

# SQUADS FOR THE TROPHY CLASH

## WEALDSTONE ROYAL BLUE/WHITE/WHITE

Dante-Astor BAPTISTE 1  
Endurance JOHNSON 13  
Jack COOK © 2  
Anthony GEORGIU 3  
Omar MUSSA 4  
Deon WOODMAN 5  
Mason BARRETT 6  
Enzio BOLDEWIJN 7  
Dylan KADJI 8  
Olufela OLOMOLA 9  
Max KRETZSCHMAR 10  
Sak HASSAN 11  
Micah OBIERO 14  
Moussa DIARRA 16  
Dom HUTCHINSON 17  
Kieran PETRIE 18  
Daniel NKURUMAH 19  
Nathan TSHIKUNA 20  
Jeffrey SEKYERE 21  
Connor McAVOY 22  
Terrell AGYEMANG 23  
Marcus DAY 26  
Sean ADARKWA 27  
Junior TIENSIA 29  
Joshua CLAY 30  
Steven TURNER 32



## DAGENHAM & RED RED/NAVY/NAVY

13 Sam HOWES  
31 Kyle MCKENZIE-LYLE  
1 Ben NIGHTINGALE  
2 Dermi LUSALA  
3 Christian MAGHOMA  
4 George MARSH  
5 Sam GRAHAM  
6 Corey PANTER  
7 Rashawn SCOTT  
8 Christian N'GUESSAN  
9 Andy CARROLL  
10 Donovan WILSON  
11 Joe HAIGH  
12 Andre BURLEY  
14 Dillon De SILVA  
17 Trent RENDALL  
18 Dylan STEPHENSON  
20 Kayden HARRACK  
21 Harvey BROAD  
23 Connor LAWLESS  
25 Reggie YOUNG  
28 Rafiq KHALEEL  
29 Stan LEECH  
30 Paul KALAMBAYI  
33 Ashley HEMMINGS  
38 Timothee DIENG

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officials  
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### REFEREE

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### ASSISTANTS

Damith Bandara &  
David Nicholson

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Tolu Sangowawa

### COACH

Alan Wiley

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next  
home  
matches

### v Woking

(Enterprise National League)  
Saturday January 17, kick-off 3pm

### v Tamworth

(Enterprise National League)  
Weds January 21, kick-off 7.45pm

### v Morecambe

(Enterprise National League)  
Saturday January 31, kick-off 3pm

(or possible home Trophy 5th rd tie)

RESULT: WEALDSTONE  DAG & RED

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# the mighty, mighty stones



Wealdstone v Dagenham & Red  
Sat 10 Jan 2026, 3pm  
Isuzu FA Trophy Fourth Round

**INSIDE:** The two men who played for Stones and the Daggers.. and both headed goals in different Wembley FA Trophy Finals. But who are they?

PROGRAMME £3  
SEASON 2025-2026

### OUTJUMPED BY JUNIOR

Stones' Junior Tiensia gets the better of Carlisle's outstanding Josh Williams on Saturday  
Pic: JON TAFFEL



written  
in stone



BY MARK HYDE



times in 1992, 2016 & 2021) or FA Trophy (three times in 1998).

The 1998 meetings being notable for an abandoned first tie that was drawn at the second attempt and then the replay. Let's just say history was not kind to Wealdstone in these encounter but inn our defence we were always the lower ranked team. Now is the time to turn the tables.

Enjoy your afternoon and if you are feeling the chill either the Club Shop or the WFSSC Megastore will be able to provide you with all the winter garments you may require.

Up the Stones

Mark

Saturday January 10th 2026  
V Dagenham & Redbridge

### SHE WORE A YELLOW RIBBON

**A very Happy New Year to you all as we welcome you to our first home fixture of 2026 against todays opponents Dagenham & Redbridge in the Isuzu FA Trophy.**

Although familiar opposition, those with fond memories of the incredible scenes following last season's final game and our almost impossible escape should bear a thought for the Daggers who started that day above Wealdstone in the league table. Courtesy of our victory here at the Vale and ex Stone, Manny Duku's equaliser for Solihull at the Armco Arena, Dagenham were relegate and at the time of writing currently sit in 12th position in the National League South..... a real sliding doors moment for both clubs.

Today also brings a very welcome respite from the league campaign and our recent form following some very difficult away trips and disappointing results.

The FA Trophy is always a special competition for Wealdstone fans who remember our famous victory at Wembley in 1985 and more recently, two fantastic runs to the semi finals.

It is of course the most realistic chance for fans of any non league club to see their heroes walk out at the home of football and for our younger fans the hope of shutting us old duffers up from banging on about 85 must burn strong, so all to play for this afternoon.

Until our promotion to the National League in 2020, all of the competitive fixtures between the two clubs had been in either the FA Cup (three

### TEAM DRAW DECEMBER

1. £125 - **Stuart Chantrey**
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  3. £50 - **Bob Booth**
  4. £25 - **Ray Corner**
  5. £25 - **James Harrington**
  6. £10 - **Timothy Green**
  7. £10 - **Howard Kraiss**
  8. £10 - **Norman Goldsmith**
  9. £10 - **Sally Morris**
  10. £10 - **David Leigh**
- Voucher - **M Earls**

Quarterly bonus prize for holders of 3 or more entries - £200 - **Simon Heaney**

### OUR RECORD V DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE

P 19 W 5 D 2 L 11 F 21 A 40

### LAST SEASON

SAT 10TH AUG 24 (A) - 1-2-1

SAT 21ST DEC 24 (H) - W 3-0

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# WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2025/2026

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1951 / 1952 Athenian League  
1973 / 1974 Southern League Division One South  
1981 / 1982 Southern League Southern Division  
1981 / 1982 Southern League Championship  
1984 / 1985 National League Premier (Gola League)  
1996 / 1997 Isthmian League Division Three  
2013 / 2014 Isthmian League Premier Division  
2019 / 2020 National League South

## NATIONAL CUPS

1985 / 1986 FA Amateur Cup  
1984 / 1985 FA Trophy

## LEAGUE CUPS

1981 / 1982 Southern League Cup

## MIDDLESEX COUNTY CUPS

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

## NON TITLE-WINNING PROMOTIONS

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

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

## GROUND REGULATIONS

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

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

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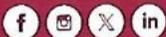
## HARROW COLLEGE IS PROUD TO BE WORKING WITH WEALDSTONE FC.

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## Gaffer's column



By  
SAM COX



**Dom Hutchinson on the rampage at Brunton Park**  
Pictures: Jon Taffel

**Welcome back to the Vale after the Christmas and New Year holiday - I hope you all had a great time with your loved ones.**

On the pitch, though it was a difficult festive period with a tough bunch of fixtures. We acknowledge that the form hasn't been good enough and we've been working hard to rectify that.

Starting with Truro away... that was a hard place to go, travelling on the day and you can see that they have been picking up form and points since then. Then we faced Boreham Wood on Boxing Day, tough opponents who went top of the table after winning 4-0 at the Vale... and then Aldershot, which was a really disappointing one.

We thought we'd get some points on the board in that game but we conceded some really unfortunate goals after playing so well in the first half.

Then it was off to Carlisle, again another side that went top of the National League after beating us 2-0. We tried to change our shape and personnel a little to make us harder to beat, which we were, but we probably weren't as good on the ball as usual. It's fair to say that it's been a hard time with injuries, illness and a lack of bodies. We've tried to navigate our way through but it's been very tough.

Now, coming into the New Year period we certainly need reinforcements to help bolster and support the squad. Our boys

**We accept that recent form has not been good enough... so this month will see a re-set with, I hope, some new players joining the club**

looking to start improving our points tally and start gaining some momentum again.

Yes, there has been a recent decline in form but don't forget how good we were earlier in the season. Form is temporary, but the standards we set, and our identity, is permanent.

Dagenham & Redbridge today in the Trophy will be difficult - they are a powerhouse in non-League, even though they are now in step two and they will be coming with full armoury to the Vale. We have to be locked in, pedal-to-the-metal and make sure we are at the top of our game.

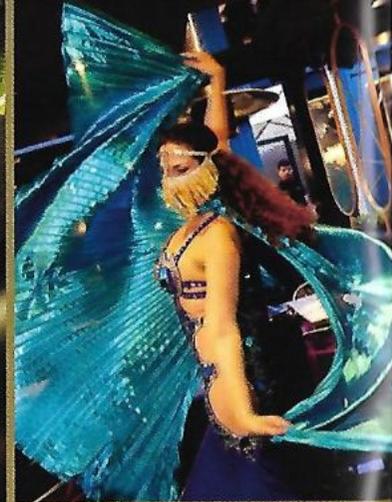
Like you, the fans, we want to do well in this trophy and feel we can have success this season.

It will be really challenging but we'll give it everything to make sure we're in the draw for the last 16.

**Up the Stones and enjoy the game - Sam**



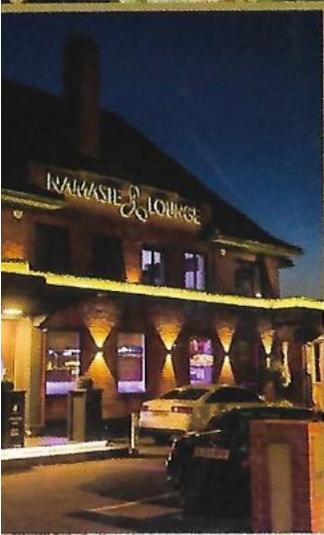
**You gave us a game: Sam Cox and Mark Hughes at Carlisle on Saturday**



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The Magnificent 108: Stones fans sing their hearts out at Carlisle

**MY FINGERS** have now defrosted adequately to type these words following our epic trip to Carlisle last week.

For most of you, that involved a round trip of at least 600 miles, excluding diversions, and for me a mere 330 via the Settle and Carlisle line, one of Britain's most spectacular train journeys.

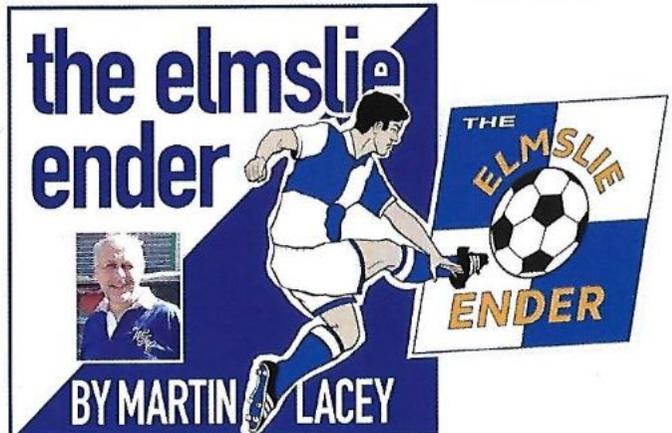
It is also one of the most painfully and tediously slow when you're returning in the dark after a 2-0 defeat with only a takeaway pizza and a four pack of Kronenbourg for company. That an official court of 108 Wealdstone supporters made the journey on a weekend where the weather meant the game was in doubt until less than two hours before kick-off - and we had to negotiate a perfect storm of road and rail closures that would have made Michael Palin give up and go home - was a testament to the dedication of our followers.

We were well beaten by the better team on the day; shall we say diplomatically that the boys in yellow never quite got out of the starting blocks! Carlisle's win took them to the top of the table, but - while I'm not a betting man, usually - I'd wager we'll be meeting them again next season.

**Did any of those 108 Wealdstone fans regret the absurd expenditure in time and money? Probably not.**

It was hard not to feel a slight sense of awe looking round Carlisle's 17,000 capacity Brunton Park, a perfect old school football ground - long may they endure - and think, even after six years of doing it, Wealdstone have arrived. We belong here; we're meeting Carlisle United in a league game as equals.

Without a match on New Year's Day I ventured to my local footballing mecca, Sandygate (the world's oldest continually-used football ground, fact hounds), for Hallam v Lincoln United in the Northern Premier East



## Carlisle United, Hallam FC and Wealdstone... a tale of football absurdity

Division, non-league's fourth tier.

The football was dreadful, the pitch was awful, the ground a two sided field with a couple of basic stands. And if you think Grosvenor Vale has a slope... Hallam's pitch is used for cricket in summer, football in winter and probably downhill skiing when it snows.

One corner flag in particular is curiously perched on a small mountain and in elevation is probably closer to the crossbar than the goal line. I think I heard one corner-taker request oxygen on his way up.

And the last thing I want is to do down Hallam FC. They're playing at their highest ever level, their crowds have benefitted enormously from local disillusion with Sheffield Wednesday (a creditable 750 on this occasion) and there's a splendid all-ages, family-friendly atmosphere



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

where everybody knows everybody. Non-league at its very best. Non-league exactly as it should be.

What occurred to me at Carlisle, as I tried to stop ice forming on my outdoor pint and wished I'd opted for hot chocolate instead, was that for two of the 56 seasons I've been following Wealdstone we played in the Isthmian League Division Three - the fifth division of non-league, though accounting for the fact that the 'pyramid' has since got a bit more pyramid shaped, probably a similar standard to Hallam. We regularly played on grounds like Hallam's. Look where we are now.

Over the ensuing couple of decades we have climbed all the way back to the top. We've done it utterly against the odds, without a permanent or long-term ground, without a major benefactor or investor. We've done it because of the dedication and generosity of ordinary supporters like the 108 who travelled to Carlisle, because of the sensible stewardship of successive boards of directors who have given freely of their time and sometimes cash, and the miracles worked by a couple of managers, Gordon Bartlett and Dean Brennan, who built all-conquering teams out of unpromising circumstances.

One of the frequently-voiced fears about the threat of relegation is that we won't come back: that if we find ourselves in National League South we will be unable to compete with the well-resourced, full-time clubs of which there are many. But surely one thing we've proved over and over

again is that having money is not the same as spending it wisely? To state an obvious mathematical truism, you cannot sustain full time football on crowds of 2,000. One or two of those big spending, big talking clubs might achieve their long term aims, the rest, maybe all of them, are on the fast track to oblivion.

Wealdstone are at a pivotal moment on and off the field. The games over the past month haven't been pleasurable watching; something has snapped and we must put our faith in Sam Cox to find the superglue and get it fixed. But we all know there's a bigger picture: issues of lease, investment and rebuilding that can define the future, the direction, the soul and potentially the very existence of Wealdstone FC. That will require more than superglue.

**KTF. UTS.** And see you in Gateshead :)

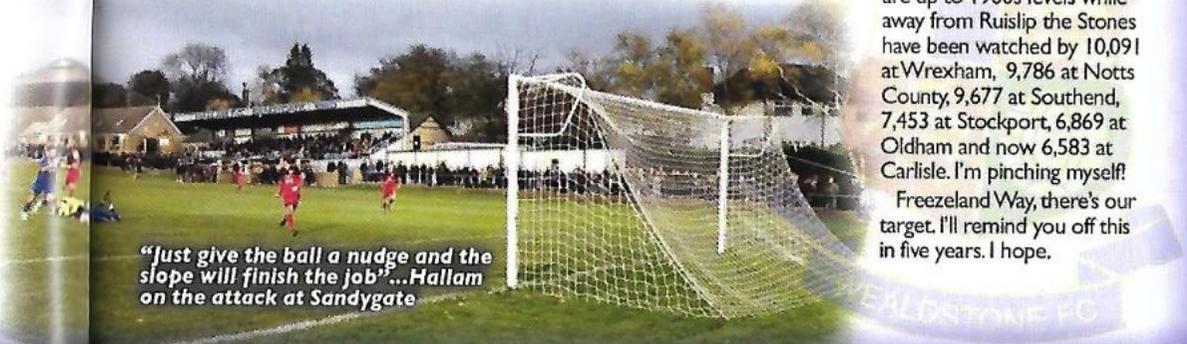
### Another mammoth crowd... wow!

ONE OF the extraordinary things about our current existence in the National League is that, in real terms, Wealdstone are playing in front of crowds that are a throwback to the immediate post-war years. The days when both professional and amateur football grounds up and down the country were filled with people who, apparently, had nothing better to do in terms of entertainment, are now replicated in this era of digital sophistication.

Isn't it wonderful! I grew up on tales of 10,000 people flocking to our big cup games and 5,000 for Isthmian League matches, but in the last few years home crowds

are up to 1960s levels while away from Ruislip the Stones have been watched by 10,091 at Wrexham, 9,786 at Notts County, 9,677 at Southend, 7,453 at Stockport, 6,869 at Oldham and now 6,583 at Carlisle. I'm pinching myself!

Freezeland Way, there's our target. I'll remind you off this in five years. I hope.



"Just give the ball a nudge and the slope will finish the job"...Hallam on the attack at Sandygate

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**SID PROSSER, who died at the age of 93 the week before Christmas, was only Wealdstone manager for two years and yet his reign was truly transformative.**

The enigmatic Sid was a mysterious figure for WFC historians who are still unclear why the track-suited manager, then barely 40, decided to accept the job as Chelmsford City manager in April 1974 with the Stones on the cusp of winning promotion from the Southern League Division One South.

Prosser was the autocratic leader of this Wealdstone team who had only turned semi-professional in the summer of 1971 after establishing themselves as one of the most powerful amateur clubs in London.

That first pro season was a hard watch for faithful fans as the squad of has-beens and never-weres struggled to come to terms with moderate opposition in Division One North. The team were rooted below mid-table when the club dispensed with manager Alan Humphries and quickly moved to secure the services of the highly-rated Prosser who had moulded St Albans City into a formidable side on the amateur circuit.

Some astute signings – not least Spurs' double winning winger Terry Dyson and the prolific George Duck – helped move the club up

## RIP, Sid Prosser

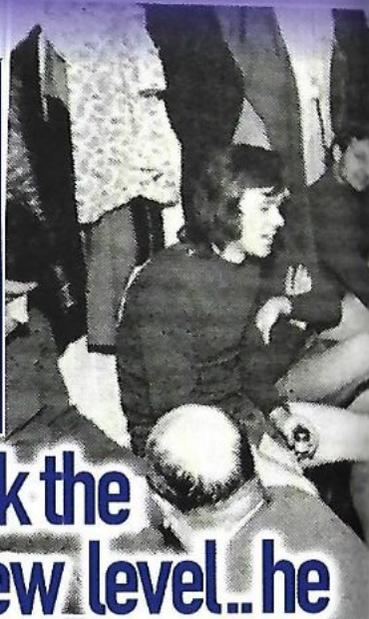


BY TIM PARKS

# Super Sid took the Stones to a new level.. he even told Johnny Haynes how to play the game!

to 12th place in the table and set the scene for a vastly improved 1972-73 season.

Sid's son Kevin, 68, said that he and his elder brother Gary would go with their dad to St Albans for home matches in the 1960s and help out as volunteer programme sellers at Clarence Park - but he couldn't clearly remember visiting Lower Mead. "At halftime we'd come into the St Albans changing



*Left: Stones' new manager Sid Prosser addresses his players as he rallies his troops for the Easter Saturday 1972 home game v Banbury (won 3-0, Mickey Brown hat-trick). From left: Mickey Brown (receiving treatment from trainer Fred King), John Furie, substitute Gary Townend, half-hidden Dixie Hale, Eddie Presland, Ray Whitaker, goalkeeper John Barr, John Beyer, John Pearce, Trevor Watson (bald head, bending over), Terry Dyson, and Dave Cockell (injured). Also playing that day, and presumably out of shot was Bill Byrne.*

reason, Sid could not provide the success they craved and very quickly he was back at St Albans again.

"It seems he was then only back at Clarence Park for a year, and then stepped away from management altogether" said Kevin.

"I do think he regretted it, not being involved with football beyond that point. He concentrated on his career as a salesman for Tudor Crystal cut glass before retiring early at the age of 60 - and then spent most of his days playing golf at the East Herts club in Buntingford and

following his first love, Arsenal, on TV.

"He suffered from dementia in his later years but my parents celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary just three days before he died".

Sid and his wife Rita have five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, and Kevin's wife Rebecca - also a lawyer - wrote a touching tribute to her father-in-law. "He was fun, witty and loving from the outset and accepted me with open arms".

Young Sid was a 'twinkle-toed' junior footballer, according to the tournament programme, when his local Edmonton Boys Club side won the Middlesex schools competition in June 1947. He went on to turn out for Tottenham Juniors, Edmonton and then Arsenal... but he was deemed as being too small to make the grade for the Football League. He did play, though, for the the Gunners' reserves in the Football Combination.

Sid went on to play as a part-time professional for Folkestone, Kettering Town, Hereford United, Dartford and Ashford Town before turning his thoughts to management as a coach and trainer at Epping FC for two years.

His potential was spotted by Finchley, then a major force in the Athenian league, and he was manager at Summers Lane for five years between 1961 and 1966. A year in charge of Chesham United followed, before he joined St Albans in 1967 for five glorious years in charge of the Saints.

The Hertfordshire club, not far from the Prosser family home in Broxbourne, threatened to unseat Isthmian League top dogs Enfield, Wycombe Wander-

**Continued over page>>**

room to hear my dad swearing at the players... we learnt a lot of new words!"

But tax lawyer Kevin was never privy to the reasons for his dad jumping ship from the Stones just as they were on the brink of promotion to the Southern League Prem – the top league outside the Football League at that time.

"I kept a scrapbook about my dad's career and in his early management days at Finchley he was quoted saying that he left for St Albans 'for a new challenge'. I'm pretty sure that's why he joined Wealdstone, and probably also why he then moved on to Chelmsford City."

The powerful Essex club were campaigning for election to the Football League on the back of winning the Southern League title in 1972 and attention-grabbing runs in the FA Cup. They were only beaten at New Writtle Street in the Third Round by top flight Ipswich Town that year in front of a 10,000 crowd.

You could see the attraction for the quietly-ambitious manager but it was a genuine shock when he handed in his notice at Lower Mead when his contract came to an end on April 1. Full-back Eddie Presland, with a rich career in the Football League with West Ham, took over as player-manager and steered Stones to the Div One title - and there must have been quiet satisfaction from chairman David Mardle and his board when the following season, the Stones' first in the 'top flight', we managed a 3-3 draw at Chelmsford City and won the return game at Lower Mead 2-1. Wealdstone finished the season in 8th place with Chelmsford two places lower. Unfortunately, for whatever



*Wealdstone line up before the Dorchester game in November 1972... a side of great names but which disappointed in the Southern League Div One South, finishing 8th*

# Sid Prosser RIP... continued

From previous page

ers, Sutton United and Hendon and were widely regarded as the most entertaining team outside the full time pro ranks at that time.

His greatest gift was the ability to identify the players the Stones needed to transform a dysfunctional team into one capable of taking the Southern League Division One by storm, famously persuading striker George Duck to believe in himself when he had lost faith in his own ability.

The former Tottenham youngster returned the manager's faith with 43 goals in his first season (1972-73) and then an astonishing 62 goals in 1973-74!

"Sid kept coming round to my house after I'd decided that I would never make the grade in football, and my mum made me see the light by saying 'this fellow obviously wants you to come and play for his club so why don't you try it out?'"

"So I turned up at Lower Mead and loved it from the start. I'd found my home and the truth is that Sid Prosser's persuasion changed my life and my career. He was a salesman and he sold me the club!"

George sends his commiserations to Sid's family and says that the manager was a quiet man — apart from the swears rants at his players! — but his effect on Wealdstone FC should never be underestimated.

"RIP Sid... the Stones' most inspirational manager".

**ALICK BROWN**, one of the youngsters that Sid Prosser blooded in the Southern League from the Stones reserve side, said that his favourite anecdote concerning the former boss came when Johnny Haynes joined the club for a handful of appearances in November 1972 during the closed season in South Africa, where he was seeing out a stellar career.

The former Fulham and England captain was legendary for his range of passing but was pulled aside by the manager at half time of his

debut against Dorchester (see picture on previous page) after threading a series of exquisite 30-yard balls for strikers George Duck and Johnny Connell to run onto.

"That's not how we play the game here Johnny" said Sid. We play the ball into feet here. So no more long-balls, okay?"

That was amazing... he actually said that to the peerless Johnny Haynes. But it can't have helped much as we lost 3-2!"

Young reserve team player **NIGEL FRANKLIN** was handed his Southern League debut by Sid in November 1972, against the league leaders Maidstone United. But it wasn't a baptism of fire as the tenacious midfielder scored a cracking 20-yarder after just two minutes!

"I'll never forget that moment - Terry Dyson cut the ball back and I shot right-footed inside the far post at the Elmslie End" said Nigel, who is now a regular fan with his family at Grosvenor Vale (see report below).

"I was probably expecting a bit of praise but at half time Sid just said to me: 'What were you doing in that position?'"

"I think it was his way of keeping me grounded, but he obviously rated me because he offered me a contract a week later... but I had to turn it down as I was already signed up to join the Army. His style of play was to feed the ball up to the big strikers, George Duck and Bill Byrne, who'd then play it back to the midfielders or wide to the wingers. I wish we had those type of players now because we'd be in the play-offs.

"Jack Cook is the only one who could play that style today so I wish we would hand him the No.9 shirt! A free tip for Coxy!"

**Sid Prosser's funeral will be held at Hoddesdon on Monday, January 12. RIP Sid, much loved and admired.**



Old Pals: George Duck, Alick Brown and Nigel Franklin pictured this year at the Vale

## "Sid's persuasion changed my life and my career.. I love this club"

Sensational start by Nigel Franklin

### Two up, Wealdstone throw it all away

By Phil Sugden

Wealdstone 2, Maidstone United 3

TWO GOALS ahead after 11 minutes Wealdstone, perhaps unexpectedly by the standards of the team, found themselves in a position to parlay the South League leaders at Lower Mead on Tuesday evening. Then the defence folded up and gave away three silly goals allowing the North club to go away openly admitting they were the luckiest team in the world.

All three of the visitors' goals should not have been prevented and, unless John Bart can take the blame for it, it is a pity that the home side were not able to do well to remember the number of times this normally brilliant 'N' has saved his side in the past. They did it almost one by one, they say. Certainly every goalkeeper must have had a good look at the number of times since the start of the 1971-72 season.



Nigel Franklin in sensational debut for Stones with a goal in the first two minutes.

back at Lower Mead had to get into the action before a second half perfectly wonderful second entry. It was not the net with Peter Cook's goalkeeper in his hands to mark, however.

The home team were on the attack when they were full of confidence and saw the ball into the net after the 11th minute. It was almost a wonder that the goal was not scored by the time the half was over. The goal was scored by a second strike and with Bart's net in an extraordinary position.

TALK ABOUT FOOTBALL management to Sid Prosser, the shrewd, articulate coach to St Albans City, and you find yourself talking about believing in your own ideas, knowing how to handle players, learning from experience and being a good survivor. But most of all, you talk about controlling your own destiny, because that is Prosser's prime concern in most of the things he does and the ultimate condition under which he works.

Understand that, and you begin to realise why he is one of the most able and respected coaches in the modern amateur game. Talk to him about it, and you start to appreciate that, for him, there is no other way. 'Survival is what this game's all about,' Prosser says with disarming frankness. 'A manager, any manager, is judged on his results. Whether



Tony Turley

rather more than good players, than they were away to more fashionable clubs. Prosser was left to make do with what remained, or else start all over again. He was no longer master of his own fate, so he left.

He spent one season with Chesham United, in which they narrowly missed promotion, and is now in his third year at St Albans, his first Isthmian appointment.

Here he has put his faith in a 4-3-3 system which has brought results good enough to convince him they can get better. Last season brought the club profit and prestige from a splendid FA Cup run, and it was after they had gone out to Walsall in a Second-Round replay that the manager of a famous First Division club told Prosser he was 'amazed' at the amateur side's work-

with a squad of 14 senior players and runs one team which twice a week, Prosser has made Tuesday a training night instead of the traditional Thursday. 'They are sometimes less inclined to hard on a Thursday because they get one eye on Saturday. I find players are prepared to work out on a Wednesday.'

Even so, he has to adopt a lenient schedule which gives the benefit to the maximum number of players, which doesn't always help him as much time as he would for coaching individuals. Mostly concentrates on sprints and work. 'I don't think my players have done a lap this season.'

While Prosser has not really been set up as one of the strict disciplinarians, his record in this respect remarkable. Since he came to

## 'SURVIVAL IS WHAT THE GAME IS ALL ABOUT'

says Sid Prosser (St ALBANS) talking to John Motson of the BBC

Sid Prosser



they are good or bad, he takes full responsibility for them, and you've only got to look at the staggering number of applications for any vacant manager's post, to remind yourself just how untenable this job is. I believe I need a certain element of security behind me if I'm going to stay in with a chance.'

Prosser is a dedicated adherent of the 'method' football. He has always been quick to assess the strengths of the players at his disposal, and to settle for the pattern of play which suits them best. If they departed from that method, that would be the moment when Prosser's destiny would be taken out of his hands.

'I don't think I could ever send a side out and tell them to play it off the cuff,' he says, and a conversation with him about the professional game quickly brings out his

unabashed admiration for the 'method' teams, clubs like Leeds and Liverpool whose success has been built on collective football.

To coin an analogy, Prosser is a man more likely to invest his money in a building society than in stocks and shares. 'I'm not a gambler in any sense. I wouldn't back horses, for instance, because I have no say whatsoever in how they run.'

It was this same philosophy that led to him resigning from his first managerial job, at Finchley, in 1966. Here, besides taking a somewhat commonplace side to the Semi-Final of the FA Amateur Cup, Prosser established a prolific reputation for attracting gifted young players. Forwards like John Connell, Les Eason and Tony Turley all made their name at Summers Lane.

But no sooner had they become

rate. 'You ought to come and coach us,' he said.

The story illustrates one of Prosser's most obvious qualities, that of getting the best out of his players. He is not particularly bothered whether or not they like him, providing they respect him.

Respect, in fact, is a word that comes very early in the Prosser dictionary. When he talks about a team earning respect his priorities are not unlike those of Bertie Mee, the Arsenal manager.

'You lay the foundations for any successful side by making it a hard side to beat,' says Prosser. 'Once you've established some method and security at the back, you can start to add one or two players with flair, the sort of men who can turn a game for you up front when it's stalemate.'

At St Albans where he works

Albans they have had only two players booked and nobody sent off.

'Most players get into trouble for saying something, or for fighting. I tell mine to keep their mouths shut and their fists down. To that extent I am prepared to help the referee. After that, it's up to him to decide whether the tackling is fair and so on.'

'As for time wasting, well, if a player kicks the ball away when there's a free kick to be taken the I think the referee should add time on and probably take his name. This is dissent, after all. But if a team are playing it tight to hold on to a point away from home, and so on then it's rather different. I mean the referee starts to penalise them for that, he's really helping the other side. He's supposed to be in partial, after all.'

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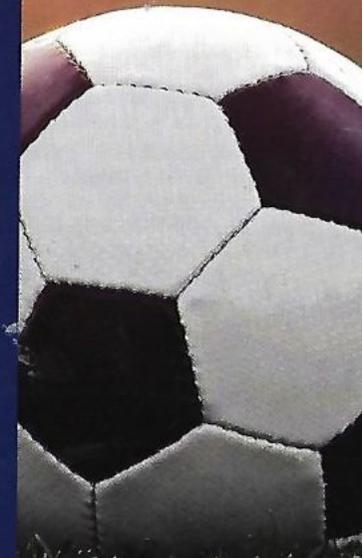
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# today's opposition in focus

**Despite only being in existence for 28 years, Dagenham & Redbridge Football Club have had their fair share of highs and lows, with their highest being promotion to League One following a 3-2 play off final victory over Rotherham United at Wembley Stadium.**

The Club came about following a series of mergers which saw Leytonstone, Ilford and Walthamstow Avenue form Redbridge Forest who in turn merged with Dagenham FC in 1992 to form the current Club. All four had proud histories as amateur clubs in the past but due to dwindling attendances, had fallen on hard times.

The first season of Dagenham & Redbridge FC saw them finish third behind Wycombe Wanderers in the GM Vauxhall Conference and reach the 1st Round proper of the FA Cup, where they were defeated 5-4 in a thrilling game against Leyton Orient.

Unfortunately after this things began to go downhill for the club especially off the pitch. Firstly manager John Still attracted a lot of interest and when Peterborough made an approach which was too good to turn down, he moved on and this was followed by a Trustee of the Club illegally removing half a million pounds which he was later convicted of. Money was now tight and the 1995/6 season saw the Daggers finish bottom of the GM Vauxhall Conference and suffer relegation to the Isthmian League.

To ensure the Club didn't continue a downward trend Ted Hardy was appointed to stabilise it. At 67 years of age & League finishes of fourth, fourth and third meant that Ted had achieved the target of stability and in 1999 he announced his resignation.

The Daggers installed Garry Hill into the hot seat and in his first season they returned to the Conference having romped to the Isthmian League title recording 20 victories and a draw from their 21 home league games and an outstanding 101 points.

The success story continued into the 2000/01 season as the Club captured the National headlines on the Sports Pages as they first defeated Lincoln City in the FA Cup then came within four minutes of

## ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE



defeating Premiership Charlton Athletic at the Valley in the FA Cup third round. In the replay held at Victoria Road, the Club battled their way into extra time but the Premiership side eventually won 1-0. By the end of their first season back in the Conference they achieved third place.

The 2001/2 season saw the Club rise to top of the Conference on September 11th for the first time ever. After the previous season's exploits in the FA Cup, there was a high level of expectation at the team didn't disappoint. After defeating Football League Exeter City 3-0 in a second round replay, they took the lead in the third round tie at home to Premiership Ipswich Town in front of the Club's record attendance of 5949. Unfortunately an upset wasn't to be and Ipswich ran out 4-1 winners. The Conference championship turned into a two-horse race with Boston United and the Daggers heartbreakingly missing out on promotion to the Football League on goal difference.

The following season saw the Club miss out on promotion to the football league for the second season running again by the closest of margins.

Garry Hill departed at the end of the following season and the Club turned to John Still for a second spell in charge. The Daggers squad had been boosted over the previous three years by good cup runs and the 2004/5 season was a transitional one with new players being required to replace some of the higher paid and experienced ones. Within a year John had completed the task of making the whole playing squad full time with the average age only 23. They ended that season in 10th place, improving on the previous season's position by one.

At the end of October the Club were ten points behind hot favourites Oxford United and a play-off place was seen as the best they could hope for, instead they kept up the pressure on the leaders and on the last day of 2006 they took top spot in the League, a position they wouldn't relinquish and with it a place in the Football League they had been so close to achieving in the past.

Dagenham & Redbridge's first Football League game ended in a 0-1 defeat at Stockport County. Life in the Football League was tough for John Still's men but they made it to the Third Round in both the Johnstone's Paint Trophy and FA Cup before away defeats against Gillingham and Southend United respectively. February

saw the Daggers start a five match unbeaten run, which saw them record their best wins home and away, beating Chester City 6-2 and Grimsby Town 4-1. Those victories gave the Daggers hope of finishing outside the relegation places but the next nine matches ended without any victories. In the penultimate fixture of the season, a fantastic second half display at Darlington saw them turn a 0-2 deficit into a 3-2 victory to retain their position in the Football League.

The second season saw the Club start the season how they meant to go on with a 6-0 victory over Chester City. The Daggers went into the final game of the season needing to avoid defeat against Shrewsbury to qualify for the play offs but lost the game 1-2 to miss out. They did finish as the top goalscorers in League Two and pushed League One Champions Leicester City all the way losing by the odd goal in five at the Walkers Stadium in the FA Cup second round.

The 2009/10 season saw seven players leave to move up the leagues. Despite this, John Still brought in players from a lower level to fill the void and saw the side top the table on occasions during the first half of the season. A mid-season slump saw them drop to thirteenth at one stage but a surge at the end saw the Club reach the end of season play off's by virtue of a seventh place finish. In the semi-final first leg they broke all previous play-off records with a six goal rout of Morecambe and despite losing the second leg 1-2, went through to the final at Wembley 7-2 on aggregate. 32,054 attended the final on 20th May and saw goals from Paul Benson, Danny Green give the Daggers the lead on two occasions only for the Millers to equalise on both occasions. Barbados international Jon Nurse struck the winner after 69 minutes as the Essex side continued their amazing climb through the football pyramid.

The size of the task facing the squad in League One was evident but despite the odds the club went in to the last day of the season with fate in their own hands but Peterborough ran out easy winner to condemn the Daggers to relegation.

The 2012/13 season saw Long-serving manager John Still decided he needed a new challenge in March and headed for Luton Town. Wayne Burnett took over the position in an interim capacity. A win at Exeter with four games to go looked to have sealed the Daggers Football League place for another season but three defeats in their last three games saw the Daggers escape relegation on goal-difference on the last day of the season with Barnet and Aldershot Town finishing below them.

A poor start to the 2015/16 led to his departure and the return to management of John Still.

The Daggers' 2016/17 season was an eventful season both on and off the pitch with the side almost returning to the Football League at the first time of asking only narrowly missing out in the promotion

Semi-final to Forest Green Rovers.

In May 2018, Daggers Legend John Still resigned as manager of the club as a direct result of the club's financial situation. His replacement was confirmed as none other than former England manager Peter Taylor, with Terry Harris returning to the club as his assistant.

The pair used their expert knowledge to put together a young, hungry squad on a small budget ahead of the 2018/19 National League season.

More good news was to follow in September 2018, with the news that Trinity Sports Holdings would be taking over majority ownership of the club. The American consortium headed by Executive Chairman, Peter B. Freund, along with Director, Craig Unger and former Everton and Manchester United goalkeeper, Tim Howard secured the long-term future of the football club.

The takeover allowed for the signings of two key players, Kenny Clark, Angelo Balanta, as well as bringing in Football League pair Manny Onariase and Conor Wilkinson to the club on loan. These new additions helped propel the Daggers up the table, collecting nine wins in 12 matches in a run that started at the end of October and stretched until the turn of the year.

The Daggers secured the services of Wilkinson on a permanent deal in January, a huge coup for the club. The striker scored 12 goals in 23 appearances as he and his team-mates secured the East London side's National League status with three games to spare after superb a 1-0 victory away at Ebbsfleet United, a brilliant feat considering the club's predicament at the start of the campaign.

The east London side began their fourth season full of optimism but Peter Taylor departed shortly after Christmas, with former Ebbsfleet manager, Daryl McMahon appointed on the 3rd January and was tasked with steering the Daggers away from the relegation places. A dramatic improvement in performances, saw the Daggers move away from the relegation places before the curtailment of the season due to the coronavirus.

Following Daryl McMahon's dismissal in February 2023, former Daggers Striker Ben Stevens took the helm. & guided the Daggers to a 15th-place finish.

The 2024-25 campaign proved to be a challenging chapter in the club's history, culminating in relegation to the National League South for the first time since the 1999-2000 season. A run of merely seven wins from 23 saw manager Ben Stevens dismissed in December.

Lewis Young was appointed and a crucial win against Altrincham raised hopes, placing the Daggers ahead of Wealdstone on the final day, but ultimately, we couldn't avoid the drop.

Following relegation, the club turned to experienced manager Lee Bradbury, who was appointed ahead of the 2025-26 season.



# DAGGERS to watch



### 3. CHRIS MAGHOMA Defence

Maghoma joined Tottenham Hotspur in 2014 and had a loan spell at Yeovil Town in 2015. He left Spurs in 2018 and signed a three-year deal with Polish side Arka Gdynia. He returned to England in 2020 with Gillingham, then joined Eastleigh on loan in 2021 before signing permanently in 2022 following Gillingham's relegation. He moved to Aldershot Town in July 2023. A ruptured Achilles in a pre-season friendly limited him to just six minutes of league action that season, though he signed a new contract. He featured more regularly in 2024-25 but departed Aldershot at the end of his deal in May 2025.

### 6. COREY PANTER Defence

Panter came through Luton Town's academy and spent the 2019-20 season on loan at Hendon and Biggleswade Town. In July 2021, he joined Dundee on loan, scoring on his debut and making his Scottish Premiership debut later that year before being recalled in January 2022. He ended that season with a loan at Kidderminster Harriers, then signed with Eastleigh in July 2022 after a successful trial. In February 2024, he had a short loan at Weymouth, impressing before returning to Eastleigh and signing a new one-year deal. He left the club at the end of the 2024-25 season.

### 9. ANDY CARROLL Striker

Andy Carroll sensationally signed for the Daggers this summer, with the former Premier League forward putting pen to paper on a three-year deal, which has also seen him become a minority investor of the club. The former England striker spent last season at Bordeaux, where he netted 10 goals in 21 appearances for the French outfit.

### 11. JOE HAIGH Midfield

A former Chelsea youth player, the talented midfielder has represented England at U15 and U16 levels and was also involved in an England U19 training camp. Joe joined Aldershot Town in October 2023 before making a permanent switch to South Park, who were eighth in their division at the time. In late February 2024, Haigh stepped up from Isthmian League South Central side South Park to join Farnborough. After impressing in several appearances, the young attacking midfielder signed a contract with the club through to the end of the 2024/25 season.

### 25. REGGIE YOUNG Defence

Reggie Young began his career in AFC Wimbledon's

academy before joining Woking in 2017, where he quickly progressed to the first team. He spent the 2018-19 season on loan at Farnborough, impressing with nine goals in 29 league games. After a short spell at Hemel Hempstead Town in 2020-21, he returned to Farnborough permanently in January 2022. Young played a vital role in Farnborough's promotion to the National League South, scoring in the 2021-22 play-off final. Since then, he has been a regular fixture on the wing, known for his pace and direct style.

### 31 KAI MCKENZIE-LYLE Goalkeeper

McKenzie-Lyle began his career with Tottenham Hotspur at the under-10 level before moving to Barnet as an under-14, progressing through their academy to become the first-choice goalkeeper for the under-18s. In 2017, he had loan spells with St Ives Town and Hayes & Yeading United. In July 2018, he joined Liverpool and made two under-23 appearances in Premier League 2 before his release in June 2020. He then joined Cambridge United in 2020 on a two-year deal and later spent time on loan at Chelmsford City before being released at the end of the 2021-22 season. McKenzie-Lyle moved into non-league football with Welling United in 2022, later joining Folkestone Invicta in 2024 and Oxford City for the 2024-25 season. He returned briefly to Welling United in September 2025, departing a month later after three appearances. Internationally, he represented Guyana.

### 38. TIMOTHEE DIENG Midfield (C)

Timothée joined the Daggers this summer on a two-year deal. The 33-year-old Frenchman, originally from Grenoble, began his football journey as a goalkeeper before evolving into a dynamic outfield player capable of performing in midfield, defence, and even up front. Dieng moved to England in 2014 to join Oldham Athletic, racking up over 60 league appearances before successful spells at Bradford City, Southend United and Exeter City. He later featured for Gillingham and Cheltenham Town before arriving at Victoria Road.

### MANAGER LEE BRADBURY

Lee Bradbury was appointed as Daggers Boss on June 4th. Bradbury, 49, arrives at Victoria Road with a wealth of managerial experience and a strong track record across English Football. The Board identified Bradbury as the ideal candidate to lead the Daggers into a new era, citing his experience of winning as a manager at this level and working in a number of promoted sides. Throughout the process, Lee displayed a meaningful understanding of what it takes to rebuild the connection between the club and the community. Speaking after his appointment, Bradbury said: "I am both proud and excited to become the manager of this excellent club and look forward to getting to work straight away."

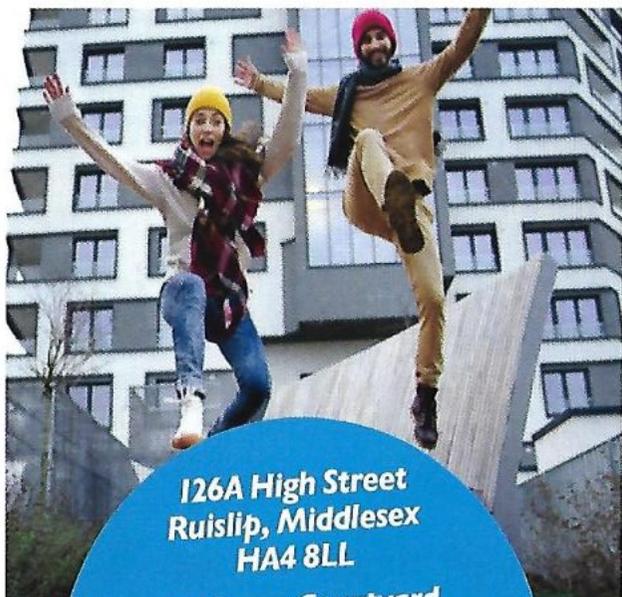
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DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE  
SATURDAY 10th JANUARY 2026

## SUPPORTERS CLUB UPDATE

BY MATTHEW WORBY

*Good afternoon one and all and welcome to the Vale this afternoon for our Fa Trophy 4th round match against Dagenham & Redbridge and our 1st home match of 2026!!*

I do hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas and New Years. Before I discuss the game let me introduce myself as I'm the newest member of the Wealdstone supporters committee. Son of Pete and nephew of John (also both on the committee) it's becoming real family affair. Aside from helping to raise funds I am also going to be driving recruitment to increase the supporters club membership, so stay tuned..... And back to the game today, we all enjoy a cup run and the chance to play at Wembley last time we were there I was about a month away from being born so I would love to see my beloved Wealdstone play there. But today I'm more excited about seeing a player who once was Liverpool's record signing at 35 million, 9 England caps and scored an incredible overhead kick for West Ham, Andy Carroll. This got me thinking what other top tier players have I seen at the Vale in the 17 years we have been here. The obvious one is Glenn Little, legs had gone but the footballing intelligence was unreal. Another which instantly springs to mind is Nathan Ake when we played Chelsea U23's I think it's the only time in my life where I watched a game of football where the CB dictates and controls the game. Now I'm sure there are others and have fun chatting to your friends about who you can remember. As per normal we will be selling our 50/50 tickets so keep an eye out for our sellers the last prize fund was over £450. Fingers crossed for an enjoyable game, a home win and safe travels for all fans attending today.

MATTHEW

Please visit our fantastic Megastore where you can find everything a Wealdstone supporter could ever want with most items are also available online at [WFCMEGASTORE.CO.UK](http://WFCMEGASTORE.CO.UK) if you can't wait until the next game.

[WFCSC.CO.UK](http://WFCSC.CO.UK)



# FSA

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# stones fan in the stand

Dominic  
Ryan

## Let's hope that Santa delivered Dominic a Dante Baptiste shirt for Christmas... plus goalie gloves for an extra cool Yule!

We promised that this week would be the turn of the youngest Ryan brother, nine year old Dominic, to star as our Fan in the Stand ... now we've just got to persuade his twin sister Ellie to take part! As for dad Paul, well he apparently appeared as a FiS so long ago that it was written on parchment

**Your name and age?** Dominic Ryan, aged nine.

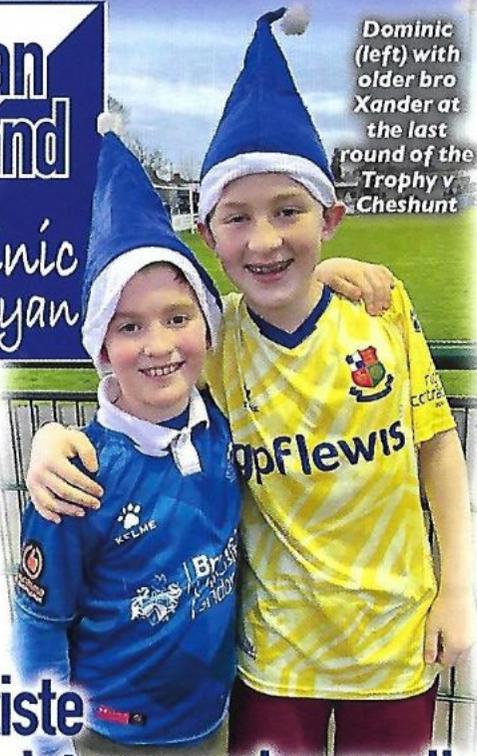
**Whereabouts do you live, Dominic?** Bushey in Hertfordshire.

**Do your friends know you are a Wealdstone fan? What do they think?** Yes. Most of my classmates think Wealdstone are a Sunday League side but they are "supporters" of Watford or Premier League teams who only watch football on television. My friend, Callum,



Aww! Dominic with mum Emma on the glamorous Leiston away trip

Dominic (left) with older bro Xander at the last round of the Trophy v Cheshunt



and his family go to a few Wealdstone games. His dad once shouted "You Stones!" out of his car window when he saw my brother in a Wealdstone top outside school on *Own Clothes Day*.

**When was your first Stones game?** First game was East Thurrock away, the last game of the 2016/17 season. I was only eight months old and spent most of my time asleep in my pram (see picture below right). The first game that I kind of remember was Brackley Town away in the semi-final of the FA Trophy in March 2018. I played in the snow at the side of the pitch with my twin sister, Ellie.

**Who introduced you to the Stones?** My Dad, he's a lifelong Stones fan. **What was the first football match you remember seeing live?**

The first game I properly watched from start to finish was away at Kings Lynn in

September 2021. I even saw Charlie Cooper score a goal.

**Do you follow any other team?** No. Just go to Wealdstone and Republic of Ireland games.

**What's the most memorable game you've EVER seen?** Barnet at home two years ago when we beat them 3-2 and Charlie Barker scored in the last minute. I went mental.

**What level of football do you prefer?**

I prefer the level we are at. It is easier to move around during the game. It's also more unpredictable.

**How big a part of your life is the game?** Quite big. I don't play football much but I do like watching it. I

1 Dante Baptiste			
5 Enzo Boldewijn	2 Jack Cook	4 Charlie Barker	3 Anthony Georgiou
7 Dom Hutchinson	6 Kallum Cesay	10 Alex Dyer	8 Sak Hassan
		11 Max Kretschmar	9 Sean Adarkwa

... AND HERE'S DOMINIC'S ALL-TIME WEALDSTONE LINE-UP

really like away games.

**How do you fit watching football in with your family/school life?** I don't go to many midweek games unless it is in the school holidays. I go to most home games on a Saturday and Dad will let me know what big away train trips are coming up. I like those ones.

**Do you follow the Stones on the live stream?** I don't really watch the games on a live stream if I'm not at them. I always like being there.

**Who's the best Wealdstone player you've ever seen?** Enzo Boldewijn. He seems to play everywhere in every game.

**Could you name your best-ever Stones side?** See graphic above.

**What's the best away day you've experienced so far?** Gateshead away in August 2022. We stayed in South Shields for four days. It was really hot but it was fun being by the seaside. We somehow

managed to win, even though Gateshead were better than us that day. And at the end of the game we were top of the National League table!

**Do you think Stones can aspire to playing in the EFL?** We could get to the EFL if we have a really good season and everyone works together. I think slowly we will

eventually get to League Two and hopefully will be able to stay there and maybe even challenge for League One at some point.

**Who's the most committed to watching Wealdstone in the Ryan family?** Dad. He goes to every game.

**Does your mum ever stop you from going to a game?** No.

**What's one game you wish you hadn't missed?** Whitstable Town at home in the FA Cup as I've never seen us score so many goals in a game.

**What would be the one Wealdstone-orientated gift that Santa could bring you this Christmas?** Dante Baptiste's shirt.

*Below: Dad Paul with a full complement of push-chairs at the East Thurrock game coming up for nine years ago, while his eldest Xander checks out the latest National League South table on Flash Score*



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# 1st Team Results 2025/2026

## KEY

- P Starter
- P 1st player off
- P 2nd player off
- P 3rd player off
- P 4th player off
- P 5th player off
- P Substitute
- P 1st player on
- P 2nd player on
- P 3rd player on
- P 4th player on
- P 5th player on

	Comp	Score	Crowd	(Away)	Lge	Goal scorers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
<b>AUGUST</b>	9 TRURO CITY	ENL	2-0	1,572	170	6	Bouldewijn, Hutchinson	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	12 WOLVERHAMPTON WAND.	NLC	2-1	215	TBD	6	Hassan, Tshikuna	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	16 FC HALIFAX TOWN	ENL	2-1	1,134	115	4	Adarkwa, Cook	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	19 Woking	ENL	2-1	1,942	269	1	Kretzschmar (p), Tshikuna	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	23 CARLISLE UNITED	ENL	0-1	2,025	551	6		1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	25 Boston United	ENL	1-2	2,077	135	7	Obiero	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	30 ROCHDALE	ENL	1-3	1,365	280	8	Massey	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	2 SOUTHEND UNITED	ENL	3-2	2,309	1,007	6	Bouldewijn, Adarkwa 2 (1 pen)	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	6 Scunthorpe United	ENL	0-0	4,460	57	8	Bouldewijn	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	13 GATESHEAD	ENL	2-2	1,109	50	9	Hutchinson, Kretzschmar	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	16 LEICESTER CITY	NLC	2-1	226	TBD	9	Hassan, Kretzschmar	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	20 Morecambe	NLC	3-4	2,256	150	11	Kretzschmar, Obiero, Massey	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	24 Tamworth	ENL	1-1	845	50	12	Tshikuna	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	27 EASTLEIGH	ENL	0-0	1,204	92	12		1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
<b>OCTOBER</b>	1 Brackley Town	ENL	2-0	837	157	11	Bouldewijn, Obiero	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	4 ALTRINCHAM	ENL	1-1	1,217	58	10	McAvoy	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	11 WHITSTABLE TOWN	FAC4D	5-1	1,132	260	10	Obiero (2), Mussa, Olomola (2)	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	18 York City	ENL	0-4	6,026	142	11		1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	21 NOTTINGHAM FOREST	NLC	0-2	TBD	TBD	11		1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	25 SUTTON UNITED	ENL	4-2	1,536	250	11	Obiero, Hassan, McAvoy, Georgiou	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	1 SOUTHEND UNITED	FAC1	1-0	2,146	1,020	11	Olomola	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	4 Yeovil Town	ENL	2-0	2,337	52	8	Hutchinson, Kretzschmar	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	8 BRAINTREE TOWN	ENL	1-0	1,407	79	8	Nkrumah	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	15 Hartlepool United	ENL	1-1	3,394	105	8	Tshikuna	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	22 FOREST GREEN ROVERS	ENL	1-1	1,560	192	9	Obiero	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	25 WEST BROMWICH ALBION	NLC	2-0	126	TBD	9	Olomola, Nkrumah	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	29 Solihull Moors	ENL	1-1	841	122	9	Mussa	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
<b>DECEMBER</b>	6 Grimsby Town	FAC2	0-4	3,365	322	9		1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	13 CHESHUNT	FAT3	2-1	621	55	9	Obiero, McAvoy	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	16 Truro City	ENL	0-2	2,014	50	11		1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	21 FC Halifax Town	ENL	2-2	1,285	TBD	12	Hutchinson (2)	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	26 BOREHAM WOOD	ENL	0-4	1,982	358	12		1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	30 Aldershot Town	ENL	1-4	2,130	285	12	McAvoy	1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
<b>JANUARY</b>	3 Carlisle United	ENL	0-2	6,853	108	13		1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
	10 DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE	FAT4						1	2	3	4	5	7	8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29						



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# CUP HISTORY FOR THE LITTLE MEN



## Wealdstone's night of glory

**Hereford** .....2  
LITTLE Wealdstone made club history last night when they qualified for the FA Cup second round for the first time.

And the Southern League side achieved it against a Third Division side who know all about FA Cup giant-killing acts.

As a non-League club in 1972 Hereford beat Newcastle and drew with West Ham before losing the replay.

Two goals from Pat Ferry and a third from Bobby Moss put Wealdstone on course in this replay win after drawing 0-0 on Saturday.

Wealdstone's victory was even more creditable because they had conceded an 86-sec. goal to 17-year-old Kevin Sheedy.

**Wealdstone** .....3  
And after taking a 3-1 lead, they had to withstand a tremendous Hereford onslaught after Steve Davey had pulled a goal back in the 66th minute.

But no one played a bigger part in their success than Keith Murphy, son of the former Sheffield United manager Ken Murphy, who had a hand in all three goals.

Wealdstone manager Pat Fogarty said: "The boys played their hearts out and well deserved their success. I'm buying them an extra drink on our way back home on the coach."

Hereford's chief John Sillett said: "It was a nightmare. I have never been so deflated in my life. It is the sort of experience that you dread."

**The following day the Daily Mail trumpeted our triumph. We didn't even mind them labelling us 'little Wealdstone'**

getting a cross in against full-time opponents was a major achievement) there was little appetite for making the three-hour car journey to the Welsh borders. Hereford had been FA Cup darlings half a dozen years earlier after knocking out top flight Newcastle while still a Southern League club, so no surprise that - now in the equivalent of EFL 1 - they were hot favourites

to put the game to bed in the replay against a side two levels below. My regular travel companions on the supporters' coach, Pete Worby and Dave Heath, both decided that they couldn't get the time off work to get to Lower Mead for the 3.30pm departure - and I was working at the Watford Observer and in a similar situation.

Could we all meet at Uxbridge station at 4.30pm and make it to Hereford in time? Well, we'd give it a go. We all had cars but Dave's mini was considered the most roadworthy (ironic really, considering what was about to happen) and we had



a fully-laden car by the time we had set off, with Pete's genial dad filling the final space.

Chatter was all about the Stones and our (very) outside chance of landing a shock. Indeed, if we won it would be the club's first-ever win over full-time, Football League opposition. We were keen to see Edgar Street, an almost mythical ground immortalised in FA Cup history by Ronnie Radford's excocet 30-yarder that had dumped out Newcastle five years earlier, but had almost no faith in our chances after the very one-sided game four days earlier.

Suddenly, on the A40, a third of the way along our 150-mile journey, the car started to stutter. And then the engine just died and Dave pulled over in a layby. We looked under the bonnet and nothing seemed amiss. But were we that bothered? Not really.

Fortunately there was a roadside emergency phone (no mobiles in 1977) and Dave's RAC membership would see us rescued within half an hour. But we knew we'd miss the kick-off.

So Dave tried the ignition again and remarkable the engine sparked into life! Hurrah! Maybe we'd only miss the first part of the game?

Dave phoned the RAC back and cancelled the rescue, and we trundled off along the A40. Only to conk out barely a mile further on.

The RAC said that they would now take an hour to arrive and we settled back to listen to Charlie Chester on Radio Two and, finally, at about the time the teams were coming out for the second half, they arrived to diagnose a spark plug failure. They had just popped out, a two-minute job if only we'd known what we were doing.

**HEREFORD UNITED FC REVIEW**

FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CUP FIRST ROUND REPLAY

**VERSUS WEALDSTONE**

ON NOVEMBER 30th, 1977

15p

OFFICIAL MATCH MAGAZINE

Never mind, we said. I'll give my dad a call at the station when we get back and see if he knows what the score was, said Dave.

And so, just after ten, Dave jumped out of the car and dialled his home number. He took a while, and the ridiculous grin plastered across his face told us all we needed to know. It was good news, which was also bad news.

"We won 3-2! It was even on the news, on telly!" said the breathless Dave.

And so we slunk home, exhilarated but also a bit ashamed. Now we were at home to Reading in Round Two, and to be honest hadn't taken much notice of the Monday draw, so convinced was I that we were on our way to a taxidermy job in the replay.

And as you all know, we beat Reading 2-1 (I was there) and were then beaten 4-0 at QPR in the Third Round (I was also there).

One day we'll play Hereford at Edgar Street again. And this time I will definitely be there.

## Plus: Dishonourable mentions for the big nights at Margate and Oldham Athletic

Were you at Oldham and Margate? Well obviously, if you are a proper fan. All I can say in my defence is that the fates conspired against me.

Let's look at MARGATE first, the night everyone remembers as the birth of the "All I care about is Wealdstone FC" song and Charlie Penny going round the keeper to score the goal that clinched the Ryman League title. It was Tuesday April 15, 2014.

I had opted to go to work, trapped on the Daily Mirror sportsdesk on a busy Champions League night. My head was full of Chelsea and Liverpool headlines while my heart was 120 miles away in deepest Kent. I grabbed a moment to call fellow fan Jon Taffel. "I can't speak now Tim, it's too noisy" he said, revelling in the drama.

When my shift finished I spent an hour or so putting together the next Stones programme, four days later against Kingstonian - I had sacrificed going to the game to be able to do that. Would I like some sympathy? Hell yes!

As for OLDHAM (Tuesday August 16, 2022) I was holidaying with my family in Norfolk and had fully intended to set off late afternoon for the short hop up to Lancashire. Then my brother-in-law pointed out that Cromer to Oldham was actually further than the drive from Ruislip. Over four and a half hours!

So instead I stayed on the beach and tuned into radio Lancashire for commentary on our glorious 2-1 "It's just like watching Brazil" win. Glorious...a win over a BELT!



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# Daggers, we've met before in the Trophy...

BY TIM PARKS

# It's 44 years ago yet this still leaves a nasty taste in the mouth

**Saturday February 6th 1982, FA Challenge Trophy 2nd rd: Wealdstone 0 Dagenham 2**

I CAN still feel and taste the anger that this undeserved FA Trophy defeat conjured up 44 years ago.

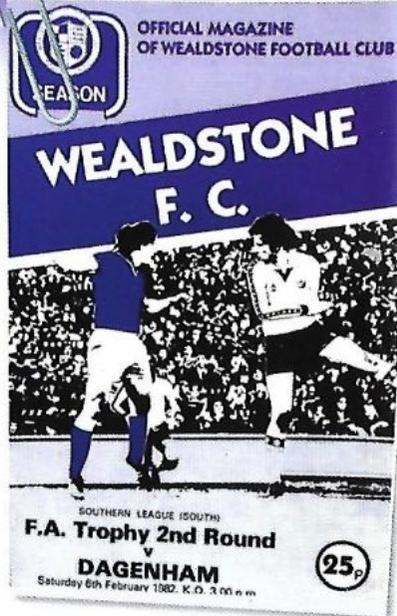
Dagenham were flying along in the National League (then known as the Alliance Premier League) while Allen Batsford's Wealdstone, having been relegated the previous season, were on their way to winning a Southern League clean sweep and bouncing straight back into non-League's top flight.

We were a very good side - and Dagenham knew it. That's why they were niggling away right from the start of this last-32-of-the-Trophy clash in front of a 1,000-plus crowd at Lower Mead. After an icy snap, we were behind with our league fixtures and had a pretty

threadbare squad. It was about to be further decimated by suspensions as full-back Steve 'Polly' Perkins allowed himself to be intimidated by the Essex side's wind-up merchants - and was sent off right at the start of the second half for complaining to referee David Letts.

Winder-up in chief was the horrible Ronnie Howells, the ex-Enfield midfielder who revelled in his role as a pantomime baddie. It was typical of Howell to poke fun at our keeper Ray Goddard after he had converted the grossly unfair penalty that gave Daggers the lead after 34 minutes - a penalty awarded by referee Letts after Goddard had punched a corner off the head of Dagenham striker Tony Gibson.

The man in black mystified ev-



everyone in the ground by pointing to the penalty spot.

As the report overpage shows, Mr Letts then threatened to call the game off when Perkins disputed his red card.

The Stones fought back gamely but the one-man advantage was enough to see the powerful Daggers go through. After beating us, the Essex side lost 4-3 at Northwich Victoria in the quarter-finals. Shame

# Uproar as Stones go out

Wealdstone 1, Dagenham 2  
**REFEREE** David Letts, the man at the centre of Wealdstone's controversial exit from the FA Trophy at Lower Mead on Saturday, revealed that he came "within a second or two" of abandoning the tie, writes **ROGER JONES.**

The second half was only a minute old when he sent off Steve Perkins for swearing at an opponent.

The player, both stunned and incensed by the decision, was reluctant to go until 'Stones' captain Paul Bowgett hustled him towards the touchline with Perkins making audible threats to the referee.

"When the skipper arrived on the scene, I was about to abandon the game because the No. 7 (Perkins) had refused to leave the field," explained Mr Letts who this weekend takes charge of the First Division

match between Arsenal and Notts County.

The Basingstoke referee had already angered and frustrated Wealdstone by booking Dennis Byatt, Paul Bowgett and Ray Knowles in the first half, all for dissent, and then awarding a 34th minute penalty which left even the visitors unable to believe their luck.

It was all too much for 'Stones' boss Allen Batsford who is also being reported to the FA for comments he made to Mr Letts at half time.

Mr Batsford was unrepentant when the tie was all over. "That was the most disgraceful display of refereeing I have ever seen," he told me. "The FA have not heard the last of this. I shall have plenty to say to them about this bloke. He completely ruined the game."

For what it is worth, I totally agree with Mr Batsford's assessment.

## Lesson lost

Having seen Byatt cautioned as early as the fourth minute for speaking out of turn, Wealdstone should have learnt their lesson. And it must be said that Mr Letts was technically correct in dismissing Perkins for using foul and abusive language.

But in a cup tie devoid of real unpleasantness —

Dagenham's Steve Ragan was the only man booked for a foul — the catalogue of names in the referee's notebook says a lot about his own failings.

At best, he demonstrated a singular lack of common sense; it was surely unnecessary to send Perkins packing. At worst, he showed a contemptuous disregard for the importance both sides — and the spectators — attached to the game.

For Dagenham, given that highly questionable penalty and the advantage of playing the final 44 minutes with one more man than Wealdstone, it was a hollow victory. They knew it — and they admitted it.

## Protests

The penalty, according to Mr Letts, was awarded because as Ray Goddard came off his line to punch clear a corner, he had his other arm round Tony Gibson's neck. It didn't look that way to me or anybody else I spoke to, including a Dagenham player or two.

When the protests had died down, Ronnie Howell gleefully thumped home the spot kick and spoilt himself, as he always does, by stupidly poking fun at the hapless Goddard.

The whole incident threw

'Stones out of their stride, but it speaks volumes for their resilience that they bounced back from this set back — and the loss of Perkins — to draw level in the 52nd minute.

Colin Hardman crossed from the right, Dagenham 'keeper' Dave Danson couldn't cling on to Robin Wainwright's shot, and Alan Cordice applied the finishing touch to emerge as a clear leader in the Wealdstone goalscoring stakes with his 23rd of the season.

Knowles might have needed 'Stones in front from an Alan Cordice cross, but one always suspected that their opponents' extra man would be a decisive factor in the end. And so it proved.

Byatt, getting tired like the rest of his colleagues, failed to clear on the edge of the box after 76 minutes when there seemed no real danger, and Chris Maycock buried a low drive just inside Goddard's right hand post.

Splendid saves by Goddard prevented Maycock again, and Gibson from giving the scoreline a distinctly distorted look in a tie in which the real villain of the piece was Mr Letts.

**Wealdstone:** Goddard, Hardman, Perrett, Byatt, Bowgett, Harrook, Perkins, Wainwright, A. Cordice, N. Cordice, Knowles. Sub: Wates (not used).



Wealdstone keeper Ray Goddard can only stare in dismay as Dagenham's Ronnie Howell (No. 6) sends him the wrong way to score from the hotly-disputed first-half penalty in Saturday's explosive FA Trophy clash.



The following week's Harry O pictures the crowd packed in behind the Cinema End goal for the Dagenham game. How many current faces can YOU identify?

OF COURSE, since the original Dagenham swallowed up famous old amateur clubs Walthamstow, Ilford, Leytonstone (and Redbridge) to become Dagenham & Redbridge in the early 1990s we met the newly-amalgamated club three times in a rip-roaring Trophy tie in

October 1998. D & R FC were in the Conference and we were two levels lower in the Ryman Div One and after the first clash at Victoria Road was rained off at 0-0, Stones led in the next game through Stuart Kent until a late leveller. But the replay was lost 5-0.

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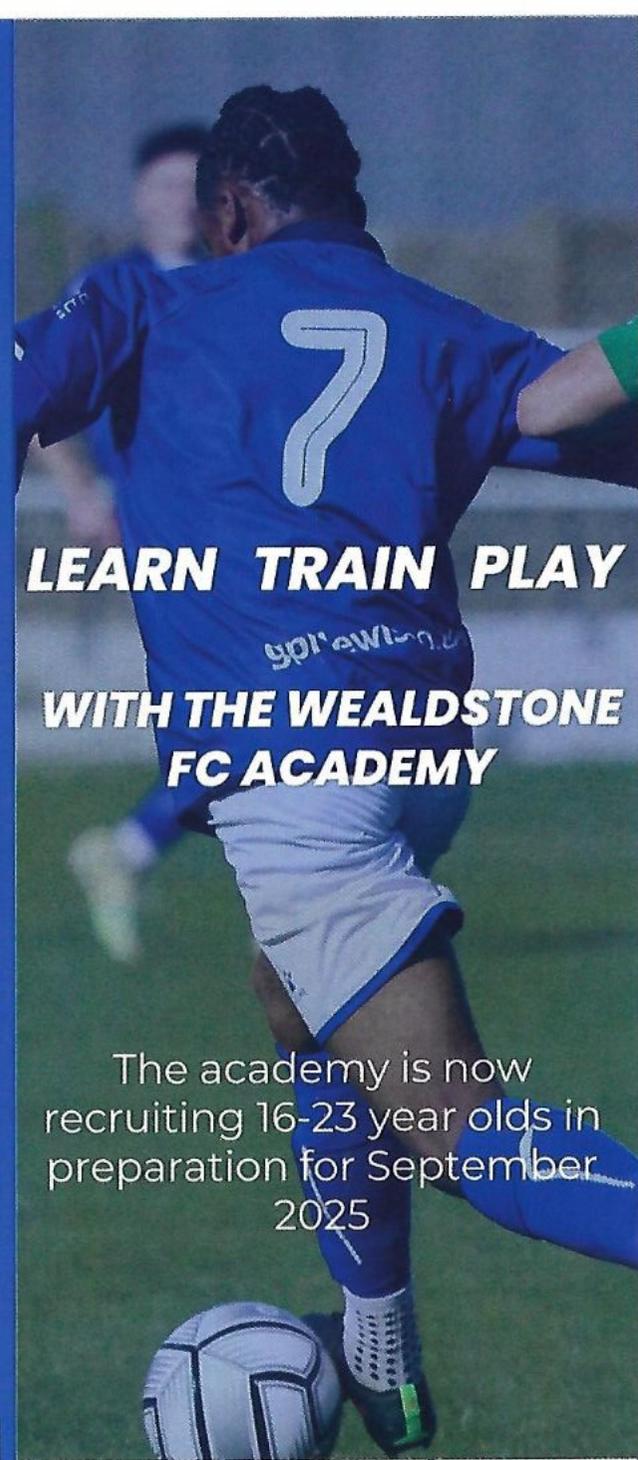
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Daggers, we  
have **someone**  
common...

BY TIM PARKS

# IT'S THE GEORGE DUCK DERBY!

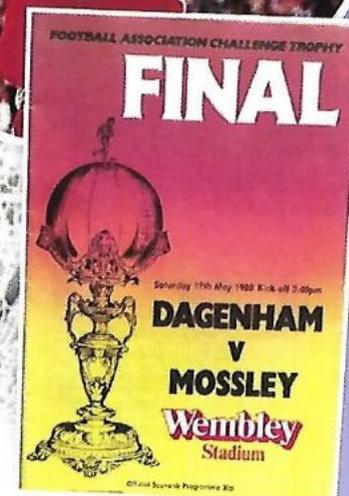


Moment of emotion:  
George after scoring

Fantastic pictures as George (No.9) leaps to head Dagenham into the lead at Wembley and then (main picture) runs to take the acclaim of the huge Daggers support



Right: The Wembley programme that glorious afternoon



**DAGENHAM and Harrow, or Ruislip, are less than 30 miles apart so it's surprising that precious few footballers have worn both red and blue. In fact, in the post-war history of the Stones and the Daggers there are only two...but what a pair!**

First up is the Wealdstone club legend who scored 250 goals for the Stones before finally leaving for the Holy Grail of playing, and scoring, in a Wembley final... George Duck.

When the FA Trophy 2nd round draw paired the two clubs this afternoon I met up with the now-73 years-old George for a few beers in his local pub in Abbots Langley. And he still looks as though he could do a job up front!

His story is well-documented, but the former Tottenham youngster fell out of love with the game in his teens and had to be persuaded by Stones manager Sid Prosser to re-launch his career in the Southern League. He spent seven glorious years at Lower Mead but was frustrated by the club's inability to get close to his boyhood dream of Wembley.. and when,

in the summer of 1979, his former Stones manager Eddie Presland tried to lure the six-footer across to East London he couldn't pass up the chance.

"Dagenham had lost to Kettering in the Trophy semi-final that year and Eddie phoned me after the game, saying that they would have won if I'd been playing. It was flattering but I knew he was right".

But now George had to prove himself to a whole new set of fans. "If I was nervous about getting off on the right foot for Wealdstone when I was 20, it was actually harder as a recognised goalscorer in non-League at the age of 27", he confessed.

"Dagenham had bought a player who was supposed to guarantee them goals - I had a reputation that I had to live up to, and those first couple of months were tricky as the team wasn't really gelling and I wasn't scoring. But, a bit like the turning point for me at Wealdstone, we had an early FA Trophy match away at Dorchester that could have been a banana skin but Eddie said to me" "You'll see a different Dagenham today - the players will all have their serious heads on.

**Continued overpage >>**

# Daggers, we have someone in common...contd

from previous page

'They'll be focused'. And that is exactly what happened. We won 1-0 and I got the goal from close range, and from that moment I was okay".

He was, of course, rather better than okay. George's goals helped lift the Daggers to fifth place in the Isthmian League (behind Enfield, Walthamstow, Dulwich Hamlet and Sutton) and he shared almost 70 goals with strike partner Ricky Kidd!

Dagenham travelled to Cheshire to smash Stalybridge Celtic 5-0 on their next step to Wembley. And in the third round they forced a 1-1 draw at Burton Albion before winning the replay 3-1 at the Victoria

Ground with Duck, Joe Dunwell and Chris Maycock the scorers. George then scored twice as the powerful Nuneaton side were removed 3-2 in the last eight.... and semi-final opponents Woking were simply blown away as Kidd (2) and Jimmy Holder set up a 3-1 away win, and Kidd (2), Maycock and Roche rubber-stamped the Wembley place in a 4-1 second leg win - 7-2 on aggregate!

Now, knowing George as we do, was his lack of confidence raising its ugly head again? Did he fear not playing his part in the Trophy final after not scoring in the whitewash of Woking?

"No, I think those demons were behind me by then. Despite not scoring in the 5-0 win at Stalybridge, that was one of my best-ever performances and I was just happy to set goals up for the others. Same story in the semi-final.

**"But as for the Wembley final... I just loved the whole day. We were buzzing with confidence.**

"We had a stack of good luck telegrams in the changing room, including one from Wealdstone via 'Guinness Ray' (Ray Corner) and I've since found out that there were dozens and dozens of Stones fans in the crowd willing me to do well, and finally win the Trophy.

"We knew Mossley were going to be tough opposition - and we knew that Northern Premier League clubs had won the Trophy every single one of the ten seasons it had been going except the one year when two Southern clubs were in the final. So the odds were weighted against us... and we didn't mind that. We had a couple of changes from our normal line-up - midfielder Mark Wright (father of the TOWIE star of the same name) had banged his head in a car accident two weeks before the game and missed out, together with midfielder Jimmy Holder



**George (far left, front row) celebrates with the Daggers... what you can't see, ringed on Ricky Kidd's head, is the hat with "Duck Walks On Water" written on it!**

who hurt his knee in the semi-final.

"That left an opening for Joey Durrell to come into the side in midfield. Joey was quick, left-sided (ex West Ham) with knees like pistons and we had an understanding, so when he made that early run in the inside right position I knew he would check inside before crossing with his left foot. That gave me just enough time to get between the centre-halves and when Joe's cross arrived where I expected it, it was second nature to leap and redirect a powerful header into the postage stamp (top right hand corner).

"As soon as I headed it, I knew I'd scored. My inner 'geography' told me where the goal was, where the keeper was and it was the best feeling in the world to know I'd headed the opening goal in a Wembley Final.

"I just took off on a run behind the goal to where all the Dagenham fans were, in that big arc of terracing, and I can't describe it, I really can't describe the feeling.

"It was the greatest moment in my career, undoubtedly. My formative days, my best days were at Wealdstone, but winning the Trophy was something I'd always wanted to do and it was a dream come true".

George might have had a hat-trick in the first half at Wembley. "I had an early shot blocked on the line and then just on half time I got up to win a header and saw it stopped by an arm on the goalline, but the ref Ken Baker said I'd won the ball illegally. It might have been crucial because Ian Smith equalized for Mossley - but happily Chrissy Maycock popped up with a winner in the last ten minutes and we'd done it.

"I was totally drained after the game. I could hardly stand up. But I'd played and won at Wembley. And scored a goal. Life couldn't get better than that!"



LEE Holmes signs on the dotted line to become a Wealdstone player, with his new boss Brian Hall looking on.

Lee Holmes signs for Brian Hall (left) and (right) lifts the FA Trophy with coach Les Reed on that wonderful 11th of May, back in 1985

# Lee 'The Enforcer' Holmes was the missing piece of Brian Hall's Conference title jigsaw

**THE SECOND member of the remarkably small Stones & Daggers Club was the man who was instrumental in Wealdstone winning the unprecedented non-League double 40 years ago.**

And, like George Duck, Lee Holmes also headed a goal in a 2-1 Trophy win at Wembley!

The long, hot summer of 1984 had seen manager Brian Hall's meticulous plans come to fruition as he tweaked the freeflowing, pacy, powerful football that took the club to 3rd place in the Gola (National) League after promotion, and then added a bit more solidity only to see the side finish one place lower in '83-84.

What did we need? We had the electric Alan Cordice and his technically-brilliant brother Neil up front, with the guile and goal-poaching expertise of Mark Graves. Clever midfielder/striker Nigel Johnson and the gifted Robin Wainwright kept the mo-

mentum through midfield and Brian Greenaway (ex Fulham) and ex Reading and Watford wide man Gary Donnellan gave us strength on the flanks. The back four was a gimme: Paul Bowgett and Dennis Byatt had already acquired the reputation of the meanest centre backs outside the League, while Steve Perkins owned the No2 shirt. Left back was a slight concern. Stuart Pearce had left to begin his climb to World Cup recognition via Coventry and Nottm Forest but fortunately, two gems turned up in pre-season training: Steve McCargo, a trialist who became a natural for that troublesome shirt, and one Vincent Jones who was helping out as temporary groundsman at the Americal School in Bushey (our training base) when he jumped off his tractor and asked to join in. So Hall had his team pretty much sorted in his head.

**But he needed a big, strong midfield enforcer. Who was**

**the best? Lee Holmes.**

Having been a success at Third Division Brentford, Holmes surprised the Bees by signing for Enfield for £5,000 in 1981. He won the Conference title in 1983, his hard-hitting tackles and crucial goals playing a big part, and was also instrumental in the Es winning the FA Trophy in '82.

Holmes was taciturn but an absolute winner - and when I heard that Stones had sealed the deal to bring him to Lower Mead I just knew that Brian Hall had found the last part of his jigsaw under the settee.

Holmes returned 13 goals from 45 games that season, including the thumping 28th-minute header that put Stones 2-0 up in the Trophy final against Boston United. He spent just two years at Lower Mead before joining the Daggers in time for the 1987-88 season - where he played 41 games until moving on to Dartford.

A great player.

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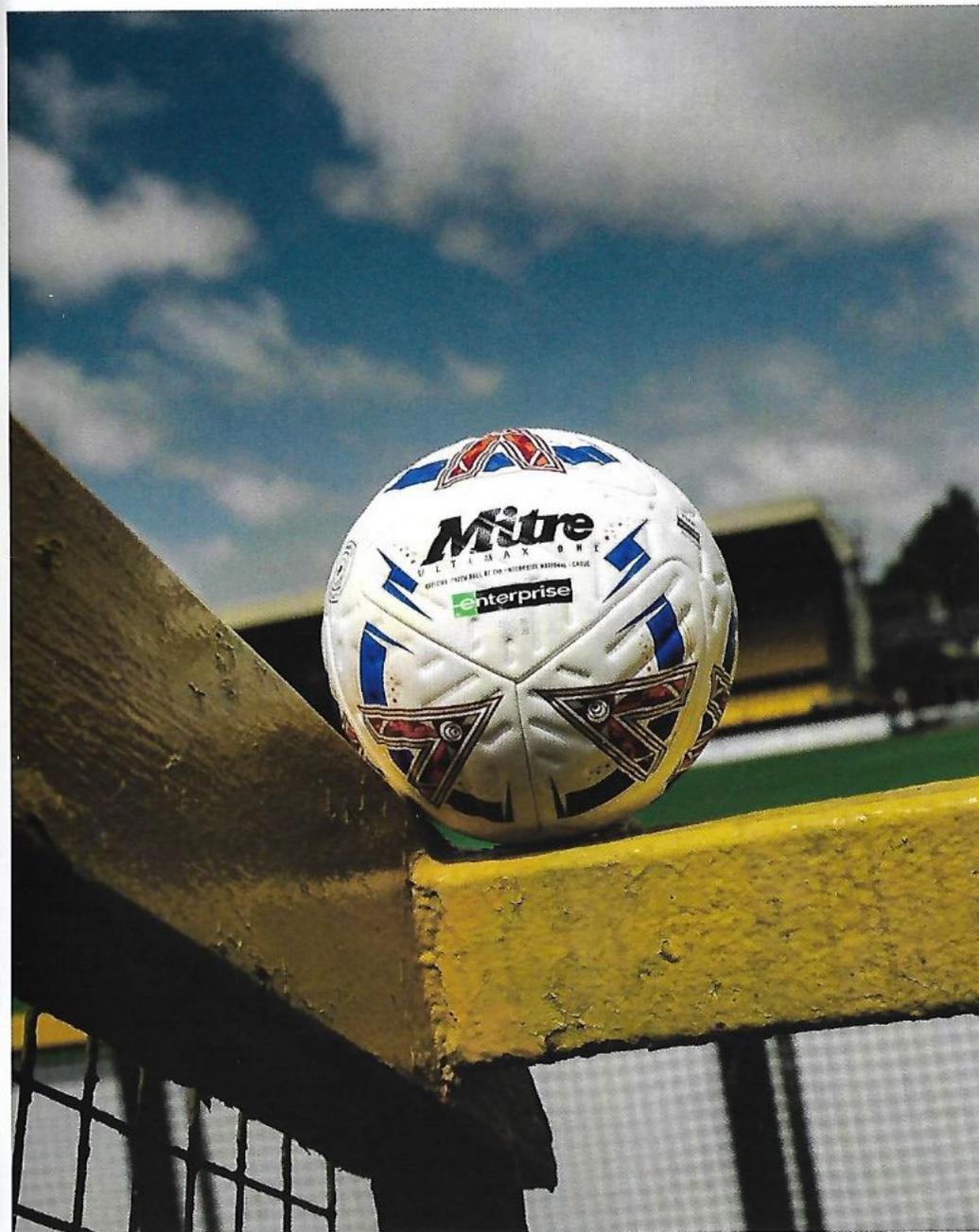


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Many of the photographs in this set of kit donor images courtesy of Jon Taffel

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**Beverley BRUCE-MILLS**

Position: Forward



**Danni HOLLAND**

Position: Midfielder



**Ellie CULLEN**

Position: Defender

Ruislip Windows



**Emma O-HARE DOILEY**

Position: Forward

@Stonescast85



**Gabi RACUT**

Position: Forward

Gary Smith



**Libby SALMON**

Position: Midfielder

Roger Slater



**Lola DOYLE**

Position: Midfielder

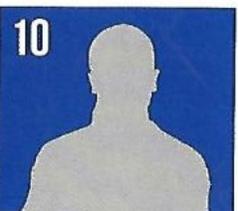
Blossom's Little Explorers



**Millie BADHAM**

Position: Defender

Todd Family



**Paige KWASKOWSKA**

Position: Forward

Hennessy



**Sumaiya DADABHOJ**

Position: Defender

Stockport Stones



**Tammy KIDD**

Position: Midfielder

**GOALS**



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Position: Forward

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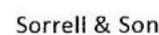
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<b>SEPTEMBER</b>				
Sun 7	Fusion	L	A	0-6
Sun 14	Rose	L	A	5-2
Sun 21	London Football School	L	H	2-6
Sun 28	Frenford & MSA	L	A	2-0
<b>OCTOBER</b>				
Sun 12	Balham	Cup	H	2-0
Sun 26	Wandsworth Borough	Cup	A	2-6
<b>NOVEMBER</b>				
Sun 2	London Football School	Cup	A	2-1
Sun 9	Edgware & Kingsbury	Cup	H	7-1
Sun 16	Hilltop Women	CC	H	Walkover
Sun 30	Tower Hamlets	L	H	3-0
<b>DECEMBER</b>				
Sun 7	Grenfell Athletic	Cup	A	-
Sun 14	Edgware & Kingsbury	L	A	-
<b>JANUARY</b>				
Sun 4	Bloomsbury	L	H	2.15pm
Sun 18	Goldsworth Park Rangers	CC	H	2.15pm



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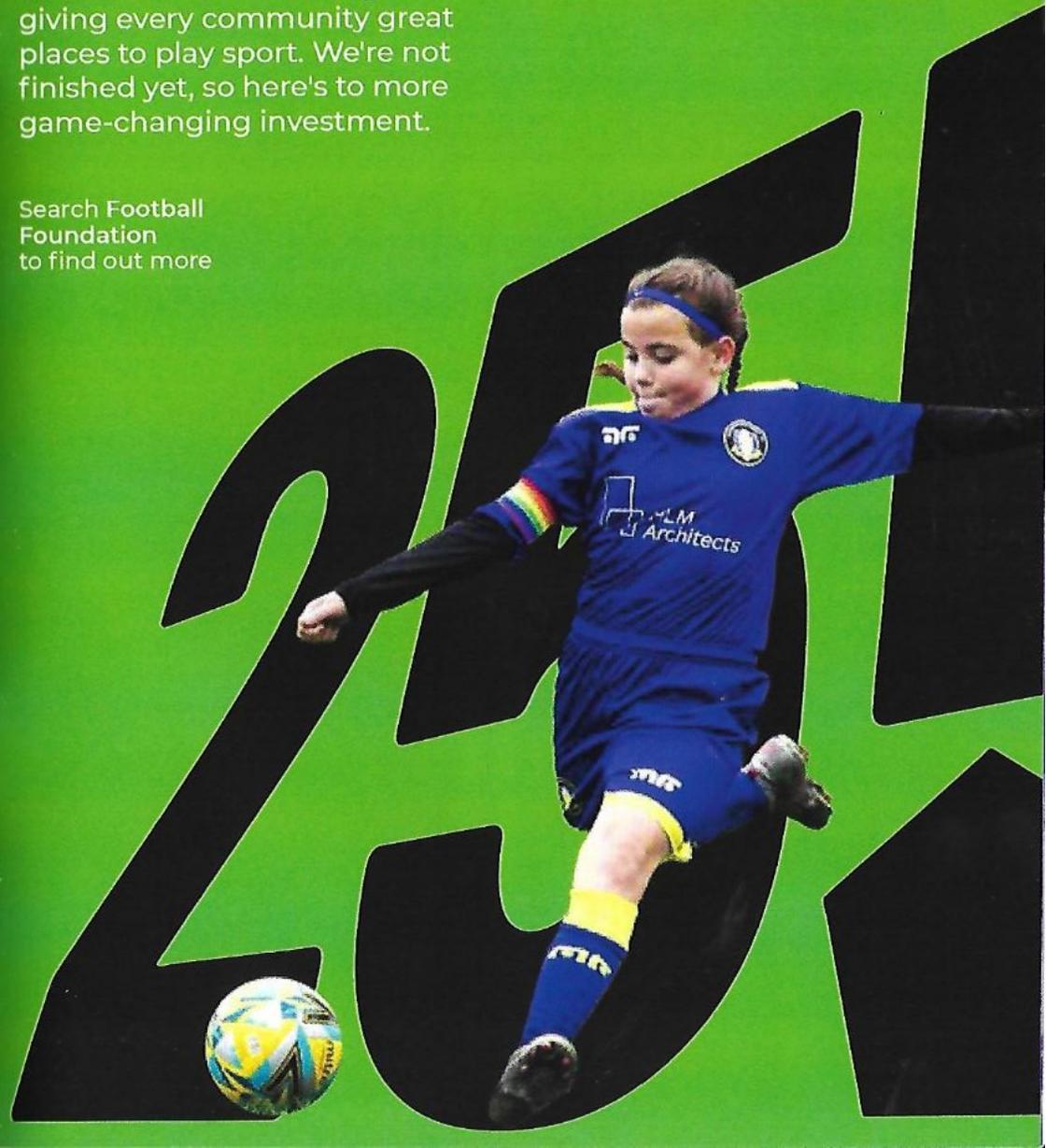
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**2025-26**

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**EASTLEIGH** September 27, Enterprise National League

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**MATCH SPONSORS:** Your name here?  
**BALL DONORS:** Your name here?

**YEovil TOWN** March 25, Enterprise National League

**MATCH SPONSORS:** Enterprise  
**BALL DONORS:** Your name here?

**BOSTON UNITED** March 28, Enterprise National League

**MATCH SPONSOR:** Rolfe East  
**BALL DONORS:** Toby Jackson (Lapels Badges)

**ALDERSHOT TOWN** April 6, Enterprise National League

**MATCH SPONSORS:** Your name here?  
**BALL DONORS:** Your name here?

**SCUNTHORPE UNITED** April 18, Enterprise National League

**MATCH SPONSORS:** Your name here?  
**BALL DONORS:** Ron Moore, Dave, Adam & Guy Edwards



# Upcoming Fixtures 2025/26

## National League clubs in Trophy action today:

- Bath City vs Southend United
- Chatham Town vs Carlisle United
- Eastleigh vs Southport
- Ebbfleet Utd vs Forest Green Rovers
- FC Halifax Town vs Anstey Nomads
- Kidderminster vs Morecambe
- Scunthorpe United vs Clitheroe
- Tamworth vs Rochdale
- Walton & Hersham vs Brackley Town
- Yeovil Town vs Alvechurch

### Home

#### Woking



Saturday  
17th January  
3:00pm

Enterprise National League

#### Tamworth



Tuesday  
21st January  
7:45pm

Enterprise National League

#### Morecambe



Saturday  
31st January  
3:00pm

Enterprise National League

### Away

#### Gateshead



Saturday  
24th January  
3:00pm

Enterprise National League

#### Eastleigh



Saturday  
7th February  
3:00pm

Enterprise National League

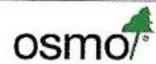
#### Altrincham



Tuesday  
10th February  
7:45pm

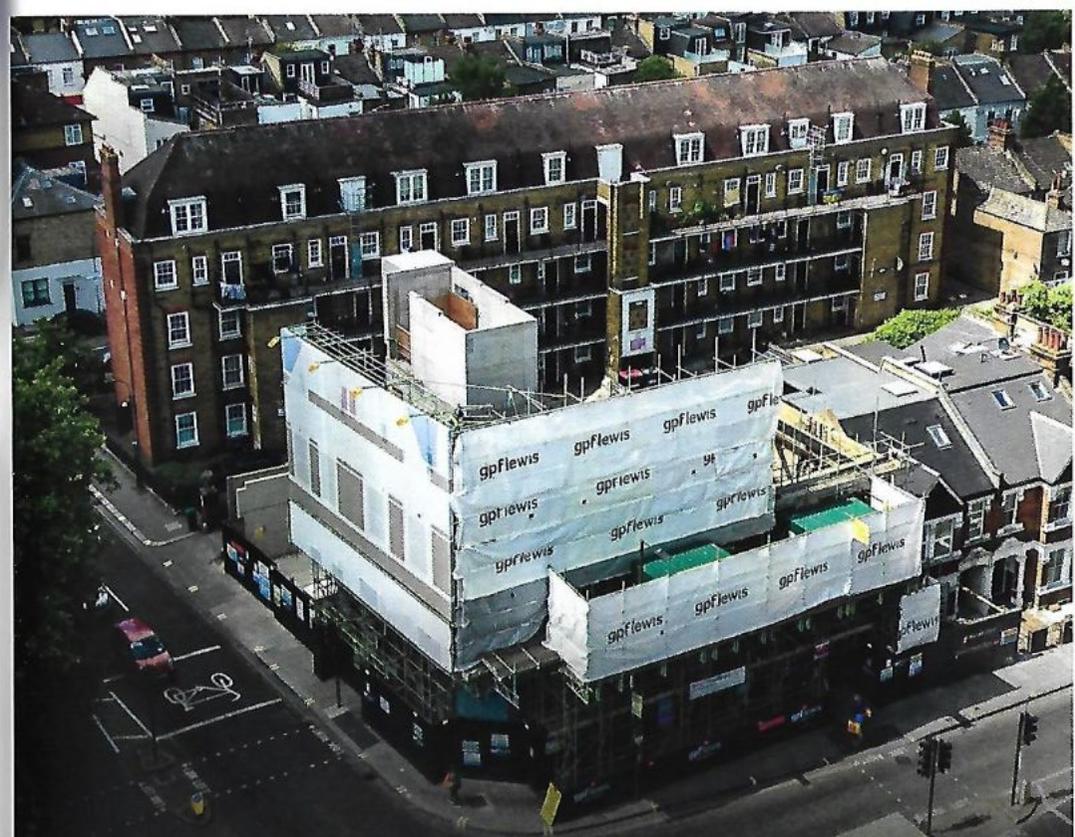
Enterprise National League

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



### Enterprise National League 2025 / 2026 - table as at Saturday 3rd January 2026

	HOME				AWAY				ALL GAMES					vs. Stones				
	P	W	D	L	P	W	D	L	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts		
1 Carlisle United	14	9	3	2	12	8	1	3	26	17	4	5	46	27	19	55	0-1	0-2
2 Boreham Wood	13	10	1	2	11	6	4	1	24	16	5	3	48	22	26	53	0-4	
3 Forest Green Rovers	14	9	4	1	12	6	4	2	26	15	8	3	44	24	20	53	1-1	
4 York City	13	8	3	2	11	7	4	0	24	15	7	2	63	26	37	52	0-4	
5 Rochdale	10	8	0	2	12	9	1	2	22	17	1	4	42	16	26	52	1-3	
6 Scunthorpe United	12	8	3	1	12	6	4	2	24	14	7	3	41	25	16	49	0-0	
7 Southend United	11	6	3	2	12	6	2	4	23	12	5	6	35	18	17	41	3-2	
8 FC Halifax Town	12	6	4	2	14	5	1	8	26	11	5	10	39	36	3	38	2-1	2-2
9 Hartlepool United	13	4	6	3	12	5	4	3	25	9	10	6	29	21	8	37	1-1	
10 Solihull Moors	13	6	3	4	12	3	4	5	25	9	7	9	40	37	3	34	1-1	
11 Tamworth	13	5	3	5	13	5	1	7	26	10	4	12	33	46	-13	34	1-1	
12 Woking	13	2	6	5	12	6	2	4	25	8	8	9	32	28	4	32	2-1	
13 Wealdstone	12	5	4	3	14	3	4	7	26	8	8	10	33	41	-8	32	----	----
14 Eastleigh	11	4	3	4	14	4	4	6	25	8	7	10	29	34	-5	31	0-0	
15 Yeovil Town	14	5	3	6	12	4	1	7	26	9	4	13	26	34	-8	31	2-0	
16 Altrincham	13	6	0	7	12	2	2	8	25	8	2	15	29	40	-11	26	1-1	
17 Brackley Town	12	5	2	5	12	2	3	7	24	7	5	12	18	30	-12	26	2-0	
18 Boston United	13	2	2	9	13	4	5	4	26	6	7	13	29	40	-11	25	1-2	
19 Braintree Town	13	4	4	5	13	2	2	9	26	6	6	14	19	35	-16	24	1-0	
20 Aldershot Town	12	4	2	6	13	2	3	8	25	6	5	14	41	49	-8	23	1-4	
21 Sutton United	12	4	4	4	12	1	4	7	24	5	8	11	34	44	-10	23	4-2	
22 Morecambe	12	3	2	7	13	2	3	8	25	5	5	15	31	55	-24	20	3-4	
23 Truro City	12	5	1	6	13	0	3	10	25	5	4	16	24	45	-21	19	2-0	0-2
24 Gateshead	12	1	2	9	13	4	2	7	25	5	4	16	29	61	-32	19	2-2	



CONSTRUCTING THE FUTURE  
MAINTAINING THE PAST

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