

How they line up today

WEALDSTONE

GATESHEAD



wealdstone football club

Dante-Astor BAPTISTE 1	2 Thomas LAVERY
Jack COOK © 2	3 David FERGUSON
Joe NEWTON 3	4 Josh HOME
Jack WELLS-MORRISON 4	5 Alex LANKSHEAR
Dion CONROY 5	6 Jack ROBINSON
Mason BARRETT 6	7 Jordi HIWULA
Luke NORRIS 7	9 Dominic TELFORD
Dylan KADJI 8	11 Joahua ANIFOWOSE
Olufela OLOMOLA 9	12 Peter JAMESON
Jayden HARRIS 10	14 Ashley BOATSWAIN
Dan CHESTERS 11	16 Lucas LOWERY
Aidan FRANCIS-CLARKE 12	17 Rocco COYLE
Endurance JOHNSON 13	18 Ben WILLIAMS
Aaron HENRY 15	19 Luke SUPYK
Admiral MUSKWE 17	20 Fenton JOHN
Kyle SMITH 18	21 Michael SPELLMAN
Wilson WAWERU 19	22 Martin SMITH
Jeffrey SEKYERE 21	23 Billy CHADWICK
Connor McAVOY © 22	24 Kyle FERGUSON
Jaydn MUNDLE-SMITH 23	27 David EGUAIBOR
Tyrelle NEWTON 27	28 Harrison HOLGATE
Amaru KAUNDA 29	29 Frederik ISSAKA
	31 Dean CAMERON
	32 Harry CHAPMAN
	35 Callum BONE
	38 Keon LEWIS-BURGESS

Officials Referee: Harry Wager Assistants: David Hutton and James Hurst
Fourth Official: Adrian Tranter Observer: TBC Coach: Andy D'Urso

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POSSIBLE HOME FA CUP 4th QUAL ROUND TIE Saturday October 17, KO 3pm

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The joy of an away win! Fela Olomola and Connor McAvoy celebrate our second goal in the 3-1 eclipse of Boston United Picture: Jon Taffel

v Gateshead

Enterprise National League

Saturday 26 September 2026, 3pm

Season 2026-27: programme £3



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WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2026/2027

GROSVENOR VALE, RUISLIP, MIDDLESEX HA4 6JQ
WEALDSTONEFC@BTINTERNET.COM • WWW.WEALDSTONE-FC.COM • COMPANY NO. 3953962

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Welfare Officer Danny Kindell
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MATCHDAY PROGRAMME

Programme Editor Mark Hyde
Production Martin Read,
Tim Parks, Martin Lacey
Printing People for Print Ltd.
www.peopleforprint.co.uk
wfcprogramme@gmail.com

COMMERCIAL/ MARKETING

IT Consultant Neil Rands
Commercial Emin Alibey,

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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).

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- 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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- 2) No spectator ball games.
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- 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 Gateshead, 26/09/2026



Tim Parks

gaffer's column gary waddock

GARY Waddock is still a frustrated man! After revealing his feelings in this column after the Kidderminster home defeat, he is not quite in the trough of despond after back-to-back defeats by Halifax and Tamworth... but he can't be far off it.

The whole new stack of injuries has complicated the Stones' preparations for past and forthcoming games but he was knocked sideways by the "moment of madness" that cost us three points at Tamworth.

"I've not yet watched the play-back on DAZN but their equalising goal was a combination of errors by Connor (McAvoy) and Dante (Baptiste)" he said. "That was the turning point in the game and after we'd played so well in the first half the most infuriating thing is that we ended up with nothing for all our efforts that afternoon".

"I appreciate that we have now lost more players through injury – plus Connor McAvoy with an automatic ban – but how do you solve our problems at the moment?" I asked

him.

"Well, all we can do is to work it out on the training ground. Steve Boone and Danny Payne have been looking for permanent and loan signings and we didn't have the biggest squad in the first place. Now – if you include Jack Cook and Luke Norris who are only partly fit – it looks like we could have eight missing this weekend."

"So will they be an eight who can rehabilitate"? I asked him. "I suppose it's fortunate that we've had a clear week to try and get the walking wounded back in action?"

Said Gary: "Well, Kyle Smith has now got a thigh injury; Dion (Conroy) is still out for a few more weeks with his hamstring; Joe Newton is hopeful of getting back - he's making some good progress - but Tyrelle Newton injured his hamstring at Tamworth and Jaydn Muddell-Smith is having a scan on his hamstring... plus Admiral Muskwe is still a long-term injury. That's quite a list and it will be a case of having to throw players in even if they're

not quite ready for the demands of the National League. And that's a problem, because if we gamble and throw players in before they're ready to come back, they could be out for even longer."

Do you think you'll be giving Wilson Waweru and Amaru Kaunda a shirt? I asked him.

"Well, in my eyes, they are not quite ready for this level of football... they both need to settle in a bit."

"So are you making tactical adjustments on the training ground to find a way to score goals and hurt the opposition?" I asked. "Well we're always considering different ways of playing and that's all we can do, try to work it out on the training ground. We come up with a game plan that's best for the club and this group of players."

"And today's game against Gateshead is not going to be any easier! They shipped six goals against Southend last Saturday so they'll be desperate make amends for that defeat... In some ways it's probably the worst time to play them."

"But our problems have to be addressed... We need to find extra players, and they need to be the right players, but I'm confident we will soon be back on track."

'Today might be the worst time to play Gateshead as they will be desperate to make amends after that 6-1 defeat'

A group of football players in yellow kits are celebrating on the pitch. One player in the foreground has the number 15 on his back. In the background, a large crowd of fans is cheering from the stands. A banner with the word "re" is visible on the left, and a green and white logo is on the right.

elmslie **ender** continued...

from previous page

recent years there came the fabulous 1998 left-field win at Braintree Town that nobody could have predicted. As we clawed our way back up the Ryman League, we poached the final 3rd-placed Division Two promotion spot thanks largely to this fired-up Tuesday night 1-0 win at Cressing Road - Braintree's first defeat, home or away, in 35 league games!

Dennis Greene shot the only goal from a Brian Jones' cross, and the deflated Iron ended up losing the title to Canvey Island on goal difference

So which other games have earned the title Tales of the Unexpected?

Well what about two trips to Weymouth, 28 years apart? In April 1976 we hadn't won away all season and were stumbling towards the Southern League Prem trapdoor. Our wafer-thin squad was badly depleted,

with new manager Geoff Coleman negotiating for new players and this Wednesday evening trek to the Dorset coast seemed destined for failure. And then goalkeeper John Morton got injured in the first half! Midfielder Willie Watson took over the gloves but Stones shocked the 100 travelling fans by winning 2-0 courtesy of a Bobby Moss header and a Danny Light screamer.

We stayed up despite finishing fourth from bottom, with Dunstable Town folding. Phew!

28 years later Stones were again in a pretty poor state, but they left their best for last. In the club's worst-ever season - finishing second bottom of the Southern League Div One South - we managed to dismantle the mid-table Terras 3-1 on May 7 in front of a 700 crowd with Dermot Drummy, Andy Hedge and Vic Schwartz scoring. It rounded off a good weekend for the Stones fans who had earlier beaten Weymouth Supporters 6-1 in a friendly game.

And how about a bit of *Unexpected*

ed Tuesday Night Delight to round off it all off?

It's strange how memorable occasions seem to run in tandem across the decades - back in November 1975 the Stones were in a rich seam of form and we were all buzzing after our FA Cup adventure had ended in a thrilling 4-3 First Round defeat at Div Three side (now League One) Aldershot Town. We turned up three days later expecting an "After the Lord Mayor's Show" performance against Gravesend & Northfleet in the Southern League Prem under the Lower Mead lights... but we blew them away 7-1 in devastating fashion.

And the similarities were all there to see last season. Marine were beaten 1-0 in that dramatic FA Trophy semi-final, and we were expecting a negative reaction when high-flying Hartlepool turned up for the following Tuesday night's NL clash.

And what happened? We smashed Pools 7-0 in a devastating display. That didn't happen v Halifax last week so please surprise us tonight Stones!

Record breakers

Braintree Town 0 Wealdstone 1

MAGNIFICENT Wealdstone ended Braintree's fine 35 match unbeaten League record on Tuesday night in an exciting match at Cressing Road, watched by a crowd of 576.

It was a 22nd minute goal from Dennis Greene that sent the many travelling Stones supporters home happy. A fine clearance from Noel Imber found Brian Jones and his excellent low cross was fired home by Greene.

Stones were unlucky not to increase their lead seven minutes later when the classy Simon Garner hit a shot against a post, and Garner was involved again just before the break but there was no one to

By Graham Smith

finish the job after his clever work enabled him to put over a dangerous low cross.

Stones end Braintree run to get back on promotion trail

After the break the Braintree keeper did well to keep out an excellent header from Keith Boreham and Catley also saved well after a fine run and shot by Jones.

Braintree, whose win on Saturday assured them of promotion, could not believe they had not

equalised in the 74th minute. Imber made an outstanding save to keep out Bishop's powerful header, tipping the ball onto the crossbar and the rebound was hacked clear. A definite contender for save of the season.

It was the closest the home side came to preserving their unbeaten run as Wealdstone held on for a famous win that re-ignites their promotion challenge.

At the end of the game the jubilant Stones supporters ran onto the pitch to congratulate their heroes - a somewhat different picture from Saturday at Barking!

Wealdstone: Imber, Lamb, Horner, Moore, Peaks, Marshall, Dobson (Sterling), Jones, Bircham (Banning), Greeno, Garner (Boreham).

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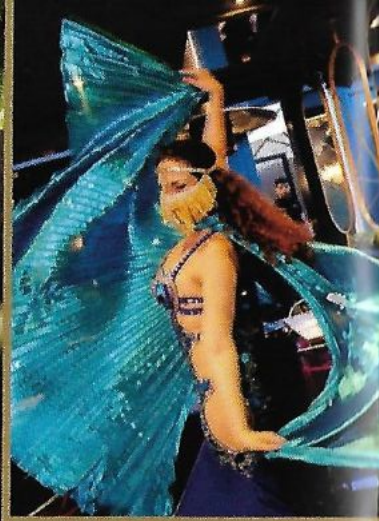
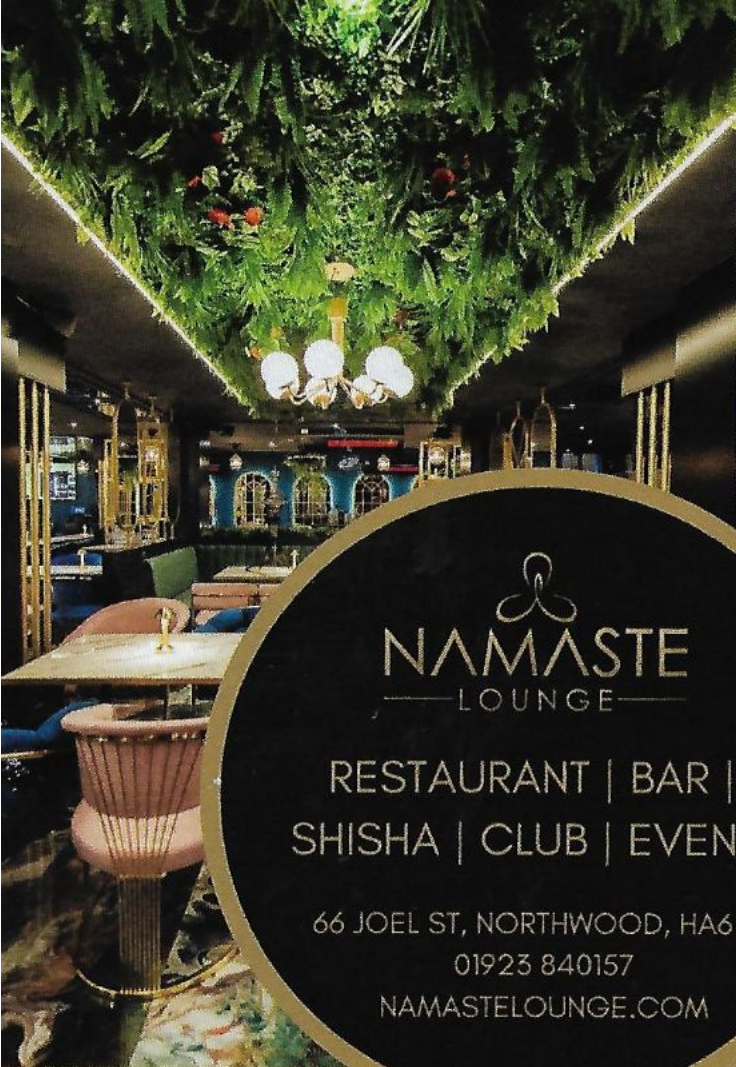
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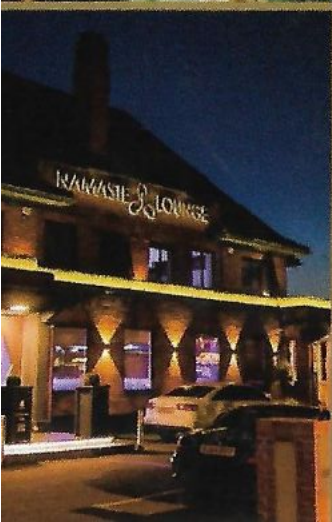
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meet the new stones it's wilson waweru



WILSON WAWERU is a fascinating character... just talking to the 25 year-old Kenyan striker gives you a clear idea of his rich cultural background.

His voice has that Kenyan lilt but also a hint of American and a big dollop of Southern Irish... not surprising considering his family background in Galway.

"There's a sizeable Kenyan community in that part of Ireland - we know everybody there!" he laughed.

And although he's scored goals for fun in the League of Ireland Division One - and the Premier Division - playing in England has always been the ambition.

"I sat down with my agent in the summer and we worked hard to get trials in England... Wealdstone responded with a week's trial and I played twice, against Slough Town and against AFC Wimbledon.

"I scored once against Slough and assisted for the goal against Wimbledon... and was



Wilson blasts in the first of his treble against Stoke City *Picture: Jon Taffel*

delighted to sign for the Stones on the back of that.

"Then of course I started the National League Cup game against Stoke City a few weeks ago and managed to score three of the six goals that night. I loved it!

"It's a big move for me as I've never been away from home before. I'm renting a house in Hayes with three other lads, going to the gym when I'm not training, and just hoping for a break into the Wealdstone team. It was a blow though, to lose Micah Obiero to Carlisle United - he is a big name in Kenyan

'This is a big move for me as it's all about

football after playing for the national team in the summer."

Wilson started off as a teenager in senior football at his local club Galway United, scoring 18 goals over 90 odd games before a move to Cobh Ramblers. The pacy striker hit 13 goals in 33 games, earning him a move to Prem side Sligo Rovers in 2024... he hit a dozen goals in 48 games for Rovers and then, last year, was back to Cobh for seven goals from 22 games.

"I had a great run of form at Sligo and scored six goals in the first month of the season. I was named Player of the Month in the League of Ireland and that brought me to the attention of Kenya.

"They called me up - but I got injured just at the wrong time otherwise I could've been out there playing alongside Micah.

"Every player is hoping for that lucky break and Abdulmalik showed what can happen when you hit a rich seam of form".

The Irish League, however, has just 10 teams in the Premier Division (similar to the Scottish League) and it proved too repetitive in Wilson's opinion.

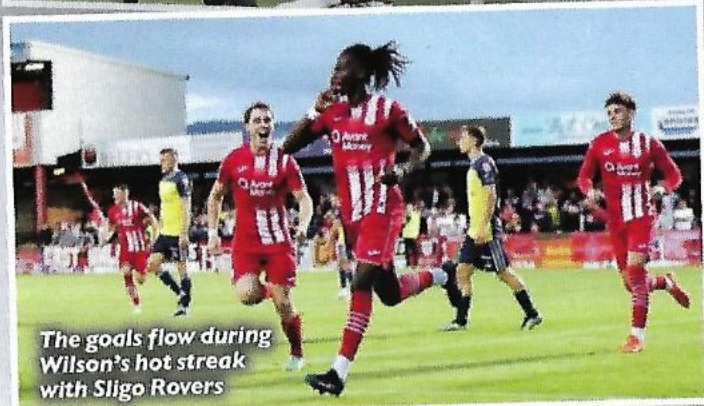
"You play every team four times each season and it just gets a bit predictable. The fans are good though - they're tribal and they just want to be entertained."

He reckons that the Irish Prem is similar in standard to the National League. "Although, to be honest, NL players are more composed on the ball; the teams are more possession-based with lots of combination plays - they don't just hit the ball away into the channels when under pressure.

"And the games here are so competitive. And physical... I'm sitting there on the bench watching and learning, just waiting to get involved."

Crowds in the Irish Div One average around 700

breaking into English football. I'll give it my all'



The goals flow during Wilson's hot streak with Sligo Rovers

to 800, and in the Premier Division closer to 2000 but only the really big clubs like Shamrock Rovers, Drogheda and Shelbourne have decent playing surfaces. "Some of the pitches in Div One are shocking, and quite a lot of them now have artificial services which is not great.

"I knew literally nothing about Wealdstone Football Club before I came to England so I was pleasantly surprised by Grosvenor Vale. The crowds are good, the fans are loud, and the pitch is terrific. The stadium reminds me a bit of Cobh Ramblers."

Cobh are probably one of few recognised Irish clubs, purely because they discovered the legend Roy Keane. Like us and Stuart Pearce. Lots in common really!

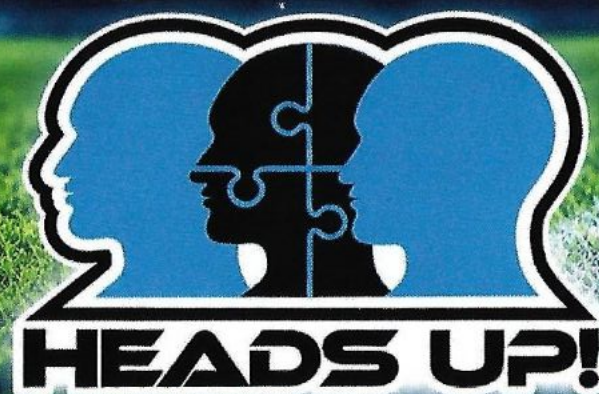
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opposition in focus:

The original Gateshead AFC was formed in 1930 when neighbours South Shields – members of the Football League's old Third Division North – moved to Gateshead because of financial difficulties.

The newly formed "Tynesiders" almost capitalised immediately on their good fortune when only Lincoln City's superior goal average denied them promotion to the second division in just their second season of League football. However, it was to be the FA Cup that was to provide the club with its finest hour when cup fever gripped the Tyneside town in 1953. After accounting for Liverpool in the Third Round, Gateshead progressed to the quarter-final only for their Wembley aspirations to be denied by a single Nat Lofthouse goal for eventual finalists Bolton Wanderers. A sell-out Redheugh Park crowd of 17,692 had witnessed the spectacle, but within five years the North Easterners were founder members of the newly formed Fourth Division after they missed the cut for the Third Division by just one point.

Despite an average placing of ninth in 21 Third Division North campaigns – interrupted by the Second World War – two years after the introduction of the Fourth Division came Gateshead's shock dismissal from the Football League. The club had applied for re-election only once before in a relatively successful 30-year period, but were unceremoniously cast aside in favour of the more geographically favourable Peterborough United in 1960. Gateshead had finished third-bottom with both Oldham Athletic and Hartlepool United below them, but polled only 18 votes and were



Stadium: Gateshead International Stadium
Capacity: 11,800 Opened: 1955

unjustly voted out of the League. An unsuccessful bid to join the Scottish Football League was followed by a brief spell in the Northern Counties League and then six years in North Regional League.

In 1968, Gateshead became founder members of the Northern Premier League, but their stay in the new competition lasted only two years. Their place was, ironically, taken by another demoted Football League outfit, Bradford Park Avenue, and Gateshead were forced to replace their own reserve side in the Wearside League.

Finishing as runners-up, the Tynesiders then had two seasons in the Midland League until – in 1973, seven leagues and 43 years after its inception – Gateshead AFC ceased to exist.

A new club called Gateshead Town played the following season in the local Northern Combination League but, astonishingly, history was soon to repeat itself. South Shields,

then members of the Northern Premier League, sold their Simonside headquarters and moved to a new home at Gateshead Stadium.

Renamed Gateshead United, the club soon became a force in the Northern Premier League. However, in 1977 – after only three years of operation – came the shock announcement that United were to disband. It looked like the end of senior football in the town until another phoenix, this time in the form of the current Gateshead FC, rose from the ashes in 1977. Replacing Gateshead United in the Northern Premier League for the 1977-78 season, the new club won the title in 1983 with a record 100 points and 114 goals. After two years in the Conference, the Tynesiders returned to the Northern Premier League and were crowned champions for the second time in 1986. Their second spell in the Conference lasted just one season, though they were quick to bounce back, and reclaimed their place

gateshead



at the top table of non-league football in 1990.

A productive period ended in 1998 when the club was relegated back to the Northern Premier League after eight consecutive seasons of Conference football.

The Heed's very existence was then threatened early in the new millennium when long-time sponsors Cameron Hall Developments pulled out. Relegation to the Northern Premier League First Division followed but, after one season, Gateshead were back in the top-tier of the NPL following the introduction of a geographically split First Division. The future for a club with a proud, if somewhat chequered, past took a turn for the better when wealthy Gateshead-born businessman, Graham Wood, took over in 2006.

Gateshead finished third in the renamed UniBond Premier Division in 2008 & seeing off Buxton in the play-off final. Back-to-back promotions were achieved when the rejuvenated Tynesiders claimed the runners-up spot in the Conference North and then overcame AFC Telford United in the Conference North play-off final.

Gateshead marked the 50th anniversary of their harsh expulsion from the Football League by again becoming a full-time professional club in 2010.

The 2013 campaign, however, saw chronic pitch problems at the International Stadium, which resulted in half of the club's home games being staged away from Tyneside. The following year, however, Gateshead recorded their highest placing in English football since their Football League days and made it to Wembley for the first time in their history. The Heed finished third. Hopes of reclaiming their League status were quashed, however, as Gary Mills' side were edged out by Cambridge United.

The highlight of the 2017/18 season was undoubtedly their remarkable FA Trophy run which saw them see off National League opposition in every round en route to the semi-final.

The Tynesiders missed out on a second Wembley trip when they were beaten by Bromley over two legs but still equalled their best ever finish in the competition.

In April 2018, owners Richard and Julie Bennett confirmed their intention to sell the club after three

years in charge. They agreed a deal with an overseas consortium the following month but that later collapsed. Gateshead remained up for sale until just over a week before the start of the 2018/19 National League season when Hong Kong based businessman Dr Ranjan Varghese completed his takeover of the club.

The 2021/22 season proved a historic one for Williamson's men, who defied 20/1 odds to become Vanarama National League North champions and return to the National League three years after their demotion.

The 2022/23 season began with the club stepping into an entirely different National League to the one they left four years prior, and survived relegation with a 14th-placed finish. Mike Williamson's side also made history in the FA Trophy. Gateshead would fall



Stones v Gateshead
P 14 W 4 D 4 L 5 Goals F 21 A 23

just short of another historic moment in the capital, with FC Halifax Town edging a closely fought final 1-0 in front of over 27,000 at Wembley Stadium.

In the 2023/24 season the Heed lived up to expectations and ended the season in sixth place.

The Heed's play-off hopes were controversially put to a halt less than 24 hours after a final day win over Bromley, with an inability to secure a 10-year security of tenure at Gateshead International Stadium seeing the club expelled from the National

League play-offs and potential promotion to the EFL.

Gateshead still had history to write – and redemption to claim – at Wembley Stadium in the 2024 FA Trophy final however, after becoming the first team to reach consecutive finals in the competition since Grays Athletic in 2005 and 2006. Gateshead won their first ever FA Trophy against Solihull on penalties.

In 2024/25 Gateshead finished the season in 8th position on 67 points

The 2025/26 season proved more difficult for Gateshead who eventually finished the season in 18th position on 50 points.

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the top midfield legends

Heroes, one and all...the men in the engine room who shaped Wealdstone

IN THE fifth installment of this award-winning series, Sir Michael Fishman investigates which central midfielders - half backs and inside forwards in old money - deserve the honour of being nominated as a Wealdstone FC Legend..

IN THE old millennium, a half-back's primary function was to prevent the opposing inside forward from running the show... with assassins like the legendary Skinner Normanton and Wilf Copping coming to the fore.

There were always exceptions when a half back possessed sublime skills - think Glenn Hoddle and, earlier, Danny Blanchflower - that earned them the label of "schemer." There was also a third inside forward who would now be known as operating as a "No. 10" whose ball and passing skills also poached a serious number of goals. In our modern game the tacklers, ball-winners, schemers and "No.10s" have all been mashed into one title: central midfielder.

The first Wealdstone player of this type is probably **Dave Scott** who played 148 games for the club between 1934-39. During the war years he turned out 66 times, and immediately after the war's conclusion he made a further 35 appearances. This defensive midfielder, with close to 250 appearances under his belt, must be considered a legend.

Inside right **Ken Baldwin** played 80 games for the club between 1938 and 1940, scoring an astonishing 64 goals - by all accounts he was a wonderful footballer who could run games almost

single-handedly. Tragically, he returned to play 6 games in 1944 when recuperating from being wounded in action... and was recalled for the D-Day landings. Shortly after, he was killed in action. The other is **Jackie Wilson**, an

inside left who between 1934 and 1939 made 162 appearances, scoring 74 goals. He joined up but returned to play 29 times between 1943 and 1945, scoring a remarkable 27 goals. Then in the immediate post war season he



Hughie Lindsay (left) and Charlie Townsend (above with the Middx Senior Cup) were undoubtedly the best as they strode the stage in the 1960s



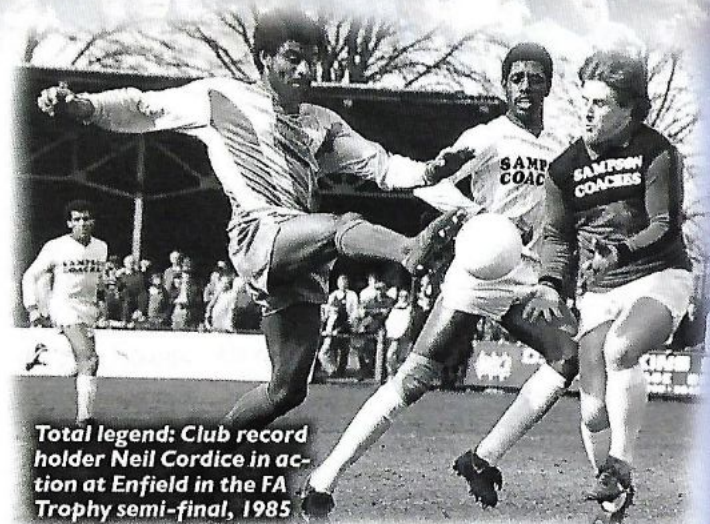
made 10 more appearances and scored 6 goals. This playing record must surely qualify him for legend status?

Bert Dyke was another inside right who contributed a remarkable number of goals for the team. Between 1937 and 1950, he made 164 appearances, scoring 67 goals. His later goalscoring exploits at Finchley indicate that he was probably happier as a centre forward and the Stones might have missed out on a player capable of scoring copious amounts of goals for seasons to come. Then there was **Edgar Francis**, a half back who was already a Welsh international when he arrived at Lower Mead in 1947. Over the next five seasons Edgar played 154 games, scoring just three goals, which indicates his defensive right half mindset. He retired from playing in 1952 in order to coach the reserves and retained that position into the 1970s.

When right half **Gordon Norman** joined the club as an 18-year-old in 1948, he was a considered quite a catch. By 1951, he was team captain and skippered the side to its first and only Athenian League title that season, enough to surely qualify him as a legend.

The 1950s had started with a bang for the club but appeared to fall off a cliff during the middle part of the decade - yet by its conclusion things were again on the up. The two star centre-midfielders were **John Saunders** (11 apps, three goals) and **John Moran** (137 games and 50 goals).

Even their contribution was eclipsed as we moved into the 1960s. Then emerged two of the club's undeniably greatest-ever midfielders, **Charlie Townsend**



Total legend: Club record holder Neil Cordice in action at Enfield in the FA Trophy semi-final, 1985

and **Hughie Lindsay**. Charlie, a young centre forward from Watford, converted to right half and became a star performer of that decade for Wealdstone, England and Great Britain. He played a whopping 513 games for the Stones between 1957 and 1971 (with just an 18 month gap in 1969/70) scoring 63 goals. Between 1962 and 1969 his partner in crime for the team was Hughie Lindsay who banged in 174 goals in 321 appearances.

For that period they strode the Stones' midfield as twin colossi with Charlie's reading of the game and wonderful passing ability aligning with Hughie's close control and ferocious shooting power. Charlie and Hughie are two of the club's greatest-ever legends.

Paul Fairclough and Jim Godfrey were the midfield mainstays of the team in the early 1970s, both of whom recorded well over 100 appearances each for the club, but the main man for most of the decade was the great **Willie**

Watson. Joining in 1972 as a full back, he developed into the perfect midfield maestro offering great touch, skill, passing range and ferocious tackling. He was the all-rounder.

The only thing that prevented Willie from enjoying a long and successful full-time career was his fiery temper that too-often led to bookings and dismissals. But it didn't stop him from captaining Wealdstone, Scarborough, Barnet, Maidstone and the England non-League XI for whom he made 18 appearances. Willie made 329 Stones appearances (five as sub) and scored 11 goals... while the £10,000 fee that took him from Wealdstone to Scarborough in 1981 was a non-League record.

A towering presence over many years was **Neil Cordice**. Neil had joined the club in the summer of 1979 as a 19 year-old centre forward from Northampton Town - and in a first spell that encompassed the Southern League title

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the stones midfield legends contd..

from previous page

and Cup winners and the double winning side of 1985, he made 274 (44) appearances, scoring 85 goals. He left to join Yeovil Town in 1987 but returned in 1991 and enjoyed a second spell of 3 seasons making a further 140(5) appearances and scoring 17 goals... breaking Charlie Townsend's club's all-time appearance record.

Having started as a forward, Neil dropped back to enjoy his best years in midfield before ending his career in central defence.

The club's great period of the early 1980s was blessed to enjoy the services of **John Margerrison, Lee Holmes and Robin Wainwright**. 'Marge' played just 22 games for the team in the 1982/83 season, but his performances raised the level of the entire team. He returned for a longer stint at the end of the decade. Lee Holmes was quite evil and added that ruthless ingredient that tipped our good side into a great one. As for Throbbin' Robin ... well, he simply passed opposition teams off the pitch. In his 10 years with the Stones he made a mighty 400(17) apps, scoring 39 goals.

The team was largely in decline from 1987-1995 during which time personnel turnover was



Stones have just won the Gola League title at Kettering in 1985 and Robin Wainwright (right) celebrates with Dennis Byatt & Gary Donnellan

massive. Nevertheless, Paul Goyette made 141(7) appearances and scored 22 goals between 1989 and 1992, and Andy Hedge chalked up 111(17) appearances and notched 10 goals between 1991 and 1994. Legends?

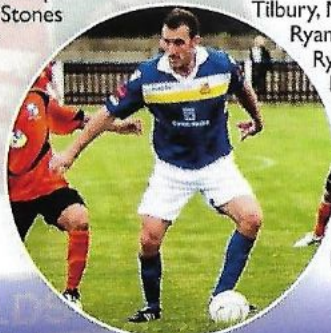
Gordon Bartlett's 22-year tenure included many fine players who operated primarily, but possibly not exclusively, in central midfield. The most obvious candidates for legendary status via appearances and/or longevity were Chris Walton, Steve Bircham, Paul McKay, Danny Tilbury, Martin Carter, Dave Ryan, Chris O'Leary, Ryan Ashe, Kurtney Brookes, Tom Pett, Elliott Godfrey and Alex Dyer. It would take too long and use up too much paper to cover their contributions here but we

fondly remember every last one.

It should be recorded that one or two players made comparatively short, but memorable contributions to the club from centre midfield during their time with the club. Danny Light only stayed for one whole season but in his 45 appearances showed what a wonderful player he was. Steve Brinkman enjoyed his best years at Barnet when he moved there, but his outrageous skills and showmanship were on great

display throughout his 94 appearances with the club. Gary McKeown was in the autumn of his career when he joined us in 2004, but was a genuine class act for a season and a half before retiring after making 59(2) apps and scoring 10 goals.

But it is to **Glenn Little** (pictured below left) that we must finally turn. The team that won the Ryman Premier League title in 2014 was very good, but Glen ensured it was great. His languid skills and complete domination of games from midfield was a wonder to behold; and anyone who was privileged to be at Dulwich Hamlet when he ran most of the length of the pitch, dropping shoulders, feinting left and right to leave opponents completely beaten and baffled before chipping the keeper to score a simply sublime goal will never, ever forget his name!



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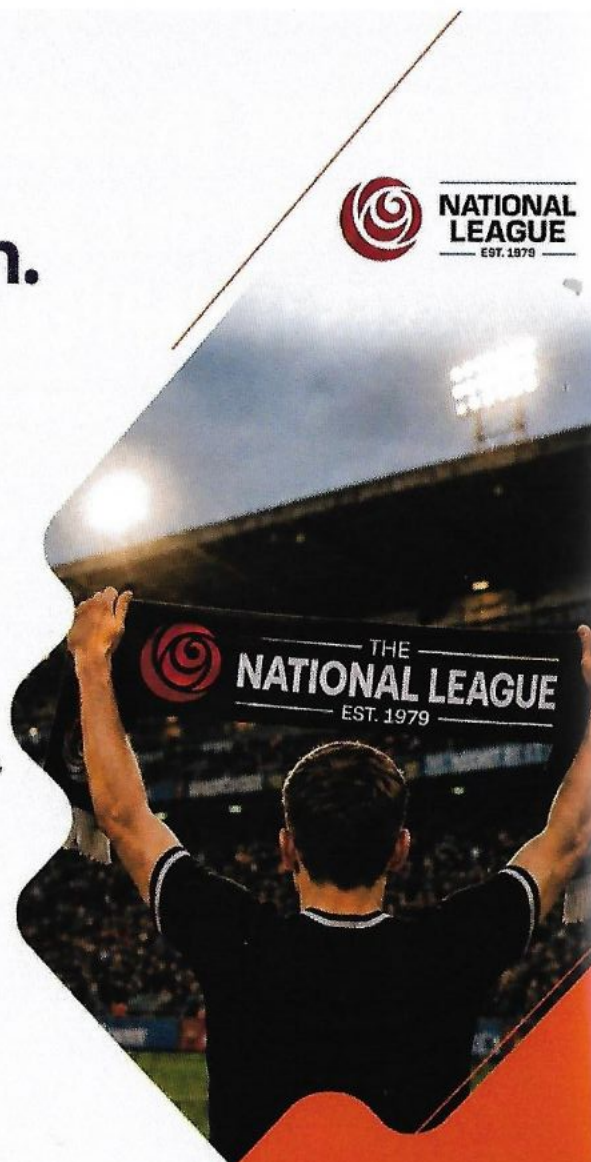
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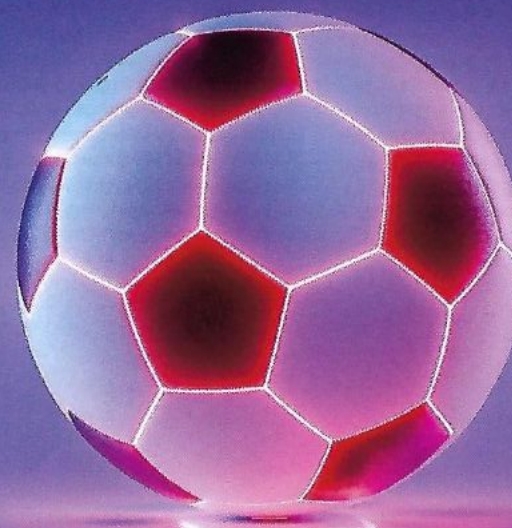
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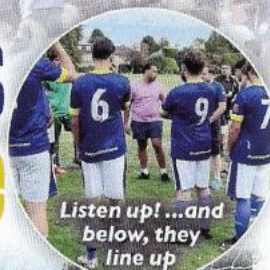
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sfc wealdstone's tough start to life



Back row, left to right: Alex Kilroy (coach), Chris Panther, Tom Breen, George Glanvill, Rio Beare, Charlie Marshall, Will Cooney, Will Cone, Alfie Sanger, Luca Rossetto (coach). Front row, from left: Rio Zoroofchie, Raj Darbar, Frankie Morehouse, Aydan Fortune, Mathias Kilroy, Ryan Forster, Alfie Clarke, and Jamie Clement-Foster



Tim Parks

There's nothing better designed to make you feel old than to see a new generation going through the same rites of passage.

Which is why I look on with admiration at the bunch of young men who have caught the same bug that compelled me and my mates to form SFC Wealdstone (the Stones' Supporters Club team) way back in time, almost five decades ago. TWO generations when you think about it!



The West Herts keeper saves the day last Sunday as Frankie Morehouse homes in

The world was very different then. Less expensive and easier to navigate. Everyone wanted to get out on the grass and play football - no addiction to phones or gaming and way before the new millenium hit of Power League football.

Back in the 70s, that was all we had. Pen and paper, home phones and endless bureaucracy.

These days, the availability of football pitches has shrunk while costs have soared. It's little surprise that there is only one functioning Sunday League in our vicinity - and the Watford League is desperate for new teams to augment the 20 or so clubs in membership.

When we mooted the idea of forming SFCW in 1979 it was a real

problem to find a pitch and a league that wasn't bursting at the seams. There was the Harrow Sunday Challenge League, Watford Sunday League, North Hillingdon Sunday

League, Hendon Sunday League - and the Marathon Sunday League, which we opted for. And I think we chose them because they were the only League that would allow us to play home games in Wimbledon.

Yes, Wimbledon! We applied to all the local councils for that most essential of items - a pitch - but drew a blank, until the Playing Fields Association informed us that they had one spare pitch in Walthamstow and one at Raynes Park, London SW19.

Which is why, one early September morning in 1979 we found ourselves setting off from Harrow in a convoy of cars about 8.30 in the morning to play our very first competitive Sunday League Division Five game against Ealing North Labour Club. Why so early? I guess we hadn't worked out how long it would take to travel south of the river, but we got there with well over an hour to spare... and were buzzing 90 minutes later when the game ended with us 10-0 winners!

We didn't know then quite how bad the left-wingers from Ealing were, and we were brought down to earth after just our second game the following Sunday. K-Tel Cosmos were a different class and made our smug smiles in the pre-match line-up picture (above right) look rather premature. We were



The 1979 SFC Wealdstone equivalents before their 2nd Marathon Sunday League game: Back row (left to right) Dave Heath, Kat Kelly, Justin O'Brien, Kevin Bright, Dylan Cross, Tim Parks, Martin Allen. Front row, from left: Paul Hurford, Mark Chamberlain, Dorian Cross, Gordon McKay, Don Cross, and Duncan Towell

beaten 9-0!

But you don't want to hear about the SFC coffin-dodgers from 1979. You want to know about the 2026 reincarnation and there's no doubt in my mind that, while there have already been ups and downs in the handful of friendlies and competitive games played, the current crop have potential with a giant 'P'.

Yes, they lost their opening Watford Sunday League Division Two game 4-0 to West Herts last Sunday, but the opposition are an established club with years of experience. A lack of mobility in the

back four left the Stones' outstanding goalkeeper Will Cooney horribly exposed and, in all fairness, the 3-0 half time score could easily have been doubled.

But in the second half, with the semi-fit Adam Hills coming on to control much of the game, we were much more capable and composed. Hillsy, and Frankie Morehouse, hit shots that flew just over the bar.

The side's first game, in the Herts Junior Cup, saw a 2-1 defeat at Atletico Cheshunt and next up is a league game against Inter at Barton Way, Croxley Green tomorrow morning at 10.30am. Come along!



Left: Adam Hills sees his shot beat the West Herts keeper but also the cross-bar... while (right) SFC had no joy from a series of second-half corners



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Wealdstone v Carlisle United, August 28th 2026

1st XI stats 26/27

	Comp	Score	Crowd	(Away)	Lge	Goal scorers
8	AFC Fylde	ENL 2-2	1,103	179	14	Norris, Olomola
15	HARROGATE TOWN	ENL 1-3	1,517	123	19	Obiero
18	WOLVES	NLC 1-3	227	TBC	19	Callum
22	Worthing	ENL 0-1	2,235	344	21	
28	CARLISLE UNITED	ENL 1-1	1,995	438	22	Henry
31	Sutton United	ENL 2-0	2,197	242	17	Obiero (2)
5	KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS	NLC 1-4	1,676	246	20	McAvoy
8	STOKE CITY	NLC 6-0	146	---	20	Waweru (3), Kaunda (2), Olomola
12	Boston United	ENL 3-1	1,612	86	17	Kadji, Olomola, Mundle-Smith
15	FC HALIFAX TOWN	ENL 0-1	1,347	44	18	
19	Tamworth	ENL 1-2	854	120	20	Olomola

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

1 Dante BAPTISTE	2 Jack COOK	3 Joe NEWTON	4 Jack WELLS-MORRISON	5 Dion CONROY	6 Mason BARRETT	7 Luke NORRIS	8 Dylan KADJI	9 Olufela OLOMOLA	10 Jayden HARRIS	11 Dan CHESTERS	12 Aiden FRANCIS-CLARKE	13 Endurance JOHNSON	14 Micah OBIERO	15 Aaron HENRY	16 Josh MULLINS	17 Admiral MUSKWE	18 Kyle SMITH	19 Wilson WAWERU	20 Lee CALLUM	21 Jeffrey SEKYERE	22 Connor MCAVOY	23 Jaydn MUNDLE-SMITH	24 Decario MCKAIN	24 Seamus ATEM	25 Enoch FOLORUNSHO	25 Aaron FERNANDEZ	26 Oskar ZEZULA	27 Amaru KAUNDA	27 Tyrell NEWTON	30 Josh CLAY	31 James HOLDEN
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KEY

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

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



The Big Picture

Spot the goalscorer? Olufela Olomola is surrounded by team mates and applauded by an appreciative away support during our 3-1 win at Boston United's Jakemans Stadium two weeks ago. Picture 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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tales from the far corner

It's Gateshead today, but a longest-ever trip to Blyth Spartans was on the cards for just a few glorious days three seasons ago...

Ball 26: Blyth Spartans or York City will play ... ball 63: Chelmsford City or Wealdstone

WELL, just for a day or two three years ago the carrot of the Stones' furthest-ever trip to play a competitive game in these shores was dangled like vegetable confectionery in a donkey sanctuary.

Blyth Spartans eh? The whiff of North Eastern legend. Way up in the far corner, beyond Gateshead and Newcastle even, the green-clad Spartans had stolen Wealdstone's thunder a little back in 1978 when we reached the FA Cup 3rd round (for the first and only time).

Blyth made it all the way to the 5th round and were only denied a place in the last eight by a wrongly-awarded corner after they'd led

Wrexham 1-0 going into injury time at the Racecourse ground. Over 50,000 saw Blyth edged out 2-1 in the replay at St James Park.

But of course, in February 2023 it wasn't to be. The Spartans are now no more than a pretty ordinary National League North side and York won the postponed tie 5-0 on a Tuesday night to set up their last-32 match against our conquerors Chelmsford.

Had both Spartans and the Stones gone through to set up a historic 590-mile round trip to Northumberland, I was going to regale you of our last cup adventure to the North East: 1964-65 season, when Dave Underwood's Wealdstone had the unenviable task of progressing to the Amateur Cup's last 16 after being drawn at the Mighty Bishop Auckland.

What the hell, we're playing Gateshead today which is still pretty relevant, so here goes. **Saturday January 23 1964, FA Amateur Cup 2nd round Bishop Auckland 2 Wealdstone 4**

THESE were exciting times to be a Stones fan.... Much like high-on 60 years later, we had been promoted to the top level of the non League game (and would finish eighth out of 20 in its first Isthmian League season) and were recognised as one of the finest footballing teams in the country at that level. We had three England amateur internationals in centre back Johnny Ashworth and midfielders Charlie Townsend and Hughie Lindsay, and had hopes of a good run in the high profile Amateur Cup... despite never having progressed

past the last-16 stage. And yet now we faced the legendary 'Bishops'.

The Durham side had won the Amateur Cup ten times (three successive years v Hendon in '55, Corinthian Casuals in '56 and Wycombe Wanderers in '57, drawing 100,000 crowds to Wembley stadium) and although they were having a comparatively lean season in the Northern League this was a formidable trip.

As you can see from the article in the club's handbook the following summer (next page), it took almost nine hours overnight for the supporters coach to negotiate the snow-covered A1, arriving at Bishops' Kingsway ground at 7.45 in the morning! Three inches of snow had to be cleared from the sloping pitch of the iconic stadium - effectively a two sided ground thanks to the adjoining cricket club - and by kick off time around 100 Stones

fans were amongst the 1,700 crowd on a freezing afternoon.

Our star-studded team was in dominant mood however - and many of the crowd were leaving before the end when Bishops were 4-1 down. This was in stark contrast to the 1950s when 13,000 crowds were the norm at Kingsway, packed into its high terraces while hundreds more perched on chairs and benches at the 'cricket' side of the ground.

Ashworth won the crucial toss, kicking with the slope for an early advantage and it was the tall centre back who put the London visitors ahead. Ashworth died five years ago and when his widow Anne turned up to watch a game in his honour she was very much taken with our current captain and centre back Jack Cook.... And, do you know, Cookie is very much the reincarnation of our 1960s star

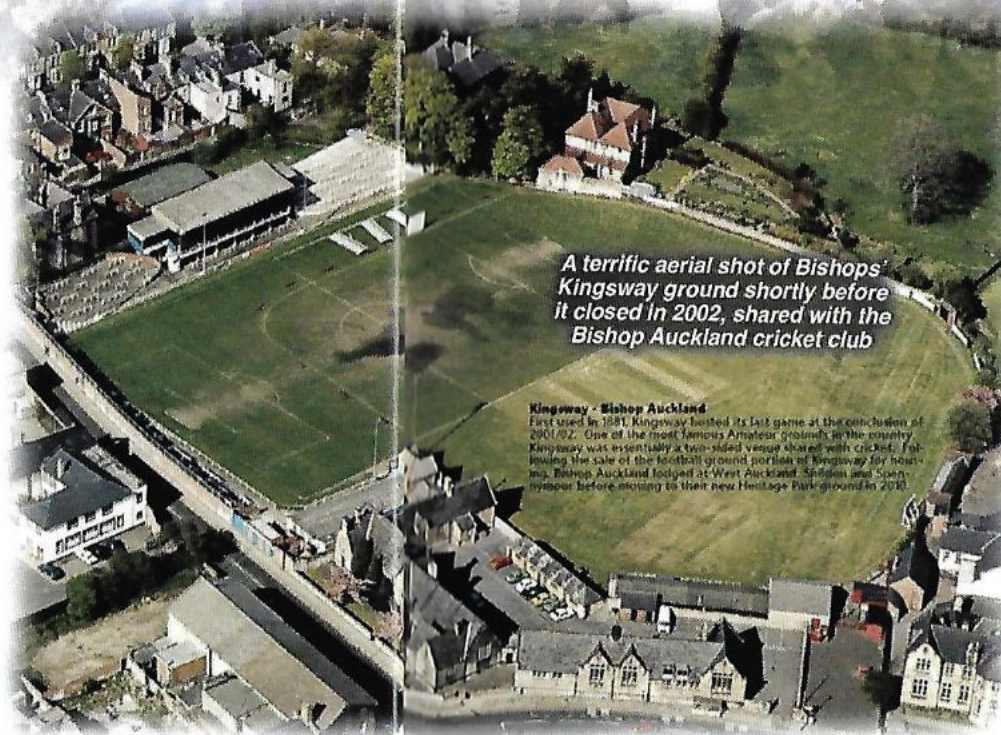
defender both in playing style (cultured, dominant and adept at bringing the ball out of defence) and also in personality (polite, articulate and well paid in a job outside football).

Big John was pursued by many Football League clubs but he was better paid in his professional life while picking up 'expenses' with the Stones.

That side's other internationals Charlie and Hughie can both be seen regularly at the Vale in the roles as club ambassadors - despite their octogenarian status - and will happily chat about 1960s football until the cows come home!

Charlie said: "I mainly remember that game for the fact that my late wife Margaret's family are from the north east - around the Whitley Bay area - although her dad and

continued over page >>



A terrific aerial shot of Bishops' Kingsway ground shortly before it closed in 2002, shared with the Bishop Auckland cricket club

Kingsway - Bishop Auckland

First used in 1881, Kingsway hosted its last game at the conclusion of 2001/02. Use of the most famous Amateur grounds in the country, Kingsway was essentially a two-sided venue shared with cricket. Following the sale of the football ground portion of Kingsway for housing, Bishop Auckland lodged at West Auckland. Arden and Spens' number before moving to their new Heritage Park ground in 2018.



...and here's the programme for that day, loaned by Charlie Townsend!

tales from the far corner contd...

from previous page

uncles were brought up in Bishop Auckland - and there were quite a few of them in the ground, so I was expected to play well! But I remember it was a bit bleak with lots of snow piled up around the pitch, and we were expecting a really tough game with their reputation"

"In the end it was quite easy, which maybe didn't help when we played Alvechurch in the next round - and the less said about that one the better". Our dreams of Wembley were rudely interrupted by the fired-up Worcester village side who took us apart 4-1 with No.9 John Mason netting all four.

"We had our revenge the next season though!" said Charlie. Sure enough, the following spring Stones had reached the semi-final for the first time and found themselves facing Alvechurch - again - at Stamford Bridge. This time Ashworth made the dangerous Mason look like a toddler on reins as Stones dominated the game to win 1-0 and reach the promised land just four miles down the road: Wembley!

HUGHIE Lindsay has a fascinating recollection of the Bishop Auckland game. He says: My main memory was rushing out to buy a pair of flat-

soled boots after seeing the state of the pitch... the lines were cleared but there was 3ins of snow right across the surface. I can't remember much, but I found a sports shop in the high street and this pair of ridged-soled boots were on display and I took a chance... they were like magic boots to me! The other players were wearing rubber or long studs but I was able to skim across the snow.

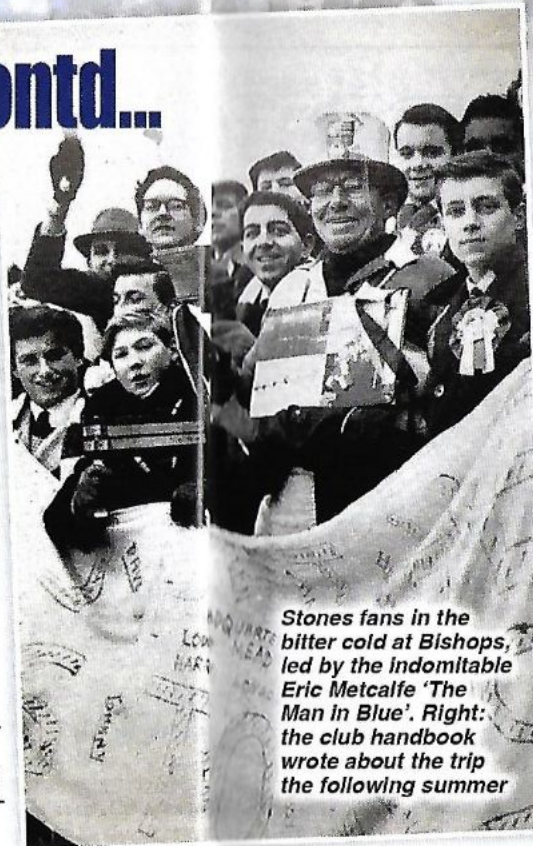
"I had those boots for about 15 years as there were so few times I could wear them! There was some doubt about the game going ahead but we played on diabolical pitches in those days. And the fact there were so many Wealdstone fans already there probably swayed the referee's decision.

"The worst pitch I played on was for Wealdstone at Hendon on Boxing Day one year: it had been frozen overnight and had been played on the previous day so was rutted and dangerous... but thousands had turned out to watch and the ref said "We're going to play this but I don't want to see any tackling! As local rivals the games were always robust but we respected each other that day and it was a terrible game... it finished 0-0."

I asked Hughie if he could remember the team staying overnight on the way to Bishop Auckland?

"I think we stayed on Friday night in Darlington on the way" he said. "That was a regular stopover and when I played cup games in the North East for Kingstonian we often used to stay Saturday night too in the Ferryboat Inn. Up all night drinking and celebrating... those trips were great for team bonding and camaraderie".

● JUST as an addendum to Bishop



Stones fans in the bitter cold at Bishops, led by the indomitable Eric Metcalfe 'The Man in Blue'. Right: the club handbook wrote about the trip the following summer

Auckland, it's worth mentioning the fantastic "The Farther Corner" book by Harry Pearson that revisits the NE football institutions he wrote so beautifully about in his celebrated 1990s 'The Far Corner' tome.

It's really about the personalities and social history of the North East, and he talks in some depth about the Bishops team of the 1950s and particularly their 1954 Amateur Cup final clash with local rivals Crook Town.

"Bishop Auckland were the Real Madrid of amateur football: their best players were

continued over page >>

OUR TRIP TO BISHOP AUCKLAND

Fifty members, Chairman and Secretary of the Supporters' Club left Wealdstone at ten minutes past eleven on Friday, the 22nd January, bound for the frozen north to do battle with the mighty Bishops in the second round of the Amateur Cup. It had been snowing for most of the week and it was quite on the cards that the game would be postponed but we kept our fingers crossed, our coat collars turned up and hoped that our journey would not be in vain.

We turned right as we left Lower Mead, which is the way South and someone called out, "are we playing at Redhill?" Anyway we turned left and left again and soon hit the A1 and kept on this highway until, after a couple of short stops we reached Darlington at 5 minutes past 6 on Saturday morning, having taken six hours 55 minutes to do the 240 miles. By the time we reached Darlington we were looking for the usual first port of call but, alas, the local council did not cater for early callers, their times of opening being set to suit their own convenience. However after slipping and sliding on the icy roads we found what we wanted and eventually rejoined the coach for the short journey into Bishop Auckland.

Arriving at this famous football town at 7.45 a.m. we made direct for the ground, which we found open, and the groundsman busy sweeping the lines clear of the additional snow that had fallen overnight. We were all ready and willing to set to there and then to clear the pitch of the 3in. of snow covering, but without official permission we naturally couldn't do anything.

After we had our breakfast we had a look round the town and then on to our hosts for the day, the Bishop Auckland Working Men's Club, which was just across the road from the football ground. A game of cards, a little drink and for some a snooze in front of the fire and it was time to go out to the snow covered street to greet the coach bringing the players and officials from Darlington where they had been staying overnight. We had been joined by now by many more supporters who had made the journey by train and car. It was a welcome sight as one looked round the ground to see so many Wealdstone faces. As someone said you would think that we had slipped over to Hendon instead of the 250 miles to Bishop Auckland.

The result of the match we all know—a magnificent victory for the Stones—and how thrilled was the Man in Blue and his band of merry men when Ashworth led his men over to say thank-you before they left the field.

We returned to the Working Men's Club for the evening to enjoy true northern hospitality. A Bingo session, Floor Show and made so welcome that we were reluctant to leave. However, at 10 p.m. we boarded the coach for the A.I. and London. It was snow, hail, wind and rain all the way back, but no one cared. We had not travelled in vain—we were through to the next round and had had a wonderful weekend thanks to the coach drivers, the people of Bishop Auckland and the boys in blue.

J.C.B.

Amateur Cup

INTERNATIONALS GET WEALDSTONE'S FIRST THREE GOALS

Bishop Auckland 2, Wealdstone 4

CONQUERING a treacherous, snowbound pitch as well as opponents richly steeped in Amateur Cup tradition, Wealdstone played with increasing skill and unquenchable spirit to beat Bishop Auckland, ten times the holders, in the second round on Saturday.

First to score after 17 minutes they shrugged aside the rebuff of a shock equaliser two minutes later; snatched back the lead and pressed with increasing momentum but little luck until the interval; held all their youthful opponents' efforts to pull the game out of the fire in the second half; and were almost coasting home 4-1 when the home side had the last word with only seconds left for play.

Sharp reply

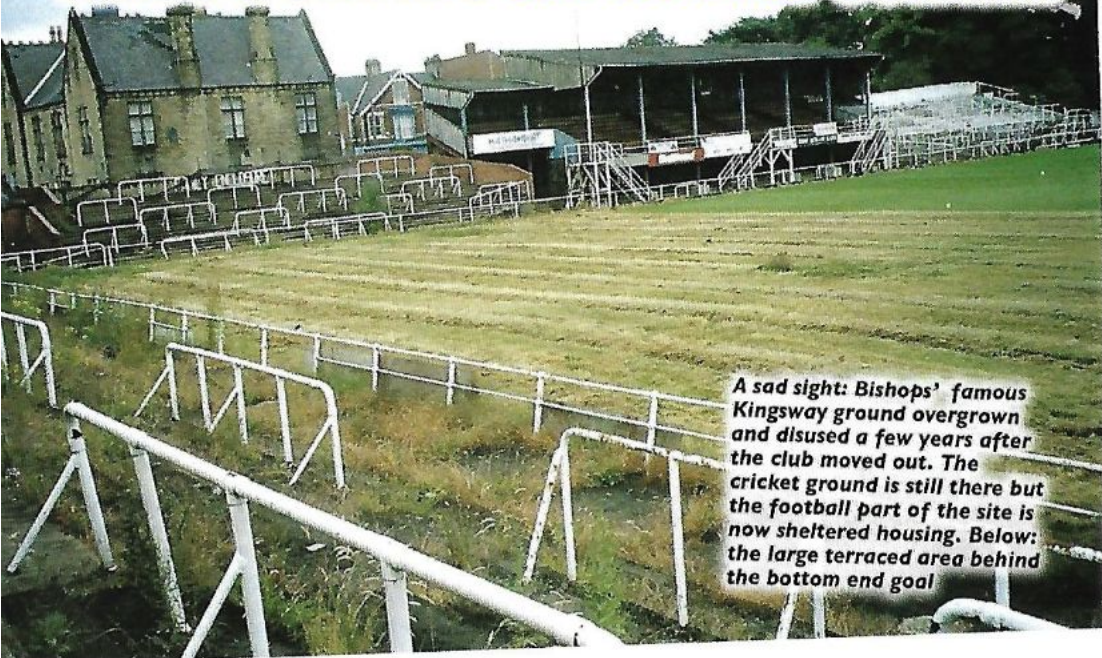
Then came the first goal. Wyatt forced a corner which Lindsay lifted high over the goalmouth and when Bremer headed it down into the area

occasion and Wealdstone gradually began to take command though Bishops might have slipped into the lead when Hetherington hesitated from a fine position and his shot was easily parried by Fowler, who soon afterwards brought off a magnificent flying save from Slott.

Urgency

That was after 38 minutes' play and as the interval approached Wealdstone appeared to appreciate with increasing urgency that a one-goal lead might be inadequate with the slope to conquer in the second half. But try as they would they could not score again, Kirkbride, Siddie, and Hull repeatedly extricating them from perilous situa-

tales from the far corner contd...



A sad sight: Bishops' famous Kingsway ground overgrown and disused a few years after the club moved out. The cricket ground is still there but the football part of the site is now sheltered housing. Below: the large terraced area behind the bottom end goal

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE...

household names across England and there was even a subbuteo team in their colours!" he wrote.

"Compared to these galacticos Crook's players seemed modest and homespun, and the game had an extra edge thanks to the bitter rivalry caused by the 1928 investigation into illegal payments in the amateur Northern League. It ended with 341 players suspended and Crook Town - nailed on champions - being turfed out of the league altogether. The club that had secretly brought the matter to the attention of the league? Bishop Auckland.

"Such was the interest in this 1954 final that supporters from the two Durham towns travelled down to London on 20 special trains and 250 coaches.

Wembley was a 100,000 sell-out. But there was tragedy for Bishops when half back Jimmy Nimmins slid in for a tackle and broke his leg - and in the days before sub-

stitutes it was a major blow. Amazingly, Bishops took the lead; Crook levelled and then lost a man of their own. Play pulsed from one end to the other and the game ended 2-2... so it was on to a midweek replay at the more convenient St James Park, where a 56,008 crowd saw Crook lead 2-0 before Bishops again equalised late on. With league fixtures piling up, the second replay was shoehorned into Middlesbrough's Ayresome Park three days later at 6pm, where another full house (36,727) somehow got off work early to witness a heroic 1-0 win for Crook.

"Joe Harvey (the later-to-become Everton manager) and his team returned to the mining village on a special train where 15,000 people and a silver band greeted them despite the fact it was nearly midnight... But there was to be no late night party for the Crook players.

They had to be up early for work the next day, and in the evening there was a Northern League fixture at West Auckland to play!"



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Tim Parks

I HEARD a conversation on the away terrace at Tamworth last week which compared the current crop of half a dozen injured absentees to the way players used to "just get on with it" back in the good old days.

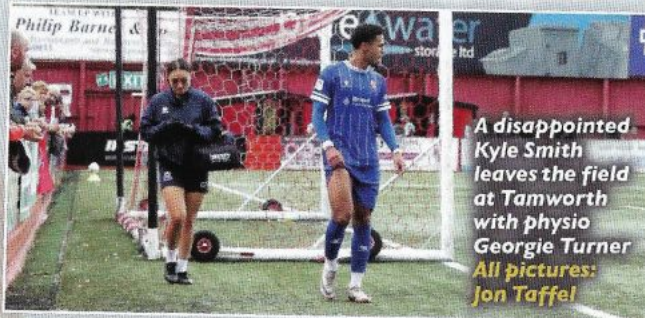
It was a very rose-tinted view of the football facts of life. Back in the 70s and 80s, when Wealdstone had a squad barely numbering 15, the players were expected to perform even when carrying injuries. If you talk to players from that era there was only a brief window in August when they played pain-free... the rest of the time was a case of strapping up injuries and suffering the ubiquitous Deep Heat spray. The trainer's bucket of cold water and sponge weren't really a lot of help and many of those players retired with crippling injuries, arthritis and health problems in later life.

Tackles from behind and early "softener" challenges (where wingers in particular were deliberately targeted to reduce their effectiveness) were just a routine part of the game.

So are the players of today overly protected? It seems obvious to me that the game has speeded up and players – certainly at National League level – have a much better technical ability and athleticism than players from those previous eras. The increased levels in this millennium are really off the scale.

We love to shamelessly lift information from other publications (while crediting them, obviously) and it was a real eye opener to

High-performance athletes or just mollycoddled? Stats that show the astonishing pressure on modern-day players... with equivalent of 162 double-decker buses of force on each leg in the course of an average game!



read an article in the recent Boston United match programme that looked forensically into the physical demands of professional football in the 2020s. Players now are routinely measured and the most common metric that's talked about is TD – total distance – run by the players in a typical game. The article quoted Crystal Palace's Adam Wharton as covering 12km for Crystal Palace in a recent game against Fulham while

Boston midfielder Ben Hammond covered the same distance in their National League Cup game against West Brom.

During the 1960s, technology accurately tells us that the highest distance covered by midfielders were around 8km... which means a 50% increase in distance covered per player.

While that 12km distance has

Kyle Smith nurses his injured thigh before departing at Tamworth, with physio Georgie Turner in attendance. Below left: Dylan Kadji suffers a head injury at Slough in pre-season and (below right) our still-injured striker Admiral Muskwe in summer training

remained fairly unchanged over the last 30 years, what has changed enormously are the physical demands on players.

The 'pass-back rule' in 1992 sped the game up, and when Arsene Wenger arrived at Arsenal in 1996 he brought an array of sports science innovations which forced every other elite club to follow suit – and this expertise has since filtered down the pyramid.

During the 2000s we also saw the emergence of modern-day academies capable of nurturing talent and building athletes of a type never seen before.

Then, in the 2010s, Pep Guardiola and Jürgen Klopp, among others, enjoyed great success when adopting a high-intensity press that demanded more sprinting and aggressive changes of direction.

In the last 20 years the ball is in play for 17% longer while high intensity actions have doubled – and sprint distances have increased by

40%. When's 'sprinting' is mentioned in football it is classified as any period where a player is travelling above 7 metres per second – which is the equivalent of running 100m in 14.2 seconds. At those speeds the hamstrings must withstand five times bodyweight while the iliopsoas (deep hip flexor) must withstand x6 times bodyweight ...and the soleus (lower calf) has to stand x8.5 times bodyweight per stride.

Each week, players will cover 200 to 300m at this speed, which is the minimum of 500 to 800 times their own body weight just from sprinting a couple of hundred metres... and this does not include the other 30+ kilometres of jogging and running at high speed.

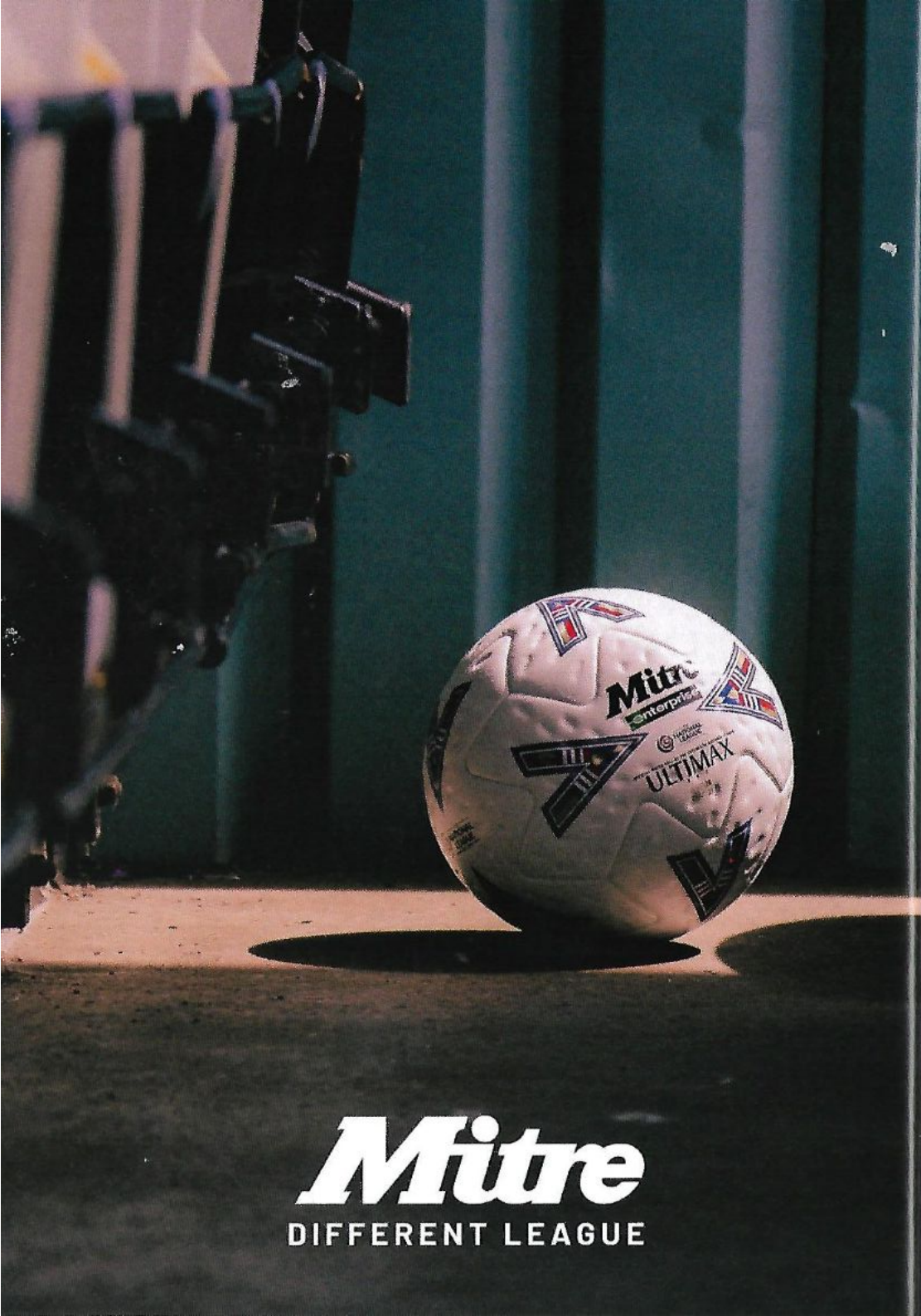
Oh, and it does not include any of these 600 to 1,000 times a week (depending on position in the team) when players decelerate and accelerate, changing direction by more than 3metres per second.

The distances covered haven't changed much for 30 years but the sheer intensity has increased exponentially, producing players who are athletically light years ahead of their recent predecessors.

The article mentioned data from one of Boston's 75kg players which showed that (including all jogging, running at high speed, sprinting and changing direction) his hamstrings had to absorb roughly 2.25million kg, or 162 double-decker buses of force on each leg!

So, as the Boston article concluded, the next time you hear someone in the pub say that footballers have an easy life or are being mollycoddled ...just absorb those statistics!





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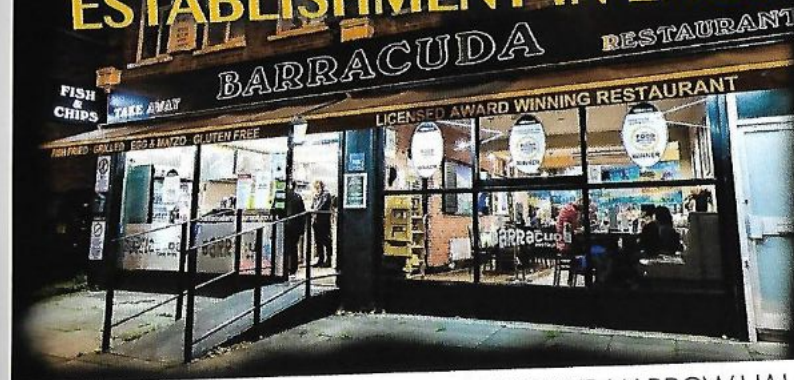
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also get a mention below, a mention on the club website – and a mention on any player interviews we publish on X and YouTube. **To secure your favourite contact Peter Worby on 07967 698370 or John Young on 07874 846785**

Gary WADDOCK Ron Moore	Danny PAYNE	Jason SCANNELL Sarah Gowdy	Brett AHERNE Those that care
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Dion CONROY James Conroy	Mason BARRETT Izzy Randall	Luke NORRIS Councillors Richard Mills, Peter Smallwood & Steve Tuckwell	Dylan KADJI Sudhir, Akhil, Nikhil, Sarin & Kamran Rawal
Olafela OLOMOLA Norwich Singing Man and Hampshire Rose	Jayden HARRIS James, John, Matt, Pete & Victor	Dan CHESTERS Stones Old Salvos	Aiden FRANCIS-CLARKE James, John, Matt, Pete and Victor
Endurance JOHNSON	Aaron HENRY StonesCast	Admiral MUSKWE Wealdstone Bag on Tour	Kyle SMITH Gary Smith
Wilson WAWERU Barry Benveniste	Jeffrey SEKYERE	Connor MCAVOY Jon Taffel	Jaydn MUNDLE-SMITH SYL'S GOALS LIVE@ syl_isylma
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We are delighted to build upon our ongoing support for Wealdstone FC, by becoming their official Community Partner for the 2025-2026 Season.

We wish The Stones a great campaign.

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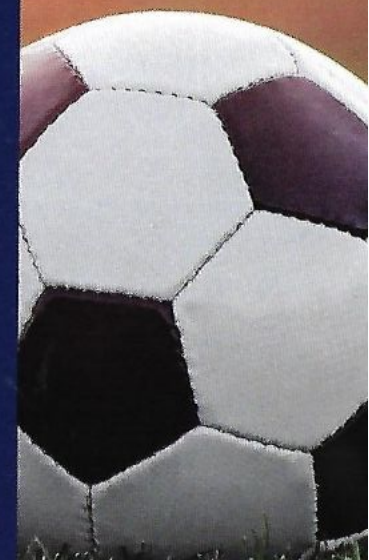
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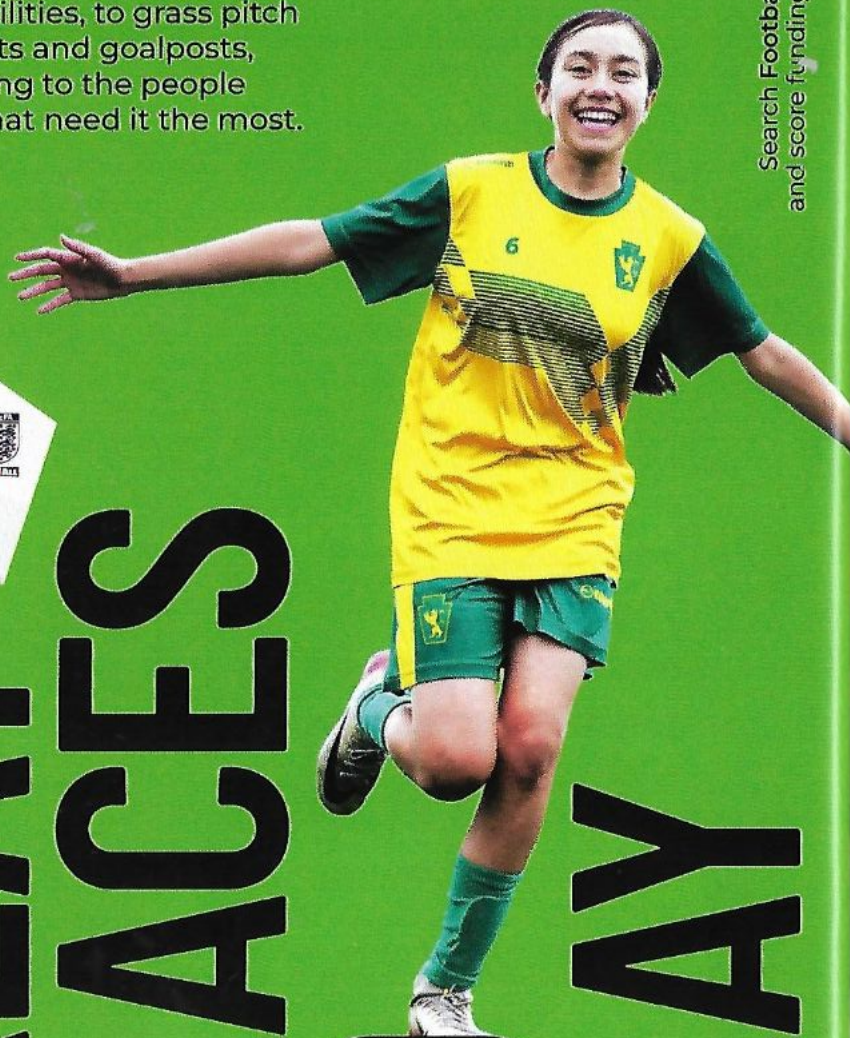
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The Football Foundation is the Premier League, The FA and the Government's charity.

From grants for 3G pitches and changing facilities, to grass pitch improvements and goalposts, we get funding to the people and places that need it the most.



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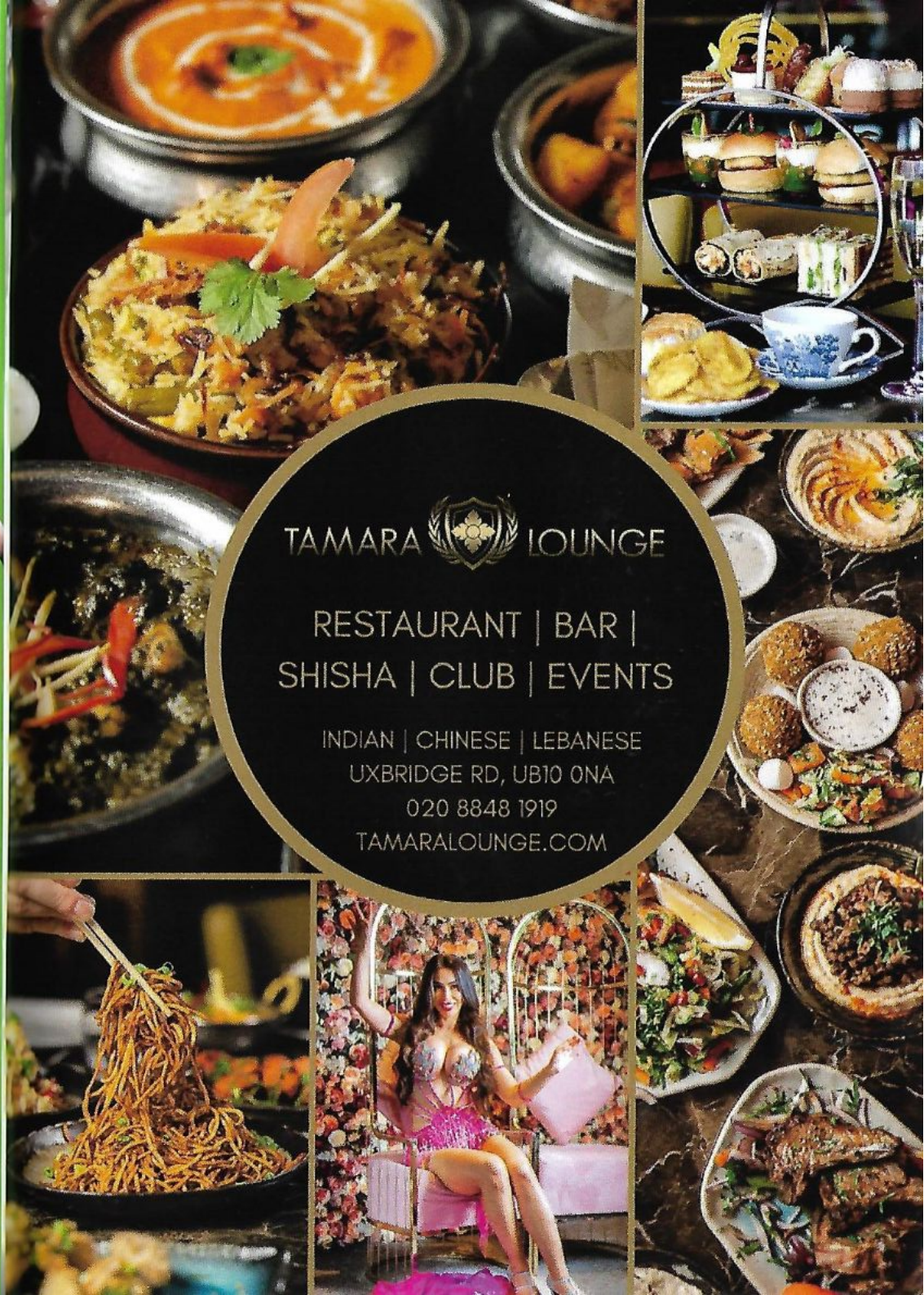


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Celebrate an occasion or advertise your support for the Stones with these great-value packages....

Sponsoring a match is a great way to celebrate an occasion or advertise your organisation's support. Packages start for fans at just £495 for 4 people, and for businesses at £595 + VAT for 4 people.

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;

QPR UNDER 21S July 14, Pre-Season Friendly

MATCH SPONSORS:
BALL DONORS: NBM Technology Solutions

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD TOWN July 18, Pre-Season Friendly

MATCH SPONSOR:
BALL DONORS: Wealdstone FC Foundation

MK DONS July 25, Pre-Season Friendly

BALL DONORS: NBM Technology Solutions

AFC WIMBLEDON July 28, Pre-Season Friendly

MATCH SPONSOR:
BALL DONOR: Toby Jackson (Lapels Badges)

HARROGATE TOWN August 15, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: RUISLIP WINDOWS AND DOORS
BALL DONOR: Mike & Val Weston

WOLVERHAMPTON WAND. August 18, National League Cup

MATCH SPONSOR:
BALL DONOR: Wealdstone FC Supporters Club

CARLISLE UNITED August 28, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: NBM Technology
BALL DONOR: Mick Fishman & Tim Parks

KIDDERMINSTER HARR. September 5, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: Rolfe East
BALL DONOR: Peter Edwards | Clear Insurance

STOKE CITY September 8, National League Cup

MATCH SPONSOR: See match sponsorship options above
BALL DONOR: Wealdstone FC Supporters Club

FC HALIFAX TOWN September 15, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: See match sponsorship options above
BALL DONOR: Mark Snell

GATESHEAD September 26, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: John Flynn
BALL DONOR: Lee Johnston and friends

YEOVIL TOWN October 10, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: See match sponsorship options above
BALL DONOR: Tony Paulley

NOTTINGHAM FOREST October 20, National League Cup

MATCH SPONSOR: See match sponsorship options above
BALL DONOR: Wealdstone FC Supporters Club

SOLI HULL MOORS October 27, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: Rolfe East
BALL DONOR: Put you or your organisations name here

SOUTHEND UNITED October 31, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: Stephen Fox
BALL DONOR: Amar Zaman - APA Secure

DERBY COUNTY November 3, National League Cup

MATCH SPONSOR: See match sponsorship options above
BALL DONOR: Wealdstone FC Supporters Club

HORNCHURCH November 21, Enterprise National League

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

WOKING December 4, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: Rolfe East
BALL DONOR: Put you or your organisations name here



....or play a major part by donating the ball!

A package for businesses (from £225 + vat) or fans (£180) for four people that gives you the satisfaction of knowing you've paid for the ball that Wealdstone are banging into the net (or out of the ground!).

You get: * 4 x Match tickets * 4 x Captains' Lounge hospitality + refreshments and snacks * Publicity over the PA system and via the official club website and social media * 4 x match-day programmes * 1 x Signed Ball.

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

BARROW AFC December 20, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: Paul Bainbridge
BALL DONOR: Tony Platt

EASTLEIGH December 29, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: See match sponsorship options above
BALL DONOR: Mike Pullin and Graham Clark

ALDERSHOT TOWN January 2, Enterprise National League

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

ALTRINCHAM January 27, Enterprise National League

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

AFC FYLDE January 30, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: See match sponsorship options above
BALL DONOR: Graham Clark and Mike Pullin

FOREST GREEN ROVERS February 16, Enterprise National League

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

TAMWORTH February 20, Enterprise National League

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

WORTHING February 27, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: Rolfe East
BALL DONOR: Put you or your organisations name here

SUTTON UNITED March 9, Enterprise National League

MATCH SPONSOR: See match sponsorship options above
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

Yeovil Town



Saturday
10th October
3:00pm

Enterprise National League

Nottingham Forest



Tuesday
20th October
7:00pm

National League Cup

Solihull Moors



Tuesday
27th October
7:45pm

Enterprise National League

Away fixtures

Forest Green Rovers



Tuesday
29th September
7:45pm

Enterprise National League



Barrow AFC

Saturday
3rd October
3:00pm

Enterprise National League



Aldershot Town

Saturday
24th October
3:00pm

Enterprise National League

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



National League table @ 21st September 2026

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



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