

WEALDSTONE

FOOTBALL CLUB

SEASON 2020-21

PROGRAMME £3

Sponsored by the Winkworth family: Mark, Jack and Sam



Alex Dyer celebrates the opening goal in our 3-1 FA Trophy eclipse of Gloucester City here on Monday night PICTURE: Adam Williams

Wealdstone v Aldershot

Saturday January 23
2021, kick-off 3pm

 **vanarama**
NATIONAL LEAGUE

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BY MARK HYDE



WEALDSTONE 2020-21

Written in Stone



Good afternoon and a warm welcome to Danny Searle, his staff and the players and officials from Aldershot Town. We hope you enjoy your brief stay with us and have a safe journey back to Hampshire after the game.

Back to league action today after last weekends Trophy triumph as we entertain the 'Shots' who are currently level on points with us

and in 14th place in the league table.

As the season continues without us having access to our traditional revenue streams we need your help to sustain the club.

We still have plenty of Matchday and Ball Sponsorship packages available, as well as our ever popular Kit Sponsorship that allows you to show your support for your favourite player inc. new signing Josh Meekings.

Full details of all the packages, which can also be customised to suit individual requirements, can be found later in this issue.

Fingers crossed I will see you all at The Vale again soon.

#UpTheStones

Mark

NEW SIGNING JOSH MEEKINGS

28-year old defender Josh made his Wealdstone debut in Monday nights defeat of Gloucester City in the FA Trophy.

He was a graduate of Ipswich Town's academy system before making the move over the border to Inverness Caledonian Thistle in the SPFL in 2011.

Meekings spent six years at Caley Thistle where he made a total of 192 appearances. His whole six year spell with Inverness was spent in the SPFL, and he was part of their historic 2015 Scottish Cup winning squad, playing the full 90 minutes in the final at Hampden Park in Caley's 2-1 win over Falkirk.

Their cup win meant progression into Europe and Meekings played in both of Caley's Europa League fixtures 2015/16.

He moved to Dundee in 2017 where he made 53 appearances.



FIXTURE UPDATE DARLINGTON

After defeating National League North leaders Gloucester City in the FA Trophy 4th Round at Grosvenor Vale yesterday evening, the Stones will now travel to Darlington for the next round on Saturday the 6th of February.

This does mean that our National League fixture at home to Woking that was due to be played on that date has now been postponed and we will inform supporters when that has been rearranged.



MATCH SPONSOR UNION ATHLETIC

We were extremely grateful to have new sports and leisure wear company Union Athletic as our match sponsors for the Boreham Wood game. Keep an eye out for some of their exciting apparel in the MegaStore soon.

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WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2020/2021

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MAJOR HONOURS SINCE 1950

LEAGUE TITLES

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

NATIONAL CUPS

1985 / 1986 FA Amateur Cup
1984 / 1985 FA Trophy

LEAGUE CUPS

1981 / 1982 Southern League Cup

MIDDLESEX COUNTY CUPS

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

NON TITLE-WINNING PROMOTIONS

1997 / 1998 Isthmian League Division 2 (3rd)
1998 / 1999 Isthmian League Division 1 (3rd, annulled)
2003 / 2004 Isthmian League Premier Division

**The legal name of Wealdstone
Football Club is Wealdstone
Football Club (2000) Ltd
(Registered Number 03953962).
Shares in excess of 10% are
held by Peter Marsden Property
Finance Ltd & Wealdstone FC
Supporters Club**

GROUND REGULATIONS

People are only allowed entry to The Vale on match days subject to the following rules and regulations:

1) The club reserves the right to eject from the ground any person who is considered to have committed any of the following acts:

- Entering the ground through any means other than through the turnstiles or entrances
- Entering the field of play before, during or after a game without prior authorisation
- Being drunk, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs • Using violence of any nature
- Carrying items which may be considered a danger to others, including cans, bottles, or glasses containing alcoholic beverages
- Throwing any article onto the field of play • Climbing floodlight pylons, fences, stands or any structure or building
- Using obscene or bad language likely to cause offence to others • Hitting the side or back panels of the Bulls stand

2) No spectator ball games.

3) The consumption of alcoholic drinks is permitted INSIDE the social club bar, garden and boardroom areas.

4) Vehicles parked on the Grosvenor Vale site are at the owners' risk.

5) Wealdstone Football Club supports the FA's campaign on pyrotechnics (e.g. flares and smoke bombs). Any misuse of such items in and around the Ground will result in those responsible being asked to leave the ground and, in line with football authority guidance, may result in a report to the Police, potential prosecution and a ban from the Club of up to three years.

Wealdstone FC Board of Directors

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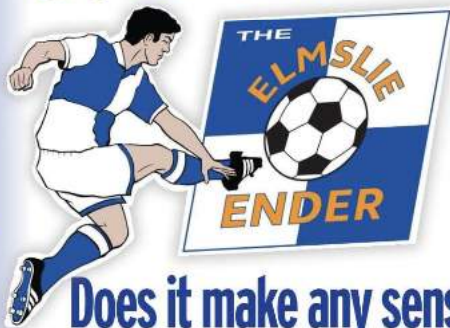
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BY SUDHIR RAWAL



The Elmslie Ender



Does it make any sense in lockdown for people to travel hundreds of miles to play a game of football?

So, is it time to call it a day? The season I mean. As we are in lockdown for the third time, with infection rates officially higher than ever before, death rates likely to top the first lockdown period, the question on many people's lips is whether football, elite sport, should be continuing at all, when travel is supposed to be for essential purposes only.

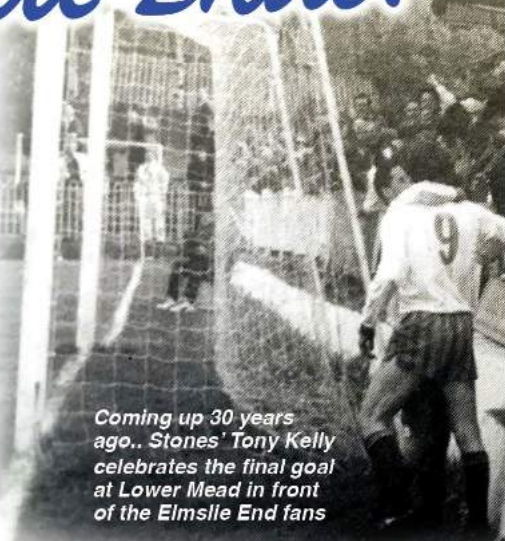
Steve Bruce, Newcastle's manager, said it was "morally wrong" for football to continue amid increasing coronavirus outbreaks at clubs. Dover chairman, Jim Parmenter, told Kentonline that he couldn't believe that his club was still playing football amid the Covid-19 pandemic. On the flip side, our own Dean Brennan (right), said in the Times series of local newspapers that..."I think we're privileged to be able to play and do our jobs, even though ours is a part-time job..." "I don't think we should stop at all." Football is divided in its opinion, as much as the public are.

As an elite sport, football continues down to step 6 (or step 2 of the non-league). Most clubs at our level are full time, so as HMG states that you stay at home to work unless you can't, it does make sense for sport, and football in this case, to continue as you can't play a team game

in your back garden. Yet, it doesn't make sense amid a lockdown to travel hundreds of miles to play a game of football, with no fans in. Let's take last weekend for example. We had a five-hundred-mile round trip to Hartlepool. Is that really essential travel? We had two volunteer photographers that made the trip too. Perfectly legal for them to do so, as travel for volunteer work is allowed. Against the spirit of rules and regulations? Likely. Essential travel, hardly,

as much as we love their photographs in our programme and on social media. This isn't a criticism of them, by the way, but the circumstances that we find ourselves in.

The argument for keeping football going is that it is work for those that are involved, whether players and management; it is good for morale, brings a bit of sanity to a mad world, keeps the country going in the current climate; and allows people to talk and chat about normal things like formations, how porous the defence is and why team X is doing better than Y, and why Wealdstone are so hopeless at penalties. There is also the economic argument too in favour of keeping going. Season tickets would/may have to be refunded, though this wasn't really the case in lockdown



Coming up 30 years ago.. Stones' Tony Kelly celebrates the final goal at Lower Mead in front of the Elmslie End fans



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1, sponsors would need to be refunded too, despite monies already having been spent. Finances are tight as it is at clubs, before even having to consider paying some of that back. The counter argument is that it simply isn't safe to carry on when infection rates are so high, and we are in lockdown. Our supporter base is mainly from Hillingdon, Harrow, Watford, Hertsme and Three Rivers. We are generally stuck at home, with our daily walk, Netflix or the traumas of home schooling to keep us occupied.

The infection rates for those areas are way above the national average, which in itself are much higher than for months. The latest numbers show that Hillingdon stands at 30th nationally with 764 infections per 100,000, Watford at 37 (742), Harrow at 39 (734), Hertsme at 66 (660) and Three Rivers at 119 (525). All markedly down as lockdown 3 has an effect but still shockingly high. Death rates are still averaging more than four figures on a daily basis and are likely to carry on being high for a few weeks more. I don't know whether we still train at Harefield or are now in Rayners Lane, but infection rates, whilst lower than borough wide results, are still above the national average for both areas at 558.7 and 711.8 respectively. The rates for around the Vale are 489.8, lower still, but really.... is it safe?

Our players are likely to come from across London and the south east, some will come to training or matches via public transport and are exposed. Matches are now being cancelled regularly, with more than half the games

scheduled for the weekend being postponed at our level and the level below for Covid. Clubs, certainly here at Wealdstone, cannot afford to test players on a regular basis, though the easily available lateral flow tests might make that simpler. But you could also argue that you are at less risk playing and training football in an outdoor setting than you are on a visit to Waitrose, M&S or any other supermarket.

With matches being called off so often before the ravages of winter even kick in - we lost two games over the Christmas break ourselves due to Covid-19 - is it even possible for the season to end? Dover have only played twelve league matches with the season nearly half done, the best in the division is only seventeen, which is a long way to go to forty-four league matches. The Trident leagues, step three and below, have more or less called it a day and will in all likelihood null and void a second season on the spin. Our postponed Trophy match against Gloucester was moved to last Monday and so the Dover game will now be moved to a much later in the season. It has been said that National League North and South clubs will be asked about their views on carrying on. The rumour mill suggests many want to stop.

The final piece of the jigsaw is financial: maybe the most important reason to call it a day. Two weeks into January and how the latest funding from Sport England will be distributed still hasn't been announced. The first three month's money came in the form of grants but Ollie Bayliss has tweeted that the January-March funding seems

'Why would clubs take a loan to pay players' wages when there is no chance it could possibly get repaid?'

likely be loans and not grants. Why would a club like us take a loan to fund players wages for example when there isn't any chance it could be repaid? It doesn't make any sense at all. Loans will kill clubs, not save them. Football was only supposed to recommence at the start of the season when fans were allowed in: it happened for just one game at the Vale.

After Bayliss' latest tweet, social media was awash with supporters and football administrators, including a few chairmen and managers, apoplectic at what was conceived as a betrayal. Clubs, with no financing coming through, could well wither on the vine.

We will all see this through our own optics. I think we should pause until it is deemed safe for people to travel again and there is a bit more normalcy in our lives. How the season pans out from there, I just don't know.

BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE STONES

How did you first come to get involved at the club Tony? Was Kitman your first role?

I used to drink in the Social Club with my father in law when Ruislip Manor played at the Vale. When Wealdstone moved in they advertised for a Kit Man and I spoke to Fingers - and it all started from there. I was actually going on holiday for the first game against Tonbridge so didn't start my duties until the Boreham Wood game at home - August 2008. Doing the kit is the only role I have had since being at the Club.

You're not a native of Ruislip are you? :) Where are you from originally?

I was born and raised in Carlisle. I moved to London through work in 2005. I then moved to Thame in Oxfordshire late last year, so after being two minutes from the ground I'm now about 45!

Did you play football in your youth? Yes, I played for the school, city and county teams during secondary school, but by the time I reached 16/17 I was more into rugby league. I then flipped between that and football for the next ten or so years, but never took either too seriously to be honest.

Are you a fan of another club/or clubs?

Carlisle United are my team, for obvious reasons. Don't really like Premier League football, so no interest or affinity to any other team.

How does football fit in around work/family life? You have to make it work. I'm lucky inasmuch that Fingers and myself normally work things between us, so he picks things up if I'm not around. I think the travelling this year, particularly in midweek will certainly be a challenge, but something we are looking forward to.

Where do you work? I work for ProKit UK

Tony Waugh

Stones' Kitman Tony with the lowdown on what goes on in the steamy, top-loader world of the washroom

I was thinking we might keep the white sleeves but make the shirts red next season
Tone

our kit suppliers.

What is your normal match day schedule?

Home games I normally get to the ground between 12 and 12.30 to get everything set up. The players arrive between 1.30 and 1.45 and I then look after any last minute requests before they go out at 2.15. I then get half an hour's respite while the players warm up, and once they come back in I do a general tidy up. At half time I normally stay out of the way. Full time I start working again, collecting in the kit, tidying both dressing rooms and sorting the washing out. Normally myself and Fingers are the last out of the ground around 6pm.

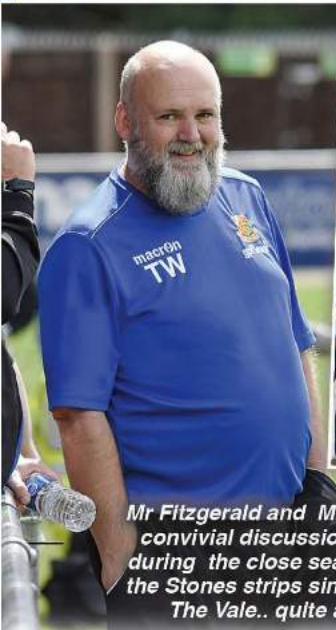
Away games I normally get to the ground about an hour before departure and put everything together. After that it's pretty much the same routine as a home game.

What do you enjoy the most about it?

The people. That's what the club is all about. There are so many different characters around Wealdstone.

How much say do you get in the ever-changing colours? None any more. Chair-man has taken over the kit designs for the last two years.

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Mr Fitzgerald and Mr Waugh enjoy a convivial discussion about the kit during the close season. Above: All the Stones strips since we arrived at The Vale.. quite a collection!



How often do you think we should change? Difficult one. Tradition v Economics, depending on how you view it.

What is your all-time top three Stones kits? In my time at the Club - 1 Navy/ Orange 2. White with yellow/blue stripe 3. Royal with yellow/white across chest - all my own designs :-)

How do you think the club will adapt to the rigours of the National League, on and off the pitch? We don't have the infrastructure most other teams in the League have - the resources some clubs have at their disposal is quite scary. I think that most people outside the dressing room will be surprised with the start that the team has made, but the players and management aren't - in fact there is a slight frustration that we are not higher in the League. Other than Notts County, there is a feeling that we could have got something out of every game we have played in the League.

There is a strong belief in this group, we know where we are as a Club, and whilst we cannot compete financially with

most of the other Clubs in the League, we certainly don't lack in hard work and togetherness. The amount of work and commitment that goes on away from a match day should never be underestimated, and with everyone buying in to it we are seeing the rewards on the pitch.

There is a 'no excuse' culture running through the Club, we win together and we lose together - you often hear Dean say that we don't get too excited when we win, and we don't get too down when we lose, and that is the ethos within the

dressing room. We need to have 100% focus at all times, otherwise we will be back where we came from last year and that's what drives the players and management on: no-one wants a relegation on their cv.

How will the rest of the season pan out? Who knows? We will be where we deserve to be at the end of May but one thing I can guarantee is that wherever we end up in the League the fans can be safe in the knowledge that everyone has given their all. The biggest disappointment of the season so far is that the loyal fan base are unable to be in the grounds to see the action live, they are the 12th man and everyone misses the passion and acerbic wit that goes with a visit to The Vale.

Finally, how do the new requirements of names and squad numbers on the shirts impact you? There have been plenty of frantic phone calls at 4pm on a Friday to ensure that we have everything in place to go on a shirt - unfortunately they are not easy peel as some think, they are permanent, and the Chairman isn't happy with the amount of shirts we are going through as a result!

We've used more goalkeeper shirts in two months than we have in the last two seasons so I might need to speak to Rory about building an extension on the Kit Room :) **UTS! - Tony**

GUY EDWARDS

Fan in the Stand

Best thing about
Wealdstone FC is
we're still here..

the poster boys for the
ultimate survival story



It's the WFC Double team 30th anniversary in 2016 and Guy (far right) joins Adam and their dad Peter (far left) to pose with Stones skipper Paul Bowgett

Your name and age? Guy Edwards, 37

Whereabouts do you live? Honor Oak Park, in South East London (near Dulwich)

Have you always lived in that area? No, I grew up in the leafy suburbia of Pinner.

When was your first Stones game?

It would have been during the 1986/87 season aged three. Memories of the actual football played during the Lower Mead days is fairly non-existent but I have some very vivid memories of everything else about the stadium, the open terraces where we used to stand (opposite the dug outs), the outdoor toilet behind said main stand and the club shop being like Santa's grotto. The fact my brother is now running the Megastore is an irony not lost on me.

What were your first impressions of the club? Watching Wealdstone has always had an almost sacred place in my life.

Lower Mead was like a colosseum to me as

a young boy. The walk to the ground along Station Road via a newsagent's to pick up some kind of snack to keep me going, the steeped terracing on the High Mead side, the huge crowds in the Elmslie End, the chants for my favourite player at the time Samson Olaley (pictured below right, who I liked simply because he had his own chant). It's always been a family club in my mind because it's something I've always done with my dad and my brother, and long may that continue.

What was the first football match you ever saw live? Or on TV? First live game would have been during that 86/87 season at Lower Mead. Given where we finished that season (19th in the Vauxhall Conference) it was probably a fairly unglamorous game. First games I really remember watching on TV were the 1990 World Cup games. Even then as a 7 year old I remember thinking the defeat to West Germany in the semi was pretty significant.

Do you follow any other team?

I grew up having a soft spot for Nottingham Forest given Stuart Pearce's connection. Nowadays



WEALDSTONE 2020-21



Guy (2nd left) is mascot for a game against Witney at Vicarage Road in 1993. That's his brother Adam in the middle and their pal Greg Lane 2nd right

if I can't get to a Stones away game then I have been known to take in a Dulwich Hamlet home game instead given they are only 20mins away from where I live. They've got a great set up there but I'd be fibbing if I didn't say the slightly blasé home crowds don't infuriate me a bit. It's not quite the blood and thunder of a Stones game.

How devotedly? Home and away? It's getting harder to make away games, especially mid-week with work (I'm in advertising for a media agency) but I've been at the 30+ games mark for many a season now.

What's the most memorable game you've EVER seen? For this I'm discounting all Stones games which would fill most of the top spots. In terms of live games

it would be the atmosphere at a random Italy vs Republic of Ireland group game in Euro 20. The game itself was a non-contest as the Italians ran out easy



winners but the atmosphere that night in Poznan with the Irish crowd in full voice was unbelievable. From a TV viewing perspective the Liverpool vs Milan final in Istanbul in 2005 stands out, both because it was an extraordinary game but also it was the night I finished my degree which meant we all celebrated as if we were Liverpool fans.

And the best Wealdstone game? Plenty of games spring to mind...destroying promotion rivals Braintree 6-0 in 1997, winning the league 3-1 at Northwood that season (and someone calling Braintree at 90mins to ask them the score), the Friday night 3-2 win at home to Thurrock at Edgware, the trophy run of 2012, and many games during last season's title-clinching run with Havant away chief

amongst them. But the game I look back on most fondly is probably Cambridge away in the 2012 FA Trophy quarter-finals. That was proper nail-biting stuff for the entirety of the second half, and to have all the Stones fans in one stand together singing throughout was something very special. By the end I was bursting with pride at what we'd achieved.

On the flip side, the game I would like to forget if I could would be Newport IOW where we lost 0-6 at the Warren in the early 90s. I took a mate along for the first time. Suffice to say he's never been back.

Who introduced you to the Stones? I have my dad to thank for that. A second generation supporter himself going back to the 60s, he took me and my brother religiously back when we were growing up. And it was much more than just watching games on a Saturday because I used to play junior football on a Sunday at Old Lyonians, organised by Dave Albert. In those early years I also somehow managed to be mascot three times (once at Lower Mead and twice at Vicarage Road) and according to my brother when we did it together against Witney Town in 1993,

CONTINUED OVERPAGE

Would you like to be a 'Fan in the Stand'? Send an email to tim.parks@gmail.com

GUY EDWARDS CONTINUED

we were the first midweek mascots at a Stones game.

What level of football do you prefer? Non-league every day of the week. Despite being asked repeatedly as a kid growing up "who I really support", I've never been able to see beyond life following the Stones.

How big a part of your life is the game?

Huge. Holidays have been known to be arranged around the season, afternoons off from work have happened to coincide with tricky midweek away trips, romantic weekends away have fortuitously taken in the delights of Truro, Chippenham and Bath.

How do you fit watching football in with your family/working life?

Saturday games are easy enough to get to and thankfully a very accommodating wife means even the long-distance away games are manageable for the most part. The nightmare scenario is a midweek away game which isn't easily reached by train.

Who are the best Wealdstone players you've ever seen? Could you name a best-ever Stones side?

The best players over the years have been the ones that despite reaching their twilight years seemed to have an inordinate amount of time on the ball - Simon Garner, Gary McKeown and Glen Little to name few. Each of them played a significant part in the seasons they appeared for us as well.

Best side ever - Jonathan North, Dominic Sterling, Stuart Pearce (bit of a cheat because I didn't see him but he was my footballing hero growing up), Connor Stevens, Alan Massey (C), Chris Walton, Glen Little, Tom Pett, Brian Jones, Jermaine Beckford, Richard Jolly. Subs - Aston Oxborough, Fergus Moore, Jerome Okimo, Gary McKeown, David Venables. Managed by Gordon Bartlett - the man could do no wrong in my mind.

What do you think of the bars and catering at the Vale? Love the clubhouse. The staff do a great job in there on matchdays. Always appreciate the effort to get a guest ale on most weeks as well. The food is also excellent. On many an occasion post-work it's been my din-

ner choice.

Do you visit the Megastore? I'd be ostracised by the family if I didn't visit the Megastore every game, given my older brother runs it. When needed to I've had to stand in for Adam, and on big FA Cup/Trophy match days I'll usually be roped in to boost numbers.

What is the BEST thing about Wealdstone Football Club?

The fact we're still here is absolutely everything. So many other clubs have been and gone through the years, but we are the poster boys for the ultimate survival story. Those individuals who put their hands in their pockets to save the club from disappearing into oblivion in the 90s are chief amongst those we should all thank. But then the ability of the fan base to dig deep when required is demonstrated time and time again,

not least with the latest initiative run by Roger Slater. I for one am thankful we all still have a proud non-league that can still exhilarate us or infuriate us every week, but crucially is also still a club to call our own.

Do you think Stones can aspire to playing in the EFL?

If you'd asked me that 5-10 years ago then I'd have said no chance but even the most

hardened fans have to say that the last few years have breathed new life, and with it new confidence into the club. We have to aspire to that level.

How are you coping with not being at games? Are the live streams driving you slowly crazy?

The upside of the current lockdown is that I've watched every game of the season thus far, whereas in any normal season I'd miss at least a handful of midweek away games. That said, as good as the live streams are (and the home one is excellent by the way!) they are not a patch of being able to be in the ground heading and kicking every ball in that crackling Stones atmosphere.

Finally, where do you think Wealdstone FC will be in the year 2025?

An established National League side with consistent 1,000+ home crowds and one eye on promotion to League 2. And a cemented reputation for the best supporters in all of non-league.



BY TERRY HISSEY

Time to join up

Warm greetings to my fellow Stones fans and any from Dover and Aldershot who are reading .

How great it was to be back on the terraces and to see so many familiar faces again. Although the match day experience has been missing from the lives of the Supporters Club Executive Committee we have all been busy in our own ways ready for when 'normality' returns. Our website has been relaunched under the expertise of Tony Booth, so do pay a visit at www.wfsc.co.uk. We have also expanded our presence on social media with the launch of our own Facebook group, all are welcome to join us. Also the Supporters Club membership rules have undergone extensive revision and will be put to the membership for formal approval at the AGM next year. (Date TBA) We have issued one circular email this season and aim to keep our membership informed via this service throughout the season. However the onus is for the membership to tell us if they change their contact details.

Membership of the Supporters Club is presently near the 200 mark, but we would always like to have more on board, particularly when we are enjoying such big crowds at Grosvenor Vale. Annual membership is just £10 or if you wish life for £40. It is available via the online-megastore (www.wfcmegastore.co.uk) or application forms are now on the Supporters website, Facebook group and myself. I am presently undertaking an audit of our membership and would like to thank the 38 people who, at the time of writing, have responded to my recent emails. If you are



WEALDSTONE 2020-21

Fan zone



one of the 42 members I have not heard from, can you please check your inbox and spam box. If you have joined within the last three years and have not heard from me, please do get in touch to check you are on the register. All membership enquiries can be directed to wealdstonescmembership@gmail.com. Replacement membership cards can be provided free of charge upon request.

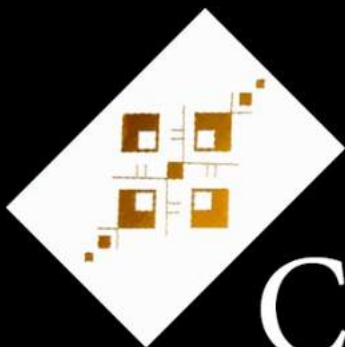
Congratulations to Dave Reader for being selected as Supporter of the Year and Dennon Lewis for receiving the 'Jock Law Trophy' as the Supporters Club's Player of the Season. The 'Chairmen's Award' made jointly between the Supporters Club and Main Club Chairmen was given to Peter Edwards, Mark Hyde and the Programme Team. Well done all and it was good to catch up with Dave to present him with the 'Tom Verrall Shield'. Although a little belated.

The Supporters Club sponsored a wreath being laid at Ruislip War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday. Lest we Forget.

Finally a big welcome to Jeffrey Roy from Halifax, Nova Scotia in Canada and Gianluca from Soragna, Patma in Italy who have joined as Life Members. Wealdstone FC is going global!

Terry

Pics: Samantha Evans



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MATCH	SPONSORS		
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 WREXHAM Saturday, 17th October Vanarama National League	Union Athletic		
 CHESTERFIELD Tuesday, 20th October Vanarama National League	Harrow Windows		
 SUTTON UNITED Saturday, 21st November Vanarama National League	Harrow Windows		
 TORQUAY UNITED Tuesday, 1st December Vanarama National League	Adam Hills & Friends		
 WEYMOUTH Saturday, 12th December Vanarama National League	Rolfe-East		
 EASTLEIGH Saturday, 19th December FA Trophy 3rd Round	Ray Corner and Pete Carter		
 BOREHAM WOOD Monday, 28th December Vanarama National League	Union Athletic		
 ALDERSHOT TOWN Saturday, 23rd January Vanarama National League	Union Athletic		
 MAIDENHEAD UNITED Tuesday, 2nd February Vanarama National League	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 WOKING Saturday, 6th February Vanarama National League	Rolfe-East	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
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WEALDSTONE 2020-21

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**All above subject to current COVID restrictions.*

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 EASTLEIGH Tuesday, 23rd February Vanarama National League	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 FC HALIFAX TOWN Saturday, 6th March Vanarama National League	Megafone, Roge, Sudhir, Mark Mc & Jez		(Reserved)
 KING'S LYNN TOWN Tuesday, 9th March Vanarama National League	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 NOTTS COUNTY Saturday, 27th March Vanarama National League	Your Name Here?	Harrow Windows	Rolfe-East
 BARNET Monday, 5th April Vanarama National League	Connect Vending	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 HARTLEPOOL UNITED Saturday, 17th April Vanarama National League	Harrow Windows	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 YEOVIL TOWN Saturday, 1st May Vanarama National League	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE Saturday, 8th May Vanarama National League	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 SOLIHULL MOORS Saturday, 22nd May Vanarama National League	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 DOVER ATHLETIC Date to be decided Vanarama National League	Rolfe-East		



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BY MARTIN READ



The World of **Ball** Score alerts: From Tannoys and Trannies to Twitter

Our is a world of constant communication. You'll be reading this having first scrolled Twitter to see others' responses to the game; texted your mate at another match; and possibly scanned the news headlines too. So - how have we reached this state of total information ubiquity and pinpoint personalisation? It's a long story...

Scoreboards

When Burnley won the FA Cup in 1914, there was no TV or radio. So they communicated their success by writing the result on a blackboard (the news having been telegraphed north) and then parading it around to supporters attending a reserve team match which, remarkably, was also taking place at the time.

This approach - displaying information to a crowd with no means of sourcing it themselves - continued in the pre Public Address days with the development of the half time scoreboard. The programme would list the day's most important fixtures with a letter marked against each, for example the letter H = Leicester vs Everton. At half time, officials would place panels displaying home and away team scores into the slot marked 'H' on the scoreboard.

(You can imagine scoreboard jockeys teasing news of their local rivals, the crowd craning their necks as a "2" is put in the slot representing their rivals' opposition, then cheering a being "1" slowly lowered in to the slot of their opponents.)

Such scoreboards co-existed with the early public address (PA) systems used by club officials to announce other important scores and information. Early systems struggled with tinny or muffled sound, and many non-league clubs still operate next to useless PA systems today.

Radio

Personalisation of in-match score sourcing first came in the sixties with the introduction of portable transistor radios - colloquially dubbed "trannies". (Yeah. Wouldn't happen today.)

As they gradually slimmed down to the size

of a cigarette packet, these became a realistic travelling companion for supporters. Alas, these desperately fragile devices were housed in brittle plastic with headphone jacks and tuning dials good for just months before giving up the ghost.

You'd use the single ear piece or press your ear to the tinny little speaker, shushing others so you could pick up on whatever was emerging from Radio 2. And thus for the first time, 'trannies' allowed supporters to gain awareness of goals scored elsewhere as broadcast on radio, the yelps of those listening causing the audio equivalent of a Mexican wave as the importance of the news spread across the terraces.

We children of the seventies also found transistor radios perfect for music. Radio 1 had an audience of many millions, while a typical evening would be spent trying to tune to Radio Luxembourg, then broadcasting as a pirate station. Alas, medium wave signal strength was subject to fluctuating environmental conditions and the broad-

18:07
← NATIONAL LEAGUE 2020/2021
ENGLAND
National League 2020/2021
Standings Results Fixtures
Overall Top Scorers Home Away Form

#	TEAM	MP	G	PTS
1	Torquay	17	38:17	38
2	Hartlepool	17	26:19	30
3	Sutton	14	25:16	27
4	Stockport	14	22:16	24
5	Altrincham	18	20:21	24
6	FC Halifax	17	28:21	23
7	Notts Co	14	19:13	23
8	Maldenhead	14	21:21	23
9	Bromley	14	23:17	22
10	Barham Wood	14	17:11	22
11	Solihull Moors	13	18:13	22
12	Woking	16	20:18	21
13	Aldershot	16	22:22	21
14	Wealdstone	16	23:33	21
15	Eastleigh	13	21:15	20

All Games LIVE My Games My Teams Standings

PREMIER LEAGUE FINAL SCORES		1/2
MANCHESTER CITY	3-0	ASTON VILLA
Sterling	46	
Sliva	55	
Gundogan	70	
BRIGHTON		
Gross	15	3-2 EVERTON
Naupay	39	Webster 20 og
Dixon	70, 4 og	Calvert-Lewin 74
WATFORD		
	0-0	BOURNEMOUTH
WEST HAM		
Sheggrass	44	1-1 SHEFFIELD UTD.
		Housset 67
PREM REPORTS 304 TEAM		
01 GOALS 308 BT RESULTS		
100% 100% 100% 100%		

WEALDSTONE 2020-21

Ceefax and PA left, vintage trannie right, half-time scoreboard (scale model) below, and bottom left, the National League table as displayed on FlashScores



caster's own signal strength. Typically, Luxembourg's pirate ship antenna proved no match for the mighty Radio Moscow; one minute you'd be listening to ABBA's Dancing Queen, the next hearing about the Soviet Union's record breaking potato crop yield or Siberian oil barrel production amongst a slew of soviet propaganda. Then, just as you found yourself warming to news about Ukrainian nuclear development, Bohemian Rhapsody would drown it all out again.

Though far from perfect, this combination of club PA and trannie remained the main form of external score communication for fifty years.

Televisions

Since the 1990s, most new club stadiums have sported TVs in the concourses, while here at The Vale, we can walk into the club house to watch scores coming in from around the grounds.

Before Jeff Stelling and Co had become a 'thing', the invention of BBC Ceefax in 1974 (and its ITV equivalent Teletext) led to a generation of football fans cutting short their homeward journeys to peer through the windows of Ketts, Dixon's, Curry's et al to see endless rows of rentable colour TV screens all showing the same scrolling list of footie results. I remember being outside Ketts by Rayners Lane tube station and waiting for Ceefax to display the result of the 1978 Stones-Enfield FA Cup 1st Round tie, only to be crushed when it came up – Wealdstone 0 Enfield 5 (Five).

Phones

Ceefax was essentially a rudimentary form of web site, and in the early noughties mobile phones went from simple voice and text communicators to devices sporting their own basic Ceefax-like equivalent. These were slow, though, and necessitated way too much thumb tennis to get to the news you wanted.

The invention of the iPhone in 2007 transformed phone-based match communications at a stroke, offering full web access and allowing effi-

cient 'push-pull' data. Dedicated apps have since changed the game still further. For more than ten years, Twitter has allowed us to curate our own in-match score landscape. And with apps such as FlashScores, we can go even further.

These apps update the league tables instantly to reflect the goal you've just seen. And as many of us have discovered since lockdown, you can be watching a streamed match and get notification of a goal before the ball has actually hit the back of the net on screen. Same too with some BT and Sky matches.

So how does it work? Turns out that all clubs designate an individual to punch into an app the details of various events immediately they happen. For Wealdstone, our app updater is Nicole Cho-Yee. When anything of note happens - goals, corners, free kicks, penalties, substitutions - Nicole taps it into a special app which then instantly informs a Press Association database. Within a matter of micro-seconds, the news is pushed to the BBC, Sky, other broadcasters and apps, and then back out to us. That notice you just received of our first goal? Nicole told you that.

Thought transcripts

I suspect that, with every tap, our Nicole is feeding the vast database that helps Gary Lineker drone on about Spurs having more shots in the first half against Southampton than any other side, etc etc. And I also suspect more is yet to come. Artificial intelligence will mean instant analysis to go with the alerts. By 2025 we will not only know that Ross Lafayette has scored, we will know that it was his fifth with his left leg in the six yard box on a wet Tuesday night and the club's all-time 3,847th goal from a Capricorn whose blood group is Type O. I'm perfectly serious; in our world of data ubiquity, ever more 'granular' insight is the only competitive advantage left to chase. For better or worse, it's fair to say we've come a long way from gawping at two blokes walking around with a blackboard...

ALL THE LATEST WEALDSTONE FC NEWS ON THE WEBSITE www.wealdstone-fc.com

Random snippets irregularly posted @Wealdipedia



Chris Lightfoot

You've heard the saying about goalkeepers having to be a bit crazy? Well, that phrase was coined for Chris Lightfoot.

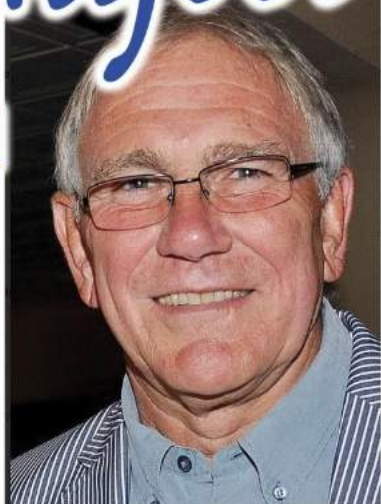
Growing up as a Stones fan in the late 1960s and 1970s we seemed to have a production line of brave and talented keepers through Andy Williams and Chris Swain, on to John Barr, Roy Mackenzie and then the frankly foolhardy John Morton (a regular these days in the commentary box) who combined lightning reactions with a recklessness verging on the suicidal.

But then we signed the Liverpoolian glove-man Chris Lightfoot. And we realised that here was a goalie who wasn't just prepared to put his 6ft 1inch, 14 stone frame on the line in every game, but he was delighted to give us the sort of laughs that many Stones fans still reminisce about even today.

"Oh, I just wanted everyone to enjoy themselves and do my best for the club and the fans" said the now-75 year old Scouser when I caught up with him for a chat at Christmas. "They had come to the game to be entertained and I liked to muck about in goal a bit... diving late when the ball had already gone past the post, theatricals when the ball went over the crossbar... that sort of thing".

Right: Chris Lightfoot comes to punch this cross from the head of team mate Pat Ferry while Hereford's Julian Marshall lurks during the first drawn game at Lower Mead. Wealdstone's Bobby Moss and Paul Thomas block the goalline (right) with Fred Barwick

Chris was the archetypal 'crazy keeper' of the 1970s.. and what off the wall tales he has to tell!



"What about that game when you were booked for trying to blow the ball out of the penalty area?" I asked him, half-remembering an away game in the late 1970s when he tried the patience of a short-tempered referee.

"Ah yes, that was Telford away - he had warned me for timewasting in the second half, when I was kicking my boots against the post to get off the mud (well, it was 2-2 and we were desperate for a point in a relegation battle) and I'd wound him up by sprinting over like Usain Bolt to the corner flag and then sprinting back to take the next goalkick and asking him if that



was quick enough. He was shaking his head in annoyance and when I went to take a short goal-kick to our fullback, Paul Thomas, I realised I'd topped the ball with my left foot and it wasn't going to make it out of the box... so I dropped down on all fours and pretended to blow it out, cheeks puffing away. Of course he booked me, but it was worth it to see the Telford fans p*****g themselves with laughter".

"Weren't you booked in that famous Reading FA Cup game too?" I asked Chris. "Yes that's right, I was booked for marking the six-yard box with my studs, as all keepers used to do in those days - a long scrape to show where you were, to give you your bearings, although it was illegal of course. It was right at the start of the second half and I trotted up to the Elmslie End which we were defending, before the referee came out, and scraped my mark.. next thing I knew the ref was running over and booking me. 'That wasn't me!' I protested to him, 'it must have been the Reading keeper in the first half'. The ref said 'No, I saw you doing it' and I said 'No you didn't because I did it before you came out'... well, that was so funny we were both laughing but he carried on and booked me



Wow, Wealdstone!

WEALDSTONE shattered Hereford in their F.A. Cup first round replay last night.

Hereford, famous Cup fighters themselves after beating Newcastle several years ago when a non-League team, were stunned.

Wealdstone became the first non-League club to beat Hereford at home in the Cup in 31 years.

Kevin Sheedy, aged 17, got Hereford off to a flying start when he found the net in 86 seconds.

Hereford Utd. 2 Wealdstone 3

Ken Stephens collected a throw-in and slipped the ball forward for Sheedy to slot a perfectly timed drive from 20 yards past Wealdstone goalkeeper Chris Lightfoot.

Steve Davey and Billy Holmes missed chances and in the 37th minute paid the penalty when Wealdstone equalised.

Pat Ferry neatly turned home a low cross from Purphy.

Wealdstone shocked Hereford on the restart with two

goals in 13 minutes, had a part in both.

In the 50th minute crossed for Bobby Mc head past Mellor and minutes later another 1 centre was turned ho

The goals shocked 1 ford into action and Holmes hit the bar, reduced arrears in the minute.

Leeds beat Bolton 3- goals from Arthur Gr Joe Jordan and Frank Gary Jones scored a lat solution goal for Bolto

anyway!"

That was in December 1977 as the Stones knocked out Division Four side Reading 2-1 at Lower Mead on a day of raw drama on the gluepot pitch. "I loved Lower Mead" said Chris. "A quirky, closed-in ground with the crowd up close, always had a great atmosphere and all the FA Cup games were great that season. We beat Maidstone in the final qualifying round 2-1, a real humdinger of a game with George Duck getting both, then the 0-0 draw with Third Division Hereford United at home... and the away game was amazing.

"I'm an Evertonian and it was Kevin Sheedy, who had a great career for Everton but was only 17 then, scored from outside the box. That seemed to relax us and we played them off the park and went 3-1 up, Bobby Moss headed one goal and Pat Ferry scored two. They got one back near the end but we really deserved that victory.

"Then the next day we had to face the music! Me and Pat were schoolteachers at the same school in Romford, and we'd both made excuses to the Head to get off early so we could make the team coach at lunchtime, never thinking that we'd be plastered all over the newspapers as giantkillers the next day (The Sun had the headline 'Ferry Ferry good' on their report)... well, we had a bit of explaining to do, I can tell you!"

Chris had been larger than life in that momentous cup run, only beaten by a freak goal

CONTINUED OVER PAGE

CHRIS LIGHTFOOT CONTINUED..

from Reading's Lawrie Sanchez in the closing stages of the 2-1 Second Round win at Lower Mead. What did he remember of the Third Round tie at QPR?

"Oh, what a disappointment. For me personally. All anyone talks about is the first goal, the sort of goal we were desperate NOT to concede, and it was down to me. And it was all the worse because I was feeling really, really good about my performances up to that point.

"This is what happened. Rangers' John Hollins swung in a freekick from the right and I thought 'I could get this' then realised it was bending away from me so took a step back... Don Givens was favourite to get on the end of it and I threw myself to the right expecting a bullet header, ready to palm the ball round the post but he sort of misconnected and the ball came to me much more slowly than I expected. So I was in the process of catching it when the ball caught my arm, hit the inside of the post and bounced in. Of course as I keeper you can't make mistakes... you take the glory and you take the flak. All I saw were all the backs of our players shirts as they walked away upfield. The worst feeling in the world, knowing all the expectation and all the fans who'd made the journey hoping for a repeat of our heroics.

"We played well after that point and didn't



deserve the 4-0 scoreline at the end. My other big memory was Stan Bowles scoring from the penalty spot. It wasn't a penalty by the way, but I was a huge Stan Bowles fan and used to go and watch him play whenever I could, so I knew that he always had the same routine - a little shimmy in the run-up, and then he placed the ball into the corner, low to the keeper's right.

So I was ready. He ran up and shimmied, I dived to my

LIGHT FANTASTIC!
QPR's international stars Leighton James (far left) and Don Givens applaud Stones keeper Chris Lightfoot for his amazing save in the second half of the game at Loftus Road. Our defenders Paul Thomas and Dave Parratt (foreground) seem to think it's a bit patronising, and they weren't wrong



WEALDSTONE 2020-21

George Duck (left) sees this cross just evade his head in the titanic game with Reading at Lower Mead. Keith Furphy is on the right



right... and he placed the ball in the top left hand corner! I'd never seen him do that before!"

Chris was only with the Stones for two seasons, but they were memorable ones. "And I loved every minute" he says. "There were such big characters around: Mossy and Pat Ferry, Billy Byrne, John Arnold, Furze and of course Willie Watson. Willie just cracked me up.

"He used to love to take off the manager Alan Fogarty's accent - he was a Brummie - I remember one game against Dover when Willie was playing at sweeper alongside Dave Parratt and near the end of the game he nutmegged their striker in our own box and flicked the ball past another to set up an attack, and Foggy went ballistic. "I know you're a good player Willie but you can't do that" he shouted at him. "Remember Bobby Moore in Katowice against Poland? Best defender in the world - he lost the ball and England lost. So what you do is three things: You either pass it back to Chris in goal, or you play it to the full back, or you hit it long. Okay? You got that?"

So the next game Willie was just trotting down the tunnel and Foggy shouted out to him: "So Willie - do you remember? What do you do?"

He looked over his shoulder and called back: "Give it to Martin Peters".

Chris was born in Liverpool but his family moved to Crewe, in Cheshire. He went to Nantwich Grammar School and played in goal for Crewe's A team while he was at Warwick University - but his first cub was Atherstone Town in the West Midlands League.

"Six quid a week, £2 win bonus and £1 for a draw; I thought my ship had come in" he laughs. His performances for the Adders earned a move to AP Leamington in the Southern League Div One (North) for several seasons, including a 5-2 defeat at Wealdstone in April 1972 - the Stones were first season of Southern League football.

Chris then got a teaching job in Romford, Essex but was still playing back in the East Midlands at Leamington. "The travelling was a bit daft but I knew one of the Dartford coaches Robbie Stepney so was I training there midweek, and incidentally the Darts had John Morton in goal. He was teacher too so we kept bumping into each other.

"I then signed for Romford in the Southern League Prem and so played against the Stones them in 1974-75... Romford had been one of the big non League clubs but the chairman had built a giant new stand at their speedway stadium and that was a bit of a millstone around their neck. They ended up going the way of a lot of clubs in the 70s and 80, having to sell the ground to survive, like Guildford City and of course Wealdstone.

"Anyway, Geoff Coleman was the Stones manager in 1976 and he had always rated me - he had tried to sign me for Nuneaton several times - and when he asked me to sign that September as cover for Morty (who was injured) it was an easy decision. I'd started the season playing for Leyton Wingate in the Athenian League and, without being funny, it just didn't seem right when I was used to playing at a decent level in front of decent crowds.

"I made my debut at Nuneaton, funnily enough, and although we lost 2-0 it was like being back in the big time. That was always my goal, to play at that level but it wasn't to last. I was FA Cup tied with Leyon Wingate so Morty, now back from injury, played in all the Cup games that season and we had a good run, going out 1-0 at Reading. But I played in most of the league games and ended the season saving a penalty from Jimmy Greaves as we

CONTINUED OVER PAGE

CHRIS LIGHTFOOT CONTINUED..

won 2-1 at Chelmsford"

"But managers can be strange. They either fancy you or they don't... and when Geoff Coleman left to be replaced by his No.2 Foggy it was clear that it was the latter."

Despite Lightfoot's heroics in the early part of the 77-78 season, including the unprecedented FA Cup run, Fogarty was angling to replace his regular 32-year-old No.1 with young ex-Southend and Spurs stopper Ian Cranstone.

"Foggy made no bones about wanting to bring in the youngster but I was on contract and was left hanging around for the rest of that season, playing for the reserves in front on one man and a dog or being made to report to grounds for first team matches knowing that I wasn't in the team (and no bench duty either in those days).

"That summer I was given the chance to do some coaching in the US in the school holidays and asked Foggy if I could stay in shape out there and be back in time for the first league game.... of course he put Cranny in goal for the first game at Gravesend (which we lost 5-2) but he wasn't available for the next one against Telford United who had Geoff Hurst as player manager -I kept a clean sheet in a 3-0 win but the manager told me afterwards 'You may have played well but you're never playing for the 1st XI again' - and he then had me in for training for five consecutive nights, travelling across from Romford.

"That broke me and I agreed to tear up my contract". I said to Chris "That is so extreme - it must have been all about getting the wage bill down, not needing two keepers."

"Yes, you're probably right but if he'd just told me that I'd have understood, and parted on good terms."

Chris had left teaching around that time - moving into leisure management - and the family had moved to Woking. His football career ended in the Athenian League with

Epsom & Ewell, and then Carshalton.

He is now retired and living in a village near Matlock in Derbyshire, playing a lot of golf and watching a fair amount of non-League football at Matlock Town, Alfreton and Chesterfield. His very last game of football came some 20 years ago when he turned out for an ex-Stones XI at Edgware against a star-studded showbiz XI... and it ended in agony when he was carried off the field with two broken ribs.

"It was all my own fault - Martin Chivers

chipped the ball towards my top corner and instinct took over as I forgot I was now 55 years old with an unconditioned body. I thought 'I can save this' and took off to try and tip the ball over the top.. and I landed something like point four on the Richster Scale. It was agony!"

But his worst injury came on a bleak Tuesday night at Yeovil in February 1977. "It was the next night after my daughter was born - in those days you wouldn't think twice about going off to play football with

your wife in labour - and I collided with Willie Watson's kneecap halfway through the game. I was concussed and actually lost my memory... I spent 24 hours in Yeovil hospital but couldn't remember a thing about the game for days afterwards.

"It makes me laugh these days when you hear about how brave a keeper is when he makes a routine save at a forward's feet. Being brave for £200k a week. I was brave for a fiver!"

"Thinking back, Yeovil wasn't a happy place for me... the fans were always horrible there. Though what I remember most about going to Yeovil was being forced to wear a red goal-keeper's top when I was playing for Romford, who wore blue and gold. Obviously I couldn't wear blue, or my usual green as that was what Yeovil wore... but I wasn't going to wear red as I'm an Everton bluenose through and through!

So I found a black top of my own and wore that. The referee wasn't happy but I got away with it!"



Stones' boss Alan Fogarty (back row far left) was hell bent on replacing Chris with young Ian Cranstone (back row far right)

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Results 2020-21

OCTOBER		Comp.	Result	Crowd	Lge Pos	Wind Dir/Spd	Sky/Temp	Elev. (Mtrs)	1	2	3	4	5	6
6	Yeovil Town	VNL	2-2	0,000	15	⊙ 11	⊙ 11c	87m	IST	EFE	MEN	OKI	PHI	BEN
10	Dagenham & Redbridge	VNL	0-1	0,000	19	⊙ 8	⊙ 20c	10m	IST	EFE	MEN	WAK	PHI	OKI
13	STOCKPORT COUNTY	VNL	2-5	0,000	23	⊙ 11	⊙ 10c	41m	IST	EFE	MEN	SMI	PHI	OKI
17	WREXHAM	VNL	4-3	0,000	18	⊙ 4	⊙ 12c	41m	IST	EFE	MEN	PHI	OKI	BEN
20	CHESTERFIELD	VNL	3-2	0,000	9	⊙ 7	⊙ 15c	41m	IST	EFE	MEN	SMI	OKI	WAK
24	HAYES & YEADING UTD	FAC4Q	0-2	0,000	9	⊙ 17	⊙ 15c	41m	GSM	EFE	MEN	SMI	OKI	STE
27	King's Lynn Town	VNL	3-2	0,000	6	⊙ 10	⊙ 8c	12m	IST	EFE	MEN	PHI	OKI	CAW
NOVEMBER														
7	ALTRINCHAM	VNL	1-0	0,000	3	⊙ 4	⊙ 20c	41m	IST	EFE	MEN	CAW	OKI	PHI
10	FC Halifax Town	VNL	1-0	0,000	2	⊙ 7	⊙ 11c	190m	IST	EFE	MEN	PHI	CAW	OKI
17	Eastleigh	VNL	0-2	0,000	3	- 0	⊙ 13c	12m	IST	EFE	MEN	CAW	PHI	OKI
21	SUTTON UNITED	VNL	3-3	0,000	4	⊙ 11	⊙ 11c	41m	IST	EFE	MEN	PHI	OKI	SMI
27	Notts County	VNL	0-3	0,000	9	⊙ 4	⊙ 3c	29m	IST	EFE	MEN	CAW	PHI	OKI
DECEMBER														
1	TORQUAY UNITED	VNL	1-2	0,000	9	⊙ 4	⊙ 3c	41m	MOO	EFE	MEN	PHI	CAW	OKI
5	Barnet	VNL	0-0	717	7	⊙ 11	⊙ 9c	57m	MOO	EFE	CAW	PHI	OKI	DYE
12	WEYMOUTH	VNL	2-1	772	4	⊙ 10	⊙ 8c	41m	MOO	EFE	MEN	PHI	DYE	OKI
19	EASTLEIGH	FAT3	4-3	0,000	6	⊙ 14	⊙ 9c	41m	MOO	EFE	MEN	CAW	DYE	OKI
26	Maidenhead United	VNL	0-4	0,000	11	⊙ 14	⊙ 5c	27m	MOO	EFE	MEN	CAW	DYE	OKI
JANUARY														
9	Hartlepool United	VNL	1-3	0,000	14	⊙ 13	⊙ 12c	10m	MOO	EFE	MEN	WIS	PHI	OKI
18	GLOUCESTER CITY	FAT4	3-1	0,000	15	⊙ 12	⊙ 8c	41m	MOO	EFE	MEN	MEE	PHI	OKI
23	ALDERSHOT TOWN	VNL												
26	Altrincham	VNL												
30	Solihull Moors	VNL												
FEBRUARY														
2	MAIDENHEAD UNITED	VNL												
6	Darlington	FAT5												
7	Torquay United	VNL												
13	BROMLEY	VNL												
20	Sutton United	VNL												
23	EASTLEIGH	VNL												
27	Wrexham	VNL												
MARCH														
2	BOREHAM WOOD	VNL												
6	FC HALIFAX TOWN	VNL												
9	KING'S LYNN TOWN	VNL												
13	Dover Athletic	VNL												
20	Weymouth	VNL												
27	NOTTS COUNTY	VNL												
APRIL														
2	Bromley	VNL												
5	BARNET	VNL												
10	Boreham Wood	VNL												
17	HARTLEPOOL UNITED	VNL												
24	Aldershot Town	VNL												
MAY														
1	YEovil TOWN	VNL												
3	Stockport County	VNL												
8	DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE	VNL												
15	Chesterfield	VNL												
22	SOLIHULL MOORS	VNL												
29	Woking	VNL												
TO BE ARRANGED														
XX	DOVER ATHLETIC	VNL												
XX	WOKING	VNL												



PRE-SEASON FRIENDLY RESULTS

22nd August	Bedford Town	A	W	3-1	Parish, Efete, Hughes
25th August	Luton Town	H	L	0-3	
27th August	Southall	A	L	2-3	Emmanuel, Tahir
29th August	Colchester United	H	L	1-2	Emmanuel
1st September	Northwood	A	W	6-0	Lafayette, Parish 3, Charles, Maloney

Above: An accomplished debut from our new No.24 Josh Monday night. Welcome to Wealdstone, Josh!
Pictures courtesy of Adam Williams

WEALDSTONE 2020-21

	7	8	9	10	11	12	14	15	16	17/GK
SMI 70	WAK	EMM 73 26	GRE	LEW	CAW	LAF 73	PAR	SLE	SLE	CHA
BEN 65	SMI	EMM 70	GRE	LEW	DYE 65	STE	SLE	PAR	PAR	LAF 70
WAK	BEN	LAF 60 47	DYE 81	SLE 81 16	EMM	CAW 60	PAR	CHA	CHA	GRE
SMI	WAK 16	DYE 61 17	LAF 70	LEW	CAW	CHA 43	EMM 70	GRE	GRE	SLE
BEN	CAW	DYE 67	EMM 76 15 15	LEW 61	GAF	GRE 60	LAF 76	PAR	PAR	SLE 67
BEN 55	WAK	DYE 52	EMM 70	LEW 65	GAF	GRE	LAF 61	PAR 70	PAR 70	SLE 55
PAR 62 5 3 7	DYE 69	LAF 73 4	GRE	LEW	SMI	BEN 69	EMM 67	SLE	SLE	WIS 62
PAR	DYE 65 14	EMM 89 65	GRE 88	LEW	GSM	SMI 65	LAF 60	STE	WIS 88	
SMI	DYE 60	SLE 70	LAF	LEW	SMI	WIS	PAR 70 15	EMM 66	GRE 85 12	
SMI	PAR 5	EMM 72	GRE 65	LEW 83	ASK	BEN 83	CHA	LAF 72	SLE 83 12	
PAR 61	LAF 51 41 45	EMM 1	GRE 97	LEW	ASK	BEN 11 11	CAW	PRT 70	WAK 45	
PAR	SMI	LAF 67	GRE 63	WAK	ASK	BEN 63	LEW 47	PRT 7	SLE	
SMI	PAR 65 2	PRT 73	GRE 62	LEW	ASK	BEN	DYE 63	HUG 65	WAK 73	
PRT 75	SMI	WAK 88	GRE 62	LEW	ASK	BEN 75	CHA	HUG 88 11	SLE 82	
SMI 1	BEN 82	HUG 64	GRE	LEW 45	ASK	CAW 20 47	SLE 64	WAK 82	WIS	
SMI 1	BEN 46	HUG 64	GRE 73 11	LEW 77	ASK	DEB	SLE 64	WAK 46 47	WIS 73	
SMI	WAK 40	EMM 64	GRE	LEW	ASK	BEN 64	BRO 64	LEN 46	DEB	
SMI	LEN 61 11	EMM	GRE 6	LEW	ASK	BEN 61 15	DIA	KOU 65	SLE	
DYE 65 22	SMI	EMM 65 37	GRE 41	LEW 84	ASK	BEN 15	CAW	HUG 64	SLE 65	



KEY TO SYMBOLS

Where available, the time of each event is contained within the symbol.

- 22 = First substitution
- 27 = Second substitution
- 22 = Third substitution
- 23 = Caution
- 67 = Sending off
- 67 = Straight Red
- 35 = Goal
- 88 = Penalty

Match date in red = Midweek kick-off)

The team order from 01 to 11 and substitutes follows the team sheet supplied by the club to the competition authorities. Note that players use their squad numbers in those positions. EG: Jerome Okimo, Squad No.6 playing position 4, etc.

KEY TO PLAYER IDS

Player ID.	Player Name	Squad Number
ASK	Jake Askew	25
BEN	Kundai Benyu	15
BRO	Rhys Browne	27
CAW	Jack Cawley	25
CHA	Ashley Charles	4
DEB	Joshua Debayo	3
DYE	Alex Dyer	18
EFE	Michee Efete	2
EMM	Moses Emmanuel	19
EVE	Lewis Everett	21
GAF	Adel Gafaiti	3
GRE	Danny Green	10
GSM	Grant Smith	22
HUG	Charlee Hughes	12
IST	Harry Isted	1
KOU	Maxim Kouogun	23
LAF	Ross Lafayette	9
LEN	Matt Lench	28
LEW	Dennon Lewis	11
MEE	Josh Meekings	24
MEN	Jacob Mendy Mendy	2
MOO	Stuart Moore	1
OKI	Jerome Okimo	6
PAR	Danny Parish	14
PHI	Michael Phillips	7
PRT	Dean Parrett	24
SLE	Jerome Slew	20
SMI	Connor Smith	8
STE	Connor Stevens	5
WAK	Charlie Wakefield	23

Meekings against Gloucester City on

PRE-SEASON FRIENDLY RESULTS

5th September	Dartford	H	L	1-2	Efete
8th September	Hayes & Yeading	A	W	5-2	Williams, Parish, Hughes, Emmanuel, Lafayette
12th September	Havant & Waterlooville	H	W	3-1	Emmanuel, Parish, Hughes
15th September	St Albans City	A	L	0-4	
19th September	Dulwich Hamlet	H	D	1-1	Efete
26th September	Slough Town	H	L	0-1	

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ALDERSHOT TOWN

Welcome for our first League meeting to Danny Searle's 'Shots'

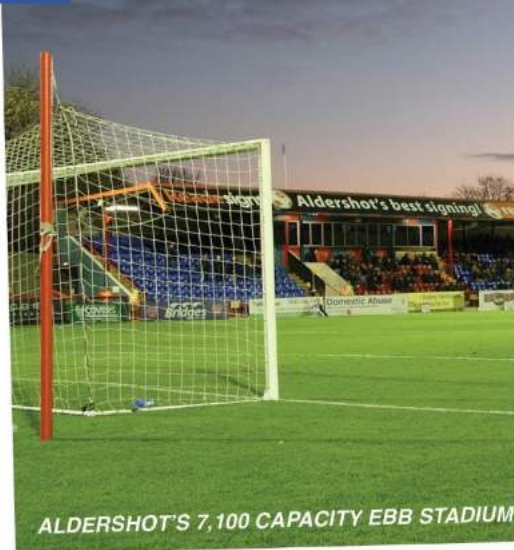
On March 25th 1992, Aldershot FC became the first Football League team to fold during the season since Accrington Stanley in 1962. From the ashes came phoenix club Aldershot Town, who were formed on April 22nd 1992 and managed by ex-Aldershot FC centre back Steve Wignall.

The "new" Shots began life in Isthmian League Division 3 and opened the 1992-93 season in a carnival atmosphere at the Recreation Ground against Clapton. Braces from Mark Butler and Steve Stairs secured a 4-2 win in front of 1493 fans, which was more than watched their predecessors' last home game at the same ground. The campaign finished with the Shots as champions by a commanding 18-point margin, whilst strikers Mark Butler and Steve Stairs scored a combined total of 62 goals in all competitions.

A second successive promotion (via a third-place finish) followed in 1993-94 together with a run to the FA Vase quarter-finals.

Steve Wignall departed in January 1994 to take charge of Division 3 side Colchester United and was replaced by ex-Nottingham Forest winger Steve Wigley. Despite a strong finish to the 1994-95 season, the Shots missed out on a third successive promotion on goal difference. Following fifth- and seventh-place finishes over the next two seasons, Wigley left to take up a post in (former club) Forest's youth set up in the summer of 1997.

Following a spell under the caretaker management trio of Andy Meyer, Mark Butler and



ALDERSHOT'S 7,100 CAPACITY EBB STADIUM

Joe Roach, Enfield boss George Borg was appointed in September 1997 and his first season yielded increased crowds and the Isthmian League Division 1 title. In 1998-99, the Shots won both the Isthmian League Cup and the Hampshire Senior Cup. In 1999-2000, they retained the latter trophy, won the Isthmian League Charity Shield and ended the campaign as runners-up to Dagenham and Redbridge in the Isthmian League Premier Division.

A fourth-place finish was claimed in 2000-01, whilst November 2001 saw a club record crowd of 7500 fill the Rec for the 6-2 defeat by Brighton and Hove Albion in the FA Cup first round. Following a run of poor results and pressure from fans, Borg resigned in mid-January 2002.

Borg's assistant Stuart Cask took temporary charge before Terry Brown left his post at Hayes in late March to come to North East Hampshire, thus beginning a five-year love affair with the Shots fans. Following a third-place finish and a third Hampshire Senior Cup win in 2001-02, the squad was overhauled



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PIC. Theshots.co.uk

and, having attained top spot in mid-November 2002 the Shots remained in top spot to claim the title and, with it, promotion to the Football Conference; they also retained the Hampshire Senior Cup.

Disappointment followed in 2003/04, when the Shots were beaten on penalties by Shrewsbury Town (after a 1-1 draw) in the play-off final at Stoke City's Britannia Stadium.

More play-off heartache was experienced in 2004-05, this time in the shape of a shoot-out defeat at Carlisle United in the semi-finals. The next two seasons were disappointing for the Shots (13th and ninth places respectively being secured).

In March 2007, Terry Brown resigned to take care of his wife, who had been ill for some time. Assistant Manager Martin Kuhl took caretaker charge for the remainder of the season.

in 2012-13 Former Rotherham United boss

Andy Scott was brought in but couldn't stem the tide and relegation back to the Conference Premier (the club's first such event) was confirmed at end of the season as the Shots eventually finished rock-bottom of the table.

On May 2nd 2013, just five days after their relegation from League 2, Aldershot Town officially entered administration with reported debts of £1.4 million.

The Shots began the 2013-14 season with a 10-point deduction as a punishment for the aforementioned entry into administration. With a hastily-assembled squad (some of whom were signed in the hotel the night before the season's opener at Grimsby Town)

On July 31st 2014, Aldershot Town announced that they had paid off all of their debts, which enables them to exit the auspices of the CVA after just 12 months – a massive two years ahead of the required date! The icing on the cake came with the additional news that the club had made "a modest profit" in the first year of trading under the new owners.

The 2015-16 season was another one of disappointing performances with the Shots finished the campaign having scored just 23 home league goals, equalled the club record for fewest home league wins (7) and most home league losses (12) as well as setting new club records for most league losses in a season (22) and lowest average home league attendance (1607); the season was also the fourth in succession in which the aforementioned crowd figure had dropped.

A new-look side for 2016/17 secured fifth place in the table and a Play-Off semi-final against Tranmere Rovers. Unfortunately, The Shots lost the home leg 3-0 but at least restored a great deal of pride with a battling 2-2 draw in the Prenton Park return.

In 2017-18 the squad picked up where they left off and spent the majority of the season challenging for the title eventually finishing 5th in the table losing to Ebbsfleet in the play offs.

2019/20 saw the Shots placed 18th when the season was abandoned due to the Corona Virus pandemic.

WEALDSTONE'S RECORD v ALDERSHOT TOWN

P 1 (Friendly 21/07/18) **W 0 D 1 L 0 F 1 A 1**

ALDERSHOT TOWN - WHO'S WHO?



1. MITCH WALKER - GOALKEEPER

oined from Dover Athletic in June 2019. He spent seven years with the Whites, amassing a total of 279 appearances and helped guide the Kent side to promotion from the National League South. He started his career at Brighton & Hove Albion, making one solitary first team appearance, keeping a clean sheet in a 1-0 League One victory over Yeovil Town in 2010, he also spent time out on loan at Eastbourne Borough and Welling United whilst at the Seagulls before joining Dover in 2012.

2. GEORGE FOWLER - DEFENCE

Originally joined the Shots from Ipswich Town on loan in September 2017, after several extensions to his loan he joined the Shots on a permanent deal in January 2018 after making just one first-team appearance for Ipswich which was against Crystal Palace in the EFL Cup.

3. ALEX FINNEY - DEFENCE

Finney started his career at Leyton Orient before moving to Championship club Bolton Wanderers in 2014 where he made three appearances. He joined Queen's Park Rangers in 2016 but failed to make an appearance for the West London club and he was loaned out to Maidstone for the 2017/18 season before joining them permanently this summer. He joined the Shots in December 2018

4. JAMIE SENDLES-WHITE - DEFENCE

The former Northern Ireland youth international committed to the club after a spell with Crawley Town in League Two, having previously spent time in the Scottish Premiership with Hamilton Academical as well. Sendles-White made 14 appearances for the Red Devils in League Two last season, along with also recording one assist for Crawley Town during this time. He has also previously won promotion to the National League in 2018/19 with Torquay United

6. KODI LYONS-FOSTER - DEFENCE

yons-Foster has represented England at U16 level and has also featured in the Academy's of Tottenham Hotspur and Aston Villa. He joined Bristol City from Villa in 2016 but didn't make a senior appearance there and spent time out on loan at Guernsey. He joined the Shots in 2017 after a successful trial but left the club at the expiration of his contract in January 2018 after making seven appearances. He then joined Whitehawk on a permanent deal after an initial loan period from Aldershot before joining newly-promoted Braintree Town in the National League last summer.

7. JAMES ROWE - MIDFIELD

Rowe was initially released by the Shots at the end of the 2017-18 season but rejoined the club on trial this pre-season where his performances impressed enough for him to earn a new deal. Has been relegated from the EFL with Tranmere Rovers but won the National League the season after with Cheltenham Town in 2015-16. Began his career at Reading and had spells on loan at Lewes and Basingstoke Town before a move to Forest Green Rovers preceded his arrival at Tranmere.

8. JOSH REES - FORWARD

Josh started his football career in the Arsenal Academy, where he was until 2013 when he moved to Nottingham Forest and made his football league debut. The 26-year-old, after a few loan moves out of Nottingham, has since become an established National League player, playing for the likes of Torquay United, Gillingham and until today, Bromley.

9. MO BETTAMER - FORWARD

Joined The Shots from Barnet FC in October 2019 on a contract through to the end of the season. Bettamer scored six goals in just 15 appearances for both his and current Shots manager Danny Searle's former club Braintree Town

10. CHIKE KANDI - MIDFIELD

Chike has played for both Chelsea's youth and Brighton and Hove Albion's youth team before moving into non-league. He has played for the likes of Leatherhead, Woking and most recently Dagenham & Redbridge

11. HARRY PANAYIOTOU - MIDFIELD

Panayiotou signed for the Shots in July 2019 after a spell in the Greek Second Division with Aititios Spata. He started his career at Leicester City where he scored in his only first team appearance. He spent time out on loan at Port Vale and Raith Rovers before joining National League side Barrow in 2016 with a loan spell at Salford City included before a move to Nuneaton Borough preceded his move to Greece.

12. ALFY WHITTINGHAM - MIDFIELD

Whittingham joined the Shots from Hungerford Town in July 2019. Prior to that, he spent three seasons at Havant & Waterlooville w, he also spent time out on loan at Hungerford Town, AFC Totton and Petersfield Town. He is the son of Portsmouth legend Guy Whittingham.

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13. RYAN HALL - GOALKEEPER

Hall is the Academy's number 1 keeper and his impressive performances in Academy matches and training with the first team saw him called up to the bench for the Shots

14. JOEL NOUBLE - MIDFIELD

Forward Joel can play on the wing and upfront and after scoring an impressive 10 goals in 34 games for Concord Rangers last season. He came through the academy at Dagenham & Redbridge.

15. JERMAINE ANDERSON - MIDFIELD

Started his youth career at Premier League side Arsenal, before joining League One side Peterborough United. Jermaine also has international experience at youth level with England at both the u18 and u20. He spent the 2018/19 season on loan at both Doncaster Rovers before he joined Bradford City in January 2019.

18. REECE WYLIE - MIDFIELD

Exciting academy prospect Reece Wylie committed to the club for the 20/21 season when he joined the first-team squad

20. TOBY EDSER - MIDFIELD

Toby played youth football at Charlton Athletic, came through Nottingham

Forest's academy and signed full professional forms in 2017. He had loan spells at Woking, then Port Vale before returning to the Cards for a second loan spell last campaign.

21. BEN SHROLL - DEFENCE

Exciting academy prospect Ben Shroll has committed to the club for the 20/21 season as he joins the first-team squad!

22. GILES PHILLIPS - DEFENCE

Giles started his career at FC Barrington USA, before becoming the first Carthage College player to sign a professional contract, signing with Championship side Queens Park Rangers in 2019. Phillips then spent the 2019/20 season on loan at Wycombe Wanderers in the EFL League One, playing 16 times in all competitions before being released by QPR at the end of the season, where he joined Wycombe permanently. Phillips joins the Shots on a short-term loan until January 2021

23. KILLIAN COLOMBIE - DEFENCE

Having played in the youth systems at Paris Saint-Germain and AS Montigny-le Bretonneux in his homeland, he went to America to study at Iona College in the New Rochelle area of New York in 2015. He most recently played for

Sporting Kansas II before moving to England and joining the Shots.2019.

25. SHADRACH OIGIE - DEFENCE

The Irish defender who moved over to England to join League Two side Leyton Orient, came through the academy system there before signing full professional forms and joins us on an initial one-month loan deal. The 19-year-old has also performed on the international stage too for Republic of Ireland U18's

26. LEWIS KINSELLA - DEFENCE

Lewis came through Arsenal's Academy before moving to Aston Villa's Academy in 2011. Had spells out on loan at Luton Town. Signed permanently with Colchester United in 2016 before moving to the Shots in 2018

27. CRAIG TANNER - MIDFIELD

Craig joins The Shots after having previously been with Motherwell. Craig began his career at Reading and played for a series of Football League clubs on loan before joining Motherwell.

29. JOE RABETTS - DEFENCE

Exciting academy prospect Joe Rabbetts has committed to the club for the 20/21 season as he joins the first-team squad

30. RICKY MILLER - FORWARD

Spent his youth career in both League One side Charlton Athletic's and local rivals Woking FC before spells with the likes of Luton Town, Peterborough United, Mansfield Town and most recently Port Vale.

35. BRAD JAMES - GOALKEEPER

The 21-year-old was on loan at National League North side Gateshead last season and played a massive part in their play-off finals campaign last year

36. MIKE FONDOP - FORWARD

The Cameroonian, who played for Chesterfield last season he has experience at this level of the game with Guiseley AFC, Wrexham and FC Halifax Town.

44. ROSS MCCORMACK - FORWARD

The former Scotland international has a very established career at Championship level, scoring lots of goals in a number of productive seasons for Cardiff City, Leeds United, Fulham and Aston Villa. The 34-year-old, who has been signed for a combined fee of nearly £25 million during his career, will bring a huge amount of experience and quality to Danny Searle's squad.

DANNY SEARLE - MANAGER



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WE'VE MET BEFORE



BY TIM PARKS

Aldershot '75: A watershed moment that spawned an entire generation of Stones fans

The 1970s saw the metamorphosis of Wealdstone FC from a caterpillar to a magnificent butterfly. In a few short years, Lower Mead was transformed from the bleak, eerie home of a failing amateur side to the vibrant stadium of a club challenging the best in non-League. And at the centre of that decade came the epic FA Cup tie that still makes Stones fans of a certain age go misty eyed.. or maybe that's just our cataracts!

We've waited over 45 years to face The Shots in a competitive game again. That first meeting was an absolute cracker...

Saturday November 22nd 1975, FA Cup First Round: Aldershot 4 Wealdstone 3

THERE is arguably one Wealdstone game in every decade that turns all those present into Stones fans for life.

In the 1960s it was the awesome 6-5 win over Stevenage at Lower Mead in an FA Cup Qualifier. The 1980s equivalent was the Trophy win at Wembley over Boston United to clinch the legendary 'double'.

The 90s? Probably winning the Ryman Div Three at Northwood. And the noughties? Has to be the penalty shoot-out promotion at Dulwich in 2004... or maybe the seesaw 3-2 FA Cup defeat by Rotherham at the Vale five years later.

The 2010s were defined by the Ryman League title-winners of 2014 and the National League South champions of 2019. Cambridge United 1 Wealdstone 2, or Wealdstone 7 Bath City 0 anyone?

But on this memorable November day in 1975 came my OWN defining moment as a Stones fan, a proud 18 year old travelling in a cavalcade of 12 supporters coaches to see the Stones attempt to cap a fantastic autumn by beating Third Division Aldershot on their own ground.

And we had genuine hopes.

Eddie Presland's side was in a rich seam of form, steaming along in the Southern League

table just a few points behind Champions Wimbledon, beating everyone at Lower Mead and pulling off some decent away draws.

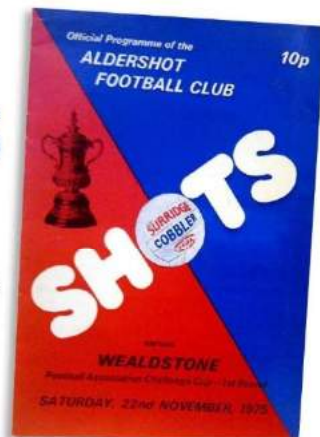
The Shots were midway in the equivalent of League One. Over 5,000, including around 1,000 from Wealdstone were in the ground for what turned out to be an epic cup tie. Away from the basic details (reproduced here in the Harry O) my clearest memories of the game was the disparity of physical size between the teams, Aldershot's shoot-on-sight policy that had our excellent but diminutive keeper John Morton leaping around from the first whistle, and the menace of the home supporters.

We sang all the way there on the coaches and before kick-off, not realising in our naivety that we wouldn't have a lot to offer once the game started!

Fortunately the same couldn't be said for our gallant team.

We were like terriers in midfield, with John Lewis, Bobby Moss and Ray Fulton snapping around the Shots playmakers in a game effort to staunch the flow of crosses towards home giants Jack Howarth and Neil Warnock - yes, the very same bluff northerner who's gone on to have a great career in management. We had the towering John McCormick at centre-back (a surprise capture from Crystal Palace's first team two years before) but he badly damaged a knee just before half time in an aerial battle with Howarth. The score was poised at 0-0 and it was breathless stuff. Would we see any goals after the break, or would it all be back to Lower Mead for a Tuesday night replay?

We all know the answer: seven goals in a



There's a whole world of memorabilia in the **Stones Magazine**, by the halfway line, clubhouse side

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pulsating second half! For us as fans, that 45 minutes was spent with half an eye on the game and the other half avoiding missiles, being spat at and being subjected to other intimidating behaviour by the Shots fans. When recalling the game, fellow supporter Jon Taffell tells me that he spent the last minutes of the game back in the car park, sheltering in one of the supporters club coaches!

No surprise then, that the main editorial in the programme (left) by Aldershot manager Tommy McAnearney concentrated on 'the curse of hooliganism' - and certainly watching football in the Seventies was all about being aware of that unpleasant element.

Wealdstone had fans who were very happy to stand their ground and retaliate but we had no reputation for openly intimidating away fans - or home fans on our travels for that matter.

Anyway, back to the football. Perhaps it was the reshuffle following John McCormick's non-appearance for the second half - with tricky winger Adriaan Eglite coming on up front and centre-forward Bill Byrne moving back to McCormick's role at centre-half - or perhaps it was Aldershot cranking it up after a half-time pummelling from boss McAnearney, but the game was suddenly much more open.

The Shots threatened with every attack, kicking towards their baying 'home' end and we cracked under the pressure. Looking back, though, two of their goals should have been ruled out for blocks on our keeper John Morton, and another was a penalty. The fourth was a fine header by Jack Howarth after Byrne had lost the flight of another long, raking cross.

The Stones kept hitting back with our neat, intricate, thoughtful brand of play under boss Eddie Presland, who had been schooled at the West Ham academy... but the only time I genuinely thought we might get a draw was when Bobby Moss was felled in the box - soon after Aldershot's opener - and penalty kick George Duck fired past keeper Johnson.

We had the Shots rattled for ten minutes. But then came the



The expressions tell it all. Bill Byrne (above left) turns in despair with keeper John Morton grounded as Jack Howarth powers home Aldershot's fourth, killer goal with a defender helpless on the goal-line.

And earlier John

Morton was just beaten by Pat Morrissey's penalty (above) despite his spectacular dive. The 'keeper got a hand to the ball but could not prevent it crashing into the net to put Aldershot 2-1 up in the 64th minute.

But his opposite number Glen Johnson (bottom left) wasn't so lucky when he faced George Duck's spot-kick at the other end. The Wealdstone

striker sent the 'keeper the wrong way to slot the ball home to make it 1-1.

And its congratulations all round for John Lewis, number seven, as delighted team mates Bobby Moss, John Henderson and George Duck show their elation after the midfielder had clipped the ball home to make it 3-2.

But the jubilation was short lived as the fourth goal showed

ecstasy



The (now sadly closed) Harrow Observer went overboard by actually sending a photographer to an away game! See caption above for all the details

CONTINUED OVERPAGE

WE'VE MET BEFORE... CONTINUED

first assault on Morton (ignored by ref Edward Hughes who was clearly a product of the Tommy Lawton 'bash the keeper and the ball into the net' era) and a John Morrissey penalty and we were 3-1 behind.

Little Johnny Lewis, a pre-season capture from Romford, danced through for a brilliant finish but the two-goal cushion was restored when Morton was clattered again and Howarth prodded the ball past the prone keeper into the net.

The match report missed out the Stones' final flourish - Duck netting from close range after the keeper had half-saved Moss's header from a clever Eglite cross - but it was all too late. And lots of our fans were already being chased out of the ground!

Home skipper Len Walker said after the game: "If you lot don't win the Southern

League this season I'll want to know why. You played some great football and so nearly knocked us out... one of the best sides we've faced this season".

As it turned out, we were very nearly relegated after a dreadful New Year and were only saved (in the end) by Dunstable Town's resignation. Manager Presland got the sack and new men Geoff Coleman and Alan Fogarty steered us to safety. Alas, Aldershot weren't so lucky. The defensive frailties that allowed us to score three times saw them plummet down Division Three - and eventually through the trapdoor.

WEALDSTONE: John Morton, Chris Kinnear, John Watson, Paul Falclough, John McCormick, Bobby Moss, John Lewis, Ray Fulton, Bill Byrne, George Duck, John Henderson. Sub: Adriaan Eglite.



Left: Stones keeper John Morton plunges to punch the ball off the head of mutton-chopped Aldershot striker Neil Warnock (right) - yes, the very same Neil Warnock who was here years ago managing Cardiff City two and a half years ago - with John McCormick and Willie Watson (left) in our yellow away kit

The Aldershot-Wealdstone programme had rather amusing directions to a possible Tuesday night replay... they'd have ended up at Earlsmead!

ALDERSHOT to WEALDSTONE

Total distance: 45 miles

Join A30 at Bagshot

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Nice one John. Manager Eddie Presland (left) commiserates with 'keeper John Morton as he leaves the field beaten four times but still a hero of Stones Cup display.

Our only meeting at The Vale: Bradley's back with a bang as honours are shared

Saturday July 21, 2018, pre-season friendly: Wealdstone 1 Aldershot Town 1

This summer warm-up friendly two and a half years ago was as far removed from the pulsating FA Cup game of '75 as it is possible to be! It was only the second game between the two clubs.

Bobby Wilkinson was beginning his second season in charge at The Vale - the first with largely his own players - and to be fair, in friendly terms, it was relatively high-octane. In front of a crowd of 251, Aldershot took the lead midway through the second half when one of their impressive trialists struck a low effort past Jonathan North with the Stones equaliser coming from the returning Bradley Hudson-Odoi who got on the end of a David Pratt cross to poke the ball beyond Jake Cole.

North was much the busier of the keepers in the first half, tipping wide an effort from Aldershot's mystery man, who dictated the tempo for a lot of their play as he looks for a contract with the National League promotion hopefuls.

Northy twice denied Regan Booty, first from a free kick and then a shot from the resulting corner.

Despite Aldershot's dominance the Stones almost took the lead through Danny Green but

Jake Cole was out quick to thwart the midfielder who just couldn't release the ball from his feet quick enough.

The Shots then went close again through Booty and twice through Luke Wanadio with North getting a strong hand on his second effort to keep the scores level.

The best chance



of the half then fell to Green, Bradley Bubb picked him out in acres of space inside the penalty area but he smashed his effort well over the bar.

After the visitors took the lead, the introduction of Pratt boosted the Stones' attacking threat and he created the equaliser when he beat his man and crossed superbly for Hudson-Odoi at the far post to poke the ball past Cole.

Stefan Brown almost put the Stones ahead after he got on the end of a Jake Sheppard cross, heading the ball into the ground and Cole did well to tip it over.

WEALDSTONE: North, Tyler (Sheppard 55), Grant (Mambo 60), Stevens, Okimo, Poku, Green (Lench 55), Ahmidi (Clark 71),

Brown (Monakana 80), Bubb (Pratt 55), Hudson-Odoi. Subs not used: Wilson, Thomas.

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

Well, this was a real up-and down season with the lowlights of losing to Matt Ball and Biggleswade in the Trophy, and Xmas league wallopings by Slough and Oxford almost turned into a fairytale ending as the Stones scraped into the play-offs in the last few minutes on the final day. Then came glory at Bath in the eliminator, and over 500 travelled to Woking to witness heartbreak in the second half of the semi-final as we went down 3-2.



Bradley Hudson-Odoi was back with a bang after he'd rejoined from Sutton United. He celebrates with (left) Matt Lench, Godfrey Poku and Stefan Brown. Picture courtesy of Ian Morsman (Aldershot FC)



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BY STEVE DUCKER



50-year flashback

Marking the 50th anniversary of our step up to professionalism in 2021, we're 'live blogging' our final season as an amateur club using one programme from each of the 92 professional Football League clubs playing in 1970/71. Here are matches 21 to 24.

Saturday 26 September, 3.15pm, Division 1

Stoke City 5 (John Ritchie 2, Jim Greenhoff, Terry Conroy, Alan Bloor)
Arsenal 0

Ref G Jones, Lancaster | Att 18,153

Summary: Stoke make it six home games without conceding a goal and hand out a hammering that will prove a blessing in disguise for Arsenal.

Programme highlight: The Top 20 Gates table on the facts & figures page. That's the top 20 for the whole league, not just the first division, hence Aston Villa of Division 3's placing at 15th. ②

Programme lowlight: Mentioning Stanley Matthews, who'd retired five years earlier, in the opening para of the manager's notes doesn't suggest much forward thinking at the Victoria Ground.

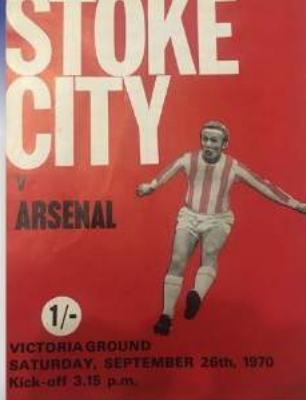
Programme bingo: The 3.15 kick off. ① 3pm may have become the default since the 1950s introduction of floodlights, but several clubs favoured the later option, giving fans who worked Saturday mornings some valuable extra drinking time.

Ahead of their time: The programme editor captioning the visitors' team photo as 'The Mighty Gunners of Arsenal'. Maybe it was a forecast of the season they were about to enjoy. Maybe it was to lull them into false sense of security. Either way, it worked.

Any other business: Two weeks earlier, Stoke beat Leeds 3-0, which coupled with this game meant they took care of the eventual top two with an 8-0 aggregate. Other results were less impressive - they finished in the bottom half.

Cliche: 'Top of the league? You're having a laugh'

Stones: Huzzah! A 2-0 home win over Ilford..

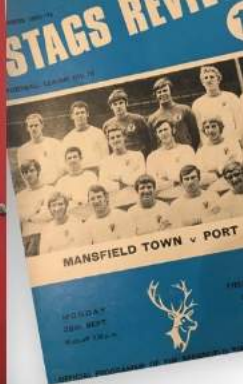


1/-

VICTORIA GROUND
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th, 1970
Kick-off 3.15 p.m.

① TOP 20 GATES

	Up to	69-70	68-69
1 Manchester United	Sept. 19	56,000	51,12
2 Liverpool	48,368	43,591	47,35
3 Everton	46,666	46,931	45,91
4 Chelsea	45,644	40,242	37,58
5 Arsenal	43,761	36,758	38,4
6 Leeds United	42,433	34,813	39,91
7 Newcastle United	38,618	37,553	33,7
8 Manchester City	35,537	35,933	34,5
9 Tottenham Hotspur	35,141	37,417	37,4
10 West Ham United	32,074	30,530	31,1
11 Derby County	31,023	35,924	37,4
12 Crystal Palace	30,504	29,801	19,8
13 Coventry City	28,097	32,072	33,2
14 Birmingham City	27,760	25,000	26,0
15 Aston Villa	27,481	27,346	24,6
16 West Bromwich Albion	26,819	27,677	25,0
17 Nottingham Forest	25,700	23,407	24,1
18 Blackpool	24,476	15,665	15,1
19 Huddersfield	24,146	17,828	10,1
20 Wolves	23,036	31,164	30,1



Monday 28 September, 7.30pm, Division 3

Mansfield Town 2 (Dudley Roberts, Clive Walker)
Port Vale 0

Ref J Thacker, Scarborough | Att 8,118

Summary: Mansfield record a home win against a Vale team still coming to grips with the higher grade after promotion in 1970. ③

Programme highlight: Manager Jock Basford (great name!) welcoming new signing Bobby Roberts from Leicester City in a classic 'now we mean business' pose. ④

Programme lowlight: Some of the accompanying interview with Roberts: "I shall do my best for the Stags and I hope that promotion will be won." Even in the 1970s, that was dated.

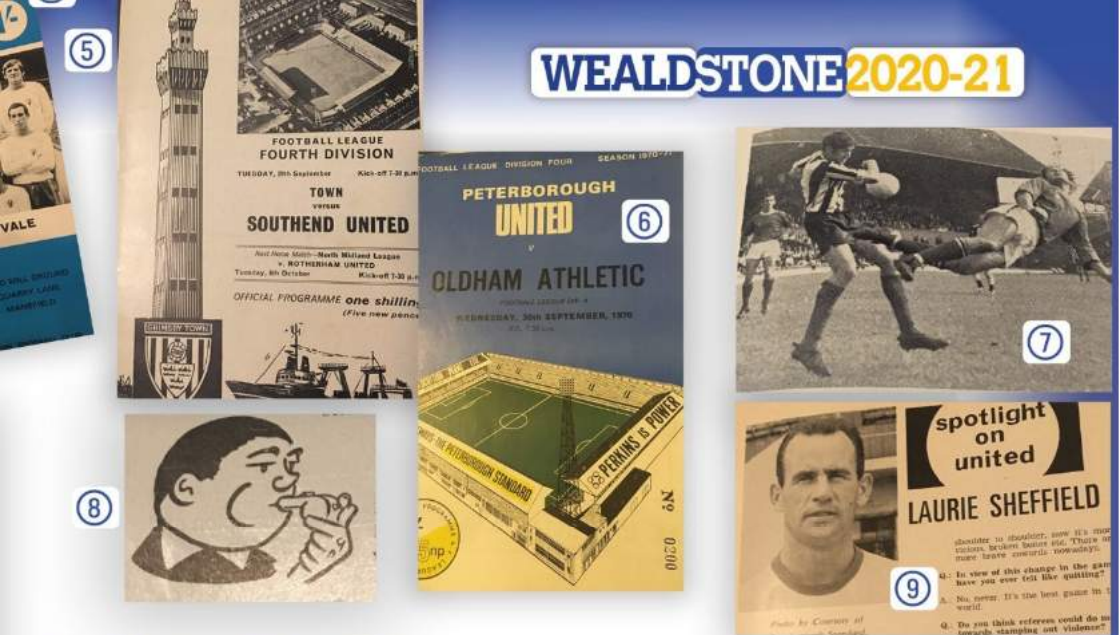
Programme bingo: Goalkeeper Graham Brown listing scampi and steak as his favourite foods. There's a book in there somewhere...

Ahead of their time: Jock Basford again. "We must always remember that each of our opponents presents a different challenge." There's a computer game in there somewhere...

Any other business: Despite a full midweek programme in the bottom three divisions, this was one of only four games scheduled for Monday evening as the tradition of teams playing non-Saturday games on their town's early closing day receded into the distance.

Cliche: 'In Jock we trust'

Stones: 2,999 see us lose 1-2 at Wycombe.



Tuesday 29 September, 7.30pm, Division 4

Grimsby Town 2 (Graham Oates, Mike Hickman) Southend United 0

Ref T Farley, County Durham | Att 3,824

Summary: East Coast derby (can I say that?) between two teams in bottom half of table ends in a home win. **5**

Programme highlight: Article on a recent European match involving Italian side Lazio, showing that looking overseas was not just something Grimsby did from the higher vantage points of their seaside ground.

Programme lowlight: 'Ancient Mariner' quoting a former Town manager who once said after a particularly dirty game: "That will sort the men from the boys".

Programme bingo: Supporters Club column opening with an apology that they couldn't comment on the previous match because of printing deadlines - the bane of programme editors and contributors in the days before electronic communications became a thing.

Ahead of their time: Grimsby's chairman using his column to suggest that the team had always played best against opponents on a decent run of form, as Southend were at the time. If he'd been around now, that deadly combination of conjecture and lack of evidence could easily have got him a pundit's job somewhere.

Any other business: Both clubs were promoted together in 1972, then went one better by climbing from fourth to second alongside each other between 1989 and 1991.

Cliche: 'There's only one Mr Chairman'

Wednesday 30 September, 7.30pm, Division 4

Peterborough Utd 2 (Laurie Sheffield, Bob Moss) Oldham Athletic 1 (Don Heath)

Ref J Finn, Chigwell Row | Att 5,847

Summary: Peterborough prevail in a battle of two evenly matched sides. **6**

Programme highlight:

Posh striker Jim Hall goes for a header against Grimsby but contorts himself into a shape that suggests a sideline job with the local circus during the summer months wouldn't be out of the question. **7**

Programme lowlight: The referee caricature alongside the Man in the Middle section, which strongly implies any whistler who looked like that in real life would struggle to see out the 90 minutes. **8**

Programme bingo: Page 4 article calling on the team to 'consolidate home advantage'. You don't say...

Ahead of their time: Veteran forward Laurie Sheffield saying that full-time professional referees must come into the game sometime so they can understand it better. Maybe he'd been looking at Man in the Middle... **9**

Any other business: This was Peterborough's third season in the basement after a bizarre relegation in 1968. They were demoted for illegal bonus payments despite finishing ninth with 50 points (70 in today's money), and it took them until 1974 to get their Division 3 place back.

Cliche: 'You can stick your third division up your ...'

Next time: Coventry, Exeter, Tranmere and Chester

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 EASTLEIGH Saturday, 19th December FA Trophy 3rd Round	LGM Construction		
 BOREHAM WOOD Monday, 28th December Vanarama National League	Graham Clark & Mike Pullen		
 ALDERSHOT TOWN Saturday, 23rd January Vanarama National League	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 MAIDENHEAD UNITED Tuesday, 2nd February Vanarama National League	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 WOKING Saturday, 6th February Vanarama National League	In Memory of Markie Barton		
 BROMLEY Saturday, 13th February Vanarama National League	Alan Couch	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 EASTLEIGH Tuesday, 23rd February Vanarama National League	James & Victor Klarfeld	Liam McKane (LGM)	

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	KING'S LYNN TOWN Tuesday, 9th March Vanarama National League	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
	NOTTS COUNTY Saturday, 27th March Vanarama National League	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
	BARNET Monday, 5th April Vanarama National League	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
	HARTLEPOOL UNITED Saturday, 17th April Vanarama National League	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
	YEOVIL TOWN Saturday, 1st May Vanarama National League	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
	DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE Saturday, 8th May Vanarama National League	'In memory of fans no longer with us' Ron Moore, Tony, Steve & Peter Drew and David Edwards		
	SOLIHULL MOORS Saturday, 22nd May Vanarama National League	In memory of Roy Couch	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
	DOVER ATHLETIC Tuesday, 19th January Vanarama National League	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?



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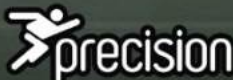
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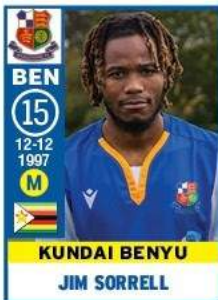
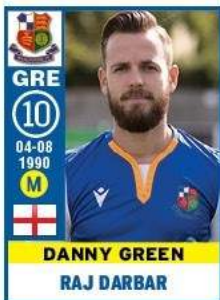
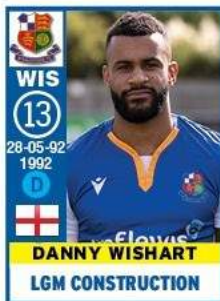
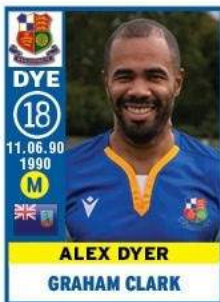
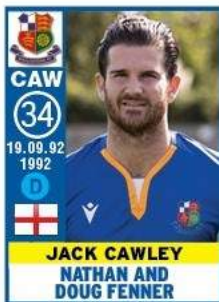
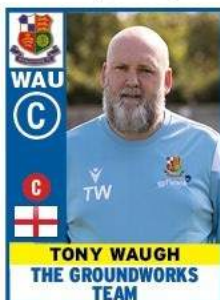
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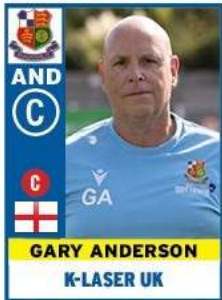


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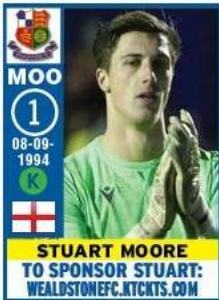
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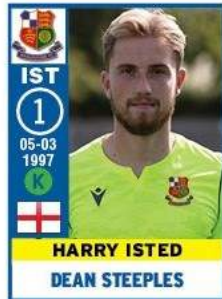
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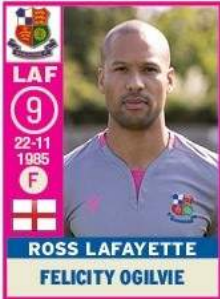
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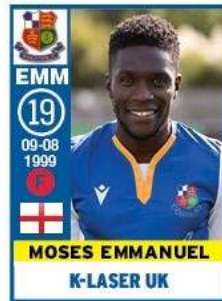
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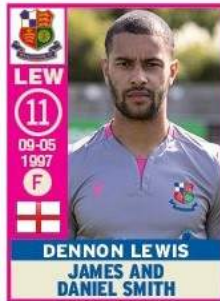
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WEALDSTONE 2020-21

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Vanarama National League 2020/2021 – at Tuesday 20/01/2021

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 Torquay United	17	12	2	3	38	17	8	6	1	1	17	6	9	6	1	2	21	11	21	38	1-2
2 Hartlepool United	17	9	3	5	26	19	10	5	2	3	16	12	7	4	1	2	10	7	7	30	1-3
3 Sutton United	14	8	3	3	25	16	8	4	2	2	16	7	6	4	1	1	9	9	9	27	3-3
4 Stockport County	15	8	3	4	24	16	6	3	2	1	10	5	9	5	1	3	14	11	8	27	2-5
5 Altrincham	18	6	6	6	20	21	7	2	2	3	7	8	11	4	4	3	13	13	-1	24	1-0
6 Halifax Town	17	6	5	6	28	21	8	4	2	2	16	10	9	2	3	4	12	11	7	23	1-0
7 Notts County	14	7	2	5	19	13	8	5	0	3	14	8	6	2	2	2	5	5	6	23	0-3
8 Wrexham	15	7	2	6	20	17	7	4	1	2	10	4	8	3	1	4	10	13	3	23	4-3
9 Maidenhead United	14	7	2	5	21	21	6	3	1	2	13	11	8	4	1	3	8	10	0	23	0-4
10 Bromley	14	6	4	4	23	17	8	2	2	4	12	13	6	4	2	0	11	4	6	22	
11 Boreham Wood	14	6	4	4	17	11	5	2	1	2	4	4	9	4	3	2	13	7	6	22	
12 Solihull Moors	13	7	1	5	18	13	7	6	0	1	13	3	6	1	1	4	5	10	5	22	
13 Woking	16	6	3	7	20	18	9	4	3	2	12	5	7	2	0	5	8	13	2	21	
14 Aldershot Town	16	6	3	7	22	22	7	3	1	3	9	10	9	3	2	4	13	12	0	21	
15 Wealdstone	16	6	3	7	23	33	7	4	1	2	16	16	9	2	2	5	7	17	-10	21	--
16 Eastleigh	14	5	5	4	21	16	7	2	3	2	7	6	7	3	2	2	14	10	5	20	0-2
17 Chesterfield	15	6	1	8	26	20	8	3	1	4	16	9	7	3	0	4	10	11	6	19	3-2
18 Dagenham & Redbridge	15	5	3	7	11	16	6	1	2	3	2	5	9	4	1	4	9	11	-5	18	0-1
19 King's Lynn Town	15	5	3	7	19	31	8	2	3	3	11	15	7	3	0	4	8	16	-12	18	3-2
20 Yeovil Town	15	4	5	6	20	24	8	2	1	5	10	13	7	2	4	1	10	11	-4	17	2-2
21 Weymouth	16	2	3	11	17	31	10	1	1	8	12	24	6	1	2	3	5	7	-14	9	2-1
22 Barnet	14	2	3	9	11	35	8	1	2	5	4	15	6	1	1	4	7	20	-24	9	0-0
23 Dover Athletic	12	2	1	9	8	29	7	2	1	4	6	15	5	0	0	5	2	14	-21	7	



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Josh Debayo 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	3 Alex Finney
Ashley Charles 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	4 Jamie Sendles-White
Connor Stevens 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	6 Kodi Lyons-Foster
Jerome Okimo © 6	<input type="checkbox"/>	7 James Rowe
Michael Phillips 7	<input type="checkbox"/>	8 Josh Rees
Connor Smith 8	<input type="checkbox"/>	9 Mo Bettamer
Ross Lafeyette 9	<input type="checkbox"/>	10 Chike Kandi
Danny Green 10	<input type="checkbox"/>	11 Harry Panayiotou
Dennon Lewis 11	<input type="checkbox"/>	12 Alfie Whittingham
Charlee Hughes 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	13 Ryan Hall G
Daniel Wishart 13	<input type="checkbox"/>	14 Joel Nouble
Danny Parish 14	<input type="checkbox"/>	15 Jermaine Anderson
Kundai Benyu 15	<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Reece Wylie
Jacob Mendy Mendy 17	<input type="checkbox"/>	20 Toby Edser
Alex Dyer 18	<input type="checkbox"/>	21 Ben Shroll
Moses Emmanuel 19	<input type="checkbox"/>	22 Giles Phillips
Jorome Slew 20	<input type="checkbox"/>	23 Killian Colombie
G Lewis Everitt 21	<input type="checkbox"/>	25 Shadrach Ogie
Maxim Kouogun 23	<input type="checkbox"/>	26 Lewis Kinsella
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G Jake Askew 25	<input type="checkbox"/>	29 Joe Rabetts
Mohammad Diallo 26	<input type="checkbox"/>	30 Ricky Miller
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REFEREE Daniel Middleton **ASSISTANTS** Jonathan Block and Mark Stevens **FOURTH OFFICIAL** Martyn Mitchell **OBSERVER** Mick Russell **COACH** Stephen Dunn

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INSIDE The big interview features the original crazy goalkeeper himself... **CHRIS LIGHTFOOT**