

Bucks Free Press

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CRASH DEATH 'REMAINS A CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION': P6



Sadness over death of missing Fay

Body of woman 'who was always so kind to others' found in wood

By James Richings and Isabella Harris

A COMMUNITY has shared an outpouring of sadness after a body was found in the search for a missing High Wycombe woman who 'was always so kind to others'.

On Friday, September 19, police shared an update following their appeal to find Fay Barney, aged 50.

A Thames Valley Police spokesperson stated that officers 'very sadly located a body in the Lucas Wood area of the town'.

Following this, the Free Press opened a book of condolence for anyone who wanted to leave a tribute to Fay or condolences for her loved ones.

Full story: Page 5

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Sport

GOLF

Bucks second at Women's County Finals

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE missed out on being crowned the 2025 women's county golf champions after losing a winner-takes-all match against Surrey.

Surrey were crowned champions for the 10th time, and first time since 2021, after winning all five matches at Selby Golf Club.

The Pinkies defeated Northumberland, Somerset, Lincolnshire, and Norfolk before completing the clean sweep on the final day against Buckinghamshire.

The result was particularly satisfying, as

Nottinghamshire edged them out in last year's competition despite the fact they went unbeaten.

Surrey first team captain Katie Laud said: "It feels pretty amazing. I've been playing for Surrey for 21 years and I never managed to win a county final, so personally it's pretty amazing and I'm proud of the team. We went unbeaten last year and just lost out, so this year, go unbeaten, and lift the trophy is extra special.

"We had a lot of motivation, and our coach spent a lot of the year

telling us we were going to get to the finals and lift the trophy, so to actually do this is pretty amazing."

England Golf Girls' Squad member Annabel Peaford and Issy Simpson were the standouts, winning all five of their matches, with Peaford securing all five singles. Simpson added four singles wins to her foursome partnership success with Holly Justice.

In the foursomes, the partnership of Amelia Matthews and Lottie Woodham secured maximum points with three wins from three.



The Bucks team at the English Women's County Finals Image:

HOCKEY

Marlow's hockey teams start seasons with defeats

MARLOW Hockey Club's Men's Firsts were at Pound Lane against Bath Buccaneers in their first match in the Men's Conference West.

In front of a large crowd, they started well and went ahead within four minutes with a goal by Jayden Zamler, one of several newcomers in the team.

Bath were well-drilled and came back strongly, but Marlow held their own and kept their lead until well into the second half when Bath gained more control of the midfield and scored twice.

Marlow threw everything into attack, but Bath were awarded a contentious penalty stroke to go 3-1 ahead.

With not long to go, Marlow went into overdrive with another period of constant pressure and earned several penalty corners.

One of these was firmly dispatched by Callum White, making a welcome return after two years away.

The game finished with Marlow swarming around the Bath goal, but they could not find a way through, and the match ended 3-2 to the visitors.

Marlow will play at home again this Sunday, kick-off 2.45pm, against Clifton Robinson from Bristol.

Elsewhere, the men's second team lost to Henley firsts 4-2, the thirds beat Henley twos 3-1 away, and the fourths beat Reading fourths 4-3.

The fifths beat Thame seconds 4-2, the sixths lost to Yateley thirds 2-1, and the sevenths drew 2-2 with Yateley fourths.

Marlow Women's Firsts welcomed Bath Buccaneers to

Jacob Manuschka

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Pound Lane for the first game of the season.

Bath started strongly, with Marlow keeper Alys Ramm having to make a save with her glove in the opening five minutes.

In the 10th minute, Marlow's Jess Rees-Gray and Lottie Porter linked up down the right-hand side and put a lovely pass in to the back post, which Alice Godfrey was inches away from converting.

Bath took the lead in the 25th minute and were denied a second minutes later by keeper Ramm.

Porter found herself with a good chance early in the second half with a breakaway run, but the Bath defender got an important touch when Porter was striking to deny Marlow an equaliser.

Bath extended their lead with a strike at a narrow angle in the 46th minute.

They continued to pressure the Marlow defence and scored their third with five minutes remaining.

Marlow will now look to bounce back when they host Clifton Robinsons 2s at Pound Lane on Saturday at 3pm.

Elsewhere, the women's second team beat Southampton University firsts 1-0, the thirds beat Aylesbury firsts 3-1, and the fourths beat South Berkshire thirds 5-2.

Meanwhile, the fifths beat Wycombe fourths 10-0, the sixths beat Staines thirds 2-0, and the sevenths drew with Slough fourths 1-1.



Callum White scored Marlow's second goal. Image: Marlow Hockey Club

New season of darts league underway

THE new season of the Princes Risborough and District Darts League got underway last week.

Kicking off on Thursday, September 18, the 2025/26 season will see 32 teams battling it out across four divisions, an increase of four teams from last season.

Throughout the season, the league will also host four cup competitions and 15 other competitions, offering players the chance to win a range of silverware.

The season will culminate in May with an event featuring professional players at the prize-giving ceremony.

Thursday's matches saw intense competition in Division 1.

The Honey Bee comfortably defeated Chinnor Pavilion D 8-3, featuring standout performances by Sam Ridgway and Jon Slade, with Ridgway scoring one 180 and Slade scoring two.

The New Zealand team secured a 7-4 win against The Three Horse-shoes B, with Pete Middleton achieving a 114 checkout and Simon Middleton registering a 16 dart leg.

In a tight game, Weavers edged out Rivets with a 6-5 win, with Simon White scoring two 180s.

The Crown Royals triumphed over Chinnor Pavilion B with a 7-4 win, as Billy Wagerfield made a 180.

In Division 2, Bledlow Village Cricket Club A defeated Wendover RBL B 8-3, with Pete Dumbarton scoring two 180s.

Aylesbury Vale FC won 7-4 against Bradmoor Farm D, and Bradmoor Farm Stags dominated Chinnor Pavilion A with an impressive 10-1 victory.

Bradmoor 19 narrowly defeated The Black Horse with a 6-5 win, as Ty Spong and Ben Cuthbertson registered a 16 dart leg playing as a pair.

Division 3 saw Bricklayers overcome Bell B with a 7-4 victory, with Dan Lynn scoring two 180s.

Chiltern Forest Golf Club narrowly beat The Crown Jacks with a 6-5 win.

Whiteleaf Cross defeated Long Crenon 7-4, while The Three Horse-shoes A won against Aristocrat Warriors 6-5.

In Division 4, Bell A narrowly beat The Watermead with a 6-5 win, with Martin Hill achieving a 15 dart leg.

Chinnor Pavilion E dominated Bradmoor Farm C with a 9-2 victory.

The Plough narrowly defeated Chinnor Pavilion C with a 6-5 win, while Wendover RBL A secured a 6-5 victory against Bledlow Village Cricket Club B.

Anyone who is interested in getting involved with a team is invited to reach out to league chairman Scott Mcleman via the league's Facebook group, with all abilities welcome.

League organisers said: "Thanks to all our league and competition sponsors, their support and generosity is greatly appreciated, which helps us establish as one of the biggest and best leagues in the South of England."

Wycombe in League Cup 4th round for first time in 19 years

WYCOMBE Wanderers have reached the fourth round of the League Cup for the first time in nearly 20 years after they defeated fellow League One outfit Wigan Athletic 2-0 at the Brick Community Stadium.

In the first meeting between the two teams in this competition, Michael Duff made 11 changes to the side that defeated Northampton Town by the same scoreline at the weekend.

Fringe players such as Dan Casey, Fin Back and James Tilley were just some of the names allowed to impress the new head coach, and it was the latter who had the game's opening chance.

On 16 minutes, the ex-Wimbledon man ran towards goal and let fly from range, but his attempt missed the target.

Wycombe bossed the ball as the Latics couldn't get near them, and on 32 minutes, the Chairboys got their deserved goal.

Caolan Boyd-Munce, who was only making his third start for Wanderers since joining from St Mirren in the summer, brilliantly bent in his first goal for the club from the edge of the box with a left-foot effort.

The Northern Irishman nearly got his second of the contest moments later with a similar type of finish, but Sam Tickle in the Wigan goal was on hand to tip it away.

Right back Fin Back also went close, but his attempt was blocked.

The Chairboys were in command whilst Wigan, who got to the final of this competition in 2006, looked flat and limp.



Wycombe are in the League Cup fourth round for the first time since 2006/07. Image: John Walton

The hosts' best chance of the first-half fell to Will Aimson, but the Latics captain fired over from close range.

The second period saw the ex-Premier League outfit have more fight and hunger, but they couldn't penetrate the Wycombe backline.

This allowed Wanderers to soak up the pressure, and after a lovely exchange between Alex Lowry and George Abbott, the latter's cross was knocked in by Donnell McNeilly on 62 minutes.

The 19-year-old, who joined on Transfer Deadline Day on

loan from Nottingham Forest, headed home his first goal for the Adams Park side.

The victory means Wanderers have reached the fourth round of the competition for the first time since the 2006/07 season – the year they reached the semi-finals,

where they took on eventual winners, Chelsea.

Additionally, it was only the second time in Wycombe's history that they had scored twice at Wigan in the same game.

The first occurred in a 5-2 defeat in August 1997.

FOOTBALL Winning start for new manager

MICHAEL Duff's first game in charge of Wycombe Wanderers ended in victory as they defeated Northampton Town 2-0 at Adams Park.

Taking the reins following Mike Dodds' sacking 48 hours earlier, the Chairboys looked more energetic, bright, full of life and lively as they registered six shots in the opening five minutes.

Ewan Henderson's bending effort was brilliantly saved by Lee Burge, whilst attempts by Jamie Mullins and Fred Onyedinma went just wide of the mark.

Northampton looked settled, but Wycombe were bossing the ball and winning the 50/50s, and a brilliant cross by Luke Leahy gave Wanderers the lead on 16 minutes.

His delivery found an unmarked Dan Harvie, who placed it on the volley beyond Burge at the near post to give the Chairboys the lead.

It was his first goal at Adams Park since joining Wanderers from Milton Keynes last season, and his first in any capacity in 12 months.

The game was then sealed with 18 minutes remaining when George Abbott scored a stunning solo attempt, where he beat three players in the Northampton box before slotting it home.

Wycombe dominated the contest and the winning margin could have been greater.

Jack Grimmer's close-range header was pushed away by Burge, whilst substitutes in Caolan Boyd-Munce fired wide on two occasions, and Bradley Fink hit the bar with a bullet header.

Donnell McNeilly came on for his debut and played a huge role in Harvie nearly getting his second, but the latter's fierce shot in injury-time was palmed away by the visiting keeper.

The victory was much needed for Wycombe as they aim to climb up the table, with the three points enough to bring them up to 18th.

However, they have now picked up two wins from their last three in the division.

The victory also makes it 10 unbeaten against Northampton in all competitions, winning eight and drawing two.

FOOTBALL

Ex-Wanderers man off to National League

A former Wycombe Wanderers winger has found himself a new club in the National League.

Rolando Aarons, who played 13 times for the Chairboys in 2019/20 on loan from Newcastle United, has joined Morecambe.

He joins as a free agent after leaving his previous team, NK Celje in Slovenia, where he featured 22 times in two seasons. Following his exit, the 29-year-old had a brief trial with Dinamo Tbilisi in Georgia back in June, but no contract was offered.

He has now joined the Shrimps and will wear the 99 shirt for his new team.

Speaking on Aarons' signing, manager Ashvir Singh Johal said: "I'm delighted that Rolando has chosen to join us. He's a winger who we identified early on, and we're pleased we managed to get it done as there was a lot of competition for his signature."

"He sees it as an environment that will bring the best out of him; he's very experienced,

playing in the Premiership, Championship and Serie A and is someone who will add massive value to this side."

Aarons began at Bristol City, spending three years with the Robins' youth academy before moving to Newcastle in 2012.

He spent nine seasons with the Toon Army, seven in the first team, but only played 27 games during that time, scoring four goals.

Numerous loan moves followed, including at clubs such as Hellas Verona, Slovan Liberec, Sheffield Wednesday, Motherwell, and, of course, Wycombe.

His time at Adams Park saw him score twice in 13 games, including the winner in a 1-0 win over Shrewsbury Town in November 2019.

He then joined Huddersfield Town on a permanent transfer in 2021.

He struggled for regular game time in Yorkshire, featuring 12 times across three seasons, and after a loan move to Motherwell in 2023, he left the UK for NK Celje.



Rolando Aarons played 13 games for Wycombe in 2019/20

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Premier League opposition for Wanderers in cup



Wycombe play Fulham in the League Cup. Pic: Mike Egerton

WYCOMBE Wanderers will take on Premier League Fulham in the fourth round of the Carabao Cup.

The draw, which was made following the conclusion of Arsenal's 2-0 victory against Port Vale on Sky Sports, saw pundits Jamie Redknapp pick the home teams and Michael Brown choose the away sides.

The Chairboys were the final home team to be drawn from the hat, as they have reached this stage of the competition for the first time since the 2006/07 season following a 2-0 victory against League One rivals Wigan

Athletic in the previous round.

For the Cottages, they beat League Two Cambridge United 1-0 at Craven Cottage to secure their spot in the last 16.

There have been 12 meetings between Wanderers and Fulham in all competitions, with five of those clashes coming in this cup.

Wycombe famously knocked out the West London outfit on their way to the semi-finals nearly 20 years ago with a 2-1 victory at Craven Cottage – one of only two wins they have registered against the club from the capital.

However, Fulham have won 50 per cent of their clashes against Wycombe, keeping a clean sheet in the last two fixtures.

Since shocking the football world in 2007 by reaching the last four of the League Cup, where they lost to eventual winners Chelsea, Wycombe have played 30 games in this competition since, 16 at home and 14 away, in which they have only won six times in 90 minutes.

Incredibly, those victories have all come away from home.

Wycombe's last League Cup win at

home in 90 minutes was incredibly way back in August 2003.

This was in a 2-0 victory against AFC Wimbledon.

The full Carabao Cup draw is as follows: Arsenal v Brighton & Hove Albion; Grimsby Town v Brentford; Swansea City v Manchester City; Newcastle United v Tottenham Hotspur; Wrexham v Cardiff City; Liverpool v Crystal Palace; Wolverhampton Wanderers v Chelsea; Wycombe Wanderers v Fulham.

The tie will be played the week commencing October 27.

Duff moves to forward thinking on tactical plan

WYCOMBE Wanderers head coach Michael Duff has admitted he 'doesn't want to be a head teacher' to his players following his arrival at Adams Park.

The 47-year-old was appointed as the club's new head coach on September 18, replacing Mike Dodds after a run of nine wins in 31 matches.

Since his arrival in Buckinghamshire, the former Cheltenham Town and Barnsley boss has won both of his games in charge by a 2-0 scoreline.

The first was against Northampton Town in the league, and the second was against Wigan Athletic in the third round of the Carabao Cup.

The latter has seen Wycombe enter the last 16 for the first time in nearly 20 years, where they will play Premier League Fulham.

When asked if he will pick the players for the lunchtime trip to AFC Wimbledon this weekend based on their displays in training, he said: "It won't be on training performances as today [September 25] is the only day we trained."

"They have all put their hands up, and they know they are ready."

"They will all get the same information, as we just don't work with all the same information."

"Whatever 11 it is, they cross that white line and will need to deliver what is expected of them."

"They have been great."

"I am always wary that I give them questions as well, because I don't want to be the headteacher at the front of the classroom saying, 'I want this and I want that' as they might disagree with what I am saying."

James Richings

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"I have asked for their opinions, and I have given my opinions on where we are and why we are where we are."

"We will come together and we will piece it together, but it can't just be my way, as my job is to support them to get the best out of them."

One tactic Duff hopes to incorporate going forward is to always have two forwards on the pitch at the same time.

In his first game in charge, Sam Bell and Cauley Woodrow started the contest against Northampton, before the latter was replaced by fellow striker Bradley Fink.

Against Wigan in midweek, Fink began the cup tie alongside 19-year-old Donell McNeilly.

The latter scored a brilliant header just after the hour mark, which was his first in senior football.

The duo were replaced by Jaiden Bartolo for his first game of the season, and Alex Lowry.

When asked if he will stick with a 5-3-2 formation, the line-up he has used in the last two games, he said: "People are obsessed with formations and their variations."

"Sometimes it might look like a 5-3-1-1, but then it will roll into a 4-4-2, and when we press, it'll be a 4-3-3, so we're fluid enough that it won't be a rigid 5-3-2."

"The main thing is to generally keep two centre forwards on the pitch, which I think at this level helps."

The match will kick-off at 12.30 pm.



Michael Duff has won both of his games in charge of Wycombe
Image: Bradley Collyer

Duff will try to keep his messages simple

WYCOMBE Wanderers head coach Michael Duff admitted that he 'did not want to paralyse' his players with 'too much information' ahead of his opening game in charge against Northampton Town.

The former Northern Ireland international won his first fixture at the helm of the Chairboys by beating the Cobblers 2-0 at Adams Park.

A well-taken finish by left-back Dan Harvie on his weaker right foot, and a stunning solo effort from Tottenham Hotspur loanee George Abbott sealed the three points for Duff.

It was only Wanderers' third league victory since April 18.

Speaking at full-time, Duff, who had only one training session with his new players, said: "The thing I like is that they want to improve and they want to do well."

"I said to them on Friday that a nice group and a good group are two different things – we don't want a nice group, we want a good group, and it's about changing that mentality slightly, even though there has been some good work going on."

"There is so much stuff I want to give them, but I don't want to paralyse them with new information."

"I gave them a couple of fundamentals, both in possession and out of possession, gave them my asks, and I thought they did well."

"Of course, there were a couple of mistakes, but my job is to get it from me to them without making it complicated."

Despite winning three on the bounce going into their clash with Wycombe, Northampton struggled to create any clear-cut chances, with Wanderers keeper Mikki van Sas only having to make one save.

Harvie's strike on 16 minutes settled the nerves as the Chairboys bossed the contest.

Up next in the league is AFC Wimbledon away on September 27.