

WEALDSTONE

versus

ALDERSHOT TOWN



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NATIONAL LEAGUE

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 18 2021, 3PM

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BY MARK HYDE



WEALDSTONE 2021-22

Written in Stone



STONESHARE

StoneShare donations helped fund the signing of new striker Ira Jackson Jr and further donations can help bring more quality signings to The Vale.

Every contribution earns you a £5 share in the club, with contributions going directly into Stuart Maynard's playing budget.

Speaking about StoneShare after his newest signing joined, Stuart said: "We'd like to thank everyone for their generosity. It has been a difficult year with COVID, so we really appreciate all the donations that come in.

"Obviously the money is important to the club and us as a management team, so it will only be used for the right players. "The club is very close knit and the fans continue to show us that unity even in the hardest times, so once again it is a huge thank you from all of us."

CONNOR KIRBY UPDATE FROM ALTRINCHAM

The following was received by the club from Altrincham's Co-Chairman Bill Waterson as we went to print. We intend to hold a bucket collection this afternoon for Connor to add to the £600 we have already raised on Social Media via Scratch Cards should you wish to contribute.



Thank you from all at Altrincham Football Club for your hospitality on Saturday and your concern for poor Connor Kirby. Even our most "negative" fans have come back to me to say what a warm welcome they received, and for me it was proven once again that Wealdstone are a brilliant club from top to bottom.

Connor has come out of surgery yesterday afternoon (Sunday) with the surgeons being happy with the alignment of his bones after resetting the tibia and the fibia, both bones having been broken on Saturday. They hope he can leave hospital today (Monday) and make the journey to his home in Barnsley. This is about as positive an outcome as we could hope for given the seriousness of the break. I have spoken with our board and we are deeply touched by your offer of a bucket collection from your fans at your game against Aldershot. This shows very much the nature of your club

Bill

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FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2021/2022

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LEAGUE TITLES

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

NATIONAL CUPS

1965 / 1966 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
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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.

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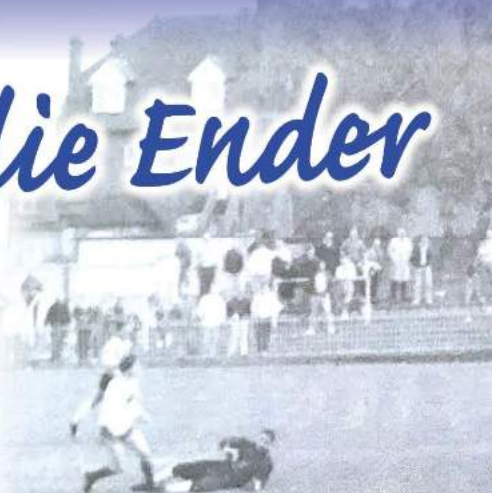
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BY SUDHIR RAWAL



The Elmslie Ender



Last Saturday against Altrincham: Just so important to get that first win under our belts

A win, finally, and much-needed too to get the monkey off our backs. There is much talk about "winning your games in the lower third mini league", but it was just as important to simply get that first win under our belts. It has been previously mentioned that our results have not matched the performances. We have deserved more, but it was crucial to start bagging those three points as much as for confidence as it is for the fight to avoid relegation.

I thought both Stones and Alty were pretty similar sides. Both played some nice possession football, weren't particularly big, but looked pretty toothless up front. Both set of supporters will argue that they were more worthy winners than the other, but when you look back at the highlights of the game, how many big saves did George Wickens have to make? A couple of important blocks, yes, making himself big, but no real testing saves. The rather portly Alty custodian on the other hand made at least three very good saves. There were semblances of the legendary Dave Ryan about him. Portly, not that tall, but decent between the sticks. Good banter as well.

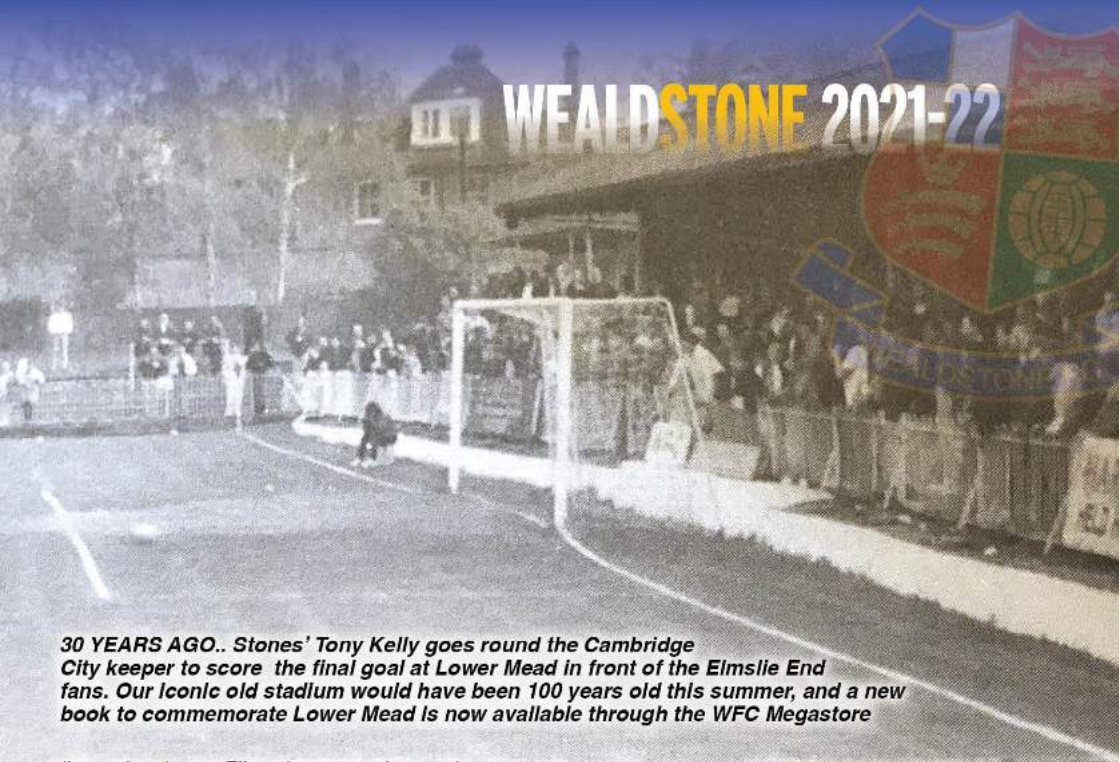
Stones were building a good head of steam just before the rather unfortunate injury that befell the Harrogate loanee Conor Kirby. Charlie Cooper was making a very strong run towards Alty's

goal, with Kirby chasing him, and it appears just as Cooper was about to pull the trigger, Kirby's leg somehow came between the ball and Cooper's foot just as he was about the kick the ball. We know the sad consequences of what happened next and can only hope the young man recovers soon and fully.

The farce of the ambulance taking well over an hour to arrive, even saw an appeal for someone with a large van to see whether Kirby could be loaded into the back and taken to Hillingdon Hospital. That's a first, it has to be said. That old joke about being put in a skip, as well. News seeping through social media today, Sunday, suggests that Kirby will be in hospital for another five to seven days.

Wealdstone rather than Altrincham seemed to lose focus thereafter and the momentum that we were creating seemed to ebb away. The game was heading for a draw. Then we had the assault on the halfway line that saw an Altrincham player sent off for an atrocious challenge. The pundits on BT Sport thought it wasn't a sending off. Really? The player just lost the plot. We launched one final attack. Elito drove into the box, unleashed a shot which hit the outstretched hand of a defender and with the Bulla (above) baying, the referee pointed to the spot. After much





30 YEARS AGO. Stones' Tony Kelly goes round the Cambridge City keeper to score the final goal at Lower Mead in front of the Elmslie End fans. Our iconic old stadium would have been 100 years old this summer, and a new book to commemorate Lower Mead is now available through the WFC Megastore

discussion, it was Elito who stepped up and drove the ball home, despite the keeper also being almost upon him when he took the spot kick. 1-0! We held out and three vital points. Five points from the first five games seems a reasonable return when you consider whom we have played.

I thought that the substitutions worked pretty well as Jackson and Fasamade added movement and pace to the team, but whether the recent additions will solve our virgin-like ability to score, time will tell. We can't afford to miss the sitters, such as the Umerah header. It was also great to see Dennon Lewis back to something like his best. Teasing and twisting opponents, a threat down the left, and putting crosses into the danger area.

The lateness of our winner, coming in the 10th minute of injury time, took me back to our last Conference relegation season. We were away at Weymouth, though it wasn't at Weymouth but at Bournemouth as the Terras were having ground waterlogging issues. Alex Welsh, our keeper, was stretched off having been kicked in the head in similar style to Jon North at Bath in the play off match. Robin Wainwright, our silky midfielder, went in goal and we were still drawing 1-1 into the

seventeenth (17th) minute of injury time until Weymouth finally scored their winner. The referee seemed to have kept playing and playing until they scored. Once they did, he blew the final whistle. Ask Jeremy Albert about his calls to the Weymouth secretary for the following week!

Jack Cook once again picked up the man of the match award. He's probably having to extend his wine cellar to fit in all of the bottles of champers he's taking home and whilst he was excellent, I was surprised not to see Ashley Charles or Charlie Cooper pick up the fizz instead. We look decent at the back, midfield defensively is working well, and if we can just step on the creativity pedal and also take what chances are offered our

'It was like a throw-back to the halcyon Conference years, both sets of fans mingling happily in the bars'

way, we will be fine come May next year.

Playing Altrincham again was a throwback to those bygone years, when we were first in the National league. It was great playing a proper non-league team: no need for segregation, with both sets of fans happily mingling in the bar before and after the game, and stewards and police not having to keep gobby teenagers at bay with their childish posturing of the big come on. Just normal football fans, enjoying the game.

BY TIM PARKS



THE TONES INTERVIEW

Nikola Tavares

Stones' new(ish) defensive star explains how his family left South Africa behind to fulfil his dreams of football success

Nik Tavares is a young man on a mission. The South African-born defender was so determined and confident that he would make it in the pro game that he flew to London at the age of 13 or 14 with his dad Paulo - and the pair spent a month at the Premier Inn, South Mimms while looking for a route into the game!

"The target wasn't to join a London club necessarily, but anywhere in Europe" explained the focused 22-year-old. "From what I remember I went on trial at Reading but it was Brentford who offered the scholarship. Then it was like 'alright, let's go for it'."

"Me and my dad went back to Cape Town, packed our bags, and then me, my mum and my brother flew out to the UK and settled down in Welwyn Garden City. My dad then closed his business in South Africa and joined us shortly after."

"It was quite a sacrifice, quite a gamble but my parents believed I was good enough to be successful".

Nik was an outstanding athlete, and big for his age, growing up in the Table View area of Cape Town. It was an idyllic childhood just ten minutes from the ocean.

"I also played rugby but had grown up watching the Premier League games on TV. The goal for most of the youngsters was to play in the PSL



Nik shows the strength and aggression needed to deal with Woking's powerful Innih Effiong in the season opener at Grosvenor Vale

in South Africa but I knew that the coaching and academy systems in Europe were much better".

And so, with the particular support of his dad Paulo (who had played pro football in South Africa and for Boa Vista in Portugal) the Tavares family took the plunge and moved to Welwyn Garden City, in Hertfordshire.

"It was a long drive down to Brentford every day for training but then, when I was about 16 or 17 I moved into digs near the club's training base in Osterley".

Crystal Palace saw the potential in the young, aggressive defender and moved in with the offer of a two-year contract.

"I had a good grounding at Palace: The manager Roy Hodgson, was so nice to everybody and the coaching was very good, very structured. And I was on the bench for Premier League games against Bournemouth twice, once against Burnley and at Anfield against Liverpool. and though that was a real thrill, with a decent chance of getting on the pitch, I bailed out because I didn't want to wait any longer to make a breakthrough. I was 21,



Left: Nik in action on his Stones National League debut against Woking and (above) his Croatian mother qualified him for appearances for Croatia's Under-18s and Under-23s

had not made a senior appearance and you can only wait so long.

"Ultimately it was disappointing because you were just waiting for players to become injured or suspended. I wanted to build my footballing CV and start my career."

So the South African-born defender came on trial last January to a Wealdstone side then managed by Dean Brennan. "The timing wasn't right for me then, but then the Gaffer Stuart got hold of me again in March, got me in on loan and I was thrown in the deep end, making my debut a few days later at Solihull. To be honest I lacked match fitness and was under-prepared, not having been involved at Palace through the Covid break, and got injured after an hour.

"So that was me done for the season really. The advantage was that I had those months, and the rest of the summer to really get myself in shape and I feel that my fitness and sharpness is where I want it to be".

He certainly came into the club under the radar and certainly none of the supporters quite knew what Nike had to offer. They do now!

"I've been pleased with the way things went through the pre season and I think I struck up a good partnership with Jack (Cook) and Jerome (Okimo)" he said.

Tavares has been a revelation with his keen-eyed, first-to-the-ball defending and he can also step in and bring the ball out of defence. "I know I played that first game at full back but centre-back is my favourite position" he says. "I think I'm good in one-on-ones and our system of play is a good fit for me - Stuart and Matty are young and ambitious and the way we are asked to move the ball and progress through the thirds is enjoyable".

He played a lot of under-23 football at Palace (and was skipper in one of his two seasons) so how does that compare to the National League?

"The main difference is what's at stake. There is no pressure in the U-23s; it's all about showing quality on the ball while in the NL there is nerves, anxiety and a real desire to win. That's the edge that means NL teams will beat u-23s teams more often than not.. physicality and the ability of protect the ball, and just maturity I suppose is the difference."

So had Nik ever heard of Wealdstone FC before joining earlier this year? "Not really, although I knew Danny Parish from my Brentford days and Michael Phillips from my time at Palace. I think the club is well run and, playing wise, we have good cover in all positions. And Dan Finill's video work is class!"

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NIK TAVARES



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Opposition in focus

ALDRESHOT TOWN

THE 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 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 Cash 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 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.

LAST SEASON

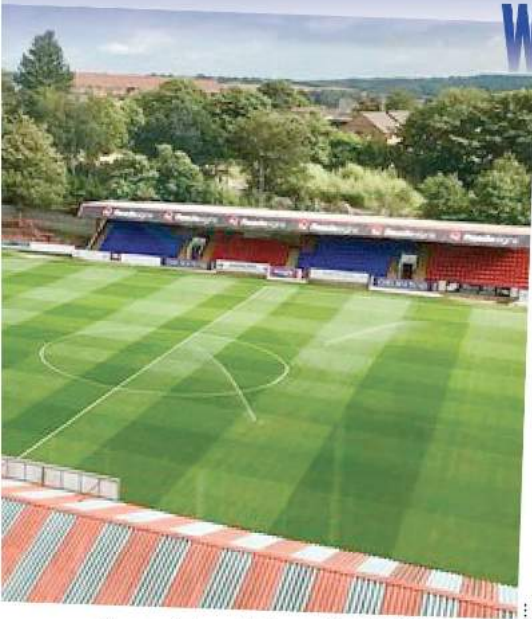
Saturday 23rd January 2021

HOME - Lost 3-4 (BCD) - Lewis, Dyer,
Emmanuel (P)

Saturday 24th April 2021

AWAY - Lost 0-2 (BCD)

WEALDSTONE 2021-22



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.

Last season The Shots finished in 15th place in the National League.

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



WEALDSTONE'S RECORD v ALDERSHOT TOWN

P 3 W 0 D 1 L 2 F 4 A 7

Opposition in focus

WHO'S WHO?



1. MITCH WALKER - GOALKEEPER

Joined 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. 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.

5. KEVIN LOKKO - DEFENCE

A product of the academy system at Norwich City and was part of the FA Youth Cup winning team during the 2012-13 season. Since then, the 25 year-old has had spells with a number of National League clubs including: Welling United, Maidstone United, Dagenham & Redbridge (loan) and Dover Athletic (loan before made permanent). Lokko has also had spells in the Football League with both Stevenage and Colchester United during his career, before most recently moving to his most recent former club Harrogate Town.

6. KODI LYONS-FOSTER - DEFENCE

Kodi 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. 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.

8. TOBY EDSEY - 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. The 21-year-old had been on trial with the club prior to the 20/21 season and made a clear impact, contributing to a number of goals and assists, prompting Danny Searle to make the move for him. The midfielder signed a new deal ahead of the 2021/22 season as he looks to continue his strong level of performance with the Shots.

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. JACOB BERKELEY-AGYEPONG - MIDFIELD

Following a short loan-spell before making the move permanent with National League South side Dartford FC where Berkeley-Agyepong impressed during his time with the Darts, Berkeley-Agyepong returns to Aldershot Town having played over 20 times for Dartford FC and scoring 7 times in the process. The former Crystal Palace man became a full senior international, representing Grenada for their 2021 CONCACAF Gold Cup. He would go on to make his international debut on 13 July in a CONCACAF Gold Cup group match defeat against Honduras before representing his country two more times since.

11. CORIE ANDREWS - FORWARD

Andrews is a product of the academy system at Premier League side Crystal Palace, spending 10 years there and earning the Academy Player

WEALDSTONE 2021-22

of the Year in 2014, before being rewarded with a professional contract at the age of 17. Since then, the 23 year-old has had spells in non-league with a number of clubs including: Margate, Whyteleafe and most recently Kingstonian before moving to League One side AFC Wimbledon. The forward joins The Shots (initially on loan until January 2022) off the back of a campaign where he played a part in AFC Wimbledon's survival in the third division of English football, (alongside former Aldershot Town player Ethan Chislett), as Andrews looks to reignite his non-league scoring form with us here at The EBB Stadium.

12. CHRISTIAN OXLADE-CHAMBERLAIN - MIDFIELD

Oxlade-Chamberlain is a product of the Portsmouth FC academy system, earning a professional contract with Pompey in 2014, before making his first-team debut professional debut on September 2015. Since then, the 23 year-old has had spells in non-league with a number of clubs including: Wimbourne Town, Salisbury FC, Eastbourne Borough, Poole Town and National League South side Oxford City before moving to fellow National League side Notts County

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

17. IBRAHIM AKANBI - FORWARD

Akanbi joins the club from Maidstone United. During his time with the Stones, the 24 year-old was their top scorer in the 2019-20 season. The former Crystal Palace youngster also joins the club, knowing some familiar faces already, having been in youth systems with the Eagles with recent addition Jacob Berkeley-Agyepong too.

18. WASSIM AOUACHRIA - FORWARD

Aouachria joins the club from EFL League One side Charlton Athletic. Born in Roubaix, Northern France, the striker played for his local club Aubagne from the age of six. Since then the forward was scouted for Ligue 1 side Marseille, who signed him at Under 14's level in 2013. However, Aouachria moved over to England for a new challenge with Charlton Athletic in 2019.

19. REECE MILLER - FORWARD

Miller progressed through our Academy back in

2020, going on to make his original first-team debut against Notts County back in March of the same year, before a short spell with Farnborough FC on a non-contract basis midway through last season. This in turn, saw the young forward come back to the Shots towards the end of last season.

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 signing with Queens Park Rangers in 2019. Phillips then spent the 2019/20 season on loan at Wycombe Wanderers 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. JAYDEN HARRIS - MIDFIELD

Harris is a product of the academy system at Fulham and has had a brief loan spell at Woking during the 19/20 season.

25. ELLIS WATTS - MIDFIELD

The young attacking midfielder joined the Shots academy originally after being part of League Two side's Newport County's youth system and after developing well in our under 23s

26. ALFIE SAUNDERS - DEFENCE

Saunders joins the first-team squad having graduated through our academy system, impressing during his time there too.

27. TOMMY WILLARD - FORWARD

Willard joins the first-team squad having graduated through our academy system, having previously been a part of Barnsley FC's youth system.

28. GEORGE SHERIDAN - MIDFIELD

Sheridan joins the first-team squad having graduated through our academy system, having been with the Shots academy set-up for a number of years.

29. JOE RABETTS - DEFENCE

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

30. HARVEY WALKER - MIDFIELD

Walker joins the first-team squad having graduated through our academy system, impressing during his time there too. The young winger has also worked with current first-team coach Jamie Waller before, having worked together in a separate academy system and will be hoping to make the step up into first-team football.

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Craig Whitehead

YOUR FAVOURITE SUPPORTER SPOT..

THE FAN IN THE STAND CRAIG WHITEHEAD



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

Where you live (just general area): Rayners Lane
Where you work (and occupation): Unemployed, just finished a degree, spend my time playing/writing music and being a radio presenter on Hayes FM

First Stones game attended (and when): Oooh, I cant remember who it was against, but i remember it being at the white lion ground about 10 years ago, my dad took me down and even though i was freezing, I enjoyed it and many years I came back and caught the bug!

How you came to be watching Wealdstone: Its a long story, but I was living in Leeds at University and through some research found out about Wealdstone playing locally to me, so when i was back from Uni i asked Richard and others to come down to a game and the rest they say is history...

What are the advantages, and joys, of non-League football? The advantages of non league football, where do i start? Well, being able to change ends, knowing the players and being able to speak to them, knowing the majority of the supporters by name and for any I dont know I'm sorry forgive me! That most clubs at this level are family friendly and are more open to fundraising for charities and causes than bigger clubs!

Any disadvantages? That some supporters of 'bigger' teams won't come down to support us, the arrogance of supporting a professional team I guess!

I guess you could also add that when it rains, we get wet on an open terrace but i enjoy this! Possibly some of the long away trips, but dont go to the majority of away games, but this is due to money and transport more than anything!

Have you regularly watched other clubs? In the past yes, when i was a kid, i supported and watched bBrentford, but due to family members moving on and the cost of going to see them, this rarely happens now - plus the fact even for a student it was nearly £20! When i was 16, i had a season ticket there for £20, so you can see the difference. Been to see Watford a few times, due to how close it is, but it all depends on money for me, I just love football.

How do you fit watching Wealdstone into your family/working life? Quite easily, I have no job at the moment, so for me i fit it in quite nicely depending on money and i have yet to have a family and settle down and all jazz, so my time is free!

Are you involved in football media? Not exactly, but I work on radio at hayes fm as a producer/presenter so i get to

WEALDSTONE 2021-22

This 'Fan in the Stand' appeared eleven years ago featuring Craig who was helping out with the club's online presence and social media...

... though he was a bit of a closet Brentford fan on the quiet. So has anything changed much in the World of Whitehead in the last decade? We asked him to update overpage...



talk about football on there – and get to mention the mighty stones!

Most memorable Stones game/s you've seen? Been a few. Aylesbury last year was quite amazing, plus beating the Scummers down the road is always memorable, but the 6-0 the other Christmas was superb! They are just two, but I've heard about some other great games especially one in 1985!

What is your favourite season, Wealdstone-wise, and why? Probably last year, good FA cup run (though I missed the Rotherham game due to work), just seemed to work well and was quite gutting just to miss out on the playoffs! If not last year, can I select the 1985 season even though I wasn't born for another two years? (That's just ageist, Ed)

Most memorable game EVER seen? Too many to mention really, quite a few Brentford games along with some Wealdstone ones but I know there are plenty of them to come!

Any suggestions to improve your Stones-watching experience? Yes a few, but they cost money! Maybe a way for some of the fans to select the pre/half time music in exchange for a donation to the club, more singing and chanting, other scores from around the league, penalty competition for fans at half time?

Favourite all-time Wealdstone line-up (1-1), with reasons? Well as I've only been supporting the Stones for the past 3/4 years, it would probably be most of the first team at the moment and then include some who have left like Carl Martin, Marvin McCoy, Jermaine Beckford, Ryan Ashe, Graeme Montgomery and then include some legends such as Stuart Pearce, Vinnie Jones, the Cordice brothers, so a mix of all those players and you got a first 1-1!

Best current Stones line-up, in your opinion? I think the line-up at present is pretty good...

Favourite all-time Wealdstone strip? I liked the squares, first Wealdstone kit I had, but I love the current one, great quality and great for scoring goals in on a muddy field in the winter!

Best away trip this season? I haven't been to any, due to lack of funds!

Best away trip in the past? I quite like the away trip to Dartford, the game was good ending 2-2 but I was more

intrigued to see the stadium after hearing so much about it, but apart from that the Aylesbury game last year!

Best non-League ground you've visited? Dartford's Princes Park, apart from ours obviously

Best stadium you've ever visited? Wembley/Millennium Stadium.

What are your expectations for this season? Playoffs/good cup run, good strike force banging in the goals, if not I'm available on a free!

Who is your favourite Stones celebrity fan? Gene Hunt a.k.a Phillip Glenister, as I was a massive fan of Life on Mars/Ashes to Ashes, I'm sure there are some more hiding away!

How does Grosvenor Vale compare to our other grounds? I like the ground

even though after doing work during the summer for most of the past 3 summers, I found that none of the stands are in a straight line! It's good but I'd like some bigger stands behind the goals, to get all the fans together signing and making lots of noise. There are some good stadiums like Dartford's, but what council has £6m to spend on a football stadium? But anything is better than the Scummers ground!

What do you think of our programme? It's pretty good. I must admit I haven't bought it much this season once again due to funds, but I enjoy reading it pre/post match!

Have you any ideas for

improvements? None really!

How do you think the club can improve its awareness

with the people of Ruislip? In terms of Ruislip and the surrounding areas it's just promotion, getting the name of the club and where we play to people, getting banners out and leaflets. I believe we do a *fun day at the club* so something like that could be good for the local residents and the surrounding areas. Local businesses are also another thing! **and finally... Where, and at what level of football, do you think the Stones will be playing in five years' time?**

Well if its anything like the Football Manager game I had with the Stones, we were in League Two! Back to real life and I think probably Conference South!



NEXT UP.. IT'S MARK HYDE

CRAIG WHITEHEAD FIS CONTD...

Where do you now live? I've been living in Harefield, the last four years with my wife and dog.

Where do you now work? I work in Perivale for a e-commerce company.

First Stones game? This would have been back in the Edgware days, can't remember who we faced and then there was a gap until around 2008 when the club moved to Ruislip and I started following a bit more regularly.

How did I come to watch Wealdstone? This was during my student days, I came across the club somehow and when I was back from uni decided to come and watch a game and the rest as they say is history.

How you cope with watching the live stream last season? I only watched a few games that way but it was very very good quality compared to some I've seen this season.

Are you planning to travel home/away this season? Due to my home life, I'll probably only make a few home/away games within the M25 or so.

What are the advantages and joys of non league football?

Compared to when I watch EFL games, more space to move around and easier getting in/out of the ground pre covid this was. The joy is being closer to the action and the players.

Do you watch any other clubs? I do indeed - my other team is Brentford with whom I'm a season ticket holder! Now I can afford it! It's been an incredible rise from when I was a kid to now being in the premier league.

Being at the opening Arsenal game was very surreal and a little emotional but one of the best nights of my life. As a kid at school being a Brentford fan wasn't cool and I was always asked who my premier league team was, but now they are one.

Although the new stadium is fantastic it feels a little sad that we never got to say a proper goodbye to Griffin Park. It feels a little like losing someone close to you. There are a lot of parallels to Wealdstone, having risen up through the ranks slowly but surely in the last

few years with the right investment on and off the field. Let's hope like Brentford, Wealdstone can get a new stadium in the next few years.

How do you now fit watching football into your family/working life? This has changed over the years, when I was younger it was a lot easier, but now with a wife, work and a house to look after it's becoming more challenging.

Most memorable Stones game? There are a few in here, but one has to be Woking away in the 2019 play-off semi-final, despite the result, or the Aylesbury game in the FA Cup over a decade ago.

What is your favourite season Wealdstone-wise? This is a hard one again, the season where we went up to the NL has got to be it for me.

Most memorable game you have seen? Outside of Wealdstone, Brentford 3-2 Millwall, a great game, but there could be a few from that season.

Favorite all time wealdstone line up? Any changes since last time? GK- North; Defence Wes Parker, Alan Massey, Ciaran Brown, Jerome Okimo; Midfield - Abo Eisa, Chris O'Leary, Poku, Tom Pett; Attack- Richard Jolly, Scott McGleish

Fave all time wealdstone kit? The last couple have been very good, but I think it would have to be the quarters kit of the mid 2000's.

Best away trip? Truro a few years ago. Epic weekend.

Best non league ground visited/best non league ground visited? Dartford's was pretty amazing in terms of design aspect, can't think of many more I've seen.

What are your expectations for this season 21/22? I'd hope for mid table safety with decent crowds of around 1,500

How does GV compare to other grounds?

It's unique, but its much improved in the last 10 years with new stands and facilities. If the lease can be sorted it can be extended. But when you have clubs like Wrexham and Notts County in the division, the Vale looks so small.

Where do you think Wealdstone will be playing in 5 years? I think NLP, but in the top 10 and pushing for the playoffs.



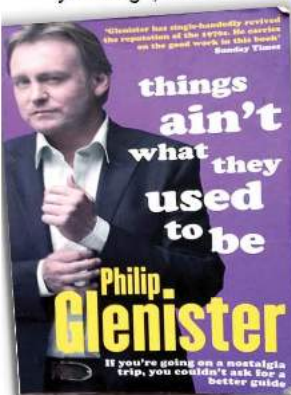
Freddie Grant scores at Woking in play off semi-final

We are the famous, the famous Wealdstone

In years gone by we've shamelessly featured celebrity fans (however tenuous the connection) in an 'amusing' way in this programme. And I mean tenuous: people like Eric Clapton and Elton John, who saw the odd game in their youth, and other odd duffers like actor Cardew Robinson who was a pukka supporter back in the 1940s and 50s.

We even had Angus Fraser as a genuine Fan in the Stand a couple of years ago, and he can often be

seen on the Vale terraces. But imagine my delight when George Duck (our star striker of the 1970s) What-sApped me with these images from actor 'Life on Mars'



Phillip Glenister's book about growing up in that decade. And there is a whole chapter on the delights of watching Wealdstone at Lower Mead in the days of boggy pitches, misty nights and smelly Woodbines.

And although P.Glenister has proved hard to track down, just a glance at the cover of his book is enough to convince us of his continued love for the Stones.. it's in a very fetching shade of purple, exactly the colour that our 1970s silk scarves faded to within a few years.

Come back to the Stones, Phil, and there will be a welcome in the boardroom..

Tim Parks

Thing's Ain't What They Used to Be

When I first started watching football it was the Chopper era, defenders and bikes. Wealdstone FC was my local club, once of the Isthmian League, and champions of the Southern League First Division (South) in 1973/4 thanks almost entirely to our star striker, George Duck. Cold, foggy, smoggy Saturday afternoons. Dodgy floodlights. Standing in those baggy trousers with pockets in line with your knees, blue and white scarf, even wearing rosettes. Unbelievable. We'd all cram in behind one goal. The away fans all stuck behind their goal. And huge aching voids on the terraces in between. A cup of Bovril ... and Bovril crisps, just in case we hadn't had enough of a beefy fix.

Players with shinguards that wouldn't have been out of place on Russell Crowe in *Gladiator*. And boots that a miner would have felt safe in, huge studs, leather as thick as your arm, doused in dubbin (whatever happened to dubbin?), not the ballet pumps they ponce about in these days. Nobody ever cracked their metatarsals. Or at least they never complained about it if they did. We didn't even know what a metatarsal was – a dinosaur, maybe?

The great thing was that you could see wonderful players. Back then the professionals kept on going long after their glory days. Jimmy Greaves turned out for Brentford and then Barnet. And at a pro-celebrity match you'd get Bobby Moore – Bobby Moore – turning up at Wealdstone for a kickabout. Then, when their legs finally gave up, they'd go and open a pub – Tommy Smith ran one called the Anfield Iron, naturally.

Oh, and we had our own hard men at Wealdstone.

Some chap who was to become internationally renowned as Psycho – known as Mr Stuart Pearce to you and me – joined in 1978, and Vinnie Jones played for the club in the mid-'80s. Now I'm not saying I miss those days of hard men and harder knocks, but at least there were no pampered strikers rolling around in supposed agony just because the centre back looked at them funny. There'll be a category created for them by BAFTA soon. You mark my words.

Match Sponsors



A great way to celebrate a special occasion or advertise your organisation's support of Wealdstone, match sponsorship packages start at just **£495** (fans) or **£550+** VAT (for businesses).









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- Naming and presenting the 'Man of the Match' award
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We will work with you to ensure you and your guests get to enjoy a truly memorable experience. If you or your organisation are interested in sponsoring a match here at The Vale, please contact Club President, Paul Rumens (paulrumens59@gmail.com or call **07710 929692**) to discuss.

Please note that we can accommodate multiple match sponsors and can tailor the experience to whatever your requirements are. (eg. we can cater for as many as 10, 20 or 30 people in your group.)

MATCH	SPONSORS	
 WOKING Saturday, 21st August Vanarama National League	Harrow Windows	
 SOUTHEND UNITED Monday, 30th August Vanarama National League	Ray Corner and Peter Carter	
 ALTRINCHAM Saturday, 11th September Vanarama National League	Wealdstone FC Supporters Club	
 ALDERSHOT TOWN Saturday, 19th September Vanarama National League	Harrow Windows	
 SOLHULL MOORS Tuesday, 5th October Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
 EASTLEIGH Saturday, 9th October Vanarama National League	Rolfe-East	In memory of John O'Connor aka OC
 GRIMSBY TOWN Tuesday, 25th October Vanarama National League	Rolfe-East	ADWConnect
 BARNET Saturday, 13th November Vanarama National League	Rolfe-East	Your name or business here



WEALDSTONE 2021-22

"A top drawer experience that would put a lot of Premier League clubs to shame. Nothing was too much trouble – highly recommended!"

– Colin Walklate,
Harrow Windows

"Great Hospitality, great people – a superb way to visit the Vale and watch the Stones."

– Robert Barrett,
Rolfe-East

"The parents and boys of AFC Lightning had a great day sponsoring the mighty Stones: great food, hospitality, football, a proper crowd and meeting the Raider!"

We will do it again this season!"
– Keith Davies, AFC Lightning

MATCH

SPONSORS



STOCKPORT COUNTY

Saturday, 27th November
Vanarama National League

AFC Lightning

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business here



FC HALIFAX TOWN

Saturday, 11th December
Vanarama National League

Harrow Windows

Your name or
business here



MAIDENHEAD UNITED

Sunday, 26th December
Vanarama National League

Your name or
business here

Your name or
business here



YEovil TOWN

Saturday, 8th January
Vanarama National League

Your name or
business here

Your name or
business here



NOTTS COUNTY

Tuesday, 25th January
Vanarama National League

Rolfe-East

Your name or
business here



WREXHAM

Saturday, 19th February
Vanarama National League

Union Athletic

Your name or
business here



TORQUAY UNITED

Saturday, 26th February
Vanarama National League

Your name or
business here

Your name or
business here



WEYMOUTH

Saturday, 12th March
Vanarama National League

Harrow Windows

Your name or
business here



DOVER ATHLETIC

Tuesday, 22nd March
Vanarama National League

Your name or
business here

Your name or
business here



BROMLEY

Saturday, 26th March
Vanarama National League

Rolfe-East

Your name or
business here



CHESTERFIELD

Saturday, 9th April
Vanarama National League

Your name or
business here

Your name or
business here



BOREHAM WOOD

Monday, 18th April
Vanarama National League

Your name or
business here

Your name or
business here



DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE

Saturday, 30th April
Vanarama National League

Your name or
business here

Your name or
business here



KING'S LYNN TOWN

Saturday, 7th May
Vanarama National League

Your name or
business here

Your name or
business here



RESULTS 2021/2022

George WICKENS
Jack COOK
Andrew ELEFTHERIOU
Nikola TAVARES
Jerome OKIMO
Craig FASANMADE
Matt BUSE
Joshua UMERAH

AUGUST	Comp	Score	(Total)	(Away)	Lge	Goal scorers	George WICKENS	Jack COOK	Andrew ELEFTHERIOU	Nikola TAVARES	Jerome OKIMO	Craig FASANMADE	Matt BUSE	Joshua UMERAH
21 WOKING	VNL	1-2	1,405	400	16	Umerah	1	2	12	17	6	7	8	9
28 Chesterfield	VNL	0-2	5,336	167	18		1	2	12	17	6	7	8(18)	9
30 SOUTHEND UNITED	VNL	0-0	2,151	800	18		1	2	12		6	7(10)		
SEPTEMBER														
4 Dagenham & Redbridge	VNL	2-2	1,735	170	18	Umerah, Lewis	1	2	12	17(34)	6	7		9
11 ALTRINCHAM	VNL	1-0	1,013	100	15	Elito (Pen)	1	2	12		6	7(9)		9
14 Notts County	VNL													
18 ALDERSHOT TOWN	VNL													
25 King's Lynn Town	VNL													
OCTOBER														
2 Torquay United	VNL													
5 SOLIHULL MOORS	VNL													
9 EASTLEIGH	VNL													
16 TBD	FAC4													
23 Weymouth	VNL													
26 GRIMSBY TOWN	VNL													
NOVEMBER														
13 BARNET	VNL													
20 Wrexham	VNL													
23 Dover Athletic	VNL													
27 STOCKPORT COUNTY	VNL													
DECEMBER														
4 Bromley	VNL													
11 FC HALIFAX TOWN	VNL													
18 TBD	VNL													
26 MAIDENHEAD UNITED	VNL													
28 Boreham Wood	VNL													
JANUARY														
2 Maidenhead United	VNL													
8 YEovil TOWN	VNL													
22 Woking	VNL													
25 NOTTS COUNTY	VNL													
29 Grimsby Town	VNL													
FEBRUARY														
12 Barnet	VNL													
19 WREXHAM	VNL													
22 Solihull Moors	VNL													
26 TORQUAY UNITED	VNL													
MARCH														
5 Eastleigh	VNL													
12 WEYMOUTH	VNL													
19 Stockport County	VNL													
22 DOVER ATHLETIC	VNL													
26 BROMLEY	VNL													
APRIL														
2 FC Halifax Town	VNL													
9 CHESTERFIELD	VNL													
15 Southend United	VNL													
18 BOREHAM WOOD	VNL													
23 Altrincham	VNL													
30 DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE	VNL													
MAY														
2 Yeovil Town	VNL													
7 KING'S LYNN TOWN	VNL													
15 Aldershot Town	VNL													



PRE-SEASON FRIENDLY RESULTS

17th July	Hayes & Yeading Utd	A	W	2-1	Charles, Fasanmade
20th July	St Albans City	A	D	1-1	Okimo
24th July	Bedford Town	A	D	2-2	Cook, Fasanmade
27th July	Chesham United	A	W	4-1	Fasanmade, Buse, Browne, Elito
31st July	Colchester United	A	D	1-1	Umerah (Pen)
7th August	Dorking Wanderers	A	W	2-1	Browne 2
10th August	Watford Under 23s	H	W	3-0	Fasanmade, Dronfield, Wishart
14th August	Hungerford Town	H	W	3-1	Umerah 2, Lewis

Rhys BROWNE
 Dennon LEWIS
 Charlie COOPER
 Dan WISHART
 Ashley CHARLES
 Alex DYER
 Medy ELITO
 Jack CRAWLEY
 Ira JACKSON

In Black = Started match

In Blue = Substitute (with number of player replaced in brackets)

10	11				18(8)	20(7)	
10	11	24		4(24)	18	20(7)	
10	11	24	3(11)	4	18		34
10(7)	11(3)	24	3	4	18		34
10	11	24	4	4	18	20(18)	34
							16(10)



Above: pictures from last weekend's late late show against Altrincham in a tough old battle between these two giants of the non-league world. Pictures courtesy **Dan Finill** (picture of penalty) and **Jon Taffel** (all the others)

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THINGS WOT WE LIKED THIS WEEK



Didn't expect us to get anything out of that game, eh ref?

By **TIM PARKS**

WE should have a caption competition for this great shot of Jack Cook leaving the pitch at Dagenham and looking over his shoulder at the officials. And (right): What a great football picture from the year 1921 nabbed from Twitter! This was a typical crowd scene in them days. Hardly anything's changed has it?



Tell thee what Cyril, I've had this dream about football in 100 years time... all t'crowd wi' little telephones with moving pictures... and t'players swanning about wi' little soft boots and pitches wi' proper grass on it, earning more than tuppence farthing a week...

..and some folk in crowd wi'out a cap on I suppose!

WHILE the non-League Paper is a cracking production, the tightness of its deadlines means a lot of bloopers slip through the net. The match report of the Harefield United-Hastings United FA Cup clash last week (right) saw a couple of mistakes by the Hares' keeper Reece Mallett lead to a Hastings win... although their very nice manager Jason Shaw (ex Stones midfielder) refused to blame him.

What a nasty shock for Mallett to pick up his NLP the next morning then only to see him labelled as 'Hastings' Hero of the Hour'. Ooops!

back in the second half and the expected rout never occurred with Harefield starting off brightly, giving the visitors less space and starting to dominate possession, Tasham Joran shooting wide on the hour.

But three minutes later the game was over, Pope getting his second when his shot from the edge of the area was fumbled again by Reece Mallett in the Hares' goal. His second mistake of the game.

Harefield's manager Jason Shaw refused to blame his side's five absences for the defeat, declaring that



HERO OF THE HOUR: Hastings' Reece Mallett

they allowed too much space in the first half to a team who he expects to do well this season. "We upped our work-rate second half, we were sitting too deep allowing them to play and they have good players," he said. "We have a squad so no excuses, it's part of the game."

Neither did he blame the pitch, which had staff at the ground at 6am repairing holes made by badgers, due to nearby work by HS2 driving the badgers on to the Hares' patch!

STAR MAN: Ben Pope (Hastings)
ENTERTAINMENT: ★★★★★

IT'S A RECORD!



THE WHERE & THE WHAT

v Altrincham at Grosvenor Vale
VNL Matchday Four

DATE AND CONDITIONS

Saturday Sept 11 2021, 3pm
Another fine afternoon (22 deg)
and a perfect grass Vale surface

ATTENDANCE

1,013 (approx 120 away fans)

TEAMS

WEALDSTONE

Wickens Okimo Cawley
Eleftheriou Cook Lewis Charles
Browne Cooper Dyer Umerah

ALTRINCHAM

Thompson Hannigan Moulton Mooney Dinanga Colclough
Kirby Kosylo Jackson Senior Mullarkey

RESULT

STONES 1 ALTRINCHAM 0
Elito 90 + 11
(penalty)

MATCH STATS

POSSESSION

Wealdstone 52% Altrincham 48%

SHOTS ON TARGET

Stones 10
Altrincham 5 **SHOTS OFF TARGET** Stones 4 Altrincham 10
CORNERS Stones 6 Altrincham 2

STONES VIEW

Altrincham arrived off the back of a convincing win at Torquay and victory over Dover but were undone by a gritty Stones side who found a way to win despite possibly the most disjointed display of the season. Thompson made three sharp saves and Wickens was equally busy but a broken leg for the visitors Connor Kirby - and then a red card on the 90mins mark for Brad Jackson - set the scene for 12 dramatic minutes of injury time. Stones pinched it via a penalty, won and converted in the last 90 seconds by substitute Medy Elito. What a finish!

SOCIAL MEDIA

"Some interesting opinions afterwards. Some thought we were by far the better team. Others thought we

held on in there, worked hard and poached the late winner in a tight game. Am tempted to side a little more with the latter. Some of our attacking play was frustrating to say the least. The ball just didn't stick and the chemistry just isn't right between some players. But they didn't let the heads drop and Elito without doubt looks like he could be an exciting prospect when fully match fit. Also thought Dennon (Lewis) was our best attacking player all afternoon when he did get forward"
-Attic, Stonesnet Forum"

I'm just back from the game and surprised to read these comments -to me, it was a nailed on red card for Brad, though the penalty is more subjective but his arm was raised and not by his side from where I was and it didn't surprise me when he pointed to the spot"
-Inter Alty forum

How we love a late winner!

Nothing better than a late winner... ideally in injury time... well how fantastic was the 101st-minute penalty that secured our first NL win of the season last Saturday. I went with my Exeter-supporting pal Giles to Wymcombe six years ago and saw Wanderers beat his side 2-1 thanks to an 102nd minute penalty - with the added time also due to a nasty injury - and never thought I'd see anything like it again.

Although sometimes the boot is on the other foot. Who remembers Weymouth scoring in the 116th minute to beat the Stones 2-1 at Bournemouth's Dean Court in 1987. That was preposterous... and virtually clinched our relegation from the Conference.

Oh the abject and ironic misery of FA Cup defeat in the rain... to Chesham

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 18 1973, FA CUP 1ST QUALIFYING ROUND REPLAY: WEALDSTONE 2 CHESHAM UTD 4

It's amazing the finer details one can recall almost 50 years later! Arriving at Lower Mead pretty much soaked through for this FA Cup replay under the lights, having decided to wear a new 'waterproof' jacket that patently wasn't. The jacket was Royal Blue, which was good enough for 15-year-old me, although I was loathe to ditch the 'parka' coat that had been a lucky omen for every other Stones match I had seen that season - we were still unbeaten when I'd been wearing it.

But after all, we were only playing 'little Chesham' who had only survived the battering we had given them at their own Meadow ground the previous sun-baked Saturday thanks to lashings of good fortune. I

bought my 5p match programme (pictured below), a little soggy as the constant, heavy rain slanted under the overhang of the programme booth, and read that the pitch had received "72 hours of watering to make it playable for tonight's replay, as the players are fed up with playing on rock-hard pitches".

Well it had bucketed down all afternoon - but luckily we had strikers with perfect names for such aquatic conditions like George Duck and Derek Otter! (okay, I made the last one up).

It would be just typical to find that we couldn't cope with a slippery surface, after three straight wins in blazing sunshine had Stones top of the Southern League Division One South. Wearing my parka hadn't always been the wise choice but 15 is the age to be making such mistakes and anyway, sweat and grime is part of the charm of the teenager (I told myself).

The game kicked off in front of a decent Tuesday night crowd of 1,000. Chesham's Taylor swung in the first free kick of the night, towards the Cinema End goal the Athenian League side were attacking, but it was an easy catch for our keeper Roy Mackenzie. Well, it might have been had he been wearing those Peter Bonetti



George Duck (above) and Bill Byrne past Chesham Utd keeper Coles who

'non-slip' gloves that were so fashionable in the game's higher reaches. The ball squirted from his grasp, ran up his arm and behind his head, and then bounced once in the proximity of the goalline, gleaming white and shimmering with collected water. Mackenzie grabbed the ball and went to play it quickly upfield, only for a furiously-flagging linesman to signal that Chesham were 1-0 up.

What? How?! This was an age when linesmen were pretty much invisible (unless they were being consulted, and becoming heroes in a World-Cup-Final-Geoff-Hurst scenario) and yet here was Mr P.B. Clarke or Mr R. Letsome (choose your anti-hero; he wasn't identified in the match report) *scuppering our cup* hopes as early as the fourth minute.

I'd been a die-hard Wealdstone fan for four years and already the misery of average league performances and shameful FA Cup exits were burned on my soul. The



(No.9) try to smuggle the ball makes an unorthodox save

previous year we'd been knocked out 3-1 at Hayes, almost acceptable, but before that came horrific defeats by (then) Athenian League minnows Boreham Wood (0-2 in a home replay) preceded by Spartan League Leighton Town in 1970 (again 0-1 at home in a replay after 1-1 away).

This tie was far from over but it all seemed so horribly predictable. Wave after wave of yellow-shirted attacks (we were strangely wearing our second strip) bore down on the Chesham goal but the Buckinghamshire club were convinced that they were Stones bogey side and that 'hex' came true as we ran out of puff in the second half after George Duck had headed a beautiful equaliser (and I can still see that goal too, at the Elmslie End, George slanting his header past static keeper Cole from Terry Dyson's free kick and the ball zipping into the raid-sodden net just ahead of

CONTD ON NEXT PAGE

Too many mistakes, no luck

'Stones again get F.A. Cup K.O. from amateurs

By Phil Sugden

Wealdstone 2, Chesham United 4

IT WAS, a Wealdstone supporter told me last Saturday morning as he prepared to travel to Chesham, a little unkind of me to bring up the unhappy subject of Borehamwood in our Saturday line-up column. It could not, he strongly asserted, happen again.

Well, I take little satisfaction from recording that it could — and did, at Lower Mead Stadium on Tuesday evening when by half-time all those appalling memories of a scoreline reading Wealdstone 0, Borehamwood 2, on the night of October 12, 1971, came flooding back. For the third season running Wealdstone crashed out of the F.A. Cup to an amateur side and in the end they were well beaten.

Let it be said right away that nothing went right for Wealdstone. Everything, but everything, flowed Chesham's way — and their officials were the first to admit the fact.

Chesham were ahead by a dubious goal after only four minutes and how a referee 10 yards from the scene can give a doubtful score on the word of a linesman 60 or so yards away, is something that only Mr. J. W. Godfrey, who was in the middle, can tell us.

Thereafter Wealdstone, attacking with frenzied, passionate desire to put matters right, had half a dozen efforts cleared from the line in the first half and three more in the second.

But a reminder to those who were bemoaning these facts long after the game. Defenders are paid (or not paid, according certain stipulations) to keep their goal intact wherever possible.

It is one of the mysteries of soccer that if a home defender clears from the line he is a hero, if a visitor performs the same honest job of work he is a villain.

Another simple fact is that goals count, near misses don't. Statistics show that in this game Chesham got the ball in the net five times (one was disallowed) and Wealdstone twice.

Something else perhaps emerged from a depressing night with rain falling steadily for most of the match. When 'Stones started the second half 2-1 down, most of the approximately 1,000 crowd expected them to take over, show professionalism and teach their visitors what football is all about.

HEADS DOWN

This they were never able to do. Too many heads had gone down and much as this may hurt manager Sid Prosser, there was not enough fight. Too many players appeared not to want the ball and too many were half a yard slower than the opposition.

Training methods, they told us before the season started, would make Wealdstone the fit-

their efficiency in defence and one or two of their back-men were lucky to escape harsher decisions than were meted out by Mr. Godfrey.

Wealdstone's tale of woe started in the fourth minute when McKenzie made a hash of Taylor's free-kick which ran up his arm and onto his shoulder before he scrambled the ball away.

Chesham appealed frantically for a goal. Mr. Godfrey consulted a far distant linesman and allowed the score. Was it a goal? From where I sat it was impossible to say.

SURVIVED

For the next 25 minutes the ball was never out of Chesham's half and seldom out of their penalty area. Time and again Wealdstone seemed certain to score, mainly through Duck, but somehow goalkeeper Cole and his men survived.

Ultimately Chesham gave away one free-kick too many. Dyson bent his cross beautifully and this time Duck's head gave Cole no chance.

Chesham survived another five minute storm but then, quite suddenly, the fire went out of Wealdstone's work and they gave away a goal.

Burgess should have cleared a through ball. McCormick could have. Both hesitated and Beaven nipped into shoot low and accurately.

Nothing to worry about said the experts. 'Stones will take over. They couldn't and didn't.

After 61 minutes McKenzie found himself in no man's land

with Beaven and Taylor bursting through. The keeper halted down Taylor and Peck stepped up to slam home the penalty.

MISSED

Two minutes later Watson completely missed his tackle, leaving Beaven to run into an acre of space and cross for Taylor to head in.

Watson was withdrawn and Fairclough went on and minutes later 'Stones were virtually down to ten men when Fulton took a nasty knock in a tackle.

Finally the home side pulled another back when after Brown had been fouled for the umpteenth time Dyson first timed Kinnear's free-kick into the net.

Hopes were raised momentarily, but the fire had gone and once more there was no way back for Wealdstone.

Perhaps the unhappiest part of the night was to hear those who had cheered so wildly when Barnet were thrashed last week, jeering and hurling that too often heard taunt — "what a load of rubbish" — although it was just that at times.

Wealdstone: McKenzie; Watson, Fulton, Kinnear, McCormick; Burgess, Godfrey, Brown; Byrne, Cuck, Dyson, Sub. Fairclough.

Harry O reporter Phil Sugden in full FA Cup "Told you so" misery mode. Just what you wanted to read three days after being dumped out of the FA Cup by lower-rated rivals

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

where I was standing).

Long-in-the-tooth fans will regale you of stories of the 1968 FA Amateur Cup semi-final, staged at Fulham's Craven Cottage, when Isthmian League title-chasers Wealdstone were humiliated 2-0 by a Chesham side nominally three divisions below them. You could have had 1,000-1 on Chesham to win the trophy when the competition began back in September 1967 but they went all the way to the final only to be pipped 1-0 by the mighty East Londoners Leytonstone (below, Chesham's 16-game run to the final; a bit like Emma Radacanu last week!).

So how had this Stones side - who ended the season as winners of the Southern League Div One South by 11 points from runners-up Bath City - been humbled by 'The Generals' again?

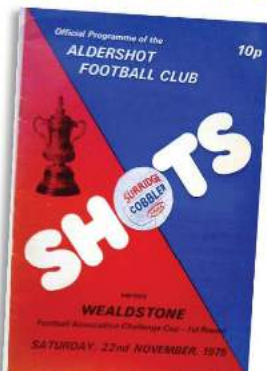
Accepted wisdom of the time was that the young, zippy Chesham side were just too quick and boisterous to be contained by the more experienced Stones. We'd brought in the 30-something John McCormick at centre back from Crystal Palace (virtually ever-present in Div One the previous year) alongside the ex Colchester pro Eric Burgess, while Duck, Willie Watson, Ray Fulton and John Henderson had all been with good League sides before being released as youngsters.

And yet this same team had walloped the much-lauded Barnet (of the Southern League Premier Division) 4-1 in the London Challenge Cup only a week earlier.

Maybe it was an off night. All I know is that, 48 years later, ANY victory over Chesham is sweet... even the 4-1 pre-season friendly win at The Meadow a few weeks ago!

OH YES, WE'VE MET BEFORE

Only two goals the last time we met? We were expecting seven at the very least!

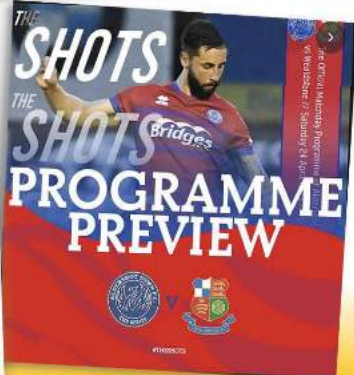


The was a wonderful mirror held up to 1975 when the Stones and The Shots came face to face at The Vale in January for the clubs' first competitive meeting for 46 years. The breathlessly exciting FA Cup First Round tie at The Recreation Ground in '75 ended 4-3 to the Third Division (League One) side.. and that scoreline was repeated early in new year 2021 in another thrill-a-minute-encounter.

It was just a shame that nobody was allowed in the ground to watch the seven-goal feast. I was up in the commentary box, trying to explain the difference between the throbbin Rec for the cup tie (when seven coaches of Stones fans added to the atmosphere of the occasion) and the bleak empty stands at the Vale... but then the game exploded into life with the Shots taking an early lead through the ever-dangerous Joel

CHESHAM UNITED

PRELIMINARY ROUND	Hemel Hempstead (Away)	2-0
QUALIFYING ROUND ONE	Didcot (Home)	3-0
QUALIFYING ROUND TWO	Hazells (Away)	2-0
QUALIFYING ROUND THREE	Marlow (Home)	3-1
QUALIFYING ROUND FOUR	Soham (Away)	1-1
(REPLAY)	Soham (Home)	1-0
ROUND ONE	Maidenhead (Home)	2-2
(REPLAY)	Maidenhead (Away)	2-2
(SECOND REPLAY)	Maidenhead (High Wycombe)	2-1
ROUND TWO	Dulwich (Away)	1-1
(REPLAY)	Dulwich (Home)	4-2
ROUND THREE	Corinthian Casuals (Away)	0-0
(REPLAY)	Corinthian Casuals (Home)	1-0
ROUND FOUR	Oxford City (Away)	0-0
(REPLAY)	Oxford City (Home)	2-0
SEMI-FINAL	Wealdstone (Craven Cottage)	2-0



The three meetings: Programmes for the first cup clash in 1975 (top) and the two NL games at The Vale and The Rec last season



BY TIM PARKS

WEALDSTONE 2021-22

Nouble. The big striker converted Fowler's cross past Stuart Moore with just six minutes gone.

The Stones were still just about in mid-table at this time and in the Third Round of the FA Trophy - and had captured Josh Meekings from Inverness Caledonian Thistle. The big defender settled down a porous defence and Stones were looking lively through Dennon Lewis and Moses Emmanuel - and Dennon blasted a sensational equaliser from a tight angle in front of an empty Bulla to level. And then Alex Dyer took a Michael Phillips pass and sidefooted past Shots keeper Mitch Walker to put the Stones ahead.

The crowd was on its feet (in the gantry, anyway) and three points were a real possibility. But Aldershot were incisive on the break and even the presence of Meekings couldn't prevent Jermaine Anderson scrambling in a leveller. And then moments before the break Nouble set up Chike Kandy to blaze past Moore for 3-2.

Meekings had twisted his knee - the recurrence of an old injury - and he didn't appear after the break... or ever again a Stones shirt, come to think of it. Rees fired in a fourth for the Shots in the 76th minute and although Michee Efete won a penalty a few minutes from time, Emmanuel's goal was just a consolation. And provided an uncanny 3-4 echo of 1975.

Three months later, on April 24 both clubs were pretty much going through the motions as relegation was off the table and (for those in the bottom half at least) nobody was willing to throw money at the season. Both the Stones and the Shots were furloughing left, right and centre and bringing in loan players as cover, which led to a rather tame clash at the Rec, again behind closed doors. A fine 25-yarder out of the blue from Harrison Panayioutou - along with a stoppage time goal from Joel Nouble - sunk the Stones 2-0, but that was regarded as a decent result after losing 7-2 to Hartlepool and 6-0 to Maidenhead in our two previous games. Thank goodness that's all behind us!



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

PROGRAMME THROBACK SPECIAL: SHOTS V

Official Programme of the

**ALDERSHOT
FOOTBALL CLUB**

10p



SHOTS

versus

WEALDSTONE

Football Association Challenge Cup—1st Round

SATURDAY, 22nd NOVEMBER, 1975

JACK ROLLIN

takes a look at today's opponents

WEALDSTONE

Facing Southern League opposition in the First Round of the F.A. Cup is of special interest to Aldershot as this was the first competition the Club applied to join successfully in 1926. Wealdstone have not had such a long association with the Southern League, having turned professional in 1971-72 and entering the First Division North that season.

Before this Wealdstone had been members of the Athenian League and in 1966-67 reached the final of the now defunct Amateur Cup and defeated Hendon at Wembley.

In 1972-73 they were transferred to the Southern Section of the Southern League's First Division and the following term won promotion to the Premier Division. They are currently enjoying an unbeaten run of success in League and Cup matches and are making an historic first appearance in Round One.

Last Saturday their leading scorer George Duck scored his 17th goal of the season and the term before last he broke the club's post-war record with 64 goals. Altogether he has scored more than 150 for them. Signed from Southend United when Wealdstone turned professional, he was formerly on the books of Millwall. Off the field he is a schools football teacher.

There are a number of other former Football League players in the squad—notably public house keeper centre-back John McCormick, a Scot who was at Crystal Palace and earlier with Aberdeen and Third Lanark. Others with League experience are midfield players Vince O'Kane (once of Charlton Athletic) and Bobby Moss (who was at Leyton Orient before going to

Barnet). Another midfielder, Ray Fulton, came from Orient and is a stonemason by profession.

There are a number of other former Football League players. Striker John Henderson was on the books of Cardiff City before coming from Bedford. Chris Kinnear, the youngest in the side at 21, hails from West Ham and figures at right back, while Paul Fairclough, the sweeper, has also appeared for Liverpool Reserves.

John Watson, the left-back, won England youth international honours as a teenager when he was associated with Millwall, while striker Adrian Eg-lite claims an Amsterdam birthplace and experience with the mighty Ajax.

Car salesman Bill Byrne toured Japan with Middlessex Wanderers a couple of years ago before turning professional with Wealdstone. The club's two goalkeepers are John Morton and Roy Mackenzie, the former having been at Dartford previously and the latter the senior choice before displaced by Morton.

Wealdstone's squad is completed by midfield players John Lewis and Jim Godfrey. Lewis is a close season capture from Romford, while Godfrey was with Barnet. The club's manager is Eddie Presland, a full-back with Crystal Palace and West Ham in his playing days and an Essex County cricketer in the summer. His coach is probably even better known—Terry Dyson, a member of the Spurs forward line in their League and Cup double season of 1960-61.

An enthusiastic band of followers is likely to accompany them today as well, and has been estimated by a club official as being in the region of 1,000.

ALDERSHOT

Colours: Red and Blue

- 1 Glen JOHNSON
- 2 Richard WALDEN
- 3 Len WALKER
- 4 Ma'colm CROSBY
- 5 Mike EARLS
- 6 Joe JOPLING
- 7 Neil WARNOCK
- 8 Pat MORRISSEY
- 9 Jack HOWARTH
- 10 Terry BELL
- 11 Murray BRODIE
- 12

Manager: Tom McNamee
Coach: John Anderson

WEALDSTONE

Colours: Yellow & Blue

- 1 John MORTON
- 2 Chris KINNEAR
- 3 John WATSON
- 4 Paul FAIRCLOUGH
- 5 John McCORMICK
- 6 Bobby MOSS
- 7 John LEWIS
- 8 Ray FULTON
- 9 Bill BYRNE
- 10 George DUCK
- 11 John HENDERSON
- 12

Manager: Eddie Presland
Coach: Terry Dyson

PASS!

but don't pass by your newsagent order a copy of

ALDERSHOT NEWS and Mail

every Tuesday

reviews all local sport

taking charge today...



EDWARD HUGHES (Wotton super-Mans). A schoolteacher, married with a teenage son. Started refereeing while serving in the R.A.F. and in the Somerset League and Football Combination. Appointed to the League's Supplementary List for this season. Has refereed many local finals. Interested in all sports, plays cricket and squash and enjoys sketching, caricature drawing, calligraphy and driving. Spent 14 years as a physical training instructor in the R.A.F. and is a qualified MCC Norwich City and F.A. coach. Played as an amateur for Wotton and R.A.F. at cricket and soccer.

LINESMEN

J. G. MARTIN (Salston)
(Red Flag)

A. A. ISAACS (Banking)
(Orange Flag)

SAVED!

and make sure your newsagent saves you a copy of

ALDERSHOT NEWS every Friday

previews all local sport

A few interesting details from the FA Cup game played 46 years ago..

including a young Neil Warnock in action for the Shots (above right) and their manager's lamentation of violence on the terraces, which we experienced that very afternoon. Right: the directions for any replay would have taken Shots fans to Harrow Borough FC!

SHOTS

TUES.
NOV.
25th

W
Dep
M
CO
OF
CA
First
Tel: C
Bookings

BRAMLEY AT LARGE

Pictures by 'Aldershot News' staff photographer Brian Bramley



Two Aldershot attacks thwarted by the opposition in our home match with Sheffield Wednesday last 5. Above, Jack Howarth is just beaten to the ball by the Wednesday 'keeper'.



Bill Warnock is beaten by a Sheffield Wednesday defender to clear the ball upfield away from his team's

IN THE EVENT OF A DRAWN GAME TODAY . . .

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Then Petts Hill

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After 50 yards, turn left into Somervell Road

STAND TICKETS: £1.00

TOMMY MAC SAYS



Today I would like to plead with our fans and comment on this disease which is ruining the greatest game in the world, summed up in one word — **Hooliganism**.

Firstly I would like to reminisce to the days when good old rivalry between the football fans of this country was the 'in thing' and the height of this rivalry was on Derby days between local teams.

I have seen it on many occasions: the crowds walking to the matches with their scarves, and the rosettes on many a proud chest, jokes flying back and forth between supporters mainly on what his team was going to do to the other's team, with each side giving as good as the other. It was said in Sheffield that the Derby was the topic for weeks in the steel works, shops, etc., before the game and after, with the winning team's supporters making hay while the sun shone, thinking that next time they may be the ones beaten. In the North, round the mining areas, it has been said (to quote): 'When the football teams are doing well the output of coal was usually greater.'

Yes, I think we have got to get back to those days for the good of football. Today we have the so-called 'football supporters', mainly the young people, who gather in gangs to make their way to the match and on the way frightening people, fighting and destroying property. This disease is spreading over the country and keeping supporters away from the matches, which means the clubs lose revenue they need to improve the grounds, etc.

This nation, which consists of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, is a football nation, and football is in our blood. That is why, in my opinion, it is our national sport and we would be lost without it.

So I plead with you hooligan fans (who may be reading these notes), not for the good old days but for today and the tomorrows of football. If you would just stop for a moment and think, it was your parents who made this game what it is today for you, their children, to enjoy. What, I ask, are you going to leave your children? It won't be much if things carry on as they are at present and the clubs are forced to bring in security and safety measures such as pens for spectators, identity passes to get into grounds, and so on.

Yes, what are your children going to say? That's right first time: 'Our parents must have been a right lot of hooligans.'

How we stop this disease I don't know. The only thing I can suggest is that we all begin by looking at ourselves and following this quote: 'Always imitate the behaviour of the winner when you lose.'

So I ask you, please, stop this disease and begin today, here at Aldershot, by being an example to all the visiting supporters with your behaviour, and make your ground a fit place for people to come and enjoy football.

Today we welcome Wealdstone Town and their supporters in this First Round proper of the F.A. Cup — which ends at every footballer's dream place, Wembley. It is Wembley that the players have in their minds when they go on to the field to do battle, because that is what it will be, they say — the Cup brings the best out of the teams. If that is so, then every supporter should see a good game today.

God Bless You All,

TOMMY MAC.



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TOGETHER FOR FOOTBALL



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Find out more about funding from the Football Foundation and Football Stadia Improvement Fund:

footballfoundation.org.uk



The Football Stadia Improvement Fund



The Very First Wealdstone FC



Lower Mead Booklet

Available now in the WFCSC Megastore & online at www.wfcmegastore.co.uk

BY STEVE DUCKER



Random Sightings

Past encounters with today's visitors as recounted by someone who was there

Saturday 25 October 1975

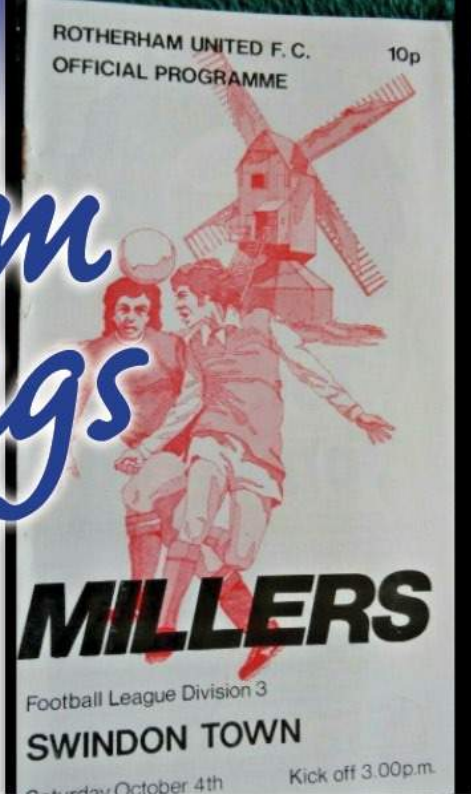
My first sighting of the Shots was, inevitably, away to my local team Rotherham United. I wasn't alone. This was the first league meeting between the two teams. Unless they were around for an FA Cup tie in the 1930s, nobody else had seen them in direct opposition either.

Until 1973, Aldershot had spent their entire Football League history in the fourth division or the third division (south), with Rotherham in the second, third, or third division north. That summer Aldershot won their first promotion, passing the Millers on the way. Until Rotherham got back up two years later, it was classic "never the twain".

The match ended 2-2, with Aldershot's John Richardson and Terry Bell cancelling out goals by Alan Crawford and Paul Stancliffe.

But the real story of me and Aldershot in the 1970s took place the following season. I was 11 and had just started at the comprehensive up the road. One day, a kid in my class came in with a book I'd never heard of, a proper tome. It was called the Rothmans Football Yearbook and he had borrowed it from the local public library – it wasn't even restricted to the reference section – and, knowing I liked football, lent it to me.

I had ambitions of being the



next Brian Moore and thought learning all the players in the league would be a good start. The book had even arranged the clubs in alphabetical order for this purpose. So I started with Aldershot. And, with my mate asking for his book back a few days later, pretty much finished there as well. As football was to teach me often, the gap between fantasy and reality can be poles apart.

However, the upshot is I can still recall a surprisingly large number of players from that side of '76, or at least their names. Murray Brodie, Jack Howarth, Joe Jopling... Neil Warnock was most fascinating because he was ex-Rotherham. I wonder whatever happened to him.

But Howarth was my favourite, mainly because he shared the name of the actor who played the old boy Albert Tatlock in Coronation Street, leaving me with mental images of a flat-capped, pot-bellied pensioner going toe to toe with the uncompromising lower division defenders of the time.

Ten of the Aldershot players who played in this game also lined up against Wealdstone in the FA Cup four weeks later.

Friday 18 October 1991

In the modern era, we football fans of a certain age have had to get used to certain unpalatable things. VAR checks and expected goals totals at the top end of the game for instance. Further

- 1 Glen Johnson
 - 2 Ronnie Walton
 - 3 Len Walker
 - 4 Malcolm Crosby
 - 5 John Richardson
 - 6 Joe Jopling
 - 7 Neil Warnock
 - 8 Pat Morrissey
 - 9 Jack Howarth
 - 10 Terry Bell
 - 11 Murray Brodie
- Sub David Howitt for Bell
Att: 4,428

ALDERSHOT TOWN



(Pictures of programmes are from the actual game where possible, but from another game in the same season where the exact one couldn't be found.)

with them losing their club over a sum of money that seemed trivial at the time and looks like peanuts now. But like Newport before them and AFC Wimbledon later, they were to prove that what does actually kill you makes you stronger.

For the record, Rotherham won this game 1-0. I know because I was there.

Tuesday 16 August 1994

Aldershot reformed more or less straight away as Aldershot Town, and joined the Isthmian League. They were already making short work of progressing through its divisions when I saw the new incarnation away at Berkhamsted, a ground I'd wanted to visit for a long time after seeing it on numerous train journeys out of Euston. (Alas no programme cover, so the one below is from the Shots' 94/95 season.)

To say the fan base had got behind Aldershot's phoenix club was an understatement. Here, they were on at least three sides of the ground and probably made up 90% of the total attendance. With the fixture feeling like a home game, the team responded accordingly and strolled to a 3-0 win. I have no record of the scorers but I have a feeling that Steve Stairs might have scored at least one and possibly two.

If he did, it's appropriate indeed that a man called Stairs was leading the long climb back to Aldershot's historical level.

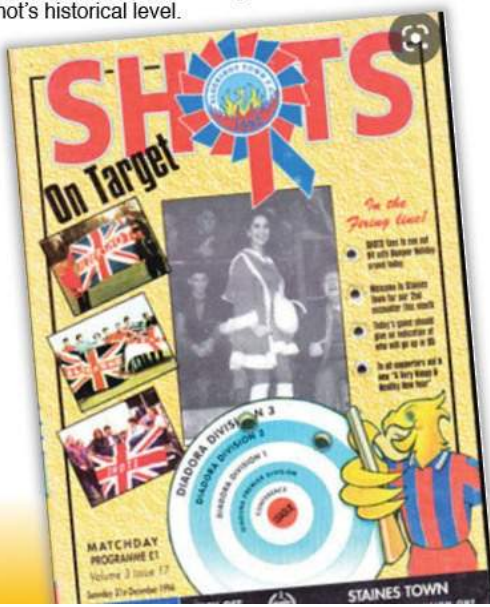
down, gripes are more likely to concern online programmes, and, well there's no getting away from it really, the expunged fixture.

It's the ultimate limbo experience. The same conundrum as whether a tree falling in an unpopulated forest makes a sound. In short, did the game you attended, that you have fully formed memories of and where you had conversations with other like-minded people, really take place? As recently as 2019 I cycled the 20-odd miles to Ware on the opening Saturday of the season to watch Wodson Park play Ampthill Town. Wodson resigned from their league before Christmas. But if I tell people I saw the game, and there is no record to support it, how can I prove I'm not making it up?

At Football League level, expungements (is that a word?) have been rare. By the time I arrived in Aldershot to see Rotherham's latest instalment in trying to secure an immediate return to the third tier, the last ones had concerned Accrington Stanley's uncompleted season nearly 30 years earlier. There had been the odd FA Cup tie replayed behind closed doors after hooliganism the first time round, but the league, seemingly, was inviolate.

Until now. I wouldn't know it for almost six months, but I was about to watch a non-fixture, because this was the season Aldershot dropped out of the league themselves.

Of course any minor inconvenience I may have suffered pales into insignificance against the pain felt by Aldershot fans that season, which ended



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- 1 Prime seats in the main stand if required
- 1 Publicity over the PA system and via the official club website and social media
- 1 Captains Lounge hospitality with refreshments & snacks.
- 1 2 x match-day programmes
- 1 A fabulous autographed team ball.

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

MATCH	BALL DONORS	
 WOKING Saturday, 21st August Vanarama National League	In memory of Kat Kelly	
 SOUTHEND UNITED Monday, 30th August Vanarama National League	Nick Woolford	
 ALTRINCHAM Saturday, 19th September Vanarama National League	In memory of Arthur Rogers	
 ALDERSHOT TOWN Saturday, 18th September Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
 SOLHULL MOORS Tuesday, 5th October Vanarama National League	Barbara Robson	Your name or business here
 EASTLEIGH Saturday, 9th October Vanarama National League	Neale Harvey & Arthur Villa	Your name or business here
 GRIMSBY TOWN Tuesday, 26th October Vanarama National League	Mike and Val Weston	Your name or business here
 BARNET Saturday, 13th November Vanarama National League	In memory of Derek Munday	Your name or business here

WEALDSTONE 2021-22



MATCH

BALL DONORS



STOCKPORT COUNTY

Saturday, 27th November
Vanarama National League

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business here

Your name or
business here



FC HALIFAX TOWN

Saturday, 11th December
Vanarama National League

Tony and Peter Drew

Your name or
business here



MAIDENHEAD UNITED

Sunday, 26th December
Vanarama National League

In memory of Roy Couch

Your name or
business here



YEovil TOWN

Saturday, 8th January
Vanarama National League

Lew Sheppard

Your name or
business here



NOTTS COUNTY

Tuesday, 25th January
Vanarama National League

Your name or
business here

Your name or
business here



WREXHAM

Saturday, 19th February
Vanarama National League

In memory of Jim Klarfeld

Your name or
business here



TORQUAY UNITED

Saturday, 26th February
Vanarama National League

Your name or
business here

Your name or
business here



WEYMOUTH

Saturday, 12th March
Vanarama National League

Your name or
business here

Your name or
business here



DOVER ATHLETIC

Tuesday, 22nd March
Vanarama National League

Barbara Robson

Your name or
business here



BROMLEY

Saturday, 26th March
Vanarama National League

Alan Couch

Your name or
business here



CHESTERFIELD

Saturday, 9th April
Vanarama National League

Mick Fishman

Your name or
business here



BOREHAM WOOD

Monday, 18th April
Vanarama National League

'Fans No Longer With Us'
Tony Drew & Ron Moore

Your name or
business here



DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE

Saturday, 30th April
Vanarama National League

Your name or
business here

Your name or
business here



KING'S LYNN TOWN

Saturday, 7th May
Vanarama National League

Your name or
business here

Your name or
business here

KIT DONORS 2021/2022

Are you interested in donating the cost of a kit for your favourite player or member of the club's first team squad?

For **£150** you will be named here in the programme and on the club's website as well as on any social media interviews with your player.

You will also receive a signed framed photo of the player wearing the kit you have donated. If you donate and pay by 30 September, you will be entered into a prize draw to win that players signed match worn kit at the end of the season.

You can donate by clicking on the link below, speaking to any club official or e-mailing harveyhicks@wealdstonefc.com or paulrumens59@gmail.com

KEY

CS = Coaching Staff
 GK = Goalkeeper
 CB = Centre Back
 RB = Right Back
 LB = Left Back
 DM = Defensive Midfield
 RM = Right Midfield
 LW = Left Winger
 RW = Right Winger
 CF = Centre Forward



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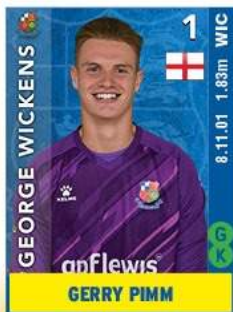
ALAN COUCH



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TONY AND PETER DREW



GERRY PIMM



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WEALDSTONE 2021-22

MEDY ELITO 20
20.3.00 1.8m ELI



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DAN WISHART 3
28.5.92 1.82m WIS



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TO SPONSOR DAN, CALL 07710 929692

CRAIG FASANMADE 7
10.06.00 1.82m FAS



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MIKE AND VAL WESTON

DENNON LEWIS 11
9.3.97 1.78m LEW



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JEROME OKIMO 6
8.6.88 1.82m OKI



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ANDREW ELEFTHERIOU 12
8.11.97 1.72m ELE



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16.11.95 1.75m BRO



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ROGER SLATER

RHYS BROWNE 10
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RAY CORNER

ASHLEY CHARLES 4
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JIM SORRELL

JACK CAWLEY 34
19.09.92



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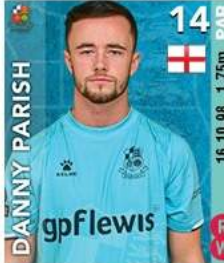
DANNY PARISH 14
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TONY WALLER


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TONY WALLER

MATT BUSE 8
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ZACH DRONFIELD 19
1.3.02 1.85m DRO



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JACK COOK 2
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SUDHIR, AKHIL, NIKHIL SARIN AND KAMRAN RAWAL

Fixtures

WEALDSTONE 2021-22

**Saturday
25th September
3:00pm**

KING'S LYNN TOWN (A)

www.kltown.co.uk @OfficialKLTown Vanarama National League



**Saturday
2nd October
3:00pm**

TORQUAY UNITED (A)

www.torquayunited.com @TUFC1899 Vanarama National League



**Tuesday
5th October
3:00pm**



SOLIHULL MOORS (H)

Vanarama National League

£10 admission for EFL or Premier League season ticket holders and members of the armed forces

**Saturday
9th October
3:00pm**



EASTLEIGH (H)

Vanarama National League

£10 admission for EFL or Premier League season ticket holders and members of the armed forces

**Saturday
16th October
3:00pm**

FA CUP 4th Qualifying Round

(Visit www.wealdstone-fc.com to find out who we're playing and where)

**Saturday
23rd October
3:00pm**

WEYMOUTH (A)

www.uptheterras.co.uk @TheTerras Vanarama National League



**Tuesday
26th October
7:45pm**



GRIMSBY TOWN (H)

Vanarama National League

£10 admission for EFL or Premier League season ticket holders and members of the armed forces

Vanarama National League 2021/2022 – @ 15th September 2021

	ALL				HOME				AWAY				+/-	Pts	RESULTS						
1 Dagenham & Redbridge	6	5	1	0	17	8	3	2	1	0	10	6	3	3	0	0	7	2	9	16	2-2
2 Chesterfield	6	4	2	0	12	4	3	2	1	0	8	4	3	2	1	0	4	0	8	14	0-2
3 Boreham Wood	6	4	2	0	9	4	3	1	2	0	3	2	3	3	0	0	6	2	5	14	
4 Grimsby Town	5	4	1	0	11	5	3	3	0	0	8	4	2	1	1	0	3	1	6	13	
5 Notts County	6	3	3	0	14	7	3	2	1	0	7	5	3	1	2	0	7	2	7	12	2-3
6 Halifax Town	6	3	1	2	11	8	3	2	0	1	6	3	3	1	1	1	5	5	3	10	
7 Yeovil Town	4	3	0	1	7	3	2	1	0	1	2	2	2	2	0	0	5	1	4	9	
8 Wrexham	6	2	3	1	9	8	2	1	1	0	2	1	4	1	2	1	7	7	1	9	
9 Solihull Moors	5	2	2	1	10	9	4	1	2	1	8	8	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	8	
10 Stockport County	6	2	2	2	4	6	3	0	1	2	1	6	3	2	1	0	3	0	-2	8	
11 Weymouth	6	2	1	3	10	12	3	1	1	1	4	4	3	1	0	2	6	8	-2	7	
12 Woking	4	2	0	2	8	5	1	0	0	1	2	3	3	2	0	1	6	2	3	6	1-2
13 Maidenhead United	5	2	0	3	8	10	3	1	0	2	5	6	2	1	0	1	3	4	-2	6	
14 Altrincham	4	2	0	2	6	6	1	1	0	0	3	2	3	1	0	2	3	4	0	6	1-0
15 Eastleigh	5	1	2	2	8	10	3	1	1	1	7	6	2	0	1	1	1	4	-2	5	
16 Southend United	6	1	2	3	6	9	3	0	1	2	4	6	3	1	1	1	2	3	-3	5	0-0
17 Wealdstone	6	1	2	3	6	9	3	1	1	1	2	2	3	0	1	2	4	7	-3	5	-- --
18 Bromley	4	1	1	2	9	9	2	1	0	1	5	3	2	0	1	1	4	6	0	4	
19 King's Lynn Town	5	1	1	3	6	9	3	0	0	3	1	5	2	1	1	0	5	4	-3	4	
20 Torquay United	6	1	1	4	8	16	3	0	0	3	2	10	3	1	1	1	6	6	-8	4	
21 Aldershot Town	6	1	0	5	7	12	3	0	0	3	2	6	3	1	0	2	5	6	-5	3	
22 Barnet	6	0	2	4	7	17	3	0	1	2	1	8	3	0	1	2	6	9	-10	2	
23 Dover Athletic	5	0	1	4	3	10	2	0	1	1	0	1	3	0	0	3	3	9	-7	-11	



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HOW THEY LINE-UP TODAY

WEALDSTONE



Royal Blue/White/White

ALDRSHOT TOWN

Red /Blue/Red

G George WICKENS 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 Mitch WALKER G
Jack COOK 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	2 George FOWLER
Dan WISHART 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	3 Lewis KINSELLA ©
Ashley CHARLES 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	5 Kevin LOKKO
Connor STEVENS 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	6 Kodi LYONS-FOSTER
Jerome OKIMO © 6	<input type="checkbox"/>	7 Alfy WHITTINGHAM
Craig FASANMADE 7	<input type="checkbox"/>	8 Toby EDSER
Matt BUSE 8	<input type="checkbox"/>	9 Mo BETTAMER
Josh UMERAH 9	<input type="checkbox"/>	10 Jacob BERKELEY-AGYEPONG
Stephan BROWNE 10	<input type="checkbox"/>	11 Corie ANDREWS
Dennon LEWIS 11	<input type="checkbox"/>	12 Christian OXLADE-CHAMBERLAIN
Andrew ELEFTERIOU 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	13 RYAN HALL G
G Alfie MARIGLIANI 13	<input type="checkbox"/>	17 Ibby AKANBI
Danny PARISH 14	<input type="checkbox"/>	19 Reece MILLER
Elijah HEARN 15	<input type="checkbox"/>	21 Ben SHROLL
Ira JACKSON Junior 16	<input type="checkbox"/>	22 Giles PHILLIPS
Nikola TAVARES 17	<input type="checkbox"/>	23 Jayden HARRIS
Alex DYER 18	<input type="checkbox"/>	25 Elis WATTS
Zach DRONFIELD 19	<input type="checkbox"/>	26 Alfie SAUNDERS
Medy ELITO 20	<input type="checkbox"/>	27 Tommy WILLARD
Charlie COOPER 24	<input type="checkbox"/>	28 George SHERIDAN
Tecane SHROWDER 29	<input type="checkbox"/>	29 Joe RABBETTS
Jack CAWLEY 34	<input type="checkbox"/>	30 Harvey WALKER

REFEREE Gary Parsons **ASSISTANTS** Robert Evans and Daniel Todd **FOURTH OFFICIAL** Gareth Davis
OBSERVER David Crick

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MATCHBALL DONOR To be announced

NEXT AT THE VALE v SOLIHULL MOORS Vanarama National League, Tuesday October 5, KO 7.45pm
v EASTLEIGH Vanarama National League, Saturday October 9, KO 3pm

Main club sponsor:

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WEALDSTONE

MEDY STEADY GO! Stones picked up their first win of the season thanks to Medy Elito's late, late penalty winner here last Saturday against Altrincham.. which sparked wild celebrations

PICTURE: DAVID LEIGH

INSIDE
NIKOLA TAVARES
THE BIG INTERVIEW