



WEALDSTONE

versus
SOLIHULL

versus
EASTLEIGH

TUES OCT 5 2021
7.45PM

SATURDAY OCT 9 2021
KO 3PM

BIRD IS THE WORD! One of the few bright spots in Saturday's collapse at Torquay was the loan debut of MK Dons' Jay Bird **PICTURE: ADAM WILLIAMS**



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BY MARK HYDE



WEALDSTONE 2021-22

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BALL DONOR & MASCOT - SOLIHULL MOORS ROSSI McCANN

My name is Rossi McCann and I live in the Cotswolds. I recently celebrated my 11th birthday on the 4th October. I really love football and my teams are Wealdstone and Leyton Orient. I play for my local team Leafield FC and I love it. My other hobbies are cricket, basket ball, BMX and basically anything sporty. I love going to matches with my dad and singing the Wealdstone songs. My favourite player was always Jonathon North but now every player obviously gets my 100% support, UTS.



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Tony Paulley and his lifelong friends David, Simon and 10 year old Greg Joslin (Pictured left) will be making the 250 mile round trip from their Dorset homes and are all looking forward to enjoying the match day Sponsorship Experience, and Hospitality together with an exciting win, and a valuable 3 points.

DORSET STONES wish "THE STONES" good fortune for the rest of the season.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN O'CONNOR AKA OC

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WEALDSTONE

FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2021/2022

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

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- 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.

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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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BY SUDHIR RAWAL



The Elmslie Ender

Clean sheet with 10 men at Kings Lynn, then a capitulation at Torquay.. who saw that coming?

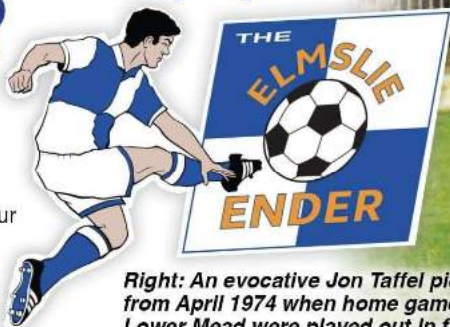
You get days like Saturday. Hopefully not too often, but you do get them.

Nobody saw that capitulation in the pouring rain in Torquay coming. We seemed to get the basics wrong, from our inability to keep our feet to not making elementary challenges or running with our men nor even finding a player with a pass. There was that naivety in our play that we saw in the first part of last season, sticking to a plan that wasn't working.

As with last season, maybe teams have worked us out a little. We play the ball around especially at the back and generally teams don't press the space to make that more difficult, probably surmising that we don't necessarily have the firepower to hurt teams higher up the pitch, so if we want to knock the ball around the back, that's fine.

Torquay on a sodden pitch, which seemed far heavier than you'd have expected, pressed us much higher up the pitch, yet we carried on playing the same way. Short passes on a heavy pitch which very often found an opponent rather than a team-mate.

When you look back at all five of the Gulls goals, even the second which was a decent strike, and the fourth which was a stunning shot, saw us give the ball away each time. Despite hooking a couple of players after half an hour, we still kept playing the same way. Was there really a plan B, something the MT have been praised for having in previous games when things weren't working out?



Right: An evocative Jon Taffel picture from April 1974 when home games at Lower Mead were played out in front of the packed Elmslie Stand and 2,000+ crowds. This current season is the closest we've come to those sort of attendances for almost 50 years

A bad day at the office and totally against the grain on how we have played this season, where we have been competitive in every game, and certainly haven't been outclassed at all. I always thought that this run of three games that we are in - Torquay, Solihull and Eastleigh - would show where we are as a team.

Games that you need to be winning as they are against teams in and around us.

I see that Altrincham, another part time side that like to play, have beaten Notts County and Dagenham in a week. It can be done, and we need to start picking up those sort of wins if we want to progress up the league rather than look back at the other end.

Of course, the day was compounded by the journey home. An already tortuous four-hour fifty-minute train trip back to the smoke was further elongated by signal failure that saw us



The Stones defence was creaking under pressure at Torquay



The player (left) is our stylish ex-West Ham right back Chris Kinnear (then 20 years old, now pictured right at 67) who went on to play for Maldstone United and had a long managerial career with Margate and Dover, which ended after a ten-year spell in 2018



stuck at Basingstoke for over an hour. A day that saw me leave home at quarter to seven in the morning arrive back eighteen hours later! All for a five-nil defeat. Don't we just love football, and yes, we'll do it again next week.

In the week before Torquay, we recorded the latest Stonescast (@stonescast85 on twitter and available on all platforms including Spotify) where we cast our collective eyes over the season so far.

In general, the panellists were reasonably happy with how the season has progressed to date and one horrible defeat doesn't change any of that. The importance of keeping to what we have been doing well cannot be overstated. I think SM talked about trusting the process. It's generally worked so far.

Praise to the 132 Stones fans, down on what we would have expected, that travelled to Torquay under their own steam without a Supporters Club coach and the fuel shortage

issues that is particularly affecting London and the south east. No such issues in Devon, where not a single queue outside a petrol station was seen, similarly in Kings Lynn the previous weekend. Of course, the defeat at Torquay is

forefront in our minds, yet a week previously we put together a defensive masterclass at Kings Lynn. We scored with our only real shot, and then defended brilliantly especially after the sending-off of Ira Jackson.

18-hour day to watch a game of football.. but we'll be back again for the next match

Whilst KL were the type of team we should enjoy playing against as they like to play the ball around but look a little toothless up front, we excelled with our two solid banks that the Norfolk side just couldn't breach. We were as good at defending at KL as we were bad at Torquay. The lengthy celebrations of the 180 Stones at the end of that game was in total contrast to the quick departure of our fans in Devon.

Sometimes a bit of perspective is required.

BY TIM PARKS



BIG INTERVIEW

Medy Elito

Medy Elito must be one of the most technically gifted players ever to have pulled on a wealdstone shirt.

Put him a team with Stephan Browne, Alex Dyer and Dennon Lewis and you can see why Notts County were so discomfited at Meadow Lane last month when those four were in tandem.

Yet the clever midfielder slipped pretty much unnoticed into Grosvenor Vale in August.

"I almost became the forgotten man because I didn't play at all last season" admitted the 31 year old, last seen in Barnet's colours as our bitter rivals reached the National League play-off semi-finals in May 2020.

He played in the Bees' quarter final win at Yeovil but picked up a knee injury in training two days later, which meant he missed the semi final defeat at Notts County - and also scuppered a planned move to Bromley that summer.

"It was the worst possible thing that could have happened, right in the middle of Covid" says Medy, who was born in Kinshasa, Zaire and moved to East London with his parents when he was a baby.

"I was left without a club, and thought I'd take a break with my music (he's a rapper under the name Don EE, see panel right) but by Christmas

Magic Man Medy is enjoying his football again after a year in the wilderness

*Medy in control in the win at Kings Lynn Town
Picture: ALAN PALMER*

it really hit me when I saw my friends gearing up and preparing for matches. I really missed it. I love playing. So I went to the gym, got in shape ready for a new start in 2021, and here I am at Wealdstone... I know we don't have a lot of money but the club does things the right way and we really have some terrific players".

Doing things the right way' is high on Medy's priorities. Although he is full of praise for the coaching and man-man-

Only way to stop him. Shirt tugging at Kings Lynn...



...and while playing for Cambridge United



Medy, the mask and Beyonce

Outside football, Medy has a fledgling career as a grime MC under the name Don-EE. He has performed at London's Wireless Festival and in front of 12,500 people at Wembley Arena. His track "You Alright Yeah?" was also unexpectedly sampled in a March 2017 Instagram post by Beyonce — a career-changing event that he discovered when one of his WhatsApp group chats started "going off" while he was celebrating his birthday on a night out in London's West End.

"When I went on her Instagram page and saw it, I couldn't believe it... out of a million songs in the world, for her to get hold of that one—it was out of this world" he told online music site *Bleacher Report* a couple of years ago.

The *Report* said: "Worried about how his managers and team-mates might react to his alter ego, Elito decided that he would perform in a Guy Fawkes mask, but while the mask

remains a fixture, his concerns do not. "It was just to separate the football side and the music side. At first, I didn't know if my managers would be all right with it or not. But now they're cool with it. And my team-mates ask when they can come to one of my shows."

That was two years ago... what's been happening on Medy's music scene since then? "It's still happening" he said, "Though Covid stopped the live shows which is what it's all about. They are re-opening the venues now so hopefully it will soon take off again.

"My long-term goal is to get into football coaching and I'm working on my UEFA 'B' badge at the moment. I've had a couple of one-off summer soccer schools that have attracted some really high profile kids from the top Premier League academies, Arsenal, Man Utd, Chelsea and that seems to be off the back of my Don-EE profile. These are interesting times!"



You ain't got the legs man

Let's duet, Medy... I can be Beyonce

agement of Darren Currie when he was in charge at Barnet, he is less complimentary about the rest of the set-up.

"There were always underlying issues. The Hive is a great facility but it seemed we were second class citizens to Spurs ladies who are also based there.

"Away trips were not the best either. Man management goes beyond the football side, it's as much about how the club connects to the players and it's so much better at Wealdstone.

"And the fans here!" said Medy. "I really want to mention the stones fans...wow! Proper fans who follow us wherever we go, singing loud and proud. Just unreal at these faraway places. At Barnet the fans didn't really make any noise at all but we want that connection between supporters and the players because we're all in it together".

Medy is determined to make up for the 'ghost' season of 2020-21 by making a real bid to keep

the shirt. "It's taken a few weeks to get match fit but now I really want to play in every game - I know that's not

always possible for tactical reasons but I feel I have a lot to contribute".

He is living in just off The Highway in East London, close to Canary Wharf and living "a professional football life" despite being a part-timer at the Stones. "I do a lot of work on my own, in the gyms and running. As a player you have a lot of time on your hands so you have to use that constructively"

He feels his best position is now playing in a midfield three but as the advanced player. "I've transitioned into that role and the key, for me, was spending a season playing in the Dutch League for VVV Vento.

"That move came when I was 24 and wanting to stretch myself and try new things... a new

CONTINUED OVERPAGE

BIG INTERVIEW CONTINUED

language, a new culture, new experiences". Medy was a Colchester United player from the age of 14, after growing up playing youth Sunday League football in Canning Town, East London.

"A family friend, Lomana Tresor LuaLua, was at Colchester and he recommended me for a trial, and they signed me on the first day! By the time I was 17 I was playing for the England age groups - at under-17s, 18s and 19s and got my chance to play in the Championship, where Colchester spent two seasons. On my debut I scored against West Brom at the Hawthorns in a 4-3 defeat (celebrating, right).

"I'd seen Victor Moses (in the England set up at the same time as me) score against West Brom for Crystal Palace and I thought 'if he can do it, so can I. And I did!'"

Medy made 19 appearances for Colchester before he was on the move to League One Dagenham & Redbridge. "It was a good standard again, playing against clubs like Southampton and against people like Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain and Adam Lallana. I was just a winger then who would run at defenders, show a few tricks and cross the ball. It wasn't until I went to Holland that my all-round game improved".

VVV Vento, a town on the border of Holland and Germany, were then in the Ereeste Division (second level) of Dutch football but reached the playoffs for the top division when Medy was there - and finally won promotion two years later.

"It was the coaching there that grew my aware-

ness of what to do in games. It made me so much more confident of my own ability and how to play football in tight areas; when I came back to play for Newport County I felt so strong and sure of myself in every game".

Medy then said that he only stayed for one season because he was a bit homesick and missed his family, his girlfriend and his young son Brody.

But you didn't come back to England, I told him, you went to Wales!

"Yeah, yeah" he laughed. "I wasn't thinking straight - I thought I could leave London and drive to Newport in a few hours.

But I'd have to leave at 5.30 in the morning to get to training by 9.30! And the petrol cost a fortune... the train was £120 and so I caught a coach from Euston for £15 every day. Long hours. No surprise I only stayed one season!"

But then Cambridge United came in for Medy and he had two very productive seasons at the Abbey Stadium between 2016-18, playing 55 games and scoring nine goals.

"The travelling was easy and we came close to promotion each year - then Shaun Derry, the manager got the sack and my contract was up, so it was off for that spell at Barnet.

"I've seen quite a few managers and it's clear to me that it's not just about the football, it's about treating people properly. That's what man management is about and the gaffer and coaches here are very switched on about that. It's a good place and I'm enjoying my football again".



A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY NIGEL!

FORMER Stones player from the 1970s Nigel Franklin celebrated a milestone last week (September 30)... the big Seven-Oh! As you can see, he's barely changed since the goal on his debut v Maidstone in 1972, and after reconnecting with the club a few years ago his whole family are now regulars both home and away. Give him a pat on the back when you see him today!



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Fan Zone



All the latest news from the Supporters Club

The Supporters Club Executive Committee are delighted to announce the instigation of a new award for the **Supporter of the Season**. Next May will see the **Mark Barton Memorial Shield** presented for the first time.



'Markie' Barton was a loyal member of the Executive Committee for many years. His interest in Wealdstone started as a Lower Mead Stadium ball boy in 1968. After a lapse in his support during the 'nomadic years' of 1991 to 2007, Mark Lloyd reignited his interest in the Stones again during the second half of the 2007/08 season. With his son George they helped raise money during the Supporters Club sponsored Walk to Hendon FC. Showing his commitment to the Stones, Markie became a

Life member of the Supporters Club in November 2008. With the relocation to Ruislip Manor, he spent most of his spare time helping to renovate the club house and managing the WFC Ladies Football Team. He was also an Associate Director of the Football Club. Markie passed away in February 2020 and as the Supporters Club President said: "He was a tireless volunteer for the club, throwing himself into everything with enthusiasm. He will be much missed."

It is hoped that a representative of the Barton family will present this new award at the annual presentations in May.



BY PHIL JACKSON

My Wealdstone

From playing for the Supporters team one week, and then playing for the Stones in the Conference.. this is the story of Derby-based Phil 'Jacko' Jackson who re-connected at the Notts County game...



Phil (in yellow) shows off his quick feet in a Marathon League derby against Harrow Service at Headstone Lane in the 1986-87 season. In the background is a young Gordon McKay



...and then the following season saw Jacko (right) answer the Stones' SOS (along with fellow fan Don Cross, centre) and the pair started the game at Altrincham which we narrowly lost 0-1

It was way back in April 1986, as a fresh-faced 21-year-old that I gained promotion at work and moved from Derby to London, a huge step back then with no mobile phones to keep in touch with a fretting mother!

Initially, I stayed in New Cross Gate before settling in Harrow courtesy of Wealdstone fan Neale Harvey finding me a place to stay. I met Neil at work and he took a shine to me as I had played for Ilkeston Town's junior team (no academies back then) and Ilkeston fans had found national infamy - and endeared themselves to Wealdstone fans - by scaring the wits out of Enfield in a hooligan-plagued FA Trophy tie back in 1983.

Once moved into my bedsit in Hindes Road I noticed from the bedroom window (in fact the only window in my bedsit) that the view

WEALDSTONE 2021-22

consisted of nothing but the back of the stand at the Lower Mead! Thus I soon found myself watching the Stones on a regular basis.

Neale introduced me to the Supporters Club football lads in Morricts Bar and before long I was watching the Stones on a Saturday and turning out for SFC Wealdstone in the Marathon League Division Three on a Sunday morning. I experienced things in that league that nothing playing in Derby had prepared me for!

The noise of the locals in the Acton Tower blocks banging on their balcony railings in a fixture at Zandaam; the Northwick Park team attempting to kick anything that moved (except the ball!); being called a Northern Doughnut by a random man walking a dog past a pitch in Yeading; but probably the worst was the ankle deep mud at our home ground at Boxtree Lane, Harrow Weald – it made the Baseball Ground of the seventies look like Wembley!

In the pre season of 1987/88 whilst most of the Wealdstone players were still on holiday I was asked to play in a five a side tournament in Luton, a chance I jumped at. I played with Robin Wainwright and, I think, Paul Bowgett and Alan Cordice. I actually scored our goal against

Luton Town in a 1-0 win playing against the likes of the Stein brothers, Ricky Hill et al... and that, I thought, would be the peak of my footballing achievements but this was eclipsed in September 1987 when due to an unprecedented Wealdstone injury list - and a lack of funds to bring in new players - myself and fellow SFC Sunday Leaguer Don Cross signed as cover for that Saturday's Conference fixture at Altrincham. Thanks to the influence of Robin Wainwright (he put in a good word for me after that five-a-side tournament) I started the game.

The actual signing of Conference League forms was surreal, not in front of massed banks of cameras and microphones a la Messi or Ronaldo, but in the cellar at the Morrict

Arms because the secretary didn't want drinkers witnessing the sight of Wealdstone signing players holding pint pots!

I have to admit that the Conference was a league or two above my level but I turned out for the first team on a couple more occasions in that relegation season of 87/88 and for that I apologise wholeheartedly! One particular game that stood out was when we played Brentford in the Capital league and Steve Perryman played in the middle of the park for them. I think I kicked the ball twice all night and couldn't get near enough to him to kick him either!

After moving from Harrow to St Albans I started playing Saturday football for Park Street FC in the Herts County Senior League and drifted away from the Wealdstone scene except for watching the odd mid week game at Vicarage Road. My personal opinion is that the move to Watford destroyed the heart and soul of the club. Five or six hundred people in a ground that size totally killed the atmosphere that had been at Lower Mead and energized opponents who couldn't wait to play there. In 1995 I returned to Derby and played until 2002 in the Derby Senior League for Draycott FC for whom my dad and grandad had also played, so it was good to carry on the family's traditions.

I now have the time to follow Derby County home and away but ever since my time in and around Wealdstone I have looked out for their results. Without fail every matchday on leaving Derby's game I first check to see how the Mighty Stones have fared and then scroll up to ensure that our hated rivals Notts Forest have lost (which they invariably have!)

Last season when Wealdstone finally returned to the Conference/National league I thought it would give me the opportunity to go and watch a few games closer to me in the "north" (we call it the Midlands but it's north of Watford so it's North to the majority of people I know in London).

**CONTINUED
OVER PAGE**



*Phil these days
with his two boys
Hugo and Hector*

'MY WEALDSTONE' CONTINUED



A goal for SFC Wealdstone! Striker Steve "Chesty" Gough (No10) scrambles the ball into the Harrow Service net past the splendidly porky keeper. Jacko is on the far right

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Unfortunately the pandemic and closed grounds put paid to that so this season I eagerly awaited the fixture lists to plan my Stones games around Derby's matches. My first choice was Chesterfield but my plans were scuppered by the Rams being at home to Forest on the same day and so the next was Notts County. Derby were away at West Brom that night so I took an evening off watching the Rams and got my tickets for the Stones game.

I went along with my two sons Hector (named after Kevin Hector, of course) and Hugo and on arrival at Notts County I had the pleasure of meeting up with some of the old school Wealdstone Supporters Club FC lads in the shape of Tony Platt, Tim Parks and Don Cross. All looking remarkably fit and well considering it's been almost 35 years since I saw them last!

However the first person I saw on entering Meadow Lane was a certain Steve (Hughie) Marshall (the SFC Wealdstone goalkeeper/manager in the mid-80s) who, as ever, was laughing and joking.

The only two occasions I ever recall him not smiling was firstly when he was berating Gordon MacKay for an incident in a Middlesex Cup tie at Hampton & Richmond in the late 80's when 'Guvnor's' over-enthusiasm for the Stones saw him clash with some locals... which led to a headline in the Harrow Observer "Big Trouble in Little Hampton".

And then secondly after an incident at Dagenham in a Cup game which left Chopper Harris

sparked out by a haymaker from a cheeky cockney chappie - while the ensuing rumpus put four of the WSC lads in a Police cell for a few hours (they know who they are).

And on to the game at Notts County where I must say I was amazed at how the standard has improved in "non League" since my days. The way the Stones set up and played from the back was a stark contrast to the 80's when Dennis Byatt and Paul Bowgett looked for the Cordice brothers "in the channels" and the midfield was largely bypassed, even though we had the mercurial skills of Robin Wainwright in the centre of the park.

This team looked fitter, better drilled and more tactically aware than we ever were. The one great thing about the 5th tier that hasn't changed is that the players always look to stay on their feet which makes a refreshing change from watching Championship football where the slightest touch invariably fells 6' 2" blokes!

The result on the night was disappointing but the performance certainly wasn't - and after seeing the standard of football on show I will definitely be coming down South for a few games this season. The most impressive thing about the whole evening for me was the turnout of around 200 Stones fans on a rainy Tuesday night in Nottingham.

That says so much about the passion the fans have for a club which really doesn't have the right to maintain that level of support when surrounded by so many premiership and championship clubs.

But as I know from my few years watching Wealdstone, once a Stone always a Stone!

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THE WHERE & THE WHAT

v Aldershot Town at the Vale, VNL Matchday Seven

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5,213 (208 away fans)

ATTENDANCE

1,106 (280 away fans)

NOTTS COUNTY

Slocombe Cameron Lacey
Brindley Taylor Roberts Francis
Palmer Rodrigues Mitchell Wootton

TEAMS

WEALDSTONE

Wickens Eleftheriou Cook Cawley
Okimo Lewis Charles Cooper
Jackson Elito Umerah

WEALDSTONE

Wickens Eleftheriou Cook Cawley Okimo
Lewis Charles Cooper Dyer Elito Umerah

ALDERSHOT TOWN

Walker Fowler Lyons-Foster Phillips
Kinsella Whittingham Edser Harris
Oxlade-Chamberlain Bettamer Andrews

NOTTS COUNTY 3

Roberts 41, Wootton 45
Cameron 57

STONES 2

Umerah 31,
64

RESULT

STONES 2

Jackson 26
Umerah 31

ALDERSHOT 2

Andrews 48, 69

POSSESSION

Notts Co 46% Wealdstone 54%

SHOTS ON TARGET Notts Co 6 Stones 12

SHOTS OFF TARGET Notts Co 7 Stones 2

CORNERS Notts County 6 Wealdstone 6

MATCH STATS

POSSESSION

Wealdstone 50% Aldershot 50%

SHOTS ON TARGET Stones 5

Aldershot 7 **SHOTS OFF TARGET**
Stones 1 Aldershot 2

A hugely impressive Wealdstone might have been three goals to the good (but only leading through Josh Umerah's close range strike) before Notts struck with two goals in four minutes before the break. And a soaring header from home skipper Kyle Cameron seemed to have sealed the points... before the Blues stormed back through Umerah again. Two penalty shouts then went unheeded and Stones finished the game pointless and frustrated. But what a night!

STONES VIEW

Missing Alex Dyer (suspended for a retrospective elbow incident at Notts County) and the ill Browne Stones were below par and could easily have lost but for some wasteful Shots finishing. Yet we were twice ahead, Ira Jackson Jr finishing off a slick Lewis cross for 1-0 at the break, and Jack Cawley's prodigious long throw from in front of the Shots fans finding Josh Umerah's head for 2-1. But Corie Andrews netted twice to share the spoils.

SOCIAL MEDIA

An entertaining game, and it could easily have been 5-5. I thought the Wealdstone team and support were very good. They were comfortable on the ball, and most of their passes whether long or short found a team mate. Their fans were still making plenty of noise even when they were 3-1 down, and they must be gutted to be going home with nothing -**PM, Notts Co Forum**

Felt we should have had a penalty for the push on Cook in the box and but for brief spells for County just either side of the break, we were dominant - Elito particularly impressive in his starting debut. A truly fantastic day in Nottingham watching the Stones. -**Royal Blue**

Corie Andrews on a hat-trick should have buried that header seven yards out and Wickens pulled off a couple of decent saves- while fans don't have access to all the inside info (like why Tavares is not playing) we do notice trends and we have a soft goal trend (which began at Woking) which is really stings, especially now we are scoring goals. I think the Notts County game took it out of us that 10-15% - which begs the question of rotation and smart use of subs. On the vocal leadership front: I noticed both Cook and especially Cawley providing that. There were some choice phrases especially from Mr Cawley! -**Royal Blue, Stonesnet Forum**

The vital facts on Stones' recent matches...

v Kings Lynn Town at the Walks,
VNL Matchday Eight

THE WHERE & THE WHAT

v Torquay United at Plainmoor,
VNL Matchday Nine

Saturday September 25, 3pm
Lovely afternoon (21 deg) and a
grass pitch in decent condition

DATE AND CONDITIONS

Saturday October 2, 3pm Wet,
windy and chilly (14 deg) - and a
heavy pitch just about playable

885 (180 away fans)

ATTENDANCE

2,097 (132 away fans)

KINGS LYNN Jones Denton
McFadden Bowry Barrows
Coleman Clunan McGavin
Morias Walker

TEAMS

TORQUAY UTD MacDonald Wyn-
ter Lewis Moxey, O'Connor Little
Hall Lapslie Martin Lemonheigh-
Evans Hollman

WEALDSTONE Wickens Eleftheriou
Barker Cook Tavares Wishart Charles
Cooper Elito Umerah Jackson

WEALDSTONE Wickens Eleftheriou Cook
Tavares Barker Wishart Lewis Charles
Cooper Elito Umerah

KINGS LYNN 0 STONES 1
Cooper 33

RESULT

TORQUAY 5 STONES 0
Lapslie 11, Hollman 17,68,
Little 30, Lewis 45

POSSESSION

Kings Lynn 56% Stones 44%

MATCH STATS

SHOTS ON TARGET Kings Lynn 5 Stones 1
SHOTS OFF TARGET Kings Lynn 6 Stones 1
CORNERS Kings Lynn 13 Stones 1

POSSESSION

Torquay 48% Stones 52%

SHOTS ON TARGET Torquay 9
SHOTS OFF TARGET Torquay 4 Stones 4
CORNERS Torquay 6 Stones 5

A remarkable backs-to-the-wall performance as Stones managed to defend their first half lead after the 48th-minute sending off of Ira Jackson for a dangerous but accidental high challenge. Charlie Cooper's low 25 yarder won the day but it was difficult to watch for the away fans!

STONES VIEW

A calamitous afternoon in the rain with the Stones unable to keep their feet or the ball in dangerous areas. The Gulls were everything we weren't - sharp, creative and deadly in front of goal. Only bright spots were the assured debut of Jay Bird and the welcome return of Connor Stevens who didn't put a foot wrong.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Played some good stuff today, but all the possession in the world doesn't count for much if you don't convert the chances. And the crowd - 885 isn't great, but what was even worse was hearing Wealdstone's support and we didn't even muster one song all match - have the ultras had enough?? They are our most vocal section of support, but didn't see any of them there today. - *Walks In the Sunshine, KL Forum*

Well worth coming for that goal by Joe Lewis! After a rather loose start when Wealdstone could have had at least one goal was a lesson in how to play on a wet pitch - keeping the ball zipping around on the deck when we had it and a hard press when we didn't. Tom Lapslie must have covered every inch of the pitch and must have stolen the ball or cut out a pass at least a dozen times. Hollman also showed fantastic fitness and took his two goals well - the first was a striker's classic. I thought Armani Little had another influential game - scoring one, missing a pen and creating another. Yes, Wealdstone were architects of their own downfall by overplaying at the wrong end but that was a result of our superior pressing game. Clearly the management team had also done a fine job of pinpointing Wealdstone's weakness and providing the right formation and tactics to exploit them. Cracking result!
- *Gullsfan, Torquay Utd forum*

Although it looked a bit like defending the Alamo at times, with the Stones unable to clear and having to defend for their lives, how many actual goalscoring attempts did Lynn actually have? Not many at all. Refreshing not to see us concede any easy goals so the changes and tactics were spot-on. And the red card was much too harsh - a fast-tracked official way out of his depth. - *Deadly Doug, Stonesnet Forum*

Opposition in focus

SOLIHULL MOORS

THE MOORS

Solihull Moors FC is a merger between the former Solihull Borough and Moor Green football clubs.

Solihull Borough was formed in 1953 by Joe McGorian and the Club was originally known as Lincoln FC. Borough progressed through the local leagues before joining the Midland Combination in 1969, where they spent 22 seasons, eventually resulting in promotion to the Southern League. In 1989 the club was forced to sell its Widney Lane ground to property developers but after a proposed relocation fell through, a ground-share was agreed with local neighbours Moor Green - this was to last for ten years until the purchase of Damson Park in August 1999.

Moor Green was formed in 1901. The first ground was on a part of a farm in Moor Green Lane, Moseley. Their ancestral home, The Moorlands, was acquired in 1930, and was situated in Hall Green, a suburb of south Birmingham. The 2003/4 season was a momentous one for Moors gaining a place in the newly formed Nationwide Conference North; However, the inaugural season was to prove a traumatic one with the devastation caused by two arson attacks at The Moorlands in January 2005, when the main stand and clubhouse were gutted leaving the club homeless. Moors thus became tenants of Solihull Borough at Damson Park

With both clubs struggling to secure gates big enough to sustain the two teams, the merger of both seemed an obvious way forward and formed in the summer of 2007, Solihull Moors Football Club became one of the youngest clubs in senior English football. The new club took the place of



SOLIHULL'S 5,500 CAPACITY DAMSON PARK

Moor Green in the Blue Square Conference North.

Bob Faulkner, the Moor Green manager was given the job to take the new club forward, but Borough Boss Mickey Moore would return in the new club's hour of need.

For their first season Bob Faulkner ran with much the same team as the last Moor Green outfit and the Moors first competitive game was a 1-1 draw at home to Barrow AFC on August 11th, 2007, with a 90th minute equalizer from Darren Middleton, earning him the accolade of scoring the first league goal

for Solihull Moors. The first win came two weeks later with a 3-1 home victory over Gainsborough Trinity, but the remainder of the campaign proved a struggle with the team rarely out of the bottom six in the league table. Survival

was confirmed after the 40th league game of the season with a memorable 2-1 victory at Blyth Spartans on the penultimate Tuesday of the season.

Birmingham and Solihull Bees became tenants of the club during the 2010 close season and would play their rugby matches on either Fridays or Sundays.

LAST SEASON

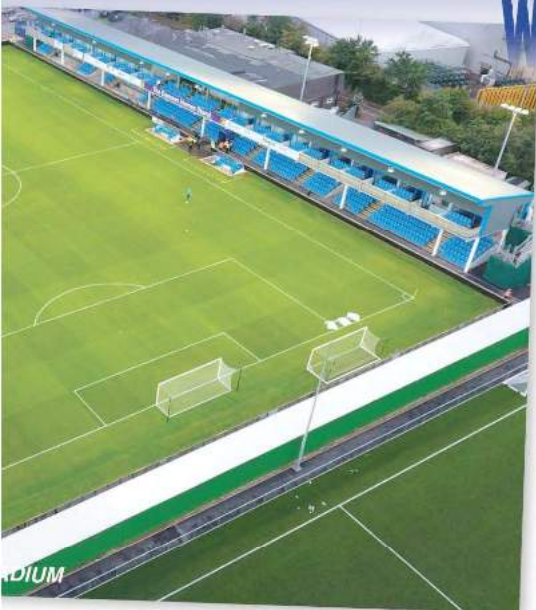
Tuesday 30th March 2021

Away - Lost 0-3 (BCD)

Saturday 22nd May 2021

HOME - Lost 1-4 (Mendy) Att. 465

WEALDSTONE 2021-22



the path was rocky but survival was ensured in the penultimate game of the season which saw Moors finish in sixteenth spot with 54 points. Off the pitch The Automated Technology Group Stadium was brought up to National League standard.

2017/18 saw a miserable start to the season as we propped up the league. Liam McDonald made way for Richard Money, but he quit after just 20 days before Mark Yates took over the reins with Tim Flowers as his assistant.

2018/19. Before a ball had been kicked in anger Mark Yates left to take over at League 2 Macclesfield. Seamlessly Tim Flowers stepped up to the lead role and Gary Whild as his assistant. Several key signings have been made to strengthen the squad and there was an air of expectancy around the club as it embarked on its third year in the top-flight. Indeed, it turned out to be quite the season, as Solihull Moors made club history by gaining their highest ever league finish. The team finished second, just three points behind eventual champions Leyton Orient. The season didn't quite have the fairy tale ending as AFC Fylde defeated Flowers' side in the play-off semi-final. Moors ended on 86 points, narrowly missed out on an FA Cup third round tie against Blackpool and reached the FA Trophy quarter-finals.

In January 2020, Tim Flowers departed with the club sitting just outside the play-off places. Gary Whild and James Quinn took temporary charge of the side while the hunt for a new manager began.

In February 2020, Jimmy Shan was appointed as the new manager of Solihull Moors with Richard Beale coming in as his number two but as we entered 2021, Moors went on a poor run of form and dropped down the table. In March 2021, this signalled the end of Jimmy Shan's reign as he departed the club with assistant Richard Beale. Moors wasted no time in appointing former manager Mark Yates on a short-term contract until the end of the season. Solihull finished the 2020/21 season in 11th place.

During the summer break before the 2011/12 season Mickey Moore decided to take up an offer from Mansfield Town and Marcus Bignot, ex Crewe, Bristol Rovers, QPR and Millwall was announced as his replacement a week later.

2015/16 saw 11 new signings with Vanarama National League experience and it was clear as early as the pre season friendlies that this could be the squad to take us up to the National League and did so winning the title three weeks before the end of the campaign.

2016/17 and our first season in The National League saw a different looking squad than the one expected following the winning of the National North and at the end of October Marcus Bignot suddenly quit the club to take over at Grimsby.

The void was filled by Liam McDonald a 31 year old who had successfully cut his managerial teeth at Redditch and Hednesford. There was much to learn and



WEALDSTONE'S RECORD v SOLIHULL MOORS
P 2 W 0 D 0 L 2 F 1 A 7

Opposition in focus

WHO'S WHO?



1. RYAN BOOT - GOALKEEPER

Ryan turned professional at Port Vale in 2013 having initially been an academy player at Stoke City. In a five-year career there he had various loan spells at Worcester City, Newcastle and Macclesfield. He joined the Moors in the summer of 2018 after being released from Vale.

2. TYRONE WILLIAMS - DEFENCE

Tyrone was signed from Kidderminster Harriers in 2018 where he made more than 70 appearances, with loan spells at Hednesford, Redditch and Stourbridge providing him with valuable experience.

3. JORDAN CRANSTON - DEFENCE

Jordan signed from League Two outfit Morecambe in 2020. Cranston spent his early career with Wolverhampton Wanderers. He played locally with Nuneaton and Hednesford, before moving onto Notts County in 2014/15. Since then, Cranston has played his football at Lincoln City, Gateshead and Cheltenham Town where he became a National League winner in 2015/16.

4. KYLE STORER - MIDFIELD

Kyle began his career with local side Bedworth United before joining Tamworth in July 2004 before joining Nuneaton Town. Kyle joined Kidderminster Harriers in July 2011. After a spell with Wrexham he moved to Cheltenham Town where he was skipper for the last two-and-a-half years, won the National League title in 2015/16

5. CALLUM HOWE - DEFENCE

Howe signed a three-year deal with the Moors in July 2019 and was one of the stand-out defenders in the division in 2018/19, helping Harrogate on their way to a place in the play-offs. A former National League winner in 2016/17 with Lincoln City, Howe has also featured for Southport, Eastleigh and Port Vale. Callum was recognised with a place in the 19/20 National League Team of the Season.

6. ALEX GUDGER - DEFENCE

Alex signed from Brackley Town prior to the start of the 2018/19 season. Alex progressed through the youth ranks at Nuneaton but it was at Rugby Town that he made his mark. He signed for Worcester City in 2015 and onto Brackley for 2016-17. Gudger was named in the 2019/20 National League Team of the Season.

7. JOE SBARRA - MIDFIELD

Former The Moors announced the return of

midfielder Joe Sbarra in July 2020, after he signed on a two-year deal with the option of a further year in place. Joe played six times for Solihull in the 2018/19 campaign when the club narrowly missed out on promotion to the EFL, finishing in second place. He began his footballing career through the youth academy of West Brom before becoming an academy graduate at Burton.

8. CALLUM MAYCOCK - MIDFIELD

Born in Birmingham, Maycock was given his first-team opportunity by Coventry City after initially joining the club as an apprentice in 2014. He played 32 times whilst on loan at League Two side Macclesfield Town in 2018/19, before playing regularly for Leamington in the National League North.

9. ADAM ROONEY - FORWARD

The 32-year-old Irishman joined the Moors in 2020. Rooney gained promotion to League Two with Salford in 2018/19 who he joined from Aberdeen. Many will also know the forward from his time at Birmingham City however, it was at Stoke City where Rooney's career began. Rooney then went on to enjoyed spells at Inverness Caledonian Thistle, Swindon Town and Oldham Athletic to name a few.

10. JAMEY OSBORNE - MIDFIELD

Solihull-born Osborne came through the youth ranks at Hednesford Town. After a spell at Redditch he joined Moors in 2016. He moved onto Grimsby Town halfway through the campaign before he returned. He was named in the National League Team of the Season for 2018/19.

11. RYAN BARNETT - MIDFIELD

The exciting young winger enjoyed a short loan spell with the Moors last season, which was unfortunately cut short due to an eye injury.

12. REISS MCNALLY - DEFENDER

Solihull Moors welcomed back defender Reiss McNally to the club on a two-year deal in July 2020. He featured throughout pre-season in both 2017 and 2018, before moving to Guiseley in the National League North for the 2019/20 campaign.

13. NIALL CLAYTON - GOALKEEPER

Niall Clayton impressed Moors in pre-season

and signed a one-year deal on 16 September 2020. The shot-stopper spent his formative years at Wolves and then Birmingham City before earning his big break at Oxford United.

14. HARRY BOYES - DEFENCE

Moors completed the signing of Sheffield United defender Harry Boyes on a long-term loan until January 3rd 2022. Boyes, 19, is an attacking full-back and has been with the Blades since July 2018. He was a key member of their under 23's title-winning side last season. Born in Barnsley, Boyes spent eight years with Manchester City prior to his move to Bramall Lane.

15. JORDAN PIGGOTT - DEFENCE

West Brom academy graduate Piggott arrived at the Moors in July 2020 on the back of a successful season for Halesowen Town, where he featured regularly throughout. Piggott is an exciting addition to the squad with previous experience at Dundee, East Fife, Bangor City and Alvechurch.

16. BEN USHER-SHIPWAY - DEFENCE

Winger Ben Usher-SHIPWAY extended his stay with Solihull Moors in July 2020. The 22-year-old put pen-to-paper on a deal for the 2020/21 season, with the option of a further year. Usher-SHIPWAY joined the club in June 2019 after scoring 11 goals in 42 appearances across the 2018/19 season with Boldmere St. Michaels.

17. JUSTIN DONAWA - FORWARD

Donawa moved to England the summer before last after impressing during pre-season with Darlington, which bagged him a contract with the Quakers. He went on to play 37 times throughout the 2019/20 season, scoring nine goals. After representing Bermuda at under-20 level, Donawa has since progressed to accrue 22 senior caps for his national side, scoring three goals.

18. JAMES BALL - MIDFIELD

James Ball arrived from National League rivals Ebbsfleet United in 2019. Ball joined the Fleet from Stevenage. He began his career in the Bolton Wanderers academy, before going on to have spells with Hyde United, Northwich Victoria and Stalybridge Celtic. His breakthrough came with Stockport County.

19. ANDREW DALLAS - FORWARD

Solihull Moors were excited to announce the signing of Cambridge United striker Andrew Dallas. The 22-year-old signed a two-year contract and arrived at the SportNation.bet Stadium for an undisclosed fee. Dallas was

in red-hot form throughout the second half of last season, scoring 12 goals in just 25 appearances while on loan at Weymouth. Born in Glasgow, Dallas came through the youth system at Rangers and signed his first professional contract in June 2016.

20. MELIS BASHAJ - MIDFIELD

Bushaj is a product of the Solihull Moors Football and Education Programme, where he captained the under 19's team and caught the eye on a number of occasions.

21. TOM ALLSOPP - GOALKEEPER

A graduate from the club's Football and Education Programme, Allsopp signed his first professional contract with Moors in the summer of 2021.

22. CAMERON COXE - DEFENCE

Wales under-21 international Cameron Coxie signed on a two-year deal, with the option of a further year in place. The 22-year-old's career long spell with Cardiff City came to an end when he departed the Bluebirds in June 2020.

23. MATT PRESTON - DEFENCE

Preston, 26, started his career at Walsall where he captained their under-18's side before signing his first professional contract in January 2013. He went on to amass over 100 Football League appearances for the Saddlers, Swindon Town and Mansfield Town. In 2020 Preston signed for Barnet and made 16 appearances in all competitions across the 2020/21 campaign.

24. DANNY NEWTON - FORWARD

Newton, 30, has spent the last four seasons in the Football League with Stevenage, scoring 26 goals in 115 appearances. That move followed a prolific spell in non-league football, which included netting 29 goals for Tamworth in the 2016/17 season. Born in Liverpool, Newton began his career at Hinckley United and went on to enjoy goal scoring success with Barwell, Leamington and the Lambs.

25. LOIS MAYNARD - MIDFIELD

Lois joins on a season-long loan from Stockport County. MAYNARD has 12 international caps for St Kitts and Nevis, was part of the Hatters squad who reached the play-offs last season. LOIS was a National League play-off winner with Salford City in 2018/19, making it back-to-back promotions with the Ammies in his two-and-a-half-year stint at Moor Lane.

27. KYLE HUDLIN - FORWARD

Towering centre forward Kyle Hudlin sprang a surprise when he signed for Moors on 27 October 2020. Hudlin joined Moors after a spell with Midland League Division Two side Solihull United and put pen to paper on a two-year deal.

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- Donna (London)

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).

As match day sponsor you will enjoy:

- Match tickets for four people (inc. prime main stand seats if required)
- A fantastic advertising package, including publicity over the PA system, website and social media together with a piece in the programme
- Boardroom hospitality including a pre-match hot meal with wines together with half-time refreshments courtesy of in-house caterer Lynn Evans
- Match-day programmes for all in your party
- Naming and presenting the 'Man of the Match' award
- A souvenir memento of your day.

Our match sponsors and their guests are all entertained in surroundings befitting such a special occasion be it a birthday, anniversary or any other special event!

We will work with you to ensure you and your guests get to enjoy a truly memorable experience. If you or your organisation are interested in sponsoring a match here at The Vale, please contact Club President, Paul Rumens (paulrumens59@gmail.com 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, 18th September Vanarama National League	Harrow Windows
 SOLHULL MOORS Tuesday, 5th October Vanarama National League	Leasehold Management Services Ltd
 EASTLEIGH Saturday, 9th October Vanarama National League	Rolfe-East In memory of John O'Connor aka OC Dorset Stones
 GRIMSBY TOWN Tuesday, 26th October Vanarama National League	Rolfe-East ADWConnect
 BARNET Saturday, 13th November Vanarama National League	Rolfe-East Ray Corner & Peter Carter



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

Your name or
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

Osmo UK

Your name or
business here



YEovil TOWN

Saturday, 8th January
Vanarama National League

The Old Gits Club

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, 1th May
Vanarama National League

Your name or
business here

Your name or
business here



RESULTS 2021/2022

Month	Comp	Score	(Total)	(Away)	Legs	Goal scorers	George WICKENS	Jack COOK	Andrew ELEFTHERIOU	Nikola TAVARES	Jerome OKIMO	Craig FASANMADE	Matt BUSE	Joshua UMERAH	
AUGUST															
21	WOKING	VNL	1-2	1,405	380	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)	9	
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	N/A	15	Elito (Pen)	1	2	12		6	7(9)		9
14	Notts County	VNL	2-3	5,213	208	14	Umerah (2)	1	2	12		6	7(9)		9
18	ALDERSHOT TOWN	VNL	2-2	1,106	N/A	15	Umerah, Jackson	1	2	12		6	7(9)	8(20)	9
25	King's Lynn Town	VNL	1-0	885	180	13	Cooper	1	2	12	17			8(21)	9
OCTOBER															
2	Torquay United	VNL	0-5	2,097	132	16		1	2	12	17			8(20)	9
5	SOLIHULL MOORS	VNL													
9	EASTLEIGH	VNL													
16	To be decided	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

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

Rhys BROWNE	Dennon LEWIS	Charlie COOPER	Dan WISHART	Ashley CHARLES	Alex DYER	Medy ELITO	Jack CRAWLEY	Ira JACKSON	Dan WISHART	Charlie BARKER	Connor STEVENS	Jay BIRD
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	18	20(18)	34	16(10)				
10(11)	11	24		4	18	20	34	16(18)				
	11	24		4	18	20	34					
10(9)	11(20)	24		4	20			16	3	21		
	11	24		4	20				3	21	5(17)	22(3)



Above: pictures from Saturday's frustrating defeat away to Torquay United on what was a particularly damp English Riviera. Pictures courtesy **Adam Williams**.

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PLEASED TO SUPPORT WEALDSTONE FC

Opposition in focus

EASTLEIGH FC

THE SPITFIRES



Eastleigh were formed by Derek Brooks on 22 May 1946, under the original name of Swaythling Athletic.

In 1950, they joined the Hampshire League but it wasn't until 1980 the club changed its name to Eastleigh FC. In 2003, Eastleigh won the Wessex League, after finishing fourth in their first campaign, and transferred into the Premier Division of the Isthmian League with the formation of new divisions.

From then on, The Spitfires spent nine years in the Conference South, and were promoted into the National League in 2014. In the club's debut season, they reached the play-offs but fell short in a defeat against Grimsby Town in the semi-finals. Since then, the club has reached the third round of the FA Cup twice, facing

Championship opposition. Recently, in the 2018/19 National League season, Eastleigh finished seventh and

found themselves in the play-offs for the second time in their history. The Spitfires saw off Wrexham in a play-off eliminator thanks to a wonder strike from Danny Hollands but lost on penalties in the semi-final at the hands of Salford City, who went on to win promotion to League Two. Last season, Eastleigh finished in 16th position after the season was curtailed due to the coronavirus pandemic. The

club has undergone a full rebrand in 2020, with a new badge implemented to bring a new identity that the Spitfires can call their own.

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

pandemic. Last season The Shots finished in 9th place in the National League.

LAST SEASON

Tuesday 17th November 2020

Away - Lost 0-2 (BCD)

Saturday 19th December 2020 (FA Trophy)

Home - Won 4-3 (BCD)

Tuesday 23rd February 2021

Home - Drew 0-0 (BCD)

WEALDSTONE'S RECORD v EASTLEIGH

P 5 W 2 D 1 L 2 F 7 A 10

Players

EASTLEIGH FC - WHO'S WHO?

1. JOE MCDONNELL - GOALKEEPER

McDonnell is a new arrival for the 2020/21 season from fellow National Leagueside Notts County. The 26-year-old also holds Football League experience with AFC Wimbledon, where he played for five and a half years before his move to the Magpies. Joe began his footballing career at Basingstoke Town under Jason Bristow, who is now Assistant Manager at Eastleigh, and the pair have reunited at the Spitfires.

2. JOSH HARE - DEFENCE

3. MICHAEL KELLY - DEFENCE

4. CAVAGHN MILEY - MIDFIELD

Miley joined Eastleigh in 2017 from Jersey side St Pauls, and has since appeared over 100 times for the club. Before moving to the Silverlake, he captained the Jersey Official Football Team whilst living on the island and caught the eye of the Spitfires. The central-midfielder played in all but four National League games in the 2018/19 run to the playoffs. He was also selected for England C side against the Football Association of Ireland Amateur International XI in 2018.

5. TOM BROADBENT - DEFENCE

Bird is another new addition for the 2020/21 season, the second summer signing from Notts County. The 21-year-old started his career at Dunkirk before moving to the Magpies, where he made 26 appearances at League Two and National League level. The centre-back is also capped at international level, with four appearances for Northern Ireland's U21s.

6. ANDREW BOYCE - DEFENCE

Signed from Grimsby Town in 2017, Boyce is a well-rounded and reliable defender. During the 2014/15 season whilst at Scunthorpe United, he gained promotion to League One. As well as plenty of National League experience, Boyce is no stranger to playing in higher divisions with over 50 appearances in League One and League Two combined. The centre-back joined the 100-club for Eastleigh as well last season, and has scored four goals in his four seasons

7. SAM SMART - MIDFIELD

Talented young winger Sam Smart joined the Spitfires from Evo-Stick South side Basingstoke Town FC in July 2019 and has quickly become a fan favourite at the club. His electric pace and strong delivery make him a threat from the flanks, and his acrobatic goal celebrations are much loved by the Spitfires supporters..

8. HARRY PRITCHARD - MIDFIELD

9. DAN SMITH - FORWARD

The young striker was signed from Isthmian League Premier Division side Bognor Regis, after a prolific season scoring 16 goals in 19 games. The 21-year-old started his footballing journey in youth tournaments with Eastleigh, before joining Portsmouth in 2007 and rising through their academy, making his Pompey debut in the EFL Trophy in 2019

10. TYRONE BARNETT - MIDFIELD

Barnett left Cheltenham Town in July 2019 to make the switch to Eastleigh. The established Football League goalscorer joined the Spitfires with plenty of experience in his career, from the Championship with Peterborough United and Ipswich Town as well as spells in League One and League Two. The Posh paid Crawley Town over £1 million for his signature in 2012 and, alongside current team-mate Jack Payne, the pair won the Football League Trophy together during the 2013/14 season.

11. RYAN HILL - MIDFIELD

Ryan Hill is another new addition to the Spitfires, signing during the 2020/21 season on a permanent deal from Hampton & Richmond Borough. Hill started his career at Beaconsfield, before being scouted by Stoke City and joining their youth academy in 2017.

12. JAKE HESKETH - MIDFIELD

13. ROSS FLITNEY - GOALKEEPER

Experienced goalkeeper Ross Flitney has made over 200 appearances for the Spitfires in two spells at the club. He first featured between 2012 and 2016, then re-joined Eastleigh in 2017 from Bromley. Beginning his youth football

Opposition in focus

WHO'S WHO?

Cont.



career at Arsenal and then with Fulham, Flitney was under study to Edwin Van der Sar in the Premier League from 2003 to 2005. In the latter stages of his career, Flitney is now combining his position with being goalkeeping coach for the first-team and academy goalkeepers.

14. TOM BLAIR - MIDFIELD



Blair is a promising young player who impressed in a lower division last season.

Tom already became a club-legend at Dorchester Town at just 21-years-old, making 153 appearances and scoring 30 goals in his five years at the club, where he rose through the youth ranks to become a vital part of the side.

'Blairo' brings more pace to the flanks and an eye for goal, as well as a physical presence on the field.

15. ALEX WYNTER - DEFENCE

Wynter has made over 50 appearances for the Spitfires since signing from Maidstone United in 2018. Spending his youth career at Crystal Palace, Wynter made his debut for the Eagles in the FA Cup at just 16-years-old. He is still the club's second-youngest debutant in their history. After several loan spells, he joined Colchester United permanently in 2015, featuring in both League One and Two for the U's. He spent the 2017/18 season at Maidstone United, captaining the England 'C' team and helping Maidstone survive in their debut National League season. Wynter was ever-present at the heart of Eastleigh's defence in his debut season for the Spitfires, making 45 appearances and scoring four goals in the run to the 2018/19 playoffs, which earned him the Player of the Season award. After an injury-hit season in 2019/20, Wynter is back to full fitness for the 2020/21 campaign.

16. JOE LOWE - DEFENCE

17. DANNY WHITEHALL - FORWARD

18. BEN HOUSE - FORWARD

The 21-year-old striker joined the Spitfires following his release from Championship side, Reading.

He spent 2019/20 on loan at fellow National League side Dagenham & Redbridge, scoring twice in 11 games. House has settled in well at the Silverlake as the club's top scorer during the pre-season campaign.

19. DANNY HOLLANDS - MIDFIELD

Experienced centre-midfielder and club captain Danny Hollands has made over 100 appearances in his three years with the Spitfires. Hollands began his career with Chelsea and spent three years at Stamford Bridge from 2003. He is well-known on the South Coast having played for Bournemouth and Portsmouth, whilst also featuring for the likes of Charlton Athletic, Gillingham FC, and Crewe Alexandra.

20. TOM WHELAN - MIDFIELD

21. TOM BRAGG - DEFENCE

22. DAN BRADSHAW - MIDFIELD

23. CHARLIE PHILPOT - GOALKEEPER

24. JACK TORNIAINEN - DEFENCE

MANAGER. BEN STREVENS

After a brief five games as interim manager, Strevens was named permanent Eastleigh boss in November 2018. Strevens played over 100 times for the Spitfires as a player and his talent on the field has continued off it, as he was successful in taking Eastleigh all the way to the National League play-off semi-final in his first season.

TOGETHER FOR FOOTBALL



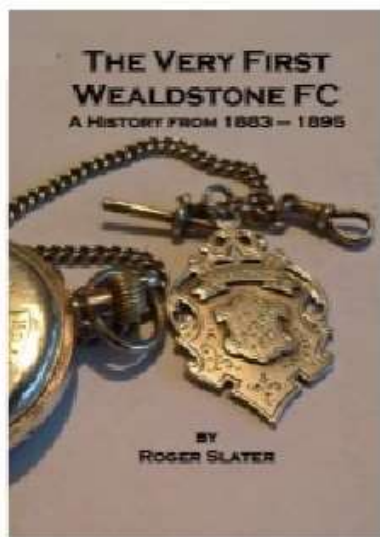
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BY MARTIN READ



The World of Ball

For this fan's eyes, Stones' classy 2021/22 kit is a big step up

From time to time, it is the lot of the non-league supporter to marvel when a trend taken for granted by fans of higher level clubs finds its way down to the part-time world.

Not nearly enough, for instance, has been made of this and other non-league clubs' video streaming and commentary last season when we were all confined to quarters. Being able to watch the Stones on a screen up against Wrexham, Chesterfield et al was an astonishing and sudden step up in what we could have expected.

Of course, if you're reading this at the Solihull Moors game, tonight sees us playing at home and with a crowd on live television for the first time. In high definition, with punditry, half time adverts - the works. It truly is a massive upward shift in what we've come to expect; and yet something seen as quite routine by fans of league clubs.

Even the introduction of new equipment is a welcome sight when it gets adopted down the divisions. I remember how the first use of an electronic 'added time board' at non-league level got cheers when it was held aloft to indicate a substitution. (Being told for the first time that the "fourth official has indicated" was in itself a fresh thrill.)

Complete and utter kit show

Of all this 'levelling up', if you will, of the league and non-league worlds, the most obvious this season is in the quality of our kit. Suddenly we're using a

brand called Kelme. Now, ordinarily this would be nothing remarkable - we've long since worn shirts from kit brands with names that never really got to take off in the upper echelons of the sport - but this time it's different. Kelme are also manufacturing Watford's shirts. Suddenly, our threads are just as classy as those worn by any other Premier League club. As good as anyone else's in world football, in fact. I'm serious. Just take a close look and compare it to others.

Now of course, yes, the last decade has seen us running out in some pretty impressive threads. Macron, for example, produced some memorable shirts and will in my mind be forever associated with our 2013/2014 Isthmian League title run. And if you delve as far back as the 1990s you'll find us having come late to the league fashion party in kits from firms as reasonably well known as Ribero and Vandanel.

With some of these arrangements came other small 'uplifts' in quality. The Vandanel quartered shirts of the early 2000s saw us in shirts with actual embroidered badges (for the first time I can recall) while the Ribero shirts from our very first days away from Lower Mead included the sort of woven-in variations in colour our professional cousins had become accustomed to.

Yet still, this 2021/2022 Kelme kit is a significant step up. Check out how the club badge is two-tone woven into the fabric of shirt - that's proper 2021 special, and immediately makes





the shirt unmistakably distinctive. Who else has their club badges rendered as part of the shirt itself? One of the key distinguishing factors of kit at the top level is its uniqueness to the club in question. This year, there's not even a chance that anyone will think we're just playing in someone else's shirt with our badge on it. Because our badge IS it.

There are another couple of small details to show just how much we're on trend. Firstly, for some reason most top level clubs this season have their club badge presented in a single monochrome colour on their away shirts. And yep, would you look at that, we're doing exactly the same thing with our mint / turquoise / aquamarine / teal away strip.

Similarly, most top level clubs are now sending their players out pre-match to train in the most garish, outlandish training kits ever devised by human beings. All bets seem to be off as kit designers indulge their every fever dream. Manchester United's pink and white concoction is like some kind of deranged candy floss.

Can we compete with this? Yes we apparently can. The training tops Kelme provide for

Left: Stones kits through the ages, from Ribero in the early 1990s to the quartered quality of Vandanel as we entered the 2000s. (No amber pictured here, despite us winning two titles in kits sporting that colour...)

Top: Kelme kit class. Right: The super-classy Macron kit of the early 2010s.



us are just as far removed from the club's actual colours as theirs. (Pink! Black! Beautiful gold edging on the club badge!)

Suddenly our threads are just as classy as those worn in the Prem

The future of kits is bright

Only a fool would seek to guess at what football fashion trends are around the corner. This season, Premier League clubs seem to have collectively agreed on psychedelic drugs being the theme. Hell, Pep Guardiola has even got a melting club badge on his top, a la Salvador Dali.

As for the Stones we have, it seems, just one more fashion trend we've yet to import, and it's something our professional cousins have enjoyed for some time — a crazily coloured 'third' kit (you know, for when we visit all those clubs wearing turquoise-and-royal blue). So, in keeping with the third kit craziness currently going on at Premier League level, I'd suggest something as mad as, oh I don't know, all silver with day-glo pink socks? Nah, what am I thinking, that kind of madness could never happen...

Random snippets irregularly posted @Wealdipedia

Ah the joys of an FA Cup awayday! 45 years ago saw one to remember

SATURDAY OCTOBER 5 1976, FA CUP 2ND QUALIFYING ROUND: KINGSTONIAN 0 WEALDSTONE 2

One of the very few drawbacks to being back in non-League's elite is that our chances of a charming FA Cup day out in the provinces at a comparatively 'little' club are now few and far between.

Remember Bristol Manor Farm two years ago? Remember Brockenhurst in 2015? Remember Burgess Hill... er, maybe best not remember Burgess Hill, or Biggleswade for that matter.

But in my formative years as a Stones fan we invariably kicked off in the qualifying rounds and every season was peppered with trips to small clubs and, if we were lucky, the dangled carrot of a 'big club' in the First Round proper.

In the last programme I waffled on about a cataclysmic (or so it seemed at the time) defeat to Chesham United in the First Qualifying Round, 1973. It seemed the Stones - who had just turned semi-professional and therefore, surely, had the measure of these 'amateur' sides, just had to make it to the Holy Grail of a Football League side one day. In fact, I had to wait SIX years until the fabled trip to Third Division Aldershot in November 1975. And so here we were, the very next season, starting out on our FA Cup adventure with a taste for The Big Occasion. Aldershot, with its 5,221 crowd and thrilling 4-3 scoreline, was definitely that.. and we began the 1976-77 FA Cup campaign drawn at home to Isthmian League strugglers

CONTINUED OVERPAGE



KINGSTONIAN FOOTBALL CLUB

Formed in 1885



Members of
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Rothmans Isthmian League
Surrey County FA
London FA
Suburban League

F.A. CHALLENGE CUP
Second Qualifying Round

WEALDSTONE

KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.

Saturday, 9th October, 1976

Vol. 4. No. 6

FROM THE K's NEWS DESK

We take a break this afternoon from the routine league programme and instead return to the excitement of the F.A. Cup. For once we have received a home draw—a strange event indeed in recent seasons—with the visitors being our former Isthmian League colleagues Wealdstone, to whose officials, players and supporters we extend a warm welcome.

There were many memorable matches between our two clubs in the seven seasons during which Wealdstone were members of the league, when for much of the time they were under the control of our former manager Vince Burgess. However, at the end of the 1970-71 season, the Lower Mead club decided on a change of competition and entered the Southern League. They currently lie seventh from the foot of the Premier Division with six points from seven matches. Although they finished last season in the bottom four, they still possessed one of the Premier Division's leading scorers in George Duck with 19 goals to his name.

Should today's game end in a draw, the replay will be at Lower Mead next Tuesday evening, October 12th, kick-off 7.30. At present we are scheduled to entertain Woking on that day, but that is also subject to there being a definite result in their cup-tie at Croydon this afternoon.

Last Saturday's game with Enfield, played in miserable conditions, finished in a 1-1 draw, Tommy Mahon heading our goal—his first for two years. It was a satisfactory result in some ways, considering who we were up against, but we feel that had the

match gone on for another ten minutes or so, we would have got a second goal and three points.



Survival, but only just

Byrne and Watson see poor Wealdstone into next round

Kingstonian 0 Wealdstone 2

FORMER WEALDSTONE winger Adriaan Eglite did as much to win this FA Cup match for his old club as he did when actually wearing a blue and white shirt, for after only two minutes the Dutchman blazed the ball over the bar from two yards with an empty Wealdstone goal gaping at him like a Dutch barn. Indeed Adriaan could have had a hat-trick but two good efforts from him late in the game brought fine saves from Morton.

Wealdstone survived to visit Dulwich Hamlet in the next round but pleased no-one in the process and the fact that they are still on the Wembley trail is due almost entirely to Watson and Byrne.

These two back four men shone out like a lighthouse in a sea of mediocrity, soaked up pressure like a sponge, and were still full of running and courage at the end. Watson possibly just shaded Byrne as man of the match, but without either Wealdstone would have been in all sorts of trouble.

Fortunately for Wealdstone, who had to defend desperately for something like 75 per cent of the game, Kingstonian's attack was as barren as the visitors', even though they created sufficient chances.

What must concern Wealdstone is that the 18 yards line seems an impenetrable barrier to them, and once at that point they appear a spent force. Indeed Collyer, in the Kingstonian goal, was all too frequently an innocent bystander and the only real shot of note from Wealdstone came from Halliday towards the end. A right footed drive just skimmed the bar.

This apparently was Halliday's last game for Wealdstone, due to business commitments but as he has yet to score in more than 20 appearances as a front runner, it could well give the Wealdstone management the opportunity now to get a goal-getting forward — surely their big priority to support the proven ability of George Duck.

Kingstonian's tragedy was that after Wealdstone had taken the lead after 30 minutes against the run of play with a header by Byrne, they missed a penalty in the 44th minute.

This could have proved a killer for Wealdstone but Morton made his first penalty save since joining the club. And it could not have happened at a more vital time. If Morton does nothing else right this season this one save could more than atone in terms of cash, if Wealdstone go on to a

successful Cup run. Perhaps it was poetic justice, though, for Byrne appeared to be very harshly treated for conceding the foul in the first place.

Wealdstone's second goal was quite remarkable, inasmuch as they spent the first 23 minutes of the second half with their backs to the wall, Watson and Byrne playing heroically to stem the red-shirted Kingstonian tide.

Then, in their very first foray out of their own half in the 44th minute, Moss broke

through wide out on the right, and was brought down by Dade. Referee Mr. Parker unhesitatingly pointed to the spot, and Duck showed Kingstonian skipper Cook how a penalty should be taken. Collyer didn't get within a foot of it.

That was it, although the home side continued to enjoy territorial advantage. Wealdstone left out Bill Stagg, presumably after an indifferent game against Kettering, while Prince was out through injury. Light, after first being pronounced unfit, eventually played, and even a half-fit Danny is invariably well up to Southern League midfield standards.

Wealdstone: Morton, Kinnear, Watson, Byrne, Lawrence, Fulton, Moss, Light, Parratt, Duck, Halliday, Sub. Edmundson.

	Kingstonian 0	Referee:	Wealdstone 2	SUR
	Red and White	Mr. A. A. Isaacs (Barking)	Blue and White	Ext FULL Team
	1 Collyer	Oak Radio Cars	1 Morton	
	2 Smith	3 Kingston Hill Kingston Surrey	2 Watson	
	3 Dyer	01-548 8208	3 Prince Kinnear	
	4 Mahon	Linesmen:	4 Byrne +	
	5 Roberts	Mr. R. Parker (Red Flag)	5 Lawrence	
	6 Procter	Mr. N. Gomm (Orange Flag)	6 Fulton	
	7 Waughman		7 Moss	
	8 Eglite		8 Light	
	9 Cook		9 Stagg Parratt (pen)	
	10 White		10 Duck +	
	11 Horstead		11 Halliday	
	12 Webb		12 Parratt Edmundson	
				HAI 54 HIGH 9 68 SURBI 59 CLARE
				EL GREEK HOME COOKING AT ITS BEST

Left: the Kingstonian programme that day in 1976, with the teams (above) and the report from the good old Harrow Observer

REWIND >>>> ON THIS DAY CONTD

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Clapton. We won 5-1. Don't get too excited, I implored myself, for Clapton were the personification of whipping boys and we had hardly got out of second gear.

Next up was Kingstonian, one division higher in the Isthmian hierarchy but still pretty awful - this was long before their 1990s glory days under manager Geoff Chapple, lording it in the Conference and winning the Trophy at Wembley. This was even before their short 20-year tenure at Kingsmeadow (which they lost to AFC Wimbledon, and then to Chelsea Ladies) - they were playing at the atmospheric Richmond Road ground and definitely second favourites when the Stones rocked up on October 5 with a 300 following.

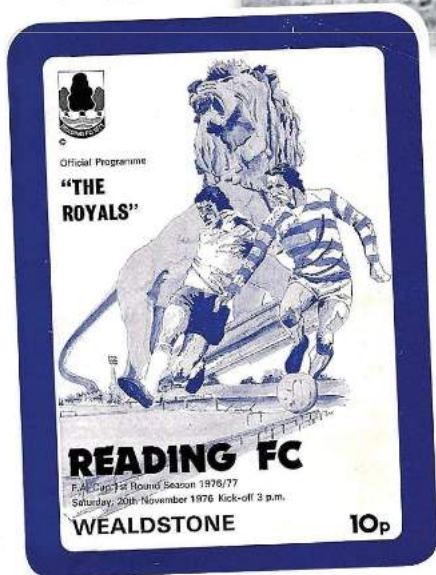
There were hordes of teenagers (myself included) who travelled away, primarily on the supporters coaches, but we could barely believe what we were seeing as Alan Fogarty's Stones side lived up to its Forrest Gump Box of Chocolates billing.. you were never sure what you were gonna get.

Kingstonian, three from bottom of the Isthmian Prem, were all over us like a rash and (as the match report confirms on the previous page) it was defenders Bill Byrne and Willie Watson, and keeper John Morton against the rest.

How we on the game 2-0 with only that trio (and of course, the ever-reliable George Duck up front) seeming to be on the pitch was something of a miracle. I remember the feeling of dread as the Ks were finally awarded a first half penalty after missing chance after chance to score after we had taken the lead in our only attack of the first half through Byrne. One of the worst culprits was former Stones cult hero Adriaan Eglite, the stocky former Ajax Amsterdam winger who had lit up Lower Mead the season before.

Eglite had famously scored a hat-trick in 20 minutes at Lower Mead in early 1975, but his

A 5,767 crowd at Em Park saw Stones' FA Cup adventure come to an end.. but this header by Bobby Moss (half-hidden, centre) flashed just over the bar in the dying minutes. Ray Fulton (left) and Keith Lawrence (right) look on



shooting boots were made of Dutch cheese as he hammered one over the bar from a few yards out. Then came the penalty, and Ks skipper Cook proved he was no Edam good either as his tame effort was blocked by keeper Morton.

Late in the game, Bobby Moss was tripped and, of course, our Mr Duck made no mistake from the penalty spot to wrap up a 2-0 win.

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

Well, this Wealdstone side dipped into its Forrest Gump chocolates and came up with cocoa-dusted truffles to delight the hardy band of away fans. Drawn away to

Dulwich Hamlet in the 3rd Qual Round, who were fielding another ex-Stones star (this time goalkeeper Alan Thomas) had us a little trepidatious but unlike the Kingstonian tie, the Stones were up for it from the start and this 2-0 win was more than deserved.

George Duck and our ex-Romford winger John Arnold were the men on target... and they repeated the trick in a sensational win over FA Cup giantkillers **Bishops Cleeve** at Lower Mead in the final qualifying round. Stortford, top of the Isthmian Prem had a great pedigree but in



front of a buzzing 1,269 rain-soaked crowd George ploughed through the mud for two goals and Arnold added the killer third goal. Another famous ex-Stones, hero of 1966 Eddie Dillsworth was Stortford's main man but he was powerless to intervene as Wealdstone powered through.

Then all ears were on our radio sets at school and at work for the First Round draw. **Reading away!** There were echoes of facing Reading's great rivals Aldershot, also in the Third Division, the previous season but, as fans our main concern was the Elm Park hooligan element who had a reputation to rival any in that 1970s era of crowd trouble at almost every game.

Sure enough, as our 400-strong group naively began to make noise in the middle of the 'popular side' stand there came the distant rumble of running feet and the Reading hardcore were upon us. The fact that we were all wearing blue scarves (same as Reading's colours) meant we could melt away unnoticed into the packed terraces, although hundreds were sent running for the barriers and climbed to safety onto the pitch.

And our FA Cup dream ended there, a story for another day. And what a story! An hour's possession for a fired-up Stones and, despite conceding the only goal due to a moment's hesitation on the goaline by our left back Lenny Prince, we ended up as unlucky losers. And we even finished with nine men when Alan Fursden was sent off after an hour for two yellow cards, and Arnold also saw red for a wild challenge in that see-sawing second half.

WEALDSTONE 2021-22

Yes, we've played you before: Solihull Moors

Tuesday March 30 2021, National League: Solihull Moors 3 Wealdstone 0

OUR very first meeting with the newly-merged club (Solihull Moors and Moor Green, both of whom we played many times in the Southern League 1980s and 90s) came on a Tuesday evening at the Damson Park Stadium - and Stones were kicking themselves when after enjoying the best chances of the first half we committed hara-kiri. Keeper Harry Isted raced 40 yards from goal to cut out a through pass - and only succeeded in heading it to Barnett who slotted into the empty net from close to the halfway line. When McNally made it 2-0 after just a few minutes of the second half, fragile Stones done for.. and the lively Sbarra wrapped it up in the closing stages.



Saturday May 22 2021, National League: Wealdstone 1 Solihull Moors 4

TWO months later the difference in playing fortunes was stark. Solihull had chalked up five successive wins to take them to the fringe of the play-off places while Stones were searching for their first win in 10 games. In fact it was worse than that.. we'd not scored for seven successive games! It was no surprise that, with crowds allowed back in to the Vale for the first time since December the terraces weren't exactly bulging. Just 465 turned up to see the Stones get another pasting, but after Tyrone Williams, Alex Ad-dai, James Ball and Justin Donawa had wrapped up the points at least we had the consolation of a last minute Jacob Mendy Mendy penalty. Not that that cheered anybody up!



WE'VE MET BEFORE <<<

BY TIM PARKS

Memories of 'village side' Eastleigh back in 2004 when the ridiculed James Beattie saw Stones' wonderful 2-1 win

Bank Holiday Monday August 30, 2004, Ryman Prem: Eastleigh 1 Wealdstone 2

EASTLEIGH'S history is well chronicled elsewhere in this programme but it's extraordinary to think that they were playing in the Wessex League (step five of non-League) while the Stones were winning the Conference and FA Trophy double in 1985. In fact, just five years earlier they were called Swaythling FC and playing in the Hampshire League!

The club's climb to the top flight of non League football - and to the brink of promotion to the Football League after losing in the National League play-offs in their first season (2014-15) and also in 2019 - has been phenomenal. In tandem with that, the club's owners Bridle Insurance have renovated Eastleigh's Silverlake Stadium with impressive new stands and infrastructure.

Bridle were chief sponsors of Oxford United but when that club decided to instal a new chairman ten years ago, Bridle upped sticks and took their money to Eastleigh - much to the surprise of Oxford and the delight of the Spitfires.

The first time the Stones met Eastleigh was when we were both moving in an upwards direction. The reorganisation of the non-League game meant that the Spitfires, finishing fourth in their first season of Southern League Division One (East) football after elevation from the Wessex League, found themselves moved across to the Ryman League Premier Division. The Stones had crept into seventh place in the Ryman League Div One (North) and, by virtue of the famous play-off win over Dulwich Hamlet, found

THEN...



..AND NOW



ourselves also in the rarefied heights of the Ryman Prem.

Believe me, for the penniless Stones and our ranks of success-starved fans, that was pretty damn exciting and the trip down to Hampshire is one fondly remembered by all. We only just survived that season - while Eastleigh's rocket-fuelled rise continued with promotion to Conference South via the play-offs - yet remarkably we won 2-1, that sunny Bank Holiday Monday in late August.

Steve Paull's match report in the programme (above right) covers the basics plus the memory-jogger of the gigantic home custodian Matthews (whose 'Lurch-like' size I'd completely forgotten).

In the next home programme Megaphone Mick Vincent also mentions the presence that afternoon of Southampton's international striker James Beattie (left), he of the chiselled jaw and limited ability. Mega says that one of Sudhir Rawal's boys thanked him for the own goal he'd scored for Chelsea the week before - that



WEALDSTONE 2021-22



Monday 30th August, Ryman Premier League Eastleigh 1 Wealdstone 2

From the depths of the poor Wealdstone performance against Northwood on Saturday came this battling performance that won three points in Hampshire on Monday. And the depths of Hampshire it was too. Despite being so close to Southampton the Eastleigh ground is a quiet backwater, that is if you ignore the drummers practicing behind the stand. The village green feel is complete with ice cream van inside the ground as well.

As for the game, the opening half was a particularly quiet affair of very few chances. Richard Jolly made a poor connection to a Martin Carter cross, and namesake Andy Carter in the Wealdstone goal had to come scampering out of his area to tackle Forbes as he burst clear.

James Fisher had replaced Gary Burrell, who was knocked unconscious in a challenge. The defender made a brave attempt to carry on for a few minutes, but a further knock saw him withdrawn.

Fisher, playing out of position on the left, then proceeded to have one of his best games in a Wealdstone shirt and might have scored but for his touch letting him down when bursting into the area after a tempting cross from Jolly.

Carter tipped over a shot from Chamberlain before, in the sixth minute of stoppage time added on after the Burrell injury, Ben Alexander picked up Gary McKeown's chip and fired past the gigantic lurch-like frame of the Eastleigh keeper Matthews.

Eastleigh were woken up by this goal and came out with purpose for the second half - almost immediately Smith's header hit the bar and Forbes fired wide.

Alexander's header did draw Matthews into a full length save but this was an isolated incident as Carter saved acrobatically from Alexander and knew nothing about Stokoe's shot that hit him and rebounded to safety.

Just when Wealdstone were getting a little respite from the pressure, a disputed penalty was awarded for a perceived foul by Cahill. This was particularly harsh as a similar claim had been turned down when Alexander was bundled to the floor earlier. Williams' penalty gave Carter no chance.

As the game entered the final minutes Alexander's effort was tipped onto the bar by Matthews, but as the ball was fed back into the box by McKeown, Jolly turned to score what turned out to be the winner, although Alexander could have made the game safe had he not sliced hopelessly wide when one-on-one with Matthews.

must have gone down well. Almost as well as the chant that followed, as the Stones fans got a bit high on the prospect of our first away win of the season... "If James Beattie plays for England so can I!"

We were leading 1-0 at that stage through a low Ben Alexander strike, and the smiles turned to scowls as the referee penalised Chris Cahill for a perceived foul in the box and Eastleigh's Williams levelled from the penalty spot. But all was sweetness and light in the dying moments when Alexander's shot hit the bar, and when Gary McKeown played the ball back in Richard Jolly seized on the ball to fire in the winner.

Wealdstone: Andy Carter, Jason Shaw, Gary Burrell, Chris Cahill, Danny Wolf, Martin Carter, Danny Tilbury, Gary McKeown, Ben Alexander, Richard Jolly, Dave Ryan. Subs: Carvell, James Duncan, Tommy Williams, James Fisher, Mitch Hahn. Attendance: 402

● The only other clashes between the two clubs were last season, of course. Eastleigh took all six National League points, firstly ending the Stones' run of five successive wins 2-0 back in November 2020 behind closed doors at the

Silverlake, and were emphatic 4-1 winners in the return at The Vale in our last home game of the season on May 22. Crowds were allowed back for that one game but it was a depressing afternoon as our goal-shy forward line and defensive fragility took us into our seventh game without a point or even a goal. Jacob Mendy Mendy's 86th-minute penalty at least ended that dismal non-scoring streak.

However! Who can forget the sensational 4-3 FA Trophy win here over the Spitfires in December last year? Eastleigh were 3-0 ahead at half time but Charlie Wakefield, Jack Cawley, Dennon Lewis and Mendy Mendy secured one of the great comeback wins in history.

BY STEVE DUCKER



Random Sightings



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

I'd like to start this week by mentioning a book about Liechtenstein. There's nothing like getting the readers hooked early, is there? Actually it's a book about football in Liechtenstein - Stamping Grounds by Charlie Connelly - and it's really good. On the downside, however, it's getting on for 20 years old now, having been written to chart the country's progress in the qualifiers for Euro 2004 when its team was in England's group, so it might take some finding.

The reason I bring it up here is that in one chapter the author interviews the sports editor of

a national newspaper, who has the unenviable job of filling several pages a week of content that he has to generate himself from a small nation not known for its athletic prowess. And somehow he always manages it.

I got a taste of this thankless task when preparing for this article. For any away fans reading this, or anyone else unfamiliar with the 'concept', it's essentially a few memories of games I've watched over the years involving Wealdstone's latest opponents. The only proviso is that they couldn't have been against Wealdstone - that's the random bit.

Which is all very well against 'your Wrexhams and your Grimsbys of this world', but if you add together my entire Solihull Moors spectating experience it comes to a big fat zero. Never mind, said those very nice people at Wealdstone Towers, we are making the programme a double header so you will be able to write about Eastleigh as well.

Except my record with Eastleigh is almost as bad - in more than 50 years of going to football, and more than 30 of those based in the south of England, I've only ever seen them in one match that meets the criteria for this article.

But as those diverse musical talents Leo Sayer and Freddie Mercury said, "the show must go on". And in an homage to the Sports Journalism King of Vaduz, I bring you, for the one and only time this season, Random Sightings Lite.

Tuesday 25 October 1994

Remember how the build up to the 2002 World Cup Final was full of references to Brazil and Germany never having met in the competition? All the time ignoring a rather prominent fixture between Brazil and East Germany in 1974. Well I have a parallel experience with Solihull Moors. Twice in the space of a few weeks 27 years ago, I saw Moor



SOLIHULL MOORS EASTLEIGH

Left: Moor Green, one of two clubs from which the modern Solihull Moors was formed. Bottom left: Cliff Hercules about to head an Aylesbury freekick over the bar vs. England. Bottom: a murky January afternoon saw Bromley and Eastleigh meet.

Green - one of the two clubs that came together to comprise the current entity - in action.

First up was an FA Cup fourth qualifying round replay away to Aylesbury United. A random sighting indeed, as hindsight casts it as an odd choice for someone with no dog in the fight to go all that way for a midweek game.

But I was ticking off grounds like crazy, I'd passed my driving test the year before, and my work base was within minutes of the M40 and not much further away from the M25. Game on. Aylesbury had its own mythology. In 1988, they had been one of the few clubs in history to play a public fixture against a full England side.

It was a goodwill exercise by the FA to thank the local people for putting up with England's training camp at Burnham Beeches just up the road, and it ended in a predictable 7-0 win. But not before the defensive frailty that would plague England's upcoming Euro 88 campaign had almost been exposed, Aylesbury striker Cliff Hercules going close from a rehearsed free kick move.

Six years later, Hercules was still there. And in front of a crowd of nearly 1,200 he effectively decided this game on his own by scoring twice in a 3-1 win, with Richard Evans' goal for Moor Green coming too late to influence the outcome.

Aylesbury eventually reached a third round pay-

day against top division Queens Park Rangers. Moor Green went home to concentrate on the FA Trophy. Where I saw them lose 1-0 at Marlow to a goal scored at the precise point in the game that the less than committed neutral in me had started to hope extra time wouldn't be necessary.

Saturday 26 January 2019

A word now about Eastleigh. It's ironic, given my ecstatic reaction when Wealdstone's promotion was confirmed in 2020, that for several years I didn't watch National League football. Not any sort of active boycott, you understand, just a feeling that the prize of promotion to the big time had made the product on the pitch a bit too cut-throat.

A couple of years ago, I gave it another go, and one of the games I went to was Bromley v Eastleigh. With a huge new stand under construction at Hayes Lane, it was obvious that at least one of these sides was chasing the dream.

On the pitch, it looked like nothing had changed. I saw five NL games that season and they produced six goals between them, including four 1-0 wins. This came closer to anything than ending goalless; there were 88 minutes on the clock when Mark Yeates set up Andrew Boyce for Eastleigh's winner.

LINE UP

1. Southwood
2. Hare
3. Johnson
4. Jones
5. Boyce
6. Winter
7. Green
8. Hollands
9. Yeates
10. Zebroski
11. Williamson

Subs

Golbern for Zebroski

Miley for Yeates

Attendance 1,381



The only previous time I had seen Eastleigh was a New Year's Day game against the Stones during the Edgware groundshare years. They scored four before half time and won easily, so I have a 100% win record with them.

To any Stones fans reading this and thinking you might as well go home now, your fears are groundless. I'm not at today's game.

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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, 11th September Vanarama National League	In memory of Arthur Rogers	
 ALDERSHOT TOWN Saturday, 18th September Vanarama National League	Lew Sheppard	
 SOLHULL MOORS Tuesday, 5th October Vanarama National League	Rossi McCann	
 EASTLEIGH Saturday, 9th October Vanarama National League	Neale Harvey & Arthur Villa	
 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	Paul Gbogidi

WEALDSTONE 2021-22



MATCH

BALL DONORS

 STOCKPORT COUNTY Saturday, 27th November Vanarama National League	Barbara Robson	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	Mike Pullin & Graham Clark
 YEOVIL TOWN Saturday, 8th January Vanarama National League	David Leach	Your name or business here
 NOTTS COUNTY Tuesday, 25th January Vanarama National League	Tony Platt	Steve Carter
 WREXHAM Saturday, 19th February Vanarama National League	In memory of Jim Klarfeld	Graham Clark & Mike Pullin
 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

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- 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
- CG = Centre Forward



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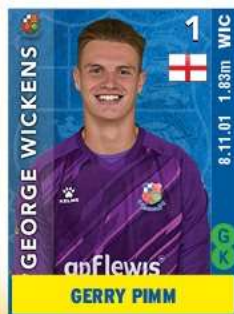
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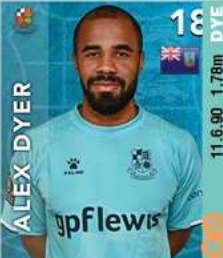
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28.5.92 1.82m WIS



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8.11.97 1.72m ELE



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DENNON LEWIS 11
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PAR
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7.10.97



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1.3.02 1.85m DRO



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WEALDSTONE 2021-22

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3:00pm**



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**Saturday
20th November
3:00pm**

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**Tuesday
23rd November
7:45pm**

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Vanarama National League 2021/2022 – @ 3rd October 2021

	ALL						HOME						AWAY						+/-	Pts	RESULTS
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A			
1 Grimsby Town	9	6	2	1	21	9	5	5	0	0	16	4	4	1	2	1	5	5	12	20	
2 Dagenham & Redbridge	9	6	1	2	24	13	5	3	1	1	17	10	4	3	0	1	7	3	11	19	2-2
3 Chesterfield	9	5	3	1	17	9	4	2	2	0	10	6	5	3	1	1	7	3	8	18	0-2
4 Boreham Wood	9	5	3	1	13	9	4	2	2	0	5	3	5	3	1	1	8	6	4	18	
5 Halifax Town	9	5	2	2	15	8	4	3	0	1	9	3	5	2	2	1	6	5	7	17	
6 Altrincham	7	5	0	2	14	9	3	3	0	0	8	3	4	2	0	2	6	6	5	15	1-0
7 Notts County	9	4	3	2	16	12	5	3	1	1	9	9	4	1	2	1	7	3	4	15	2-3
8 Solihull Moors	9	4	3	2	16	15	6	3	2	1	13	9	3	1	1	1	3	6	1	15	
9 Stockport County	9	4	2	3	8	11	4	1	1	2	3	7	5	3	1	1	5	4	-3	14	
10 Bromley	7	4	1	2	15	10	4	3	0	1	10	4	3	1	1	1	5	6	5	13	
11 Wrexham	8	3	3	2	11	10	3	2	1	0	3	1	5	1	2	2	8	9	1	12	
12 Woking	7	4	0	3	17	10	2	1	0	1	5	4	5	3	0	2	12	6	7	12	1-2
13 Torquay United	9	3	2	4	16	18	5	2	0	3	8	10	4	1	2	1	8	8	-2	11	0-5
14 Yeovil Town	6	3	0	3	8	7	3	1	0	2	2	4	3	2	0	1	6	3	1	9	
15 Eastleigh	8	2	3	3	12	15	5	2	2	1	11	9	3	0	1	2	1	6	-3	9	
16 Wealdstone	9	2	3	4	9	16	4	1	2	1	4	4	5	1	1	3	5	12	-7	9	-- --
17 Weymouth	9	2	2	5	13	18	5	1	2	2	6	7	4	1	0	3	7	11	-5	8	
18 Maidenhead United	8	2	1	5	11	15	5	1	1	3	8	10	3	1	0	2	3	5	-4	7	
19 King's Lynn Town	8	2	1	5	10	16	4	0	0	4	1	6	4	2	1	1	9	10	-6	7	1-0
20 Barnet	9	1	3	5	10	20	5	1	2	2	4	9	4	0	1	3	6	11	-10	6	
21 Southend United	8	1	2	5	6	12	3	0	1	2	4	6	5	1	1	3	2	6	-6	5	0-0
22 Aldershot Town	8	1	1	6	9	15	4	0	0	4	2	7	4	1	1	2	7	8	-6	4	2-2
23 Dover Athletic	9	0	3	6	4	18	4	0	2	2	0	2	5	0	1	4	4	16	-14	-9	



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THE LINE-UPS: TUESDAY & SATURDAY

SOLIHULL MOORS

Yellow/Blue/Yellow

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| G Ryan Boot | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tyrone Williams | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Jordan Cranston | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Kyle Storer | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Callum Howe | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Alex Gudger | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Joe Sbarra | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Callum Maycock | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Adam Rooney | 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Jamey Osborne | 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ryan Barnett | 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reiss McNally | 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| G Niall Clayton | 13 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Harry Boyes | 14 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Jordan Piggott | 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ben Usher-Shipway | 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Justin Donawa | 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| James Ball | 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Andrew Dallas | 19 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Melis Bushaj | 20 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| G Tom Allsopp | 21 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cameron Coxe | 22 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Matt Preston | 23 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Danny Newton | 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lois Maynard | 25 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| G Marcus Dewhurst | 26 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Kyle Hudlin | 27 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

WEALDSTONE

Royal Blue/White/White

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 George Wickens | G | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Jack Cook | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Dan Wishart | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Ashley Charles | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 Connor Stevens | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 Jerome Okimo | © | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 Craig Fasanmade | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 Matt Buse | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 Josh Umerah | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 Stephan Browne | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 Dennon Lewis | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 Andrew Eleftheriou | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13 Alfie Marigliani | G | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 Danny Parish | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 Elijah Hearn | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 Ira Jackson Jr | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 Nikola Tavares | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 Alex Dyer | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 Zach Dronfield | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 Medy Elito | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 Jay Bird | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 24 Charlie Cooper | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 29 Tecane Shrowder | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

EASTLEIGH

Yellow/Yellow/Yellow

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Joe McDonnell | G | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 Josh Hare | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Michael Kelly | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Cavaghin Miley | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 Tom Broadbent | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 Andrew Boyce | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 Sam Smart | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 Harry Pritchard | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 Dan Smith | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 Tyrone Barnett | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 Ryan Hill | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 Jake Hesketh | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13 Ross Flitney | G | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 To Blair | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 Alex Wynter | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16 Joe Low | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17 Danny Whitehall | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18 Ben House | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19 Danny Hollands | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20 Tom Whelan | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21 Tom Bragg | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22 Dan Bradshaw | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23 Charlie Philpott | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 24 Jack Torniainen | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

REFEREE TBA
ASSISTANTS Daniel Robinson and Steve Durnall
FOURTH OFFICIAL George Warren
OBSERVER TBA

REFEREE Matthew Russell **ASSISTANTS** Farai Hallam and Jack Bloxham **FOURTH OFFICIAL** Richie Watkins **OBSERVER** Graham Horwood

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