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SEASON 84-85 OFFICAL MAGAZINE

Football Ca

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Referee:

MR. G.T. PEARSON (Kingston)

Linesmen:

Mr. M. Boshell (Earlsfield)

Mr. I.G. Glen (Woking)

TEAMS

Wealdstone v Dunstable

(Blue & Yellow)

(All Red)

BOB ILES

1 MARK FORDHAM

ROY DAVIES

2 CLIVE BURTON

STEVE McCARGO

3 DEAN ROWE

DENNIS BYATT

4 FRED BARRY

PAUL BOWGETT

5 JIM McCARTHY

ROBIN WAINWRIGHT 6 DARREN MOSES

BRIAN GREENAWAY 7 IMMY HUSBAND

LEE HOLMES

8 RICK TAYLOR

ALAN CORDICE

9 DAVID REGIS

MARK GRAVES

10 RUSSELL SMITH

GARY DONNELLAN 11 SELVIN CAMPBELL

NEIL CORDICE

12 TODD KAZER



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ON THE BALL

with Brian Hall

THE excitement of FA Cup Football brings us up against Dunstable today, and I am sure that all over the country, including here at Lower Mead, Managers and Players alike are dreaming of F.A. Cup glory in future rounds.

The game also has a special flavour for me personally today, as many years ago I played at Dunstable, but apparently not very well! I remember one game at Kettering Town when I received a chipped tooth from their player manager, his name was Ron Atkinson, and he eventually moved on to slightly bigger and better things at Manchester United. This proves to me that in life if you are in the right place at the right time, who knows where you can end up.

Likewise, on Tuesday night I felt that Boston's goal-keeper had an excellent game and showed to be in just the right place at the right time. Our actual performance was played with enthusiam, pace, commitment, and organisation, and the percentage factors in our favour far outweighed the opposition. However, it was our turn to fall, but not with any loss of face or pride, and I was more than satisfied with the attitude of the side.

Should we manage to reach agreement with Nigel Johnson and Chis Dibble, who have returned from Finland, then I think we shall have an extremely strong and flexible squad of players, and providing we can get past todays fixture maybe we can dream of an F.A. Cup run ourselves. It would be nice to draw Manchester United, and maybe I could settle an old score with their Manager.

Enjoy the game today, Oh! the F.A. Cup is something special.



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OF REFEREES AND THINGS by PHIL SUGDEN

WE are born, and we die. Those two facts are probably just about the only things we can be absolutely certain about. All that happens in between is extraneous, even if a great deal is of considerable importance to the individual concerned.

In the amazing world of Association Football there are two things which occur with the arrival of every new season which are as near to being certainties as are life and death.

By the halfway mark of the season between five and seven and a half percent of Football League and Non-League managers will have lost their jobs.

And something like 60 percent of referees at league and major non-league games will have been heartily abused by spectators, directors, players and most forms of the media.

Of course, abusing referees has become such a habit in the last couple of decades that it has clearly become a national past-time and not, perhaps, one of our most commendable exports to many other countries (after all, we did invent the game and become tutors to every other courtry in the world, or have you forgotten?).

In fact, I look back in horror on the number of occasions I have been in boardrooms all over the country after games and heard directors say: "That referee ought never to be on the list" or " the fellow shouldn't be controlling junior matches".

It grieves me even more to observe that such remarks quite often come from gentlemen who, finding themselves with rather more cash than they thought they had, consider that fact to be a licence to invest a small part of their money in an ailing football club and have a major say in the running of a business of which they have no knowledge and for which they have neither flair or plain common sense to offer.

The fact remains – denigrading the referee has become a way of life among followers of soccer and this unpleasant habit is having an adverse affect on the game.

In a perfect world referees would not make mistakes. In a perfect football world players would not have off-days (most, if not all, do) and referees would never be auilty of an error of judgement. Like Solomon, they would be beyond reproach when making a decision.

But we do not live in a perfect world, to err is human and the game of football is all about human

Referees are expected to control games played at break neck speed, often by men exposing talents which has cost clubs millions of pounds. These are highly trained, skillful young men, many of whom, by virtue of the fact that they are playing for high stakes (and lots of money), are not immune to the cynical foul or some unscrupulous action designed to prevent other skillful young men from preventing them from obtaining their huge bonuses, their championship or cup medals or highly prized appearances in World or European Football.

Now the referee, it must be stressed, as a part-time professional, a man who is paid a match fee for controlling all these highly paid young gentlemen, and their conduct.

The referee is an honest (and I have never yet met a dishonest official in 50 years connection with the game) and dedicated man. If you keep your eyes open early morning and late evening you will find them racing round the streets or parks to keep fit and often joining in training with local clubs.

The referee is (in my opinion) grossly underpaid in relation to what he is asked to do in terms of interpretation of the laws of the game and the exercise of patience related to the always near to the surface temperamental possibilities of the 24 players who can be involved in any one game of

Every time he blows his whistle (apart from commencement and conclusion of hostilities) he can safely anticipate some form of dissent from on or off the field in the stadium which is his hotbed for the afternoon.

He'can safely assume that something like 60 percent of all his decisions will be received by one or more sarcastic or worse comments by players or spectators.

Yet, the vast majority of our referees conduct the entire proceedings with a relaxed attitude, considerable humour and a firmness which is generally beyond reproach. I find referees very human men. But some of them, of couse, bear the scars.

Look into their eyes and you will find a wariness, an awareness that footballers and their followers are often less than Gods, that most people involved in the game have feet of clay, that at all times mankind must be carefully watched because, like some apparently docile vocano an explosion is never very far from the surface. At any moment the lava may boil over and instant action is required.

Throughout a long footballing and much longer journalistic career I have made it a golden rule never to discuss games or incidents with referees after games when they are relaxing over a drink. That is the time when they least want to discuss football.

But persuade a referee to meet you 24 hours after the event and quietly talk over incidents or the match as a broad picture, and you will learn much.

So many happenings which have failed to be noted in a reporter's book will be indelibly printed on the official's memory. To my mind it is truly fantastic to listen to some of our more eloquent refs. "talking over" a big game, recalling incidents which have led to bigger happenings, and to say to oneself: "I saw that, but my brain did not record just what it meant".

But, of course, referees do make mistakes which too often, unhappily perhaps, are recorded and replayed by video machines. Many of these errors are, in my opinion, the result of muddled thinking by those in authority.

These things I will deal with, if your programme editor permits, in my next article.

Editors footnote:

Phil needs no introduction to Lower Mead fans and we appreciate his provocative, thought-provoking article. He has recently moved from his lakeside country cottage in the backwaters of Lincolnshire to an equally glorious part of the country – near Chichester in West Sussex. I am hoping to persuade him to make another visit here!

Don't Live In The Past

FOR me, last month's "Action Replays" on BBC1 were a must. The first game took place when I was about as old as Prince Harry, so as my previous viewing of football before 1970 had been restricted to just goal highlights, it was a real education to see 45 minutes continuous action.

Indeed there was much to be learnt. The suit-clad crowd, though noisy and partisan, were interested in the match and not in each other. The players' outfits were simple. Nowadays, should the present trend continue, John Motson will soon be partnered in the commentary box by the Daily Mirror Fashion Correspondent, commenting on how radiant United look in their crushed loganizery pinstripe shirts and matching shorts.

The style of football was very different. The ball was played to feet whenever possible. Defences were penetrated by slick one-touch passing, shrewd running off the ball, or incisive dribbling down he flanks. Goalkeepers were allowed to roam about their penalty areas, bouncing the ball as if on a beach. Thank goodness for the four steps rule.

And then there were the individuals. Don Howe, already of balding pate, played so badly, it made you cry with laughter. Peter Thompson, all balance and poise, skinned him with such regularity that the Arsenal manager's critics suddenly had a whole new reservoir of material. In programme two, there was a chance to marvel at the sublime finishing of Jimmy Greaves, the ferocity of a Bobby Charlton howitzer and the harcut of a youthful Pat Jennings. On to the Leeds side of the early seventies, and the proof of their greatness – I was able to name the whole of their team without hardly having to think – Sprake, Reaney, Madeley . . . All these personalities made the series a treat for any football fan.

And yet nostalgia in only healthy up to a point. It educates and it entertains, but to wallow in it only results in producing morose and cynical people. Those who embark on continuous comparison between now and then are thinking negatively and immaturely. Arguments have raged since time began, claiming that things aren't what they used to be, and after a while, such talk becomes tedious in the extreme. If, for example, you listen to Fred Trueman decrying the current state of English fast bowling for too long, you start believing he never bowled a half-volley in his career. Every sport is riddled with time-honoured debates, comparing past and present: is McEnro better than Laver? Could Steve Davis have beaten Joe Davis? Is Viv Richards the new Don Bradman? (Was Danny Light greater than Dennis Byatt?) — Time has decreed that all these questions will have no definitive answers. Comparison is futile because the sports they have graced (well, perhaps not McEnro!) have changed so much in the intervening years.

I've heard many pundits claim that "Action Replay" highlighted how the game declined since that Arsenal-Liverpool encounter in 1964. I'm pretty sure though, that people at that time were saying exactly the same thing about the preceding decades.

Football has changed with society. Nowadays, it's much bigger business, and has different priorities because of more competition from other leisure activities. To carp about its present form compared to twenty years ago, is to ignore all the extraneous sociological factors it has largely been powerless to resist. "Action Replay" was made to entertain, not to disillusion. Anyone who believes it was an illustration of how football has declined in the last twenty years is someone the game can do without. **by Robert Nothman**



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SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS

GOOD AFTERNOON everyone and we bid a warm welcome to the players, officals and

supporters of Dunstable F.C. for this second-round F.A. Cup qualifier.

Fortunately there didn't seem to be too many long faces in the Bar after the Boston game on Tuesday evening. I think we all knew that Boston's 1-0 win was all about the brilliance of Kevin Blackwell on the night—and not our own performance. A Boston supporter was happy to admit to me after the game (admittedly with a grin as wide as the Amazon) that his team was "outclassed". It was just "one of those nights". So! if you are a Dunstable supporter reading this—sorry, but we don't think it will happen again this afternoon at least we hope not!!

A personal hobby-horse of mine is the thorny question of Football League entry. Those supporters that don't rush out and buy the Times newspaper on Friday mornings may be interested in some information from a recent article in their regular non-league column. Headed "Re-election day of reckoning" the article contained news relating to the establishemt of general principles for a new system of entry into the Football League. League Clubs are holding a series of regional meetings (now completed) at which proposals to change the present system were discussed. League Clubs were discussing a series of proposals agreed by the associate members (third and fourth division clubs) who have suggested that, in particular, future elections should be contested by just the bottom club in the fourth division and one from the Gola League. They also recommend that all 92 League Clubs should have one vote each and that any club finishing bottom of the fourth division two years in succession should be automatically relegated. The Gola League is, not suprisingly, not happy with these proposals which would make the task of clubs seeking election even more difficult. Gola League officials are particularly unhappy at the thought of third and fourth division clubs having a vote each, since they invariably favour the clubs seeking re-election. The Gola League have put forward alternative proposals and the Football League's Management Committee were particularly interested in a suggestion that any club finishing in the bottom two of the fourth division two seasons in succession should be automatically replaced by the GOLA LEAGUE CHAMPIONS. Any system basing promotion or relegation on performances over two or more seasons is unlikely to incorportate last season but would probably take into account the current campaign. Are we really edging closer . . .?

Changing the subject to more down-to-earth matters, SFC Wealdstone commence their competitive season tomorrow with a Marathon League Challenge Cup match away to Zaandam Reserves. Founder member of SFC, Jon Taffel, (who really only did it to get his name in print) did the impossible last week and SCORED A GOAL. The miracle occured in a friendly match versus Pelipark at Wormwood Scrubs. The result, incidentally, was a 4-3 defeat (Khunna also distinguished himself, I understand). Well done Jon – shall we have a bet on the next one?

Well that's enough from me. Pity about the Boston result but at least the Gola League car stickers are in \dots (priced 30p - Club Shop).

STUFF 'EM YELLAS!!

NICK DUGARD

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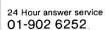
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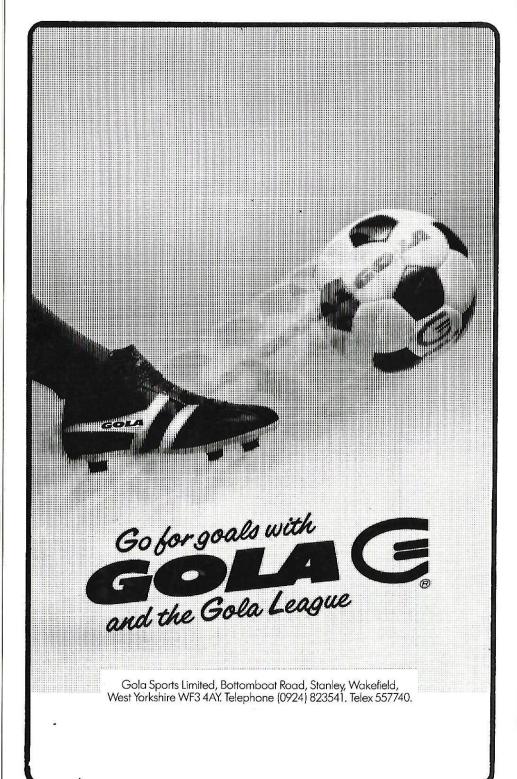
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Stones Shop News

THE usual supply of programmes for our away games was sadly not forthcoming at Worcester City last week mainly due to the huge gate of over 1600. There is however, a reciprocal agreement between clubs in our League to keep a certain number of match day programmes for the visiting club to take away and in this instance we have been let down. On the subject of 'let-downs', did any supporters manage to catch the local radio report of the Worcester game whilst driving home? According to the fictional report by P.R.O. Tony Santer all interest in the game ceased when the home goalkeeper was felled by a late (???) challenge from Mark Graves in the first half. Our four secon-half goals which were in no way down to the stand-in keeper were described as flattering and not a word said about the excellent Wealdstone performance or the fact that the scoreline could have been even more emphatic had it not been for the heroics of the subsitute keeper. No praise, no programmes, Mr. Santer, but three points will suffice!

Supporters who called in at the shop on Tuesday evening to obtain the latest issue of 'Non-League Digest' may not have been aware that there were in fact two new editions on sale as it has been a while since the last home game. Further issues of No.2 remain available at just 30p for this

excellent fortnightly publication.

With the new season well under way and programmes mounting up, supporters may wish to obtain one of our stylish Official Programme binders which are still available at £1.30 each or four for £5.00. The binders are hard-backed in yellow and blue with the club name smartly printed on the spine in gold lettering and are ideal for keeping programmes in order and tip-top condition.

Lapel badge enthusiasts should note that there are two new additions to normal stocks on offer: a brand new Waterlooville production and a supply of Welling United that have been hard to find in the past. Lists of our full selection of badges can be obtained in the club shop.

Newly arrived in the shop are the official Wealdstone F.C. Gola League car stickers – a must for

our travelling fans and reasonably priced at 30p only.

As you can see from the Kit Sponsorship Grid elsewhere in the programme, the items of kit that can be sponsored by supporters are being rapidly snapped up thanks to the generousity of our many sponsors. There are still however plenty of boots, shirts, training kits and, to a lesser extent, shorts which can be sponsored, so if you can help out and make a contribution to this valuable source of fund-raising, please see Toby in the Club Shop or Liz Doyle in the Club Office.

TOBY JACKSON

Introducing Dunstable

ALAN RAMAGE: Manager. 1st Team Centre Half for Middlesborough until transferred to Derby County for £160,000. 27 years old. Came to Dunstable two months ago. Also he has played cricket for Yorkshire County Cricket Club.

MARK FORDHAM: Joined Dunstable 3 seasons ago. An outstanding Goalkeeper.

CLIVE BARTON: Has been with Dunstable for 3 seasons. Non-contract player.

DEAN ROWE: 18 years old. Joined Dunstable 4 weeks ago from local football club. Has played 3/4 games in 1st team.

FRED BARRY: Experienced player. Joined Dunstable this season.

JIM McCARTHY: Has been a main-stay of Dunstable's defence for several years.

DARREN MOSES: (Central Defender) Joined Dunstable from local Luton Football Club.

JIMMY HUSBAND: Has played for Everton and Luton. Joined Dunstable this season. Plays in mid-field.

RICK TAYLOR: Regular serving R.A.F. Member at Halton. Joined Dunstable towards the end of last season.

DAVID REGIS: Brother of Cyril who plays for W.B.A. Joined Dunstable this season.

RUSSELL SMITH: Joined Dunstable this season from local football club.

SELVIN CAMPBELL: Has been with the Club for three seasons and has spent previous summers playing football in New Zealand.

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STEVE PERKINS		arlu Phil Jeffreson		Deanne Saxby		Norman Bowles	George Morritt
ROBIN WAINWRIGHT	nil	Jim Wiseman, Tom Wiseman,	n, Chris Noyce,	Matthew Gloor		Norman Bowles	George Morritt
			and the same of th				

Company, a group of friends, your local pub or club, like to sponsor an item of kit or even a complete kit for one or more of the season? How would you as Wealdstone F.C. t

or Toby Jackson in the Club Shop Doyle in the not try to help us fill



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THE MORRITT HOMES CAPITAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

DURING the past few years the absence of reserve team football here at Wealdstone has caused much comment. How can a team prosper without a reserve side? How can a player regain match fitness after injury without a reserve side? These are just two of many questions that have been asked since we last ran a second eleven.

Our manager Brian Hall has always appreciated the necessity of a reserve team, but is shrewd enough to realise that the standard of football played at this level must be condusive to players hoping to appear in the first team. You will recall that we used to have a reserve team in the Suburban League but with the greatest respect the wide gap in standard between that league and the now named Gola League meant that there was little benefit for our club at all. Attemr is were made to enter other leagues of a higher standard but regrettably these failed.

However, three years of careful thought, clever planning, hard negotiating, and liaison with other clubs by Brian Hall plus enormous quantities of paperwork by Peter Braxton have now proved worthwhile with the birth of the:

MORRITT HOMES CAPITAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

The league which commences next month will conist of the following eight clubs - Wimbledon, Orient, Brentford and Gillingham from the Cannon League, and Barnet, Enfield Dagenham and Wealdstone from the Gola League.

The League has been fully sanctioned by the Football Association and a management committee and officers have been duly elected. Ken Wiltshire has been elected Chairman, Brian Hall - Vice Chairman and Peter Braxton - Secretary.

Obviously, in this day and age it is essential that football clubs such as those listed above only undertake schemes that will not lead to them making a loss at the end of the day. By applying this principle it has been agreed that the format of the league will be:

) Each team will play each other team once.

When the match is between two Cannon League teams the match will be played on either club's ground with home advantage being alternated season to season.

3) This principle will also apply to matches between Gola league clubs

4) When a Gola League club plays a Cannon League club the Gola club will always be at home.

It was felt that potentially the Gola clubs would achieve far better gates when entertaining a Cannon League team than vice-versa.

During the rest of the season we at Wealdstone trust that you our supporters will help to make this venture a great success.

Brian Hall, as already mentioned, has strived for a long time to set the league up and when, on the 16th October, we play Brentford here at Lower Mead, in our opening Morritt Homes Capital Football League fixture it will be for him a dream realised.

As you can see by the title of the League, the Company of our own Chairman, David Morritt, have graciously agreed to sponsor the League during its first season and everyone connected with the League is deeply indebted to Morritt Homes, for their most generous gesture.

More information will be given in following programmes but for now we list the opening fixtures which will be played during October with dates to be agreed between the participating clubs. Wealdstone

Wealdstone v Brentford (16th October)
Barnet v Wimbledon
Enfield v Orient
Dagenham v Gillingham

Barnet v Orient
Dagenham v Brentford
Enfield v Gillingham

Wealdstone v Wimbledon (30th October, prov)



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GOLA LEAGUE

(Up to & Including Wednesday 26th September 1984)

		HO	ME	GO	ALS			AV	IAY	GO	ALS		WEALDSTO	NE RESULTS
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	HOME	AWAY
WEALDSTONE	10	3	1	1	12	6	4	1	0	11	2	20		
Enfield	10	2	3	0	8	6	4	0	1	15	7	19		
Boston United	10	2	2	1	8	7	3	1	1	8	6	16	L0-1	D1-1
Worcester City	11	1	2	2	7	9	3	3	0	13	9	16		W4-0
Runcorn	11	1	3	1	5	5	3	1	2	8	9	15		
Kidderminster Harriers	10	3	2	1	16	9	2	0	2	6	8	14	W5-2	
Dagenham	10	3	0	2	12	8	2	1	2	4	8	13		[®] W2-1
Telford United	9	2	3	0	10	6	1	2	1	3	3	12		
Weymouth	10	2	1	2	10	10	1	4	0	12	9	12		
Barrow	8	0	3	0	4	4	2	3	0	5	3	12		
Altrincham	11	3	1	2	9	7	1	2	2	6	7	12		
Bath City	10	3	0	2	5	4	1	3	1	7	8	12		
Barnet	11	2	2	1	6	5	1	2	3	7	11	11		
Nuneaton Borough	11	2	2	0	7	1	1	1	5	5	10	10	W3-1	
Dartford	9	1	1	3	6	7	1	3	0	5	3	9	D0-0	
Maidstone United	10	4	0	1	10	2	0	1	4	1	9	9	Hittikavioan	
Northwich Victoria	11	2	2	2	7	9	0	3	2	4	6	9		W2-0
Scarborough	9	1	3	1	6	6	1	1	2	4	8	9		
Frickley Athletic	8	2	0	1	6	4	1	1	3	8	13	8		
Kettering Town	9	1	1	3	6	6	1	1	2	4	7	7		
Gateshead	8	0	2	3	4	13	0	0	3	6	10	2	W4-2	
Yeovil Town	10	1	0	4	7	10	0	0	5	2	15	2		W2-0

WEALDSTONE GOALSCORERS 1984/85

	GL	BLT	FAC	FAT	MSC	CFL	FR	TOTAL
Mark Graves	9	-	-		-		3	12
Gary Donellan	2	-	1	-	-	-	5	8
Brian Greenaway	2	-	1	12	120	<u>.2</u> .	2	5
Lee Holmes	3	=4	1	-	-	-	15	4
Neil Cordice	1	12	1	-	-	1.5	2	4
Paul Bowgett	1	100	1	-			1	3
Alan Cordice	1	-		-	-		1	2
Robin Wainwright	1	-	S	-	1-1	-	120	1
Steve McCargo	1	-	-		2	-	-	1
Dennis Byatt	1	-	1/2/	120	-	2	150	1
Own Goals	1	022	121	2	•	-	-	1
TOTALS:-	23	lel.	5	-	-	-	14	42

RE-PLAY DAY

SHOULD todays game end in a draw, the replay will be at Dunstable on Wednesday, 3rd October, 1984, kick-off 7.30 pm.



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WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB GOLA LEAGUE FIXTURES - SEASON 1984/85

Date		Opponents	Venue	Comp	Result	Scorers
Aug	18	Northwich Victoria	Away	GL	W 2-0	Graves, Holmes
Aug	21		Home	GL	D 0-0	2.2.00, 7.000
Aug	25	Kidderminster Harriers	Home	GL	W 5-2	Wainwright, Holmes, Graves 3
Aug	27		Away	GL	W 2-1	Campbell (o.g.), Donellan
Sep	1	Gateshead	Home	GL	W 4-2	Graves 2, Cordice (N), Holmes
Sep	8	Boston United	Away	GL	D 1-1	Greenaway
Sep	11	Nuneaton Borough	Home	GL	W 3-1	McCargo, Graves (pen), Bowgett
Sep	15	Hounslow	Away	FAC	W 5-2	Holmes, Greenaway, Donellan, Cordice (N), Bowge
Sep		Yeovil Town	Away	GL	W 2-0	Graves, Byatt
Sep	22	Worcester City	Away	GL	W 4-0	Donellan, Cordice (A), Graves, Greenaway
Sep	25	Boston United	Home	GL	L 0-1	bollollari, cordido (7), diaves, dicellaway
Sep	29	Dunstable	Home	FAC		
Oct	2	Dartford	Away	GL		
Oct	6	Telford United	Home	GL		
Oct	9	Bath City	Away	GL		
Oct	13	Barrow	Home	GL		
Oct	20	Worcester City	Home	GL		
Oct	27	Runcorn	Away	GL		
Nov	3	Telford United	Away	GL		
Nov	6	Enfield	Home	BLT		
Nov	10	Enfield	Away	GL		
Nov	17	Rayners Lane	Away	MSC		
Nov	24	Bath City	Home	GL		
Dec	1	Weymouth	Away	GL		
Dec	8	Enfield	Home	GL		
Dec	15	Frickley Athletic	Away	GL		
Dec	22	Altrincham	Home	GL		
Dec	26	Barnet	Away	GL		
Dec	29	Maidstone United	Home	GL		
Jan	1	Barnet	Home	GL		
Jan	5	Scarborough	Away	GL		
Jan	12			FAT		
Jan	19	Weymouth	Home	GL		
Jan	26	Gateshead	Away	GL		
Feb	2					
Feb	9	Scarborough	Home	GL		
Feb		Kidderminster Harriers	Away	GL		
Feb		Frickley Athletic	Home	GL		
Feb	23					
Mar		Barrow	Away	GL		
Mar	9	Altrincham	Away	GL		
Mar	16	Kettering Town	Home	GL		
Mar		Yeovil Town	Home	GL		
Mar	23	Telford United	Aw 13'	GL		
Mar		Runcorn	Home	GL		
Apr		Northwich Victoria	Home	GL		
Apr		Maidstone United	Away	GL		
Apr	13					
Apr		Nuneaton Borough	Away	GI.		
Apr		Dagenham	Home	GL		
May	4	Kettering Town	Away	GI.		

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