

wealdstone football club



first winners of the non-league double

2008-2009
season



view from the vale



BIG BEN STRIKES

Ben Alexander (left) and
Chris O'Leary celebrate our
2nd goal against Watford in
the sparkling pre-season
win here at Grosvenor Vale

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME £2 SPONSORED IN MEMORY OF DANNY HELEN



SATURDAY AUGUST 16th, 2008, KO 3PM
RYMAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

**WEALDSTONE v
TONBRIDGE ANGELS**



Ryman
football league

macron
Work Hard. Play Harder.
OFFICIAL KIT SPONSOR

TODAYS LINE-UP

THE MATCH

Wealdstone v Tonbridge Angels

Blue/White Red

Sean THOMAS	1	Lee WORGAN
Marvin McCOY	2	Lewis HAMILTON
Alan MASSEY	3	Simon GLOVER
James GRAY	4	Tommy TYNE
Carl MARTIN	5	Leon LEGGE
Ryan ASHE	6	James DONOVAN
Kieron FORBES	7	John WESTCOTT
Chris O'LEARY	8	Jamie CADE
Ben ALEXANDER	9	Ade OLORUNDA
Stephen HUGHES	10	Carl ROOK
Graeme MONTGOMERY	11	Fraser LOGAN
Lee CHAPPELL	12	Tim OLORUNDA
Dean PAPALI	14	Phil STARKEY
Derek QUAYE	15	Luke PISCINA
Nick SALAPATAS	16	Charlie SHARMAN
Luke WOODS	17	Ashley DANN

Referee: Alf Field

Assistants: Michael Barnes & Michael O'Keefe

MATCH SPONSORS: Emma Bailey & Mike Kane

BALL DONOR: Howard Kraiss

MANAGEMENT: First X1 Manager: Gordon Bartlett Assistant: Leo Morris Coach: Mark Gill,
 PHYSIO TEAM: James Smith, Gary Strudwick RESERVE TEAM MANAGEMENT: Phil Ralston, John Moran
 GOALKEEPER COACH: Tony Jones WFC and Pinnacle U18s: Mickey Johnson
 YOUTH & STANMORE COLLEGE COACHES: Steve Beeks, Tracy Kevins, Adrian Creamer, Andy Standford
 FOOTBALL SCHOLARSHIP DEVELOPMENT SCOUT: John Moran



The Club

Ground: Grosvenor Vale
 Ruislip Middx. HA46JQ
 01895 637 487

CHAIRMAN
 Howard Kraiss

VICE CHAIRMAN
 Pete Worby

DIRECTORS
 Paul Fruin
 Quentin Fox
 Paul Rumens

CLUB PRESIDENT
 Paul Rumens

CLUB SECRETARY
 Paul Fruin

MATCH SECRETARY
 Alan Couch

COMPANY SECRETARY
 Trevor Davies

COMMERCIAL MANAGER
 Dennis Byatt

RESERVE TEAM SEC
 Lesley Jones

PRESS OFFICER
 Nick DuGard

SAFETY OFFICER
 Pete Worby

OFFICIAL WEBMASTER
 Matt Hill

PROGRAMME
 Adam & Minnie Gloor

OPERATIONS MANAGER
 Andy Burrows

GENERAL SERVICES
 Graham Smith
 Pauline Smith
 Drew Worby
 Charlotte Taffel

HOSPITALITY
 Gordon McKay
 Alan Hill

PA ANNOUNCER
 Peter John Baptiste

SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME
 Paul Fruin

JUNIOR LIAISON MANAGER
 Mark Lloyd



Major Honours since 1950

- 1951-52**
Athenian League
Champions
- 1958-59, 1962-63,
1964-65**
Middlesex Senior Cup
Winners
- 1965-66**
FA Amateur Cup
Winners
- 1967-68**
Middlesex Senior Cup
Winners
- 1973-74**
Southern League
Division One South
Winners
- 1981-82**
Southern League
Champions and
Southern League Cup
Winners
- 1984-85**
Football Conference
Champions, FA
Trophy Winners &
Middlesex Senior Cup
Winners
- 1996-97**
Isthmian League
Division 3 Winners
- 1997-98**
Promoted from
Isthmian League
Division 2 (3rd)
- 2003-04**
Middlesex Charity
Cup Winners
and promoted to
Isthmian League
Premier Division
(via play-off)

Let's seize the day with vision and hope

It's hard to believe today has finally come around.. after 17 years of nomadic wandering, our beloved Stones are finally playing a competitive match in a place we can call home. And doesn't it feel good! A huge vote of thanks is due, first of all, to the board for having the vision, just six months ago, to seize the opportunity of taking on the debts and lease of Ruislip Manor FC. And then of course, it was a herculean effort by the hardy band of fans (and officials) to transform the dilapidated Grosvenor Vale into the stadium you see today.

Okay, it's not the Emirates Stadium or the new Wembley, or even Lower Mead but you won't find anyone walking around without a big smile on their face since that magnificent opening night a few weeks ago. I'm one of those who was unable to help with the groundworks, painting and overhaul of the ground during the summer. All I had seen were updated photographs of the progress on the club's website... so you can imagine my joy at arriving at a sparkling Vale for the Watford friendly. I was bowled over at the change since the Field of Dreams game in early May.

Staggered at the amount of work that has gone on... new hardstanding laid; crush barriers installed; terrific new signage; state-of -the art goals and nets; renovated changing and physio

rooms; everywhere benefitting from the sort of TLC that hasn't been lavished on this ground for decades.

It was a great bonus, of course, that the 800-odd crowd were treated to such an exhilarating game. Well, first half anyway as three goals rocketed into the Gun Turret End net to get the Wealdstone feelgood factor up and running. And great to see our new signing, former Spurs junior David Hicks, grabbing the historic first goal at the Vale with a tremendous 25-yard strike. Although it made me feel a bit ancient as my eldest daughter Charlotte was a classmate of his at Chace School in Enfield!

That goal was followed by an equally good swivel and smash by Ben Alexander before Watford's French defender Cedric Aveline completed the scoring with an own goal just before the break... and the new ground is already turning up a few strange statistics as we have yet to score in the Grosvenor Vale end net.

Yes, it's true... the Hampton friendly finished goalless and, against Hemel Hempstead last Saturday we were again unable to hit the target at that end. The Gun Turret goal was again seeing lots of action however, with Steve Hughes and Ryan Ashe both smashing in contenders for the Goal of the Season in the second half.

If you fancy seeing Ashley's goal, incidentally, our winger Nick Salapatas has his performances videoed and they can be watched on his own website. A bit of a first as far as I am aware... and you can also view the Sky Sports footage of the Watford game on YouTube. Splendid ironic commentary too! But that was then, and this is now...

Today is another huge occasion for Wealdstone Football Club as we welcome Tonbridge Angels, their officials and supporters for our first true home game since April 1991. The Kent side have been one-off rivals ever since we turned professional in 1971 and will be formidable opposition this afternoon. They completed the double over us last season and were one of the most impressive sides to visit Chestnut Avenue, beating us 3-1 when we in the middle of a decent spell.

Our journey to the Longmead Stadium had ended in bitter disappointment in November when Tonbridge snatched two late goals (the second after our keeper Sean Thomas had been carried off) to take all three points after Ben Alexander had put us in a

commanding position. This was also Alan Massey's last game of his loan spell... no doubt he and Sean will be out for revenge today.

The Stones have a really tough start, in fact, as we face three of the form sides in the opening week. After today we go to Short Lane, Ashford on Tuesday night—a ground where we were beaten with embarrassing ease last season—and then to Billericay Town next Saturday, another stadium where we have never won. But this is a new era! Hope spring eternal and we hope to see hundreds of blue & white-clad fans on our travels in the next few weeks as the Stones march on to glory.

A big welcome to today's Match Sponsors. Emma Bailey and Mike Kane will have the pleasure of the Directors attention for this special game, and I hope they enjoy the pampering this afternoon. Thanks also go to Howard Kraiss for sponsoring the Match ball. I hope you all bring us luck!

Enjoy the game today and see you back here on Bank Holiday Monday, August 25 (3pm) when we face Boreham Wood.

Tim Parks

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

A lot of things have happened over the last 17 years without a home to call our own and the saddest of these is the loss we have all shared with the many supporters who have passed on. Some were very old and some died along while before their time should have been up. I am not going to mention names as, is always the case, I will miss someone out, but you, on the terraces today, know who those fans were.

So at 2.59pm today the club ask you to celebrate those lives with a FULL minutes applause in recognition of those fans who cannot be here today or any day other than in our hearts. I am sure a few of them will be looking down on us with broad smiles!

After the game come and join us for a few jars in the clubhouse as we will be toasting to absent friends throughout the night,
Up the Stones,

El Presidente



WEALDSTONE FC Ground Regulations

People are only allowed entry to Grosvenor Vale on match days subject to the following rules and regulations. 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 by 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.
- Carrying items which may be considered a danger to others, including cans, bottles or drinking 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 offensive language like to cause offence to others.
- Using violence of any nature.

The consumption of alcoholic drinks is permitted **INSIDE** the social club bar and board room areas.

CHAIRMAN HOW



This is only the start of things...

A new season, a new home and a new era for Wealdstone Football Club and so I can say a warm welcome to everyone to Grosvenor Vale.

When writing these articles, it is very easy to provide the usual platitudes about all the work people have done over the summer and then to dive straight into the hopes and aspirations of a new season.

But this has been no ordinary summer. Sometimes I think it is important to take a moment or two and reflect on what we have achieved. Remember what the state of Grosvenor Vale was like? I had the somewhat dubious pleasure of being involved in the 'Field of Dreams' event in May and I know from first hand experience how poor the pitch was. The rest of the 'stadium' (if you could call it that) was not much better.

Just look around you to see the difference. Sure it

is still fairly basic, sure there is still plenty to do but perhaps most importantly of all it feels like home. And it has been a long time since we could say that.

So well done to everyone involved. I'm sure much of this programme will be reflecting on everything that has gone on. I'm not going to list names - but to all those who have been involved in whatever capacity...I hope that today is just reward for all your efforts.

Tonbridge are welcome visitors today and will provide a stern test with many tipping them to be there or thereabout this year. Good luck to them, I hope they enjoy the festivities while they are our guests.

We also welcome Alan Turvey, the Chairman of the Ryman League. We are grateful to the league for all their advice and guidance over the past few months.

It was a great moment when Roger Reed officially confirmed our C grading last Sunday, saying how impressed he was with what we have achieved.

The Ryman League has rightly put their full support behind the FA's Respect programme. Included in the changes we will need to get used to this season are the Respect handshake between the two sets of teams and the officials at the start of the game, the referee talking mainly to the captains and also (and it's about time too) a board held up at the 90 minute mark showing how much injury time will be played.

We have gone to great lengths this summer to start to win back a new generation of supporters, merging the Wealdstone Juniors with the old Ruislip Manor Juniors, and affiliating with Ruislip Rangers and Pinner United. You will hear more

Chairman's Blog 'The Electric Chair'

howiejk.wordpress.com/

SPONSORSHIP & DONATIONS

Matchday Sponsors: The package gives you...

4 Admission Tickets that also include seats in the Director's Area of the Main Stand.

4 Complimentary matchday programmes.

Nibbles and drinks prior, during (half time) and post the game in the Match Day Lounge with a Wealdstone FC host to look after you.

Your name, or the name of your organisation, will feature prominently in the programme as well as the Club website- especially in the lead up to the game, and will be announced over the PA system to the crowd. You will meet the Wealdstone FC manager before the game and nominate the 'Man of the Match' at full time. Ask for Pete Worby at the game.

A great thanks to all of whom came forward last season. They have every reason to feel proud in supporting their great club.

about these arrangements as the season progresses, but we hope to see a big upsurge in the number of kids who start attending our games, together with their parents.

As part of our new era we welcome West One as our new sponsors, as well as Macron our new kit suppliers. Among the people taking on new roles at the Club over the summer we welcome back Dennis Byatt who is working with Tracey Jones on the commercial

side, and also Phil Ralston and Lesley and Tony Jones, our new reserves management team. Also Gary and Deo in the physio department, and Andy Burrows who has agreed to become our new Operations Manager and Mark Lloyd our Juniors Liaison Manager.

As ever we still have some vacancies so if anyone is interested in getting involved in the Club particularly in the areas of company secretary or safety officer then I'd be delighted

to hear from you.

17 years have passed since we last played a proper home game. I imagine we will have a player playing this season who was born after that last game at Lower Mead. It has been too long. Whatever the result today, this is only the start. Let's hope for as big a season on the pitch as we have already enjoyed off it.

Howard Kraiss
Chairman

Matchball Donation

A traditional package for Individuals, businesses or friends that will give you the satisfaction of knowing you have paid for the ball that Wealdstone FC are banging into the net (or out of the ground).

This package gives you: 2 Admission Tickets to the Ground.

2 Complimentary programmes.

Nibbles and drinks prior, during (half time) and post the game in the Match Day Lounge with a Wealdstone FC host to look after you.

Your name will be inside the programme and you will receive a football signed by the Wealdstone FC team on the day to keep as a memento. Your name will also be featured on the Official Club Website leading up to the game. All this is possible for just £70.

If you or your organisation are interested in Donating the matchball for a Wealdstone FC Home Match then please contact Dennis Byatt (Commercial Manager) at commercial.manager@wealdstone-fc.com or by phone on 07811 04582

Angels fly high

For the new season of 1948/49, the Southern League welcomed four new clubs, Chingford Town, Hastings United, Kidderminster Harriers and Tonbridge. This was a remarkable move for Tonbridge, as the idea of forming the club had only been raised ten months prior to the start of the 1948 season.

The founding of the club had been at the suggestion of local businessman Mr Herbert Portch and he became the club's first chairman. The club took out a lease on the Angel Ground, so named after an adjacent public house, which had previously been a home to Kent County Cricket Club, and being in the town centre, just two minutes walk from the railway station.

Fate threw together Tonbridge and Hastings United, both clubs making their Southern League debuts on August 21st 1948. Tonbridge netted first, a goal from Albert Robson, but the Sussex Club went on to win 2-1. Tonbridge's first season in the Southern League ended with an inauspicious third from bottom placing.

In the early seasons, The Angels, an obvious nickname did not blaze a trail in the League, but cup

competitions brought some cheer. In 1949/50 the club reached the Southern League Cup semi-finals, only to lose 3-2 to Colchester.

In three consecutive seasons, 1950/51, 1951/52, and 1952/53, Tonbridge advanced to the 1st Round Proper of the F.A. Cup, only to lose reach time in replays. Their opponents were Chelmsford City, Aldershot, and Norwich City respectively. The last match at Carrow Road, was settled by a late goal, which many thought should have been disallowed for off side. It was to be 14 years before the club again reached the 1st Round, where they lost 1-0 to Dagenham. Charlton Athletic, then in the old Division 3, were the F.A. Cup visitors to the Angel Ground in 1972, returning to The Valley as 5-0 victors.

Kent County competitions brought silverware to the Angel ground, by virtue of both the first and reserve teams, but in the wider based competitions, the club was fated to be "Cinderella". The Angel's Southern League Cup ambitions were snuffed out in two finals. 1954/55 by Yeovil, and 1956/57 by Hereford United.

The 60s and 70s were in the main, "run of the mill"

times, with occasional promotions matched by relegations. Some cup honours were attained, although nothing earth shattering, despite having some fine individual players and distinguished managers.

During 1975/1976 the club went into voluntary liquidation, Tonbridge Angels FC emerging from the chaos. Another major problem loomed soon after. The club's landlords, the local council, wanted the Angel ground for development. A battle in the High Courts ensued before the club was offered a new ground, its present home, at the north end of Tonbridge.

So what was begun by Albert Robson in 1948 was ended by Micky Angel, when he netted the last goal scored at the Angel Ground, during a 2-2 draw with Hounslow on 21st January, 1980. The remaining home fixtures for the season were played out on borrowed ground. Longmead Stadium staged its first game on August 18th 1980, a Southern League Cup match against Crawley Town watched by a crowd of 707.

Despite having a new home, finances proved a problem to the club. On field promise in the 80s

produced no real success apart from another Southern League Cup semi final appearance in 1987. Season 1988/89 proved to be a disaster. Finishing second from bottom, The Angels bade farewell to the Southern League after 40 years, and were relegated to the Kent League.

Despite being the best supported team in the Kent League, the championship, and with it a return to the Southern League, failed to materialise, although the Kent League Cup was lifted twice. 1992/93 was the year of the Angels. At last the title was won and the newly established reserves won the Kent League Division 2 Cup, and the Youth Team reached the Kent Youth Cup Final.

So in 1992/93, Tonbridge returned to the league which they had graced for so many years. Subsequent seasons have seen improvements both on and off the field. During the club's Kent League days, Longmead's record attendance for a competitive match was set when an F.A. Cup 4th Qualifying round match against Yeovil drew a crowd of 1,483. Season 1997/98 saw an attendance of 2,412 when the full Crystal Palace first team squad appeared for a charity match in aid of two local hospices, making March 30th 1998 a memorable evening in The Angels history.

During 2000/2001, new stands were erected behind each goal and plans are advanced for further ground

developments. Alan Walker was appointed manager at the start of season 2002/2003, and he left the club during season 2003/2004, being replaced by player manager Tony Dolby. The club then achieved a third place finish in the Southern League Eastern Division with a total of 88 points, being beaten for second place on goal difference by Histon. Mike Rutherford has joined the club as assistant manager. The club was relocated to the Isthmian League Premier Division at the start of season 2004/2005, but was relegated to the First Division at the end of the season.

At the start of season 2005/2006, Nick Sullivan was appointed as chairman of the club, which saw the club successfully promoted back to the Premier Division. The promotion was achieved via the play offs, with wins against Tooting & Mitcham, and Dover Athletic. The management team of Tommy Warrilow and Cliff Cant joined the club at the start of November, 2007, following the departure of Tony Dolby and Mike Rutherford.

A new ground record was set for the Longmead Stadium on 12th January, 2008, when 2,281 attended our 2nd Round proper FA Trophy tie against AFC Wimbledon. During the summer of 2008, major development work has taken place at our Stadium, including the fitting of 720 new seats to our West Stand.



The SQUAD

JAMIE CADE (FORWARD) – Joined to the club at the start of season 2008/09, having previously played for Lewes FC. Spent a month on loan with us during Season 2007/08.

JAMES DONOVAN (DEFENDER) – Joined the club at the start of season 2007/2008, having previously been with Margate.

SIMON GLOVER (UTILITY) – Joined the club towards the end of season 2007/08, having previously been with Bromley and Ashford Town (Kent).

LEWIS HAMILTON (DEFENDER) – Joined us at the start of season 2008/09, having previously been with Lewes FC. He can play in various defensive roles.

LEON LEGGE (DEFENDER) Again joined us at the start of season 2008/09, also having previously been with Lewes FC. Leon is a central defender.

FRASER LOGAN (MIDFIELD) – Fraser signed for us during the 2005-2006 season and immediately impressed with his crossing ability and pace. Can play wide, on the left or in an attacking role.

TIM OLORUNDA (MIDFIELD) – Joined us at the start of season 2008/09, having previously been with Hastings United.

ADE OLORUNDA (FORWARD)

OPPOSITION

- Joined us at the same time as his brother Tim, he too have previously been with Hastings United.

MICHAEL PHILLIPS (MIDFIELD) - Joined the club during season 2007/08, have previously been with Ramsgate.

LUKE PISCINA (FORWARD) - Rejoined the club at the start of season 2008/09, having previously been with us for several seasons. He played for Sevonoaks Town and Dartford whilst away from the club.

CARL ROOK (FORWARD) - Joined the club during December, 2007, having previously been with Horsham.

PHIL STARKEY (DEFENDER) - Joined the club early in 2008 have previously been with Ebbsfleet United.

ANTHONY STOREY (MIDFIELD) - Originally joined the club on loan from Lewes during Season 2006/07, but signed on a permanent basis at the start of season 2007/08.

TOMMY TYNE (FORWARD) - Joined the club at the start of season 2007/08 having previously been with Dover Athletic.

KIRK WATTS (FORWARD) - Arrived at the club in the middle of season 2007/08, having previously been with Lewes FC.

JOHN WESTCOTT (FORWARD). Joined the club in the middle of November, 2007, having previously been with Horsham.

LEE WORGAN (GOALKEEPER) - Signed for the club at the start of Season 2008/09, from Hastings United, having previously been with Wimbledon, Milton Keynes Dons Rushden & Diamonds and Cardiff City. Has represented Wales 5 times as an Under 21 International.

WEALDSTONE'S RECORD

v TONBRIDGE ANGELS

P 18 W 8 D 2 L 8 F29 A 28

Southern League

1972/73 (Div One Sth)	Home W1-0	Away L1-2
1974/75 (Prem Div)	Home W4-1	Away L0-1
1975/76 (Prem Div)	Home W2-1	Away D3-3
1981/82 (Sthn Div)	Home L1-2	Away W2-0
1993/94 (Sthn Div)	Home L1-2	Away L0-3
1994/95 (Sthn Div)	Home W3-2	Away W4-3

Isthmian League

2004/05 (Prem Div)	Home D1-1	Away W1-0
2007/08 (Prem Div)	Home L1-3	Away L1-2

F.A. Cup

1951/52 (4 th Qfy Rd)	Away L0-2
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Bryco Cup

2004/05 (3 rd Round)	Home W3-0
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Soccer Line



09062 892011

Please remember to call the Wealdstone FC Information Line on 09062 892011 this season—all calls cost 60p/minute at all times. Exclusive updates and match feedback from Gordon Bartlett on line 3 (Managers section) remains a highly popular listen and we are grateful for GBs detailed and frank input after each match.

Wealdstone FC receives a regular and important income from calls via our provider so please keep calling and if you have any suggestions regarding this service, please call 01727 872675

MATCH REPORT



Stones see off the Hornet young guns

Aldy Boothroyd sent down a young and talented Watford side to help Wealdstone launch a new phase in their history with the first match to be played at their new permanent home at The

Wealdstone 3
Watford XI 1

Vale, Ruislip. With the newly laid pitch looking like a billiard table, the surrounding stands and terracing neat and spruced up and the sun shining on a beautiful summer's evening, the stage was set perfectly for the occasion.

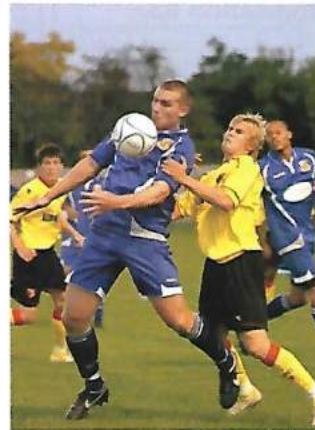
All the meaningful action occurred in the first half. The home side took the lead from a beautifully struck

shot from debutante, David Hicks. The Hornets came back strongly, playing some neat and attractive approach work, but were finding The Stones defenders James Gray and Alan



Top: Dean Papali
Left: Big Ben Alexander
Right: Stephen Hughes

Photos by: Shane Dempsey
of Harry O



MATCH REPORT

Massey in uncompromising mood. And when able to the Stones midfield broke quickly and effectively with the excellent Derek Quaye making some clever and incisive passes to forwards Ben Alexander and Dean Papali.

One such pass set up Alexander to send in a beautiful chip that beat keeper Scott Loach all ends up but just cleared the crossbar. Alexander was not to be denied and on 32 minutes a long throw from Lee Chappell was flicked on by Papali for Alexander to turn his defender and crash the ball into the net. This stung The Hornets into urgent action and Ashley Young's brother, Lewis, thumped in a bullet header from a left wing cross to get them back into the game. But in stoppage time The Stones fortuitously regained their two goal advantage when skipper Chris O'Leary skewed in a snap shot that crept into the corner of the net.

The second half saw the Championship side step up a gear and put the Stones under greater pressure, but apart from a couple of clever free kicks that just cleared the goal and a great header from Rob Kieran that almost shattered the post, Wealdstone held on for a hard earned win.

Scorers: Wealdstone: David Hicks (7), Ben Alexander (32), Chris O'Leary (45)
Watford: Lewis Young (58m)
M.O.M: Derek Quaye (Wealdstone)
Attendance: 837

Photos

Top: O'Leary & Hughes. You know it's association by the shape of the ball.
Middle: Hughes in the thick of it
Bottom: First pic of Kieron Forbes, with this acrobatic clearance



Don't Forget — Golden Goals

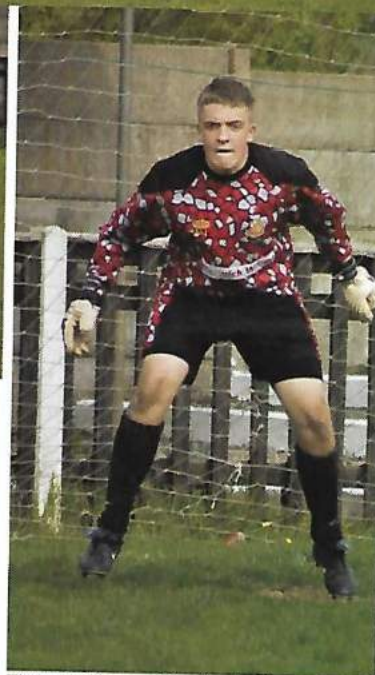
On sale today:

£50 for the first, £10 for the last

FIELD OF DREAMS

The last action at the 'old' Grosvenor Vale was the Field Of Dreams game on Monday 5th May where a number of fans bid for their chance to play alongside a number of former Stones players. The smiles on faces made the day worthwhile – as the fans and players enjoyed a competitive 4-4 draw and a few beers afterwards in the bar.

Looking at the pictures on these two pages also shows what a transformation has taken place at The Vale in such a short time, which started with the pitch being dug up two days after the game and completely re-laid, as well as all the work carried out by the fans on the terraces, stands and general areas within the ground, so well done and thanks to all!



Thanks to Steve and Lee for the Pictures.....

Back Row; Byatt, Smith, Lloyd J, Bowgett, Rawal, Paull, Lamb, Ryan, Jones, Benning, Walker, Moore, Harrison,
Parks, Lloyd D, Lynch, Kelly, Woolford, Strudwick, Khanna, Donellan, Cordice, Fox
Front Row; Lindsay, Cross D, Kane, Elvery, Kraus, Schwartz, Evans, Barwick, Walton, Edwards, Cross R, Hill, Albert



Montgomery on trial at Watford

Wealdstone FC Manager Gordon Bartlett has revealed this week that talented young winger **Graeme Montgomery** has been offered a trial with Watford FC following the friendly match staged between the two sides last week. Said Bartlett, 'Graeme has been invited over to Watford for a three day training stint and will then take part in a game with them. Aidy Boothroyd was impressed with Monty when we played them at the Vale and this is a great opportunity for him to make an impression and is a real confidence booster for Graeme at this stage of the season.'

Meanwhile Bartlett has confirmed that striker **Peter Dean** has been transferred to Bishops Stortford of the Blue Square South. 'Peter has had an offer to play at a higher level and he moves on with our thanks—he has done very well for us and deserves this opportunity to move up. The club also announced this week that Centre Back **Alan Massey** has signed a contract that will commit the popular and talented ex-Wycombe Wanderers player to Wealdstone for the coming season.

Wealdstone have signed two more players who have impressed in pre season

matches before the big Ryman Premier kick off on August 16 when Stones face Tonbridge Angels at the Vale.

Midfielder **Kieron Forbes** who celebrates his 18TH birthday later this month has joined the squad having been recently released by Championship side Watford FC. Forbes, who was part of the Hornets Academy set-up and reserves, made one first team appearance in the League Cup at Gillingham.

The Watford connection continues with the signing of pacy full back **Marvin McCoy**, 19, who was also a member of the Hornets Academy but was with Leyton last season following a short loan spell with Hereford United.

Thumbs up from FA

Wealdstone FC has Ryman ground grading confirmed. Officials from the Ryman League Ground Grading Committee carried out a final inspection at Wealdstone's new home at the Vale last Sunday morning (10th August) and were able to confirm that requirements had been met to achieve the necessary 'C' grading for Ryman Football League Premier Division football.

Following the initial inspection carried out on 20 June, 2008, the club had been given a number of additional works that were required to be completed before the grading could be awarded. Major improvements at the Vale have included levelling and relaying the playing surface, significantly improving terracing and replacing large sections of perimeter fencing. The players dressing and treatment rooms and other facilities have been completely renovated and team dugouts replaced.

Stones Chairman Howard Kraiss said: 'This is a remarkable achievement by a totally dedicated group of supporters, officials and management who have worked tirelessly since January to upgrade and refurbish a previously dilapidated stadium into one that we can all be proud—and of course most importantly a facility that meets the required grading criteria to

play football at Ryman Premier Division level. The ground volunteer team have been led superbly by Don Cross and Mike Kane and on behalf of the directors I would like to pay tribute to everyone involved'

Upgrading works and improvements will continue at the Vale and plans are currently being formulated for additional spectator cover at the turnstile end of the ground.

FRIENDLIES ROUNDUP

Mixed results, but Wealdstone playing well and creating, if not always taking, a lot of chances. Here is a run down of the team's endeavours so far.




This friendly game at the Vale ended 0-0 in a tight, competitive and absorbing contest. The nearest Hampton came to a goal in the first half was when Alan Massey expertly hooked the ball off the goal line after Luke Woods had been beaten. For Wealdstone midfielder David Hicks had a shot heading for the top corner saved by the Hampton keeper.

After 32 minutes Stones defender Lee Chappell suffered a badly cut left leg and was replaced by Graeme Montgomery with Gary Burrell dropping back to the left back position. In the second half Hampton's goalie failed to hold a corner and a Stones goalbound effort was cleared from the goal line by a relieved defender.

Play was end to end throughout an entertaining match with Stones defence again playing well and looking very solid against a competitive and full strength Blue Square outfit.

WEALDSTONE: Luke Woods, Marvin McCoy, Lee Chappell, James Gray, Alan Massey, David Hicks, Derek

Quaye, Chris O'Leary, Dean Papali, Ben Alexander, Gary Burrell. Subs: Graeme Montgomery, Ben Clarke, Kieron Forbes, Billy Hawes, Stephen Hughes, Nick Salapatas, John Sonuga & Daniel Carr.




The Tanners had the best of the first half and Richard Barnard in the Stones goal was kept busier than his opposite number. He brought off several excellent saves but was beaten once when Will Jenkins saw his shot cannon back off the crossbar. At the other end the Leatherhead keeper made one good save from a sharp Stephen Hughes shot during this half.

Luke Woods took over in goal for the second half and wasn't involved as much as Barnard had been in the first period. Wealdstone did most of the attacking during this half with youngster Nick Salapatas a constant threat down the left wing. Near the end Stones hit the woodwork with a fierce shot.

Stones have now had two goalless draws in succession, albeit in friendly matches. The last time Stones achieved this was in April 1997 and by a strange

coincidence the second one was also at Leatherhead. We had drawn 0-0 at Kingsbury Town in a Ryman League (Division 3) match before going to Leatherhead in the semi-final of the Isthmian League Associate Members Cup and drawing 0-0 after extra time. We won the replay 3-1.

WEALDSTONE: Richard Barnard, Marvin McCoy, Billy Hawes, John Sonuga, Alan Massey, Kieron Forbes, Derek Quaye, Chris O'Leary, Stephen Hughes, Jerome Hall, Graeme Montgomery subs: Luke Woods, Richard Ashy, Gary Burrell, Nick Salapatas, Kyle Matthews



Two goals in each half gave Wealdstone a comfortable win over their Combined Counties League (Premier Division) opponents at their Berkeley Avenue ground. Early on a shot from Ben Clarke rebounded off a post as Wealdstone dominated the early stages with Graeme Montgomery a constant threat.

After 12 minutes Wealdstone took the lead when Stephen Hughes headed home following a corner.

Stones were creating numerous chances but their final shots were going just wide of the home side's goal, Montgomery, Hughes and Alexander just off target. With 28 minutes gone Tony Hingerton equalised when he beat Luke Woods to a through ball and lobbed the ball over the advancing keeper. With just four minutes remaining in a half that had been dominated by the Stones, David Hicks scored from close range to make it 2-1 to the Stones.

The second half followed a similar pattern with more shots from the visitors just going wide of the home side's goal. With 65 minutes gone Wealdstone brought on their five substitutes replacing Billy Hawes, Chris O'Leary, Stephen Hughes, Ben Alexander and Graeme Montgomery. It was two of these substitutes who scored to make the final score 4-1 to the Stones. Both scored with well hit shots from the edge of the penalty area, Wayne Reid after 70 minutes and Derek Quaye on 77 minutes.

WEALDSTONE: Luke Woods, Ben Clarke, Billy Hawes, James Gray, Alan Massey, David Hicks, Nick Salapatas, Chris O'Leary, Stephen Hughes, Ben Alexander, Graeme Montgomery, Marvin McCoy, Derek Quaye, Wayne Reid, Dominic Eden, Kyle Matthews

A mixed Wealdstone side lost 2-3 to Burnham in this hastily arranged extra friendly match at the Gore. The match enabled Stones management to trial some youngsters and look again at some very promising reserve players. Midfielder Ryan Ashe, now returned from his summer break, was also given a valuable run out as was new defender Mark Boyce.

As for the match itself, Burnham scored first just before half time then Stones striker Wayne Reid evened up the score line on 55 minutes. Burnham came back and regained the lead soon after but Stones restored parity on 65 minutes when Stephen Hughes found the net for 2-2.

Burnham rapped up the scoring with a winner 11 minutes from the end of a match that proved another very useful work out for the Wealdstone squad.

Wealdstone: Michael Parkin, Mark Boyce, Gary Jones, John Sonuga, Alan Massey, Kieron Forbes, Nic Salapatas, Chris O'Leary, Stephen Hughes, Kyle Matthews, Gary Burrell. Subs Steve Hale (GK), Derek Quaye, Dominic Eden, Wayne Reid, Darren Locke, Dan Lake, Ryan Ashe
Wealdstone's second friendly on successive nights ended in a 1-1 draw when they visited old rivals Enfield

Town. This was virtually a full strength line up for Stones with the talking point of the evening being the surprise but very welcome return of ex QPR goalkeeper Sean Thomas who played in the No 1 jersey for the full 90 minutes.

The first half was a tight affair with Stones' midfield - featuring the returning Carl Martin - and defence repelling Es attempts to get close to goal although Sean Thomas brought off two good saves when a full strength Enfield did briefly threaten. The half ended goalless.

With the rain pouring down incessantly in the second period it was Wealdstone that opened the scoring with a superbly crafted goal scored by David Hicks on 57 minutes—his third pre season goal. By the time Hicks had stroked the ball past a bemused Es keeper Stones had passed the ball at least 9 times with 7 players involved and is an indication of the quality of football that this squad is capable of delivering.

Stones management understandably changed the side around as the half progressed to test all their four substitutes and this affected the balance a little. Enfield drew level through a dubious penalty awarded after 72 minutes when ex Stone Rudi Hall slotted past Thomas.

FRIENDLIES ROUNDUP

Wealdstone: Thomas, McCoy, Massey, Hicks, Gray, Martin, Quaye, Forbes, Alexander, Ashe, Burrell. Subs all used: O'Leary, Clarke, Ashy, Tripp.

Wealdstone played their penultimate pre-season match against a strong and well organised BGB Premier side, Hemel Hempstead Town, at the Vale on Saturday. In an absorbing and competitive game, played out in difficult rainy conditions, Stones eventually lost out by the odd goal in five.

Stones conceded after only five minutes play when the ball appeared to deflect off a Wealdstone defender and caught home keeper Luke Woods wrong footed; Hemel's Chris Dillon followed up to score. In a testing period of the match for the home side, striker Ben Alexander then had to leave the field with what appeared to be a knee injury and was replaced by substitute Stephen Hughes.

Stones upped their attacking play and created several excellent goal opportunities but were kept out by Hemel keeper Ricky Perks. When Perks was beaten by Derek Quaye's sliced shot the ball came back off an upright and was cleared to safety and Hemel were able to hold a one goal advantage at half time.

In the second period Stones brought on Sean

Thomas in goal and within nine minutes of the restart he was facing his second penalty in successive matches. This time he wasn't beaten, getting down low to fingertip Paul Edgeworth's spot kick onto his right hand post and away to safety.

Wealdstone equalised in the 56th minute with a cracking goal from big striker Stephen Hughes who held off three challenges before unleashing an unstoppable strike. However, Stones conceded again almost immediately with a disappointingly soft goal from an unmarked header. But midfielder Ryan Ashe brought Stones level with another great 20 yard strike from a sharp Nick Salapatas cross with 16 minutes to go.

But Hemel restored their lead several minutes later in controversial circumstances when Salapatas appeared to be clearly fouled. The referee strangely allowed play to continue and Hemel raced away to score with the young winger still lying motionless on the ground. So, some good attacking play from Stones, in another competitive work out, as they make preparations for the Ryman Premier opener.

Wealdstone: Woods, McCoy, Chappell, Gray, Martin, Ashe, Quaye, O'Leary, Alexander, Forbes, Montgomery. Subs (all used): Thomas, Burrell,

Wealdstone's final pre-season match resulted in another draw, this time against AFC Hayes on the artificial grass pitch at Rose-dale College.

The Stones line up was again changed to give some of the squad players an opportunity to play a full 90 minutes and some established players were understandably rested with this Saturday's Ryman Premier opener in mind. A somewhat disappointing performance in terms of frittered goal scoring opportunities but Stones did provide some enterprising approach play throughout. The management will no doubt be giving some priority to the art of finishing this week as the League season rapidly approaches.

AFC Hayes took the lead on the stroke of half-time with a well struck shot into the top right hand corner of the Stones net, following a period when the visitors ought to have held at least a two goal cushion.

In the second half, Nick Salapatas was particularly unlucky with a great cross shot that took the slightest of deflections for a corner in the second half. With 6 minutes left Stones drew level with a typical close range goal from striker Dean Pappali and he would have been pleased to get off the mark against his former club.

Two magnificent saves from keeper Sean Thomas in the closing stages ensured that Stones ended their warm up games with a result.

FIXTURES / RESULTS 2008/9

OPPONENTS	RES	ATT	POS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14	15	16
AUGUST																		
16	TONBRIDGE ANGELS																	
19	Ashford Town MIDDX																	
23	Billericay Town																	
25	BOREHAMWOOD																	
30	Dartford																	
SEPTEMBER																		
2	SUTTON UNITED																	
6	RAMSGATE																	
9	AFC Hornchurch																	
13	BEDFORD TOWN	FAC1Q																
20	Hendon																	
23	TOOTING & MITCHAM																	
27		FAC2Q																
OCTOBER																		
4	Harlow Town																	
11	CARSHALTON ATHLETIC																	
14	CANVEY ISLAND																	
18	CROYDON ATHLETIC FAT1Q																	
25	Margate																	
28	STAINES TOWN																	
NOVEMBER																		
1		FAT2Q																
8	Heybridge Swifts																	
15	MAIDSTONE UNITED																	
19	Horsham																	
22	DOVER ATHLETIC																	
29	Hastings United																	
DECEMBER																		
6	Tonbridge Angels																	
13	ASHFORD TOWN MIDDX																	
20	Sutton United																	
27	HARROW BOROUGH																	
JANUARY																		
3	Borehamwood																	
10	BILLERICAY TOWN																	
17	Ramsgate																	
24	HENDON																	
31	Tooting & Mitcham																	
FEBRUARY																		
7	AFC HORNCHURCH																	
14	HARLOW TOWN																	
21	Carshalton Athletic																	
28	MARGATE																	
MARCH																		
7	Canvey Island																	
14	HEYBRIDGE SWIFTS																	
21	Staines Town																	
28	HORSHAM																	
APRIL																		
4	Maidstone United																	
11	DARTFORD																	
13	Harrow Borough																	
18	Dover Athletic																	
25	HASTINGS UNITED																	

Other Fixtures Today

Ryman Premier Division

Canvey Island	vs.	Horsham
Carshalton Athletic	vs.	Margate
Dover Athletic	vs.	Harrow Borough
Harlow Town	vs.	Sutton United
Hastings United	vs.	Ashford Town (Middx)
Hendon	vs.	Dartford
Heybridge Swifts	vs.	Maidstone United
Ramsgate	vs.	AFC Hornchurch
Staines Town	vs.	Billericay Town
Tooting & Mitcham	vs.	Boreham Wood

Pre-Season Results 2008-09 (First Team)

19 July	Windsor & Eton	L1-4	Burrell (pen)
23 July	WATFORD X1	W3-1	Hicks, Alexander, O.G
26 July	HAMPTON & RICHMOND	D0-0	
29 July	Leatherhead	D0-0	
02 Aug	North Greenford United	W4-1	Hughes, Hicks, Reid, Quaye
04 Aug	Burnham	L2-3	Reid, Hughes
05 Aug	Enfield Town	D1-1	Hicks
09 Aug	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN**	L2-3	Hughes, Ashe
11 Aug	AFC Hayes	D1-1	Papali

** Brian Collins Memorial Trophy

Pre-Season Results 2008-09 (Reserves)

24 Jul	Broadfields	W2-1	Reid, Awonusi
27 July	SAFCSA	W4-1	Reid 2, Kelani, Martin
26 July	NORTH GREENFORD UNITED	D4-1	Agyeman, Kelani, Locke, Jones
29 July	Rayners Lane	D5-5	Logo, martin, Ageyman, Beltran, Ali
02 Aug	NORTHWOOD		

RESERVES 2008/2009 UPCOMING FIXTURES

Suburban League—Premier Division

Aug 16th	Corinthian Casuals
Aug 20th	UXBRIDGE
Aug 23rd	TONBRIDGE ANGELS
Aug 26th	Ashford Town MIDDX
Aug 30th	SUTTON UNITED

Wealdstone have been drawn at home against Cove in the first round of the Suburban League Challenge Cup. The winners will be at home to Croydon Athletic.

RYMAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE STATISTICAL REVIEW - SEASON 2007/08

The eleventh edition of "The Statistical Review of the Ryman Football League" – 2007/08 season is now available. It includes all the results, goalscorers and attendances of League, League Cup, Youth League, Youth Cup, Veterans Cup, Womens Cup, FA Cup, FA Trophy and County Senior Cups of each member club with listed player appearances for League matches including regular playing position. An index of players in alphabetical format is also included.

Also included is an index of players in alphabetical format of each player used in the Ryman League and their regular playing position.

The book costs £5.50 + 78p (1st class) or 67p (2nd class) to cover postage.

Copies may be purchased from:- Mike Wilson, 71 Elm Road, Slade Green, Kent. DA8 2NN

Contact our Commercial Manager **Dennis Byatt** for all advertising, sponsorship and event opportunities at the club and for sales leads/enquiries: **Call 07811 045828** or email dennis.byatt@blueyonder.co.uk



Results on the ground need to be matched on the pitch

Welcome to our first official home competitive game for 17 years. It's even more amazing when you consider Kieron Forbes wasn't even born then and many of today's squad hadn't even attended their first day at school!

I would like to extend a special welcome to Tommy Warrilow and his Tonbridge team for today's historic encounter. They have had some come into the new campaign as one of the hot favourites for promotion and will be keen to spoil our party. They finished the season on a very good roll and only just missed out on one of the play off places. They are a big, strong and well organised unit and Tommy has spent money on some excellent signings and I believe their target is geared to promotion to the Conference South.

We will still be regarded as one of the underdogs again this season, but what we have achieved on a shoestring over the last 15 years or so is nothing short of incredible and testament to the hard work and dedication of so many people around this club. I remember taking over as manager in 1995 when the club were still in administration. The promise of the new ground was only two years away, but we had no home, we were in division 3, majority of the players from the previous season had left and we were only running a first team.

Here we are in 2008 with our new home at the Vale, we have gained three promotions to the Ryman Premier, we now run a reserve and U.18 teams and boast a very successful scholarship scheme in conjunction with Stanmore College, with three teams and over 70 boys attending. In addition, we now have youth teams at every

age group from U.7's right up to the scholarship scheme and have an association with numerous local youth clubs.

Something to be proud of for a struggling club without a base! What can we achieve now we have a new home.

The transformation at the Vale has been incredible and mainly due to a bit of tender loving care and a lot of hard work. Numerous people, especially the supporters who have given up their spare time, for no financial reward and committed themselves to transform this place into our home. The management and players are very grateful for the time and effort put in by so many of you and we hope we can give you some reward by continuing our progress on the pitch. I believe this has pulled everyone together and there has been a real buzz about the place during the summer. At long last we have a base to work from and somewhere we can build for the future.

With our first pre-season is now over and we can look back with mixed feelings about the past seven weeks. Training, fitness, organisation and the general application of the players has all been excellent. I am delighted with the balance of the squad and the adaptability they have shown when we've experimented with new systems during the pre-season games. However, I must confess results have been somewhat disappointing and although you shouldn't read anything into pre-season scores, only two wins out of a possible nine does not make good reading. Performances against both Hampton and Watford were really pleasing and they should be the standards the lads are striving for as the season gets under way.

We have now signed 21 players which makes good competition for places in all positions. However things are never easy and we go into today with David Hicks and Ben Clarke suspended, Mark Boyce needing an operation and injuries doubts over Ben Alexander and Steven Hughes.

I am delighted with the way the staffing situation has developed since the beginning of July as well. Gary Strudwick and our Japanese friend Rio, have joined our medical team, Phil Ralston and John Moran have taken over the reserves, Mick Johnson is running the U.18's and Gary Jones has come on board as GK coach. We are very lucky to be able to attract so many top quality people to help continue pushing this club forward and I wish them a long a successful stay at the club.

I must quickly mention Jermaine's hat trick for Leeds the other night. Memories came flooding back of some of the quality goals he scored for us, but that chip for his third was a little bit special. It prompted the transfer speculation once again, but McAllister seemed confident he was going nowhere.....except for silly money! We live in hope!

Obviously, that money would make a huge difference to our financial situation, but we must be realistic and expect that we

are highly unlikely to see that for sometime. However, we should be a few grand better off after today when he makes his 50th appearance for the club and that will help as we continue to build firm foundations on and off the park as we slowly but surely climb our way back up the non league ladder.

Despite this probable income, we still cannot compete with the big spenders in this division and my targets for the season must be realistic. Obviously, we would like to emulate our success in the FA competitions of last season or even improve on that and gain a place in the top half of the league as well. In the thirteen years since Leo and I joined the club, we have only once finished below the previous seasons league placing. With the 13th place last year, I see no reason why we cannot make the top half of the table and with a little bit of luck, who knows what we might achieve from there.

Please try to be patient, because I guarantee things will go wrong over the next 9 months and it's the way we react to that adversity that will see where we eventually end up.

I hope you enjoy the game and it's the start of a long a successful season.

All the best. Gordon

2008-2009 WEALDSTONE MATCHBALL DONORS

HOWARD
KRAIS

Tonbridge
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United

Ramsgate

Bedford
Town

Tooting &
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Island

Croydon
Athletic

Staines
Town

Maidstone
United

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SHORT

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Ath
leticTown Middx

Ashford

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Of George Smith

Harrow

Billericay

Hendon

AFC

Borough

Town

Hornchurch

Harlow

Margate

Heybridge

Horsham

Dartford

Hastings

THANK YOU TO ALL THIS YEAR'S MATCHBALL DONORS

LEAGUE TABLE

Ryman League Premier Division *East Thurrock -1 pt fielding ineligible player Final Standings. Borehamwood reprieved after demise of Halifax

	Home					Away					PTS	GD	H	A	
	PL	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F					A
Chelmsford City	42	15	5	1	53	16	11	4	6	31	23	87	45	L1-2	L1-3
Staines Town	42	12	6	3	50	23	10	6	5	35	31	78	31	L1-2	W1-0
AFC Wimbledon	42	12	3	6	40	21	10	6	5	41	26	75	34	L1-2	L1-6
AFC Hornchurch	42	13	2	6	38	20	7	8	6	30	24	70	24	W2-0	L0-1
Ramsgate	42	13	5	3	43	21	6	6	9	24	32	68	14	L1-2	D2-2
Ashford Tn Middx	42	14	3	4	51	29	6	3	12	28	36	66	14	L1-3	L1-4
Hendon	42	9	8	4	32	28	9	3	9	47	39	65	12	W3-2	W2-1
Tonbridge Ang	42	11	6	4	40	24	6	6	9	37	33	63	20	L1-3	L1-2
Margate	42	11	5	5	46	35	6	6	9	25	33	62	3	L2-4	D3-3
Billericay Town	42	10	6	5	40	26	6	6	9	26	31	60	9	D2-2	L0-1
Horsham	42	12	1	8	37	26	6	4	11	26	37	59	0	D1-1	L0-4
Heybridge Sfts	42	10	6	5	38	27	4	7	10	26	37	55	0	D2-2	L1-3
Wealdstone	42	8	5	8	37	37	7	4	10	31	38	54	-7	-----	
Hastings United	42	11	2	8	35	26	4	6	11	23	41	53	-9	D3-3	W3-1
Harlow Town	42	6	8	7	31	28	7	5	9	25	24	52	4	W2-1	D1-1
Harrow Boro	42	11	0	10	38	37	4	7	10	23	37	52	-13	D1-1	W5-1
Maidstone Utd	42	7	4	10	30	33	9	0	12	26	46	52	-23	W2-1	D2-2
Carshalton Ath	42	7	7	7	21	21	7	1	13	44	50	50	-13	L2-5	L0-1
Borehamwood	42	9	4	8	30	27	6	1	14	26	46	50	-17	W3-0	W2-0
East Thurrock	42	9	3	9	24	29	5	6	10	24	38	50*	-21	W1-0	L0-1
Folkestone Inv	42	7	7	7	24	31	6	3	12	25	39	49	-21	W3-1	W4-1
Leyton	42	2	3	16	20	60	2	1	18	15	63	16	-88	W2-0	W1-0

Wealdstone FC Team Draw Results - July 2008

1 S. Bird - £100

2 T. Parks	£50	3 T. Davies	£30	4 R. Johns	£20
5 J. Harvey	£10	6 D. Robinson	£10	7 R. Slater	£10
8 P. Baptiste	£10	9 D. Werin	£10		

We aim to have a push for new members as soon as time permits, but maybe consider increasing your membership from £4.33 per month to £8.66 - it all goes to the team playing budget after prizes. Standing Order forms and prize winners can be obtained from the official club website or call 01727 872675 and leave a message.

Well done to all of our winners. I have some unclaimed prizes from previous draws, so please ring me if you have not received yours! All enquiries to 01727 872675 (office hours) Please continue to support this very important fundraiser - thank you.

Good luck in future draws!

Confused ? You will be...

Your guide to the National League System Season 2008/9 Steps 1-4: Promotion and Relegation

The Football Association have confirmed the procedures relating to promotion and relegation at the conclusion of season 2008/2009. Set out below are the details of how this will operate, taking into account the changed structure for this season. Therefore, the following procedures will apply:

Step 1 and Step 2

The clubs finishing in the bottom four places at Step 1 at the end of the playing season will be relegated to a feeder pool and placed in the most geographically appropriate division at Step 2. They will be replaced by the clubs finishing in 1st position in each of the divisions at Step 2 together with a further two clubs which win a series of play-off matches involving those clubs finishing in a play-off position (normally positions 2 to 5) in each of the divisions at Step 2. In exceptional circumstances where a club in positions 2 to 5 does not meet the criteria to enter the play-offs they should be replaced by a club finishing in the next eligible position. Clubs finishing below position 7 would not be considered.

Step 2 and Step 3

The clubs in the bottom three places in each of the two divisions at Step 2 at the end of the playing season will be relegated to a feeder pool and placed in the most geographically appropriate division at Step 3. They will be replaced by the clubs finishing in 1st position in each of the divisions at Step 3 together with a further three clubs determined by a series of play-off matches involving those clubs finishing in a play-off position (normally positions 2 to 5) in each

of the divisions at Step 3. In exceptional circumstances where a club in positions 2 to 5 does not meet the criteria to enter the play-offs they should be replaced by a club finishing in the next eligible position. Clubs finishing below position seven would not be considered. The promoted clubs will also be placed in a feeder pool and placed in the most geographically appropriate division at Step 2.

Step 3 and Step 4

The clubs in the bottom four places in each of the three divisions at Step 3 at the end of the playing season will be relegated to a feeder pool and placed in the most geographically appropriate division at Step 4. They will be replaced by the club finishing in 1st position in each of the divisions at Step 4 together with a further six clubs to be determined by a series of play-off matches involving those clubs finishing in a play-off position (normally positions 2 to 5) in each of the divisions at Step 4. In exceptional circumstances where a club in positions 2 to 5 does not meet the criteria to enter the play-offs they should be replaced by a club finishing in the next eligible position. Clubs finishing below position 7 would not be considered.

The promoted clubs will also be placed in a feeder pool and placed in the most geographically appropriate division at Step 3.



KIT DONORS

Kit Donors

Once again, it is time for you to find a player or coach to sponsor for the season. Please speak to any club official who can help you through the process. The contribution this makes to the club is very valuable indeed. If you want your photograph taken with the player whose kit you have sponsored then that can be arranged. Thank you to all those listed below who have already come forward, and please see Pete Worby or Howard Kraiss if you wish to join them! Complete kit sponsorship will be £100 per player this season.

Gordon Bartlett



Barry Benveniste

Leo Morris



Megaphone

Mark Gill



James Smith



Alan Massey



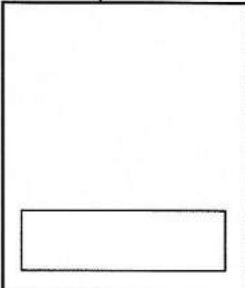
Chris O'Leary



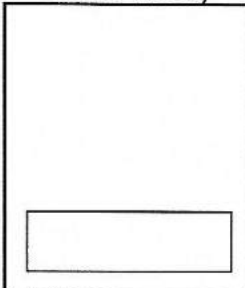
Carl Martin



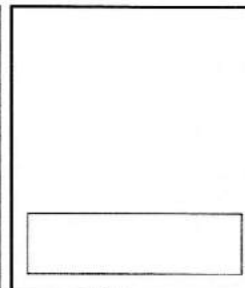
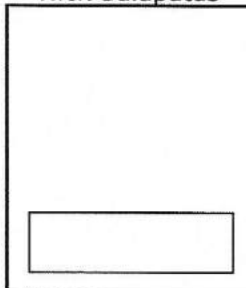
Gary Burrell



Marvin McCoy



Nick Salapatas



Kit donors

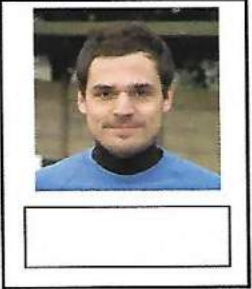
Ben Alexander



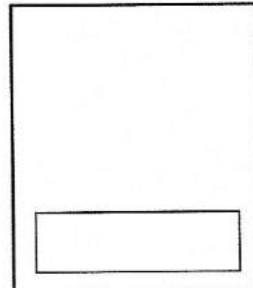
James Gray



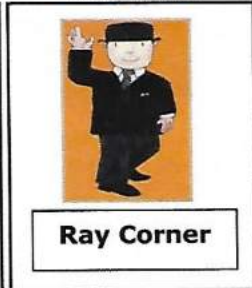
Kieron Forbes



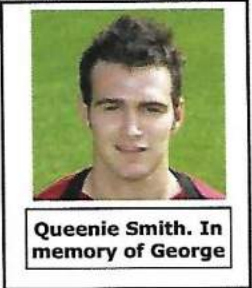
Ben Clarke



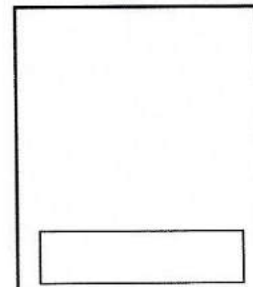
Sean Thomas



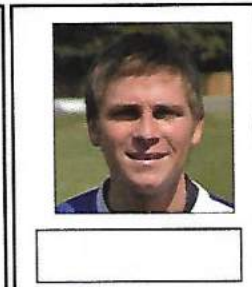
Dean Papali



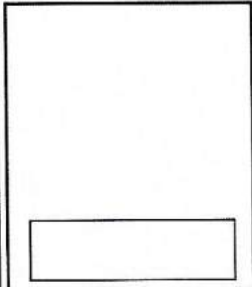
Lee Chappell



Daniel Carr



Graeme Montgomery



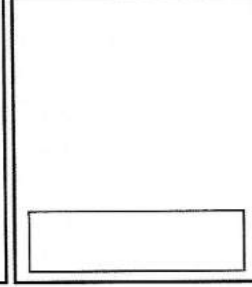
Stephen Hughes



Billy Hawes



Mark Boyce



PROGRESS REPORT

Let us all stand together



Our next major project at The Vale will be to provide a similar covered terrace to this at the tea bar end, so we can both create atmosphere and cover from the elements.

This photo is of three modular stands, each holding 125 persons and bolted together. This gives a total capacity of 351 persons under cover. This is a four step terrace but a six step terrace is also available.

The beauty of these stands is that they can be added to very easily (funds permitting) and as they are semi-permanent, they can be moved to other parts of the ground if we were to build a much larger and more permanent structure behind the goals at a later date. The four step terrace can also be adapted to accommodate seating.

This will require planning permission but should not prove to be too onerous. This stand will also require an oversized concrete base for it to be positioned on.



The cost of these range from approximately £17,000+VAT from the Far East to over £40,000+VAT from a UK manufacturer for all the steelworks erected and delivered to site but concrete base by others. If you are wondering why we are looking at three stands to begin with, it is that they will potentially fit into on container, thereby dramatically reducing the overall cost of shipping.

To date, I am confident that the dinner in Northampton can pay for one stand, a small consortia will pay for the second and the Supporters' Club may stretch to half the cost of the third. This would still leave roughly £8000 to be found for the remainder including the concrete base.

Subject to planning, we could have these stands in situ prior to Christmas and possibly earlier.

This project is separate from any other club funding. I would welcome your views and thoughts on this together with financial pledges, sponsorship ideas and the like.

Please feel free to email me on RUMENS@GOTADSL.CO.UK or by phone on 07710 929692, Many thanks

*Paul Rumens
Club President*

And a new home for the supporters club as well?

Welcome to a momentous day in the history of Wealdstone Football Club. Today is the day that we have been waiting for 17 years. The day when the Stones will be playing a home league game at a venue that we can really call our own. Was it really 17 years that we played our last home league game against Cambridge City at Lower Mead in April 1991?. Tears were shed that day and I am sure that there will be tears shed today as the players walk out onto the pitch.

For those of you who were not able to attend any of the pre-season friendlies here at The Vale, you cannot fail to be impressed with the transformation in the ground over the last few months. The Supporters Club would like to congratulate all supporters who have helped over the last six months to make this a ground to be proud of. The work undertaken by many has seen supporters come closer together and really create a community spirit.

The efforts have certainly paid off and this was confirmed last Sunday when the ground was inspected by the Ryman League and as a result we received our grading that enables us to play Ryman League premier matches here this season. The work has been led by long time supporters Don Cross and Mickey Kane and slowly but surely the lengthy list of work to be undertaken has been ticked off resulting in what you see today. Congratulations to all supporters who helped this season and I understand many of them turned up for a celebratory drink last night in the clubhouse.

Our first opponents in the league at "The Vale" are Tonbridge Angels and we welcome all their supporters who are attending today's game. We understand that one of Tonbridge's supporters is actually videoing the game today and copies will be available to purchase. I would have thought that

many Stones supporters would like a copy as a visual memory of a great day.

The end of last season saw two successful Supporters Club events. On the last day of the season, we saw 36 fans put on their walking boots with the 12-mile fundraising walk to Hendon which raised over £4,000, a tremendous effort and then on the first Sunday in May, saw the Supporters Club 50th Anniversary Dinner at the Hilton Hotel Watford. Over 250 guests attended and the special guest speaker was ex-Stones player, England international and current England Under 21's manager, Stuart Pearce.

A full review of the evening will appear in a future home league programme of the season but suffice to say it was a super evening and with the sale of tickets, a special programme on the night, the raffle and memorabilia sales, a total of over £8,000 was raised. I announced at the main club's presentation evening in May that as a result of these two events, the Supporters club will be donating £10,000 to the main club.

We are pleased to report that today on the pitch at half-time, my brother Jez will be presenting the cheque for £10,000 to club chairman, Howard Kraiss. With reference to the walk we are still waiting for some of the walkers to give us the money that they collected and we would be grateful if they can give the money that they collected to either Jez or Hillsy.

We still have copies of the special 50th Anniversary Dinner programme that was available on the night of the 50th Anniversary Dinner. The programme is on sale today and if you would like a copy please see Miriam Goodman. The programme, priced at £3 was superbly put together by supporter, Tim Parks and included several excellent articles written by Howard Kraiss, Nick Dugard, Layne Patterson, Ray Kemp, Paul

Rumens, Sudhir Rawal, Ron Moore, Tim Parks, Paul Fruin and Vinnie Jones.

If you are not able to get a programme today, you can still secure a copy by sending a cheque for £3.48 (includes postage and packing) made payable to "Wealdstone F.C. Supporters Club" to Wealdstone F.C. Supporters Club, C/O 61 Southfields, Hendon, London NW4 4NA.

We also still have 50th Anniversary badges, produced by Toby Jackson, for sale at £5.00 which will also be on sale today. Again if you are not able to get a badge today, they can be secured by sending a cheque for £5.48 (includes postage and packing) to the above address.

The Supporters Club are now actively looking to purchase a portacabin which will hopefully be placed somewhere within our new home at The Vale for use as our Club Shop. We hope this will happen sooner or later so that we get a base back at our home ground. We have not had a base at our home ground since we played at Edgware. We actually had a shop at Northwood but we did not even have the opportunity to use it as within a few days of it being erected it was vandalised and became impossible to maintain.

It is so important for the Supporters Club to have a base as it helps to raise our profile and gives the opportunity to sell souvenirs, programmes etc to increase our funds which will in turn help the main club. Income generation is going to be a key factor this season and we want to help the club as much as possible in raising money. Already we have plans to do a Sportsman Dinner here at The Vale later this season. Watch this space for further details.

During the Summer, there were two welcome additions to the Wealdstone family. First of all, committee member, Miriam Goodman's daughter, Jo, had a baby boy born on 24th April and he was named Elliott and Sarin Rawal's wife Huma gave birth to their second child, a baby girl named Kamran on 21st May. Congratulations to them both and to their families.

We understand that long time fan Ray Corner and life member of the Supporters Club went into Northwick Park hospital last

Monday for an operation on his knee. He should be in for around a week. We wish him a speedy recovery and we look forward to seeing him at The Vale soon.

This season, the Supporters Club will be re-introducing annual membership of the Supporters Club for a fee of £5.00 and £3.00 for concessions. This is in addition to life membership of the Supporters Club which can be purchased for £25.00. This season each member who joins and all life members which at present stands at 94 will receive a membership card which we anticipate will be available within a month.

At our committee meeting this week, we looked at our away fixtures for the coming season and pinpointed the away game at Hastings at the end of November for a possible Supporters Club away day which could take the form of either a coach trip or a train trip. Further details will be announced as we get closer to this game.

We are trying to compile an up-to-date database of all life members of the Supporters Club. We reckon that we do not have contact details of 24 of the 94 life members and if any of them are here today, we would be grateful if you could provide us with your contact details. You can also e-mail your me at david.albert@sky.com or call me on 07941 122442.

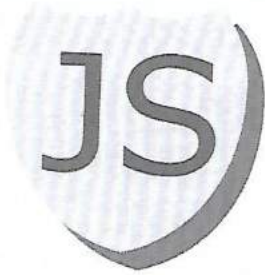
The 24 life members that we do not have details are as follows: John ARGENT, Michael BENNETT, John DIGNUM, Tony FARMBOROUGH, Kevin HARDING, Jordan HARRIS, Kevin HARDING, James JOHNSON, Brian KELLY, Shaun LAWSON, Darren LINDEN, Sacha LOBANM McDONALD, Patrick MURPHY, Alan PHAIR, Martin READ, Paul RYAN, Andy SALISBURY, Dan SMART, Gary SMITH, Mat TARRANT, Pete TYMON, Graham WILD, Robin J. WILLIAMS.

Enjoy this momentous day in the history of Wealdstone Football Club and for more information on the Supporters Club, please check out our website (above) which is regularly updated.

Up the Stones.

David Albert.
Chairman

JUNIOR STONES



Close season this season has been very busy for most of us. From a juniors perspective we have made great strides recently. May was mostly taken up with worrying about our first ever juniors tournament. Firstly, whether we had sufficient teams and having achieved that whether we had sufficient manpower and organisational capability to carry it off. In the end we had 93 teams across 8 age-groups. I'd estimate there were in the region of 1200 people on site over the two days and we received lots of positive feedback on the organisation of the tournament.

We were fantastically supported by all parts of the club from Pete and Pauline's all day BBQ (well, from 11am anyway) to the marking of pitches, goal assembly and disassembly along with refereeing, gate control and car parking. People too numerous to name were fantastic and I can't thank them enough (so I won't bother at all)!

We received separate visits from both the mayor of Harrow and Deputy Mayoress of Hillingdon and in doing so managed to improve our profile locally too.

Finally big thanks to John & Alison Moran who kept the whole thing running to order on the day. I believe we raised something in the order of £3k which is good but nothing compared to what we should be able to do next year with hopefully greater numbers and better marketing.

In June I spent 10 days in June at Euro 2008 with my brother John and a group of friends. As you would expect (and no doubt saw) it was a very well run affair but slightly soulless I found. Personally I'm sick to

death of fan-parks and the enforced corporate jollity leaves me cold. If you can't get to the game much better to hole yourself up in a locals bar.

And don't start me on The Oranje. Twenty-strong groups of men shouting 'Hup Holland' (and nothing else) whilst wearing orange (of course) t-shirts bearing the legend "Price Waterhouse Coopers Oranje" and suchlike tells a damning story.

I managed to get to three games—Italy v Romania in Zurich. Then on to Basel to see Switzerland v Portugal (blinkin' marvellous—the hosts were already eliminated and Portugal were already through and rested half the team). Finally we saw the Germany v Portugal quarter final—which was easily the best game of the three.

One thing I liked about the Basel stadium was the fact that the security was so lax you could walk around the lower concourse and no-one stopped you - meaning a category 3 ticket for behind the goal became at category 1 on the half way line. Ten days of football, mountains, lakes, and expensive beer flew by and it was time to come home.

The expansion of the juniors has been one of the most exciting stories of the summer. I'm sure this will be covered elsewhere but there have been fruitful talks between Wealdstone Juniors and Ruislip Manor Juniors with the upshot being that from this season they will all play in blue under a Wealdstone banner (not literally obviously).

This is a doubling of the Wealdstone Juniors set up and means we have over 250 boys playing in our name (as well as a girls team for the first time) this season. Big thanks to the Morans, Howard, Fingers, Andy Harman amongst others in bringing this about. Welcome to all our new faces and we hope to see you regularly down at Grosvenor Vale.

This brings me nicely on to our affiliate club scheme. When the RSC guys announced we would at last have an base of our own I knew we had to capitalise on the thriving junior soccer scene in this area. Both my boys have played for Pinner United

for a number of years and I know the passion of the people there very well. Ruislip Rangers are a huge local club who are very successful. The agreement we have with our affiliate clubs is that we will provide additional training for their boys utilising our academy players as well as management workshops for their coaches run by our first team management setup.

In the months to come many of these boys will be putting on half time displays for your (and their) entertainment. On top of this we will carry news of the affiliate clubs in our matchday programme as well as links through the various official websites. Finally we are providing every boy (and girl) a free season ticket to our Ryman's League games with the added bonus that an one accompanying parent will pay a discounted price of £8.

Our belief is that this will bring in a new generation of supporters who hopefully we be impressed by what they see on and off the pitch. Please help us to ensure all these new faces are made welcome.

Discussions have taken place over the summer with result that we are affiliated with Pinner United and Ruislip Rangers junior football clubs. When you add this to our existing relationship with Harrow Stones Stars and the expanded Wealdstone Juniors set up I think we have issued approximately 900 season tickets out. I'll know if we've succeeded if people start moaning about too many pesky kids!

Wealdstone & Ruislip Rangers FC link up

Following the recent announcement of an affiliation with Pinner United FC, Wealdstone FC has stated their aim to build and promote relations with other junior football

clubs in the area and is therefore delighted to announce an affiliation with Ruislip Rangers FC.

Ruislip Rangers FC, with well over 400 players playing under its' banner, is the largest youth football club in the area. It is also the oldest, formed in 1969. A holder of 'Charter Standard' status, the club is hugely successful with a number of players attracting the attention of professional clubs. Winners of the Harrow Youth League U18 Premier Division Championship last season, together with Fairplay/Sportsmanship award for the last two consecutive seasons the Club will cater for all ages from five year olds to adults in the coming season including fielding two girls teams at U14 and U12 level. Home games are played at King's College Playing Fields, Ruislip.

As part of the agreement between the two clubs Wealdstone FC will provide additional coaching to Ruislip Rangers. It is hoped that this link will be of benefit to both clubs and enhance the chances of players reaching their goal of becoming a professional footballer.

The agreement also entitles each playing member of Ruislip Rangers to free entrance to Wealdstone's Ryman's Premier League matches and discounted admittance to their parents and coaches.

Ruislip Rangers players are also invited to take part in matchday activities at Wealdstone's home games such as half-time shoot-outs.

There will be reciprocal arrangements in that both clubs' websites will link to each other and Ruislip Rangers news will also be carried in the Wealdstone matchday programme.

It is hoped that this will be the start of a long and fruitful relationship between the two clubs.

Mark Lloyd

Wealdstone Football Club – Juniors Liaison
Manager

JUNIOR STONES



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Only mad dogs and football fans...

Well, it seems an awfully long time ago that Fingers and I first met up with the then Chairman of Ruislip Manor FC and our discussions began with him and Fred Deanus about the possibility of Wealdstone FC playing at Grosvenor Vale. It was apparent that the fortunes of RMFC were at an all time low; whilst we were offered the opportunity to take over RMFC we rejected this on the basis that FA Regs do not allow such things. We also had no desire to either take over RMFC or to consider a merger.

We also learnt that Ruislip Manor Sports & Social Club Ltd were the leaseholders and also in financial trouble. At a Board Meeting we decided that we would secure the medium term future of Wealdstone FC by acquiring RMSSCL and after two months of intense work with numerous meetings we eventually did this in early January at an EGM of the limited company. I am extremely grateful to Fred Deanus and also Steve Bowen (who at the time was Chairman of RMSSCL) for all of their help and assistance. Quentin Fox and I spent countless hours on the legal side of things and joined by our friends and colleagues Dominic Whyley and Paul Rumens the four of us made a substantial financial commitment. It was a proud day on 13/1/08 when we called a public meeting at Ruislip and announced the news to the supporters, shareholders and interested parties who attended.

If I had thought the couple of months leading up to this day had been tough then I was mistaken – things got tougher for all of us. Whilst we had been aware of certain substantial debts owed by RMSSCL there was, as you can probably guess, more lurking in the woodwork. There is no point whatsoever listing the various problems that

we have encountered over the past seven months (the programme would not be big enough!) but it is certainly true to say that Paul, Quentin, Dominic and I have all questioned on many occasions why on earth we took on what we did. I guess the reason really is that all 4 of us are passionate about Wealdstone FC because from a financial and time point of view it really does not make sense.

We did manage to successfully negotiate an outstanding court case (well done Q) that could have cost us far more than it eventually did and only last Tuesday I successfully concluded several months negotiations with Scottish & Newcastle UK. I am grateful to their Regional Manager Ben Stanton for his help.

It was in early April that Ray Kemp agreed to take on the position of General Manager of RMSSCL, ably assisted by Tony Short. Considering that Ray lives in Leicestershire then his commitment to help out is fantastic – it's at times like this that you realise what friendship is all about. Respect, mate. Gradually, we are turning things around on site. The organisation that played youth football on site has decided to merge with Wealdstone Juniors and it was a pleasure meeting Andy Harman and Colin Brannigan and reaching agreement with them.

The two day youth tournament held on site and successfully organised by Mark Lloyd and his team back in May was a high point as was FA Cup final day when we hosted 200 Cardiff City supporters. I'm not going to name names (you know who you are) but a number of volunteers have been helping with the needed internal refurbishment of the Social Club—thanks a million. I will however thank Ron and his guys from

West One Electrical who have carried out a lot of necessary works for us.

Whilst we have made tremendous progress we are still not yet out of the woods. RMSSCL continues to make weekly losses so we need you all to support us in any way you can. Please use our facilities before during and after matches if you can. Perhaps even on away matches you can return to the club afterwards to enjoy a social chat and drink. Please support any functions that you are able and feel free to use and enjoy the club on non match days. Finally, we have a 200 capacity hall that is available for hire so please publicise this and mention us to any friends, family or work colleagues that may need a hall for a function or an event of any kind.

I would like to very briefly mention Ruislip Manor FC. Back in January they were very close to folding completely - indeed at one stage they were unable to fulfil their league fixtures and they did in fact tender their resignation only to retract this shortly after. We allowed them to play the season out (at no charge whatsoever) and we offered them the opportunity to continue playing at Grosvenor Vale although this would be on the basis that they contributed towards the running costs. Their new Chairman and his colleagues decided however to relocate the club and we wish them well for the future.

I personally thought that Mick Johnson who managed RMFC in these troubled times did well under impossible circumstances and I am pleased that he has joined us as the Manager of our new Allied Counties Youth Team. A good man is Mickie, I urge you to get to know him.

It was probably back in December that the whispers reached Middx FA and also officials of the Ryman League. Ron Dunning, Peter Clayton and Stuart Allen from County have all been supportive of us—a particular thank you from me goes to Ron.

From the Ryman League we have received a great deal of advice from Alan Turvey, Nick Robinson and Roger Reed. Thank you gentlemen; I believe that Alan will be with us today as our guest so I look forward to having a drink with you. Needless to say, much of my dealings with these three guys

(and Adrian Titcombe) were related to our Ground Grading. We successfully achieved this after an awful lot of hard work—I will not detail this or thank those involved individually (again, you know who you are) as I am sure there will be plenty elsewhere in this programme. Big respect everyone.

In all this, I have not mentioned either Howard or Fingers. Both of these two fellow Directors have also worked tirelessly during the past months, often having to compensate for the fact that Paul, Q and I have been pre-occupied with the Social Club. What a team!

It's at times like this that I realise just how many people have done something to help. Sudhir and Andrew Lane on accounting stuff and Business Plans, Tony Maidment on carpentry etc, Roge on various things, the list just goes on and on. Absolutely fabulous everyone.

I did read a comment on the Internet Forum a little while back when someone wrote, "never has so much been owed by so many to so few". This was in relation to those supporters who have given up hundreds of hours of their time doing various tasks and jobs, some little, some large. I do intend to carry out a bucket collection today and perhaps if you were someone who for whatever reason was unable to help out as much as you would have liked then you might be prepared to chuck in a £10 note, or perhaps even a £20. The amount we have spent on the ground (even with volunteer labour) has considerably exceeded our expectations and so your generosity will be much appreciated.

Finally, don't forget that inside the Clubhouse we have Fosters, Strongbow and Youngers on special offer at £2 a pint and big bottles of Bulmers at £2.50.

One final Thank You - and that goes to my wife Pauline for being so supportive (even though she thinks we are all mad!).

Pete Worby
Vice Chairman



Brown bomber blasts 'bridge

**Saturday 19 August 1972
Southern League First
Division (South):**

**Wealdstone 1
Tonbridge 0**

WHEN you are a 15-year-old football fan there is simply nothing as important as match day—especially when it's the first home game of the season, the sun is out, your team have made a decent start to the season and you fervently believe that THIS could be the season for promotion.

To be honest, for me, nothing's really changed in the intervening 36 years. Except a sort of hero-worship for Mickey Brown, our ace striker of that era who bagged the only goal of this absorbing contest at Lower Mead.

What about George Duck? I hear you ask. Surely if anyone is worth worshipping from that era it's the mercurial George? Well, dear reader, the 20-year-old Mr Duck had only just been signed, from Spurs via Southend & Millwall, and the Elmslie End faithful hadn't really clocked his talent at that stage.

Tim Parks looks back 36 years to when the Stones took on today's visitors Tonbridge in an early-season Southern League fixture...

Indeed, in Phil Sugden's match report of the match in the Harry O, Duck was praised as a skilful forward with the ability to provide penetrating passes for the bustling Brown. George was even touted as a midfielder when our big centre-forward Bill Byrne returned from holiday. "I expect Byrne and Brown to forge a partner-

ship up front in manager Syd Prosser's favoured 4-2-4 formation, with Terry Dyson and Ray Whitaker on the wings. Dixie Hale and John Furie did not dominate the Tonbridge midfield and the silky passing of Duck might provided much-needed creativity" wrote Sugden, who was not yet exposed as being a hamper short of a picnic.

Now, writing of George Duck in that vein seems ridiculous. At the time, he failed to score in his first five outings and it was not until September 2nd that he notched his first goal in a 4-0 win over Bideford at Lower Mead. After that point he just didn't stop....

Coach Prosser switched to 4-3-3, dropped Whitaker and played George, Mickey Brown and Bill Byrne up front with the result that Ducky netted 38 times, and Brown 20-odd.

But, going back to the Tonbridge game, Brown was



They might have had three more

Goal-ace Brown grabs two points for 'Stones

By Phil Sugden

still my teenage hero—despite overhearing a Kent fan, on the way into the ground, remarking that: "Oh, they've got that little fat forward playing for them today".

Well, a little bit porky he might have been but Mickey Brown, now in his late 20s, was still a handful at that level. The former schoolboy sprint champion had played professionally for Colchester and could spank the ball with tremendous power, and little backlift, from the fringes of the penalty box.

Reporter Sugden reckoned he should have had a penalty in the first half (see picture) when Brown was flattened by a strong tackle when he seemed certain to score "and lay on the ground prostrate for several minutes".

Our Tonbridge fan probably though that, like a Weebles Wobble, he simply couldn't get up again. But Mickey had the last laugh when ex-Spurs double winner Dyson was held back by a Tonbridge defender as he threatened to break free.

The ref gave a quick free kick which Dyson threaded through the visitors' defence for Brown to smack

the ball low and hard past keeper Ray White and into the Cinema End net.

The crowd of 1,025 erupted and Stones had sewn up a fine win over Tonbridge, who had won their opening two matches. The Stones, beaten 3-1 in a tough opener at Bath City (and in front of over 3,000 people), had won 3-0 at Dunstable Town in midweek and briefly topped the table in September... but despite having a free-scoring attack the defence was as leaky as the Gun Turret End cover at Grosvenor Vale, and we had to settle for an eventual 8th place.

For Tonbridge, defeat at Lower Mead was just an early-season blip and they finished promoted to

the Southern Premier Division as runners-up to Maidstone United, just three points behind. Manager Prosser shored up the Wealdstone defence the following summer and, with Duck netting an amazing 64 goals, we stormed to the Southern Division title with games to spare. The "little fat forward" meanwhile, played his last game for us in March 1973 and moved on, funnily enough, to Tonbridge.

He also turned out for Maidstone, against us, in Premier Division clashes in the seasons to come and, as you'd expect, the Elmslie End were terribly kind about his expanding waistline and diminishing speed. But I still quite liked him.

Teams that day in 1972:
Wealdstone: John Barr; Eric Burgess, Eddie Presland, Dave Cockell, John Pearce; Dixie Hale, John Furie; Terry Dyson, Mickey Brown, George Duck, Ray Whitaker. Sub: John Beyer.
Tonbridge: White, Tonbridge, Waters, Yprath, Newcumbe, Bielkus, Simms,

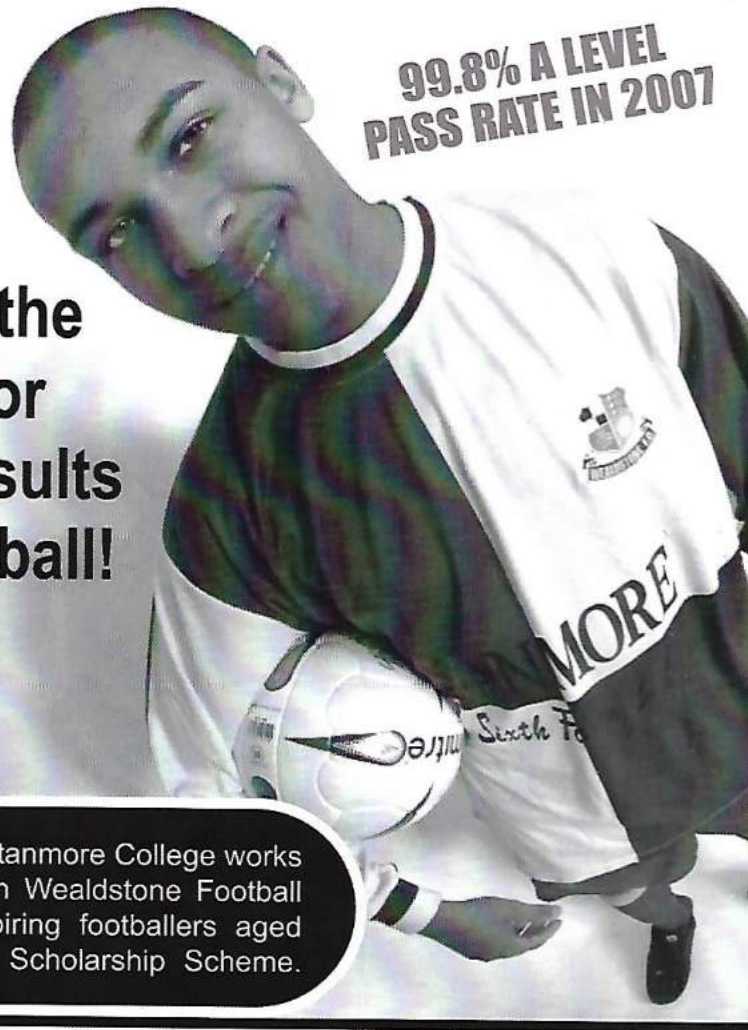


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