

WEALDSTONE

versus

GRIMSBY TOWN



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NATIONAL LEAGUE

TUESDAY OCTOBER 26 2021, 7.45PM

SEASON 2021-22 MATCHDAY PROGRAMME £3

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BY MARK HYDE



WEALDSTONE 2021-22

Written in Stone

Welcome back to the Vale for what will be an interesting evening under the lights against table topping Grimsby, who are looking to bounce straight back up into the EFL.

On the subject of the Mariners, a warm welcome to manager Paul Hurst, his staff and players.

Our season to date has proved to be the tough struggle most of us predicted, as we battle full time and better resourced clubs almost every

week.

Many of us on the terraces have generously donated to the Stoneshare initiative and although this promotion is drawing to a close, plenty of sponsorship packages are still available to help the club financially.

Of course supporting your club is not purely financial and it was encouraging on Saturday in Weymouth to see so many unfamiliar faces cheering our side on... long may it continue.

Mark

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1981 / 1982 Southern League Championship
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1984 / 1985 FA Trophy

LEAGUE CUPS

1981 / 1982 Southern League Cup

MIDDLESEX COUNTY CUPS

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

NON TITLE-WINNING PROMOTIONS

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

**The legal name of Wealdstone
Football Club is Wealdstone
Football Club (2000) Ltd
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GROUND REGULATIONS

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

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

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

2) No spectator ball games.

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

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

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

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"Probably the best thing you can do for your loved ones..."
- Donna (London)

BY SUDHIR RAWAL



The Elmslie Ender



The same applies now as it did for GB in 2014: Patience & trust



On the way home from Weymouth, Tim Parks showed me an article he'd saved on his phone - a piece Gordon Bartlett had written to sum up our first season in the National League South seven years ago. We'd had a terrible start to the season, didn't win a match until our tenth game, but ultimately stayed up comfortably. GB mentioned how he had not enjoyed the season at all, but I actually think supporters have quite fond memories of it.

We were back at a decent level, held our own once we got our feet under the table and celebrated in style on the last day of the season when we took over York Road, Maidenhead.

When you go back and read the article, it does emphasise the need for patience and trust. Last week against Dagenham, we hit the low point of the season. Against a team who played the whole game apart from the first

two minutes with ten players, to lose having led with four minutes to goal understandably saw an outpouring of anger and disappointment that hadn't really dissipated by the end of the week.

Matters were not helped when Dagenham were drawn at home to Salford City, and their billionaire and millionaire owners, and were also picked for live TV coverage. What a surprise! That defeat has probably cost us around a £100,000. You don't need to know what that sort of money would mean to us. A BELT club could brush it off: we

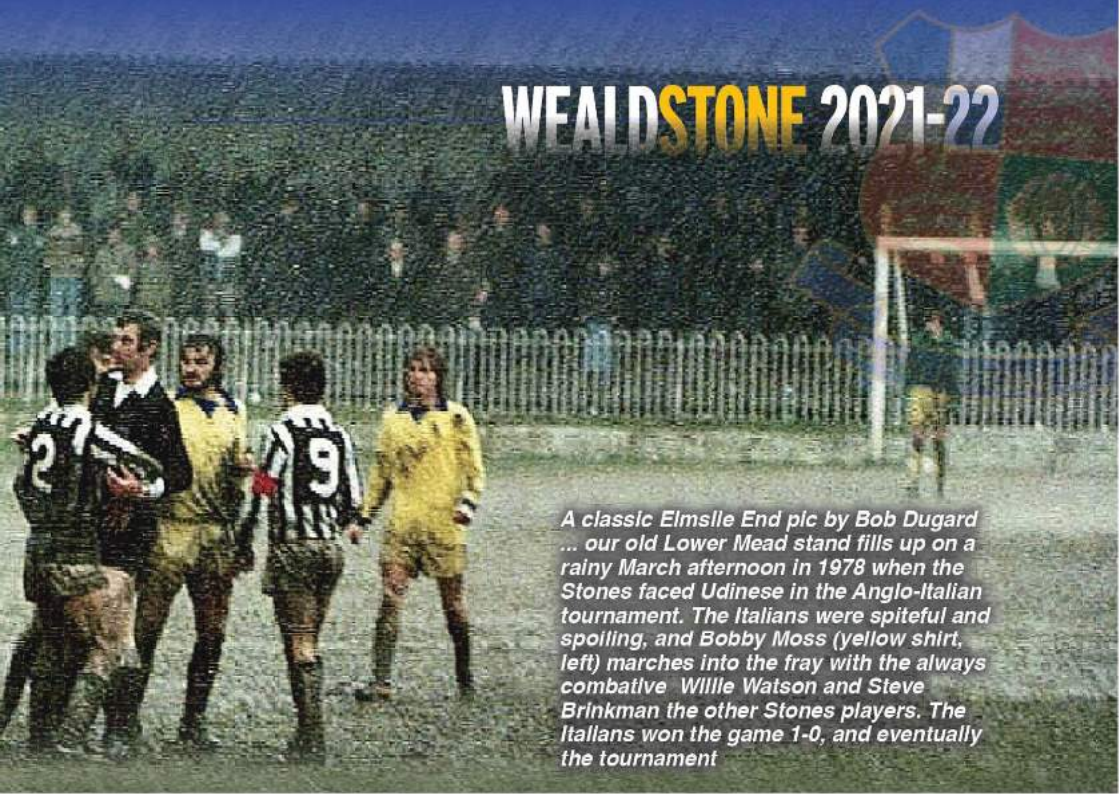
can't. But it's gone and we move on, and certainly no watching of that game on telly in a couple of weeks' time.

So, onto Weymouth. A few bad results and defeats does focus the minds of those travelling and a number of regular away travelling fans seemed to find convenient reasons why not to make the journey. Fortunately, and remarkably after the Dagenham result, there was a full supporters coach and plenty of newer fans that did make the trip down to Dorset, which saw around 170 Stones at

Jack Cook wins this header at Weymouth in front of an impressive backdrop of Stones fans



WEALDSTONE 2021-22



A classic Elmslie End pic by Bob Dugard ... our old Lower Mead stand fills up on a rainy March afternoon in 1978 when the Stones faced Udinese in the Anglo-Italian tournament. The Italians were spiteful and spoiling, and Bobby Moss (yellow shirt, left) marches into the fray with the always combative Willie Watson and Steve Brinkman the other Stones players. The Italians won the game 1-0, and eventually the tournament

the Bob Lucas Stadium.

Looking back at the game, I thought we were unfortunate not to bring home the three points. Playing a longer game than usual and getting the ball forward faster, we were the better side for much of it, but our achilles heel of making a silly mistake at the back and not taking our chances, saw only one point come back to the Vale rather than the deserved three.

I am convinced we would have gone on to get the three points, or at least had the opportunities to do so, but for the injury to Charlie Cooper with ten minutes to go. We were down to ten men and had to sit much deeper, but Weymouth didn't really create a chance. Our goal came from a deft touch from debutant and Man of the Match Connor McAvooy, on loan from Fulham, from a Cooper free kick, and

as he wheeled away after the scoring, tapping the badge (must have seen that on TV). What wasn't there to like?

It is clear, despite the social media furore last weekend and silly pointless polls, most supporters have a more balanced view of our season so far. It could and probably should have been better, but should we finish where we are now at the end of the season, it will be job done, and everyone happy. We know though that there is no sentiment in football and management teams are ultimately judged by results.

Incidentally, I'm sure some of you would have seen the report about the club's continued engagement with many local schools, both in Hillingdon and Harrow. From what I am told, more schools are very keen to get onboard and Stuart Maynard, Matty

Saunders, Harvey Hicks and Nick Symmons are doing fantastic work of getting the name of Wealdstone into the local community and it's certainly working with the number of youngsters coming through the gate.

Before I sign off, a mention for the popular Stonescast, episode 7, (@stonescast85) which is being recorded tomorrow, with the very nice team of Mark Hyde, Jeremy Albert, Dave Reader and Leo Werin as your panel.

They will be discussing the painful cup defeat versus Dagenham, the draw at Weymouth and today's game against league leaders Grimsby Town. The 'Cast should be out by Friday. Every episode is reaching more and more people and the feedback that we are getting is that it's well worth a listen.

BY TIM PARKS



BIG INTERVIEW

He's the ex-Mariner who wants to kick-start his career with the Stones ... starting tonight!

Ira Jackson Junior



Ira Jackson had never been compared to Jimmy Greaves before!

Admittedly, when you look at the tall, explosive ex-Grimsby striker and diminutive England legend the similarities are not immediately apparent... but just look at the stats.

Greavsie scored on his debut for Chelsea, Spurs, AC Milan and England. Ira hit the net in his first games for Folkestone, the Mariners and Wealdstone!

"Not bad company to be in" laughed the 24-year old striker when I spoke to him after the conclusion of his three-game ban for the sending off at Kings Lynn on September 25. "The red card was harsh I thought but that's what happens when you raise your foot these days... I didn't know the defender was there until the contact" he said.

"But now I just want to get back in the frame for selection: I think I bring something different to the team just by running at defenders and disrupting their defensive shape".

Ira is certainly an exciting addition to Stuart Maynard's side and after coming off the bench against Altrincham and Notts County he scored on his first start against Aldershot from Dennon Lewis' cross. But then came Kings Lynn.

"I won't ever raise my foot again in that sort of situation" he vowed. "Luke Shaw had a similar thing when he gave away the penalty against Hungary.. though he was only booked. I thought that was worse than mine!"

Ira is particularly looking forward to being in-

involved in tonight's game against his former club.

He came to people's attention after scoring 28 goals in 47 goals for Isthmian Leaguers Folkestone Invicta - a similar return to Jermaine Beckford's when he was propelled from the Stones to Leeds United in 2006 - and it was the then-Grimsby boss Ian Holloway who decided to take a punt on the skilful 24-year-old. That was at the start of last season and Ira made 20 appearances before Holloway was replaced by Paul Hurst as the Mariners slid toward relegation.

"Most of those games were me coming off the bench - I scored three goals out of a total of about seven shots!" says Ira. "The fans who actually watched the games and knew the stats were supportive of me, especially as my conversion rate and games per goal were the best in the club."

Ira hit the ground running at Blundell Park with a goal, off the bench, in his first game to grab a 1-1 draw against Mansfield - and then scored again at Southend on his full debut.

"That was at Roots Hall in front of a restricted crowd of about 2,000 and for once there were hardly any Grimsby fans there ... they travel in huge numbers as we'll see at the Vale".

Ira signed a two-year deal for the Mariners but it quickly became apparent that, under new manager Paul Hurst, his chances would be limited.

"He offered to send me out on loan but my career was going down the toilet" admits Ira.

"I needed a fresh start and Michee Efete - who

DSTONE 2021-22



Ira Jackson gets the crowd off their feet with his debut goal against Aldershot and leaps to celebrate (right)

was joining Grimsby from the Stones - recommended that I spoke to Stuart the gaffer here. I want a club with a vision that would involve me, and Stuart pitched the idea of getting back into the League. I know how good I can be so I'm really keen to kickstart things here".

So how difficult is it for you to come out of that professional environment and move back to part time football? I asked.

"Not that tough really - I was brought up in Ashford, in Kent but strangely enough I have an uncle who lives in Ashford Middlesex so I stay at his place most of the week. We train two nights but the rest of the time I'm down the park or at the gym in Isleworth".

During his time at Grimsby, Ira shared a club cottage at Holton Lodge with team mate Montel Gibson, close to the training ground at Holton-le-Clay. And there is no doubt the striker has the potential and the youth to still make an impression in the pro ranks.

"I'm only 24 but I feel like I've been playing football forever!" he laughs.

His family are from the midlands originally, and from the age of seven he was involved in the Derby County youth set-up - despite living in Kent.

"My mum Beverley would drive me all over the

country - my dad, Ira Senior, is a musician and minister for the Kingsway International Christian Centre - but there was no guarantee of a career for me so I went to play for Gillingham when I was 14. We were travelling to Peterborough, Portsmouth and all over and I was missing my mates... I fell out of love with the game really and just went back to playing for the school.

"But I was still scoring lots of goals. Have you heard of the Brazilian Futsal soccer school? It's a franchise that teaches youngsters the skills to excel at the modern game, backed by Neymar, Pele, Kaka.. all the Brazilian greats. And there was one in Ashford where I lived!

"From the age of four I was bugging my dad to let me join in. The minimum age was five, but they let me join in and I dedicated myself to learning the 122 different skills (control, passing, trapping, manoeuvring, shooting) needed to successfully complete the seven stages. When I was seven years old I had completed Level One. And I was the first person in the world to complete all of them by the age of 16!"

He started to turn out for Faversham, Ramsgate and Canterbury in his teens before signing for conference side Dover when he was 19. "I signed as a striker but it was never going to be easy with people like Ross Lafayette, 45-goal Ricky Miller, Moses Emmanuel, Tyrone Marsh and Ricky Modeste ahead of me in the pecking order.

"And then I got an injury after only playing four games. I left to play for Ashford United; then got another injury while training at Guiseley. Neil Cugley rescued me by saying: 'Come and play for Folkestone' and to be honest, I loved it down there.

"He told me to take as many risks as I wanted and attack from the wings and down the centre. 'Do all you need to do to get us a goal'

"That was what I wanted to hear and I scored on my debut at Carshalton, and then scored a hat trick on my home debut against Lewes in a 4-0 win. I think I offer that unpredictability that can unsettle teams, even at National League level. I know what can happen when I get the ball, that I can excite the fans and that's what the game's all about really."

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16

IRA JACKSON JR.



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IT'S A RECORD!

The vital facts on recent Stones matches...

v Dagenham & Redbridge at the Vale, FA Cup 4th Qual Round

THE WHERE & THE WHAT

v Weymouth at Bob Lucas Stadium, Nat Lge Matchday 12

Saturday Oct 16 2021, 3pm
Dry, overcast afternoon (14deg), the pitch again in great condition

DATE AND CONDITIONS

Saturday October 23 2021, 3pm
Chilly afternoon (13 deg) and a sticky, over-grassed pitch

718 (185 away fans)

ATTENDANCE

1,024 (167 away fans)

WEALDSTONE

Wickens Tavares Cook Okimo Eleftheriou Charles Dyer Cooper Lewis Bird Umerah

TEAMS

WEYMOUTH

Fitzsimons Leslie-Smith Yarney Cordern Harfield McQuoid Murray Robinson Shields Thomson Goodship

DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE

Justham Reynolds Johnson Rance Wright Sagaf McCallum Balanta Weston Wilson Ling

WEALDSTONE

Wickens Tavares Cook Okimo McAvoy Charles Dyer Cooper Lewis Bird Umerah

STONES 1 Bird 10
DAGGERS 2 Balanta 88, 90+2

RESULT

WEYMOUTH 1 Thomson 40
STONES 1 McAvoy 62

POSSESSION

Wealdstone 53% Dag & Red 47%

MATCH STATS

POSSESSION

Weymouth 53% Stones 47%

SHOTS ON TARGET Stones 3

Dag & Red 6 **SHOTS OFF TARGET**

Stones 8 Dag & Red 4

CORNERS Stones 4 Dag & Red 7

SHOTS ON TARGET Weymouth 4 Stones 6

SHOTS OFF TARGET Weymouth 2 Stones 7

CORNERS Weymouth 5 Stones 6

The day couldn't have started better for Stones - Dagers reduced to 10 men after just two minutes after skipper McCallum's lunge on Dyer, followed by a lovely strike by Jay Bird for 1-0. We missed further chances and, though Dagers saw Wickens save Balanta's penalty, the same man struck twice late on to win it.

STONES VIEW

Change in tactics - more direct - nearly paid off for Stuart Maynard's side but for conceding a sloppy Terras goal and then losing Charlie Cooper to injury which meant we ended with ten men. In between it was all Wealdstone, but with just a goal from impressive debutant Connor McAvoy to show for it

Utter shambles. It's been the same for the last few home games - backwards, sideways, backwards, sideways and we still haven't got out of our own penalty area! To play over 90 mins against 10 men and look like the team a man short is disgraceful. Only one team looked likely to win the match in the second half, and it wasn't us

-Kenton 1, Stonesnet forum

One fan sarcastically saying within my earshot "Did you enjoy that FA Cup journey?" then amazingly we levelled... then Balanta flicked on at the near post, the net bulged, bedlam! Never forget that moment! **- Digger Dagger**

SOCIAL MEDIA

To be positive, Wealdstone are a decent side and we are out of relegation zone. We didn't lose. I thought Thommo, Murray and McQoid played well.

But it was a poor game. Possibly edged it in the first half, barely at the races in the second. If it hadn't have been for two superb saves from Fitsimons we would have lost. Our attack just seemed clueless and our passing was poor. Hit it forward and hope. We really lacked creativity and how Stock had the front to come on to clap the fans at the end was really rubbing it in! something needs changing pdq. **- Weymouth fans forum**

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FAN IN THE STAND: BENJAMIN ALBERT

I followed Spurs to the Champions League final but that night at Lowestoft was pretty special

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

Your name and age? Benjamin Albert, 25

Whereabouts do you live? Hendon, London. I've always lived there.

When was your first Stones game? To be honest, I was too young to remember!

Who first brought you along to a game? My Dad! David Albert – A Stones fan since 1974.

What were your first impressions of the club? Felt so natural and real. I loved it! I liked the banter from the fans, the community spirit and the feeling that you as an individual can really make a difference to the club's fortunes.

What was the first football match you remember ever seeing live? Or on TV? Tottenham v Nottingham Forest at White Hart Lane played on 20th February 2005, accompanied by my dad & uncle Jeremy. What a first game it was, the atmosphere was wild!

Do you follow any other team? Tottenham Hotspur. During the 2018-19 season when Spurs reached the Champions League Final, I travelled to the away games in Barcelona, Dortmund and Amsterdam but unfortunately I could not get a ticket for the Final for love or money! I also travelled to Madrid for the Real Madrid v Spurs Champions League match during the 2017-18 season where I flew with a friend from London to Malaga and then hired a car and we drove for over 5-hours from Malaga to Madrid and back again after the match!

What's the most memorable game you've EVER seen? I was in Amsterdam in the Johan Cruyff Arena for the Ajax v Tottenham, Champions League Semi-Final on 8th May 2019 when Spurs' Lucas Moura scored a hat-trick with the winner coming in the 96th minute. In the words



of the famous Frankie Valli song, "WHAT A FEELING... WHAT A NIGHT"!!!

And the best Wealdstone game? Wealdstone v Rotherham United in the FA Cup 1st Round played on 8th November 2009. Cracking atmosphere at the Vale and we nearly forced an equaliser in the dying seconds of the game. When I got home, I was surprised to see that for a few seconds I appeared on the ITV highlights of the match!

Favourite away Wealdstone trip? Lowestoft in the Ryman League Play-Off Semi-Final played on 2nd May 2012 and even though we lost, it was a great



WEALDSTONE 2021-



It's a family thing: Benji and his dad Dave Albert at Euro 2020 last summer. Wembley just edges the Vale on capacity.

Left (top): Lucas Moura celebrates his amazing hat-trick in Amsterdam. Left (below): Dave and Benjamin on that memorable night in Lowestoft

lower leagues as I always like to be on the side of the "Underdog".

How big a part of your life is the game? One of the biggest! I watch or play football daily. This year in particular, it played a big part in my life as dad and I attended three England games at Wembley, in the Euros against Germany, Denmark and Italy in the Final. We could have witnessed history being madebut it was not to be.

How do you fit watching football in with your family/working life? It's the priority so I make sure not to miss a big game.

Who are the best Wealdstone players you've ever seen? Could you name a best-ever Stones side? Jermaine Beckford and Richard Jolly. I haven't really attended enough matches to name a best-ever Stones side.

Do you think our squad is strong enough to survive at this level? Yes 100% believe in the boys and feel that we will stay up this season and then build on this for next season

What do you think of the bars and catering at the Vale? They are fantastic, whenever I come with my friends, family or colleagues we have a brilliant time

Do you visit the Megastore? I did earlier on in the season and I purchased the Wealdstone Home shirt for this season which I proudly wear one a week in Five-A-Side matches.

Do you think Stones can aspire to playing in the EFL? Yes for sure, gotta dream big!! In life you have to be ambitious, otherwise if you are not, the only way is down.

How are you coping football-wise with the Covid restrictions? To be honest, at this stage it feels pretty normal. However over the last 2 years it was difficult.

Did you watch the various streams of the live games last season or were you in the sponsor's lounge? I watched many games on the live stream with my dad which were great quality although the main commentator was a bit iffy! (Steady! -Tim) I would have liked to have heard Uncle Jeremy acting as co-commentator just to hear how much nonsense would have been spouted!

Did the club look after you as a sponsor? I was really well-looked after when I sponsored the Kings Lynn Town game last season. Paul, Lori and their team really made it an enjoyable evening and we really felt part of the community spirit that Wealdstone has always been proud of. As a result of the highly enjoyable experience, my company "ADW" is sponsoring today's match against Grimsby and I will have a number of our team attending together with family and friends.

Finally, where do you think Wealdstone FC will be in five years time? Lifting the Champions League after a 4-0 win over Arsenal in the final!

afternoon travelling on the supporters coach with Wealdstone supporters contributing to an excellent atmosphere, still singing their hearts out 30-minutes after the final whistle! I thought I was not going to make the match as the coach driver made an unanticipated stop as he claimed that he was "Out of Hours" and needed a rest! Luckily enough after a bit of "pressure" from the Stones supporters about 30 minutes, the coach departed and we just made the kick-off!

What level of football do you prefer? I like all levels from International football, Premier League and I think there is something special about the

Opposition in focus

GRIMSBY TOWN

THE MARINERS

The club was formed in 1878 after a meeting held at the Wellington Arms public house in Freeman Street. Several attendees included members of the local Worsley Cricket Club who wanted to form a football club to occupy the empty winter evenings after the cricket season had finished.

The club was originally called Grimsby Pelham, this being the family name of the Earl of Yarborough, a significant landowner in the area.

The name was changed the following year to Grimsby Town. In 1880 the club purchased land at Clee Park which was to become their ground until 1889 when they relocated to Abbey Park, before moving again in 1899 to their present home, Blundell Park - named after Peter Blundell, whose money enabled Sidney Sussex College to buy the land in 1616. The club brought two stands with them from Abbey Park, although the players had to change at the Imperial Hotel.

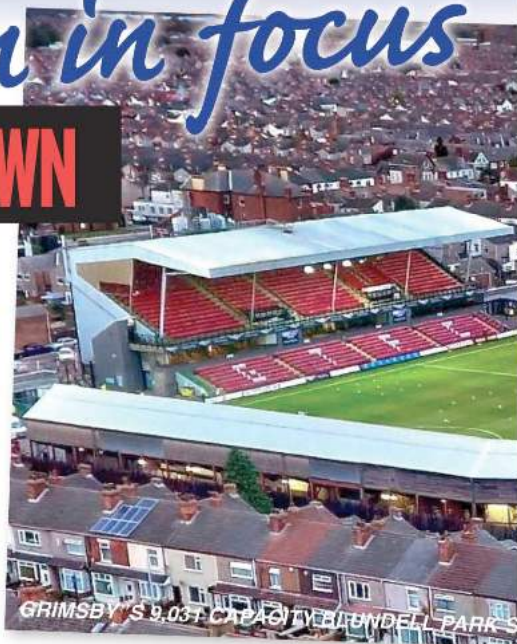
In 1901 a new wooden Main Stand was built on the Harrington St side of the pitch. That was the last improvement until 1925, when a grand committee undertook the task of replacing the Abbey Park Stand with the Barret's Stand

In 1939, the last relic of the old Abbey Park (the Hazel Grove Stand) was replaced by the Osmond Stand. Floodlit football was introduced in 1953, and eight years later the Pontoon Stand was replaced by a structure of the same name.

Promotion in 1980 saw the start of further changes. Following the Main Stand was made 'all seating' and the Barrett Stand made way for the Findus Family Stand. The Findus stand was made all seating in 1995.

Other interesting facts.

The original colours were blue and white hoops, which were changed to chocolate and blue quartered shirts in 1884.



In 1888 the club first played league football, joining the newly-formed 'Combination'. The league soon collapsed and the following year the club applied to join the Football League, an application that was refused. Instead the club joined the Football Alliance. In 1890 the club became a limited company and in 1892 finally entered the Football League, when it was expanded to two divisions. The first game was a 2-1 victory over Northwich Victoria.

The Inter-War Years

This was probably the most successful period in the club's history as they played at the highest level. The first full season after the Great War the club was relegated to the new Third Division North. By 1929 they were however back in Division One, where they stayed (with a brief break from 1932 to 1934) until 1939, obtaining their highest-ever league position, 5th in Division One, in the 1934-35 season. In 1925 they adopted the black and white stripes as their colours.

On 25 March 1939, Wolverhampton Wanderers played Grimsby Town, in a FA Cup semi-final at Old Trafford. The attendance of 76,962 remains Old Trafford's largest ever

WEALDSTONE 2021-22



FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

Play-off winners 2015-16

AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD

Winners, 1997-98

HIGHEST LEAGUE ATTENDANCE

26,605 v Stockport County on 11 April 1952

HIGHEST FA CUP ATTENDANCE

31,651 v on 20 February 1937

HIGHEST LEAGUE CUP ATTENDANCE

23,115 v Wolverhampton Wanderers F.C on 4 December 1979

HIGHEST NEUTRAL VENUE ATTENDANCE

76,972 v Wolverhampton Wanderers 25 March 1939, FA Cup Semi-Final, Manchester

HIGHEST LEAGUE HOME WIN

8-0 v Tranmere Rovers, 4 September 1925

HIGHEST LEAGUE AWAY WIN

7-0 v Bristol Rovers, 14 December 1957

MOST LEAGUE GOALS IN A SEASON

Pat Glover, 42 goals (1933-34)

HIGHEST LEAGUE SCORER

Pat Glover, 180 goals (1930-39)

MOST APPEARANCES

(all competitions)
754 by John McDermott from between 1987 and 2007

HIGHEST TRANSFER FEE PAID

£550,000, Lee Ashcroft, Preston North End, 11 August 1998

HIGHEST TRANSFER FEE RECEIVED

£1.5 million, John Oster to Everton, 1 August 1997

YOUNGEST PLAYER

Tony Ford, 16 years and 143 days v Walsall on 4 October 1975

OLDEST PLAYER

Peter Beagrie, 40 years and 322 days, v Hartlepool United, 26 September 2006

attendance, though it is likely to be exceeded in the near future.

The Mariners lost the game 5-0 after the second choice goalkeeper George Moulson was injured early on in the match (first choice keeper George Tweedy had caught the flu days earlier).

With the then rules forbidding substitutes for injuries Grimsby had to play with 10 men and an outfield player in goal. It was at this match that the squad wore numbered shirts for the first time, three months before it became official.

Club honours and records

DIVISION TWO

Champions 1900-01, 1933-34
Play-off winners 1997-98

DIVISION THREE

Champions 1925-26, 1955-56, 1979-80

DIVISION FOUR

Champions 1971-72



Opposition in focus

WHO'S WHO?



1. JAMES McKEOWN - GOALKEEPER

The Birmingham born stopper began his career in the Youth team at Walsall before heading to Peterborough United. After loan spells at Kettering Town, Worcester City and a brief period with RSKV Leonidas in Holland James joined Grimsby in 2011.

2. MICHEE EFETE - DEFENCE

The former Wealdstone defender joined Town during the summer. Michee

began his footballing career at Norwich City, gaining valuable experience during loan spells out in Iceland for Breidablik and back home for Torquay United. Following his release from the Canaries in 2018, Efete went on to represent Maidstone United, Bath City and Billericay, before joining Wealdstone in 2019. The following season, Efete's performances helped secure his place in the National League South Team of the Season.



3. ADAM CROOKES - DEFENCE

Former Port Vale defender Adam Crookes joined the Mariners on an initial one-year deal during the summer. The 23-year-old left-back came through the Academy system at Nottingham Forest, spending 14 years at the club where he captained the Under 18's.

4. BEN FOX - MIDFIELD

The former Burton Albion midfielder joined Town during the summer. Fox enjoyed loan spells in the National League with Tamworth, Solihull Moors, Gateshead and most recently Barnet.

5. SHAUN PEARSON - DEFENCE

The Wrexham captain rejoined Town during the summer following the expiration of his contract at Wrexham. Shaun departed for the Welsh side in the summer of 2017 where he spent a total of four years, making over 130 appearances in all competitions, scoring twelve goals. He originally joined the Mariners back in 2011 from Boston United

6. LUKE WATERFALL - DEFENCE

The former Shrewsbury Town defender joined the Mariners on a two-year deal during the summer. He had made 54 appearances for The Shrews last season, scoring six goals. He arrived at The Shrews from Lincoln City, where he had helped the Imps win promotion to the Football League as Champions, and win the Checkatrade Trophy in 2018.

7. WILL BAPAGA - MIDFIELD

8. GILES COKE - MIDFIELD

The experienced midfielder joined Paul Hurst's side back in February, after receiving permission from the EFL and FA following a contract dispute and went on to become a solid figure in the central midfield role. Despite not playing in front of supporters during his time at the club during his seventeen appearances, Giles quickly became a firm favourite amongst the fan base, through his no-nonsense approach, tough tackling and calming influence in the centre of midfield.

10. JOHN McATEE - FORWARD

McAtee joined Town from Scunthorpe United during the summer. He started out as a scholar at the Shrewsbury Town Academy, before being awarded his first professional contract with the Shrews by then manager Paul Hurst. After being released by the New Meadow club, he was snapped up by Paul Hurst at Scunthorpe United in 2019.

11. SEAN SCANNELL - MIDFIELD

Sean joined the Mariners on a two-year deal during the summer. The 29-year-old, who started out at Crystal Palace broke into the first team in the 2007-08 season. He later went onto join Championship side Huddersfield Town then in 2018, Sean joined Bradford City followed by Blackpool. He has also represented the Republic of Ireland at Under-17, Under-18, Under-19, Under-21 and Ireland B levels.

13. OLLIE BATTERSBY - GOALKEEPER

Under 18's goalkeeper who made his first team debut on the bench in a Checkatrade Trophy tie at Doncaster Rovers. Ollie joined the club at under-nines level and played through until under-15s before joining Sheffield United. He then rejoined the Mariners as a scholar last season.

WEALDSTONE 2021-22

14. LENELL JOHN-LEWIS - FORWARD

Harry signed a two-year deal at the age of 17, coming through the Mariners academy. Signing a contract extension in the summer of 2016, Clifton was sent out on loan to gain first team experience. He enjoyed an extended stay at Grantham Town.

16. DAVID LONGE-KING - DEFENCE

The former Newport County defender joined us on a two-year deal during the summer. The Mariners have fought off strong competition from a number of clubs for the signature of the 26-year-old. Longe-King enjoyed a period at Biggleswade Town during the 18/19 season. Following an England C call-up whilst in the third step of football against Estonia in June 2019, David joined Albans City, where he was an ever-present making 40 appearances in all competitions, scoring one goal, and contributing to 10 clean sheets in the National League South. The 6'3 center-back then made the move to Newport County AFC.

17. SEBASTIAN REVAN - DEFENCE

Seb joined the Mariners on a season long loan from Aston Villa during the summer. Primarily a left-back, Revan signed his first professional contract with Villa in March 2021 after putting in a number of impressive performances at full-back for the club's Under 23s during the 2020/21 season campaign.

18. ÉRICO HENRIQUE ESTEVES SOUSA - MIDFIELD

The former Portugal Under-19 International made the move to England at the age of 10 and began his footballing career as a schoolboy at Manchester City, before making the move to Barnsley as a scholar before penning his first professional contract at the club. Erico moved to Slovenia in 2015 to sign for Celje before coming back to England originally with Tadcaster Albion before spells at Accrington Stanley and Tranmere Rovers. Last season, Sousa joined National League North side Darlington, where he scored seven goals and contributed with three assists in 14 appearances.

19. MAX WRIGHT - MIDFIELD

Grimsby born midfielder who has come through the ranks at Blundell Park. Was handed his first pro contract during the summer of 2015 after impressing manager Paul Hurst. After spending most of the 2017/18 season out on loan at Scarborough Athletic, Max returned to Blundell Park to be rewarded with a new 2-year deal by

Michael Jolley.

20. JOEL GRANT - MIDFIELD

The experienced attacker, Joel Grant joined Town in the summer, signing on an initial one-year deal. Paul Hurst admitted that it wasn't the first time that he had tried to bring the 33-year-old to Blundell Park.

21. MAX CROCOMBE - GOALKEEPER

The former Melbourne Victory goalkeeper joined Town on an initial one-year deal during the summer. The 27-year-old returned to England after spending two seasons in Australia with Brisbane Roar and Melbourne Victory respectively. New Zealander, Crocombe began his professional career at Oxford United in 2012. During his time at the club, Crocombe enjoyed loan spells at the likes of Nuneaton Town, Barnet & Southport before making the move to Carlisle United in 2016. He then made the move to Salford City, where he helped The Ammies secure the National League North title and promotion to the EFL in the 2018/19 season for the first time in the Club's history.

22. ALEX HUNT - MIDFIELD

On Loan from Sheffield Wednesday

23. LUKE SPOKES - MIDFIELD

Young midfielder who joined Town from Taunton Town during the summer, signing a one-year deal with the club.

24. JAZ GOUNDRY - DEFENCE

The Academy graduate put pen to paper on his first professional contract, signing a one-year deal with the club during the summer.

29. RYAN TAYLOR - FORWARD

The 33-year-old striker brings a wealth of Football League experience to the squad with over 450 professional appearances across his career to date. Taylor began his career at Rotherham United. After loans to Burton Albion and Exeter City, Taylor joined Bristol City in the summer of 2011 before making the journey down to the south coast to sign for Portsmouth in 2014. Taylor moved to Oxford United, spending two years at the club before joining Plymouth Argyle in 2017. Taylor then made the move to Wales to join Newport County AFC in the summer of 2020.

31. EVAN KHOURI - MIDFIELD

The 18-year-old Ex-West Ham academy player, put pen to paper on his first professional contract after a two-year scholarship with the club, signing a one-year deal.

33. LUIS ADLARD - FORWARD

The Academy graduate put pen-to-paper on a one-year professional contract with the Mariners during the summer.

39. EDWIN ESSEL - FORWARD

TOGETHER FOR FOOTBALL



This season, we've come together to face Covid 19 — football's toughest opponent. Through the Premier League, FA and Government's Football Foundation and Premier League's FSIF, we've supported over 39,000 teams, including over 1,000 in the National League System, to return to action.

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

footballfoundation.org.uk



The Football Stadium Improvement Fund

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- Match tickets for four people (inc. prime main stand seats if required)
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- Boardroom hospitality including a pre-match hot meal with wines and 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.

retained 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 (**paul-rumens59@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.)

Our match sponsors and their guests are all en-

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, 19th 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	Roffe-East	In memory of John O'Connor aka OC	Dorset Stones
 DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE Saturday, 18th October FA Cup 4th Qualifying Round	Ability Security		
 GRIMSBY TOWN Tuesday, 26th October Vanarama National League	Roffe-East	ADWConnect	
 BARNET Saturday, 13th November Vanarama National League	Roffe-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, 10th 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, 1st May Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here



RESULTS 2021/2022

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

Month	Comp	Score	(Total)	(Away)	Le	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	9
11	ALTRINCHAM	VNL	1-0	1,013	N/A	15	Elito (Pen)	1	2	12		6	7(9)	9	9
14	Notts County	VNL	2-3	5,213	208	14	Umerah (2)	1	2	12		6	7(9)	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	0-0	1,501	120	16		1	2	12	17			8(18)	9
9	EASTLEIGH	VNL	1-2	1,267	95	16	Umerah	1	2	12	17			9	9
16	DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE	FAC4	1-2	718	N/A	17	Bird	1	2	12	17	6		8(11)	9
23	Weymouth	VNL	1-1	1,024	170	17	McAvoy	1	2		17	6	7(9)	8(18)	9
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	Jaydn MUNDLE-SMITH	Connor McAvoy
	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		20	34	16						
	10(9)	11(20)	24		4		20		16	3	21				
		11	24		4		20			3	21	5(17)	22(3)		
		11	24		4	18	20(4)				21		22		
18)		11	24		4	18	20			3(12)		5	22	23(5)	
		11	24		4	18	20(4)	16(22)					22		
		11	24		4	18		16(22)					22		14



Above: pictures from last Saturday's draw down at Weymouth when debutant Connor McAvoy scored to ensure we took a well-earned point. Pictures courtesy **Jon Taffel**.

VIEW FROM THE AWAY END

'Best thing about following Grimsby is really belonging, and feeling a part of our great club'

Writes Mariners' superfan KRISTINE GREEN - this will be her 126th ground visited!

Whereabouts do you live Kristine? I live in Grimsby, less than a mile from Blundell Park.

What was the first Mariners game you ever saw? I can't quite remember my first-ever game but the first memory I have of Blundell Park was against Sunderland. It was a TV game and I sat in the Main Stand with a school friend. Weather was awful and the game didn't last long before it was called off because of a waterlogged pitch.

And when was that? That was in the early 90's - probably about 1993/1994

Who brought you along to the game, or introduced you? I grew up in a household that didn't really have football at the heart of it. It was my uncle Dave who properly got me into following the Mariners.

How big a part of your life is football? Football is an incredibly large part of my life, pretty much everyday of the week. Being at most home games has been part of the weekly ritual for many years, away games started in the 98/99 season after we

try and ensure we will be where we need to be comwre promoted via Wembley in one of the greatest seasons in living memory. My daughter plays football and Futsal so that takes up a number of evenings and a Sunday afternoon too.

How do you fit it into your family / working life? They are pretty much one and the same at the minute. The kids come first but they are massive Town fans so it's a balance that works for us.

What level of football do you most enjoy watching? Whichever level Grimsby Town are playing at. I've seen them at Championship level all the way down to the National League. You don't get the level of enjoyment if it's not your team you are watching - at least I don't anyway.

Do you follow any other team? Nope - only one team for me.

Are you confident the Mariners can bounce straight back into the EFL? Confident we will is a difficult one, and one that you'll not find many of us saying. I'm confident that the management team and players will do all that they can to try and ensure we will be where we need to be come the end of the season. We've certainly started in an *incredibly positive manner* but, as the manager will continue to say, there's nothing won in October.

Did you see it as a disaster when the team was relegated? No, I didn't see relegation as a disaster but that was because our takeover went through around the same time that last season finished. The feeling around the club and Town is certainly one of revitalisation and positivity

Haddock & quips after Barnet ban

Grimsby Town's fans became synonymous with inflatable fish after their infamous FA Cup trip to Wimbledon in the 1980s... bringing hundreds of blow-up haddocks



with them. But a few years ago came a funny twist when humourless Barnet tried to ban them from the Hive for a National League game, and Mariners fans instead brought hundreds of beachballs and the odd inflatable shark. When Grimsby scored a late winner one of the home stewards complained he had been 'hurt' by a supporter wielding a blow-up fish, and he was later fined at Willesden Magistrates Court. The fan said he was 'deflated' by the verdict.

WEALDSTONE 2021-22

Kristine (left) has been impressed by the athleticism of former Stone Michee Efete, celebrating his recent goal at Torquay below



of our Operation Promotion season in 2015-2016. I sadly don't have an original inflatable that became famous at Wimbledon in the 80's. Can't think there will be many of them about now!

Do you know anything at all about Wealdstone? I'll be honest: Not a huge amount. I know you're based in North-West London and have ex-Mariners Rhys Browne and Ira Jackson Jnr in your ranks.

Are you looking forward to visiting Ruislip? Yes I am. It's ground No.126 for me. Although it's on a Tuesday evening, it's half term so the kids can visit too.

How many supporters are likely to travel midweek? How many is a difficult one to answer - it's a new ground but it's a Tuesday evening in a very Southern league for us. That said, with the previously mentioned London-based exiles, I'd be

hopeful of 500-600 being there.

And is that mainly by coach? Is that organised by the club or supporters club? Most will travel independently - either by car or train/tube (if local). We'll have one coach making the long journey, which is organised independently by the superb Terry Hall. We do have a regular bus from our disabled fans too but it won't be making the journey this time.

Who are the players to look out for in the Grimsby line up? Good question!

Must be a nightmare for the opposition to decide who we're playing and who our main threat is! John McAtee has rightly caught the eye, but both Alex Hunt and Will Bapaga have really found their feet in recent games. One of our own, Harry Clifton, is playing well wherever it is he's asked to play. Ben Fox has taken his opportunity in the middle of the park with both hands and he's doing well. Then you've got our two centre halves who have been superb in recent games too. As for goals, they could come from anywhere, literally!

Has former Stones Michee Efete impressed since his transfer to Blundell Park? Michee has definitely impressed fans before his recent enforced absence after the sending-off. A really athletic player who likes to get forward when the opportunity arises. His goal away at Torquay shows exactly what he is capable of.

as oppose to doom and gloom. This is backed up by regular 6,000+ home crowds, incredible away numbers (which you'll see this evening) and a supporters trust that has more than doubled its membership.

What are the best things about being a Grimsby fan? For me it has to be feeling part of something. Feeling part of the club where you know the staff, where the players know you. It's travelling down to London, knowing full well there will be plenty of exiles based here that you'll meet up with and have a chat to.

How many inflatable fish do you possess?

I have two inflatable fish - I have the 2nd version, although I'm not sure when that came out, maybe early 2000's? I've also got the one produced as part

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On a cold, misty winter's night almost 50 years ago, we witnessed the start of the...

LEGEND *of* EGGLEITE

Wealdstone wait for clearance on a new striker

Wealdstone F.C. were desperately hoping on Monday that they would sign a new striker to play up front with Bill Byrne and George Duck against Bath City in the Southern League, Premier Division game at Lower Mead stadium tonight (Tuesday), writes Phil Sagden. I understand that the player has agreed terms with the Lower Mead club, after receiving offers from one or two other Southern League sides. I believe the player has had considerable experience with a leading European club. It has played leading amateur football in England for a long time.

He is a striker with considerable experience of playing against top clubs on the European circuit. He probably give

We come to football to be entertained, thrilled and excited - so when one player can conjure up all three emotions within ten minutes of making his debut it's not surprising his name lingers long in the memory.

Adriaan Gerard Eglite.

As regards an instant, unforgettable impact I don't think ANY Wealdstone signing in the intervening 47 years of my watching the Stones has come anywhere close. Seriously.

This was the situation: Six months earlier the Stones had gloriously won the Southern League Division One South but the Premier Division was different gravy... like comparing instant Bisto to Delia Smith with all the trimmings.

These teams full of ex-Football League pros were too clever for us, and three days after a gruelling 1-1 home draw with mid table Maidstone (on October 26, 1974) we were due to face high flying Bath City under the lights, again at Lower Mead.

I cycled back from school that afternoon, picked up my copy of the midweek Harrow Observer on the way and settled down to read the

Maidstone match report with a cup of tea.

My eyes flicked over to the preview of that night's game (pictured left). **'Wealdstone wait on clearance for a new striker'** said the headline. **'Wealdstone were desperately hoping to sign a new striker to play up front with George Duck and Bill Byrne against Bath City tonight'** said the opening paragraph. **'I understand the player has agreed terms with the Lower Mead club after receiving offers from two or three Southern League sides. He is a striker with considerable experience of playing against top clubs on the European circuit, and should give Stones the much-needed boost their attack needs'**.

Crikey! An experienced striker? Played at the top level in Europe?!

At the time, footballing legends George Best and Geoff Astle had turned out for Dunstable in our division, Derek Dougan was player manager at Kettering and Geoff Hurst would soon be pulling on the shirt for Telford. Who on earth had we signed? Johann Cruyff?!

I remember the bubbling excitement as me and my schoolmate Dave Heath arrived early, pushed through the Lower Mead turnstiles and eagerly went to buy a programme... and in the line-up page, wearing No.11



Eglite dazzles in his first few weeks at the Stones

WEALDSTONE 2021-22



Swedish defender Jan Olsson (in blue) thinks Cruyff is going nowhere



..but the Dutchman swivels and drags the ball between his own legs...



..leaving the experienced Olsson completely bamboozled as Cruyff...



..sprints into the area in the World Cup clash in the Summer of 1974. A few months later that move had arrived at Lower Mead!

was... Adriaan Eglite. Huh?

Dave and I exchanged glances. 'Never heard of him' we chorused and I flicked through the pages, which revealed that our programme printer had delayed production to squeeze in full details of our thrilling new signing.

"A big Wealdstone welcome to Dutchman Adriaan (yes, the spelling is correct) Eglite, who joins us from the international star-studded Ilford side which is currently making the running in the Isthmian League" gushed Programme Editor Colin Pope.

Since when did little old Ilford become 'international star studded'? was my first thought... but then I read on to see that Eglite had already scored 11 goals for the East London side, had actually turned out for the legendary Ajax Amsterdam side and was working as a slaughterman at a sausage factory down the road in Wembley, which made signing for the Stones a no-brainer.

"Oh well!" we said. "Let's see how good he is then. If he's Dutch and a winger he can probably pull off the Cruyff turn!"

Laughing, we made our way to the front of the Elmslie End just as the teams were coming out. Eglite wasn't quite what we were expecting, short and stocky and his bald head gave him a rather clownish appearance.

"He's definitely no Cruyff!" we laughed as the game kicked off.

Bath City had gone full-time that summer and were sixth in the table but with five games in hand on many of the teams above them. The Stones were 15th.

Bath dominated. Then John Henderson nicked the ball in midfield, looked up and sprayed his pass wide to Eglite, over by the dugouts in front of the main stand. It was his first touch.

The Bath right back, Paul Gover, moved across to tackle and threw out his left leg as our new no.11 went to slip the ball back to Henderson. But he'd gone! Gover was still looking inside as Eglite dragged the ball back towards the touch line in one fluid movement and was haring towards the packed Elmslie End as Gover gasped.

Bath were noted for their mean defence and muscular centre back Dave Edwards was having none of this - he sprinted across to help but was thrown by Eglite suddenly slowing down. Then the Dutchman accelerated again, leaving Edwards in his wake. We were on our feet and screaming now as Eglite veered into the box. Defenders

CONTINUED OVERPAGE

REWIND >>> ON THIS DAY CONTINUED

Scarrott, Smart and Tavener were straining every sinew to cover but Eglite simply looked up and arrowed the perfect cross towards the onrushing Duck and Byrne.

The Elmslie was set to erupt. But we hadn't reckoned without the teenage athleticism of Bath keeper Kenny Allen who somehow managed to paw the ball away and out of danger.

We were buzzing. The whole place was buzzing! "Did you see that! The Cruyff Turn! I've only seen that on telly before!" Just a few months earlier, Holland had lit up the 1974 World Cup - largely through the languid, mercurial skills of their playmaker Johan Cruyff - and his trick to bamboozle one of his opponents had been aped in every playground by every teenager across the globe ever since! And now we'd just seen it at Lower Mead!

Not that Eglite was finished there. He taunted the supremely well organised Bath defence and experienced right winger Alan Skirton, on the brink of retirement after 300 league appearances mainly for Arsenal and Blackpool, was unhappy at being ordered back to help out the hapless Gover.

But the tactic worked, to a degree. With Eglite double-marked there was more space for the speedy John Henderson out on the right wing and in a tight, end to end contest it was remarkable that the game was still poised at 0-0 going into the last ten minutes.

Then Eglite slipped the shackles. Another dazzling turn, out by the left touch line, saw him evade both Skirton and Gover to bang over another head-high cross - and the desperate Smart handled under pressure from the predatory George Duck.

The referee pointed to the spot and Bath seemed to have accepted that their fate was sealed on this extraordinary night.. but in another unexpected twist George (who had netted 20 out of 21 penalties the previous season) saw his hard low drive stopped to his right by the gangly 6ft 5in goalkeeper Kenny Allen.

George prided himself on either sidefooting the ball to the keeper's left, or banging it off his instep inside the keeper's right hand post ("either way, if you put it right in the corner there's no way he's going to save it" he says now) but this time Allen defied that logic by extending his right arm to the spot just inside the post that always



Eglite pounces to rifle in the second goal of his eight-minute hat trick in front of a 1,200 crowd against Tonbridge at Lower Mead in December 1974. Wow!

guaranteed a goal. As so it was we had to accept just a point from a goalless draw... and for once the talk all the way back to Harrow & Wealdstone station wasn't of the missed penalty, but the performance by our new No.11 Adriaan Eglite

There was genuine excitement at the Stones' prospects of zooming up the table with the Dutchman in the side. There were some perplexed looks when Harry O reporter Phil Sugden dubbed Eglite 'Coco' in his match report of the debut game (saying everybody around him in the main stand were taken with his 'clownish looks' and ability to clown around with the ball) because nobody in the Elmslie End ever called him that, and because it was rather disrespectful.

For Eglite was no clown. He was deadly either raiding on the left flank, or cutting inside for his trademark low right foot shots that brought him a dozen goals in that first season - including the memorable hat-trick scored against Tonbridge in just eight minutes of the first half in December that year.

That was the most rapid hat trick in Wealdstone history - since equalled by Jermaine Beckford (three in eight minutes against Enfield in April 2004) and Richard Jolly (three in eight minutes v Concord Rangers in March 2011, although those goals were split by the half time break).

Eglite's goals and mere presence saw the Stones right up to third place in the table by Easter 1975, probably capped by his perfor-



mance in the 2-1 win at eventual champions Wimbledon that secured Eddie Presland's side a notable league 'double'. We eventually finished eighth - not bad for a first season in that company - and we were expecting more of the same as the 75-76 season kicked off. But somehow - after a brilliant autumn - the Stones fell off a cliff around the Christmas period and Eglite did not escape the criticism as the blues only escaped relegation due to Dunstable going 'pop' and a flurry of late season wins under new boss Geoff Coleman.

One of them - and Eglite's last appearance for the Stones, came off the bench at Weymouth in April when we recorded our only away win of the season. And that was after keeper John Morton had to leave the field concussed in the first half and defender Willie Watson took over the gloves. We didn't have a left-back so 'Coco' Eglite filled in for what was probably his first-ever career appearance as a No.3... and we kept a clean sheet in the 2-0 win!

So you can see why the stocky Dutchman has lived long in the memory despite those days receding into the

dubs the new man "Coco"

distance with every successive season. And what happened to him, you're doubtless thinking?

Well, I'm afraid we just don't know. Even with the wonders of the internet there is no record of the subsequent moves of Adriaan Gerard Eglite.

There were rumours that he came to London after meeting an English girl, and there are records that an Adriaan Eglite was living in Blackpool in 2005-2007 with Linda Eglite. And we know that he left the Stones for Kingstonian in the summer of 1976, and in fact played **against** Wealdstone in the FA Cup 2nd Qualifying round in October that year (missing a couple of chances as Coleman's side won 2-0).

But there seems to be no history of an Eglite appearing for the famous Ajax club in Amsterdam - not for the first team anyway. But perhaps Adriaan was in the youth system and, perhaps, even played alongside the young John Cruyff in their formative years as the men were of similar ages.

Perhaps it was Eglite who invented The Cruyff Turn! Now that **would** be something...

'Coco' Eglite turns on his tricks for 'Stones'

By Phil Sugden

Wealdstone 0, Bath City 0

The Elmslie Road end fans are always quick to accept — or reject — any newcomer to Wealdstone's ranks. They could hardly have reacted more speedily or happily than they did on Tuesday evening when after only ten minutes they had provided new Dutch striker Adriaan Eglite with a nickname which I am sure will stick.

After the flying Dutchman had made two dazzling runs up the left which they had received with considerable applause, they duly noted his thinning hair and he was thereafter referred to as "Coco".

The late and famous clown would doubtless have accepted this as a tribute and one hopes that Mr. Eglite accepts the accolade the same way. The crowd took him to their hearts and loved him. I must add that I was duly impressed.

This former Ajax player, this season Iford's leading scorer with 11 goals, is a slaughterman by profession, killing pigs for one of the famous pork butchery firms.

He appears to be in the right business for he certainly slaughtered the Bath...

better form than in recent games. The back men looked steadier and with Chris Kinnear restored after injury there was much more linking and overlapping.

Fairclough did many brilliant, several silly things to remain something of an enigma. He has much ability but one would like to see him hitting those wonderful power drives which were a feature of his play last season. Only confidence is needed.

The fans are doubtless worried by the fact that only two points have been won from three successive home games. I have a feeling that the team has now turned the corner, got a bad spell out of their system and will start to turn on the style.

Wealdstone: Morton, Kinnear, Fulton, Burgess, McCormick, Godfrey, Fairclough, Henderson, Byrne, Duck, Eglite. Sub. Evans D.



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Finding my Great Uncle – Mark Hyde

The Football of Loos – Tony Robinson

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WEALDSTONE 2021-22

AWAY DAYS IN PICTURES



Saturday 23rd October 2021 - Bob Lucas Stadium
National League - Attendance 1024 (167 Stones)
Weymouth 1 -1 Wealdstone
Pictures - Jon Taffel



BY STEVE DUCKER



Random Sightings



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

Saturday 8 March 1980

LINE UP

1 Nigel Batch
2 David Moore
3 Kevin Moore
4 Joe Waters
5 Clive Wigginton
6 Dean Crombie
7 Mike Brolly
8 Kevin Kilmore
9 Kevin Drinkell
10 Bobby Mitchell
11 Bob Cumming
Sub: Tony Ford for Kilmore
Attendance
Attendance **9,032**

I first saw Grimsby in 1976-77 in the old division three. A relegation season. If anything it was a blessing in disguise - they returned in 1979 and by the time of this game, away at **Rotherham**, were chasing another promotion. Their travelling support reflected this, swelling the Millmoor crowd to more than 9,000, or almost 1,400 more than the combined attendance of the two Rotherham home games either side of it.

The match ended 0-0, and I can't remember much of it. At this distance it looks like a dour encounter both sides probably viewed as a good result, especially with only two points for a

win Seven weeks later, an identical outcome at Mansfield clinched Grimsby's promotion, and they wrapped up the title the week after that.

Grimsby's manager that season was George Kerr. His brother Bobby captained Sunderland in the 1973 FA Cup Final, where they famously beat Leeds with a goal by Ian Porterfield, who was now the boss at Rotherham.

Easter Monday 4 April 1983

In May 1981, **Rotherham** succeeded Grimsby as champions, and the following seasons provided the backdrop to my two, and so far only, visits to Blundell Park. They were almost identical. Same score, same scoring sequence, same conspicuous absence of glorious seaside weather.

For Grimsby, 1982-83 was bizarre. They took 19 points from the first seven games, and after beating Leicester 2-0 in mid-February were still firmly in the promotion battle. Then it all fell apart, they won none of their last 14, and only just avoided the drop.

They must have fancied themselves for this one, though. Rotherham hadn't won since New Year's Day and had sacked manager Emlyn Hughes two weeks before this game. If Grimsby needed any more motivation, ex-gaffer George Kerr had replaced Hughes.

Predictably, Joe Waters - who I'd seen on Match of the Day around the time it was

LINE UP

1 Nigel Batch
2 John Stone
3 Bob Cumming
4 Joe Waters
5 Mike Saxby
6 Kevin Moore
7 Tony Ford
8 Kevin Kilmore
9 Kevin Drinkell
10 Phil Bonnyman
11 Andy O'Dell
Sub: Dean Crombie for Stone
Attendance **7,117**



WEALDSTONE 2021-22

GRIMSBY TOWN



broadcast at 9pm because of the three-day week - put the Mariners in front. But the visitors conjured up two stunning goals from Kevin Arnott and Joe McBride to take the points. The immutable law of the ex-manager at work.

Monday 5 May 1986

Another Monday, an evening kick off at **Blackburn Rovers'** Ewood Park during my student years in nearby Preston. The game was scheduled for the previous Saturday, the final one of the season, but was rained off at lunchtime. I felt gutted for the Grimsby fans who had travelled. With all day drinking still two years away they couldn't even make a decent afternoon of it.

Blackburn had gone up with Grimsby in 1980 and looked more at home since missing promotion on goal difference in 1981 and messing up a seemingly nailed on top three place four years later. Now, however, they were staring relegation in the face, and needed one more win to be sure of survival. They exploded into life with Simon Garner - later of this very parish - scoring in the first minute. But if Grimsby were already on the beach, it didn't show and Kevin Moore levelled with just five minutes gone.

However, two Rovers midfielders wrapped things up. David Hamilton - at 5 foot 8 inches not as diddy as his Radio 1 namesake but not tall enough to join the police after retirement either - struck before half time and Simon Barker put the game to



LINE UP

- 1 Nigel Batch
 - 2 Phil Bonnyman
 - 3 Andy Moore
 - 4 Andy Peake
 - 5 Mike Lyons
 - 6 Kevin Moore
 - 7 Gary Henshaw
 - 8 Neil Matthews
 - 9 Gordon Hobson
 - 10 Neil Robinson
 - 11 Bob Cumming
- Sub: Chris Grocock for Cumming
Attendance **7,600**

bed after the break.

The following season, which ended Grimsby's seven-year second-tier stay, saw the introduction of promotion and (briefly) relegation play offs. Until 1986, there always seemed to be teams who played their last match halfway into the cricket season, and the fixture list couldn't care less. Now everyone would have to finish at the same time.

Saturday 5 January 2019

Who says the FA Cup is dead? On this third round day I saw two games that, helped by some seriously dynamic pricing, pulled in nearly 80,000 fans between them.

Five hours after West Ham hosted Birmingham City, I was at **Crystal Palace v Grimsby**. The Mariners' backing was monumental - 5,933 away fans in a crowd of 19,967 for a 400-mile plus round trip, a 5.30 kick off, and little chance of getting home before midnight. The prospect of a result on the pitch soon fell into the remote

category as well, as Town were reduced to 10 men within three minutes, a lunging tackle by Andrew Fox eventually receiving the ultimate sanction. I say 'eventually' because, with this game taking place at a Premier League ground, VAR was in operation. And Fox's red card became the first one I had seen in person to be issued without the on-pitch officials making their minds up for themselves.

To their credit, Grimsby stood up to the inevitable one-way traffic, and it was the 87th minute when Jordan Ayew scored the decisive goal.

One final happy memory of the evening. Grimsby turned out in black and white stripes. When away teams routinely change from non-clashing kits for reasons ranging from commercial to just plain confusing, it was a homely, and for me, welcome touch. The FA Cup might have rediscovered some magic that weekend, but the wider game was still suffering death by a thousand cuts. And at times like that you cling on to every scrap of comfort blanket you can find.



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 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	Kevin Smith
 BARNET Saturday, 13th November Vanarama National League	In memory of Derek Munday	Paul Gbogidi

WEALDSTONE 2021-22



MATCH

BALL DONORS

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 MAIDENHEAD UNITED Sunday, 26th December Vanarama National League	In memory of Roy Couch	Mike Pullin & Graham Clark
 YEovil TOWN FC 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
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 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, 1st May Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here

WEALDSTONE 2021-22

Appearances

2021/2022 FIRST TEAM, up to & including 9/10/2021

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

	VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE			FA CUP			FA TROPHY			TOTALS			WFC CAREER		
	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G
Barker, Charlie	3									3			3		
Bird, Jay	2	1								2	1		2	1	
Browne, Rhys	4	3								4	3		4	4	
Buse, Matt	1	5								1	5		1	5	
Cawley, Jack	5									5			32	5	2
Charles, Ashley	9	1								9	1		42	12	
Cook, Jack	11									11			11		
Cooper, Charlie	11		1							11		1	11		1
Dyer, Alex	7	1								7	1		157	17	35
Elefteriou, Andrew	11									11			11		
Elito, Medy	5	4	1							5	4	1	5	4	1
Fasanmade, Craig	3	4								3	4		3	8	1
Jackson, Ira	2	2	1							2	2	1	2	2	1
Lewis, Dennon	9	2	1							9	2	1	86	8	19
Mundle-Smith, Jaydn		1									1			1	
Okimo, Jerome	7									7			236	5	8
Stevens, Connor	1	1								1	1		81	2	8
Tavares, Nikola	6	1								6	1		7	1	
Umerah, Josh	10	1	6							10	1	6	10	1	6
Wickens, George	11									11			11		
Wishart, Dan	3	2								3	2		12	9	



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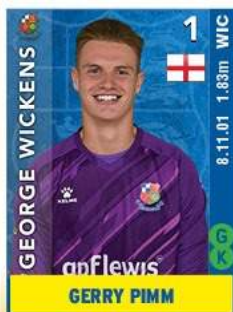
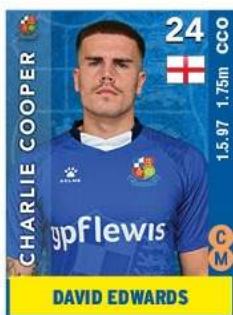
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KEY

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 CB = Centre Back
 RB = Right Back
 LB = Left Back
 DM = Defensive Midfield
 RM = Right Midfield
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WEALDSTONE 2021-22

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WEALDSTONE 2021-22

**Saturday
13th November
3:00pm**



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

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23rd November
7:45pm**

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3:00pm**

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**Saturday
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3:00pm**



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**Saturday
18th December
3:00pm**

FA TROPHY 3rd ROUND

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

Vanarama National League 2021/2022 – @24th 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	12	9	2	1	27	11	6	6	0	0	18	4	6	3	2	1	9	7	16	29	
2 Chesterfield	12	7	4	1	24	11	5	3	2	0	12	7	7	4	2	1	12	4	13	25	0-2
3 Boreham Wood	12	7	3	2	18	11	6	4	2	0	9	3	6	3	1	2	9	8	7	24	
4 Halifax Town	12	7	2	3	20	11	6	5	0	1	14	5	6	2	2	2	6	6	9	23	
5 Bromley	10	7	1	2	23	12	6	5	0	1	15	4	4	2	1	1	8	8	11	22	
6 Dagenham & Redbridge	12	7	1	4	27	16	6	4	1	1	20	10	6	3	0	3	7	6	11	22	2-2
7 Solihull Moors	12	6	4	2	18	15	7	4	2	1	14	9	5	2	2	1	4	6	3	22	0-0
8 Notts County	12	6	3	3	22	16	6	4	1	1	11	10	6	2	2	2	11	6	6	21	2-3
9 Altrincham	11	6	1	4	20	15	5	4	0	1	12	6	6	2	1	3	8	9	5	19	1-0
10 Stockport County	11	5	2	4	10	13	5	2	1	2	4	7	6	3	1	2	6	6	-3	17	
11 Wrexham	10	4	4	2	15	11	4	2	2	0	4	2	6	2	2	2	11	9	4	16	
12 Woking	10	5	0	5	20	14	4	2	0	2	6	5	6	3	0	3	14	9	6	15	1-2
13 Eastleigh	11	4	3	4	16	18	6	3	2	1	13	10	5	1	1	3	3	8	-2	15	1-2
14 Torquay United	12	4	2	6	18	22	6	3	0	3	10	10	6	1	2	3	8	12	-4	14	0-5
15 Maidenhead United	11	3	2	6	14	19	6	2	1	3	11	12	5	1	1	3	3	7	-5	11	
16 Yeovil Town	10	3	2	5	9	12	6	1	2	3	3	7	4	2	0	2	6	5	-3	11	
17 Wealdstone	12	2	5	5	11	19	6	1	3	2	5	6	6	1	2	3	6	13	-8	11	-- --
18 Barnet	12	2	4	6	13	25	6	1	2	3	4	12	6	1	2	3	9	13	-12	10	
19 Yeovil Town	12	2	3	7	14	24	6	1	3	2	7	8	6	1	0	5	7	16	-10	9	1-1
20 King's Lynn Town	11	2	2	7	11	20	6	0	1	5	2	8	5	2	1	2	9	12	-9	8	1-0
21 Southend United	11	2	2	7	7	19	5	1	1	3	5	10	6	1	1	4	2	9	-12	8	0-0
22 Aldershot Town	11	2	1	8	13	20	5	0	0	5	4	10	6	2	1	3	9	10	-7	7	2-2
23 Dover Athletic	11	0	3	8	6	22	6	0	2	4	2	6	5	0	1	4	4	16	-16	-9	



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HOW THEY LINE-UP TODAY

WEALDSTONE



Royal Blue/White/White

GRIMSBY TOWN

Red/Red/Red

G George Wickens 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 James McKeown G
Jack Cook 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Michee Efete
Dan Wishart 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	3 Adam Crookes
Ashley Charles 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	4 Ben Fox
Connor Stevens 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	5 Shaun Pearson
Jerome Okimo © 6	<input type="checkbox"/>	6 Luke Waterfall
Craig Fasanmade 7	<input type="checkbox"/>	7 Will Bapaga
Matt Buse 8	<input type="checkbox"/>	8 Giles Coke
Josh Umerah 9	<input type="checkbox"/>	10 John McAtee
Stephan Browne 10	<input type="checkbox"/>	11 Sean Scannell
Dennon Lewis 11	<input type="checkbox"/>	12 Ryan Sears
Andrew Eleftheriou 12	<input type="checkbox"/>	13 Ollie Battersby G
G Alfie Marigliani 13	<input type="checkbox"/>	14 Lenell John-Lewis
Connor McAvoy 14	<input type="checkbox"/>	15 Harry Clifton
Elijah Hearn 15	<input type="checkbox"/>	16 David Longe-King
Ira Jackson Jr 16	<input type="checkbox"/>	17 Sebastian Revan
Nikola Tavares 17	<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Erico Sousa
Alex Dyer 18	<input type="checkbox"/>	19 Max Wright
Zach Dronfield 19	<input type="checkbox"/>	20 Joel Grant
Medy Elito 20	<input type="checkbox"/>	22 Ryley Towler
Jay Bird 22	<input type="checkbox"/>	23 Luke Spokes
Jaydn Mundle-Smith 23	<input type="checkbox"/>	24 Jaz Goundry
Charlie Cooper 24	<input type="checkbox"/>	26 Alex Hunt
Tecane Shrowder 29	<input type="checkbox"/>	27 Harvey Tomlinson
	<input type="checkbox"/>	29 Ryan Taylor
	<input type="checkbox"/>	31 Evan Khouri
	<input type="checkbox"/>	32 Duncan Idehen
	<input type="checkbox"/>	33 Luis Adlard
	<input type="checkbox"/>	39 Edwin Essel

REFEREE Robert Massey-Ellis
ASSISTANTS Christopher Myatt
 and Hugh Gilroy **FOURTH**
OFFICIAL Joe Woolmer
OBSERVER Kevin Wright

MATCH SPONSORS 1) Rolfe East 2) ADW Connect Ltd
MATCHBALL DONORS Mike and Val Weston

NEXT AT THE VALE v BARNET Vanarama National League,
 Saturday November 13, kick-off 3pm
v STOCKPORT COUNTY Vanarama National League,
 Saturday November 27, 3pm

Main club
 sponsor:

gpflewis^{plc}



WONDERFUL! Stones' loan stars from Fulham were centre stage at Weymouth on Saturday.. keeper George Wickens making crucial saves and debutant defender Connor McAvoy scoring the equaliser

PICTURE:
 JON TAFFEL

Telephone:
 305 750
 Mobile:
 790 224

INSIDE
 IRA
 JACKSON
 THE BIG
 INTERVIEW