

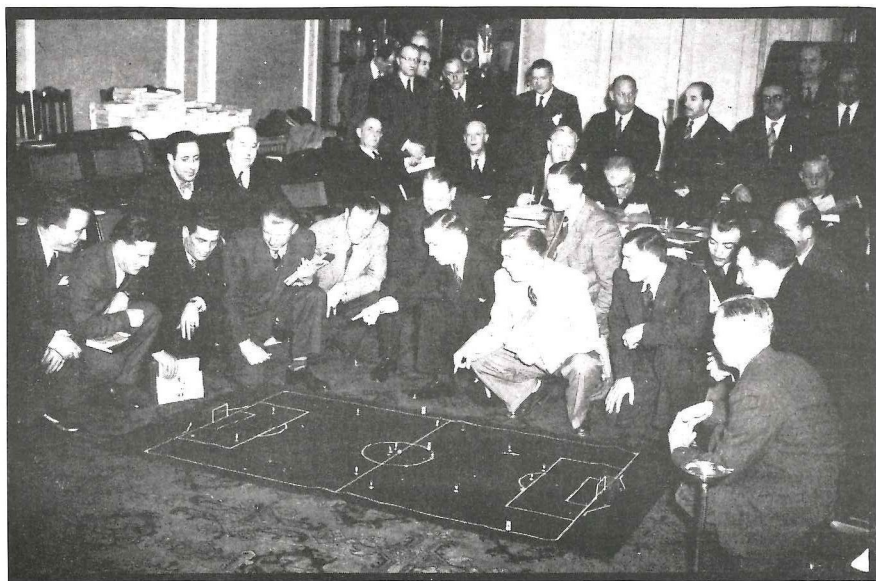
# Chairboys Gas

*The Independent Magazine  
by Supporters of  
Wycombe Wanderers F.C.*

## INSIDE

- TANNY TRIVIA
- HUISH & NO CHIPS
- DRASTIC PLASTIC
- WYCOMBE 70's & 80's
- CHAIRBOYS IN CHORZOW
- GUARANTEED NO MENTION OF RELEGATION

# NEW PITCH REJECTED



Vol.4 No.3

January 1990

40p

# Chairboys Gas

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to mark the 25th anniversary of  
original publication.

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## BACK ISSUES

Currently in stock are all 6 issues from last season plus issue 1&2 from this season at 40p each plus postage or SAE. Cheques or PO's in all instances should be made payable to CHAIRBOYS GAS.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Paul Lewis (Editor), Ian Blacklidge, Simon Burrage, Geoff Hutchinson, Pete Oxbrow and Simon Wilde.

Vol 4, No.3 December 1989

## EDITORIAL

It has been encouraging during the month before the release of this issue that Wycombe supporters have approached contributors to CHAIRBOYS GAS to air their immediate views on various subjects. For example, several people were unhappy about their treatment at Yeovil recently and we include a report in this issue. While it has also been brought to our attention that several of the troublemakers at the game at Kettering earlier this season were NOT in fact regular Wycombe supporters but were apparently approaching regular Wycombe fans to aid their cause. Luckily common-sense prevailed and no major incidents occurred.

If there is one danger in producing a supporters' magazine it is falling into the easy option of criticising players and Managers during a bad run. It is that trap that hopefully we have not yet fallen into. Usually the reasons for a bad run are far deeper than the playing side of things but they very rarely surface due to poor communications and false rumours. There are times, however, especially during poor spells that supporters are criticised for their baracking of the players. You pay your money and say what you like, is the easy answer but when derogatory comments are overheard by the player they can damage confidence in all but the most hardened of players. But players shouldn't be beyond criticism. Gesturing to the crowd following an overheard comment not only solves nothing but can also be taken the wrong way by an innocent party. Similarly clapping the fans after an away or home win is easy, but after a defeat it takes a bit more effort but can gain far more respect. Perhaps there could be a little more tolerance from both sides in the future.

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Next issue out during February.  
Articles (past or present subjects),  
photos, cartoons, cuttings, etc, most  
welcome.

# INSIDE INFORMATION

■ Jim Kelman's search for added firepower up front culminated in the signing of Brighton striker Martin Lambert for £15,000 in November. With money in short supply due to the move to the new ground, this is Wycombe's first major signing of the season. Lambert made his debut in the game at Yeovil but suffered a double fracture of the nose in the 2-1 home defeat to Merthyr the following Tuesday and missed the 3-3 home draw with Northwich Victoria. During November the Club also made an offer for Aldershot's "unsettled" midfielder Glen Burvill who is currently on a weekly contract at the Fourth Division club. Aldershot were apparently unimpressed with the offer for a player they rate at "six figures". Jim Kelman was also involved in negotiations with Barrow and England Semi-Pro midfielder Kenny Lowe. Lowe has moved to the Wycombe area on a temporary basis for work reasons but was unable to sign for Wycombe due to his "imminent return North". Wycombe have apparently made three enquiries about Lowe this season.

■ Injury problems increased during November with Glyn Creaser out for a month following a fractured toe in the game at Yeovil. To cover in the absence of Creaser, 19 year old Ricky Pearson has been signed on a month's loan from Gillingham. Martin Blacker and David Gumbs are also still out injured while Nicky Evans, although now playing, is still receiving treatment for his knee injury.

■ Wycombe begin this season's F A Trophy campaign with a home tie with Vauxhall League Division One side Metropolitan Police on Saturday 13th January 1990.

■ In the Berks & Bucks Senior Cup Wycombe have been drawn away to Flackwell Heath - the tie due to take place at Wilks Park on Tuesday 9th January, K.O. 7.30pm.

■ Amongst the many rumoured departures, came the sudden movement of long serving 'keeper Gary Lester to Slough Town. Gary ended an almost exact ten year spell at Wycombe, taking in just over 500 First Team appearances, with a 'free transfer' move to Wexham Park. Second choice 'keeper at Loakes Park now becomes Andy Poole, the ex-Nuneaton Borough and Northampton Town 'keeper. He was signed in November and will also act as a goal-keeping coach.

■ Wycombe won their first piece of silverware for the season when they collected the 'Charlie Gregory Cup' by beating Ruislip Manor 6-0 at Grosvenor Vale on December 11th. The game, arranged as part of Dave Carroll's move to Wycombe from Ruislip, received absolutely no publicity (press or programme) in the Wycombe area, despite the fact that the game had been arranged two months previous. The 6-0 win came courtesy of goals from Mark West (2), Dave Carroll (2), Martin Lambert and Steve Guppy. The attendance was about 100.

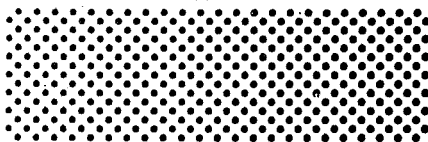
■ Making his Wycombe debut in the game at Ruslip was on loan Gillingham defender Ricky Pearson. He made his full debut in the 1-0 home victory over Barnet where he was marking Andrew Clarke.

■ The Club have reverted back to their traditional change colours of red this season. Wycombe last used red as their change colours in the early 1970's before changing to yellow.

■ COVER STORY: The Club have been refused permission by the local council to build an artificial training pitch at the new ground. A full report appears elsewhere in this magazine. If you can think of a suitable caption for the front cover this month, let us know and we'll print the best ones next issue.

# Behind the Goal

*with Simon Burrage*



## HUMOUR

One of the few good points about our poor form leading up to Christmas, was that it was again evident that as football supporters we still have the ability to endure defeat with a laugh (although it's a pity that not everyone could do the same). It was amusing to read a Mail on Sunday report on Chelsea's 5-2 home defeat to Wimbledon where the reporter had stood on the Shed terrace and had been impressed at the good humour with which the "notorious" Chelsea supporters had watched the game. The reporter seemed genuinely surprised that fans had joked amongst themselves, mainly ridiculing themselves and the ineptitude of their own team rather than abusing the opposition.

At Boston, for example, within seconds of their second goal hitting the back of John Granville's net, choruses of "Sack the Board" and "Marlow, Marlow, here we come" could be heard from a section of the Wycombe contingent behind the goal. Regrettably a few other Wanderers fans evidently lacked the sense of humour (and intelligence) and obviously took the singing deadly serious. I doubt very much that the few Directors who were present actually heard the singing, and I'm sure they wouldn't care much even if they did. Equally I doubt whether the singers really blame the conceding of a goal on people sitting 100 yards away in the stand, nor, I suspect do they even believe there is anyone with the power to suddenly decide to "Sack the Board". As for the "Marlow, Marlow, here we come", I'd thought it pretty obvious that this must be a reference to the prospect of playing Marlow if we get relegated this season. Strange, then that they should receive a response from certain intellectuals of "Yes, go and support Marlow then!" Jim Kelman recently remarked in his programme notes that "it would be a long, hard winter".

Personally, I don't mind much if it is a long, hard winter but I would mind if it was a long, hard, humourless one. Anyone who objects to a bit of piss-taking and winding-up on the terraces (and in this column for that matter) could surely find a nice funeral reception to live on up.

## SMELL

More serious problems were in evidence at Yeovil two weeks earlier. Yeovil Town's Huish ground is in its farewell season and it is clear that visiting fans from many Conference clubs will not mourn its passing, having to be segregated in a section of terracing disgracefully inadequate with regard to toilet and refreshment facilities. As for the Yeovil police, for all their heavy numbers and tactics, if it is beyond them to apply a little commonsense in monitoring the activities of 20 or so youngsters who stick out like a sore thumb in the Yeovil crowd, congregating during the game in one particular area of the ground and hanging around on street corners afterwards, then God help them if Yeovil ever do gain League status. I can see it now - "No you cannot come in the away end sir, not only can I smell alcohol on your breath but I also have reason to believe you've been eating curry". Meanwhile 100 yards down the road an away fan is hung, drawn and quartered. Funny old game!

## BRAWLING

Well, I must say my main concern whenever I go to spectate at a match of Association Football these days, is that I shall not have to witness any of this horrid brawling between players like which I have read about in the jolly old national press. I suspect all football fans are just the same, and I expect that in the pubs and bars all over the country at Saturday lunchtimes there are people asking "well, do you think we'll win today?" and the reply they would undoubtedly receive

would be "Yes fellow supporter but more importantly I do hope our players do behave themselves in a gentlemanly manner. Now pray do purchase us another glass of ale". Or, on the other hand, maybe not. Maybe the sort of people (journalists?) that guard our nations morals and who have recently bored the pants off us all with their latest phoney cause for concern, namely players "brawling" as at Arsenal v Norwich, are just completely out of touch with the real world that their readers live in, even if they don't. For days after the Highbury fracas and a similar incident at West Ham the following week, the sportswriters screamed in unison about "the new disease threatening to kill the game", to the point where the F A felt obliged to take some action and fine both clubs. Then you actually see the incident on TV and you say "is that it?" Well, this may sound complacent, but if that sort of thing is currently the biggest problem facing the game of football then I can't say I'm losing a great deal of sleep over it. Rarely is a fist raised, yet alone any punches thrown. Almost always the confrontation looks more dramatic than it really is because of the number of players who rush in purely to pull their colleagues away, and if the authorities were seriously intent on limiting these occasional bust-ups I would suggest they issue clear instructions to Clubs that players should not try to help in this way. Often these so-called "brawls" consist of 2 or 3 players threatening each other verbally while a dozen others try to intervene; it makes a small incident look over-dramatic and doesn't help anyone. Except the news hounds, that is.

### CONFESSIONS FROM THE TANNOY BOX

Anyway back to the heart rending topics that I was rambling on about last issue, like for instance what music should be played over the 'tannoy' at Loakes Park when our boys take the field. Do you regret the passing of the 'Dambusters Theme' or do you prefer the Official Colourbox World Cup Theme?

Why not let us know what you think? All votes for the Dambusters Theme will however be put straight into the nearest rubbish bin because I'm afraid it's me on the tannoy and it was my totally undemocratic decision that the Dambusters being played as a football team took the field in 1989 was about as appropriate as the theme from the Archers. Actually since the change was made the few comments I have received have mainly been in favour of the new theme, though not without some exceptions. Not surprisingly perhaps it seems that generally the older generation are more in favour of retaining the Dambusters whereas at least, ooh, certainly as many as 2 or 3 people have wanted to know what the new music is called and where they can get a copy. It was in fact anything but 'official' and was recorded in 1986 by a group called Colourbox. While we're on the subject of Tannoy Trivia, I may as well mention that the instrumental usually played 15 minutes before kick-off, immediately prior to the team changes, is called 'The Liquidator' and is by the Harry J All Stars, recorded in Jamaica and reached No 9 in the UK charts in 1969. The reason for playing this is even more obscure and personal. My earliest football memories are from my Dad taking me to Stamford Bridge in the early 70's to see Chelsea. For some peculiar reason the DJ always played this record and the Chelsea fans in The Shed always chanted 'Chelsea' at one particular point in the tune. It was when the previous Loakes Park 'Tannoy Man', Andy Reston, left to report on the fortunes of Luton Town for BBC Radio Bedford and no-one came forward to take over, that I was asked to do the job. Which, incidentally, I didn't really because I'd never had the slightest desire to spend my spare time talking into a microphone, neither did I have any particular talent for it (as you've probably all noticed) but one thing did appeal to me - I could play the Liquidator! And I'm still doing it now - you must be sick of it! Bye, bye everybody, Bye, bye.

# ANTI-FASCIST ACTION

Racial abuse of black players has been an unexceptionable part of the game ever since black players have been in football. At Wycombe the problem hasn't yet escalated, probably due to the recent success of Kirk Corbin and Andy Kerr, but there have been the occasional outburst from a small minority. IAN BLACKLIDGE assesses the damage that these people can cause and what can be done to stop them.

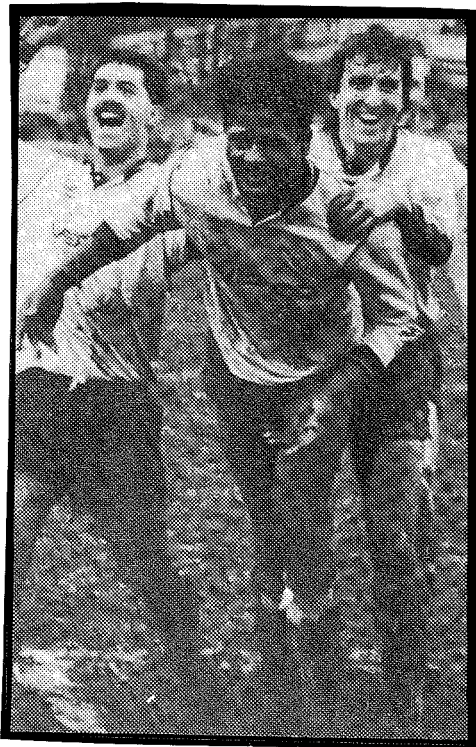
All Wycombe fans will hopefully agree that we have had to put up with listening to the abuse of black players from our own and the opposing teams' sub-normals for far too long (are you listening Boston, Darlington, Gravesend, Macclesfield, Runcorn, Yeovil, etc?).

The most positive aspects of the increased crowds at Loakes Park over the last year or so has been the presence at long last of some new supporters of West Indian and Asian origin. Although extremely welcome, their numbers are pitifully few when you consider the percentage of the High Wycombe population that they represent. Of course, the tragic fact is that there is little hope of attracting more or retaining these newly found supporters when the racists continue to make their presence felt and thus potentially making the ground a no-go area for all but National Front sympathizers.

Wycombe Wanderers F C's admirable efforts to court the local community will amount to nothing unless ALL racial and social sections of the town's public (not just the white middle/upper class ABC 1's with lots of money to spend) are actively encouraged by the Club to attend matches and/or use their facilities.

Well what can be done to purge Loakes Park of these racists? It is not merely enough that the Club condemn them via the match programme (although this would be a start). Racial abuse, as well as being disgraceful in a so-called civilised society, is also against the law and it is high time that the Police and Stewards seeked out and arrested or ejected the offenders. The Club, in turn, should then ban them from ever rearing their ugly heads again on their property.

Supporters also have a great responsibility to isolate the racists, by shouting them down and reporting them whenever possible. After all they only thrive in a crowd due to others apathy to disagree with them. Nothing less must take place if Wycombe Wanderers F C really intends to become a truly credible asset to the local community.



## HUISH YOU WERE HERE

For the vast majority of the 200 or so Wycombe fans who travelled to Huish on 25th November, the day will not be remembered for the fact that all of the 6 goals in the 4-2 defeat came in a 16 minute spell, or the fact that it could be their last ever visit to Huish or even the fact that Wycombe played in all red (does blue really clash with with green and white?). It will, however, be remembered yet again for the poor treatment and facilities for away supporters.

It has been widely publicised that during the past year that Yeovil have introduced new ground regulations. Where, in the main, these regulations represent positive measures towards eradicating trouble, their interpretation can also provide confusion.

Several Wycombe fans had their day thoroughly spoilt by unnecessary and/or incomplete measures, coupled with facilities that would make a concentration camp look pleasant - their only crime being that they had come to enjoy themselves amongst a few friends.

Approaching the turnstiles (marked clearly for away supporters) Wycombe supporters were subjected to random searching. In general terms this meant that if you didn't fit the police's identikit picture of the paragon of society you were asked to answer for it. A small, but significant, number of Wycombe fans were also asked if they had been drinking and were subsequently refused admission if the answer was not to the liking of the P.C.

Although not prominently displayed, Yeovil's Ground Regulations state *"The Club reserves the right to prosecute or to eject or to cause to be ejected any person within the Club premises for ...being drunk or under the influence of alcohol or drugs to any degree."* Again it is a question of interpretation and the Club appeared to be more than willing to allow visitors to use their bar facilities before the game. A sure case of taking with one hand and turning

away with the other. Even more ludicrous though was that on refusal of entry to the 'away' end, access could be easily obtained at the 'home' end - surely the ideal place for anyone wishing to cause trouble - and to complete the farce once in the 'home' end, some Wycombe fans then gained entry to the 'away' end thanks to a friendly steward controlling the gate at the point of segregation.

It is not unreasonable that when there is segregation, most fans wish to stand or sit amongst their fellow supporters and friends. Not that the experience of the 'away' end is pleasant. The gents toilet was like something out of the First World War, whilst the ladies toilets were located in the main stand, thus requiring yet another initiative test to be passed before entry. Catering facilities consisted of a tray of pasties, crisps and tea that disappeared shortly after kick-off. A police officer was heard to comment to the sellers that there were Wycombe fans complaining at the facilities, the reply was *"well they'll have to wait to the get home"*. Thankfully they had a change of mind near the end of the game and returned with back-up supplies.

Following the final whistle, Wycombe fans in the away end were let out in single file *"for your own safety"* and when someone commented *"haven't you heard of Hillsborough?"*, the reply from the officer *"No, I don't like football"*. Once outside in the fading light, the streets were very poorly policed and there was at least one report of a Wycombe supporter being attacked shortly after the game - resulting in hospital detainment for the night - and the Wycombe team coach was also attacked, thankfully with no injuries resulting. Again all facts emphasising that measures inside the ground have little bearing on incidents outside.

We understand that a few Wycombe supporters have complained to the League about their treatment. The message is, make your feelings known, we're here if you want us.

report by Paul Lewis



DARLINGTON just managed to maintain their position at the top of the Conference before entering the Christmas holiday fixtures despite their Conference programme being affected by involvement in the F A Cup. They also had their home Conference fixture with Welling United abandoned at half-time due to fog but with games in hand are still strong favorites for the Championship.

William Hill had DARLINGTON at 4-5 for the title with nearest challengers being BARNET at 5-1 followed by MACCLESFIELD TOWN at 6-1 and KETTERING TOWN at 15-2. The remaining odds before Christmas were;

- 16-1 CHELTENHAM TOWN & KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS
- 22-1 YEOVIL TOWN
- 33-1 WELLING UNITED
- 40-1 RUNCORN
- 50-1 BARROW
- 66-1 ALTRINCHAM & MERTHYR TYDFIL
- 100-1 STAFFORD RANGERS & SUTTON UNITED
- 150-1 FARNBOROUGH TOWN & NORTHWICH VICTORIA
- 200-1 BOSTON UNITED, TELFORD UNITED & WYCOMBE
- 250-1 CHORLEY
- 500-1 ENFIELD
- 1250-1 FISHER.

Wycombe's first trip in the new year is to TELFORD UNITED on Saturday 6th January. Derek Mann, former youth team coach at Bucks Head is the new manager at Telford following the resignation of Stan Storton in December. Storton took charge at Telford in 1981 following the departure of Gordon Banks. Moving out with Storton is Assistant Manager Kevin Lewis and brother Trevor Storton.

It's the long trip to BARROW on Saturday 20th January. Despite all the talk of future ground sharing with the local rugby team, Barrow Football Club will remain the sole users of Holker Street for the foreseeable future. Talks between the two parties have broken down and as a result the £1.5million redevelopment of Holker Street has been deferred. With debts of £250,000, the Club have put their Bluebird Social Club on the market and are hoping to receive between £100,000 and £120,000 from its sale. In addition, a 'Raising the Roof' appeal has been launched by a local supporter with £20,000 the target set to re-roof the cover on the Popular side of the ground.

Saturday 3rd February's trip to FISHER ATHLETIC, now with Mike Bailey in charge following Big Mal's departure, will be rearranged if either Club make it through the First Round of the F A Trophy on January 13th. Bailey was previously in charge at Charlton, Brighton and Wolves but will perform a miracle if he keeps Fisher in the Conference for next season.

Wycombe are due to make their first ever visit to Penydarren Park on Saturday 10th February with the Conference clash with MERTHYR TYDFIL. Midfielder Kevin Rogers, who cracked his shin bone in the 2-1 victory at Wycombe, will be out of action for the rest of the season. Manager Lyn Jones signed Cardiff City's Steve Tupling as a temporary replacement and has also signed Jeff Lissaman following his short spells at Cheltenham Town, Aylesbury United and at Wycombe.

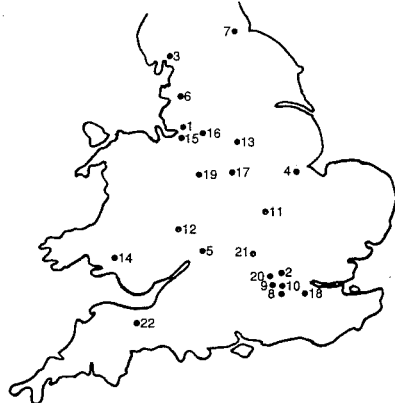
Wycombe fans making the trip to Merthyr should note that segregation is in operation at all matches at Penydarren Park, with the visiting supporters asked stand in a fenced in enclosure. Much of the work at Merthyr's ground resulted from the staging of their European involvement a couple of seasons ago, although further work has been carried out this season thanks to an extensive grant from the Football Trust.



THE GUIDE TO AWAY TRAVEL is the title of a 32 page, A6 publication costing £1.50 by Kettering Town Football Supporters Club who quote in the introduction "How many times have you been put off the idea of travelling to an away game because you wouldn't know how to get to the ground, where to park the car, or how far the ground is from the nearest railway station?" Perhaps a more realistic question, however, would be "How many times have you seen a guide to away travel and found it about as useful as a London Underground map in the Sahara Desert?". Unfortunately, despite all it's efforts, this publication is no exception.

It includes all the standard info on Clubs, such as ground capacity, admission prices, Club colours, etc, but ground directions consist of those annoying one or two line efforts, whereas the most useful item in any guide would be a map of the area around the ground. The nearest this effort comes is one of those obligatory maps of the country which has Wycombe about 20 miles north of Barnet as one of many anomalies.

- |                         |                                |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 ALTRINCHAM F.C.       | 12 KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS F.C. |
| 2 BARNET F.C.           | 13 MACCLESFIELD TOWN F.C.      |
| 3 BARROW F.C.           | 14 MERTHYR TYDFIL F.C.         |
| 4 BOSTON UNITED F.C.    | 15 NORTHWICH VICTORIA F.C.     |
| 5 CHELTENHAM F.C.       | 16 RUNCORN F.C.                |
| 6 CHORLEY F.C.          | 17 STAFFORD RANGERS F.C.       |
| 7 DARLINGTON F.C.       | 18 SUTTON UNITED F.C.          |
| 8 ENFIELD F.C.          | 19 Telford United F.C.         |
| 9 FARNBOROUGH TOWN F.C. | 20 WELLING UNITED F.C.         |
| 10 FISHER ATHLETIC F.C. | 21 WYCOMBE WANDERERS F.C.      |
| 11 KETTERING TOWN F.C.  | 22 YEOVIL TOWN F.C.            |



GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE CLUBS 1989/90 SEASON

## GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE



Up to and including Saturday 16th December 1989

Pos		PL	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	DARLINGTON	17	11	4	2	30	9	37
2	MACCLESFIELD TOWN	20	10	7	3	36	21	37
3	KETTERING TOWN	21	11	4	6	34	25	37
4	BARNET	20	10	4	6	37	23	34
5	CHELTENHAM TOWN	19	9	4	6	26	25	31
6	KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS	19	9	3	7	37	31	30
7	RUNCORN	20	8	6	6	36	33	30
8	ALTRINCHAM	20	6	9	5	28	21	27
9	BARROW	18	7	6	5	23	23	27
10	YEOVIL TOWN	19	8	3	8	27	29	27
11	WELLING UNITED	17	7	5	5	32	18	26
12	CHORLEY	20	8	2	10	26	34	26
13	TELFORD UNITED	20	7	5	8	27	39	26
14	SUTTON UNITED	19	7	4	8	33	29	25
15	MERTHYR TYDFIL	18	6	6	6	27	31	24
16	NORTHWICH VICTORIA	20	7	3	10	26	34	24
17	WYCOMBE WANDERERS	20	6	5	9	34	29	23
18	STAFFORD RANGERS	19	5	7	7	18	24	22
19	FARNBOROUGH TOWN	20	6	4	10	31	44	22
20	BOSTON UNITED	20	5	4	11	29	29	19
21	ENFIELD	21	6	1	14	29	45	19
22	FISHER ATHLETIC	17	4	2	11	20	40	14

# SEASON BY SEASON

1959/60

SUMMARY by Paul Lewis

Prior to the commencement of the 1959/60 season the Club completed improvement work at the 'Hospital' end of the ground. The work, funded by the Supporters' Club, consisted of additional terracing with concrete kerbs and tarmac and was finished ready for the start of the season. At the Club's AGM held at High Wycombe Town Hall before a packed audience, the suggestion was also made to level the pitch but the proposal was dismissed due to the high cost involved.

The Wanderers President, John Timberlake, also said at the AGM that the Club's policy was to encourage local talent and it was decided to allocate special nights for the coaching of promising youngsters by team coach Sid Cann.

Season Tickets cost 30/- (£1.50) for men, 20/- (£1) for Ladies and 7/6 (37½p) for children. The entrance fee of 1/- (5p) held by the Club for many years, went up to 1/3 at the start of the 1958/59 season and helped produce a profit of £778 and further increase for the new season, to 1/6, was explained by Secretary Bill Hayter who said in the Bucks Free Press in August 1959 *"There is a terrific amount of work to be done to improve ground amenities for the benefit of our supporters....hitherto we have been unable to do this work because of lack of cash. We have put up gate charges to help the work."*

On the football side before the start of the season Michael Wicks, a member of Wycombe's 1957 Amateur Cup Final side, joined Hendon after having his career interrupted with cartilage trouble. Meanwhile Len Worley had signed Amateur forms with Tottenham Hotspur but continued to train at Loakes Park. New signings for the Wanderers included Michael Brown who rejoined from Slough Town and Peter James who signed from Abingdon.

The season began well with a victory at League newcomers Maidstone United and by the end of the first 12 Isthmian League games the Wanderers were top of the League, 2 points ahead of Kingstonian. Meanwhile in the F A Cup Oxford City were dismissed in the 4th Qualifying Round before a 5,994 crowd at Loakes Park. This came despite the fact that Wycombe had to play in their change colours of red shirts and white shorts after losing the toss for choice of shirts. Another big crowd of nearly 8,000 saw Wisbech Town beaten in the following round to earn the Wanderers their first ever appearance in the Second Round Proper.

The Second Round draw paired the Wanderers away to Fourth Division Watford who had beaten Cheltenham Town 3-0 at Vicarage Road in the previous round. The build-up for the game saw BBC cameras visit Loakes Park the Thursday evening before the game. The news item was shown the following night on the 'Town and Around' programme at 6.10pm. More than 8,000 Wycombe fans travelled to Vicarage Road where the kick-off had been brought forward to 2.15pm as the Club declined the offer to play the second half under floodlights. There were no shocks, however, as the professionals went through by 5 goals to 1 before a crowd of 23,907, more than double Watford's average gate.

These were the days of the 'Selection Committee' and the Monday following the game at Watford an anonymous petition was sent to the committee demanding a public statement on the selection policy. The Club also received numerous letters on the subject.

Wycombe were still top of the League in January but not even the return of Len Worley could prevent a First Round Amateur Cup exit at Hounslow Town.

February saw the Club's biggest ever Isthmian League win at Loakes Park when ten goals without reply were put past Ilford. Paul Bates and Peter James both got hat-tricks and Bates went on to become top scorer for the season with 32 goals.

Visits to the 'East End' Isthmian sides resulted in vital points dropped for the Wanderers although over the Easter holiday the First Team picked up two trophies. The first was in the Berks & Bucks Final at Reading where Maidenhead United were beaten before a 5,358 crowd, while two days later Oxford City were beaten to collect the Amateur Football Alliance Trophy in Wycombe's first ever entry.

The Club's 75th anniversary was celebrated with a dinner at The Town Hall before close to 500 guests (men and women). Four days earlier Wycombe had travelled to Championship rivals Kingstonian where a 3-0 win for the visitors set up a photo finish to the end of the season. Kingstonian, who had been beaten in the Amateur Cup Final by Hendon, were forced to play their final seven League games in the space of 12 days. Wycombe beat Bromley in their final League game of the season on Thursday 5th May while the same night Tooting beat Kingstonian to lie a point behind Wycombe but with a game still to play. It was left to Tooting to clinch the Championship with 3-1 home victory over Oxford City the following Saturday.

A reasonably successful season was added to by the Reserves winning the Reserve Section of the Isthmian League.

GAME DATE	OPPOSITION	COMP	V	RESULT
1 22/08/59	Maidstone United	IL	A	W 3-2
2 24/08/59	HILVERSUMSE (Holland)	Fr	H	L 2-3
3 29/08/59	KINGSTONIAN	IL	H	W 2-0
4 01/09/59	Oxford City	IL	A	L 1-3
5 05/09/59	Ilford	IL	A	W 2-0
6 09/09/59	ST ALBANS CITY	IL	H	W 5-0
7 12/09/59	WALTHAMSTOW AVENUE	IL	H	W 3-1
8 16/09/59	HOUNSLOW TOWN	BoB	H	W 1-0
9 19/09/59	PEGASUS	AFA SF	H	W 5-1
10 26/09/59	Wimbledon	IL	A	L 1-2
11 03/10/59	Tooting & Mitcham United	IL	A	L 1-5
12 10/10/59	CLAPTON	IL	H	W 5-2
13 17/10/59	Bromley	IL	A	W 4-2
14 24/10/59	BARKING	IL	H	W 6-4
15 31/10/59	OXFORD CITY	FAC 4Q	H	W 1-0
16 07/11/59	CORINTHIAN CASUALS	IL	H	W 3-1
17 14/11/59	WISBECH TOWN	FAC 1	H	W 4-2
18 21/11/59	Dulwich Hamlet	IL	A	W 2-1
19 25/11/59	Cheltenham Town	Fr	A	W 5-3
20 28/11/59	WOKING	IL	H	D 1-1
21 05/12/59	Watford	FAC 2	A	L 1-5
22 12/12/59	MAIDSTONE UNITED	IL	H	W 2-1
23 19/12/59	Woking	IL	A	W 5-3
24 26/12/59	OXFORD CITY	IL	H	W 3-1
25 02/01/60	St Albans City	IL	A	L 1-2
26 09/01/60	Hounslow Town	AC 1	A	L 0-3
27 23/01/60	Clapton	IL	A	W 8-1
28 30/01/60	SLOUGH TOWN	B&B 2	H	W 3-1
29 06/02/60	Corinthian Casuals	IL	A	L 0-4
30 13/02/60	DULWICH HAMLET	IL	H	W 4-0
31 20/02/60	ILFORD	IL	H	W 10-0
32 27/02/60	Chesham United	B&B SF	N	W 2-1
33 05/03/60	LEYTONSTONE	IL	H	D 1-1
34 12/03/60	Walthamstow Avenue	IL	A	L 0-4
35 19/03/60	TOOTING & MITCHAM UNITED	IL	H	L 1-2
36 26/03/60	Leytonstone	IL	A	D 0-0
37 02/04/60	Barking	IL	A	L 1-2
38 06/04/60	PERSTORP (Sweden)	Fr	H	W 4-1
39 09/04/60	WIMBLEDON	IL	H	W 4-1
40 15/04/60	CLYDACH UNITED (Wales)	Fr	H	W 3-1
41 18/04/60	Maidenhead United	B&B F	N	W 3-0
42 20/04/60	OXFORD CITY	AFA F	H	W 5-0
43 26/04/60	Kingstonian	IL	A	W 3-0
44 05/05/60	BROMLEY	IL	H	W 2-0
45 14/05/60	BRITISH ARMY XI	WHC	H	W 2-0

#### 1959-60

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tooting & Mitcham U	30	17	8	5	75	43	42
Wycombe Wanderers	30	19	3	8	84	46	41
Wimbledon	30	18	3	9	66	36	39
Kingstonian	30	18	3	9	76	51	39
Corinthian-Casuals	30	18	1	11	69	61	37
Bromley	30	15	6	9	74	46	36
Dulwich Hamlet	30	14	6	10	65	47	34
Walthamstow Avenue	30	11	11	8	48	38	33
Oxford City	30	10	10	10	57	57	30
Leytonstone	30	10	8	12	43	46	28
Woking	30	10	6	14	54	61	26
St Albans City	30	10	6	14	50	65	26
Maidstone United	30	10	5	15	53	60	25
Barking	30	7	4	19	30	75	18
Ilford	30	5	6	19	34	86	16
Clapton	30	3	4	23	32	92	10

COMPETITION	PL	W	D	L	FOR	AGA
Isthmian League	30	19	3	8	84	46
F A Cup	3	2	0	1	6	7
Amateur Cup	1	0	0	1	0	3
Berks & Bucks Senior Cup	3	3	0	0	8	2
A F A Cup	2	2	0	0	10	1
Battle of Britain Cup	1	1	0	0	1	0
Wycombe Hospital Cup	1	1	0	0	2	0
Friendlies	4	3	0	1	14	8
TOTAL	45	31	3	11	125	67



As **AYLESBURY UNITED** hit the F A Cup headlines they also maintained their position near the top of the Premier Division.

It's turning into quite a local affair at the top of the Vauxhall League with **SLOUGH TOWN** and **WOKINGHAM TOWN** also looking for the promotion spot to the Conference. Wokingham have a F A Trophy match at Kettering Town to look forward to. Manager Roy Merryweather says "We aim to become a Conference side and this trip to one of non-League's top sides will be a yardstick as to how much progress we have made this season."

One of the pre-season favourites for the Vauxhall title were **REDBRIDGE FOREST** but injuries and poor form has restricted them to a mid table placing leading up to Christmas. Manager John Still put the entire team on the transfer list during Decemeber as he felt the team wasn't performing well together. Redbridge (formerly Leytonstone/Ilford, of course), are currently entering further negotiations with Waltham Forest Council with a view to attaining a site for a new ground at Wadham Lodge. In the meantime games are being played at Dagenham F C, who themselves are benefiting from the additional rent and could make a challenge later in the season.

In Division One **CHESHAM UNITED** have continued their quest for success with the purchase of Glenn Price and Mark Dawber from **STAINES TOWN** both for five figure fees. Dawber signed for Staines in September 1987 from Wycombe for a £1,500 fee. Price, meanwhile, only signed for Staines at the start of the season from Camberley and had scored 14 times before joining Chesham.

**PREMIER DIVISION - TOP FIVE**  
up to and including 16th December

	PL	W	D	L	Pts
<b>SLOUGH TOWN</b>	18	11	6	1	39
<b>AYLESBURY UTD</b>	16	11	3	2	36
<b>WOKINGHAM TOWN</b>	17	11	3	3	36
<b>KINGSTONIAN</b>	19	10	5	4	35
<b>HENDON</b>	18	10	3	5	33



As **COLNE DYNAMOES** tighten their grip on the HFS Loans Premier Division race, it is **WHITLEY BAY** who have made the headlines for their F A Cup exploits.

Whitley, who beat Scarborough and Preston to reach the Third Round Proper of the F A Cup for the first time in their history, play in Division One of the HFS Loans League following a move from the Northern League at the end of the 1987/88 season. Their position in the table leading up to Christmas was third with 34 points from 16 games, six points behind second placed **ACCRINGTON STANLEY** who had played 20 games and 8 points behind leaders **EMLEY** who had played 24 games.

**WITTON ALBION**, outsiders for the HFS Loans League title, are witnessing increased crowds at their new home in Wincham. Gates currently average around the 500 mark. League form has improved too with their first eight HFS Loans League games at Wincham Park producing seven wins and one draw with a goal aggregate of 21-0. Paul Bowler of **MOSSLEY** became the first player to score an away League goal at Wincham during Mossley's 2-1 defeat on 5th December.

Also near the top of the table are **HYDE UNITED**. They picked up £17,500 for midfielder Simon Rudge during November when he moved to Runcorn. Rudge joined Hyde from Bolton Wanderers in the summer of 1986 and went on to make a total of 202 appearances and score 45 goals for the plastic pitch outfit.

Former Conference Club, **FRICKLEY ATHLETIC**, have a new Manager in the form of ex-Burton Albion boss, Brian Fidler. Fidler replaces the long serving Sean Marshall who was dismissed after a poor run of results earlier in the season.

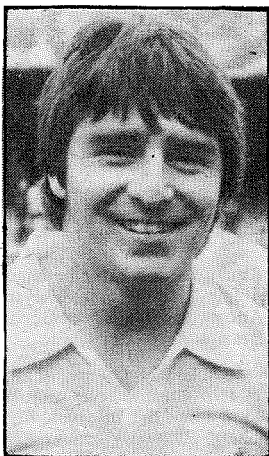
**PREMIER DIVISION - TOP FIVE**  
up to and including 16th December

	PL	W	D	L	Pts
<b>COLNE DYNAMOES</b>	23	18	3	2	57
<b>WITTON ALBION</b>	20	14	3	3	45
<b>HYDE UNITED</b>	21	12	5	4	41
<b>SOUTH LIVERPOOL</b>	21	11	6	4	39
<b>BISHOP AUCKLAND</b>	17	10	2	5	32



BATH CITY regained the leadership of the Beazer Homes League leading up to Christmas with a 1-0 victory over DOVER ATHLETIC before a 859 crowd at Twerton Park.

New WEALDSTONE Manager Alan Gane has managed to take 'The Stones' into the top half of the table for the first time this season. Meanwhile the other former Wycombe player in charge of a Beazer Homes side is not having as much good fortune. George Borg, who moved into the Managers seat at CHELMSFORD CITY in November from Barking has been unable to lift City out of the bottom four and was even sent-off in his second match at his new Club (somethings never change). Borg also had to face playing his old Club in an Essex Senior Cup match and lost out by 1 goal to nil. Former Barking players Bobby Goldstone and Andy Wallace have followed Borg to Chelmsford.



GEORGE BORG - 'kin hell ref!

PREMIER DIVISION - TOP FIVE  
up to and including 16th December

	PL	W	D	L	Pts
BATH CITY	20	12	5	3	41
DOVER ATHLETIC	19	13	2	3	41
DARTFORD	13	9	2	2	29
BURTON ALBION	16	9	3	4	30
ATHERSTONE	20	9	7	4	34

F A TROPHY



First Round Proper  
Saturday 13th January 1990

Ashford Town	Bath City
Aylesbury Utd	Worcester City
BARROW	Bangor City
Billingham Syn	DARLINGTON
BOSTON UTD	MACCLESFIELD
Shepshed C	Nuneaton Boro
CHELTENHAM T	Gravesend & N
Colne Dynamoes	ALTRINCHAM
Dagenham	Kingstonian
Dartford	YEOVIL TOWN
ENFIELD	MERTHYR TYDFIL
FARNBOROUGH	Staines Town
Gretna	Hyde United
KETTERING TOWN	Wokingham
Leyton Wingate	KIDDERMINSTER
Newcastle B S	RUNCORN
NORTHWICH VIC	Bishop Auckland
STAFFORD RANG	Gainsboro' Town
Seaham Red Star	Marine
Slough Town	Redbridge Forest
Spennymoor	Leek Town
Sutton Cold	Tow Law
SUTTON UNITED	Dover Athletic
TELFORD UNITED	Burton Albion
Wealdstone	Harrow Borough
WELLING UNITED	FISHER ATHLETIC
Weston S Mare	Windsor & Eton
Weymouth	BARNET
Witton Albion	Blyth Spartans
Wivenhoe Town	Burnham
Woking	Bromsgrove Rovers
WYCOMBE WAND	Met. Police

Second Round Proper  
Saturday 3rd February 1990

Third Round Proper  
Saturday 24th February 1990

## CHAIRBOYS IN CHORZOW

It was in an alcohol-induced state of patriotism that a small group of Wycombe supporters decided to travel to Poland for England's final World Cup qualifying match in Chorzow. For security reasons we can't reveal their names although SIMON WILDE and GEOFF HUTCHINSON take up this story.

Having ascertained that Colin Moynihan was to vet all would-be travellers, we adopted suitable pseudonyms and obtained falsified passports to ensure that we received our Polish visas.

We had opted for the three day coach tour rather than flying (because we're incredibly stingy) and our journey commenced at 5.30am on the Tuesday morning, 10th October, from High Wycombe. After joining the main coach in London we arrived at Dover by 9.30am in preparation for the ferry crossing.

We were advised to eat well on the ferry, since this would be our last 'decent' meal for some time - they don't have MacDonaldis' in Poland!

After this we faced the daunting prospect of a 20 hour coach trip with only one stop in West Germany before reaching Poland. By the time the East German border was reached at midnight we were all shattered but we had to stay awake, however, to face the silent interregation of the German border guard's stare as he perused our passport photos. After a lengthy delay and having satisfied this humourless individual that we were who we claimed to be, we proceeded through East Germany to Poland where the same ritual was faced.

It was now early Wednesday morning and we were able to sample the delights of the Polish countryside, which resembled Runcorn on a rainy day.

Having been promised a breakfast of raw fish in jelly by our courier - a Barry Fry lookalike - we were pleasantly surprised to encounter a decidedly edible feast of bread, meats and cheeses once we finally reached the hotel.

After freshening up, we set off for Chorzow, a suburb of Katowice, where the match was due to played. We stopped at lunchtime at a Pub. This consisted of a small oblong room with a few tables and chairs and not being too fluent in Polish it took a few minutes for us to determine how much a pint of beer cost. Handing over a 5000 Zloty note - our cheapest form of currency - we were provided with seven pints of beer. 5000 Zloty is 50 pence! It would have been fine if it had been drinkable.

We arrived at the stadium at 3pm and had time to walk its circumference before the kick-off at 5.00pm. As you'll probably know, the match was awful but you only had to sit through it, we had to stand on a freezing, uncovered Polish terrace being rained on.

Having survived the Polish onslaught, England attained the draw they required and we returned to our coach content in the knowledge that 'the lads' would be in Italy.

The Polish fans, however, were nutters and they ambushed the first English coach to leave the stadium and proceeded to smash every window on it. Subsequently, we received a police escort, sorry Skoda escort, to our hotel from where we commenced our homebound journey.

We were told by the guard at the Polish border that our progress through to East Germany would be far swifter if we gave him a momento from 'The West'. A Portsmouth supporter on the coach dutely volunteered his Pompey shirt and we were on our way - some people are so easily pleased.

Our three day trip was completed at 12.30am on Friday morning, 13th October, when we were deported in London to make our way back home.

# ADAMS PARK

As the new ground progresses at a steady rate, the major news item regarding the site has been the refusal of permission by the local council of the proposed training pitch. The proposal was for an artificial pitch adjacent to the main ground but the plans received the 'thumbs down' at the planning meeting on 15th November 1989.

The proposal involves the creation of a full-sized floodlit artificial pitch to the north and 10 metres above the level of the pitch already laid at Hillbottom Road. The Club offered the following benefits in support of the proposal;

1. *The proposal is to replace a facility to be lost at Loakes Park.*
2. *There will be no additional requirements for parking as the use of the stadium and training pitch will not conflict.*
3. *The pitch will cater for mainly football and hockey activities but will also provide a multi-use area for the development of a community programme.*
4. *The facility will be used in the evenings, weekends and holiday periods and it is hoped that local schools will also use the area in mid-week. Some 40-50 hours of activity per week are envisaged in the early stages of the scheme.*

Ward Councillor comments came from Councillor A D Green who was concerned at the impact on the locality which *"could be markedly increased"* Councillor V A Letheren did not object to the scheme but was *"concerned about further use of Green Belt for a football facility"*, while Councillor A M Robinson supported the application.

Additional comments came from the Southern Region Sports Council who fully supported the proposal. However, The Chief Leisure Services objected due to the *"deleterious effect on views from the public footpath."* The Booker Common and Woods Protection Society, The High Wycombe Society and The Chiltern Society also all objected on the

grounds of *"further encroachment into Green Belt and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty"* The point was also made that the current stadium at Hillbottom Road was granted on appeal as a direct result of the needs of the Hospital for development on Loakes Park.

There is little mileage to be gained in discussing the merits of an additional artificial pitch for community use. It should be obvious to everyone that a properly organised and funded facility would be of tremendous benefit to the community and the Club. Unfortunately local Councillors have to seem to be supporting their local residents as well as the local community, thus the unhappy compromise for the Club is that by a marginal decision the plans were refused.

It was summarised in the Council's report that *"In the opinion of the Local Planning Authority the proposal would result in an intrusive form of development on an elevated and prominent site which would urbanise open countryside on the edge of the built-up area. In consequence, the proposal would detract from the character and appearance of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and conflict with local policy."*

If the Club have any serious intentions for the proposal they will appeal against the decision. Modifications to the plans may be required although any further lowering of the training pitch level would be a costly exercise and would require additional funding. Bearing in mind the close proximity to Sands Industrial estate, sponsorship maybe possible with companies who wish to use the facility. At present there is no great urgency in the construction of the surface as the move to the new ground next Autumn should take priority but the idea should be carried through to provide the Club with a solid structure for the future.

*Paul Lewis December 1989*

# Do They Mean Us? Do They Mean Us? Mean Us? Do They Mean Us? Do They Do They Mean Us? Do They Mean Us?

## ELEMENTARY

This column was originally intended to comment on what is said about Wycombe Wanderers, but it seems nowadays that we spend more time bemoaning what isn't said about the premier Club in the area.

Take for instance the coverage of Gary Lester's move to Slough Town at the start of December which received pitifully low coverage in the local press and more importantly in the Wycombe programme. True Gary received a wonderful testimonial on his behalf, but if we can't rely on the Club to relay Club news, then who can we rely on? The SLOUGH OBSERVER, perhaps, who naturally did report on Gary's free transfer to the 'Rebels' which delighted Manager Alan Davies. He told the Observer *"Gary will be a major asset to Slough...He's one of the best keepers in non-League football and I'm delighted he has chosen to join Slough"* Lester's move to Wexham Park, however, means that another former Wycombe 'keeper Trevor Bunting looks like losing out on his First Team spot. *"Davies is worried about some elementary errors that he feels have crept back into Bunting's game in recent weeks"* according to the Observer and rumoured a possible move for the 21 year old.

## DETECTIVE

It doesn't take a detective to work out the sudden lack of coverage in the local press can be traced back to an article in the FREE PRESS of November 17. The report suggested that their were rumours that Chesham United were about to purchase Kevin Durham and Mark West and had also bid for Steve Abley and Glyn Creaser. It also added that *"there is also talk on the terraces of boardroom rows after the Yeovil matchand Kelman facing the sack unless results improve*

*quickly"* Chairman Ivor Beeks, who denied the rumours, told the Free Press *"Perhaps some of the reasons for these rumours came after the Yeovil game. Alan Parry was furious at the decision for their second goal, but honestly, there is no unrest whatsoever."*

Surely there are far more worthwhile stories to cover than a selection of half-truths and rumours? Quite clearly the Club were upset about the article resulting in the apparent lack of communication between press and Club but this helps no-one, especially the supporters. Communication is of course a two way process and you have to question the appointment of a Press Officer who, due to his job, is not easily accessible throughout the season and as a result has meant the loss of credibility of the ClubCall line due to lack of updating. As for the worthwhile stories for the press, how about an update on the new ground, progress of the community scheme or the Ladies Team?

## BASICS

Let's return to basics with the possibly exclusive information that *"the relegation zone"* consists of 22nd, 21st and 20th place in the League. A little too basic perhaps but apparently not judging by some of the reporting over the last month in the local press. Wycombe's 3-3 home draw with Northwich Victoria was reported in the BUCKS FREE PRESS by Richard Dryden who commented *"So Jim Kelman's men are back down in the relegation zone....Blues currently lie 17th."* The WYCOMBE STAR were also just as guilty in their December 15 issue, where *"Last Saturday's 2-0 defeat at Boston United left firmly in the relegation zone.."* Wycombe were in fact in 19th place.



## TEA-UP

The report of the Boston game saw the return of the dreaded "NO TEA PARTY FOR WYCOMBE" headline which must have taken the headline editor at least 5 seconds to think up. Got any alternatives I hear no-one ask? How about "SHOCK HORROR, PRESS SEND REPORTER TO GAME MORE THAN 30 MILES AWAY". Pure fantasy.

## WILL HE GAMBLE

It was at the Boston game that we overheard a conversation between a Boston United and Wycombe fan in the United Social Club. They were debating on who had the worst team... "We're so bad that...etc" The Boston fan capped it all by revealing a betting slip from the local bookmaker with a few quid on Boston to win 2-0 at odds of 11-1. We couldn't find him after the game.

## PRIDE

On the subject of gambling we understand that Greyhound CHAIRBOYS PRIDE has won a couple a races at odds of 5-1 and 6-1.

2	9.30	100 metres
cer		
3.00	04 50 2	04.33 6555 5th 10 1/2 Pollys Wish SAW .....
7.90	25 Oc	450 3 04.45 4433 3rd 5 1/2 Pollys Sandy EvCh .....
11.10	24 Oc	450 5 3444 4th 11 1/4 Run On Mac MidToWide,Ev .....
11.80	16 Au	525 1 4th 6 Race At Tralee .....
12.00	24 Oc	450 5 3444 4th 11 1/4 Run On Mac MidToWide,Ev .....
12.14	04 Au	450 3 04.13 1444 3rd 5 1/2 Pollys Wish SAW .....
12.23	10 Au	525 1 4th 6 Race At Tralee .....
12.54		04 Au 450 3 04.13 1444 3rd 5 1/2 Pollys Wish SAW .....
12.57		16 Au 525 1 4th 6 Race At Tralee .....
12.59		24 Oc 450 5 3444 4th 11 1/4 Run On Mac MidToWide,Ev .....
12.61		25 Oc 450 3 04.45 4433 3rd 5 1/2 Pollys Sandy EvCh .....
12.63		04 Au 450 3 04.13 1444 3rd 5 1/2 Pollys Wish SAW .....
12.65		16 Au 525 1 4th 6 Race At Tralee .....
12.67		24 Oc 450 5 3444 4th 11 1/4 Run On Mac MidToWide,Ev .....
12.69		25 Oc 450 3 04.45 4433 3rd 5 1/2 Pollys Sandy EvCh .....
12.71		04 Au 450 3 04.13 1444 3rd 5 1/2 Pollys Wish SAW .....
12.73		16 Au 525 1 4th 6 Race At Tralee .....
12.75		24 Oc 450 5 3444 4th 11 1/4 Run On Mac MidToWide,Ev .....
12.77		25 Oc 450 3 04.45 4433 3rd 5 1/2 Pollys Sandy EvCh .....
12.79		04 Au 450 3 04.13 1444 3rd 5 1/2 Pollys Wish SAW .....
12.81		16 Au 525 1 4th 6 Race At Tralee .....
12.83		24 Oc 450 5 3444 4th 11 1/4 Run On Mac MidToWide,Ev .....
12.85		25 Oc 450 3 04.45 4433 3rd 5 1/2 Pollys Sandy EvCh .....
12.87		04 Au 450 3 04.13 1444 3rd 5 1/2 Pollys Wish SAW .....
12.89		16 Au 525 1 4th 6 Race At Tralee .....
12.91		24 Oc 450 5 3444 4th 11 1/4 Run On Mac MidToWide,Ev .....
12.93		25 Oc 450 3 04.45 4433 3rd 5 1/2 Pollys Sandy EvCh .....
12.95		04 Au 450 3 04.13 1444 3rd 5 1/2 Pollys Wish SAW .....
12.97		16 Au 525 1 4th 6 Race At Tralee .....
12.99		24 Oc 450 5 3444 4th 11 1/4 Run On Mac MidToWide,Ev .....

## BIG SURPRISE

Most amused to find this in a recent Wycombe programme.

## COMMERCIAL CORNER

by Allan Robson

### CLUB SHOP

Sing to the tune of Teddy Bears Picnic....

"If you go down to the Club Shop today You're sure of a big surprise. If you go down to the Club Shop today you'll never believe your eyes. For every Blues Fan that ever there was is gathered there for certain because..."

RUGBY SHIRTS are now in stock.

The Club Shop is opposite the bottom turnstiles and is open before and after the game and at half-time.

On the other hand a cynic might complete the tune with "because....we're NOT BOTHERING TO OPEN as it's a testimonial match for one of the Club's longest serving players or a highly prestigious Women's International match.

## OBVIOUS

The preview of the Barnet game in the Free Press was marginally bigger than a pathetic effort for Boston the previous week, although it contained about as much information. Like for instance, wait for it,... "Should Wycombe striker Nicky Evans recover from flu, he would line up against his old club..". Of course every mention of Barnet these days must include reference to Andrew Clarke, probably rated at £5million by the time you read this, but the Free Press added "At least Wanderers can take one worry off their minds. Bull, joint leading scorer for the Bees this season..was knocked unconscious playing for Barnet against Arsenal last Wednesday." I can just see it now, Wycombe were due to line up against Manchester United in an F A Cup match in 1958 but "at least Wycombe can take a few worries off their minds because ice on the wings of..etc"

## WALER

The TV cameras returned to Loakes Park for the Wycombe/Barnet game where SOUTH EAST AT SIX had their instalment of the Andrew Clarke story. The report was relayed on the regional sports desk at 5.10pm after the game and quite a crowd had gathered (Wycombe and Barnet fans intermingling in a jovial atmosphere) around the TV to see the action. Quite unbelievably not only did Michael Wale mistake Eddie Stein for Andrew Clarke but they didn't even show the only goal of the game - scored by Martin Lambert - much to the disappointment of the assembled masses around the box. The goal was, however, shown on the following Monday where "Underdogs Wycombe Wanderers..caused Barnet's League hopes to take a dent"

On the subject of TV, we're still waiting for the showing of the World in Action report on Women's Football recorded partly at Loakes Park. More news on that when available, in the mean time look out for those wonderful seasonal reports which usually include their fair share of "early/late Christmas presents.. New Years eve hangovers."

# PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

by Pete Oxbrow

As we are at the end of the Eighties I thought it would be interesting to compare the Wanderers fortunes during the 80's with the previous decade (That's the 70's for people with serious maths problems). I seek to draw no comparisons, as comparisons can never be drawn between sporting eras, particularly as in our case we have spent a lot of this decade playing in an arguably superior league. However, I hope my two 'Teams of the Decade' will at least stimulate some discussion.

	1970's	1980's
Championship wins	4	2
Championship Runners Up	3	0
Amateur Cup/FA Trophy Semi-Finalists	1	1
Amateur Cup/FA Trophy Quarter-Finalists	2	2
Berks & Bucks Senior Cup wins	4	1
F A Cup 3rd Round Proper	1	1
F A Cup 2nd Round Proper	3	1
League Cup wins	0	1



## WYCOMBE WANDERERS 1970's All Stars Team

1. John Maskell  
 2. Paul Birdseye      4. Ted Powell      5. John Delaney      6. Gary Hand  
 6. Peter Suddaby      7. Larry Pritchard      8. Mick Holifield  
 9. Tony Horseman      10. Keith Searle      11. Ian Pearson

Subs: Peter Spittle, Keith Mead, Julian Lailey, Steve Perrin & Kenny Swain  
 Manager: Brian Lee

## WYCOMBE WANDERERS 1980's All Stars Team

1. John Granville  
 2. Steve Abbley      4. Glyn Creaser      5. Anton Vircavs      3. Mark Hill  
 6. Graham Bressington      7. Noel Ashford      8. Kevin Durham  
 9. John Kerr      10. Mark West      11. Simon Read

Subs: Gary Lester, Keith Barrett, Howard Kennedy, Sean Norman & Declan Link  
 Manager: Jim Kelman

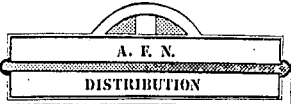
Finally, my ten hopes for the Nineties:

1. That Adams' Park meets the standards that the Club and its supporters deserve.
2. That League football will be played there soon.
3. That we reach Wembley - even if it is in the Leyland/DAF Trophy
4. That Steve Guppy scores the winning goal at Wembley.
5. That the Club continues with its youth team and ladies team policy.
6. That the Bucks Free Press and Midweek start to give Wycombe (and other local clubs) at least half the coverage they deserve, the readers expect and that other local papers manage to provide as a matter of course.
7. That I won't cry too much when I see the bulldozers demolishing Loakes Park.
8. That just occasionally the 'Tannoy Man' reads our team out first before the game.
9. That as our support hopefully grows the hooligan element stays away.
10. That we revert to our traditional colours of Light and Dark Blue quarters, a la those Rugby Shirts (Do the Club Shop know something we don't?)

# Gas Bag

Dear Gas,  
Having been a FLIGHT SERGEANT (WOP/AG  
(Wireless Operations Air-Gunner) on  
LANCASTER's and HALIFAX's during WW2  
firstly with 626 SQUADRON and then  
later to the end of the war with 617  
(THE DAMBUSTERS) completing 37  
operations over enemy territory I  
personally resent the implications that  
"The Dambusters Theme is outdated and  
really naff" (whatever that may be).  
For your information out of around  
100,000 Air Crew in WW2 over 56,000  
were either killed in Horrific  
Circumstances or Severely wounded  
including myself in a crash landing in  
Lincolnshire after being "shot-up" over  
Essex and remember most of us were  
lads perhaps younger than yourselves.  
But to get to the point, last season when  
The Dambuster Theme was played over the  
Tannoy we won or drew around 80  
percent of our games, with the  
"Wonderful" World Cup Theme this season  
you tell readers the percentage Not very  
inspiring

Yours Sincerely  
John Simmonds  
Lottery Manager



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# BYGONES

with apologies to Victor Lewis  
Smith, Paul Sparkes and  
'Club X'/Channel 4 TV

## BYGONE # 10

GOAL AVERAGE!!!

GOAL AVERAGE!!!

Before the days of league positions  
being decided by goal difference  
(Goals For minus Against) some  
complete fool in the early part of  
the century devised its fore-runner,  
Goal Average (Goals For divided by  
Against). The system was  
responsible for many anomalies, for  
example when Arsenal won the League  
by winning their last match at  
Tottenham in 1971, a 0-0 draw would  
have been enough but a 1-1 draw  
wouldn't. Similarly, when Wycombe  
won the Isthmian Championship in  
1975 by beating Dagenham 1-0 in our  
last game, a 2-1 win would have  
been no good to us.

## BYGONE # 11

THE LEAGUE LINE NEWSLETTER!!!

THE LEAGUE LINE NEWSLETTER!!!

A so called incentive to join League  
Line and issued 'regularly' as in  
'once in a blue moon'. Contains  
nothing of any interest or benefit  
to its members and mainly used to  
advertise sexist events. Would take  
a committed person a few hours to  
put together whereas now they only  
materialise as a result of bitching  
comments such as these.

## BYGONE # 12

INFLATABLES!!!

INFLATABLES!!!

Literally went off bang (to use an  
easy journalistic term) following  
their uprising last season. Was  
such a stupid craze that it doesn't  
bear thinking about or trying to  
explain to future generations. "I  
remember days when we used to go  
down ground, blow up banana, lose  
ten-nil and still be happy"



# THE GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE FIXTURES

*Tuesday 26th December 1989*

Altrincham	Macclesfield
Barnet	Enfield
Boston	Kettering
Chorley	Runcorn
Darlington	Barrow
Kidderminster	Telford
Merthyr	Cheltenham
Stafford	Northwich
Sutton	Wycombe
Welling	Fisher
Yeovil	Farnborough

*Saturday 30th December 1989*

Barnet	Sutton
Barrow	Altrincham
Boston	Stafford
Darlington	Chorley
Enfield	Welling
Fisher	Yeovil
Kettering	Farnborough
Macclesfield	Runcorn
Merthyr	Telford
Northwich	Kidderminster
Wycombe	Cheltenham

*Monday 1st January 1990*

Barrow	Darlington
Cheltenham	Merthyr
Enfield	Barnet
Farnborough	Yeovil
Fisher	Welling
Kettering	Boston
Macclesfield	Altrincham
Northwich	Stafford
Runcorn	Chorley
Telford	Kidderminster
Wycombe	Sutton

*Saturday 6th January 1990*

Cheltenham	Boston
Chorley	Macclesfield
Kidderminster	Barnet
Merthyr	Northwich
Runcorn	Barrow
Stafford	Fisher
Sutton	Kettering
Telford	Wycombe
Welling	Farnborough
Yeovil	Enfield

*Saturday 20th January 1990*

Barnet	Merthyr
Barrow	Wycombe
Boston	Altrincham
Chorley	Cheltenham
Darlington	Fisher
Enfield	Farnborough
Kettering	Telford
Macclesfield	Kidderminster
Northwich	Welling
Stafford	Sutton
Yeovil	Runcorn

*Saturday 27th January 1990*

Altrincham	Yeovil
Cheltenham	Barnet
Darlington	Enfield
Farnborough	Telford
Fisher	Northwich
Kidderminster	Barrow
Merthyr	Chorley
Runcorn	Kettering
Sutton	Boston
Welling	Stafford
Wycombe	Macclesfield

*Saturday 3rd February 1990*

Cheltenham	Northwich	*
Darlington	Boston	*
Fisher	Wycombe	*
Kettering	Chorley	*
Kidderminster	Yeovil	*
Merthyr	Altrincham	*
Telford	Enfield	*
Welling	Barrow	*

*Tuesday 6th February 1990*

Chorley	Stafford
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*Saturday 10th February 1990*

Barrow	Farnborough
Boston	Fisher
Enfield	Macclesfield
Kettering	Darlington
Northwich	Barnet
Merthyr	Wycombe
Stafford	Altrincham
Telford	Sutton
Welling	Runcorn
Yeovil	Cheltenham
Chorley	Kidderminster

Fixtures marked \* are provisional due to possible Cup involvement

## PROGRAMME FAIR

In the Blues Club

Loakes Park, High Wycombe

Sunday 28th January 1990

starts 11.00am