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BEST ROAST DINNERS REVEALED

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Anger at council after grave covered in rubble



A GRIEVING son was shocked to discover council workers had dumped a huge pile of stones and earth on top of his father's grave.

The scene met Karl Lewis when he paid a birthday visit to his father's resting place at High Wycombe Cemetery in Hampden Road.

Buckinghamshire Council apologised but said the soil was from a neighbouring plot, which happens occasionally when a burial takes place.

FULL STORY - Page 7

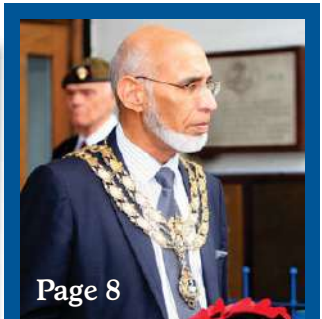
The grave after it was cleared up and, inset right, the rubble found by the Lewis family



'MASSIVE PRESSURE' ON COUNCIL BUDGET



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'RUBBISH ON OUR STREETS TURNING TOWN INTO GHETTO'

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SPORT

Chiltern Power workers strike lucky

A friendly football rivalry gave power workers a joy-filled day at Hoddesdon Town Football Club.

Five teams from UK Power Networks, hailing from the Chilterns, Borehamwood, Lea Valley, Norwich, and Cambridge, played spirited seven-a-side matches, under the watchful eye of eastern operations manager Pat Brooks.

The triumphant Chilterns team won all their matches, securing the coveted trophy.

Daniel Roberts, Lea Valley operations manager and event organiser, said: "It was a thoroughly enjoyable day with some really good competition, everybody won at least one game, which always helps the spirits. It was a really good way to get everyone together and to try and have a bit of friendly competition."

"Shout out to the team from Norwich who travelled all the way down in a minibus to play, we are all very much looking forward to planning another tournament in May next year."

Greatly anticipating another round of friendly competition, Roberts is looking forward to planning another tournament in May next year.

Derby day loss for Flackwell

FLACKWELL Heath lost for the first time at home this season in the league as they were defeated 3-1 by Reading City.

The Berkshire side took the lead after 14 minutes through a Jack Thomson-Wheeler finish before they doubled their advantage three minutes later through an Eddie Lee header.

The Heathens pulled one back before the break through a well-taken Charlie Malin strike, but the game was sealed when Dan Warre went around Jamie Brooker in the Flackwell goal to tap in with nine minutes remaining.

It was a bitter pill for Flackwell to swallow, as they tasted defeat for only the second time in the league this season but stay in third.

For Reading, it was third triumph on the road as they sit just above the relegation zone.

Another win for Wycombe Women



Wycombe Wanderers Women play their games at the 1878 Stadium in Burnham



The future looks bright for Buckingham Football Club

WYCOMBE Wanderers Women's first team secured their third win and clean sheet on the bounce following a hard-fought 1-0 home win against Badshot Lea.

A tough first-half saw both the Chairgirls and their opponents unable to convert any chances in the box to give either side the lead.

A corner in the first 10 minutes of the match saw a header from Maddi Armstrong go inches over the crossbar.

Wycombe also maintained a resilient defensive performance throughout the first half, shutting down Badshot in the box to keep an even score-line into half-time.

Following the goalless first half, Wycombe opened the final 45 with consistent pressing and pursuit of possession, with their efforts paying off in the 60th minute following a stunning strike from captain Bobby Lynch.

The goal was a result of a team effort, following a Badshot free-kick, which goalkeeper Chelsea Coles calmly saved, before sending the ball down the right side.

Molly Carter broke down and past Badshot's midfield and crossed the ball into the box, which got sent out to Lynch whose stunning 30-yard finish netted in the top-left corner.

A chance for Wycombe to double their lead came from Katie Riddington whose attacking strike hit the left-post.

By Craig Anderson

The Chairgirls maintained their lead until the final whistle, despite direct chances from the visitors to equalise late into the second half.

A close-range shot from Badshot Lea was punched out by goalkeeper Chelsea Coles in the dying minutes of the match, allowing Wycombe to walk away with the win.

Manager Carl Simon, recognised Coles' impressive saves which kept the Chairgirls ahead for all three points.

He commented on Coles' being 'absolutely fantastic' as she helped keep Wycombe's clean-sheet streak alive.

Simon gave further praise to Molly Carter, whose break down the right-side of the pitch gave the Chairgirls the vital cross into the box which led to the winning goal, noting that 'she changed the game for us' and that 'she started doing the things that we wanted [...] that changed our impetus and what we could do.'

With three wins and clean sheets on the bounce, Wycombe resides at third in the table with eight points, currently tied with Bournemouth Sports.

Wycombe are next set to face Penn & Tylers Green in the Bucks and Berks Cup on Sunday, October 15 at the 1878 Stadium.

It will kick-off at 2pm.

World Cup fever hits Buckingham women's team

BUCKINGHAM Football Club's First Ladies Team has landed a two-year sponsorship deal with local housebuilder, Barratt Homes.

In July 2023, Buckinghamshire's two biggest teams, Buckingham United and Buckingham Athletic, merged to create the club, sparking interest from Barratt North Thames.

Gleaming with pride, Adam Bray, Vice Chairman of Buckingham Football Club, expressed elation about the deal, highlighting the positive impact on the team's morale and the promotion of women's

football.

He said: "I hope that this donation will give the women the confidence and excitement for the rest of the season."

The partnership will cover operational costs, including a new kit, raising the stakes for the upcoming season.

Concurrently, Marc Woolfe, Director of Sales at Barratt North Thames, emphasised the need for female involvement in sports, particularly in the wake of the Women's World Cup.

He expressed his eagerness to see the team's progress in the forthcoming years.



Jasper Pattenden (pictured in 2022) has played five times for Wycombe this season, where he has started the last four games Image: PA

Praise for Pattenden

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Matt Bloomfield has praised the attitude of right-wing back Jasper Pattenden following his emergence into the first team.

The 21-year-old has started the last four games in all competitions which has seen the Chairboys win three times and keep two clean sheets.

The only blemish during that run before this weekend's international break was the 2-1 loss away at Portsmouth on October 3.

Additionally, since securing his place in the starting line-up, Pattenden has also been deployed into a central midfielder where he is slowly developing himself into a utility player.

Speaking after Wanderers' 1-0 win

over Stevenage in the Football League Trophy, which secured the club's progression into the next round for the first time since the 2016/17 season, Bloomfield said: "I said to Jasper in training that if there was ever a story about resilience and character then his is exactly it.

"He's had several right-wing backs in front of him, there have been times where he has been disappointed, he's had to keep fighting and scrapping but those are the characters and the resilience that you want within your group.

"He is now getting his rewards at the moment but there is still plenty of him to improve on and he has to keep his feet on the ground.

"But I'm very pleased with him."

Men and women celebrate in hockey

The Marlow men's 1st hockey team celebrated a memorable victory against the Trojans, winning 3-2.

Player Chris Sewell kick-started the match with an impressive goal just two minutes in, followed by a decisive strike from Isaac Maddern as half time approached.

Marlow's game was notably strong, demonstrating excellent ball control and dictating the match's pace.

Despite the Trojans managing a comeback at approximately 45 minutes into the game, Marlow's player-coach, Luke Stone, swiftly responded with a score aided by a fantastic lead from the left side.

The Trojans managed to notch a second goal in the closing 10 minutes with an exceptional volley.

Nevertheless, Marlow maintained their grip, achieving a 3-2 victory.

The team's midfield prowess and Josh Morgans's superb performance were key highlights of this match.

Next week, the Reds will host the Oxford Hawks at 4.30pm in Pound Lane.

In other news, Marlow's 2nd team encountered Basingstoke 1st on their home turf.

After experiencing relegation last season, Marlow managed to surprise Basingstoke with an early strike from Phil Cowell, followed by additional goals from Jonny Mee and Joe Hoggan.

Despite a strong comeback from Basingstoke in the second half, Marlow secured a halftime advantage through another goal from Cowell.

Basingstoke eventually took the victory, winning 6-4.

Despite the day's outcome, the team remains optimistic about the season's potential and anticipates their up-coming game against Oxford Uni2.

In the women's division, Marlow1s clinched a victorious 4-1 match against Amersham and Chalfont.

Martha Goodridge's powerful strike and Rachel Goodwin's open play goal led to an advantage in the second half.

Despite Amersham and Chalfont managing a goal on their own, Marlow retaliated with remarkable passing from Milly Connibear, leaving Helena Sykora to deftly bypass the goalkeeper.

Sykora swiftly followed up with yet another goal, ending the game on a high note.

Junior player Evie White also demonstrated stellar defensive skills and noteworthy passes throughout the match.

However, the 2nd team is yet to grab their first points after a 3-1 setback against Winchester 1st.

Despite a fierce performance from Ruby Duncan in goal, the game remained scoreless at the break.

Nonetheless, Julia Westnedge managed to score a stunning equaliser after intercepting a defensive strike.

Despite this, and Marlow's dominance in possession, Winchester managed to steal victory in the final minutes of the match.

Another away win for the boys in blue



Freddie Potts (left) and Luke Leahy (centre) scored in Wycombe's 4-1 away win at Fleetwood on October 7 at Highbury Stadium (PA)

MATT Bloomfield hailed his side's summer signings after Wycombe hammered struggling Fleetwood 4-1.

All four goals were scored by new-season arrivals as the visitors blew away Lee Johnson's side at Highbury.

Dale Taylor, on loan from Nottingham Forest, bagged a brace, whilst Freddie Potts and Luke Leahy also got in on the act against the 10-man hosts.

Jack Marriott scored a mere consolation moments before Ben Heneghan's sending off for chopping down Brandon Hanlan.

"I really hope this is a sign of things to come," beamed Bloomfield. "It was a very good performance. I've felt like it's been coming away from home.

"We spoke about how proud we were of the second-half performance at Charlton.

"I feel like this has been building and I'm really proud with how the boys brushed off our defeat in mid-week and reacted the way they did.

"I'm really pleased the summer signings are gelling. We freshened that forward line up and we're really pleased that squad's coming together.

"I've been really conscious to emphasise it's not all about the new signings and we already had top players already at the club.

"There's two thank yous I really need to make sure I make. First is for the supporters who have travelled all this way, it's a long way to come.

"The second thank you is to Rob (Cough, owner) because he's put his hand in his pocket for us to come up and stay Thursday night.

By PA Staff Member

"I really feel like having that social time to bond has really helped us. He didn't have to offer that."

Johnson was brought in to replace Scott Brown after the ex Celtic midfielder was sacked due to Town's terrible start to the season.

The Cod Army came into this game off the back of successive victories without conceding.

But after being blown away, Johnson said: "That was a big lesson for us. I'm disappointed if I'm honest with you.

"The risk was a third game in the week. The physical and mental question was whether we could produce again.

"Suddenly we started to have that belief in ourselves, but that was completely powder puff in the first half.

"We made so many poor decisions which were based on that level of fatigue. That's not an excuse.

"The attitude and belief was the bit that was so disappointing for me. In terms of the body language, that's been good over the last two games.

"It's about having that will and skill on a regular basis. It's a humbling loss for us and we've got to go back to the drawing board.

"The players have got to stake a claim again.

"We've got a real chance of being successful here. We've actually got enough in that dressing room. But what we haven't got is a strong enough mindset at this moment in time."

SPORT

0963-2336



Matt Bloomfield has been in charge since Feb (PA)

Mr Wycombe up for award after near perfect run in September

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Matt Bloomfield has been nominated for the League One Manager of the Month award for September.

The 39-year-old, who has taken charge of 30 competitive fixtures since taking over the role from Gareth Ainsworth in February, saw his side pick up nine points

from a possible 12, winning three times and keeping as many clean sheets.

Those victories were against Northampton Town, Blackpool and Carlisle United respectively, with the only defeat coming against Charlton Athletic.

Additionally, Wanderers have won eight of the last

12 matches in all competitions since August.

The three other managers who have been nominated for the award are Blackpool's Neil Critchley, Oxford United's Liam Manning and Portsmouth's John Mousinho.

The Sky Bet Manager of the Month judging panel comprises former Barnsley

manager Danny Wilson, Sky Sports' EFL expert Don Goodman, and Sky Bet EFL trader Ivor Davies.

The winner of the award will be announced in the morning of Friday, October 13.

To read more about the latest Wycombe Wanderers news, follow James Richings on X (@James_BFP).

Matt Bloomfield hails 'class' team

Wycombe Wanderers manager Matt Bloomfield believes his squad is 'class' as the Chairboys progressed to the next round of the EFL Trophy.

A textbook Sam Vokes header secured his side a 1-0 victory over Stevenage on Tuesday night as they booked a place in the second round of the competition for the first time in seven years.

The win was also the eighth triumph in the last 12 matches for Wanderers, who have only lost five times from their 15 competitive matches this season.

And with no game this weekend due to the international break, he hopes his side 'can rest well' before ending the month with four fixtures in 10 days.

He told the club's media: "I'm really pleased [with the result]."

"We knew it was going to be a difficult game as Stevenage have accumulated a good and competitive squad.

"We knew there were going to be changes to their team from Saturday [when they beat Wigan], as they've got good players too.

"But we've got a competitive squad as well so it was an opportunity to give several players important minutes.

"All in all, it was a good night." Since the competition reformatting in the 2016/17 season which saw the introduction of Premier League U21 teams, many League One and Two clubs have used the EFL Trophy to give fringe or academy players valuable minutes.

However, Bloomfield opted to choose a near fully strengthened team which boasted over 2,500

By James Richings

league appearances.

The move worked as Wycombe earned their ninth win from 15 games this season.

He continued: "Whilst there was a fresh face in Declan Skura along with a couple of changes from Saturday, we had a lot of class in our team and a lot of quality.

"Last week at Portsmouth we had Richard Keogh, Garath McCleary and Sam Vokes all start, and they all played tonight [October 10], as they have that desire and energy to play for this club.

"Having Keysy [Keogh], playing alongside Deco [Skura] is valuable for him as he'll be able to coach him on the pitch, so there were a lot of good things out there.

"The squad is still thin at the moment as we've got injuries and others are out on international duty, so we need to protect players and share the minutes around.

"We're very pleased with the way the group is as people are starting to show speed, and we want to have to that competition within the squad.

"We talk and focus a lot about performance and that's how we go about our business and winning breeds winning, belief and confidence.

"We have to be pleased every time we do win and it is nice that we are on this good run, so for me, I'm pleased but I'm hungry and desperate for more as I want us to get better."



Wycombe have won nine of their 15 games this season (PA)



Low and De Barr in action (YT)

History made for Wanderers

HISTORY was made in Wales' 4-0 friendly victory Gibraltar as it was the first time in recorded history that two current Wycombe Wanderers players faced each other for their respective nations.

For the Dragons, Joe Low started and played the full 90 minutes in what was his first-team debut for the country, whilst for Los Llanis, striker Tjay De Barr featured in the fixture where he played for 71 minutes.

It was his 35th cap for his country.

May fans were quick to congratulate the two Chairboys as many stated that this earmarked the progression of the club in recent years.

Wanderers supporter, Jayden Wilkins, said: "Two Chairboys players on the same pitch at international level for the first time ever.

"This club has come so far in the last few years."

Former Chairboys defender, Mark Rogers, who became the first Wycombe player to represent their country (Canada) whilst at the club, said: "So great to see more and more Chairboys being called up for their country."

Another Wanderer that is currently away with their respective country is Dale Taylor.

The 19-year-old will be in the Northern Ireland squad to face San Mario (who are ranked as the worst country in Europe), and Slovenia in their upcoming Euro 2024 qualifying matches.

The fixtures will take place on October 14 and 17 respectively.