

## KEVIN WILKS

# Fan in the Stand

## 'My first game was when we relegated in 1981. It wasn't an unlucky omen!'

**Whereabouts do you live Kevin?**

Bovingdon (near our arch rivals Hemel Hempstead)

**When was your first Wealdstone game?**

It was in 1981 at Lower Mead, against AP Leamington in the old Alliance Premier League (now National League). We lost 2-1 and it was disastrous as that was the day we were relegated to the Southern League. But I was taken in by the crowd and the intimate atmosphere in what I always regarded as our iconic home stadium. I still have the match programme from that day (pictured right). We bounced straight back, winning the Southern League and I was hooked on Stones from that day onwards!

**Are you working, and where?** I run a Financial advice practice near home in Bovingdon

**Who or what persuaded you to come to a game?** I remember as a 14 year old reading the Stones match reports in the Harrow Observer and dragged my mate down to the ground to check out the team. We were both hooked and hardly missed a home game for years afterwards.

**Do you follow another team?** Yes a recently suffering Man Utd Fan, qualified as such as I was born in Surrey where the biggest section of the fan club hale from!!!

**Do your family follow another team?** My



son is a Chelsea fan and my Dad is a proud Welshman supporting any of the Welsh clubs. My wife and daughter support.... shopping!

**Is it easy to fit football in with your work/family commitments?** Not always but at the beginning of each season I usually block out the diary with as many fixtures as I think I can get to and make them known to the family!

**What is the main attraction of watching the Stones?** A number of things really. I've always enjoyed the camaraderie of the Stones fans, along with the opportunity to

meet and chat to the players, management and board after matches. And then there are the legendary away days when the Stones travel in numbers and make a noise. To this day it still amazes me seeing and hearing such brilliant support for the team away from home, often matching the home support for numbers.

**Do you prefer non-League over League football?** Definitely. Its a much more honest level of football, without all the rubbish that goes with the top level in term of pre madonas, excessive money orientated behaviour and lack of regard and respect for the fan that pays all that money to go to the games.

**And your all time favourite line-up?**

Jonathan North, Fred Barwick, Paul Bowgett, Conor Stevens, Stuart Pearce, Tom Pett, Glen Little, Robin Wainwright, Alan Cordice, Neil Cordice, Jermaine Beckford.

**Do you think the club can ever progress to the football league?** My honest

opinion is that I can't see it just now. This would be mainly to do with the lack of significant financial resource that would be needed to get there, and i would never want to see the club put in jeopardy by another potential financial gamble. However we can all dream can't we? I'd be over the moon if we could get back to the National league and consolidate in that division.

**Are your friends aware of Wealdstone?**

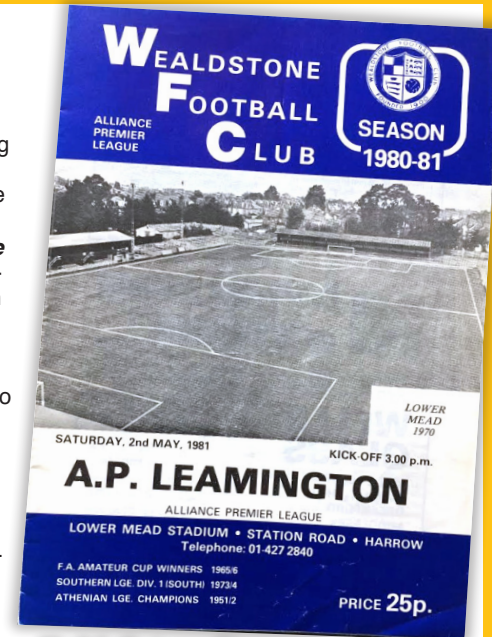
**Are they surprised you don't follow a 'big' club?** Yes my friends are aware of Wealdstone and I brought some of them down to the final home game of last season (vs Hemel) with them saying they want to come again. A couple of more Chelsea fan mates have just told me they'll come down soon. They don't regard Man Utd as a big club anymore!!

**What is your favourite stones game you've ever seen?** That's a no brainer,

the FA Trophy final at Wembley in 1985. It was just a brilliant occasion that I'll never forget, culminating with seeing the team win and lift that trophy.

**What is the best game you've EVER**

**seen?** After the FA trophy final, next would be the Billericay away 5-2 win in the trophy



Kevin's first-ever Stones game.. and it was memorable, though not in a good way

a couple of years ago when we played fantastic football on a sandpit of a deck, with a brilliant Stones following singing Bradley Bubb through to his debut hat trick.

**Who is your favourite current Stones**

**player/s?** Danny Green by far. A really skilful and class act who has got better with each passing season, and I think we're now seeing the best of him in this first part of the 2019-20 season.

**Do you think more could be done to attract youngsters along to the Vale?**

Possibly. I'm not too familiar with any initiatives going on in the local area but I would like to see more free tickets given to kids for specific matches

**What do you think of the pricing for**

**games at The Vale?** Very fair and with good for concessions and under 18s. Much fairer than a few other clubs in our league

**Clubhouse/catering etc?** Just about right. Terrific clubhouse bar with competitive drink prices and good atmosphere before

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and after matches. Burgers are pretty good and I get good use out of the half way tea bar as I stand and watch most of the games behind the dug outs!

**Have you played the game yourself (to any level)?** I played amateur football for various clubs for 30 odd years, the highest level being for Harrow St Mary's in the Middx Premier league in my early 20's. Other than that I played 15 odd seasons in the Sunday Marathon league for Royston when I remember playing against the Stones supporters team in a cup tie. We lost! Most memorable moment though was playing in a charity match against the ex Arsenal & celebs team, against the likes of Ian Allinson and Tony Hadlee, whilst having a competitive central midfield battle with Mark Ramprakash!

**What's your favourite of the three kits this season?** Probably the all white kit out of the three.

**And what do you think of the Stones programme, pricing, quality and size-wise?** It's superb, to be fair, and fully deserving of the awards that have come its way. Not too many adverts and has more variety of features than I've seen even in lower league clubs programmes. I especially enjoy Tim's old

## Heartbreak half hour for tragic 'Stones.

Wealdstone 1, A.P. Leamington 2  
THE sea of tight-lipped, grim faces streaming away from Lower Mead on Saturday bore witness to 30 of the most tragic minutes in the long history of Wealdstone Football Club.

They had just seen a 1-0 lead turn into an astonishing 2-1 defeat in the final half-hour of the final match of the season.

And, in the process, Wealdstone waved goodbye to the Alliance Premier League.

The 'Stones only needed a draw to escape relegation. Three straight wins, against Boston, Kettering and Barrow, had brought the fans through the turnstiles confident of success against the far-from-invincible Leamington side.

And when Robin Wainwright gave Wealdstone the lead from Sweetzer's cross after 61 minutes their joy bubbled to the surface.

"We're staying up this year," sang the crowd behind the Leamington goal, a view seemingly confirmed when Alan Cordice was upended by goalkeeper Dulleston just four minutes later and a penalty awarded.

Two-nil would have sealed the win. And Jimmy Sweetzer, taking only his second penalty for the club, looked confident enough as he ran up to take the kick.

But he missed. The crowd looked on in numbed silence as the ball rebounded from the stone wall to the right of Dulleston's goal.

Leamington, who also needed to win to avoid the drop, suddenly realised their plight was not as hopeless as they had at first thought.

### Corner

They pushed centre-half Gary Brown into attack and in the 77th minute won their first corner of the second half. Farrington swung over the kick, Cranstone missed his punch and Tommy Gorman headed in.

As news filtered through that Nuneaton — the other club in danger — were beating Telford, Wealdstone suddenly became a bag of nerves.

In the 86th minute, centre back Dennis Byatt failed to clear a hopeful knock on and Doug Hickton raced in to gleefully shoot past Cranstone.

The striker did a victory

jig while Wealdstone came to the shocked realisation that their Alliance League life was ebbing away.

Four minutes later it had done.

For the first time in the club's history Wealdstone had been relegated. The news from Nuneaton, who eventually picked up a point in a 3-3 draw, and Barnet — who collected both against Northwich — confirmed that fact.



Alan Cordice . . . tripped

TIM PARKS on Wealdstone's troubled times

## 'Stones say: 'We'll be back'

WEALDSTONE chairman Fred Deanus put on a brave face this week and admitted: "I didn't sleep too well Saturday night."

I can assure Mr Deanus that he was in good company. Many, many supporters have since told me that losing to Leamington on Saturday was one of the "worst experiences of their lives."

Not just the fact that Wealdstone will next season be playing among the little clubs of the Southern League. Not just the fact that they will lose their status as a senior non-League side.

More that the 'Stones have been relegated just as it seems manager Allen Ratsford has assembled a good side at Lower Mead.

But Ratsford himself feels that it will not be long before Wealdstone FC regain their place in the Alliance Premier League.

"If I can get the players I want in the summer we will have a very good team next year. Obviously I need a front player, someone who will score regularly, but I will be said."

Saturday's result also affected him deeply. "It was a terrible blow. I thought before the game, and at half-time, that there was no way we could lose."

"Yet in the last 20 minutes it all went wrong. Tactics that have worked perfectly for a month failed. We never got to grips

with Leamington throwing so many men forward and it was difficult to communicate this to the players.

"Perhaps if we hadn't been having such a good spell we would have been more defensive minded. I don't know. It's history now."

Wealdstone now have to face the reality of Southern League football and all that implies.

Poor crowds, poor stadia and return trips to places such as Canterbury, Andover and thought they had left far behind, in the dim Division One (South).

Yet if Ratsford can find the goalscorer he has searched high and low for since taking over at Lower Mead in November, Wealdstone should be different class.

### No exception

They have been different class to many Alliance League sides this season except Saturday's crunch match with no exception.

Of Wealdstone's 16 shots throughout the 90 minutes, only two were on target; while Leamington only missed the target once from a penalty four attempts.

For that reason alone, Wealdstone deserve to go down.

*The defeat by Leamington on the last day of the 1980-81 season was dramatic and desperate in equal measure as the winners stayed up and the losers went down. And only a penalty miss prevented Wealdstone staying up. But of course, in hindsight it was the best thing that could possibly have happened!*

match report press cuttings for nostalgia, as they remind me of some matches I attended as well as some from a decade or 2 before I started going to games. (Good answer! Ed)

1000<sup>TH</sup> MEN'S INTERNATIONAL



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# Opposition in focus

**B**ristol Manor Farm Football Club was formed for the 1960/61 season before disbanding and reforming for the start of the 1962/63 campaign.

Our ground here at 'The Creek' used to be the site of the Port of Bristol Authority Sports & Social Club. In 1965 when the authority moved to new premises, Manor Farm took it over, making it our permanent home.

Having a base of our own enabled the club to apply successfully to join the Somerset Senior League where we made good progress through the divisions. In 1977 the club decided to step up to the Western League, joining the First Division for the start of the 1977/78 season.

The Club were crowned Division 1 Champions for 1982/83 and since that promotion to the Premier Division of the Western League Bristol Manor Farm have played most of our football at that level.

The last decade at the club has certainly been the most ambitious period of our history.

An exciting run during the 2010/11 FA Cup competition saw us win a penalty shoot-out against Almondsbury Town and hold Basingstoke Town to a draw before being pipped by a single goal in the replay.

2011/12 was the most successful season in the history of the club to that date. We won the GFA Challenge Trophy after beating Shortwood United 5-0 in a thrilling final and this was followed three days later with another cup triumph when we beat Willand Rovers in extra time to finally lift the Les Phillips Cup.

We lost the GFA Trophy Final to Bristol Academy in 2012/13 however and finished third from bottom of the Premier Division. After good service to the club, Manager John Black decided it was time to stand down.

The start of the 2013/14 season saw the

beginning of a new era at Bristol Manor Farm FC when current boss Lee Lashenko took over the Manager's job. Fresh from winning the title with Bishop Sutton, Lashenko quickly made an impact with Manor Farm.

An FA Cup run that saw us put nine goals past Oldland Abbotonians and then seven past Lymington Town quickly brought us to the attention of the national press. The tabloid photographers had a field day down at The Creek – photographing the team with the FA Cup and a variety of 'farmyard' accessories and costumes – it was a brilliant and fun day that everyone here will never forget. The First Round Qualifying Round tie against Corsham Town then ended in a 4-4 draw with Manor Farm winning the hard fought replay 1-0. We then also held Bridgwater Town to a 4-4 draw in the next round before narrowly going out 2-1 in the replay.

The club continued to fight for top spot in the league and also applied for promotion to the Southern League. We finished the league season as Runners-up but were unsuccessful in our promotion bid when Larkhall Athletic were accepted ahead of us. It was the highest-placed finish in the club's league history, however, breaking club records for goals scored and fewest goals conceded.

In 2014-2015 Bristol Manor Farm missed out on promotion to the Southern League by 3 points, allowing Slimbridge to go up instead. We did win the GFA County Challenge Trophy however with a 2-0 win over local neighbours Shirehampton.

During an epic 2015/2016 season an heroic run in the FA Vase took us to within sniffing distance of Wembley with a notable comeback win in the fifth round, overcoming Sunderland RCA 3-2 and a long return trip to the North-East for a Quarter Final showdown with

Morpeth Town. On a heavy pitch The Portwaymen were unlucky to go out with Morpeth scoring a breakaway goal in the dying seconds after Farm had laid virtual siege to The Highwaymen's goal throughout the second half. Morpeth went on to beat Hereford FC 4-1 in the showpiece Wembley final.

We finished third in the Western Premier League – just missing out once again on promotion but won the GFA County Challenge Trophy for the second season in succession with a record 9-2 win over Lydney Town in the final. On a happy night at Ashton Gate our former Exeter City and Truro City striker Dean Stamp also won the Bristol Post 'Footballer of the Year' award for his astonishing tally of 59 goals in all competitions.

The many highlights of Manor Farm's triumphant 2016/17 season will be forever woven into the fabric of the club's history as we finally secured that elusive promotion to the Southern League in emphatic style, amassing 102 points and scoring over 100 goals on the way to being crowned as Western League Champions.

We also unluckily missed out on a second FA Vase Quarter Final in succession with another narrow 2-1 defeat in a fifth round tie in front of 1,500 partisan fans at Bromsgrove Sporting FC.

An extraordinary unbeaten league run of 21 games between September and March (19 wins and 2 draws) went a long way to securing the coveted league title for Manor Farm however, which was eventually clinched with three games to spare following a 2-0 win at local club Hallen on Good Friday.

Lee Lashenko and his squad of title winners were warmly acknowledged later in the year on another great night for the club at Ashton Gate - walking off with 'Coach of the Year' and 'Team of the Year' respectively at the Bristol Post Sports Awards.

Manor Farm hit the ground running during our dramatic, first Southern League campaign ('17/18) – briefly leading in the pack in September and never out of the top six until the final agonising fortnight of the season. Despite the obvious disappointment of an eventual 9th placed finish the club was left to

reflect on an exciting debut that proved our players **were more than capable of competing at the higher levels we desire as a club.**

"Our second season felt more like a first season" remarked Lee Lashenko at the end of year awards for the 2018/19 campaign. Beset by a plague of injuries and a rash of suspensions, The Farm failed to find the league consistency of our debut season but the club's national profile was given another further boost by an extended run in the Emirates FA Cup – the best ever in the club's history. We were literally inches and a game away from entering the First Round proper, finally falling to National League side Slough Town in a Third Qualifying Round replay after a valiant 2-2 draw in the original tie at their Arbour Park ground and a 5-2 thumping of Basingstoke Town at home in the previous round.



## FARM FACTS

**GROUND** - The creek

**CAPACITY** - 2,000 (200 seated)

**MANAGER** - Lee Lashenko

**2018/19** - Southern Lge Div 1 Sth 15th

**Previously**

**A** 06/10/18 **D** 0-0

WEALDSTONE'S RECORD v BRISTOL MANOR FARM

**P1 W0 D1 L0 F0 A0**

## WHO'S WHO?

### **BEN JOHN - GOALKEEPER**

This is Ben's second season at the farm after playing at Bitton in the Western League. Prior to that he had many seasons at a higher level, Ben is a lively character and adds plenty of passion to his team mates in front of him.

### **STUART TOVEY - DEFENDER**

Stuart is a seasoned Southern League player who has also played at Paulton Rovers, Chippenham Town & Larkhall Athletic, he has strength in depth as a defender and can play in midfield too.

### **TYLER ASHMEAD - DEFENDER**

This is Tyler's first season at the Farm after playing at Clevedon Town last season, this young lad has massive potential and will help strengthen our defence.

### **JACK DURRANT - MIDFIELD**

Jack is a workhorse in midfield and his vision and ability to pass a short or long ball is just amazing, he is also a great ball winner. Jack has played for Cheltenham Town in the past as well as other clubs above the Western league level.

### **STEVE KINGDON - DEFENDER**

Steve turned professional with Bristol Rovers where he was for 2 seasons, he has also played at Clevedon Town, Taunton Town and was captain of promotion winning Tiverton Town. Steve is a very solid centre back with a great vision and understanding of the game

### **JORDAN METTERS - MIDFIELD**

Jordan is such a gifted and talented player, not only does he create chances for others but he scores a lot of goals himself whether being inside or outside the box. Has a tremendous vision and passing accuracy.

### **ASHLEY KINGTON - MIDFIELD**

After leaving Bristol City, Ashley has played at Bath City and Weston Super Mare, Ashley is a quality central midfielder that has every attribute that is needed to help the club and his team mates to progress to the next level.

### **JOE TUMELTY - FORWARD**

Joe joined the Farm this season, Joe has enjoyed playing at Hereford United & Frome Town before returning to Hereford FC, last season Joe was injured most of the season whilst at Evesham United.

### **LEWIS LEIGH-GILCHRIST- FORWARD**

Lewis joined the Farm this season after being at Bristol Rovers last season and going out on loan at Yate Town and Hungerford, he is a very quick and a very intelligent player and will add extreme quality to the team as well as create and score goals.

### **JORDAN ROGERS - FORWARD**

Joined the Farm in January 2019 from Frome Town, has also played for Tiverton Town and Taunton Town, Jordan is a prolific goal scorer and will strengthen the team.

### **LEWIS BAMFORD - FORWARD**

Lewis joined the club in October 18 from Cinderford Town, this young lad who was also at Newport County has serious pace and is very strong with the quality to create and scores goals.

### **LLOYD MILLS - DEFENDER / MIDFIELD**

Big Lloyd can play either as centre back or in central midfield, either way he gives 100% to the cause, he has proved to be a big asset to the team over the past seasons.

### **JAMIE ADAMS - DEFENDER / MIDFIELD**

Defender/Midfield - Jamie joined the Farm in early December 2017 from Larkhall Athletic, he has also played for Cardiff University, Bridgwater Town and Clevedon Town so he has a massive amount of experience at this level.

### **JAMIE BIRD - FORWARD**

Jamie joined the Farm after leaving Hereford FC in early November 18, this young lad has the quality and speed to deliver lots goals and create assists for others, he was also at Cardiff City and Weston Super Mare before Hereford.

### **JOE MCCLENNAN - FORWARD**

JSigned for the Farm this season, Joe has some serious pace and will terrorize any

defence. He left Bristol City as a YTS and was at Brighton as a pro, he has also played for Chippenham Town and Weston Super Mare.

### **MASON WINTER - DEFENDER**

Mason signed for the Farm this season, he was with the Bristol Rovers academy until he was 17yrs, he has since played for Melksham Town, Cribbs and last season he was at Larkhall Athletic.

### **JOSH NELMES - DEFENDER**

Joined the Farm this season, Josh was part of Cinderford Town and Taunton Town's championship promotion winning teams and was at Taunton Town last season so brings with him a massive amount of experience.

### **ARON ROBBINS - DEFENDER**

Aron has also played for Clevedon Town before joining the Farm, he is a seasoned left back that likes to get forward and scores goals.

### **KIERAN IRELAND - MIDFIELD**

Kieran signed for the Farm this season, he captained the Birmingham City University team and also played for Bridgwater Town & Shepton Mallet in the Western League last season.

### **TROY WALTERS - FORWARD**

Troy played for our U18s a couple of years ago before going to the USA for a year, this young lad has speed and skill on the ball and will give any defence a hard time.

### **LIAM JACQUES - GOALKEEPER**

Liam was at the Southampton and Bristol City academies during his early teens, he is in his second season on the our U18s team and played for AEK Boco in the Gloucestershire County League last season.

### **HARRY HAUGHTON - MIDFIELD**

Harry signed for the Farm in March 2019 from Yeovil Town on work experience, he has now signed for this season, and he will add some quality to the squad and team.

### **JAMIE TURNER - DEFENDER**

Harry signed for the Farm in March 2019 from Yeovil Town on work experience, he has now signed for this season, and he will add some quality to the squad and team.

## MANAGEMENT



### **LEE LASHENKO - MANAGER**

Also known as Laz, this is his 7th season at the Farm where he lead the team to 2nd place, 4th Place, 3rd place and then as champions of the Western League before being promoted into the Southern League in season 2017-2018.

### **IAIN HARVEY- ASSISTANT MANAGER**

Iain was at Swindon Town many years ago before spending 10 years at Chippenham Town, he joined the Farm in 2017 as a player coach and continues to do these roles.

### **MIKE MAHONEY - GOALKEEPING COACH**

Mike played in goal for Newcastle United back in the 70s before finishing his career in the USA, he has spent a lot of time over the years in a coaching capacity and already made his mark with the squad.

### **STEVE CARTER - PHYSIO**

This is Steve's third season at the Farm; he started his role with Yeovil Town youth and then moved onto Bath City, he also spent 10 years as the Physio at Yate Town.

### **ANDY MATHIAS - COACH**

Andy has been involved in football all his life, he has managed at Western League level and has been part of the management team at the Farm for 4 seasons.



# IN THE FRAME

ADAM WILLIAMS

OUR TWITTER FEED: @wealdstone\_FC WFC WEBSITE: www.wealdstone-fc.com



Wealdstone v Bristol Manor Farm





# MATCH SPONSORS

A great way to celebrate a special occasion or advertise your organisation's support of Wealdstone, match sponsorship packages start at just **£345** (fans) or **£395** (corporate). As match day sponsor you will enjoy:

- Match tickets for four people (inc. prime main stand seats if required)
- A fantastic advertising package, including publicity over the PA system, website and social media
- Boardroom hospitality includes pre match and half-time refreshments as well as a superb array of culinary delights post match, courtesy of in-house caterer Lynn Evans
- Match-day programmes for all in your party
- VIP car parking
- Name and present the 'Man of the Match' award
- A stunning dedicated glass award

\*Please note that we can accommodate **multiple match sponsors** and can **tailor the experience** to whatever are your requirements. For example, we can cater for as many as **25 people** in our magnificent new **hospitality lounge**. This facility has undergone a comprehensive re-fit with substantial investment courtesy of our club sponsors GPF Lewis & Ruislip Social Club. Our match sponsors and their guests are all entertained in surroundings befitting such a special occasion be it a birthday, anniversary or any other special event!



We will work with you to ensure you and your guests get to enjoy a truly memorable experience. If you or your organisation are interested in sponsoring a match here at The Vale, please contact Club President, **Paul Rumens** ([paulrumens59@gmail.com](mailto:paulrumens59@gmail.com) or call **07710 929692**) to discuss.

MATCH	SPONSORS
<b>DARTFORD</b> Saturday, 3rd August Vanarama National League South	<b>Support the Stones - sponsor a match!</b>
<b>CHIPPENHAM TOWN</b> Tuesday, 13th August Vanarama National League South	<b>Wealdstone FC Supporters Club</b>
<b>HUNGERFORD TOWN</b> Saturday, 24th August Vanarama National League South	<b>Ray Corner and Peter Carter</b>
<b>MAIDSTONE UNITED</b> Saturday, 31st August Vanarama National League South	<b>Markie Barton</b>
<b>OXFORD CITY</b> Saturday, 7th September Vanarama National League South	<b>The Guild</b>
<b>HAVANT &amp; WATERLOOVILLE</b> Saturday, 28th september Vanarama National League South	<b>First Financial</b>
<b>TONBRIDGE ANGELS</b> Saturday, 26th October Vanarama National League South	<b>In memory of John O'Connor</b>
<b>EASTBOURNE BOROUGH</b> Saturday, 9th November Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>CONCORD RANGERS</b> Saturday, 30th November Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>WELLING UNITED</b> Saturday, 21st December Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>ST.ALBANS CITY</b> Saturday, 28th December Vanarama National League South	<b>Tony Platt</b>

MATCH	SPONSORS
<b>SLOUGH TOWN</b> Wednesday, 1st January Vanarama National League South	<b>Recycle DNC Ltd</b>
<b>CHELMSFORD CITY</b> Saturday, 11th January Vanarama National League South	<b>In memory of Simon Ricketts</b>
<b>BATH CITY</b> Saturday, 25th January Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>BILLERICAY TOWN</b> Saturday, 8th February Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>DORKING WANDERERS</b> Saturday, 22nd February Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>DULWICH HAMLET</b> Saturday, 7th March Vanarama National League South	<b>In memory of Darren Hooker</b>   <b>People for Print</b>
<b>BRAINTREE TOWN</b> Saturday, 21st March Vanarama National League South	<b>Wealdstone FC Ladies</b>
<b>HAMPTON &amp; RICHMOND</b> Saturday, 4th April Vanarama National League South	<b>In memory of Ian Spicer</b>
<b>WEYMOUTH</b> Easter Monday, 13th April Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN</b> Saturday, 25th April Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>

**B**oreham Wood aren't many people's favourite club.

The Hertfordshire club rose from obscurity on the back of sizeable investment from chairman Danny Hunter, and canny money-making (through the many satellite astroturf pitches at Meadow Park and clever use of academy funding)... plus the link-up with Arsenal which helped redevelop Wood's now-impressive stadium.

Almost anywhere else, the Meadow Park set-up - now hosting National League football - would guarantee huge local interest.

But the town of Boreham Wood has all but ignored the club at the end of the road.

Just over a year ago, I went to watch Wood play Tranmere Rovers at Wembley in the National League play-off final and, travelling down to Wembley on Thameslink, the train stopped at Boreham Wood to allow about 100 fans to pile into the carriages.

They were mainly rowdy youngsters with little affiliation to the club - brand new black and white scarves and flags were the order of the day - and they were joined by another couple of hundred as we walked along Wembley Way towards the stadium. I'm not sure how many Wood fans I was expecting to see, cheering their home-town club on to a place in the Football League - this was a real fairytale in the making - but there were only a thousand or so in their cavernous end of the ground.

If somebody had held up a banner proclaiming 'Real Fans' with an arrow pointing to the tens of thousands of Tranmere Rovers followers it couldn't have been more stark.

Certainly there were very few neutrals wishing Wood into the Football League. That would have set a new benchmark for low attendances and even Danny Hunter, for whom that afternoon must have been the culmination of all his hopes and dreams, must have finally realised that the people of



## Wood chairman hits out at stayaway fans and 'abysmal' crowds

Boreham Wood do not deserve a club of ANY stature.

**A** season on from that crushing disappointment, the Wood Chairman seems to have given up all hope. An article appeared online after the Wood were beaten 1-0 at home by Sutton United a month ago in front of an official crowd of 407 that included 130 away fans. If you took away the one hundred £99 season ticket holders 'who bothered to attend', according to Hunter, there were just 46 home fans in the ground!

"We've been finding excuses at whatever league we've been playing in and there aren't any excuses left" fumed Hunter. "If you look at the averages we are already over 500 supporters less than the next worst supported club in the National League.

"The truth is, other than the bigger games against the big clubs who carry large away support, we are - after 5 years at National League level - clearly still no bigger than a Ryman league or Southern League Club.

"Today's abysmal crowd just makes me feel sad, as so much hard work goes into making this club over-achieve every year and we just want a bit more support for those efforts. I suppose if you want an excuse, the lower than normal crowd could be put down to three hundred Adult and OAP £99 season ticket holders, who took up our offer but never bothered to turn up and support us.

"But it does feel that the Town will turn out for the bigger cup games and a derby against Barnet, but then seem to want to support the club from their front rooms, from the local pubs and bars who on a Saturday show illegal Premier League games that kick off at 3pm and get themselves updated on social media.

"You can put it down to whatever you like, but there's nothing more that I can do here. I've tried everything and if we're honest with each other, whatever I do or try to do to increase home support nothing seems to work.

"I can't keep wasting my money. I've

increased the playing budget in that time by more than 800%, I've built two brand new stands, we've built a new pitch, added a sprinkler system, we've replaced the old floodlights, we've built 6 new changing rooms, twice rebuilt new astro pitch training facilities, while not forgetting that this Town and club went to Wembley in a play off final.

"Most of that was done on crowds that I could fit into my back garden but you would expect them by now to of really improved.

"I've personally spent another half a million since February and along with the £330k from the Football Foundation, £150k from the Town Council and £100k from Arsenal we've spent close to £1.2 m over the summer on a host of facility upgrades and a brand new North stand.

**"A**s I said, I've increased the first team budget and all I seem to hear in every boardroom I enter, is that Arsenal pay for this and Arsenal pay for that, which is a long, long way from the truth. They are a long standing partner, who also expect an awful from us lot for their money which I'm OK with. But we're certainly not where we are because of Arsenal or any single partner, we are where we are because we're a well run, well managed club, built from the bottom up and have great staff.

"All I've heard of from our fans in recent years, was that if I built them a covered home stand that would improve things and the Wood Army would have the place rocking. Well if 407 fans is improving things and if that's rocking, then they've all led incredibly sheltered lives.

Our crowds just never seem to improve in the way that I see at other local clubs like Sutton, Bromley and Maidenhead and it's demoralising.

I feel it might simply be the right time to re-evaluate my own ambitions and consider downsizing my year on year investment here and get rid of a few of the white elephants in the room. It feels that it might be the right time to accept that the current attendances and current support is the best I can hope for."

**BY TIM PARKS**





# APPEARANCES

**2019/2020 FIRST TEAM, up to & inc. @ 05/10/2019**

A = STARTING APPEARANCES • S = APPEARANCE AS SUBSTITUTE • G = GOALS SCORED \* = HAS NOW LEFT CLUB

	NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH			FA CUP			FA TROPHY			MIDDX SENIOR CUP			MIDDX CHARITY CUP			TOTALS			WFC CAREER		
	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G
Arnold, Nick	12			2											14			14			
Beckles-Richards, Reece		1													1			1			3
Clifford, Billy	12	3		2											14	3		14			3
Coker, Afolabi		1													1			1			
Efete, Michee	12	1		2											14	1		14			1
Green, Danny	12	2		2											14	2		152	14		34
Lafayette, Ross	12	8		2	2										14	10		20	8		11
Lewis, Dennon	10	2	4	2	1										12	2	5	12	2		5
McLennan, George		1			1										2			2			
Mendy, Jacob	6	5	5	1	1	1									7	6	6	7	6		6
North, Jonathan		1													1			390			2
Okimo, Jerome	12			2											14			159	5		3
Oxborough, Aston	12			2											14			14			
Phillips, Michael	12	2		2											14	2		14			2
Roberts, Phillip *		6													6			6			
Sheppard, Jake		11													11			40	17		4
Smith, Connor	6	2		1	1										7	3		29	14		5
Stevens, Connor	12		1	2											14	1		56			7
Watt, Sanchez	2	5		2	1										2	7	1	2	7		1



**WEALDSTONE U18's**  
**SAMBA YOUTH LEAGUE 2019/20**



**2019 / 2020 FIXTURES**



AUGUST	Opposition	Competition	Result
Wednesday 28th	BEDFONT SPORTS	League	W 3-0
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>			
Wednesday 4th	CB HOUNSLOW UNITED	FA Youth Cup P	W 2-1
Wednesday 11th	Hayes & Yeading United	League Cup P	0 - 0 W 5-4 Pens
Wednesday 18th	NORTHWOOD	FA Youth Cup 1Q	W 4-1
Wednesday 25th	Hampton & Richmond Borough	League	P-P
<b>OCTOBER</b>			
Wednesday 2nd	BEDFONT SPORTS	FA Youth Cup 2Q	L 1-3
Wednesday 9th	CAMBERLEY TOWN	League	
Wednesday 23rd	WOKING	League Cup 1	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>			
Monday 4th	Staines Town	League	
Wednesday 25th	NORTHWOOD	League	
<b>DECEMBER</b>			
Wednesday 4th	ALDERSHOT TOWN	League	
Wednesday 11th	Hayes & Yeading United	League	
Wednesday 18th	BRACKNELL TOWN	League	
<b>JANUARY</b>			
Monday 6th	Uxbridge	League	
Monday 13th	Bedfont Sports	League	
Wednesday 22nd	HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH	League	
Thursday 30th	Camberley Town	League	
<b>FEBRUARY</b>			
Wednesday 5th	STAINES TOWN	League	
Thursday 13th	Northwood	League	
Monday 17th	Aldershot Town	League	
Wednesday 26th	HAYES & YEADING UNITED	League	
<b>MARCH</b>			
Wednesday 4th	Bracknell Town	League	
Wednesday 11th	UXBRIDGE	League	

**WEALDSTONE LADIES**  
**2019 FIXTURES - GREATER LONDON WFL**



SEPTEMBER	Opposition	Competition	Result
Sunday 8th	EAST LONDON	League	D 4 - 4
Sunday 22nd	Denham United Reserves	League	L 11-2
Sunday 29th	CLAPHAM UNITED RESERVES	League	L 3-4
<b>OCTOBER</b>			
Sunday 6th	Headstone Manor	League	L 6-1
Sunday 13th	ENFIELD TOWN RESERVES	League	
Sunday 27th	Larkspur Rovers	League	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>			
Sunday 3rd	Edgeware Town	League	
Sunday 10th	TOWER HAMLETS	League	

**NEXT MATCH U18'S**

Samba Youth League  
 Wednesday 9th Oct  
 Camberley Town HOME

WEALDSTONE FC UNDER 18'S 2019/2020 FIXTURES - ALL HOME GAMES KO @ 7.30PM



# BALL SPONSORS

A traditional package for businesses (from **£195+** vat) or fans (**£180**) for two people that will give you the satisfaction of knowing you have paid for the ball that Wealdstone FC are banging into the net (or out of the ground!).

As the match ball donor you will enjoy:

- ❑ 2 x Match tickets (+ car parking space)
- ❑ Prime seats in the main stand if required
- ❑ Publicity over the PA system and via the official club website and social media
- ❑ Boardroom hospitality (half time refreshments, snacks and hot food after the game)
- ❑ Bar allowance
- ❑ 2 x Match-day programmes
- ❑ A fabulous autographed team ball



If you or your organisation are interested in donating the matchball for a home match then please contact Club President, Paul Rumens at **paulrumens59@gmail.com** or call **07710 929692**

Our magnificently refurbished hospitality lounge, courtesy of GPF Lewis & Ruislip Social Club, is looking forward to welcoming you and your guests in surroundings befitting such a special occasion be it a birthday, anniversary or any other special event!

MATCH	SPONSORS
<b>DARTFORD</b> Saturday, 3rd August Vanarama National League South	<b>Support the Stones - sponsor the match ball</b>
<b>CHIPPENHAM TOWN</b> Tuesday, 13th August Vanarama National League South	<b>Support the Stones - sponsor the match ball</b>
<b>HUNGERFORD TOWN</b> Saturday, 24th August Vanarama National League South	<b>Mike &amp; Val Weston</b>
<b>MAIDSTONE UNITED</b> Saturday, 31st August Vanarama National League South	<b>Thordor Training</b>
<b>OXFORD CITY</b> Saturday, 7th September Vanarama National League South	<b>Dotty Tabby Cat</b>
<b>HAVANT &amp; WATERLOOVILLE</b> Saturday, 28th september Vanarama National League South	<b>Half-Way Line Tea Bar</b>
<b>TONBRIDGE ANGELS</b> Saturday, 26th October Vanarama National League South	<b>Gordon McKay</b> <b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>EASTBOURNE BOROUGH</b> Saturday, 9th November Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>CONCORD RANGERS</b> Saturday, 30th November Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>WELLING UNITED</b> Saturday, 21st December Vanarama National League South	<b>In memory of Roy Couch</b> <b>Nick Woolford</b>
<b>ST.ALBANS CITY</b> Saturday, 28th December Vanarama National League South	<b>In memory of Bob Hall</b>

MATCH	SPONSORS
<b>SLOUGH TOWN</b> Wednesday, 1st January Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>CHELMSFORD CITY</b> Saturday, 11th January Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>BATH CITY</b> Saturday, 25th January Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>BILLERICAY TOWN</b> Saturday, 8th February Vanarama National League South	<b>Alan Couch</b>
<b>DORKING WANDERERS</b> Saturday, 22nd February Vanarama National League South	<b>In memory of Jim Klarfeld</b> <b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>DULWICH HAMLET</b> Saturday, 7th March Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>BRAINTREE TOWN</b> Saturday, 21st March Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>HAMPTON &amp; RICHMOND</b> Saturday, 4th April Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>WEYMOUTH</b> Easter Monday, 13th April Vanarama National League South	<b>Sponsorship available!</b>
<b>HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN</b> Saturday, 25th April Vanarama National League South	<b>'In memory of Wealdstone fans no longer with us' Ron Moore, Dave Edwards, Tony &amp; Peter Drew</b>

## SHOW YOUR SUPPORT — SPONSOR A STONE!

**Y**OU can support your favourite player by sponsoring their kit for every game of 2019/2020. The cost is **£175** for either home or away kit, and as well as your mention here and on the web site, you'll get:

- ...to meet your sponsored Stone in person
- ...a £10 voucher to spend in the club shop
- ...your name entered into a prize draw to win hospitality for two at a league game of your choice here at the Vale.

Also this season, you can sponsor both home AND away kit for **£250** – earning you a special extra treatment on these pages and on our web site. So come on, choose your favourite Stone now and call Paul Rumens on **07710 929692**.

Pictures courtesy of **Steve Foster** — @aqueoussunphoto

## KIT SPONSORS 2019/2020

KEY: C = Management & Coaching Staff; D = Defender; M = Midfielder; F = Forward; L = Legend;

Note: Flags indicate national team as defined under FIFA eligibility rules. Players may hold more than one non-FIFA nationality.

 <p><b>STE</b>  </p> <p><b>TONY WAUGH</b></p> <p><b>RAY CORNER</b></p>	 <p><b>LEO</b>  </p> <p><b>LEO MORRIS</b></p> <p><b>MEGAPHONE</b></p>	 <p><b>WAT</b>  </p> <p><b>SANCHEZ WATT</b></p> <p><b>TO SPONSOR SANCHEZ CALL 07710 929692</b></p>	 <p><b>NOR</b>  </p> <p><b>JONATHAN NORTH</b></p> <p><b>AKHIL, NIKHIL AND SUDHIR RAWAL</b></p>	 <p><b>EFE</b>  </p> <p><b>MICHEE EFETE</b></p> <p><b>TO SPONSOR MICHEE CALL 07710 929692</b></p>	 <p><b>COT</b>  </p> <p><b>KAVAN COTTER</b></p> <p><b>TO SPONSOR KAVAN CALL 07710 929692</b></p>	 <p><b>SAU</b>  </p> <p><b>MATT SAUNDERS</b></p> <p><b>TO SPONSOR MATT CALL 07710 929692</b></p>	 <p><b>PHI</b>  </p> <p><b>MICHAEL PHILLIPS</b></p> <p><b>TO SPONSOR MICHAEL CALL 07710 929692</b></p>
 <p><b>COK</b>  </p> <p><b>AFOLABI COKER</b></p> <p><b>TO SPONSOR AFOLABI CALL 07710 929692</b></p>	 <p><b>OXB</b>  </p> <p><b>ASTON OXBOROUGH</b></p> <p><b>TO SPONSOR ASTON CALL 07710 929692</b></p>	 <p><b>CLI</b>  </p> <p><b>BILLY CLIFFORD</b></p> <p><b>MIKE &amp; VAL WESTON</b></p>	 <p><b>SMI</b>  </p> <p><b>CONNOR SMITH</b></p> <p><b>ALYSON ANGELIDES</b></p>	 <p><b>SEL</b>  </p> <p><b>RYAN SELLERS</b></p> <p><b>BARRY BENVENISTE</b></p>	 <p><b>ARN</b>  </p> <p><b>NICK ARNOLD</b></p> <p><b>TONY &amp; PETER DREW</b></p>	 <p><b>RBR</b>  </p> <p><b>REECE BECKLES-RICHARDS</b></p> <p><b>TO SPONSOR REECE CALL 07710 929692</b></p>	 <p><b>LAF</b>  </p> <p><b>ROSS LAFAYETTE</b></p> <p><b>STEVE ROBERTSON</b></p>
 <p><b>STE</b>  </p> <p><b>CONNOR STEVENS</b></p> <p><b>TO SPONSOR CONNOR CALL 07710 929692</b></p>	 <p><b>GRE</b>  </p> <p><b>DANNY GREEN</b></p> <p><b>DAVID LEIGH</b></p>	 <p><b>DNW</b>  </p> <p><b>DE-JON NOEL-WILLIAMS</b></p> <p><b>TO SPONSOR DE-JON CALL 07710 929692</b></p>	 <p><b>LEW</b>  </p> <p><b>DENNON LEWIS</b></p> <p><b>EVIE FITZGERALD</b></p>	 <p><b>ROB</b>  </p> <p><b>PHIL ROBERTS</b></p> <p><b>TO SPONSOR PHIL CALL 07710 929692</b></p>	 <p><b>NOR</b>  </p> <p><b>JONATHAN NORTH</b></p> <p><b>BRIAN BALL</b></p>	 <p><b>SMI</b>  </p> <p><b>CONNOR SMITH</b></p> <p><b>JAMES KLARFELD</b></p>	 <p><b>SHE</b>  </p> <p><b>JAKE SHEPPARD</b></p> <p><b>DOTTY TABBY CAT</b></p>
 <p><b>DB</b>  </p> <p><b>DEAN BRENNAN</b></p> <p><b>RON MOORE</b></p>	 <p><b>SM</b>  </p> <p><b>STUART MAYNARD</b></p> <p><b>ALAN COUCH</b></p>	 <p><b>MEN</b>  </p> <p><b>JACOB MENDY</b></p> <p><b>TO SPONSOR JACOB CALL 07710 929692</b></p>	 <p><b>SHE</b>  </p> <p><b>JAKE SHEPPARD</b></p> <p><b>DAVID EDWARDS</b></p>	 <p><b>OKI</b>  </p> <p><b>JEROME OKIMO</b></p> <p><b>FRANKIE FITZGERALD</b></p>	 <p><b>RIN</b>  </p> <p><b>JOE RINGER</b></p> <p><b>TO SPONSOR JOE CALL 07710 929692</b></p>		



Follow  
the Stones  
here and on  
the road

## UPCOMING FIXTURES

FOR ALL FIXTURE NEWS: WWW.WEALDSTONEFC.COM

### HOME OR AWAY...

FA CUP FOURTH QUALIFYING ROUND  
Saturday, 19th October, 3:00pm  
*Should we win tonight, see our web site and social feeds for details of our next Cup match.*

#### HOME

### Tonbridge Angels

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
Saturday, 26th October, 3:00pm  
*£9 entry for Premier / EFL season ticket holders*

### Eastbourne Borough

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
Saturday, 9th November, 3:00pm  
*£9 entry for Premier / EFL season ticket holders*

### Concord Rangers

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
Saturday, 30th November, 3:00pm  
*£9 entry for Premier / EFL season ticket holders*

#### AWAY

### Chelmsford City

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
Saturday, 12th October, 3:00pm  
[www.chelmsfordcityfc.com](http://www.chelmsfordcityfc.com) | @officialclarets

### Dorking Wanderers

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
Saturday, 2nd November, 3:00pm  
[www.dorkingwanderers.com](http://www.dorkingwanderers.com) | @DorkingWDRS

### Hampton & Richmond

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
Saturday, 16th November, 3:00pm  
[www.hamptonfc.net](http://www.hamptonfc.net) | @HRBFC

### Bath City

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
Saturday, 7th December, 3:00pm  
[www.batchcityfc.com](http://www.batchcityfc.com) | @BathCity\_FC

## Vanarama National League South - Table @ 5th October

Opposition	All						Home						Away						+/-	Pts	Results
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A			
1 Wealdstone	12	10	0	2	28	14	6	5	0	1	12	7	6	5	0	1	16	7	14	30	-- --
2 Hemel Hempstead Town	12	8	1	3	20	13	6	5	0	1	12	5	6	3	1	2	8	8	7	25	3-0
3 Havant & Waterlooville	12	6	5	1	28	13	6	2	3	1	11	5	6	4	2	0	17	8	15	23	1-4
4 Weymouth	12	6	4	2	23	12	6	4	1	1	15	7	6	2	3	1	8	5	11	22	4-3
5 Braintree Town	12	7	1	4	24	18	6	4	0	2	13	10	6	3	1	2	11	8	6	22	4-0
6 Slough Town	12	6	3	3	20	14	6	3	2	1	10	6	6	3	1	2	10	8	6	21	
7 Dorking Wanderers	12	6	3	3	20	19	6	4	1	1	10	4	6	2	2	2	10	15	1	21	
8 Billericay Town	12	5	5	2	19	17	6	4	2	0	12	6	6	1	3	2	7	11	2	20	
9 Maidstone United	12	5	3	4	19	13	6	2	3	1	12	6	6	3	0	3	7	7	6	18	2-1
10 Concord Rangers	12	5	2	5	18	17	6	3	1	2	9	7	6	2	1	3	9	10	1	17	
11 Bath City	12	4	4	4	18	13	6	3	2	1	10	5	6	1	2	3	8	8	5	16	
12 Chelmsford City	12	4	4	4	21	18	6	3	3	0	14	6	6	1	1	4	7	12	3	16	
13 Dulwich Hamlet	12	4	3	5	17	16	6	2	1	3	9	10	6	2	2	2	8	6	1	15	0-1
14 Welling United	12	4	3	5	14	17	6	3	1	2	9	7	6	1	2	3	5	9	-3	15	2-1
15 Chippenham Town	12	3	5	4	13	13	6	3	2	1	9	6	6	0	3	3	4	7	0	14	1-0
16 Eastbourne Borough	12	2	5	5	9	19	6	2	1	3	7	11	6	0	4	2	2	8	-10	11	
17 Dartford	12	2	4	6	18	27	6	1	3	2	10	11	6	1	1	4	8	16	-9	10	4-1
18 Oxford City	12	2	4	6	11	20	6	1	2	3	6	12	6	1	2	3	5	8	-9	10	1-0
19 St Albans City	12	2	4	6	13	24	6	1	2	3	6	12	6	1	2	3	7	12	-11	10	3-2
20 Hampton & Richmond	12	3	1	8	15	27	6	2	1	3	9	10	6	1	0	5	6	17	-12	10	
21 Tonbridge Angels	12	2	2	8	11	22	6	2	1	3	7	10	6	0	1	5	4	12	-11	8	
22 Hungerford Town	12	2	2	8	14	27	6	1	2	3	7	10	6	1	0	5	7	17	-13	8	3-1