

SEASON 2022-23

PROGRAMME £3



# WEALDSTONE FC



## MIGHTY MICAH

Micah Obiero was a real livewire on his full debut for the Stones at Dorking, here tussling with Wanderers' Taylor

PICTURE: MIKE RENNY



# V NOTTS COUNTY

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# Written in Stone

## Lets hear you roaring tonight

**It's a warm Wealdstone welcome to national League leaders Notts County tonight - and with the Stones having won just once in ten games it's the Magpies (now three points clear of Wrexham) who will be hot favourites to continue their promotion charge.**

Notts saw off the other Stones, Maidstone, 3-0 last Friday night barely breaking sweat and with the free scoring Macaulay Langstaff (16) and Cedwyn Scott (7) adding to their NL goal tallies. The pair netted 58 goals between them for Gateshead last season as the Heed won the NL North and we'll have to show the sort of grit that forced a 0-0 draw here at the Vale last season to get anything from the game. 2020-21 saw a headed debut goal from Mark Ellis win the points 1-0 for County ....so we'd like to see a few goals this evening but in the Notts net please!

It was a frustrated Stuart Maynard and his side who returned from Dorking Wanderers last Saturday scratching their heads after the 3-1 defeat....I'm much the way Notts County did when also losing on the plastic Meadowbank pitch last month. With Nathan Ferguson again unavailable after his desperate bereavement, and Max Kretzschmar still struggling with his hamstring we had a new look pairing in midfield with new signings Giovanni McGregor (from Crystal Palace (via Dulwich Hamlet) and Micah Obiero (Boston United) taking the game to Dorking.

Tarryn Allarakhia had two 'goals' chalked off for marginal offsidess but it was the fast-raiding Wanderers who took the lead with a Ryan Seager strike that Sam Howes was unlucky not to save.

Home keeper Dan Lincoln was by far the

busier man with two crucial saves from Jack Cook - and then riding his luck when our debutant winger Sam Matthews (from Crawley Town) smashed a left-footed effort against the outside of the post from 20 yards.

Stuart alluded to the problems we have in chasing the game when we fall behind, in his post-match interview, and it left us exposed to Dorking's counter attacks as we pressed after the break.

A beautiful weaving run by Tarryn and an accurate finish levelled the scores - but two late breaks cost us as substitute Ottoway rolled in a killer second, and Seager wrapped it up with a third in injury time.

The after-game interview with Dorking manager/owner Marc White was also interesting as it revealed the tactical battles throughout the game as we switched our shape and formation.

So it was an entertaining and fascinating game - but the facts are that, since the 1-0 win at Gateshead at the end of August we've won just one (at Aldershot) and drawn four of ten games... including four defeats on the spin.

As fans, we've just got to get behind the team with some mouthwatering home games coming up against former League sides Chesterfield, Wrexham, Scunthorpe and Oldham. This is a fantastic run of games for the Stones, mixed in with the upcoming World Cup so look out for announcements of special deals during this period.

Support at Dorking was superb, both in numbers and noise so let's hear you roaring tonight ... and at Dagenham on Saturday.

UTS!

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# WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2022/2023

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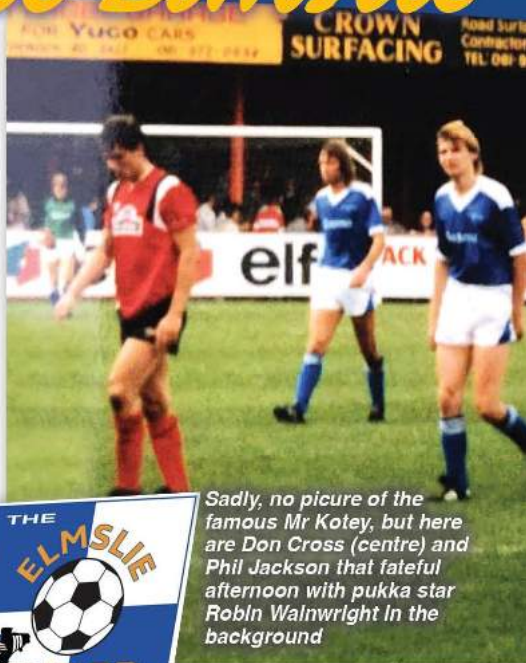
# The Elmslie

## Martin is in the seat this week wondering about P.Kotey, but relieved he'll have somewhere to park his private jet in Qatar

**Y**es, it's me, your substitute Elmslie Ender. In this I feel a bit like the programme equivalent of P. Kotey, someone to whom the editors will turn only when they're really, really desperate.

Who, did you say? Well for those of you with short memories (or who are not approaching pensionable age) P. Kotey is something of a Wealdstone legend, though not necessarily in a good way. His one appearance in a Wealdstone shirt came at Altrincham on August 29 1987. The way the story is told he'd turned up unannounced at training the previous Thursday and asked for a trial, to which the response was, 'Trial? Have you got a pair of boots? If so, you're in. Now we've nearly got enough players for a five-a-side practice match.'

And no doubt he would have started on the Saturday except some bright spark said to our esteemed manager of the time, 'Why don't you phone D. Cross and P. Jackson, they've definitely got boots, they play for the supporters' team on Sundays'. D. Cross is known to all of us as Don of course, and he will probably be here tonight, and P. Jackson is Phil, a bit more of a stranger these days



*Sadly, no picture of the famous Mr Kotey, but here are Don Cross (centre) and Phil Jackson that fateful afternoon with pukka star Robln Walnwright in the background*

although he was spotted at Notts County last season (he lives up that way apparently). P. Kotey will

forever be just 'P' though, because I don't think he was at Wealdstone long enough for anyone to ask his first name. **(I don't want to spoil a good story but his first name was actually Peter -Ed)**

With the talents of Cross and Jackson on board P. Kotey was relegated to the bench. At some point in the game though, no doubt after our manager Colin Meldrum had said his prayers and mentally composed his resignation letter, he did indeed get on the field whereupon he ran about a bit and may even have touched the ball, but was sadly unable to turn the tide of the match in our favour.

How we only lost that one 1-0 is still baffling. And what became of the enigmatic 'P'? Well, unlike D. Cross, he didn't get a second chance. Had he even played football before? Was his first senior match his only senior football match? I can find no trace of him ever playing for another team. It's a total mystery, and a bit like that incident when Graham Souness signed an entirely ficti-

*The '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. LBDM's forerunner 'Wealdstone Whispers' was famously the THE very first football fanzine in Britain when it was published in 1971*

# Ender

WEALDSTONE FC  
2022-23

WEALDSTONE FC

## Altrincham, me and Peter Kotey

*Stones fan DON CROSS looks back on that surreal day in Manchester...*

'AFTER finishing training with the supporters football team, SFC Wealdstone, on the Thursday night I had gone back to the club for a couple of beers when Peter Braxton (WFC secretary) told me that they were struggling for players for Saturday's visit to Altrincham and needed to register a couple of players to sit on the bench. I should have been working on the buses but pulled a sickie and myself and another lad Phil Jackson both signed forms.

"We headed off up north on the coach early on the Saturday morning, having a stop off at a hotel about 30 minutes short of our destination for eggs and beans on toast. The manager Colin Meldrum asked me what position I played and I told him "anywhere at the back or in the midfield of the park". He told me

that I would be wearing the number 4 shirt and play in centre midfield.

"All the players went off to watch Football Focus and I got some good wishes and advice from some of my heroes such as Paul Bowgett, Robin Wainwright and Neil Cordice. Phil was also in the starting line up and we had two subs, Andy Haxton (goalkeeper) and young trialist forward Peter Kotey.

"I never felt any nerves but was amazed at the pace of the game. The experienced players were excellent and were always cajoling and encouraging. We went 1-0 down just before half-time and struggled to create many chances, I remember a shot and a header that I couldn't get on target late on from a cross by Peter, who had replaced Phil in the second half. I played twice more but Meldrum was sacked and I returned to the terraces".



tious relative of George Weah for Southampton. We were had.

**B**y now you've probably realised that, unlike the usual occupant of this seat, I don't have an awful lot insightful to say about the state of Wealdstone FC or football in general.

We were a bit rubbish for the first 80 minutes at Boreham Wood last week, weren't we? You already knew that. Instead I like to think these occasional columns could be read as a sort of serialisation of my autobiography, which I am feeding out by stealth in case nobody really wants to read my autobiography. Let's call it 'Autobiography of a middle aged bloke who has spent far too much of his life thinking about Wealdstone FC when he could have been doing something useful or practical, minus the bits which might be vaguely interesting in case any of the protagonists are still alive'. Snappy title, huh?

**A**nyone getting excited about the World Cup? No, I'm not going either. Actually, thanks to my attendance at the Dubai Airshow last year (my daughter works out there, and I was visiting) I have received an offer of free parking for my private jet at Sharjah Airport for

the duration, which almost swung it.

Unfortunately the private jet is in for its MOT that week. And alcohol is illegal in Sharjah. Alright, actually I know there's a number of Wealdstone supporters, good friends, who will go to the literal ends of the Earth to follow our national team, and fair play to them, not put off by the fact that the World Cup is being held in a country with no football tradition, no prior infrastructure and totally unsuitable weather, not to mention - and you are free to say 'who cares?' - worker conditions or human rights or whether you ought to travel with your boyfriend, or girlfriend... You know what I'm saying!

How did this decision for the World Cup to be staged in Qatar even happen? Well, probably best not to answer that one. There was a time in the 80s when I attended England matches myself, albeit only at Wembley. But as the top level of football has drifted ever deeper into the realms of wealth, celebrity and excess I've stopped being able to relate to the players.

Give me non-league disappointment any day. It may be frequent - yeah, like at Boreham Wood (let's not ask tonight's visiting fans how they did in the FA Cup) - but it's good, honest, hard working, people-like-me disappointment!



His Dad may be (in my eyes) the Sinner from Pinner but livewire Dom can do it all...even scoring when flat on his back



# Dominic Hutchinson

**Y**ou'll never persuade me that Soccer AM's heyday wasn't 20 years ago when Tim Lovejoy and Helen Chamberlain presented the off-the-wall show.... but it redeemed itself last season when it warned of a goal scored in National League South as 'skill of an obscene nature'.

Type in 'Eastbourne Borough goal' and have a look at what pops up. It's no surprise that the Soccer AM studio was beside itself with joy!

Yes, it was our very own Dom Hutchinson, then on loan from Watford beside the seaside, who scored a sensationally improvised goal against Tonbridge Angels.

Dom described it as his favourite among the ten goals he scored in his loan spell at Eastbourne.... Blimey, I'd rate it way up among the best goals I've EVER seen in 60-odd years of football watching.

As illustrated (right) Dom wins the ball off a Tonbridge defender tight on the byline, ten yards from goal and at an inconceivable angle to score. Yet somehow, falling, he manages to scoop

**PICK THAT ONE OUT!**  
Dominic confounds physics with his wonder goal for Eastbourne



last season... It all starts with Dom taking on the

the ball up two-footed before flicking his shot over the dumbstruck keeper to find the net.

"I had a very enjoyable loan spell there, to be fair" said the 20-year-old winger/striker/wingback. "Though I wasn't sure about going there at all.... the Eastbourne manager Danny Bloor is a contact of the Watford under-23s gaffer and it was set up to see if we were both happy with the arrangement.. it's a long drive down from where I live in

Right: the line-ups at Tranmere for Mason's first Watford start - and far right Mason (No.41) is pictured celebrating substitute Kaylen Hinds' equalising goal. Tranmere won it in extra time





*It's Dom v Dennon:  
Hutch takes on our  
former winger Dennon  
Lewis in the FA Cup  
match ten days ago*  
**Picture: JON TAFFEL**

Covid myself!

"So it was a bit stop-start, but still a great experience. Playing men's football with three points at stake is a world of difference from academy football".

**S**o how did he come to be heading out of Watford and into the National League with Wealdstone?

"Well I've been speaking with Stuart and Matty for a year or so, and it's a well-travelled path with Charlesey, Sesay, Dante Baptiste and Mason Barrett all coming here from Watford - it's like a home from home. When I was released by Watford I see it as a progression from Eastbourne in the National League South to the Stones in the National League and all the big sides we face there ... Oldham, Notts County, Wrexham ... it's all about getting game time for me and the stats are going to come".

Dom has been used as a winger or as a wing-back. So what's his favourite position?

"I'd have to say left wing or wing back - I've been really enjoying that. At Watford I played as a striker for a while but I'm happier



*Tonbridge defence... No.5 seems to have blocked him but Hutch, on his back, somehow flips it in!*

Pinner. For Thursday training I'd set off at 3pm, get home at midnight then have to start training with Watford at 8.30 the next morning.

"But it couldn't have got off to a better start: I scored twice on my debut as we beat Braintree 6-1 so I was immediately accepted by the fans".

Dom scored ten goals in a limited number of appearances for Eastbourne. "I was out for a few weeks with torn ankle ligaments, and then just as I was fit again there was the Covid break over Christmas... and then when that finished I caught

facing goal with the chance to run with the ball, to dribble and take people on. I think pace is my main attribute".

Dom's dad Bobby had a long career as a player, firstly with Spurs and then locally for Harrow Borough and Wembley. "He took me to training, right from the age of seven at Watford and then we had season tickets at QPR for quite a few years. We went with dad's best mate Charlie Flaherty and his son Stanley, and

**CONTINUED OVERPAGE**

## THE STONES INTERVIEW CONTINUED...

### FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Stan is now in the Rangers' under-23s so we've both made a career in the game" said Dom. The Hutchinsons live at Cannon Lane in Pinner - so presumably Dom is steeped in Wealdstone Fc history, with his dad playing locally for so many years?

"Er, no not really" he confessed. "We'd been down to a lot of Wealdstone games at Ruislip for years when I wasn't playing, or was injured, but I don't know a massive amount about the history".

"Not even that Wealdstone were the first club to win the Conference and FA Trophy 'double'?"

"No, really?"

**S**o then came the ten-minute history lesson from me, with the botched sale of Lower Mead, the disastrous ground share at Watford (which, admittedly, he did know a bit about) and the club dropping five divisions and climbing back up again. And my own encounter with his dad in a veterans' match about 20 years ago!

More about that in the panel (right).

It's a little unfair expecting a 20 year old to know much about the ancient history of the 1980s and 90s, but I think it's important that the players should understand the perspective of a win over Barnet, for example.

"Wealdstone is a great club and has the same family feel that Eastbourne did last season" says Dom. "Though the standard is a lot higher in the National League. I've not scored yet for the Stones but the deadlock will be broken soon... my confidence is building. I'm really enjoying playing in this team with all our attacking players and look forward to every game".



*Above: The Wembley Veterans defence (white shirts) holds firm as SFC Wealdstone see this freekick charged down. The Stones No.5 (T.Parks) had unimpaired vision at this stage :)*

## Eye eye! Hutchinson senior gives Parks senior the elbow

**R**ealising that Dom's dad is Bobby Hutchinson immediately transported me back to a Middlesex Veterans Cup match played at Wembley's Vale Farm ground one Sunday morning in 2001.

Playing for SFC Wealdstone's Vets, we were having a torrid time against a Wembley Veterans team entirely comprising their Ryman League side of ten years previously - an uncompromising outfit who were holders of the County Cup and went on to retain the trophy.

We were beaten 5-1 as I recall, but imagine my surprise when I was elbowed in an off-the-ball incident by the diminutive No.9 I had been marking.

The play was 20 yards away and the incident totally missed by the referee. The impact left me with a fractured eye socket and a numbness that continued for several months. So thanks for that, Bobby Hutchinson!

"Well my dad is always saying what a tough game it was in the old days but he could obviously also dish it out!" said Dom. "I'm gonna have a lot of fun quizzing him about that and see what he has to say".

17



DOM HUTCHINSON



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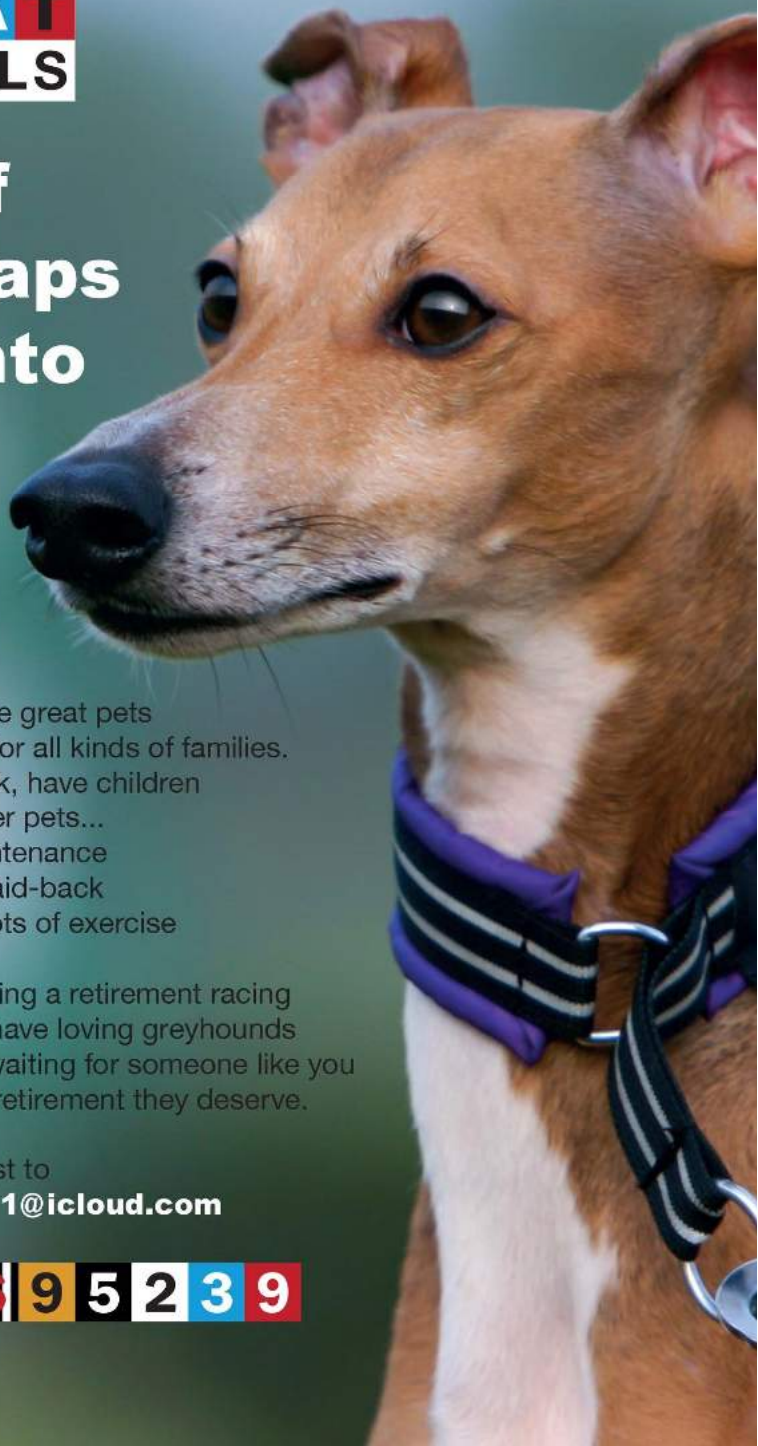
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# Opposition in focus



## HIGH FLYING MAGPIES

**N**otts County Football Club was formed in 1862. Official formation followed two years later as the 'Notts. Foot Ball Club'.

Pre-dating The Football Association, the club initially played matches of its own devising at Park Hollow, inside the grounds of the old Nottingham Castle. In 1864, the decision was made to take on outside opposition from both England and Scotland, which led to a move away from the club's initial home to allow for larger crowds.

The following years saw the club appear at numerous locations, including Castle Cricket Ground (1894), and Nottingham Forest's Town Ground (1895 and 1896) and City Ground (1899 to 1909). However, the club's main home, from 1883 onwards, was Trent Bridge, until the permanent switch across the river to Meadow Lane was completed in 1910.

In 1888, Notts became one of 12 founder members of The Football League and ended the first season in 11th place, above Stoke City. A highest ever league finish of third was achieved in 1890-91 – a feat that was replicated in 1900.

In 1890-91, Notts reached the FA Cup Final for the first time, only to be defeated 3-1 by Blackburn Rovers at The Oval, despite thumping the trophy winners 7-1 only a week prior. The club made amends on 31 March 1894, with Jimmy Logan netting a hat-trick in a 4-1 triumph over Bolton Wanderers at Goodison Park.

The fixture is also memorable for another reason, as Notts became first team outside the top flight to win the tournament, having been relegated to the Second Division in 1893. Promotion back to the top tier was confirmed in 1896-97, after a series of 'test matches' – meetings between the bottom sides in the First Division and the top teams in the Second Division.



In 1912-13 Notts were again relegated but returned the following season as champions of the Second Division. 1919-20 saw another demotion, though another Second Division championship was added to the trophy cabinet in 1922-23.

Despite a ninth-position finish in 1924-25, Notts dropped back down to the Second Division the following campaign. Then, in 1929-30, the club fell to the Third Division South, only to bounce back at the first time of asking – as champions.

After 16th, 15th and 18th placed finishes respectively, Notts ended the 1934-35 season at the foot of the Second Division. Prior to the Second World War, Notts narrowly missed out on promotion, as they finished 1936-37 second in the Third Division (South) – two points adrift of the champions, Luton Town.

In November 1947, Notts stunned the footballing world with the recruitment of England international Tommy Lawton. The England number nine had left top-flight Chelsea to join the Third Division South Magpies. Lawton's signing was for a British record fee but his arrival added around 10,000 to the gates at Meadow Lane. The average home crowds for the next eight seasons remain the highest in the club's history.

It was tough times but, when the most successful manager in the club's history walked through the Meadow Lane gates, fortunes took a turn for the better. Jimmy Sirrel took over with the aim of lifting the doom and gloom – and he did just

**OUR RECORD AGAINST NOTTS COUNTY**  
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# NOTTS COUNTY FC



MEADOW LANE Pic: wikimapia

**HOME GROUND - MEADOW LANE**  
**CAPACITY - 20,229 (ALL SEATED)**  
**MANAGER - LUKE WILLIAMS**  
**2021/22 - 5TH NATIONAL LEAGUE**

1989, when, following a run of poor results, boss John Barnwell was dismissed and replaced by the youthful figure of Neil Warnock, who had guided Scarborough into the Football League as champions of the Conference. In Warnock's first full season, 1989-90, the club achieved a third-placed finish and a spot in the Play-Offs.

Unlike two years prior, Notts flourished in the end-of-season knock-out and overcame Bolton Wanderers across two legs – a 1-1 draw on away soil and a 2-0 win back at Meadow Lane. This kicked off the 'Wembley Years' and, on an unforgettable day under the Twin Towers, the Magpies overcame Tranmere Rovers in front of 29,252 spectators.

Notts did not have to wait long for another trip to Wembley, as, despite expecting a season of consolidation in the Second Division, a fourth-placed finish was recorded – largely thanks to a run of seven straight wins towards the end of the campaign. The momentum carried into the play-offs and the Magpies booked another trip to London where 59,940 witnessed Notts make history with a 3-1 victory over Brighton & Hove Albion.

Warnock kept the faith in a large part of the squad that gained promotion, but Notts' stay in the top tier was short-lived and lasted only one campaign, as the club finished the season ranked 21st & Warnock's tenure at Meadow Lane came to an end in January 1993.

In 1995/96 Notts dropped into the basement division in 1996-97. Even the arrival of Sam Allardyce could not prevent the club from ending the campaign bottom of Division Two.

1997-98 was a remarkable and unique season in the club's history, as the Magpies smashed a number of national and club records to clinch the Division Three championship. In October 1999 Allardyce resigned to take up a post at Bolton Wanderers.

In 2014/15 the club suffered a final relegation back to the basement division of the Football League.

In 2018/19 Notts suffered a 3-1 defeat away at Swindon and were relegated from League Two, losing their proud status as the world's oldest Football League club as they dropped out of the EFL for the first time since its formation in 1888.

Notts finished last season in 5th position, losing 1-2 at home to eventual winners Grimsby in the Play Off Quarter Finals.

that

by guiding the Magpies to the Fourth Division championship in his first full season in charge.

The next promotion arrived in 1972-73, as Notts finished Third Division runners-up, which preceded an eight-year stay in the Second Division. So many promotions had usually been followed by relegation but not on this occasion, as Sirrel – helped by innovative coach Howard Wilkinson – led Notts to the First Division via a historic victory over Chelsea at Stamford Bridge.

Against the odds, Notts spent three consecutive seasons in the top-flight, which were kicked off with a historic 1-0 triumph over champions Aston Villa on the opening day of the 1981-82 season. This proved to be just one of many unforgettable days for the fans of this era, as the Magpies recorded emphatic wins over Arsenal, Nottingham Forest and Leeds United.

Sirrel handed over managerial reigns to his number two Wilkinson in 1982 and 15th place was achieved for the second campaign on the spin. However, Wilkinson departed for Sheffield Wednesday and back-to-back relegations followed, though Sirrel did return to put a halt to the free-fall and the Magpies settled in the third tier.

Off the pitch, Notts faced a battle to stay afloat and a crisis meeting on 15 September 1986 drew 1,500 supporters to the Astoria Night Club, with many more locked outside. Debts of £2million had forced directors to consider liquidating the club but it was agreed that business would resume thanks to the financial support of the fans.

Notts' true revival came from an unlikely source in

# Opposition in focus

## NOTTS COUNTY FC

### 1. SAM SLOCOMBE - GOALKEEPER

Now in his fourth season at Meadow Lane, Slocombe is a well-respected figure at the club due to his professionalism and considerable experience.

Slocombe played much of his football in the EFL, winning promotions in consecutive seasons with Oxford United and Blackpool after leaving his hometown club Scunthorpe United in 2015. He has also played for Bristol Rovers and Lincoln City

### 2. RICHARD BRINDLEY - DEFENCE

Richard came through Norwich City's academy and began to rebuild his career with Chelmsford in the Vanarama National League South. From there he joined Chesterfield in League Two before a move to Rotherham, where he was part of the side which won promotion to the Championship in 2014. He spent time on loan at Scunthorpe, Oxford United and Colchester and then had a season with Barnet before heading to Bromley

### 3. JOEL TAYLOR - DEFENCE

Taylor signed from Chesterfield in the summer of 2021. The left wing back is a graduate of Stoke City's academy and joined the Spireites from Chester City.

### 4. KYLE CAMERON - DEFENCE (C)

Kyle was born and raised in Northumberland and progressed through the youth ranks at Newcastle United. Having gained first-team experience on loan at Workington, York City, Newport County and Queen of the South, Cameron made the move down to the south-west to kick-start his career at Torquay.

### 5. CONNELL RAWLINSON- DEFENCE

After terminating his Port Vale contract to join us ahead of the 2019-20 campaign, Rawlinson went on to win our Fans' Player of the Season award in his debut campaign. He also shared the Players' Player award with Kyle Wootton. Connell began his career at Chester and also enjoyed an eight-year spell in Welsh football with the New Saints (TNS), picking up European experience by playing in Champions League qualifying matches.

### 6. JIM O'BRIEN - MIDFIELD

Fiery Scot O'Brien has been a driving force in our midfield since joining us from Bradford in January 2019. O'Brien came through the ranks at Celtic and had spells with Dunfermline Athletic, Dundee United and Motherwell before moving south of the border with Barnsley.

He spent four seasons at Oakwell ahead of a switch



to Coventry, where he made 70 appearances, and has also played for Shrewsbury and Ross County.

### 7. KAIRO MITCHELL - FORWARD

Mitchell joined us from Chesterfield in 2021. The Grenada international arrived for an undisclosed fee from King's Lynn Town. A graduate of Leicester's academy, Mitchell rose to prominence with Coalville Town.

### 8. SAM AUSTIN - MIDFIELD

Sam began his career with Burton Albion and, after spending time on loan at Telford and Leamington, he joined Kidderminster in 2016-17 where he quickly established himself as a key player thanks to his work-rate, consistency and versatility – often being deployed in a more defensive role in his early days at Aggborough.

### 9. MACAULAY LANGSTAFF - FORWARD

Langstaff bagged 32 goals and claimed 14 assists as he fired Gateshead to the league title last season. Hailing from Stockton-on-Tees, Langstaff impressed in the amateur game and earned opportunities with Billingham Synthonia, Blyth Spartans and York City before really making his mark at Gateshead.

### 10. QUEVIN DE CASTRO - FORWARD

West Bromwich Albion's Portuguese attacking midfielder is on loan with us until 8 January. He began his career on the English non-league circuit before joining Ipswich's academy and earning trials with the likes of Chelsea and Arsenal.

### 11. AARON NEMANE - FORWARD

Former Manchester City wide man Aaron Nemane signed a two-year deal at Meadow Lane last summer after leaving Torquay United. Born in France and raised in Manchester, the pacy 23-year-old joined the Gulls following his release from City in 2019 but, despite the offer



# THE PLAYERS TO WATCH



of a new deal at Plainmoor, he followed in Kyle Cameron's footsteps by making the move north after we agreed compensation with the Gulls.

## 12. TIERNAN BROOKS - GOALKEEPER

Academy graduate Brooks' potential was recognised with a new three-year contract in the summer of 2022. Brooks has experienced a number of loans to steps 3 and 4 of the non-league pyramid, most recently with Coalville Town where he consistently produced strong performances.

## 13. BRAD YOUNG - GOALKEEPER

We completed the season-long loan signing of the Leicester City goalkeeper in August. Young, who hails from Sunderland, joined the Foxes from Hartlepool United and has been selected for England at Under 20s level.

## 14. ED FRANCIS - MIDFIELD

We completed the signing of former Manchester City and England youth captain Ed Francis ahead of the 2021-22 campaign. Francis, who skipped the likes of Phil Foden left City for Wolverhampton Wanderers in 2019 and captained the Mollinex outfit's Under 23s on several occasions while helping them to the league title.

## 15. ADEN BALDWIN - DEFENCE

Central defender Baldwin reunited with new head coach Luke Williams by signing at Meadow Lane this summer. Williams handed Baldwin the Bristol City's Under 23s captaincy and later influenced his move to MK Dons when he was working under Russell Martin at Stadium MK.

## 16. GERALDO BAJRAMI - DEFENCE

Geraldo Bajrami signed a two-year deal at Meadow Lane after compensation was agreed with Kidderminster Harriers this summer.

## 17. FRANK VINCENT - MIDFIELD

Frank joined us from AFC Bournemouth in 2021.

## LAST SEASON

Tue 14th Sept 2021- (A) L2-3

Tue 25th Jan 2022 (H) D 0-0

Vincent was in the same Torquay team as Kyle Cameron when the Gulls secured an immediate return to the National League by winning promotion in 2018-19. He has also had loan spells in the EFL with Scunthorpe and Walsall.

## 18. MATT PALMER - MIDFIELD

Having joined in 2021, Palmer had the perfect debut season as he scooped the Fans' and Players' Player of the Season awards. He arrived having racked up more than 200 EFL appearances and having won promotion with Burton Albion, Rotherham United and Swindon Town.

## 19. CEDWYN SCOTT - FORWARD

Hailing from Hexham, near Newcastle, Scott began his career as a trainee at Huddersfield Town and, after bagging 21 goals in 26 games for their Under 18s, left them in 2018 to join Dundee. We paid an undisclosed fee for the services of Gateshead's free-scoring front man who signed a two-year deal this summer.

## 20. RUBEN DA ROCHA RODRIGUES - FORWARD

Rodrigues became the first ever Portuguese to play for us after he swapped the Dutch second division for the National League in the summer of 2020.

## 21. TOBI ADEBAYO-ROWLING

- DEFENCE Tobi hails from London and began his career with Brighton before joining Peterborough United. He then headed over the Irish Sea to play at Sligo Rovers, moving on to Cork City before returning to England to sign for Bromley, then Eastbourne Borough before Ebbsfleet, in 2020.

## 22. LUTHER MUNAKANDFA - FORWARD

Promising forward Munakandafa signed his professional contract this summer.

## 23. ADAM CHICKSEN - DEFENCE

Comfortable on the left of a back three or as a wing back, the 28-year-old has played the vast majority of his career in League One but had been without a club since January 2020 following his surprise release from League One side Bolton Wanderers. A product of MK Dons' academy, Chicksen qualifies for Zimbabwe and won his first cap in a friendly against Zambia in 2018.



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# The view from the

## Lifelong Notts fan and serial sponsor Adrian returns to the Vale... among friends & doing good deeds



**T**onight we've got a bit of a first with lifelong Notts County fan Adrian Rawden donating the match ball. He was an associate sponsor of the game last season - facilitated by our President Paul Rumens - and said that he was so impressed by the club's friendliness that he decided to sponsor or donate this season too.

Last season it ended 0-0 so let's hope he sees some goals for his money this time around. In the away net of course!

**Your name and age:** Adrian Rawden, 53 years old

**What was your first Notts County game and when?** My first game - at the tender age of four - was at West Bromwich's Hawthorn's ground in November 1973.... a 2-1 loss after Notts had been promoted to Divi-

...sion Two (the Championship in today's money) the previous season, finishing runners-up to Bolton Wanderers. My dad took me on the train from Nottingham Station, and my overriding

memory that day was more the social side before the game: the smell of Bovril and tobacco and being treated to pop and crisps.

**Do you follow any other team?** I keep an eye on football in general but County is my only true love!

**What is your favourite County game EVER?** Cannot have a single game as I've been blessed to see Notts at Wembley, winning play-off finals and the Anglo Italian Cup... but the game away to Chelsea in May 1981 stands out. It was



*Ade's first game ever! Right: the WBA programme for the Notts game in November 1973*

# away end

WEALDSTONE FC  
2022-23

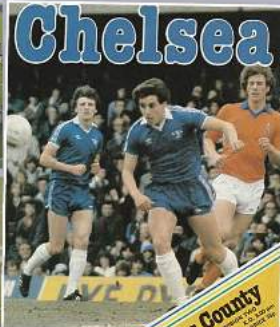
WEALDSTONE FC



Adrian (centre) with Notts legends goalkeeper Mick Leonard (left) and Rachid Harkouk (striker, who scored in the Chelsea game, right) at the Jimmy Sirrel and Jack Wheeler statues outside Meadow Lane



It's May 2 1981 and Notts celebrate promotion to the top tier with a 2-0 win at Chelsea... whose fans invaded the pitch (below) to try to get the match called off



a 2-0 win to take Notts back to the top flight after a 55-year absence. Chelsea were trying to get the game abandoned... that really sticks out.

**Who have been your all-time favourite County players? And who are the standout players in the present side, and why?** The team from the 80s in the First Division (Premier League) obviously being so successful, with McCulloch, Harkouk, Christie, Cheidozie - who we paid a club record £600,000 for at that time - as well as Pedro Richards, Tristan Benjamin and Brian Kilcline to name but a few..

In terms of today we have the Non-League Erling Haaland at this point in goalscorer McCauley Langstaff... plus

**CONTINUED OVERPAGE**

**NOTTS COUNTY** are also promoted. They sealed their return to the First Division after a 55-year absence by crushing CHELSEA 2-0 at Stamford Bridge with goals from Trevor Christie and Rachid Harkouk.

But their magical day was marred by angry Chelsea fans - some carrying banners proclaiming "Mears Out" - who invaded the pitch in the 64th minute.

Mounted police were brought into the stadium and swiftly cleared the pitch. Several fans were frog-marched away by police and the match was resumed after a four-minute delay. the match was resumed after a four-minute delay.

**Above: The Chelsea programme that day and (left) the Sunday Express reports on Notts' promotion being marred by the pitch invasion as a protest against the current Blues chairman Brian Mears. Mears left to be replaced by Ken Bates... to cue even more unrest!**

## NOTTS CO AWAY FAN: ADRIAN RAWDEN

# View from the away end contd

### FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Reuben Rodrigues who excites with tricks and runs into opposition boxes. I also love our skipper Kyle Cameron new nickname Zoro for his face mask heroics!

**Have you been to Wealdstone before? What did you make of the experience? Had you heard of the before Stones were promoted?** I have known about the club previously and know it has a rich history in the non league as well... as more recently your very own super fan the Wealdstone Raider!!

I was at the game last year, a 0-0 draw and was present in the directors box and spent the 2nd half watching with Paul Rumens in the home end! The club is very welcoming and friendly and I have a new soft spot for the Stones and what you are trying to achieve.

I did say to Paul pre season that I thought you might be finishing in the top 10... so far that's been a decent shout.

**What line of business are you in? You have kindly donated the match ball tonight.. do you sponsor the Magpies as well?** I have sponsored my own club numerous times and have often sponsored when visiting away teams. The last of those was a few seasons back at Wycombe Wanderers where my kids were mascots that day and were nearly eaten by Akinfenwa who was an absolute gent! I have been in recruitment and recently sold my business so I'm now enjoying more time supporting my team and travelling.

**Where do you live, and do you travel both home and away?** I live in Nottinghamshire and go to as many games home and away as family time allows.

**Where do you anticipate Notts finishing this season? Are the fans enjoying the non league experience or is the novelty wearing off?** I expect Notts to be promoted this season - our fourth at this level - but it is a very difficult league and our play-off record has been

Right: One for the mantle shelf... young Adrian is pictured with Jimmy Sirrell



Above: Adrian with his fellow Notts-crazy parents. Left: He is pictured with film director pal Jonny Owen and Owen's partner Vicky McClure. The Line of Duty actress is another big Notts fan!



horrible so we have to be

Champions as that's the only guarantee. No pressure then lads!. Our fans want to get out of the league as four seasons is enough... I believe the natives will be restless if it takes much longer and it might be more difficult for our owners (who have been superb) to keep those fans interested.

**Are the club financially stable now?** Yes I would like to think so... with average home gates close to 7,000, full hospitality most weeks and a Lifeline scheme (the Club Lottery) fully subscribed with 2,500 people paying £2 a week, and with the owners sensible approach we are in the best financial condition for some years.

**Can you see Notts ever reclaiming their place in the Premier League?** It will be very difficult but we can dream!

**And finally, where do you expect to see the club in five years time?** I would firstly like to be playing back in the EFL and hopefully striving for the Championship.



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BY MARTIN READ



# World of Bal

## All fright on the night or no ghost of a chance - can 'pumpkin period' form determine a season's outcome?

**H**ello Notts County, welcome to Grosvenor Vale! And welcome, too, to the heart of what I'm going to call football's "Pumpkin Period" - or to be more specific, those two months that have in the middle of them three key annual events: 1) the clocks going back, 2) Halloween and 3) the firework rituals of Bonfire Night and Diwali. It's a period of hunkering down, squirrelling thing away, shoring up storm defences and laying down firm foundations on which to get through the winter.

It's also my contention that the Pumpkin Period represents a particularly decisive part of the football season. It's where the summer's optimistic experiments, signings, appointments and tactics finally coalesce into the good, bad or indeed middling form

that you can expect from that moment on; the form that can help us better predict just what kind of season we can realistically expect to see play out through to next May.

Because by late October, the die is typically cast. The manager's style of play has either been broadly absorbed or rejected; the team's performances will have become consistent; and the league position will have started to settle.

This, by the way, is possibly more relevant to us at semi-pro football level, where the summer rebuild is often more all-encompassing than amongst the professional clubs obliged to persist with a greater number of players on multi-season deals.



Will our defeat in Dorking be indicative of our true 2022/2023 form? Picture courtesy of Tommy Cockles



### Average points per October/November game

In order to test what I am more than happy to accept is an incredibly fragile theory, I've conducted an experiment using our wonderful club's own statistics. I've looked at our league results from 1980/1981 – and league results only – from the months of October and November, calculating an average points per league game across those two months.

As you can see from the table the figures do, in a fair few cases, correlate fairly closely to how well we end up performing in the league. There is always an outlier, and for this analysis it's an absolute doozie: 1984/1985, when we did the double (and yes, I have ignored that season's 2 points home / 3 points away league system; it's all 3 for a win).

No cup games assessed here. Typically the Pumpkin Period takes in the FA Cup third and fourth round qualifiers as well as the FA Cup First Round Proper, when a club's league form is often at variance to its knock-out success. (Indeed, some of you may even dimly remember the FA Cup First Round Proper. We have in fact played in it on several occasions, although you'd be forgiven for not knowing that given our pitiful record in recent years.)

But while there are typically many cup games in the Pumpkin Period months, it's how we do in the - forgive me - "bread and butter" of the league that gives off the best signals as to future expectations.

So, what do these figures tell us about our final league finishing position? Ehhh.... nothing much, in all probability. This as esoteric a data analysis as they come. There are plenty of seasons in which we finished well having done poorly in October and November. But of all these seasons looked at here, it's only 2004/2005 where we clearly lost our way significantly after November.

The eagle eyed will note that I have not included this season's Pumpkin Period figures, and with good reason - we're less than half way through the period. Will we continue to prove ghoul-shy? Do we stand a ghost of chance of survival? Will we need more fireworks in the dressing room... etc etc. Well, let's all meet back here for the Oldham Athletic game in December when we can compare notes. Until then - Up The Stones!

Season	PPG	League Finish
2012/2013	2.67	3 of 22
1996/1997	2.63	1 of 17
2013/2014	2.50	1 of 24
1981/1982	2.25	1 of 24
2017/2018	2.17	11 of 22
2004/2005	2.14	18 of 22
1997/1998	2.00	3 of 22
2019/2020	2.00	1 of 22
2003/2004	1.89	7 of 24
1988/1989	1.86	11 of 22
2002/2003	1.86	9 of 24
2015/2016	1.86	13 of 22
2009/2010	1.75	6 of 22
1998/1999	1.67	3 of 22
1992/1993	1.63	11 of 22
1995/1996	1.60	4 of 21
1982/1983	1.57	3 of 22
2007/2008	1.57	13 of 22
2014/2015	1.57	12 of 22
2020/2021	1.55	19 of 22
1989/1990	1.50	12 of 22
2018/2019	1.50	7 of 22
2008/2009	1.45	7 of 22
1985/1986	1.42	10 of 22
1999/2000	1.33	16 of 22
2021/2022	1.33	16 of 23
2010/2011	1.30	12 of 22
1983/1984	1.25	4 of 22
1991/1992	1.20	19 of 22
1990/1991	1.17	12 of 22
2000/2001	1.14	19 of 22
2011/2012	1.14	4 of 22
2005/2006	1.10	18 of 22
2006/2007	1.00	19 of 22
1986/1987	0.88	19 of 22
1994/1995	0.88	15 of 22
1980/1981	0.86	19 of 20
2016/2017	0.86	8 of 22
1984/1985	0.75	1 of 22
2001/2002	0.70	18 of 22
1993/1994	0.57	21 of 22
1987/1988	0.44	21 of 22



# 1ST TEAM RESULTS SEASON 2022/2023

	Comp	Score	(Total)	(Away)	Lge	Goal scorers	Sam HOWES	Jack COOK	Rhys BROWNE	Ashley CHARLES	Alex DYER	Dom HUTCHINSON	Tarryn ALLARAKHIA	Max KRETZSCHMAR	Lewis KINSELLA	Giovanni MCCREGOR
<b>6 BROMLEY</b>	VNL	<b>3-2</b>	1,090	162	5	Olomola, Browne (P), Cook	13	2	10 (7)	4		17 (19)	7	22	3	19
<b>13 Eastleigh</b>	VNL	<b>0-1</b>	1,814	189	12		13	2	10 (9)	4		17	7	22		19
<b>16 Oldham Athletic</b>	VNL	<b>2-1</b>	6,869	152	4	Browne, Allarakhia	13	2	10	4		17	7	22		19
<b>20 FC HALIFAX TOWN</b>	VNL	<b>1-0</b>	1,197	72	2	Browne	13	2	10	4		17	7	22		19
<b>27 Gateshead</b>	VNL	<b>1-0</b>	1,104	135	1	Browne	13	2	10	4		17	7	22	3 (7)	19
<b>29 YEOVIL TOWN</b>	VNL	<b>0-0</b>	1,714	251	2		13	2	10	4	18 (22)	17 (7)	7	22	3	19
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>																
<b>4 WOKING</b>	VNL	<b>1-1</b>	1,638	269	6	Kretzschmar (Pen)	13	2	10	4	18 (4)	17	7	22		19
<b>13 Maidstone United</b>	VNL	<b>1-1</b>	1,799	110	6	Cook	13	2	10	4		17 (9)	7 (22)	22		19
<b>17 TORQUAY UNITED</b>	VNL	<b>1-1</b>	1,366	208	6	Browne	13	2	10 (18)	4	18	17	7			19
<b>24 SOUTHEAD UNITED</b>	VNL	<b>0-1</b>	2,391	TBD	7		13	2	10	4	18 (4)	17	7	22 (17)		19
<b>OCTOBER</b>																
<b>1 Aldershot Town</b>	VNL	<b>2-1</b>	1,702	175	7	Browne (2)	13	2	10	4		17 (23)	7		3 (9)	19
<b>4 Solihull Moors</b>	VNL	<b>1-2</b>	1,326	TBD	8	Olomola	13	2	10	4		17	7		3 (2)	19
<b>8 BOREHAM WOOD</b>	VNL	<b>1-2</b>	1,386	TBD	8	Akinola	13		10		18	17	7			12 (18)
<b>15 Boreham Wood</b>	FAC4	<b>3-5</b>	1,011	315	9	Olomola (2), Akinola	13	2		4	18	17	7			12
<b>22 Dorking Wanderers</b>	VNL	<b>1-3</b>	1,416	228	12	Allarakhia	13	2		4		17	7			12
<b>25 NOTTS COUNTY</b>	VNL															
<b>29 Dagenham &amp; Redbridge</b>	VNL															
<b>NOVEMBER</b>																
<b>1 Altrincham</b>	VNL															
<b>5 (FA Cup 1st Round)</b>	FAC1															
<b>8 CHESTERFIELD</b>	VNL															
<b>12 WREXHAM</b>	VNL															
<b>19 York City</b>	VNL															
<b>26 SCUNTHORPE UNITED</b>	VNL															
<b>DECEMBER</b>																
<b>3 Barnet</b>	VNL															
<b>10 Bromley</b>	VNL															
<b>13 OLDHAM ATHLETIC</b>	VNL															
<b>17 To Be Decided</b>	FAT3															
<b>26 MAIDENHEAD UNITED</b>	VNL															
<b>JANUARY</b>																
<b>1 Maidenhead United</b>	VNL															
<b>7 EASTLEIGH</b>	VNL															
<b>21 FC Halifax Town</b>	VNL															
<b>24 Yeovil Town</b>	VNL															
<b>28 GATESHEAD</b>	VNL															
<b>FEBRUARY</b>																
<b>4 DAGENHAM &amp; REDBRIDGE</b>	VNL															
<b>11 Wrexham</b>	VNL															
<b>18 YORK CITY</b>	VNL															
<b>21 Chesterfield</b>	VNL															
<b>25 Woking</b>	VNL															
<b>MARCH</b>																
<b>4 ALTRINCHAM</b>	VNL															
<b>7 MAIDSTONE UNITED</b>	VNL															
<b>11 Torquay United</b>	VNL															
<b>18 Scunthorpe United</b>	VNL															
<b>25 BARNET</b>	VNL															
<b>APRIL</b>																
<b>1 ALDERSHOT TOWN</b>	VNL															
<b>7 Notts County</b>	VNL															
<b>10 SOLIHULL MOORS</b>	VNL															
<b>15 Boreham Wood</b>	VNL															
<b>22 DORKING WANDERERS</b>	VNL															
<b>29 Southend United</b>	VNL															



Pictures from our defeat down in Dorking on Saturday, courtesy of Jon Taffel

## 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	Maiyachi NAPA	Jordy MONGYO	Jaydn MUNDLE-SMITH	David SESAY	Nathan FERGUSON	Elijah HEARN	Tecane SHROWDER	Oyufela OLOMOLA	Mason BARRETT	Eric NEGRARU	Deje ELERWE	Sam HABERGHAM	Dante-Astor BAPTISTE	Simeon AKINOLA	Micah OBIERO	Sam MATTHEWS	DATE IN RED = Midweek fixture
		23 (3)	8					9	6		5						
(23)		23	8					9	6		5	28 (5)					
		23 (7)	11 (7)	8					6		5	28					
(7)			11 (7)	8					6		5	28					
(22)			11 (6)	8					6		5	28					
		21 (10)	11	8								28					
(22)			11	8				9 (10)			5	28					
(11)		23	11	8				9			5	28					
(4)		23	11	8				9			5	28					
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														20 (17)	14	25 (9)	



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	

BY JON TAFFEL



# My life in

## No Wealdstone Alphabet this week ...instead our man behind the lens looks back at his student life, trips to Meadow Lane... and Ilkeston idiocy!



Love the 80s' pastel colours on the fashion ad adorning the Notts programme cover!

Good evening all, and welcome to this evening's non-alphabet column. For the un-initiated, I'm working my way from A to Z in each programme, and tonight it should have been the turn of 'G'. With the visit of Notts County I was trying to find a way to shoehorn them in, and to be honest I was struggling to the extent I have taken the easy option and instead decided to focus exclusively on the City of Nottingham, a place where I was a very content 'student' back in the 80's.

The nearest I can actually get to the letter G would be the **GULSHAN** restaurant on the Alfreton Road, an establishment where I passed many a happy hour before passing on the contents the following day. The first thing I noticed about the Gulshan was that according to the menu the Madras was hotter than the Vindaloo,

the complete opposite of what I was used to at the Shapla in Eastcote amongst other local establishments. The Gulshan featured twice in my record of four rubies in three days... we were hard up, us students.

Anyway, back to the beginning. It was in September 1982 that I arrived in Nottingham as a student at Trent Poly. Most of my friends had headed off to university three years earlier, but my football obsession meant I chose a job to earn

enough money to feed my habit with the option to study part time. 3 years and several failed exams later, full time became an attractive option, and I had built up a nice credit limit on my Access card to enjoy myself without a financial care in the world.



An angelic-looking J.Taffel on his arrival at Nottingham Trent Polytechnic. I'm surprised he was served in the pubs

# Nottingham



*Forest's Ian Wallace faces up to Notts' keeper Raddy Avramovic during the epic game at Meadow Lane 40 years ago. The visitors were twice European champions but County won 3-2!*



More of that later.

Many of my friends amongst the student population were less enamoured by the 'lure' of non-league football, they were more interested in what they saw as 'proper' football. Meadow Lane was certainly the venue of choice ahead of the City Ground, with County very much the city underdog having been promoted to the old Division 1 (now the Premier League) in the 1980-81 season. Their near neighbours Forest had been champions of Europe in 1979 and 1980.

And so it was that I ventured to Meadow Lane on 4th December 1982 for the County v Forest match. What a match it was too, with the legendary managers Jimmy Sirrell and Brian Clough on their respective benches. Both teams were in reasonably good form, with Forest 3rd in the league and County 13th. The ground was very different to the current all seater version, and I was stood on the

vast open terrace behind the goal in a crowd of 23,552 – nearly 7,000 more than for the previous match v Liverpool and over 3,500 more than the current day National League capacity. The atmosphere was electric, County were never behind and pulled off a fantastic 3-2 win - I recommend watching this match on

The students on my course were largely from overseas with no football interest whatsoever, but amongst my fellow would-be accountants we had 'supporters' of West Ham, Stoke City, Chester, Mansfield, Cambridge Utd and one supporter of Notts County – are you reading this Tony Jackson? The revelation that I supported a non-league team – Wealdstone – seemed to cause some amusement... the standard 'Weald-who' response a tedious if predictable one.

My initial intention was to visit some non-league grounds in the area, but travelling to watch the Stones at every opportunity was a tough habit to break. Nonetheless, I did manage to take in some football at Arnold, Alfreton, Gainsborough, Worksop, Heanor, Matlock and famously Ilkeston.

## TEAM CHECK

<p><b>MAGPIES</b> <small>Official match ball since 1982</small></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Raddy Avramovic</li> <li>2. Tristan Benjamin</li> <li>3. Nigel Worthington</li> <li>4. David Hunt</li> <li>5. Brian Kilcline</li> <li>6. Pedro Richards</li> <li>7. John Chadzole</li> <li>8. Trevor Christie</li> <li>9. Iain McCulloch</li> <li>10. Paul Hooks</li> <li>11. Gordon Mair</li> <li>12. To be announced</li> </ol> <p style="background-color: blue; color: white; text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;"><b>OFFICIALS</b></p> <p><small>Referee: G. SCOTT Line-ups: G. HUNT Goalkeeper: G. HUNT Goal: M. J. FORD (Walsley Press)</small></p>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Turn Black</h3>  <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 5px 0;"><small>TURN BLACK is a registered trademark of TURN BLACK LTD. TURN BLACK LTD. is a registered company in the United Kingdom. TURN BLACK LTD. is a registered company in the United Kingdom.</small></p>	<p><b>FOREST</b> <small>Official match sheet since 1982</small></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hans van Broekelen</li> <li>2. Kenny Swain</li> <li>3. Bryn Gunn</li> <li>4. Colin Todd</li> <li>5. Willie Young</li> <li>6. Ian Boswell</li> <li>7. Mark Proctor</li> <li>8. Ian Wallace</li> <li>9. Garry Birtles</li> <li>10. Stephen Hooper</li> <li>11. John Robertson</li> <li>12. To be announced</li> </ol> <p style="background-color: blue; color: white; text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;"><b>MATCH BALL DONOR</b></p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 5px 0;"><small>THE GERRYSBURG CARPET COMPANY Barnes and Pinner, Midd. Telephone: 0181 4412</small></p>
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YouTube, all captured by the **Match of the Day** cameras.

Whereas Forest featured European winners in their line-up such as Gary Birtles and John Robertson, the County line-up featured the rather more 'agricultural' Brian Kilcline at the back and bruising striker Iain McCulloch. The latter scored the opener and was also sent off after they went 3-2 ahead, with Paul Hooks and Trevor Christie

**CONTINUED OVERPAGE**

# My life in Nottingham

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

scoring the others. It was quite simply a brilliant day. Looking back, it is incredible to see how so many were crammed into the 3-sided ground.

It was a different story for the Stones that day, taking on Frickley Athletic in front of 641 at our old Lower Mead home in the Alliance Premier League – now known of course as the National League. Playing for Wealdstone that day was a certain Stuart Pearce, himself Nottingham bound a few years later. I would have been there had my not very reliable student car not broken down en route to Runcorn the previous week (I got to that game with 10 mins to go just in time to see Runcorn's winner.

Back then, it seemed somewhat improbable that one day Wealdstone v Notts County would be a league fixture.

So onto the next memorable game of my student times - something I've written about before - and that is the infamous Ilkeston Town v Enfield FA Trophy 3rd round tie in February 1983. I had never witnessed anything quite like it before, a day of unpleasantness only matched by Wealdstone v Boreham Wood in the FA Cup at the White Lion Ground in 2004. Ilkeston fans had been involved in crowd trouble in the previous round at Barnet, one falling through the roof of the stand. This was a huge tie for Ilkeston against the holders, and though it hurts me to say it, one of the best non-league teams in the country.

I arrived in the town by car and was confronted by the sight of a small army of local youths regaled in green berets walking in the middle of the road. The small ground was ill-equipped to cope with the sizeable crowd of 2,080. When Ilkeston took a surprise 1st half lead, their fans surged down the grass bank behind one goal and broke the perimeter barrier. Order was restored and the game continued, with the home side holding their lead at half time.

Everything changed when Enfield equalised. Soon afterwards youths spilled onto the pitch resulting in the referee taking players off the field whilst the youths brawled with the outnumbered police. When play finally resumed, the E's rattled in a quickfire four goals to lead 5-1, but that was the end of the football. Another pitch invasion, more brawls and nets ripped down with youths hanging from the goalposts. The referee had no choice but

to abandon the match, and in a rare moment of common sense the FA awarded the tie to the E's. Whilst the game was in progress, it was a wholly unpleasant experience for E's fans as the locals were intimidating to say the least. Enfield went on to lose away to Harrow Boro by the same score line in the next round. Does anyone remember what happened in the semi-final that year? The clues are 'Telford Utd' and '5-1'.

I will mention one other game during my student days, and that was Stones' trip to Frickley, this was a Tuesday night in April 1984. Not necessarily an evening trip to relish for everyone, but for me this was a mere 50-mile hop from Nottingham, and what a night it was. Stones ran out 5-2 winners with Mark Graves notching 4 goals at the ground where the prolific Dylan Evans debuted for us a few seasons earlier.

To finish my Nottingham memories, it would be remiss of me not to mention the

two main brewers in the city back then, Home and Shipstones. For a beer lover, Home Ales were simply undrinkable. 'Shippos' was certainly different, an acquired taste for sure but one we had to get accustomed to. My first pint of 'Shippos' saw my very first pint in Nottingham at the Clinton Arms on Shakespear Street. However, this was not possible until we'd paid our 50p entrance fee, requested with a gruff voice from the doorman. This fee covered the unexpected 'entertainment' that pretty much consisted of the overweight

landlord's wife doing a striptease, to say she was middle-aged and well built would be generous on both counts, but there you go – welcome to Nottingham lads!

So, warm greetings from us all at the Vale, Notts supporters – your club has a soft spot in my heart, and I look forward to returning to your city over Easter weekend - it will be nice to visit you in daylight for a change.

I'll be pitchside with my camera tonight so do say hello!



Above: the programme cover from the Ilkeston-Enfield game, a little less sophisticated than today's glossy publications. And right: Jon's contribution to the Enfield Gazette report

continued...

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Innocents Enfield are caught up in frightening . . .

# Ilkeston idiocy



**Enfield's FA Trophy match at Ilkeston Town was abandoned in the 77th minute on Saturday. TIM PARKS reports.**

ENFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB made national front-page news on Sunday for the first time in their 83-year history.

But, sadly, it wasn't for anything the club achieved on the field. They were merely innocent participants in a sporting "occasion" in the East Midlands that bore closer resemblance to guerrilla warfare than to a football match.

This FA Trophy third-round tie between Ilkeston Town and Enfield — potentially a classic, like a small army, and deployed themselves around the ground while the game was going on.

Enfield secretary, Alan Diment, supported the "organised army" theory. "It was eerie," he said. "During the game they intimidated the police and the crowd, but at half time they just seemed to switch off."

## Shelter

They certainly succeeded. Even before Birmingham's FIFA referee, Derek Civil, was forced to take shelter in the dressing rooms and abandon the match in the 77th minute, spectators, officials, and — one suspects — the players, were more concerned with the off-field activity than the game taking place on it.

The Gazette's own correspondent in Ilkeston, Jon Taffel, first sensed trouble when he straggled into the town an hour before the kick-off.

"I literally couldn't get my car down the High Street. There was a mob, about 200 or 300 strong, marching down the road, with about 100 of them wearing green berets," he said. "They seemed organised, like a small army, and deployed themselves around the ground while the game was going on."

Enfield secretary, Alan Diment, supported the "organised army" theory. "It was eerie," he said. "During the game they intimidated the police and the crowd, but at half time they just seemed to switch off."

## Timetable of trouble

- 1.30 p.m.: Youths gather in town centre.
  - 2.30 p.m.: Match kicks off.
  - 2.53 p.m.: Ilkeston take the lead. Youths surge forward down grass banking and break pitch perimeter rail. Two people taken to hospital.
  - 3.39 p.m.: Soon after Enfield equalise, youths spill on to pitch through hole in rail. Match is held up for 10 minutes while police and youths brawl on pitch. One Midlands "supporter" runs the length of pitch and drags the net of the goal at the opposite end.
  - 4.07 p.m.: After play is resumed and Enfield take 5-1 lead, youths suddenly swamp the pitch and the players rush for the dressing rooms. Enfield winger Steve King seeks refuge in the stands.
  - 4.15 p.m.: It is announced over the tannoy that the referee has abandoned the match. The youths jump for joy, believing their "mission" to have been a success.
- It is later revealed that police had made 13 arrests — 12 from Ilkeston, and one from Enfield.

• Scenes of lunacy at Ilkeston on Saturday. Police arrested a total of 13 youths.

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## Why did it happen?

THE OVERRIDING question after the game was, simply: "Why?"

Why did the "Mad Squad" from Derby County FC, as some of the youths described themselves, decide to disrupt the Ilkeston-Enfield match?

Was it because they achieved national Press coverage after their similar disruption of the game at Barnet in the previous round? Was it because they had been banned from watching Derby and decided to wreak havoc elsewhere?

And why, for goodness sake, weren't there more than the reported 20 policemen at the Ilkeston ground at

the start of the game? Why were these youths allowed into the ground at all?

And why, even with reinforcements hastily brought over from the Second Division match at the nearby Derby, weren't there more than 40 policemen at the height of the trouble.

How are 40 policemen supposed to control 300 organised troublemakers?

## Sensible

The only good thing to come out of the whole sorry proceedings is the fact that Ilkeston, although entitled to ask the FA to have the match

replayed, have taken the sensible option and decided to forfeit the match.

Alf Jackson, their secretary, said on Sunday: "To ask for a replay would mean victory for the yobbos who took part in a planned operation to get the match abandoned."

And Ilkeston manager Steve Holder hinted at the possible repercussions when he said after the game: "I must consider my whole future in football after witnessing some of the things I saw today."

"I came to Ilkeston to bring them success — but if success brings this sort of thing is it all worth it?"

Match report, pictures ..... p47

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## Congrats to Captain Cookie who makes the statistical team of the first quarter

**A**pologies if you've already seen this online (and of course we always strive to have original content, otherwise why bother printing it?) but the Notts County website published a fascinating statistical report a fortnight ago, called **The National League Q1 Report**.

Usually, we can take stats or leave them, here at Programme Towers. But this report is so forensic it's worth repeating parts of it. The report covers all 24 teams in the National League so we are obviously going to be selective, but here's a taste. This will of course include both the Stones and our visitors tonight, among a few others....

**BARNET** The Bees started the season extremely strongly, but in recent weeks they have struggled, especially defensively. They've conceded 20 in their last 4 games, more than they conceded in their first 9 games combined.

Dean Brennan (right) has a firm approach to the game seems to have divided opinion, but a positive result at home to struggling Maidstone and scoring 5 goals away to Wrexham could prove to be a catalyst to bringing them back into some sort of form. In terms of stats nothing jumps out massively, other than that Barnet have conceded the 4th most shots, 195, and also have the 4th most yellow cards, 27, showing poor discipline. They've also now conceded the most goals at the back.

The personnel they recruited in the summer are impressive on paper, but the organisation at the back is worrying. They look a shambles defensively and something has to change moving forward. A manager who certainly divides opinion, Dean Brennan's bizarre post match interview after a 5-0 defeat to York certainly captured the imagination. He has though managed to get the best out of forward Nicke Kabamba, who came to the Hive as a striker who only scored three times last season, but one who now has nine goals to his name already.

**BOREHAM WOOD** Until recently the Wood were very much considered the 4th best side in the league; they had lost just once all season, a shock home loss to Aldershot, and looked like an outside chance for a

title challenge. However, that quickly changed when they lost 0-3 at home to Bromley, once again showing how quickly things can change in this division. The pendulum once again swung back the way of the Wood who actually then sat 3rd after a very impressive 2-1 win away at Wealdstone.

In the past the Wood have been guilty of not possessing enough quality in the final third, but this is something the young coach has rectified this summer. His side have recorded the 4th most long passes, 825. They are also still as aggressive as ever; they are joint 2nd for most red cards in the league (2).

In goal Nathan Ashmore has arguably been the finest keeper in the league, and the 100kg shot stopper has prevented 3.12 goals, the 3rd most in the league. He also has the 4th highest save percentage of any keeper, 78.85%, showing the good work he is doing between the sticks.

**DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE** are the division's entertainers, and a side who are a nightmare to predict on a weekly basis. There have been 5 or more goals in each of their last 8 games, a period in which they scored 19 goals but let in 23 goals in that time too.

They've scored 23 goals this season, but only have an xG of 17.43, meaning they are outscoring what is expected by a lot. They have conceded 29 goals, the 3rd most in the league.

It's at the other end of the pitch Dagenham struggle, something which may have been worse had it not been for keeper Elliot Justham. Justham has made 42 saves, 7th highest in the league, so things may have been far worse without the 32 year old stopper.

**DORKING WANDERERS** are potentially the surprise package of the opening quarter. They find themselves in 15th, despite conceding 30 goals, joint 2nd worst in the league. The signs are very mixed for Dorking going forward. They are conceding more than expected, 30 goals from an xG





against of 26.41, suggesting they've been unlucky at the back, but they have scored 24, from an xG of 20.42, meaning they should also expect a drop off in attack.

Manager, owner and just about everything else, Marc White has acquitted himself brilliantly for his first time at this level. His tactical philosophy that has got Dorking this far in such a short period; attack attack attack. They currently rank 2nd for possession, with 58.6%, a huge number, showing his side are capable of dominating the ball.

**NOTTS COUNTY** top the charts for almost all passing statistics, a by-product of their possession based style. They average 63.7% possession, 5.1% more than any other side. They have the highest xG total, 26, but this is still 5 lower than their actual output, suggesting they may slow down with scoring. Their xG against is 16.67, 3.37 higher than the 13 they have conceded, again suggesting they may start to concede more. However, in Macaulay Langstaff they certainly have the X Factor; 15 goals in the opening 13 games is unbelievable.

**WEALDSTONE** have a true underdog story, a part time outfit who are punching way above their weight - it means the Stones are certainly one of the surprise packages of the opening quarter. If they could turn some of those successive draws into wins they could be a real threat.

They have actually scored less than expected, 14 to an xG of 15.67, but they have conceded significantly fewer than expected, just 13 let in compared to 19.11 expected. This is quite mixed, suggesting they are doing better defensively than they should, but their attacking output could be slightly higher.

Stuart Maynard has arguably been the manager of the quarter so far. Bearing in mind he only gets limited training hours per week due to the part time model, the results he is getting on the pitch, both in terms of performance and points, must be applauded. He plays good, attractive football and has also managed to repeat a trick from last year; take a striker who has never been prolific, and turn them into a real goalscorer. Last season it was Josh Umerah, who was then sold for good money to Hartlepool, and this season (until he was sold!) it was Rhys Browne, who already has 7 goals and a conversion rate of 26.9% - very high for a striker. Maynard also helped attract players and recruit well in the sum-

mer, chiefly midfield maestro Max Kretzschmar who was excellent until an timely hamstring injury.

Between the sticks Sam Howes has arguably been the best keeper in the league, recording a save percentage of 79.63%, the 3rd highest in the league. He also ranks top in terms of prevented goals, preventing 4.67, a massive number which has no doubt won his side numerous points this season. Howes is a top keeper and has been crucial to Wealdstone's success.

**OVERALL STATS** Chesterfield have had the most shots on goal but Dorking lead the way when it comes to shots on target, posting an impressive 43.80%. If it's goals you want then look no further than Dagenham & Redbridge where games involving the Daggers have amassed an incredible 52 goals up until Matchday 13, that's an average of four goals per game!

**TOP PERFORMING PLAYERS** Top goalkeeper is **Nathan Ashmore (Boreham Wood)** (just ahead of Sam Howes of Wealdstone) with a save percentage of 78.85%. **Right Centre Back: Jack Cook** (Wealdstone) Cook wins a massive 81.94% of his defensive duels, 6th highest in the league, a testament



to his ability as a defender. Furthermore, he records 11.35 successful defensive actions per 90, 25th most in the league. **Central Centre Back: Omar Sowunmi** (Bromley, left). When he's been in the side they've only conceded more than two once, on the opening day away to Wealdstone, showing how crucial he has been.

**Left Centre Back: Kyle Cameron** (Notts County) has played every single minute for the side at the top, and wins 75.47% of his defensive duels. **Right Wing Back: Jeff King** (Chesterfield). **Left Wing Back: Jacob Mendy** (Wrexham) boasts the highest defensive duel win rate with 66.67%, and crosses

3.5 times per 90 mins. **Central Midfield: Darren Oldaker** (Chesterfield) and **Central Midfield: Ruben Rodrigues** (Notts County) who is the best creator in the division with 1.84 shot assists per 90. **Attacking Midfield: James McShane** (Dorking) **Striker: Paul Mullin** (Wrexham) with 11 goals in his first 13 games is paired with **Striker: Macaulay Langstaff** (Notts County) whose 15 goals in 13 games really speaks for itself, a tally of 1.26 per 90mins.

**Thank you, 2022 Notts County Stats...**

Richard - @notts\_stats  
Tom - @tomhwilliams23 and  
Colin - @Colin\_Sisson

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	<b>BOREHAM WOOD</b> Saturday, 8th October <i>Vanarama National League</i>	Harrow Windows	Steve Ford's 50th	
	<b>NOTTS COUNTY</b> Tuesday, 25th October <i>Vanarama National League</i>	Rolfe-East	Richard Finch	
	<b>CHESTERFIELD</b> Tuesday, 8th November 2022 <i>Vanarama National League</i>	Ruislip Windows & Doors	Your name or business here	
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 <b>MAIDSTONE UNITED</b> Tuesday, 7th March <b>Vanarama National League</b>	Rolfe-East	Your name or business here
 <b>BARNET</b> Saturday, 25th March <b>Vanarama National League</b>	Harrow Windows	Your name or business here
 <b>ALDERSHOT TOWN</b> Saturday, 1st April <b>Vanarama National League</b>	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
 <b>SOLIHULL MOORS</b> Tuesday 10th April <b>Vanarama National League</b>	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
 <b>DORKING WANDERERS</b> Saturday, 22nd April <b>Vanarama National League</b>	Rolfe-East	Your name or business here

# REWIND >>>> ON THIS DAY



BY TIM PARKS

## 64 years on.. mud, sweat and tears as Stones beat Ruislip Manor ..at The Vale!

**Saturday October 22 1958, FA Amateur Cup 1st Qualifying Round replay: Ruislip Manor 0 Wealdstone 4**

**T**oday we go even further back in time than usual... to almost before I was born!

It's funny how footballing issues barely change with the passing of the years and Stones fans this autumn day 64 years ago will have reflected on three fortunate penalty awards that changed the course of the season.

Ruislip Manor FC, 1958, was a rather different place to today's Vale - just two low-lying stands and a scaffolding pole fence around the pitch - but some 1,800 people 'lined the entire ground'

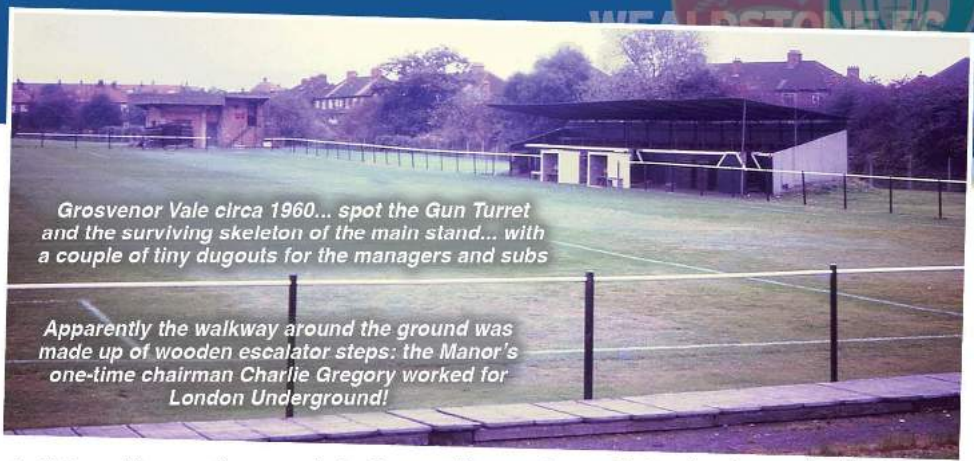
for this FA Cup replay according to the Harry O report.

Athenian League high-fliers Wealdstone considered themselves a bit lucky to still be in the Amateur Cup after trailing the Spartan Leaguers 2-0 until the last few minutes of the first game at Lower Mead. Then Charlie Sells bagged a goal out of nowhere, and with time running out his cross from the right was handled by the Manor full-back and the offence flagged by the linesman... although the referee seemed unaware of it. Much like Southend's match-winning penalty here a few weeks ago!

John Moran rattled in the spot kick and the fans heaved a sigh



*A taste of muddy Lower Mead circa late 1950s.... winger Viv Evans (No11) sets up Ivor Harper (right) for one of his hat-trick of goals in a 5-2 win over local rivals Harrow Town in October 1957. This no doubt sparked Harrow's thirst for revenge when they beat us the following season, as mentioned*



Grosvenor Vale circa 1960... spot the Gun Turret and the surviving skeleton of the main stand... with a couple of tiny dugouts for the managers and subs

Apparently the walkway around the ground was made up of wooden escalator steps: the Manor's one-time chairman Charlie Gregory worked for London Underground!

of relief... and huge smiles. Only the previous week Stones had been 1-0 down at home to Hayes in the FA Cup when Moran smashed in TWO penalties to snatch a 2-1 win... and again the decisive decision was handball, flagged by an alert linesman. Maybe the same fine fellow? His name was never mentioned!

And what probably made it worse for the disgruntled Hayes fans in the 2,500 crowd was that they felt they were robbed of victory by the conditions a week earlier.... for this game was a replay of a game abandoned due to heavy rain with just ten minutes remaining and Hayes leading 4-1!

They argued that that the game should never have started on the glue pot Lower Mead pitch, and why wait until the 80th minute to call it off when conditions had been appalling all the way through?

It's nice to think we had a bit of good fortune 64 years ago.

Anyway, back to the replay at The Vale and it seems it was a bit of a stroll for the Stones (after the scare of the first game) in front of a packed Vale crowd that wouldn't be bettered until over 2,000 attended

the Stones v Newport County FA Trophy semi final here in 2012.

**T**his Manor side was in its first season of Spartan League football after being 'promoted' from the London League. This was in the days before promotion and relegation in the non League game and clubs would lobby for a move into a higher-rated league until finally elected ... which is why Wealdstone had to wait another six years until being allowed to join the lofty Isthmian League ranks in 1964.


Those next half dozen years were to be dogged by some miserable cup results and maybe the worst of these was to follow two rounds later: A 3-2 home defeat by Harrow Town (soon to become Harrow Borough). Arrghh! And we even

missed a penalty this time as former Stones keeper George Wood plunged to deny Charlie Townsend (taking up the mantle from the injured Moran) from the spot. Octogenarian Charlie will probably be at the game today in his club ambassador role so ask him about it!

**WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?**

Sandwiched between the Manor replay win and the Harrow defeat came an FA Cup 4th Qual Rd exit to the semi professionals of Headington United at Lower Mead in front of a 5,000 crowd... really no disgrace to lose 2-0 to a side destined for the Football League (as Oxford United) within the next few years.

So now we could concentrate on the league, and chasing **CONTD OVERPAGE...**

Right		WEALDSTONE (Blue & White)		Left	
		Ted Culver			
2. Arthur Ash		3. Roy Hurrell			
4. Charlie Townsend		5. Derek Kay		6. John Saunders	
7. John Matthews	8. Charlie Sells	9. Matt Farrell	10. John Moran	11. Viv Evans	
N <sup>o</sup> 1672				Referee: Mr. N. J. Gould	
				Linesmen: Messrs. J. B. Rutherford & D. W. Rampling	
				Orange Flag	
11. G. Farrimond	10. G. A. Clark	9. C. Howard	8. P. Mayers	7. K. Enderaby	
6. T. Cunningham		5. R. Louth	4. R. Phillips		
3. P. M. Harrington		L. A. Sturgess		2. J. D. Ambler	
Left		RUISLIP MANOR (White)		Right	

Above: The Stones' home programme displays the Cup line-ups in the usual 'W' formation

# REWIND >>>> CONTINUED

## FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

serial Athenian League champions Barnet. For some reason amateur football didn't really like the Bees - hence why their annual application to join the Isthmians was always rejected and others accepted - and losing both league games to the Herts side didn't help our cause.

Yet in May 1959 it seemed the Stones were on the brink of repeating our title success of 1952. Going into the last three games we were two points ahead of Barnet and a 3-0 win over Hitchin on FA Cup Final day made us favourites - extraordinarily, that game kicked off at 6pm and a game had taken place on the Lower Mead 'turf' earlier that day! (imagine our groundstaff team allowing that to happen today).

A TV All-Stars XI including Alfie Bass, Lonnie Donegan and Mike & Bernie Winters (good grief) took on Frankie's Vaughan's Boys Club XI with highlights on the BBC as part of the pre match entertainment before the Nottingham Forest v Luton Cup Final. Chelsea manager Tommy Docherty was referee and commentary was provided by Mr Wrestling himself, Kent Walton. Follow that!

The Stones could have won the title the next Wednesday evening against Carshalton but the big Lower Mead crowd were left frustrated by a 0-0 draw... Barnet had also drawn the same night which left a final-day scenario of Stones needing just a point from their last game at mid-table Sutton United - or even a 1-0 defeat would be enough to win on goal difference.

Imagine the anguish among the many coachloads of Wealdstone fans who made that May 9 trip south of the river only to end up losing 3-2, allowing Barnet - who scraped to victory in their own tense last game - to win the title by 1/25th of a goal.

So a memorable season. But sadly, not in a good way.,

*Interestingly (to Notts fans mainly), that 1959 Cup Final saw the first recorded mention of football fans cottoning onto popular media with an adopted chant. The Forest fans sung the theme tune of the 'Robin Hood' TV series to much merriment from the crowd. Forest won the game 2-1 despite finishing with nine men due to serious injuries (no subs in those days)... they were indeed 'feared by the bad and loved by the good'*

*But County fans probably weren't even watching!*

## Days we faced Dunstable twice in two weeks... for a combined attendance of a pathetic 106!

**Tuesday October 25 1993, Dr Martens League cup 1st rd 2nd leg: Dunstable 3 Wealdstone 3 (Stones won 4-3 on agg)**

**W**as there ever a more depressing time to be a Wealdstone fan?

Twenty nine years ago the club was in the Dr Martens Southern League southern section, groundsharing at Yeading FC having just quit the ruinous two year agreement at Watford where it was thought crowds couldn't get any smaller.

Then 61 people turned up for a League Cup tie with Dunstable.

As programme editor Roy Couch pointed out the following week, thank goodness the game hadn't been played (as originally scheduled) the previous week when England faced Holland in a World Cup qualifier!

But it was no laughing matter. The Stones were second bottom of the table on four points from 11 games - with only pointless Dunstable below them on zero. And for Dunstable it really was pointless: they had already given notice to quit the league for financial reasons and would be heading off to the United Counties League at the end of the season.

Even if things were desperate on the field the fans could always be relied on to turn up in numbers .... Until now. Roy couch wrote openly and abjectly about this, the clubs first-ever sub-100 attendance for a first team match, eclipsing

*Right: The previous season we'd groundshared at Watford (capacity 22,000) and were now at 1,500 The Warren. We weren't exactly close to filling either venue. Also above: Graham Smith's report of the Dunstable game in the Harrow Observer*



# Tate puts Stones through

Dunstable 3  
Wealdstone 3

AFTER twice being behind, Stones secured a draw in a dramatic and incident packed second leg match to their Dr Martens Cup tie on Monday to go through by 4-3 on aggregate, writes Graham Smith.

Stones were on top in the first half hour with Richard Mellor and new boy John Hall twice having shots blocked by keeper Georgiou and Hall also hit the crossbar.

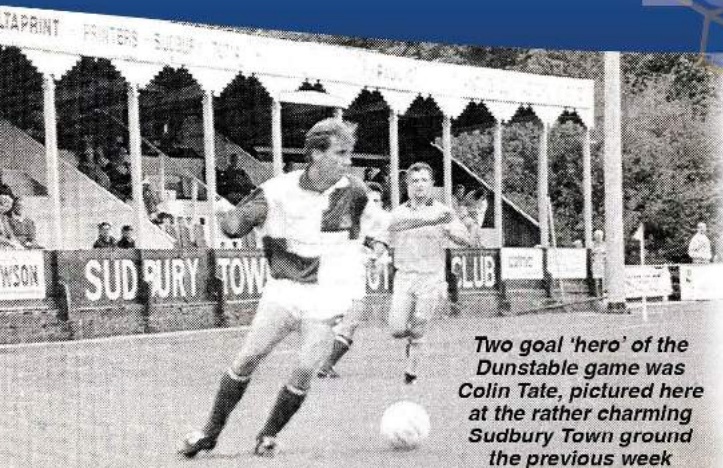
However, after 39 minutes Dunstable went ahead. The referee blew his whistle in mid-flight as the home side took a quick free kick and with the Stones defence stopping in the belief that the kick was to be retaken, Cody headed in off the crossbar and the goal was allowed to stand.

A floodlight failure, repaired by Stones' own Mick 'Spark' Garrett, extended the half time interval to 50 minutes and when play finally resumed, Dunstable took just six minutes to extend their lead through Lamb.

Hall reduced the arrears in the 68th minute with a fierce shot that went in off the keeper and Paul Holohan hit a post before his corner in the 74th minute saw Colin Tate head in the equaliser.

Smith restored Dunstable's lead but two minutes from time Colin Tate volleyed Stones level to take them into the second round on aggregate.

Wealdstone: Fernandes, Pether, Hedge, Garrett, Shanshan, Drummy, Cordos, Burnett, Hall, Mellor (Time), Holohan, Fisher, Taylor, Stewart.



*Two goal 'hero' of the Dunstable game was Colin Tate, pictured here at the rather charming Sudbury Town ground the previous week*

the pathetic 121 who had turned up for another league cup game with Cambridge city at Vicarage Road.

And although only one club would be relegated following Dunstable's decision, he addressed the thorny question of where would Wealdstone go if we were fall through the trap door.

Every option was unappealing.

The feeder leagues were the Hellenic League (Oxfordshire based), the United Counties League (Northants based), or the Wessex, Sussex or Kent Leagues. Only the Hellenic League was a possible starter and the travelling costs would be similar to the Southern League.

Of course, in the end the club finished one place above the drop zone (thanks to Dunstable), tottered on the next season and then took voluntary demotion to the Isthmian League in 1995. Although we'd dropped five divisions from our Con-

ference status of the late 1980s it was a move that saved the club.

**B**ut back to 1993! You must be anxious to hear about the Dunstable game! The pitiful 61 crowd had been at Yeading's Warren ground for the first leg that ended in a 1-0 win thanks to Colin Kinnear's sole goal for the club and a Dunstable missed penalty.

Life memberships should have been handed out to those in attendance that dark and gloomy night... and a bonus voucher for those who made up the crowd of **FORTY FIVE** for the second leg at Creasey Park on this day exactly 29 years ago. Yes, even less!

Famously, that gloom was largely down to the Dunstable floodlights conking out midway through the game and Stones centre back Mick Garrett (an electrician) coming to the rescue. He must be football's second-best remembered sparky after Stuart Pearce :)

Unhappy days.





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# WEALDSTONE FC

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As match ball donor you will enjoy:

- 1 2 x Match tickets
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- 1 Captains Lounge hospitality with refreshments & snacks.
- 1 2 x match-day programmes
- 1 A fabulous autographed team ball.

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

\*All above subject to current COVID restrictions.

	<b>BROMLEY</b> Saturday, 6th August Vanarama National League	<b>Alan Couch</b>	
	<b>FC HALIFAX TOWN</b> Saturday, 20th August Vanarama National League	<b>Toby Jackson (Lapels)</b>	
	<b>YEOVIL TOWN</b> Monday, 29th August Vanarama National League	<b>Duncan &amp; Sandra Towell</b> In memory of Arthur Rogers	<b>Sardi's</b> Law Firm
	<b>WOKING</b> Sunday, 4th September Vanarama National League	<b>Mike &amp; Val Weston</b>	
	<b>TORQUAY UNITED</b> Saturday, 17th September Vanarama National League	<b>Stuart Kane</b>	
	<b>SOUTHEND UNITED</b> Saturday, 24th September Vanarama National League	<b>In Memory of Kat Kelly</b>	
	<b>BOREHAM WOOD</b> Saturday, 8th October Vanarama National League	<b>Nick Woolford</b>	
	<b>NOTTS COUNTY</b> Tuesday, 25th October Vanarama National League	<b>The Rawden Family</b>	



 <b>CHESTERFIELD</b> Tuesday, 8th November 2022 Vanarama National League	<b>Glencar Construction</b>	<b>Tony Paulley</b>
 <b>WREXHAM</b> Saturday, 12th November Vanarama National League	<b>In Memory of Kat Kelly</b>	Your name or business here
 <b>SCUNTHORPE UNITED</b> Saturday, 26th November Vanarama National League	<b>Tony Platt</b>	Your name or business here
 <b>OLDHAM ATHLETIC</b> Tuesday, 13th December Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
 <b>MAIDENHEAD UNITED</b> Monday, 26th December Vanarama National League	<b>In Memory of Roy Couch</b>	<b>Mike Pullin &amp; Graham Clark</b>
 <b>EASTLEIGH</b> Saturday, 7th January Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
 <b>GATESHEAD</b> Saturday, 28th January Vanarama National League	<b>Graham Clark &amp; Mike Pullin</b>	Your name or business here
 <b>DAGENHAM &amp; REDBRIDGE</b> Saturday, 4th February Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
 <b>YORK CITY</b> Saturday, 18th February Vanarama National League	<b>In Memory of Kat Kelly</b>	Your name or business here
 <b>ALTRINCHAM</b> Saturday, 4th February Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
 <b>MAIDSTONE UNITED</b> Tuesday, 7th March Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
 <b>BARNET</b> Saturday, 25th March Vanarama National League	<b>Alan Couch</b>	Your name or business here
 <b>ALDERSHOT TOWN</b> Saturday, 1st April Vanarama National League	Your name or business here	Your name or business here
 <b>SOLIHULL MOORS</b> Tuesday 10th April Vanarama National League	<b>Mick Fishman</b>	Your name or business here
 <b>DORKING WANDERERS</b> Saturday, 22nd April Vanarama National League	<b>In Memory of Fans No Longer With Us</b>	Your name or business here

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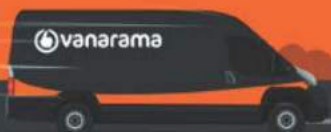
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# APPEARANCES

# 2022/2023

CORRECT AS AT 15/10/2022	VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE			FA CUP			FA TROPHY			MIDDLESEX CHARITY CUP			TOTALS			WEALDSTONE CAREER			
	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	A	S	G	
Akinola, Simeon		1	1		1	1								2	2			2	2
Allarakhia, Tarryn	12	1	1	1									13	1	1	30	2	5	
Barrett, Mason	6	1			1								6	2		6	2		
Browne, Rhys *	10	3	7										10	3	7	30	13	13	
Charles, Ashley	12			1									13			76	15	1	
Cook, Jack	12		2	1									13		2	55		6	
Dyer, Alex	2	3		1									3	3		173	29	35	
Elerewe, Ayodeji	11			1									12			12			
Ferguson, Nathan	13												13			30		1	
Habergham, Sam	11	1		1									12	1		12	1		
Howes, Sam	13			1									14			21			
Hutchinson, Dominic	9	4		1									10	4		10	4		
Kinsella, Lewis	2	3											2	3		2	3		
Kretzschmar, Max	8	1	1										8	1	1	8	1	1	
McGregor, Giovanni	1			1									1	1		1	1		
Mongoy, Jordy		1											1			1			
Mundle-Smith, Jaydn	4	2		1									5	2		29	9	2	
Napa, Malachi	2	7											2	7		2	7		
Obiero, Micah		1											1			1			
Olomola, Olufela	8	1	2	1		2							9	1	4	9	1	4	
Sesay, David	8	3			1								8	4		18	7		



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10 16.11.95 | 1.75m CM


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5 14.9.03 | 1.91m CB

MEGAN & REBECCA WOOD



Tarryn ALLARAKHIA

7 17.10.97 | 1.75m RM

DAVID EDWARDS



Brett AHERNE

CS CS


THE TURF DOCTOR



Jack COOK

2 16.9.99 | 1.85m CB


IN MEMORY OF JJ & CJ



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18 11.6.90 | 1.80m DM


HILLCREST GROUP



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9 5.9.97 | 1.7m CF

LUCA, JAY, ALEX & RIO



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4 15.9.99 | 1.75m RM


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Lewis KINSELLA

3 2.9.94 | 1.75m LB

KEVIN MCSWEENEY



David SESAY

11 18.9.98 | 1.84m RB

WEALDSTONE FC TRUST



Max KRETZSCHMAR

22 12.10.93 | 1.74m CM

JAMES KLARFELD



Nathan FERGUSON

8 12.10.95 | 1.78m CM

STUART KANE





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



Sam HOWES

13 10.11.97 | 1.90m GK

TONY & PETER DREW



Elijah HEARN

15 18.9.98 | 1.84m RB

MIKE & VAL WESTON



Dom HUTCHINSON

17 17.11.01 | LW

LEW SHEPPARD



Malachi NAPA

19 26.5.99 | 1.65m AM

GARY SMITH



Mason BARRETT

24.9.99 | 1.9m CB

WEALDSTONE FC  
ACADEMY



Sam HABERGHAM

28 29.2.92 | 1.83m LB

BARRY BENVENISTE



Jaydn MUNDLE-SMITH

23 17.12.99 | 1.83m LB

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Dante BAPTISTE

1 7.2.2002 | GK

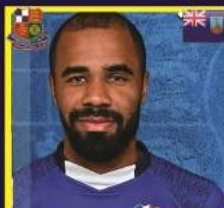
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JIM KANE



Jaydn MUNDLE-SMITH

23 17.12.99 | 1.83m LB

SARAH GOWDY



Dom HUTCHINSON

17 17.11.01 | LW

TECTRA  
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Rhys BROWNE

10 16.11.95 | 1.75m CM

RAY CORNER

# Next at The Vale



**Chesterfield**

**National League**

**Tuesday  
8th November  
7:45pm**



**Wrexham**

**National League**

**Saturday  
12th November  
3:00pm**



**Scunthorpe  
United**

**National League**

**Saturday  
26th November  
3:00pm**

For all Vanarama National League fixtures: £12 admission for EFL or Premier League season ticket holders and members of the armed forces

## VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE PREMIER TABLE @23/10/22

	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)
1 Notts County	14	10	3	1	34	13	7	6	1	0	15	3	7	4	2	1	19	10	21	33	
2 Wrexham	14	9	3	2	39	16	6	6	0	0	27	8	8	3	3	2	12	8	23	30	
3 Chesterfield	14	8	3	3	28	20	7	5	0	2	15	10	7	3	3	1	13	10	8	27	
4 Boreham Wood	14	7	5	2	21	13	7	2	3	2	9	9	7	5	2	0	12	4	8	26	1-2
5 Solihull Moors	14	7	4	3	30	16	8	4	4	0	18	7	6	3	0	3	12	9	14	25	1-2
6 Bromley	14	7	3	4	22	16	7	5	2	0	11	2	7	2	1	4	11	14	6	24	3-2
7 Woking	14	7	2	5	25	15	6	4	0	2	13	6	8	3	2	3	12	9	10	23	1-1
8 York City	15	6	4	5	19	14	7	3	2	2	8	7	8	3	2	3	11	7	5	22	
9 Southend United	14	5	5	4	15	11	8	4	2	2	9	4	6	1	3	2	6	7	4	20	0-1
10 Barnet	14	6	2	6	29	33	7	5	0	2	13	11	7	1	2	4	16	22	-4	20	
11 Dorking Wanderers	14	6	2	6	27	31	8	4	2	2	17	16	6	2	0	4	10	15	-4	20	1-3
12 Wealdstone	14	5	4	5	15	16	7	2	3	2	7	7	7	3	1	3	8	9	-1	19	
13 Eastleigh	14	5	4	5	15	18	6	4	2	0	8	4	8	1	2	5	7	14	-3	19	0-1
14 Dagenham & Redbridge	15	5	4	6	24	32	7	4	2	1	17	14	8	1	2	5	7	18	-8	19	
15 Maidenhead United	14	5	2	7	14	18	7	3	2	2	8	6	7	2	0	5	6	12	-4	17	
16 Oldham Athletic	14	4	4	6	16	22	8	4	1	3	14	13	6	0	3	3	2	9	-6	16	2-1
17 Altrincham	14	3	6	5	22	28	6	2	3	1	11	8	8	1	3	4	11	20	-6	15	
18 Halifax Town	14	4	3	7	11	20	7	3	1	3	6	9	7	1	2	4	5	11	-9	15	1-0
19 Aldershot Town	14	4	2	8	19	23	8	3	1	4	13	13	6	1	1	4	6	10	-4	14	2-1
20 Yeovil Town	14	2	7	5	12	16	7	2	3	2	7	7	7	0	4	3	5	9	-4	13	0-0
21 Gateshead	14	2	6	6	17	23	8	1	4	3	11	13	6	1	2	3	6	10	-6	12	1-0
22 Maidstone United	14	3	3	8	17	33	6	2	2	2	8	9	8	1	1	6	9	24	-16	12	1-1
23 Scunthorpe United	14	2	5	7	19	29	7	2	2	3	12	15	7	0	3	4	7	14	-10	11	
24 Torquay United	14	2	4	8	13	27	7	0	3	4	9	16	7	2	1	4	4	11	-14	10	1-1

# Stones on the road



**Dagenham  
& Redbridge**

**National League**

**Saturday  
29th October  
3:00pm**

[www.Daggers.co.uk](http://www.Daggers.co.uk)  
@Dag\_RedFC



**Altrincham**

**National League**

**Tuesday  
1st November  
7:45pm**

[www.altrinchamfc.com](http://www.altrinchamfc.com)  
@AltrinchamFC

**YORK CITY**



**York City**

**National League**

**Saturday  
19th November  
3:00pm**

[YorkCityFootballClub.co.uk](http://YorkCityFootballClub.co.uk)  
@YorkCityFC



Wealdstone FC's first team travel is sponsored by Osmo, specialists in the supply of wood finishes

Wealdstone FC Supporters' Club often runs subsidised coach travel to our away games. Check online for full details.



Official Sponsors of  
Wealdstone FC

# gpflewis<sup>plc</sup>

## Maintaining Excellence

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

[gpflewis.co.uk](http://gpflewis.co.uk)



# HOW THEY LINE-UP TODAY



## WEALDSTONE

Royal Blue/White/White



## NOTTS COUNTY

Lavender/Grey/Lavender

<b>G Dante-Astor BAPTISTE 1</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>1 Sam SLOCOMBE G</b>
<b>Jack COOK 2</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>2 Richard BRINDLEY</b>
<b>Lewis KINSELLA 3</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>3 Joel TAYLOR</b>
<b>Ashley CHARLES 4</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>4 Kyle CAMERON</b>
<b>Ayodeji ELEREWE 5</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>5 Connell RAWLINSON</b>
<b>Mason BARRETT 6</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>7 Kairo MITCHELL</b>
<b>Tarryn ALLARAKHIA 7</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>6 Jim O'BRIEN</b>
<b>Nathan FERGUSON 8</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>8 Sam AUSTIN</b>
<b>Olufela OLOMOLA 9</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>9 Macaulay LANGSTAFF</b>
<b>David SESAY 11</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>10 Quevin DE CASTRO</b>
<b>Giovanni McGREGOR 12</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>11 Aaron NEMANE</b>
<b>G Sam HOWES 13</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>12 Teirnan BROOKS G</b>
<b>Micah OBIERO 14</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>13 Brad YOUNG G</b>
<b>Elijah HEARN 15</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>14 Ed FRANCIS</b>
<b>Dominic HUTCHINSON 17</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>15 Aden BALDWIN</b>
<b>Alex DYER 18</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>16 Geraldo BAJRAI</b>
<b>Malachi NAPA 19</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>17 Frank VINCENT</b>
<b>Simeon AKINOLA 20</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>18 Matt PALMER</b>
<b>Jordy MONGOY 21</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>19 Cedwyn SCOTT</b>
<b>Max KRETZSCHMAR 22</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>20 Reuben de Rocha RODRIGUES</b>
<b>Jaydn MUNDLE-SMITH 23</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>21 Tobi ADEBAYO-ROWLING</b>
<b>Sam MATTHEWS 25</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>22 Luther MUNAKANDABA</b>
<b>Sam HABERGHAM 28</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>23 Adam CHICKSEN</b>
<b>Tecane SHROWDER 29</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>G Eric NEGRARU 30</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**RESULT: WEALDSTONE**   **NOTTS COUNTY**

**REFEREE** Elliott Swallow **ASSISTANTS** Jack Oxenham and Karl Sear

**FOURTH OFFICIAL** Elliott Spencer

**OBSERVER** Michael Russell **COACH** Neale Barry

**MATCH SPONSORS** 1) Rolfe-East 2) Richard Finch

**MATCHBALL DONOR** The Rawden Family

Main club sponsor:

**gp flewis** <sup>pic</sup>

**INSIDE  
DOMINIC  
HUTCHINSON  
AND HIS YOU TUBE  
WONDER GOAL!**