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Wealdstone vs. Metropolitan Police

RYMAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION — Saturday, 18th August 2012, 3:00pm



Referee — Michael Webb Assistants — Andrew Mawby and Michael L.Taylor



Royal blue shirts White shorts Royal blue socks

TODAY'S BALL SPONSOR

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Yellow shirts Yellow shorts Yellow Socks

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	La	st six (a	ll match	es)	
W	D	L	F	A	+/-
5	0	1.	16	5	+11
		Last six	(Home)		
4	2	0	12	5	+7

(competitive fixtures)

	La	st six (a	ll match	es)				
W	D	L	F	Α	+/-			
2	0	4	8	7	+1			
		Last six	(Away)					
1	0	5	5	8	-3			

(competitive fixtures)



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Major Honours since 1950

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1973 / 74 Southern League Div. One South 1981 / 82 Southern League Southern Division

1981 / 82 Southern League Championship

1984 / 85 Football Conference (Gola League)

1996 / 97 Isthmian League Division Three

National Cups

1965 / 66 FA Amateur Cup 1984 / 85 FA Trophy

League Cups

1981 / 82 Southern League Cup

Middlesex County Cups

1958 / 59 Senior Cup Senior Cup 1962/63 1964 / 65 Senior Cup 1967/68 Senior Cup 1984/85 Senior Cup Charity Cup 2003 / 04 2010 / 11 Charity Cup

Non Title-Winning Promotions

1997 / 98 Isthmian League Div. 2 (3rd) 1998 / 99 Isthmian League Div. 1 (3rd, annulled) 2003 / 04 Isthmian League Premier Div. (via Play-Off)

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People are only allowed entry to Grosvenor Vale on matchdayssubject to the following rules and regula-

1)Theclubreservestherighttoejectfromtheground anypersonwhoisconsideredtohavecommittedanyof the following acts:

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· Entering the field of play before, during or after a game without prior authorisation;

· Being drunk, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs;

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· Throwing any article onto the field of play;

· Climbing floodlight pylons, fences, stands or any structure or building;

 Usingobsceneorbadlanguagelikelytocauseoffence to others:

· Using violence of any nature.

2) No spectator ball games.

3) The consumption of alcoholic drinks is permitted INSIDE the social club bar and boardroom areas. 4) Vehicles parked on the Grosvenor Valesite are at the owners' risk.

Wealdstone FC Board of Directors

Written In Stone



Welcome Back

Welcome back to The Vale for the start of the 2012-13 Ryman Premier League campaign. Has it really been 15 weeks since that night on the East coast? Thankfully, the dark days between seasons has seemed mercifully short with the distractions of Euro 2012, Le Tour de France and the stunning spectacle that was The London 2012 Olympics, and what's more two of the afore mentioned gave us unprecedented success as a nation.

So we assemble again this afternoon on the back of a highly successful pre-season, with feelings of hope and expectation that every football supporter around the country feels at this time of year, but do we as Wealdstone supporters have good reason to be expecting great things this term? As a group we are made up of many different types. You only need read a few posts on the forum to realise that and ask each and every one of us and you will probably get a hundred differing viewpoints. My view is that the re-signing of last season's successful and close knit squad can only be a good thing. Add to this group some of the new signings that have given promising performances in the pre-season matches and we must be close come the end.

Who else can be counted as contenders? Well I think history proves that it could be anyone. New boys Whitehawk are well funded and extremely ambitious, having won last season's Ryman South Championship and their opening game at home to Lowestoft should give us some indication of their credentials. Margate could also be one to watch as they have just signed Carl Rook, who must be a lucky mascot having helped three Ryman Premier teams to promotion in the last three seasons.

What of today's opponents, The Met Police? Who knows but they have made a couple of strong signings during the off season. Amongst the other new members of the league this term one name will stand out to Wealdstone supporters of a certain vintage.....Enfield. Whatever the politics behind the claim to the name, the very fact that they are extremely well supported, just up the road and in our league will hopefully bring us a fixture that will enthuse our support. This afternoon will also see the opening of our

sparkling new Wealdstone Supporters Club Megastore. Much time and effort has gone into this and other projects around the ground and you will find ample praise for those involved later in this programme. Please take the time to pay the shop a visit. It will have plenty of exclusive, not yet seen at the online store merchandise to suit all budgets, so go spend some cash.

Whilst on a Supporters Club theme, I believe they are very keen to swell their membership numbers this season, so if you are not already a member. get yourself signed up.

Before I leave you to watch today's game, I would like to welcome the officials, players and supporters of our opponents, as well as today's match officials. I hope you all have a pleasant afternoon and a safe journey home.

Finally, thanks to everyone who has stuck by my amateur efforts at a programme over the preseason, offered advice, help and both constructive and non-constructive criticism or just pointed out my numerous mistakes, hopefully we are now getting nearer to a product that matches the club it represents.

Mark

The Ryman Football League strongly support recent FA statement that there should be a zero tolerance approach against racism and all forms of discrimination. Accordingly any form of discriminatory abuse whether it be based on race or ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, faith, age, ability or any other form of abuse will be reported to The Football Association for action by that Association.

NEWS

Around the Club

Stones sign two more

As the big kick-off draws ever closer and game plans are stepped up. Wealdstone have confirmed that two more players have signed

on the dotted line. Nineteen year old midfielder George Nicholas has signed after impressing during the preseason and has previous experience at **Notts County** and at Stones rivals Lewes, where he was on loan from the League One side last

season.

Stones



Manager Gordon Bartlett is also delighted to capture the signature of defender Nathan Webb who has previously featured for Haves and Yeading in the Blue Square Premier and has had experience at Farnborough Town.

> Meanwhile all of last season's successful squad have re-signed Ryman forms; in other news. defender James Hammond has made a welcome return to the Stones squad this past week after unavailability, but Tommy Brewer, Sean Cronin and Chris O'Leary will miss the start of the

league season due to suspensions carried over from the last campaign.

Northwood 0 Wealdstone 3 (Pre-season friendly)

Stones overcame Northwood 3-0 at Chestnut Avenue last night and in the process inflicted Woods first pre-season defeat, whilst maintaining their own unbeaten run this summer. Wealdstone raced into the lead as early as the seventh minute when Peter Dean netted with a great effort and then fellow striker Scott Fitzgerald grabbed a brace within a two minute spell mid-way through the first half to give the away side a comfortable cushion at the interval Stones rang the changes, using several replacements in the second period and this slowed the

momentum a little allowing Woods to come ino the game. In fact the home side were unlucky to hit the woodwork twice but they couldn't find the net.

Wealdstone's next first team friendly is on Saturday at The Vale when the visitors are Hemel Hempstead, kick-off 3pm

Wealdstone: Banks, Brewer, Noone, Cronin, Massey, McCubbin, O'Leary, Dyer, Dean, Fitzgerald, Pett. Subs used: Chappell, Brooks, Nicholas, Webb, Knight

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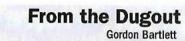
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Believe!

Hello again and welcome to our first league game of the new campaign against Metropolitan Police. Their management team of Jim Cooper and Gavin Macpherson have made a number of quality signings reflected by some excellent pre-season results with wins against Sutton and Braintree.

It just makes you wonder where the hell the last seven weeks have gone. They say that time flies when you are enjoying yourself and I can honestly say the attitude and performances from the players have made our preparations 'almost' a pleasure. The atmosphere, spirit and general work ethic around the camp has been outstanding and the displays against strong opposition very encouraging.

I feel the balance in the squad is good and I would like to welcome Rikki, Reiss, Tom, George and Nathan to the group. One or two others will also be joining over the coming weeks. On the subject of newcomers, I must also welcome Sam Vincent who joins Gary, James and Chris on the physio team. Judging by recent comments I feel sure many of you supporters will be encouraging our players to go down injured on a more regular basis.

I took a break in the early part of July and missed the Watford game. It's always difficult to go away but when you surround yourself with good quality and trustworthy people it makes life so much easier. In Mickey, Gilly, Jason and LFM I couldn't ask for anybody more reliable and supportive and I knew it would be in safe hands. I was delighted to get the text message from

Leo telling me the score line, performance and crowd. I can't deny that good news brightened up my afternoon on the beach.

As a little aside, I met Kenny Beaney out in Cape Verde and he sends his regards to everyone who remembers him.

You may notice that Leo, Mickey and myself have all got ourselves some new boots, but I'd just like to assure everyone these will definitely be the last I ever buy! Tony is the main man behind all the kit purchases and managed to get us a decent deal on the boots, but we nearly lost him recently. I'm delighted to say he turned down another offer from a 'pro' club and decided to stay with the Stones. He is another important member in the dressing room with his dry northern wit and professional attitude towards his role at the club.

Despite over 150 requests for trials, we have stuck by our decision not to look at too many and consequently the sessions have been far more focussed on the fitness needs of our existing squad. We also cut the number of pre-season friendlies to seven, where we have remained unbeaten scoring 21 and conceding only 6. With over 60 games last season, I felt it was important for quality and not quantity. Time will tell if they prove to be good decisions, but I was delighted with the last week's performance against Hemel where we played some excellent football, we created numerous chances and look fit and strong in the closing minutes. After two disappointing starts in the last couple of seasons, let's just hope

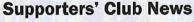
we can peak at the right time.

Anticipation levels will obviously be high. An encouraging pre-season is bound to set expectations, but we will take nothing for granted. Little things make all the difference and if the attitude, application and desire are there, then I hope the experiences of last season will stand us in good stead.

I can't finish without mentioning the Olympics. I cannot deny that I shed an emotional tear of two with the medallists. Years of hard work for that one moment of triumph must be a fantastic feeling. Team GB should be proud of its achievements and the organisers can reflect with a great deal of satisfaction on a very successful games. It makes you proud to be British again!

The pitch is in outstanding condition again and a lot of praise must go to Adam and Fingers for their hard work. And finally, I must mention the amazing work of our unbelievable supporters during the summer. The hours many of you have put in has resulted in the new terrace behind the dug outs, the new tea bar and new club shop. A big thank you to everyone involved in all that hard work - I hope we can repay you with success on the park.

It will not be plain sailing and we go into today with three suspensions (Chris, Sean and Tom) as a hangover from last season. Whatever happens, it will not be for the want of trying to bring this club the success it deserves after all these years of struggle. We will win together and lose together but more importantly we must always be together! BELIEVE!



Welcome to the new Season

Good afternoon and welcome to a new season.

Since that night at Lowestoft at the beginning of May, it has been a strange summer. Plenty of rain, some more rain and some great British success in a memorable Olympics have been the main features of the last few weeks. I hope everyone has had the chance to get a break, relax and everyone is now full of energy and ready to get going again.

This is the day where all of us, from both Clubs have high expectations. Before 3.00 we are all unbeaten, we are all going to win every challenge, every game and every competition going.

For everyone connected with Wealdstone, last season's achievements mean expectations will be higher still. Given that every season we aim to improve on the season before our 4th place finish doesn't give us many places to go. If we can improve on our 4th place of last season, and our FA Trophy run then we have a very good season ahead of us and we will be doing all that we can to achieve that - but no one should be under any illusions that this will be a huge challenge for us. Our FA Trophy successes means that we can afford to put slightly more into the playing budget this season. But my reckoning is we remain firmly in the bottom half of playing budgets in the Ryman Premier League for this season. This is based on talking to players at different clubs, seeing who is signing for who etc.

We proved last season that the playing budget isn't everything. But having money is a big

advantage especially if you need to go out and fill a particular position or want to make sure there is strength in depth in a squad. But as always what we don't have we won't miss. We have a management team second to none, a squad of players who achieved so much last year who are strengthened by some new signings and, if we can replicate the spirit and desire which so marked our season last year then we will do ok.

Of course there will be plenty of other Clubs expecting to do well this year and challenge at the right end of the table. Lowestoft and Bury have both been in the play-offs for the last two seasons, Carshalton, Canvey and Lewes will all expect to be there or thereabouts. I think Margate and Concord Rangers will both do well as well. Today's opponents Met Police will also be tough to beat. At 5.00 this afternoon some expectations will be punctured, some will be heightened and then we will need to remember we still have 41 games to go.

Off the field we have plenty happening. We are talking to two councils, our landlords, and various others as we seek to get our long term future sorted once and for all.

This summer I started a video blog (search for it on Google or You Tube) from which I will try and keep everyone up to date with everything going on. This means the end of the Electric Chair blog which I've done for the last four years. Thanks for all the feedback on that - I hope you will find the video blog even better.



One thing I said on my last video blog was to announce a big success that we enjoyed this summer. This was getting confirmation from the Football Foundation that they had closed the file on the grant funding related to the Prince Edward Playing Field monies from several years ago. This has been hanging over our heads for the last four years so we are delighted this has now been sorted.

I want to thank all our sponsors, old and new, for showing their trust in us and backing that trust in hard cash. In particular thanks to Connect Vending our main club sponsors as we embark on our third year together.

Also I must thank everyone who has given up time this summer to help around the ground, which once again looks fantastic. The time you give up is much appreciated. Having a new tea bar and a new supporters club shop is another step forward and it will make a big difference.

I'm grateful for all the people (over 100) who have filled in and returned the supporters questionnaire. Hard copies should be available today so please take one if you haven't had one so far. Many of you commented that matchday catering is one area that could be improved so we are doing our best to do this though like everything new it might take some time to get everything working as we want it to be.

So enjoy today, enjoy the season and let's get behind the team today and start as we mean to

Up the Stones!

go on.





Welcome one and all to today's long awaited league opener versus Met Police here at, hopefully, a sun blessed Vale.

HIHITING!

WEALDSTONE F.C.

SUPPORTERS CLUB

In many ways this summer has been unique in its celebration of sport, and football in some respects has rightly been out of the limelight as the huge success of the Games has taken hold of everyone. I have never known such feelings of pride and joy for athletes not only of Team GB but any and all nationalities, and of any sport. I was privileged to see a couple of Games events that did include football (!) and the electric atmosphere and organisation throughout was first class. Great stuff!

But now it's back to our world of Wealdstone Football Club and we all want desperately to build on the success of last season but for this campaign to go one better and get over the finishing line. I know that is the desire of the players and management and having tasted the excitement of those matches last season we all want more.

The team has had a very decent summer of preparation and there is a genuine sense that we are ready to give it a real go

in the league but we do need the strong start that has eluded us in previous seasons and we have played catch-up. Let's support the boys as we always do and urge them on to a first win today!

The Supporters Club has had a very busy summer in many ways. The most tangible is the fantastic work done by so many fans to get the new club shop in place and open today. Do please pay the new Mega Store a visit with its cavernous space and great range of clothing and souvenirs. It's located behind the dugouts and no doubt Mark and Adam will get some new signage up to direct and enhance the experience. Well done Micky Kane and all his many helpers and Mark and Adam for their vision to make this happen

As many of you will know yours truly has also been busy behind the scenes and I was able to represent the Supporters Club at a Harrow Council Cabinet meeting a few weeks ago in regard to PEPF. That debate is ongoing, not to look back, but to look forward on the wider matter of Council support for our club.

- We will be running a coach to Lewes on Bank Holiday Monday - please see Jez Albert in the new Club Shop today to make your booking. The coach will leave The Vale at 9am and will return straight after the match.
- Don't forget your Golden Goal tickets today - see Mim by the turnstiles
- Don't forget the Ska Night on 1st September - tickets behind the bar
- Alan Palmer is organising a special 'Fingers Free' fund raising Bingo evening at RSC on Sunday 23 September put the date in your diary!

Websites: wfcsc.co.uk and www.wfcmegastore.co.uk

Finally, that's it from me. Sadly and quite appallingly I am away for a week on hols but will be here in spirit. Warren's excuse is that he is running a marathon in Siberia so the Press Box will be a Ionely Place for Jon today!

Nick DuGard President, WFCSC

The Boys in blue

On 6th July 1829, Sir Robert Peel formed the Metropolitan Police, the first organised Police Force in the world, with an office overlooking the Thames at Whitehall known as Scotland Yard, a name that has become famous throughout the world, and also became synonymous with the Metropolitan Police.

Ninety years later, in 1919, the Metropolitan Police Football Club was formed. playing friendly matches until joining the Spartan League in 1928, Apart from the war years (1939-45), the club remained in that competition until 1960. During that time the Blues were League Champions eight times, runners-up once and League Cup winners once. In 1960 the Blues joined the Metropolitan League, winning the League Cup in 1969.

In 1971 the Blues were accepted into the Southern League and played in Division South until 1977,

under Team Manager Vic Rouse, the former Wales and Crystal Palace goalkeeper.

In 1977, the Blues moved to the Isthmian League. becoming one of the founder members of the restructured Division Two. A successful first season (1977/78) resulted in the club finishing runners-up to Epsom & Ewell and being promoted to Division One. In Season 1981/82 the club finished 3rd in Division One, missing promotion by just two points.

However, fortunes changed and in 1984/5, as a result of finishing third from the bottom, the Blues were relegated to Division Two (South). Ironically, in that 1984/5 season the Blues enjoyed their best run in the F.A. Cup, reaching

Wealdstones Record v Met Police P20 W11 D3 L6 F42 A28

Altogether there have been around 40 previous matches between us. Unfortunately we do not have a complete record of the results pre-1970 but listed below are those matches played between us during the last 41 seasons.

Southern League

1972/73 (1st Div Sth) Home W4-2 Away W2-1 1973/74 (1st Div Sth) Home W3-0 Away W4-0

Isthmian League

1997/98 (Div 2) Home L0-2 Away L0-1 2011/12 (Prem Div) Home W1-0 Away W2-1

Isthmian League Cup

2001/02 (2nd Rd) Away W2-1 aet 2008/09 (2nd Rd) Home W5-2 2009/10 (3rdRd) Home D2-2 aet (W'stone won 3-1 on pens)

Isthmian League Associate Members Trophy 1996/97 (3rd Rd) Home W4-2

F.A. Cup

2010/11 (3rd Qfy Rd) Away D1-1 (Replay) Home L1-2 aet

Mid-Surrey Floodlight League 1972/73 Home W3-0 Away L0-2 1974/75 Home L1-2 Away L2-3

Friendlies

1993/94 Away D3-3 2005/06 Away W2-1

the First Round Proper. The home tie against Dartford was subsequently featured on the BBC's "Match of the Day" programme, Defeat against Dartford was followed by a run of defeats in the league, which saw the Blues drop into one of the four relegation places introduced that season.

On returning to Division Two (South) the Blues finished 7th in both 1985/6 and 1986/7. During 1987/88 the Blues led the Division Two (South) table in January by seven points but they were overhauled by Chalfont St Peter, who won their last two games of season and became champions by just one point. The Blues were runners-up by virtue of a one-goal difference over Dorking. It was a nail-biting finish to a season in which the Blues lost just two league matches, both away.

The next two seasons saw the club finish in mid-table in Division One but in 1990/1 the club finished second from bottom and were relegated into the newly

formed Division Two of the restructured Diadora (Isthmian) League. The club remained in Division Two for several years, always finishing in the top half but just outside the promotion positions. In 1993/4 the Blues again reached the First Round Proper of the F.A. Cup, losing 2:0 to Crawley Town.

Season 1994/5 saw the club celebrate its 75th Anniversary with a game against the Army and the opening of a new grandstand at Imber Court. The Blues finished in 5th position in Division Two and ended the season with a thrilling victory in the Carlsberg Trophy, defeating Collier Row in a penalty shoot-out following a 1:1 draw after extra-time.

During the next few seasons the club continued to finish in the top half of Division Two and in 1999/2000 reached the 5th Round of the F.A. Vase (last 8), losing to the eventual winners Deal Town.

In 2002/3 the Ryman League was restructured and the Blues were placed in Division One South. That season the club finished second from bottom and faced the prospect of relegation. By a stroke of good fortune, only three teams were relegated from Divisions One North and South, therefore, we found ourselves in a relegation play-off against Wembley who finished second from bottom in Division One North. Fortunately, we won both legs of the playoff and retained our place in Division One South. Another poor season in 2003/4 saw us finished just above the relegation places in 20th position.

Following the F.A. restructuring of the non-league pyramid, in 2004/5 we found ourselves in the Ryman League Division One. In their first full season in charge, the new management team of Jim Cooper, assisted by Gavin MacPherson and John Nicholson, had an immediate impact and we finished 5th in the Division One, thus qualifying for the play-offs (introduced as part of the F.A. restructuring) where we played Bromley. An evenly balanced encounter ended with the scores 1:1 after extra time but we lost 4:3 in the penalty shoot-out.

In 2005/6 we finished in 4th position in the Ryman Division One but again fell at the play-off semi-final stage, losing 1:0 to Dover Athletic.

Further F. A. restructuring resulted in a Ryman League Division 1 North and Division 1 South in 2006/7 and the club finished in sixth position in the Division 1 South. With only one club promoted automatically, the club narrowly missed out on a play-off place. However, the club reached the final of the Surrey Senior Cup for the first time since 1933 but was beaten 4-1 after extra time by Tooting & Mitcham United, the score after 90 minutes was 1-1.

In 2007/8 the Blues finished 4th in the Ryman League Division 1 South but for the third time in four years was beaten in the play-off semi final, this time 2-0 by Cray Wanderers.

In 2008/9 the club again finished in 4th position in the Ryman Division One South, thus qualifying for the play offs for the 4th time in 5 seasons, winning the semi final play off match 1:0 against Fleet Town. but losing 0:1 to Cray Wanderers in the final.

In 2009/10 MPFC had a disappointing Ryman Division 1 South league campaign. After a poor start the club was never in a position to mount a serious challenge for a play off position and finished in 10th

position. However, this disappointment was off-set by winning the London Senior Cup for the first time in the club's history, beating AFC Wimbledon in an exciting final, 4:3 on penalties, after the match ended 4:4 after extra time.



Jolly mugged by the Police

The 2010/11 season proved to be the most exciting in the club's history, culminating in the club winning the Ryman League Division 1 South Championship by the narrow margin of one goal. Bognor Regis Town had a 2 point advantage during the latter stages of the season and that was the situation when the clubs lined up for the final match. Bognor were held to an unexpected draw by Chatham Town and with the Met managing to scramble a 1:0 win against Merstham, it was enough to win the title with a goal difference of 61 against Bognor's 60.

So, for the first time in the club's history we competed in the Ryman League Premier Division during the 2011/12 Season. We got off to a flying start and at Christmas found ourselves in 4th position but unfortunately we fell away in the second half of the season and finished in 12th position.

The Blues home ground at Imber Court, East Molesey, Surrey, is about one and a half miles from the historic Hampton Court. The grounds were acquired by the Metropolitan Police for use as a sports club in 1919 and the main clubhouse, which has been vastly extended, was opened in 1920. Facilities at the Football Ground have been improved significantly over the past 20 years. Funding for the improvements are generated from a servicewide lottery set up by the football club in 1964. This lottery also provides funding for the 50 sports sections which make up the Metropolitan Police Athletic Association.

Player Profiles

MANAGEMENT

JIM COOPER.

Manager for the past 9 seasons and led the Met to the Ryman League Division 1 South Championship in the 2010/11 season after 4 defeats in play offs. Also, success in the 2010 London Senior Cup, beating AFC Wimbledon in the final. In his playing career, Jim played for Leytonstone and Ilford, Dagenham, Barking and the Met Police.

GAVIN MACPHERSON. Assistant Manager / coach for the past 9 years. Previously played for the Met Police, Barnet, Carlisle, Wealdstone and Windsor & Eton.

PHIL CRAMP. Played for the Met. for 2 years and was player / manager of the Met Reserve team for 3 years. Joined Jim's 1st team coaching staff at the start of the 2012 / 13 season. Also played for Walton

and Hersham and Tonbridge Angels

PAUL BARROWCLIFF. Club Physiotherapist for the past 4 seasons. Previously a central midfield player, with a vast amount of experience in the Football Conference and Ryman League Premier Division with Slough Town,

PLAYERS

CRAIG BROWN.

A quick right sided midfield player, aged 29. An ex professional with Leyton Orient, played for Sutton United before joining the Met in 2003. A member of the 2010/11 Division 1 South Championship winning team and the Met team that beat AFC Wimbledon in the London Senior Cup Final in 2010.

ELLIOT TAYLOR.

A right back, aged 20, who broke into the first team squad in March 2010 and has been a regular ever since. Was an important member of the 2010/11 Division 1 South Championship winning team and a member of the Met team which beat AFC Wimbledon in the London Senior Cup Final in 2010 Previously with Raynes Park Vale.

STEVE SUTHERLAND.

A quick central defender aged 31 and club captain. Signed for the Met. in 2007. A member of the 2010/11 Division 1 South Championship winning team and captained the Met team that beat AFC Wimbledon in the London Senior Cup final in 2010. Previous clubs include Walton Casuals and Tooting & Mitcham United.

JAMIE BUTLER.

Goalkeeper, aged 20, who joined the Met. at the start of the 2011/12 season. Had an excellent first season with the club, playing in all 42 Premier Division fixtures.

Deservedly won the Player of the Year and Players' Player of the Year awards.

STEVE NOAKES.

Commanding and experienced central defender aged 30. Joined the Met at the start of the 2010/11 season and a member of the Division 1 South Championship winning team. Captained Fleet Town for several years before joined the Met. Previous clubs include AFC Newbury and Hartley Wintney.

TYRON SMITH.

A competitive and creative central midfielder, aged 26, who joined the Met, at the start of the 2010/11 season. A key member of the Division 1 South Championship winning team. Previous clubs include, Fleet Town, Basingstoke Town, Maidstone United, Farnborough and Aldershot.

STAFORDE PALMER.

Centre forward aged 24, who signed for the Met at the start of the 2011/2 season. Was the club's leading goal scorer last season. Previous clubs include Eastleigh and Hayes & Yeading United, whom he helped win promotion from the Conference South via the play offs.

SAM HURRELL.

Left sided midfield player aged 23 who can also play left back. Previous clubs include Chelsea. Welling United and Woking. Just



MU MAAN.

Central midfield player aged 24. Previous clubs include Merstham, Leatherhead and Dulwich Hamlet.

HOWARD NEWTON.

Winger aged 30 signed this season from Staines Town. Has played in 2 Middlesex County cup finals and also played for GUYANA.

MATTHEW SMART.

Centre midfielder aged 36 signed this season from Eastbourne Borough. Scored the non league goal of the season in 2011. Previous clubs include Gillingham and Crawley Town.

A left sided defender who can play anywhere down the left hand side. Aged 26, signed this season from Carshalton Athletic. Previous clubs also include Tooting and Mitcham United, Sutton United and Hampton and Richmond Borough.

SOSTHENE YAO

A striker aged 25 who signed for the Met at the start of this season having previously played for Cheltenham Town in 2005/6 when they won the play offs, Previous clubs also include Hornchurch, Brentwood, Harlow and Maldon Town.

BILLY CROOK. Midfielder aged 21 who signed

for the Met this season. Previous clubs include Carshalton Athletic, Tooting and Mitcham United, Peterborough United and Crystal Palace.

Captain Mass in on goal!

ADAM BURCHEL.

Wide striker aged 21 signed for the club this season having previously been at Margate, Gillingham and Dartford where he helped them to win the Ryman Premier play off final.

JOE DOLAN.

Centre Half aged 32 years. First season with the Met having previously played for Millwall, Leyton Orient, Crawley Town, and Havant and Waterlooville. Has also been capped for Northern Ireland at u19 and u21 level.







Stones collect first Trophy of the season

Wealdstone completed their final first team warm up match on Saturday at The Vale with a comprehensive win over Southern League Premier Hemel Hempstead Town. This victory also delivered up Stones a first Trophy as they had been competing for the Brian Collins Memorial Shield.

In another very competitive 'friendly' encounter that threw up some feisty duels throughout the afternoon, Stones will reflect on a very satisfactory pre-season programme that will hopefully

Saturday August 11th 2012 Pre-Season Friendly - Brian Collins Trophy

Wealdstone 4 Hemel Hempstead 1

Wealdstone: Banks, Webb, Chappell, Hammond, Cronin, Dyer, McCubbin, Brooks, Dean, Jolly, Pett. Subs used: Nicholas, Noone, Fitzgerald Man of the Match: Peter Dean Crowd: 154

get them out of starting blocks at full speed on August 18th when matters get serious.

But to say that Wealdstone had a slow start to this encounter was an understatement of epic

proportions as The Tudors ripped into the home side from the first whistle and exposed Stones reshuffled defence. With 4 minutes on the clock, Victor Osobu's pace exposed Scott Mc-Cubbin on the flank and he crossed for Dave Pearce

to easily shoot past an equally exposed Rikki Banks.

It could have got worse for a sluggish home side that struggled to get any kind of grip on the game as Banks came to the rescue a minute later.

the chance to have a first strike at the Hemel goal, Stones gradually began to get their passing game together that was to prove

to be far too slick for the visitors to handle.

And Stones recovery was confirmed on 13 minutes when Richard Jolly was on the end of a good attacking move and the deceptively laconic but deadly marksman lashed past Mark Osborn to level up the score, McCubbin was determined not to let



Gordon receives the Brian Collins Trophy following our 4-1 win.



Match Report Hemel Hempstead Town

Osobu get the better of him after the earlier lapse and the duelling pair resulting in the clashed Hemel man lashing out at his rival, felling the Stones man, and going into the book.

Wealdstone had now taken control in the midfield with Dyer orchestrating and Brooks pressing equally effectively, forcing Hemel into errors and loss of possession.

Wealdstone took the lead on the half hour mark with a superb diving header from Jolly seizing on a cross from the cultured foot of Nathan Webb who had a very decent match, featuring in a wide forward role.

Both sides had more chances.

Richard Langley forced Banks to palm away, and then the ever industrious Peter Dean tried a snap shot. With Tom Pett now coming into his own and finding acres of space, Stones looked to increase their lead and finally did so right on the half-time whistle with a fine move that sliced open the creaking away defence. Dyer stoked the ball past



The onslaught from Wealdstone continued unabated after the break and a great Jolly/ Dean/Dyer link up should have resulted in a goal but Osborn

With the McCubbin/Osubo tussle continuing as an entertaining side show, Stones pressed on and Pett was unlucky to see his drive whistle past the far post.

The scoring was completed when Tom Pett was upended in

> the box and the diminutive midfielder took the spot kick himself and deservedly netted for 4-1.

If Stones can keep this momentum going then another fine season is in real prospect but it will be much tougher than this in the Ryman Premier.

Words: Nick DuGard Pictures: Steve Foster

> · Alan Ainsworth's man of the match.... Peter Dean



Rikki Banks



Rikki plunges to his right to keep out a late Braintree penalty in the 1-1 friendly draw Picture: Alan Palmer

Gordon's Banks

Stones new keeper reveals why he really, REALLY dislikes Eastbourne Borough, but why he doesn't mind the long journey from Brighton to Ruislip

THE STONES' capture of goalkeeper Rikki Banks from Eastbourne Borough this summer was, for me, one of the club's stand-out signings of the last 20 years.

Persuading Richard Jolly to 'come home' in 2011 was probably Gordon Bartlett - and the fans' - most rewarding coup in the transfer market. But to sign the 6ft 3in Sussex stopper could prove to be equally important to our title ambitions.

Not that the Stones had to chase Rikki very hard - it was totally his decision to make the 90-odd mile trip from his home in Brighton to Ruislip for training and matches three times a week.

"Yeah, it's a long way but I believe I've signed for the best club in the Ryman League" said Rikki after the Braintree friendly - when he saved a last-minute penalty - a few weeks ago. "I played against the Stones when I was on loan at Lewes last season and you were absolutely the top side in the division... I actually really enjoyed the game because I had a few saves to make, the atmosphere was good and the club had a good feel to

it... that trip to the Vale was a lasting memory for me and it made up my mind to sign when the opportunity came".

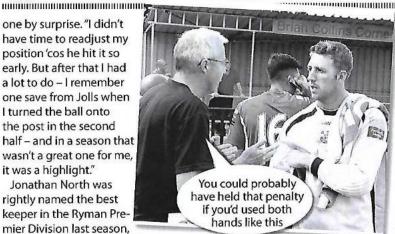
Stones fans certainly remembered Rikki from that encounter - a 1-0 win in early January, just a week before the titanic win over Barrow - when Jolls and Britt Assombalonga were strutting their stuff in a rich vein of form. Though it was Scott Fitzgerald who got the only goal against Lewes.

"Yeah, Scotty'did me'early doors with his strike" laughed Rikki, remembering the 25-yarder that caught everyone by surprise. "I didn't have time to readjust my position 'cos he hit it so early. But after that I had a lot to do - I remember one save from Jolls when I turned the ball onto the post in the second half - and in a season that wasn't a great one for me, it was a highlight."

Jonathan North was rightly named the best keeper in the Ryman Premier Division last season, but if you asked Stones fans at the end of the season to name someone of filling Northy's gloves there was only answer: Rikki Banks.

Our goalkeeping void - until Northy's broken leg is fully restored - was potentially a huge problem until Rikki turned down other offers to sign on the dotted line. "I can't deny that last season was difficult for me - I was never really accepted at Eastbourne Borough after signing for them from Lewes in 2009, and in fact it's been the worst two years of my life.

"I was at the top of my game four years ago when I was at *Lewes in the Conference National, and despite going down and having no budget, it was a great season to then avoid another relegation from the Conference South. I was player of the season at Lewes, but then accepted an offer to get back in the Blue Square Prem with Eastbourne. That was a terrible decision.



Tim passes on the benefit of his experience to Rikki after the Braintree game

"As I said, I was never accepted there - maybe because of the Eastbourne-Lewes rivalry - and the fans got on my back... I just didn't want to be there. I was really pleased to go back to Lewes on loan last Christmas, even though Eastbourne wouldn't extend the loan to the end of the season and I was off again on loan to Hendon.

"Gary McCann, the Hendon boss, was brilliant with me and I was very close to signing for them when Eastbourne released me in June... but then Gordon came calling and as a footballing decision, this is the right one."

'Really friendly'

Lasked Rikki what he knew about Wealdstone as a club before he signed. "Not a lot really!" he said. "I'm a Sussex

lad so didn't know much about the club's famous past, and I didn't know any of the players either - but as soon as I arrived everyone's been really friendly and you can see we've got some excellent players here. The back four's very good, really solid and I'm getting to know how they play,

game by game... not that I've had a lot to do in the two games so far, they give me so much protection!"

What has been your personal highlight in those games so far, l asked him. "Well, it has to be saving that last-minute penalty against Braintree. When he put the ball down. I saw by his eyes which way it was going and managed to get across to save it.

"And the Watford game was pretty quiet for me, not many saves to make. Just a matter of concentrating and being ready to keep the ball out when it came my way."

Rikki started out at Crystal Palace as an academy player and first went out on loan to Hendon six years ago, aged 18, for work experience. Then, when he was released by Palace, he was snapped up by local South Coast club Worthing in the Ryman Premier League.

"Did you play against the Stones for Worthing?" I asked

The BIG interview continued

Rikki Banks

him. "No, I was thinking about that a bit earlier today but I honestly can't remember."

Turned out that was the one season we were moved across to the Southern League. Worthing went down to the Ryman Div One South that year so our paths never crossed.

"I stayed one more season at Worthing but then Lewes came in for me - and that was quite a step up to the Conference National" he said. "I had to get used to a lot more travelling to away games - though now it's almost as far to the home ones!"

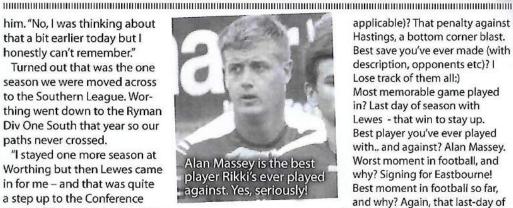
"Don't you find hours in the car a real bind?" | asked him. "No, you get used to it... I leave Brighton about 4pm and get to training about 6.30, and it's just over an hour on the M25 and M3 getting back. I'm enjoying my football again and, really, that's the main thing."

And now.. five minutes with Rikki Banks

Have you always been a keeper? Yes from the age of about seven. Single, attached, married, name of partner etc? I am attached. Job outside football, if working? Plasterer

What do you see as your major attributes as a keeper? Probably Shot stopping

Have any of your relatives played the game to a good level? No. they were all pub players! Did you know any of the Stones players before signing? No but I



knew them from playing against them in past What persuaded you to join Wealdstone? Just what I saw of them against Lewes last year. Where do you see yourself in five years? Probably being walked around in a wheelchair by Alan Massey!

THE LAST...

Goal you scored (and description)? Penalty in a shoot out for Lewes, against Hastings. Car you bought? Mercedes clk Film you saw? Boogie nights Book you read? Don't read! Trophy won? Player of season for Lewes

Time you were sent off? Against Darlington for Eastbourne Holiday you had? Cyprus with the missus

JURY'S OUT

Joe Hart or Iker Casillas? Casillas. Chinese, Indian, Sushi or KFC? Indian.

Sky Sports or Match of the Day? Sky sports.

Caribbean with the missus or Magaluf with the lads? Magaluf with lads.

TIME ADDED ON

Best goal you've ever scored? (if

applicable)? That penalty against Hastings, a bottom corner blast. Best save you've ever made (with description, opponents etc)? I Lose track of them all:) Most memorable game played in? Last day of season with Lewes - that win to stay up. Best player you've ever played with., and against? Alan Massey. Worst moment in football, and why? Signing for Eastbourne! Best moment in football so far. and why? Again, that last-day of season win for Lewes, memorable with a good night after. Favourite restaurant? Orsino in Brighton

Favourite meal? Roast pork Biggest influence on your career so far? Steve ibbotson (former Lewes boss)

Loudest coach/manager played under? Ian Dowie

Who's your travel partner? I'm a lone ranger

Which three words describe you? Really talented individual Which newspaper do you buy? Daily sport

Most visited site online? Errrrm xxxxxxxx.com has taken a battering in the past (Had to edit this one!)

Which radio station do you listen to? Magic fm

Most-played track on your i-pod? Arctic Monkeys don't sit down I moved va chair

Which five people would you HATE to have round for dinner? Andy Murray, his brother, his mother, his coach.. and Paul McCartney.

AND FINALLY...

Who's your best mate in football? Tommy Elphick, a Brighton



"WOULD SIR LIKE A SINGLE OR A DOUBLE THIS EVENING?"

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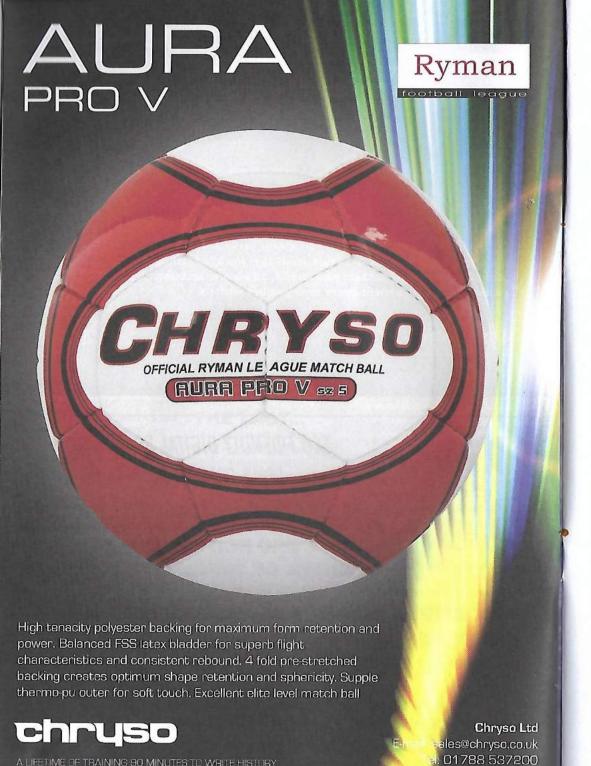


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START THE REVOLUTION

Palmer's Programmes

Alan Palmer

Alan is back for a new season with a promise to make you all collectors.

For many fans the most important item that they will purchase at any given match will be the matchday programme. Football programme collecting started just after the end of WW2 and quickly became very popular.

Programmes from the forties & fifties can be extremely valuable and it's not uncommon to see programmes from this era change hands for three figures. Current day programmes are of no comparison to what was

produced in bygone days but nethertheless they are still highly collectable. How much any given programme is worth depends on several issues such as importance of the match, how many were produced etc. Two recent FA Cup finals saw too

few programmes being ordered and this resulted in their value rocketing. If you have either Liverpool v Manchester from 1996 or Liverpool v West Ham United from 2006 my advice would be to hang on to them as

they are both worth in excess of £50.

Moving on to today's match and I have selected the two programme covers that were issued for the 2010-2011 FA Cup 3rd Qualifying Round.

The Stones cover highlights just what great away support we have and it's of little surprise that when we travel away most clubs always sell out of programmes.

Best wishes Alan.



Be not afear'd – the isle is full of... football

In the finest traditions of club matchday programmes the world over, a warm welcome to the Metropolitan Police. It might be their first visit to the Vale this season, but I've already seen them half a dozen times in recent weeks. Admittedly it was their mounted division controlling Olympic crowds at Wembley, rather than the actual football team, but they still put in a series of fine performances. Let's hope the Met's goalkeeper and back four are decidedly less effective this afternoon. Together with new ground 'ticks' at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff and Coventry's Ricoh Arena, I saw 12 games between 25 July and

7 August. If they hadn't clashed with a music festival I had tickets for, I would have seen both finals as well. At least, having seen Mexico's wins over Senegal and Japan, I can say I've watched an Olympic gold medallist in live action. Watching a Great Britain side (enough 'Team GB' already -Ed) in action was interesting, though probably not something I would choose again. I mean, it's not England, is it? What was most fascinating was the way both teams took over seamlessly from the full England side, crashing out on penalties and going out to supposedly inferior opposition. Perhaps 'the occasion got to them'.

For a sport that was allegedly the only one with any tickets left, some of the crowds were amazing. Most mind boggling of all was that 76,000 people turned out at 5pm on a Wednesday to watch Gabon play South Korea. I was one of them. It was the day after the British women beat Brazil - the first time I've seen a Brazil team lose at any level of football - and it was classic 'After the Lord Mayor's Show'. It was also, possibly, the only time in my life I've arrived late and left early in both halves of the same football match. Thankfully the entertainment was better elsewhere. A cracker between Brazil and Egypt in Wales; Senegal





showing Uruguay what real agricultural challenges are; a screamer from outside the box to put Mexico 2-1 up in the semi final. And of course, Sturridge's sublime finish to wrap up the points for Britain against the UAE.

After more than 1,000 minutes of football, I have just two gripes. One is for the people who weren't sure about whether football should be in the Olympics. Check your facts - it's been there for more than 100 years. It predates the World Cup by two decades and the European Championship by half a century. The 'Premier' and 'Champions' Leagues are mere footnotes by historical comparison. Not only that, it's been successfully reinvented to fill a genuine niche in the

world game. There isn't a more football obsessed country on the planet than Brazil, and look how hard they were trying to

win it. You wouldn't say theatres and cinemas should be closed because people have televisions, so leave Olympic football alone. And the other gripes? Mexican waves, natch. If you instigated, participated, or even just cheered it on, you know who you are. So stop it. It looks crap.

- Opposite page: 76,700 for South Korea vs. Gabon

 a truly incredible attendance
- Right: Leaving the Great Britain vs. UAE match – and a garishly pink Wembley stadium
- Right: Leaving the Great Britain vs. UAE match – and a garishly pink Wembley stadium
- Below: "Proud to accept only VISA"? Yes, except when the machines go down at half time and they're suddenly "sheepish to accept only cash"



HARROW BOROUGH

13 CRAY WANDERERS 20 Carshalton Athletic

27 CANVEY ISLAND

1 HARROW B 6 Bury Town

RPL RPL

RPL

RPL

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Fixtures & Results |

Season 2012/2013

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What better way to celebrate a special occasion or advertise your company's support of Wealdstone Football Club?

Our comprehensive match day sponsorship package involves you or your company in every aspect of the match (see panel).

If you or your organisation are interested, please contact club president Paul Rumens (rumens@ gotadsl.co.uk, tel: 07710 29592) or Peter Worby (07967 698370).

Specific requests can be negotiated, with prices starting from £175 +VAT. Associate individual packages are available from £40 per person.

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- Your name, or the name of your organisation, featuring prominently on the club website in the lead-up to the game.
- A meeting with club manager Gordon Bartlett before the game.
- Your nomination of the 'man of the match' to be announced at full time.

2011/2012 statistics

Some of the less obvious detail...

502 302

Average gate for Ryman League games at The Vale

Average gate for our away fixtures in the Ryman League

15,597

Total attendance for all Stones matches here at the Vale last season. Of which... 507 (Other)

4,540 10,550

D 2

Ryman Premier

Our record in 2011/12 against teams from...

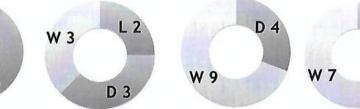
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Kent



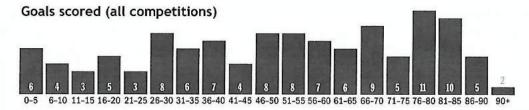


Middlesex

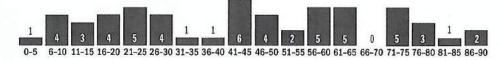


When we scored

The following charts show the number of goals we scored in each five minute increment. Note how many more we got in the second half, how many came from the boot / head of Richard Jolly, and how we were at our most vulnerable just around half time.



Goals conceded (all competitions)



Goals scored by Richard Jolly (all competitions)



2011/2012 statistics

Not all information is usefu

Last season's average scorelines against...

Teams from Kent

$$1.6 - 1.3$$

Teams from Middlesex

Teams from Suffolk

$$1.2 - 1.2$$

Teams from Surrey

$$2.1 - 0.5$$

Teams from Essex

Teams from Sussex

Last season's average results for games played on...

Saturdays

$$1.7 - 1.0$$

Midweek

Last season's average scoreline when we won...

At home

Away

Last season's average scorelines for league matches in...

August to December 2011

January to April 2012

Last season's average scorelines against teams whose home colours are principally...

Red

Blue

Black and white

$$2.8 - 0.4$$

Yellow and blue

$$1.8 - 1.8$$

Yellow and green

Green and white

Right, that's quite enough of that...

Capital League

Fixtures and Table

CAPITAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(Final Table 2011/12 Season)

	P	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	Pts
Wealdstone	18	14	1	3	64	31	+33	43
Wingate & Finchley	18	12	1	5	50	28	+22	37
Harrow Borough	18	12	1	5	43	26	+17	37
Staines Town	18	11	3	4	61	24	+37	36
Ashford Town Middx	18	7	4	7	53	44	+9	25
Bedfont Town	18	8	0	10	41	50	-9	24
Chertsey Town	18	7	1	10	36	70	-34	22
Avlesbury	18	6	2	10	47	44	+3	20
Burnham	18	3	5	10	23	39	-16	14
Kentish Town	18	1	0	17	24	86	-62	3

CAPITAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIXTURES, SEASON 2012/13

(Home fixtures in capitals, kick-off here at The Vale &:45pm)

August 2012

29 DULWICH HAMLET

September

ST ALBANS CITY

12 Staines Town

October

St Albans City

Wingate & Finchley (Lge Cup 1)

17 HAYES & YEADING UTD

Hayes & Yeading United

Hampton & Richmond Borough

November

STAINES TOWN

21 HAMPTON & RICHMOND BOROUGH

January 2013

Dulwich Hamlet

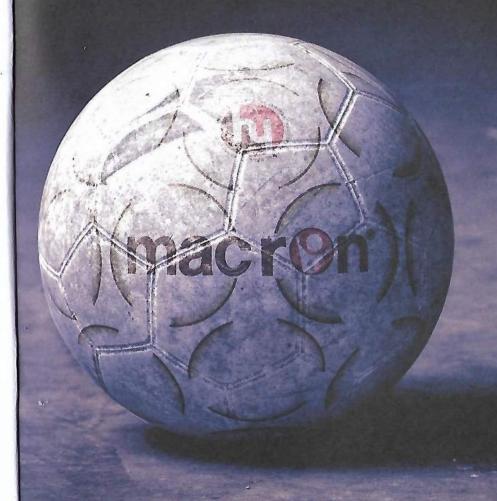
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Roger Slater

Five minutes of your time, please – with Fergus Moore

Fergus, how would you introduce yourself to other fans? How many clubs have you played for?

Well where do I start!! Even though I've had my fair share of clubs I wouldn't describe myself as "a journeyman". I have always given every club I played for no less than 100% and never went through the motions to pick up the pound notes, (unlike some players I have played with and against!) My conscience is clear on that!

From what I can remember and in chronological order; Yeading, Staines Town, Uxbridge, Wealdstone, Chertsey Town, Hemel Hempstead, Wealdstone, Hemel Hempstead, Borehamwood, Northwood, Wealdstone (- again! - love and kisses), AFC Hayes, Edgware (r.i.p.), Bedfont Green / Town, Windsor and (finally) Hanwell Town.

it would be nice to be thought of by other fans as the opponent you would most like to have in your side! I am very transparent so other fans probably see me as the stones fans see me; a 100% committed and wholehearted player.

Do you remember your first



game?

My first non league game was for Yeading away to Aveley under the leadership of Messrs Bartlett and Morris!

In fact it was a game where i learnt my first lesson in non league. It was the season after Yeading won the vase and they had a very settled side and were very close knit. I was on loan from Brentford and a very raw teenager who didn't know anyone, playing in a side with men who all knew each other. I had a solid enough game at left back in a 1-0 defeat and in the dressing room after, Gordon dissected what went on

in the game. No blame was directed to me whatsoever so i felt pleased even though we lost, then a certain Steve Croad, the captain of the side wanted to add his views which included blaming me for his man scoring the winner, because it came from a cross from my side of the pitch! I thought 'cheers you w****rl'

To be fair, it made me think you either sink or swim here and twenty-odd years down the line I'm still swimming.

The lesson learned is, even though it is only non league, you have to be mentally strong and be able to react to criticism in a positive way. Something that I believe I have done throughout my career.

It seems like you've been around since they took the laces out of the ball! At 40, is there another season in the tank?

Yes definitely!

My desire and attitude to play is still there. Perhaps this year is the swansong, but playing in the lower echelons of non league still rocks my boat and I can hold my own at that level. It may have cost me a few coaching /



Roger Slater

manager positions, but i cant control the way my mind works - and the fear of not playing scares me more than anything!

I suppose reality will have to sink in eventually, but in the meantime, I've signed for Cockfosters and will be playing alongside a few old friends as well!

Everyone who knows you will now the passion – but how would you describe Fergus Moore the Footballer in one sentence?

Charismatic, effervescent, passionate, fully committed, with a never say die attitude, determined and admirable.

What's the Day Job?

BT engineer. I'm a fibre optics technician.

Whatever happens, when you look back, you'll see a decent career in Non League as a player. Is Managing and / or Coaching something that interests you?

Most definitely! Football always has been in my blood. It's what drives me – the adrenalin – if I didn't have it I wouldn't be half the person I am. Managing would interest me more as I'd be the one in charge, making the match defining decisions, but either way I will be desperate for some role to try and ease the pain of not playing when the time comes.



I'll grant you three wishes; One – you can change something about yourself and your game;

The most obvious one would probably to have been blessed with a bit more bloody pace!! I felt I had most attributes needed to be a top player but being left footed with pace is a recipe to go a long, long way in the game.

Two – you can change one thing that happened in your career;

I'm not one of these people who reflects on what might have been! My motto is that you made your bed you can lie in it. If you make a move and it's not working out, try and make a go of it. Eventually if you have tried your best and it still doesn't work, then it's time to go.

If I could change one thing I would have loved to have stayed at Wealdstone rather than have the 3 different spells. My desire to play outweighed the club I was at - I just wanted to play so much. I would always fight for my chance but when there was no obvious light at the end of the tunnel, for my own sanity and however much it broke my heart, I had to move on.

I have an affinity with all the clubs I played for but a very, very special one with the Stones.

Their supporters more than any I played for appreciated what I was all about. I felt proud and honoured to have skippered that fantastic club and be part of making the club great again after having gone through the mire in previous years. The last parting of the ways put a strain on my relationship with Gordon Bartlett who I have known for over 20 years but thankfully me

and my "football father" have patched up our differences and are sharing football trials and tribulations again. That means a lot to me.

Three you can change one thing to improve the game as a whole....

Better referees! Preferably who've played the game.

Looking back on your career, do you think the game at Non League level has changed over the time you've played?

Yes it has. They did the Conference split thing a few years ago and promoted top half teams etc. Basically Conference South would have been the Ryman Premier when I started, the result is that I don't think the standard is as good technically, and the game is much more frenetic as a result of the dilution.

Also, players attitude's have changed. In 'the good old days' the lads would hang around in the clubhouse and go home after a few jars or move on to nightclubs etc. I know circumstances such as driving and mobiles don't give you as much freedom as we used to have but ! I don't think that can excuse players hanging around on edge: till 6 o' clock, getting paid and then buggering off. I don't think that builds team spirit - which I feel is a vital ingredient of a successful side.

You've also played with hun-



5 Minutes of your time - Fergus Moore

dreds of players – who would be right up there with the best, and who is the youngster you've played with recently that you'd tip as one to watch?

As you said there are many players I have played with and that makes it hard to single out any outstanding individuals in what is a team game. Great players don't always blend into great teams.

I suppose the stand out player in relation to what he achieved in the pro game would be Simon Garner who made his name with Blackburn Rovers. He came to us (at Wealdstone) in the twilight of his career but he was immense. He had a turn of pace over couple of yards that belied his age and build. He just had a magic presence about him, a very, very intelligent player and a fantastic bloke as well. I'd have loved to see him play

in his prime. Ha, he had great false teeth as well - I can vouch for that as they ended up on my bedside cabinet after a night out in Northampton!

For the youngster, a young pro at Barnet - George McCluskey. I played with him when he was a 16 year old at Bedfont. If he doesn't make it at Barnet, then I'm sure he will have a very good career in non league. He has an absolute wand of a left foot!

Finally, do you pay much attention to the Professional game? Would you change anything about it?

I haven't had much time for the pro game due to my commitments In non league, but I did have the chance to go to a Watford game against Bristol City last season compliments of GB! I thoroughly enjoyed it as I took my two boys and it was an eye opener as I hadn't been to a pro match for about fifteen years. The atmosphere was good and the two boys got a real buzz from it so I'll definitely make the effort to go to more games. (When I'm not playing, of course!)

Five Minutes of Your Time is one of a number of articles produced for the blog at **www.2ndyellow.com** where there is a regular column on Wealdstone.

captain's blog

By Wes Parker

HELLO and welcome along to the first captain's blog of the 2012-13 season for the opening match against Met Police this afternoon.

It doesn't seem long at all since last season ended disappointingly at Lowestoft in the play-off semi final defeat.

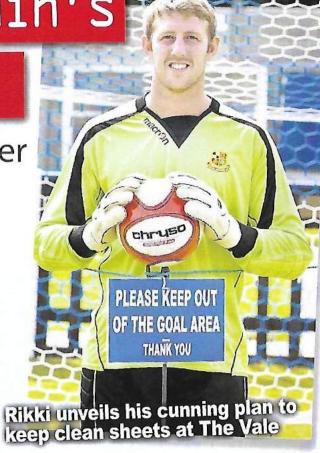
Last season was definitely a successful one, in my eyes, as this group of players is moulded into what we believe can be a championship winning side.

If we show the fight and determination that got us into the playoffs and FA Trophy semi final then I am confident that with a bit of luck (and keeping key players injury free) we can emulate, and even better last season.

The gaffer has managed to keep the squad of players together and add a handful who will definitely have an impact.

And while on the topic I would like to welcome Rob, Nathan, Michael, George, Reis, Tommy, Rikki and Mark to the club and wish them all the best.

In the past two seasons we



have been guilty of giving ourselves too much to do after very poor starts and we need to ensure that it doesn't hap-

pen this season.

I personally feel much more confident going into the new campaign than in previous years... we have looked strong and organised throughout pre season and recently the flair and guile that we evidently possess in the squad is starting to come through at the right

We are all determined to get out the blocks very quickly this season and that starts TODAY.

Met Police, though, are a good strong outfit and will no doubt be looking to finish in the playoffs this season. They have some good attacking players at their disposal so we will need to be at our best defensively to stem everything they throw at us.

We will miss Sean and Chris today through suspension - they both add a physical

Captain's Blog continued

presence to the team - and also Tommy misses out today through misdemeanours last season.

After today's match we follow it up with two more home fixtures which have to be taken advantage off. As I mentioned above we have been slow to start in recent seasons - however we have been given the best possible chance to put that right this time around.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a big well done to all the guys who have been working on the ground improvements over the summer.

I am sure Gary is over the moon with the tea bar being situated within yards of the bench (!).. and it may also please a few on the bench that the burgers are so close by as well (no names of course).

Last season's success came from the unity throughout the club from the management right through to the fans and that what we need from the off.

Last season a lot was made of the negatives that were directed towards us players on the forum - and rightly so - but after visiting it recently there seems to be a bit of negative questioning before a ball is even kicked.

Just thought I would get that out of my system now!

You guys are definitely our twelfth man so lets get the

singing going from the off, get believing and together let's have a good crack at getting into the Blue Square south.

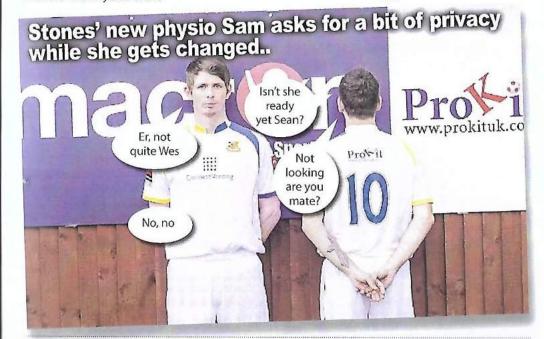
A quick commercial plug as well while I'm babbling on! If you haven't already, go and take a quick look at

www.soccerexchange.co.uk

I am in the process of setting up a football equipment retailer which is geared towards helping football clubs in Nigeria.

If you have any spare unused football boots that you which to donate to a much less fortunate part of the world than bring them down and give them to myself and we'll get them shipped over to Africa.

Enjoy the match and COYS!





Goalscorers (Season 2012/2013)

and the second second	RL	RLC	FAC	FAT	MSC	MCC	GRS	FR	Total WFC	Career
Mark Knight	-	-	-		-	-	6	6	6	
Richard Jolly		-		-		- 7	4	4	173(11)	
Rob Carrick	-	2	2	2	-	-	3	3	3	
Alex Dyer	70			-	-	-	3	3	19	
Peter Dean	#6	+	-		115		2	2	50(6)	
Scott Fitzgerald	4		-	-	-	-	2	2	30(6)	
Sean Cronin			_	_		- 2	1	1	4	
Mark Goodman	-	-		-	-	-	1	1	1	
Lukas Papp	-					-	1	1	1	
Wes Parker	1 2 4	42	-	-	-	-	1	1	12	
Tom Pett	-	-	-	-	-	-	1(1)	1(1) 2(1)	
Wil Stewart	-	-	-	-	*	-	1	1	1	
TOTALS	<u> </u>	2	1 41		(d) (a)		26	26		

Penalties are shown in brackets.

* = Player no longer with the club.





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The Fabulous Wealdstone alphabet
By Jon Taffel

Back after eight years: The article they said would spell disaster!

IT'S A FOR..

Alphabet

HANG on, is this some kind of repeat? I have to say I was quite shocked when I was asked to make a comeback with this feature after an eight-year gap. Was it really that long ago that I managed to find the time to pen such garbage? What would I write, what can I do that is new, I thought to myself?

I was further shocked by the reply from the former programme editor who approached me. "Just repeat some of the stuff from last time, no-one will remember - that's what I do with the Rewind feature, "

So, here goes again, and while it certainly isn't the intention simply to regurgigate former efforts, if the subject matter remains to dear to my heart and of interest (or the inspiration simply dries up) then why not?

Away shirt

For some reason I've never bought a Wealdstone away shirt, always preferring to buy a blue one and wear it with pride wherever I go. Everyone has their favourite colour, and I suppose because I'm nostalgic I am always a bit partial to a bit of yellow as that was what we played in when I first started watching the Stones. Over the years we've seen a few shockers and I've yet to find anyone who has enjoyed seeing us play in red, simply not Wealdstone, yet that is of course what we wore in our 1985 glory season.

More recently we've seen some green (horrible), and Argentina style blue and white – acceptable but still not Wealdstone in my book. And so to this season, and we find ourselves with a brand spanking new white shirt, adorned with bits of blue and yellow to keep some tradition intact.

Very smart it looks too, and already we're seeing quite a few fans adorning these. I was so impressed with what I saw that I made a purchase myself... but there was one key factor I failed to consider.

White is never the most flattering colour for those of a larger build, and particularly so in the case of kits produced by Macron. My XL, well it's very figure hugging to say the least,



and looking around at others on show, I think a few people may take a hindsight view that they may have been a little optimistic when choosing their shirt size.

As my girlfriend would say to me though, look at this as an incentive to lose a bit of weight......

Away match

And there lies the problem with the girlfriend's theory. In principle, a diet is a good idea though maybe not for Vale bar takings. But then one always looks at the diary to say 'well I could go on a diet, but I'll make an exception for this and that' and usually that involves an Away match, an un-missable opportunity toembark upon a day of unhealthy and excessive eating and drinking.

And so here we go, it's **August**, and the fixture secretary did us a rare turn and came up with the best away trip that we could have possibly hoped for on a Bank

Holiday bar none – yes a trip to sleepy Lewes. Last year there was a great day out for nearly everyone, even if we didn't quite get the result we were after. We were blessed with wonderful weather, an early train arrival, and possibly a little too much **Alcohol**, although some may describe that as an oxymoron.

And our wonderful hosts, clearly not content with our pre-arrival consumption happily served us more to sup on the sunbaked terraces.

A poor refereeing decision cost us a first half penalty that day, and sadly we were unable to

convert a similar opportunity that came our way. Emotions ran high and there were a few minor incidents that were exacerbated by Amateur stewarding of the highest order. As a result of this so it seems, the powers that be in East Sussex have deemed this fixture to be a Category A match, and are unable to cope with a 3pm kick off due to a children's concert in Hove taking place on the

I find this decision one of the most staggering in all

same afternoon.

my years watching Wealdstone. Whilst the earlier kick off time is a bit of a nuisance to say the least – so much for a Bank Holiday lie-in – at least it means that we can enjoy a very leisurely afternoon pub crawl before returning home.

Aveley Football Club. Why? I can't answer that question, but a couple of seasons ago a visit to that Essex wasteland did give us a rather amusing story.

Our very own Gordon 'Guvnor'
Mckay (a distinguished member of our Metropolitan police
service) drove there, but alas
his detective skills that day
left a lot to be desired.
Despite several

phonecalls to other fans already at the ground, and despite the fact that he was actually in Aveley, he couldn't find the ground. The game had started, he gave up, turned

simply went

home.

Alan Ainsworth - Alan is not someone known to me, but he has emerged in recent times on our fans' forum as something of an expert on every subject

bar none. Other than that, I can't think of any more words to describe him, certainly no more than 50.

Assombalonga: I wonder whatever happened to him? Britt Assombalonga (left) has one of the Assombalongest names in our club's history, and his exploits for us last season will Assombalinger in the memory for many years to come, as will his signature tune'l love you baby' (we never did fine-tune the ending to that song).

Joining us on loan from Watford, Britt made his 1st appearance for us in the FA Trophy at Banbury, and after a run of blistering performances for us, we were all gutted when the loan spell finished and Watford sent him off to the wilds of Essex instead.

Whether that cost the Stones in the season's final analysis we'll never know. I suspect not because the rest of the team simply excelled after his departure, but he'll never be forgotten.

Amato – who, I hear you ask? Well to find out, you'll just have to wait until the thrilling letter B in the next instalment of my alphabet. If you're a Met Police fan, you may never know the answer!

Finally, I have managed to work my way through 'A' with no repeats. To amuse yourself or otherwise, can you recollect or even guess what made the 'A' list last time? Answers next time! The Fabulous Wealdstone alphabet contd.. as a special treat we reproduce the first page from Jon's 2003-4 offering. Worth a second look!

stones

PAGE 30

es, another fab new feature for Stones Magazine is launched today... Tom Piffle's Alphabet, in which the noted literary editor of Jack's Wealdstone website leads us through the maze of the English language. This feature replaces the much-anticipated Stones Readers' Wives column, which was removed at the last minute after a raid by the Vice Squad. So, naturally enough, Tom kicks off with the letter A...

ABC... after all, where should any alphabet start? Of course, without the ABC CINEMA, there would have been no cinema end, the end where as a lad I recall we always seemed to attack in the second half and run out 4-1

winners. The records tell me that we did in fact win by that scoreline 5 times during seasons 73-4 and 74-5, maybe the Couches can elaborate on how many of these were after attacking the cinema end in the second half.

ALDERSHOT 1974....my first experience of Wealdstone in the big time! Having started watching the Stones in 1969, our trip to Aldershot in the FA Cup 1st Round should have been memorable for different reasons. Naivety ruled in those days, so a 13-year-old sporting four Stones scarves - including 3 of the blue turned purple silk variety - was a fairly obvious target for Aldershot's unofficial souvening hunters. I was not alone, and truth be known I was pretty scared most of the afternoon, retiring to the coach well before the end of the game. The coach - which cost £1 return or 80p for us juniors - was fairly well populated by 4.30 that day (in



Piffle's pals: Tom (far right, front row) at the inaugural meeting of the Fat Stones club at Edgbaston last month. Among the famous Wealdstone faces are Big Dave, Potsy Chamberlain, Tony Plat, Dom Whyley, Paul Rumens, Roge Slater, Tony Maidment and Hughie Marshall. Kat Kelly and Don Cross were, apparently, on a tollet break (together, but that doesn't mean anything)

tom piffle's

those days, games finished at

now seems so illogical to have

protect us from the local youth,

but as it happened, we didn't get

bricked that day. Worse perhaps

involved in organising our coach-

generation from drinking so much

alcohol. Unfortunately, a rather

young Peter Worby (now chief

(well, Aldershot is such a long

distance from Harrow). His

turnstile operator) could not con-

tain himself on the journey home

attempt at relieving himself into a

bottle or can was mostly unsuc-

gers (I was in front) were treated

and down as the coach stopped

In those days, supporter Tony

coaches too, and used to collect

Platt helped clean out Venture

loose coins that may have

and started.

to rivers of urine flowing freely up

cessful, and so fellow passen-

was that somehow all the

responsible adults of the day

es failed to stop the younger

thought that a coach driver could

4.40). We were that naïve, it

floor, poor boy.
We lost 4-3 by
the way.
AYLESBURY'S
DRUMS.....if
ever there was a
case for the
return of Corporal

dropped to the

Punishment, then the perpetrators of the worst, most repetitive, monotonous, tedious and pointless noise in non-league football provide the best one I've come

across in years.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE .. We were there when it started in 1979, later to become the Gola League and now the Conference. Our promotion into the Southern League Premier Division in 1974 played a crucial part in developing my geographical knowledge, suddenly north of Watford (or at least Bletchley) really did exist as we ventured into the Midlands, even as far as Telford. But the APL was a superb step, as coach journeys suddenly became train trips, to Barrow, to Scarborough, Northwich, and later Bangor and Gateshead amongst others. Supporter Kevin Bright was responsible for many a hangover, as he arranged for many of us to fill

Continued page 33

38

crowd...although Lee O'Leary's

the winner) in front of an 874

first goal (and Daniel Webb

a certain RJolly grabbing the

Avenue. We were beaten 2-1,

champions AFC Wimbledon

ing Tuesday night as eventual

tougher opposition the follow-

Well, we couldn't have had

What happened next?

Subs (all used): Moore, Mont-

Hughes, Dean, Muldowney.

Massey, Gross, Graham Hall,

,llaqqedD,zemodT-lae7,risw2

fluence in the next few years.

why he would be such an in-

Ashe came on and showed

Especially when sub Ryan

a hugely encouraging start,

Wealdstone: Mitch

Lee O'Leary, Chris O'Leary,

gomery, Ashe

came visiting Chestnut

Five years ago: August 18th 2007

day we went to Folkestone Didn't we have a lovely time the

Stones were embarking on our FIVE YEARS AGO today the Wealdstone 4 Folkestone Invicta 1 League Premier Division: August 18 2007, Ryman

Folkestone. obening-day spanking of curve, beginning with this we finally began an upward sharing at Northwood,, and last Ryman season ground-

happy hunting ground for the know) had never been a won si ti se muibet2 senils Cheriton Road (or the Buz-

We'd lost our last three many years. part for the first time in many, tlett's team actually looked the showing when Gordon Barof Wealdstone Recovery were plues, but the green shoots

front with Deano, and our making a forceful debut up dual-signed from Maidenhead, pass. We had Stephen Hughes, 15 minutes from Peter Dean's the Stones ahead in the first O'Leary had cleverly lobbed to visit deepest Kent once Lee they'd made the right decision the 200 travelling fans knew 4-2 but, in blazing sunshine, games there 3-0, 5-3 and

ui əling bad ylnəbbus qu-ənil

also looks awfully familiar... The guy slide-tackling is Chris O'Leary.. and the fella riding the tackle Three days after the Folkestone game we took on AFC Wimbledon.

And it just kept getting a bad full-back combination! the back stick by Chappell. Not was irresistibly headed in at fence bare, and his deep cross 50 yards to strip the home de-

the previous season – this was probably our best two players Dean Papali and Carl Martin we were missing the injured under the cosh from a series of his left peg this time. Although 10 minutes remaining - with the air from set-pieces. He and and then also hit a fourth with Fergus Moore's knock-down, deserved goal, volleying in better as Deano got a richly-



while we made it to the First

in the final Qualifying Round,

at powerful BSS side Hampton

the way to a late, late defeat

South Bishops Stortford were

Carshalton and Blue Square

and Trophy to make up for it.

excellent runs in the FA Cup

Met Police-style, there) we

(no accommodating stance,

Hastings at Harrow Borough

to play our home game with

the Ryman League forcing us

blips a-plenty. Not helped by

auguring well, there were

Then despite everything

end stand. Can't imagine it

the roof off the cricket club

freekick leveller almost took

gets quite as noisy there these

won a few, lost a few but had

dumped out of the Cup on

smaillaW mabA Archive pictures: excited! ards are getting even the stew-Wimbledon and Scores against AFC picture) levels the O'Leary (out of was rocking... Lee Chestnut Avenue few occasions that One of the very

UOM3

Cracknell.. where are they

Delliser, Jon Micholls, Dean

an excellent last-day win at

Spring time home wins, and

February and March and

a great second half of the

been the springboard to

of Welling United.

at Earlsmead should have

massacre of Harrow Borough

A fantastic 5-1 Boxing Day

back of a further giant-killing

night defeat to Blue Square

(and an unlucky 0-1 Friday

Round Proper of the Trophy

Prem outfit Weymouth) on the

finally survived after a spate of

fashion we stumbled through

season, but in time-honoured

Keita Karamoko, Andre

Hendon thanks to Nic

Salapatas' strike.

on the hour mark... Jomo ran

when we finally went 2-0 up

Alan Massey put Folkestone

debut, we were dangerous in

Marcus Gross also making his

their forward runs from out

Thomas creating havoc with

Lee Chappell and Jomo Faal-

O'Leary, and Luke Muldowney

working their socks off, and

: midfield with Lee and Chris

And with our big centre-half

corners and it was no surprise

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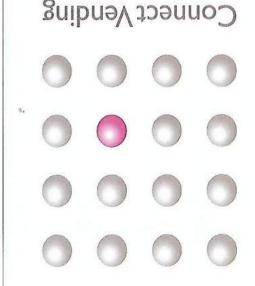
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- the entire season. To Your name in the programme ball donor gild for A few words about you on the ball donor page.
- Two complimentary match day tickets.
- Full hospitality prior, during (half time) and after Two complimentary match day programmes.
- the match.

eague games, for which the price is £35.

Involved is £85 for all fixtures except Capital

or Paul Rumens (07710 929692). The cost

please ask for Pete Worby (07967 698370)

To be a ball donor at any of the above games

Become a ball donor

Pick a player, boost the budget!

If you are interested in sponsoring one of the players or staff, please speak to Pete Worby - 07967 698370 or Paul Rumens - 07710 929692. The contribution you can make to the club in this way is very valuable

This season the cost of kit sponsorship remains again frozen at £100.

If you want your photograph taken with the player whose kit you've sponsored, that can also be arranged.

A big thank you to all those listed below who have already come forward; your contribution is greatly appreciated. Your name will also be listed on the club website.

Gordon Bartlett



Ron Moore

Leo Morris



Michael Vincent **James Smith**

Mark Gill



Glen Rogers & Simon Ricketts

Gary Strudwick



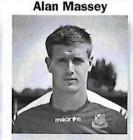
Your name here for a full season = £100

Micky Johnson

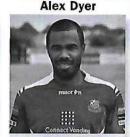


Your name here for a full season = £100

Your name here for a full season = £100



Tony Dawson



Gordon McKay

Tom Pett



Steve Whittle

Richard Jolly

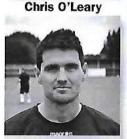


Toby Jackson (Lapelsbadges.com)

Scott Fitzgerald



Tony Peter & Steve Drew



Martin Allen & Syl Knight

Jonathan North



Brian Ball Roy & Alan Couch **Tommy Brewer**

James Klarfield

Tashan Jordan

Your name here for

a full season = £100

Sam Vincent

XXXL



Lee Chappell

Stuart Pearce Rikki Banks



Sean Cronin





(Accountants) Scott McCubbin

Wes Parker

Kurtney Brooks



Victor Klarfield



Tautis Poniskaitis



Paul Harvey



Sally & Tom Axtell-Morris

Peter Dean



Steve Whittle



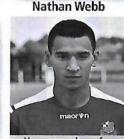
Your name here for a full season = £100

Robert Carrick



Your name here for a full season = £100

Your name here for a full season = £100



Your name here for a full season = £100



Your name here for a full season = £100

League Table

As at 23rd April 2012

RYMAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

(Final Table 2011/12 Season) Wealdstone

		Hom	e		Goa	s	Away	зу		Goal	s			Result	S
	P	W	D	L	F	Α	W	D	L	F	Α	PTS	GD	H	Α
Billericay Town (P)	42	13	6	2	44	21	11	7	3	38	17	85	+44	D1-1	D0-0
AFC Hornchurch (P)	42	11	4	6	29	13	15	0	6	39	22	82	+33	W2-1	D1-1
Lowestoft Town	42	14	5	2	41	23	11	2	8	39	30	82	+27	D0-0	L1-2
WEALDSTONE	42	12	6	3	40	21	8	9	4	36	18	75	+37		
Bury Town	42	12	6	3	42	21	10	3	8	43	34	75	+30	W3-1	D1-1
Lewes	42	12	6	3	34	23	9	4	8	21	24	73	+8	W1-0	L0-1
Hendon	42	9	7	5	32	26	12	2	7	37	18	72	+25	L0-2	D1-1
Canvey Island	42	10	1	10	34	29	12	4	5	32	26	71	+11	L1-2	L1-3
Cray Wanderers	42	9	4	8	33	31	11	4	6	41	24	68	+19	D1-1	L1-2
East Thurrock United	42	10	3	8	33	26	8	5	8	37	39	62	+5	D2-2	D3-3
Kingstonian	42	9	3	9	29	34	9	4	8	29	30	61	-6	W4-1	W3-0
Metropolitan Police	42	11	2	8	33	18	7	4	10	30	28	60	+17	W1-0	W2-1
Wingate & Finchley	42	9	4	8	35	44	7	7	7	28	35	59	-16	L2-4	W5-0
Concord Rangers	42	7	6	8	39	34	9	3	9	33	32	57	+6	W3-1	W2-1
Margate	42	9	3	9	37	29	6	6	9	29	36	54	+1	D1-1	W2-0
Carshalton Athletic	42	7	3	11	22	26	7	7	7	26	29	52	-7	D1-1	D0-0
Harrow Borough	42	7	5	9	28	35	6	3	12	25	35	47	-17	W4-0	D0-0
Hastings United	42	6	5	10	21	24	7	3	11	22	37	47	-18	W2-1	W2-0
Leatherhead (R)	42	6	3	12	21	33	5	5	11	25	29	41	-16	W1-0	D1-1
Aveley (R)	42	2	6	13	20	49	3	6	12	21	39	27	-47	W5-	W3-0
Tooting & Mitcham (R)	42	3	4	14	23	58	4	2	15	24	58	27	-69	W2-0	W6-0
Horsham (R) *	42	1	2	18	18	57	2	4	15	20	48	14	-67	W3-0	D1-1

^{*}Deducted one point for playing an ineligible player

Here next at The Vale:

East Thurrock United

RYMAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

This Tuesday, 21st August, 7:45pm Half price admission for holders of league club season tickets

eston

RYMAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

Saturday 25th August, 3:00pm Half price admission for holders of league club season tickets

Whitehawk

RYMAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

Saturday 1st September, 3:00pm

Half price admission for holders of league club season tickets

Stones on the road

Lewes

RYMAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

Monday 21st August, 12:30pm!

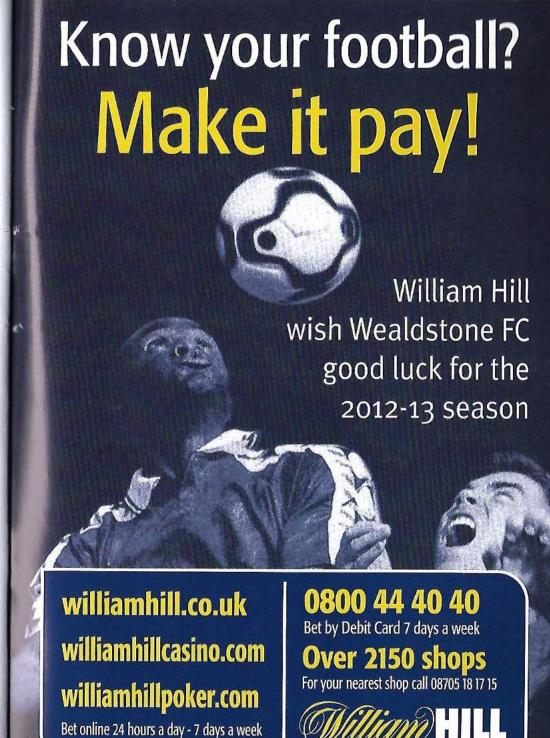
Concord Rangers

RYMAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION Saturday 15th September, 3:00pm

Bognor Regis Town

RYMAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

Saturday 6th October, 3:00pm





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