THE LINE-UPS WEALDSTONE E THURROCI **YELLOW & BLACK**

ROYAL BLUE & WHITE

.....

G Jonathan North	G Jack Giddens
Rhys Tyler	Lee Burns
Freddie Grant	Jonathan Nzengo
Christian Smith	Ben Marlow
Jerome Okimo (c)	Ryan Scott
Godfrey Poku	Steve Sheehan
Tarryn Allarakhia	Danny Harris
Jeffrey Monakana	Rickie Hayles
Dave Pratt	Sam Higgins
Daniel Green	Amos Nasha
Jake Sheppard	Alex Osborn
Stefan Brown	Reece Dodson
Simon Mensah	Harry Lee
Femi Azeez	Shaun Batt
James Clark	brahim Sori Diallo
G Dylan Paterson	Reece Prestedge
-	Calvin Ekpiteta
	Tom Derry
	<i></i>
	_

REFEREE Mark Howes ASSISTANTS Andy Loe and David Hutton OBSERVER Lawrence Dudley

MATCH SPONSORS 1) Jon Taffel, on the occasion of his 50th Weadstone anniversary 2) ProKit UK **BALL DONOR** Markie Barton

NEXT HOME GAME v DULWICH HAMLET Vanarama National League South Saturday April 20, Kick-off 3pm

gpflewis

Stefan Brown leaps to celebrate his winning goal in the first half of another one today please! PICTURE: Dan Fini

The mighty, mighty

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Vanarama National League South, Saturday April 6, 2019, 3pm

Vanarama National League

9



£3 Your award-winning match programme (voted No.1 in the National League South) sponsored by Ruislip Social Club

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WEALDSTONE v EAST THURROCK UNITED

Written in Stone

would like to extend a warm welcome to our visitors from East Thurrock United their Manager John Coventry, his back room team, their Players and supporters.

Incredibly there are just 5 games remaining of the regular season including this afternoon. Three of these fixtures will be here at the Vale and with us still very much in with a shout of making the playoffs we will need everyone to to play their part in cheering on the team... lets be that 12th man. Thanks to all our sponsors this afternoon, your generosity is a vital part of our funding. Please enjoy your day and we look forward to welcoming you back in the near future.

BY MARK HYDE

Full details of our fully tailored match sponsorship and ball donation schemes, along with player kit sponsorships 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 Jon Taffel

Jon is celebrating 50 years as a Stones Fan and his memoirs are featured extensively later in this programme

Match Sponsor ProKit UK

ProKit UK is a sporting goods retailer offering high quality products from some of the World's leading manufacturers. We sell products online via our website at **www.prokituk.com** as well as our modern fully equipped store in Harold Wood, Essex close to the M25 (J28), A12 and A127. We are just a short walk from Harold Wood railway station.

We are very proud to supply International, Premiership, Championship and Grassroots Football Clubs, as well as leading Clubs in Scotland. If you add to this clothing and equipment sponsors of The Football League Trust, Bostik League and Essex Olympian League you can see we are truly a football specialist of the highest level.

#GrassrootsToProfessional

Mascott Will Farrar

Hi my name's Will-Joseph Farrar I've just turned 11 years old on the 26th of March I go to Deansfield Primary school in South Ruislip. I played for Wealdstone whites and now play for Wealdstone Blues I love coming to watch The Matches at Wealdstone and seeing Bobby and his team are great players I really enjoy football I wish one day I will play Wealdstone when I'm older. I play for my school football team and really enjoy it. I come to the football with my mum Lee and my sister Daisy. I also do police cadets which I enjoyed very much





Newest Stone Abigail Thea Morris

Congratulations to Sally and Tom on the early but safe arrival of Wealdstone's newest supporter Abigail Thea Morris last week, we are all looking forward to meeting her at a game soon.



WEALDSTONEFC@BTINTERNET.COM • WWW.WEALDSTONE-FC.COM • COMPANY NO. 3953962

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SECRETARIES

Club Secretary Paul Fruin (07790 038095) Asst. Club Secretary Alyson Angelides Company Secretary Andrew Lane

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MAJOR HONOURS SINCE 1950

LEAGUE TITLES

Athenian League
Southern League Division One South
Southern League Southern Division
Southern League Championship
National League Premier (Gola League)
Isthmian League Division Three
Isthmian League Premier Division

NATIONAL CUPS

1965 / 1966 FA Amateur Cup 1984 / 1985 FA Trophy

LEAGUE CUPS

1981 / 1982 Southern League Cup

MIDDLESEX COUNTY CUPS

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

NON TITLE-WINNING PROMOTIONS

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

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

GROUND REGULATIONS

People are only allowed entry to The Vale on match days subject to the following rules and regulations: 1) The club reserves the right to eject from the ground any person who is considered to have committed any of the following acts:

- Entering the ground through any means other than through the turnstiles or entrances
- Entering the field of play before, during or after a game without prior authorisation
- Being drunk, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs Using violence of any nature

• Carrying items which may be considered a danger to others, including cans, bottles, or glasses containing alcoholic beverages

• Throwing any article onto the field of play • Climbing floodlight pylons, fences, stands or any structure or building

• Using obscene or bad language likely to cause offence to others • Hitting the side or back panels of the Bulla stand 2) No spectator ball games.

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

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

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

WEALDSTONE v EAST THURROCK UNITED

From the Gaffer and management team



warm welcome to John Coventry his management team, players and officials of East Thurrock United Football Club.

It's good to be back at the Vale today for the 1st of our last 3 home games. With 5 to play in total we see ourselves on the edge of the top 7 and still fighting to break in. The league is exciting at the top, at the bottom and we've no doubt the play off race will see plenty of surprises in the next 3 weeks. We know we can only take care of what we can do and just aim to maintain pressure on those around us. All we've asked the boys to do is focus on the next one, put in a performance, fight and the results will fall for us.

As a management team it is difficult when analysing a defeat. You're always looking to pin point why you lost the game, review what we could have done differently. However, at Torquay, this was a defeat when we could only take away positives. We came up against the best side in the league and we felt we matched them for 90 minutes. To give away some soft goals was a blow, but we bounced back well to adversity in the game and showed the spirit that we have had since the start of 2019. Every player gave their all for the shirt and showed quality at times and a little bit more of the rub of the green could have seen us get that equaliser we were

chasing.

Credit must go out to each and every one of you fans right now. The travelling support to Torquay was immense and without a shadow of a doubt we had more than the reported 192 fans in attendance. The support for the team through the whole game and to out sing their large crowd was incredible and the boys truly benefitted from this and hopefully gave you a performance you could be proud of. Now we have to re-create that atmosphere for our next 5 games and together all believe that we could do something special. Days like that and when we all come together just gives us a taste of what a special club this can be.

For now, we must focus on today and that means working just as hard against an East Thurrock team that come to us fighting for survival. This makes them a dangerous opponent and with 3 wins in 5 games we know we need to be at the top of our game to get these vital 3 points. We've prepared well and will be ready.

Enjoy the journey we're on and most of all just enjoy today's game!

Bobby and the management team.

JON TAFFEL (RONNIE RAFFLE) **50 Years a Stone**

aturday 5th April 1969, the end of another tax year for some, or when Peter Sarstedt topped the charts with the classic 'Where do you go to my lovely?' (a ha ha ha).

Far more momentous, a friend of mine's father took me to my first ever football match aged 8 and a quarter, Wealdstone v Barking in a London Senior Cup replay. I remember very little, other that I stood on the High Mead terrace and Barking scored the only goal of the game at the Elmslie End. Over the years that followed, I was to see a lot of football without developing anv particular allegiance, mostly alternating between Lower Mead and Vicarage Road, with a bit of Loftus Road and Upton Park thrown in

Early memories are vague, but I do remember Andy Williams breaking from his half-time cuppa to ask if I was alright after I had fallen over on the High Mead terrace and was receiving treatment in the changing rooms for a grazed leg.

My first away game, that's an easy one to remember, it was against Ruislip Manor at Grosvenor Vale on 30th January 1971. a Middlesex Senior Cup tie that ended 3-3 after extra time. Gerry Olsen toe-punted a free kick that knocked a Manor defender over with considerable force, whatever happened to the toe-punt? Presumably not possible with modern boots.

I also recall the last ever home Isthmian League match before we turned semi-pro. against Woking, but only in that their playing kit in the programme was described as 'All Cardinal'. Why do we remember such things?

Moving on, the 1973-74 season was the one that really got me hooked for life, and what a season it was. It was easy to be taken in by a team winning the league. scoring so many goals, and with the great George Duck leading the way with goals, goals and more goals. During that

season I started going by coach to away games too, including the momentous day we won the league at Gravesend. And it was during those trips that friendships started to forge, friendships that have lasted to the current day.

In the years that followed, I got involved with the Supporters Club, and served on the committee with some interesting characters to say the least. I served my time in the tea bar, slicing cheese ham and onions to the exact

specification required by the lovely Tom & Julie Verrall, sold raffle tickets (mushroom colour my speciality) and walked around the pitch with the half time raffle results board. often to much unfair but character building abuse

As the Stones progressed through the leagues, so my knowledge of geography and decent beer improved. Redditch away on a Tuesday night in May 1977 sticks out, not only did our coach fail on numerous occasions to find the right exit off the main roads, but the Banks's bitter dispensed from magical electric pumps was just 27p a pint, a very good deal for a 16 year old. No need for ID cards back then.

Later that same year, what a magical night we had at Edgar Street claiming our 1st football league scalp, I can still see Bobby Moss hanging in the air as he headed past Peter Mellor in the Hereford goal. And then the Duck / Turvey penalty trilogy against Reading that took us into the 3rd round

proper for the only time in our history so far. When the Stones went National, the train trips up North to places such as Barrow. Bangor and Scarborough were simply with only 4 home matches to go we can legendary. And many of us would all away games or home area so has 3 be up again Sen serve a clast to you and explain the the following morning to represent the supporters' team SFC Wealdstone. created from

four help and knowled topport. Yours Truch Base Prestand. In Early 1975 Wealdstone's manager Eddie the friendships made on the terraces -

25.2.75"

cent

friend

ninster 28649

Dear Jonathan,

Presland replied to young Jonathan's offer Unbelievable times, but

10. Swift Clese. Constant. Upminister. every player was a supporter back then. We witnessed having written to you carlie but it is may the start of Stuart Pearce's career, what a player. What a year we had in It was jolly nice of you and your 81-82, and I was to offer to collect an preklints there in the tannoy after the kick about it warm up before the box the day of his final appearance. I had volunteered to do the tannov partly because of the incessant plaving of John Paul Young's Love is in the Air. a remnant of the club's brief association with Ariola Records. And and then of course we won the Double in 1985 at Wembley. I have to mention Andv Graham's

Continued over the page..

Jon's Random 10 Highlights

Easen RM14 IEH

Firstly let me epologise for not

just recently receive your letter from the

matce, I wint at the moment however

Place and see me either at

1) Kettering Town at Home 1976, being told by Derek Dougan that he hated me.

2) FA Trophy Replay v Cambridge City 1978, 0-0 after extra time. Could have played for days and no-one would have scored. Any match against Cambridge City at that time was an epic.

3) Telford Away late 70's, the trip to the legendary All Nations homebrew pub, arriving at the game during the 2nd half. Not sure it was the same Telford trip, but being told that we could only have tea with sugar was impressive, they'd actually put sugar in the urn

4) Barrow Away 1979, a gallon of Abbot consumed by Manchester, sick as a dog in the guard's van chugging around the Cumbria coast.

5) Runcorn Away 1982, arrived 4.30pm.

just in time to see Neil Cordice head over and then Runcorn snatch a late winner.

6) Stafford Away 1983 - arrived to find a tractor on the pitch, Stones were playing at Kingsbury in the Middlesex Senior Cup.

7) Swansea Away 1986, 3 trips in quick succession in the FA Cup including the postponement and abandonment.

8) Lincoln Away 1988- epic day completed with a taxi ride home to Harrow from London in a Rolls Royce.

9) Burnham at Home in the Larchimage Windows Cup in 1990. Lost 4-5 on penalties, Chris Vagg wouldn't have saved a penalty if Burnham had taken 100.

10) Witney Away 1992, being told to F*** off by Brian Hall if I didn't like what I was watching.

50 YEARS A STONE

also a precursor to troubled times ahead, and what financial mismanagement could lead to, with the sad loss of our beloved Lower Mead home.

Since then, some horrible lows, I hated our time at Watford, Yeading and Northwood, but never lost the faith. Edgware restored the faith to a higher level, and even if the football wasn't always great, I had Jack's website to keep me amused.

Latterly the Vale has been a brilliant home with some great highs too. I have to go no further than our Trophy run in 2012 with the epic wins against the odds over Dartford & Cambridge. And that great evening in Margate in 2014, one of the best ever, celebrating our promotion in the Harbour Arms well into the night.

I'm writing this having just returned from the epic weekend in

Torquay. Our support, simply unbelievable. The players gave us all that we could ask for, but ultimately came short against the champions elect, no disgrace there. The things that got me hooked remain as strong as ever. I love my football, but more importantly I love the people I have come to know through football following Wealdstone.I greatly miss those who have left us far too young, far too many. No matter that we are diverse, we are one, and it is imperative that we stay as one.

As we go into our final 5 matches, we still have a chance of a play-off place and promotion. How good would that be, with some new adventures awaiting us (forgive me whilst I salivate over the thought of trips to Halifax and Hartlepool)? If we do, then I hope that the core of our current squad will be with us for the ride, they will have earned it.

MATCH SPONSOR Continued

However, we face some significant challenges to finance football at this level. My view is that the obscene amount of money in football has filtered way too far down the pyramid, and how long it can continue this way I really don't know. All clubs, not just Wealdstone, need to take a step back and cut their cloth more appropriately.

I have been following this club for 50 years, and am proud to be sponsoring today's match to commemorate the milestone. I'm also conscious that what I'm paying for the privilege pales into insignificance given our current outgoings, and this doesn't sit comfortably with me. We must re-establish the value of money and ensure that we have a club to support for life.

Jon Taffel (Ronnie Raffle)



Spot the faces.... Still Loyal and still going strong

WEALDSTONE v EAST THURROCK

BY MIRIAM GOODMAN

Supporters' Scene



G ood afternoon one and all, What a wonderful day we had last Saturday down in sunny Torquay. The team battled on the pitch, giving the leaders a good contest, and the fans (250+) were in full voice. We left empty handed having enjoyed a gritty display. Today is our next adventure, 3 points are available and boisterous support from the terraces will hopefully spur the lads on to obtaining them.

Last Sunday we hosted Sunderland fans at the Vale prior to and after their trip to Wembley in the Checkatrade Trophy. They were extremely appreciative of our services and could not have been friendlier. Luke O'Nien, a former player, has certainly gone to a club that appreciate him. This coming Sunday (tomorrow) we are hosting Wolves on their way to their FA Cup semi-final. If anyone has an hour or two that they could spare to come and help the other volunteers, please contact me or pop into the Megastore. The funds raised via such events are vital to the running of our club. You don't have to cook, there are a variety of other tasks that require to be carried out, so please come forward - every extra pair of hands spreads the load.

It is not too late to purchase tickets for our Fundraiser on Saturday 20th April at 7:30pm when we welcome 2 Chelsea Legends, Paul Canoville and Nigel Spackman. Fish'n'Chip supper will be served. Tickets are priced at £25 and are available behind the bar or online at www.wfcmegastore.co.uk. A good night is sure to be enjoyed by all.

Voting is now underway for the 2018/9 Supporters' Player of the Season and Young Supporters' Player of the Season. Voting slips and Ballot Boxes are available from me inside the turnstiles and in the Megastore. You can also vote electronically via DM to **@GoldenGoalStone** on Twitter or via PM to Stoneage on the Fans Forum. It would be greatly appreciated if votes are submitted as early as possible - the closing time is midnight on 22nd April 2019. The trophies will be awarded at the Presentation Evening on Saturday 27th April at 7pm following our last home game.

The Megastore situated by the half-way line will be open for business as usual today. There may well be reduced items for sale from today until the end of the Season so don't miss out! I will be performing my usual Golden Goal duties just inside the turnstiles. Tickets are $\pounds 1$ each, time of the first goal wins $\pounds 50$, time of the last goal wins $\pounds 10$ unless it ends 1 nil. I shall be in the Megastore if you think you have a winning ticket.

Mim



WEALDSTONE v EAST THURROCK **ELMSLIE ENDER**

BY SUDHIR RAWAL



EE is back from the coast and justifiably full of praise for the team and our support.

hat a weekend down on the **English Rivera as Wealdstone** travelled down to Torquav in a league match that many could not have contemplated just a few years ago. The eagerly awaited trip saw many make a weekend of it and the town centre pubs saw plenty of Stones fans on the Friday night and anyone that has seen Tony Platt's dad dancing videos can wonder whether entertainment can get any better.

Torquay, when they came to the Vale. gave us a real footballing lesson and are built in the same vain as most clubs that are successful in getting out of this division: big, strong, pacy and athletic. Now topping the table and looking as likely champions. Torquay, bathed in lovely sunshine was the place to be last Saturday. Close on three thousand were at Planmoor and Wealdstone certainly played their part on a cracking game of football. As expected, Torquay enjoyed more of the possession but it was Wealdstone, with Green hitting the post, that came closest to taking the lead and were causing the home side

plenty of concern. That said the Devonians scored twice in the first 45 minutes, with both goals on another day could/should have been prevented, and many feared the worse. Stones came back though and pulled a goal back before the break through Monakana.

In the second half Wealdstone gave it a real go but it was Torquay that went further ahead. They nearly were out of sight after being awarded a soft penalty. which North saved and then it was Stones in the ascendency. Okimio pulled a goal back and now Torquay were under the cosh but eventually held out for a win that takes them closer to the title. By the way, if Torquay were awarded a spot kick, why didn't David Pratt get one for the push in the back in injury time? Social media from Torquay fans was very praiseworthy of our team, calling us the best team that had visited them all season. In the end Torquay. as you'd expect from a full time team, just had that bit better quality at both ends of the pitch.

Also attracting huge amounts of praise from the Devonians was our support. Diane Abbott and her abacus were obviously on the turnstiles, which saw an away support of only 192 announced that even brought mirth from the stewards. That said, whatever the real number was, the largest away support at Plainmoor this season certainly made their mark on their supporters and gave our team brilliant

support. As many said over the weekend, these are the games that you want to play in week in week out and it is now over to the board to provide a budget to the management team, which if wisely spent, can ensure that we do. As an aside, the date of just below three thousand was the biggest league gate that we have played in front

of since 1988 when 4,159 watched our match at Lincoln City in the Conference.

So the proverbial five cup finals to go. If we can go into the Hemel game, on the last day of the season, with something to play for, still in the mix for a play-off spot, that could be some day and crowd. Even as it stands, crowd wise, our average this season is likely to end up being larger than any season since the mid seventies.

Back in the day, at football matches, minute silences to commemorate someone passing on were held very rarely. Apart from the two-minute silence that is observed as part of Remembrance Day. you may have seen a silence held maybe once a season at other times, to generally remember someone from the club that had left us. Nowadays, one seems to be held

almost every other week and for events. however sad and tragic that they maybe. that have little to do with the football club. the town or even the country. Only last week, a silence was held at the Vale for an event that took place. horrific as it was. half way around the world. You can argue why that event and not others. In the same

week we saw a terrorist attack in Nigeria which saw many more killed or what about locally, the shopkeeper who was murdered in Pinner going about his day when he opened his shop. Virtue signalling is part of the modern world now but surely for a silence to have meaning, rather than just something which

seems the right thing to do, it needs to be personal, for an on-going relationship to one another. In the footballing context. where it is a supporter, a former player or administrator of our club, it has real meaning. This season, we have already had the spine tingling "banging out" for Simon Ricketts which was commemorating one of our own. Edicts come down from the National League or the FA which dictates that a silence will be held and the one for the events in New Zealand were one of those, after the FA was criticised for not holding one when other similar events on mainland Europe were commemorated. People will always fall silent out of respect, but surely it should be meaningful, not because someone thinks it is the right thing to do?

Sud



'Torquay, bathed

in lovely sunshine

was the place to

be last Saturday'

www.wfcmegastore.co.uk FIND OLD ELMSLIE ENDER MAGAZINES AT THE WFC MEGASTORE:

oday we feature the vounasterever Fan in the Stand, Callum Ford who was celebrating his 12th birthday at the recent Chippenham home game.

His mum Charlotte said: "I gave him the option of celebrating his birthday with a trip to the cinema and Frankie and Bennv's ...but he chose the match at the Vale with his mates and a Domino's pizza. He truly is a fan - and hasn't missed a home game for the last year. We all call him the mini Wealdstone raider!"

Stones game? 26/03/17 against Eastbourne Borough - I went with my dad James. After that I started going with my friends to Saturday home games. What or who persuaded you to watch Wealdstone? No one-I just love the team Do you follow any other club? Yes, Chelsea



Is football vour favourite sport? Do vou plav as well? Yeah. and I play for Wealdstone under 12s. I played for Ruislip Town before but switched this saeason. Most memorable moment in football? That Marcos Alonso free-kick for Chelsea vs Tottenham

Most memorable Wealdstone moment: Against Bath, this season, when we were 2-0 down, and the final score was 3-3 as we scored two last minute

Favourite current Stones line-up? Jonathon North, Connor Stevens, Jake Sheppard. Freddie Grant. David Pratt, Danny Green, Christian Smith,

Jerome Okimo, Godfrev Poku, Simon Mensah and Jeffery Monakana. Because they are all really good and have the best attitude when they go out on the pitch.

goals.

WEALDSTONE v EAST THURROCK **UNITED 06.04.209**

Yes, at Woking this season. I went with my dad.

What is your highlight so far this season? The 1-0 win vs Woking at home in August with that last minute penalty. And today's game was very good (the match v Chippenham).

What's the best stadium you've ever visited? Wemblev

Where do you like to stand (or sit) at The Vale? Right behind the goal.

What do you think of the programme? It's better than the others because it's got all the facts about the league and the players and really interesting Wealdstone features.

What do you think of the food and catering at the Vale? The food is amazing!

Do vou buy much at the club shop? Yes Does the club do enough encourage voungsters? Yes

Do you enjoy the atmosphere at games? Yes but sometimes the fans get a bit too over the top !

Do you know much about the club's history? Yes, not much but a bit

And finally, where do you see the club in five years time? In five years time I see the club fighting in the National League to win the league, and carrying on succeeding Have you seen Wealdstone away from home? and going up more and more leagues.



Drama at the Vale as Matt Lench slots the winning penalty in the 1-0 win over Woking in August ... Callum's favourite game



Fan in the Stand

Callum was so chuffed at being asked to feature in the programme that he interrupted his birthday, sleepover to email us his answers that same evening.... What school do you go to Callum? Ruislip High What was your first



THE BIG, BIG INTERVIEW

BY TIM PARKS WEALDSTONE v EAST THURRO JTD 06.04.19

George Duck is undeniably the greatest-ever goalscorer in Wealdstone history - and arguably the club's greatest-ever player. He was certainly the idol of fans in the 1970s when he netted an unparalleled 251 goals in seven seasons, including 64 in the 73-74 Southern League Division One South-winning campaign. He has won league titles and the FA Trophy, but now declares that his Wealdstone FC Life Membership is his areatest honour. This is the story of his remarkable career... N the midst of George

Duck's greatest moment in football came a reminder about the player he might have become.

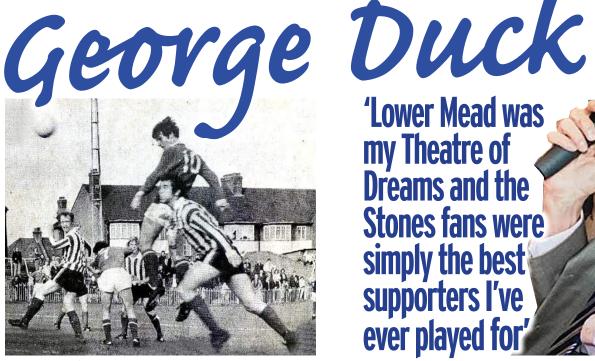
It was the evening of May 17, 1980, and George's then-club Dagenham had just won the FA Trophy Final at

Wembley - George had headed the opening goal on a glorious spring afternoon to vindicate his decision to leave the Stones the previous summer.

"I was a real mixture of emotions" he admitted when I spoke to the now 67-year-old George (at length!) a couple of weeks ago. "I only left Wealdstone because it was my lifetime ambition to play and score at Wembley, and after seven years at the club I couldn't see that ever happening.

"So I left for Dagenham, rejoining the ex-Stones manager Eddie Presland, and by the end of the season the incredible had happened - I'd achieved my dearest wish.

"That evening we went to celebrate winning the Trophy at Chanticleer, the nightclub/restaurant next to the Spurs ground in White Hart Lane. That was a coincidence in itself as I'd been on the books of Tottenham as a schoolboy before convincing myself I wasn't good



enough - I just walked away from my dream at the age of 15 and had beaten myself up about it ever since.

"And then, walking into the Chanticleer, who should I bump into but Dickie Walker, the Spurs chief scout who had brought me to the club a dozen years earlier. He just said: 'Georgie Duck! Where have you been?!"

Where indeed.

eorge's story is in some ways typical of the lack of care and nurture that young footballers received in the 1960s and 70s. It was sink or swim and survivors of that tough school needed the unwavering support and guidance of loving parents - but George, the victim of a broken home, had neither.

"My mother had tuberculosis and my dad just couldn't cope with me - my three older brothers were living with other family members - and I was put into care from a very young age. I also spent time in hospital until they were sure I'd not contracted TB. My mother recovered and

'Lower Mead was my Theatre of Dreams and the **Stones fans were** simply the best supporters l've ever played for'

came home, but it was never a happy household and I spent most of my time out on the streets kicking my plastic ball around. That ball was my best friend. I loved that ball".

Home was Tebworth Road in Tottenham, just around the corner from White Hart Lane.

Maybe the lack of stability at home contributed to his early lack of confidence. but outwardly you wouldn't have known it as he quickly became a star player for his Lancasterian Junior school team, and then Rowland Hill Boys secondary - both schools within a goalkick of Spurs' White Hart Lane ground.

"We grew up with the idea that Tottenham were the bees knees and would be a dominant force forever" says George. "This was in 1961 when I was nine, and Spurs had just won the League and FA Cup double.

'I was playing for the Tottenham & District team on Saturday mornings and one week Spurs' manager Billy Nicholson turned up to watch! Could you imagine that happening now, just hours before a big home Division One game?

'What was even more exciting is that a few of our lads. me included, were invited to train at White Hart Lane. That was guite something in itself... but then one evening. while we were training on one of the ball courts at the Lane. Billy Nick himself came over to me and said 'how would you like to sign schoolboy forms for Tottenham?'

"Well I was gobsmacked. Here was I, a lad who idolised the players and who had seen them win the title a few years earlier. handed the chance to actually play and train with them.

"But the lack of confidence kicked in again. Although I loved the coaching sessions, I didn't think I was good enough for Spurs.. and I just stopped going. I've got a letter at home from Eddie Heath, one of the coaches, asking where I'd been hiding

CONTINUED OVERPAGE

GEORGE DUCK CONTINUED

WEALDSTONE v EAST **THURROCK UTD 06.04.19**



I'd been hiding because they wanted me to come back and train.

"But I wouldn't be budged and it was a couple of years before I was enticed back playing again... this time it was a couple of my old school mates Ronnie Howell and Dickie Plume - who were at Millwall in their youth set-up - who gave my details to the Millwall coach Charlie Hume. Next thing, there we all were, 35 kids on a coach over to Wormwood Scrubs for a trial match. Very glamorous!

"But I must have been okay because I was selected for Millwall's South East Counties League side against West Ham at their Chadwell Heath training ground one Saturday morning. I think we lost 3-1 or 4-1 but there was this moment when I took the ball on my chest in the box and.

without breaking stride, crashed it across the keeper and into the corner. Charlie iust shouted 'Class!' and basically told Benny Fenton (the Millwall manager) to sign me.

'Now. I had just left school at 15 and got my first job working as a dogsbody for Ruberoid, the rubber roofing firm, in the City but within three months I had signed apprentice forms for the Lions.

I ayers today don't know they're born! Apprentices back then had to clean the senior players' boots, clean the dressing rooms and showers, and pick all the kit up before we trained ourselves. But I loved it! "I was still growing and not physically

very strong, but the training tough-



Amazing pictures! Left: in 1967, Spurs were parading the FA Cup around the local schools and they knew Rowland Hill had won the District Schools Cup - so Spurs stars Terry Venables (far left) and Jimmv Robertson decided to pose with the schools' cup while Rowland Hill's 15 year old skipper George (centre) held the FA Cup! Far right is Spurs scout Dickie Walker who brought George to White Hart Lane the following year

to watch and learn from.

"Keith Weller and Derek Possee - both from Spurs - were the best but you had some good pros like Harry Cripps and Barry Kitchener (who nearly got a move to Liverpool, who went for Larry Lloyd instead) while Eamonn Dunphy was a ball-playing midfielder, a good passer but he couldn't tackle and was outspoken - not the most popular in the changing room. He wasn't in the Millwall mould. He would brag about playing for the Republic of Ireland but the other players reckoned you only needed to keep the ball up half a dozen times to be good enough for an Eire cap!'

"I was playing for Millwall's reserves in the London Midweek League, but the closest I got to the first team was a pre season game against Motherwell at the Den and then being 13th man for a couple of league games at Watford and Portsmouth

"Then came the bad news - I was handed a free transfer. It was crushing. I had a couple of offers from York City and Southend and chose the wrong club... Arthur Rowley, the Southend manager was just a shouter and a ranter but who knows



ened me up and I had some great players ; what would have happened if I had scored on my League debut?

CC e put me in for the first game of the season, at Peterborough and although it was a lovely

sunny day there had been a downpour just before kick off and the pitch was full of puddles. In the first half our winger banged this great low cross into the six yard box and I thought 'brilliant. I'm going to score here' as I shaped to sidefoot home... but the ball hit a patch of standing water and shot straight through my legs! Amazing! That was my big chance, right there and I was just robbed!

'Rowley left me out for the next game, and the next, and I sort of fell in with the wrong crowd, the disaffected pros who would rather play golf and go down the pub than concentrate on playing football. I was voung and naive.

"I think about it a lot; how I lost my way at that time but there was no-one to look out for you and look after you... I'm sure it wouldn't happen these days as footballers are assets and recognised as such by the clubs. We were pretty much ignored most of the time.

So I went back to just playing locally with my mates at Bruce Castle Park - not proper

GEORGE DUCK CONTINUED Wealdstone F.C.'s revised

games but a lot of good young players - and the Barnet manager at the time. Tommy Coleman tried to get me over to Underhill. I told him where to qo. I was just so disenchanted with football.

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"Not that my working life was any good- I'd taken on a window cleaning round in Edmonton with a mate but he soon dropped out... it was bloody hard work!'

" hat was when Sid Prosser

aot in touch. Wealdstone? Who are they they?' I thought, although in the back of my mind I knew they were a big, recognised ex-amateur club. I was going to tell Sid to slina his hook too but he managed to persuade me that he was building a good team and had signed some verv decent

players. And to be honest I was planning to get engaged and wanted to be able to afford a ring!

"Well, I went over to the first training session at the Hamilton's training ground over the road from Lower Mead in my M&S jumper (I couldn't afford a tracksuit) and things just fell into place. I liked Sid - he was the first coach or manager who had taken a real interest in me and that changed my whole mindset.

"Then I played my first game at the ground and I just fell in love with the place. I really did. There was something

training session

All Wealdstone's contract professionals and all the top amateurs who were in the first team squad last season reported to Lower Mead Stadium on Monday evening for the first training session of the new season, writes Phil Sugden.

Among those who underwent a tough session on Hamilton's sports ground were new signings George Duck, from Southend, Les Boughey, from 'Spurs, and ex-St. Albans City amateur Phil Woods. A big turn out of play-

ers included many trial applicants who will be taken in hand by reserve team manager Les Boyle and his colleague Edgar Francis.

Reporting for training later this week will be another professional, a forward from League club Colchester who manager Prosser is considering signing.

Amateur striker Bill Byrne, who had originally planned to emigrate to South Africa, was among among the amateurs who rained. He has intimated that te will definitely be re-signing or the club.

So, too, will top amateurs 'aul Latham, Alick Brown, ohn Beyer, Roger Livingstone nd Roger Vint.

Midfield professional John urie, who earlier refused the erms offered by the manager, as now accepted and signed a ew contract.

Said Wealdstone P.R.O. Col-Pope: "Mr. Prosser and all lub officials were very happy see such an excellent turnout players on Monday. Everyne was eager to get going and though they were given an exemely hard first training seson, they all seemed to enjoy emselves." 024 11

as follows: Tuesday, August 1 as follows: Tuesday, August 1 versus Harrow Borough at Earlsmead, South Harrow, kick-off 6,30 p.m.; Thursday, August 3, versus Bishops Stortford, at Stortford, kick-off 7.30 p.m.: Saturday. August 5. public training and practice game between the club's players at Lower Mead, 3 p.m.: Wednesday, August 9, versus Luton Town at Lower Mead, kick-off 7.30 p.m.

pre-season friendly fixtures are

Wealdstone manager Sid Prosser Mr. Jack Rogers used as he talked tac-Mr. Jack Rogers, who had been associated with Weald-stone Football Club for more tics with his newlysigned players (left to right) Phil Wood (exthan 40 years as treasurer, vice-St. Albans), Les Boughey (Spurs) and chairman, chairman and latter-ly a life member, died in Northwick Park Hospital on Sunday. Mr. Rogers, who lived at 38. George Duck (from Southend) during the King's Way, Harrow, had been opening in poor health for some time and had spent several periods in training at Hamilton's hospital. He leaves a widow, sports Wealdstone, on Mon-

day evening George (far right) at that first session at the Ham-

ilton's ground opposite Lower Mead. Manager Sid Prosser is far left, with Phil Woods and Les Boughey (neither of whom signed) also in shot

about the wide, flat pitch, the quirky fat goalposts and the close proximity of the fans, especially behind the goals, that got into my head and soon I was looking forward to every match and every training session.

"Eddie Presland (Stones right back at the time) lived in Essex and he would pick me up in Tottenham along with Terry Dyson who lived just round the corner. Now, Terry was a Spurs legend, a left winger who had been in the double winning team of 60-61 and he had some great stories - while Eddie had been a first teamer at West Ham and Crystal Palace so it was

football chat all the way there and all the way back.

"Training or a game; into the bar afterwards for shandy and crisps; sometimes we'd stay until 10 or 11 on Saturdays when the wives and families came to watch" he said. "My missus Sue (we married in 1973), her mum Doll and my dad (also called George, who had also been a good youth player in his day) would be there and they were the best times of my life. There were people at that club who really cared. At most clubs you get a few mercenaries, those who just took the money and disappeared but there was a

George's introduction to Wealdstone.. with no kit!

"I remember that first training session so clearly – I didn't have any kit, so turned up in a Fred Perry tee shirt and M & S jumper because I couldn't afford ab tracksuit... I felt a real ragamuffin but straight away I felt like I fitted in at that club".

Bizarrely, trialling for the club that same evening was 16-year goalkeeper Alan Hill who remembered the tall new striker with the green jumper all these years later ... but then he would, because that teenage keeper is the same dved-in-the-wool Stones fan Alan Hill who travels up from West Super-Mare even now for every home dame. "I wasn't good enough but I'll always remember that training session, rubbing shoulders with some proper footballers - and I still remember trying and failing to save a Bill Byrne thunderbolt!'

nucleus of terrific people at Wealdstoneplayers, fans, and officials- and that made it a special place to be.

"I also got re-aquainted with Willie Watson, who I'd known from youth football - me at Millwall. Willie at West Ham - and we've been close friends ever since. It wasn't long before we got another ex-West Ham lad (Rav) Ginger Fulton to sign too. The fact that the club was attracting quality players made it a great environment, right from the start.

ut remember the lunch at Grosvenor Vale a few years ago, when D you illustrated how long it took to score my first Wealdstone goal? It was no joke at the time... I went right through August without scoring, half a dozen games until finally I scored in a home win over Bideford. What a relief! '

I told George that there was no concern from the fans at the time. Mickey Brown and Bill Byrne were scoring. George was looking sharp and dangerous and we knew Sid Prosser had signed a quality player...

wurus

(left)

night of

ground,



GEORGE DUCK CONTINUED



who had turned down the chance of a full-time career.

'I didn't know that!' he said. 'I could just imagine the fans getting frustrated, and the club thinking they'd signed a dud.

'But tell you what, just after that Bideford game that broke my duck – pardon the pun - we had a Trophy match at Andover that could have been a disaster. Our goalie John Barr was going to meet us at the ground but he didn't turn up... Full back John Beyer went in goal and we quickly went 2-0 down. Calamity! But then Johnny Barr turned up, we reorganised and I went on to score maybe my best hat trick ever... the first a bullet header from a Mickey Brown cross, then a volley from outside the box and finally a chip over the keeper from an angle. I always remember the good goals!

'That got my confidence going, and soon after we had a London Senior Cup game at Lower Mead against a terrific Enfield side who had won everything in the amateur game. I scored again from outside the box and although we lost 3-2 I thought we had the makings of a great side.'

You must have had some regrets about staying in non League though, I asked him. I know a few league clubs were circling - they were bound to, after you got over 100 goals in your first two seasons!

'That honestly never really happened- I think that if you've had a chance at League football and dropped out, clubs are wary of

taking you on. And anyway, joining Wealdstone set me up for life (not financially, of course - although I never wanted to be a millionaire, just live like one!). It was my most important decision ever, throwing in my lot with Sid.

GAN ot just the football, but he put me in touch with Charlie Cook (not the ex-Chelsea star!) a friend of Sid's who got me a job as a Games Instructor at Willesden High school. I took my preliminary coaching badge with Tommy Lawrence, the former Enfield striker and went on to work there for seven years. And that was a great job to fit in with the football... we had midweek trips to Weymouth, Yeovil, Bridgend even and I never missed a game.

"And I loved working with the kids - one of them in the under-15 team was a centre forward called Dave Beasant. We soon put him in goal and of course he had a great career, winning the FA Cup for Wimbledon and earning a move to Newcastle.

:He never forgot me though.. Dave sent me tickets for their semi final against Luton at White Hart Lane and then came round to my house with tickets for the Final at Wembley!

"I told him 'David, you're going to win the Cup' and of course the twist to the story was that he became the first keeper to save a penalty in the Cup Final, keeping out that spot kick from John Aldridge as they won 1-0. Absolutely amazing!' Also playing for Willesden High was



The goal machine: George nets flying headers; goes around the



Luther Blissett, the Watford and England legend, in the year above Beasant and the kids used to come down to Lower Mead to watch 'Sir' play for the Stones. Said George: 'I'll always remember going into school the Monday after our controversial win over Hastings in the Fa Trophy and they were all saying: 'We saw you mentioned on Grandstand Sir! A hat trick of penalties and the other team walking off in protest!' They were great days'"

I asked George if he found it quite easy scoring goals against Southern League semi-pros after his time at Spurs and Millwall. "No, it is tough scoring goals at any level and they weren't easy sides we were playing... a lot of old hard pros in most teams and it was a relief when the goals started flying in".

What did you consider to be your main assets as a goal scorer? "Remaining calm and cool in the box is the main thing. What I lacked in pace I made up for with my awareness of what was happening inside the penalty area. But I think I had a good touch, and I had a sort of radar when crosses were coming into the box... you had to anticipate where the ball was going to go and having an understanding with your team mate, knowing where he was likely to deliver the ball. I always had a picture in my mind of where the keeper and the goal was and getting the right touch was paramount. Being able to lose defenders in a crowded penalty area and finding a pocket of space was the key. You can't score goals standing still; you have

WEALDSTONE v EAST THURROCK UTD 06.04.19

scoring at Wembley;

IN THE NEXT PROGRAMME: PART TWO Why I left the Stones; winning the FA Trophy and sco my controversial move to Harrow Borough; and why 1984 saw my biggest regret in football.....



to be constantly on the move and defenders hate that. And you need confidence!

'You know, you don't have to hit the ball hard. Andy Nelson, a big old centre back at Millwall (who had won the league while at Ipswich) taught me about volleying the ball; you can use the pace on the ball and just transfer the energy. I was happy with either foot too and that was the result of hours of practise as a kid with my little white ball'.

And what about one on ones with the keeper? "Ah, I loved going round the keeper! That was the ultimate as a striker, taking the ball round him and sticking it away. I always made a beeline for the keeper, which meant he had decide what HE was going to do... So I would dummy to shoot, commit him to a dive and just walk it into the net".

And what about penalties? I remember you scoring 20 one season... "I used to give them the eyes... a quick glance at one corner of the net when I knew he was watching me, then I stuck the ball away with pace in the other corner, so it was likely to beat the keeper even if he guessed right.

"That was always my penalty routine. The only time I remember just smashing it up the middle was my third attempt in the FA Cup second round match at Lower Mead against Reading in 1977. I angled my shot too far away from Steve Death's left hand and it hit the post, but fortunately he had moved too soon and I got a second go - which I stuck away, the same side. But this time the ref was not ready and I hadn't heard the whistle because of the noise! So I just closed my eyes the third time and happily it screamed into the roof of the net and we won, 2-1".

RESULTS & FIXTURES 2018/2019

NLS = National League South MCC = Middlesex Charity Cup = Yellow Card = Goal ⇒ = 2nd Player Substituted = Red Card ⇐ = 2nd Substitute Used FAC = FA Cup Penalty S = Straight Red \rightarrow = 1st Player Substituted \exists = 3rd Player Substituted FAT = FA Trophy = Man of the Match ← = 1st Substitute Used ₩ = 3rd Substitute Used MSC = Middlesex Senior Cup

		AUGUST	Competition	Result	Crowd	Por	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14	15	16	17/GK	
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		APRIL																					

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6 EAST THURROCK UTD NLS 13 Hampton & Richmond NLS 20 DULWICH HAMLET NLS 22 Chelmsford City NLS 27 HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TN NLS

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FRIENDLIES 2	018/2019
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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 23 Reading U23s (Away) L 0-2 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) W 3-0 Ahmidi, Harris, Bubb Sep 3 Potters Bar Town (Home) W 2-1 Monakana, Own Goal

ABOVE: Action from our recent draw away to Gloucester City. Pictures courtesy @DfinillPhotos

KEY TO SYMBOLS





MATCH SPONSORS

A great way to celebrate a special occasion or advertise your organisation's support of Wealdstone, 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 pre match and half-time refreshments as well as 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

MATCH

HRBEC

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- Name and present the 'Man of the Match' Award
- A memento of your day

Saturday, 4th August Vanarama National League South

Monday, 13th August

Saturday, 25th August

TRURO CITY

Vanarama National League South

CONCORD RANGERS

Vanarama National League South

Saturday, 1st September Vanarama National League South

CHELMSFORD CITY

Saturday, 15th September Vanarama National League South

Saturday, 22nd September FA Cup 2nd Qualifying Round

Saturday, 13th October Vanarama National League South

SUTTON UNITED

FA Cup 4th Qualifying Round

TOROUAY UNITED

Vanarama National League South

GLOUCESTER CITY

Monday, 29th October Vanarama National League South

Vanarama National League South

Vanarama National League South

EASTBOURNE BOROUGH

Saturday, 20th October

Saturday. 27th October

BATH CITY

Saturday, 10th November

Saturday. 1st December

CREAT WAKERING ROVERS

HAMPTON & RICHMOND

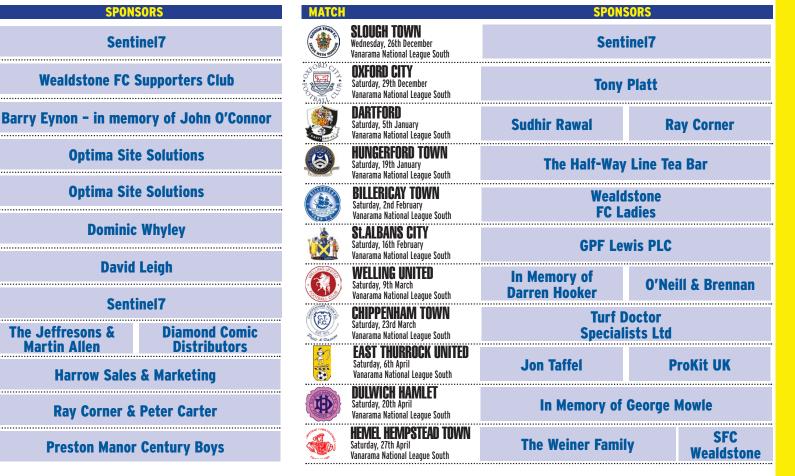
WOKING

WESTON-SUPER-MARE



cater for as many as **25 people** in our magnificent and new **hospitality lounge**. This facility has undergone a comprehensive re-fit with substantial investment courtesy of our club sponsors GPF Lewis & Ruislip Social Club. Our match sponsors and their guests are all entertained in surroundings befitting such a special occasion be it a birthday, anniversary or any other special event!

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





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The World of Ball SHOWDOWN! Spurs vs. Stones - who has the best stadium?

wo years ago I wrote in these pages about the new Tottenham Hotspur stadium. On Wednesday, it finally opened for competitive football. Actually, I was invited there on Tuesday to take a look at what I have to confess is the most extraordinary place. I'm not quite know what Spurs fans have done to deserve such a dazzling match day experience, but it's certainly consolation for the lack of, you know, winning things. So is it still all a bit too snazzy for 'real' football, as I suggested in 2017? Hmm. I have to admit it's quite the compelling proposition.

Needless to say, we are two very different clubs. Stones have played Spurs just once, losing a London Challenge Cup match 0-4 at the old White Hart Lane bad in September 1973. Today, Spurs chase Champions League glory while we chase the NLS nirvana of seventh spot with our 400th all-time competitive fixture against a club from Essex.

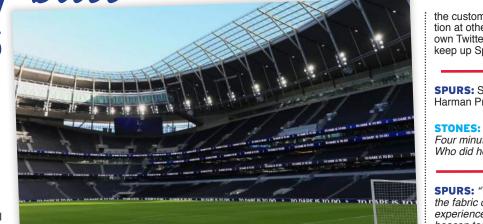
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Of course, there's simply no comparison between the facilities at Spurs and here at The Vale. Or is there? Presented below is how our two grounds stack up.

(Tongue firmly in cheek, by the way. Considering the improvements to our media coverage and match-day hospitality this season alone, who's to say the Stones experience won't soon mirror that of Spurs?)

SPURS: The club hosts post-match entertainment including live music and Q&As with legends. It also shows Premier League matches for supporters.

STONES: The club hosts post-match entertainment including live music and sportsman dinners with legends. It also shows Premier League matches for supporters.



BY MARTIN READ

golden cockerel is located high on their new South Stand.

SPURS: A

replica of the

club's famous

STONES: A replica of the club's

famous WFC flag is located high on one of the floodlight pylons.

SPURS: The stadium has a total of nine floors, with four levels made available for regular fans and the rest for various types of club member.

STONES: The stadium has a floor.

SPURS: The club boasts a steeply raked single-tier stand, its viewing angle optimised to ensure everyone has a perfect view of the action. Sample quote: *"Wow, wherever I sit I can still see the whole pitch perfectly!"*

STONES: The club boasts a virtually rakefree social club stand. Sample quote: "Wow, who scored? Was it Pratty? Green? Who's that going off? What does the board say?"

SPURS: The Tunnel Club - a unique experience in which a mere pane of glass separates fans from the players as they enter and exit the pitch. You can almost touch them, and they can almost hear you willing them on. Available to an elite few.

Tottenham's new gaff. Pretty decent.

STONES: The Gate Club - a unique experience in which a mere metal grill separates fans from the players as they enter and exit the pitch. You can actually touch them. And oh my Lord they can hear you alright. Available to absolutely anyone.

SPURS: Four video screens, located to ensure the ideal screen viewing experience. They are more than twice the size of those at Wembley and four times those of Arsenal. They are the largest screens in any stadium in western Europe.

STONES: Single video screen, located to invite fresh perspectives on what constitutes optimal screen positioning. It is more than twice the size of your nan's old Sony and almost as big as the Panasonic you were looking at in Curry's PC World last week.

SPURS: At 65 metres in length, the Goal Line bar is officially the longest in Europe. it's been designed to optimise the customer experience by easing congestion at other bars.

STONES: At about 1 metre in length, The Pop-Up bar is unofficially the shortest in Europe. It, too, has been designed to optimise

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WEALDSTONE V EAST THURROCK WORLD OF BALL

the customer experience by easing congestion at other bars. Except ours also has its own Twitter account, **@WFCPop**. (Do try and keep up Spurs...)

SPURS: State-of-the-art PA system based on Harman Professional Audio Solutions.

STONES: "What was that? What did he say? Four minutes, was it? Oh right, five then. Who did he say's coming on?"

SPURS: "Technology is incorporated into the fabric of the building to enhance the fan experience, with free high-density Wi-Fi and beacon technology. There are more than 1,600 wireless access points that provide the stadium with 100% mobile coverage. This will allow 65% of our match-day attendees to simultaneously stream live video. We have beacons in our concourses and hospitality areas that allow us to send those using our app location-specific offers and services, enhancing your match-day experience."

STONES: You can get three bars if you hold your phone high enough.

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SPURS: Cashless stadium, designed to streamline customer throughput at all times.

STONES: Cashful stadium, designed so that all the change from that score you just put over the turnstile is quickly spent on a programme (cheers!), beer, burgers and teas. Obviously we take cards for certain transactions, but rock up for a golden goal ticket waving Apple Pay in Mim's face and she's likely to give you short shrift, being very much a pound-to-purse kind of person.

SPURS: Craft beer firm Beavertown has an on-site microbrewery where fans can try a whole host of craft beers poured from the bottom of the pint glass upwards.

STONES: We offer a range of premium ales as well as a guest beer which is available to fans who... oh, sorry mate it's just finished. Can I do you a pint of Young's instead?

WEALDSTONE v EAST THURROCK UNITED

EAST THURROCK UNITED

Opposition in focus Rocks were promoted to the Dura



East Thurrock United are competing in the National League South for the third season, having successfully held their own in the first two campaigns, finishing both in mid table.

Last season they enjoyed success in the FA Trophy, beating National League sides Aldershot (for the second season running) and Chester on their way to a first ever place in the Third Round Proper. A great performance in the north-east at Spennymoor Town, where they drew 1-1 put them in the quarter-final draw but a disappointing night saw them lose the replay at home.

Rocks won promotion to the National League South in the 2015-16, a campaign of high drama at Rookery Hill after their previous campaign saw the Rocks in an unfamiliar midtable slot. In their previous three campaigns they had found themselves competing for a play-of spot or, in a dramatic end to the 13-14 season coming through a last day battle to avoid the drop.

Not that the 14-15 campaign wasn't without its high. For the second time in the club's history they made it through to the FA Cup first round - enjoyed an away day at Division Two Hartlepool United, where they went down 2-0 but gave a great account of themselves. Rocks were promoted to the Ryman Premier after winning the Ryman One North title in 2010-11 after a campaign which saw them battle throughout for top spot with Needham Market. In the end John Coventry's side emerged victorious - and in the final sprint won by a handsome margin.

The Rocks were founded in April 1969 by enthusiasts who felt the expanding area around the towns of Corringham and Stanfordle-Hope needed a senior non-league football club. The Corringham Social Sunday side formed the basis for the new team but there were hurdles to overcome for the new club including finding a suitable ground.

With loans from the Football Association, Thurrock Council and Greene King the club was able to buy its site in Corringham and played its first match there in 1984.

An application to the Isthmian League was successful and the following season the Rocks joined Division Three. Lee Patterson was appointed manager at the start of the 1999-2000 season and guided them to the Ryman Division Three Championship title and promotion to Division Two, breaking every club record en-route.

Patterson left during the next season with The Rocks sitting top of the table. Along with him went many of the players and the club slid down the table but still finished in the top half. 2002/03 saw the formation of Division One North and also new owners at Rookery Hill. After a poor start to the season with the club bottom of the league, the new owners offered Patterson the job again. Rocks climbed out of trouble and picked up an impressive 45 points after Christmas.

Silverware also returned to Rookery Hill with the East Anglian Cup being won for the first time with a 1-0 victory over Long Melford.2003/04 saw the club reach the F.A Cup 4th qualifying round for the first time eventually losing to Conference side Woking 2-0 after a 1-1 draw at Rookery Hill. In the same season Rocks were in with a chance of promotion till April and a fixture backlog eventually took its toll.

2004/05 saw the club switch to the Southern League in an FA re-structure. The club were never out of the top five all season and finished runners-up and the promotion that followed was to the Ryman Premier. Rocks survived their first two seasons in the Premier without too much trouble but in 2007-8 they found it more of a struggle, particularly after Patterson left in the autumn to take over at Conference South Braintree.

Patterson's assistant, John Coventry, took over the reins but they were eventually relegated by the cruellest of margins, one deducted point for playing an ineligible player for a minute at the tale end of a game.

It looked as if Rocks would bounce back at the first attempt but they lost out on the Ryman One North title in a last day defeat by Aveley and then bowed out in the play-off to Concord Rangers - a fate that was to befall them again the following season after finishing fifth.

However, it was to prove to be third time lucky in 2010-11 when Rocks topped the table to join the Ryman top flight after overhauling early pacesetters Needham Market.

2011-12 brought tremendous success as the Rocks reached the first round of the FA Cup, going out to then Football League side Macclesfield Town, in a televised match in which the 3-0 scoreline to the Silkmen didn't reflect the flow of the game.

The club also reached the final of the Ryman League Cup for the first time in its history, losing 1-0 to Bury Town, and the last 32 of the FA Trophy, where progress was eventually halted at Hampton and Richmond Borough in a much-delayed replay.

Not bad for the club's first season back in the Ryman Premier but in their second (12-13) they again enjoyed a great FA Cup run, losing out in a dramatic and emotionally charged FA Cup fourth qualifying round replay against Chelmsford City on penalties after an exhilarating 4-4 draw at Rookery Hill. An equally dramatic 2-2 draw at Chelmsford three days before had put them in the first round draw for a second success season, though it

ROCKS FACTS

GROUND - Rookery Hill FOUNDED- 1969 MANAGER - John Coventry 2017/18 - National League South 15th

was to be the Clarets that went on to beat Football League Colchester.

However, Rocks put that disappointment aside and in the second half of the season embarked on a remarkable run that saw them claim fifth place in the final table and a play-off game at Lowestoft, which they were unlucky to lose 1-0.

2013-14 was something of a contrast. A First qualifying round exit at home in a replay against Hornchurch set the tempo and though Rocks progressed through a couple of rounds in the FA Trophy they struggled in mid season and found themselves slipping down the table. Ultimately the season came down to a last day decider when Rocks needed a win at home to Bognor to secure their place.

When they found themselves two goals down thing looked glum but Covo's side battled back and ultimately won 3-2 and though results elsewhere would have saved them anyway, Rocks were able to say they had saved themselves when it mattered.

2014-15 again brought an FA Cup first round appearance but a promising mid season position when Rocks flirted with the play-off zone eventually tapered away and they finished in mid-table.

The following season saw a tremendous run of form towards the end of the season and the Rocks finished in third place, setting up a home play-off tie against Tonbridge Angels, which was comfortably won 2-0.

And if that performance was one of the best in Rocks all too brief history, they went one better in the play-off final just a few days later, beating Dulwich Hamlet 3-1 in front of a record crowd of 1,661 in a match that brought huge praise on the club for our hospitality, friendly welcome and above all a team that played as a unit and did everyone at Rookery Hill proud.

WEALDSTONE'S RECORD V EAST THURROCK UNITED P 25 W 16 D 6 L 3 F 52 A 18

EAST THURROCK UNITED

OPPOSITION IN FOCUS

ROCKS WHO'S WHO

SAM ASHFORD -MIDFIELD / FORWARD

Highly versatile young player who has joined the Rocks from Witham Town where he was attracting a lot of attention as his career developed.

SHAUN BATT - FORWARD

Recently returned to East Thurrock, where he played 33 matches in 2006/7 as he was establishing a career that saw him go on to play in the football league for Peterborough United, Millwall, Leyton Orient and Barnett. Dropping back into non-league he played 24 times for Chelsford City last season.

LEE BURNS - DEFENDER / MIDFIELD

Lee made a return to East Thurrock United last season after making more than 100 National League appearances for Dartford. A charismatic and player who is popular with the fans Lee is something of an iconic player at East Thurrock where he impressed during a previous spell, helping the club to earlier triumphs.

TOM DERRY - FORWARD

Tom joined East Thurrock in the close season after playing with both Kingstonian and Leatherhead in the Bostik Premier in 2017-18. Came through the ranks at Gillingham where he gained experience as a loanee at Chelmsford City. Numbers Eastbourne Borough, Aldershot Town and Hayes & Yeading as clubs on the trail that brought him to Rookery Hill.

JACK GIDDENS -GOALKEEPER

Came through the youth ranks at Leyton Orient and has gained significant experience with a number of non-league clubs, including being part of the Bostic Premier winning Billericay Town squad last season. He numbers two spells at Aveley during his travels which also include joining St Neots Town, Tilbury, Tooting & Mitcham and spell with Grindavik in Iceland.

SAM HIGGINS - FORWARD

Club captain and prolific goalscorer who won the Vanarama League South's Golden Boot last season to add to the two Ryman League golden boot awards he had previously won. Has conference South experience with Chelmsford and Bromley but has always viewed East Thurrock as his spiritual football home and has enjoyed his goalscoring success there.

DANNY HARRIS - MIDFIELD

2018 brings a return to Rookery Hill for Danny Harris who left to join Dartford where he won two promotions in eight years and played more than 300 games. A pacey wide man with an eye for goal in his earlier years, which included a spell at Tilbury, Danny spent much of his last season with Dartford as a fixture at right back.

HARRY LEE - MIDFIELD

Another player to come through the Leyton Orient youth ranks where he graduated tp make seven appearances for the first team. Loans at Farnborough and Welling United followed. He then played for Braintree Town, before joining Concord Rangers last season where he made 21 appearances.

BEN MARLOW - MIDFIELD

Highly rated young midfielder who graduated through the West Ham United youth ranks before joining home town club Chelmsford City. Joined Rocks in February 2016 and was influential in the final stages of the promotionwinning season. Missed last season through a new injury but is now fully fit and expected to be a key creative player for the Rocks.

LOUNISSE HAMZA MERZOOK . - MIDFIELD

From Marseille, Lounisse has experience in his native France with AS Monaco. Debuted for Rocks at Slough before Christmas.

JONATHAN NZENGO - DEFENDER

Just joined Rocks from Romford FC where he impressed with his displays at left back for

the Boro this season, although he appears to be equally at home in a forward role, and was Romford's leading scorer last season. Jonathan was previously with Ware and Maldon & Tiptree.

ALEX OSBORN . - MIDFIELD

Alex recently joined Rocks from Hemel Hempstead Town, where he has played since the start of the 2017/18 season. The 25-yearold was with league rivals Whitehawk prior to joining the Tudors. Osborn started out as a young forward with Grays Athletic before signing for Thurrock and then Dagenham & Redbridge. Spells at Chelmsford City and Billericay Town followed before a longterm loan at Ebbsfleet United became a permanent move. He spent time on loan at Haves & Yeading United, Maidstone United, Concord Rangers and Whitehawk whilst at Stonebridge Road before Osborn moved onto Margate in the summer of 2016 before switching to the Hawks that November.

REECE PRESTEDGE - MIDFIELD

An experienced and combative midfielder, Reece has recently joined the Rocks from Hemel Hempstead. Well respected player who has enjoyed successful spells with Bishops Stortford, Bromley and Maidstone in the past and played most of his football at National League level.

RYAN SCOTT - DEFENDER

Returned to East Thurrock in the closing stages of last season after spending more than a year in Australia. Played a key role in helping Rocks win promotion to the Vanarama South after joining them from Billericay Town. Ryan came through the youth set-up at Barnet and has previously played for Wingate & Finchley.

STEVE SHEEHAN - DEFENDER

Recently returned to East Thurrock after playing with Billericay and Canvey Island. A strong central defender with an eye for goal he is a former Rocks captain. The 28 year old was part of manager John Coventry's Thurrock schools squad, a team that also included Sam Higgins. **IBRAHIM SORI-DIALLO - DEFENCE** French defender. Spent time with Burgess Hill last season.

YANNICK MONGA EBWA - MIDFIELD

French player who spent time with Harlow Town before joining Rocks in December.

JOHN COVENTRY - MANAGER

Widely recognised as one of the non-League game's most astute coaches with an impressive track record at East Thurrock United where he has proved that budget limitations do not always inhibit success. Devoted to football he is a former teacher who coached the District youth side for many years and many players from Thurrock have gone on to graduate to the Football League after benefiting from his experience. No mean striker himself John continued playing into his fifties, and still turns out in charity and veterans games from time to time. Celebrated his 500th match in charge of Rocks in November 2016 and ten years in charge last season.

NEIL GRAY - ASSISTANT MANAGER

Apprentice at Southend. Played for Tilbury and Aveley and coached at Wimbledon and Millwall and was a first team scout at Cardiff and Stevenage

KEMAL "KEM" IZZET. - COACH

Most notably played for Colchester United between 2001 and 2013, where he made over 400 league appearances. He was previously on the books at Charlton Athletic but failed to break into the first-team setup at The Valley. He spent three years with Needham Market after leaving Colchester, making 120 appearances.

STEVE TAYLOR-SPORTS THERAPIST & PHYSIO

Runs his full time fitness business from his own gym and facility. Steve is assisted by Dave Field and Chloe Headley.

REWIND: ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY You thought Torquay away was good? Enfield '85 was the best!

Saturday April 6, 1985, FA Challenge Trophy semi-final 1st lea: Enfield 0 Wealdstone 2

HIS was arguably the greatest away result in Wealdstone history. To go to the citadel of our greatest rivals in non-League and return with a two-goal lead in the Trophy semi-final was a magnificent achievement... and it still sends shivers down my spine. Personally, as Sports

Editor of the Enfield Gazette in those far-off days, it was agony. I had to wear the outward face of objectivity, while inwardly I YEARS AGO was desperate to see the Stones triumph and make it to Wembley - while knowing exactly what an amazing side Enfield were.

The Stones, under Brian Hall, were a supremely well-organised, pragmatic outfit with a fantastic cutting edge in the guicksilver Alan Cordice. Critics (including Es boss Eddie McCluskey) saw us as a one-dimensional side but that is to ignore the midfield genius of Robin Wainwright, the clever wing-play of Brian Greenaway, the menacing presence of Lee Holmes and the touch and awareness of Andv Graham.

Enfield had three of the best players offensive players outside the league in Noel Ashford, Nicky Ironton and Dave Flint, and wonderful defenders in David Howells and Keith Barrett. But they didn't have the intensity of our gruesome twosome - defensive rocks Paul Bowgett and Dennis Byatt - and were prone to the occasional flaky off-day.

This was one of those.

It's hugely satisfying to look back and recall that we faced Enfield five times that season.

Picture that sums up that first leg: Bob lles blocks Nicky Ironton's effort at his near post

and lost four of them. Home and away in the league. 1-3 at home in the League Cup and 0-1 at home in the Trophy semi-final second leg. But we won the Conference title and the FA Trophy!

I lived round the corner from Enfield's ground in those days, and the lunchtime air was full of the sound of police sirens as the Stones fans made themselves at home in the Southbury pub just over the road. You could taste the anticipation in the air outside the ground. The crowd wasn't huge, just over

1,600, but with 500 away fans in place the atmosphere was crackling by 3pm and the Stones threw themselves into the game from the off.

It was like watching a tug-ofwar as Enfield pressed and Bowgett & Co held firm. Then the rapier-like Cordice escaped his markers and shot wide, and the locals in the main stand breathed a sigh of relief.

It was becoming a case of who blinks first - my match

BY TIM PARKS

report (rigiht) seems a bit one-sided, but then I had to give the Enfield perspective and the match stats are pretty damning as to who had the most goal attempts in that first leg. The Es had 11 compared to the Stones' four... and the second leg stats show Enfield with 15 attempts to the Stones' four... that's 26-8 over the two legs. And we only had two shots on target in the entire 120 minutes... the two goals at Southbury Road!

In reality, sitting up in the stand. Enfield huffed and puffed while the blue-andvellow striped Stones soaked up the pressure. And then struck like a cobra. Yes, Andy Graham's opening goal was freakish but the second (from Graham again) was beautifully executed after Bowgett's cross had bounced off Howell's knees in the box... and we also missed the

target with decent chances in the last few minutes through Bowgett and Neil Cordice that would have made the second leg a formality.

We all remember that nervous game at Lower Mead, just seven days later. And how Enfield pulverised us again, yet only gaining a 1-0 win... and the sheer relief when Alan Cordice broke away in the last few minutes, only to be crudely brought down by Enfield keeper John Jacobs (displaying his real aptitude, as a rugby player) 45 yards from goal. When the referee waved his red card at Jacobs, we roared our agreement knowing that, even if they miraculously

scored again we would have 30 minutes of extra time against ten men (and midfielder Paul Taylor in goal) to book our passage to Wembley.

Was I the only one secretly hoping that we would dramatically do just that? Take

IT WAS the biggest freak since the Elephant Man.

E. THURROCK REWIND 06.04.2019

With Saturday's FA Trophy semi-final first leg 37 minutes old, and Enfield looking "on a different plane to Wealdstone" to quote the Harrow Observer reporter behind me, the visitors snatched the sort of goal that breaks hearts ..., and Wembley dreams.

Neil Cordice picked Leeds United to their up a half-clearance from Brian Greenaway's corner and volleyed hopedon 10 years ago - but fully from some 35 Johnny Giles' shot on yards. The ball was that occasion had a lot that occasion had a lot headed towards the more sting. Gazette advertisement, Whatever the whys hoarding 10 yards to the left of John Jacob's goal and wherefores, it was a goal. A goal that Enfield before Andy Graham. did not deserve to conrunning out to avoid cede and a goal which being caught offside, de-

Wealdstone - up to that point - had never flected it into the opposite corner to leave the threatened. goalkeeper rooted. The Es had run out to the "Rocky" theme tune Lucky in a sparkling all-white "I meant to flick it on strip, and looked the

but it was very, very lucky" admitted the part of 2-1 FA Trophy favourites until that honest Graham after the bizarre goal. game. But what puzzled They won four corthe 1,600 crowd was why ners in the opening eight. Jacobs - although minutes with some inwrong-footed - failed ventive, penetrative to get across to save the football that had Wealdsnail's pace deflection. stone gasping. People were compar-Paul Taylor banged in ing it to the Dave Basa near-post shot after

corner, and soon after Dennis Byatt was fortunate to win a goalkick as he stepped across Carl Richards' path as the striker raced on to John Docker's pass. The slightest contact and it would surely have been

a penalty. Then Nicky Ironton chipped a free-kick in to Noel Ashford's feet and, after collecting the onetwo, the midfielder was only denied by Iles' bra-

very at his near post. On the 22-minute mark, however, Enfield's best chance of the half came and went as Dave Flint hopelessly

miscued from 18 yards with Iles stranded after punching the ball off Taylor's head.

Wealdstone had only offered the occasional breakaway through the

our chances, avoid the ignominy of losing at home by scoring a couple in added time and striding on to the final?

Nah, only joking! All that mattered was the 2-1 aggregate victory- and of course, after beating Boston United in the final nobody spared a thought for poor Enfield, or indeed the other losing semi-finalists Altrincham. Just as nobody spared a thought for the Stones in 2012 or last season, when we fell at the final hurdle against Newport and Brackley respectively.

Football is an unforgiving arena. So let's remember the fantastic class of '85 who achieved what no other non-League team had done before.

Line -up at Enfield: Bob Iles, Steve Perkins, Steve McCargo, Dennis Byatt, Paul Bowgett, Brian Greenaway, Neil Cordice, Robin Wainwright, Nigel Johnson, Alan Cordice, Andy Graham. Sub: Rov Davies (for Johnson, 77 mins). Att: 1,655. Referee: Tom Bune (Berks)

MORE REWIND OVERPAGE







REWIND: ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY CONTD

A 5-0 pasting.. but not our favourite win at Northwood

Saturday April 6 1996, Isthmian League Div Three: Northwood 0 Wealdstone 5

THIS was our first season in the Isthmian League for 25 years, having voluntarily taken a relegation of three divisions to escape the shackles of administration and the financial straitiacket of playing in the Southern League.

Just ten years after being the Champions of non-League, WFC was on its uppers. But starting again at the bottom rung of the Isthmian League was a breath of fresh air - Gordon Bartlett was the new manager and he had assembled a squad that was free-scoring but as full of holes as a parliamentary recommendation.

Inconsistency was the Stones bugbear. The team had scored a remarkable 99 goals by December 9 but then fired blanks in the next four games (which included a catastrophic 4-0 home defeat by Northwood) ... and then ran up the three figures in a 7-0 win at Southall

That season saw Stones win 9-1 at Cove, 9-0 at home to Southall. 7-0 at home to Hertford and then 10-1 away at Clapton.. while we also spanked East Ham 10-0 in the FA Vase.

But the season was also littered with silly defeats that eventually consigned the team to fourth, just missing out on promotion despite netting 104 league goals in 40 games.

This Easter Saturday clash at Northwood was one I was looking forward to as the Stones had never played at Chestnut Avenue before (apart from a 2-0 League Cup win that January that I missed) and I had spent my formative years playing football with schoolmates at the park next to the ground - indeed, we used the same pitch before it was transformed into a stadium in the late 1970s.

And there was more nostalgia when we realised that the veteran John Toogood was playing in goal for the home side, some 17 years after he'd turned out in a pre-season friendly for the RAF Northolt against SFC



title with a 3-1 win at the same ground

Wealdstone (the supporters' Sunday side). Mike Vincent decribed Toogood as being 'at least 50 years old' in his programme notes the following week but the keeper was a pal of Stones fan Kevin Bright and had even turned out for Wealdstone in a Southern League game against AP Leamington in the late 70s. He did okay in that game, in his relative youth, but was found wanting as Gordon Bartlett's hungry young side went chasing the dream of promotion in April 1996.

The keeper's fumble allowed Steve Fraser to put us 1-0 ahead, and the excellent Chris Walton stretched the lead after a good leftwing move involving Lee Walker. Three late goals (from Tony Knight and subs Paul Sheldrick and Tim Buzaglo) sealed the deal. Wealdstone: Rob Tenkorang, Lee Smart, Fergus Moore, Tony Waugh, Steve Croad, Tony Knight, Chris Walton, Lee Tekell, Lee Walker, Steve Fraser, Steve Bircham. Subs: Paul Sheldrick, Tim Buzaglo, Tony Smith. Att: 433



Arthur Peel Steve Perkins Jon Pettifer J Poole J J Robertson Barbara Robson	Roger Slater FoW + Nick Woolford Terri Mottit + Old Weakden Association FoW Brian and Shirley Pettifer Roger Slater Paul Harvey	Gordon Sedgley - Val Bhearer - Kireon Somers - Charlie Townsend - David Vonables - Julie Vernell - Tom Vernall -	WFC SC David Leigh Mike Weston + In memory of Alf Goldsmith Dom Whyley Paul Saffer WFC SC	Lee Walker	Terry Hissey	In memory of Albert Haines Naomi Benveniste Barbara Stern John & Jack Jones	 Barry Benveniste Terry Stern
George Duck	 John Fennelly + John Orchard + Nick Woolford 	George & Alec Hardie		Bill Kitchener	- Harry Leigh Nick DuGard	Fergus Moore Leo Morris	
Terry Dyson	Nick Woolford	Andy Hedge			Mike Weston + WFC SC		Tom Morris
Fred Farmborough		John Henderson			+ John Jeffreson		- Wealds70ne (Mick Fishman
leorge Richard Goodege		Lee Holmes		Gien Little	FoW + Nick Woolford		+ Pete Worby)
Brian Goymer		Walter Langton Howman -			Mark Hobbs	Bobby Moss	Jon Taffel + Ray Corner
	 Toby Jackson 		Nick Woolford		 FoW + Nick Woolford 		 FoW + Dom Whyley
Mark Graves		Richard Jolly -	FoW + Dom Whyley	Leslie McDonald		Chris O'Leary	
James Gray			 Nick Woolfard 		 Alyson Angelides 		 Peter Manuden
Brian Greenaway		Brian Jones -	Kathleen, Shane, Sinead	Frank Tingay Martin		Arthur Paisley	
Brian Hall	- WFC SC		and Steve	Henrik Mikrut	 Alan Couch 	Dean Papati	- Adam Williama
John Ashworth Kenneth Baldwin	FoW Mark Barton Adam Williams FoW Victor Klarfeld Gordon Thomson + Nick Woolford + WFC SC WFC SC	Henry J Bowell - Paul Bowgett - Russell William Bradberry - Bernie Bremer - Mickey Brown -	Nell Rands Peter John-Baptiste Paul Harvey Nicky Clark + Dom Whyley + Nick Woolford Sail Morris Mick Fishman	Tim Buzagio Dennis Byatt Billy Byrne	- Tony Maldment WFC SC FoW Nick Woolford Dom Whyley Dom Whyley Matt Hill FoW	Nell Cordice William Henry Cozens Sean Cronin Roy Davies	- Alyson Angelides - FoW - FoW - Mark Conboy - Keith Hill

ACTION REPLAY

Words - Dec O'Reilly

Saturday 30th March 2019 - Plainmoor Stadium National League South - Attendance 2,934





LINE-UP

MacDonnald Wynter Davis Sendles-White Keating Hall Janneh Lemonheigh-Evans Cameron Reid Kalala Subs: Koszela **Burton** Vincent Niate Dickson

FIRST HALF

A great counter-attack from the Stones in the 23rd minute almost put Bobby Wilkinson's men in-front when a three-against-one led Monakana to play the ball right to Danny Green's whose left-footed shot hit the near post.

The deadlock was broken after 29 minutes by the home side when Lumbombo-Kalala volleyed the ball into the near post from Ruairi Keating's cross from the left.

Another great opportunity fell for Hall 10 minutes before half-time as his header clipped the far post from another Torquay set-piece.

The Stones were split open two minutes later as Reid slotted past North to register his 26th league goal of the season.

The league leaders had a two-goal cushion, it could have been reduced by Jake Sheppard a minute later when he forced a save from MacDonald.

Good work and a quick turn of pace on the left from Monakana won the Stones another corner four minutes before half-time.

Green played the corner short before whipping it in and after the home side half-cleared the ball eventually fell to Monakana who just about got it over the line to half the deficit.



The second-half started with a misplaced pass by Poku which left Christian Smith to deal with the danger

The Stones equaliser was almost found just after the hour-mark when Sheppard took four Gulls players out the game with one pass to Rhys Tyler and the full-back's cross was almost put in by Torquay defender Jamie Sendles-White.

Torquay began to panic seconds later when Allarakhia could not finish a great Stones move. Stones top scorer David Pratt was brought on with 24 minutes to play, replacing Brown. Just as Wealdstone were getting a grip on the game, a Lemonheigh-Evans corner found substitute Jean-Yves Koue Niate at the near post to restore Torquay's two-goal lead on the 70th minute.

The Gulls won a penalty a couple of minutes later when Tyler brought down Reid, the spot-kick was well-saved twice by North.

The game took another interesting turn when the Stones scored again in the 74th minute, Jerome Okimo headed home Green's corner at the near-post to bring the score to 3-2. Green could have brought the Stones level with 10 minutes left on the clock when he fired a fierce volley over the bar & Grant had an audacious attempt a minute before stoppage time which did not find the target.





Monakana (41), Okimo (73)

LINE-UP

North Tyler Grant Smith Okimo Poku Allarakhia Brown Monakana Green Sheppard Subs: Pratt Paterson Azeez Mensah Clark





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<u>APPEARANCES</u>

FIRST TEAM, SEASON 2018/19 at 20th March 2019

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

	L	ATIO EAG SOU			FA Cui		TR	FA Roph	łY	S	AIDD) Enio Cup	R	CH	IDD) Ari Cup		т	TAL	.s		LDS ARE	TONE ER	
	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	
Ahmidi, Wadah *	11			3												14			14			
Allarakhia, Tarryn	11		3													11		3	11		3	
Azeez, Femi		4								2		1				2	4	1	2	4	1	
Bridgeman, Josiah										1						1			1			
Brown, Stefan	4	5	1	1												5	5	1	5	5	1	
Bubb, Bradley	11	5	6	3		2										14	5	8	26	7	13	
Charles, Elliott *		5	3		1			1		1		1				1	7	4	1	7	4	
Clark, James	1	1								2						3	1		3	1		_
Grant, Freddie	16			3												19			19			
Green, Danny	29	5	4	2			1	1		1						33	6	4	129	14	29	_
Hudson-Odoi, Bradley *	13	4	3	1			2									16	4	3	54	12	18	
Kowalkowski, Pawel	1	2						1			1					1	4		1	4		_
Lench, Matt *	5	8	1	1	1											6	9	1	6	9	1	
Mambo, Yado *	1	1								1						2	1		2	1		_
Massingham, Luke										1						1			1			
McKeown, Eion *	1	8	1				1				1					2	9	1	2	9	1	_
Medford-Smith, Ramarn		10									1						11			11		
Mensah, Simon	16	4	2				1	1								17	5	2	17	5	2	
Mitchell, Reece *	2	8								1	1					3	9		3	9		
Monakana, Jeffrey	11	11	1		2						1					11	14	1	17	16	2	
North, Jonathan	34			3			2									39			382	1		
Obi, Ogo	1	2														1	2		1	2		
Okimo, Jerome	34			3			2		1							39		1	136	5	2	
Payne, Joe *	5									1						6			6			
Poku, Godrey	35			3			2									40			40			
Pratt, David	33		11	1			2		1							36		12	57	1	18	
Regis, Christopher *	1									1						2			2			
Roberts, Myles	1															1		-	1		-	
Rodgers, Anton										2		2				2		2	2		2	
Samizadeh, Alexander	1							1								1	1		1	1	•	
Sheppard, Jake	19	4	1	2	1		1									22	5	1	34	6	2	
Shomotun, Fumnaya *	5	4		3		2	1		1		1					9	5	3	9	5	3	
Slew, Jorome *		1	1		1					1		1				1	2	2	1	2	2	
Smith, Christian	10	3	3				2		1	1						13	3	4	13	3	4	
Stevens, Connor	32		4	3		1	2									37		5	37		5	
Tyler, Rhys	19	1		1	1		1									21	2		21	2		
Wheeler, Sonny										2						2			2			
White, Joe *	5	1	1													5	1	1	22	5	9	
Wilson, Glenn *	7						2			1						10			30	1	1	
Yala-Bolasie, Glenn										2						2			2			

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<u>APPEARANCES</u>

FIRST TEAM, SEASON 2018/19 at 20th March 2019

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

	L	ATIO EAG SOU			FA Cui		TR	FA ROPH	łY	S	IIDDX Enior Cup		CH	IDD Ari Cup		т	TAI	.s		LDS ARE	TONE ER	
	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	
Ahmidi, Wadah *	11			3												14			14			
Allarakhia, Tarryn	11		3													11		3	11		3	1
Azeez, Femi		4								2		1				2	4	1	2	4	1	
Bridgeman, Josiah										1						1			1			
Brown, Stefan	4	5	1	1												5	5	1	5	5	1	
Bubb, Bradley	11	5	6	3		2										14	5	8	26	7	13	
Charles, Elliott *		5	3		1			1		1		1				1	7	4	1	7	4	
Clark, James	1	1								2						3	1		3	1		
Grant, Freddie	16			3												19			19			
Green, Danny	29	5	4	2			1	1		1						33	6	4	129	14	29	
Hudson-Odoi, Bradley *	13	4	3	1			2									16	4	3	54	12	18	
Kowalkowski, Pawel	1	2						1			1					1	4		1	4		
Lench, Matt *	5	8	1	1	1											6	9	1	6	9	1	
Mambo, Yado *	1	1								1						2	1		2	1		
Massingham, Luke										1						1			1			
McKeown, Eion *	1	8	1				1				1					2	9	1	2	9	1	
Medford-Smith, Ramarn	i *	10									1						11			11		
Mensah, Simon	16	4	2				1	1								17	5	2	17	5	2	
Mitchell, Reece *	2	8								1	1					3	9		3	9		
Monakana, Jeffrey	11	11	1		2						1					11	14	1	17	16	2	
North, Jonathan	34			3			2									39			382	1		
Obi, Ogo	1	2														1	2		1	2		
Okimo, Jerome	34			3			2		1							39		1	136	5	2	
Payne, Joe *	5									1						6			6			_
Poku, Godrey	35			3			2									40			40			
Pratt, David	33		11	1			2		1							36		12	57	1	18	
Regis, Christopher *	1									1						2			2			
Roberts, Myles	1															1			1			_
Rodgers, Anton										2		2				2		2	2		2	
Samizadeh, Alexander	1							1								1	1		1	1		
Sheppard, Jake	19	4	1	2	1		1									22	5	1	34	6	2	
Shomotun, Fumnaya *	5	4		3		2	1		1		1					9	5	3	9	5	3	_
Slew, Jorome *		1	1		1					1		1				1	2	2	1	2	2	
Smith, Christian	10	3	3				2		1	1						13	3	4	13	3	4	
Stevens, Connor	32		4	3		1	2									37		5	37		5	
Tyler, Rhys	19	1		1	1		1									21	2		21	2		_
Wheeler, Sonny										2						2			2			
White, Joe *	5	1	1													5	1	1	22	5	9	
Wilson, Glenn *	7						2			1						10			30	1	1	
Yala-Bolasie, Glenn										2						2			2			

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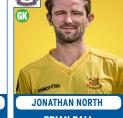




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DANNY GREEN

DAVID LEIGH

ALAN COUCH





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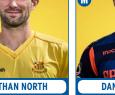














SENTINEL7







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UPCOMING FIXTURES

HOME

Dulwich Hamlet

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 20th April, 3:00pm £9 entry for Premier / EFL season ticket holders

Hemel Hempstead Town

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Saturday, 27th April, 3:00pm £9 entry for Premier / EFL season ticket holders

AWAY

Hampton & Richmond VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH

Saturday, 13th April, 7:45pm www.hamptonfc.net

Chelmsford City

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH Easter Monday, 22nd April, 3:00pm www.chelmsfordcitvfc.com

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FOR ANY OTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE **VISIT WWW.WEALDSTONE-FC.COM**

	Vanaran	na	N	la	tio	on	al	Le	a	gι	le	S	ou	th	at	3	rd	I A	pri	1 2	019	9	
	Opposition		Ali						Home								Awa	y					
		P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts	Res	ults
1	Torquay United	37	25	6	6	83	35	19	14	2	3	51	22	18	11	4	3	32	13	48	81	0-3	2-3
2	Woking	37	22	8	7	68	39	18	12	1	5	33	18	19	10	7	2	35	21	29	74	1-0	2-0
3	Welling United	37	20	7	10	61	41	18	12	4	2	37	21	19	8	3	8	24	20	20	67	1-3	1-1
4	Chelmsford City	37	19	9	9	64	42	19	11	5	3	33	20	18	8	4	6	31	22	22	66	2-3	
5	Bath City	37	18	10	9	54	31	19	11	4	4	32	15	18	7	6	5	22	16	23	64	3-3	1-1
6	Dartford	37	17	10	10	48	45	19	11	6	2	30	19	18	6	4	8	18	26	3	61	1-1	3-0
7	Billericay Town	37	17	8	12	64	56	18	9	3	6	29	27	19	8	5	6	35	29	8	59	1-1	0-1
8	Concord Rangers	37	16	13	8	60	43	19	10	7	2	37	17	18	6	6	6	23	26	17	58	1-1	2-2
9	Wealdstone	37	15	12	10	52	44	18	7	5	6	25	27	19	8	7	4	27	17	8	57		
10		37	15	10	12	58	56	18	10	4	4	29	20	19	5	6	8	29	36	2	55	2-2	0-0
11	Slough Town	37	14	10	13	46	44	19	8	6	5	24	18	18	6	4	8	22	26	2	52	0-3	1-0
12	Chippenham Town	37	14	7	16	51	57	18	9	4	5	31	24	19	5	3	11	20	33	-6	49	1-0	1-3
13	Oxford City	37	14	5	18	58	57	18	8	2	8	32	23	19	6	3	10	26	34	1	47	0-2	0-3
14	Hemel Hempstead Town	37	12	11	14	48	58	19	6	6	7	26	33	18	6	5	7	22	25	-10	47		1-0
15	Dulwich Hamlet	37	10	9	18	42	58	19	7	4	8	24	27	18	3	5	10	18	31	-16	39		1-1
16	Hampton & Richmond	37	10	9	18	40	58	19	5	3	11	16	30	18	5	6	7	24	28	-18	39	2-1	
17	Eastbourne Borough	37	9	11	17	43	58	18	5	6	7	25	30	19	4	5	10	18	28	-15	38	3-3	3-0
18	Hungerford Town	37	10	7	20	41	66	18	6	4	8	22	28	19	4	3	12	19	38	-25	37	1-0	1-1
19	Truro City	37	9	9	19	55	76	18	5	3	10	25	35	19	4	6	9	30	41	-21	36	3-0	2-1
20	Gloucester City	37	8	11	18	25	45	19	2	10	7	13	20	18	6	1	11	12	25	-20	35	2-0	0-0
21	East Thurrock United	37	9	6	22	34	53	19	7	4	8	20	21	18	2	2	14	14	32	-19	33		1-0
22	Weston-super-Mare	37	5	10	22	41	74	18	1	6	11	15	32	19	4	4	11	26	42	-33	25	4-1	5-0

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