

SEASON 2022-23



PROGRAMME £3

WEALDSTONE FC



BROWNE'S ON FIRE!

Rhys Browne turns Halifax's Jesse Debrah inside out as his 3rd goal of the season won the points at The Vale

PIC: MIKE RENNY



V YEOVIL TOWN
MONDAY AUGUST 29, 2022 KO 3PM



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Written in Stone

BY MARK HYDE



Welcome back to The Vale

Welcome to Chris Hargreaves, the directors, staff, players and traveling supporters from Yeovil Town. We hope you have a pleasant afternoon and a safe journey home to Somerset after the game.

We have a packed issue for you again this afternoon with updates from Stuart on the playing side, Rory on the club in general, Jon Taffel on all things B related and even a word search following the ridiculously positive feedback on last weeks crossword! There is though, still room for more and every one of you must have an article tucked away in your heads that needs a wider audience, even if its simply as feature in 'Fan in the Stand'.

Bookings for the Supporters Club Coach to Altrincham next month is now open and full details can be found later in this issue. The SC Coach is a non profit making service aimed at boosting our support at difficult or costly games to attend. Using the coach to games not only offers fantastic value for money but it also offers you a warm friendly environment where many a long term friendship has been formed so please give it a try.

Finally, my weekly call to arms - We are still very much in need of your help where possible, either as a volunteer or as a Match, ball or kit sponsor. Details of all of these opportunities can be found within these pages.

Mark



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IN MEMORY OF ARTHUR ROGERS

LOVE FOOTBALL. PROTECT THE GAME

Every football fan should feel safe when watching their team. But last season we saw a minority of supporters ruining the game for others. That's why we're supporting strong measures across football to tackle antisocial and criminal behaviours within football grounds.

These include entering the pitch without permission, carrying or using smoke bombs or pyros and throwing objects onto the pitch, as well as discriminatory behaviour and taking drugs. All of these are illegal, dangerous and have no place in our game. For everyone's safety, clubs will report anyone carrying out these offences to the police, which can result in a permanent criminal record. These measures could also now apply to the parents or guardians of children involved in these activities.

From the start of the 2022/23 season, anyone who enters the pitch and those carrying or using smoke bombs and pyros will now automatically be banned by their club. These measures reflect the seriousness of the risks to fans and staff – pyros can burn at 2000 degrees Celsius and cause life-changing injuries, while entering the pitch endangers players, managers and match officials – it is impossible for anyone to tell the difference between a celebrating fan and a violent attacker.

The football authorities are working with clubs and the Football Supporters' Association to make sure everyone feels safe on matchdays. We ask all fans to come together to show that those who commit these illegal acts do not represent the majority of supporters.

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WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2022/2023

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1964 / 1965 Senior Cup
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1984 / 1985 Senior Cup
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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
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GROUND REGULATIONS

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

- 1) The club reserves the right to eject from the ground any person who is considered to have committed any of the following acts:
 - Entering the ground through any means other than through the turnstiles or entrances
 - Entering the field of play before, during or after a game without prior authorisation
 - Being drunk, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs • Using violence of any nature
 - Carrying items which may be considered a danger to others, including cans, bottles, or glasses containing alcoholic beverages
 - Throwing any article onto the field of play • Climbing floodlight pylons, fences, stands or any structure or building
 - Using obscene or bad language likely to cause offence to others • Hitting the side or back panels of the Bulla stand
- 2) No spectator ball games.
- 3) The consumption of alcoholic drinks is permitted INSIDE the social club bar, garden and boardroom areas.
- 4) Vehicles parked on the Grosvenor Vale site are at the owners' risk.
- 5) Wealdstone Football Club supports the FA's campaign on pyrotechnics (e.g. flares and smoke bombs). Any misuse of such items in and around the Ground will result in those responsible being asked to leave the ground and, in line with football authority guidance, may result in a report to the Police, potential prosecution and a ban from the Club of up to three years. 6) No Smoking or Vaping inside the ground.

Wealdstone FC Board of Directors

From the Gaffer

STUART MAYNARD

All in it together

Good afternoon and warm welcome to Chris Hargreaves and his Yeovil Town team on this Bank Holiday Monday.

So, here we are back at The Vale after a long long trip to Gateshead in the North East.

Today Yeovil will be another tough opponent as they are a huge football club in this division. They have got a new manager in Chris Hargreaves this season and a new group of players so they are going to be a team that will improve as the season goes on.

We are currently in a good place though and we have been delighted with our start to the season. We are playing some good football and looking back to this point a year ago I think we only had a couple of points on the board so it tells you how much we have improved over the summer.

The group we have are very hungry for success and that will be something that holds us in good shape. We try and recruit the right personalities and we have a collection of players



that are all in it together.

Hopefully we can have another good home performance this afternoon as we have won both games at the Vale so far this season.

If we stick to what we do and we are brave on the ball, hopefully we will be in an even better place come the final whistle.

UTS

Stuart



The bond was clear following our win at Oldham

Pic: Jon Taffel

NEXT HOME GAME Sunday 4th September WEALDSTONE v WOKING KO 12PM

CLUB CHAIRMAN

BY RORY FITZGERALD



From the

Club Chairman Rory outlines our progress so far and his visions for a bright Wealdstone future

Good afternoon and welcome back to the Vale. I write these notes after what I felt was a dominant 1 – 0 win against FC Halifax and as we sit in 2nd place in the Vanarama National league table. I know its early days but the standard of football we have played against 3 of the more fancied teams in the league, Bromley the FA Trophy holders, Halifax play off quarter finalists and just relegated Oldham tells me this going to be an unforgettable season.

These things don't happen by accident and as a part time team it really is the result of so much hard work by the playing staff, directors, staff, volunteers and supporters. Dominic thanked many people

who have contributed over recent months in the Bromley programme, but I would like to reiterate his comments, this club functions because of the time and effort so many of you put in so thank you.

The summer for any football club is a busy period but for us this has been one of the hottest, craziest periods in my time involved. On the playing side the most important business was delivered early with Stuart and Matt committing their future to the club. They are a pleasure to deal with and carry the clubs values with them.

We were delighted with the transfer business over the summer, I know it's difficult for fans as



FOR ALL THE LATEST STONES NEWS WWW.WEALDSTONE-FC.COM

Boardroom



former favourites leave but over this period as a club it's impossible to communicate our plans as this would simply alert other teams to our targets. My job as chairman is to ensure Stuart starts the season with the players he wants, and I know hes delighted with the current squad with its exciting blend of experience and youth.

Off the field there is renewed energy around the Vale and things are progressing well. The stadium improvements, primarily on the Vale club side, were costly but unavoidable following the incidences that led to the ground closure last year. Our capacity now sits uncomfortably close to the minimum stadium capacity of 4k for this level of football and plans are now being developed to increase the capacity further. The construction work that was undertaken takes time and we started the season with elements around the dugouts and a new disabled area still to be completed but this will be resolved shortly. As many of you know the lease with our current landlord ends in 2023 but we remain confident that a new agreement will be signed in good time and we will keep you updated as things develop.

As a board we are continuously working on developing relationships with both businesses and other football clubs. We are delighted that Watford Womens team have chosen to play their matches at the Vale this season. The season started in style with a 3-2 victory over Gillingham in front of an impressive 330 fans with a team that includes former England International, Arsenal and Chelsea forward Gemma Davidson. The atmosphere was terrific and I would encourage fans to come along to experience high level women's football with entry for Wealdstone season ticket holders just £1.

We were also excited to host QPR for a pre-season friendly with over 2,5k in the Vale followed a few days later by over 1,7k fans in to watch Watford v Southampton. We received tremendous feedback from both QPR and Watford for the efforts put in to host the games and I would like to extend a special thanks to

Adam and his team from the Turf Doctors who have done an amazing job in preparing the pitch for this season in the most difficult of circumstances.

These games as well as being financially important make you realise how as a club we are growing, and it was great to see BT sports presenting pitchside during the FC Halifax game and they will be back to broadcast our upcoming game against Woking live.

On the commercial side so many of our partners continue to support us including our main club and stand sponsors gpf Lewis, Rolfe East, Ruislip Windows and Doors, Hollywell and Nagle Flooring and we have also been delighted to announce significant new partnerships with amongst others OSMO and Shots Sports. We continue to develop partnerships with local businesses and this season have a record number of companies sponsoring the club in one way or another, these are the partnerships that enable us to progress as a club.

Improving the match day experience for supporters remains a top objective and we were pleased to welcome in The Manhattan Grill Company to run the Match Day catering, initial feedback from the FC Halifax game suggests that they will be a real success.

Can I finish by thanking all fans who managed to travel to our away games. Your support has been great and the noise you make really helps the players.

There are many ways to get involved and support your club whether it's to give an hour of your time before kick-off, simply using our bar before and after games or attending one of the many events that take place in the Vale. Without volunteers the club simply could not function so if you are interested please reach out to any of the directors or Richard our General Manager.

Rory

'Improving the match day experience for supporters remains a top objective'

BY SUDHIR RAWAL



The Elmstie

Name dropping in a bid to bond with the working classes EE looks North

If you'd watch the BT highlights show, not sure anyone would have known that a little, part-time club in Middlesex was second in the table, with three wins and one defeat. Of course, when they did show the Stones match versus FC Halifax, it was an interview with Halifax's underachieving manager which was aired rather than the one that won. We are, of course, used to not getting the plaudits which are merited. Not sure the presenters and analysers have actually heard of Wealdstone, though they did mention twice that the Hertfordshire team currently residing in the Seaxe county have had their best start for seventeen years.

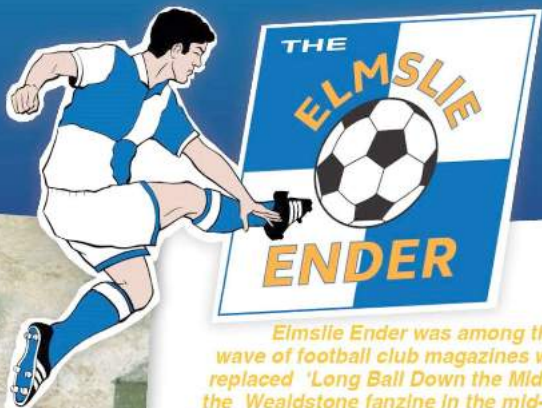
The post-match interview with Chris Millington, the new manager at the Yorkshire club, saw him bemoan the dry pitch, as he did on the opening day of the season up the road. Of course, there was one team playing the ball around the ground and that side didn't seem to have too much trouble moving the football around the deck, dominating a game as much as any we have since our return to the National League's top division. We were comfortable as we could be with a single goal lead and had Rhys Browne added a second when through on goal in the second period, the outcome would have been more secure. Brownie once again made many punters happy with his goal and the rather generous odds being offered.



LS Lowry injects some culture into this wretched

Ashley Charles was superb last Saturday, as he was at Oldham, Rhys Browne continues to cause defenders all sorts of problems, with Cookie being Cookie, we have seen some of our younger players impressing hugely. Mason Barrett has just come in under the radar and has put in a number of impressive performances, Deji Elerewe has come to terms with the pace and style of the game in the National League, and has twice stepped into midfield after a long period of possession by Wealdstone to set in motion the passage of play which lead to a goal. Dom Hutchinson excels at the right back position too. It's gone as well as it could so far, as I write on Sunday morning, with a long trip north to Gateshead awaiting us before today's game at home to Yeovil. Not sure too many of us saw our start after the debacle of a defeat at home

Ender



Elmslie Ender was among the first wave of football club magazines when it replaced 'Long Ball Down the Middle' as the Wealdstone fanzine in the mid-1980s. LBDTM's forerunner 'Wealdstone Whispers' was famously the THE very first football fanzine in Britain when it was published in 1971



Pic The Football Match by LS Lowry

mill town. LS Lowry's paintings depicted life in the north west England, mainly in Pendlebury on the other side of Manchester to Oldham, but it was Wealdstone whose stroke work had the aesthete's admiration. Our football in the first half was sublime: pass and move, keeping hold of the ball, controlling the temp, and running rings around the former premier leaguers, Oldham Athletic. Supporters of vintage were suggesting it was the best forty-five minutes of football they had seen in decades; it was certainly the best since the mauling of Bath City 7-0 here at the Vale in the National League south promotion season. Whilst we couldn't keep up the same domination in the second period after Athletic managed to pull an unfortunate goal back, we still seemed to have the game in our control and deservedly came home with the three points which made the nine hour plus return trip well worth it. We were clad like Brazil, we played like peak 1970s samba vintage in that first period. Our second goal, twenty-three passes, held possession for

over a minute, before we struck with speed and precision didn't even get a mention on BT Sport.

The evolution of "Stuball" has seen our fans now patiently watching the team move the ball around and back across the back, keeping possession, waiting for the move into space and then attack at pace. Last season, at the start of the season, the reaction of the crowd was very different. Everyone knows how we want to pay now, it works and at times, as at Oldham, it can be sublime.

to Chelmsford in our last pre-season game.

Whilst appreciating that there was a rail strike last weekend, some of the away support numbers were Ryman League. Halifax, who were poorly supported last season at the Vale, just about managed 50. Maidenhead 53 at Dagenham, Bromley 72 at Aldershot, Boreham Wood 35 at Torquay and Eastleigh 66 at York, the 150 + Stones fans at Oldham midweek was put into perspective. Those of you who have listened to Stonescast 23 which came out last Friday, will have heard the panel purring with delight at our performance in the Lancastrian former

'Whilst appreciating that there was a rail strike last weekend, some of the away support numbers were Ryman League'

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Meet the former Lincoln star who's bringing his experience and ability to this exciting Stones team

It's Sam Habergham

He's an interesting man, is Sam Habergham. The 30-year-old was a key player in the dynamic Lincoln City side of 2016-17 - the first non League team to reach the FA Cup quarter finals since 1914 - and had been on the radar of the Stones equally dynamic management team for several seasons.

And with Stuart Maynard good pals with the Cowley Brothers (the brains behind that remarkable Lincoln side) the Wealdstone boss was confident he could land the strong and influential Habergham one day.

"Yes, there are a lot of similarities between Stuart and Matty Saunders and Danny and Nicky Cowley - the same energy and ideas" said the six-foot defender when I managed to catch up with him the day after the epic game at Oldham.

"The main difference is that here at Wealdstone we can't get the players out on the pitch enough, being part time. Which makes the information and tactics that they manage to drum into the players that much more remarkable".

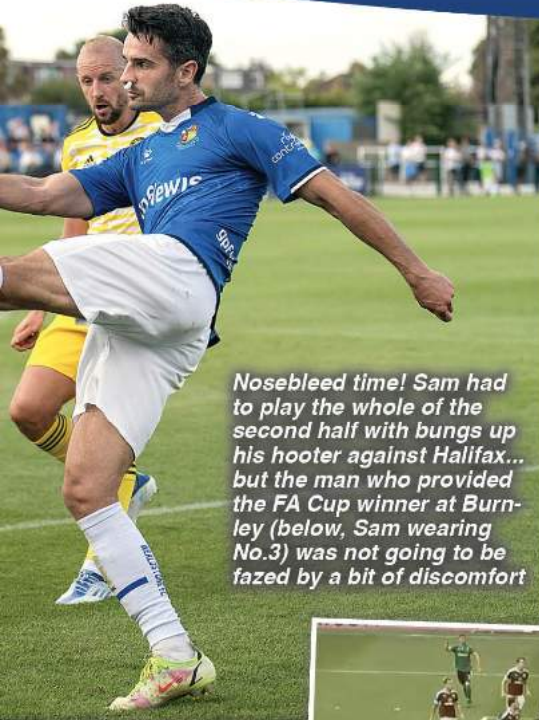
I asked him if he was finding that transition to being a part time player difficult. "Well I try to look after myself and I see it as a full time job - 'part-time' is just a word on a piece of paper, as far as I'm concerned - I don't see myself as a national League player and I'm still determined to get back into the Football League"

Sam has a business studies degree with a book-keeping element and he's been doing some work for a friend of his partner Chloe who has a beauty business. It's all very different from football but he likes that 'otherness' of the business world.

"My life has settled down a bit in the last few weeks" says the six-footer who began his career at the Norwich City academy.

"I was brought up in Great Ellingham in Norfolk, and after travelling around to play for Tamworth, Braintree, Lincoln, Grimsby and then Peninsula Power in Australia I was staying back at my par-

There's a big interview in every issue of your great Stones programme!



Nosebleed time! Sam had to play the whole of the second half with bungs up his hooter against Halifax... but the man who provided the FA Cup winner at Burnley (below, Sam wearing No.3) was not going to be fazed by a bit of discomfort

mens football, so I signed for Tamworth in the Conference. We only finished about 16th in the league but it wasn't a bad side and we had an FA Cup run to the 3rd round and a game at Everton where we lost 2-0".

He then switched to then-National League Braintree for four years, firstly under Alan Devonshire. The Cowleys were then promoted to manage 'The Iron' after their success at Concord Rangers - and very nearly steered the unfashionable Essex side into League Two before they were beaten in the play-offs.

Their exploits caught the eye of Lincoln City, a BELT mired in the National League, and when Danny and Nicky were lured up to Sincil Bank they quickly put in an offer to bring along their steady left back Sam.

"The next two years were probably the best of my career" he says.

"We were good and well organised, with Matt Rhead a good focal point up front but we also had some clever technical players.

"I remember we had 2,500 in for the first home game, which the club were quite pleased about, but then within a month we had a 10,000 full house every week! We just kept winning and the confidence and momentum increased".

The Imps ended the season as National League champions, but it is the FA Cup run for which they will be most fondly remembered.

"We beat Guiseley, then Altrincham in the first round proper, then Oldham (who were then in League One) in round two before drawing with Ipswich in the third round and winning the replay" said Sam, warming to the theme.

"Then we beat Brighton who were the Championship leaders, in the fourth round. That was amazing enough but we then went to Premier league Burnley and won with a goal from Sean Raggett in the last minute".

Sam reckons he had 21 assists for goals that season - many from corner kicks - and it was his precise far post delivery, nodded back for Raggett



ents this summer while my fiancée Chloe was also back locally at her parents.

"I was travelling to the Stones matches and training from Norfolk, three hours each way!

"But now we've moved to Beaconsfield, much handier, and we've even got a baby on the way in November."

So what's the story behind Sam's rather circuitous route from Norwich to Brisbane?

"Well, I was at Carrow Road from the age of seven until 17 when I signed a two-year pro contract. They had back-to-back promotions up from League One to the Premier League so it was a settled and successful team... I was in the squad but it was obvious that they weren't going to change much.

"I was released at 19 and very keen to play

THE STONES INTERVIEW CONTD

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

- who just managed to force the ball over the line before it was cleared - that won the game.

Lincoln were now treading where no non-League club had been in over 100 years, but the quarter final draw was unkind in handing a trip to the Emirates to face Arsenal.

It was a 60,000 full house and the plucky Imps held out until Theo Walcott's 44th minute shot was deflected past the keeper by Sam as he stretched to block. And the Gunners added four more in a one-sided second half.

“We then had a great first season in League Two, reaching the play-off semi final but losing to Exeter - and also reaching The Checktrade Trophy final at Wembley” said Sam.

“I suffered a bad knee injury just before the play-offs, though that was just after we had enjoyed Lincoln's first ever appearance at Wembley... the Imps had 35,000 fans there and we beat Shrewsbury 1-0”

And did you provide the assist for that goal? I asked him.

“Yes! Well, a semi-assist as my corner led to a header that was saved before Elliot Whitehouse put it away”.

From the glory of Wembley to long-term knee injury... that must have been the toughest couple of years of his career.

“It was. We worked it out that there were 1,000 days between my last game for Lincoln, and my next one for Grimsby Town. You might think that signing for their hated rivals would have been difficult but the City fans were really good about it.. they knew what I'd been through in those injury years”

It was a short stay for just a few months at Blundell Park, just 19 games as Grimsby were headed for relegation, and Sam had to face up



Sam (left) shows off the Checktrade Trophy after Lincoln's glorious Wembley day out

to the fact that he might not find another EFL club.

“Danny Cowley asked me down to train with Portsmouth but I thought ‘if I'm not going to play in the League I'll try something different... and a former coach at Lincoln was in charge of Peninsula Power in the Australian Queensland League and asked me over.

“We spent four months there, half the season, and it was quite an experi-

ence. Hard to compare with anything in the UK as soccer is not the No. 1 sport there and there are lots of Asian players and other nationalities... it was athletic and technical at the same time”.

There is a National League that encompasses the whole country, and three regional leagues below that with Peninsula Power in the Queensland League, mostly comprising clubs based around Brisbane.

“Despite being the second level in Australia we had reached the quarter finals of the all-Australia Cup. Maybe if they win it I'll get a medal!”

But now he's putting his ability and experience to good use for the Stones, playing mostly in his favoured left-back position.

“As a youngster at Norwich, and in Australia I played on the left of a back three but here I like to be able to push forward... we've got a young and hungry squad and it's great to see how brave and confident they are on the ball, just passing it and passing it. Some of the football against Oldham was incredible!”

Stuart and Matt said that Sam's signing was as important for his know-how as much as his ability, and that showed as the Stones played out an often frantic last half hour at Boundary Park.

“I always try to help out the younger players and I've done all my coaching badges, so I've got a lot of knowledge to pass on.

“I'm really looking forward to it”.

28



SAM HABERGHAM



gp flewis

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Opposition in focus



THE GLOVERS

Founded in 1895, the club initially joined the Somerset Senior League and competed in a multitude of leagues up until the outbreak of World War II. During this time they won titles in the Southern League, Western League, Bristol Charity League, Dorset District League and Somerset Senior League.

The Glovers (named due to the long history of glove making in the town) played in the Southern League after the war ended, winning the championship in 1954–55, 1963–64 and 1970–71, before becoming members of the Alliance Premier League from 1979 to 1985. They spent the next three years in the Isthmian League, and were elevated into the Conference after finishing as champions in 1987–88. Relegated in 1995, they were promoted again two years later after winning another Isthmian League title. Yeovil won the 2002 FA Trophy Final and secured a place in the Football League after winning the Conference in 2002–03 under the stewardship of Gary Johnson. They then won the League Two title in 2004–05, before reaching the Championship with victory in the 2013 League One play-off final in Johnson's second spell as manager. However they suffered consecutive relegations, and were relegated once more following the 2018–19 season, ending their 16-season spell in the Football League.

Yeovil are one of the most successful non-league teams in the FA Cup, having defeated major Football League teams, most famously Sunderland in the fourth round in 1949, before going on to play in front of more than 81,000 spectators away at Manchester United in the next round. For some years, as the only Football League side in Somerset, they had few local rivals since Dorset-based side Weymouth declined as Yeovil climbed the divisions in the 1990s and 2000s.

It was in 1990 the club moved into their current home 'Huish Park', with a capacity of 9,565. Much of the club's success has been in this stadium.

THE PLAYERS TO WATCH

1. SAM JOHNSON - GOALKEEPER

Grant signed for Town in the summer of 2021 as the club's new number one goalkeeper. Formerly of Chesterfield, the shotstopper kept 10 clean sheets in 18 apps in Derbyshire before heading to Somerset.

2. MORGAN WILLIAMS - DEFENCE

Williams enjoyed two short term loan spells with the club from Coventry City. Prior to joining the Glovers on loan first time round, Williams had already made his first team bow for Coventry, lining up in the Checkatrade Trophy against Arsenal and later started in League One against Fleetwood Town.

3. JAMIE RECORD - DEFENCE

Jamie previously starred for Solihull Moors and Wrexham, before spending the second half of last season at Boreham Wood. Reckord also boasts experience within the EFL, playing for the likes of Northampton Town, Scunthorpe United, Coventry City, Plymouth Argyle and Swindon Town whilst on loan from Wolverhampton Wanderers. He then joined Oldham on a permanent deal following his departure from Wolves.

5. MAX HUNT - DEFENCE

Standing at six foot, six inches tall, the towering Carlisle United loanee signed on loan in December 2020. A Derby County academy graduate.

OUR RECORD AGAINST YEOVIL TOWN

P26 W9 D8 L9 F40 A41 GD -1

YEOVIL TOWN FC



HOME GROUND - HUISH PARK
CAPACITY - 9,565 (5,212 SEATED)
MANAGER - CHRIS HARGREAVES
2021/22 - 12TH NATIONAL LEAGUE

6. BEN RICHARDS-EVERTON - DEFENCE

Ben spent his early years playing for the likes of Romulus, Cradley Town & Hinckley United & Tamworth. Ben then joined Patrick Thistle before a short loan spell at Airdrieonians. A two season spell at Dunfermline Athletic followed before a return to England with Accrington Stanley. He then remained in the Football League with Bradford City for 18 months, departing for Barnet in January 2021.

7. MATTHEW WORTHINGTON - MIDFIELD

Arriving for a second spell with the club in January 2019, Matt Worthington signed a two-and-a-half year deal from AFC Bournemouth. A loanee during the 2017/18 campaign at Huish Park, the Cherries academy graduate then spent the first half of the current campaign at Forest Green Rovers before returning to the Vitality Stadium

8. LAWSON D'ATH - MIDFIELD

Lawson, who originally joined the club in 2019, made 44 apps across two seasons, before an injury suffered on the final day of the season forced him to need surgery. The midfielder remained in Somerset to recover from the injury and during that time became a regular co-commentator on BBC Somerset.

9. ALEX FISHER - FORWARD

Jordan Fisher, who is already a familiar face at Huish Park, spent 18 months as a Glover, where he scored 14 goals in all competitions. Since departing in 2019, the 32-year old spent two seasons at Exeter City before joining Newport County at the start of last season.

10. GIME TOURE - FORWARD

12. MAX EVANS - GOALKEEPER

The young goalkeeper made his debut for the club in friendly action in 2021, coming off the bench against Stratford Town. Max has started

competitively for the Glovers in the Somerset Premier Cup and FA Trophy.

14. MALACHI LINTON - FORWARD

The 21-year-old joined off the back of a successful loan spell with King's Lynn Town, where he struck eight goals in 20 National League starts.

15. SAM PEARSON - MIDFIELD

The Wales U21 is a product of the Bristol City academy. Last season, he spent a short loan spell at Inverness Caledonian Thistle in the Scottish Championship.

16. SAM PERRY - MIDFIELD

On loan Sam already has 41 senior appearances for Walsall.

17. CHIORI JOHNSON - DEFENCE

18. FINLEY CRASKE - DEFENCE

Finley signed on loan from Plymouth Argyle in August 2022.

19. CHARLIE WAKEFIELD - MIDFIELD

The 23-year-old midfielder joins after a season competing at National League level, spending the first half of the season at Wealdstone F.C, later joining play-off bound Bromley.

20. WILL BUSE - GOALKEEPER

22. OLLIE HULBERT - FORWARD

A versatile forward, the 19-year-old played up front and on the wing last season, during his loan spells at Gloucester City and Hereford.

24. MATT GRIVOSTI - FORWARD

The exciting attacker, made his breakthrough in the game last season for Warrington Town, following nine goals in 21 league starts, he earned himself a permanent switch to Bolton.

29. OLLIE HASTE - DEFENDER

In signing his pro-terms, Haste has become the first graduate of our Elite Player Development Programme to sign professional terms with the Club.

32. JOSH STAUNTON (C) - DEFENDER

Staunton committed his future to the club, in the summer of 2022, as the first member of the squad to sign a new deal. Staunton was appointed club captain in July, and leads the team for the 22/23 season.

34. ALFIE POND - DEFENDER



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Stones Fan Zone

BY ADAM EDWARDS



As always, the close season is a busy time for the Megastore Boys. A question we have often been asked in recent months is what is happening regarding a permanent Megastore facility.

Well, I am pleased to say we have finally agreed with the club our location and within the next few months we will hopefully be back open for business in our permanent shop outside the actual ground on the service road behind the social club (next to the outside bar). As before we will be selling hats, scarves, mugs, t-shirts, clothing and programmes. We will not be selling any of the Kelme stock as that is the main clubs wish. We are still in the process of locating the ideal unit as we want it to look a little different to what we had before, and families / timescales meant we didn't want to rush and get the wrong type of unit.

In the meantime, we will still be selling from the pop-up Megastore inside the ground when the weather permits. If you were not already aware we are available 24 / 7 online at our Megastore website where a vast and varied range of products are still available.

Items are posted within a day or so of ordering. We are also still running our eBay

The latest update on the Megastore and Away Travel

shop (wfcsc) with all sorts of football and non-Stones merchandise. This is a big earner for us so why not have a look

Adam

ALTRINCHAM AWAY TRAVEL



Coach tickets are now available online or from the Supporters Club stall for the **ALTRINCHAM TOWN** trip on Saturday 10th September. Departs Grosvenor Vale @8.45am returning from Moss Lane directly after the match.

Prices are just **£25** for Adults and **£15** for Under 16's

WFCSC.CO.UK/AWAY-TRAVEL

Travelling Fans in

The travels and travails of Wealdstone's very own Statler & Waldorf

TODAY'S fan in the stand is a bit left-field.. with all the early-season travelling we thought we'd shine a light on the Stones fans who live far away from the Vale and cover vast distances to watch the team at home and away.

Don and Lee Cross are two of the best known, often settling off at the crack of dawn from their home near Hereford but today we feature former Wealdstone director ROGER SLATER who lives on the doorstep of Torquay United in Teignmouth, Devon. Not only that, but he regularly collects fellow fan ALAN HILL (WFC History website guru) from his Weston Super Mare home on the way, via the M5 and M4. This is their story...

Living in Devon and supporting Wealdstone may seem a little odd, but why change? Certainly not just because I moved down here seven years ago, having first watched The Stones in 1966 (though not regularly till about 1983). What is a little more extreme is following them home and away. It certainly sees some long days behind the steering wheel and with fuel prices as they are, it can get a bit bloody expensive though that is one area where more than regular wing man, Alan Hill helps out.

Alan and I travel together for home games and most away matches – even those on the south coast, as when the need arises, he can train down



Off we go! Roger sets off on another long trip and (left) Alan proudly shows off his 'Borough Massacre' tee shirt

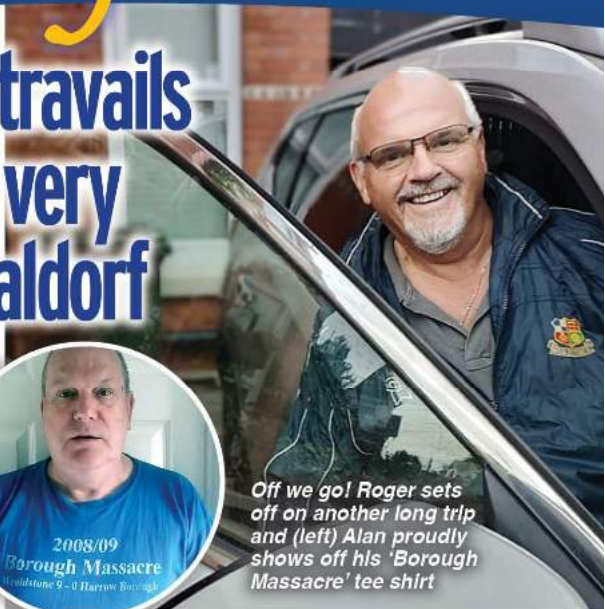
to Exeter where I collect him for the onward journey. Occasionally where timetables allow, we'll also join the train/beer/football crowd, but with the reduced timetables still in effect post covid, those opportunities are getting more rare which I suppose is at least better for my liver.

Alan lives in Weston-Super-Mare, certainly in the West Country but still a 150-mile round trip from me, so the first hour of my journey home and away tends to be alone – or at least alone in person, as Stonescast or We Have Ways of Making You Talk or The Old Front Line podcasts are the accompaniment of choice. (The journey home after dropping Alan off are somewhat different but more of that later).

Early starts are common – with various bits and bobs to do around the ground and a need to avoid traffic, I'll normally leave around 9-30 for home matches and collect Alan just before 11, then, on a good day,



Muppet Show favourites Statler & Waldorf... two opinionated old men, frequently in a grump. Cannot think how they remind me of Roger and Alan



the Stand

SEASON
2022-23



it's a couple of hours to Reading services for a pee (we are both mid-sixties, so you'll understand), a coffee and Alan's visit to terrorise the young ladies of Greggs as he purchases a Donut.

Home game journeys are in the main routine, though M4 roadworks and diversions have allowed me to build a varied library of route alternatives that can be pre-planned or taken up mid journey if the need arises. Anywhere from Cheltenham, Oxford, Swindon, Slough, Iver and Bath may be visited at least once or twice a season!

Away travel, particularly within the wide expanse of the National League has seen mythical wings spread with day trips to Kings Lynn and Grimsby, Halifax and Altrincham, and even Dover and Weymouth among others. Some of those we've now lost, replaced by equally-arduous Oldham, Scunthorpe and Gateshead!

(Dover I'm not sad about as the painful drive cross country on what seem like farm tracks on a Tuesday night from Devon saw me driving up the A303/30 and around the M25 to the M2. The return journey resulted in five hours of the long and winding road, and for good measure the A303 was shut between Ilchester and Honiton which meant farm tracks really were the only way home)....

What has been pleasantly surprising has been the ability to travel 'up country' with some ease. Trips to the north have been uncluttered by tourist traffic and mainly commercial vehicle free at weekends, and the services - if you pick the right ones - can actually be a pleasant break for fifteen minutes or so. The aim on some of the longer trips has been to arrive early and have a look round - Halifax for example was lovely - a nice town and an decent chippie topped by a fine and low cost antique centre where I managed to procure a bargain or two, subsequently sold on profitably to help refresh the travel fund!

I'm lucky I guess that I'm happy to drive and distance doesn't really worry me - indeed, I drove to Gateshead on Bank Holiday Saturday alone as Alan wasn't about - that was a 7am

ish start, aiming to have completed the 410 miles by 2pm. That way I get a coffee to unwind and clear my head pre-game. If I get away sharp after the match I should be home by midnight! I might have to re-listen to a few *Stonescasts* that day.....

As far as inside the car goes, as you might expect from a couple of old gits, we put the world and the club to rights, we come up with the occasional really good idea that we often forget and we muse on the history of the club, how far we've come and how far (in pound notes) behind our peers we now are! Certainly, the appeal of staying in this division is far, far higher than returning to a Saturday at Canvey or a winter Tuesday night at Concord, though there are a few teams I'd like to see promoted to join us - Bath, mainly as it's always a bloody good day out.....

The radio comes on, normally for Fighting Talk on Radio 5 or for some ancient comedy (our era) on BBC Radio 4 extra, though I have much of that stuff on an iPod too to fill in quiet spells, and occasionally I'll blast out some musical favourites - not sure they're Alan's favourites as in truth, I've never asked, his wincing is clue enough....

Perhaps oddly we rarely listen to sport or commentaries or suchlike, though the journey to Needham Market last year was memorable for John Inverdale starting his show after Fighting Talk by pleading for anyone anywhere en route to some live sport to call in, preferably more than once, as he had a six hour show to fill.

With postponements everywhere, the highlight was to be a (Women's) Rugby match and I think a race meeting, both of which were postponed within about fifteen minutes of his show starting. It was by far the most entertaining part of the day....

Homeward-bound, our game will be spoken about for perhaps twenty minutes or half an hour, but rarely if ever more than that. We don't watch games together so get different views and as we chat with different people they'll likely get a mention on their way home too. Sometimes the radio will come on but I'm not sure Alan will let me listen to live baseball from Toronto again on a journey back!

Sometimes I think he'd rather wait for a bus....

OVER PAGE: ROGER AND ALAN ON THE EPIC TRIP, AND EPIC RESULT AT OLDHAM >>>>>

FAN IN THE STAND SPECIAL

CONTD FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Prior to the memorable trip to Oldham came what should have been a simpler outing to Eastleigh in Hampshire - a rare planned train/beer/football excursion wrecked by a strike by the railway union. No earthly way of getting back to deepest Devon the same day... but no matter! A quick venture to Trago Mills for the cheapest diesel (and it's Shell) in the country saw my trusty automobile refuelled at a measly (by current standards) £1.81 per litre, though the eventual journey west to east, some 75 miles less than a 'home' game, actually took almost an hour longer to complete.

Train trials and tribulations also meant the passenger seat was sadly vacant, as wing man Hill was somewhat landlocked in Weston-Super-Mare. As for the match, brushing over the ridiculous decisions of authority that befell our beloved Stones in the East of Leigh where officialdom truly did rob us of a point, one thing that was certain from the performance played out was that Stones certainly had more in the tank - a promise of brighter things to come being evident, and of course a quick opportunity to prove that beckoned on the near horizon. Oldham!

Those formed of rotting pig meat (Old Ham, geddit?) were insistent that #teamslikewealdstone would struggle to muster sufficient numbers for a last supper on a Tuesday evening at the once-named coldest ground in England, and those that would be foolish enough attend were certain of an evening or pain and horror, as our mere mortals would be put to the sword by their illustrious superstars. None the less we travelled!

A 1:15pm departure accompanied by some old Tony Hancock and The Goons got me to Sainsbury's Worle (Weston Super Mare) in good time to meet said Hill and at 2:30 we set off for a stress free journey into the unknown Greater Manchester conurbation - and stress free it was too, little traffic of note, pleasant weather if a little cloudy, but almost none of the rain or

The 'dozen' Stones fans celebrate Tarryn Allarakia's goal at Oldham (with Messrs Hill and Slater ringed) and below Brownie enjoys the worship of the crowd



drizzle that was predicted to beset the journey. I for one felt we would get something out of the game having seen the goals from their Saturday game v Dorking. I thought we could get the ball wide and around their full backs which seemed to be a bit of a weak link, though we both mused that in front of goal may be an issue with Fela unavailable after a hefty challenge that saw him subbed early in the preceding match.

We parked up among a few other travelling Stones in the hospital car park adjacent to the ground. Congregating pre-match by the still closed 'Away' turnstiles and quickly seeking calculators to confirm our twelve had swelled sufficiently to make a noise, we viewed the impressive structure that is the Joe Royle Stand at the Oldham theatre of aspiration...oddly with an element of confidence that the noses to be bloodied would not be ours.

Once the delayed entry had been permitted - the hosts deciding to open the gates to the away terrace later than elsewhere as such limited numbers were expected. The capacious visitors end was welcoming if a little bleak, as was the tea bar, where welcoming staff offered refreshment that was equally bleak, the pies seemingly those that Dorking's travelling army had not purchased on Saturday! One or two brave souls tried a 'Wigan Kebab' which must





be as diametrically opposed to anything or Greek, Turkish or Middle Eastern extraction as it is possible to be, as it consisted of the previously attested pie (with any selected filling) served in a bap. All for an extra 50p, each sale surely accompanied by whining and spinning sounds as Turgut Alp sought a way to return from his permanent place of entombment to rectify such an assault on humanity and taste.

Sensible folk avoiding the comestibles on offer, we counted and recounted the throng as **'We've only got twelve fans'** rang out in good voice from the hundred and fifty-odd of us there, and Stones resplendent in a Brazil-like version of the yellow away kit (with blue shorts and white socks) took the field. Early exchanges even, Stones were impressing with some slick movement and passing which seemed to have unsteadied the hosts, perhaps their management and their preparation expecting us to park the bus with an occasional kick and rush foray forward.

They simply looked unable to cope, and when they had the ball the superb Jack Cook marshalled the backline, while Ashley Charles harried and hustled the midfield contingent. The result was that the ball seemed to prefer its time at our feet than theirs...

A decent Stones corner was cleared to Ferguson (I think) outside the box and saw Cookie remain forward, the resultant cross clipped in inch perfect, Cook then heading square across the box to Brownie who slotted home with some glee to send the (twelve) fans into complete uproar – whilst also silencing the home 6,800-odd aside from a sharp intake of breath. Be it twelve or the actual 150, the noise from the away terrace increased ten-fold as we reminded the hosts of their now non-league status, and ours as tinpot part-timers, digging back at the Old Ham fans forums that predicted we'd be

beaten out of site, Oldham likely collecting the three points in the warm-up and probably getting three more for having so many fans. (Heard it before, seen it before – will they ever learn?).

Stones continued to play keep ball and were so proficient that one particular sequence was met by a series of 'Ole's' reminiscent of Leeds v Southampton (7-0 I think) in days of yore. Oldham got a touch or two here and there but with little impact and the ball returned to Hutchison just over half-way. It seems in my memory that the volume dropped – the Ole's certainly stopped – as he passed the ball backwards. Back it went again, eventually back as far as Howes with Oldham chasing shadows. Spread left then back to the centre and to the right the back line (including Howes) looked for an opening. The ball was moved back and forth as Stones looked to breach the home defence. Finally, a ball into Browne's feet from Hutchinson saw his close control shake off three defenders, he then sent the ball wide out to Kretszchmar who pinpointed a low cross inside the six yard box to Allarakhia who scored a second.

Just like watching Brazil didn't do it justice. It was better as the resultant video highlights prove. 23 passes and every Stones player involved, with the hosts not getting close. It was Brazil 1970 with Holland 1974 thrown in for good measure – but that is only for comparison – Stones were better, and the noise from the away end let them know it!

In truth the rest of the half was played out with Stones in control and it wasn't till the first minutes of the second half that Oldham actually looked threatening – they scored one, but soon after just like in the first half they faded lacking ball, space and ideas while Stones allowed them the middle of the park but snuffed out their

progress. Celebrations duly enjoyed at the end of the game, Hill and I began the 190 miles back to Worle. The journey back was circuitous to say the least, as closures of sections of the M56, M6 and M5 added 40 miles to the journey, but the conversation drifted back and forth on memories of the game and the occasion.

After a coffee stop I was back on the M5 with the baseball turned up and I was still smiling when I arrived home at 3:30am. Roll on FC Halifax Town!



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1ST TEAM RESULTS SEASON 2022/2023

Comp | Score | (Total) | (Away) | Lge | Goal scorers

6 BROMLEY	VNL	3-2	1,090	162	5	Olomola, Browne (P), Cook
13 Eastleigh	VNL	0-1	1,814	189	12	
16 Oldham Athletic	VNL	2-1	6,869	152	4	Browne, Allarakhia
20 FC HALIFAX TOWN	VNL	1-0	1,197	72	2	Browne
27 Gateshead	VNL					
29 YEOVIL TOWN	VNL					

SEPTEMBER

4 WOKING	VNL					
10 Altrincham	VNL					
13 Maidstone United	VNL					
17 TORQUAY UNITED	VNL					
24 SOUTHEND UNITED	VNL					

OCTOBER

1 Aldershot Town	VNL					
4 Solihull Moors	VNL					
8 BOREHAM WOOD	VNL					
15 TBD	FAC4					
22 Dorking Wanderers	VNL					
25 NOTTS COUNTY	VNL					
29 Dagenham & Redbridge	VNL					

NOVEMBER

5 To Be Decided	VNL					
8 CHESTERFIELD	VNL					
12 WREXHAM	VNL					
19 York City	VNL					
26 SCUNTHORPE UNITED	VNL					

DECEMBER

3 Barnet	VNL					
10 Bromley	VNL					
13 OLDHAM ATHLETIC	VNL					
17 To Be Decided	FAT3					
26 MAIDENHEAD UNITED	VNL					

JANUARY

1 Maidenhead United	VNL					
7 EASTLEIGH	VNL					
14 FC Halifax Town	VNL					
24 Yeovil Town	VNL					
28 GATESHEAD	VNL					

FEBRUARY

4 DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE	VNL					
11 Wrexham	VNL					
18 YORK CITY	VNL					
21 Chesterfield	VNL					
25 Woking	VNL					

MARCH

4 ALTRINCHAM	VNL					
7 MAIDSTONE UNITED	VNL					
11 Torquay United	VNL					
18 Scunthorpe United	VNL					
25 BARNET	VNL					

APRIL

1 ALDERSHOT TOWN	VNL					
7 Notts County	VNL					
10 SOLIHULL MOORS	VNL					
15 Boreham Wood	VNL					
22 DORKING WANDERERS	VNL					
29 Southend United	VNL					

Sam HOWES

Jack COOK

Rhys BROWNE

Ashley CHARLES

Alex DYER

Dom HUTCHINSON

Tarryn ALLARAKHIA

Max KRETZSCHMAR

Lewis KINSELLA

Matt YOUNG

Max KRETZSCHMAR



FRIENDLY RESULTS

5th July	Hendon	A	W	4-0	Allarakhia (2), Trialist G, Trialist I	=
9th July	Slough Town	A	W	2-1	Umerah, Trialist	
11th July	Beaconsfield Town	A	D	4-4	Hutchinson, Allarakhia, Trialist E, Trialist B	

Player	Goals	Assists	Goals	Assists	Goals	Assists	Goals	Assists	Goals	Assists
Maiacili NAPA										
Jordy MONGGOY	23	(3)	8		6		5			
Jaydn MUNDLE-SMITH	23		8		6		5		28	(5)
David SESAY	23	(7)	8		6		5		28	
Nathan FERGUSON		11	(7)	8			5		28	
Elijah HEARN		11	(7)	8			5		28	
Tecane SHROWDER										
Ojufela OLOMOLA			9		6		5			
Mason BARRETT			9		6		5			
Eric NGRARU										
Deje ELERWE										
Sam HABERGHAM										

DATE IN RED = Midweek fixture



Pictures from our recent win here at The Vale over FC Halifax Town, courtesy of Jon Taffel

16th July	Charlton A U23s	H	L	0-1	
20th July	QPR	H	L	2-8	Ferguson, Trialist A
23rd July	Bedford Town	A	W	4-1	Trialist B, Kretzschmar (2), Hutchinson
27th July	Billericay Town	A	W	5-1	Napa, Olomola, Allarakhia, Kretzschmar, Ferguson
30th July	Chelmsford City	H	L	0-3	



Can we have a quick word?

Following my recent attempt at a crossword, it turns out that putting a wordsearch together is a fair bit more straightforward. Not only is this rather excellent news for Alex's grandad, but it could also become something of a theme on these pages for the season ahead. Of course, it would be all the better if there was some kind of competitive element to it - first one to show their working gets a pint? - but in the meantime, I hope the two wordsearches here are fun to complete.

For the uninitiated, as I was barely a week ago, here's what you do: there's a list of the words you're looking for on the right hand page of this spread. Each of the words in the wordsearch is printed either left to right or right to left, up to down or down to up, and also diagonally either up and down or down to up. Some of the words may cross over with others. As you find them, ring 'em with something called a "pen" (it's a crude, narrow-shafted marking device based on the distribution of ink - I dunno, maybe check the lining of your pockets?). When you've found them all, revel in the satisfaction that you are the master or mistress of the wordsearch. And then move on to the next one. Even our friends from Yeovil today can get involved without needing to know Wealdstone's rich history. Enjoy!

N	S	C	U	N	T	H	O	R	P	E	X	J	H	F	E	G
D	O	R	E	N	O	T	S	D	L	A	E	W	B	V	C	Y
A	L	T	A	E	Q	X	B	N	M	A	H	N	E	G	A	D
E	I	G	T	N	M	A	I	D	S	T	O	N	E	O	L	O
H	H	A	A	S	B	S	I	K	L	A	U	M	R	E	D	R
N	U	N	T	T	C	S	T	E	N	R	A	B	I	M	N	K
E	L	D	O	A	E	O	A	I	A	H	S	F	P	A	E	I
D	L	E	H	R	J	S	U	N	C	S	R	E	S	R	H	N
I	R	L	S	D	G	B	H	N	S	E	T	N	D	K	T	G
A	M	S	R	E	O	O	I	E	T	O	B	L	N	S	U	C
M	H	O	E	H	N	R	O	S	A	Y	L	U	E	A	O	O
T	A	N	D	T	T	E	E	S	N	D	O	D	R	I	S	M
E	L	D	L	L	O	H	S	J	H	Y	O	L	H	Y	G	A
P	I	G	A	R	C	A	I	O	E	A	E	O	D	A	J	H
N	F	O	N	E	T	M	R	L	E	U	U	O	O	H	M	X
O	A	B	F	I	N	W	M	O	B	Q	G	A	V	O	A	E
D	X	S	R	E	K	O	B	Y	O	R	K	O	E	I	T	R
R	O	O	B	Y	R	O	L	A	I	O	I	E	R	L	L	W
O	G	Y	N	B	O	D	W	T	R	T	M	E	R	P	C	S

M	C	H	A	R	L	E	S	A	Y	N	A	S	T	U	M	H	G
K	O	B	S	E	C	R	A	E	P	B	R	O	W	N	E	U	E
D	R	N	S	R	O	H	S	C	S	N	K	L	D	N	A	T	R
Y	C	E	N	Y	P	W	A	R	C	A	N	O	J	A	L	C	H
E	C	C	T	H	O	W	E	S	Z	P	Y	M	O	L	L	H	T
R	C	E	L	Z	N	G	N	N	N	A	U	O	E	L	E	I	I
C	O	O	K	E	S	E	N	N	E	I	C	L	N	A	N	N	M
H	P	O	R	H	S	C	N	O	R	N	E	A	R	R	N	S	S
N	D	P	O	R	H	S	H	J	M	R	L	N	E	A	A	O	E
F	E	R	G	U	S	O	N	M	E	B	E	M	D	K	C	N	L
R	E	G	A	L	D	H	E	W	A	A	P	O	W	H	S	F	D
A	S	R	R	N	B	E	E	R	A	R	I	T	O	I	U	O	N
P	H	E	W	A	Y	N	D	E	P	R	S	N	R	A	P	X	U
F	E	E	T	E	R	A	H	A	B	E	R	G	H	A	M	L	M
D	S	U	R	K	J	U	M	E	N	T	C	R	S	H	L	G	N
S	R	E	D	N	U	A	S	Y	J	T	H	E	N	I	U	R	J
A	N	A	L	L	E	S	N	I	K	L	O	T	H	M	F	W	C

Current Wealdstone squad and management team (Above)

Charles Ferguson Hutchinson Dyer Kretzschmar Howes Browne
 Sesay Olomola Cook Napa Kinsella Allarakhia MundleSmith
 Elerewe Barrett Habergham Hearn Shrowder Mongoy Maynard
 Saunders Hill Scannell Aherne Owen Mutsanya (and to complete it,
 there's also the surname of one particularly well known former Stone).

This season's Vanarama National League (Left)

Aldershot Altrincham Barnet Boreham Wood Bromley Chesterfield
 Dagenham Dorking Eastleigh Gateshead Halifax Maidenhead
 Maidstone Notts County Oldham Scunthorpe Solihull Southend
 Torquay Wealdstone Wrexham Woking Yeovil Town York

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BY JON TAFFEL



The Stones

So here we go again with the letter B.. and I'm happy to repeat myself here as **BATH** City was always one of my favourite awaydays, sadly no longer in the calendar due to our higher status. Better still, last time this was included it was also listed under **BOGEY** teams, and we have gladly laid that to rest.

Joe Turner started the change in fortunes with the only goal on my birthday at Bath's Twerton Park in 2014, a ground where we'd only won once in our previous 17 league visits. Our home record hadn't been much better. Since then we've had the upper hand and some of those matches will last in our memories for years to come.

Firstly the wonderful 3-1 win at Twerton Park in the 2019 play-offs, to me the greatest day of the Bobby Wilkinson era. An unlikely set of results on the final day of the regular season saw us scrape into the final play off place, something few of us expected when we went behind against Hemel. But we turned it around and aided and abetted by defeats for Dartford & Billericay who both started the day above us, we were off to Bath the following Wednesday evening.

We had a fantastic turn out from our supporters and made a terrific noise despite being segregated on the uncovered terrace behind the goal. The team put in a mighty performance to match, and our 3-1 win was richly deserved. David Pratt's stoppage time goal that wrapped things up I still see in slow motion, still expecting him to miss. But miss he

Oh to B a Stones fan... Ronnie Raffle's stroll through the alphabet focuses on the Baths and Brennans of this surreal football world

didn't, that was his Wealdstone moment. Bobby and myself clashed, not great fans of each other, but the congratulatory handshake I gave him in the bar afterwards was warm and genuine. If you have a spare moment, go and take a look at the match highlights again, I guarantee they will give you the shivers.

(Unfortunately Jon's warm handshake is not among the highlights, disappointingly - Ed)

Secondly, Bath were also on the wrong end of one of Dean **BRENNAN'S**

finest days as Stones manager. Bath came to the Vale in January 2020, 2nd in the league behind us. On the back of a drab 0-0 draw at Twerton a month earlier, this match could not have been in starker contrast. This was Brennanball at its best as we simply battered them 7-0. Again, look up the video highlights if you have the time, simply superb.

On Bath, B is also for Ryan **BRUNT**, sent off in the play-off match for a horrible challenge on Jonathan North that turned out



Above: Dave Pratt milks the applause from the 600 travelling fans as Stones won an extraordinary play-off eliminator at Bath in May 2019. It was the former Bath striker's last game for the Stones

Alphabet

B

to be a major factor in us losing the semi-final at Woking the following weekend. In the 7-0 video, listen out for the Ryan Brunt comment as Danny Green takes the corner for our 3rd goal (Warning: Not for children).

B is for **BOLLOCKS**, defined as a slang term for nonsense. A lot of this is spoken both at football and also on social media about football. To be fair, one person's bollocks is another person's common sense, so who really has the right to complain? One possible origin of the modern meaning is that clergymen were notorious for talking nonsense during their sermons, I can relate to this in the context of Hampton & Richmond's famous chaplain's corner, in their programme. No offence meant here, as I say one person's nonsense is another's common sense. Extending this to the verb, the term **BOLLOCKING** usually refers to a severe reprimand, so perhaps less likely to be bollocks but ordinarily warranted.

Interestingly there is a strong correlation between talking bollocks and Beer consumption, although some people talk bollocks regardless.

B is of course also for **BARNET**, a football club based in Harrow, Middlesex. Barnet play in a sanitised soulless home called the Hive and are managed by former Wealdstone manager Dean **BRENNAN**. Since we

returned to the National League, we have played them 4 times, winning 3 and drawing 1. According to the popular song, Barnet get **BATTERED** everywhere they go.

Disappointingly, some of our players have chosen to play with Dean again at Barnet, especially former skipper Jerome Okimo. He really does look rubbish dressed up as a bee. I like bees, but not those bees. Amongst lots of things to dislike about Barnet is the lack of decent **BEER** anywhere near the Hive. Without question, it is the worst of all grounds in the league by a country mile based on this key criterion.

On the subject of Dean **BRENNAN**, (left) we will of course be grateful for the promotion that he led us to. Apart from the Bath win, the match at Havant the previous week in early 2020 will live long in the memory as the one that made us believe we would go up. And the start we had after promotion - behind closed doors sadly but great to watch - as we put one over the likes of Chesterfield and Wrexham in autumn 2020.

Once other teams sussed us out and things weren't going so well, one got the impression that DB sought to blame everyone else. I'm not sure he ever really got us. Today we're in a better place with Stuart and the team at the helm, and DB's definitely not in a better place. Enough said.

Whilst the Stones were playing a pre-season friendly against Charlton, I was very envious of National League newcomers Dorking Wanderers, as

they were playing away at **BARRY** Town United. We need something like this, maybe we need to have a chat and arrange something with our ex-player Sean Cronin currently plying his trade with Llanelli Town AFC. Some of our supporters will be lucky enough to have seen Wealdstone play at Barry Town, we played there on a Thursday in April 1972 in our Southern League Division 1 North days. Sadly this was a couple of years before I was regularly travelling away with the Stones, but I'd love to hear some memories of those who were there. Correct me if I'm wrong, but this was probably our first match in

CONTINUED OVERPAGE



January 12, 2020: Billy Clifford and Moses Emmanuel celebrate the start of Bath's obliteration at the Vale



Alphabet continued

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

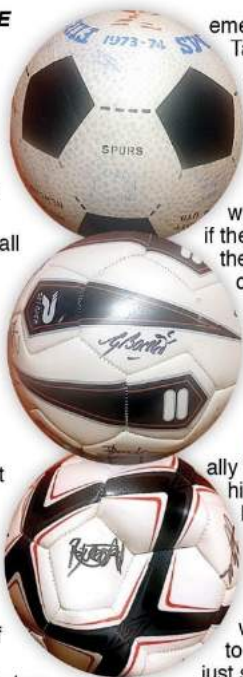
in South Wales. I don't believe I've missed a match there since, including **BRIDGEND** Town in May 1979 – now that was a horrible evening. We lost 3-1 to the league's bottom side in torrential rain, Paul Brannigan scoring our consolation goal, whatever happened to 'Branners'?

B is for **BALL**. My brother had a football when I was young, one of those brown leather things with laces that absorbed water meaning it became like a medicine ball when there was the slightest hint of rain or dew around. Horrible thing, and the only alternative we had back then was a ridiculously light ball that wouldn't go in a straight line.

Usually they'd have the names of all the Division 1 sides on them. I've still got one of these to this day, a relic of the Wealdstone championship winning 73-74 season signed by the team. These balls (top of the trio pictured right) were kicked into the crowd before the final match and I was a very lucky recipient. The names are very faded but it's one of my prized possessions.

George Duck, still a regular at the Vale has his signature in the Spurs section. Compare this with the other two signed footballs (pictured above right) I have which I am happy to give to anyone who might be vaguely interested. One perhaps I should keep as it contains such legendary signatures as Gordon & Leo, but the other I really can't tell who you most of the names are, with the exception of Lee Chappell and Graeme Montgomery. Maybe a competition based on identifying some of the obscure ones might be an option?

B is for **BOSTON** United, a club which again caught the public eye during the pandemic as it



emerged that Professor Jonathan Van-Tam, the Government's Deputy Chief Medical Officer was a season ticket holder. I wonder if he was at Wembley in 1985, apparently Wealdstone did something there that Boston couldn't do.

Maybe in the not too distant future we'll get the chance to go there again if they can achieve promotion, albeit in their new ground. We drove past both old and new on the way to Grimsby last season, what a tragedy that York Street is no longer their home, the finest proper non-league ground I ever visited.

And finally this week B is for **BT Sport**, the provider of both live National League matches usually featuring the 'name' clubs, as well as highlights shows that irritatingly aren't broadcast every week. This coverage is a significant upside of being in this league, and long may it continue. Having just watched the show from the opening weekend's fixtures, it would have been nice for the experts to have mentioned our win rather than just showing the goals, but that is par for the course.

To date our own fixtures and therefore supporter travel plans haven't been disrupted significantly by **BROADCAST** schedules, we aren't fashionable or successful enough (yet) to warrant more than the bare minimum of coverage

apparently. Once again this season a home fixture has been chosen, so next week when Woking roll into the Vale it will be on the Sunday rather than the Saturday. I can cope with that. I suspect we won't see the cameras again this season.

Next week we return with the letter C, so **CU** then!



Above: Boston United's iconic former ground, York Street. Big stadiums are de rigeur in the National League of course, but when we first visited in 1979 this big non-League ground blew our socks off

WEALDSTONE 1 FC HALIFAX TN 0

Browne 39

MATCH STATS

3	SHOTS ON TARGET	3
7	SHOTS OFF TARGET	3
0	CORNERS	4
7	OFFSIDE	2
9	FOULS CONCEDED	18
4	YELLOW CARDS	1
0	RED CARDS	0

GRIPPING GAME: Wealdstone's Mason Barrett challenges and Rhys Browne scores the winner, inset

PICTURE: Adam Wilson



LINE-UPS



WEALDSTONE: Noda 6 (for Allarakhia 63), Sney 6 (for Hutchinson 79). Subs not used: Dyer, Mongey, Muncie-Smith.
FC HALIFAX: Spencer 6 (for Smart 50), Hunter 9 (for Deakin 55), Hanner (for Slat 64). Subs not used: Godley, All

Stones march on

By Nicole Cho-Yee

STUART Maynard's Wealdstone continued their excellent start to the season with a third win from four matches to move into second in the National League.

Meanwhile, Chris Millington's Halifax, who finished in fourth place last season, remain routed to the bottom of the table, having failed to register a point or score a goal.

A first-half goal from Rhys Browne proved to be the difference between the two sides as the Stones continued their hot streak.

"It was a great performance and our first goal was a joy to watch," assistant manager Matt Saunders said.

"We dominate the ball and we pass teams to death. We're second in the league now and some of the football we're playing is sensational, which is a nice combination to have at this early stage.

up to second

"We'll keep going under the radar and stick to our beliefs."

The visitors generated the first meaningful effort of the match on 18 minutes when Jordan Slew latched onto the ball in the six-yard box and shot, stinging the palms of Sam Howes, who produced a vital point-blank save to preserve the score line.

Four minutes later, the home side tested the Shaymen's goalkeeper from range as Wealdstone's Nathan Ferguson found space 40 yards out and drove a powerful shot on target, but Sam Johnson reacted with a solid save.

The Stones continued to probe for an opener and came close to breaking the deadlock on the 31st minute mark when Dom Hutchinson's dan-

gerous ball across the face of the goal was nearly converted home by Max Kretzschmar.

Despite the home side enjoying the lion's share of possession, neither side were able to craft many clear-cut chances.

However, five minutes from the stroke of half-time, Wealdstone duly took the lead through talisman Browne, who latched onto Kretzschmar's flick and coolly slotted the ball home past Johnson for his third goal of the season.

Browne nearly doubled his team's lead within two minutes of the restart as Tarryn Allarakhia found Stones' number ten, who span his defender and surged towards goal, with his chipped effort going just over the crossbar.

The home side continued to push for a second goal and were close to putting the result beyond doubt on 79 minutes when Browne smartly turned. Shaymen's captain Tom Clarke in the box, but his strike was parried behind to safety by Johnson.

Stones' midfielder Ashley Charles was immense throughout, dictating play and providing a superb screen for the home side's defence as the visitors rallied for a late equaliser.

Jack Senior nearly provided the answer as he latched onto the ball and struck from the edge of the area but Howes produced a smart save.

STAR MAN: Ashley Charles (Wealdstone)
ATT: 1, 157
ENTERTAINMENT: ★★★★★
REFEREE: James Dunbar

Slowly and surely our club is getting the recognition it deserves... maybe not from BT Sport, who routinely show the minimum action from our matches without even a comment on the weekend highlights show, but the Non League paper is at least giving the Stones a mention these days.

Okay, so Wrexham dominated the edition the day after our win over Halifax and it's plain that they will be selling more papers in that corner of Wales than they will in NW London. But just who is second in the NL table (at the time I am writing this) and who is fifth?

To be fair, the paper carried a four-column piece on the Halifax game (pictured left) and the statistics page later in the paper named Ashley Charles in the 'Team of the Day' and manager Stuart Maynard as 'Boss of the Day'. Yet it still smacks of tokenism. We just have to use it to our advantage, and I'm sure the MT will!

Tim Parks

WEALDSTONE FC

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	FC HALIFAX TOWN Saturday, 20th August <i>Vanarama National League</i>	Ruislip Windows & Doors	
	YEOVIL TOWN Monday, 29th August <i>Vanarama National League</i>	Russell Grant, Patron of Wealdstone FC & Middlesex Heritage	Wealdstone FC Supporters Club
	WOKING Sunday, 4th September <i>Vanarama National League</i>	Keith Walklate	Your name or business here
	TORQUAY UNITED Saturday, 17th September <i>Vanarama National League</i>	Raine & Kevin Robb	Your name or business here
	SOUTHEND UNITED Saturday, 24th September <i>Vanarama National League</i>	Rolfe-East	Your name or business here
	BOREHAM WOOD Saturday, 8th October <i>Vanarama National League</i>	Harrow Windows	In Memory of John O'Connor
	NOTTS COUNTY Tuesday, 25th October <i>Vanarama National League</i>	Rolfe-East	Richard Finch
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 MAIDSTONE UNITED Tuesday, 7th March Vanarama National League	Rolfe-East	Your name or business here
 BARNET Saturday, 25th March Vanarama National League	Harrow Windows	Your name or business here
 ALDERSHOT TOWN Saturday, 1st April Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
 SOLIHULL MOORS Tuesday 10th April Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
 DORKING WANDERERS Saturday, 22nd April Vanarama National League	Rolfe-East	Your name or business here

WEALDSTONE FC
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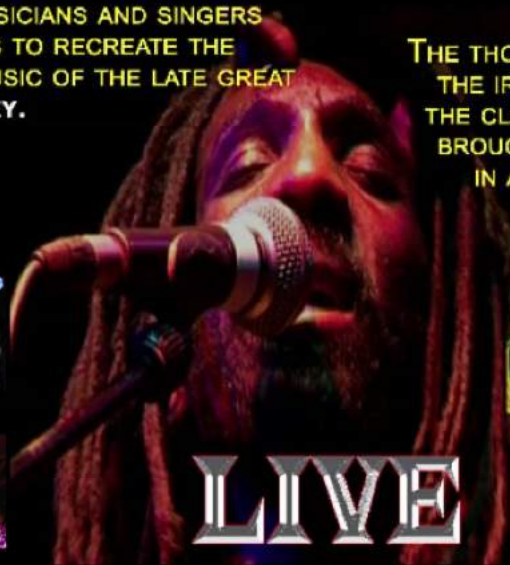


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REWIND >>>> WE'VE MET YOU

The Stones and the Glovers are back in combat after three decades..and a host of earlier memories

Just imagine for a moment that you'd fallen into a coma 37 years ago - perhaps celebrating too enthusiastically and inebriatedly Wealdstone's famous capture of the non-League 'double'.

And then woken up this week.

You might flick through the newspaper (or even online if that's a concept quickly learned) to find out how the Stones were now doing.

Ah, still in the Conference. And doing brilliantly, looking at some of the other clubs in that division! Notts County! Wrexham! Chesterfield! Oldham! Scunthorpe! Torquay! Halifax! Southend!

Who's still in there from the mid-80s? Only Dagenham, Altrincham, Barnet and Yeovil. Ah Yeovil. They must have come back up again.

The truth, of course, is that Yeovil Town, opponents again since we went up to the National League, are a far different animal from the club we met pretty much every season from the mid-70s to the mid-80s.

When Stones won the Gola League (Conference) famously in 1985, Yeovil were relegated that same season. This was a real shock to the system for the club who were just a couple of votes away from being voted onto the Football League in 1976, and (like the



Soon after the Yeovil game, Stones were held Alan Morton (far right) holding off Eric Burgess

Stones) had joined the Alliance Premier League in 1979 in the hope that one day, promotion to the League would be automatic.

Our paths diverged. Our coma patient would be horrified to know that, just as the Stones were dropping from the Conference to the Southern League and thence to the bottom of the Isthmian League within the space of ten years, Yeovil were financing a new out-of-town stadium (Huish Park) to replace their charming but dilapidated Huish stadium, and on their way not only into the Football League but all the way to the Championship by 2013.

Since then, of course, they have fallen from grace. Relegated three times, and now in their fourth season as members of the National League.

At one time there were six divisions separating our clubs. But the next few pages show what wonderful (and horrible) ups and downs there are in football....



Wednesday, 10th September, 1974
WEALDSTONE
 Southern League Kick-off 7.30 p.m.
 NEXT HOME MATCH Saturday, 14th Sept., 1974
MARGATE
 Southern League Kick-off 3 p.m.

Official Programme

6p

Yeovil programme for our first-ever meeting in Sept 1974

YEVOIL TOWN

White and Green Jerseys and White Shorts

1. Tony CLARK
2. Cecil IRWIN
3. Tony COTTLE
4. Dave VERITY
5. Terry COTTON
6. Mike HARRISON
7. Ray PICKETT
8. Stuart HOUSLEY
9. Dick PLUMB
10. Ken THOMPSON
11. Ken BROWN

Substitute :

12. Frank McMAHON

Referee

T. ATKINS

Reserve



Linesmen :

B. J. FRY

(Arbitrator)

(Red Flag)

A. HALL

(Lines)

(Yellow Flag)

WEALDSTONE

Blue Jerseys and White Shorts

1. MORTON
2. EVANS, D.
3. WATSON
4. BURGESS
5. MCCORMICK
6. GODFREY
7. FULTON
8. EVANS, T.
9. BYRNE
10. DUCK
11. HENDERSON

Substitute :

12. KINNEAR

BEFORE



BY TIM PARKS

WEALDSTONE NEWS 2022-23



1-1 at home by Maldstone with to beat namesake John Morton

Wednesday September 11 1974, Southern League Premier Div: Yeovil Town 4 Wealdstone 1
What a great time to be a Stones fan, with three coachloads of

excited youngsters (and a few oldies) setting off on weekly adventures against new opposition. And this

CONTINUED OVERPAGE...

THE FIRST

Yeovil on the way up

Yeovil 4, Wealdstone 1
YEOVIL moved close to the top of the Southern League table last night when they maintained their 100 per cent home record with a fine victory over Wealdstone.

It was a game the Middlesex side will not soon forget. They were far better than the margin of their defeat would suggest.

There was nothing to choose between the sides for the first half hour, but then fortune swung Yeovil's way and they made the most of it when Ken Brown scored a lucky goal at the second attempt.

Ten minutes later the Town scored again through Dick Plumb but Jim Godfrey reduced the arrears with a header.

A fine solo goal by Dick Plumb restored Yeovil's confidence and Ray Pickett added a fourth.

Attendance: 1,997.

WESTERN IDIY NEWS

'Stones crash

Yeovil 4, Wealdstone 1

"A travesty of justice" was how the Yeovil chairman summed up his side's win over Wealdstone at Yeovil on Wednesday night.

Although Wealdstone lost stantly they played some magnificent football only to be "killed" by a blatantly offside goal in the 40th minute, writes a correspondent. Brown put the ball into the net while Wealdstone stood waiting for the referee's whistle which never came. Even the home players could hardly believe their luck.

Shaken, 'Stones went two down just before the interval but in the 50th minute Godfrey brilliantly headed in a Henderson corner and for the next 25 minutes Yeovil had to defend desperately to hold their lead.

Then in the last ten minutes two more lucky goals settled the issue of a match played in teeming rain and marred by some refereeing decisions incredible to the Wealdstone players and supporters.

Fiery 'Stones give the points to Yeovil

By Phil Sugden

Wealdstone 1, Yeovil Town 2

Not so much a defeat as a sheer give-away. That is the fairest summary of this Southern League Premier Division battle, often entertaining and occasionally revealing flashes of brilliance, which resulted in another unhappy result for Wealdstone.

But, looking back on the night, one must admit that Wealdstone were a shade unlucky against what is probably the best team in the league, a side I would confidently tip to lift the champions' ip.

The difference between the teams, perhaps, was that Yeovil are very, very professional. In player-manager Cecil Irwin they had the most commanding man on the park and he has built up a most accomplished side in which every man plays a full part.

Of them all goalkeeper Tony Clark, in his sixth year with the West Country club, was probably the one who carved out victory.

In the first ten minutes he made half a dozen heroic saves and when Yeovil scored after 12 minutes they must have reflected that they could, at that stage, have been three goals down, no bother at all.

Had Wealdstone been as solid at the back as their visitors they would have won. Alas, two terrible defensive blunders undermined the difference between the sides.

Yet Wealdstone played better than for some time. In the opening stages we saw George Duck looking like the player we knew last season.

The Evans twins, obviously attempting to impress all and sundry that they are far from being spent forces, both did well and Eric Burgess played with the fire and firmness we saw last season.

Godfrey had splendid moments in midfield and I felt there were signs that any moment now we may see a revival and a change in Wealdstone's fortunes.

One question mark continues to hang over the side. Are they fit enough at the moment? Practically every side we see at Lower Mead appears to be a yard or so faster. Yeovil were certainly that.

CAUGHT

'Stones must also learn to combat the offside tactics used so successfully by many Premier teams. Duck, Byrne and company were caught in Yeovil's trap so many times that the business became somewhat monotonous.

Referee J. Flynn, from Aylesbury, did not always help with his border-line decisions.

'Stones made a fierce, penetrating start with Duck causing

many problems. He thumped the ball against Clark's body from Byrne's cross, angled a header into the 'keeper's outstretched fingers and then cracked a superb drive which was sensationally caught by Clark.

Terry Evans was twice thwarted by the goalkeeper, once as he raced in on a perfect through ball from Duck.

Amazingly Wealdstone were one down after 12 minutes. Harrison found himself with half the pitch to move in and Plumb had almost as much room and time to pick his spot.

The home side kept pegging away but the off-side trap continued to thwart them — once four were caught as they made a mass assault.

Duck continued to worry Yeovil in the second half. He did well to intercept a clearance and sweep through but Clark was there.

Ten minutes after the break the Yeovil 'keeper had no chance. Henderson quickly spotted Duck in a good position and George hooked home the pin-point pass with his left foot.

Eight minutes later Wealdstone gave it all away when Thompson raced through a wide open space and Ken Brown nodded into a gaping goal.

Thereafter Yeovil turned on the power and Morton distinguished himself with two splendid saves, one from point blank range when Plumb shot powerfully.

Wealdstone can take heart from the fact that they will play worse and win.

Wealdstone: Morton, Kinneer, Evans (D), Burgess, McCormick, Godfrey, Fulton, Henderson, Byrne, Duck, Evans (T). Sub. Fairclough.

trip to face the famous Yeovil side on their sloping Huish pitch was one of the highlights of the coming season for the newly-promoted Stones. The fact it fell on a Wednesday night didn't seem to bother the regular 250 who followed the Stones away those days - not dissimilar to the numbers 47 years later, though in the 70s the majority piled onto the Supporters Club's 'Yellow Peril' coaches, clutching their green tickets lovingly written out by travel secretary Barbara Robson.

For me, it was a schoolnight and I was thus unable to travel. But how I wanted to be there! Four days earlier our beloved Stones had shocked the '72-73 champions Kettering Town by winning 3-2 on their own Rockingham Road ground in front of a 2,233 crowd... and there was fervent belief that this side boasting the mercurial George Duck, Johnny Henderson and the effervescent Evans twins could repeat the dose to the highly-fancied Yeovil. How disappointed was I to read next morning the Yeovil 4 Wealdstone 1 scoreline in the Daily Express classified results small print. In those days there was always a chance that the smudged scorelines were wrong, and it wasn't until two days later that the Harrow Observer carried confirmation in its abbreviated report shown on the previous page. Although going by that report, and the glowing one in the next home programme it was clear that Eddie Presland's side had let nobody down in front of another 2,000 crowd.

Only a few weeks later we took on the highly-fancied Glovers in the return game at Lower Mead and as you can see from the big report (previous page) we were undone by the sheer professionalism of the Somerset side. It mentions the Yeovil offside trap and even now I still recall our heavy-legged centre back Eric Burgess somehow breaking clear on the halfway line as the trap suddenly capitulated. The veteran Eric had a 15-yard start on the defenders yet he seemed to be running in custard as they caught up and gently dispossessed him 20 yards from goal!

It was going to be a season of adjustment for the Stones yet, after a string of wins and draws in the New Year in front of crowds averaging close to 1,500, took us up to 4th place we eventually finished eighth... but what a memorable season.

Duck hits 250 mark as 'Stones win easily

Wealdstone 4,
Yeovil Town 0

GEORGE DUCK. Wealdstone's faithful goal machine, notched his 250th goal for the club as the 'Stones marched to an emphatic Southern Premier League victory over a jaded Yeovil Town at Lower Mead on Saturday.

Duck, who could well have had four, then scored a second time and prompted further scores from the hard running Bobby Moss and young midfielder Terry Boyle — his first league goal for Wealdstone.

However, Duck's miles tone goal was worthy of the occasion. Indeed, it had all the hallmarks of a George Best classic — balance, close stick and clinical finishing.

And even more so when you realise that eight minutes previously, George had missed the easiest method of scoring — from the penalty spot. But my, how, he atoned for his mistake.

Gem

Galloping on to an excellent though ball — one of many throughout the match — from the aggressive Paul Brannigan, Duck split two defenders, rounded Yeovil goalkeeper, Parker, and coolly side-footed the ball into the empty net. A gem!

Once in front, the 'Stones never looked back and one had the feeling that many goals would follow.

Wealdstone manager Alan Fogarty had the rare luxury of being able to field, probably, his strongest team. With Fred Barwick restored to full fitness alongside Seamus Horgan,

By
Pat Mooney



George Duck — classic goal

Jim McVeigh and Alan Furston, the defence looked watertight.

Midfield dominated throughout, with John Watson, the ever improving Terry Boyle and Paul Brannigan in no-nonsense mood. The front three of Duck, Moss and the admirable Johnson looked as sharp as I have seen them, and it was a total miscarriage of justice that Johnson didn't get his name on the scoresheet.

Refreshing

After Wednesday's disappointing display at bottom club, Bridgend, Wealdstone gave a refreshing performance of attacking football on Saturday and this victory almost assures them of qualification for the new Alliance Premier League.

Yeovil, playing their fourth match in a week, looked a jaded tired side. And with a high table position already secured, Town, it seems, are content to play out their remaining fixtures at a leisurely pace.

Terminated

However, Town almost scored in the opening minute when Finnigan seized on a defensive mistake but pulled his drive wide of goal. Wealdstone soon settled down and a couple of promising moves terminated

due to bad finishing. After Horgan had two headers well saved by Parker, his opposite number, Cranstone was forced to rush out of goal and clear with his feet to prevent Sturges from opening the scoring.

Then after 24 minutes Duck was handed a golden opportunity to draw first blood and notch his 250th goal when he was brought down in the box by Play. But Duck's spot kick was pushed away by Parker and Johnson, following up, failed to shoot on target.

But all was forgiven eight minutes later when Duck scored that classic goal.

Farcical

Moss almost made it two before the break when he stormed through, rounded Parker but shot wide. The nearest Town came to snatching one back was when Watson almost put through his own goal but Cranstone got down well to concede a corner.

The pattern continued in the second half with the 'Stones completely on top. Duck should have scored in the opening minute but in attempting to top, Parker only managed to hit the ball straight at the keeper.

Duck eventually scored a second time six minutes later following a farcical goal-mouth scramble. McVeigh hoisted over a corner, Horgan headed against a post, the ball bobbed as if it were demented before Duck nudged it home with the easiest of headers.

Johnson set up Wealdstone's third when he turned the Yeovil defence inside out and his shot cut cross was touched home by Moss.

Duck created the final 'Stones goal with another glimpse of his immense skill. He elegantly chested down a Johnson cross, flicked the ball into the path of Boyle, who hammered past Parker for a well deserved score.

Wealdstone: Cranstone; McVeigh; Furston, Horgan, Barwick; Watson, Brannigan, Boyle; Duck, Moss, Johnson. **Subs:** Pearce.

Alas, poor Yeovil!

Flawless 'Stones

Wealdstone 5, Yeovil Town 0

SUPERB Wealdstone made a mockery of the Alliance Premier League with a scintillating, five star performance against high-flying Yeovil Down at Lower Mead on Saturday.

The super 'stones, who started the game third from bottom, came off our goals up at half time in a tumultuous standing ovation from their 650 wildly excited supporters.

And how those Wealdstone players earned such a rare honour at Lower Mead. Third placed Yeovil were clinically and coolly laid to rest in a riveting 45 minutes of attacking football.

Alas, poor Yeovil! They had no scope to save them from the 'Stones lethal three-prong strike force of Nigel Johnson, Bobby Moss and Neil Cordice who all scored.

But it was the coloured Cordice who really quickened the pulse. He capped a tremendous display with two great goals, the second was the sort of score all strikers dream about — a cleanly struck volley from over 30 yards.

And just to show that the half time cup of tea had not dulled their ambition, Wealdstone made it five just two minutes after the re-start.

By

Pat Mooney

"We have been threatening to do this season and today it came off" said a delighted Wealdstone manager Ken Payne afterwards.

This was undoubtedly the best all round team performance I've seen from Wealdstone. They played relaxed, attractive football and in Cordice and Nigel Johnson have two of the most skilful and lethal strikers in the league. They were a delight to watch.

Yet it was a Yeovil player who gave the 'Stones the platform to launch their onslaught for the rest of the match. After 14 minutes of

explorative football Wealdstone began their first serious attack. Wainwright sent Moss clear on the right and his low cross was calmly turned into his own net by defender Brian Thompson.

Rocked

It was the breakthrough the 'Stones had waited for and they rocked Yeovil with three further scores before half time. Town goalkeeper Brian Parker presented Wealdstone with the second after 20 minutes when he failed to hold a hanging Stu Pearce free kick and Nigel Johnson coolly dummed two defenders to side foot the ball into the net.

It was all, Wealdstone now and shortly after Uxbridge referee Mr D. V.

Reeves had cautioned Caville for a foul on Moss. 'Stones made it three through Cordice. Teri Boyle sent the former Northampton player clear and he calmly dragged it ball past Parker and into the net.

Bobby Moss seemed I have added a fourth with header from a Watson corner but the ball was hacked off the line.

However, right on the stroke of half time, Wealdstone scored a fourth goal of stunning quality. A cross was headed up in the air by Nigel Johnson and Cordice hit a tremendous volley from well outside the penalty area which Parker never saw never mind touched.

And just in case Yeovil had any ideas of a dramatic second half revival, the now rolling 'Stones added number five just two minutes after the re-start when Bobby Moss touched home.

Wealdstone: Cranstone Brannigan, Pearce S. Watson, Horgan (Fursdon), Boyle, Wainwright, Johnson C., Johnson N., Moss, Cordice.



CONTINUED
OVERPAGE...

Just like that! Wealdstone's Nigel Johnson sends Yeovil defenders Thompson and Harrison one way and the ball the other for his side's second goal at Lower Mead. Picture by Doug Avent

Sat May 5 1979, Stn Lge Prem: Wealdstone 4 Yeovil 0
Sat Oct 27, 1979, Alliance Prem: Wealdstone 5 Yeovil 0
FIVE years had elapsed since the clubs' first meeting - and although Yeovil had finished runners-up to

Wimbledon in 1976 they had since lapsed into mid-table mediocrity. Yet both clubs managed to qualify for the new APL... and these two amazing results within a few months spanned the end of the old and the beginning of the new. One was memorable for George Duck's final goals for the club, the other a brief 're-birth' of the side under new boss Ken Payne who threw off Alan Fogarty's defensive shackles. The reports above are joyous!

THE
BEST

THE
WORST

Saturday Jan 14 1984, FA Trophy 1st rd Yeovil 4 Wealdstone 3 THIS category is an obvious one for Stones fans in this vintage era.. our last Trophy defeat for over two years and it came after

Dennis Byatt (with two long range freekick) and Robin Wainwright had given us a 3-0 lead after half an hour. Yet the Yeovil comeback was all too predictable with Mick Docherty scoring a late winner in front of an incredulous crowd.

WEALDSTONE FC

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*All above subject to current COVID restrictions.

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	FC HALIFAX TOWN Saturday, 20th August Vanarama National League	Toby Jackson (Lapels)	
	YEOVIL TOWN Monday, 29th August Vanarama National League	Duncan & Sandra Towell in memory of Arthur Rogers	
	WOKING Sunday, 4th September Vanarama National League	Mike & Val Weston	
	TORQUAY UNITED Saturday, 17th September Vanarama National League	Stuart Kane	Your name or business here
	SOUTHEND UNITED Saturday, 24th September Vanarama National League	In Memory of Kat Kelly	Your name or business here
	BOREHAM WOOD Saturday, 8th October Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
	NOTTS COUNTY Tuesday, 25th October Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here



 CHESTERFIELD Tuesday, 8th November 2022 Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
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 MAIDENHEAD UNITED Monday, 26th December Vanarama National League	In Memory of Roy Couch	Mike Pullin & Graham Clark
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 ALTRINCHAM Saturday, 4th February Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
 MAIDSTONE UNITED Tuesday, 7th March Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
 BARNET Saturday, 25th March Vanarama National League	Alan Couch	Your name or business here
 ALDERSHOT TOWN Saturday, 1st April Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
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 DORKING WANDERERS Saturday, 22nd April Vanarama National League	In Memory of Fans No Longer With Us	Your name or business here

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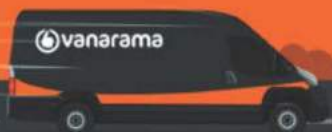
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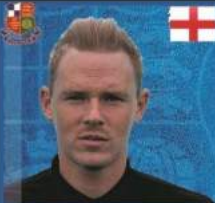
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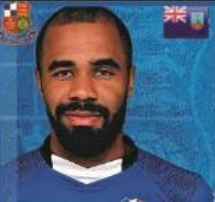
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Next at The Vale



Woking

National League

**Sunday
4th September
12:00pm**



Torquay United

National League

**Saturday
17th September
3:00pm**



Southend United

National League

**Saturday
24th September
3:00pm**

For all Vanarama National League fixtures: £10 admission for EFL or Premier League season ticket holders and members of the armed forces

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE PREMIER TABLE @20/8/22

	ALL						HOME						AWAY						RESULTS			
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS	(H)	(A)
1 Barnet	4	3	1	0	8	3	2	2	0	0	4	0	2	1	1	0	4	3	5	10		
2 Wealdstone	4	3	0	1	6	4	2	2	0	0	4	2	2	1	0	1	2	2	2	9	---	---
3 Solihull Moors	4	2	2	0	10	6	2	0	2	0	2	2	2	2	0	0	8	4	4	8		
4 Chesterfield	4	2	2	0	7	4	2	2	0	0	3	0	2	0	2	0	4	4	3	8		
5 Wrexham	4	2	1	1	8	4	2	2	0	0	7	1	2	0	1	1	1	3	4	7		
6 Dorking Wanderers	4	2	1	1	10	8	2	1	1	0	4	3	2	1	0	1	6	5	2	7		
7 Boreham Wood	4	2	1	1	5	4	2	0	1	1	3	4	2	2	0	0	2	0	1	7		
8 Bromley	4	2	1	1	4	3	2	1	1	0	1	0	2	1	0	1	3	3	1	7	3-2	
9 Eastleigh	4	2	1	1	4	3	2	1	1	0	2	1	2	1	0	1	2	2	1	7		0-1
10 Notts County	4	1	3	0	8	5	2	1	1	0	5	2	2	0	2	0	3	3	3	6		
11 Woking	4	2	0	2	4	4	2	2	0	0	4	0	2	0	0	2	0	4	0	6		
12 Maidenhead United	4	2	0	2	5	6	2	2	0	0	5	2	2	0	0	2	0	4	-1	6		
13 Southend United	4	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	2	0	1	1	+0	5		
14 Dagenham & Redbridge	4	1	2	1	4	5	2	1	1	0	3	2	2	0	1	1	1	3	-1	5		
15 York City	4	1	1	2	4	4	2	1	0	1	2	1	2	0	1	1	2	3	+0	4		
16 Oldham Athletic	4	1	1	2	4	5	2	1	0	1	4	4	2	0	1	1	0	1	-1	4	2-1	
17 Torquay United	4	1	1	2	1	2	2	0	1	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	-1	4		
18 Maidstone United	4	1	1	2	5	11	2	1	0	1	4	5	2	0	1	1	1	6	-6	4		
19 Gateshead	4	0	3	1	6	7	2	0	2	0	3	3	2	0	1	1	3	4	-1	3		
20 Altrincham	4	0	3	1	3	5	2	0	2	0	3	3	2	0	1	1	0	2	-2	3		
21 Scunthorpe United	4	1	0	3	7	10	2	1	0	1	5	5	2	0	0	2	2	5	-3	3		
22 Aldershot Town	4	1	0	3	3	7	2	0	0	2	1	5	2	1	0	1	2	2	-4	3		
23 Yeovil Town	4	0	2	2	5	7	2	0	1	1	2	3	2	0	1	1	3	4	-2	2		
24 Halifax Town	4	0	1	3	0	4	2	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	3	-4	1	1-0	

Stones on the road



Altrincham

National League

**Saturday
10th September
3:00pm**

AltrinchamFC.com
@AltrinchamFC



Maidstone United

National League

**Tuesday 13th
September
7:45pm**

maidstoneunited.co.uk
@MaidstoneUnited



Aldershot Town

National League

**Saturday
1st October
3:00pm**

TheShots.co.uk
@OfficialShots



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HOW THEY LINE-UP TODAY

WEALDSTONE

Royal Blue/White/White



YEOVIL TOWN

Green/Green/Green



G Sam HOWES 13	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 Grant SMITH G
Jack COOK 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Morgan WILLIAMS
Lewis KINSELLA 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	3 Jack SENIOR
Ashley CHARLES 4	<input type="checkbox"/>	4 Jamie RECKORD
Ayodeji ELEREWE 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	5 Max HUNT
Mason BARRETT 6	<input type="checkbox"/>	6 Ben RICHARDS-EVERTON
Tarryn ALLARAKHIA 7	<input type="checkbox"/>	7 Matthew WORTHINGTON
Nathan FERGUSON 8	<input type="checkbox"/>	8 Lawson D'ATH
Olufela OLOMOLA 9	<input type="checkbox"/>	9 Alex FISHER
Stephan Rhys BROWNE 10	<input type="checkbox"/>	10 Gime TOURE
David SESAY 11	<input type="checkbox"/>	11 Max EVANS
Elijah HEARN 15	<input type="checkbox"/>	14 Malachi LINTON
Dominic HUTCHINSON 17	<input type="checkbox"/>	15 Sam PEARSON
Alex DYER 18	<input type="checkbox"/>	16 Sam PERRY
Malachi NAPA 19	<input type="checkbox"/>	17 Chiori JOHNSON
Jordy MONGOY 21	<input type="checkbox"/>	18 Finley CRASKE
Max KRETZSCHMAR 22	<input type="checkbox"/>	19 Charlie WAKEFIELD
Jaydn MUNDLE-SMITH 23	<input type="checkbox"/>	20 Will BUSE G
Sam HABERGHAM 28	<input type="checkbox"/>	21 Toby STEPHENS
Tecane SHROWDER 29	<input type="checkbox"/>	22 Ollie HULBERT
G Eric NEGRARU 31	<input type="checkbox"/>	24 Matt GRIVOSTI
	<input type="checkbox"/>	29 Ollie HASTE
	<input type="checkbox"/>	32 Josh STAUNTON
	<input type="checkbox"/>	29 Alfie POND

REFEREE Sam Mulhall **ASSISTANTS** Laurentiu Hantea and Ryan Head
4TH OFFICIAL Sam Wesson **OBSERVER** Paul Hardie **COACH** Ralph Bone

RESULT: WEALDSTONE **YEOVIL TOWN**

MATCH SPONSORS 1) Russell Grant (Patron Wealdstone FC and Middlesex Heritage) 2) Wealdstone FC Supporters Club

NEXT AT THE VALE

Sunday September 4 **WEALDSTONE v WOKING (Vanarama National League)** kick-off 12 noon (Shown live on BT Sport)

Main club sponsor:

gp flewis ^{plc}

INSIDE SAM HABERGHAM
 HE'S A VERY NICE MAN!