

# THE LINE-UPS

**WEALDSTONE** **V** **CONCORD RANG**  
ROYAL BLUE & WHITE      YELLOW & BLUE

<b>G</b> Jonathan North	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>G</b> Sam Beasant
Jake Sheppard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sean Clohessy
Freddie Grant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Frazer Shaw
Jerome Okimo ©	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sam Blackman
Connor Stevens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lee Minshull
Godfrey Poku	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tyrone Sterling
Joe White	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ryan Hayes
Matt Lench	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Danny Green
Dave Pratt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alex Wall
Danny Green	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jack Midson
Bradley Hudson-Odoi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Billy Knott
Jeffrey Monakana	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kojo Awotwi
Stefan Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jed Smith
Bradley Bubb	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nana Boakye-Yiadom
Rhys Tyler	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Aron Pollock
James Clark	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	D'Sean Theobalds
Wadah Ahmadi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>G</b> George Marsh
Yado Mambo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Finley Dopson
Glenn Wilson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Adam Topley
<b>G</b> Callum Thomas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sam Carter
Guri Demuria	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Reece Harris	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**REFEREE** Dean Skipper **ASSISTANTS** Steven Parmenter and Craig Pullen

**MATCH SPONSOR** 'In Memory of John O'Connor'

**BALL DONOR** To be announced

**NEXT HOME GAMES v TRURO CITY** (Vanarama National Lge South) Saturday September 1, 3pm  
v CHELMSFORD CITY (Vanarama National League South) Saturday September 15, 3pm

**gpflewis** plc

**READY FREDDIE GO!** Our all-action defender Freddie Grant wins this high ball in our sparkling win over Weston. Don't miss his interview inside today. Picture: Geoff Smith

# STONES

[www.wealdstone-fc.com](http://www.wealdstone-fc.com) 2018-



**INSIDE:  
FREDDIE  
GRANT  
INTERVIEW**

**vanarama** SOUTH NATIONAL LEAGUE  
**v CONCORD RANGERS**  
Saturday August 25, 2018, kick-off 3pm

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£3

Your award-winning match programme (voted No.1 in the National League South) sponsored by Ruislip Social Club

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# Written in Stone

**I would like to extend a warm welcome to this afternoons visitors, including manager Sammy Moore and his back room team, the Concord Players and the supporters who have made the journey to Grosvenor Vale.**

If you are just returning from your summer break and joining us for the first time this season, then all I can say is you are in for a treat. The team has provided some incredible entertainment and limitless commitment so far this campaign lets hope they can provide more of the same today against a very talented Concord side.

As always, we desperately need your help with funding this season's campaign. We are extremely grateful to Barry Eynon and friends for sponsoring today's match in

memory of their friend John O'Connor. Also to our ball donor Barry O'Sullivan, who will have the added honour of watching his Wealdstone mad 4 year old son John lead out the teams as mascot.

Match sponsorships and Match ball donations are as ever available to you and offer the opportunity to relax in the boardroom before and after the game. Player kit sponsorships are also available at very reasonable rates.

Full details of all of the mentioned schemes are listed on the appropriate pages within this programme and as ever, Paul Rumens will be happy to advise you at paulrumens59@gmail.com or on 07710 929692

**Mark**

## Match Sponsor - 'In Memory of John O'Connor'

I met John O'Connor in a pub (naturally) about ten years ago and we soon established a strong bond and friendship based on fishing, live music and sport. That we both liked a drink and to laugh obviously helped. We watched football - although more rugby - and went fishing regularly, also to watch live music. It was John (known to us as O.C) who was tickled by the YouTube videos of Gordon and hence the visit last season - and what a great day we had!

The plan was to come again early this season and despite O.C's passing I never intended to give it a miss. That's why I've recruited three others to join me and to sponsor the match, decked out in our Raider T-shirts.

O.C would be pleased that I will also have another donation for Gordon as he supported two charities, one of which was the local childrens' ward.

**Barry Eynon**

## Ball Donor - Barry O'Sullivan

## Mascot - John O'Sullivan

Today's Mascot is John O'Sullivan who will be 5 in October and he is looking forward to starting St Theresa's School in September. He has been a life member of WFCSC since he was one day old and he is a third generation of Stones fan. His Grandad John was a season ticket holder before he passed away in 2010 and his Daddy, Barry, and Uncle Shawn are both current season ticket holders. John being Mascot today is so important for the family that his Mummy and Nanny are attending their first ever Stones match!!

He is looking forward to leading the team out today and is hoping to continue his record of never having seen the Stone lose.

The O'Sullivan family would like to thank Bobby for his efforts to enable John to be Mascot today.'





# WEALDSTONE

## FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2018/2019

GROSVENOR VALE, RUISLIP, MIDDLESEX HA4 6JQ • 01895 637487 •  
WEALDSTONEFC@BTINTERNET.COM • WWW.WEALDSTONE-FC.COM • COMPANY NO. 3953962

### PERSONNEL

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Vice Chairman Nick Archer  
Directors Dominic Whyley,  
Nick Symmons, Rory Fitzgerald,  
Mark Randall, Jon Pettifer,  
David Hawkins  
Associate Directors Paul Rumens, Paul  
Fruin, Peter Worby  
President Paul Rumens

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Club Secretary Paul Fruin  
(07790 038095)  
Company Secretary Andrew Lane

### CLUB PERSONNEL

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Treasurer Barry Benveniste  
General Manager Nick DuGard  
Press Officer Nick DuGard  
(nick.d1@outlook.com)  
PA Announcer Ashley Holding  
Club Historian Peter Worby  
Kit Manager Tony Waugh  
Boardroom Hospitality Alison Moran,  
Club Photographers  
Geoff Smith & Dan Finill  
Web Site Manager Alan & Matt Hill  
Content Videographer Charlie Hoare

### MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

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Production Martin Read, Tim Parks  
Printing People for Print Ltd.

[www.peopleforprint.co.uk](http://www.peopleforprint.co.uk)  
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### MATCH DAY OPERATIONS

Manager Steve Marshall  
Safety Officer Victor Klarfeld  
Match Day Staff Paul Bowley, Tony  
Waller, Richard Hayward,  
Russell Greenberg, Adam Clancey,  
Matthew Impey, John Cahillane

### COMMERCIAL & MARKETING

Commercial Manager Andy Lavin  
Graphic Design Steve Foster  
IT Consultant Neil Rands  
Reporting & Social Media Chris Woods

### LIAISON OFFICERS

WFCS / Social Club Markie Barton  
WFC / Social Club James Klarfeld

### FOOTBALL MANAGEMENT

Manager Bobby Wilkinson  
Assistant Manager Jamie Leacock  
Coach Mike Percival  
Sports Therapist Mark Povey  
Goalkeeping Coach Ian Hobbs

### 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

#### NATIONAL CUPS

1965 / 1966	FA Amateur Cup
1984 / 1985	FA Trophy

#### LEAGUE CUPS

1981 / 1982	Southern League Cup
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#### 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 (Play-Off)

The legal name of Wealdstone Football Club is Wealdstone Football Club (2000) Ltd (Registered Number 03953962). Shares in excess of 10% are held by Peter Marsden Property Finance Ltd

## 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 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.

– Wealdstone FC Board of Directors

# From the Gaffer and management team



## **A** warm welcome to Sammy Moore his management team, players and officials of Concord Rangers Football Club.

After 5 league games, we can be satisfied with the start to the season. The performances have been positive which as a management team you're always looking at but the results have matched with our last 2 games returning wins against sides we have no doubt will be challenging for the top 7 play-off places if not higher. We know it's a results business so to see the performances get the warranted wins is even more satisfying and has given the boys belief that is all important in football.

The Woking game was a fantastic night for the club. To see 1,300 fans in the ground under the lights was a huge buzz and shows the potential of our club. The game itself was tough as we expected with Woking pushing hard in the first half. However, we were resolute and defended very well soaking up all the pressure and limiting them to very few chances. In the second half, we asked the boys to push further up the park and that changed the game where we didn't give them a chance to breathe and were able to camp in their half and force several chances. The penalty was earned through the constant pressure and in the end, we deserved the 3 points.

To go away to Dartford who don't lose many at home and dominate the game in the way we did is testament to the progress we are making. From start to finish every player was at it. We've asked for consistency with 7's every week but there wasn't player that played below an 8. Some great goals, excellent football and an all round good day at the office.

August is always a big month as it set's your momentum and we play 7 games which come thick and fast so with 2 left to go we'll get a good idea as to how the league is going to be this year. So far, the observations are that it will be very competitive with the top teams all been able to beat each other so remaining consistent will be the key with lots of points dropped. There is also more strength all the way through the league which we knew there would be with the teams that came down and got promoted. This weekend we want to return as many points as we can and see where we are after bank holiday.

Today sees us come against Concord Rangers who have had an incredible start to the season. They have recruited well, play good football and will come full of confidence. Our form at the Vale has been good so it will be a great match up. Appreciate your support.

Enjoy the game.  
**Bobby and the management team.**



BY MATTHEW LANE

# Not The Elmslie Ender Death of the Long term Manager?



**The 2017/18 season won't be remembered with much fondness by Wealdstone or Arsenal fans (a run to a semi-final of a cup competition aside). But it was momentous for one reason: the end to the tenures of the two longest-serving managers in the English game.**

In August 2017, Gordon Bartlett stepped down as Wealdstone manager after 22 years at the helm. At the end of last season, Arsenal parted company with Arsene Wenger following a near 22-year reign.

If that wasn't enough, Paul Tisdale, the third longest-serving manager in the country at the start of the 2017/18 season – and briefly the longest-serving manager in the game after Wenger's departure – left Exeter City at the start of June after almost 12 years in charge.

It now means that Jim Bentley of Morecambe is the longest-serving manager in the top four leagues, having been in charge of the League Two club since May 2011.

While longer-term managers are still more common in the lower reaches of English football, longevity is rarely prized and the days of managers being in charge for two decades or more (particularly in the top four leagues) are surely long gone.

Mauricio Pochettino, now in his fifth season as Spurs boss, is the eighth-longest serving manager in the country despite only joining the North London club in May 2014. Jurgen Klopp, meanwhile, is the 14th longest-serving manager after less than three years in the Anfield hotseat.

It's sometimes said that young English managers don't get enough of a chance to

prove themselves, especially in the Premier League, but Burnley and Bournemouth have shown plenty of loyalty to Sean Dyche and Eddie Howe, who have been in charge of their respective clubs for more than 5 years. It has helped, of course, that these clubs have been on an upward trajectory during this time, including promotions, successful fights against relegation in the Premier League and, latterly, comfortable mid-table finishes or even better than that.

Eight of the top 10 longest-serving managers, in fact, are English, with the likes of Neal Ardley (AFC Wimbledon), Gareth Ainsworth (Wycombe Wanderers), Keith Hill (Rochdale) and Darrell Clarke (Bristol Rovers) mostly benefitting from a desire for stability and consistency. Tottenham, too, have reaped the rewards from allowing Pochettino to build a side capable of challenging after years of false dawns and disappointments.

But this is the exception rather than the norm. To show how fragile managers now are, we only need to look at how many have taken on their roles this year alone. Out of 92 teams in the Premier League and Football League, 43 took over in 2018, with 22 only in charge since May 2018.

This is partly reflective of the pressures involved with modern management, with expectations higher than ever and patience in short supply in a world of social media, trigger-happy owners and knee-jerk reactions to poor performances. And partly a result of managers moving up in the world; their previous clubs suffering as a result of their success.

Many clubs, particularly in the Premier League, panic if relegation seems on the cards and try and precipitate a reversal in fortunes by employing fresh blood. Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't.

Other clubs employ short-term or stopgap solutions – see Everton and West Ham last season for examples of that – as they try and work out what direction they want to take.

There is an argument for a refresh every so often, to stop things getting stale or complacent. Sometimes new ideas and fresh ways of thinking are needed. Sometimes a manager has taken a club as far as he possibly can. Neal Ardley, who's been in charge of AFC Wimbledon for nearly six years, alluded to this in a recent interview with the Evening Standard. "I have been at the club more than five and a half years. You can get a bit stale in the job and I am sure at times the fans get bored of me," he said. "Where you have got, not stuck in your ways, but into a routine...there was a lot we wanted to change. And sometimes a refresh for the players, yourself and the staff is good."

There is certainly a danger of the rot setting in when a manager has been in place for too long. The best managers evolve, change and adapt. Sir Alex Ferguson was a master at creating new title-winning teams, adopting modern methods and keeping things fresh with the necessary player and backroom changes; Wenger managed much the same for large chunks of his reign. David Moyes worked wonders on a shoestring budget for more than a decade at Everton, but has been unable to recreate that longevity wherever he's been since.

While change is sometimes entirely necessary, it's also the case that many clubs hire and fire at will, desperately hoping that – by the law of averages – they'll strike it right eventually. Some clubs have been through a ridiculous number of managers in recent times – Leeds, Forest, Birmingham and QPR spring to mind – with little to no improvement shown. After a few bad results, fans get restless, the media amps up the pressure and jittery owners/chairman feel the need to act.

That said, a short-term approach can sometimes work out well. Watford, for example, seem to have mastered the art of changing their manager pretty much every season (and turning over tonnes of players) and still comfortably surviving in the Premier League. Chelsea, meanwhile, have been serial trophy winners since Roman Abramovich arrived in West London in 2003, despite having 13 different managers during

that time.

The latest incumbent, former Napoli boss Maurizio Sarri, recently said he wants to be in charge of the club for the next 10 years, but with Chelsea's recent history that is surely pie in the sky thinking.

The downside of the hire and fire approach is a club lacking identity or a connection between the manager, players and fans – which is certainly an accusation that could be aimed at Chelsea and Watford, and other clubs who have dispensed with managers like they're going out of fashion.

Allowing a manager to build a club in his mould, to build a legacy, to become synonymous with a team in the way Bill Nicholson, Sir Alex, Sir Matt Busby, Brian Clough, Bill Shankley, Wenger, Bob Paisley and Sir Bobby Robson did, seems out of fashion now. Of the current intake, only Klopp, Pochettino and Pep Guardiola look likely to get close to stamping an indelible mark on the team they manage. Who knows, Unai Emery might be given 22 years at the Emirates, but 'Emery out' banners appearing by December seems more likely!

Gordon Bartlett, in his own way, was synonymous with Wealdstone FC for many years, but his longevity was probably due in part to the club's unique circumstances – dropping to the bottom of the football pyramid and slowly but surely working their way back up without a ground for many of those years, with barely a budget to speak of and a drastically diminished fanbase. It also helped that, for most of his reign, the club was on an upward curve; he oversaw promotions, memorable cup-runs and play-off near misses. There were a few close calls with relegation – and a few times when he was on the verge of leaving for one reason or another – but the loyalty went both ways and club and manager were an ideal fit for a long period.

In this day and age, it seems unlikely that we will ever see a manager stay in post for 22 years again. Some might say that is no bad thing – that familiarity eventually breeds contempt and longevity leads to complacency, frustration and dissatisfaction – but others may mourn the death of the long-term manager and despair at the short-termism and irrationality of many clubs in their quest for instant gratification.

Matt

# Freddie Grant

**'Just look at me and Godfrey Poku... he looks like he should play, big and strong while I look like a boy. I must toughen up if I'm to make it'**



Left: Freddie was all-action as we beat Cardiff City 3-0 at the Vale in pre-season. Below: Geoff Smith's picture of the warm-up before the Bromley game would have made a great album cover...



**FREDDIE GRANT** is unashamedly ambitious. The 21-year old is under no illusions as to what it takes to succeed in the game, and how to achieve it - and he's set himself a target of moving up the football pyramid by 2020.

"Yes, my No.1 priority for the next two years is football: Eating well, training hard, going to the gym. Then I'll know where I'm at.

"It was a conscious decision to come to Wealdstone from Oxford City because it's a massive club at this level, and it's in a good area to get noticed. And playing in a good team, which I'm convinced we'll be this year, will help me get noticed.

"Hopefully I'll move up a level by the end of the season - it certainly won't be for the lack of trying!"

The bubbly left-back has certainly drawn the long straw this summer. Outside of football he's working at the Lagoona Aqua Park in Reading, which wasn't a bad place to be when we spoke in pre season with the thermometer touching 31 degrees. "Yeah, it's

really good fun - basically it's a giant inflatable with slides, parked on the lake. Very cool! My plan is to work here in the summer, and in the winter I'll go back to my job working with special needs kids in schools. And train hard!"

I told Freddie that I'd just spoken to his ex Oxford city team mate Godfrey Poku for another interview, and what a top man he is.

"Poks is a legend!" laughed Freddie. "We were really buzzing when we found out that Wealdstone wanted to sign both of us. He runs all day and loves a tackle, and is so easy to play with.

"But the thing about Godfrey is that he looks like the way he plays - big and strong and no-nonsense - while I don't! I've got to stop looking like a boy and more like a man, even if I'm actually aggressive and tenacious.... that's just the way you have to be in this league.

"My main asset is my fitness and determination. And I think I've got a decent left foot. My aim, every game, is to be better than the winger I'm playing against, and not let anyone past me.

"One of the things I've noticed is the great range of people in this team- the funny ones, the quiet ones, the serious ones - but we've all got very close, very quickly. The training weekend at Bournemouth was a great laugh and really helped bond the team. Now we're all on the same page and our spirit is really, really good. We really don't want to get beat.

"The manager has impressed me as well; Bobby's really enthusiastic and has a great philosophy. I think we're going to go places".

**F**reddie started off at Oxford United, playing his way through the youth teams for a couple of years before making it to the first team squad.

"I never got to play in the first team but was involved when we won promotion from league two. Then the disappointment of being released... but Oxford City came straight in for me and

I decided to get as many games for them as I could, preparing for the next level. I played about 80 times over the last two years. Now I'm ready to keep moving up and up".

Freddie grew up in Reading (and still lives there, with his family) so I didn't expect him to know much about the history of our club - but he knew of all the young stars who have been showcased by the Stones on the way to a glittering career.

"You know who'll probably be sponsoring your no.3 shirt?" I asked him. "Stuart Pearce - he's done it every season since I can remember".

"No way! Stuart Pearce? That's amazing! That's the mark of this club - great players who don't forget their roots. When do I get to meet him?!"

I've got a feeling Freddie will be around long enough to be introduced to the great man....



**Just a reminder that Stuart Pearce could rock a dodgy hairdo too. Our Stu in 1984**



Pic. STEVE FOSTER aqueoussun@googlemail.com



**FREDDIE GRANT**



# From the General Manager

**W**elcome all to our match here at The Vale today versus our old friends Concord Rangers who have made a very strong start to the new campaign.

Away from the action of the pitch (and very entertaining it has been!) it has, as ever, been extremely busy with much and possibly unseen activity taking place within and around the club. By way of information and to update apart from BAU, my main focus during the summer have been in several areas of work:

## \* REBUILDING AND STRENGTHENING THE MEDIA TEAM -

We welcome new joint match day photographers Geoff Smith and Dan Finill to the team. They will alternate covering matches and you will have already seen some of their great work which will develop as the season progresses. We also welcome Charlie Hoare as our creative videographer and he will also focus also on building our Instagram pages and other platforms. Charlie is also working with a team on a special video project that will be announced soon. You will have already seen some of Charlie's great video work. With the departure of my colleague Chris Woods who has gained a professional media job at Aldershot FC we currently have a vacancy for reporting and other SM work at the club - a very important area of work to effectively promote the club - hour by hour!! Let me know if you or know some one who is interested. We can only do this work via voluntary assistance so we do need people to step forward. But don't think I am sitting here waiting! - I'm not - and neither can we afford to, so I am actively working with our partners at UCFB to find some candidates. Our best wishes go to Chris and also to Craig Whitehead for their fantastic work. We will continue to see both at the club from time to time and I am personally very grateful for their help recently, stepping in during such a busy time.

## \* SPECIAL PROJECT ACTIVITY -

I am currently working as part of a team including Board members on a major and innovative, fund raising project. As matters progress and we approach a launch date we will announce more news

## \* COMMERCIAL -

As part of our wider commercial activity I took over responsibility for advertising renewals and have been working closely with existing and some new advertisers, with Rory and Andy Lavin focussing on major sponsorships. You will see new boards around the ground and other sponsors. Please support our advertisers whenever you can and always mention Wealdstone FC! May I take this opportunity on behalf of the club to thank Carol for all her hard work on building our advertising and promotional work with outside organisations

Working with Graham Tallman and Alan Hill we have also successfully launched the new [WEALDSTONE-FC.COM](http://WEALDSTONE-FC.COM) website. We hope you like the changes and refreshed look and of course the site will be continually developed as we gain feedback and iron out any glitches.

I would like to thank Graham for his work behind the scenes with Alan for getting us to launch date - much hard work has been done.

Recently I have had some major family and domestic commitments so I will be missing today but here in spirit as always. My grateful thanks to Stephen Brooks one of our new volunteers for stepping in to cover my press duties today

Up the Stones

Nick





WEALDSTONE v CONCORD RANGERS

BY MARK RANDALL

# Supporters' Scene

OUR TWITTER FEED: @WfcMegastore & @WFCSC1 WFC MEGASTORE: www.wfcmegastore.co.uk

**G**ood Afternoon  
Everyone and welcome  
to today's Vanarama  
National League South  
game against our old friends  
Concord Rangers. I hope that  
all the supporters, players  
and officials have a good  
afternoon at the Vale and a  
safe journey back.

Concord, like us, are a much-changed side that come to us after having an excellent start to the season. With four wins and draw from their first five games they sit second on goal difference. After two fantastic victories ourselves against Woking and Dartford you could argue that this is an early season 6 pointer!

Before I go on to tell you about the new products in the megastore and other activities I wanted to talk about my experiences on the board so far.

I have been to three board meetings so far and I can tell you that everyone is working towards the same goal of a successful Wealdstone Football Club. Each director has a piece of the puzzle that they are working and it has been an eye opener on some of the work needed behind the scenes.

Bobby and his team are working hard for success on the pitch and off it changes are happening. The aquarium bar is being renovated and there is a new scoreboard on order which is part of the Wenzel's sponsorship. Rory Fitzgerald is leading these and deserves a lot of credit for these.

I, myself, am part for a team that is putting together a fundraising scheme to be launched shortly and be combined with the Q&A which was originally planned for preseason. I am hoping that in the next few months you will see much more communication coming out from the board. I have also been asked to become the club's respect director which is a new role this year created by the National League. For



guidance the league have issued a roles and duties document comprising eleven points which are mainly for the playing staff however there are two that are significant to supporters; -

**10. Ensure any use of flares or pyrotechnics is reported to the League Office after a match – Home or Away - along with the Match Result Form by the Club Secretary.**

**11. To oversee how supporters or anyone at a match behave and where this falls below the standards set by the Club, to deal robustly with such actions, using the Club Safety Officer, Police Liaison Officer or any other nominated person in the club; and to apply action in compliance with Ground Safety Regulations.**

Each time there is an offence it is reported to the FA who subsequently charge the club. Last season there were too many of these incidents which in the short term increase our stewarding costs and workload however eventually there will be a fine from the FA. Last season we spent considerably more on stewarding than was budgeted. This money needed to be spent to ensure the safety of the supporters but it was money that came directly out of the playing budget. Our club is based on volunteers who work very hard to deliver what you see on a matchday but what you don't see is the effort behind the scenes before a ball is kicked. Having to deal with these incidents take a lot of time and effort and takes away with being able to drive the club forward.

This season we have already been charged by the FA for the fan who ran on the pitch against Woking. This is a clear breach of the ground regulations and the offender has been identified and banned from the ground until January.

Going forward any future pitch invaders

## WEALDSTONE v CONCORD RANGERS



Going forward any future pitch invaders will be subject to a one-year minimum ban. This is not something that the board takes likely but we must take proactive approach to ensure that future occurrences are minimised. I know that this will not impact the vast majority of supporters reading this as they are responsible fans who do not want wish financial penalties on the club. Football is a passionate game which is played and watched in high spirits but in this case, there is literally a line that cannot be crossed. Please expect further official announcements on this front.

On a lighter note the megastore has a vast array of new products this season. We now, after many years, have a new club tie for £8. Cook in style with our new Wealdstone apron at £10. Programme aficionados can

now purchase three difference sizes of binder for their cherished collection. The original creation designed for our programmes is now joined by its two big brothers that house football league and A4 England style programmes. For more details and pricing please come to the Megastore or visit

[www.wfcmegastore.co.uk](http://www.wfcmegastore.co.uk)

Don't forget to visit Mim for your Golden Goals and if you do have a question, comment or query you can now contact me on Twitter through our new WFCSC Twitter profile @WFCSC1. Up the Stones

Mark



## Poppaganda.... A Pop-Up Update

BY CLIVE LEAPER

**F**or those not familiar with the set up in the clubhouse pre match a quick guide..

A pop up bar as you enter the clubhouse is the one stop shop for purchasing your (award winning) programme, entry tickets to the ground - adult, concession and under 18, take advantage of the ability to pre order a half time drink and enjoy the warm smugness as you simply hand in your beer voucher to pick up your pint in a relaxing fashion whilst all around others take their luck in getting served in the general mad half time rush (so much more civilised). Along with this we offer the chance to win and win big with the relaunched predicta score where guessing the correct score along with the ten minute period of play the first goal's

scored in sees the winner walk off with the winnings all for a modest £2 outlay. The total creeps up with rollovers , any profits to towards social club projects. The beer garden furniture being one example.

At today's game we welcome the return of our favourite couple, Sally and Tom, to serve you all of the above schemes and generally field whatever general enquiries you may have whether it's your first time in the club and want to know where the loos are of you want to know where to find the club shop or one of the directors, we can generally point you in the right direction.

Our Tom recently graduated as professor of Pop Up

Ology, here's a picture of him being presented with his award by a wizard.





Gordon and his grandson Zak. That doesn't look like the Wenzel's stand!

# GORDON SHEAD

WEALDSTONE  
v CONCORD R



## 'What gets my goat at football? People on mobile phones!'

## Fan in the Stand

**W**e seem to be having a bit of a 'family' theme recently - last time it was the last of the Wenzels, 10-year-old Lucas, and this week we start with the Shead dynasty.

**GORDON** is first off with his memories of watching the Stones for an amazing 56 years (obviously originally as a babe-in-arms) and then we'll follow up with his son Alan and 15-year-old grandson Zak in the next two programmes. All fascinating tales and a reflection of how our club is becoming more family-friendly. Or at least the football is good enough to inspire new generations of support....

**Where do you live, Gordon?** I've lived in Northwood for the past 34 years. Before that, in Belmont Circle as a youth

**Are you working?** I'm retired after being a postman in Harrow for 34 years.

**First Stones game attended?** Barnet away, at Underhill, London Senior Cup, midweek in the 1961/62 season... lost 5-0!

**What or who persuaded you to become a Stones fan?** A group of friends from Belmont secondary school.

**Do you follow any other team?** Yes, Wolves. (Pictured left, they win the 2003 play-off final at the Millennium Stadium and Gordon's in there somewhere)

**Do you prefer lower-League football?**

Yes, I like swapping ends at half time.

Any disadvantages? If the weather is bad the game often gets called off (sorry Fingers).

**How do you fit watching football, and Wealdstone, into your family/working life?**

Easy as I'm retired. I don't drive, so away games have to be near to public transport.

**How big a part of your life is the game?**



Large part in the season, but cricket, Middlesex CC and Lord's takes over in the summer.

**Most memorable game/s you've EVER seen?** England vs Portugal 1966 World Cup semi-final and Wolves vs Sheff Utd at the Millennium Stadium play off final.. attended both. Great games.

**And most memorable Wealdstone game, and moment?** Boston at Wembley! And Stones vs Scarborough, the game played on a Sunday morning at Lower Mead in 1985 when we were chasing their Conference title. Won 1-0.

**What really gets your goat watching football?** People on mobile phones.

**Have you ever played the game yourself?** No

**Any suggestions to improve your Stones-watching experience at the Vale?** Make Wenzels stand longer, and go the full length of the pitch.

**Favourite current Wealdstone line-up?** Too early to say, got to be better than last year. More passion, drive and desire please!

**Favourite all-time Stones line-up?** Can't pick an 11 but love to remember my old heroes, Viv Evans, Arthur Peel, Charlie Townsend, Matt Farrell and Ray Fowler. The Cordice brothers are in there too, with the modern legends of North and Jolly.

**Best away trips to watch football?** Coastal trips.

**What was your highlight of last season?** It's hard, probably the FA Trophy run especially the game versus Hereford.

**Best non-League ground you've visited?** Maidenhead, anywhere really except Earlsomgoue.

**Best stadium you've EVER visited?** Anfield

**Where do you like to stand (or sit) at the Vale?** To the left behind the goal.

**What are your expectations for the Stones for this season?** Playoffs.

**How does the current programme compare with others you see?** Best there is

**Any articles or features that you'd like to see?** Elmslie Ender is always a good read.

**What do you think of the bars and catering at The Vale?** Any beers or food you'd like to be added? Don't use them but my grandson Zak says the burgers are very good.

**Do you buy much at the clubshop?** Not really - occasionally a mug from the cup run.

**Finally, where do you see the club in five years' time?** Conference - national league. But club has to be secure with the right infrastructure, and safe and secure.

Name the game: What was going on here? Answers at the foot of this page (no cheating!)



Wealdstone v Hastings United at Lower Mead in the FA Trophy 2nd round, February 1974. Stones had just been awarded their third penalty of the afternoon, a Hastings defender was sent off for arguing and skipper John Jefferson (far right) led his team off the field in protest. Ten minutes later they were persuaded to return and George Duck rified in his penalty hat-trick... we won 5-2.

# ACTION REPLAY

Monday 13th August 2018 - Grosvenor Vale  
National League South - Attendance 1323



# 1

Lench

## LINE-UP

North  
Tyler  
Stevens  
Okimo  
Grant  
Green  
Ahmidi  
Poku  
Monakana  
White  
Pratt

### Subs used:

Mitchell  
Bubb  
Lench

### Not used:

Mambo  
Clarke



## FIRST HALF

Woking looked the livelier of the sides early doors with Nicky Wheeler and hit man Max Kretzschmar stretching Stones back line down the flanks; but these days Wealdstone look defensively better equipped but nevertheless the pressure was there and with the large away following urging on the Cards they had to be on the alert. Jon North was being called into action as several crosses and corners tested the former Watford gloveman but he was equal to what was being thrown at him. Several injuries ensued as the battle intensified with no quarter being asked for or given. Most notably Cards Jake Hyde had to hobble off as Stones gradually worked themselves into the contest in a greater attacking sense and were beginning to unsettle the Cards back line. Good midfield skills from Wadah Ahmidi opened up space but the linkage with Joe White and Dave Pratt wasn't quite working with several balls overplayed in good areas.

Near the end of the first period after a spell of increasing Stones pressure Woking suddenly burst back into life and could have taken the lead but North pulled off an outstanding point blank save and then had to get down to scoop away an awkward long range strike from a freekick.



## SECOND HALF

tones threw off any remaining shackles after the turn-around and attacked with ferocity almost from the whistle. Pratt when down in the area on 52 minutes with what looked like a stone wall penalty but Referee Miles was having none of it and waved away vehement appeals.

Godfrey Poku, magnificent in the midfield as an enforcer set Pratt away but the work horse striker was off target and not for the first time on the night.

The pressure on the beleaguered away side continued to mount as their attacking prowess dropped off alarmingly. Bradly Bubb entered the fray for Joe White as Wealdstone searched for an opening to win the game. Shots rained in - a powerful effort from Rhys Tyler was saved brilliantly by German stopper Berti Schotteri. Substitute Matt Lench was making his presence felt and a mazy run into the box drew a foul that was again waved away to the dismay of players and fans alike.

But the pressure finally told. Pratt was bundled over in the area after another great run and the spot kick was awarded with Lench smashing the ball past Schotteri with aplomb.

There was still time for more drama as the clock ran down when Cards defender Dan Spence was shown red for a second booking to add salt to the wounds of defeat.



# 0

## LINE-UP

Schotteri  
Gayle  
Spence  
Ferdinand  
Kretzschmar  
Hodges  
Kinda-John  
Wheeler  
Collier  
Casey  
Hyde  
Subs  
Mason  
Young  
Cook  
Saraiva  
Young  
Acheampong

# ACTION REPLAY

Saturday 18th August 2018 - Princes Park - National League South  
Attendance 981



# 0

## LINE-UP

Ibrahim  
Driver  
Vint  
Bonner  
Onyemah  
Isaac  
Roast  
Oyenuga  
Murphy  
Greenhoalgh  
Sam-Yorke  
**Subs used:**  
Cue  
Ighorae  
**Not used:**  
Phillpot  
Nicholls  
Mensah



## FIRST HALF

Wilkinson had brought in Bubb in place of Stevenage loanee striker Joe White for this tricky encounter and the move paid dividends with the former Ebbsfleet striker scoring two excellent goals to give his side a strong first half lead that rocked their hosts to the core.

Bubb took advantage of some lax Dartford defending to put Stones ahead from an acute angle. Wealdstone gloveman Jon North did well to keep out a powerful strike from Ben Greenhalgh but the visitors were always looking to be in the ascendancy with their strong pressing and high tempo style. Monakana and David Pratt both went close before Bubb netted again from close range on the half hour mark after Pratt's excellent header had bounced off the cross bar from a corner ball.



## SECOND HALF

Monakana sealed the match early in the second period with a superb strike. The midfielder cut in from the wide left position and found the back of the net via the underside of the bar from fully 25 yards out.

Stones continued to dominate the match with their defence and midfield outstanding and they counter attacked almost at will not allowing the Darts any real opportunity to stage a fight back. Bubb and Monakana could have added to their tally's late on. The best opportunity for a Darts consolation was sub Manny Ighorae's late effort on goal but North was equal to it.

Words - Nick DuGard



# 3

Bubb 17, 32.  
Monakana 35

## LINE-UP

North  
Tyler  
Stevens  
Okimo  
Grant  
Green  
Ahmidi  
Poku  
Monakana  
Bubb  
Pratt  
**Subs used:**  
Mitchell  
White  
**Not used:**  
Mambo  
Clarke  
Lench



Pic. Steve Foster  
aqueoussun@googlemail.com



# Social Club Scene

**I**t's been a busy Summer at Ruislip Social club and there's plenty still going on. England's success in the World Cup resulted in some great afternoons and evenings at the club as the bars were packed out with both familiar faces and a good number of new faces. Ensuring the club is well used over the Summer and we keep earning revenue outside of the football season is critical to our financial success.

Don't forget that we have Sky and BT Sports and endeavour to show all the live games at the club so if you fancy catching a game with a pint, pop down and make use of the club house.

Last year was a record year for bar takings with a number of successful visits from fans on their way to Wembley (Man City, Southampton, Aston Villa and Shrewsbury) as well as the sell-out FA Trophy semi-final against Brackley. A huge thanks to all the volunteers who help make the Wembley visits such a success for both us and our visitors. We never fail to get positive feedback and it's a great way show this great club in a positive light.

In the next few weeks, we're embarking on some major refurbishments as we look to improve the Aquarium Bar and main hall. Thanks to our always supportive sponsors GPF Lewis, the Aquarium bar will be transformed into a facility that will hopefully impress sponsors and investors as we seek ways to grow our income streams.

Matchday's remain hugely important to us and we've taken the bold decision of avoiding bookings on a Saturday night when we have a home fixture to ensure there's enough space for matchday users. As always, try and support the bar on matchdays and enjoy the televised football before and after the game. As well as supporting infrastructure improvements, we're trying to divert more and more funds towards the playing budget as we seek to grow the club on and off the pitch. Your custom is hugely appreciated.

## Live Music

Ruislip Social Club continues to build its reputation as one of the best live music venues in the area and Tropic at Ruislip have been hosting tribute bands on every Friday and Saturday in August. These are cracking

nights so if you get a chance to go along you won't be disappointed. Some forthcoming gigs are listed below;

### Friday 31 August

**Real to Reel** (Tribute to Marillion)

### Friday 7 September

**It Must Be Madness**

### Friday 14 September

**Dizzy Lizzy**

### Friday 21 September

**ACDC UK**

### Friday 28 September

**Absolute Bowie**

Tickets for all of the above gigs are available from [www.tropicatruislip.co.uk](http://www.tropicatruislip.co.uk) or on the door (subject to availability)

## CLUB FUND RAISER -

**Legend** – The Bob Marley Experience

After our game versus Chelmsford on Saturday 15 September, we have our first club fundraiser of the season when we see the return of Legend – The Bob Marley Experience. Tickets are priced at £15 and it would be great to see as many Wealdstone fans as possible support this event. The proceeds go directly to the playing budget and we have a pretty stretching target for fundraising this season so please help us get off to a good start.

## POP UP BAR

The success of the pop up bar continues to grow and for those not familiar with the concept you can buy a programme or match ticket in the bar before the game as well as pre-ordering your half time drink. Not only that, you're more than likely to be served by one of our high profile celebrity supporters such as Clive Leaper, so make sure you give this great service a try.

## TWITTER

You can follow Ruislip Social Club on Twitter at [@RuislipSC](https://twitter.com/RuislipSC). We have over 2,000 followers now so if you want to keep in touch with events then join our followers.

Enjoy the game and if you have any views on how we can improve the social club experience, let us know.

Dom



# MATCH SPONSORS

## WEALDSTONE v CONCORD MATCH SPONSORS









A great way to celebrate a special occasion or advertise your organisation's support of Wealdstone FC, match sponsorship packages start at just **£295** (fans) or **£395** (corporate) as match day sponsor you will enjoy:

- Match tickets for up to four\* (prime main stand seats if required)
- A fantastic advertising package, including publicity over the PA system, website and social media
- Boardroom hospitality includes a superb array of culinary delights post-match, courtesy of in-house caterer Lynn Evans.
- Match-day programmes for all in your party
- VIP car parking
- Name and present the 'Man of the Match' Award
- A memento of your day

Please note that we can accommodate **multiple match sponsors** and can **tailor the experience** to whatever your requirements. For example, we can cater for as many as **25 people** in our **hospitality lounge**. This facility has just undergone a comprehensive £20,000 re-fit by our club sponsors GPF Lewis, so that our match sponsors and their guests are entertained in surroundings befitting such a special occasion.

You could use match sponsorship to celebrate a birthday, an anniversary or any other special event – we'll work with you to ensure you and your guests get to enjoy a truly memorable experience. If you or your organisation are interested in sponsoring a match here at The Vale, please contact Club President, **Paul Rumens (paulrumens59@gmail.com)**, or call **07710 929692** to discuss.

MATCH	SPONSORS		
 <b>WESTON-SUPER-MARE</b> Saturday, 4th August Vanarama National League South	Sentinel7		
 <b>WOKING</b> Monday, 13th August Vanarama National League South	Wealdstone FC Supporters Club		
 <b>CONCORD RANGERS</b> Saturday, 25th August Vanarama National League South	Barry Eynon - in memory of John O'Connor		
 <b>TRURO CITY</b> Saturday, 1st September Vanarama National League South	Optima Site Solutions		
 <b>CHELMSFORD CITY</b> Saturday, 15th September Vanarama National League South	Optima Site Solutions		
 <b>HAMPTON &amp; RICHMOND</b> Saturday, 13th October Vanarama National League South	David Leigh		
 <b>TORQUAY UNITED</b> Saturday, 27th October Vanarama National League South	The Jeffersons	Martin Allen	Your Name Here?
 <b>GLOUCESTER CITY</b> Monday, 29th October Vanarama National League South	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 <b>BATH CITY</b> Saturday, 10th November Vanarama National League South	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 <b>EASTBOURNE BOROUGH</b> Saturday, 1st December Vanarama National League South	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 <b>SLOUGH TOWN</b> Wednesday, 26th December Vanarama National League South	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?

MATCH	SPONSORS		
 <b>OXFORD CITY</b> Saturday, 29th December Vanarama National League South	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 <b>DARTFORD</b> Saturday, 5th January Vanarama National League South	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 <b>HUNGERFORD TOWN</b> Saturday, 19th January Vanarama National League South	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 <b>BILLERICAY TOWN</b> Saturday, 2nd February Vanarama National League South	Mace	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 <b>ST. ALBANS CITY</b> Saturday, 16th February Vanarama National League South	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 <b>WELLING UNITED</b> Saturday, 9th March Vanarama National League South	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 <b>CHIPPENHAM TOWN</b> Saturday, 23rd March Vanarama National League South	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 <b>EAST THURROCK UNITED</b> Saturday, 6th April Vanarama National League South	Jon Taffel	ProKit UK	Your Name Here?
 <b>DULWICH HAMLET</b> Saturday, 20th April Vanarama National League South	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?
 <b>HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN</b> Saturday, 27th April Vanarama National League South	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?	Your Name Here?



# WEALDSTONE FC

## FIXTURES & RESULTS — SEASON 2018 / 2019

☐ = Yellow Card	⚽ = Goal	⇌ = 2nd Player Substituted	NLS = National League South	MCC = Middlesex Charity Cup
☒ = Red Card	⚪ = Penalty	⇌ = 2nd Substitute Used	FAC = FA Cup	
S = Straight Red	→ = 1st Player Substituted	⇌ = 3rd Player Substituted	FAT = FA Trophy	
⬢ = Man of the Match	← = 1st Substitute Used	⇌ = 3rd Substitute Used	MSC = Middlesex Senior Cup	

				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14	15	16	17/GK		
4	WESTON-SUPER-MARE	NLS	4-1	750	2	North	Tyler	Grant	Stevens	Okimo	Poku	White	Ahmidi	Pratt	Green	Hudson-Odoi	Bubb	Mambo	Lench	Monakana	Sheppard
7	Hungerford Town	NLS	1-1	435	5	North	Tyler	Sheppard	Stevens	Okimo	Poku	White	Ahmidi	Pratt	Green	Hudson-Odoi	Bubb	Mambo	Brown	Lench	Monakana
11	Billericay Town	NLS	0-1	1,152	11	North	Tyler	Grant	Stevens	Okimo	Poku	Monakana	Ahmidi	Pratt	White	Hudson-Odoi	Bubb	Mambo	Green	Wilson	Clark
13	WOKING	NLS	1-0	1,323	8	North	Tyler	Grant	Stevens	Okimo	Poku	Monakana	Ahmidi	Pratt	Green	White	Bubb	Mambo	Lench	Clark	Mitchell
18	Dartford	NLS	3-0	981	5	North	Tyler	Grant	Stevens	Okimo	Poku	Monakana	Ahmidi	Pratt	Green	Bubb	White	Mambo	Mitchell	Clark	Lench
25	CONCORD RANGERS	NLS	---	---	---																
27	Oxford City	NLS	---	---	---																
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>																					
1	TRURO CITY	NLS	---	---	---																
8	Dulwich Hamlet	NLS	---	---	---																
15	CHELMSFORD CITY	NLS	---	---	---																
22	TO BE DECIDED	FAC20	---	---	---																
29	East Thurrock United	NLS	---	---	---																
<b>OCTOBER</b>																					
6	TO BE DECIDED	FAC30	---	---	---																
13	HAMPTON & RICHOND	NLS	---	---	---																
20	Hemel Hempstead Town	NLS	---	---	---																
27	TORQUAY UNITED	NLS	---	---	---																
29	GLOUCESTER CITY	NLS	---	---	---																
<b>NOVEMBER</b>																					
3	Welling United	NLS	---	---	---																
10	BATH CITY	NLS	---	---	---																
17	Chippenham Town	NLS	---	---	---																
24	TO BE DECIDED	FAT30	---	---	---																
<b>DECEMBER</b>																					
1	EASTBOURNE BOROUGH	NLS	---	---	---																
8	St Albans City	NLS	---	---	---																
15	TO BE DECIDED	FAT1P	---	---	---																
22	Truro City	NLS	---	---	---																
26	SLOUGH TOWN	NLS	---	---	---																
29	OXFORD CITY	NLS	---	---	---																
<b>JANUARY</b>																					
1	Slough Town	NLS	---	---	---																
5	DARTFORD	NLS	---	---	---																
12	Concord Rangers	NLS	---	---	---																
19	HUNGERFORD TOWN	NLS	---	---	---																
26	Woking	NLS	---	---	---																
<b>FEBRUARY</b>																					
2	BILLERICAY TOWN	NLS	---	---	---																
8	Weston-super-Mare	NLS	---	---	---																
16	ST ALBANS CITY	NLS	---	---	---																
23	Eastbourne Borough	NLS	---	---	---																
<b>MARCH</b>																					
2	Gloucester City	NLS	---	---	---																
9	WELLING UNITED	NLS	---	---	---																
16	Bath City	NLS	---	---	---																
23	CHIPPENHAM TOWN	NLS	---	---	---																
30	Torquay United	NLS	---	---	---																
<b>APRIL</b>																					
6	EAST THURROCK UTD	NLS	---	---	---																
13	Hampton & Richmond	NLS	---	---	---																
20	DULWICH HAMLET	NLS	---	---	---																
22	Chelmsford City	NLS	---	---	---																
27	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TN	NLS	---	---	---																



ABOVE: Bradley Bubb's calmly rounds the keeper to fire home our first goal at Dartford last Saturday - pictures courtesy of Adam Williams

### FRIENDLY RESULTS 2018/2019

June 30 **Bracknell Town** (Away) **D 3-3**  
Bubb, Monakana (2)

July 9 **Marlow** (Away) **W 1-0**  
Pratt

July 14 **Swindon Supermarine** (Away) **W 1-0**  
Bubb

July 17 **Maidenhead United** (Home) **D 0-0**

July 21 **Aldershot Town** (Home D) **1-1**  
Hudson-Odoi

July 24 **Staines Town** (Away) **W 5-2**  
Pratt (2), White, Monakana, Lench

July 28 **Bromley** (Home) **L 1-2**  
Bubb

July 31 **Cardiff City** (Home)





# The World of Ball

BY MARTIN READ



WEALDSTONE v CONCORD  
WORLD OF BALL

## Forget August to April, September to May would be better for non-league

The definition of madness, as I'm sure we are all familiar with by now, is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result. So sure, the non-league game has been carefully restructured over the last two decades, with new IT making it ever easier for local fans to connect with their local clubs. But still, every season we continue to start the non-league campaign in August, just like all the other professional leagues. And because of this, we lose any opportunity to capitalise on the unique identity and (ugh) "brand" that non-league football so clearly has.

Obviously there's so much to be said about the sense of freshness at the beginning of each season. It's about renewal, rebirth, unchartered opportunity, awakening. Every August the future's bright. Forget the arithmetic - the trifling fact that just two of 22 can ultimately progress upward; at this stage, anything's possible. Logic goes out the window. Last year's 19th is this year's title. Things might. They just might.

So a season's start is always an exciting thing. Indeed this year there's even a whole new tier of leagues. My point is that I think we throw all of this novelty away. The non-league game's uniquely individual sense of annual renewal is drowned out by all the colour supplements, screaming Sky Sports



Random picture of Stones' celebration at Dartford courtesy of Adam Williams

pundits, the minutiae leading up to transfer deadline day and all the other mass media coverage that surrounds the sport's big boys.

Here's my issue: By the first weekend of September, we in the National League South will have completed fully one sixth of our league campaign already. This despite August being the only full month that families with children can go away on holiday. It's surely borderline insane to start the season when so many impressionable members of football's next generation of supporters are all out doing other things with their parents; families forced away from home during the school holiday period of late July to the first week of September.

What non-league football needs is to say sod it, let the fully professional game have August. Let them shout loudly about Mourinho this, Klopp that. Let's instead loudly trumpet our own unique start time and make the first weeks of September the start to the semi-pro season. Below are my reasons why.

### 1 Local connections

For a tier of football that depends not so much on history but on developing an association between local people and their local clubs, a September start would offer a clearer, more distinct identity to the non-

league season. It wouldn't get lost amongst all the professional game's fanfare and hoopla. Non-league day could be the first day of the non-league season, tying in with the early September international break. A separate, fresh start to the football season. A nice little phase-shift: Same sport, different diary.

### 2 Schooling a new generation

For kids, the return to school would be linked directly to the first day of the season. New term, new targets, new kit, new players, new opposition. Synchronise all of that the newness! Create that bond, make that psychological connection between supporter and club. Start when the schools start back. Connect the season to conkers; fix the season to the sights and smells of impending autumn. Liniment. A sense of change in the air and not all that incongruous, mid-summer heat.

### 3 Making May matter

A September start would allow May to be a month of fresh footballing drama following on from the final days of the professional sea-

son. A September start would mean an end of the season on the final May bank holiday. So yeah, you heard me - actually playing throughout the full month of May. Next to no international concerns to consider for our players, so why not? Perhaps have the play off finals on that final Spring Bank Holiday weekend, or indeed the weekend after. For followers of the professional game, whose seasons will have finished earlier, it would be an opportunity to support their local team's last push for promotion or whatever having closed the book on their own club's exploits.

### 4 A better showcase

I know the BBC in particular does well by the FA Cup. Instead of some random choice of FA Cup preliminary round tie, imagine this on Football Focus: "On today's programme an interview with Fulham new boy Andreas Schurrle, the top 10 reasons why Mourinho's on his way out - and as the non-league season begins, we look at the clubs and players to watch." A distinct identity, distinctively profiled. It would be as if the 'regular' game had been added to. More opportunities to promote the uniqueness of non-league.

### 5 A scout's paradise

Having the non-league season end in the last week of May would allow big club scouts, without the distractions of other divisions, to scout players at their peak in their most important matches.

Look, I know this proposal is far from perfect. For instance, I'm well aware that there's no obvious way to include the FA Cup in a later season start, especially given the extra preliminary round seems to start earlier

each year. But I refuse to believe something couldn't be arranged. The non-league game is going ever greater guns these days, no doubt fuelled by traditional fans' anger over being ripped off by the professional game's ticket and TV prices. But it's still operating in the shadow of the big boys. Shifting the season out of phase by a month or so could make for a very positive change indeed. Because the definition of madness, as I'm sure we are all familiar with by now, is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result.

**"The return to school would be linked to the first day of the season"**



# BALL SPONSORS

A traditional package for businesses (from £175 + vat) or fans (from £150) that will give you the satisfaction of knowing you have paid for the ball that Wealdstone FC are banging into the net (or out of the ground...).

As the match ball donor you will enjoy:

- 2x Match tickets (+ car parking space)
- Prime seats in the main stand if required
- Publicity over the PA system and via the official club website and social media
- Boardroom hospitality (half time refreshments, snacks and hot food after the game)
- Bar allowance
- 2x Match-day programmes

If you or your organisation are interested in donating the matchball for a home match then please contact club President, Paul Rumens (paulrumens59@gmail.com) or call 07710 929692)



## WEALDSTONE v CONCORD BALL SPONSORS

BECOME A 2018/2019 BALL SPONSOR BY GETTING IN TOUCH ON 07710 929692

### Bromley

28th JULY - PRE-SEASON FRIENDLY  
• Alan Couch



### Weston-super-Mare

4th AUGUST - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Alan Hill  
• Simon Stephens



### Woking

13th AUGUST - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Your name and details here  
• Your name and details here



### Concord Rangers

25th AUGUST - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Barry O'Sullivan



### Truro City

1ST SEPTEMBER - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Alan Couch  
• Mike & Val Weston



### Chelmsford City

15th SEPTEMBER - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Your name and details here  
• Your name and details here



### Hampton & Richmond

13th OCTOBER - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Your name and details here  
• Your name and details here



### Torquay United

27th OCTOBER - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Your name and details here  
• Your name and details here



### Gloucester City

29th OCTOBER - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Your name and details here  
• Your name and details here



### Bath City

10th NOVEMBER - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Your name and details here  
• Your name and details here



### Eastbourne Borough

1st DECEMBER - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Tony & Peter Drew



### Slough Town

26th DECEMBER - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Your name and details here  
• Your name and details here



### Oxford City

29th DECEMBER - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Your name and details here  
• Your name and details here



### Dartford

5th JANUARY - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Terry Hissey



### Hungerford Town

19th JANUARY - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Your name and details here  
• Your name and details here



### Billericay Town

2nd FEBRUARY - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Your name and details here  
• Your name and details here



### St.Albans City

16th FEBRUARY - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• In memory of Jim Klarfeld



### Welling United

9th MARCH - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Your name and details here  
• Your name and details here



### Chippenham Town

23rd MARCH - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Your name and details here  
• Your name and details here



### East Thurrock United

6th APRIL - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Your name and details here  
• Your name and details here



### Dulwich Hamlet

20th APRIL - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• 'In memory of Wealdstone Fans no longer with us': Ron Moore, Dave Edwards, Tony & Peter Drew



### Hemel Hempstead Town

27th APRIL - VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH  
• Your name and details here  
• Your name and details here



## WEALDSTONE U18's 2018/2019 SPORTWIK ISTHMIAN YOUTH LEAGUE



### AUGUST

Wednesday	15th	Hanwell Town	H	<i>Friendly</i>	W 1-0
Thursday	23rd	Potters Bar Town	A		
Wednesday	29th	Hayes & Yeading	A	<i>League Cup 1rd</i>	

### SEPTEMBER

Wednesday	12th	HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH	H		
Wednesday	19th	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN	H		

### OCTOBER

Wednesday	10th	BEDFONT SPORTS	H		
Tuesday	23rd	Ashford Town	A		

### NOVEMBER

Thursday	1st	Northwood	A		
Wednesday	21st	Staines Town	A		
Thursday	29th	Camberley Town	A		

### DECEMBER

Wednesday	5th	ALDERSHOT TOWN	H		
Wednesday	12th	Hayes & Yeading United	A		

### JANUARY

Wednesday	9th	POTTERS BAR TOWN	H		
Wednesday	16th	Hampton & Richmond Borough	A		
Monday	21st	Bedfont Sports	A		
Wednesday	30th	ASHFORD TOWN	H		

### FEBRUARY

Wednesday	6th	NORTHWOOD	H		
Wednesday	13th	STAINES TOWN	H		
Wednesday	20th	CAMBERLEY TOWN	H		
Monday	25th	Aldershot Town	A		

### MARCH

Wednesday	6th	HAYES & YEADING UNITED	H		
-----------	-----	------------------------	---	--	--

		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Aldershot Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Ashford Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Bedfont Sports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Camberley Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Hampton & Richmond	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Hayes & Yeading United	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Northwood	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Potters Bar Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Staines Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Wealdstone	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

# CONCORD RANGERS

## WEALDSTONE v CONCORD OPPOSITION IN FOCUS

# Opposition in focus



**C**oncord Rangers originated from a team of boys headed by Steve Lant. They played friendly matches during 1966 on a pitch along the Canvey Island seafront close to the Concord Beach hence the name Concord Rangers and the nickname The Beach Boys.

**1967** – Albert Lant, Steve's father and current Club President became the team manager and took the club into competitive football. The Club joined the Thundermite Boys Football League.

**1973** – Concord joined the Vange and District League and during this period they won several league and cup honours.

**1979** – Concord became the first winners of the Essex Sunday Junior Trophy managed by current Secretary Chris Crierie with a 4 – 0 win over Bishops Park from Brentwood..

Saturday football was introduced to the club when Concord joined the Mid Essex League and played their home games at Waterside Farm on Canvey Island.

**1985** – Concord secured some land at Thames Road, Canvey Island, the club developed the clubhouse and ground with Jack Smith, current club treasurer being the mastermind behind the project, he organised the funds, labour and materials and worked many hours himself on the site. A special mention goes to the late Clive Smith ( Jack's brother ) without Clive's machinery and labour Concord's pitch would not exist also Martin

Gill, Steve Barnes, Brian Godfrey, Lee and John Slater, Rob Fletcher (Electrics) all contributed.

**1988-1989** Concord joined the Essex Intermediate League and was Divisional League and Cup Winners.

**1991-1992** Concord joined the Essex Senior League and achieved the following.

**1996-1997** Essex Senior League Cup winners defeating Ford Utd 1 – 0.

**1997-1998** Essex Senior League Championship winners  
Manager – Lee Paterson

**1999-2000** Harry Fisher Memorial Trophy winners defeating Burnham Ramblers 3 – 2

**2002-2003** Essex Senior League Runners-up

**2003-2004** Essex Senior League Championship winners  
Manager – Ben Embery

Danny Heale is the winner of the Don Douglas Trophy this season for the Leagues top scorer with a tally of 32 goals.

Founder Albert Lant retired after 25 years as Chairman in 1992 to become the Club President. Current Club Treasurer Jack Smith then held the Chairman position for two years, Grant Beglan who is the CEO at Aspect Contracts, Concord's main sponsors, then became Chairman and also held the position for two years. Antony Smith is the current Chairman and is very hands-on in his approach, under Antony's guidance the Club has seen fantastic progress these past few seasons both on the playing side and also on the development of the ground.

**2007-08** Concord Rangers 40th Anniversary season

Danny Scopes and Danny Cowley become joint managers and managed the team in this important year for the Club and they had a magnificent year, Concord ended the season winners of the Essex Senior League. Gordon Brasted Memorial Trophy winners and were Essex Senior League Cup Finalists. Concord also reached the Qtr-final of the FA Vase this season before losing 1 – 0 to Lowestoft Town who went on to reach the final

which was played at Wembley Stadium. Concord's Danny Heale won the Don Douglas Trophy for the second time as the Leagues top marksman scoring a magnificent 46 goals and setting an Essex Senior League record.

Club President, Albert Lant won an outstanding achievement award from the Essex County Football Association for 40 years unbroken service to Concord Rangers.

**2008-09** Having gained promotion from the Essex Senior League we would have been happy with a

mid table position at the end of our first season in the Ryman League Div 1 Nth. The Management team of Danny Scopes and Danny Cowley managed to get the best out of our players and we achieved a Play-off position having finished 5th. We then went on to beat East Thurrock Utd, who had finished in 2nd spot 1- 0 in the Play - off semi-final, Danny Heale scored a magnificent goal to put us through to the final and play Waltham Abbey. Concord was only 10 minutes away from playing in the Ryman Premier League this season having gone one up through Fabien Batchelor but Waltham Abbey's Harry Elmes scored in the 80th minute to take the game to penalties which Concord finally lost 5 – 4.

**2009-10** Concord win the Ryman League Div 1 Nth Play-Off final 3-1 against Enfield Town to gain promotion the Ryman Premier Division.

**2010-11** Concord had a very good first season in the Ryman Premier Division, finishing in 8th position, our aim at the start of the season was to avoid relegation therefore reaching 8th spot was very creditable but just missing out on a Play-Off position by two points was a great team effort.

**2011-12** After a poor start to the season with some key players unavailable due to injuries, Concord did not manage to play their normal style of football for several months into the season but after being in the bottom four for quite a while Concord put in an undefeated run of twelve games and at one time managed to get into a play-off position but unfortunately tailed off towards the end of the season and finally finished in 14th position.

**2012-13** A remarkable season for Concord winning the Ryman League Cup Final 3 – 2 against Dulwich Hamlet and winning the Ryman Premier League Play-Off Final 2 – 1 at Lowestoft Town to gain promotion to The Conference South, Concord reached the Essex Senior Cup Semi-Final losing 2 – 0 to Grays Athletic

**2013 -14** Having been promoted last season, Concord was looking for a position that would enable them to stay in the Conference South after seeing both AFC Hornchurch and Billericay Town relegated after just one season. Manager Danny Cowley, his Assistant Glen Alzapiedi and the Players surpassed the Clubs expectations by finishing in a very respectful 9th position and to cap a very good season Concord won the Essex Senior Cup Final.

**2014 - 15** A fine achievement in winning the Essex Senior Cup for 2nd successive year winning 5 – 0 against Billericay Town in the final and finishing 7th in the Conference South, the only negative this season was to see the Manager Danny Cowley and Danny's brother Nicky his assistant move on to pastures new with Conference Premier Braintree Town,

**2015 – 16** Adam Flanagan became Concord's new manager and did a good job in his first season at National League South level having guided Brentwood Town to the Ryman League Premier Division prior to joining Concord. Adam achieved a 10th position in the National League South which was a respectable position for the Club as well as winning the Essex Senior Cup for the 3rd year in a row.

**2016 -17** Concord had their most difficult time in the National South but managed to avoid relegation by finishing in 18th position.

**2017-18** Concord had another difficult time in the National South eventually finishing in 17th position.

### CONCORD FACTS

**GROUND** - The Aspect Arena

**CAPACITY** - 3,300

**MANAGER** - Sammy Moore

**2017/18** - National League South 17th

# CONCORD RANGERS

## OPPOSITION IN FOCUS

### THE BEACH BOYS WHO'S WHO..

#### FRAZER SHAW

Following the management team of Moore and Midson to Concord Rangers from Leatherhead over the summer, Frazer is an experienced defender who came through the youth system at West Ham before getting into the non league game with Billericay Town. A move to Dulwich Hamlet followed, before joining Leyton Orient and making 25 appearances for the club. Shaw has been on the books at East Thurrock, Woking and Eastleigh before signing for Leatherhead last season.

#### JED SMITH

Another product of the youth system here at Concord Rangers, Jed is a versatile player who can provide extra force going forward from the middle of the park, but can also be reliable and resolute in the back line. Smith shone last season as he initially covered the right back position, but soon became a regular in the side and proved to be one of the most consistent players in the side. Having committed to the Beachboys for another season, Jed will continue to improve and will be a huge presence for the club going forward

#### SAM BLACKMAN

A young and talented midfielder who joined the Moore & Midson revolution at Concord Rangers this summer, Sam joins the club having started his career at the Milwall academy from U9s through to U16s. Sam then moved to Leatherhead and established himself as a first team regular at just 17 years old. Having played in the States for America Tormenta FC, and back here for Margate before becoming a Beachboy, Sam is looking to make a positive impact on the National League South this season.

#### TYRONE STERLING

The 30-year-old defender joins Concord Rangers having spent last season as part of the Bromley side that made it to the FA Trophy final at Wembley, making 43 appearances during that time. Sterling can play as either a full-back or centre-back, and has a wealth of non-league experience having played in the Bostick Leagues all the way through to the National League. Tyrone lists Cray Wanderers, Dartford and Dover as previous clubs.

#### ARON POLLOCK

Signed for the Beachboys less than a week before the 2018/19 season, Aron is a Basildon-born defender who came through the youth system at Leyton Orient, earning a spot in the first team in 2016. Loans at Wingate & Finchley and Wealdstone followed, before he joined Leatherhead on loan and linked up with Moore & Midson. Following his release from Orient, the Leatherhead move was made permanent and this summer followed his former management team to Concord.

#### LEE MINSHULL

A product of the Charlton Athletic School of Excellence, Minshull joins Concord Rangers following a spell at Leatherhead last season. Lee began his senior career at Ramsgate before joining Tonbridge Angels and scoring 17 goals during the 2009/10 season. Minshull has played for a number of clubs including Newport County, Bromley and AFC Wimbledon, and will look to use that experience to help Concord Rangers push towards the National League.

#### RYAN HAYES

Ryan joins Concord Rangers having spent the last 13 years as part of the side at Dartford FC, being one of their longest serving players as a result. Hayes was a firm fan favourite, amassing over 400 appearances for the Darts and scoring a number of key goals. The midfielder will undoubtedly win over the fans quickly at Concord Rangers with his determined and hard working performances, and is one of the many new Beachboys looking to take the club to the next level.

#### DANNY GREEN

The right sided winger joined the Beachboys in the summer as one of the many new faces brought in by the new management team of Moore and Midson. Green started his career coming through the youth system at Charlton, and spent his early years in the game at Northampton Town, Nottingham Forest and then Bishop's Cleeve during 2008/09. Danny spent the next 8 years in Leagues One and Two with stints with Dagenham & Redbridge, Charlton, MK Dons and Luton Town, before a double leg break prevented him from taking any part in the 2016/17 season. After playing for local rivals Chelmsford City last year, Danny brings a wealth of

experience to the side.

#### ALEX WALL

Forward Alex was signed at the start of this season following his release from Dartford. Previous clubs include Bromley, Bristol Rovers, Luton Town, Maidenhead United & Thatchem Town.

#### JACK MIDSON

Assistant Manager, Followed Sammy Moore to the Beachboys in the summer having spent the previous season as Sammys number 2 at Leatherhead. Midson played alongside Moore at AFC Wimbledon, with Jack making over 120 appearances for the Dons. He also had a successful spell at Eastleigh before moving to the Tanners and forming that formidable partnership with Sammy Moore. Will be splitting duties between assistant manager and player this season much like Moore.

#### BILLY KNOTT

A player with strong ties to the club, Billy joined Concord Rangers in the summer of 2018 having played for Lincoln City for the past season & a half under former Beachboys boss Danny Cowley. Billy spent his youth career briefly at West Ham before coming through the Chelsea academy. Joining Sunderland after being released from Chelsea, Knott spent time on loan at AFC Wimbledon, Woking, Wycombe and Port Vale before signing permanently with Bradford in 2014. A year at Gillingham followed in 2016/17 before joining Lincoln initially on loan. Billy is a powerful attacking midfielder who will undoubtedly become a firm fan favourite during his time here.

#### NANA BOAKYE-YIDOM

Beginning his career with the West Ham youth academy, Nana had a successful trial at Barnsley and signed a pro contract there in 2014. Nana joined Leatherhead

after being released by Barnsley, but during this time he was dual registered at Waltham Forest where he made a handful of appearances. A year at Dulwich Hamlet followed which included a loan back to Leatherhead where he played under Sammy Moore, and it was that connection that helped bring the young and talented forward to Concord Rangers this summer.

#### ADAM TOPLEY

A graduate from the Beachboys youth system, Adam scored regularly for the under 18s during 2015/16 and on the back of those performances made a number of appearances on the first team bench towards the end of that year. Toppers continued to make appearances off the bench during 2016/17, and established himself as a first team regular last season under Adam Flanagan. Adam will be looking to continue his growth as a player under the new management team this season.



#### SAMMY MOORE MANAGER

Taking the reigns at Concord Rangers soon after the 2017/18 season ended, Sammy Moore spent the previous season leading Leatherhead to the Surrey Senior Cup final. Moore had a highly successful playing career prior to management, with memorable spells at Dover Athletic, AFC Wimbledon and then Leyton Orient where he made 34 appearances during what proved to be a trying time off the field for the Os. Sammy has already rung the changes at Concord Rangers as gaffer, and is looking to take the club to the next level from the touchline and when putting a shift in on the pitch after a couple of tough seasons here at Thames Road.

WEALDSTONE'S RECORD v CONCORD RANGERS

P 17 W 7 D 4 L 6 F 29 A 27



# APPEARANCES

**FIRST TEAM, SEASON 2018/19 as at 22nd August 2018**

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

	NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH			FA CUP			FA TROPHY			MIDDX SENIOR CUP			MIDDX CHARITY CUP			TOTALS			WEALDSTONE CAREER		
	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G
Ahmidi, Wahad	4														4			4			
Bubb, Bradley		3													3			12	5	5	
Grant, Freddie	3														3			3			
Green, Danny	3	1													3	1		99	9	25	
Hudson-Odoi, Bradley	3		1												3	1		41	8	16	
Lench, Matt		2	1												2	1		2	1		
Mambo, Yado		1													1			1			
Mitchell, Reece		1													1			1			
Monakana, Jeffrey	2	1													2	1		8	3	1	
North, Jonathan	4														4			347	1		
Okimo, Jerome	4														4			101	5	1	
Poku, Godrey	4														4			4			
Pratt, David	4		3												4	3		25	1	9	
Sheppard, Jake	1	1													1	1		13	2	1	
Stevens, Connor	4														4			4			
Tyler, Rhys	4														4			4			
White, Joe	4		1												4	1		21	4	9	
Wilson, Glenn																		20	1	1	





# CONCORD REWIND

BY TIM PARKS



**F**rom the sublime to the ridiculous...

Last week we faced Woking here at the Vale, with a shared history going back over 55 years, while today we take on Concord Rangers who only started playing senior football in 1991.

Yet there have been several momentous clashes between our two clubs since we first met 'The Beachboys' in 2011 - in fact that very first meeting was simply astonishing...

### January 29 2011, Ryman Prem: Concord Rangers 1 Wealdstone 6

WHEN Gordon Bartlett made his dramatic move to bring prolific old boy Richard Jolly back to the Stones, no one could have foreseen how the striker would transform the team in the space of a one-month loan spell.

This was his third game back in a blue shirt, Sutton United happy to let their former AFC Wimbledon striker regain his mojo in front of goal... and five games later they were clamouring to get him back to Gander Green Lane! We were rooted in mid-table. Jolls' first

# God Only Knows, the Beach Boys won't forget the name Richard Jolly

## 2011

game saw us beat Hendon 1-0 with an own goal, and he got off the mark in the next game, a 2-1 win over Hendon.

Then came this bitterly cold afternoon in deepest Essex, against a Concord Rangers outfit that had lost only one of its previous eight matches. But the Stones were magnificent!

Our brand of neat, albeit sometimes fragile, quick-fire passing football was ideally suited to Jolly's deadly poaching abilities in and around the box and he ended the game with FOUR goals to his name. Peter Dean, in his favoured striking role, got the other two including a well-taken penalty after Concord's flustered goalkeeper Dale Brightly was sent off for bringing down Jolls. Remarkably, if Jolly had taken the penalty himself he'd have been the first Stones player to score five goals in a league match since the club turned professional in 1971. Mark Graves is the only other player during the last 47 years to net five for Wealdstone but that was in a friendly against Wimbledon (now MK Dons) back in 1983.

Jolls was on fire in his loan spell, and followed up with a hat-trick in a 4-2 win at Maidstone United in the next game, and finally two goals in the 3-3 home draw with Canvey Island. Ten goals in five games: Has there ever been a better loan spell in professional football?

**Wealdstone line-up at Concord: North, Hammond, Massey, Parker, Cronin, Dyer, Spendlove, Brooks, Dean, Jolly, Chappell. Subs: Morgan, Martin (used), Gill (used), Federico (used), Leggett (GK, unused)**



*It's agony for the Stones as Peter Dean (No.9) is denied once again by on-loan keeper Callum Chambers at the Gun Turret End*

# Really Bad vibrations as we lost the play-off

## 2013

**T**he most high-profile meetings came at the end of the 2012-13 season when our clubs were jockeying for position in the the Ryman Prem play-offs.

We faced off at Grosvenor Vale in March and it was the Stones who emerged triumphant 2-1 winners thanks to two goals in the last two minutes - Esmond James levelling from Lee Chappell's corner, and then in injury time, Tom Pett chesting down an Alex Dyer pass to fire a dramatic winner. It was tough on Concord who had seen Leon McKenzie red-carded for allegedly headbutting Sean Cronin, and then taking the lead through James White in the 70th minner.

Much acrimony followed at the final whistle, with their abrasive management team (the Cawley brothers) subjected to some taunting... but Concord were to have their revenge just a few weeks later....

### Wednesday May 1st 2013, Ryman Prem play-off semi-final: Wealdstone 1 Concord Rangers 2 (after extra time)

THIS was an agonising defeat for the Stones, having set up a home play-off semi-final after finishing third in the league behind Whitehawk and runners-up Lowestoft Town.

But it was a cruel reversal of fortunes from the previous clash with Concord, the Stones this time playing all the football but conceding an 88th-minute leveller that took the game to extra time. It followed the trend

of the Stones losing out in front of a mammoth home crowd: 1,005 packed the Vale, the first home crowd of over 1,000 since the 1987-88 Conference relegation season when he had 1,700 for the visit of Barnet, 1,300 for Wycombe and 1,100 for Lincoln City. We reproduce the Essex Evening Echo report that gives a fair summary of the heartbreaking evening...

'CONCORD Rangers booked their place in Monday's Ryman Premier play-off final against Lowestoft with a heart-of-a-lion comeback win over Wealdstone after extra-time tonight.

The Stones were good value for their 62nd minute lead through the prolific Richard Jolly, but a late level-

ler from Steve King and an extra-time winner from Tony Stokes sent the Beachboys through. Wealdstone were completely dominant for the opening 20 minutes with their best effort seeing Southend loanee keeper Luke Chambers pull off a wonder save to push Chris O'Leary's deflected effort over the bar. O'Leary had already headed down and wide from a corner when he should have scored.

Concord settled after that but were lucky not to fall behind five minutes before the break when the hosts hit the bar twice in quick succession - Alex Dyer swished a half-volley against the face of the woodwork and Peter Dean put a very presentable follow-up shot into the side netting.

Then Dean - drafted into the starting line

**CONTD OVERPAGE**



## CONCORD REWIND CONTINUED

up at the last minute following an injury to Wes Parker in the warm up - slid an effort onto the bar when Lee Chappell flicked on Scott McGleish's left-wing cross.

Concord were better after the restart so it was a body blow when they fell behind in the 62nd minute - James Elmes was harshly booked for a foul on the edge of the box, and Chappell curled in the dead ball for the evergreen Richard Jolly to glance home a header.

Then Stones should have been out of sight when Jolly sprung the offside trap and cut the ball back for McGleish who had time to take a touch and produce a shot which Chambers did brilliantly to tip on to the bar. That was the game-changing moment and there was no doubting the nerves permeating around the 1,055-strong crowd as the game entered the final stages.

The equaliser came with a minute to go when a ball into the box was only half-cleared and Leon Gordon's scuffed shot from the edge of the box made its way through a host of bodies and was turned in from close range by King.

After a nip-and-tuck opening half to extra time Concord took the lead four minutes after the restart through their talisman

Tony Stokes. The 29-goal man did not start the game because of illness but replaced McKenzie with Concord chasing the game and was on hand to turn the ball home from close range after King's header had been clawed off the line by keeper Rikki Banks.

It sent the small band of travelling Concord fans into delirium as they started to contemplate Monday's showdown at Crown Meadow against Lowestoft Town. **Wealdstone (4-4-2): Banks; Hammond Moore 120), Massey, Cronin, Chappell; Dean (James 116), O'Leary, Dyer, Godfrey; Jolly, McGleish.**

**Concord (4-4-2): Chambers; Lampe, King, Fry (Easterford 73), Glozier; Gordon, White, Elmes, Robinson (Hallett 63); Greenhalgh, McKenzie (Stokes 80).**

●Lowestoft, beaten in the play-off final for the previous two years were certain that this would be their day... but the 2,500-plus Bank Holiday crowd were stunned by goals from Steve King and Leon Gordon with Scott Mitchell pulling one back late in the day. Thus Concord were promoted to the National League League and manager Danny Cowley said: "We are not the best team in this league, we haven't got the best players in this league, but we have got the biggest spirit and the most character." 1982

### Saturday November 22 2014, National League South: Wealdstone 1 Concord Rangers 0

**A** TRADEMARK header from Scott McGleish - from a brilliant Sean Lucien cross - was enough to secure a vital first home win for the Stones in our debut Conference South season.

We had made a wretched start, no wins in the first nine games and also knocked out of the FA Cup in the 2nd qualifying round by... yes you guessed it, Concord Rangers after a replay.

But boss Gordon Bartlett was slowly getting new players in and we had won 2-0 at Chelmsford the previous Monday night. Concord were tough and combative but a tremendous save by Jonathan North from Jordan Chiedoze changed the complexion of the game - we broke to the other end and a mazy run and cross from Lucien was seized upon by the reliable McGleish (left).

The Stones' season was up and running and we went on a tremendous 11-game unbeaten run going into the New Year. We finished midway and saved a season that was looking like an unmitigated disaster.

**Wealdstone: North, Hammond, Watts, Parker, Cronin, Godfrey, Lucien, Ball, McGleish, Brown, Turner. Subs: Hickey, Martin (used), Hamblin, Jolly, Carter (GK)**



# 2014

## ON THIS DAY

BY GORDON MCKAY



# The one time we beat Bath.. we lost on agg!

**1982: Bath City (away) Bob Lord Trophy first round, 1st leg) Won 1-0**

**T**his was a remarkable result on a balmy evening down in the West Country.

For those Stones fans who were around 30-40 years ago I don't need to elaborate on our record against Bath over the decades which was simply appalling - in fact it's very rare in football that when you play a side as often as we have Bath, that so few wins are achieved.

I can state without any fear of contradiction that Bath are a true bogey side for us and although we've managed to turn it around a bit in recent years we are still

miles behind in the head to head record.

Hence the wonder when, on this occasion, we managed to do the impossible and came away with a 1-0 win courtesy of a low Fred Barwick strike from the edge of the box .

### WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

All too predictable I'm afraid. A week later in the return leg at Lower Mead we lost 2-0 and crashed out of the cup 2-1 on aggregate. Enough said.



# Bitterfleet memories

**2014: Ebbsfleet (away) National League South: Drew 0-0**

**A** Bank Holiday visit to Ebbsfleet in the early weeks of our debut season in the Conference South was a daunting prospect at the time.

They were full time and packed full of experience and quality, whereas we were trying to find our feet at this level with a side that soon became apparent was not up to the task. Although Ebbsfleet's ground has undergone some changes in recent years it was still as I remembered it from the 70's for this game and for various reasons was always one of my favourites.

The game was played in heavy rain throughout which made good football tricky and of course challenges that were slightly mistimed ended up looking reckless. This happened several times - and it went against Ebbsfleet after about 15 minutes when McMahan slid in on Luke O'Nien and caught him with a clumsy looking chal-

lenge. Out came the red card and we had a man advantage for the rest of the game. However we seldom made use of it and with their quality it just evened things out. Things could have been worse though for us as another ill advised sliding tackle in the box just before half time saw Ebbsfleet awarded a penalty. Luckily North guessed right and turned Charlie Sheringham's spot kick around the post. A good point even with the extra man.

### WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

We quickly went into a nose dive and didn't win until our 10th attempt. However the Autumn saw a much changed team slowly draw away from the bottom and finish in mid-table respectability.

