

How they line up today

WEALDSTONE

CARLISLE UTD

Dante-Astor BAPTISTE 1	1 Gabe BREEZE
Jack COOK @ 2	2 Kenton RICHARDSON
Joe NEWTON 3	3 Cameron HARPER
Jack WELLS-MORRISON 4	4 Harvey BUNKER
Dion CONROY 5	5 Morgan FEENEY
Mason BARRETT 6	6 Miguel AZEEZ
Luke NORRIS 7	7 David AJIBOYE
Dylan KADJI 8	8 Callum WHELAN
Olufela OLOMOLA 9	9 Georgie KELLY
Jayden HARRIS 10	10 Regan LINNEY
Dan CHESTERS 11	11 Junior LUAMBA
Aidan FRANCIS-CLARKE 12	12 Ryan GALVIN
Endurance JOHNSON 13	14 Elliot EMBLETON
Micah OBIERO 14	15 Brad NICHOLSON
Aaron HENRY 15	16 Archie MAIR
Josh MULLINS 16	18 Jack ELLIS
Admiral MUSKWE 17	20 Stephen WEARNE
Kyle SMITH 18	21 Hayden ATKINSON
Wilson WAWERU 19	22 Josh WILLIAMS
Jeffrey SEKYERE* 21	23 Seb MASON
Connor McAVOY @ 22	25 Jonah LOWES
Jaydn MUNDLE-SMITH 23	26 Bevis MUGABI
Josh CLAY 30	27 Amaru SMITH
	29 Luke ARMSTRONG

*Jeff Sekyere is out on loan at Berkhamsted Town

Officials REFEREE James Durkin ASSISTANTS Robert Evans and Stuart Kane
FOURTH OFFICIAL George Warren COACH Steve Bratt

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NEXT HOME GAME: KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS
National League: Saturday 5 September, kick off 3pm

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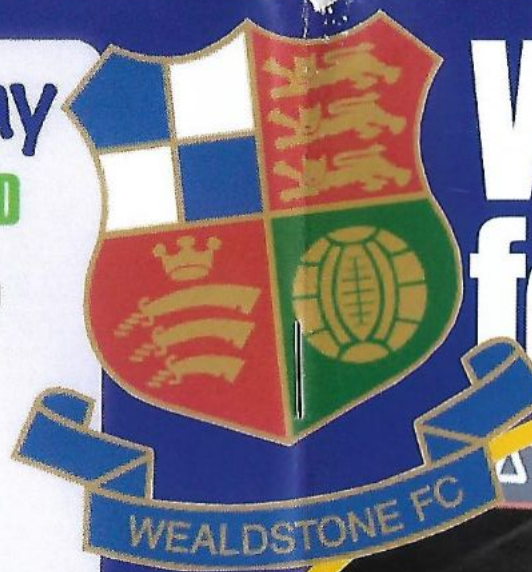


Brunel University London

NEXT HOME NATIONAL LEAGUE CUP GAME:
STOKE CITY U-21s
Tues 8 Sept, KO 7pm



gpflewis



wealdstone football club



One of the many tugs on Luke Norris that were missed in the narrow defeat at Worthing **PICTURE: JON TAFEL**

v Carlisle Utd
Enterprise National League
Friday 28 August 2026, 7.45pm
Season 2026-27: programme £3

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Wealdstone v Carlisle United 28/08/2026

written in stone

Mark Hyde

Welcome to Grosvenor Vale for our unusual Friday evening fixture against Carlisle United who have made the short trip down from Cumbria.

There was disappointment in our first home game against Harrogate Town on 15th August, with the visitors running out 3-1 winners despite Micah Obiero getting on the scoresheet.

The Stones then faced another tough test on the road at Worthing, last Saturday where Ramell Carter's 44th-minute strike gave the hosts a 1-0 victory.

Wealdstone were forced to play most of the second half with ten men following Dylan Kadji's dismissal, making the task of finding a way back into the game even harder.

With the season still in its infancy, there is plenty of football ahead and plenty of opportunity for Gary's side to respond.

Please be aware that we will be holding a minutes applause before this evening's kick off to mark the passing of popular and long time supporter of the Stones, Ken Pitteway whos obituary you will find later in this programme.

As ever, your support will be crucial as we look forward to the challenges and opportunities still to come.

Up the Stones

Mark

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Mick Fishman & Tim Parks

WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2026/2027

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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

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1984 / 1985 FA Trophy

LEAGUE CUPS

1981 / 1982 Southern League Cup

MIDDLESEX COUNTY CUPS

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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).

Lakefront Football Partners hold 50.61% at 31 May - no other shareholder holds over 10%

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:
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 - Entering the field of play before, during or after a game without prior authorisation
 - Being drunk, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs • 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 Bulls stand
- 2) No spectator ball games.
- 3) The consumption of alcoholic drinks is permitted INSIDE the social club bar, garden and boardroom areas.
- 4) Vehicles parked on the Grosvenor Vale site are at the owners' risk.
- 5) Wealdstone Football Club supports the FA's campaign on pyrotechnics (e.g. flares and smoke bombs). Any misuse of such items in and around the Ground will result in those responsible being asked to leave the ground and, in line with football authority guidance, may result in a report to the Police, potential prosecution and a ban from the Club of up to three years.
- 6) No Smoking or Vaping inside the ground.

Wealdstone FC Board of Directors

Wealdstone v Carlisle Utd. 28/08/2026

gaffer's column gary waddock

GARY Waddock is a frustrated man. "I hate losing" he said after the defeat at Worthing last weekend.

"I made a mistake by not coming over and applauding the Stones fans after that game but believe me it was not a slight on the supporters who were magnificent. ... I'm not like that, it was just an oversight on my part.

"I just wanted to get back in the changing room and talk to the players, get things off my chest".

The Stones definitely had "a right go" in the second half, despite only having 10 men after the dismissal of Dylan Kadji (right) for a second yellow card. There were 22 fouls committed by Worthing in the game, and 18 by Wealdstone... yet it was the Stones who were shown five yellow cards and Worthing none!

It was referee Tongu Sangowawa's first game at National League level.

"When I said last week about the



'mentality around this football club having to change', I meant that we need to foster a winning mentality" said Gary. "We're not "little old Wealdstone" any more. We are much better than that. We can compete in every game. And everybody, everybody has to have that mentality".

I asked Gary: so what's the thought process going into a difficult couple of games this weekend after a disappointing start the season? Is it about tactics, the pattern of play or building up individual fitness?

"Well, we stay with our beliefs about being more purposeful with the ball, but you have to understand that this is a new group who have just come together and it will all need time to bed in. We need to grind out a result from somewhere - but

with every passing game it will get harder. There are areas of concern on the pitch but we must have that collective belief from the top of the team to the bottom and everybody has to take responsibility - and that includes me.

"Today we face Carlisle United, firm favourites to win the game after recent results and bearing in mind the size of that club.

"But I'm going out there today to beat them. I'll say it again, we need to have a winning mentality... and apart from Dylan Kadji, who is serving a one-match ban and the injured Jack Cook and Admiral Muskwe (both hamstrings) we have pretty much a full squad, bar a few bruises.

"From the fans we'd like to hear a repeat of the brilliant vocal support at Worthing, so please get behind the lads as we take on this next challenge.

Up the Stones!"

'When I talked about a change of mentality it was that we all have to have a WINNING mentality'

ONE of the genuine joys of being a long-time Stones fan is to look back and compare just how good - and how rubbish - our club has been in the past.

This is my 57th season of following Wealdstone and it was intriguing to look back through the record books this past week when fans were openly critical of the attendance for our opening home game against Harrogate on August 15.

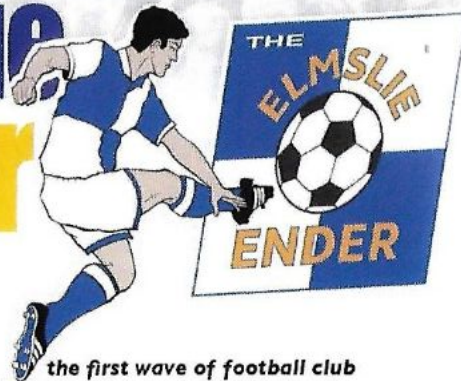
On the back of taking 14,000 to Wembley for the Trophy Final, was it realistic to expect hordes to descend on the Vale on a sunny August afternoon? Yes, there were no footballing counter-attractions, with the Premier League and Championship clubs not re-starting until the following week, but early-season attendances are traditionally on the low side.

Still not convinced the 1,517 crowd was acceptable? Only last year we had recorded the biggest opening day home crowd for 58 years for that Truro City opener (helped by another late start

elmslieender



Tim Parks



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

Project 2k' looks a way off but our crowds are edging back towards 1960s levels

of the Premier League season)... but it was only 55 people bigger than the crowd for Harrogate a fortnight ago! In fact if you deduct the away fans (Truro brought 171 and Harrogate

123) the difference is only nine! So why has it been so long since we had a home crowd of over 1,500 for the big kick-off?

Well in fact we had 1,805 for the York City opening game three years ago, but 680 of that crowd had travelled down from Yorkshire. So about 1,100 Stones fans... not bad, but not enough for that cigar.

Beyond that you have to time-travel way back through the National League South and Ryman Prem days (around 5-600) and even our glory, non-

Dom Hutchinson celebrates the second and clinching goal against Truro last August... and the Bulla fans go wild! Picture: JON TAFFEL



League Double-winning days (when opening day gates were only 700 or 800) and it's not until you hit the 1970s that the crowds come anywhere close.

Our first game after promotion to the Southern League Prem in August 1975, and the attraction of the powerful Weymouth side, drew 1,300 to Lower Mead which is starting to trouble the statisticians. I doubt though there were more than 200 in the ground from Dorset, so probably 1,100 home fans... which would have been a disappointment as the Stones were watched by close to 3,000 for the closing games of the title-winning 1973-74 season.

In fact 1,700 turned up at Lower Mead on the Tuesday night following the Weymouth game to see Southern League champions Dartford walloped 4-1 by Eddie Presland's rampant Stones. If this had been the opening game it would have taken the crowd accolades as probably only 200 travelled up from Kent, meaning 1,500 Wealdstone fans were present.

But to keep it within the 'first home game' parameters, you have to go back to August 10 1968 when 1,900 filed through the Lower Mead turnstiles for the Isthmian League game with St Albans City.

This was a high-octane Isthmian League clash, back in the amateur days, and I'd estimate that no more than 300 had made the trip down the road from Hertfordshire which would



Dave Swain (white shorts) troubles the Saints defence in front of the big opening day crowd at Lower Mead

have the home crowd at around 1,600 to eclipse the 1,400 present for the Truro game.

Stones won a fiery clash 3-2 on the way to a fifth-placed finish in the amateur game's top division behind Enfield, Hitchin Town, Wycombe Wanderers and Sutton United. Saints finished seventh.

Research is not helped by the lack of crowd numbers for pretty much all of the club's career in the

Isthmian League, and it's quite possible that clubs did not publicise attendances for fear of the taxman. The only published crowd between Wealdstone joining the League in 1964 (promotion from the Athenian League) and that 1968 gate v St Albans was on the Stones' very first game in that division: Saturday August 22, 1964, when 2,000 paid to watch us beat Tooting & Mitcham United 2-1 at Lower Mead.

...While Stones still travel in impressive numbers

SINCE our return to the National League, we have taken 300 or more fans to away games on 14 occasions. The list is not surprisingly topped by visits to Barnet (921 in 2023/24, 848 in 21/22, 836 in 22/23 and 759 in 24/25) but we also took 387 to Southend in 21/22, 369 to Boreham Wood in 23/24, and 364 to Southend again in 24/25. Last week we took 344 to Worthing, and there were 339 away fans at Notts County in 22/23, 334 at Wood in 25/26, 332 at Southend in 22/23, 329 at Woking in 22/23, 300 at Maidstone Utd in 24/25 and 300 at Ebbsfleet in 23/24.

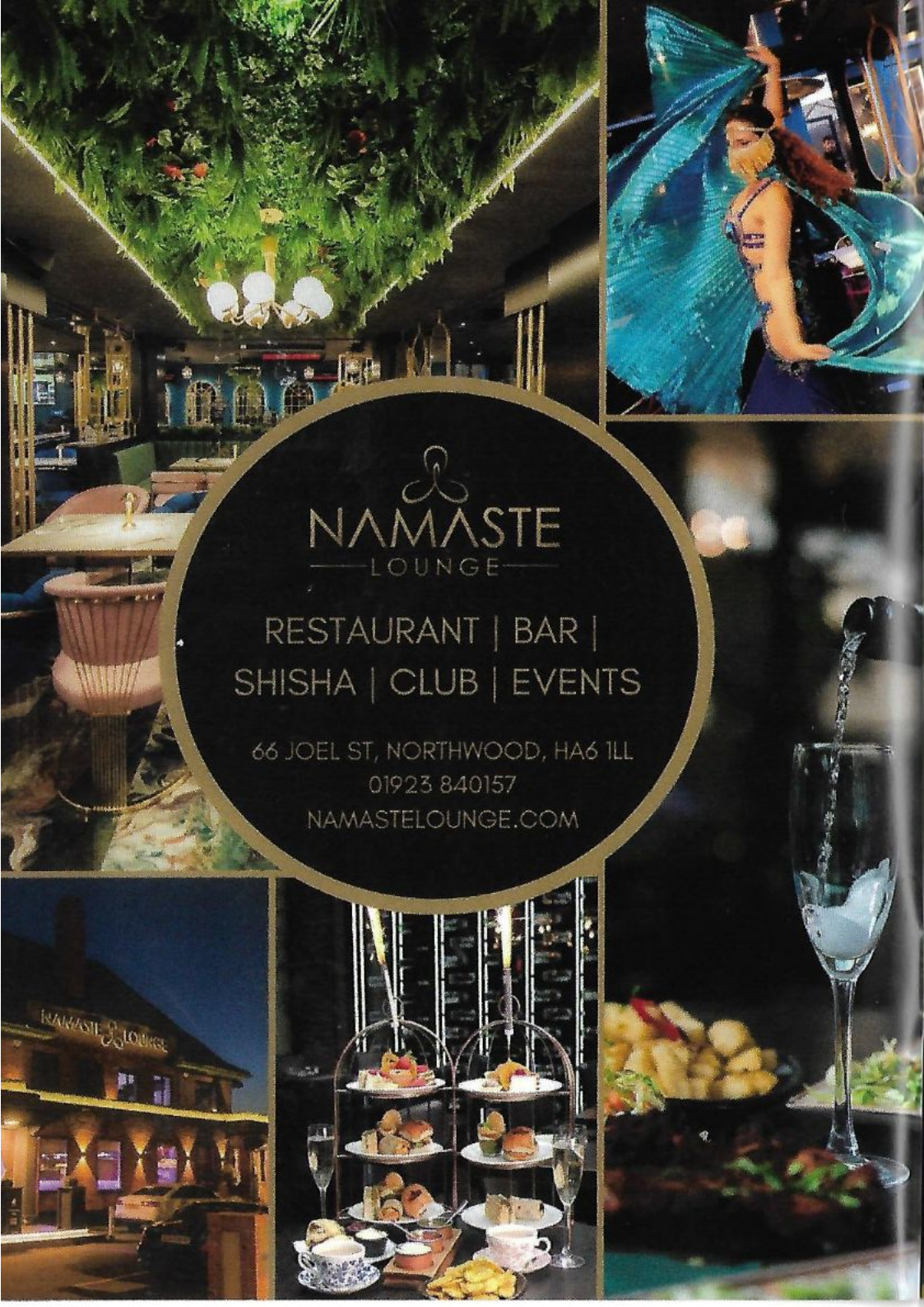
Plus, in cup ties, we took 501 to Kidderminster in 25/26, 332 to Grimsby in 25/26, 315 v Wood in 22/23 and 300 to Chelmsford in 23/24.

Statistics: Sudhir Rawal

A section of the 344 Stones fans at Worthing last week. Pic: Jon Taffel



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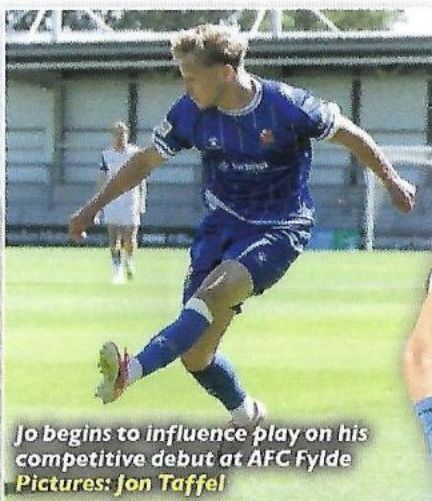
Tim Parks

meet the new stones it's joe newton

JOE NEWTON has big shoes to fill in the left wing-back role... but the 25-year-old has made an impressive start to his Wealdstone career. We asked him the pertinent questions...

You kicked off your career at Coventry but what is your youth football history? And how did you come to leave the Sky Blues.. and why Havant & Waterlooville? I kicked off my professional career at Coventry at 18 years old yes, but before that my career wasn't like the normal route as I was playing Sunday League football before for St Albans City Youth from the age of 5-15. Then I moved over to a friend's Saturday League team called Colney Heath EJA. I then started playing for the Colney Heath men's team for a season and a half, moving on to play for Royston Town at step three for about a season. Then I joined Coventry for two years in the U-23's set up. It was in the second year of my time there that I had a freak accident and broke my leg... there's a sense of realisation when something's taken away from you - your job, your passion - that you mustn't take it for granted. I took that attitude into Solihull Moors with me and we nearly ended up in the Football League.

Did you get close to the 1st XI at Coventry? I had one taste of first team experience by being on the bench in the Papa John's Trophy but that was about it. I chose Havant because I had a really good chat with Paul Doswell - who was



Jo begins to influence play on his competitive debut at AFC Fylde
Pictures: Jon Taffel

the gaffer at the time - and he explained what he could do for me and that really drew me in.

Did your parents play a big part in your youth career? Yes my parents played a massive part as they took me to every session pos-



sible... I couldn't have gone without them...

Who would you describe as a mentor in your early years? I would say one of the mentors in my early career was my college coach Chris Watters who's in charge of Royston - he always gave me good advice and always wanted the best for me.

Where were you brought up? Do you still live in that area? I was brought up in Hatfield and am still living there.

Are you married? Kids etc? Not married no.... and 0 kids!

Do you have any relatives who play the game? I did have a relative who had a good career in the game: Steve Arnold, my brother in law who played in the league for numerous years for the likes for Stevenage, Shrewsbury, South-end etc

How did the move to the Stones come about? Through an agent or contacts? The move came about through my agent when he told me in off season that they were interested. I then had a few chats over the phone in June with them while I was on holiday - before meeting with Gary and Steve who said where they could see me in the team and outlined their plans. And it was also their ambition that persuaded me to sign.

Have you played against Wealdstone in the past? What do you know about the club? I have played against Wealdstone in the past... they've always been a tough team to play, especially at home with the fans

backing them and getting on their side.

Did you know any of the players or management? I knew Connor (McAvoy) and Wellsy (Jack Wells-Morrison) through playing with them at different clubs previously.

The club is known for being very friendly and inclusive. How are you finding your early weeks here? I'm loving my first few weeks here! All the boys are friendly and we get along very nicely. I do have a car share running with Luke Norris and Dan Chesters as we all live in the same area and just jump in!

Who are the best players you've played alongside in your career? And played against? The best player I've faced, football-wise has got to be Abdul Abdulmalik at Boreham Wood... I've never seen someone so sharp and quick with the ball at their feet. And another player I've directly come up against and found it a tough game is Karamoko Dembele who now plays for QPR. Very sharp!

When do you think you played the best football of your career so far? Was it over a whole season or a certain run of games? I think my best football came in my first season at Solihull Moors when we got to the play off final - we had a great team and everything clicked for me personally, getting around 10 goals and goal assists from left

wing back.

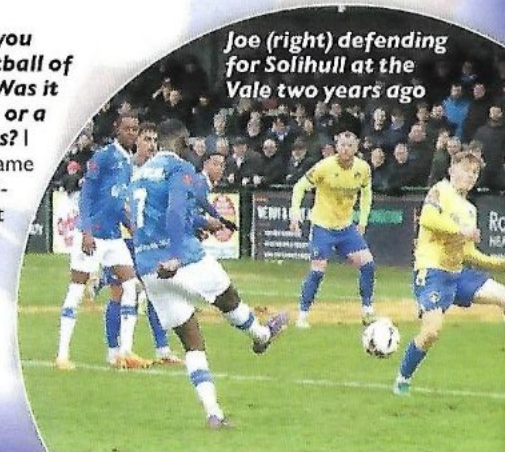
Have you always played in that position? What is your favourite role in the team? In my professional career, I have either played mainly left back or left wing back. I played left wing back for a lot of the play off final season so hopefully I can do the same here!

You've scored a few goals in your career... which was your favourite? Can you describe it? I think my favourite goal was against Hartlepool, when I was at Solihull. It was a great team passing goal and it ended up with me on my weak foot putting the ball in the top corner.

AND FINALLY....

What's playing in your air pods at the moment? I'm currently listening to a lot of house music so anything with a bit of that!

What's your go-to place when you want to eat out? My go-to place is a nice Italian.... can't go wrong!



Joe (right) defending for Solihull at the Vale two years ago

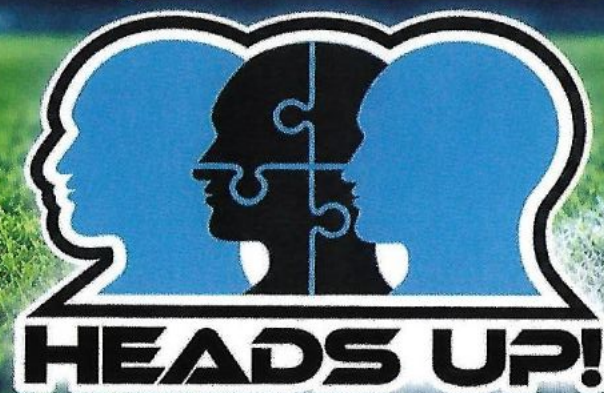
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opposition in focus:

Carlisle United Football Club, founded in 1904, is a professional football club based in Carlisle, Cumbria.

The club joined the Football League in 1928 and has spent much of its history fluctuating between the lower tiers of English football.

The pinnacle of Carlisle United's history came in the 1974–75 season when they reached the First Division (now the Premier League) for the first and only time. Remarkably, they topped the league after the first few games but were eventually relegated at the end of the season.

Carlisle became known for their resilience, experiencing several

relegations and promotions over the decades. One of the club's most memorable moments occurred in 1999, when goalkeeper Jimmy Glass scored a last-minute goal to keep the team in the Football League.

Brunton Park, the club's home since 1909, has hosted the highs and lows of Carlisle's footballing journey. While they have never won a major national trophy, the club has had successes in lower-league competitions, including winning the Football League Trophy in 1997 and 2011.

Carlisle United maintains a loyal fan base and continues to play a key role in the sporting identity of Cumbria.

Following relegation from the Football League in the 2003–04 season, Carlisle were promoted out of the Conference at the first time of asking in 2004–05, winning the play-off final by defeating Stevenage



Stadium: Brunton Park
Capacity: 17,949 **Opened: 1909**
Record crowd: 27,603 v Middlesbrough 1970

Borough 1–0 at the Britannia Stadium. Carlisle's excellent form under manager Paul Simpson continued into the following season as they returned to the Football League with a bang, clinching the League Two title. Simpson then departed for Preston North End, and was succeeded by Neil McDonald.

In 2006–07, the club were mired in mid-table but staged a late run for a play-off place, they finally finished the season eighth, their highest league place for 20 years with the added bonus of returning their highest average league crowds for 30 years. Carlisle started the 2007–08 season with a 1–1 draw at newly promoted Walsall but manager Neil McDonald was sacked on the Monday after the match. Cheltenham Town manager John Ward took over on a permanent basis in October 2007, with both

clubs agreeing a six-figure compensation package. Under Ward Carlisle were in the hunt for an automatic promotion spot but could only manage a draw on the final day of the season and finished fourth. In the play-off semi-final, Carlisle lost to Leeds United 3–2 on aggregate.

The 2008–09 season saw Carlisle start promisingly but it was soon followed by one of the worst runs of form in the club's history. Because of this manager John Ward was sacked and replaced by caretaker manager Greg Abbott, signing him permanently after he uplifted the club's form in the subsequent games. Carlisle completed two full seasons with Abbott at the helm, and achieved comfortable mid-table finishes in both. More noteworthy were the two runs in the Football League Trophy which took place in those

carlisle united



seasons. The team were beaten in the final in 2010 but returned the following year, to win the trophy in 2011. The following season started successfully for the Cumbrians and sustained a considerable play-off push throughout the season. A dip in form towards the end of the seasons saw Carlisle miss out by two points to Stevenage.

Following a narrow 1–0 home defeat to Port Vale, Abbott's five-year reign as United manager ended. Following Abbott's sacking, assistant manager Graham Kavanagh was installed as caretaker manager, later appointed on a permanent basis. In May 2014, Carlisle were relegated having finished 22nd, ending an eight-year spell in the third tier.

In September 2014, Keith Curle was appointed as Carlisle United manager. After a poor start to the season, Curle lifted Carlisle from the foot of the table, and out of the relegation zone.

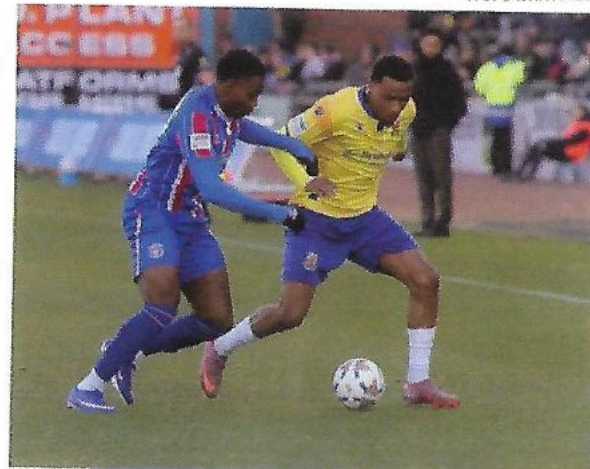
However, Carlisle drifted back towards a relegation battle, only securing their Football League safety with two games to spare. The next season was a much more comfortable one but not enough for a promotion push, with the team finishing 10th. A highlight of the season was a visit to Anfield for the third round of the League Cup. Carlisle held Liverpool to a 1–1 draw, but lost 3–2 on penalties.

The first half of the 2016–17 season was excellent for the club, with just one loss in their first 23 league fixtures. However a disastrous sequence followed, with only four wins in the next 21 games. Carlisle narrowly made the play-offs but lost 6–5 on aggregate to Exeter City in the semi-final. Keith Curle left Carlisle United at the end of the 2017–18 season after over four years in charge. The 2019–20 season was cancelled due to the

COVID-19 pandemic with the Cumbrians in a disappointing 18th place.

In February 2022, Paul Simpson returned as manager with the club in 23rd place. "Simmo" led the blues to eight wins, one draw and six defeats which was enough to pull the club from the relegation zone and keep Carlisle in the Football League, finishing in 20th place. After securing survival in the 2021–22 season, Simpson agreed terms on a new three-year contract as manager. In the 2022–23 season, Carlisle finished fifth, securing a play-off spot. In the play-off semi-final, Carlisle defeated Bradford City to win the tie 3–2 on aggregate. In the play-off final, the Cumbrians defeated Stockport County on penalties after a 1–1 draw to earn promotion back to League One after nine years in League Two.

The 2023–24 season was less successful. Carlisle were immediately relegated back to



Stones v Carlisle head to head:
P 2 W 0 D 0 L 2 Goals F O A 3

the fourth tier, finishing 24th, 16 points adrift of safety, with just seven victories in the league and only 30 points. A second successive relegation looked likely the following season; Simpson was sacked on 21 August 2024 after losing three of the first four league games. Then, after just five wins from 25 games, his successor, Mike Williamson, was sacked on 3 February

2025, with the club five points from League Two safety. Three days later, Mark Hughes became Carlisle's new

head coach, but Carlisle were relegated to the National League with one game still to play at the end of the 2024–25 season, ending a 21-year spell in the EFL dating from the 2003–04 season.

Carlisle finished their first season back in the National League in 3rd place on 95 points.

Carlisle's direct passage to the playoff semi-finals ended in a 2–1 defeat at home to Boreham Wood.

Pics. Jon Taffel



Lee Rooney

view from the away end



Your name and age?

Lee Rooney, 41.

Do you live in Carlisle?

No – I've been based in Liverpool since 2014, but have had a season ticket that whole time.

When was your first United game, and why did you go?

It was a home game against Bury on 27 December 1994 (remarkably, we also played away at Hartlepool the day before). We won 3-0.

What do you recall of it?

The game was a big top of the table clash – we were first, Bury second. A sell-out crowd of over 12,000 packed in and we dominated. A life-long addiction/affliction began there and then.

Do you follow any other team?

No English teams, though I do follow Hertha Berlin in Germany and try to get over once a season for a game at the Olympiastadion.

How involved are you with Carlisle United?

Massively. I used to work in the club's media team for a couple of years back in 2010-12, and for the last six years I've been the main host and producer of the *Brunton Bugle* podcast which goes out weekly.

How big a part of your life is football?

Massive. There's a reason it's the most popular sport in the world. Nothing can affect your mood every weekend quite like it!

What are your top three most



Lee (right) is pictured at the Cumbrians' play-off final v Stockport County in 2023 with Mike Booth, co-host on the Brunton Bugle!

Do I blame Mark Hughes? You can't hold a man responsible who gets your club's highest ever points total in a season

memorable games involving Carlisle? And why?

1). The 2-1 win over Plymouth on 8th May 1999 – The famous Jimmy Glass game, an incredible moment (see next page). 2). The play-off final win over Stockport County in May 2023 at Wembley – yes, what followed was terrible, but that day was amazing and I'd

happily do it all over again.

3). The 3-1 win over Leeds United in November 2007 – a top of the table clash in League One, over 16,000 in Brunton Park, just a shame we messed up a chance of promotion in the run-in!

Do you think United will be back back in the EFL by the

end of the season? I think last year was a good taster for us as to what to expect at this level and finishing third on 95 points was a very good effort. This year we've got a new boss who seems to have a really positive outlook and with York and Rochdale out of the way, we are in a better position to get ourselves up again.

How disappointing was the play-off defeat last season?

I think everyone expected we'd be in the play-offs from about October onwards, and having the home advantage and bye to the semi-finals was big. But truth is, we didn't really turn up against Boreham Wood. I still think Rochdale would probably have beaten us in the final anyway.

Do fans hold Mark Hughes responsible? Do you feel more confident with Rob Elliot in charge?

It's hard to hold a man responsible when he gets you to your highest ever points finish in a league season – I think the expectations of some of our fans was totally unrealistic. We'd have won League Two with that points total! He was the right man to stabilise us after two years of chaos, but I think Elliot (right) is now the right man to get us to kick on and back to the EFL. Despite the opening-day defeat to Woking.

Was there a novelty in playing different teams last season? Or did that wear off very quickly? I've always been a fan of visiting new grounds and it was a bit quirky for some games, but standing on an open terrace at



8 May 1999: That Jimmy Glass moment as the Carlisle keeper comes up for a corner in the final seconds of the last game of the season against Plymouth Argyle – and scored the goal that kept the Cumbrians in League Two and relegated Scarborough

Altrincham in the pouring rain made me start to reassess some of my life choices!

Will CUFC travel in numbers today, or is the evening kick-off a killer?

With it being early season and still in the summer holidays, there may be a few who make a weekend of it. We'll still bring plenty down from the north

but there's no doubt this evening kick-off will have a knock-on effect.

Is there a London-based CUFC supporters group?

Yes – it's a very well known and respected group that have been going for over 50 years now. They do lots of great fundraising for the club and arrange tickets and travel for away games. They'll be at the game in good numbers too.

What was your average crowd last season and can you envisage the number rising or falling? Remarkably, our average crowds over the last few seasons have been quite steady, and that's despite dropping

two divisions and the inevitable smaller away followings that brings. We averaged 7,338 in the 2025/26 season and with season ticket sales pretty much at the same level, we should at least match that this time around.

Who are the key additions to your playing squad? And the stand-outs who remain?

We've been pretty sensible in the transfer market this summer – we cleared a bloated squad in the summer and we've just tinkered around the edges bringing in players we needed in key areas. Miguel Azeez and Harvey Bunker should give us the steel and quality we've needed in midfield. Regan Linney was superb last season and I'd expect him to be similar this time around too.

And finally, what is your prediction for today, and both teams' final league position?

Unfortunately, I think it'll be a little bit more comfortable for us this season and I'll go for a 3-0 win. Final positions in the league? Got to go for top spot for the Blues and for the Stones, I reckon a comfortable 14th place.



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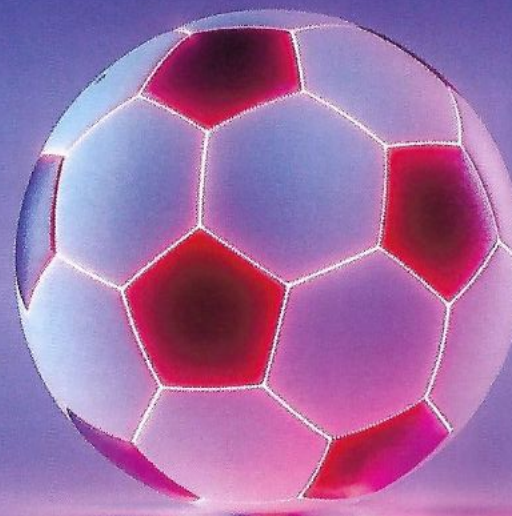
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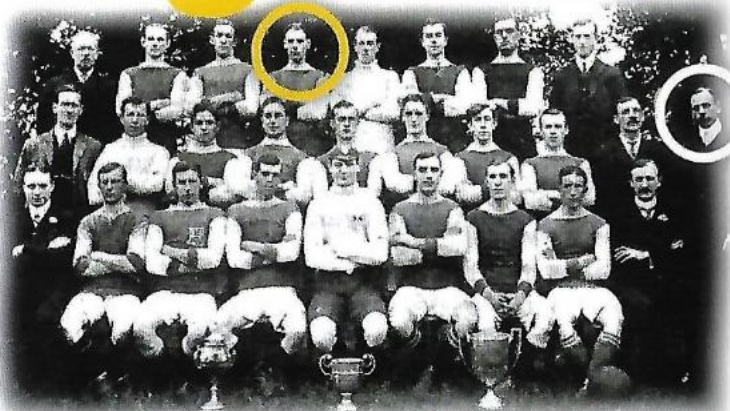
MICK FISHMAN'S "opening salvo" in the last programme - on those Wealdstone players who deserve legendary status - set fellow club historian ROGER SLATER off on the onerous task of adding those that no-one living today ever saw play! At least two families deserve greater recognition, as without them it is doubtful the club would even exist today....

FOOTBALL in the mid and late 1890's in Wealdstone Village was a family affair. It was not uncommon for brothers and cousins to play in the same team or teams as players often turned out for more than one club, and family members were often called in to cover for absent team mates.

The first is the **Cozens** family. Represented by two brothers, William Henry and Herbert and two cousins, they were 'a constant' through the various machinations of the seed clubs that became Wealdstone FC, with the two brothers playing in the first match played as Wealdstone FC in October 1899 in which Herbert scored twice.

No.2 is the **Bellchambers** family, represented on the field by William (who played 1897-1899), Charles (1899-1901) and Ernest (1902-1920). As a family they were also involved as players and as officers of the club but it is Ernest with 169 known appearances who starred. He continued to represent Wealdstone Church Athletic through the 'dormant' years, returning with the reformed Wealdstone FC in 1909 and he was part of the Middlesex League-winning sides in 1904-05, 1910-11 and 1912-13. He also played in the club's first FA Cup

the early days' legends



The all-conquering Wealdstone side in 1913 with Ernest Bellchambers circled in yellow and his older brother William in white. Sid White is second from right in the front row

The men who played through the Great War to shape our new club

and FA Amateur Cup ties in 1913-14, the first senior season.

The first that perhaps qualifies as a Legend from this period as a player alone is **Sidney Ernest White**, born in 1885. He was a reserve player for Wealdstone Church Athletic as they took over Wealdstone FC's fixtures in the club's dormant period - and the tricky winger was a crowd favourite, remaining part of the Wealdstone side until his retirement in 1921. Remarkably, he was wounded twice in The Great War

suffering injuries to both legs yet returned to play for the club for two further seasons.

Local lad **Harold Miller** is another who should attain 'Legend' status as he made 271 known appearances, all but six of which were as a full-back, scoring 10 goals. He signed for the club in 1908 from Harrow Weald and remained with the club for thirteen seasons. He also represented the Middlesex FA XI and, serving in The Great War, he also played for his regiment in

India. He returned to the club following the war and was made club captain, a further honour to add to his two championship winners medals, and he was also the first known recipient of the club Player of the Year Trophy, introduced at the end of the 1919-1920 season.

Next up for selection is **Reg Kirby** who joined Wealdstone FC as a winger in 1911 and had his career interrupted by the conflict. Pre-war he had scored 20 goals in 72 appearances but following his return he played in various positions across the forward line and scored 50 goals in 66 appearances over two seasons - which earned him a call up to play for the County XI.

Percival Andrews was an inside forward at Wealdstone Church Athletic, joining Wealdstone FC and being an instrumental part of the 1910-11 and 1912-13 title-winning sides. He made 101 known appearances, scoring 58 goals and had war not intervened there is no doubt he would have continued in the same vein as he was only 25 at the outbreak. Sadly, serving with the Royal Naval Air Service he contracted Bronchial Pneumonia in France and died at Sangatte in May 1918.

Now, should two brothers with very similar records who played in the same inside forward position take legend status? **Frank Theobald** was three years older than brother **Ernest** and made his debut in the last season of the Wealdstone Church Athletic period. For Wealdstone FC he scored

Greatest of them all... Bill Gallagher pictured with his fellow 1921 Middlesex League winners Wealdstone - and he served the club for a total of 38 years!



49 goals either side of the Great War and he also played for Watford in 1910. He returned to the club after the war and played a further five seasons before finally retiring at the age of 38. Younger brother Ernest was called in to replace his injured brother for three matches in 1909 as a 17-year old. Subsequently he joined Elgin Rangers and later Allens Athletic, not returning to Wealdstone until after the war - again filling in for his brother at inside forward before he converted to play wing half ... which allowed him to play for a further six seasons amassing 176 appearances and scoring 38 goals.

Finally, **Bill Gallagher**. Not a Legend as a player, though he was a decent half back making 46 known appearances and scoring 5 goals... but why is he here?

Well, he should be the most famous of them all.

Bill joined the club from junior football in 1913 and at the outbreak of war joined the Royal Army Medical Corps where he

played for his Regimental Team. He embarked for France with the 134th Field Ambulance Division and little else is known of his time in France until shortly after the Armistice - when it was reported that Private William (Bill) Gallagher of the Royal Army Medical Corps had been awarded the Military Medal for Bravery in the Field. Having played for the club in 1913-4, he returned to play between 1919 and 1921 when he was appointed Player/Trainer and subsequently First Team Trainer as the club prepared for the move into Lower Mead.

It was a position he retained for an amazing 31 years, overseeing three League Championship victories, one League Runners-up, fourteen Middlesex Senior and Senior Charity Cup wins (including the 1942 Red Cross Cup Final at Wembley) and the Cambridge Hospital Cup.

Bill stepped down after the team secured the Athenian League Championship in 1951, the first senior league honour the club had ever won. A legend indeed!

Next issue: The goalkeepers who deserve the accolade

Bill Gallagher served the club for 31 years, stepping down after Athenian title was won

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Wealdstone v Carlisle United August 28th 2026

1st XI stats 26/27

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

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15	HARROGATE TOWN	ENL	1-3	1,517	TBC	19	Obiero
18	WOLVES	NLC	1-3	227	TBC	19	Callum
22	Worthing	ENL	0-1	2,235	344	21	
28	CARLISLE UNITED	ENL					
31	Sutton United	ENL					

RS ENL	
NLC	
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1		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		14	15	16		18	19	20		22	23	24	25	26	27				31	

KEY

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



The Big Picture

Micah Obiero turns his man in our first league game of the season here at Grosvenor Vale against Harrogate Town.

Courtesy of Jon Taffel (@RonnieRaffle)

PRE-SEASON FRIENDLY RESULTS

14th July	QPR Under 21s	H	L	2-4	Olomola, Trialist	(Att: 354)
18th July	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN	H	W	1-0	Trialist	-
21st July	Chertsey Town	A	L	0-3	-	-
25th July	MK DONS	A	W	2-0	Obiero, Trialist	-
28th July	AFC WIMBLEDON	H	W	1-0	Chesters	(Att: 444)
1st August	Slough Town	A	W	2-0	Trialist, Olomola	(Att: 569)

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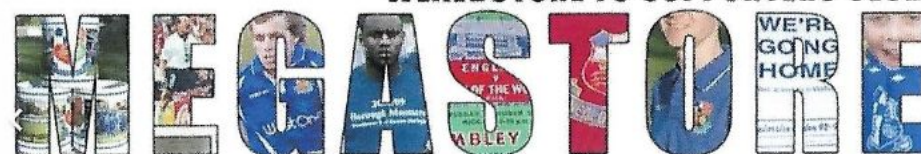
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Wealdstone v Carlisle United 28/08/2026

wfcsc update

Matt Worby

WEALDSTONE FC SUPPORTERS CLUB



Good evening everyone !! Thank you everyone for attending today's match and a warm welcome for those that have made the huge journey from Carlisle, not one for the faint of heart!!

So a Friday night game, not sure how I feel about that. Plus side it means we have another game on Monday, on the other hand it means I have needed to pull in favours at work to leave early (and if anyone needs a quote for you car or van insurance I'll certainly have a ganders) so I am pretty sure the attendance will be lower than a Saturday game but it's up to us fans to get the Vale rocking. We were so loud at Worthing away, let's recreate it at home !!!

As some or most of you know I have taken over predict-a-score and the league table will be sent out in September. And whilst I sat there on my laptop late into the evening typing in all your different predictions and sometimes having a giggle at people's

opinions, I thought about all the people which give Thier time either on match days, offseason ground matiance, fanzones etc. and my thanks goes to everyone!!! And if you want to help out at all just ask a member of the supporters committee and we can have a chat and any answer and questions.

Junior Stones is up and running and hopefully you saw the flyers being handed out at the last home game. And I would like to welcome our newest members Tyler James Moore age 13 and Rhylea Jay Jones Moore age 14 may you be the first of many and have great fun supporting the stones !!!! #once-a-stone.

If you would like to join find John Young or any member of the committee and we can help.

As always 50/50 we will be knocking around so please get your cards and cash out !!!

Have a great game and a scrappy 1-0 home win !!!

MATT

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Wealdstone v Harrogate Town 15/08/2026

Wealdstone 1-3 Harrogate Town

match report

Nicole
Cho-Yee

Attendance: 1,517 (123 Harrogate supporters)

Gary Waddock named an unchanged starting line-up from the side that drew 2-2 with Wyke last Saturday at Mill Farm.

Brad Dolaghan gave the Sulphurites the lead, with Micah Obiero drawing the Stones level before half-time, but second-half goals from Lewis Payne and Shawn McCoulsky sealed a second successive victory for the visitors.

The Stones should have been one to the good in the seventh minute when Obiero chested the ball down in the area, but the striker blazed his shot over the crossbar.

Moments later, Wealdstone had another bite of the cherry; Joe Newton chipped Mark Oxley from range, only to be denied by the woodwork, with the linesman also flagging for offside.

The Sulphurites then looked like drawing first blood in the 18th minute, but skipper Connor McAvoy produced a superb last-ditch clearance to thwart Payne's goal-bound header and ensure parity.

Harrogate Town began to find rhythm and duly took the lead in the 28th minute when Dolaghan

latched onto captain Morris' rebounded shot, before coolly slotting home past Dante Baptiste to edge the visitors ahead.

Simon Weaver's men should have doubled their advantage in the 36th minute when they launched a swift counterattack, but Payne dragged his strike just wide of the far post.

With six minutes of the first-half remaining, the Stones equalised in style as last season's top scorer, Obiero, rifled home a sumptuous strike from the edge of the box past Oxley.

Waddock's side returned from half-time on the front-foot and were agonisingly close to forging ahead in the 52nd minute when Luke Norris directed Aaron Henry's free-kick on target, generating a fine save from Oxley, with Dion Conroy's follow-up also blocked.

Despite Wealdstone's added impetus, it was the visitors who seized the initiative two minutes later through a quick counterattack; Payne surged forward, rounded Baptiste and slotted home into an empty net.

The Stones continued to probe for an equaliser and they were nearly fruitful in the 79th minute as Smith whipped in a dangerous cross which substitute Wilson Waweru headed narrowly wide at the near post.

Fellow substitute, Fela Olomola, had the opportunity to rescue a point in the 84th minute, but his powerful header was saved at point-blank range by Oxley.

As the Stones committed men forward in an attempt to level proceedings at the death, the Sulphurites profited from a quick breakaway, with substitute McCoulsky notching a third for the visitors in the 96th minute.

Wealdstone: Baptiste, Barrett (Mundle-Smith 46), Conroy, McAvoy, Chesters (Olomola 71), Henry, Wells-Morrison, Newton (Smith 45.), Kadji (Harris 68), Norris (Waweru 68), Obiero.
Subs not used: Holden, Francis-Clarke.

Wealdstone were defeated 3-1 by high-flying Harrogate Town in the search for their first league win.



KYLE SMITH Pic Jon Taffel

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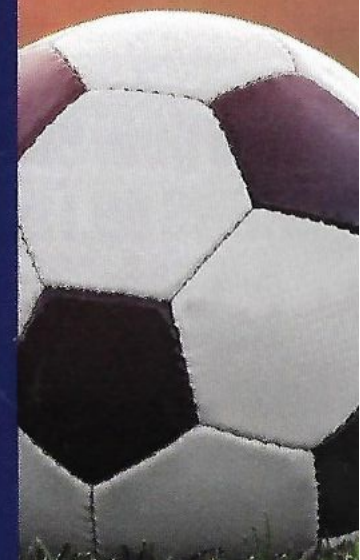
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they're back in action! sfc wealdstone



SFCW put on the pressure in the game against Rifle FC at Bushey Rangers FC, while (right) Adam Hills models the club's impressive new kit



One goal scored, 19 conceded but 650,000 views on TikTok... it's an interesting start!



River Dobson-Wallace

IT'S THE morning of August 16 2026, and a team of exclusively Wealdstone supporters are about to play a Sunday football game for the first time in over 17 years.

The first version of 'Supporters of Football Club Wealdstone' (SFC Wealdstone) enjoyed a successful 31-year history, picking up a dozen league and cup honours - but in that time, they saw the club they support fall from FA Trophy/National League Double winners in 1985, to playing regional football while in exile across NW London throughout the 1990s and 2000s.

With the hype surrounding the Stones following a return to Wembley and new ownership, it seemed the perfect time to bring back a Sunday club

for Wealdstone Supporters. As Luca Rossetto mentioned in the previous edition of this programme, the supporters' game at the Vale in April set the ball rolling for the reformation of SFCW - such a fulfilling day that the players wanted more.

Luca, together with Alex Kilroy and Adam Hills, got working on getting a team together for this 2026-27 season. We were placed in Division 2 of the Watford Sunday League and found a home ground at Barton Way in Croxley - an ideal compromise for the Home Counties dwellers and those of us still residing in the Big Smoke.

The opponents who lay in wait for our first game of pre-season were Nascot AFC - the house team of the Nascot Arms pub in Watford, a familiar stomping ground for some of our players. Last season, they finished at the foot of the division we'll be entering, so it seemed a good chance to gauge the standard.

It was an eye-opener! At a neutral astro turf venue

in Rickmansworth, the game kicked off at 1.45pm and by 2pm SFC had already found themselves a goal down. In the scorching heat on a 4G pitch, we found it difficult to cope with a significantly sharper Nascot side, and Stones' keeper Cam Eastwood pulled off some terrific stops to prevent Nascot from growing their advantage. But he also let a few tame efforts slip through his grasp and just before the half time whistle blew, Nascot added a sixth.

A rough start to life for this iteration of SFC Wealdstone but it was to be expected - this was the first time the lads had played together as a team.

As the second half wore on we started to grow into the game and ex-Stones Academy coach Alfie Sanger's low strike from 20 yards out agonisingly hit the post.

Wideman Aydan Fortune wreaked havoc down the right flank, and Paul Franklin provided some much-needed composure at the back. But the Nascot goals kept coming. Alex Kilroy gave away a penalty after a shove in the back on a Nascot man. The spot-kick was subsequently sent wide, but it needn't matter for Nascot as they found the net barely a minute later.

The final score ended 11-0: a much needed reality check. An emergency training session was arranged for the following Wednesday and Wealdstone legends Charlie Townsend and John Morton popped down to show their support, offering some expertise to the lads in training.

Did it help? Well the next game up for us was against Rifle FC on Sunday August 23 - the day after Worthing away - and this Rifle side had finished mid-table in the division above us last season... and had just beaten Premier Division side Evergreen 3-2 the week before. Several players were unavailable after a long day in the pubs of the South coast but fears of a cricket score were allayed thanks to the new faces called up to boost numbers. Will Cooney and Owen Miall-Smith bolstered the goalkeeping de-



Top: Oliver Kirk and Paul Franklin put the pressure on Rifle and (below) the home keeper plucks an SFCW cross out of the air



partment, and father & son duo Martin and Bradley Coomber entered the fray.

It was one of the late call-ups who scored SFC Wealdstone's first goal since 2009 - Ted Gooch was sent one-on-one with the Rifle keeper and slotted home to halve the deficit at 2-1. He nearly added another to his tally, his effort chalked off for offside. Oliver Kirk also cored a debut goal, unfortunately for him it was his own!

But it was a markedly improved performance from the week prior, with Chris Panther and Jamie Clement-Foster getting in good attacking positions but unable to quite apply the finishing touch. Then Bradley Coomber's free-kick rattled the crossbar. The final score finished 8-1 to Rifle but that's largely besides the point - the team is certainly beginning to take shape.

● Our next game is a friendly v Inter FC on Wednesday 2nd September, at a venue still to be decided. Then on Sunday 13th September, we host Cheshunt

Atlético in the opening round of the Herts Junior Cup, the club's first competitive game.

● We are still looking for sponsors for the upcoming campaign - if you are interested in lending your support, please drop an email to sfcwealdstone@gmail.com to find out what sponsorship packages we have available. Equally, if you are a regular Wealdstone supporter looking to play some football on a Sunday morning, get in touch via our socials (@SFCWealdstone) or come and find one of us at a game - we would love to hear from you!

It's true...SFCW have gone viral!

FAR from the teething problems on the pitch, SFC Wealdstone has exploded in popularity online: JP's item challenges (kicking off with fizzy drinks and fruit) have captured the imagination of those on TikTok, with the club amassing over 650,000 views, 25,000 likes and over 450 followers in just 3 days... and its growing! Follow us @SFCWealdstone across all platforms if you haven't already!



Tim Parks

THERE will be a minute's applause before the kick off this evening to mark the passing of loyal, longtime Stones fan Ken Pitteway.

Ken was 88 when he collapsed and died at St Pancras Station just a few days after the end of the National League season.

He was looking forward to the FA Trophy Final - when ten of the family had tickets in Block 104 - but his son Matthew takes the positive view that his dad died doing something he really enjoyed. Ken, who played in the brass section of the Salvation Army band, was returning from London to his home in St Albans after an evening's practice.

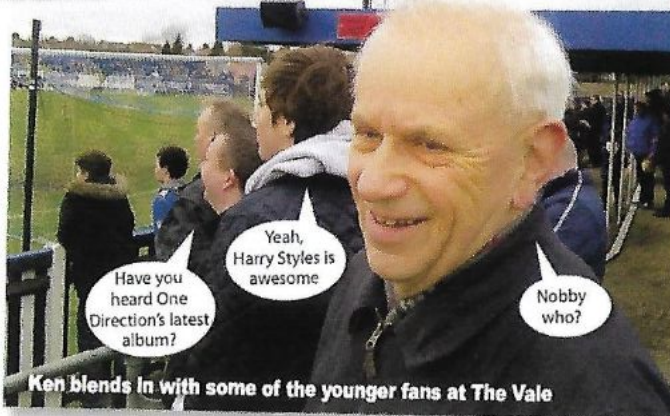
"Family, Wealdstone and the Salvation Army; they were the loves of his life" said Matthew who unfortunately missed the chance to watch the Stones with his dad one last time - he was caught up buying a car for his daughter as we faced Scunthorpe in the last home game.

"When we talked about the game later he was full of excitement for the Trophy final. He'd been at Wembley for both previous Wealdstone Final games, in 1966 and 1985... and he would have

Right: Ken was one of the earliest 'Fans in the Stand' to feature in the programme 14 years ago

rest in peace ken pitteway

Fan in the Stand: Ken Pitteway



Ken blends in with some of the younger fans at The Vale

Ken's been watching Wealdstone for 60 years. Give that man a gold watch! This is his story of Stones devotion..

Name: Ken Pitteway. No relation to Mike or Bob Pittaway who starred for Barnet in the 1980s! (In fact, did one of them play for us too?)

Where you live? I lived in central Harrow until 1975 when I moved to North Harrow, and am now retired.

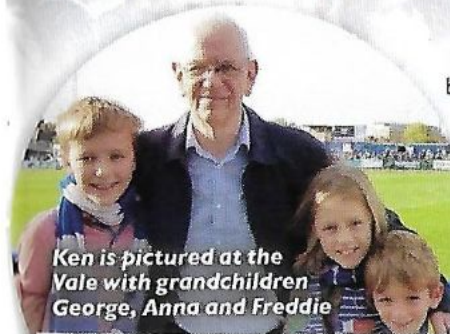
Your first Stones game? My first game was in the early 1950s: Wealdstone v Hendon

in the FA Cup. I was still at primary school and was taken to the game by my Dad. Hendon had a side almost completely made up of amateur internationals, but we seemed to be able to compete with them although we lost this game 1-0 - the only thing I remember about it. I used to fit in watching Arsenal with following Wealdstone and

still watch them when on TV... Arsenal that is!

Do you prefer non-League football? I have always followed non-league football and enjoy coming to Grosvenor Vale after all the miseries of Yeading, Edgware and Northwood.

Your most memorable game? I was at Wembley in July 1966 for the World Cup



Ken is pictured at the Vale with grandchildren George, Anna and Freddie

Final - I don't think any game could surpass that for drama and occasion. I was behind the goal where Geoff Hurst scored the disputed goal - I thought it was over the line at the time but now I'm not so sure.

Most memorable Wealdstone game? The famous 6-5 win over Stevenage in 1965... My friend left in disgust with 10 minutes to go and I took great delight in phoning him later to tell him Wealdstone had scored three goals in the last seven minutes to win the game! Also the play-off game with Dulwich Hamlet in 2004 which most supporters must have thought we had lost but somehow we won.

What gets your goat watching football? I get annoyed at the gamesmanship that goes on and the arm-raising and appealing by the player who has committed the foul.

Where do you like to stand or sit? I usually stand either behind the goal or at the side near the corner. **Your favourite all time Wealdstone XI?** Bob Iles, Steve Perkins and of course Stuart Pearce (who could forget those free kicks?), Dennis Byatt

and Paul Bowgett (frightening for opponents) plus Charlie Townsend (terrific performer in midfield), Robin Wainwright and Alex Dyer - for I believe he is as good as anyone in the past and he can also score goals. Add in Alan Cordice (terrific pace) George Duck (always there with the goals (although Richard Jolly was phenomenal last season) and I'd also select Britt Assombalonga, a bit of a cheat on my part as I know he was only on loan - but what a player.

been excited about tonight's game as it unites the two biggest clubs in the family."

It is wonderfully appropriate that we pay tribute to Ken's life before the visit of Carlisle United because Ken's wife, Margaret, was brought up in Carlisle and the family sup-

port for the club has rubbed off on Matthew - who has probably seen as many Carlisle matches as Wealdstone in recent years.

"I was an avid Stones fan between 1986 and 1996 before I went away to university... those were difficult years for the club and I don't know which was more soulless, Vicarage Road, Watford, or Yeading.

"But we went to the games. My dad just enjoyed his football. He had no great expectations every season, despite the club being promoted and relegated many times in his lifetime. We just enjoyed watching Wealdstone play and finishing in mid table in the National League was close to perfection for him".

Ken worked as an accountant in local government from the age of 16; he was born in London close to Lords cricket ground but was sent to Lowestoft to stay with his mother's family, away from the dangers of the Blitz in the Second World War. The family then lived in Princes Drive, close to Harrow & Wealdstone station, just a short walk to his job at the Civic Centre.

It was barely further to Lower Mead where Ken saw his first game, Wealdstone v Hendon in the FA Cup 2nd Qualifying Round on September 27, 1952 (a 0-1 defeat) when he was 14. He would go on to watch the Stones for a further 74 years!

It was a great introduction to football for the teenage

continued overpage

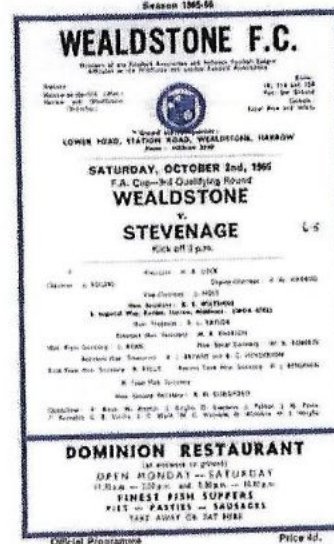
What's your strongest current line up? I'd go with Banks, McCubbin, Chappell, Parker, Cronin, Dyer, Brooks, O'Leary, Moore, Jolly and Pett... but I am reluctant to leave out Peter Dean.

Your expectations for this season? Well Whitehawk seem to be running away with it now. I think we will be in the play-offs... in which case anything can happen. In recent seasons the play-offs have not always produced the most favoured team for promotion.

What do you think of the Stones programme? Do you have any ideas for improvement? I reckon the current programme is very good and have no reservations about its content.

What's your favourite Fan in the Stand feature so far? All the Fan in the Stand items have been interesting.

And finally.. where do you think the club will be in five year's time? Obviously the lease situation is all important. Apart from that we have seen how the best team in the league Lowestoft have failed to get promotion so anything can happen but I am hoping we will be in the Conference South by then.



The famous 6-5 Stevenage game in '65

rest in peace ken pitteway contd

from previous page

Ken as Wealdstone were already Athenian League champions with their twin Polish strikers - Henryk Wegrzyk and Henryk Mikrut - running amok. And they were runners-up to Hendon in 1952-53 in front of home crowds rarely below the 5,000 mark.

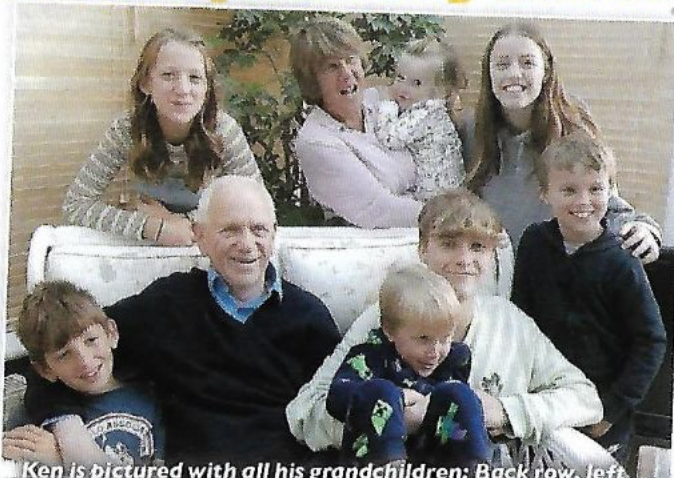
His interest was probably also sparked when his dad Harold proudly showed the first-ever live amateur game televised by the BBC in October 1946 - away to Barnet. The Pitteways were one of the first in their neighbourhood to have a TV and friends and neighbours gathered round to watch the flickering images.

Ken was an only child and, in his eulogy at the funeral Matthew shared two extraordinary events that gave the family extra years when they escaped misfortune.

He said: "In 1997, my father suffered a serious haemorrhage and collapsed in bed - and it was only my sister's quick thinking that saved the day.

"Because of her, we were given something incredibly precious - almost three more decades of his life. It's strange how life can turn on moments like that. And it echoed something that Dad himself spoke about years earlier: In 1994, at my grandfather's funeral, Dad spoke about the Wealdstone train crash in 1952 which cost over 100 people their lives. My grandfather always took the same train but, by chance, he took a slightly later one that day... and the earlier train - his usual one - was the one that took the full impact of the crash. Two remarkable stories when life was, in a sense, given back".

In 1975, Ken married Margaret



Ken is pictured with all his grandchildren: Back row, left to right: Lily, Connie (held by Ken's wife Margaret) and Anna. Front row: Freddie, Ralph, George and Wilf. Below: Ken at Grosvenor Vale with son Matthew alongside him



and they shared 51 years of marriage, moving into their home in Priory Way, North Harrow the following year. Long-time Stones fan Trevor Davies' family home was next door so Ken's passing also hit him hard. "I moved away from Harrow decades ago but always had a chat with Ken at home games. He was just a lovely man,

very genuine and interested in people. And he loved Wealdstone Football Club."

Matthew echoed this. "He was a devoted father, and later a very affectionate grandfather to his seven grandchildren. He adored them, and they adored him. He will be remembered with love, and deeply missed".

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Worthing v Wealdstone 22/08/2026

Worthing 1-0 Wealdstone match report

Joe
Campbell

Attendance: 2,235 (344 Wealdstone supporters)

Many of the regular starters returned to the team after being rested in the defeat to Wolverhampton Wanderers U21s in midweek and they were joined by Kyle Smith, Jayden Harris and Jaydn Mundle-Smith for their first league starts, as Gary Waddock looked for something different to pick up three points.

However, it was Worthing who came close to opening the scoring in the tenth minute with three chances in quick succession.

Former Stone Dominic Hutchinson wove his way into the penalty area and fired a shot off the post, Mundle-Smith then just managed to get back in time to clear a follow-up effort off the line before Baptiste recovered to save a third attempt from the hosts.

The first chance for the Stones came from a long throw nine minutes later. Luke Norris won a flick-on, forcing Harrison Foulkes to make a save before the Rebels cleared the danger.

Wealdstone had now grown into the game after that early scare and had another chance to score soon after from an Aaron Henry free-kick.

His impressive shot dipped in front of the goalkeeper who could only palm it into the path of Connor McAvoy. Foulkes was able to recover though, and deny the Stones defender at point-blank range.

After a brief lull, the first half came back to life in the final five minutes as the Stones threatened again from another Aaron Henry set-piece.

This time he whipped in an enticing cross just past the head of several attackers before Luke Norris arrived at the back post but could only steer the ball into the arms of the goalkeeper.

The sides looked to be heading into the break level, but the Stones switched off at the back just moments before half-time.

From a Worthing free-kick inside the centre circle, the ball was dinked over the Wealdstone defence by

Joel Colbran and controlled impressively by Ramell Carter, who found himself unmarked and fired a shot past Baptiste to open the scoring.

After an even first half, the Stones would have felt confident of getting back into the game, but things went from bad to worse just five minutes after the restart.

Dylan Kadji arrived slightly late to an aerial challenge with Jayden Moore, knocking the centre-back to the floor. The referee adjudged this to be a second bookable offence and reduced Wealdstone to ten men.

The game then settled into a predictable pattern of comfortable Worthing possession with occasional Wealdstone breaks, as the hosts largely controlled proceedings.

Worthing almost extended their lead in the 76th minute through Ricky Aguiar, who forced Dante Baptiste into a good save from a well-struck free-kick from 35 yards. Luke Norris reacted sharply to clear the danger with several Rebels following in.

The hosts somehow missed the chance to score another goal in the 86th minute. Ollie Godziemski ran onto a ball behind the Wealdstone

defence only to blast his effort wide of the post with just the goalkeeper to beat.

Only Dante Baptiste and further Worthing profligacy in the closing stages prevented a wider margin of defeat. In the 88th minute, Adjetej-Brew ran down the left-hand side before cutting into the box and then attempting a low driven shot which Baptiste saved well.

Ricky Aguiar had a long-range effort blocked two minutes later before the ball fell to Godziemski who could only send it back across the face of goal. It was kept alive and crossed back into the area, but Baptiste was able to save the resulting header.

Wealdstone: Baptiste, Wells-Morrison, Conroy, Norris, Kadji, Harris, Obiero, Henry, Smith, McAvoy, Mundle-Smith

Subs: Johnson, Barrett, Olomola, Chesters, Francis-Clarke, Mullins, Waweru

**Wealdstone
travelled to
Worthing in
Saturday's early
kick-off but came
away empty-
handed**

NEWSPAPER reports have always attracted a lot of criticism for inaccuracy and favouritism... that focus has now shifted to online media channels but it's still hard to forget some of the *Harrow Observer* clangers of past years.

Such was the report captured for posterity below, following our slender defeat at Conference big boys Altrincham almost 40 years ago.

The reporter did admit that - in light of the paper-thin squad that manager Colin Meldrum had tried to fashion into a functioning XI at the top level of non-League football - to only lose by a single goal at Moss Lane "was an achievement of sorts".

There was a brief mention of youngster Peter Cotey coming on as sub for Phil Jackson and centring for Don Cross to blaze his shot over the bar.

But who were Messrs Jackson and Cross? Why, they were Sunday morning footballers whom I regularly played

alongside for SFC Wealdstone, the Stones' supporters club team. It said a lot about the club's management and procurement of players that they had to turn to the ranks of SFCW to even field a team! And a lot about the reporting that it missed the most newsworthy element of the day.

A couple of years earlier, our entire Sunday side found itself representing Wealdstone in Capital Midweek League matches against pro sides like Dagenham, Brentford and Barnet... but at least the club had the excuse of having to fulfil "lesser" games while it chased titles and trophies. And we did pretty well.

See Don's story on the next page....

on this day in history



Tim Parks

39 years ago.... the heroism behind that narrow defeat to Alty

Aug 29, 1987

GM Vauxhall Conference:
Altrincham 1
Wealdstone 0



Colin Meldrum - still shortage

Hard up Stones boss forced to name goalkeeper as substitute

The thin blue line

WEALDSTONE'S desperate shortage of players will have to be remedied soon if the club is not to endure another long season of struggle.

That much was evident at Moss Lane on Saturday as depleted Stones were pipped by title hopes Altrincham in a desperately dull encounter.

Manager Colin Meldrum was so short of fit men that he was forced to name goalkeeper Andy Haxton as one of the substitutes for the second match running.

And even when he has all his men back from injury and suspension, one wonders if Stones have a squad strong enough to hold their own in the GM Vauxhall Conference.

Meldrum has been in an unenviable position since taking over at Lower Mead from Brian Hall last season.

Altrincham 1 Wealdstone 0

Half the team have left since his arrival and, although he was promised cash to buy replacements, Meldrum has had to cobble together a side without splashing out any cash.

Yet ironically, there were clear signs at Moss Lane, and at Lower Mead the previous Tuesday, that given the resources, Meldrum could put together a useful team.

Losing 1-0 at Altrincham has never been a disgrace. Losing 1-0 with a badly weakened team is an achievement of sorts.

They began brightly and Neil Cordice, Stones' main threat throughout the afternoon, almost put them ahead in the tenth minute with a 20 yard drive that had Robins' keeper Butcher at full stretch.

From then on, however, it was downhill all the way as Altrincham took the match by the scruff of the neck.

Only the heroics of keeper Alex Welsh kept the home side at bay until the 43rd minute goal that was to prove decisive.

Midfielder Eddie Bishop was the architect, bravely winning a header in the Stones' box, leaving the unmarked John Timmons to sweep the ball home from close range.

Stones' only impact on the game after that was a booking for Paddy McCarthy.

After the break, Stones showed more purpose but let themselves down badly in front of goal.

And there were only eight minutes remaining when they created their only opportunity of the second half.

Substitute Peter Cotey, who had replaced Phil Jackson, burst through on the left and sent over a perfect centre to Don Cross.

But, with plenty of space and time, Cross blazed his shot wildly over.

Wealdstone: Welsh, Pittaway, Meadows, Cross, Bowgett, Wainwright, McCarthy, Hirst, Jackson (Cotey), Cordice, Walton, Other sub: Haxton (not used).

Altrincham, me and Peter Kotey



Stones fan **DON CROSS** (pictured above recently) looks back on that surreal day in Manchester...

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

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

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

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

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

"I returned to the terraces and back to supporting, though ex chairman Fred Deanus did try to get me to play at Ruislip Manor. But Stones are the only team for me and I am proud that I had the opportunity to pull on that famous shirt alongside some absolute legends, and over 30 years later - despite living in Herefordshire - I am still following the club home and away."

Players' kit donation 2026-2027

SUPPORT your favourite player by donating their kit for every game of the 2026-2027 season!

It costs £165 to sponsor a player's home or away kit, or £250 to get a shirt signed by your chosen player at the end of the season. You'll

also get a mention below, a mention on the club website – and a mention on any player interviews we publish on X and YouTube.

To secure your favourite contact Peter Worby on 07967 698370 or John Young on 07874 846785

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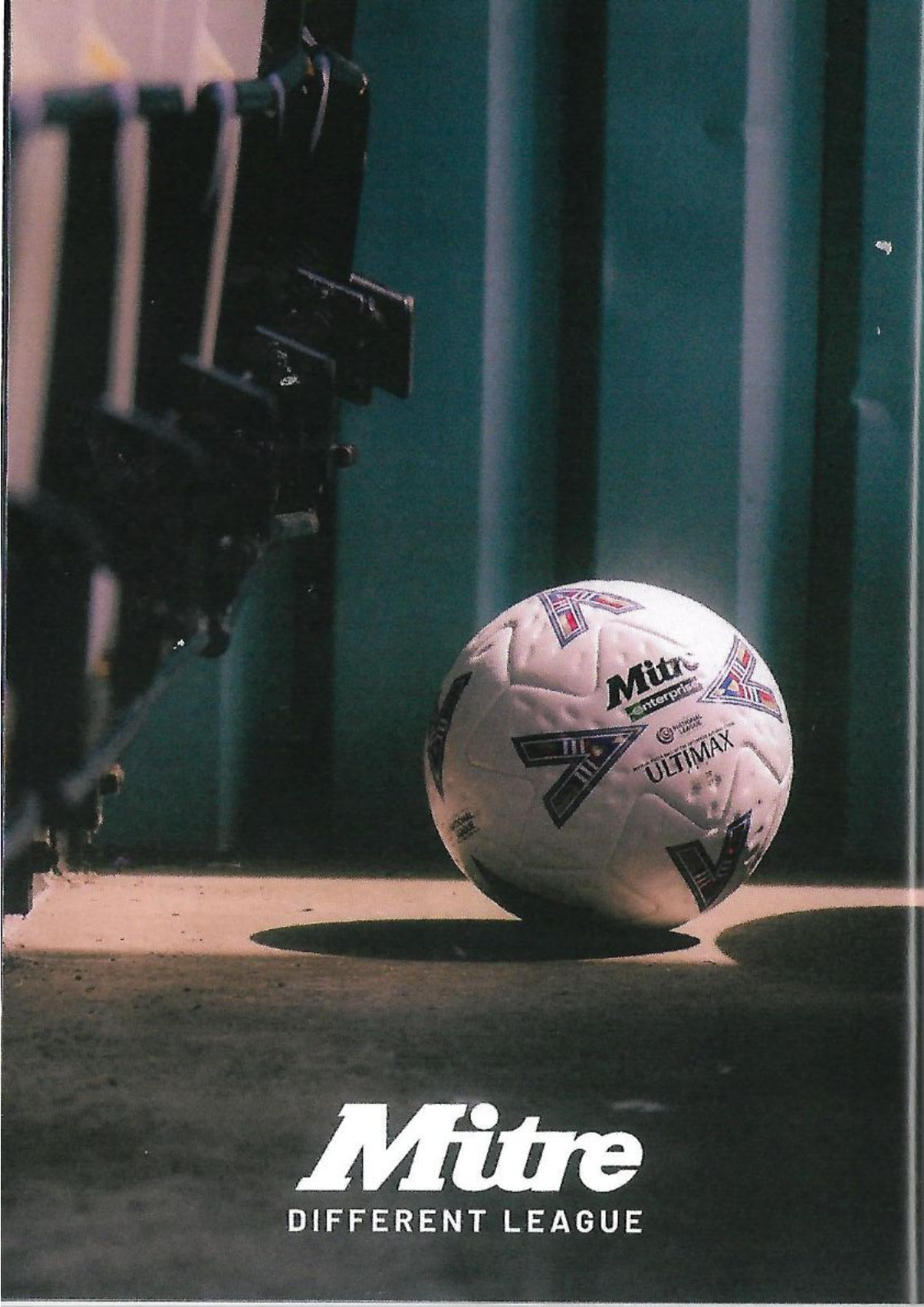
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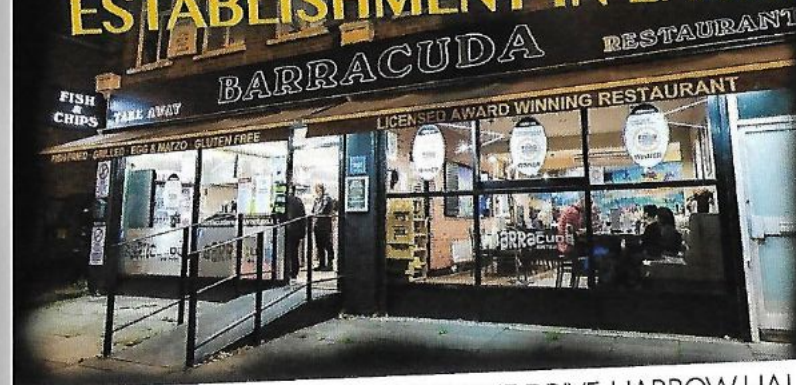
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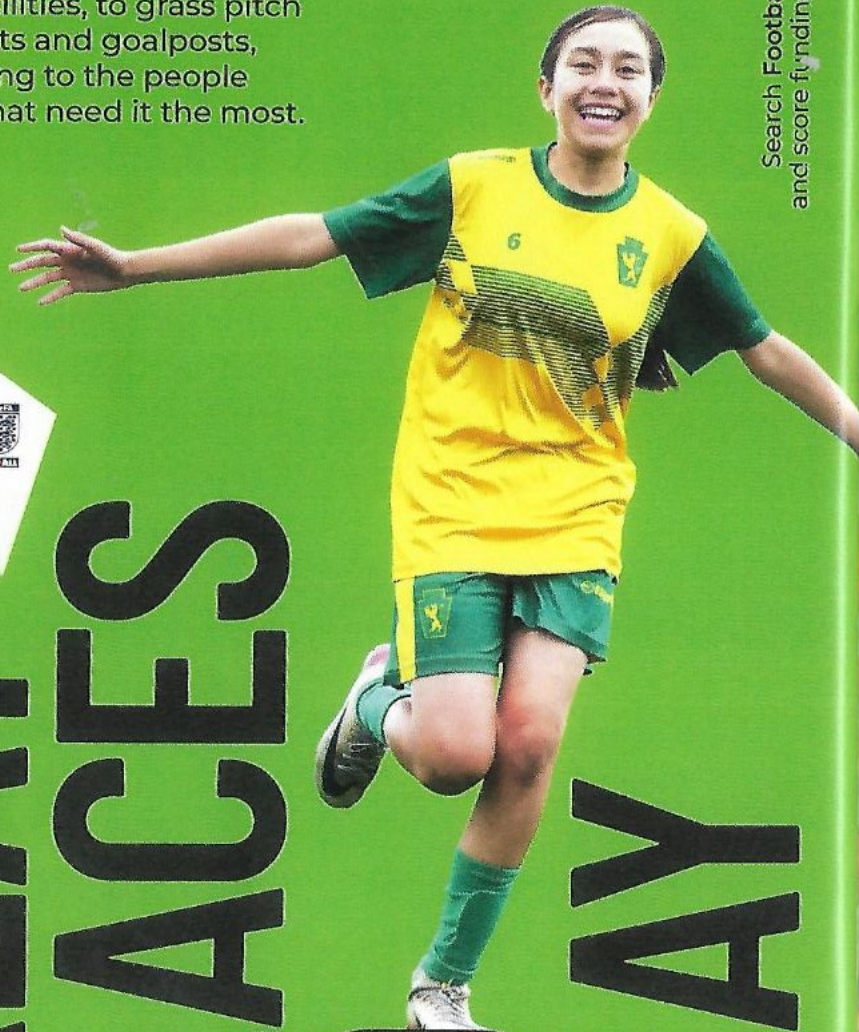
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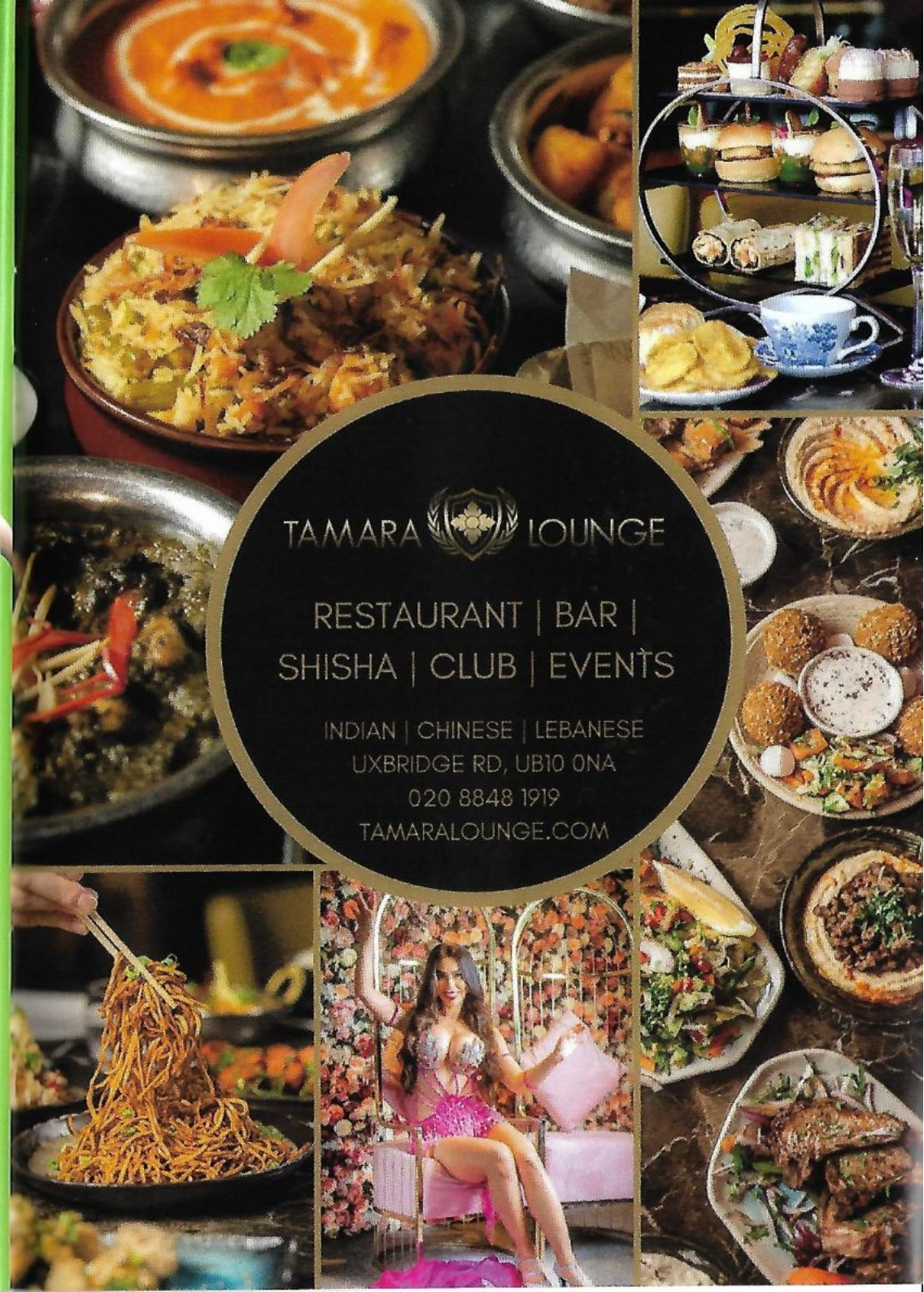
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Celebrate an occasion or advertise your support for the Stones with these great-value packages....

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As a Wealdstone FC match sponsor you will enjoy match tickets for 4 people (inc. prime main stand seats if required); a fantastic advertising package, including publicity over the PA system; website and social media together with a piece in the programme; boardroom, Gordon Bartlett Lounge or Main Hall hospitality including a pre-match hot meal with wines and half-time refreshments courtesy of in-house caterer Lynn Evans; match-day programmes for all in your party;

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AFC WIMBLEDON July 28, Pre-Season Friendly

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HARROGATE TOWN August 15, Enterprise National League

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WOLVERHAMPTON WAND. August 18, National League Cup

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BALL DONOR: Wealdstone FC Supporters Club

CARLISLE UNITED August 28, Enterprise National League

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BALL DONOR: Mick Fishman & Tim Parks

KIDDERMINSTER HARR. September 5, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: Rolfe East
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STOKE CITY September 8, National League Cup

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FC HALIFAX TOWN September 15, Enterprise National League

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MATCH SPONSOR: John Flynn
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NOTTINGHAM FOREST October 20, National League Cup

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SOLI HULL MOORS October 27, Enterprise National League

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DERBY COUNTY November 3, National League Cup

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HORNCHURCH November 21, Enterprise National League

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Call Peter Worby on 07967 698370 or John Young on 07874 846785 for more details.

BARROW AFC December 20, Enterprise National League

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EASTLEIGH December 29, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: See match sponsorship options above
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ALDRSHOT TOWN January 2, Enterprise National League

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MATCH SPONSOR: See match sponsorship options above
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FOREST GREEN ROVERS February 16, Enterprise National League

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WORTHING February 27, Enterprise National League

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SUTTON UNITED March 9, Enterprise National League

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BALL DONOR: Put you or your organisations name here

BOSTON UNITED March 20, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: Paul Bainbridge
BALL DONOR: Put you or your organisations name here

BOREHAM WOOD March 29, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: See match sponsorship options above
BALL DONOR: Put you or your organisations name here

HARTLEPOOL UNITED March 10, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: See match sponsorship options above
BALL DONOR: Put you or your organisations name here

SCUNTHORPE UNITED March 24, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: See match sponsorship options above
BALL DONOR: Ron Moore, Dave, Adam & Guy Edwards



Upcoming games

Home fixtures

Kidderminster Harriers



Saturday
5th September
3:00pm

Enterprise National League

Stoke City



Tuesday
8th September
7:00pm

National League Cup

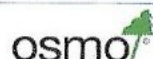
FC Halifax Town



Tuesday
15th September
7:45pm

Enterprise National League

Wealdstone FC's first team travel is sponsored by Osmo,
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Away fixtures

Sutton United



Monday
31st August
3:00pm

Enterprise National League

Boston United



Saturday
12th September
3:00pm

Enterprise National League

Tamworth



Saturday
19th September
3:00pm

Enterprise National League

National League table

Enterprise National League 2026 / 2027 @ 22nd August 2026

	HOME				AWAY				ALL GAMES							vs. Stones		
	P	W	D	L	P	W	D	L	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts	H	A
1 Southend United	1	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	3	3	0	0	7	2	5	9		
2 Sutton United	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	3	0	0	6	1	5	9		
3 Harrogate Town	2	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	3	2	1	0	10	5	5	7	1-3	
4 Boreham Wood	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	3	2	1	0	9	4	5	7		
5 Hartlepool United	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	3	2	0	1	4	2	2	6		
6 Boston United	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	3	2	0	1	3	1	2	6		
7 Hornchurch	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	3	2	0	1	6	5	1	6		
8 Eastleigh	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	3	2	0	1	5	4	1	6		
9 Worthing	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	3	2	0	1	5	4	1	6	0-1	
10 Forest Green Rovers	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	3	2	0	1	5	6	-1	6		
11 Yeovil Town	2	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	3	1	2	0	5	2	3	5		
12 Carlisle United	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	1	1	1	7	5	2	4		
13 AFC Fylde	1	0	1	0	2	1	0	1	3	1	1	1	6	6	0	4	2-2	
14 Aldershot Town	1	0	0	1	2	1	1	0	3	1	1	1	2	2	0	4		
15 Kidderminster Harriers	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	3	1	1	1	2	4	-2	4		
16 FC Halifax Town	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	3	1	0	2	7	7	0	3		
17 Gateshead	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	2	3	1	0	2	3	5	-2	3		
18 Woking	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	3	1	0	2	3	7	-4	3		
19 Scunthorpe United	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	2	3	0	1	2	3	5	-2	1		
20 Barrow	1	0	0	1	2	0	1	1	3	0	1	2	3	6	-3	1		
21 Wealdstone	1	0	0	1	2	0	1	1	3	0	1	2	3	6	-3	1	----	
22 Tamworth	1	0	0	1	2	0	1	1	3	0	1	2	5	9	-4	1		
23 Altrincham	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	3	0	0	3	1	5	-4	0		
24 Solihull Moors	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	3	3	10	-7	0		



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