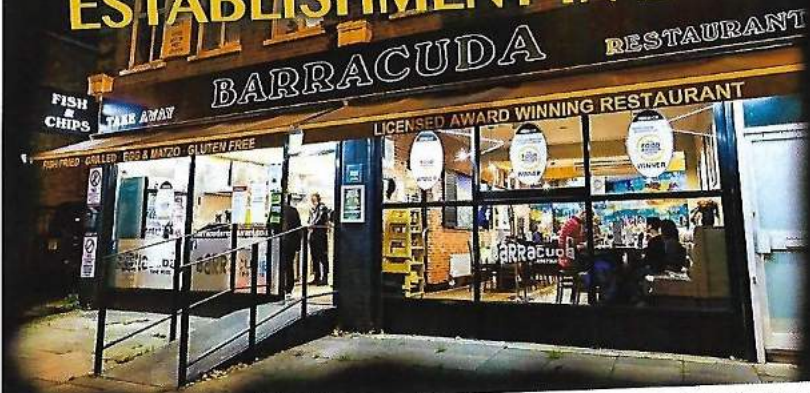
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## WYCOMBE WANDERERS: THE CHAIRBOYS TO LOOK OUT FOR

# Who's who for the visitors

### 1. FRANCO RAVIZZOLI - Goalkeeper

Goalkeeper Franco Ravizzoli joined the Chairboys on a free transfer in September 2023, following his departure from Milton Keynes Dons.

### 2. JACK GRIMMER - Defence

Now in his fifth season as a Chairboy, popular Scottish right-back Grimmer arrived at Adams Park in summer 2019, originally signing a two-year deal before extending his contract following the club's promotion to the Championship.

### 3. DANIEL HARVIE - Defence

Wanderers swooped for Milton Keynes Dons left-back Daniel Harvie in July 2024 after he'd made 166 appearances in four years in the north of the county.

### 4. JOSH SCOWEN - Midfield

Midfield battler Scowen returned to Adams Park in 2021 after starting his career in the club's academy, going on to spend a largely successful four years in the first team from 2011-15.

### 5. ALEX HARTRIDGE - Defence

Alex Hartridge was Wycombe Wanderers' first new signing of the 2024 summer transfer window. The left-sided defender left Exeter City at the end of last season after making more than 150 appearances for the Grecians

### 6. RYAN TAFAZOLLI - Defence

Iranian left-footed centre-back Tafazolli joined Wycombe during the 2020/21 summer transfer window, having played the previous season with Hull City in the Championship.

### 7. DAVID WHEELER - Midfield

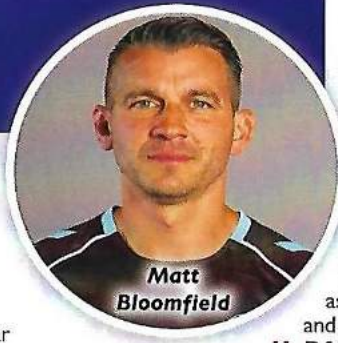
Attacking-midfielder David Wheeler joined the Chairboys on the eve of the 2019/20 season, leaving Queens Park Rangers on a free transfer.

### 8. MATT BUTCHER - Midfield

Wanderers brought midfielder Matt Butcher to Adams Park on a permanent deal following his departure from Championship club Plymouth Argyle in January 2024.

### 9. SAM VOKES - Forward

Powerful striker Vokes joined the Chairboys in July



Matt Bloomfield

2021 from Stoke City, arriving with a wealth of experience - including on the international stage where his goal sent Wales through to the 2016 European Championships semi-finals - and proved his worth with 17 goals in his first season.

### 10. LUKE LEAHY - Midfield

Luke Leahy joined the Chairboys in the summer of 2023, leaving Shrewsbury Town where he'd just won the Player of the Year award as well as being club captain and top goalscorer.

### 11. DANIEL UDOH Forward

Daniel Udoh joined the Wanderers on a free transfer after leaving Shrewsbury Town at the end of his contract in July 2024.

### 12. GARATH McCLEARY - Forward

Fans favourite Garath McCleary joined the Chairboys in November 2021 and has gone to play a key role in the Wanderers attack, providing additional creativity, trickery, goal threat and bags of experience.

### 13. LAURENCE SHALA - Goalkeeper

Laurie Shala was Wycombe Wanderers' seventh new signing of the summer in 2023, with the teenage goalkeeper earning a deal at Adams Park after impressing during a trial period.

### 15. JACK YOUNG - Midfield

All-action central midfielder Young arrived at Adams Park from Newcastle United in January 2022, going on to make his move permanent three months later.

### 16. TYREEQ BAKINSON - Midfield

Tyreeq Bakinson joined Wycombe in July 2024, arriving with plenty of experience at both Championship level and at the top end of League 1, helping Sheffield Wednesday win promotion from the third tier in 2022/23.

### 17. JOE LOW - Defence

Welsh defender Joe Low arrived at Adams Park in the summer of 2023 after impressing on trial, and went on to enjoy a fantastic debut season in light and dark blue. The former Bristol City man went on to earn his first senior cap for Wales in the 2023/24 campaign, as well as developing his international experience with the under-21s.

### 18. BRANDON HANLAN - Midfield

Explosive striker Brandon Hanlan arrived at Adams Park from Bristol Rovers in August 2021, having

caught the eye of manager Gareth Ainsworth as a youth player at Charlton Athletic several years earlier.

### 19. SHAMAL GEORGE - Goalkeeper

Shamal George joined the Chairboys on transfer deadline day in August 2024, arriving on a permanent deal from Scottish Championship side Livingston.

### 20. CAMERON HUMPHREYS - Midfield

Cameron Humphreys burst onto the scene with a debut goal in the 2-0 win over Rotherham United at Adams Park in August 2024 after arriving on a season-long loan from Ipswich Town.

### 21. GIDEON KODUA - Forward

Gideon Kodua returned to Adams Park on a season-long loan deal from West Ham United in August 2024. The exciting winger spent the second half last season on loan with the Chairboys,

### 22. NATHAN BISHOP - Goalkeeper

Nathan Bishop was the Chairboys' fourth new recruit of the 2024 summer transfer window, arriving on a season-long loan from Championship side Sunderland.

### 23. KIERAN SADLIER - Forward

Wanderers were thrilled to announce the signing of Kieran Sadlier on a free transfer following his release from Bolton Wanderers in the summer of 2023.

### 24. RICHARD KONE - Forward

Richard Kone signed his first professional contract with the Blues in January 2024, having impressed on trial the previous summer.

### 25. DECLAN SKURA - Defence

JWanderers handed a development squad contract to Declan Skura in February 2023 following a successful trial.

### 26. JASON MCCARTHY - Defence

Right-back McCarthy made his return to Adams Park for the fourth time in August 2020, having previously been awarded Player of the Year accolade twice in his spells with Wycombe.

### 27. BRODY PEART - Forward

Brody Peart joined the Chairboys as a teenager in July 2024 after leaving Brighton & Hove Albion.

### 28. AARON MORLEY - Midfield

Wycombe clinched the loan signing of Bolton Wanderers midfielder Aaron Morley on a deal until the end of the season in August 2024.

### 29. JAIDEN BARTOLO - Forward

Jaiden Bartolo signed for Wycombe in July 2024. He had already earned two caps for the Gibraltar senior team and left Wealdstone after



Josh Scowen

progressing through their academy into their first-team setup.

### 30. BERYLY LUBALA

#### Forward

Matt Bloomfield made his fourth new signing of the January 2024 transfer window, capturing forward Beryly Lubala following his departure from fellow League 1 side Burton Albion.

### 31. JASPER PATTENDEN

#### Defence

Combative winger Jasper Pattenden arrived at Adams Park from non-league Worthing, making a fast positive impression with the Chairboys

with his bubbly personality and all-action displays in pre-season.

### 32. TAYLOR CLARK - Midfield

Taylor Clark joined Wycombe as a teenager in the summer of 2023, arriving from Needham Market in the Southern League Premier Central Division having previously spent time in the academies at West Ham United and Ipswich Town.

### 33. LUCA WOODHOUSE - Defence

Luca Woodhouse put pen to paper on a development squad contract in August 2022, having impressed the Wanderers staff in training and practice matches, and arrived with experience of playing men's football in non-league with Tonbridge Angels and Hythe Town.

### 34. JACK MATTON - Defence

Wycombe Wanderers signed talented youngster Jack Matton in July 2024, with the defender having trained with the Chairboys during the second half of the 2023/24 campaign.

### 35. CHRISTIE WARD - Midfield

Attacking midfielder Christie Ward arrived at Adams Park from non-league Brockenhurst in the summer of 2022, having caught the eye of the Chairboys' recruitment team for his creative displays on the south coast.

### 36. JAHMIE DOTSE - Forward

Jahmie became the youngest player to join the club since the closure of its former academy in 2012 when he signed aged just 17 in July 2024, and arrived with experience in men's football at Romsey Town and Blackfield & Langley

### 37. CALEB TAYLOR - DEFENCE

Caleb Taylor was the Chairboys' second deadline day deal in August 2024, arriving on a season-long loan from West Bromwich Albion.

### 44. FRED ONYEDINMA - Forward

Wycombe Wanderers pulled off the signing their supporters had been craving all summer with the return of Fred Onyedinda to the club on a free transfer in September 2024.



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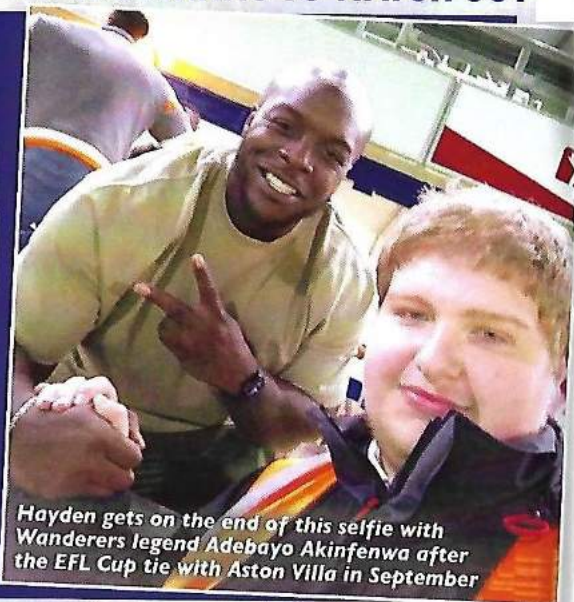
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## THE AWAY FANS HAYDEN WILLIAMS WARNS TO WATCH OUT

Yes, we should make it through to the 3rd round but this game is prime banana skin territory!



Hayden gets on the end of this selfie with Wanderers legend Adebayo Akinfenwa after the EFL Cup tie with Aston Villa in September

**Your name and age?** I am Hayden Williams, 19.  
**Whereabouts do you live?** Aylesbury  
**What was your first Wycombe game and what do you recall of it?** It was in 2012 when we beat Torquay United 2-1 but to be honest, I barely remember any of it.  
**What made you come to your first game?** My dad has supported Wycombe for multiple years and he decided to take me along.  
**Have you been a regular home and away fan since then?** Regular home attendees and some away games.

**Are you confident Wycombe can return to the Championship this season?** That depends on how Birmingham and Wrexham do but I am confident of at least the play offs if not pushing for automatics. Matt Bloomfield has been brilliant so far and no doubt we will be up there.

**Who are the three key men in your opinion?** In terms of key men really you can argue for most of the main squad, but Richard Kone (right) is my stand

out player - his story is one of the more heartfelt stories, coming straight from Non League and he doesn't look out of place, scoring against Aston Villa and then a hat-trick against Peterborough - it will be very hard to keep him in January. My 2nd stand-out player is Fred Onyedinma, our ex-player coming straight from the Premier League with Luton into League One and it's like we never lost him... while my final one is Josh Scowen. Go watch the Burton Albion highlights and you will understand. He is a one-man midfield who can wreck any opposition offensive movement and provide scintillating key passes.  
**Have you seen Wycombe play**



Wanderers danger man: Richard Kone

**Wealdstone before?** Not yet!  
**What do you make of the Vale?** Grosvenor Vale is a smart ground. Goes back to the days of Non-League for older fans. It would be a welcome break from all the massive seated stadiums Wycombe go to these days. And it will be a massive pay day for the Stones.  
**And how many fans will Wycombe bring? How will you travel?** For a train nerd like myself there are brilliant transport links. Wycombe will bring a good crowd as it's the most local game we could have got (besides Chesham if they hadn't got beaten by Lincoln). I think we will bring about 800+ easy, but no doubt it will be a slog to get tickets. Most likely I will be travelling by train.

**Are you confident of reaching the third round...were you watching when Chairboys had their great FA Cup runs of the past?** 'Banana skin' is always the term to use for games you'd think you would win but you never

## FOR WANDERERS' IN-FORM HITMEN KONE & ONYEDINMA

know what could happen. But I'd say that this game is prime banana skin territory, now this game being top billing for ITV (who would have thought). But with our quality of player we should (though you never know) get the win.

Great-cup-runs wise, I wasn't even born when 2001 happened but I always from time to time watch Wycombe's win at Leicester City because of the Ceefax signing of Roy Essendoh. Remember Ceefax? But otherwise I only went to one FA Cup game besides this season, Wycombe beating Leatherhead 3-1 seven years ago with Adebayo Akinfenwa salmon-heading the third goal.

**Are you aware of the recent record between the Stones and Wycombe?** Well the friendlies were always a good way to start the season but apart from that not really aware of other past games.

**Did you ever see Wycombe play at Loakes Park?** No I haven't, however there is a scale model of Loakes Park inside I the club reception and the comparison is night and day, Adams Park is a more modern build stadium, however I would have liked to have gone to Loakes Park in its heyday.

**How do you manage family/working life around football?** I try and schedule my weekday job around football and it's manageable. And it does help that my Dad and my sister also love Wycombe

**How big a part of your life is the game?** I work for the club as a match day steward. Otherwise I basically consider Adams Park my Home away from home, the place I go to on Saturdays to watch my team. I've been to Sunderland and seen Wycombe lose 4-0 but I'm always back for the next game. I love this club dearly!



**Your name and age?** My name is Ed Goode and I am 39.

**Whereabouts do you live Ed?** I live in the great city of Champaign, Illinois, close to Chicago. I am pastor at the Bridge Church there.

**What was your first Chairboys game and what do you recall of it?** My first game was our last as a non-league club, the 1993 FA Trophy final against Runcorn. I'm not sure I remember a single thing about the game, but the noise and colours left a lasting impression on me. In my early years as a supporter I assumed we ended every season winning a trophy at Wembley, which back then was almost true.

**What made you come to your first game?** Some friends of our family took me along.  
**Have you been a regular home and away fan since then?** My dad and I went to a few games a season in the early 90s, and I think we got our first season tickets in 1995 or 1996. 98/99 was our first season going regularly home and away, and I only missed a handful of games between then and when I moved to the States in 2008.

**Are you confident Wycombe can return to the championship this season? Who are the key men in your opinion?** I'm writing this at the start of November, and between now and when we play each other the picture will become much clearer. I'd describe myself as quietly confident.

I think our success or otherwise this season will come down to the form and fitness of Joe Low, Josh Scowen and Fred Onyedinma.

**How many fans will Wycombe bring to this morning's game?**

...while Pastor Ed will be watching the game from some 5,000 miles away in snowy Illinois

**How will you travel?** I think we'll sell out our allocation, depending on when the game is played if moved for TV. Now that it is on TV I'll be watching from home, probably with snow falling outside my window.

**Are you confident of reaching the third round?** I think it's going to be a great cup tie, and I hope the depth of our squad will get us over the line. I'm not sure you'd call that confidence!

**Were you watching when Chairboys had their great FA Cup runs of the past?** There was a Nike commercial in the 90s that said something like, 'some games leave you high, some games leave you low, some games never leave you.' It requires no effort at all to return to Selhurst Park on the evening of February 20th 2001, or Filbert Street on March 10th. I didn't make it to the third round replay at Grimsby, but my dad has supported us since the early 60s and places that night as one of his favourite memories. I remember Keith Ryan's goal at Villa Park and the late, great Paul McCarthy's equalizer at Wimbledon as if they were yesterday. It turns out I still am watching our great FA Cup runs of the past.

**Did you ever see Wycombe play at Loakes Park?** No, but those who did will tell you the move to Adams Park was inevitable. Decades later we'd love a stadium right in the middle of town!  
**How do you manage family/working life around football?** Living 5,000 miles from Adams Park helps!

The fans spoke to Tim Parks



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# FIRST TEAM RESULTS & FIXTURES 2024-2025

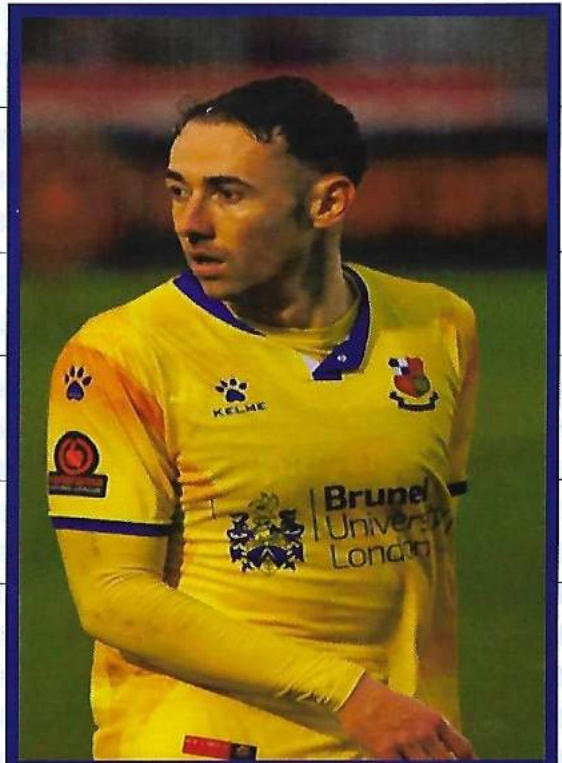
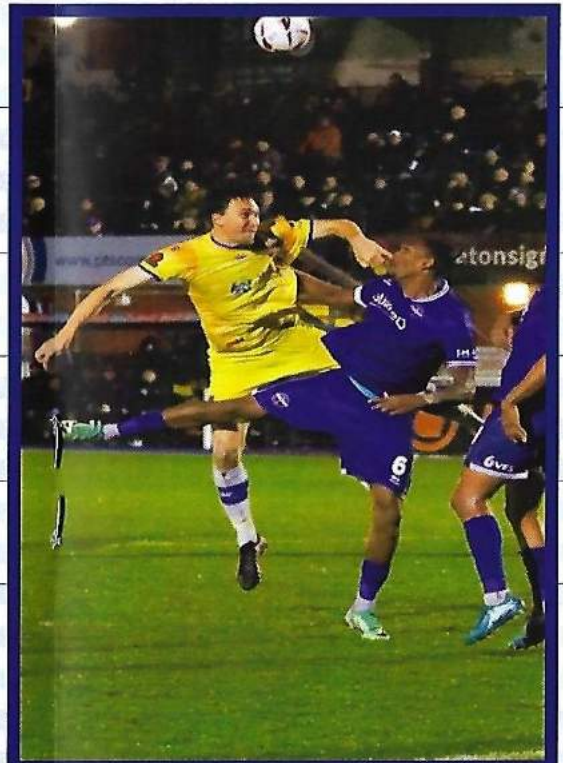
	Comp	Score	Crowd	(Away)	Loc	Goal scorers
AUGUST	19 Dagenham and Redbridge	VNL 1-2	1,523	215	16	Ashford
	17 OLDHAM ATHLETIC	VNL 0-1	1,825	517	19	
	20 SUTTON UNITED	VNL 0-1	1,566	310	21	
	24 Hartlepool United	VNL 1-1	3,614	33	21	Obiero
	26 AFC FYLDE	VNL 1-0	1,325	50	21	Sanciat
SEPTEMBER	31 Solihull Moors	VNL 1-1	948	180	20	(Own goal)
	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	575	22	
OCTOBER	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
	5 Gateshead	VNL 0-1	1,147	95	23	
	12 GOSPORT BOROUGH	FAC40 4-1	1,005	178	23	Reid (3, 1 Pen), Kretzschmar
	19 YEOVIL TOWN	VNL 0-3	1,510	341	23	
NOVEMBER	23 BRAINTREE TOWN	VNL 3-2	1,163	85	22	Ashford (2), Reid
	26 Ebbsfleet United	VNL 2-2	1,498	250	22	Ashford, Reid
	2 Grimsby Town	FAC1R 1-0	3,174	268	22	Reid
	5 FULHAM U21s	NLC 0-2	190	TBD	22	
	9 Aldershot Town	VNL 2-0	3,156	204	21	Reid (pen), Kretzschmar
DECEMBER	12 SOUTHAMPTON U21s	NLC 3-1	160	TBD	21	Adarkwa, Sandat, Thorpe
	16 ROCHDALE	VNL 2-0	1,922	558	20	Kretzschmar, Cesay
	23 Eastleigh	VNL 1-1	2,020	187	19	Ashford
	30 WYCOMBE WANDERERS	FAC2R				
	3 DERBY COUNTY U21s	NLC				
JANUARY	7 Aldershot Town	FATR3				
	10 ALTRINCHAM	VNL				
	14 Oldham Athletic	VNL				
	21 DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE	VNL				
	26 Maidenhead United	VNL				
FEBRUARY	1 BOSTON UNITED	VNL				
	7 TAMWORTH	VNL				
	11 Altrincham	VNL				
	14 Sutton United	VNL				
	18 HARTLEPOOL UNITED	VNL				
MARCH	21 BRIGHTON & HOVE A U21s	NLC				
	25 AFC Fylde	VNL				
	1 SOLIHULL MOORS	VNL				
	8 GATESHEAD	VNL				
	15 Yeovil Town	VNL				
APRIL	18 Braintree Town	VNL				
	22 EBBSFLEET UNITED	VNL				
	1 ALDERSHOT TOWN	VNL				
	4 Tamworth	VNL				
	8 Rochdale	VNL				
MAY	15 EASTLEIGH	VNL				
	22 WOKING	VNL				
	29 York City	VNL				
	5 FOREST GREEN ROVERS	VNL				
	12 Barnet	VNL				
18 Boston United	VNL					
21 MAIDENHEAD UNITED	VNL					
26 Southend United	VNL					
5 FC HALIFAX TOWN	VNL					

**KEY**

P Starter  
P Sub  
P 1st player off  
P 1st on  
P 2nd player off  
P 2nd on  
P 3rd player off  
P 3rd on  
P 4th player off  
P 4th on  
P 5th player off  
P 5th on



Pictures from our draw down in Eastleigh last week courtesy of Jon Taffel @RonnieRaffle



Date in Red = MIDWEEK fixture



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They played for both clubs...AND MICK

# Those who loved wearing light, dark and royal blue... the 38 players to star for Stones and the Chairboys

**THERE** has been a rich history between Wealdstone and Wycombe with decades of fierce rivalry.

On other pages in this programme you can read about how Wanderers 'lured' the Stones stars of the late 1960s up the M40 with promises of wonga... which is reflected in the rather one-way traffic from Harrow into Buckinghamshire over the past 60 years. And this FA Cup tie is no longer a meeting of equals with Wycombe storming towards promotion to the EFL Championship while the Stones are fighting to keep their heads above the National League relegation trapdoor.

But that shouldn't stop us having a bit of fun putting together a team comprising of players who have turned out for both clubs over the decades. Definitely not! And there are lots of them!

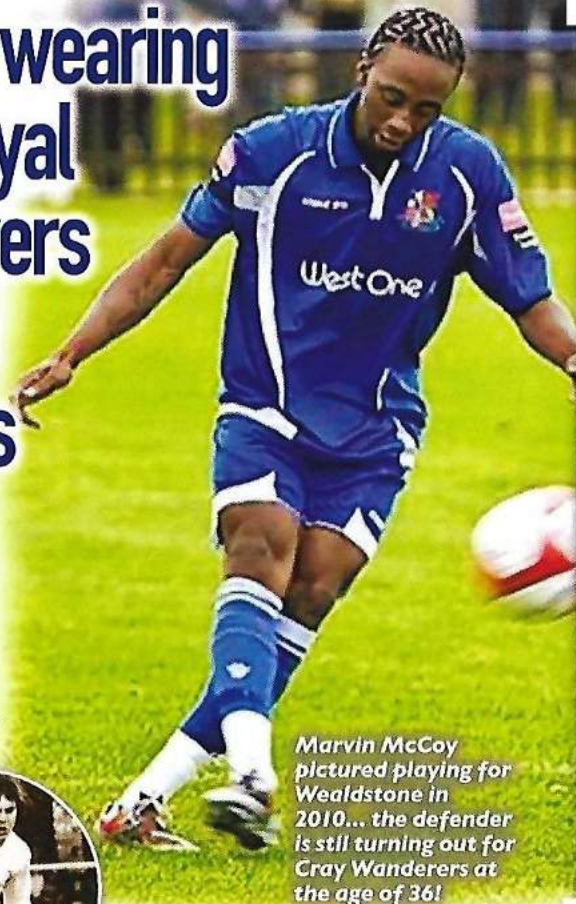
Let's approach it in positional order....

## Goalkeepers

Oddly, there appears to have been only two keepers in all these years: the Moroccan-born **Chuck Moussadick** (who later called himself Chuck Martini) who played 45 times for Wycombe between 1990 and 1996, during which he came on loan to the Stones in 1992 and made 8 appearances. The other keeper is the ubiquitous **Ashlee Jones**. The *have gloves will travel* man was briefly at Wycombe in 2009 and came to the Stones' rescue in 2021 to cover for the injured Jonathan North, performing creditably on nine occasions.

## Right backs

There are also two candidates for the No.2 shirt:



Marvin McCoy pictured playing for Wealdstone in 2010... the defender is still turning out for Cray Wanderers at the age of 36!



**Nick Arnold**, who played 31 matches for Wycombe while on loan there from Reading in 2013/14 season (and made 19 appearances for Wealdstone during the first half of the title winning 2019/20 season) and **Marvin McCoy** (above) who made 65 appearances for the Stones between 2010 and 2012 before being transferred to Wycombe where he played 94 times over four years.

## Left backs

The standout No.3 players are probably **Gary Hand** (above) and **Neil Price**. On being released by Watford in 1968, 18-year-old Gary joined the Stones and in 3 spells until 1971 made 76 appearances, scoring 3 goals. Small of stature but tenacious and with a sweet left foot, Gary enjoyed his greatest years, first at Hendon, and then one glorious season in 1974/75 with Wycombe. Price, another ex-Wat-

## FISHMAN COMPILES A LONG LIST OF EX-WFC & WWFC STARS!



ford player, spent 2 seasons at Loakes Park and then a brief 14 game stint at Lower Mead in the 1989/90 season.

## Centre backs

Central defence is a bit trickier as there appears to be no cross-over between the 2 clubs in recent years. But three ex-Stones turned out for Wycombe in the early 1970s, **Dave Bullock**, **Alan Phillips** and **Gerry Olsen**, but it has been difficult to find out how many games they played for the Chairboys. Bullock was another ex-Watford youngster who joined the Stones in 1968 and played 74 games before moving on to Hayes in 1970. Phillips, a Welsh amateur international, joined us from Barry in 1968 and played 15 games before initially moving to Hounslow Town and then Hendon. Gerry Olsen, meanwhile, was a man mountain of a centre half (think Bowgett on steroids) who played for the Stones the entire last amateur season in 1970/71 before moving on to Wycombe. He is best remembered for his singular method of penalty taking where he aimed at the keeper's head!

## Left wing/right wing

There are three candidates for the right wing slot: **Len Worley**, **John Hutchinson** and **Brian Greenaway**. You have to be of a certain vintage to have seen Len Worley play, but he was a genuine star of the amateur game. His talent and trickery earned him the sobriquet of the amateur Stanley Matthews while Hutchinson was a discovery from local football who signed for the Stones in 1967. A goalscoring winger, John was highly regarded and was part of a mass exodus from the club to Wycombe in 1969. The speedy, tricky and hard working "Greeners" meanwhile was an integral part of Wealdstone's double winning side of the mid-1980s - over four seasons he amassed 167 appearances and scored 26 goals. But he was going to be class, having played at Fulham in the 70s. There is only one outstanding option for the left wing berth: **Bernie Bremer**, who joined us while still a 16 year old schoolboy in 1963 and, by the time he moved on to Wycombe in 1970, had played 285 appearances for the Stones scoring 96 goals - and of course scored at

Wembley in 1966 as Stones won the FA Amateur Cup against Hendon, 3-1.

## Centre midfield

We have available a plethora of talent for these roles. The stylish **Martin Blackler** had been a part of Martin O'Neil's early teams from 1988 and was a decent signing for the Stones in 1992 while **Abel Comben** is perhaps an unusual pick. A research scientist based at Princess Risborough, Comben turned out for Wycombe before moving to Hayes and then, in 1952 to Wealdstone. Those who saw him play describe the No.8 as a fine exponent of the sliding tackle. **Luke O'Nien** (below) spent the entire 2014/15 on loan to Wealdstone from Watford scoring 4 goals from 37 appearances. Following his release from Watford, Luke signed for the Chairboys and over 3 seasons made 101 appearances and scored 15 goals. He signed for Sunderland in 2018, where he is currently the hugely popular club captain of the Championship table toppers.



**Charlie Mapes** most certainly had talent but somehow failed to fully realise his potential. Signed from Edgware Town in 2002, the David Beckham playalike made 21 starts for the Stones before Wycombe signed him, appearing 15 times before moving off to Crawley Town. He later dropped back into non-league football with Hendon, Hemel Hempstead and Hayes & Yeading.

Coming up to date, **Max Kretzschmar** is now in his 3rd season with Wealdstone - and but for frustrating injuries he would have vastly improved on his 67 starts, plus 22 on the bench, scoring 17 goals. Over 3 seasons from 2013 to 2016 Max made 85 appearances for Wycombe and scored 9 times - and between his Wycombe & Wealdstone stints he made 164 appearances for Woking scoring 45 goals, and 48 appearances for Hampton and Richmond Borough, scoring 20 goals. A player! **CONTINUED OVERPAGE**

# CONTINUED... AND THERE'S A LOT OF COMPETITION UP FRONT!

## Strikers

The two strikers' slots throw up some intriguing possibilities. The biggest name by a distance must be **Simon Garner**, Blackburn Rovers' record goalscorer who signed for the Chairboys at the age of 35 after netting 169 times for Rovers and then eight for West Brom, all in the Championship. His two years at Wycombe yielded 66 appearances and 15 goals. He then shipped up at Wealdstone for a last hurrah at the age of 39 where he helped the club secure the Isthmian League Division Three title (the only medal in his illustrious career) making 15 starts and scoring 4 goals. The next season he made a further 19 starts, scoring 11 goals before winding down his illustrious career with Windsor & Eton and Flackwell Heath, by which time he was 41 years old. Pure class.



*Polish striker Henryk Mikrut shows his power in the air for Wycombe v Bishop Auckland in the FA Amateur Cup semi-final at Brentford in 1950*

**Dennis Greene** was a Martin O'Neill signing who enjoyed back-to-back promotions with the club. He moved on to Dagenham & Redbridge, Harlow Town and then Wealdstone. A talented player, his cocky Jack-the-lad demeanour could inspire and irritate in equal measure!

Going back 75 years, the intriguing name of **Henryk Mikrut** pops up. Born in Krakow, Poland in 1924 he served with the 3rd Carpathian Rifle Division of the British 8th Army that saw action in both the North African and Italian campaigns between 1941 and 1945. Unsurprisingly, the 5,000-plus men within the division housed a number of very fine footballers who formed themselves into a useful team. The unit was disbanded in 1945 and many of the Polish soldiers chose not to return to their native country that had become a satellite regime of the Soviet Union - so Henryk, initially housed in Hodgemoor Camp near Chalfont St Giles, played for the army team (The Carpathians) that took on and often defeated senior English amateur sides of the time. He was snapped up by Slough Town, Aylesbury United and Wycombe Wanderers (where he was part of the side that reached the FA Amateur Cup Semi-final, pictured here) before signing for Wealdstone in 1951. A strong, stocky player, Mikrut had an eye for goal, was particularly good in the air and formed a lethal partnership with fellow Pole Henryk Wegrzyk to help power the team to its only Athenian League title in 1952. Unfortunately, injury blighted Henryk Mikrut's career and he died tragi-

cally early in 1961, aged just 37.

Scroll forward 20 years and that excellent striker, **Keith Searle**, was in full swing. Plucked from local junior football by Wealdstone in 1965, he scored 70 goals in three and a half seasons before being poached by Brian Lee for his Wycombe side that would dominate the Isthmian League for the next half dozen seasons. Keith turned out 249 times for Wycombe, scoring 124 goals between 1969 and 1975.

It will come as a bit of a surprise to Wealdstone fans who saw him play that **Dylan Evans** scored 71 goals for Wycombe between 1973 and 1979. In a bid to help stave off relegation in 1981, manager Allen Batsford signed Evans from Aylesbury United. As a proven goalscorer it was to him that club looked to cure its complete dearth of goals. Dylan chipped in with...er... no goals in 12 appear-

ances. The club were relegated.

Although he didn't play for either club over a long period, Mancunian **Andy Graham** enjoyed brilliant brief spells with both. The history teacher started out in goal-scoring form for Lancaster City and Hyde United but following his move South to take up a teaching post he turned up at Wealdstone looking for a game. Having impressed in training he was signed and got his chance in the first team to replace injured leading goalscorer, Mark Graves. The rest is Wealdstone legend! Graham scored a number of vital, spectacular goals that helped the club secure the Gola League and FA Trophy double. Falling out of favour at the end of the following season, Alan Gane signed him for Wycombe where he flourished in left midfield and helped the club to promotion.

## Also in contention...

There are other players who deserve a name check: defenders Bob Williams, Chris Seagraves, Steve Walford, Ryan Sellars, Tom Cadmore and Steve Dell along with forwards Byron Walton, Elliott Benyon, Dan Fitchett, Josh Umerah and Matty Wichelow. Wycombe have helped out the Stones on occasion by providing young loan players over the years and full back Robbie Rice (8 games) and striker Matt McClure (7 appearances, 4 goals) were real hits. The most notable loan signing, however, was Alan Massey who played 23 games in 2007. Shown the door by Wycombe some months later, the young defender signed for the Stones and over the following five seasons played 200 games. He has since also achieved legendary status in nine years at Maidenhead.



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## STAT ATTACK WITH STATTO MAN HILLSY



BY ADAM HILLS  
**GOOD morning!**  
*I can't get my  
head around an  
a.m. kick-off  
but welcome to*

**this exciting FA Cup tie  
between two teams with  
a rich shared history.**

Two leagues and 67 places separate the teams to emphasise the fact that Wealdstone and the FA Cup draw just don't get on... for the last few seasons, Stones fans have been left infuriated by being paired with the toughest opponent possible.

The same happened again this year when Emile Heskey drew out the leaders of League One for this trip to Grosvenor Vale: Before their game last Tuesday, Wanderers sat four points clear of Wrexham with a game in hand. They have won their last nine games in all competitions, are unbeaten in 13 league games (after losing the first two to Wrexham and Birmingham), have scored 35 goals in fifteen games, scored 3+ goals in 5 of their last six league games and, for good measure - have scored in every league game this season. Ouch!

Jacob Adams, Jack Cook and the rest of the rearguard can expect a busy afternoon. A little scratch at the surface of their match statistics is quite revealing and highlights where Wycombe are strong. **Possession.** In only 5 of those fifteen league games have Wycombe dominated (>55%) possession and overall their average is ever-so slightly below 50%. However an average of 13.1 shots and 2.3 goals per game shows they possess powerful/pacey forwards, quality in the wing back areas and present a serious threat from set-pieces. Their total of 35 goals this season has



**Just don't look at Wycombe's  
goal threat, Stones! But we  
have a puncher's chance**

been shared across fourteen different players with the fascinating Richard Kone leading the way with 9 goals. The young Ivorian hit a 10-minute hat-trick when coming off the bench against Peterborough last month and is no stranger to grass roots football having made his name scoring goals for fun at Essex Senior League side AthleticNewham.

What is perhaps most striking is their **conversion** rates, with nearly a quarter of all shots finding the back of the net and a daunting (near) 50% chance of a shot on target ending in a goal. Whether it's Kone, wide forwards Fred Onyedinma (above) or Daniel Udoh or perhaps towering defender Joe Low, our opponents pose a serious threat going forwards. It will be interesting to see how manager Matt Bloomfield uses his squad today, given they made changes in the

last round against York City. But regardless what XI takes to the field today it will be quality! However, this is the FA Cup and **Wealdstone** will be backed by a partisan home crowd (assuming the early start doesn't leave us half asleep) after finally finding their mojo after a slow start to the season. Matt Taylor's side has won 6 of their ten league and cup fixtures and are unbeaten in the league since 19 October, coinciding with the arrival of Alex Reid. His relationship with fellow forwards Sam Ashford and ex-Chairboy Max Kretschmar gives us hope of laying a glove on Wycombe today.

The midfield will be a key area today and two youthful Stones will be looking to showcase their talents: Kallum Cesay, the star of the first round win at Grimsby Town and Jack Wells-Morrison who has gone about his business quietly and impressively in recent weeks. His pedigree should see him relish today's game.

**Wycombe's shot and conversion rate this season is truly impressive....**

Opponent	% Poss	Shots	SoT	Goals	CR \$	CR SoT	TIOB
Wroxham (A)	55.30	16	3	2	12.50	66.67	24
Birmingham City (H)	26.10	8	2	2	25.00	100.00	11
Rotherham United (H)	57.40	11	6	2	18.18	33.33	18
Blackpool (A)	44.60	11	4	2	18.18	50.00	19
Northampton Town (A)	52.80	14	4	2	14.29	50.00	32
Cambridge United (H)	65.10	19	6	2	10.53	33.33	35
Bristol Rovers (A)	63.00	13	5	2	15.38	40.00	36
Barnsley (A)	50.10	13	4	2	15.38	50.00	29
Crawley Town (H)	44.10	9	4	1	11.11	25.00	27
Peterborough United (H)	47.70	18	8	3	16.67	37.50	34
Burton Albion (A)	55.80	13	4	3	23.08	75.00	26
Leyton Orient (H)	50.40	14	5	3	21.43	60.00	15
Stockport County (A)	48.50	14	10	5	35.71	50.00	25
Wigan Athletic (A)	38.40	8	5	1	82.50	20.00	17
Lincoln City (A)	50.40	16	6	3	37.50	50.00	28
<b>Averages</b>	<b>49.98</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>22.50</b>	<b>49.39</b>	<b>25.07</b>

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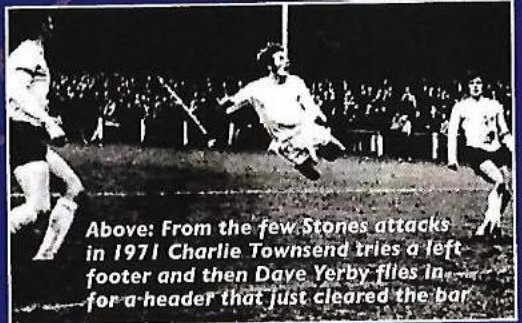


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We've met before **TIM PARKS LOOKS BACK AT**

# Wycombe deal a double blow with 1-0 wins in the Amateur Cup... a score soon repeated ...and repeated



Above: From the few Stones attacks in 1971 Charlie Townsend tries a left footer and then Dave Yerby flies in for a header that just cleared the bar

**STONES and Chairboys supporters of a certain age (I love saying that, and it just means 'old') will have greeted the FA Cup second round pairing of our clubs with a certain wistfulness.**

For as the decades, and even the generations waft by we come to recognise that what goes around, comes around. Unfortunately for Wealdstone, what always seems to come around is that we end up as plucky losers!

Right back to my first years as a Stones fan, in the late 1960s, there was grudging recognition that the Wanderers were becoming a more than useful amateur side. They had overtaken our club in the Isthmian League

**The First**

pecking order and - what was worse - had snaffled most of our decent players (the evils of boot money) in the process. Long-in-the-tooth Stones fans will recall strikers Keith Searle and John Hutchinson being lured up the A40 to Loakes Park, soon to be followed by our other gem, winger Bernie Bremer. I reckon that this

was a major factor when the club decided to quit the amateur game and join the semi-pros of the Southern League in 1971, where clubs were able to tie their players down with contracts. Wycombe were outliers in the Isthmian League which was basically an M25 competition, even in the days before the M25 actually existed. This meant they didn't

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**Wealdstone**

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**the manager's corner**

We have experienced a frustrating period of the season since before Christmas and as I look out of the window now, the match against Wealdstone is no certainty. Though somewhat bolstered, might I, on behalf of the players, wish you all a happy and successful 1971. The last match was against today's opponents Wealdstone in the Floodlit League. There was little to enthuse about, we did have chances but did not take them, whilst our opponents kept running and staying in the game. Since the beginning of the season Wealdstone have lightened their play up and will surely continue to improve. According to the national Press they could be leaving us and going into the Southern League, a move that surprises me. Having been in that League I do not think it has a single thing in its favour over the Isthmian League except for holding players to contracts. The cost of travel, lack of involvement for supporters, standard of play and atmosphere not to mention wages, will all present their problems. If they do go it will be a sad loss for amateur football in the South. After the snow at Woking and the fog at Dulwich let us hope for better January weather for today's visitors. This will be a difficult game for us, we must raise our game for a new kind of 'spirit' is prevalent from Lower Mead. Meanwhile let us hope for a good clean and entertaining game for after all that is why we are here - or is it to win? I believe the two can go hand in hand!

**leading goalscorers**

Tony Horseman	25	Geoff Anthony	6
Keith Searle	24	Barry Baker	2
Bernie Bremer	16	Keith Blunt	2
John Hutchinson	13	Ian Maclean	1
John Delaney	12	Ted Powell	1
Larry Pritchard	8	Ian Rowley	1

**The Wanderers programme for the 'final amateur bow' in 1970 is notable for the leading goalscorers (right)... in January!**

## DECADES OF PAIN WHEN THE STONES FACED THE WANDERERS

### OBSERVERSPORT

# Horseman hits k.o. goal



**Wealdstone 0  
Wycombe W. (1) 1**  
Attendance: 4,129

A Tony Horseman goal mid way through the first half at Lower Mead put Wealdstone out of the Amateur Cup and added yet another lone goal defeat to the recent string. St. Albans in the F.A. Cup first round, North Shields in the Amateur Cup quarter-final last season and Enfield in the F.A. Cup this season.

Yet in the first minute of the second half, with Dave Bullock, inexplicably at substitute on for the injured John Draper, they were continents from the equaliser and a score that could possibly have swung the third round tie.

With the first touch of the ball he sent Bernie Bremer racing through a Wealdstone defence.

**WELL MARKED**

Harrow Observer reports from the FA Amateur clashes between the two clubs that marked the turn of the 1970s. Of all the clubs we may have faced, how unlucky were Stones to twice draw the Isthmian top dog

# Pritchard put end to it

**Wycombe Wanderers (0) 1 Wealdstone**  
Attendance: 4,345

Wealdstone's Amateur Cup career ended in the first round Saturday with a goal by Larry Pritchard just five minutes from the end.

But the real tragedy was that it came some ten minutes after Wealdstone manager Alan Humphries had replaced defender Cliff Rapley by forward Bill Johnstone — Rapley had been in close attendance on the dangerous England forward throughout. The chance came when another England star, Ted Powell, broke away on the left wing and centred for Pritchard, running through to the penalty spot, to blast past the helpless Chris Swain.

clashed in midfield for a kick to Wycombe. Yet another ex-Lower Mead arrived on 35 minutes, John Hutchinson for Baker, and he was almost instantly brought down by Gary Hand. Pritchard made the most of the match coming towards half-time, toeing wide from four yards with Swain helpless and Townsend then hooked wide from 15 yards. The perky Dave Yerby managed to have a shot blocked and Vince Faulkner made life even more difficult for home keeper John Maskell with a bad back pass that Pentecost was too slow reaching.

combe kept coming forward. Searle saved bravely but was then nearly capitulated by the same player. Horseman was the next to go as still Wycombe kept coming and with six minutes left, home side used their ultimate deterrent. Delaney running for the first time to head off the bar. Then came Powell's fine pass and Wycombe made a final effort to enhance the score line. Pritchard heading off post and away. Wealdstone managed one. Olson free kick but Wycombe had the last shot. Swain saving at the foot of post from Searle and Pritchard.

have competition from the London pro clubs and were able to generate huge crowds to the iconic sloping arena that was Loakes Park.

My first experience of that came in January 1970 when the Stones navigated FA Amateur Cup games against Vauxhall Motors (Luton) and struggling Bromley for the reward of a home last-16 tie with the Wanderers.

I was proud of our crowds, usually around the 1,000-1,500 mark but a whopping extra 3,000 from the Chilterns swelled our old Lower Mead ground (4,129 in total) to see our shortcomings exposed by the Wealdstone Old Boys of Wycombe. It was only 1-0 in the end but - like the white-painted 'WWFC' graffiti adorning the Cinema End stand after the game - it left a mark that lasted for years.

Wycombe were surprisingly beaten by the powerful St Albans side in the quarter finals with Enfield beating Dagenham 5-1 in the

Wembley final. The following season was our last as amateurs and Stones fans were desperate for a decent final showing in the Amateur Cup. The wait for the first round draw was tense and Wycombe (runners-up to Enfield in the Isthmian League in 69-70 and currently on course to lift the league title) were the team everyone wanted to avoid. Especially at their Loakes Park fortress.

And so of course, Wycombe came out of the bag quickly followed by Wealdstone.

Our hopes that day were much, much slimmer than a Slimfast slimmer. We had been beaten 6-1 by the Chairboys in one of the early home league games... although surprising the Wanderers with a 1-0 home win in the Premier Midweek Floodlit League game just a week before Christmas. That is the game referred to by Wycombe manager Brian Lee in his programme notes (left) - although it sounds like he is 'talking up' recent Stones performances just in case we pulled off

the Cup shock of the century!

It was a fighting performance though by the depleted Stones, utilising a well-rehearsed offside routine from centre backs Gerry Olsen and Rob Williams that so nearly forced the midweek replay that would have helped cash-strapped Wealdstone enormously. But with just five minutes remaining and our legs weakening, the Wanderers' England Amateur International Larry Pritchard crashed in the winner to 'a roar like Krakatoa' according to the Harry O reporter.

So that was it. Wealdstone's life in the Amateur Cup - a competition in which we'd made our name, at Wembley just five years earlier - was over forever.

We finished in lower mid-table while Wycombe, as mentioned, won the Isthmian League although they again failed to win the Amateur Cup. Eventual holders Skelmersdale United (from Lancashire) dealt a 3-0 blow at a packed Loakes Park in the quarter-final.

More of the same overpage>>>

## 'WE'VE MET BEFORE' CONTINUED

# Into the 80s & 90s for the last meetings of the clubs... and who'd have guessed the scoreline?

**WYCOMBE'S love affair with the Isthmian League continued right through the 1970s and 80s... and why wouldn't it when the club were stacking up six titles and enjoying stirring FA Cup runs enjoyed by millions on television?**

The new Alliance Premier League kicked off in 1979 but Wanderers refused multiple invitations to join the 'Non-League elite' as the APL styled itself. But eventually, with disinterest amongst the Wycombe public in the mid-80s forcing a change of tack, they decided to join the then-named Gola League... and finally renewed acquaintanceship with the Stones in 1985 after 14 years!

Wycombe found the boot on the other foot as Brian Hall's Wealdstone were the top club outside the Football League... and indeed, had beaten the Chairboys 2-1 at Lower Mead on the way to winning the FA Trophy in Wycombe's

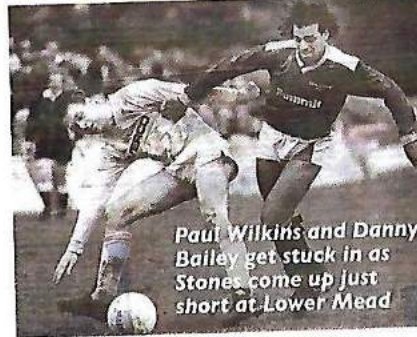
last season as an Isthmian League outfit.

This was the only period since the 1960s that the Stones held sway over the Buckinghamshire side. By the end of the decade

Wealdstone were in decline and Wanderers had rediscovered their mojo - battling Barnet for automatic promotion to the Football League and seeing the 2,000 and 3,000 crowds returning to Loakes Park.

It was in February 1989 that the clubs met for the penultimate time in a competitive game... and once again it was Wycombe who edged the FA Trophy 2nd round tie 1-0 at Lower Mead. Martin Blackler (later to play for the Stones) scored the only goal as our Southern Leaguers dominated against the Conference high-fliers in front of a 1,400 crowd...

**The Worst**



**Paul Wilkins and Danny Bailey get stuck in as Stones come up just short at Lower Mead**

However, it was the construction of out-of-town Adams Park (completed in 1990) that was key to the Chairboys ambitions and in their first season there we clashed for the last time: another FA Trophy 2nd round tie in front of just under 3,000 at the shiny new AP on January 12th 1991. Again it was a tale of plucky losers as, astonishingly we bowed out again 1-0 after Steve Guppy broke the deadlock after 28 mins. John Comfort's match report (below) sums up the pride in the

Stones display against the team who would end up winning the Trophy... and also the Conference title to emulate the non-League 'double' that we had won six years earlier. Nice one Wanderers.

## LET'S MAKE HISTORY: STONES RECORD IN THE SECOND ROUND

**OUR previous home FA Cup programme against Gosport Borough chronicled the Stones' exploits in the final Qualifying Round since Wealdstone FC was founded in 1899... eight pages of them, covering 28 games from Colchester United in 1950 to Bromley last season!**

And if we'd been drawn at home in the First Round we could have looked back on 16 previous forays into Round One. But as for the Second Round, well, rather slimmer pickings. Just two occasions in fact... **Saturday December 17 1977, FA Cup 2nd round: Wealdstone 2 Reading 1** WHAT a game! Probably the most dramatic afternoon in Stones history as the record books were ripped up with this, the club's first-ever (and last) home victory against a Football League club after a sensational 90 minutes.

I was still selling the last few raffle tickets in the Elmslie End in the opening minutes when I looked up and saw the ball crash off the post and into the Reading net... what! Keith Furphy's inswing corner (pictured above right) evaded the outstretched paws of visiting

## We've only got here twice before.. could today be a glory day?



keeper Steve Death and astonishingly we were 1-0 ahead against the Fourth Division side after just six minutes.

On a bog of a pitch in front of a 7,000 crowd (officially 4,104) it was the Stones - fresh from their shock 3-2 replay win against Div Three Hereford United in the First Round - who took the game to the Royals... though it took a penalty to

extend our lead at the Cinema End. Defender Lewis tripped Bobby Moss in the box and (on the word of a linesman) referee Alan Turvey pointed to the spot. Ace marksman George Duck stepped up and hit the post... but the referee deemed Death to have moved too soon. In all the hullabaloo, George stepped up for the retake and planted the ball home... only for Turvey to this time say he'd not blown his whistle! Said George: "There was so much noise I couldn't tell what was going on. So the third time I just blasted it up the middle".

Only a minute later Pat Earle pulled a goal back for Reading, but Stones took back control and were

worthy winners. So it was all into the bar at the Lower Mead social club to hear the 5pm draw for the Third Round on telly... and you can imagine the pandemonium when QPR v Wealdstone came out of the hat! The First Division outfit were many fans' 'second team' - I know they were mine - and the thought

of seeing the likes of Stan Bowles, John Hollins, Leighton James and Phil Parkes taking on our heroes was almost too much to take in. We were well beaten on the day, 4-0, but what memories! **Saturday December 10 1983, FA Cup 2nd round: Colchester 4 Wealdstone 0** A REAL damp squib against the 4th Division outfit... Stones had come through five rounds to reach Layer Road but just didn't perform on the day.

# Luckless Stones go out with heads held high

**Wycombe Wanderers 1 Wealdstone 0** JALLANT Wealdstone made their exit from the FA Trophy on Saturday but they went down fighting and with their heads held high after a tremendous battling performance against their GM Vauxhall Conference rivals.

This was undoubtedly Stones finest display since the return of Brian Hall to the Lower Mead hot seat and even the partisan Wycombe supporters readily admitted afterwards that the visitors were most unfortunate not to have secured a replay.

The whole Wealdstone side did themselves proud, but particularly outstanding were three front, the post sized full back often mistaken for the club mascot, whose polish for attack caused Wycombe considerable concern. In midfield Paul Goyette was

**By John Comfort**

port as Stones successfully kept the service to Wycombe's lethal attacking duo of West and Evans to a minimum.

Also impressive was striker Barry Blackman and it was sadly ironic that his failure to take the two clearest chances of the game ultimately cost Stones the second chance they fully deserved.

They both came within a minute of each other in the second half. The first, in the 61st minute, saw Blackman put clear by a great pass from substitute David Gipp but as he raced into the area he inexplicably checked, allowing defender Kerr to cut off his route to goal. Blackman turned and laid off the ball to the onrushing Jim Watson

goal and wide.

A minute later a great cross from Goyette again set Blackman up. He turned well but then drove his shot off target.

Stones were far from overawed in the early stages of the game and gave as good as they got, even when they were down to 10 men for eight minutes while Tony Kelly went off to have stitches inserted in an eye injury inflicted by Kerr's elbow.

But two minutes after his return, Wycombe took the lead in the 28th minute. Paul Morris's miscued clearance attempt sent the ball out to the right and Hutchinson was first in it. His accurate cross found Guppy unmarked at the far post and a fierce drive gave Dave Coles no chance.

Stones came close to levelling 6 minutes later when Smart put Blackman free on the

disc send a diving header just wide.

Another back by Blackman was halted when he was held back by Crossley, which caused the Wycombe defender a booking and Kerr received similar treatment after a nasty foul on Cordice.

Cordice was again just off target with a header from Smart's cross early in the second half but although Stones kept battling away, the vital breakthrough continued to elude them.

Smart might have saved them in injury time when Leo Donnellan's cross found him at the far post but his shot was blocked and with it went luckless Stones' last hope of Trophy survival.

Wealdstone: Coles, Watson (Bartlett), Smart, Tapley, Harrison, Donnellan, Morris, Goyette, Kelly (Gipp), Blackman, Cor-

## COR, LUV A DUCK!

**WEALDSTONE 2 READING 1**  
By PAT GARRON

If you happen to be in the Harrow area and see men walking around 10 feet tall this week they're sure to be Wealdstone footballers.

They made club history by reaching the third round of the FA Cup with this well-deserved win over 4th Division Reading.

And what a reward for the boys who were on a 14th win home, starting from Jimmy Fair's header at Donnellan's pass - a sign that was indeed significant in the 2nd minute.

I was on Harrow's home, the day's top candidate with 101 votes. My name has been drawn.

Smart might have saved them in injury time when Leo Donnellan's cross found him at the far post but his shot was blocked and with it went luckless Stones' last hope of Trophy survival.

Wealdstone: Coles, Watson (Bartlett), Smart, Tapley, Harrison, Donnellan, Morris, Goyette, Kelly (Gipp), Blackman, Cor-



**Stones were the toast of the taboids after the win over Reading... Duck and Furphy celebrate**



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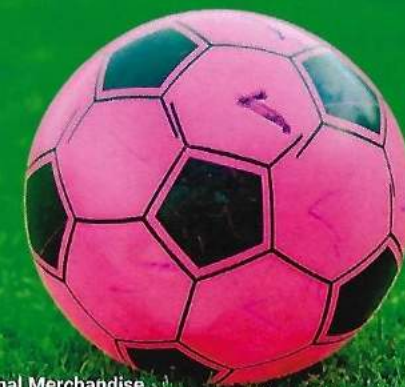
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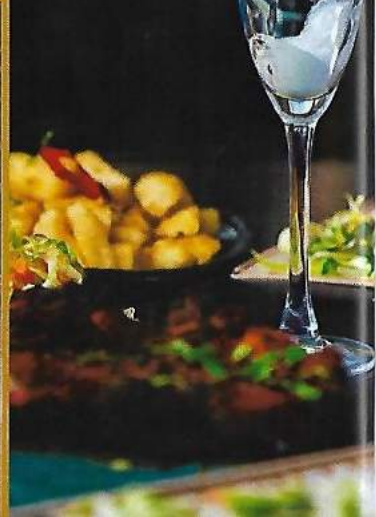
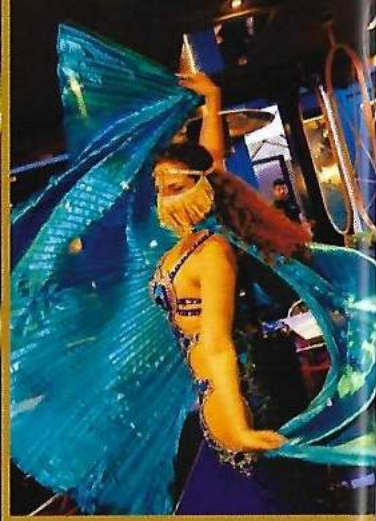
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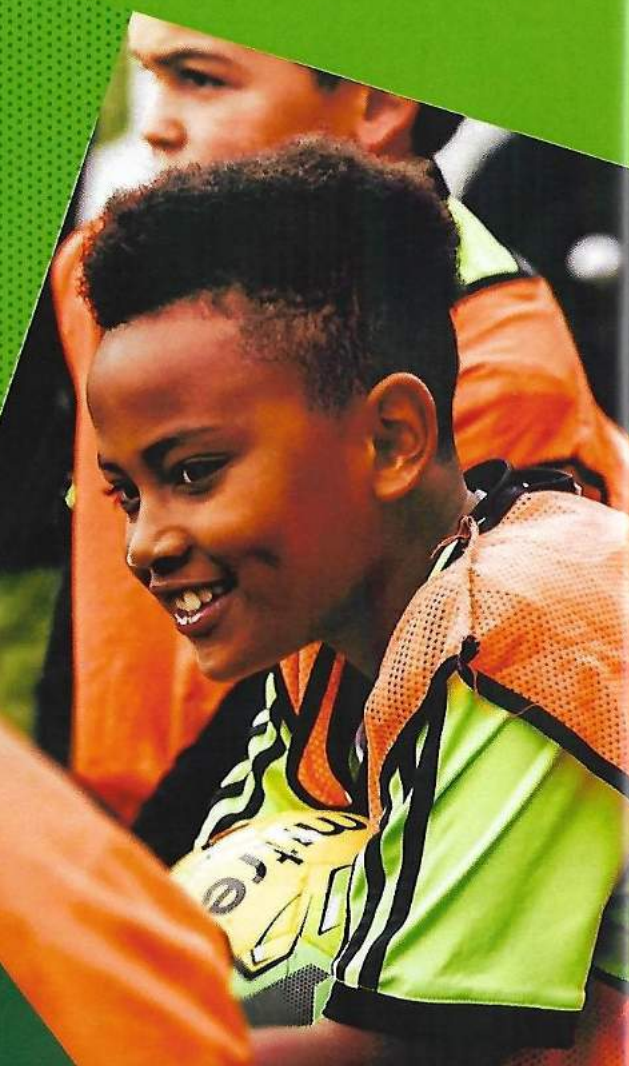
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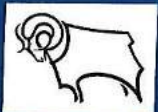
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SUPPORT THE STONES HERE AT HOME AND ACROSS ENGLAND


Coming up here at The Vale >



**DERBY COUNTY U21s**  
National League Cup  
Tuesday 3rd December 7:00pm



**ALTRINCHAM**  
Vanarama National League  
Tuesday 10th December 7:45pm




**DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE**  
Vanarama National League  
Saturday 21st December 3:00pm

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE - TABLE AS AT 24TH NOVEMBER	ALL					HOME					AWAY					GD		Pts		STONES RESULTS	
	P	W	D	L	F	P	W	D	L	F	P	W	D	L	F	A	A	H	A	H	A
	1 York City	19	12	5	2	37	14	10	8	1	1	24	7	9	4	4	1	13	7	23	41
2 Forest Green Rovers	19	12	5	2	37	16	7	6	1	0	15	5	12	6	4	2	22	11	21	41	2-2
3 Barnet	19	13	1	5	40	23	10	9	1	0	24	5	9	4	0	5	16	18	17	40	0-3
4 Gateshead	19	11	4	4	35	24	9	7	1	1	18	7	10	4	3	3	17	17	11	37	0-1
5 Oldham Athletic	18	9	7	2	29	17	9	5	3	1	15	6	9	4	4	1	14	11	12	34	0-1
6 Rochdale	18	9	3	6	27	18	9	5	2	2	13	7	9	4	1	4	14	11	9	30	2-0
7 Halifax Town	18	8	5	5	20	16	10	4	3	3	14	12	8	4	2	2	6	4	4	29	2-2
8 Solihull Moors	19	8	4	7	35	32	10	3	3	4	18	22	9	5	1	3	17	10	3	28	1-1
9 Yeovil Town	19	8	4	7	21	20	9	3	2	4	8	8	10	5	2	3	13	12	1	28	0-3
10 Altrincham	19	7	6	6	29	25	9	4	4	1	15	8	10	3	2	5	14	17	4	27	
11 Sutton United	18	7	4	7	26	26	9	3	2	4	13	13	9	4	2	3	13	13	0	25	0-1
12 Eastleigh	19	6	7	6	26	26	10	4	2	18	15	15	9	2	3	4	8	11	0	25	1-1
13 Hartlepool United	19	6	7	6	22	24	9	2	5	2	7	8	10	4	2	4	15	16	-2	25	1-1
14 Tamworth	19	7	4	8	22	33	10	5	3	2	16	12	9	2	1	6	6	21	-11	25	
15 Dagenham & Redbridge	19	5	7	7	31	24	9	4	3	2	23	12	10	1	4	5	8	12	+7	22	1-2
16 Southend United	19	5	7	7	22	24	10	3	3	4	13	14	9	2	4	3	9	10	-2	22	1-1
17 Aldershot Town	19	5	7	7	25	30	10	4	3	3	15	14	9	1	4	4	10	16	-5	22	2-0
18 Woking	19	5	5	9	19	26	9	4	2	3	10	11	10	1	3	6	9	15	-7	20	0-1
19 Wealdstone	19	4	7	8	19	26	9	3	1	5	7	13	10	1	6	3	12	13	-7	19	--
20 Braintree Town	19	5	4	10	15	23	9	4	2	3	6	4	10	1	2	7	9	19	-8	19	3-2
21 Fylde	18	5	3	10	23	37	9	4	2	3	18	17	9	1	1	7	5	20	-14	18	1-0
22 Maidenhead United	19	4	4	11	21	36	10	2	3	5	10	19	9	2	1	6	11	17	-15	16	
23 Boston United	19	3	5	11	19	32	11	1	3	7	10	21	8	2	2	4	9	11	-13	14	
24 Ebbsfleet United	18	1	5	12	15	43	9	1	3	5	7	18	9	0	2	7	8	25	-28	8	2-2


Follow the Stones on the road >




osmo  
Wealdstone FC's first team travel is sponsored by Osmo, specialists in the supply of wood finishes



**ALDERSHOT TOWN**  
FA Trophy 3rd Round  
Saturday 7th December 3:00pm



**OLDHAM ATHLETIC**  
Vanarama National League  
Saturday 14th December 3:00pm



**MAIDENHEAD UNITED**  
Vanarama National League  
Boxing Day Thursday 26th December 3:00pm



CONSTRUCTING THE FUTURE  
MAINTAINING THE PAST

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