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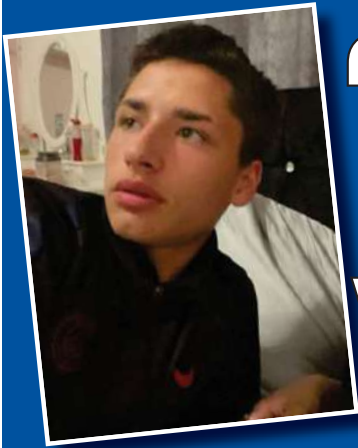
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Bucks Free Press

Friday, May 19, 2023

Covering Wycombe, South Bucks, Chilterns and Aylesbury since 1856

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'BEAUTIFUL BOY'

Tributes paid to boy, 17, whose life was cruelly snatched in fatal stabbing

Latest on police investigation - Page 9

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CAR PARK CHAOS



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SPORT

Charity golf day to take place

A charity golf day will take place at Wycombe Heights to raise funds for the Stroke Association and Cancer Research UK this Friday.

Numerous golf enthusiasts will visit the establishment on May 19 where they will tee off at 11am, before enjoying a lunch then a presentation.

A raffle will take place during the day where some of the golfers could win a framed Wycombe Wanderers shirt, along with a framed Manchester United kit.

Elias Bacchus, who lost his brother and father during the Covid-19 pandemic, helped source some of the items that could be won within the raffle, and will also partake in the charity day.

He said: "We will have about 25 golfers taking part and hopefully it will be a good day all round."

A featured report about how the day went along with pictures will be included in next week's edition of the Free Press.

To make a donation to Stroke Association and Cancer Research UK, visit www.stroke.org.uk or www.cancerresearchuk.org.

Could it be double delight?

AN under-18 football team in Marlow could win the double this season following their successful Wycombe and South Bucks Minor Football League Cup final victory.

Marlow Royals defeated Thames Valley rivals Maidenhead United Junior Panthers Under 18s in the final 5-2 at the ASM Stadium, the home of Thame United.

Now, their attention turns to securing the league title and they could do this on May 19 in what is their penultimate game of the season.

And who do they face? Their town rivals, Marlow Juniors.

The fixture will take place at 7.30pm at the Marlow FC Stadium on Oak Tree Road.

Spectators are able to attend the derby on May 19, and if Marlow Royals U18s were to win, it would cap off a brilliant season for the team who aim to go on to forge successful careers.

Chairgirls come out with the cup



The match between the two sides took place on May 14 with Wycombe being the winners



The Aylesbury team won all their games in the national championships Image: Street2Pro

A KATIE Riddington penalty was enough for Wycombe to see off a good Maidenhead, as the Chairgirls defeat their Thames Valley rivals 1-0 in the first-ever Sponsors Cup.

In a game of few clear cut opportunities it was Wanderers who started the better as Amy Leach forced a good save from the opposition keeper.

The visitors, who play their football a few levels above Wanderers, began to take control and had the majority of the ball in the first half.

Despite the pressure the Wycombe defence stood firm with goalkeeper Emily Strange remaining largely untested.

In a game lacking any real quality it was first half substitute Freya Harris who provided the all important moment at the start of the second.

Her quick feet in the box were too much for the Maidenhead defence; she was caught by a late challenge leaving the referee with little choice but to point to the spot.

Riddington stepped up and calmly slotted it into the right corner to give her side the lead.

The opener seemed to give Carl Simon's side a boost as they began to control the game, Harris in particular whose pressing made it very difficult for the visitors to keep possession.

The pressure eventually paid off as Wycombe won their second penalty of the game giving the hosts a chance to double their lead.

By Craig Anderson

The referee, much more hesitant on this occasion, appeared to somewhat guess that there was a foul somewhere as a pile of bodies fell to the floor from a set piece.

Riddington again stepped up but was this time denied by the visitors' shot stopper, justice prevailed in the eyes of the Maidenhead supporters.

Wycombe managed to navigate their way to the final whistle without any real issues ensuring they were the ones who lifted the Sponsors Cup: the first of what is set to become an annual match between the two sides.

Manger Carl Simon said: "It was great to welcome our many sponsors and on a personal note to finally meet Karen Adams who has sponsored the 1st team coaches this season.

"It feels like we have come full circle and the progress we have made was clear for all to see in today's game.

"At the very beginning of that circle Bobby Lynch was having ACL surgery and it was pleasing to see her earn the POM today having spent this past year watching her work so hard to make a full recovery to playing.

"We now look forward to a short break, but even more so myself, coaches, players and support staff are looking forward to the upcoming pre-season for the next stage on our journey."

Under eights star in national football matches

AYLESBURY-BASED side Street2Pro Football Academy recently won the Junior Premier League National Championship.

After an undefeated season being crowned Premiership Regional League (Middlesex and London) Champions, they were put in a round robin league against Midlands regional winners and northern regional winners, to see who would be a national champions.

They would win their matches 5-2 and 1-0 respectively.

The junior premier league consists of the best young talent in national football and is the only nationally recognised league for junior football.

With many players already earmarked to be signed to professional clubs Street2pro were only formed 2 years ago so this is some success.

The Under 8 Academy consists of the best players from local grassroots clubs.

Hugo Garricks (Thame) Freddie Doyle (Thame) Rocco Strollo (Thame) Jamie Pronger (Thame) Luca Poole (Penn & Tylers) Seb Sethi (Penn & Tylers) Zac Dorling (Penn & Tylers) Tate Osler (Wendover) Filippo Sarazani (Downey) Managed by Asher Yearwood - who himself is a very good footballer playing for Risborough Rangers and Alex Sethi.

Comedians assemble

SEVERAL celebrities were spotted in Chesham on Saturday for a unique event that drew a crowd of just under 3,000 people. BBC Radio 1 presenter Greg James, Inbetweeners actor Blake Harrison, along with comedians in Aisling Bea, Ed Gamble, Lloyd Griffiths, and Hugh Dennis amongst others visited South Buckinghamshire on Saturday, May 13.

But why?
The famous faces descended to the Chilterns to raise thousands of pounds for Chesham United Football Club, along with several charities with a unique twist. Organised by comedian, musician, presenter, and

Chesham resident, Alex Horne, who is also one of the club's directors, saw 'Chicken City', take on 'Egg United', with the former defeating their counterparts 11-9 at a packed Meadow Stadium.

One person said: "It was such a laugh.

"Everyone was enjoying themselves as nobody took anything seriously.

"It was all for a good cause and it was a good day out it was also nice to see the Meadow full to the rafters.

"Overall, it was a good day."

To see more about what happened on the day, visit Chesham United's Twitter page for photos and videos.

Playing for a good cause in Chinnor



It will take place on June 4

A CHARITY football match will take place in Chinnor at the start of June to raise funds for the British Heart Foundation.

The match will see former players from Chinnor Athletic play one another at the Hill Top Football pitches within the village on Sunday, June 4.

The match will kick-off at 10.30am with there being a raffle included.

Some of the prizes include winning tickets to watch Wycombe Wanderers and Oxford United next season, along with artwork, family days out, meal vouchers and more.

All the proceeds from the game will go to the BHF, and for more information, email cafcharityday@gmail.com.

The match is a continuation of another event that was organised 12 months earlier.

A spokesperson said: "Another charity football match for the ex-players of the mighty Chinnor Athletic. An inter-squad match like 2022. Details to follow once we have an idea of numbers. Followed by a fund raising raffle. This year it is in aid of the British Heart Foundation."

New coach is confirmed for Chalfont

CHALFONT St Peter Cricket Club have revealed their new player coach for the 2023 season.

Uzi Arif has played county cricket for over a decade and will join CSPCC.

He will be running junior sessions every Saturday and Sundays from 9.30-11.30 at Chalfont at Peters for boys and girls aged nine to 13-years-old.

The club said: "His experience coaching on the international stage in iconic franchise leagues around the world will be great for all members of the CSPCC to learn and improve their cricketing skills."

Visit www.cspcc.co.uk for more information.



The score at half-time was 7-5 to Chicken City. They would go and win the match 11-9 against Egg United to win the Pineapple Trophy (NQ)

The Wycombe Way's wonderful evening



Team One scored the first goal and decided to celebrate in unique fashion. Shame the GK couldn't catch up (@djm1350 - Twitter)

IN the space of just two weeks, a 'silly idea on Twitter' initiated by a social media influencer and Wycombe Wanderers fan would help raise more than £700 for several charities.

Following the end of the Chairboys' 2022/23 season at the start of the month, the club confirmed that members of the public would be able to play on the Adams Park pitch before a new turf is laid.

After hearing the news, George Gutteridge, who is best known for running the Wycombe Way Twitter page, suggested that a match between two sets of the club's fans and associates should take place.

Originally said in jest, many people on the platform agreed that a fixture of some kind should happen.

And within a 14-day period, 44 people had signed up to take part, four teams were formed, 60 tickets were purchased, kits were supplied, a photographer was in attendance, officials were in place, with two 'managers' being in dugouts giving out orders.

The fundraiser eventually took place on Wednesday, May 17, when the four teams (aptly named One, Two, Three, and Four), would play one half each.

The first 45-minute clash saw Team One lose 4-2 to Team Two, whilst in the second encounter, Team Three drew 5-5 with Team Four before the latter won 9-8 in a penalty shootout.

Collectively, money raised from the event was donated to Prostate Cancer UK, the PDK Charity (Polycystic Kidney Disease) and the One Can Trust.

By James Richings

George, who has been following the club all his life, told the Free Press: "Tonight [May 17] has been fantastic.

"It began as a silly idea on Twitter, but we ended up with 44 people signing up to play, and 60 people giving up their Wednesday night to watch the two games.

"It really has been a wonderful evening raising money for three charities.

"Everyone had a laugh and enjoyed the occasion, but they all paid their way in and we've raised a lot of money for the charities which are very close to me and to the club.

"We raised £225 for Prostate Cancer UK which is a charity close to the club following the sad passing of Bill Turnbull last year, and £286 for the One Can Trust due to the current cost of living crisis.

"This is a disease that my mum and myself suffer from and we're hoping the money donated will help find live-saving treatment.

On making it an annual event, he added: "This is just the start, and next year we'll try and make it bigger and better and we'll try and raise even more money with even more people."

To donate to the causes mentioned, visit the following links:

www.prostate-cancer-research.org.uk/?form=donate

www.pkdcharity.org.uk

www.onecantrust.org.uk

Additionally, follow the Wycombe Way on Twitter to see more footage from the charity match.

SPORT

0963-2336



Obita has been Wanderers' good luck charm in 22/23 (PA)

Who were Wycombe's lucky and unlucky charms this season?

WYCOMBE left back Jordan Obita has been labelled as their 'lucky charm' as he featured in more league wins than any other player at the club this season.

Conducted by the Online Betting Guide, the 29-year-old played in 29 league fixtures during the campaign and was on

the winning side 15 times. This is a success rate of 52 per cent.

In conjunction with that, Nick Freeman has been labelled as the club's 'unlucky charm', as the soon-to-be free agent played in the most league defeats for the Chairboys during the campaign.

In his final year at Ad-

ams Park, he featured in 43 games in the division, missing just three games, but only had a win percentage of 47 per cent.

It is important to note that the figures are based on players featured in over 10 league games for the club this season.

To find out more, visit www.olbg.com.

Wycombe ended the 2022/23 campaign in ninth place after winning 20 of their 46 games, drawing nine and losing 17.

Despite not getting into the play-offs this campaign, the ninth place finish is the fifth highest finish in the club's long league history.

From Wycombe to Kazakhstan

A BRITISH Sunday league footballer and ex-Wycombe Wanderers youth player has enjoyed a taste of the pro game - in Kazakhstan.

Isima Musa had been on the books at Adams Park but was released by the Chairboys at the age of 18 in 2017.

Thinking his dream was over before it even began, he tried his best to forge a career in the game, and at the age of 24, he finally become a professional.

He achieved his goal by turning out for the Kazakhstani outfit, FC Kyzylzhar, in December 2022.

Isima, who is originally from Farringdon, central London, said: "I played the second half and got an assist."

"We lost 4-1 but I was just happy to be on a professional pitch getting minutes."

Isima, who also works as a personal trainer, has a unique story, as he played to a high standard growing up and was looked at by top clubs.

Yet despite his obvious talent, his teens ended without a pro contract.

He restored to playing Sunday league football before a chance encounter got him a game - for Rwanda in 2021.

After his international bow, he once again returned to the UK playing for semi-professional teams, before his agent put him in touch with FC Kyzylzhar late last year.

The team, founded in the 1960s, play at the 11,000-seater Karasai Stadium, located

By James Richings

in the city of Petropavl.

He said: "I was out there for pre-season and I played one game against a Romanian team."

"My agent's connections sorted it out as the club was looking for a forward."

"I was out there for a month."

"It was all paid for - travel, food, and accommodation."

"I couldn't stay as there was an issue with the visa but, for my own journey, just being on the pitch - it was a blessing."

"I'm excited about the opportunities now."

Isima is now back in the UK and on the hunt for another team.

He said: "I've just been training, staying fit."

"I'm assessing my options. "I want to get playing as soon as possible."

Now that the football season is over, we are looking forward to writing as many articles as we can focusing on other sports such as cricket, golf, athletics and more.

To have your sports story in the following edition of the Bucks Free Press, send in your pieces to james.richings@newsquest.co.uk.

Alternatively, you can go to www.bucksfreepress.co.uk/sport or go to Twitter and follow @James_BFP for the latest sports news all across Buckinghamshire and its surrounding areas.



Dom Gape is to depart (PA)

Gape heads for the exit

WYCOMBE Wanderers have confirmed that midfielder Dominic Gape will leave the club this summer.

The 28-year-old will not have his contract extended and will therefore depart Adams Park after seven seasons in Buckinghamshire.

Following his move from Southampton to Wycombe in 2016, he played 204 times and scored four times one of these strikes against Chesterfield in April 2018 sealed the club's promotion to League One.

However, injuries have hit the central midfielder, as he has played just 48 times in September 2020.

He ended the 2022/23 season with 16 games and one goal, but is only goal of the campaign was a 50-yard screamer against Barnsley in August at Oakwell.

The goal was his first for the club in four seasons, as the strike helped Wanderers earn their first-ever win over the Tykes in Yorkshire.

The goal was regarded as one of the best of the campaign.

He joins Curtis Thompson, Lewis Wing, Nick Freeman, Daryl Horgan, Jordan Willis, Adams Leathers, Josh Blunkell, Tyla Dickinson, Charles Hagan, Arnold Matshazi, and Ben Kaninda who will all be released this summer.