

UK Weekly Newspaper of the Year Read by over 102,000 in print and online every week

Bucks Free Press

Friday, June 4, 2021

Covering Wycombe, South Bucks, Chilterns and Aylesbury since 1856

£1.20

INFERNO

Explosions rock town as firefighters tackle huge blaze at industrial estate

Special report: Page 6

Picture by Tom Warland

DOUBLE TRAGEDY AS TWO DIE IN RIVER

FULL STORY: Page 5

We are open for your future! Book your spot at one of our upcoming Open Days. Visit buckscollegegroup.ac.uk



THE BUCKS COLLEGE FACTOR
CAN MAKE YOUR CAREER AMBITIONS A REALITY



STIHL HONDA HAYTER
Briants
www.briantsltd.co.uk - 01844 343663
SUPPLIERS OF FENCING & GARDEN MACHINERY
READY, STEADY, MOW
Stay Safe! You can order our products for local delivery online at www.briantsltd.co.uk or call 01844 343663

SUPER HOT SAVINGS
50% OFF thousands of mattresses
The Home of a Great Night's Sleep **DORMEO**
PLUS 20% OFF SUMMER BEDDING

SPORT



SPORT: Who will Wycombe bring in this summer?

Ainsworth's message to the fans on signings



Wycombe manager Gareth Ainsworth has urged the fans that 'it is still early days' for the club to sign players, as they prepare for their first season back in League One following their relegation to the division in May. Several players have departed so far this summer (Prime Media)

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Gareth Ainsworth has revealed that he and his staff will not rush into signing players for the upcoming season.

The Chairboys will be in League One for the 2021/22 campaign and so far this summer they have already seen the likes of Ryan Allsop, Cameron Yates, Darius Charles, Giles Phillips and Andron Georgiou leave following the expiration of their contracts.

Other players such as Fred Onyedina and Alex Pattison have joined Luton Town and Harrogate Town respectively, whilst Josh Knight, Admiral Muskuwe and Dennis Adeniran have also returned to their parent clubs in Leicester City and Everton following their loan spells.

Nnamdi Oforborh, who joined on loan in January from Bournemouth, has also left the club as he has signed for the Scottish champions in Rangers.

He signed a pre-contract agree-

By James Richings

ment with Steven Gerrard's men at the start of the year.

Following the departures, Ainsworth said: "My message to the fans would be 'don't panic' - it's still very early days.

"Historically I think we've signed some of our best players right at the end of a transfer window, and it might not be any different this season.

"I could start the new season tomorrow and know we'd be comfortable with what we've got, but I still want to add more real quality to the squad.

"This time of year is always quite slow.

"I could sign three or four players now that I know I could get, but there are other players who might be better options for us, who are waiting around to see what else comes up.

"We're not necessarily looking

for the free transfers and the ones who've been told they're not good enough elsewhere; we're looking at some players who are under contract elsewhere and wanted by other clubs.

"We know we're competing for players with some big clubs but I'm hopeful we can bring our targets in.

"We don't need many because of the new squad cap rules which limit how many players teams can have."

The 48-year-old is also looking forward to a 'rocking' Adams Park, as preparations for the new season continue.

Last season, Wanderers fans were only able to see their team twice at the stadium with both matches being losses in December.

These were in the 1-0 defeat against Stoke City on December 2, and the 2-1 loss to Coventry City on December 12, in which the Chairboys had an injury-time equaliser by Scott Kashket, incorrectly ruled out for offside.

And with a year of Championship

experience under their belt, Ainsworth is looking forward to the season ahead.

He continued: "I'm really looking forward to next season, mainly because the fans are coming back.

"I can't wait to welcome them back here.

"Once those fans walk through the door on the first league game of the season, I want to get that place rocking.

"I want to deliver Championship football again to all those people who've supported us through League Two, League One and nearly the non-leagues.

"I'm going to work so hard to make that happen.

"We've got great staff, a great squad, and most importantly, great fans."

To prepare for the new season, the club have confirmed that they will play League Two Stevenage in a behind-closed-doors friendly match on Saturday, July 17. It will take place at a neutral venue.



The pitch was relaid on June 1

Revamp for Adams Park pitch

THERE WILL BE SEVERAL CHANGES AT THE STADIUM FOR THE NEW CAMPAIGN

THE Adams Park pitch is currently being renovated as preparation for the new season continues.

Following their last game on the grass against Bournemouth on Saturday, May 1, which they won 1-0, the pitch has since been used for various events throughout the previous month.

These events included the Adams Park Cup which took place between May 15 and May 16, whilst several local teams and non-playing staff have all benefited from playing at the home of Wycombe Wanderers since the regular league season concluded on May 8.

Now with the new campaign getting underway in just over two months, the ground will have a new pitch as Wycombe aim to bounce back to the Championship at the first attempt following their relegation to League One last season.

The club said: "Work continues on the brand-new wi-fi infrastructure throughout the stadium, which will enable world-class connectivity for all visitors, while the club's PA system and CCTV services are also being vastly upgraded.

"The Woodlands Lounge, Executive Lounge, Executive Boxes, corridor and reception areas have been refurbished, thanks in no small part to the work of a number of volunteers throughout the spring, enhancing the club's hospitality offerings for the new season, which will include the official launch of the Ignite Third Changing Room in the inner sanctum of the tunnel."

Following their promotion to the second-tier last season, the club installed a new press area with outdoor fold-up desks along with a new scoreboard at Adams Park.