

WEALDSTONE

versus

DOVER ATHLETIC



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New Year!*



**SATURDAY JANUARY 15
2022, KICK-OFF 3PM**



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BY MARK HYDE



WEALDSTONE 2021-22

Written in Stone

Welcome back to The Vale for this afternoons vital National League clash with Dover Athletic.... It's been a while!

The ongoing Covid situation is proving difficult for clubs, and as Stuart points out in his notes extra difficult for a part time club at this level. That said, and considering the circumstances, the

teams performance against Boreham Wood was impressive and encouraging in equal measure. Lets hope we can get the second half of our season kick started today.

We have plenty of content in todays programme including the delayed festive World of Ball that was just too good to waste from the Maidenhead programme.

Mark

JOHN JEFFRESON (JJ)

It is with deep sadness that the club has learnt of the passing of long term supporter John Jeffreson, known to many simply as JJ at the age of 92. John was a long standing Stones fan who had so many great memories he shared, especially about the team of 1966. In his retirement JJ enjoyed helping with the ground improvements at The Vale, often putting many of us younger ones to shame with his hard work when it came to concreting. This programme contains a full tribute to John and we will be observing a minutes silence in his honour before todays game.

Our thoughts are with PJ, Simon and family at this sad time



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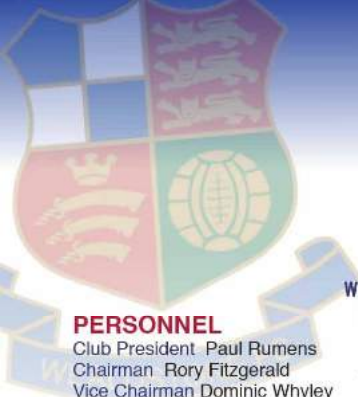


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WEALDSTONE

FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2021/2022

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MAJOR HONOURS SINCE 1950

LEAGUE TITLES

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

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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

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Football Club is Wealdstone
Football Club (2000) Ltd
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Shares in excess of 10% are
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Supporters Club**

GROUND REGULATIONS

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

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

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

2) No spectator ball games.

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

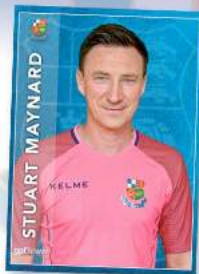
4) Vehicles parked on the Grosvenor Vale site are at the owners' risk.

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.

BY STUART MAYNARD

WEALDSTONE

From the Gaffer



Good afternoon and a warm welcome back to The Vale today.

We face Dover this afternoon and it feels like forever since we last had a home game to get excited about. Dover are a team who have had their problems as has been well publicised and although they've not picked up the points they'd have liked they are often losing by the odd goal. They've got an experienced manager and they have nothing to lose which is always a dangerous proposition.

Obviously the Needham Market game wasn't good enough, and as a team we all apologise to the fans for the first half performance. It was a typical cup tie where we made two mistakes defensively that we haven't made all season and gave them a two goal lead to cling on to. As poor as the first half was, the second half we created nine gilt edged opportunities and only took one, so even with the poor start we should still have won the game comfortably. The cup has a weird way of producing days like that though.

As disappointing as it was, and as much as it hurt all of us we can't lose track of where we are and how well we've done to this point. With the enforced break through Covid it's been a good time to reflect on how far we have progressed in a short space of time. At the end of last season we all just wanted a season where we were competitive and we have been much more than that. We've had some brilliant away days and we've also had days like the Barnet and Grimsby games that we've all enjoyed immensely at The Vale. At the back end of last season, if someone had said in January we'd be above teams like Southend and Maidenhead I would have bitten their hand off. What has also been pleasing is the manner in which we've done it. We've gained a lot of admiration and respect in this division because of our style of play and how much we

have dominated against huge teams in this division.

That will only help the club moving forwards because it's enabling us to be seen as a genuine National League team, rather than a team that's out of its depth.

It's been a frustrating last four weeks for everyone at the club because we've had to self isolate for the majority of that period. Since the Needham Market game we have only had one training session. We had to come straight out of isolation and into the Boreham Wood game, so we had no prep for that game and that's a huge ask for the players. On top of those issues we have had 6 main starters that were out for a variety of reasons so it certainly wasn't the ideal preparation. We are starting to feel like we are coming out the other side now and we're slowly getting our squad back to near full strength. We managed to get a very light recovery training session in on Thursday night in preparation for today's game but that only makes two training sessions in five weeks, so the quicker we can get back to normal the better.

A huge amount of praise needs to be given to the players because they have voluntarily committed to Zoom sessions over this period while they have been self isolating, so it shows you how dedicated and professional they are as a collective. Although we are a part time team we are gradually creating a full time mentality at the club which is vital for us going forwards.

There is a lot left to look forward to in this second half of the season and our objective remains the same. The squads only getting stronger and we need to secure our place and then slowly keep building on and off the pitch. Together we've had a huge amount of success in the last 3 years, and I believe we can keep defying the odds.

Stuart

HAPPY 18TH BIRTHDAY SAM

Our recent run of postponed fixtures coincided with the 18th Birthday of popular Stones fan Sam Acres.

Sam is an inspiration to many, born with cerebral palsy he has been through many operations and challenges in life but still carries on with a smile on his face. His sense of humour and strong mindedness is truly inspiring.

Sam and his family would also like to thank everyone at the club over the years who've supported Sam throughout his life and also to everyone who has donated money towards his new wheelchair.



BY SUDHIR RAWAL



The Elmslie Ender



We're just guessing, but maybe Sud wasn't in such a good mood when writing this week's column...

We like the FA Trophy at this club. Not many National League sides do. It's in our DNA.

A win in '85 and a couple of semi-final appearances means that we have had some success too. When the draw for the third round was made, with due respect to Needham Market, many were immediately wondering whether the Harrow Council game in February would have to be moved as it was a Trophy date.

Of course, football doesn't work that way. Let's be honest our performance, if that's what you call it, was abject in Suffolk, the first half particularly.

All the intensity and desire came from the team two divisions below, mid-table two divisions below as well. Two mistakes, one a slip when we'd given the ball away further up the pitch, led to us being two down and in the first half I am not sure we had a meaningful chance, one that tested the keeper. That's damning.

In the second half we were better (though we could not have been worse) but ultimately lacked quality when it came to sticking the ball in the net.

There were a few near misses, their keeper made a couple of good stops, there were a few blocks, some wayward finishing and we were out, just when we needed a morale-boosting win going into a vital Christmas period.

The worst thing was that you wouldn't have known whether there was a National League side out there.

Jez Albert kept referring to Needham as Wembley Market on the Podcast. Well, we were certainly Del-boyed and there was no lovely jubbly.

So, we add Needham Market to the pantheon of disastrous cup results of late: Biggleswade, Burgess Hill, Royston and Hayes and Yeading, Potters Bar, Darlington. We're not very good at this cup lark, are we?

The only bright spot of the day was the pre-match pub and even that had some buffoonery about it. The original establishment, The Swan, which was due to open at eleven refused to when the coach turned

up, so the landlady from the Rampant Arms across the road corralled the thirsty drinkers into her establishment, opening earlier than normal, getting more bar staff in and she was rewarded with a heaving, lively pub for a few hours.

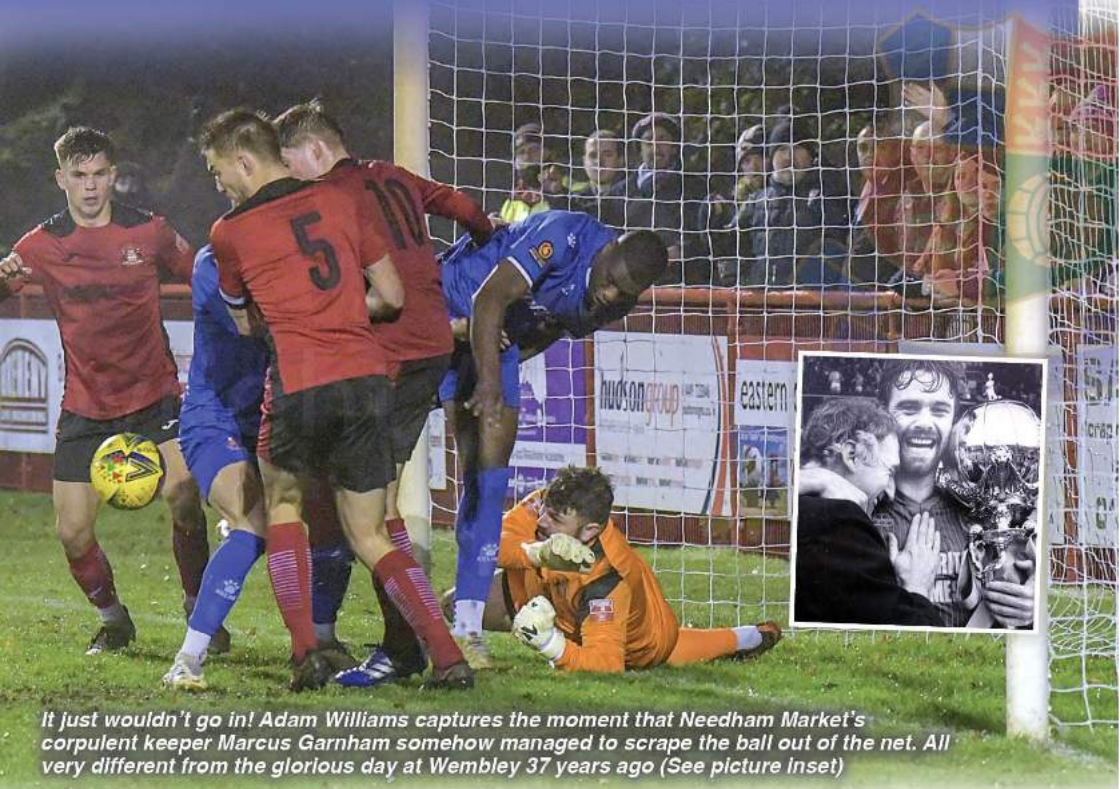
Better trade than a Saturday night and what a great place it was.

Of course we lost all of the games over the festive period due to Covid and more pertinently our inability to field teams due to unvaccinated players in our squad. We don't want to be in a world where people are compelled to be vaccinated and it should be something that is done of free will not compulsion, but the impact on football and on us every time someone comes into close contact with Covid could have a telling effect on our ability to play matches and the club's survival hopes at National League level.

● I was at the Chelsea v Chesterfield FA Cup tie at the weekend. There are a lot of Stones fans that have either Chelsea as their second team or as their main team with Stones as their second, - and you may not need me to tell you that had we beaten Dagenham, then Salford and finally the Spirites, the stars had aligned and it could well have been Wealdstone with six thousand fans in the Shed. One hell of a half and half scarf to buy!

● I am probably being a miserable old sod, but kids running on the pitch with signs to beg for shirts and other gear is becoming pathetic - all encouraged by parents of course. It was cute to start with, but now it's become a bore. Happened at Stamford Bridge in quick succession firstly v Spurs and on Saturday there were at least two maybe three that went on. One was rugby tackled by a steward.

Leeds United have said that they will be banning the parents. Good on them.



It just wouldn't go in! Adam Williams captures the moment that Needham Market's corpulent keeper Marcus Garnham somehow managed to scrape the ball out of the net. All very different from the glorious day at Wembley 37 years ago (See picture inset)



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BY TIM PARKS



THE STONES INTERVIEW

Connor McAvooy

Our Fulham loanee is with the Stones until the end of the season... and he's getting bigger and getting better with every game!

Connor McAvooy made an instant impact for the Stones when he scored on his debut at Weymouth - but the young centre back was quite offended when I asked if that was a rarity!

"That was actually my fourth goal of the season" said the Fulham loanee, a bit miffed. "I've scored two headers and a penalty for the under-23s... although to be honest, when I played one game back with Fulham last month when Wealdstone didn't have a game, we won 2-1 at Burnley but I missed a penalty!"

I had a quick look at the video of that game (the week Stones had a free Saturday due to being knocked out of the FA Cup) and Connor was imperious for the whole 90 minutes. As skipper, he stepped up to take the late penalty with Premier League 2 (Div 2) leaders Fulham already 2-1 ahead but was denied by a spectacular save from Burnley keeper Sam Waller.

More a save than a miss in my book!

19 year old Connor has been a terrific loan capture from the excellent Fulham set-up, and an ever-present in the Stones side since his debut in the 1-1 draw at



Weymouth on October 23.

We were on a losing streak, but the youngster's key conversion of Charlie Cooper's second half free kick put us back on track. He featured in the wins over Grimsby, Barnet and Dover that hoisted Stones up the National League table and has noticeably grown in stature as the weeks have passed.

"I definitely feel that I'm improving with the physicality and intensity of this league- it's very different from under-23s football. And I think I'm still growing - I'm 6ft 11in now and I'll get physically stronger too. Though not too big to be able to get off the ground!" he said.

Connor reads the game so well, soaks up the advice from Jack Cook and Jerome Okimo and is now out-jumping 6ft 4in National League strikers. While his tackle to deny Barnet's Ephron Mason-Clark in the knife-edge game at the Vale is now the stuff of legend.

"I've always been a defender" says Connor, who has been capped by Scotland at youth level.



Playing for Fulham...

Jon Taffel captures Connor after his debut game at Weymouth



Above: Connor (far left) directs Charlie Cooper's freekick past the Weymouth keeper for a debut goal ... and (below) he sees his penalty for Fulham's under-23s saved by the Burnley keeper a month ago



"I've enjoyed playing at full back because you can get forward, but tackling and destroying are what I do best".

He was brought up in Staines, where he still lives, and first played for the Staines Town grassroots side at the age of 7 before being scouted by Fulham when he was nine.

"It wasn't a hard sell because my family are Fulham fans!" he laughed. "So it's a bit of a dream for me to be playing for the club - like George (Wickens) whose family are Fulham fans too".

Connor's dad Peter played for Farnborough in the Hampshire club's conference days, and his 12 year old brother James is in the QPR academy.



What's been the highlight of his time at Fulham? "I'd say, probably when I was playing in the FA Youth Cup at Manchester City, and facing a front three who were worth about £20m between them. Plus the rest of the talent they had in that team. I thought I did pretty well against them and that felt good".

So what's the scheme of progression now? "We'll, this is my first loan and, like George says, it's the best thing I've ever done. I'm keen to stay at Wealdstone as long as they'll have me - my loan spell has now been extended to the end of the season... and then I imagine I'll have more loan clubs, probably in the EFL. And then with a bit of luck I can establish myself in the first team squad, wherever."

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TRIBUTE TO JOHN JEFFRESON

Remembering the quirky, outspoken, strong-as-an-ox JJ... a lifetime of devotion to Wealdstone FC and his own fanatical family

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

We seem to have lost a lot of dyed-in-the-wool Wealdstone folk in the last year or so. Genuine fans who have spent a lifetime on the terraces watching the Stones.

John Jeffreson, who died last week at the age of 92, also gave us the gift of his sons Phil and Simon who are ardent supporters - as well as his first born, Chris, who passed away at a tragically young age (29) back in 1983.

JJ is probably best remembered most recently for his sterling help in transforming Grosvenor Vale into a stadium fit for National League football. For a man in his 80s it was astonishing and inspirational!

JJ had a long life and was loved and respected. And that's all we really want for ourselves.

We asked his son Phil (PJ) to give some more details about his dad's life following the Stones...

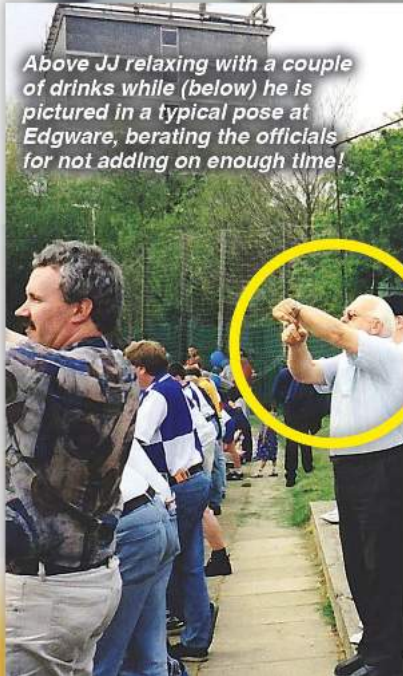
When was your dad born PJ?
Dad was born in London on December 17th 1929

What did he tell you about his early experiences watching Wealdstone? He would tell me the score when he got home from the game, but I don't think I took too much notice until he took me to my first game when I was aged

11 on the 4th May 1974 when Wealdstone played Trowbridge (a match remembered for its gold programme cover as we celebrated winning the Southern League Division One title). Though I think I spent most of the match playing football behind the Elmslie Stand with some other kids. Simon (my younger brother) remembers his first game being in the early 80's when we played Enfield at home - that was when he got the Wealdstone bug at the age of 12.

Who did he watch games with in those days? I am sure dad in the early years would stand with Barbara Robson up by the supporters club shop at Lower Mead. In later years Dad would be with myself, Martin Allen & his wife Syl - then in his later years he would sit in the now-named Elmslie Stand next to the social club.

What was your life like growing up? As a family my Mum (Marjorie), Dad, Simon and me lived in Harrow, followed by



Above JJ relaxing with a couple of drinks while (below) he is pictured in a typical pose at Edgware, berating the officials for not adding on enough time!

BY HIS SON PHIL (PJ)

WEALDSTONE 2021-22

Wealdstone, and then Harrow Weald so it was always easy to get to games.

Did JJ take you to watch other clubs? Only Wealdstone.... he was an Arsenal / England fan but only from the armchair.

Where was he working and when did he retire? Dad took early retirement at the age of 62 after 45 years loyal service as a Bus Mechanic at London Transport. Once he retired he got more involved in working as a hobby on the Routemaster bus RM737 which he co-owned with a number of friends - they took the bus up and down the country where they won countless awards.

He also spent a bit more time at bingo and also, as documented, down at the ground working on ground improvements. Plus he was involved in the publication of LOTS (London Omnibus Traction Society)

Where was he living most recently? Dad moved to Hemel Hempstead with Mum in August 2019, but after Dad contracted Covid flu and Pneumonia in December 2020 they then moved to the Highview Care home in January 2021 on a permanent basis.

What did Wealdstone FC mean to him? Watching Wealdstone was a big thing to Dad and I certainly think he passed that on to me. But he handled defeat much better than I did! However, he never missed an opportunity to

lambast the referee as he always blamed them for anything that went wrong on the pitch :)

Did he have any heroes among the players? What was his favourite era? Dad always spoke highly of the sides in the 60's and his favourite player without doubt was Hugh Lindsay - Dad would tell me constantly how he could score from 100 yards out! He always spoke highly of Eddie Dilsworth too, John Childs and he was a big fan of John Watson, George Duck, Stuart Pearce, Fred Barwick, Paul Bowgett, Alan Cordice from the 70s and 80s... and much more recently Jon North.

Did he mention his favourite games and great memories of the past? The games he spoke about most was the 1966 FA Amateur final, playing at Torpoint (Cornwall) in 6 ins of mud, but the game he spoke about most was the FA Cup match v Stevenage in 1965 where the Stones were 5-3 down with seven minutes to go but won 6-5 with one of Hugh Lindsay trademark 35 yard free kicks.

His other favourite games / away trips were Cambridge United away in the FA Trophy, Hereford away in the FA Cup... while the one that always brought a smile to his face was our trip to Douai in France in the mid-1980s with Martin Allen and his dad who drove us to France and back. What a trip - and God did we drink and eat on that weekend! (See next page for more recollections of that trip).

Did he ever play the game himself? Or any other sports? The Jeffreson Family playing sport never really took off - other than my own illustrious career playing Sunday League for SFC Wealdstone and also Rickmanworth Sports.

Does he have any grandchildren? Dad had three sons: CJ from his first marriage to Margaret, and then myself and SJ with his second wife Marjorie. Chris Junior is the son of CJ who himself now has three sons, giving JJ three great grandchildren. Me and my wife Jackie have two children,

CONTINUED OVER PAGE



TRIBUTE TO JOHN JEFFRESON CONTD

Stuart and Laura, so two more grandchildren. Simon is still waiting for Mrs Right!

What was JJ's footballing philosophy do you think?

Dad enjoyed winning at football, But he had very little time for playing out from the back! When I showed him some of the recent match highlights he almost blew a gasket; and I do remember (as does Martin Allen) Dad shouting "Stop messing about and get the f*****g ball forward!

What did he teach you about football and life?

Dad led more by example really as he never had a day off sick from work, and when I was very young and Mum was at home with Simon and myself he worked two jobs to make ends meet. We learnt at an early age that we would have to wash cars and do paper rounds to earn any extra money - and that without doubt helped us to grow up quickly.



AMONG the many tributes to JJ on the **Stonesnet Forum** was this one from Peter John-Baptiste...

RIP JJ - What a guy!

Strong as an ox. I remember back in 2008 when we were getting the ground ready in our first season at the Vale concreting next to the players tunnel. I was leaning over at an angle of about 30 degrees smoothing the concrete as he stood behind and held onto me one handed by my belt. I had compete trust in him that I wouldn't go face first into the concrete because, boy, was he strong. He was 78 at the time.

Wealdstone stalwart.
My condolences to PJ and SJ and the rest of their family



My three favourite memories of JJ

Stones superfan MARTIN ALLEN recalls some wonderful times..

1 The day he was stopped by the police, driving home from Wealdstone (after the 1982 Ashford match when we won the Southern League and been in the bar celebrating all evening) ..as the officer was about to breathalyse him he got a more urgent call and had to just let him off!

2 The day JJ drove us to Northwich for an away game. He was a continuous smoker in those days and as JJ was filling up with fuel at The Dome roundabout in Watford on the way home after a three hour drive I said 'I don't know how JJ has manage to go so long without a

cigarette' - and as we looked out the car window he had the petrol hose in one hand filling up and a fag in the other.

3 I don't personally remember this, but he always used to tell the tale of our trip to Douai to watch the exhibition game against Wealdstone . My dad had filled the car completely with secretly-hidden alcohol, wine and cheese. *He would tell the story of how on the way back we got stopped at the border by the police who looked through the car but didn't find (or smell) anything unusual so let us go, and as we did, I did a 'wheelie' away from them on the gravel. I am sure he made that up but he just loved telling the story!*

OFFBEAT CORNER

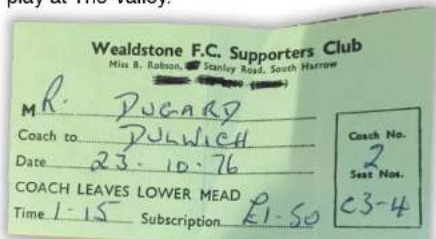
THINGS WOT WE LIKED THIS WEEK 2

You may have noticed that the internet is chock full of funny items at the moment. It's amazing that we're not minded to spend more time on our phones isn't it?

Anyway, hopefully you've not see these already but one of the more obscure offerings was discovered by Stones fan Mick Fishman last week as he was perusing a site devoted to old Brentford players (as you do).

The thoughts of the Bees fans turned to Hounslow FC, who were a famous amateur side of the 1960s and even played against Wealdstone in the Southern League as recently as the early 1980s. And then someone recalled that Hounslow had a goalkeeper called Geoff Hounslow back in the 1950s. How confusing was that? Very confusing as it turned out - apparently some of the away programmes only printed ten names as they presumed that 'Hounslow' was the name of the team

rather than the goallie. It got us thinking about other players who had the same name as their team. And we couldn't come up with any... shame that Alan Sunderland (Arsenal striker of the 1970s/80s) never fancied a move to the North East, or Bobby or Jack Charlton never expressed a desire to play at The Valley.



Just a few weeks after we'd published the 'Fan in the Stand' of Barbara Robson - doyenne of the Supporters Club and travel secretary back in the 60s and 70s - Nick DuGard posted this pic of one of the iconic green coach tickets from 1976. £1.50 is worth about £11.50 today... it's a bargain! (and we won this FA Cup tie 2-0)

WEALDSTONE 2021-22

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|---------------------------------------|----|---|--|
| (Red & Yellow Stripes / Black Shorts) | | (Purple & Green Stripes / White Shorts) | |
| Saunders, Barry | 1 | Smith, Josh | |
| Rankin, Thomas | 2 | Bootsoss, Florida | |
| Francis, Dane | 3 | Gold, Harry | |
| Cole-Dixon, Gavin | 4 | Best, Troy | |
| Andrews, Scott | 5 | Davies, Trevor | |
| Rodriguez, Kennedy | 6 | Connor, Joe | |
| Eke, Peter | 7 | King-Patrick, Patrick | |
| Smith, Garry | 8 | Crisp, Vaughan | |
| Henderson, Brett | 9 | Brown, Geoff | |
| Igochukwu, Aguma | 10 | Jaddy, Astra | |
| Taylor, Robbie | 11 | Farse, Az | |
| Notes: | | | |
| Shawlin, Brian | 12 | Cherriesman, Kye | |
| Rankins, Paul | 13 | Green, Robbie | |
| Kingsley, Todd | 14 | Eaton, Franny | |
| Jones, Richard | 15 | Headings, Jackson | |
| Green, Andrew | 16 | Lalorng, Wolfgang | |

Now, this can be viewed as rather juvenile (which it is) but what a bizarre claim by Streatham Rovers who claim that bitter local rivals Sydenham had arranged their team in the line-ups to spell out a rather rude word. How likely is it that Sydenham could form that phrase out of their available players... especially to have only one one player 're-arranged' to spell it out? So we don't believe it.

But what a wizard wheeze if it's true!



Streatham Rovers FC
@StreathamRovers

Here's the teamsheet for tonight's game and we are absolutely furious because Sydenham have fielded their players to spell out "SRFC ARE SHIT". We know this for a fact because Dane Francis, a striker, is wearing number 3. Hope the league committee throw the book at them for this.

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Opposition in focus

DOVER ATHLETIC

THE WHITES

Dover Athletic F.C. was formed in 1983 after the town's previous club, Dover, folded due to its debts.

The new club took Dover's place in the Southern League Southern Division, with former Dover player Alan Jones as manager and a team consisting mainly of reserve players from the old club. Initially Athletic struggled, finishing second from bottom of the table in the 1984–85 season. In November 1985 Steve McRae, who had succeeded Jones a year earlier, was sacked and replaced by Chris Kinnear.

Under Kinnear the club's fortunes turned round, with two top-five finishes followed by the Southern Division championship, and with it promotion, in the 1987–88 season. The team started strongly in the Premier Division, finishing in sixth place at the first attempt, and then winning the championship in the 1989–90 season. The club was denied promotion to the Football Conference, however, as the Crabble Athletic Ground did not meet the standard required for that league. After finishing fourth and second in the subsequent two seasons, Dover won the title again in the 1992–93 season and this time were admitted to the Conference.

Although Dover finished in eighth place in their first season in the Conference, the following season saw the club struggling against relegation, and Kinnear was dismissed due to a combination of the team's poor performances and his own personal problems. John Ryan was appointed as the club's new manager, but his reign was a short one and he was dismissed when the club lost seven of its first eight matches in the 1995–96 season. The club



Dovers 5,745 capacity Crabble Athletic Ground

then appointed former England international Peter Taylor as manager, but he was unable to steer the team away from the foot of the table, and Dover held onto their place in the Conference only because Northern Premier League runners-up Boston United failed to submit their application for promotion before the required deadline.

Bill Williams took over as manager in 1997 and led the club to the FA Trophy semi-finals in the 1997–98 season and a best league finish to date of sixth place in the 1999–2000 season. Williams left the club to take a senior position with Conference rivals Kingstonian in May 2001. By now the club was in severe financial difficulties, with a number of directors resigning and debts exceeding £100,000. Amid the crisis the entire board of directors resigned,

forcing the club's Supporters' Trust to take over the running of the club and manager Gary Bellamy was sacked after just six months in the job. Former Everton goalkeeper Neville Southall took over but was dismissed just three months later, with



WEALDSTONE 2021-22



Pic. Geoff Hall

Clive Walker taking over in March 2002 with the club rooted to the foot of the table. The club finished the season bottom of the Conference and was relegated back to the Southern League Premier Division. The club's ongoing financial problems led to it entering a Company Voluntary Arrangement (CVA).

In Dover's first season back in the Southern League Premier Division the Whites finished in third place, albeit 17 points adrift of Tamworth, who claimed the one promotion place available that season. A poor start to the following season saw Walker replaced by Richard Langley. Dover finished the season in 19th place, before being switched to the Isthmian League Premier Division in the summer of 2004 following a re-organisation of the English football league system. The new season started with six successive defeats, which saw Langley sacked, and the financial problems continued, with the club coming within two months of being closed down. Dover were relegated to the Isthmian League Division One at the end of the season but were saved from possible extinction in January 2005 when former director Jim

Parmenter returned to head up a consortium that took over the club. Parmenter quickly sacked manager Steve Browne and convinced Clive Walker to return to the club to replace him and also arranged for the club's outstanding CVA debts to be cleared, putting the club on a firm financial footing for the first time in many years.

Dover Athletic narrowly missed out on an immediate return to the Premier Division in the 2005–06 season, reaching the play-offs for promotion but losing out to Tonbridge Angels. The following season Dover again reached the play-offs but lost in the semi-final to Hastings United after which Walker did not have his contract renewed and was replaced by former Gillingham manager Andy Hessenthaler. In his first season in charge he led the club to the Division One South championship and promotion to the Isthmian League Premier Division. The following season Dover won a second consecutive championship and thus gained promotion to Conference South. In the 2009–10 season, Dover reached the play-offs for promotion to the Conference National but lost at the semi-final stage to Woking. The following season the club reached the third round of the FA Cup for the first time after wins over Kent rivals Gillingham in the first round and another League Two club, Aldershot Town, in the second round. In the 2012–13 season the club again reached the play-offs, but this time lost in the final to Salisbury City.

The following season Dover beat Ebbsfleet 1–0 to seal the club's return to the top flight of non-league football for the first time since 2002. In the 2014–15 season, Dover went on another FA Cup run, beating Morecambe 1–0 in the first round and Cheltenham Town 1–0 in the second, to reach the third round proper for only the second time ever. However, they lost 4–0 at home to Premier League side Crystal Palace. During the following season, the team qualified for the play-offs for promotion to League Two.

During the 2020–21 season, the team only played 15 fixtures and as a result, the club had all of its results expunged and was fined £40,000. In addition, the club was handed a 12-point deduction for the 2021–22 season.

WEALDSTONE'S RECORD v DOVER ATHLETIC

P 14 W 4 D 1 L 9 F 16 A 27

Opposition in focus

WHO'S WHO?



1. JOSH BEXON - GOALKEEPER

Former Southend United goalkeeper made the move to Crabble in August 2020. He first joined the Shrimpers in 2014 as a 15-year old, and then signed his first professional deal at the age of 18 in 2017. During his time with the Essex Club, Bexon spent six months on loan with Austrian club FC Kitzbuhel and a season with Harlow Town.

2. WILL MOSES - DEFENCE

Former Dover Athletic Academy defender who signed his first professional deal with the club in June 2021. The 18-year-old made two National League appearances last season, making his debut away at Stockport County last October.

3. SAM WOOD (C) - DEFENCE

Our captain re-joined the club in July. The 35-year-old left-back originally joined us in August 2020 after leaving fellow National League club Bromley. The former Brentford, Wycombe Wanderers and Eastleigh, defender made 15 appearances and scored two goals in his debut season for us. During his career, Wood has also done some body doubling for Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo in adverts.

4. TJ BRAMBLE- MIDFIELD

Former Gillingham midfielder who joined the club in August 2020 Bramble came through the youth ranks at Priestfield and signed his first professional deal with Gills in May 2019. While he was with Gills, TJ spent time on loan at Deal Town and East Grinstead Town. TJ has already made his international debut for Antigua and Barbuda in a 3-2 win over Bermuda in March 2018.

5. REDA JOHNSON - DEFENCE

Former Sheffield Wednesday, Plymouth Argyle, and Coventry City defender who joined as a player/coach in June 2021. The French-born former Benin international centre-back left fellow National League club Eastleigh in February 2020. He joined the Spitfires from Coventry City in 2016 and made 85 appearances for them, scoring nine times. Johnson played 88 games for Sheffield Wednesday, 43 for Plymouth, and 34 for Coventry, where he was captain during the 2014/15 season.

6. JAKE GOODMAN - DEFENCE

Former Millwall defender signed for club in June 2021. The 6ft 2in centre-back, who signed professional terms with the Lions in 2012, spent last season with National League South club Ebbsfleet

United after making the move across Kent from Bromley. He has plenty of National League experience to his name, having played a combined total of 117 games during time with Luton Town (loan), Aldershot Town (loan), Braintree Town, Maidenhead United, and Bromley. He's also played League Two football for AFC Wimbledon while on loan from Millwall.

7. KHALE DA COSTA - MIDFIELD

Winger who signed in June 2021 after leaving Tonbridge Angels in April. Da Costa joined the Angels in June 2019 from St Albans City and went on to make 46 appearances, scoring six goals. He started his football career in the academies at Fulham and Luton Town before going to play senior football at Ware Town, Hendon, Harlow Town, and Concord Rangers.

8. JAMES CATON - MIDFIELD

Winger who signed for us for a second time in June 2021. He originally joined us from Southport in February 2017 and scored two goals in two games in what were his only appearances for us. Widnes-born Caton started his career at Bolton before signing for Blackpool where he made two appearances in the Championship. He had loan spells at Accrington Stanley and Chester before signing for League One Shrewsbury in 2014. Further loan spells followed at Mansfield, Wrexham, and Lincoln City, where he scored three goals in 12 games.

10. BEN WILLIAMSON - FORWARD

Former Bromley forward joined us in June 2021. Williamson left the Ravens earlier the same month after joining them from fellow National League side Eastleigh in November 2019. He went on to make 52 appearances for our Kent rivals, scoring five times, including the goal that secured Bromley's play-off spot after beating Notts County 1-0. Williamson is no stranger to playing for Hess, having spent three years with the Spitfires, including when our manager was there. Williamson joined Eastleigh from Cambridge United in August 2017 and scored 19 times in 102 appearances. Apart from his time with Cambridge United, he's also played for AFC Bournemouth, Port Vale, and Gillingham.

12. ALEX GREEN - DEFENCE

14. MARSHALL WRATTEN - MIDFIELD

Former Dover Academy member who can play either in defence or on the left wing. As well as winning five trophies in his time

WEALDSTONE 2021-22

with Whites' academy, Wratten was also second top scorer and contributed the most assists during his final season with the set-up.

15. SETH TWUMASI - DEFENCE

Versatile defender who made the move to Crabble in June 2021 after spending the past three seasons with fellow National League Club Maidenhead United. Twumasi started his career at Chelsea and earned a professional contract with the Blues and he also represented England at u16s, u17s, u18s, and u20s level while on the books at Stamford Bridge. He can play anywhere across the defensive line or in midfield and he has played in the Football League for Yeovil Town, Peterborough United, Northampton Town, Dagenham & Redbridge, and Newport County.

17. TRAVIS GREGORY - MIDFIELD

Winger who earned himself a contract after impressing in pre-season ahead of the 2020/21 season. He spent time in the youth ranks at both Chelsea and Rangers.

18. HENRY WOODS - MIDFIELD

Midfielder who arrived on loan from Gillingham in July. Woods, who will wear the number 18 shirt during his time at Crabble, has made 13 appearances for Gills.

19. NOAH CARNEY - FORWARD

20. ADAM PARKES - GOALKEEPER

The 21-year-old goalkeeper is on a season-long loan from Premier League side Watford. He has played in the National League previously, playing the final eight games of last season for Barnet. A former England under-17 representative, Parkes joined Watford from Southampton in January 2019. He has been a regular Watford's under-23s team as well as travelling with the first-team squad and appearing on the bench during their successful promotion-winning campaign last season.

22. KOBY ARTHUR - MIDFIELD

Former Birmingham City midfielder joined us in August 2021. Arthur made 16 appearances in all competitions for Birmingham, including 12 in the Championship. Has also spent time on loan with League 2 Cheltenham Town and Lincoln City in the National League before Arthur joined Macclesfield Town and was a member of their National League winning team in the 2017/2018 season. He joined National League North side Kidderminster Harriers ahead of the 2020/21 season.

23. DANNY COLLINGE - DEFENCE

Former Colchester United centre-back signed

in July 2021. Collinge came up through the ranks at MK Dons and amassed more than 30 caps for England at Under-16, U17, and U18 levels, including playing in the U17 World Cup in 2015. Our new number 23 was in the same England Under-17 and U18 teams as Premier League stars, Liverpool's Trent Alexander-Arnold and Everton's Tom Davies. Collinge signed for League Two Colchester in June 2019 following a five-year stay in Germany where he was with VfB Stuttgart, playing for their under-19 and second teams.

24. HARRISON BYFORD - DEFENCE

25. RYAN HANSON - MIDFIELD

The midfielder made the move to Crabble a permanent one in July 2021 after playing seven times while on loan with us from then League One side Hull City last season. The 20-year-old, a former Dover Boys Grammar School student, joined the Tigers in the summer of 2019 after being released by Crystal Palace, where he had spent five years. He joined Palace after impressing while playing for the Dover Athletic under-13's in a Kent League tournament. Hanson started playing football for Dover Rangers when he was six and has also represented Dover District and Kent.

26. ALFIE PAVEY - FORWARD

44. ALEXIS ANDRE JR - GOALKEEPER

MANAGER - ANDY HESSENTHALER

Whites' Gaffer was appointed manager for a second time in October 2018. A combative midfielder on the pitch for the likes of Watford, Gillingham and Barnet, Hessenthaler had great success as Athletic's player-manager between 2007 and 2010, winning back-to-back promotions to take Dover from the Ryman South division to the Conference South. After ending the 2009/10 season as runners-up in the second tier of non-league, Hessenthaler returned to Gillingham as boss for two campaigns, steering the Gills to two consecutive eighth-place finishes in League Two. A third stint at Gillingham followed two seasons later, this time as assistant manager, a similar role he held at Leyton Orient the following year, before being made manager at Brisbane Road in 2016. Dismissed by the O's later that same year, it wasn't long before Hessenthaler was back in football, joining Eastleigh before the start of the 2017/18 season, initially as assistant manager, before taking over from Richard Hill as boss just eight months after joining the club. Hessenthaler left the Spitfires 15 games into the 2018/19 campaign to return to Dover following the departure of Chris Kinnear.

COACH - NICKY SOUTHALL

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|  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

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— Keith Davies, AFC Lightning

MATCH

SPONSORS



STOCKPORT COUNTY

Saturday, 27th November
Vanarama National League

AFC Lightning

Morty's Emslie Enders



FC HALIFAX TOWN

Saturday, 11th December
Vanarama National League

Harrow Windows



DOVER ATHLETIC

Saturday, 15th January
Vanarama National League

Ruislip Windows & Doors



NOTTS COUNTY

Tuesday, 25th January
Vanarama National League

Rolfe-East

Ruislip Windows & Doors



YEOVIL TOWN

Tuesday, 8th February
Vanarama National League

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MAIDENHEAD UNITED

Tuesday, 16th February
Vanarama National League

Osmo UK



WREXHAM

Saturday, 19th February
Vanarama National League

Union Athletic

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TORQUAY UNITED

Saturday, 26th February
Vanarama National League

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WEYMOUTH

Saturday, 12th March
Vanarama National League

Harrow Windows

Gerard Cook



BROMLEY

Saturday, 26th March
Vanarama National League

Rolfe-East

The Guild

In Memory of
Brian Kat Kelly



CHESTERFIELD

Saturday, 9th April
Vanarama National League

Harrow Windows

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

The Old Gits Club

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KING'S LYNN TOWN

Saturday, 7th May
Vanarama National League

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RESULTS 2021/2022

In Black = Started m

George WICKENS

Jack COOK

Andrew ELEFTHRIOU

Nikola TAVARES

Jerome OKIMO

Craig FASANMADE

Matt BUSE

Joshua UMERAH

Rhys BROWNE

| AUGUST | | Comp | Score | (Total) | (Away) | Lge | Goal scorers | George WICKENS | Jack COOK | Andrew ELEFTHRIOU | Nikola TAVARES | Jerome OKIMO | Craig FASANMADE | Matt BUSE | Joshua UMERAH | Rhys BROWNE |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|------|-------|---------|--------------------------------|-----|---------------------|----------------|-----------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|
| 21 | WOKING | VNL | 1-2 | 1,405 | 380 | 16 | Umerah | 1 | 2 | 12 | 17 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 28 | Chesterfield | VNL | 0-2 | 5,336 | 167 | 18 | | 1 | 2 | 12 | 17 | 6 | 7 | 8(18) | 9 | 10 |
| 30 | SOUTHEND UNITED | VNL | 0-0 | 2,151 | 800 | 18 | | 1 | 2 | 12 | | 6 | 7(10) | 9 | 10 | |
| SEPTEMBER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Dagenham & Redbridge | VNL | 2-2 | 1,735 | 170 | 18 | Umerah, Lewis | 1 | 2 | 12 | 17(34) | 6 | 7 | | 9 | 10(7) |
| 11 | ALTRINCHAM | VNL | 1-0 | 1,013 | N/A | 15 | Elito (Pen) | 1 | 2 | 12 | | 6 | 7(9) | | 9 | 10 |
| 14 | Notts County | VNL | 2-3 | 5,213 | 208 | 14 | Umerah (2) | 1 | 2 | 12 | | 6 | 7(9) | | 9 | 10(11) |
| 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 | 10(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(18) | |
| 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 | 1-0 | 1,892 | 794 | 16 | Buse | 1 | 2 | | 17 | 6 | 7(9) | 8 | 9 | |
| NOVEMBER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | BARNET | VNL | 1-0 | 2,662 | 672 | 16 | Browne | 1 | 2 | | 17 | 6(25) | | 8 | 9 | 10(16) |
| 20 | Wrexham | VNL | 0-0 | 8,592 | 194 | 17 | | 1 | 2 | | 17 | 6(17) | | | 9 | 10 |
| 23 | Dover Athletic | VNL | 3-2 | TBC | TBC | 15 | Sweeney (2), Umerah | 1 | 2 | | | 6 | | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 27 | STOCKPORT COUNTY | VNL | 1-4 | 1,382 | 132 | 16 | Jackson | 1 | 2 | | | 6 | | 8 | 9 | |
| 30 | Bedfont & Feltham | MCC2 | 1-2 | TBC | TBC | 16 | Jackson | | | | | | | | | |
| DECEMBER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Bromley | VNL | 2-3 | 1,747 | TBC | 17 | Umerah, Cook | 1 | 2 | | | 6 | | | 9 | |
| 11 | FC HALIFAX TOWN | VNL | 0-1 | 958 | TBC | 18 | | | | | | 6 | 7 | | | |
| 18 | Needham Market | FAT3 | 1-2 | 432 | TBC | 18 | Buse | | 2 | | | 6 | 7 | 8(5) | 9 | |
| JANUARY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | Boreham Wood | VNL | 0-1 | 1,298 | 171 | 19 | | | | | 17 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | |
| 15 | DOVER ATHLETIC | VNL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 | Woking | VNL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 25 | NOTTS COUNTY | VNL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 29 | Grimsby Town | VNL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FEBRUARY | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | YEOVIL TOWN | VNL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | Barnet | VNL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | MAIDENHEAD UNITED | VNL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19 | WREXHAM | VNL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 | Solihull Moors | VNL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 26 | TORQUAY UNITED | VNL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MARCH | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | Eastleigh | VNL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | Maidenhead United | VNL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | WEYMOUTH | VNL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19 | Stockport County | 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 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TO BE ARRANGED | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 | | | | | | | | | | | |

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

| 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 | Zach DRONFIELD | Jamie MASCOLL | Jayden SWEENEY | Alfie MARIGLIANI | William DENNIS | Sam SARGENT | Douglas TAYLOR |
|--------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-----------|------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| 11 | | | | 18(8) | 20(7) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | 24 | | 4(24) | 18 | 20(7) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | 24 | 3(11) | 4 | 18 | | 34 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11(3) | 24 | 3 | 4 | 18 | | 34 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | 24 | | 4 | 18 | 20(18) | 34 | 16(10) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | 24 | | 4 | 18 | 20 | 34 | 16(18) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 24 | | | 4 | 18(8) | | 16 | | | | | 23 | 14 | 25 | | | | | | | |
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| 24 | | | 4 | 18 | | 16(7) | | | 5(25) | | | | 14 | | 25 | 26 | | 21 | | |
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| | | | 4 | 18 | 20(7) | 16(25) | | | 5 | | 23 | | | | 25 | | | | 21 | 22(8) |



Above: We're back! Stones fans congregate in the away end at Boreham Wood for our first game of 2022 last Tuesday night. Picture courtesy of the Wealdstone FC Fans Twitter feed (@Wealdstone_FC)

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BY MARTIN READ



The World of *Ball*

Christmas-ish time, mistletoe and rhyme



"In the bleak midwinter,
Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron,
We all watch Wealdstone"

(Er, Happy New Year, everyone)



What's this, you ask, a piece in rhyme?
A change in tone for Christmas time?
Indeed it is, well spotted you;
I didn't know what else to do
OK, you say, but not so fast
Is this some ghost of Christmas past?
Who do you think that you will fool?
We've since moved on from tides of yule!

Yes yes, I say, that is well said
But this was meant for Maidenhead
It would have run on Boxing Day
Until the virus had its way
And as you'll see I'd worked quite hard
To style this like a Christmas Card
So could you please accept this rhyme
Pretending it's still Christmas time?

And so, ahem...

Festive tidings one and all!
I'm glad you've heeded Santa's call
And made your way into the ground
To cheer us on, to make your sound
To help the men in blue and white
Ensure our Boxing Day and night
Is one where we can wear a grin
And celebrate a famous win

Let's turn for now to this day's game
A "real six pointer"? That sounds lame
But in our mini league of teams
All fighting hard to keep their dreams
Alive within this National league
and fighting on through their fatigue
This is indeed a crucial match
(As was our win down on their patch)

We know that Wealdstone's boys won't fail
To entertain us at The Vale
Surely we'll today turn over
Hessenthaler's team from Dover
So that's the game, and fingers crossed
Those seaside boys are truly bossed
As we depart The Vale in glee
And Wealdstone take the points x three

But first things first, let's stop a while
To think of our club with a smile
To do what's done this time of year
And recognise why we're all here
It's cos so many of our fans
Are now the folk who make the plans
As tirelessly they plot our course
To make Wealdstone a local force

And those who volunteer their time
They too deserve space in this rhyme
The ground, the bar, the megastore,
The comms, the catering and more,
Without them we would not be here
So raise a glass, and raise a cheer
(They'll take a cup o' kindness yet
- and several more as well, I'll bet)

Our grand old club is on the up
(Well, in the league - not in the Cup;
In fact, in recent weeks we've seen
Of knock-out games we're not so keen
Amazing that our Trophy run
Is over just as it's begun
I wonder if we'll ever see
Another day at Wem-ber-ley?)



WEALDSTONE 2021-22



It's fair to say we've yet to fix
 A template for the perfect mix
 Of part-time squad at full-time pace
 And it's so hard to make the case
 To splurge the cash and thus be able
 To place higher in the table
 Careful balance must be struck
 Through skill and graft we'll make our luck

There is, no doubt, much we must do
 To win in Twenty Twenty Two
 I'm sure if your name's Stu or Matty
 It must drive you nearly batty
 Keeping a good squad together
 Endless games in every weather
 Staying up is such an ask
 But that's the job and that's the task

And look at what we can achieve
 If all of us truly believe
 Think of Barnet, Grimsby Town
 The players didn't let us down
 Of course we'll need more wins and draws
 If we're to stay the steady course
 And get to fifty points or more
 (We could need less, but let's be sure)

And lest we get all sad and glum
 Let's recognise how far we've come
 This quite amazing sporting trip
 We've had since settling in Ruislip
 The Isthmian League and Conference South,
 We won them both, so hush your mouth
 If ever you have cause to doubt
 What Wealdstone FC's all about

Remember, it could be far worse
 We could be suffering the curse
 Of watching Barnet at the 'Hive'
 And slowly feeling less alive
 But no, for us the mighty Stones
 Are in our blood and in our bones
 And how about the players who
 Will seek today to win for you?

At the front you can't say fairer
 Than our Joshua Umerah
 In defence just take a look
 At back-line brick wall Sir Jack Cook
 Between the sticks the plot it thickens
 Seeing shots saved by George Wickens
 In the middle, bringing fire,
 Montserrat man Alex Dyer

And what of ghosts from Christmas past?
 Whose exploits in our memories last?
 'Tis the season Richard Jolly
 Bagged a brace with Beckford when he
 scored against - well now, three guesses?
 (Clue: they play in red; hairdressers)
 Then a further six years later
 Two more Jolly goals past Borough**

What great Boxing Days those were
 And today I hope they spur
 This year's side to those same heights
 Underneath The Vale's bright lights
 Frankly we could do with winning
 'Fore our patience starts a 'thinning
 Come on boys please make it good
 No lame excuse of too much pud

Anyway, it's getting late
 Like Marmite you will love or hate
 The way I've structured these two pages
 (Have to say it took me ages)
 One last thought — is this game on?
 Or nixed again by Omicron?
 Perhaps this turgid verse of mine
 Is doomed until NEXT Christmas time...

*2005, we
 won 4-1
 **2011, we
 won 4-0

(Oh yes,
 and we beat
 Borough 5-1
 at their gaff
 on Boxing
 Day 2007)

WE'VE MET BEFORE



BY TIM PARKS

46 years ago: The 'Terrible Trilogy' as Stones faced Dover three times in ten days..and lost them all



Above: It's the third game of the trilogy (nose) fires in as Stones go down 3-4.

When you've been following a football team for over 50 years there are some wonderful highs and hellish lows.

How can you be a Wealdstone fan and not have woken up 'with a silly grin on your face' earlier this season (as fellow long-term addict Jon Taffel described it) after the 1-0 wins over Grimsby and Barnet (and Dover) launched the Stones into a comfortable place in mid-table?

Contrast that with the sort of lows that saw a desperate sequence of three defeats in 10 days against a Dover team - among the worst sides in the Southern League Premier Division - back in the mid-70s that I'm going to recount here. Yes, I know we're going back a long, long way. And yes, I know that that wasn't even the same Dover team, as 'Dover FC' was dissolved in 1983 (presumably for financial reasons) and quickly became the current 'Dover Athletic' in a heartbeat. Incidentally, it always puzzles me when historians insist that these 'new' clubs must be regarded as separate when they carry on playing at the same stadium, in the same league and with obviously the same fanbase, as in Dover Athletic's case.

Anyhow, back to 1976. I'm sure you want to hear a tale of misery just now that the Stones are back in the non-League 'big time'.

This Desperate Dover Trilogy would have been totally unexpected just a few months earlier as Eddie Presland's side, playing their

second season of Southern Prem football after a superlative 1973-74 had brought the Southern League Div One (South) title and thousands of new fans to our old Lower Mead Stadium. It was the birth of 'Elmslie' Mania when that stand at the top end of Lower Mead throbbed to the chants and pubescent delight of hordes of teenage fans - many of whom (including myself, obvs) are still regulars today.

A good first season in the Southern Prem, finishing eighth, saw Presland re-sign the entire squad for 1975-76 and it seemed vindicated when Stones were third in the league at Xmas, after a glorious run to the 1st Round of the FA Cup had ended in a seesaw 4-3 defeat at Third Division Aldershot.

But then the team went over a cliff. Not the white cliffs of Dover, not yet, but as supporters we were staggered by the sudden ineptitude of a Stones team that won just once in 19 games between December 20th and March 17.

So what happened? Luckily, I had the Wealdstone goalkeeper from those dark days, John Morton, alongside me in the live stream commentary box last season and was able to ask him that same question - something that has puzzled me for some 45 years.

"Well, when you look back on it it was a combination of things but chiefly, it was the fact that

Wealdstone at danger level?

WEALDSTONE'S cash crisis, which has forced them to off-load players intended as vital cogs in a Southern League championship chase, has reduced the first team squad to near danger levels, it was admitted this week, writes Phil Sugden.

In answer to growing alarm among fans provoked by the dwindling size of the Southern League club's first team squad, now pared to 14 professionals, Wealdstone's public relations officer Colin Pope confessed that the number of players "left something to be desired."

But, he added, the club simply hadn't the money to provide adequate cover.

The explanation may be of small solace to a number of fans who have written to this paper baffled by the departures of Vincent O'Kane and keeper Roy Mackenzie recently.

And many blame the club's recent slump on the cutbacks in playing staff.

With the departure of Mackenzie Stone now rely on amateur keeper Ray Bullen for cover and O'Kane's release to Isthmian League Kingstonsians means that Ray Fulton is the club's sole remaining left-sided midfielder.

It is known that manager Eddie Presland, desperate to improve on last season's promising showing, was poised to sign at least two players before the economy axe fell.

And latest signing Sammy McHale, who may be the last player to join Lower Mead for some time, was intended as the first of several new faces to bolster the club's championship ambitions and dream of Football League status.

Although 'Stones are only one of many Southern League clubs struggling to scrape enough money together to keep going they now have one of the smallest playing stiffs in the League.

"We take the point of your correspondence," declared Mr. Pope, "and agree that the numerical strength of the squad does leave something to be desired."

"Manager Eddie Presland feels the same but, alas, we are governed by available finances and regretfully the money just isn't available to provide the cover we would really like.

"Like everything else these days footballers are very expensive.

"Most clubs are in the same position of course. Many have had to prune their playing staffs," he added.



Bobby Moss (right, dark shirt) powers home Wealdstone's first goal against Dover

and Bobby Moss (recovered from a broken Right: The cash crisis and a fan's offer to help

we were very thin on the ground" said the 71-year-old John.

"We only had a squad of 14 or 15, and when Eddie Presland went to the board to ask for a couple of new players to get us back on track they said no. In fact, they told him he had to cut the budget! The club released my back-up keeper, Roy Mackenzie, and midfielder Vince O'Kane. It was all over the local papers so you can imagine that didn't help morale.

"And then you add in the fact that players routinely played with injuries in those days, so were often not really fit to play. I only heard about hamstring injuries, for example, since I stopped playing - in those days you had to actually break a bone to be unfit to play. In fact, in one of those three games against Dover you're talking about, John McCormick (our centre-half, ex-Palace) broke his leg and just carried on playing for a while until substituted!

"Presland saw him limping as he got on the team bus after the game and said 'Are you okay John?' and he just stamped his foot like an old racehorse and said 'Aye, I'll be right as

CONTINUED OVERPAGE

A quid a head for a player

Phil Sugden's column and his sports page story on the sad plight of Wealdstone surely made good sense to the supporters of the club and to the directors.

I would like to ask the club's spokesman, Colin Pope, just what his board are doing about things.

As Mr. Sugden has warned, Wealdstone are heading for relegation.

Surely there must be a way to avoid such an unfortunate happening?

Hundreds of supporters would, I am certain, contribute a pound each at the next home game to help Mr. Presland buy a new player.

Why not try your friends in your next programme, Mr. Pope? I'll start you off with a fiver.

BILL MATTHEWS
Bolton Road,
Harrow.

Footnote: Wealdstone P.R.O. Colin Pope said on Wednesday: "This confirms the board's view that Wealdstone have many loyal supporters and we thank Mr. Matthews for his offer.

I shall draw the board's attention to his letter at next Monday's directors' meeting.

Meanwhile Mr. Matthews, or any other supporter, can aid the club's finances by joining the club development scheme run by Mr. Mick Milcreest, who can be found in the programme hut at any home game."

WE'VE MET BEFORE: DOVER CONTD

rain for Saturday boss'.... but two days later the pain was so bad he went to hospital and they found a clean break!

"But also we weren't a team of battlers. There weren't that many strong characters, apart from people like Johnny Mac, and the players that came in like Bill Kitchener and Sammy McHale were pretty awful ... so when we got into a bit of a rut we weren't able to get out of it. Eddie Presland was too nice as a manager and when he went, and Geoff Coleman and Alan Fogarty came in of course the board had to give him a bit of money and we ended up avoiding relegation".

But back to Dover. The season ended with the Kent side fifth from bottom while the Stones were fourth from the foot (four should have gone down) until Dunstable Town imploded and had to withdraw from the league.

So, when the teams met in the Godawful Trilogy in early February 1976 the fans weren't expecting too much in terms of entertainment. They got even less...

John McCormick breaks leg

Injury-ravaged Wealdstone received a further body blow to their hopes of hanging on to Southern League, Premier Division life with the news that centre-half John McCormick looks set to retire after breaking his leg at Dover, writes Daragh Crosson.



John McCormick — broken leg.

McCormick, who celebrated his 40th birthday over the weekend, was injured in a tackle in the 4-1 defeat at Dover on Wednesday evening and was immediately substituted.

But without realising how serious the injury was the former Crystal Palace defender walked off the field and drove himself back to his South London home.

It was not until a hospital check up that a broken bone was confirmed.

McCormick, in his third season with Wealdstone, will now spend a month in plaster and after last season's premature retirement to run a pub and comeback there seems little chance of the defender pulling on a 'Stones shirt again this time.

If McCormick does give up the gap will present a prize opportunity for Sammy McHale, signed from Guildford earlier in the season, to win a regular first team place.

Recently sitting games out on the substitute's bench, centre-back McHale could be called in to prop up a witting defence in the relegation haunted run in to the season.

Midfielder Bobby Moss, however, hopes to be fit by Saturday, for the third clash with Dover in eleven days, despite suffering a relapse after breaking his nose at Tonbridge a fortnight ago.

Moss turned up to training as usual at the beginning of last week but had trouble breathing and after a hospital visit was operated on to clear up the damage.

Now the player expects to return to Wealdstone's dwindling ranks of fully fit players within a week.

And Bill Byrne and John Morton, who both played on Saturday despite battling against 'flu, also hope to shake off the bug in time for Saturday's game.

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Wednesday February 4, 1976, Southern League Premier Division: Dover 4 Wealdstone 1

A miserable evening on the Kent coast for the Stones, who trailed 3-0 soon after half time to the team second-bottom of the table, and then lost the injured John McCormick who was substituted by McHale.

George Duck scored our consolation from the penalty spot, after Adriaan Eglite was tripped in the box, and the night ended with the Stones' supporters coach attacked by a mindless Dover minority - both headlamps were smashed, extraordinary after a toothless game watched by a crowd of just 258.



John Morton collects his 1975 player of the season trophy from Supporters Club doyens Cynthia Law and Tom Verrall

Two trips to Dover, two defeats. The Harry O reflects on the Kent coast misery

Dover 4, Wealdstone 1

Wealdstone slumped to new lows on Wednesday evening when they crashed to defeat in this Southern League game at Dover.

The Kent side, two up at half-time, had little trouble demolishing woeful 'Stones and scored a third early in the second-half.

Adrian Eglite, a rare success on the night, then gained a penalty which George Duck converted but shortly before the end Dover, lying second from bottom in the table, grabbed a fourth with an own goal.

To add to their troubles, 'Stones had centre-half John McCormick taken off injured, with Sammy McHale substituting, and their team coach was attacked after the game.

After Dover had taken 'Stones apart on the field their fans tried the same off it and both front headlamps on the coach were smashed.

Wealdstone: Morton, Kinnear, Watson, Fairclough, McCormick (Sub: McHale), Godfrey, Lewis, Fulton, Eglite, Duck, Henderson.

Wednesday February 11, 1976, Southern League Cup 4th round: Dover 2 Wealdstone 1

This League Cup quarter-final failed to ignite the interest of the Dover public, and 40 fewer than the meagre crowd who had seen the previous week's league clash turned up for this game in the drizzly haze of The Crabble.

Personally, it was a nightmare as I missed the supporters coach and decided to catch the train down to the game, all on my own. A spur-of-the-moment decision I was bitterly regretting as my

CONTINUED OVERPAGE

'Stones Cup hopes are swept overboard

By Daragh Croxson

Dover 2, Wealdstone 1

WEALDSTONE'S last chance of riding the crest of a successful wave in a season saturated with failure was swept out to sea and sunk without trace at rain drenched Dover on Monday evening.

Full of possession but fatally short on punch 'Stones finally lost this Southern League Cup, quarter-final dash because they dithered at the back.

But it was up front that the Lower Mead outfit's challenge really faded in this frenzied but fumbling tie, played before a meagre audience of 218.

Thrashed 4-1 at the Crabble in the league five days earlier Wealdstone created, but squandered enough openings in the first 20 minutes to exact crushing vengeance.

With only six minutes gone Godfrey's free-kick was headed on to Duck who, with the goal at his mercy, shot straight at the prostrate Gatsby's body.

And after Morton had bravely thwarted the home side at the other end Lewis missed another chance after 19 minutes.

Duck and Eglite combined cleverly to dissect dodgy Dover's defence but as the ball arrowed through to the midfielder's feet he drove directly into the spreadeagled Gatsby's path.

But missed chances apart Wealdstone stumbled into a maze of their own making.

With Duck pushed wide Eglite acted for long periods as target man in the middle and whatever the Dutchman's talent it isn't winning the ball in the air or laying it off with consistent accuracy.

And without Bobby Moss's polish in the middle 'Stones struggled to make any real impact going forward despite a lion's share of the ball.

With Watson back in the side in midfield, leaving Fulton at left-back, young Hanson was relegated to the substitute's bench in a move that provided more bite than in Saturday's listless display against Cambridge.

But 'Stones still lacked vital vision and direction.

As sheets of rain began swirl-

ling across the field it was Dover who sneaked ahead with an opportunist goal.

From a half-cleared 43rd. minute corner the ball was headed down for Breach, who found the space and time in a penalty area as packed as Piccadilly Circus in the rush hour, to take it on his chest before volleying neatly home over Morton's head.

The home side bid fiercely to wrap the tie up in the second-half and within five minutes of the restart Morton blocked one shot, Watson saved a certain goal at the expense of a corner and as the flag-kick came over Morton was forced to spring across goal to clutch a stinging drive.

But as the game wore on it became apparent that a semi-finals place was there for the taking as Dover moved sluggishly.

On the hour Watson strode round two men down the right and slung over a cross that Gatsby could only palm on to his crossbar but another chance went begging as Duck's shot on the rebound was cleared.

BLAZED WIDE

After Watson and Morton had frantically prevented Dover snatching a second, Eglite blazed wide with a 71st. minute drive that should have hit the target.

Fifteen minutes from time Hanson came on for Byrne but five minutes later 'Stones were 2-0 down and out.

Morton's goal-kick was headed back into the visitors' half and an innocuous cross swept into the box.

But as Fulton moved across

to cut out the danger the ball stuck in the mud and eluded the defender's mistimed swing leaving Coxhill to score with the softest of shots past the wrong footed Morton.

With nothing to lose Wealdstone suddenly threatened Dover's lead and in a wild melee all but scored with a succession of shots before Lewis fired over.

About 80 minutes too late Wealdstone finally found the net when Kinnear's speculative long range effort bounced off Breach with three minutes left and fell for Lewis to notch with a rising drive.

In the last minute Kinnear gave Watson the chance to carve open Dover's wobbly defence with a pass that sent Lewis scampering down the right to unleash the first cross in the game to beat Gatsby.

But as a final reminder of 'Stones' impotence in the box there was nobody on hand to turn it home.

Wealdstone: Morton; Kinnear, Godfrey, Fairclough, Fulton; Watson, Byrne (Sub: Hanson 75 mins); Lewis; Duck, Eglite, Henderson.

DOVER FC

Official Programme
1975-76 Season 2p



WEALDSTONE
Southern League
4 February 76. No.22

Right: The Dover programme that season. A little bit amateurish but, hey, it cost 2p

WE'VE MET BEFORE: DOVER CONTD

London Bridge departure, via Chatham, split in two at the Kentish town and of course I was in the wrong half of the train. I half-heard an announcement, definitely heard the sound of a train moving off and belatedly realised I wouldn't be at Dover in time for the kick-off. Chatham Railway Station is not the most exciting place to be on a cold, misty Wednesday evening as you wait two hours for the next connection.

Finally, a quick cab dash from Dover Station to the ground saw my arrival just before half time - and I genuinely believed I had come to the wrong place and the wrong game as I approached up the steep incline to the eerily-quiet Crabble. The lights were on, but there seemed to be nobody home. I peered through the gates. There was one team in white, and one team in red shirts and blue shorts. Then I recognised Stones full-back Chris Kinnear as he trotted over to take a throw in - yes! I was in the right place but why were we wearing such a strange strip? And why were there so few people in the ground?

There was barely a coachload of fellow Stones fans in attendance, a legacy of our dreadful recent run and the fact that the SL Cup never attracted much interest - and they couldn't explain the bizarre red/blue combination. Even worse, they told me we had gone 1-0 down only moments before (scored by the aptly-named Breach) despite dominating the whole of the first half and missing chance after chance. And what had happened to me?

I was too debilitated (and embarrassed) to tell the full story, and we watched on as Dover hit a decisive second goal through Coxhill. Johnny Lewis pulled one back in the 80th minute and we huffed and puffed to no avail.

It was actually a vastly-improved performance from the Stones despite the loss of McCormick, Bobby Moss from a broken nose and the suffering of flu victims John Morton and Bill Byrne. The only good news was that

there was spare seat for me on the coach going back to Harrow - and a right royal send off for the fans as the police turned up mob-handed to avoid a repeat of the previous week's stone-throwing shenanigans.

With just 218 fans in the ground they surely wouldn't have been too hard to restrain?

**Saturday February 14 1976 ,
Southern League Premier
Division: Wealdstone 3 Dover 4**

Well, these two teams must have been heartily sick of each other by now. Certainly the fans were and it was with a feeling of dread and indifference that the 836 crowd filed through the Lower Mead turnstiles on a grey afternoon. Our mood wasn't lifted by the fact that our limited squad had been further decimated by the absence today of Messrs Kinnear, McHale and Lewis (together with John McCormick) although Bobby Moss was back in

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14th Kick-off 3 p.m.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE - PREMIER DIVISION

WEALDSTONE v. DOVER

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>WEALDSTONE (Royal Blue & White) ³</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John Morton 2. Chris Kinnear 3. Ray Fulton 4. Jim Godfrey 5. Paul Fairclough 6. John Watson 7. Steve Hanson 8. Bobby Moss 9. Bill Byrne 10. George Duck 11. John Henderson 12. Adrian Eglite <p>Referee: Mr. L. A. Bartels (Westcliff-on-Sea)</p> | <p>POPE STAFF AGENCY LTD.</p> <p>Let our trained interviewers find the RIGHT job at the RIGHT salary</p> <p>TEMPORARIES always wanted, and our rates are the best . . .</p> <p>205 KENTON ROAD, KENTON</p> <p>907 6071/2/3 907 9981 907 1240</p> <p>Open 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. daily. Sats. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.</p> | <p>DOVER (White and Black) ⁴</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. M. Gadsby 2. T. Norton 3. A. Keeley 4. S. Breach 5. P. Brooks 6. A. Fursdon 7. R. Wilson 8. D. Housden 9. P. Osbourne 10. C. Hamshire 11. K. Rogers 12. D. Clay (sub.) <p>Linesmen: Mr. M. L. James (Horsham) (Cerule) Mr. E. J. Jenner (Crawley) (Yellow)</p> |
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60 HIGH ST., WEALDSTONE

Wealdstone's anguish as Dover win again

By Phil Sugden
Wealdstone 3, Dover 4

THE HOTELIERS and guest house landladies of Dover are unlikely to cash in on the holidaymakers who support Wealdstone when the summer season arrives. That is a near certainty after 'Stones lost their third meeting with the Kent club at Lower Mead Stadium on Saturday.

After losing 4-1 at Dover in the league, 2-1 in the Southern League Cup and 4-3 at home on Saturday, 'Stones have conceded 10 goals to the Kent side while scoring five.

The Lower Mead side are now very much in the danger area, seventh from the foot of the table and only two points above Telford and Stourbridge, who are in the last four, and one above Bath and Hillingdon (who are pushing themselves out of trouble).

Moreover the bottom clubs pushed themselves into a better position on Saturday by winning points.

Hillingdon drew at Yeovil, Telford drew at home against Stourbridge, Dover, bottom but one, beat 'Stones and bottom club Cambridge City managed victory over Burton.

To make matters worse Wealdstone have the toughest away programme of the lot which must send shivers down the back of Wealdstone's directors and management.

One must feel some sympathy for Lower Mead manager Eddie Presland. Two years ago he was cheered from the field after his club had won promotion. Saturday he heard sections of the 836 crowd calling for his departure.

Although he may be criticised for not obtaining new players at the start of the season it must be recorded that he has been forced to work on a shoe-string. No money is available, we are told, attendances are declining, and one suspects that team morale is not all it might be.

His team has now won only three points from the possible last 24.

MUCH NEEDED

When the attack contrives to score goals, the defence gives them away, and vice-versa. The

midfield men appear to know not what is going on, whether they should support the front runners or give much needed aid to the back.

Young children, however naive and perhaps unmeaningly cruel, often hit the nail on the head. Certainly one small lad did after Saturday's encounter when he asked his father on retiring from the stand: "Do you think they'll ever win again, Dad?" That about summed it all up.

It must be said that Wealdstone have had more than their share of injuries and illnesses. Kinnear, McHale and Lewis were ruled out of action and coach Terry Dyson was pressed into service, wearing the number two shirt but playing in midfield.

Terry acquitted himself more than well by comparison with others and scored a fine goal, but one ponders when a 41-year-old has to be called up.

It would be stupid to suggest that this error-riddled match was a classic — except that it was a classic between two very poor teams.

So many passes went astray, so many basic rules were forgotten and so many players failed to use their heads that catastrophe was written all over the affair from the first minute.

Perhaps it could all be summed up by the fact that Willie Watson headed powerfully past his own goalkeeper, John Morton, to seal matters. Watson, could, I suspect, have made a clearance a far more simple affair.

The ever dangerous Osbourne put Dover ahead after 14 minutes with a firm header after a wonderful cross by Brooks and after a sluggish Byrne had missed a good chance and Eglite had shot wide when well placed, Byrne restored confidence by heading on Watson's clever pass for the hard-working Bobby Moss to hit his low past goalkeeper Gadsby.

SLIPPED

So it was 1-1 at half-time and promising, but then Osbourne struck again and although Moss produced his second after good work by Eglite and the help of a defender, substitute Clay made it 2-3 when Watson slipped when he should have cleared.

'Stones still managed to get back and Dyson levelled matters with a tremendous effort after good work by Henderson and Duck.

Then, sadly, Watson made his fatal error and two more points, so badly needed, were lost.

Wealdstone: Morton; Dyson, Fulton, Godfrey, Fairclough; Watson, Eglite, Moss; Byrne, Duck, Henderson. Sub: Hanson (S).

the team with a nose that looked distinctly less Roman than usual - and thank goodness as he rattled in two goals to keep us in the game after the dangerous Osbourne had twice shot Dover ahead.

The crowd were now rather enjoying the spectacle of two teams unable to get even the basics right - passes were misplaced by the dozen and haphazard defending kept you guessing as to what would happen next. What did happen was another Dover goal as the usually reliable Willie Watson slipped in the muddy goalmouth, allowing sub Clay to steer the ball past the exposed Morton.

Stones were fielding their 41-year-old as-

sistant manager Terry Dyson, the ex Spurs double-winning winger who had officially retired two years earlier. He was bizarrely wearing the No.2 shirt but we didn't give a hoot when he struck a sensational equaliser from the edge of the box with ten minutes remaining. We were now peering through our fingers, hoping that the next skid in this car crash of a game would seal the points. But sadly (but not surprisingly) it ended in shocking disappointment as Watson met a diagonal cross with a powerful header past his own goalkeeper... the fitting end to a crazy, crazy match.

CONTINUED OVERPAGE

WE'VE MET BEFORE: DOVER CONTD

2009: The last time the sides met (before this season), Ryman Champs Dover ended our play-off hopes

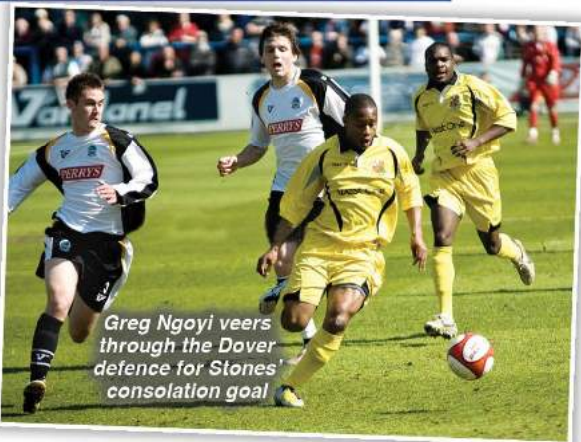
April 18, 2009, Ryman League Premier Division: Dover Athletic 3 Wealdstone 1

A battle-weary Wealdstone side, needing other results to go their way to maintain their long-shot hopes of a playoff place, were well beaten on an enjoyable afternoon for an already-crowned Dover side in celebratory mood looking to top the 100 point mark.

It was left for Gordon Bartlett to reflect on a hugely progressive and proud season for his young and talented squad. Stones were dealt a major blow as early as the fourth minute when the Whites' right back Matt Fish burst into the Stones area and struck a powerful shot past keeper Sean Thomas and into the back of the net. The visitors hit back with Lee Chappell blazing over an open goal after Dover keeper Preston Edwards parried a good strike from Greg Ngoyi.

A fast raiding and fluent Dover had other opportunities to add to their score – James Rogers going close on several occasions – and ten minutes after the restart left back Sam Gore headed home past Thomas for 2-0.

Stones skipper James Gray then shot wastefully wide and Dover rubbed the salt in with an outstanding goal that even had Stones manager Gordon Bartlett applauding. Frannie Collin dragged back and smashed the ball



Greg Ngoyi veers through the Dover defence for Stones' consolation goal

past Sean Thomas, who had absolutely no chance, for a superb finish.

Stones' work ethic and resistance finally paid off when Greg Ngoyi slipped the ball past the advancing Edwards for 1-3, whilst adding to his recent impressive strike rate.

Dover were then happy to close the game out and end Stones play-off adventure for this season.

Speaking after the match on the Wealdstone FC Information Line, Gordon Bartlett was clearly a disappointed man. 'I am feeling very flat at the moment and in total contrast to last week. We had enough chances to get a result but our poor finishing today was the difference'

He also sounded a grave warning about keeping the current squad together: 'We are stuck at two thirds take up on the 100:400 scheme and we have one week to turn this around or we risk breaking up the side. After all the hard work put in this season it would be a disaster – and I'm not doing it all again'.

Wealdstone: Thomas, McCoy, Chappell, Locke, Martin, Ashe, Forbes, O'Leary, Gray, Ngoyi, Hicks. Subs Spendlowe for O'Leary, Haule for Gray.

PS: The 100:400 scheme raised enough cash to keep that side together - as has every other fundraising scheme since!

Below: Stones fans in good voice at Dover



CHANGING FACE OF THE CONFERENCE

Non-league's top division is now a different animal

Here's an interesting comparison... the page below left is taken from the Enfield FC programme from the 1986-87 season, the last Conference season before automatic promotion and relegation between non-League's top flight and the Football League.

Enfield ran the story because it illustrated the fact that, despite only rating about halfway in the league table of crowd figures, they were the most-watched club away from home... thus making them 'the most popular club to watch'. Our own home average of 617 was itself pretty dismal, yet we were the fifth most-watched team away from home.

Every team listed in that table from 35 years ago was true 'non-League'. And the crowds reflected that. Compare those figures to the current season (below) and what a comparison!

Our home average of 1,534 today would have put us second in the crowd table in 1986, only five people below leaders Telford Utd. And as for Enfield... well, as they said about Accrington... 'Who are they?'

PULLING POWER!

With this season's Conference campaign approaching the half-way point, it gives us an opportunity to examine how the attendances have varied around the clubs.

The home attendances are as follows:

| | No. of home games | Total home crowd | Average home crowd | Highest home crowd | Opponents |
|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Telford United | 10 | 15391 | 1539 | 2174 | v Stafford Rangers |
| 2 Altrincham | 9 | 13150 | 1461 | 2453 | v Cheltenham Town |
| 3 Barnet | 9 | 12900 | 1433 | 2140 | v Maidstone United |
| 4 Boston United | 10 | 12409 | 1241 | 1491 | v Runcorn |
| 5 Maidstone United | 10 | 11538 | 1154 | 1915 | v Enfield |
| 6 Stafford Rangers | 10 | 11444 | 1144 | 1451 | v Kidderminster Harriers |
| 7 Kidderminster Harriers | 10 | 11027 | 1103 | 1511 | v Telford United |
| 8 Cheltenham Town | 10 | 10858 | 1086 | 1604 | v Enfield |
| 9 Scarborough | 12 | 11757 | 980 | 1295 | v Altrincham |
| 10 Kettering Town | 9 | 8199 | 911 | 1120 | v Altrincham |
| 11 Weymouth | 10 | 8804 | 880 | 1080 | v Altrincham |
| 12 Enfield | 10 | 8800 | 880 | 1196 | v Barnet |
| 13 Welling United | 7 | 5419 | 774 | 1040 | v Barnet |
| 14 Norwich Victoria | 11 | 8074 | 734 | 1328 | v Altrincham |
| 15 Nuneaton Borough | 9 | 6470 | 719 | 924 | v Kidderminster Harriers |
| 16 Sutton United | 11 | 7010 | 637 | 766 | v Telford United |
| 17 Wealdstone | 10 | 6173 | 617 | 712 | v Altrincham |
| 18 Dagenham | 11 | 6493 | 590 | 1013 | v Enfield |
| 19 Runcorn | 11 | 6469 | 588 | 686 | v Sutton United |
| 20 Bath City | 8 | 4488 | 561 | 707 | v Cheltenham Town |
| 21 Frickley Athletic | 10 | 4472 | 447 | 498 | v Kettering Town |
| 22 Gateshead | 8 | 3134 | 392 | 500 | v Wealdstone |

Overall Conference Average Attendance 905

The deceptive nature of home attendance figures is that they are not necessarily fully representative. Some clubs, such as ourselves, suffer from being close to other well-supported sides, or from being located in relatively small towns, such as Frickley Athletic. Whereas other, more fortunate clubs, may be located in larger towns with little competition, such as Telford United and Boston United. A much fairer comparison for crowd 'pulling-power' is the average gate that a club draws to its away fixtures. Although we have yet to go through the club 'derby' matches the following gives a less misleading indication of the clubs which are more popular to watch:

| | Average away crowd | | Average away crowd |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Enfield | 1218 | 12 Maidstone United | 877 |
| 2 Scarborough | 1044 | 13 Nuneaton Borough | 864 |
| 3 Altrincham | 1016 | 14 Kettering Town | 864 |
| 4 Runcorn | 987 | 15 Gateshead | 855 |
| 5 Cheltenham Town | 983 | 16 Welling United | 839 |
| 6 Wealdstone | 975 | 17 Boston United | 827 |
| 7 Stafford Rangers | 973 | 18 Bath City | 825 |
| 8 Telford United | 972 | 19 Sutton United | 819 |
| 9 Norwich Victoria | 956 | 20 Kidderminster Harriers | 788 |
| 10 Barnet | 946 | 21 Dagenham | 755 |
| 11 Weymouth | 890 | 22 Frickley Athletic | 726 |

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| 1 Wrexham | 8,114 |
| 2 Notts County | 6,631 |
| 3 Grimsby Town | 6,079 |
| 4 Stockport County | 5,662 |
| 5 Chesterfield | 5,244 |
| 6 Southend United | 5,054 |
| 7 Woking | 2,520 |
| 8 Torquay United | 2,408 |
| 9 Eastleigh | 2,152 |
| 10 Altrincham | 2,120 |
| 11 FC Halifax Town | 2,120 |
| 12 Yeovil Town | 2,099 |
| 13 Bromley | 1,764 |
| 14 Aldershot Town | 1,747 |
| 15 Dagenham & Redb... | 1,700 |
| 16 Wealdstone | 1,534 |
| 17 Solihull Moors | 1,524 |
| 18 Barnet | 1,478 |
| 19 Maldenhead United | 1,316 |
| 20 King's Lynn Town | 1,186 |
| 21 Weymouth | 1,109 |
| 22 Dover Athletic | 828 |
| 23 Boreham Wood | 809 |

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IT'S A RECORD!

v FC Halifax Town at the Vale,
Vanarama Nat Lge Matchday 19

THE WHERE & THE WHAT

v Needham Market at Bloomfields,
FA Challenge Trophy 3rd Rd

Saturday December 11 2021, 3pm
Damp and chilly afternoon (6 deg)
on the usual perfect surface

DATE AND CONDITIONS

Saturday Dec 18 2021, 3pm
Cold and misty afternoon (8 deg)
on an over-grassed, heavy pitch

958 (approx 90 away fans)

ATTENDANCE

423 (approx 200 away fans)

WEALDSTONE Dennis, McAvoy,
Cook, Okimo, Charles, Sweeney,
Mascoll (Stevens 81), Dyer, Cooper,
Fasanmade (Jackson 68), Umerah

TEAMS

NEEDHAM MARKET Garnham,
Dye, Sturgess, Hammond,
K Morphew, D Morphew, Fowkes,
Collard, Ingram, Fitzgerald, Sayer

FC HALIFAX TOWN Johnson, Warren, Maher,
Bradbury, Senior, Green, Spence (Woods 81),
Warburton (Summerfield 82), Slew (Gilmour 78),
Waters, Newby

WEALDSTONE Marigliani, McAvoy, Cook,
Okimo, Stevens (Buse), Charles, Dyer,
Cooper, Mascoll (Bird), Fasanmade
(Jackson), Umerah

STONES 0 **HALIFAX 1**
Warburton (pen) 34

RESULT

NEEDHAM MARKET 2 **STONES 1**
Sturgess 8, Ingram 35 Buse 65

POSSESSION

Wealdstone 48% Halifax 52%

SHOTS ON TARGET Stones 4 Halifax 7

SHOTS OFF TARGET Stones 3 Halifax 7

CORNERS Stones 1 Halifax 2

MATCH STATS

POSSESSION

Needham 41% Wealdstone 59%

SHOTS ON TARGET Needham 3

Stones 3 **SHOTS OFF TARGET** Needham 2

Stones 7 **CORNERS** Needham 2 Stones 4

Probably the Stones worst display since Torquay as we failed to get our passing game going. Energetic Halifax pressed energetically and played most of their football around our box, and so did we! Chances were few and far between though Josh Umerah was off target in good positions in each half... our new loan keeper, the accomplished Will Dennis from Bournemouth (in for the suspended Wickens) didn't have a lot to do but the game was settled by Matty Warburton's smart penalty after a rash challenge from Craig Fasanmade. Frustrating!

STONES VIEW

A catastrophic afternoon in deepest Suffolk. Stones replacement keeper for the suspended George Wickens, Will Dennis, was recalled by his club for Covid reasons - as was our Orient loanee Jaydn Sweeney - and those losses were crucial as we adopted an alien shape and young goalie Alfie Marigliani was culpable for the opening goal. Needham buzzed around early on and deserved their 2-0 lead. But the second half was all Wealdstone and simply a tale of missed chances and inspired goalkeeping by the veteran Marcus Garnham

The referee had a shocker but the regression back to a style of play that wasn't overly effective is baffling. It was slow, slow, slow, give the ball away, and then repeat again. Over and over again. It was boring again yesterday. Their keeper didn't have a shot to save in the second half. Not one.

-Elmslie Ender, Stonesnet Forum

Halifax boss Peter Wild: "It's not an easy place to come, not the best conditions, we travelled on the day, which we don't normally do and we don't have the best record when we do. So it's a real professional display by our boys today and we should be dead proud of them. It was a nailed-on penalty and it was our first spot kick of the season - and about time too!"

SOCIAL MEDIA

Cook's position today was utterly baffling! The best centre back at the club yet he's playing as an almost right winger! The only one who can take some heart from today was Buse and he only played half an hour. Formation wise today too we were a joke. To play one up front against a team several leagues lower than us is embarrassing. Seemed to be five at the back too...this result for me is going to take a long time to get over. More money thrown away..

-WFC Northolt, Stonesnet Forum

There were moments when we had a lot of luck but I think we deserved to win. We set up to press them and I knew we could get through.. and we have! **-NMFC manager Kevin Horlock**

Due to print deadlines 'It's a record' for the Boreham Wood game will be in the next home prog

OFFBEAT CORNER

THINGS WOT WE LIKED THIS WEEK

Yes, it's back! A little corner of the Stones programme dedicated to the strange and surreal. Not that there was anything strange about 70-something Stones fan Ray Corner finding his old Wealdstone FC autograph book at home and realising that he was missing three names from his collection of 1966 Amateur Cup-winning heroes. Nothing strange at all. Anyway, the club invited the players along and they were all in pretty good shape considering the intervening 55 years.....



Touch tight!

Quite apart from how sensible it was having two teams both wearing blue shirts when we played Halifax before Christmas, this Twitter picture showed how the Yorkshire side were clearly cheating by marking our players very, very tightly indeed. The social distancing was dodgier than a Downing Street party



Hughie Lindsay



Roy Lavender



The book!



Eddie Dillsworth

That's Ray on the right in all the pictures by the way. He's still stopped in the street by people who recognise him from his appearance on *Take Your Pick*, the TV quiz show from the 1970s. He won a gas fire. Rock and roll!



Is it just me, or is this just wrong on many, many levels? Okay, blue and white and yellow and blue

Wealdstone scarves are absolutely fine... but a RED one? Are you being serious?! Apparently this is a genuine picture. What's next, a Stones-Borough half & halfie?

Right: Stones fans Grim Jones and his partner Dionne got all excited when they spotted this on the side of a bus in South London. Dionne reckons it will be any day now before the mystery is uncovered, but that it will have something to do with drinking beer and wearing baggy trousers





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

| MATCH | BALL DONORS | |
|--|------------------------------|--------------|
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|  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 | Kevin Smith |
|  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



FC HALIFAX TOWN

Saturday, 11th December
Vanarama National League

Tony and Peter Drew



DOVER ATHLETIC

Saturday, 15th January
Vanarama National League

Barbara Robson



NOTTS COUNTY

Tuesday, 25th January
Vanarama National League

Tony Platt

Steve Carter



YEOVIL TOWN

Tuesday, 8th February
Vanarama National League

David Leach

Your name or
business here



MAIDENHEAD UNITED

Tuesday, 15th February
Vanarama National League

In memory of Roy Couch

Mike Pullin &
Graham Clark



WREXHAM

Saturday, 19th February
Vanarama National League

In memory of Jim Klarfeld

Graham Clark &
Mike Pullin



TORQUAY UNITED

Saturday, 26th February
Vanarama National League

Alan Couch

Your name or
business here



WEYMOUTH

Saturday, 12th March
Vanarama National League

Your name or
business here

Your name or
business here



BROMLEY

Saturday, 26th March
Vanarama National League

Alan Couch

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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

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business here



KING'S LYNN TOWN

Saturday, 7th May
Vanarama National League

Megaphone

Your name or
business here

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The Football Stadium Improvement Fund

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KIT DONORS 2021/2022

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

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

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

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

KEY

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



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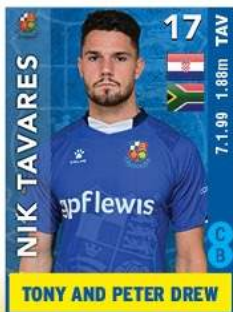
ALAN COUCH



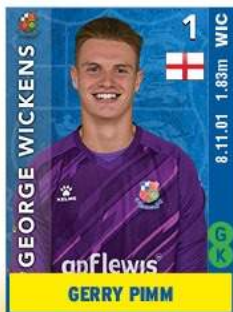
GARY SMITH



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TONY AND PETER DREW

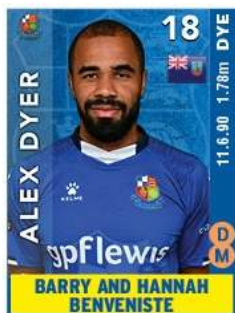


GERRY PIMM

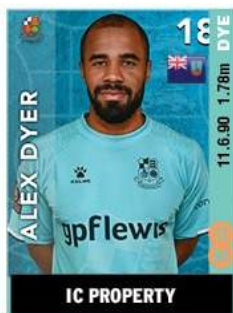


MIKE AND VAL WESTON

WEALDSTONE 2021-22



ALEX DYER
18
11.6.90 1.78m DYE
BARRY AND HANNAH
BENVENISTE



ALEX DYER
18
11.6.90 1.78m DYE
IC PROPERTY



DAN WISHART
3
28.5.92 1.82m WIS
TO SPONSOR DAN, CALL
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ALFIE MARIGLIANI
13
MAR
TO SPONSOR ALFIE, CALL
07710 929692



JEROME OKIMO
6
8.6.88 1.82m OKI
LEW SHEPPARD



ANDREW ELEFTHERIOU
12
8.11.97 1.72m ELE
JON TAFFEL



RHYS BROWNE
10
16.11.95 1.75m BRO
ROGER SLATER



RHYS BROWNE
10
16.11.95 1.75m BRO
RAY CORNER



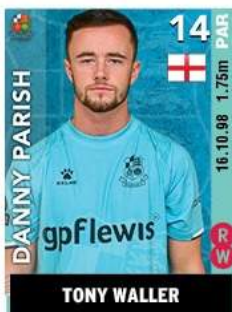
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15.9.99
JIM SORRELL



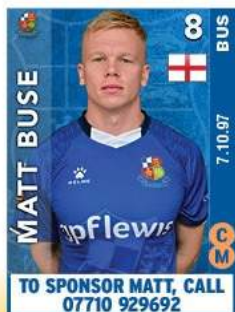
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14
16.10.98
TONY WALLER



DANNY PARISH
14
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TONY WALLER



MATT BUSE
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7.10.97
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ZACH DRONFIELD
19
1.3.02 1.85m DRO
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JACK COOK
2
16.9.99
JAMES KLARFELD



JACK COOK
2
16.9.99 1.85m JCO
SUDHIR, AKHIL, NIKHIL,
SARIN AND KAMRAN RAWAL

WEALDSTONE 2021-22

Saturday
22nd January
3:00pm

WOKING (A)

www.wokingfc.co.uk @WokingFC Vanarama National League



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

Tuesday
25th January
7:45pm



NOTTS COUNTY (H)

Vanarama National League

Saturday
29th January
3:00pm

GRIMSBY TOWN (A)

www.grimsby-townfc.co.uk @OfficialGTFC Vanarama National League



Tuesday
8th February
3:00pm



YEOVIL TOWN (H)

Vanarama National League

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

Saturday
12th February
3:00pm

BARNET (A)

www.grimsby-townfc.co.uk @OfficialGTFC Vanarama National League



Tuesday
15th February
7:45pm



MAIDENHEAD UTD (H)

Vanarama National League

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

Saturday
19th February
3:00pm



WREXHAM (H)

Vanarama National League

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

Vanarama National League 2021/2022 – @11th January 2022

| | ALL | | | | | | HOME | | | | | | AWAY | | | | | | +/- Pts | RESULTS | |
|------------------------|-----|----|---|----|----|----|------|---|---|---|----|----|------|---|---|---|----|----|---------|---------|-----|
| | P | W | D | L | F | A | P | W | D | L | F | A | P | W | D | L | F | A | | | |
| 1 Halifax Town | 23 | 14 | 5 | 4 | 38 | 18 | 11 | 9 | 0 | 2 | 23 | 7 | 12 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 15 | 11 | 20 | 47 | 0-1 |
| 2 Chesterfield | 20 | 12 | 7 | 1 | 38 | 16 | 10 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 21 | 10 | 10 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 17 | 6 | 22 | 43 | 0-2 |
| 3 Boreham Wood | 20 | 12 | 6 | 2 | 29 | 13 | 11 | 7 | 4 | 0 | 16 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 13 | 9 | 16 | 42 | 0-1 |
| 4 Notts County | 21 | 12 | 5 | 4 | 40 | 25 | 11 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 23 | 14 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 17 | 11 | 15 | 41 | 2-3 |
| 5 Bromley | 22 | 12 | 5 | 5 | 38 | 25 | 12 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 25 | 12 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 41 | 2-3 |
| 6 Dagenham & Redbridge | 23 | 12 | 3 | 8 | 45 | 29 | 12 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 29 | 17 | 11 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 16 | 12 | 16 | 39 | 2-2 |
| 7 Wrexham | 22 | 11 | 6 | 5 | 39 | 23 | 9 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 13 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 31 | 18 | 16 | 39 | 0-0 |
| 8 Stockport County | 21 | 12 | 3 | 6 | 39 | 24 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 16 | 11 | 12 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 23 | 13 | 15 | 39 | 1-4 |
| 9 Solihull Moors | 22 | 10 | 6 | 6 | 29 | 23 | 12 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 18 | 12 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 11 | 11 | 6 | 36 | 0-0 |
| 10 Grimsby Town | 21 | 10 | 3 | 8 | 32 | 23 | 10 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 20 | 7 | 11 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 12 | 16 | 9 | 33 | 1-0 |
| 11 Yeovil Town | 21 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 22 | 22 | 11 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 12 | 11 | 0 | 31 | |
| 12 Torquay United | 23 | 9 | 4 | 10 | 36 | 37 | 11 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 21 | 17 | 12 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 15 | 20 | -1 | 31 | 0-5 |
| 13 Eastleigh | 21 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 26 | 31 | 12 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 21 | 16 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 15 | -5 | 31 | 1-2 |
| 14 Woking | 22 | 9 | 1 | 12 | 36 | 36 | 11 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 16 | 20 | 11 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 20 | 16 | 0 | 28 | 1-2 |
| 15 Barnet | 21 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 25 | 32 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 12 | 15 | 11 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 13 | 17 | -7 | 27 | 1-0 |
| 16 Altrincham | 23 | 7 | 5 | 11 | 36 | 42 | 11 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 16 | 19 | 12 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 20 | 23 | -6 | 26 | 1-0 |
| 17 Aldershot Town | 23 | 7 | 4 | 12 | 28 | 37 | 12 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 11 | 22 | 11 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 17 | 15 | -9 | 25 | 2-2 |
| 18 Southend United | 21 | 6 | 4 | 11 | 19 | 32 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 12 | 15 | 12 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 17 | 17 | -13 | 22 | 0-0 |
| 19 Wealdstone | 20 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 19 | 30 | 10 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 11 | 10 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 19 | -11 | 21 | -- |
| 20 Maidenhead United | 20 | 5 | 4 | 11 | 21 | 39 | 10 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 16 | 22 | 10 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 17 | -18 | 19 | |
| 21 Weymouth | 21 | 4 | 3 | 14 | 23 | 42 | 11 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 12 | 18 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 11 | 24 | -19 | 15 | 1-1 |
| 22 King's Lynn Town | 21 | 3 | 2 | 16 | 19 | 45 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 21 | 10 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 11 | 24 | -26 | 11 | 1-0 |
| 23 Dover Athletic | 22 | 0 | 4 | 18 | 18 | 51 | 11 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 20 | 11 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 11 | 31 | -33 | -8 | 3-2 |



Official Sponsors of
Wealdstone FC

gpflewis plc

Building Excellence

GPF Lewis is an award winning national contractor providing
Construction, Maintenance & Facilities management services.

gpflewis.co.uk

HOW THEY LINE-UP TODAY

WEALDSTONE

Royal Blue/White/White



DOVER ATHLETIC

Red/Red/Red

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| G George Wickens 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 Josh BEXON G |
| Jack Cook 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 Will MOSES |
| Dan Wishart 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 Sam WOOD |
| Ashley Charles 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 TJ BRAMBLE |
| Connor Stevens 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 Reda JOHNSON |
| Jerome Okimo © 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6 Jake GOODMAN |
| Craig Fasanmade 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7 Khale DA COSTA |
| Matt Buse 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8 James CATON |
| Josh Umerah 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10 Ben WILLIAMSON |
| Stephan Rhys Browne 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12 Alex GREEN |
| David Sesay 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 14 Marshall WRATTEN |
| Andrew Eleftheriou 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 15 Seth TWUMASI |
| G Alfie Marigliani 13 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 17 Travis GREGORY |
| Connor McAvoy 14 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 18 Henry WOODS |
| Elijah Hearn 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 19 Noah CARNEY |
| Ira Jackson Jr 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 20 Adam PARKES G |
| Nikola Tavares 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 22 Koby ARTHUR |
| Alex Dyer 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 23 Danny COLLINGE |
| Zach Dronfield 19 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 24 Harrison BYFORD |
| Medy Elito 20 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 25 Ryan HANSON |
| Douglas Taylor 22 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 26 Alfie PAVEY |
| Jaydn Mundle-Smith 23 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 44 Alexis ANDRE Jr |
| Charlie Cooper 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Jamie Mascoll 25 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Ryan Gondoh 32 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

RESULT: WEALDSTONE **DOVER ATHLETIC**

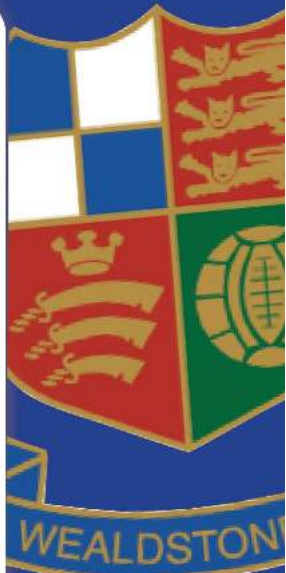
REFEREE Savvas Yianni **ASSISTANTS** Andrew Aylott and Gareth Viccars **FOURTH OFFICIAL** Graham Swanton
OBSERVER Gary Kellett

MATCH SPONSOR Ruislip Windows and Doors
MATCHBALL DONOR Barbara Robson

NEXT AT THE VALE v NOTTS COUNTY Vanarama National League: Tuesday January 25 2022, kick-off 7.45pm

Main club sponsor:

gpflewis ^{plc}



SO GOOD AT WOOD
The returning Nik Tavares outshone Jacob Mendy Mendy at Boreham Wood on Tuesday but even his heroics could not prevent a 1-0 defeat

PICTURE:
JON TAFFEL

INSIDE
CONNOR
McAVOY
OUR FULHAM
STARLET