

BY ROGER SLATER

FORMER Stones director Roger has been catching withe some of the club's luminaries of the past. Today it's the turn of the Magic Hat Man...

reg joined Wealdstone in early December 2008 and made his debut in an Isthmian League cup-tie, scoring two in a 5-2 win over Met Police. Prior to Wealdstone he had appeared for Leyton and Edgware, having originally been on a Youth Team scholarship with Northampton Town FC.

In his time at Wealdstone, Greg made 74 starts and 24 subs appearances in all matches and scored an impressive 48 goals (2 penalties) including two hat-tricks. At the time, he was a Store Administrator for fashion brand Ralph Lauren. On leaving the 'Stones Greg went on to play under former team-mate Jimmy Gray at St Albans among a number of other local sides, while the day job centred around the fashion business with Louis Vuitton, Hermes & Vivienne Westwood in London and Paris before eventually starting his own business..

Now not attached to a club, the day job is Owner of his own Sports Massage company based in Harley Street in London. GN Sports Massage works with a range of people from professional athletes,

office workers and nurses who suffer from chronic pain and injury, aiming to improve performance as well as recovery from training, competition and injuries. www.gnsportsmassage.co.uk

Greg is still a bachelor but he aims to propose to his long term girlfriend soon (I'd suggest before she reads this ...!) and his hobbies revolve around sport with jogging and swimming high on the list.

Now for those questions... ho or what sold you on joining Wealdstone FC? Greg: I had heard a lot of good things about the

club and especially Gordon Bartlett. I was told if I did well under Gordon I'd have a good chance of getting into League football with his and the club's connections. Regrettably, of course that didn't happen but Gordon has a good track record of producing players and moving

them on to bigger and better things, maybe not for me but in the future I'm sure that will

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What was the first impression? I realised I'd joined a good set of lads. They were in the main young players and that helped me to settle in quickly.

Who and what were the influences on your game and development then? I used to speak to my old youth team coach from Northampton Town FC quite often. He watched a lot of my games and would comment and offer advice on what I could do. That definitely helped

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e improve in certain areas.

The goals started to flow airly regularly but you layed alongside a number of different strike partners

Alexander, Jimmy Gray, Darid Haule, Charlie Mpi etc) was it hard to adapt your style to play alongside

Actually, it wasn't hard to adapt at all! I've always been a box player therefore having Ben, Jim and Davis holding up the ball and linking the play enabled me to make my runs in behind the defence etc. and I still got in the posi-

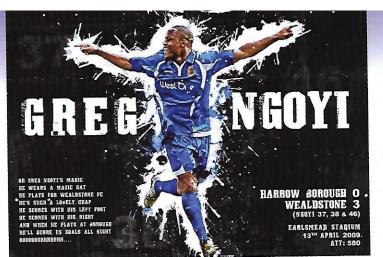
tions and got the chances.
It was slightly different with Charlie Mpi as we both liked to run in behind in the same way, so at times I'd try and drop in the pockets to link up the play. Mind you, I hated that with a passion!

You did your bit in the FA Cup with a goal v Aylesbury, then missed out on the tie with Rotherham. How tough was that? Funnily enough I was talking about this to my girlfriend the other day.

In all honesty it still hurts me to this day. I really wanted to play and to get sent off for something stupid like that at Aylesbury? Looking back, it really annoys me, but hey, that's football.

You made a bit of a habit of scoring against Harrow Borough – what did you think of the fans' reaction to that?

The fan's reaction was great, I didn't really know how Wealdstone fans would take me when I joined the club as I previously heard a lot about them, but overall I think they liked me, well I hope they did. B*****h



Steve Foster's poster celebeates Greg's memorable hat-trick at Harrow seven years ago

fans maybe less so.....

Do you still have a Magic Hat? Ha ha, unfortunately I don't, but I still have photos of me wearing one. Perhaps someone can pass one on.....

What's next? Any aims and ambitions still in the game? Errrrrm I'm not sure to be honest. I've been playing football on and off for the last 2 years with a few clubs locally and laso work closely with one or two club owners with sides in the Championship and League One through business. My aim is to help players get into League football wherever I can and of course keeping those that visit as clients fit!

Personally, I may get my boots on at some point this season..... if Gordon is struggling for goals tell him to give me a buzz on my 027 number.

Do you keep in touch with The Stones results or any of the players? Not really week to week on the results but I do

check their league position etc. (and it comes up on Sky too!)

I've kept in contact with a lot of my former team-mates from the 'Stones such as Chaps, Marvin McCoy, Spendy, Carl Martin and a few others and that helps keep me in touch as well.

The table is set for dinner.
Five chairs. Who are your four
guests and why, and what's
the first question? Ok, well it's
a smaller table! Guest 1 - Gordon
Bartlett: First question - why didn't
you pay me more during my time
at Wealdstone????

Guest 2 – God: First question - Any chance of you sorting this world out or what? Those two should fill the evening!

Finally, Greg, does a mention of "Wealdstone" or "the 'Stones fans" put a smile on your face or a frown?

No contest. It puts a big smile on my face every time as I really enjoyed my time at the club.

Thanks Greg, get down to a game soon....