

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

# Bucks Free Press

Friday, September 3, 2021

Covering Wycombe, South Bucks, Chilterns and Aylesbury since 1856

£1.20



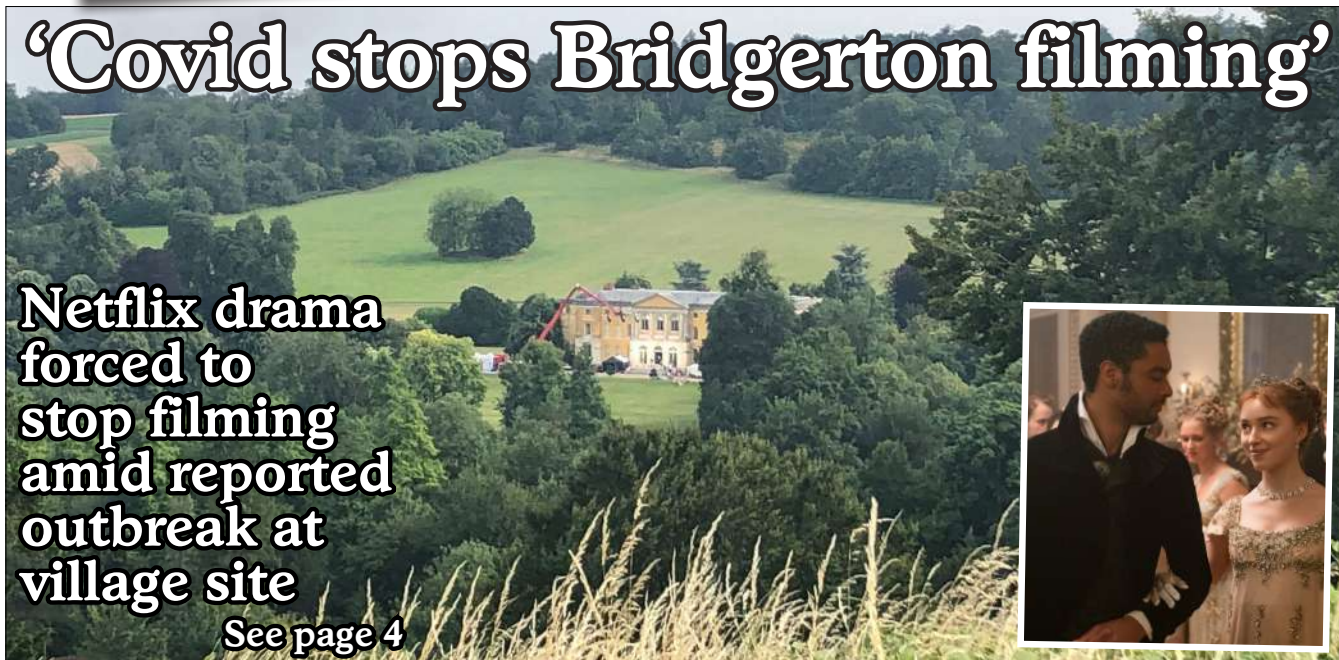
## PARALYMPICS PARTY

Sports day inspired by Paralympic stars wows local heroes - Page 14

## 'Covid stops Bridgerton filming'

Netflix drama forced to stop filming amid reported outbreak at village site

See page 4



**COURT**  
Ex-teacher accused of sex attacks



Page 5

**NEWS**  
Green light at 'Island'



Page 3

# POLICE SWOOP IN DRUG BUST

FULL STORY: Page 7

**INSIDE** • Tributes to artist • Arrests after major protest • Latest property news • 16-page TV • Puzzles

ENROLLING NOW!



IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO GET THE **BUCKS COLLEGE FACTOR**

To find out more, visit [buckscollegegroup.ac.uk](http://buckscollegegroup.ac.uk)



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](http://www.briantsltd.co.uk) or call 01844 343663

**sleep**tember  
save £100s  
on thousands of mattresses

The Home of a Great Night's Sleep



## SPORT

# City date is now booked

## THE CHAIRBOYS HAVE BEEN TOLD WHEN THEY WILL PLAY PEP'S MEN

WYCOMBE Wanderers have had a date and kick-off time confirmed for their Carabao Cup tie against Manchester City.

The Chairboys were drawn against the reigning Premier League champions and current cup holders on August 25, a day after Gareth Ainsworth's men defeated League Two Stevenage 5-3 on penalties, following a 2-2 draw.

Wanderers will travel up to the Etihad Stadium for their third round bout against Pep Guardiola's men on Tuesday, September 21 with the match kicking-off at 7.45pm, but it will not be shown live on TV.

The Citizens are aiming to be the first team to win the competition five seasons in a row, whilst Wycombe are aiming to continue their good record against the Sky Blues.

Out of the four games they have played each other, Wycombe have won twice, drawn once and have lost once against City. The wins came in the 1998/99 season when both sides were in the old Division 2 [League One], with the other two matches happening in the League Cup in 1995/96.

# Ipswich game is off

## THE MATCH WAS DUE TO BE THE FIRST GAME IN SEPTEMBER

WYCOMBE Wanderers have confirmed that their League One match against Ipswich Town on September 4 has been postponed.

The Chairboys were due to take on the Tractor Boys this weekend at Adams Park, but the fixture will be played on a revised date after it was confirmed that three of Wycombe's players have been selected for international duty.

Daryl Horgan, has been called to play for the Republic of Ireland, new signing Tjay De Barr of Gibraltar and Anis Mehmeti of the Albanian Under 21 side, will represent their nations in the up-and-coming matches at the start of September. De Barr will be part of the Gibraltar squad to take on Latvia, Turkey and Norway, whilst Mehmeti will feature for Albania's under-21 side against Czech Republic.

# SPORT: Wycombe Wanderers 1-3 Aston Villa U21s

## Who impressed you in the Papa John's Trophy loss?



A general view of Adams Park, home to Wycombe Wanderers before the Sky Bet Championship match at Adams Park, Wycombe (PA)

A YOUNG Wycombe Wanderers side lost their opening Papa John's Trophy tie to Aston Villa U23s at Adams Park.

Despite taking the lead through Connor Parsons; Cameron Archer and a double from Jaden Philogene-Bidace, made it a relatively comfortable 3-1 win for the development team.

Gareth Ainsworth made 10 changes from Saturday's defeat to Sunderland, with a mixture of young and fringe players.

Below we look at those who played for the Chairboys, and briefly assess how they performed.

### Adam Przybek, 6

Made a string of fine saves throughout. Overall solid performance.

### David Wheeler, 6

Solid yet unspectacular return from injury for the team captain. Loose pass almost set Cameron Archer up for a goal, but for good goalkeeping and covering from Andre Burley. Going forward however, he struck the post in the first half. Good to get minutes in the legs after recently returning to the fold.

### Curtis Thompson, 6

Difficult to judge as most of the match was played in either third. Played a key role in the goal as his through ball found Garath McCleary for the cross.

### Garath McCleary, 7

Started the game incredibly strong and was beating his opposite number at will, however faded fast and had little impact in the second half. Missed a decent opportunity in the second half, one on one with the keeper, but hit it straight at Zych.

### Brandon Hanlan, 6

Strong debut from the striker whose all-round game was strong despite not scoring.

By James Earnshaw

Held the ball up well and linked well with those around him.

### Olly Pendlebury, 6

Similar to Curtis Thompson, difficult to judge as very little of the game occurred in the middle of the pitch.

Was cool and calm on the ball, keeping the game ticking over without taking it by the scruff of the neck.

### Andre Burley, 6

Recovered well in first half to hold up Archer after he was gifted the ball by Wheeler, but lost his man at the far post for Aston Villa's second goal and remained nervy until his enforced substitution following a nasty clash of heads.

### Max Ram, 6

Caught out of position for the Villa opener and unable to cut out the cross for the third.

### Malachi Linton, 6

Buzzed around and never stopped running, just missing cutting edge.

Perhaps over exuberant at times leading to a booking late on for a strong tackle.

### Chris Forino, 6

A commanding presence in the centre of a back three, he was throwing his body in front of most Villa chances.

Passing could do with improvement after giving the ball away on occasion but a solid debut.

### Connor Parsons, 7

Similar to most from a Wycombe perspective, started very quick and impressively however faded as the visitors took more control in the second half. Good outlet to relieve defenders and a well taken opening goal for the debutant.

# SPORT: Wycombe confirmed the signing last week



Brandon Hanlan will now play at Adams Park for Wycombe Wanderers

# Hanlan joins from Rovers

WYCOMBE Wanderers have confirmed the signing of Brandon Hanlan from Bristol Rovers.

The 24-year-old, who spent one season with the Pirates, scored nine goals in 48 matches for the West Country side, as they were relegated from League One in the previous campaign.

He joins the Chairboys for an undisclosed fee on a three-year-deal, and will wear the number 18 shirt, which was previously worn by Curtis Thompson, before he moved to number eight this summer.

Boss Gareth Ainsworth said: "Brandon caught our eye a few years

ago playing for Colchester and we've followed his progress ever since.

"We feel he's the right fit for our squad and how we want to play, and we're really pleased to bring him here.

"He's an all-rounder who can score all types of goals, with his head and both feet, and his hold-up play is a big asset as well.

"It's taken a lot of hard work to get this deal done, because there was a lot of interest in him from other clubs, but we're delighted that he's now a Wycombe Wanderers player."

He made his debut in the 3-1 home defeat to the Aston Villa Under 21s.

**SPORT:** Both players missed the Sunderland defeat

# Freeman and Stewart updates

WYCOMBE boss Gareth Ainsworth has provided an injury update on Nick Freeman and Anthony Stewart.

Freeman, who is back in the frame following his loan spell at Leyton Orient last season, picked up an injury in Wanderers' 1-0 win over Lincoln City on August 21, whilst Stewart, who has played five games this campaign, missed the defeat to Sunderland on August 28.

He said: "We'll have Thursday and Friday training, then have a weekend off which is rare, but we are preparing for Oxford which will be a tasty derby.

"He [Stewart] picked up a slight injury in the Stevenage cup game, and with Ryan Tafazolli fit, it was a no risk policy on Anthony.

"We've got him, Tafazolli, Jack Wakley and Chris Forino as our recognized centre-halves.

"I thought Chris did really well tonight [August 31], Jack is going to be a good player, JJ [Joe Jacobson] probably I now see as a centre-back and Jack Grimmer can fill in there.

"That position is crucial for us going

forward but I am pleased with where we are.

"Getting the players fit for that game is important."

On Freeman, the boss added: "No time limit has been set on Nick yet.

"It's a knee injury that will need to be looked at and we wish him all the best, but there is no time limit yet."

Since joining the club five years ago from Biggleswade United, Freeman has played 130 matches for the club across three different leagues, where he has scored seven goals in that time.

He has also enjoyed two loan spells away from the club since being at Adams Park.

Not long after joining the Chairboys, Freeman signed for Wealdstone in the National League South in December 2016 and played five games between a six week period, before returning to Wanderers.

He then spent the back end of last season on loan at Leyton Orient where he played 15 times - 10 of these games were starts.

# Boss on Black Cats loss

## IT WAS THE CHAIRBOYS' FIRST DEFEAT OF THE SEASON

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Gareth Ainsworth believes his side 'didn't take their chances' as the Chairboys lost 3-1 away at Sunderland.

A brace from Ross Stewart and a late goal from Elliot Embleton sealed all three points for the Black Cats, with David Wheeler scoring a consolation for the visitors in second-half stoppage-time.

The result confirmed Wanderers' first defeat of the season and their first loss in eight matches, as they drop from second to sixth in the League One table.

Speaking after the match, the Wycombe boss said: "I couldn't believe we came in 2-0 down if I'm honest.

"I thought we edged it in the first-half, but, if I'm honest, this game is about both boxes, and, we had a lot of chances, but we didn't hit the target enough.

"They [Sunderland] took their chances really well, but, if we keep playing like that we'll be fine, but they were ruthless with their opportunities.

"First-half, I was angry as we were 2-0 down, but I gave the boys credit in how they played as we dominated possession and chances, but they put theirs in and that was the story of the first-half.

"Second-half, it was a lot more even, but they took their chances and we didn't."

Despite the defeat, Wycombe have enjoyed a stellar run of form of eight unbeaten - their best run of matches without a loss since the 2016/17 campaign, when they went 16 without defeat from November 12, 2016, to January 28, 2017 in all competitions.

This will be Wycombe's last league match until September 11 when they face Oxford United at the Kassam Stadium, as their match against Ipswich was called off due to three Wanderers players receiving international call-ups.

The break comes at a good time for the Chairboys as out of the eight games they have played this season, five matches have been away from home in all four corners of the country.

Ainsworth continued: "We want to be in and around the big boys at the end of the season, and we class Sunderland as the biggest boy in this league and we want to be in the mix - that is what my hopes are.

"You look at your Yeovils and your Stockports and teams like that who went, and went and went. We plan not to do that and we're still Wycombe Wanderers."



Nick Freeman and Anthony Stewart missed the Sunderland defeat and did not feature in the EFL Trophy loss to Villa U21s (PA)

**SPORT:** Wycombe Wanderers 1-3 Aston Villa U21s

# Ainsworth's analysis on the Aston Villa Under 21 defeat



Gareth Ainsworth praised his side as well as the Villa 21s after the latter defeated Wycombe at Adams Park 3-1 on August 31 (PA)

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Gareth Ainsworth believes his players need to take the defeat to the Aston Villa U21 side 'on the chin', as they go into the international break.

The Chairboys lost 3-1 at home to the Villains in what was a much changed Wanderers side, as the manager gave debuts to four development players in James Clark, Chris Forino, Connor Parsons and Malachi Linton, whilst new signing Brandon Hanlan, who joined from Bristol Rovers at the end of August for an undisclosed fee, also made his inaugural appearance for the South Bucks club.

And despite taking the lead through Parsons' brilliant finish from a Garath McCleary cross, Villa came back to win as Cameron Archer got the equaliser, before Jaden Philogene-Bidace scored a second-half brace.

Speaking after the defeat, Ainsworth said: "We've got good coaching staff so we can go over the game and see the mistakes.

"I think near the end there were some fitness issues, as some of the young boys, who had only played their first games for us like Connor Parsons, James Clark and Chris Forino, had never played for Wycombe before and James and Chris have been out injured for six months. "Along with Malachi Linton, these

By James Richings

are players that fans have not seen before, and scattered with the experienced names of Curtis Thompson, Garath McCleary and Brandon Hanlan, who I thought was very lively.

"I thought Adam Przybek was very lively in goal, but there is plenty to learn - that's what it is all about.

"I am disappointed to lose because you want to win every game, but, tonight was about rotating and making sure that we had a fit side for the league games which is our bread and butter.

"This is a talented Aston Villa side, and they were very lively at the end and we tired a lot, but, we will take that on the chin and it's all about Oxford next week."

The Chairboys will take on the Us at the Kassam Stadium on September 11, before taking MK Dons in the their next Papa John's Trophy match, which will be away in Milton Keynes on Tuesday, October 5.

**Wycombe's next eight fixtures:**  
 Oxford vs Wanderers, Sept 11  
 Wanderers vs Charlton, Sept 18  
 Man City vs Wanderers, Sept 21  
 MK Dons vs Wanderers, Sept 25  
 Shrewsbury vs Wanderers, Sept 28  
 Wanderers vs Morecambe, Oct 2  
 MK Dons vs Wanderers, Oct 5  
 Wanderers vs Gillingham, Oct 9

# SPORT

0963-2336



**SPORT:** Wycombe Wanderers 1-3 Aston Villa U21s

## August ends with a home defeat to Villa



Just under 1,500 people turned up to Adams Park on Tuesday, August 31, to watch Wycombe take on the Aston Villa Under 21s in the Papa John's Trophy. It was the Chairboys' first match in this competition for two seasons. (PA)

WYCOMBE Wanderers have recorded back-to-back defeats for the first time since March as they lost 3-1 at home to the Aston Villa Under 21s in the Papa John's Trophy.

The Chairboys were dominant for the opening stages and found themselves unlucky not to be ahead in the seventh minute when Brandon Hanlan, one of five players making their Wanderers debut, was denied by rookie keeper Oliwier Zych.

The ex Bristol Rovers man tested the keeper with a low drive from inside the box and if it was any side of Zych, the Chairboys were 1-0 up.

However it didn't take long for Wycombe to get their goal - and what a moment it was for Connor Parsons, who too made his debut at Adams Park.

The former Norwich trainee smashed in Garath McCleary's loss cross from 10-yards to give the hosts an early lead in the 11th minute.

**By James Richings**

The Chairboys continued to control the first-half as McCleary - who missed the defeat against Sunderland with illness that wasn't Covid related - saw his free-kick go just wide via a deflection, Hanlan again tested Zych in the Villa goal and David Wheeler hit the post with a crisp half-volley.

It was men against boys in the first Papa John's Trophy match at Adams Park in two years.

Villa slowly got into the tie as Adam Przybek made two great saves to deny Caleb Chukwumeka before he blocked Cameron Archer with two more stunning stops in the same passage of play.

Unfortunately he was helpless to deny Archer three minutes before the break as the youngster, who scored a hat-trick against Barrow in the EFL Cup a week ago, got the Villains' equaliser with a low shot passed Przybek.

To avoid the typical cliché of 'it was a game of two-halves', Villa came out for the second period full of fire.

The away side had more of the possession and caused several problems for the Wanderers backline as Przybek again denied Archer with two more saves in quick succession.

One was from long-range whilst the other was from inside the six-yard box.

And the persistent way of playing finally paid off for the Midlands side as Jaden Philogene-Bidace, who had tested Przybek seconds earlier, rounded the keeper to fire home from three-yards.

The youngster then got his second of the contest that sealed the win for the visitors when he smashed home a low effort from 20-yards past Przybek in front of a small pocket of Villa fans in the eighth minute of injury-time.

The loss means that's now two defeats for Wycombe in two games, going into the international break.

With no game this weekend, up next for the Chairboys is an away trip to Oxford United on September 11 before facing Charlton Athletic at home seven days later.

They next play in the Papa John's Trophy on October 5, away at MK Dons.

**Wycombe's line-up against Aston Villa Under 21s:**

Adam Przybek; Andre Burley (Jordan Obita), Max Ram, Chris Forino; David Wheeler (captain) (James Clark), Curtis Thompson, Garath McCleary, Olly Pendlebury, Connor Parsons; Brandon Hanlan (Sullay Kaikai), Malachi Linton.

**Aston Villa Under 21s' line-up against Wycombe:**

Oliwier Zych; Patrick Zito, Lamar Bogarde, Patrick Appiah (captain), Sil Swinkles; Tim Iroegbunam, Morgan Sansom (Hayden Lindley), Finley Thorndike (Tristan Goodridge); Cameron Archer; Caleb Chukwumeka (Taylor Hart), Jaden Philogene-Bidace. Attendance: 1,409



Scott Kashket has left (PA)

## Wycombe confirm departures

**TWO PLAYERS LEFT ADAMS PARK ON FREE TRANSFERS IN AUGUST**

WYCOMBE Wanderers have announced that two of their attacking players have left the club.

Scott Kashket, who last played for the Chairboys in March, departed from the Adams Park outfit on August 30 after he agreed to have his contract terminated by mutual consent.

The 25-year-old, who joined Gareth Ainsworth's men in the summer of 2016 from Leyton Orient, scored 31 goals in 129 appearances in all competitions for the club and became the first player to score a Championship goal for Wanderers last season.

Following his departure from Wycombe, he has joined Crewe Alexandra on a one-year-deal.

Wycombe said: "Everyone at Wycombe Wanderers thanks Scott for his efforts and wishes him every success for the future."

Another face that has left Adams Park is fan favourite Alex Samuel.

The Welshman, who was popular with supporters due to his work ethic, scored 11 times in 90 games for Wycombe following his move to South Bucks from Stevenage in 2018.

He played a huge part in the club's promotion-winning season in 2019/20, where he scored the fourth goal in Wycombe's 4-1 first-leg play-off semi-final win against Fleetwood Town.

His last goal for the club was in Wanderers' 4-1 win over Preston North End in the FA Cup back in January, which was his only goal of the 2020/21 campaign.

This season, he played twice for the Chairboys, which were both in the Carabao Cup.

The club said: "He leaves the club on a free transfer with the very best wishes of everyone at Wycombe Wanderers."