

Bucks Free Press

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PROPERTY SPECIAL

FARAGE EXCLUSIVE

'Bucks is broken'

PLUS: ELECTION SPECIAL Q&A AND CANDIDATE LIST



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Two women arrested in roof protest

£100k damage caused as police attend scene at defence company

By James Richings

AN estimated £100,000 worth of damage has been caused to a Bucks defence firm after protestors took to the roof.

There was a huge police response on Wednesday, April 17, after reports of Palestine protesters on the roof of Grid Defence Systems in Wooburn Green.

Full story: Page 5



PROBE INTO MOTORIST 'TOUCHING HIMSELF': PAGE 4

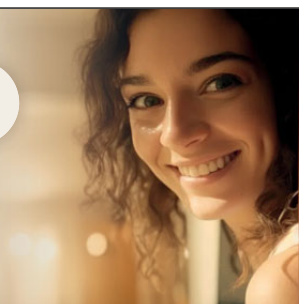
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Foundation staff in marathon tribute

Elizabeth Scott

elizabeth.scott@newsquest.co.uk

WYCOMBE Wanderers Foundation staff have run a marathon in memory of a 17-year-old player who died after a cardiac arrest last year.

The marathon, from Adams Park Stadium to Vicarage Road in Watford, is part of the Sky Bet EFL Every Minute Matters Relay aiming to inspire fans to learn CPR.

The event honours Adam Ankers, a youth player and avid Wanderers fan, who tragically passed away while playing football. He had been a member of the Wycombe Wanderers Foundation Under-19 team.

The relay is part of a four-week, 4,000-kilometre journey, engaging football clubs across the country, and finishing at Wembley Stadium on April 21. Run by Sky Bet and the British Heart Foundation (BHF), it aims to encourage football fans to learn CPR.

The RevivR online tool by BHF offers free CPR lessons, which take about 15 minutes to complete.

Sky Bet donated two defibrillators to the club in Adam's honour.

Mark Gaitskell, CEO of Wycombe Wanderers Foundation, said: "It is very poignant for us to be completing this leg supporting a cause close to the heart of us all at Wycombe Wanderers, after the tragic loss of Adam just last year.

"We're committed to continuing to honour Adam's memory and this event has given us exactly that opportunity. For Sky Bet to kindly fund two defibs just adds to his legacy, supports our community and



Mark Gaitskell, Charlie Lauri, Ashley Lamb. Image: Juan Gasparini

will potentially save lives.

"We'd encourage our fans to do the same by giving up just 15 minutes to learn this vital life skill.

Wanderers head coach Mike Dodds emphasised the importance of CPR, stating: "The football community has seen first-hand that cardiac arrest doesn't discriminate, it can happen to anyone at any time.

That's why at we're passionate about supporting the Sky Bet EFL Every Minute Matters Relay."

The campaign was launched a year ago by Sky Bet and the BHF, with the goal of teaching CPR to 270,000 people by the end of this season. It has hit this target and now aims for 360,000 people to learn CPR by the Sky Bet EFL play-offs in May.

Suspected car thief arrested

A HIGH Wycombe man has been arrested on suspicion of stealing a car.

In the late hours of Tuesday, April 1, officers were called to an address in the town where they conducted a search of a property in an undisclosed street.

Following the inspection, a man was apprehended and taken into police custody where they currently remain.

Thames Valley Police said: "More information will be provided in due course."

On the same day in a completely unrelated incident, officers on the Wycombe South Neighbourhood Team conducted speed checks in Cressex.

This comes after several members of the public raised concerns about motorists exceeding the limit in that area of High Wycombe.

These speed checks were conducted in the afternoon of April 1 along Coronation Road and three tickets were administered to drivers who were clocked going over the limit.

Man must pay £1,300 over pub incident



O'Neill's, High Wycombe

A BUCKINGHAMSHIRE man has been ordered to pay more than £1,300 after an incident at O'Neill's in High Wycombe.

Callum Bacchus admitted one count of assault by beating and one count of criminal damage after an incident on November 21, 2024.

Damage, costing £1,092 was caused to a glass panel at O'Neill's on Paul's Row.

The 24-year-old of Woodfield Road, Princes Risborough entered his guilty pleas at High Wycombe Magistrates' Court on April 8.

He was ordered to pay £1,092 in compensation for the damage caused, and a further £120 fine for the assault.

Bacchus must also pay £85 court costs and a £48 surcharge.

The court heard how this would be deducted from his benefits at a rate of £20 a month, starting from May 6.



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CHARITY

Every Minute Matters reaches Wycombe



Every Minute Matters Relay hits Reading and Wycombe Wanderers. Picture: Sky

WYCOMBE Wanderers' Adams Park was the latest stop on the Sky Bet Every Minute Matters Relay.

The Sky Bet Every Minute Matters Relay, which kicked off on March 25, is a 4,000-kilometer 28-day journey that will feature an incredible 72 legs stopping off at each and every EFL club before culminating at Wembley on April 21.

The event will see supporters of each EFL club team up with former football stars and celebrity fans to either run, walk or cycle each leg.

Reading supporter Pippa Sharman joined friends, family and club staff in cycling 39km to the Chairboys home of Adams Park to raise awareness for CPR after saving a Luton Town supporter's life three years ago.

Pippa was attending a Reading away game in 2022 when she spotted a car crash into another car. Sensing the driver – David Norman – was unwell Pippa immediately ran over to David's car to help.

Using CPR, they are now firm friends thanks to Pippa's quick thinking.

For the Wycombe Wanderers leg on Thursday, Mark, Charlie and Ashley from the Wycombe Wanderers Foundation are walking from Adams Park to Watford in memory of Adam Ankers, a teenager who passed away aged just 17 after falling ill playing for Wycombe Wanderers Foundation's under-19s team in February 2024.

Manager Mike Dodds waved them off at the start line ahead of the trip to Vicarage Road.

FOOTBALL

Mixed week for Holmer

HOLMER Green endured a mixed week, falling to a 2-0 defeat at Molesley on Saturday to roaring back with a 4-0 win over PFC Victoria on Wednesday.

Stopping Holmer were caught on 23 minutes on Saturday, a ball down the slope not secured in midfield and lofted ball forward found one Holmer defender not pushing up and playing another alert inside forward running onto the ball, which popped up nicely for a volley. The ball sailed cleanly over Sam Bell, perfectly struck by Bouchez.

It did not improve much after the break, although the ball was in the net with seven minutes to go only for an equaliser to be ruled out for offside.

The final act of the match saw three Holmer players allow two opponents to turn infield and one lay the ball off for Note to thump the ball home.

On the day, Moseley had ridden their luck, but had scored two good goals. Holmer only showed their recent good away form in the final stages, and had failed to score even once.

It was greatly improved in midweek, however, although Victoria's ill-discipline cost them on the night after going down to ten men just before half-time.

They were also down to nine men for ten minutes either side of the break with a sin-binning, presumably for an unwise remark to the Referee about the dismissal.

Holmer took the lead inside 10 minutes when Aaron Bryan's low cross found James Saxby beyond the far post, put the ball into the roof of the net from a narrow angle.

Josh Peck doubled the lead midway through the half after Harrison Holbrook's mazy run took him into the box. This lead was further extended before the break as Lancaster curled a delightful free kick up and over the wall into the net.

Holbrook added the fourth 10 minutes after the restart and Holmer saw out the tie against the 10-men of Victoria impeccably.

A speculative cross from out of the PFC left flank did strike the top of the crossbar above the covering Bell on 86 minutes, but the live ball beyond the far post was well dealt with.

Holmer have a home Division One Cup Semifinal at Watchet Lane on Saturday April 19 (3pm. ko) which comes after their league campaign was complete.

FOOTBALL

Flackwell held to stalemate after successful fortnight

WITH a ten goal thriller and a cup final loss in the last week this league encounter was definitely a bit of a hangover for the Flackwell Heath as they were held to an uneventful 0-0 draw against Welwyn Garden City.

The visitors sitting eighth in the league and with nothing to play for certainly didn't turn up just to make up the numbers, they came out fast and showed the Reds weren't going to have it all their own way.

The first big chance of the game fell to Makowski after a perfectly timed run in the 18th minute, a lovely ball from Matty Ayres meant the frontman only had the keeper to beat but Welch was out quickly and saved well to keep the teams level.

In the 37th it was then Welwyn's number nine Wilson who found himself one on one with Dennison for their best chance of the first half, and again it was the keeper who came out on top with a great save from Flackwell's stopper.

The second half was much the

same as the first with Flackwell having a lot of the ball but really careless in possession and Welwyn battling well to make it hard for the home side.

Flackwell substitute Louis Walsh livened up the home sides attack as they pushed for a winner and it was fellow substitute Kearney who had the best chance to win it in the 86th minute, after a darting run in behind the frontman skillfully flicked the ball back over the defender and volleyed towards goal but Welch was there to save again.

With a much needed weeks rest third placed Flackwell then have two tough local league games over the Easter weekend, first the Heathens travel to fellow playoff hopefuls Thame on Saturday, April 19. Just two days later host Beaconsfield at Wilks Park on Easter Monday which the club will be making their Community Day, it will be free entry to all with a 'pay what you want' charity option at the turnstiles with all proceeds going to Prostate Cancer UK.



In-form Man of the Match Jack Shakespeare

The Jacks are looking over their shoulders

WINDSOR FC are without a game this Saturday in Combined Counties Division One but will be looking anxiously at other results as they are only two points above the relegation zone with four points separating them and the three sides immediately below them.

Their final fixture is against play-off chasing Eversley & California at Holloways Park next Tuesday.

Windsor & Eton have topped 100

points in the Combined Counties League Division 1.

The champions reached three figures with a 1-1 draw at former title rivals Westfield last Saturday and added another three to their impressive tally when beating PFC Victoria at Ashford on Tuesday.

The women's team sealed the Thames Valley Counties Women's League Division 3 South title by hammering Harefield United 11-0, their 16th win in 18 games.

Langley are through to the Esoteric Recordings Division One Cup final after beating Belstone 2-1 on Tuesday with Montel Brown grabbing the winner in the sixth minute of stoppage time. It was his second goal of the game.

The other semi-final, between Holmer Green and London Samurai Rovers, is being played this Saturday.

* Britwell defeated Old Windsor 2-1 in the Ascot & District (Fielden)

Cup quarter-finals

Jack Alder and Dan Molloy netted their goals, with Toby Donnelly on target for the hosts.

The O's will be looking to lift the Slough Town Senior Cup when they take on FC Beaconsfield at Arbour Park this morning (Friday, 10am).

It is the same venue for the Junior Cup final between Hype Train and FC Bracknell next Wednesday (23rd).

Sport

FOOTBALL

Below-par Beaconsfield drop points

Beaconsfield Town were below their recent high standards as they lost 1-0 away at Biggleswade FC, writes Arran White.

Beaconsfield came out of the blocks quickly and got forwards well in the opening exchanges. Biggleswade struggled to get into the game at first but started to grow into it after the first five minutes. Daniel Bond played in Rafal Wielbald whose shot went just wide of the post. Shortly after Beaconsfield keeper Tommy Dymott was caught in possession, giving Bond a shot on an

open goal. He made no mistake and fired his side into a 1-0 lead as the clock hit 10 minutes. As the half went on Biggleswade had a chance to extend their lead, striking the bar from a free kick. The best chance of the half came when Usman Lalustani played in a great ball for Jacques Kpohomouh, his header was just about pushed over the bar. Biggleswade looked to have made it 2-0 just before the break, however the linesman's flag kept the score to 1-0. After the interval both teams came out looking to

get forwards, with Beaconsfield going close to scoring when Joe Lawal found space in the box, only for his shot to be blocked. Beaconsfield started to dominate proceedings and went close to scoring on several occasions, first when Charlie Smith shot just over the bar from the edge of box before substitute Avto Akhshvili saw an effort go straight into the keepers' arms.

Beaconsfield return to action on Bank Holiday Monday, with a short trip to local side Flackwell Heath.



Beaconsfield take on Biggleswade. PHOTO: ARRAN WHITE

Farnborough win cements top half place for Chesham

CHESHAM United FC moved into the top half of the table with their third successive win and their fourth in five games, 2-1 victors over Farnborough. Neither side had anything to play for, and it showed for much of the game until Samson Esan's goal brought the game to life late on.

Farnborough made the stronger start and took the lead in the fourth minute. Jonny Stuttle dispossessed Connor Stevens and ran on to shoot past Ben Goode but the ball came back off the post, and eventually Richard Chin flicked the ball behind him and into the roof of the net from close range. The game went into a quiet spell until Chesham equalised in the eighteenth minute, when Samson Esan crossed from the right and Mitchell Weiss netted with a header at the far post.

The game was marred by a potentially serious injury to Ryan Upward, who was stretchered off shortly before half-time with a damaged Achilles. Chesham were also hit by an injury to Callum Adebisi, who turned an ankle and was replaced by Avan Jones for the second half.

The first twenty minutes of the second half passed without incident until Chesham scored what turned out to be the winner. Farnborough keeper Jack Turner came out of his area

By Andy Westlake

to clear a long ball, but miskicked and gave Samson Esan the chance to lob the ball into the unguarded net from 40 yards out. After that the visitors showed more urgency, and full-back Jack Bateson got forward and shot but the ball was deflected just wide. Chesham had two more chances in quick succession, firstly when Samson Esan shot just wide from the edge of the area then Bradley Clayton stole in behind the visitors' back line but his header was pushed round the post by Turner. Farnborough then broke and Jonny Stuttle had a shot blocked and the follow-up was deflected wide.

Full-time and Chesham won the game 2-1 to cement their place in the top half of the table.

Elsewhere Chesham United FC Women were defeated on the road against Chatham Town Women but again it was a game with little in it for either team. Chesham remain 10th in the FAWNL.

Next up Chesham's men play Hemel Hempstead Town away on Good Friday and are then back at home on Easter Monday against Slough Town. Chesham's women play their final game at home on Sunday 27th April against London Bees.



Samson Esan with the winner for Chesham - Photo - Neale Blackburn

DARTS

PRDDL Latest Results

Results from games in the PRDDL played on Thursday, April 10.

Division 1 (Sponsored by Avocet Construction)

Bradmoor Farm Warriors 8-3
Chinnor Pavilion A
Chinnor Pavilion B
5-6 Bledlow Village Cricket Club A
Thame Snooker Club 3-8 Rivets
The Crown Jacks 3-8 Chinnor Pavilion D
The Honey Bee 8-3
The Crown Royals Weavers 5-6
The Bull A
Whiteleaf Cross B 6-5
Bradmoor Farm A

Division 2 (Sponsored By Wessex Landscapes & Brickwork)

Bledlow Village Cricket Club B 7-4
The Bell
Chinnor Pavilion E 3-8
Bradmoor Farm D
New Zealand 9-2
Bay 19
The Black Horse 10-1
Chinnor Pavilion C
The Plough 6-5
Golden Cross
The Three Horseshoes 2-9
Aylesbury Vale FC
Wendover RBL 3-8
Bradmoor Farm B

Dodds: We have shown we are an organised unit

WYCOMBE Wanderers are on the verge of achieving their greatest-ever season in League One.

The Chairboys currently sit third on 81 points – two points shy of their highest total in the division.

This came in the 2021/22 season when they ended the campaign on 83 but finished sixth.

That year, they reached the play-off final but lost to Sunderland 2-0 at Wembley Stadium.

Now, three years later, the club's head coach, Mike Dodds, firmly believes the 'momentum has shifted' as Wycombe are pushing for a place in the automatic promotion places.

At the time of writing, they are one place and one point behind second-placed Wrexham, but after winning the last two games they have kept too clean sheets.

And with four games left of the regular season, Dodds said his side are 'fully focused' for the next couple of weeks, which will begin away at Bolton Wanderers on Good Friday.

He said: "We have got to take each game as it comes, and I believe we have done that.

"In the time that I have been here, we have not got too far ahead with ourselves.

"We've not been too low when the lows have come and not too high when the highs have been around.

"We have shown we are an organised team and unit, so when you get to this part of the season, you don't see big scorelines apart from the odd one.



Wycombe Wanderers manager Mike Dodds

"The consensus is that the games are super tight, and all we can do is focus on the next game which is on Friday afternoon.

"We know it will be a tough game regardless of form, as they have an excellent coach and players at League One, who can play at the level above but we can thrive in these games.

"It doesn't matter what level you're at, if you're not 100 per cent focused or committed, you'll get damaged as the margins are so thin."

"Internally, we're focused on what the next period looks like as well as the long-term objectives of the football club."

On Bolton, the ex-Premier League side goes into

the Easter fixture on the back of some inconsistent form, winning two but losing three of their last five games.

This includes being thumped 4-1 away at Barnsley on April 12.

The Trotters still have a shot of entering the play-offs, but know they cannot afford any more slip-ups be-

tween now and May 3.

Dodds added: "Their performances are good and I think they are a well-coached team that will try and dominate the ball.

"People will understandably look at the results but I think their performances have been good.

"We're fully prepared with what's coming."

FOOTBALL

'We believe we can get automatic promotion'

WYCOMBE Wanderers head coach Mike Dodds has reiterated that his side 'still believe' they can achieve automatic promotion this season.

The Chairboys' dramatic 1-0 home victory against Stevenage on April 12, which saw Caleb Taylor score a last-minute winner, coupled with Wrexham's 0-0 away draw at Wigan Athletic on the same day, means the Adams Park side remain third but move onto 81 points.

They are now just one point and one place behind the Welsh outfit with four league games left.

One will be joining Birmingham City in the top two and therefore will be guaranteed a place in the Championship, whilst the other will have to settle for the lottery of the play-offs.

Up next for Wycombe is an away trip to Bolton Wanderers on Good Friday, before they take on Charlton Athletic on Easter Monday at home.

Speaking after the victory against Stevenage, Dodds said: "We'll enjoy the win for today [April 12] but on Sunday afternoon, we'll be looking to see what we can do against Bolton and then Charlton.

"We can't dwell on it as we know there'll be lots of twists and turns but we will remain balanced and level.

"Easter weekend, for any team regardless of what league you're in, is very difficult, but, if we want to achieve what we want to achieve, we can't run away from that.

"We need to run towards those moments and can't use that as an excuse, so the group will be ready for both games and will be organised.

"We're together and will remain together."

One player that stood out in the victory against the Hertfordshire-based team last weekend was Will Norris.

The 31-year-old, who joined on a free transfer from Portsmouth in February, has played in each of Dodds' 14 games in charge since replacing Matt Bloomfield earlier this year.

Despite some hairy performances, most notably against Birmingham City and Rotherham United respectively, the ex-Premier League shot-stopper has kept an incredible eight clean sheets in that time.

This includes one on his debut against Preston North End in the FA Cup and in important league wins against Huddersfield Town, Lincoln City, Bristol Rovers and Burton Albion.

And in the recent victory against Stevenage, he made a brilliant save to deny a Carl Piergianni header in the final 15 minutes with the scores at 0-0.

FOOTBALL

Wanderers leave it late to beat Stevenage

CALEB Taylor scored a 90th-minute winner as Wycombe Wanderers defeated Stevenage 1-0 at Adams Park to keep their hopes of automatic promotion alive.

With the Chairboys sitting three points behind second-place Wrexham who kicked-off at the same time away at Wigan Athletic, Mike Dodds' side knew that a victory was needed.

And it was the home team that went closest to going ahead, as Richard Kone had a glorious opportunity to get on the score sheet after 25 minutes.

Luke Leahy's in-swinging corner was met by the Ivorian who inexplicably headed wide from close-range.

It was a flurry of Wycombe attempts as Leahy, who suffered a serious head injury in this fixture last season, saw his shot get blocked by Luther James-Wildin before Fred Onyedima's cross skimmed the top of the net.

Josh Scowen tried his luck but his bending effort was deflected wide before Dan Udoh also went close.

The second period was more of the same as Wycombe looked dangerous going forward but could not find that killer touch.

Xavier Simons fired over twice in the opening five minutes whilst Cameron Humphreys also went close.

For Stevenage, Jamie Reid tried to lob Norris from the halfway line but failed to catch out the ex-Portsmouth keeper, before the latter was on hand to brilliantly deny a Carl Piergianni header.

It looked like Wycombe were going to have a fifth goalless draw in the league this season, but Taylor popped up at the death to poke home his first Adam Park goal to give Wanderers an important three points.

The Chairboys remain third but are now just one point behind Wrexham who drew away at Wigan. Stevenage remain stay 14th.



Wycombe Wanderers' Caleb Taylor celebrates



SPORT

Ex-Wycombe man to miss clash with former club



Former Wycombe Wanderers player Aaron Morley (right)

FORMER Wycombe Wanderers midfielder Aaron Morley has confirmed he will miss the remainder of the season after suffering a serious injury.

The 25-year-old, who started the season with the Chairboys on loan from Bolton Wanderers, was hurt in the Trotters' 4-1 away loss against Barnsley on April 12.

He was stretchered off after 41 minutes and was seen leaving Oakwell wearing a protective boot and crutches.

This occurred just days before Wycombe were due to face his parent club at the Tough Sheet Stadium on Good Friday [April 18].

Morley was signed by the Chairboys on loan in August and played 23 times in all competitions before returning to Bolton on New Year's Day.

Speaking on social media, the midfielder said: "Unfortunately, my season has come to an end. "Personally, I think this was my best season in football and I'm

gutted it's ended with an injury. "I want to thank all the Bolton and Wycombe fans for the support this season, it doesn't go unnoticed.

"I'll be back." Morley had been high on Wycombe's transfer list following his return to Bolton in January, but after no deal was agreed, the Chairboys opted to sign Hull City man Xavier Simons on a six-month loan, as well as spending a record fee on Danish native Magnus Westergaard.

Defender has been battling 'serious illness'

WYCOMBE Wanderers head coach Mike Dodds has revealed centre-back Anders Hagelskjær is back in full training after battling a 'serious illness'.

The 28-year-old former Danish U18 international was signed for a then-club record fee in January from Norwegian side Molde, but has only appeared twice for the Chairboys.

His most recent outing was in the 1-1 away draw against Cambridge United on February 1, where he came on as a second-half substitute for Cameron Humphreys.

Hagelskjær's previous inclusion in a matchday squad was in the FA Cup fixture away at Preston North End one week later, where he was an unused substitute.

However, he has been absent from the last 12 matches, and Dodds has explained why.

Speaking to Sam Avery from BBC 3 Counties ahead of Wycombe's away trip to Bolton Wanderers on Good Friday [April 18], he said: "Anders was getting very close to the matchday squad but picked up an illness which he couldn't shake off.

"It wasn't life-threatening but he ended up having a serious illness and has had some significant time off.

"The lingering effect from that was a lot of fatigue and he was struggling with the recovery after training, so we have to manage that.

"Anders has been unlucky but he is back in full training so he is not a million miles away."

The nature of the illness has not been disclosed.

Wycombe's other big-money signing from Denmark, Magnus Westergaard, has also not been

James Richings

james.richings@newsquest.co.uk

named in recent squads.

The central midfielder is the club's record signing but has only featured five times since joining from Viborg in January.

But he has missed the last six matches with his most recent appearance coming in the 1-0 home loss against Wrexham on March 15.

Dodds said: "Magnus has had a muscle injury but is now back on the grass.

"It's a shame as he was getting closer to the team but he picked up a knock and it's taken longer than anticipated.

"Both Danes have been unlucky if I am being honest.

"They were both in a place where they were knocking on the door but they picked up a knock and an illness which he [Hagelskjær] couldn't shake off."

On the other absentees ahead of the Chairboys' visit to Bolton, Dodds added: "Kieran [Sadler] was in the matchday squad for the last game but didn't make the bench so he is a lot closer.

"He'll be in and around it for Friday and Monday as it is a quick turnaround so there'll be jigs to the squad to compact the next two games.

"He and a couple of others are in contention.

"Bez [Lubala] is back in full training and is in the same camp as Kieran and with Dan Harvie, the good news is that he doesn't need an operation.

"A return this season might be too soon for him but he will 100 per cent be back for pre-season."



Anders Hagelskjær has only played twice for Wycombe since joining in January

'The group is in a good place now' - Mike Dodds

MIKE Dodds has admitted that Wycombe Wanderers fighting for promotion is a 'nice pressure' as the club prepares for their final four games of the league season.

The Chairboys will take on Bolton Wanderers on April 18 at 3pm just one point and one place behind second-place Wrexham, who occupy the final automatic promotion place.

The Adams Park side goes into their away fixture against the former Premier League side on Good Friday full of confidence after achieving back-to-back 1-0 wins against Huddersfield Town and Stevenage respectively.

It was only the second time since November that Wycombe had picked up six points from six.

He said: "The fans are very loyal to this club - they are amazing and are desperate for Wycombe to do well, as are we.

"I don't look at the social media stuff so I'm unaware of the negativity that is out there.

"Let's just be clear, I have arrived from the North East [Sunderland], if you can survive in the North East then you can survive anywhere.

"Don't get me wrong, I have experienced real negativity and I think the Wycombe fans as a whole are fully behind what has been a good season and will continue to be a good season in the next four games.

"It's full of drama and at this stage of the season, so my message to the fans is to enjoy the next four games as we could be at the other end of the table which is not a nice pressure.

"What we have is a nice pressure and the group is in a good place."