WEALDSTONE v TRURO CITY

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

I played in the last game at Lower Mead but at the time I didn't appreciate the history and emotion of the occasion. Now I know what an honour it was to be involved

SAYS WAYNE ROACH



BY ROGER SLATER



New Zealander Wayne Roach joined Wealdstone (his only UK club) at the start of the 1990-91 season remaining with the club for two years, making 59 starts and three substitute appearances in all competitions. He is the founder member I suppose of the Wealdstone New Zealand Supporters Club (soon followed by Andy Hedge and more recently Chris Zoricich) and he still follows the results today from his homeland.

He's been married twice and has three children and he lives now in Pukekohe, just south of Auckland, working in International Sea and Air Freight. Wayne answers our probing questions...

YOU joined Wealdstone in August 1990, leaving at the end of 1992. What was the career before and after?

Nothing in the UK! Prior to joining Wealdstone I'd played for Auckland based teams in New Zealand, and I returned home when I left the Stones. Once again I played for local sides in the National and Regional leagues over here, finally hanging up the gloves in 2000.

WHAT brought you to Wealdstone and did you know anyone at the club when you joined?

I had always wanted to go overseas to play football, a coach of mine in NZ knew one of the Wealdstone Reserve team coaches so it was arranged from there.

But it was a time of change and turmoil at the club and quite different to what I was use to in NZ. Some things were good and some not so good as I suppose you find at every club, but it wasn't too hard to fit in. I just wanted to play!

WE seemed to use a great number of goalkeepers during that spell, though you and David Hudson shared the job in the main replacing Chris Vagg – How did you and he handle the 'job-share'?

It was all good from my side, David was a good guy and we got on very well.

He had spent quite a number of seasons at Wimbledon FC as a full time pro in his youth so I tried to learn off him. He suffered a very bad facial injury in one of the first games he played for Wealdstone I recall and I think that knocked his confidence a lot.

LOOKING back on those two seasons, imagine you are back in the dressing room..... who are the players that stand out and why?

I honestly I think we had some very talented players then but week in week out they didn't perform to their potential. The two players that stand out most are Neil Cordice and Tiv Lowe. Neil for his attitude, conditioning and will to win whereas Tiv was a very clever player and technically very good.

STONES fans are known for "sharing their opinions" – how aware where you of that personally or when it was aimed at team-mates? How did you handle that as player?

The fans were (and I imagine still are) fantastic! From my perspective most times they were fairly spot on. The criticisms were well deserved and I was a pretty harsh critic of my performances anyway so it never bothered me.

YOU actually played in the last two games at Lower Mead – against Cambridge in a ground charged with emotion, and ten days later in a Capital League match. What do you remember of those days?

I remember the last Cambridge game. I guess at the time I didn't appreciate the history and emotion involved for all the loyal and long-serving fans as I was just a new kid in town. Looking back now it was a real honour being involved in the match.

FROM Lower Mead to Vicarage Road – what did you and the players make of the change? Was it hard to adjust? The facilities (in particular the changing rooms, floodlighting & playing surface) at Vicarage were fantastic…… only problem was that the opposing teams really liked it too and lifted their game accordingly! It made it hard to get results and we'd lost the atmosphere of Lower Mead….

WHAT are the best and worse memories of your time at the club?

The worst memories were the results during that period and last injury I had which led to the club letting me go and I returned to NZ soon after.

I took so many good memories away from the club to name them all… but to name a few would be friendships made that I still have, becoming a fan of Wealdstone, playing the last game at Lower Mead, helping win the Suburban League with the Reserves in 1990 with my good mates Dave Boughton (as Manager) and Miles Milton.

DO you get back to the UK at all? Would you take in a match? I only went back to England once and that was in 1998. Unfortunately time didn't permit me to take in a game, but maybe one day I'll get another chance. Next time I'll definitely take in a match….I hope The Stones are at home!

You mentioned that you follow the results on the internet - does Wealdstone get in your blood or is that just something for the fans?

For me I became a fan, I really enjoyed my time at Wealdstone, met some fantastic people and I still want to see the Club do well.

Anything else you want to tell us? A good friend of mine who I played a lot of football with since we were eight years old ended up playing for Wealdstone around 2005.

I thought that was a great coincidence and pretty cool. His name? Chris Zoricich. When I played at Wealdstone I use to go watch him playing at Leyton Orient….

Thanks Wayne, You are close to Hedgie and Zoro – perhaps get together and watch us on Match of The Day sometime….



History! Tony Kelly scores Stones' last Beazer League home goal at Lower Mead.

MORE ACTION OFF THAN ON PITCH AS –

STONES BID TAME FAREWELL

THIS was Wealdstone's last properly competitive game at Lower Mead – yes, I know they still have a Capital League fixture to play against Sutton United, but that doesn't really count as no-one cares about Capital League results.

Sadly, Wealdstone failed to win their last Lower Mead Beazer Homes fixtures – in front of an 820 strong crowd – the highest of the season – but at least they avoided defeat, which had seemed the more likely outcome for most of a mediocre game.

In fact, but for the antics of the boisterous, largely good humoured crowd of dedicated Stones' followers, who were determined to turn the wake into a celebration, it would have been an eminently forgettable occasion.

But the behind the goal supporters sang endless songs and chants, some witty, some poignant, some obscene as they waited for the home side to mount any meaningful attacks.

Mark Hopson struck Stones' first aggressive

By Graham Sharpe
Wealdstone 1, Cambridge City 1

In the 63rd minute, and somewhat against the run of play, Tony Kelly grabbed the goal the Wealdstone faithful had been demanding – and he did it with some opportunism, then running to milk the applause.

Unfortunately, though, Wealdstone could not hang on to their lead and, following a double substitution, Cambridge exerted enough pressure to prise a 73rd minute equaliser by Keith Lockhart.

Tapley was booked for a foul, an announcement was made that a portable telephone had been found and handed in, then a few Stones fans invaded the pitch and soured what had been a good humoured atmosphere.

However, as the game peiered out into a draw the end of an era arrived and a couple of hundred genuine fans took their time in leaving the ground which they might not be visiting again.

On a personal note, it was saddening for me to look back on over thirty years of watching matches at Lower Mead – where I was first introduced to the Stones by John Patterson, uncle of current Supporters Club Secretary, Layne Patterson!

Brian Hall came and said exactly the right thing as the crowd grouped around the players' tunnel – "From the dressing room and the Board room, thanks for the magnificent support and now let's look forward to a bright new future at Vicarage Road – see you all in the bar later on!"

As Chairman Alan Clifton said, "Lower Mead is dead – long live The Stones."

WEALDSTONE: Wayne Roach, Jim Watson, Steve Smart, Steve Tapley, Mark Harrison, Mark Hopson, Peter Bartlett, Tony Kelly, Barry Blackman, Neil Cordice, Subs: David Gipp, Paul Goodison.

●Wealdstone close their Beazer League programme on Saturday, with a trip to old enemies, Dover.

Graham Sharpe's report of the last game at Lower Mead... a bit of a damp squib as a match, but as an occasion it's right up there. The final paragraph is a quote from chairman Alan Clifton: 'Lower Mead is dead, Long live the Stones' which was pretty rich coming from a man who subsequently did his best to administer the last rites

STONES MATCH SPONSORS

What better way to celebrate an occasion or advertise your company's support of Wealdstone?
Our comprehensive match day sponsorship involves you or your company in every aspect of the match.
To find out more, contact club president Paul Rumens paulrumens59@gmail.com, (07710 929692) or Peter Worby (07967 698370). Specific requests can be negotiated, and prices start from £295 +VAT for four guests.
Matchday partner packages are available from £59 per person, and tailor-made packages from five up to 30 persons are available on request.

MATCH	Sponsors		
FULHAM VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 8th July	In Memory of Karl Schmitt		
CONCORD RANGERS VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 5th August	Ray Corner & Pete Carter		
HAVANT & WATERLOOVILLE VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Monday, 14th August	Wealdstone FC Supporters Club		
CHELMSFORD CITY VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 19th August	Miriam Goodman	In memory of John Jones	
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Monday, 28th August	Half Way Line Tea Bar		
BOGNOR REGIS TOWN VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 9th September	Martin & Syl Allen	In memory of Derek Reader	
POOLE TOWN VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Monday, 11th September	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
FAVERSHAM TOWN FA CUP 2ND QUALIFYING ROUND Saturday, 16th September	Dominic Whyley		
WHITEHAWK VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 7th October	Douglas John West		
TRURO CITY VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 21st October	David Leigh		
HUNGERFORD TOWN VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 11th November	In Memory of Naomi Benveniste	Peter Smallwood & Jack Foran	
BRAINTREE TOWN VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 2nd December	Ian Stapleton		

HERE'S WHAT MATCH SPONSORS GET:

- 4 admission tickets, each with a seat in the directors' area of the main stand
- 4 match day programmes
- Full hospitality prior, during (half time) and after the match in the board room
- You or your organisation's name featured prominently here in the programme
- You or your organisation's name announced over the PA to the crowd
- You or your organisation's name featuring prominently on the club website leading up to the game
- A meeting with the manager post match
- A memento of your special day.
- Your nomination of the 'man of the match' announced over the PA at full time.
- Your picture taken in the boardroom with your chosen man of the match.

MATCH	Sponsors		
ST ALBANS CITY VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 23rd December	Tony Platt	Sentinel7	Your Name Here?
HAMPTON & RICHMOND VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Monday, 1st January	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
GLOUCESTER CITY VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 13th January	Sentinel7	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
WESTON-SUPER-MARE VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 27th January	In Memory of Steve Pegg		
WELLING UNITED VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 3rd February	Wealdstone Ladies Team		
DARTFORD VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 17th February	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
OXFORD CITY VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 3rd March	Martin Seacombe		
EASTBOURNE BOROUGH VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 17th March	Preston Manor Century Boys		
EAST THURROCK UNITED VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 31st March	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
BATH CITY VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 7th April	Mark Lloyd – in memory of Ian Spicer	ProKit UK	
CHIPPENHAM TOWN VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 21st April	Torben Prestwich – For all the volunteers at WFC		



WORLD of BALL

The column for Wealdstone fans to air their views on the wonderful world of football. (Email us to have your say.)

Understanding the National League's pursuit of a Seventh Heaven

You don't get to my ripe old age without re-evaluating a few things about footballing life. For one, title winning seasons are as rare as dragon eggs. For the love of God, we should always suck the marrow out of title-winning season because we literally may not live to see another. In fact, finishing anywhere north of the halfway spot in the league should be warmly appreciated and stored in the memory to be brought out and appreciated whenever the misery of relegation occurs. And here's another thing we should never fail to do: appreciate anyone who volunteers anything in support of this great club. (Yet another round of applause, please, for our entirely crowd-funded and crowd-built all-seater away end stand. Thank you.)

Ball ache

Age allows you to divest yourself of the more absurd ideas and superstitions that you once held so dear. For no obvious reason I once had the ridiculous notion that if ever I was to touch the match ball I'd essentially guarantee the Stones a win. Yeah, as if. Back when we shared at Edgware's late lamented White Lion Ground I once had the good fortune to take with both hands a ball that had been hit straight up into the air and out of play. I was even able to prepare myself as it gracefully fell out of the heavens into my hands. A perfect catch. It even got a cheer from the crowd. But we still failed to win the bloody match…

All winners now

So, superstition be damned. Our experience of football should be confined to the winning, losing or drawing of matches and all the battling that leads to those results. However, in the corporate world there's plenty of nuance surrounding what constitutes a win, draw or defeat. I read often of the need for more people to become leaders in their chosen profession. If only we could all show our capacity to lead, then all would be well. But what if everyone becomes a leader? Who leads the leaders? And then there's "wellbeing"; we live in a world in which corporate giants appear to have recently invented the concept of 'wellbeing', their every press release parroting the policies they have to ensure their clients' / customers' wellness by dint of their wonderful, profit-generating activities. In all of this guff there's the underlying idea that *we can all be winners, we really can!* But, er, no, we plainly can't. Because the plain fact is that for there to be winners, there have to be losers too. Except, perhaps, where football administration is involved. Every year we hear new stories about ways of reinventing our beautiful game so that more of us can be seen to be winning it.

Just champion

Football used to be pretty black and white about what winning "looked like". Champions got to play in the European Cup. Champions got promoted. Everyone else didn't. But today, UEFA runs a Champions League where a good three quarters of the clubs who compete are, quite simply, not champions. A good percentage of the clubs didn't even finish as runners-up. (Also, it's only notionally a 'league', but I'll let that pass for now.) Hell, if you're not good enough to progress through the group stage of the Champions League you can still 'parachute' into the Europa League, as if you didn't 'not win' at all.

Words: Martin Read

STONES



Promotion? That used to be something only champions and runners-up could aspire to. You either won the league or finished runner-up; everything else was failure. Today? Today we've got so many winners it hardly feels like winning at all. Since the 1980s we've had the Football League play-offs, and since 2004 the non-league pyramid has had its own play-off structure. A brutal one, too. Until this season, the only thing that finishing runner-up entitled you to was home advantage in a one-match play-off semi-final against the fifth-placed side. Not only don't you gu up by right, you also get just a single home match in which to show you still deserve your runner-up status. We've seen plenty of runners-up succumb to pressure in the play-offs against sides who can't believe their luck in being able to challenge for a place in the division above.

National disgrace?

But from this season on, the pressure on our league's runners-up has been notched up yet further. Because now, clubs finishing in all positions down to seventh can end up promoted. Next April, at "regular" season's end, the runners-up and third placed clubs in the National League's North and South divisions will have to wait it out as fourth hosts seventh and fifth hosts sixth in newly introduced play-off 'quarter finals'. I'm not saying it won't be interesting, for absolutely sure. But I ask you, where does it all end? At what point should we concede that mediocrity is mediocrity, and that the very idea of a club finishing a distant seventh beating the league's runners-up to claim promotion is, to say the very least, unfair.

Needless to say, there's a reason why all this is allowed to happen, and it's a pretty powerful one: self-interest. Because, let's face it, is there any red-blooded Wealdstone fan who wouldn't relish the possibility of us coming good as a side and claiming that seventh place on the last day of the season? Who amongst us wouldn't quite fancy the idea of the Stones travelling en masse to three win-or-bust away games. What drama would await us then - and I don't doubt at all that we'd fancy our chances. No one would want to host us in a win-or-bust game.

So yes. OK, I see it now. The glittering dream, of seventh place – as good, apparently, as if we'd been pipped to the title on goal difference. Still, while I wouldn't be able to hide my embarrassment, I'd be in those fevered play-off crowds with everybody else. Seeing if we can win.

WEALDSTONE FC

FIXTURES & RESULTS | SEASON 2017 / 2018

□ = Yellow Card | ▮ = Goal | ⇉ = 2nd Player Substituted | NLS = National League South | MCC = Middlesex Charity Cup
■ = Red Card | ⁞ = Penalty | ⇇ = 2nd Substitute Used | FAC = FA Cup
S = Straight Red | → = 1st Player Substituted | ⇶ = 3rd Player Substituted | FAT = FA Trophy
■ = Man of the Match | ← = 1st Substitute Used | ⇇ = 3rd Substitute Used | MSC = Middlesex Senior Cup

	JULY	Competition	Result	Crowd	Pos.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14	15	16	17/GK
25	Hampton & Richmond	MSCF	0-1	481	—	North	Oshodi	Okimo	Harwood	Hill	Brown	Whichelow	Cox	Benyon	Fitchett	Wellard	Godfrey	Hunt	Anastasiou	Hunt	
	AUGUST																				
5	**CONCORD RANGERS**	NLS	2-1	752	8	North	Oshodi	Okimo	Green	Hill ▮	Brown	Wellars	Cox	Benyon ▮	Fitchett ▮→	Eisa ⇉	Hippolyte-Patrick ⇇	Godfrey	Osei-Bonsu	Hunt ⇇	Kearney ←
8	St.Albans City	NLS	1-2	654	13	North	Oshodi	Okimo	Ijaha →	Hill ■	Brown ⇉	Hippolyte-Patrick ⇉	Cox ■	Benyon ⇉	Green	Eisa	Fitchett ←	Godfrey	Wellard ⇇	Hunt	Osei-Bonsu ⇇
12	Gloucester City	NLS	2-2	403	13	North	Oshodi	Okimo	Ijaha ⇉	Hill →	Brown	Hippolyte-Patrick	Cox ■	Benyon ▮▮	Green	Eisa	Fitchett ⇇	Godfrey	Wellard	Hunt ■ ←	Osei-Bonsu
14	**HAVANT & WATERLOOVILLE**	NLS	0-1	922	14	North	Oshodi	Okimo	Green ■	Hill →	Brown	Hippolyte-Patrick	Cox ⇉	Benyon	Fitchett ⇉	Eisa	Godrey	Osei-Bonsu	Wellard ⇇	Ijaha ←	Kearney ⇇
19	**CHELMSFORD CITY**	NLS	0-2	908	18	North	Oshodi ■	Okimo	Green ⇉	Pollock ■	Brown ■	Hippolyte-Patrick ⇉	Cox ■	Benyon	Fitchett	Eisa →	Godfrey	Wellard ←	Whichelow⇇	Kearney ⇇	Constable
26	Eastbourne Borough	NLS	1-1	631	18	North	Oshodi ▮	Okimo ■	Pollock	Brown	Wellard	Hippolyte-Patrick	Cox ←	Benyon	Green ⇉	Eisa	Fitchett ⇇	Whicelow →	Godfrey	Ijaha	Constable
28	**HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN**	NLS	1-1	966	18	North	Oshodi	Brown	Pollock	Hill	Okimo	Hippolyte-Patrick	Green →	Benyon	Fitchett ▮	Eisa	Whichelow←	Wellard	Godfrey	Sellers	Constable
	SEPTEMBER																				
2	East Thurrock United	NLS	1-1	411	18	North	Oshodi	Brown	Hill	Day ■	Whichelow ▮	Wellard ■	Okimo	Fitchett ⇉	Green ⇉	Hippolyte-Patrick →	Mohamed ⇇	Benyon ⇇	Godfrey	Osei	Sellars ■ ←
5	Weston-super-Mare	NLS	1-5	416	20	North	Oshodi ■ ▮	Brown	Hill →	Day	Wellard	Whichelow	Okimo ⇉	Fitchett	Ngamvoulou ⇉	Mohammad	Benyon ←	Sellers ⇇	O'Brien ⇇	Green	Godfrey
9	**BOGNOR REGIS TOWN**	NLS	3-0	845	18	North	Oshodi ■	Sellers ■ ▮	Brown ▮	Day	Wellard	Whichelow	Okimo	Fitchett	Green ▮	Eisa	Hill	O'Brien	Godfrey	Osei	Ngamvoulou
11	**POOLE TOWN**	NLS	4-1	807	14	North	Oshodi	Sellers	Hill	Day	Wellard ⇉	Whichelow ▮▮	Okimo	Fitchett ▮	Green ⇉	Eisa →▮	Benyon	O'Brien ←	Godfrey ⇇	Osei	Ngamvoulou ⇇
16	**FAVERSHAM TOWN**	FAC2QR	4-0	414	14	North	Oshodi	Sellers	Hill	Day	Wellard →	Whichelow ▮	Okimo	Fitchett ⇶ ▮	Green ⁞	O'Brien ⇉	Benyon ⇇	Eisa	Ngamvoulou⇇	Williams ←	Constable
23	Bath City	NLS	0-0	645	18	North ■	Oshodi ⇉	Sellers ■	Brown	Day	Wellard ■	Whichelow→	Okimo	Fitchett	Green	Eisa ⇉	Benyon	Williams ←	O'Brien ⇇	Cox ⇇	Ngamvoulou
30	**BURGESS HILL TOWN**	FAC3QR	0-1	590	20	North	Cox	Okimo	Brown	Day	Wellard	Ngamvoulou⇉	Williams ⇶	Benyon	Green	Eisa →	Fitchett ⇇	O'Brien ←	Hippolyte-Patrick ⇇	Hill	Godfrey
	OCTOBER																				
7	**WHITEHAWK**	NLS	2-1	953	14	North	Wilson ■ ⇉	Sellers	Hill	Day	Williams	Hippolyte-Patrick	Okimo	Fitchett ⇉	Green ⁞	O'Brien →	Goodger ⇇	Wellard	Ngamvoulou	Eisa ▮ ←	Brown ⇇
14	Chippenham Town	NLS	0-0	723	12	North	Wilson	Sellers ■	Hill	Day	Williams ⇉	Cox ■	Okimo	Fitchett ⇶	Green →	Hippolyte-Patrick	Goodger ■ ←	Eisa ⇇	Brown	Ngamvoulou	Wellard ⇇
21	**TRURO CITY**	NLS	---	---	—																
28	Welling United	NLS	---	---	—																
	NOVEMBER																				
7	**HAYES & YEADING UTD**	MSC2R	---	---	—																
11	**HUNGERFORD TOWN**	NLS	---	---	—																
18	Oxford City	NLS	---	---	—																
21	Dartford	NLS	---	---	—																
25	**(TO BE ADVISED)**	FAT	---	---	—																
	DECEMBER																				
2	**BRAINTREE TOWN**	NLS	---	---	—																
9	Concord Rangers	NLS	---	---	—																
16	**(TO BE ADVISED)**	FAT	---	---	—																
23	**ST ALBANS CITY**	NLS	---	---	—																
26	Hampton & Richmond	NLS	---	---	—																
	JANUARY																				
1	**HAMPTON & RICHMOND**	NLS	---	---	—																
6	Havant & Waterlooville	NLS	---	---	—																
13	**GLOUCESTER CITY**	NLS	---	---	—																
20	Bognor Regis Town	NLS	---	---	—																
27	**WESTON-SUPER-MARE**	NLS	---	---	—																
	FEBRUARY																				
3	**WELLING UNITED**	NLS	---	---	—																
10	Truro City	NLS	---	---	—																
17	**DARTFORD**	NLS	---	---	—																
24	Hungerford Town	NLS	---	---	—																
	MARCH																				
3	**OXFORD CITY**	NLS	---	---	—																
10	Braintree Town	NLS	---	---	—																
17	**EASTBOURNE BOROUGH**	NLS	---	---	—																
24	Chelmsford City	NLS	---	---	—																
31	**EAST THURROCK UNITED**	NLS	---	---	—																
	APRIL																				
2	Hemel Hempstead Town	NLS	---	---	—																
7	**BATH CITY**	NLS	---	---	—																
14	Poole Town	NLS	---	---	—																
21	**CHIPPENHAM TOWN**	NLS	---	---	—																
28	Whitehawk	NLS	---	---	—																



PRE-SEASON RESULTS 2017/2018

July 4 Bedfont Sports (a) W 2-1 Eisa 2
July 8 Fulham (h) W 1-0 Kearney
July 11 Slough Town (a) D 2-2 Fitchett, Harwood
July 18 Maidenhead Utd (h) 1-1 Green
July 22 Reading (h) W 6-1 Benyon 2 (1pen), Eisa 2, Hippolyte-Patrick, Anastasiou
July 29 Hitchin Town (a) W 4-2 Eisa, Tiryaki, Green, Fitchett



Our club's excellent progress on the pitch and ever increasing attendances mean we are now looking to strengthen our match-day support team. In particular, we are looking to add to our matchday steward team, with the possibility of gaining nationally recognised quali cations (such as Level 2 or 3 NVQ in Spectator Safety) through our partners Total Hospitality Training.
You'll be contributing to the progress of your club and learning transfer- rable skills in health and safety, security and customer services; while strengthening your CV at the same time.
It doesn't have to be every match, but it would be great if we could increase our pool of available people to ensure our specta-tors have an enjoyable matchday experience and enhance our club's growing reputation for professionalism.
If you're interested to learn more about what is involved and how you can benefit, please speak to me.

Steve Marshall, Matchday Operations Manager

The WHITE TIGERS

WEALDSTONE'S RECORD v BOGNOR REGIS TOWN

P 4 W 2 D 1 L 1 F 9 A 8

Truro City became one of the founder members of the CCFA when they attended the meeting at the Royal Hotel in Truro on 18th September 1889 when the CCFA was founded. Other Clubs present were: Porthcurno, Penzance, Probus School, Liskeard, Dunheved School, Torpoint and Millbrook. City's first recorded match was played at Truro College against Penzance on 4th October 1889, when they won by 7 goals to 1. Further games were played at Tolgarrick, adjacent to the existing Treyew Road ground. They have also played at Kenwyn and Chapel Hill. Their first trophy was won in 1895 when they won the Cornwall Senior Cup beating Launceston by 5 goals to 0.

City have won the Cornwall Senior Cup a record 15 times including 1930 when the Cup was shared with Saltash Stars. The Final had been drawn and Saltash could not raise a team for the replay due to some of their players having service commitments. Truro did offer to play and let Saltash include some guest players but the CCFA ruled the trophy should be shared, with each club holding the trophy for six months.

City joined the newly formed Cornwall Senior League in 1931 after leaving the Plymouth & District League, along with other Cornish Clubs, due to the refusal of the Cornish Clubs to pay more than 50% of the Devon Clubs' travelling expenses. Because of the lack of interest by their supporters – gates were very low in the Cornwall Senior League – City decided to rejoin the Plymouth & District League in 1934. As a result of leaving the Cornish Senior League they were barred from entering the Cornwall Senior Cup. They had proposed to run a reserve team in the Senior Cup. However at a CCFA meeting on a proposal by Lostwithiel which was seconded by Bodmin Town, Truro were refused admittance to the Cup. They appealed to the FA but received a reply to the effect that the FA could not interfere in a domestic dispute between local clubs in Cornwall. It was to be 1938 before they were re-admitted and winning the Senior Cup the same season. They had won the Cornwall Senior League in its first two seasons (1932 & 1933). The P & D League was won in 1937. But in 1931 - the season before they first left the P & D League - they achieved one of the finest run of results in their long history. In a period of 15 days, they played 9 League games, winning 8 and drawing 1. Their last game was at Dartmouth, which they won 3-2 and in doing so became runners-up, 3 points behind champions Royal Marines and 3 in front of 3rd place Saltash Town.

The Durning Lawrence Charity Cup which Truro City gave to the county – has been won 11 times, the first time in 1912 and the last time in 1981.

When the South Western League was formed in 1951, City were one of the founder members but they did not meet with immediate success, having to seek re-election for the first two seasons. They have had to seek re-election twice more; 1982 and 1983. Their first championship came in 1960/61 and they have been champions four times since: 1969/70, 1992/93, 1995/96 and 1997/98. The South Western League Cup has come to Treyew Road on three occasions: 1959/60, 1966/67 and 1997/98. The League's Sporting Trophy was won in 1974/75 and 1988/89 and the Best Ground Trophy in 1995/96. At the end of the 1974/75 season, City were forced to leave the South Western League due to the fact that part of their Treyew Road ground had been used for a road-widening scheme and it was 1978 before they were re-admitted

The Cornwall Combination League was won in 1994/95, 1998/99, 2005/6 and 2007/8 and the Combination League Cup has been won on nine occasions: 1968, 1978, 1987, 1988, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2005/6 and 2007/8. The Evely Cup has been won seven times: 1968, 1978, 1986, 1988, 1999,2000 and 2005/6

Back in 1929/30 the City "A" team won the Western Division of the County League and retained the championship for the next two seasons.

In late 2004, the club was acquired by a new owner and in 2005/06 the club ended the season in runners-up spot and gained promotion to the Toolstation Western League.

The 2006/7 season was the most successful in the Club's history. At the first attempt winning the Toolstation Western League First

AT THE VALE TODAY

TRURO CITY

Division by a record margin; retaining the Cornwall Senior Cup and capping the season by winning the F.A. Vase at the New Wembley Stadium with a 3-1 win over AFC Totton, the first time the Trophy had been won by a Club playing at Step 6 in the Football Pyramid and in front of a record crowd of over 37,000.
Success continued in 2007/8 season with the first team winning the Toolstation Western League Premier Division by a massive 17 points and thereby becoming the first ever Cornish Club to gain entry into Southern League football. In addition, the reserve side experienced an all-conquering season, going right through the season without defeat and also gained promotion to the South West Peninsula League. To cap it all, the Club's third team, consisting almost entirely of players under the age of 20, also gained promotion to the first division of the Falmouth/Helston League.

2008/09 was another successful season with the first team winning promotion to the Southern League Premier Division as Champions. This meant that City equaled the British record with four successive promotions. In Season 2009/10, the Club finished a very creditable 11th in the first year at this new level and were then better prepared to go forward again in the next season.

Season 2010-11 proved to be another momentous one . Vying for the League lead for most of the season with favourites Salisbury City, Truro were finally crowned Champions by four points after a fabulous 6-0 win away at Salisbury and finishing the season with seven straight victories ensuring Blue Square Bet Conference South football for the first time. This set a new British record in that no senior club had ever previously won 5 promotions in 6 seasons.

Season 2011/12 was a year of consolidation at this higher level finishing 14th in the club's first season of Conference football.

In season 2012/13, progress was very difficult with the team being hampered both by a 10-point deduction and a League transfer embargo. The club's very survival was in serious doubt until in October 2012, when the club was saved by the last-minute intervention of two local businessmen. Unfortunately, the club was relegated at the end of the season but it was lucky to be alive thanks to the new owners after the traumas of the recent past.

A successful spell at the end of the 2013/14 season brought some stability to the Club. The Club gained promotion in the 2014/15 season via the play offs, beating Hungerford 1-0 in the semi final and St Neots Town 1-0 in the final. The 2015/16 season will be the second time Truro has played at this level.

After a slow start to the new season, the team got stronger and became very difficult to beat particularly in away games. On the down side we really drew too many matches but still did very well to end up in 4th Position and a place in the play-offs for the second season running unfortunately we were beaten both home and away by the eventual play-off winners Maidstone United.

Season 2017-18 brought Manager Lee Hodges back to the Club but had to use most of the squad assembled by his predecessor when he would have liked to make changes. After an indifferent year we finished slightly about the Relegation Zone.



TRURO CITY
MEET THE PLAYERS



RIVER ALLEN
Midfield
21 year old midfielder who played for both Gateshead and Bodmin Town last season. He made 5 Appearances for Truro three years ago whilst on loan to us from Plymouth Argyle where he had started.

AUSTEN BOOTH
Defender
19 year old defender recently signed who is expected to have a good future.

CODY COOKE
Midfield
24 year old local lad signed in 2010 from Penryn Athletic; a product of Truro College. Very promising midfielder who was a regular for the County youth team. Only missed a couple of games last season and has won the Supporters Player of the Year.

JORDAN COPP
Midfield
23 year old midfielder who has re-joined Truro after spending some time at Weymouth.

BEN GERRING
Defender
26 year old powerful Central Defender who has been here before but was at Torquay United last season.

BEN HARDING
Defender
18 Year old full-back who joined us recently on loan from Exeter City for this season after spending a short time with us at the end of last season.

ALEX HARTRIDGE
Defender
18 Year old full-back who joined us recently on loan from Exeter City for this season after spending a short time with us at the end of last season.

TYLER HARVEY
Forward
22 year old striker who has joined the Club last season after a short spell at Wrexham. A product of the Plymouth Argyle Academy who played for their first team before moving on. Has also has had experience on loan at Bath City and Salisbury.

NOAH KEATS
Midfield
25 year old attacking midfielder who has recently returned from the USA where he has completed a Masters Degree at University in Texas and played for a season with Oklahoma City Energy. He started at Exeter City and then played for Bath City when he was studying for a degree there.

AARON LAMONT
Midfield
21 year old midfielder who has recently moved to the West Country. He spent 6 years with Q.P.R and played last season for Kingstonian in the Ryman League

TOM MCHALE
Midfield
21 year old, signed for City in January 2015 from Bodmin Town. He is expected to have a very good future, Had short-term loan periods with Willand Rovers and Weymouth.

ANDREW 'ROCKY' NEAL
Forward
23 year old striker signed from Bodmin Town where he scored 60 goals last season. Has played for Tiverton Town before among others

BILLY PALFREY
Defender
19 year old defender who has joined this summer after being released by Plymouth Argyle.

ED PALMER
Defender
25 year old Central Defender in his third spell with the club, was with Taunton Town last year

JAMIE RICHARDS
Defender
23 year old central defender signed last season from Torquay United after previously playing in the Football League with Plymouth Argyle. Started life at Southend United before his family moved to the West Country. Had a period on loan at Weymouth and then a long loan at Northern Irish team Linfield where he appeared in Europe for them.

CONNOR RILEY-LOWE
Defender
21 year old left-sided defender / midfielder who has joined the Club after having been released by Exeter City in the Summer. He has played for Truro City on loan in both of the last two seasons

NIALL THOMPSON
Midfield/Forward
23 year old winger /striker joined this summer after moving back to the West Country, last season played for Hucknall Town, Sheffield FC and Mickleover Sports. Made three appearances for Truro City during a short loan spell from Torquay United in 2014-15

CHRIS TODD
Defender
35 Year old Defender who has played for a number of clubs, most recently he was player / manager of Eastleigh. Now appointed Assistant Manager

FLETCHER WILLIAMS
Midfield
19 Year-old promising midfielder who has recently joined the club

STEWART YETTON
Forward
32 year old striker who has returned to Truro City from Weymouth where he has spent the last few seasons having previously made over 300 appearances for Truro City and scoring 226 goals including being part of the 2007 FA Vase-winning team

OFFBEAT CORNER

THINGS WOT WE LIKED THIS WEEK

Well, we all had a laugh when Whitehawk pitched up at the Vale last week with a '6ft 10.5in' Norwegian goalkeeper, Simon Jorgensen. I've put the 24-year-old's height in quote marks as he was reported as being just 6ft 9in when he made his debut in English football for Accrington Stanley against Preston in the Carabao (League) Cup in August. Maybe he's grown and inch and a half since then? Or maybe the 'Awks just fancied having the world's tallest goalkeeper?

Even at 6ft 9, Jorgensen would have been in danger of banging his bonce on the cross-bar if he'd been in goal in our famous game at Grays Athletic back in 1998 when the goals were discovered to be just 7ft 6in high, and the match was abandoned at half time.

The keeper certainly wasn't quick getting down to Danny Green's penalty a fortnight ago, or Abo Eisa's winning strike come to think of it. As Northy could tell you, there are benefits to being 5ft 6.



Press cuttings corner

Pep: I was talking about OTHER Harry





CITY BOSS MEANT GOODGER, NOT KANE

By VAL GROSVENOR

PEP GUARDIOLA took a lot of flak this week for his statement that Tottenham were 'The Harry Kane team', suggesting that Spurs were simply a one-man operation. Tottenham boss Mauricio Pochettino was particularly outraged by the comment.

But yesterday Guardiola explained to The Mirror that his comment was in reaction to the news that Harry Goodger had signed for Wealdstone.

"What I actually said was in response to a query about John Stones' injury" explained Guardiola. "I was asked in the Press Conference 'What about Stones?' and naturally my first thought was about their big signing from Whitstable.

"Frankly I was annoyed that we hadn't managed to get that transfer over the line before the end of the summer deadline - imagine Goodger, Aguero, Jesus and de Bruyne!

"What I actually said was 'They will be the Harry Team' but that was taken out of context for some reason. Why bring Kane into it? Pochettino got it all wrong".



Life can be more sociable for a goalkeeper in the North West Counties League. Instead of fending off abuse from the crowd (or even cane-wielding senior citizens) the Bootle FC goallie was spotted having a chat - not just with the crowd behind the goal, but IN the crowd behind the goal - as the ball was up the other end. Cue the sudden counter-attack and the keeper desperately throwing his Bovril at the ball as it ends up in an unguarded net. Thanks to Bootle Bucks on Twitter for this one.



Not that we'd condone this sort of behaviour at the Vale, but...

The League Magazine carried this picture back in the 80s with the caption 'Elderly spectator canes a goalkeeper'. Kids wouldn't believe it nowadays but this sort of thing went on all the time in secondary schools. Might put you off taking a goalkick though.



Predictascore

		OVERALL	V TRURO
1	Cynical	17	2=1
2	David Edwards	17	3=1
3	Ronnie Raffle	16	2=1
4	Bob Bangs	15	1=0
5	Nick Symmons	14	2=1
6	Roo Roo	14	3=2
7	Platty	13	2=0
8	Steve Paull	13	0=1
9	AMugPunter	12	2=1
10	Aiden O'callaghan	12	2=1
11	Megaphone Mick	12	1=0
12	Ken Pegg	12	2=0
13	Andrew Lane	12	2=2
14	Tom Coulson	12	1=0
15	Clive Leaper	11	2=0
16	Mim's Goodies	11	2=0
17	RNR	11	2=0
18	Clare Kemp	10	1=1
19	Barbara Robson	10	2=1
20	Happy Stoned	10	3=1
21	Guy Edwards 1	10	2=1
22	Ron Moore	10	3=2
23	Victor Klarfeld	10	3=1
24	Jez Albert	9	2=1
25	James Klarfeld	9	3=2
26	K.Judge	9	2=1
27	Olmar	9	3=1
28	Tom Marshall	9	2=0
29	David Leigh	9	3=0
30	Peter Drew	9	2=0
31	Robert Matthews	9	2=0
32	Hayley Corner	9	2=2
33	Lapels	9	2=1
34	Shortstuff	9	2=1
35	Deadly	8	3=1
36	Hamish Clark	8	2=1
37	Balblair Girl	8	1=1
38	Greedy Pig	8	2=1
39	Kenmar	8	2=0
40	Mark Lloyd	8	2=1
41	Tim Parks	8	2=2
42	Sonny Boy 2	8	2=1
43	Pauline Worby	8	2=1
44	Ryan Cross	7	3=1
45	Guy Edwards 2	7	1=1
46	Munk	7	2=2
47	Gordon Thompson	7	3=3
48	Micheal Burns	7	2=0
49	Pat Rooney	7	2=1
50	The Linesmen	7	4=1
51	Chris Woods	7	1=2
52	Don Cross	6	2=1
53	Jim Sorrell	6	2=3
54	Keith Harris	6	2=2
55	Stuart Elder	6	1=0
56	Duncan Penman	6	3=0
57	Robert Platt	6	3=0
58	Roger Slater	6	2=2
59	Bankzzy's Boyz	5	2=1
60	Daphne Corner	5	3=0
61	Irene Paull	5	0=0
62	Paul Harvey	5	1=1
63	S. Khanna	5	2=0
64	SENCO	5	2=0
65	Sprouthead	5	2=2
66	Munkey	5	2=0
67	Tony Drew	5	3=3
68	Steven Aves	5	3=1
69	Ally Angelides	4	2=0
70	Balblair Boy	4	2=2
71	John Harvey	4	1=0
72	John Devon	4	2=2
73	Lew's Blues	4	3=0
74	Mick Fishman	4	3=1
75	Ray Corner	4	2=0
76	Sonny Boy 1	4	2=1
77	Sutton Stones	4	3=0
78	Wayne Corner	4	3=0
79	Alex Corner	3	2=0
80	John Banks	3	2=0
81	Rob Saville	3	1=0
82	Barry Benveniste	2	3=1
83	NED	2	2=0
84	Maray	2	2=1
85	Alan Couch	1	2=1
86	Wobs	1	2=2

STONES

WEALDSTONE v TRURO CITY
REWIND>>>>>>>>>>>

32 years ago... the night Throbbin Robin trashed Boston again

REMEMBER WHEN  BY TIM PARKS

Tuesday October 22, 1985, Gola League: Wealdstone 7 Boston United 2

Just five months after the Stones destroyed Boston dreams at Wembley in the Trophy Final, we administered the coup de grace with this thrashing under the Lower Mead lights with Robin Wainwright - magnificent in the Trophy Final - netting a remarkable four goals including a hat-trick of penalties. ***CONTINUED OVERPAGE***

Rockin' Robin

Wainwright's four goal blast fires 'Stones

Wealdstone 7, Boston 2

AFTER three successive defeats, Wealdstone bounced back with a seven goal romp in Tuesday night's Gola League visit of Boston.

Jubilant Robin Wainwright grabbed four of the goals — three coming from the penalty spot — as Wealdstone flattened Boston with a six goal blast in the opening half hour of the second half, **writes Paul Jacques.**

And manager Brian Hall admitted afterwards: "That was just what we needed. For 35 minutes in the second half we took them to the cleaners."

Hall confessed that he had started to doubt himself after recent results, but Tuesday's win was the perfect pick-me-up. Although Wainwright took the glory — and the match ball — Hall singled out striker Mark Graves. "He had his best game for two years. He did everything right," enthused Hall.

Wealdstone had taken a ninth minute lead when Brian Greenaway curled a free kick into the top corner with Boston keeper Kevin Blackwell woefully slow to react.

There was little indication of the goal spree that was to follow when Boston levelled matters six minutes from half-time — Derrick Nuttell forcing home a cross from Paul Hooks.

But eight minutes into the second half the nightmare began for a Boston side that had not won in eight games.

The ball was knocked into the box and Graves, with his back to goal, scored with a spectacular overhead kick. "A goal in a million," purred Hall.

Two minutes later Ian Ladd brought down Alan Cordice for a penalty. Blackwell was booked for recklessly shoving the referee in protest before Wainwright scored from the spot.

In the 63rd minute, Wainwright met Gary Donnellan's cross with a glorious volley to make it 4-1. Within two minutes, Wainwright had completed his hat-trick from the spot after Paul Casey had handled. Five minutes later, Graves raced onto a clearance from Neil Cordice and stroked his shot past Blackwell.

Disbelieving Boston player manager Arthur Mann brought himself into the action in place of Andy Harrison, but in the 73rd minute Wainwright struck with his fourth, again from the spot following handball by Ray O'Brien.

A minute from time, sloppy defence allowed Chris Cook to score, but it was meagre consolation for Boston, who also had the names of Casey and Cook added to that of Blackwell in the referee's book.

Wealdstone: Iles, N Cordice, McCargo, Tapley, Bowgett, Wainwright, Greenaway, Holmes, A Cordice, Graves, Donnellan (Jones 75).



DELIGHTED Robin Wainwright holds the match ball after his four goals against Boston and admits: "I couldn't believe it. I'm going to bring it back to the club and get it signed by the players.

"The goal that pleased me most was the one that didn't come from the penalty spot. It was a new set piece we had been working on and I had missed three sitters the night before in training.

"We had been struggling in the last three games and it wasn't only nice to win, but to win like that."



It was just one of those nights when everything came off: Mark Graves, who had unluckily missed out on the last few months of the the double-winning season after losing his place to the on-fire Andy Graham, returned with a vengeance at the start of the 85-86 season and resumed his devastating strike partnership with the livewire Alan Cordice.

Boston had beaten us 1-0 at York Street in front of a 2,500 crowd just six weeks earlier, gaining some revenge for their defeat at Wembley, and they can't have been expecting the second-half whirlwind with Stones scoring six times in 30 minutes at the start of the second half.

I can still remember Gravesy's sensational over-head goal (reminiscent of the best of Andy Graham's strikes the previous season) that put us 2-1 ahead just after the break, and Boston seemed to sleepwalk into the storm as we scored with every attack therafter. Alan Cordice was brought down for one of Wainwright's impeccable penalties with Boston keeper Kevin Blackwell (who had saved Dennis Byatt's spot kick at Wembley) getting nowhere near the ball.

I had the privelege of seeing the only other Wealdstone penalty hat-trick (netted by George Duck in the FA Trophy second round against Hastings United, 11 years earlier) and both men showed nerves of steel. I don't think the keeper even went the right way for any of those six penalties!

Dunstable, Best, Fry and Astle: Too good to last... and it didn't!



Dunstable movers & shakers: Astle, Fry, chairman and George Best in 70s gear



ON THIS DAY BY GORDON MCKAY

Tuesday October 21, 1975, Southern League Cup: Dunstable Town (h) Won 3-1

THIS 2nd round Southern League Cup match played under the Lower Mead lights pitched us against a very decent Dunstable team managed by the enigmatic Barry Fry, who was just starting to make a name for himself in the game.

They were a club with big ambitions. The previous season they had won promotion by recruiting the likes of internationals George Best and Jeff Astle (although Best played only sporadically and Astle had been transferred to Weymouth by the time we played them) to help the cause. And in this first season in the Southern Premier they eventually finished in a very respectably 8th. However those ambitions eventually caught up with them and they voluntarily relegated themselves in April 1976 due to financial issues.

This meant only the bottom three went down and the club who finished 4th bottom and benefited from their demise was us. Fair to say Dunstable were very popular with all at Lower Mead at the time.

A crowd of 670 turned up for this one and a keenly-contested game ended up 3-1 to the Stones with the goals being shared by our dynamic duo of Duck and Byrne.

What Happened Next? We managed to get through one more round of the competition, beating Cambridge City after a replay before bowing out to Dover at The Crabble 2-1. A real season of two halves: Brilliant up until Christmas, and then falling away to just avoid the drop. Yes, a big thanks to Dunstable!

22 years ago: Stones haunted by the return of 'reject' Boreham

Saturday October 21 1995, Isthmian League Division Three: Windsor and Eton (h) Lost 1-5

Our first season back in the Isthmian league and we found ourselves having to start at the very bottom (Div 3) having crossed over from the Southern. It was also our first season at the White Lion Ground, ground-sharing with Edgware, and of course our first season under Gordon Bartlett.

The feel good factor was such that most fans were expecting us to dominate the division and indeed a promising start to the campaign reinforced those beliefs.

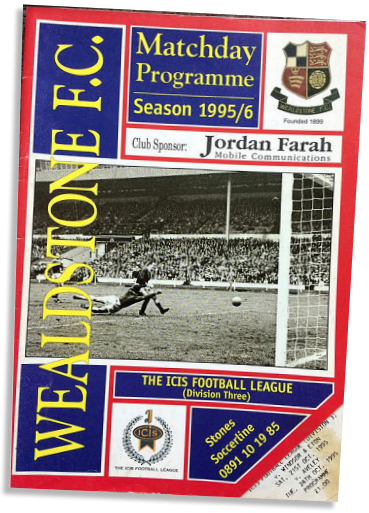
However, on this glorious Autumn afternoon we absolutely slammed into the buffers in what was a rude awakening for all concerned. Windsor were decent - eventually finishing 3rd and promoted - but from looking like a cocky, confident winning team we just collapsed in front of everyone's eyes.

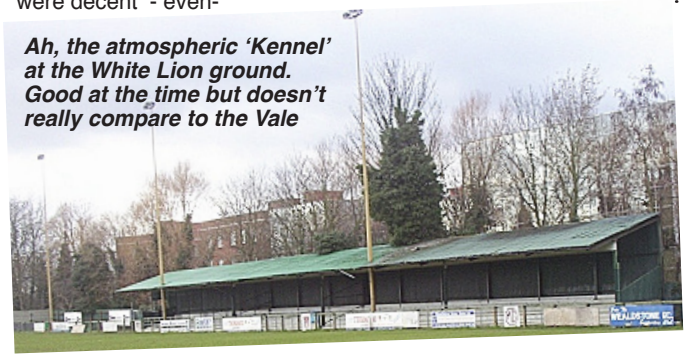
It was a new team and it was its first taste of adversity but we didn't recover from this, and after a bit of sticky patch GB was forced into making changes.

Even more galling was that Keith Boreham, who would of course play for us a few years later, scored four of the Windsor goals. He had been with us pre season but not taken on. Can you imagine the meltdown on the forum nowadays if a similar scenario occurred ?

So, a bad day at the office for sure this one and a real wake up call for the 319 crowd.

What Happened Next? Well, GB spent much of the season trying to find the right formula but we did go to Windsor later in the season and win 2-0 in the return fixture. We had clearly been hurt by the 5-1 home defeat and we went there in a very determined mood on and off the pitch. Over 150 fans - which included an unofficial booze bus - travelled to the game and created the kind of hostile environment that clubs hated at that level and of course they just weren't used to it. We wanted revenge and the team didn't let us down, on the day our spirit and resolve just overpowered them. One of our good days. I wonder if they've repaired that fence yet?





Ah, the atmospheric 'Kennel' at the White Lion ground. Good at the time but doesn't really compare to the Vale

HALL QUITS

Wealdstone boss heads for Yeovil

'I'm looking forward to a new challenge'

WEALDSTONE manager Brian Hall has resigned, to take up the vacant manager's post at Vauxhall-Opel side Yeovil.

Hall announced his resignation yesterday (Wednesday), ending a six-year association with the club. The Yeovil offer, he said, was one he could not refuse, *writes William Bull.*

Yeovil, the best supported and one of the biggest non-League clubs in the country, see Hall as the man to lead them into the Football League.

Their manager, Garry Gow, resigned on Boxing Day for personal reasons and Hall, a long-time admirer of Yeovil, was approached to take over.

"It was a tough decision to make," said Hall, who was 47 on Tuesday. "But you have to look to the future and Yeovil have made no secret of their ambitions.

"They are an extremely ambitious club, they are a very fashionable club and they are one of the biggest clubs in non League football.

"They very badly want to get into the Football League and I am relishing the challenge of taking them there."

The biggest bonus for Hall is that Yeovil have the resources to back their ambitious plans and that he will not face the financial restraints that dogged his career at Lower Mead.

Hall came to Wealdstone with Allen Batsford in 1980 and brought the club out of the Southern League in a blaze of glory.

He took charge in 1983 following Batsford's dismissal and took Stones to further glory, clinching the Gola League and FA Trophy double in 1985, as Wealdstone became the first club in history to do the non LEague 'Double'.

"That was obviously the highlight of my time with Wealdstone," said Hall. "It is a terrible wrench to leave and I really had to search myself.

"I will be going with a lump in my throat but life must go on. Wealdstone have been very good to me and I have always been treated with the utmost respect there.

"It is a true family club and I have made a lot of friends and hope that I will always be welcome back.

"But Yeovil have offered me one hell of a challenge and that appealed to me."

Hall, who says no moves have yet been made to appoint his successor at Lower Mead, will take the Yeovil job on a part-time basis.

He will commute to the West Country from his London home and will continue his full-time job with the police, for the time being.

He will take over a Yeovil side that looks to have blown its chance in the Vauxhall-Opel Premier title race, for the second season running.

After missing out on promotion to Sutton last season, Yeovil have slipped behind Wycombe this season and may have to wait another year in their bid to regain GM Vauxhall Conference status.

"I am not going there as their saviour," says Hall. "They are facing problems at the moment in trying to win their league and the people there are realistic enough to know that I am going as part of a long-term plan.

"I do not want to go in there with a bang. I will sit back for a while, see what is there and implement my own ideas gradually."

'He will be sorely missed'

CLUB press officer, David Free, speaking on behalf of the Wealdstone board, said: "Brian Hall was a wonderful manager and a tremendous servant to the club. It was a pleasure to work with him, he will be sorely missed and we wish him all the best in his new position."

Supporters' Club secretary Nick Dugard said: "We are saddened, shocked and surprised that this has happened. We have a great deal of respect for the manager and are extremely sad to see him, and his assistant, go at what is a very difficult time."

Coach Les Read is also leaving Lower Mead, to take up a full-time position with the Football Association.

Hall's resignation and the future of the club will be discussed at the Supporters' Club annual meeting on Monday night. Open to all paid-up members of the club, it starts, at the club, at 7.30 pm.

Stones Chairman David Morritt is in Spain and unavailable for comment.



HAPPY DAYS: Hall celebrates Wealdstone's Trophy triumph



DEPARTING Stones boss Brian Hall will enter a different footballing world when he takes over at Yeovil Town on Monday.

The Somerset club's average gates are almost four times that of Wealdstone. And their large army of fans are thirsty for success writes *Simon O'Neill.*

Crowds of more than 2,000 are merely average at Huish and there is usually double that number for big games.

Not surprisingly, Hall will find himself under pressure from the start. But Yeovil Chairman Gerry Lock is convinced he has picked the right man for the job.

Lock broke with tradition to appoint Hall. For Yeovil have had a policy of taking on big names like Malcolm Allison and Gerry Gow — whose resignation created the vacancy — in the past.

In fact, former England striker Mick Channon was interviewed for the job but was passed over in favour of Hall.

Gow, the former Bristol City and Manchester City midfielder, quit after the game at Harrow Borough on Boxing Day.

He claimed the decision was forced on him by a vendetta of hate against himself and his family.

Who is going to take over?

MANAGERLESS Wealdstone will be keen to quickly fill the gap left by Brian Hall's departure.

For the club has entered a crucial stage of its battle against relegation from the GM Vauxhall Conference.

Stones have lifted themselves out of the bottom three with three wins and a draw from their last four matches.

They now lie 16th with 31 points from 28 games — but are not out of the woods yet.

In their last 14 fixtures, they must meet the clubs filling the top nine places in the Conference and end the season with tough derbies at home to Enfield and title chasing Barnet.

The vacant manager's post will be advertised and there should be no shortage of applicants.

Speculation is already rife about possible replacements. Kingsbury Town boss Terry Dyson is one man who could make a good claim if he decides to apply.

Dyson, the former Spurs winger, played for Wealdstone towards the end of his career and has a sound record in non-league management, albeit in the less testing Vauxhall-Opel League.

Former Stones boss Allen Batsford is out of work after being sacked by Dulwich Hamlet as part of an economy drive.

But he is unlikely to be considered as he was sacked by Stones Chairman David Morritt and replaced with Hall in January 1983.

Another likely contender could be Wembley manager Alan Dafforn, an other ex Wealdstone regular.

Dafforn has once again guided his side into the Vauxhall Opel Division One promotion frame.



TERRY DYSON: Knowing in Lower Mead?

More sport on 19, 20 and 21

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It may have seemed like the end of an era when Gordon Bartlett left Wealdstone at the end of August - but here we reproduce the Harrow Observer report that chronicled the day our double-winning manager Brian Hall finally tired of the penny-pinching at Lower Mead and left for a 'bigger job' at then Isthmian League side Yeovil Town. Within a year the ex-policeman had led the Somerset side to the Isthmian title and back to the Conference National