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'RELIABLE' BUSES**



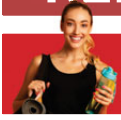
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Woman, 65, charged with murder

**Police cordon off
property after body
of man discovered**

By James Richings

A 65-YEAR-OLD woman has been charged with murder following the death of a 63-year-old man in High Wycombe.
Cheryl Downs, of Terry Road, was charged with one count of the crime and one count of preventing lawful burial on Monday, September 15.



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Sport

EXCITING TIMES FOR LOCAL SPORTS CLUB

High Wycombe Judo Club up for award

MICKLEFIELD Judo Club is in the final three nominations for the British Judo Association 2025 Best Club Award.

Entire families train together, from children to parents and grandparents, creating a welcoming environment where everyone feels valued, supported, and inspired.

The club is renowned for its inclusivity, offering patient, personalised coaching for judoka of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds – including those with additional

needs – and celebrating every individual's journey.

Despite not having its own dojo, the club continues to produce talented competitors who succeed locally, nationally, and internationally, all while remaining humble role models for younger members.

The club's hugely successful Finding Your Feet programme exemplifies its commitment to the wider community, offering older adults opportunities to improve balance, fitness,

and social connection.

Regular social events, family sessions, and multi-club randori nights strengthen bonds both on and off the tatami, making Micklefield a true hub of friendship, resilience, and belonging.

Its dedicated coaches, thriving membership, and outstanding community engagement make it a shining example of what a modern judo club should be.

By voting for our club, your helping us to keep the spirit of judo alive in our community.



The club was founded over 50 years ago

FOOTBALL

Defeat at home for Holmer Green

THE GREENS were beaten by a better side on the day, as the early season league successes seemed a long time ago despite two encouraging Cup wins recently.

There were a few changes from the Amersham win where half a dozen players were rested, but the starting line-up proved very disappointing in the first half.

The goal came on 40 minutes, in an inevitable fashion considering what had gone on before.

The ball was lost casually in front of the stand.

The culprit who lost the ball did not chase back to atone for his error, and Loakes retreated all the way to the penalty-area faced by two attackers, knowing if he made a move for one the ball would be passed to the other. No advice from midfield or at the back seemed to be forthcoming.

When the attacker turned inside and got an uncontested shot away, Sam Bell made a decent save.

On 58 minutes the right side of Holmer's defence got outflanked again.

A deep cross found its target at the far post for a tap-in. Holmer was being outplayed and Liam Butters was having to bring the ball out a long way upfield, as the visitors' work-rate seemed far superior to The Greens' and Forward passing opportunities were limited.

After Bell was called into action again to deny Samurai a third on 62 minutes, the home side at last fashioned a couple of promising breaks via the wings.

A chance opened up in front of goal, but the Holmer player coming in from the right failed to see the opportunity coming. Samurai were still pretty confident at this stage, not even running the clock down at their goal-kicks.

They were uncomfortable at corners though, and Holmer were getting some.

Harrison got across the 'keeper at the near posty from a Saunders corner.

The ball popped up in the centre of the goalmouth.

The first two attempts at scoring were repelled but Butters threw himself at the loose ball six yards out to head home his first of the season.

The Greens were keeping the ball better now, and one more substitution kept the momentum up.

But as against Westside this time last season, the equaliser would not come, and Holmer were caught on the break losing the ball to what looked like a foul on Lloyd Majaya just clubhouse side of the dug-outs.

Despite a despairing save by Bell the ball was eventually squeezed in at the far post.

Probably a correct result, solely because Holmer nearly always looked inferior to their opponents who were quicker and more inventive all over the field.

CHESHAM UNITED 1-4 KING'S LYNN TOWN

Generals knocked out of the FA Cup by King's Lynn

CHESHAM fought back after conceding an early goal but were unable to repeat their FA Cup heroics of last season, as they lost 4-1 to King's Lynn Town in the second qualifying round at the Meadow.

The Generals made four changes to the starting 11 that drew with Bath City a week earlier, with Matt Lench returning after injury in place of the injured Lewis Rolfe, and Josh Addae, Gio Rasulo and Matt McClure coming in for Connor Roberts, Samson Ekan and Nathan Minhas.

Chesham fell behind in the fourth minute when Connor Stevens brought down Gold Omotayo on the edge of the area and Morgan Williams lifted the resulting free kick into the top corner of the net.

However the lead was to last just six minutes, as Callum Adebiyi's surging run was halted by a trip by Michael Gyasi on the edge of the area and Alex Babos found the top corner with the resulting free kick.

Eight minutes later the visitors retook the lead when Morgan Williams set up Cameron Forde-Brown who shot low past Ben Goode's left hand from just inside the area.

Chesham came back and Mitchell Weiss caught keeper Louis Chadwick off his line and went for goal from just inside the visitors' half but his effort was just off target.

On the half-hour King's Lynn won another free kick in a dangerous position but Ben Goode was able to save from Ross Crane.

Shortly afterwards Dan Bayliss headed wide from an Alex Babos corner, then in stoppage time the

By James Richings

visitors' defence got in a tangle and let in Alfie Williams who shot wide from a good position.

On 52 minutes the visitors took command of the game when Ross Crane crossed low from the left and Gold Omotayo tapped in at the near post.

Dan Bayliss again headed towards goal from an Alex Babos corner but Chadwick dived to his left to save, then King's Lynn broke away and Omotayo set up Michael Gyasi but Ben Goode came out to make a smart save to turn the ball away. Midway through the half the referee took the players off after a lightning flash nearby, and after a ten-minute delay play restarted with Chesham pressing hard.

Following a spell of pressure Alfie Williams forced a fine diving save from Chadwick with a low shot from the edge of the area.

On 84 minutes Morgan Williams broke away and crossed to Omotayo, Connor Stevens challenged and the ball fell for Omotayo to tap in although replays showed that Omotayo was offside when Williams crossed.

Both sides had chances late on, visiting sub Joseph Nyahwema had a shot cleared off the line by Josh Addae and Sam Collins broke clear and shot past Ben Goode but the ball came back off the post.

Deep into stoppage time Nathan Minhas, who had just come on as a substitute, seized on a misplaced pass on the edge of the visitors' area but shot just wide.



Chesham were knocked out the FA Cup following their heavy defeat against the Norfolk side (PA)



Mike Dodds only won nine of his 31 games in charge of Wycombe Wanderers Image: Mike Egerton/PA Wire

Poor win record leads to dismissal of Dodds

WYCOMBE Wanderers have confirmed the departure of head coach Mike Dodds with immediate effect.

The 39-year-old, who took over from Matt Bloomfield earlier this year, only won nine of his 31 games, drawing nine and losing on 13 occasions.

At the time of writing, the Chairboys have tasted defeat eight times in 11 games and currently lie 18th in the League One table.

They have only gained five points from their last 24 available.

In a very brief statement posted on the Wanderers website, they said: "Wycombe Wanderers have today parted company with Head Coach Mike Dodds and First-Team Coach Pete Shuttleworth.

"The board has reluctantly taken this decision, and the club would like to place on record its gratitude to Mike and Pete for their hard work and efforts during their time with Wycombe Wanderers, and wish them every success

for the future."

His initial contract was due to expire in June 2028.

Where did it go wrong for Dodds at Wycombe?

Dodds' arrival at Adams Park was confirmed on February 2 this year, less than a day after Wycombe drew 1-1 at Cambridge United.

The Chairboys sat second in the table, four points clear of third-place Wrexham, four behind leaders Birmingham City and 15 clear of seventh-place Charlton Athletic.

However, Wycombe would only win seven of their next 17 league matches, which included losing their final three matches of the season.

Birmingham pulled away and ended the campaign 27 points clear of Wanderers, Wrexham caught up and secured second, whilst a boisterous Addicks team under Nathan Jones saw them claim a play-off spot.

Wanderers looked beaten, tired, and exhausted as they entered the play-offs, where they eventually lost to Charlton in the semi-finals.

The Addicks would win promotion to the Championship along with Birmingham and Wrexham.

So, what happened?

Richard Kone, who scored 19 goals in 37 games under Bloomfield and interim manager Sam Grace during the 2024/25 season, only managed to net two goals in 16 with Dodds in charge.

Wanderers were scoring goals for fun, 55 in the league at the time of Dodds' arrival, the most in the league, to only scoring 23 in the next 25. Additionally, in the 31 games Dodds had been in charge, only seven strikes came in the first-half.

Wycombe were a shadow of their former selves as they looked too safe - the handbrake was constantly up.

Games would fly by with nothing actually happening.

The risk factor had gone, the free-flowing football was no longer there to be seen, it seemed too dangerous to go forward, and sadly, most games under Dodds were slow and uninspiring.

Everyone associated with the Chairboys was desperate for the former Sunderland man to succeed, as he became only the ninth permanent manager/head coach of the club since 2000.

But it was clear that something wasn't clicking.

It could have been the large number of incomings/departures in the summer, it could have been Dodds' tactics, which saw Wycombe boss the ball but do nothing with it, it could have been injuries to key players, it could have been many things.

After taking over in February with Wycombe sitting second in the table, he said: "It would be poor coaching from my end to come in and try to change things with my own style.

"There's no need for wholesale changes."

Sadly, this is what we saw as Wanderers' form fell completely, and it has carried into the new season.

Audible boos after the loss against Exeter City, publicly calling out the players after

the draw against Doncaster, apologising to the fans following the loss at Stevenage, which led to his 'no Plan B comment' did not help things, as Wycombe suffered their worst start to a League One/Division Two season since 1998/99.

The pattern of going a goal or two down, then starting to play well, also did not go down well with supporters, especially in the defeats against Bradford City and Stockport County in August.

Wycombe have always been patient with managers, hence why there have been less than 10 in 25 years, but chairman Dan Rice needs to get to his next appointment right because if not, I can see Wanderers turning into Watford, where a revolving door of head coaches will come and go.

For Dodds, he becomes the first Wycombe manager/head coach to get sacked since Gary Waddock in 2012.

Up next for the Chairboys is Northampton Town at home.

FOOTBALL Dodds decries poor defending

EX-WYCOMBE Wanderers head coach Mike Dodds has admitted that he can't 'legislate' for the kind of goals conceded in the recent 2-1 loss away at Peterborough United.

The Posh went into the fixture on September 13 winless in their last 14 league games, in which 10 of those matches ended in losses.

For the Chairboys, they were on a high after securing their opening league win of the campaign a week earlier, as they defeated Mansfield Town 2-0 at Adams Park.

Dodds decided to keep with the same starting 11, but Wycombe looked flat and lethargic in the opening 45 minutes, as a long-range strike from Matthew Garrett and a tap-in from Jimmy-Jay Morgan put Darren Ferguson's side ahead.

Fred Onyedima pulled one back for the Chairboys, but it wasn't enough as they fell to their eighth league loss in 11 games.

He said: "I have told the players we have lost five times now [in the league this season from eight games] and each one is by fine margins.

"We can't keep going into the dressing room saying we did this well and that well, when we lose by a goal.

"The first goal was a brilliant strike from 35 yards, but we could have done better to have stopped it, and the second goal is a basic cross in the box, it has first contact, then it's a second contact finish.

"There is an element where you can't legislate for those types of things when you stand on the touch line as we found ourselves 2-0 down.

"We can sit here and say the second half was better, but the reality is that we need to be more consistent.

"We didn't take our chances in the second half."

In the eight league games Wycombe have had this season, they have had more possession of the ball than their opponents on seven occasions.

The only time this didn't occur was when Wanderers won against Mansfield at the start of the month.

The other seven games have ended in a draw or a defeat.

Dodds continued: "We can't feel sorry for ourselves.

"We didn't have enough control in the first half, and we didn't defend the two moments in the first half well enough.

"At the moment, we have to walk the ball into the back of the net, but the bottom line is that they took our chances, and we didn't.

"Overall, I'm really disappointed with the first half; the second half was better, but we gave ourselves a mountain to climb."

Up next for Wycombe is Northampton Town at home this weekend.

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Wycombe Wanderers manager Mike Dodds looks on during the Sky Bet League One match at Adams Park, High Wycombe.
Photo: Rhianna Chadwick/PA

FOOTBALL

Duff moves into hotseat at Wycombe as Dodds goes

WYCOMBE Wanderers have confirmed the appointment of former Cheltenham Town, Barnsley, Swansea City and Huddersfield Town boss Michael Duff as their manager.

The 47-year-old arrives at Adams Park following the sacking of Mike Dodds on September 18.

Duff is expected to take charge of his first game this weekend when the Chairboys take on Northampton Town at home.

Before he arrived in South Buckinghamshire, he began his playing career with Cheltenham Town, spending eight years in Gloucestershire before moving to Burnley in 2004.

He would spend the next 12 years with Clarets, helping the

James Richings

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club achieve promotion to the Premier League on three occasions in 2009, 2014 and 2016.

After retiring from the game in the latter year, he moved into coaching and management.

In 2018, he started a four-year stint with his former club Cheltenham, helping them win promotion to League One in 2021.

In all, he managed the Robins 202 times, winning 82 times.

This led him to a big-money move to League One Barnsley in 2022, following their relegation to the third tier.

He only spent one season at Oakwell, as the Tykes narrowly missed out on promotion back

to the Championship, losing 1-0 to Sheffield Wednesday in the play-off final thanks to last-minute winner in extra time.

Duff departed Yorkshire for Swansea City that summer in the Championship but only lasted six months, following a run of six wins in 21 games.

He would then join Huddersfield Town last summer, but again was fired after a poor run of form, despite winning 20 of his 43 games in charge.

During his managerial career, Duff has faced Wycombe on five occasions, winning twice, losing twice and drawing once.

That one draw was ended 5-5 at Adams Park in February 2022, which saw four of the 10 games in the contest get scored in five minutes.



New Wycombe manager Michael Duff. Image: Bradley Collyer

FOOTBALL



It was a bad day for Wycombe. Image: Cody Froggatt

Wanderers lose to bottom-of-table Posh

WYCOMBE Wanderers' poor start to the league season continued as they lost 2-1 at winless Peterborough United.

The Chairboys went into the contest unbeaten in six versus the Posh in the league and looked bright early on.

Wycombe looked more likely to score as a Luke Leahy corner was expertly met by Taylor Allen on the volley, but he fired it over.

Another Leahy cross also caused problems in the box, but Sam Bell and Cauley Woodrow couldn't find the connection they wanted as the ball wouldn't sit up.

This was as good as it was for Wanderers, as Peterborough, from nothing, took the lead.

On 21 minutes, Matt Garbett took one touch to steady himself and cracked an attempt at goal from 25 yards. It bounced away from Mikki Van Sas and nestled in the keeper's bottom right corner.

Twenty minutes later, it was two for the Posh. Brandon Khela's cross was headed at goal by Harry Leonard, and saved by van Sas but only into the path of Jimmy-Jay Morgan, who smashed it into the roof of the net.

It was an inferior opening 45 minutes from Wycombe against the basement team, who have lost 10 of their previous 14 league games.

Within three minutes of the restart, the Chairboys pulled a goal back through Onyedimma. A well-taken half-volley from six yards gave Mike Dodds' team hope, as they bashed on the Boro door.

Ewan Henderson, James Tilley and Bradley Fink, who all came on, went close but to no avail, and a Jack Grimmer head was saved by Bass on the goal line.

A Henderson free-kick and a Fink header were saved by Bass, as Peterborough held on for their first win of the season and their first in the league against Wanderers since January 2020.

Up next is Northampton Town at home on September 20.

Attendance: 8,595 (466 away)