

SPORT

Raring to go!

Locals are all set for the big kick off

THE soccer season swings into serious action on Saturday with the aspirations and expectations of the local ICIS League clubs many and varied for the new campaign.



Bob Dowie - aiming Harrow Borough for top six place

Bob Dowie took over the helm at Earlsmead midway through last season and steered Harrow Borough into serious action on Saturday with the aspirations and expectations of the local ICIS League clubs many and varied for the new campaign.

With a new assistant, Dave Anderson, in place, and several astute new signings having been made, he is quietly confident that there will be a somewhat different scenario this time round.

A good pre-season, culminating in success in the Harrow Senior Cup, has put Dowie in confident mood

By **John Comfort**

and he will be disappointed if Borough finish out of the top ten, with his ultimate aim being a top six placing.

They start with a tough away game at Aylesbury and will be at less than full strength. Brian Jones is suspended for two games, while Mark Xavier, Sean James, David Clarke, Christian Metcalfe and Gary Issott are all carrying injuries.

The signing of Wembley's midfielder Jon-Barrie Bates could be a boost. Borough have put in a bid for him and are waiting for the Lions to respond.

Over at Wembley, where Glen Charles led the Lions back into the First Division and then relinquished the managerial hot seat to his assistant, John Walsh, the close season has had its problems.

There have been numerous comings and goings and the build up has been hampered by not being able to use the Vale Farm pitch.

Mid table respectability would seem to be Wembley's aim for the new season. "We've had a few problems, but we've come through them," said Walsh. "With the wage structure set by Brian Gumm (the Wembley chairman) this season will be one of consolidation and we'll be looking to go for it next season."

The Lions start at

Wokingham and will be without skipper Ian Bates and striker Bradley Anderson who are both suspended.



New Wembley boss John Walsh - a season of consolidation.

In Division Two Edgware Town narrowly missed out on promotion last season and will be fancied to make it this time, though manager, Jock McGleish, suggests it's no foregone conclusion.

"We did well last season but that doesn't necessarily mean we'll do it again," he said. "We've got to go out and get the results again with a little bit on top."

"It's a hard division but I'll be disappointed if we're not up there. I know how I feel inside. The mood is good and the ability is there. Whether it comes out every Saturday, only time will tell."

The Wares begin with a



The season proper has yet to start but Harrow Borough already have a trophy in the bag. Skipper Kenny Webster pictured with the Harrow Senior Cup they won last Thursday, after beating Northwood in the Final. Match report on page 115.

tough home game against Horsham, another of last season's promotion near misses. They will be at full strength, but McGleish misses the action - he's off on holiday.

After the euphoria of last season's Division Three Championship triumph, the expectations in some quarters at Wealdstone will be for a repeat performance in Division Two.

Manager, Gordon Bartlett, however, only commits himself to a more cautious "I think we'll avoid relegation!"

But a good pre-season suggests things are likely to be on a decidedly higher plane.

"Pre-season has been about getting our shape and basically I've been very pleased with the way things have gone," added the Stones boss.

"Obviously we want to try and repeat last season and I don't think we'll be a million miles away. We've brought in new players and are one or two away from being a promotion side. If we are in the top six by Christmas we'll have a good chance."

Stones start away to Wivenhoe and it's make your mind up time for Bartlett who now has to prune his considerable squad.

He has Stuart Miller, Lee Walker and Steve Kelly sidelined with injuries, while

The ins and the outs



Harrow Borough
IN
Jimmy Williams - winger, Staines Town
Pat Gavin, striker, Farnborough
Eddie Mee, striker, Hayes
Gavin McGuire, centre back, ex OPR
Darren Coleman, centre back, St Albans
OUT
Dave Cooper, Bedford Town

Wembley



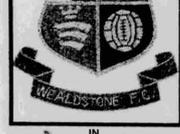
Wembley
IN
Lloyd Powell - centre back, Windsor
Bradley Anderson - striker, Leighton
Tom Williams - striker, Clapton
Craig Elliott - full back, Kingsbury
Rodney Roman - centre back, Northwood
Chris Toussaint - midfielder, ex-Charlton
Youth
John Miller - keeper, Southall
OUT
Kevin Beckles - Hayes
Keith Boreham - Wealdstone
Huracia Willock - Romford

Edgware Town



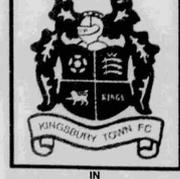
Edgware Town
IN
Peter Sutton - striker, Alfreton Town
Chris Glynn - midfielder, junior soccer
Lee Smart - full back, Wealdstone
Lee Brown - keeper, Wealdstone
OUT
Carl Lindo - retired

Wealdstone



Wealdstone
IN
Alan Galloway - defender, Epsom
Paul Lamb - utility player, Buckingham
Stan Bowler - wing back, Yeading
Rodney Richards - midfielder, Molesey
Keith Boreham - striker, Wembley
Mario Celaise - striker, junior soccer
Steve Atkins - centre back, Yeading
Andy Edmunds - full back, Harlow
Dennis Greene - striker, Harlow
OUT
Bryan Hammett - Hayes

Kingsbury Town



Kingsbury Town
IN
Darren Barry - striker, Dagenham
John Kumah - striker, junior soccer
OUT
Paul Gower - Hampton

Shaw set to make debut for Wasps

WASPS' big summer signing, British Lion Simon Shaw, is set to make his debut on Saturday in a pre-season friendly against Saracens at Vicarage Road, the home of Watford FC.

Damion Cronin skips the side in the absence of the resting Lawrence Dallaglio.

The game kicks off at 3pm and the admission charge of £1 will be donated to a local hospital.

Wasps have one other pre-season friendly arranged, against Coventry at Sudbury on August 23.

Thacker stars in Borough Plate win

BESSBOROUGH won the Mayor of Harrow's 20 over Plate on Tuesday night, although the final against Hatch End was not as one sided as final scores might suggest.

Bessbrough batted first and amassed 169-5, with a terrific batting display from Rupert Thacker (58), running like a whippet between the wickets, setting the tone for the innings and Toby Coleman (34 not out) playing an excellent cameo knock.

Hatch End's response to the stiff task was spirited with P.Coutts enlivening the proceedings with some clean hitting before he perished on reaching his 50. With his departure though Hatch End's hopes faded. Ben Murray (2-18) and Graeme West (4-21) wrecked their middle order and they closed on 112-7.

Thacker, having refound his form after being dogged by injury, was nominated as the man of the match.

Harrow on the brink of promotion

AFTER their excellent win at Kingston in July, Harrow Athletic Club only need to stay within two league points of rivals Telford in the final round at Jarrow on Saturday to ensure promotion back to Division Two of the British League at the first attempt.

Team manager, Tim Hughes, will be aware that it is a tall order for their Shropshire rivals, but will guard against any complacency.

Harrow will be without Dean Macey and Malcolm Croad, but vaulter Ian Houldsworth returns.

Clinic for keepers

A TWO hour goalkeeping clinic for Sunday team soccer managers is being staged at Broadfields Sports Club on Monday August 18, from 6pm. Anyone interested in attending should contact John Moreton on 723 5415.

WEALDSTONE FC BLUE RIBBON LOTTERY Week 10

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Edgware Town's Jock McGleish - "We have to do it all again."

Selection problems for Lane

RAYNERS Lane begin their defence of the Middlesex County League title on Saturday with a home game against Stonebridge Town.

Manager Fergus Meaney has early season team selection problems. Danny Mills, Steve Bird, Tom Metcalfe and Greg Rice are all unavailable.

Soccer fixtures

Saturday August 16
ICIS League Premier Div: Aylesbury Utd v Harrow Borough.
ICIS League Div One: Wokingham Town v Wembley.
ICIS League Div Two: Edgware Town v Horsham (White Lion ground, 3pm); Wivenhoe Town v Wealdstone.
ICIS League Div Three: Flackwell Heath v Kingsbury Town.
Middlesex County League: Rayners Lane v Stonebridge Town.

(Lucas Ave, 3pm).
Tuesday August 19
ICIS League Div One: Wembley v Whiteleyale (Vale Farm, 7.30pm).
ICIS League Div Two: Wealdstone v Leighton Town (White Lion ground, 7.45pm).
ICIS League Div Three: Hertford v Kingsbury Town.
Wednesday August 20
ICIS League Div Two: Windsor & Eton v Edgware Town.

Join Malcolm and Frank at Boro' sportsmans dinner

MALCOLM Allison and Frank Worthington are the guest speakers on Thursday August 21 when Harrow Borough FC stage a Sportsmans Dinner in aid of the club's Floodlight Fund.

Comper for the evening is comedian Mike Pugh.

Tickets for the evening are £30 each, which includes a four course dinner and 20 tickets for the evening's raffle, which has major prizes of a colour tv, mini high fi and gas barbecue.

The other highlight of the evening is an auction of football memorabilia, including a full autographed Arsenal kit, footballs from Arsenal, Manchester United, Spurs and Millwall, and many other items from Premiership and League clubs.

Tickets for the evening can be booked by ringing 422 5221.

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SUNDAY 17th AUGUST

Broadfield Youth Teams
U12 + U14 + U15

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Report to Criss Webster: 1.30pm

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