

'My neighbour from hell'

Woman's shock at gesture from convicted crossbow shooter



EXCLUSIVE: PAGE 11

MP meets hospital chiefs over site's future



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Community rocked by violent incidents

- Woman 'stabbed' in shocking crime spree
- Police launch extra patrols across the town
- Politicians speak out amid Halloween horror



By Timothy Edgley

A COMMUNITY has been rocked by a spree of crimes that saw a woman stabbed and a man beaten to the ground.

Police have launched extra patrols in response to a spate of offences in

the Castlefield and Desborough areas of High Wycombe.

Thames Valley Police received reports of five assaults over an hour period in Dean Close, Conifer Rise and Desborough Road last week.

Full story: Page 7

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SPORT

4,000 see Chesham bow out of cup



Chesham United fans before the Emirates FA Cup first round match at The Meadow, Chesham. Image: Joe Giddens



Chesham United fans before the Emirates FA Cup first round match at The Meadow, Chesham Image: Joe Giddens/PA

By James Richings

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LINCOLN City overcame a potential FA Cup banana skin at Chesham United with a 4-0 victory at The Meadow.

Goals by Jack Moylan, Jovon Makama, Conor McGrandles and an own goal from Callum Adebisi set up an all-Sky Bet League One clash with Crawley in the second round at the end of month.

The Generals, who were aiming to cause one of the shocks of the round, came close after 38 minutes when goalkeeper George Wickens had to claw away a looping Nathan Minhas header from a Samson Esan cross.

However, the Imps took the lead two minutes before the break when Moylan showed good control in the area to curl his effort past the

outstretched Ben Goode.

It was a terrific finish.

They effectively secured their passage into the next round three minutes after the interval when Makama broke the offside trap to coolly slot home his effort.

McGrandles made sure of the win after 65 minutes when his shot from the edge of the box took a massive deflection past the grounded Goode.

The Chesham keeper pulled off a spectacular save from JJ McKiernan by turning his 76th minute shot on to the crossbar.

The fourth Lincoln goal saw Goode try to clear from Lincoln's Zane Okoro, but saw his attempted clearance with four minutes remaining deflect off the hapless Adebisi and into the net.

No cup upset for Chesham, as they're focus is now on seeing how high they can finish in their first season in the National League South.

Joint manager Michael Murray said: "We're obviously bitterly disappointed, but at the same time very proud of our team.

"We've done extremely well to get where we have, for the second year on the trot.

"When you're the big underdog you need that little bit of luck.

"I was very disappointed that we conceded just before half-time, but in the second half they took over."

Lincoln boss, Michael Skubala, added: "We knew it would be really tough, we knew that these are challenging places to come, how passionate they would be.

"I thought they started the game really brightly, but after 10 to 15 minutes we started to get control of the game.

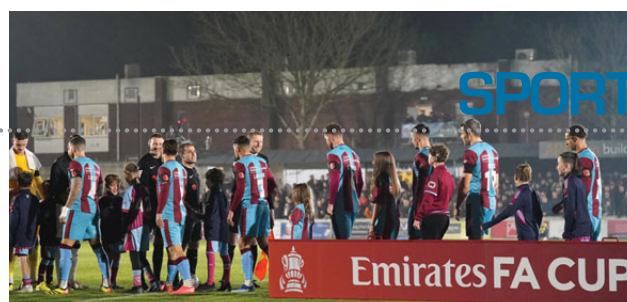
"From there on we played a really professional game, which was pleasing."

The crowd for Monday's night clash at the Meadow was 3,964 with 364 travelling down from Lincoln.

It was Chesham's highest home-attended fixture since they played Cambridge United in the third round of the competition in January 1980, when roughly 5,000 people visited South Buckinghamshire that day.

Comedian and Chesham's director, Alex Horne, said: "Not Chesham's night but good luck to Lincoln for the rest of the season.

"Great to have non-league football getting exposure, it has had a huge impact on the town. "Thanks for all the support."



Chesham United players shake hands with officials before the Emirates FA Cup first round match at The Meadow, Chesham Image: Joe Giddens/PA



Chesham United players huddle before the Emirates FA Cup first round match at The Meadow Image: Joe Giddens/PA



Lincoln City manager Michael Skubala Image: Joe Giddens/PA



Chesham United joint manager James Duncan Image: Joe Giddens/PA

Brave cup effort hailed by opponents

By James Richings

WHILST it wasn't Chesham's day on November 4, the club received a huge round of applause from both sets of fans for their efforts.

A statement from Lincoln via X (previously known as Twitter) read: "Thank you to everyone at Chesham United for the warm welcome before, during and after the match.

"You can hold your heads up high and take real pride in the efforts of everyone on your team on and off the pitch. You sum up the magic of the FA Cup.

"Task completed."

Up next for the Generals is a home match against Worthing in the league, before they face Amersham Town in the Berks and Bucks Cup on Tuesday, November 12.

If they had gone through into the second round of the FA Cup, they would have played Crawley Town away.



George Wickens waits as a smoke flare is removed from the pitch. This was when the score was 0-0 at the Meadow: PA



Callum Adebiyi and Lincoln City's Paudie O'Connor battle for the ball: PA



The game was delayed by a few minutes so that the flare was put out. It happened twice during the cup tie on Monday night: PA



Moments later, Wickens made a brilliant save to deny Chesham's Nathan Minhas (right): PA



Lincoln Conor McGrandles celebrates scoring his side's third goal of the evening: PA



The Chesham United players applaud their fans after the FA Cup loss on Monday night. Nearly 4,000 people attended the fixture, which is their highest for a home game since January 1980, when they played Cambridge in the third round of the competition: PA

Sport

HOCKEY

Marlow Hockey Women earn vital win

Marlow Hockey Club Women's 1sts moved up to seventh in the Women's Conference West with a 1-0 victory over Witney at Pound Lane.

A stick tackle in the Marlow defensive circle meant that Witney earned a penalty stroke which they blazed wide. Some fantastic individual creativity from Martha Goodridge put Marlow ahead just before the half time break as she slotted the goal past the Witney keeper.

Alys Ramm made

numerous crucial saves to keep the home side in the match leaving the score 1-0 at the final whistle.

A first half Olivia Xiao goal was enough to secure three points for the Women's 2s away at Oxford University 2s. Both teams struggled to create space with a packed midfield but Marlow's young team more than matched the students for energy and skill. Player of the match performance from Anna Needham in defence and crucial short corner

saves from Ruby Duncan ensured the Reds kept another clean sheet and remain in touch with the league's early front runners.

Other results Women:-the 3rd team drew 3-3 with Reading Phoenix 1, 4s lost 3-1 to Amersham & Chalfont 4 away, 5s lost 5-1 to Wycombe 3, 6s lost 5-1 to Redaing7, 7s lost 3-1 away to Satines 3
Other results Men:- 1s drew 2-2 with Haslemere, 2s lost 4-2 to Abingdon, the 3rd team drew 2-2 with Witney 1st, 4s beat Witney 2 4-1 away, 5s beat Oxford University 4 1-0, 6s beat Reading Phoenix3 2-1, 7s beat Henley 5s 4-1



Hockey

IN BRIEF

Flackwell pick up a win over the Rovers

As Halloween neared and the early nights begin to set in, it was Barton Rovers who delivered a Saturday afternoon fright to Flackwell Heath, coming away the victors after an intriguing encounter, writes Glenn Alcock.

In front of a crowd of just under 200, Flackwell started the game on the front foot, creating a few good half chances, the best of note falling to striker Michael Harding who was unable to convert after being set up well by Jamie Ayres. Barton's battling performance was rewarded in the 41st minute, as Ryan Neufville rose highest to head home a free kick past the returning Carl Denison.

Flackwell pushed on in the second half, looking to find an equaliser, with Harding instrumental again after an excellent team move with his shot ultimately cannoning off the bar. Midway through the half, Flackwell increased their attacking intent, creating a far more open game, with the visitors ultimately capitalising in the 85th minute through Taylor Rhiney and sealing the win in the 92nd minute through James Olayinka.

In truth, the game was closer than the scoreline suggested, with it being perhaps a surprise that Flackwell didn't score at least once and that Barton were unable to convert another of their second half chances.

The Heathens look to get back on track on Saturday, at home to Ware with a 3pm kick off

*Beaconsfield Town gained a point on the road, with a 1-1 draw away at Hertford Town, to continue their unbeaten run under interim manager Sam Togwell, writes Arran White.

Beaconsfield had an early chance to take the lead, when Joe Lawal was fouled in the box, with the referee pointing to the spot. Akiel Raffie stepped up but saw his shot come back off the post before being cleared away by a Hertford defender.

Raffie didn't have to wait long for another chance, with a powerful shot from outside of the box flying into the bottom corner to give Beaconsfield a deserved lead.

Hertford had chances of their own, and came close to an equaliser, only to be stopped by a fantastic header off the line by Beaconsfield defender Jacques Kpohomou.

The game restarted with Hertford pushing hard for an equaliser. They didn't have to wait too long, a tangle in the box gave the referee a decision to make, with him pointing to the spot. Brian Garzon took the resulting penalty well and levelled the game at 1-1 with 30 minutes left to play.

The Rams had to dig in at times with great defensive work from Charlie Smith, who won every header and tackle of the afternoon, keeping the home team out.

Beaconsfield are back at Hollways Park on Saturday where they face a tough test from Barton Rovers at 3pm.

FOOTBALL

Holmer Green share points on the road at Eversley

THE Greens visited the very North of Hampshire just beyond Finchampstead, to find an even more rural setting than Watchet Lane. A Sports Centre, like the original HGSA, alongside Cricket and Hockey (the latter also having floodlights).

Last season Holmer went down by the odd goal in three here. This time they shared the points in a 1-1 draw with Eversley & California, stretching their unbeaten league run to seven games.

They would have to be without top-scorer Jeffery Fordjour who has signed Southern League forms with a local club, and the team management went with a new full-back pairing of James Jarrott and Kai Morgan as they again rotated the squad.

The pitch situated in the River Blackwater valley was soft, and not conducive to the visitors' usual passing style. The home side continually hit the channels, and stretched The Greens all afternoon after seeing off Holmer's early pressure. Pressure which really didn't trouble the competent home 'keeper too much.

It took 25 minutes for any action to start and Holmer were not very good in midfield or upfront. It wasn't for lack of yards put in by Alex Colverd especially; creativity and decisive passing were missing.

On 38 minutes, The Greens paid the price for the average showing thus far. Several poor attempts to clear an Eversley attack including one occasion where two Holmer players seemed to kick the ball at the same time, lead to the opportunity for a short ball into the penalty-area. Callum Gray spotted the run, but was unable

By John Anderson

to tackle the opponent cleanly enough to avoid giving away a penalty.

Holmer had a let-off very early in the second half. A good cross from out on the left was headed into the goal at the far post. The Veo footage cleared up the puzzle many spectators pondered. The "scorer" had managed to get closer to the goal-line than the crosser of the ball before it had been centred. The assistant was right, and convinced the Referee in the short inquest.

This scare was followed by another Eversley break, with a good opportunity lobbed over the bar. The Green then made two substitutions on 55 minutes, and these did get the away side back into the game at last. Within one minute of the change, Lloyd Majaya centred from the right. The ball was headed out to Colverd just outside the penalty-area, by the home centre-half. Colverd fired the ball back at goal. Whether it was on target or not, Gray took no chance and diverted it smartly into the goal. His first Holmer goal. He was being played on by the centre-half. Again, the home defence made a big fuss; but the Match Officials were having none of it. There was an immediate Holmer debut for new-signing Connor McGinty.

The rest of the game was entertaining, with both sides looking for the winner. But there was no further score. The Greens move onto 31 points, the same number as gained from all last league season. Still a lot to play for, and the ideal platform to gain a lot more points has been created.



Holmer Green

ANOTHER JOURNEY UP NORTH

Gearing up for a trip to Wigan Athletic



Wycombe have never won away at Wigan (PA)

WYCOMBE Wanderers will travel to Wigan Athletic one day earlier after a request by manager Matt Bloomfield was granted by the board.

The Chairboys, who face the Latics on Saturday afternoon at the Brick Community Stadium, and were due to travel to Greater Manchester on Friday.

However, the league leaders will now make their way up the M6 today [Thursday, November 7], to get ahead with their preparations.

Wanderers currently sit top of the League One table after they thrashed Stockport County 5-0 on Tuesday night, displacing former Premier League outfit at two-time League Cup winners, Birmingham City, to second.

Albeit Wycombe have played one more game than the Blues, the Chairboys are

enjoying their best run of form in just over two years, as they are unbeaten in their last 11 league matches.

Speaking ahead of the clash, manager Matt Bloomfield said: "It's another long trip on the road, and thank you to Dan [Rice] and the board for giving us clearance to head up there on Thursday.

"We'll have a cool down on route and this will give us an extra bit of time with the boys where we can bond.

"We'll attack it the best we can as we need to get the legs back because, with these long Tuesday nights, we have to look at the distances to see if we need to freshen things up.

"Shaun [Maloney] has done a great job at Wigan, as they play with a clear style and have patterns that they play with, so it will be a tough game."

FOOTBALL

Manager 'chuffed' with win

WYCOMBE BOSS Matt Bloomfield declared himself "chuffed" to progress into the second round of the FA Cup after winning 3-2 against York.

Luke Leahy scored in both halves while Gideon Kodua added another as the Sky Bet League One side booked their place in Sunday's draw.

Bloomfield admitted he was relieved to have avoided a potential banana skin after the entertaining clash at Adams Park.

He said: "I'm really chuffed.

"I think we've seen how tough this (FA Cup) can be, round one and two. So for us to get through, we're obviously really, really pleased.

"To score three goals was lovely."

The Chairboys boss was full of compliments for York, who sits top of the Vanarama National League.

"We knew it's going to be a tough game," Bloomfield added.

"York are used to winning themselves.

"I think it was two in-form teams coming up against each other and they pushed us all the way.

"We knew it was going to be a tough afternoon if we didn't kill the game off, and we didn't quite make it comfortable enough in my opinion."

SPORT: WYCOMBE WANDERERS 3-2 YORK CITY

Into the next round after entertaining win over York

LUKE Leahy scored a brace as Wycombe beat York 3-2 in the FA Cup first round in an entertaining contest at Adams Park.

Wanderers' number 10 gave the Adams Park side the lead on 13 minutes after the Chairboys were awarded a spot-kick when Ryan Fallowfield recklessly slid into Beryly Lubala.

The former Shrewsbury captain sent Harrison Male the wrong way as the Sky Bet League One side got the lead they deserved.

Just eight minutes later, the hosts doubled their lead.

Tyreeq Bakinson picked up the ball in the middle of the park and found Richard Kone, who played an inch-perfect ball through to Gideon Kodua to slot home calmly past Male.

York got one back just after the half-hour mark through Tyrese Sinclair after he finished off a counter-attacking move with an

excellent finish past Shamaal George.

Josh Scowen rattled the crossbar just before half-time before Leahy restored his side's two-goal buffer in the 57th minute.

Substitute Daniel Udoh was fouled on the edge of the box, which gave Leahy the chance to curl over the wall and into the top corner.

Wycombe striker Brandon Hanlan made his first professional appearance for nearly 12 months with 10 minutes before Joe Felix got one back in stoppage time for the non-league side, but hosts held on.

The result means Wycombe progressed into the second round of the FA Cup for the second year in a row.

It was also their first home victory in the competition since January 2021, when they defeated Preston North End in the third round.



The win over York was Wycombe's first at Adams Park in the FA Cup for nearly four years (PA)

SPORT: FA CUP

Ex-Wanderer on losing at Adams Park with new side

YORK City boss Adam Hinshelwood was full of pride, but was disappointed his side were not able to find the all-important equaliser.

Tyrese Sinclair pulled a goal back just before half-time before Joe Felix grabbed a late consolation in stoppage time.

"We had an unbelievable following again behind the goal and I was just disappointed we couldn't quite get that last little touch to extend the tie."

Despite the defeat, the York manager remained adamant that his side could learn from the match.

"We'll learn a lot from today's game, 100 per cent, and it's going to be a good benchmark for us," Hinshelwood added.

"We've got to take the good stuff and learn from stuff that we can improve on, and take that into our bread and butter of the National League."

Another non-League side for Wycombe to face

WYCOMBE Wanderers will play non-League Wealdstone in the second round of the FA Cup.

The Chairboys progressed to the next stage of the competition after defeating York City 3-2 at Adams Park.

The fixture saw Luke Leahy score a brace, Gideon Kodua register his first goal at home for Wanderers, and the much-anticipated return of forward Brandon Hanlan.

The striker had missed the last

year after rupturing his ACL 12 months ago.

They will take on the struggling National League club, who sit in 22nd place, at the end of November/start of December at Grosvenor Vale, after they progressed into the next round following an impressive 1-0 victory over League Two Grimsby Town at Blundell Park.

The result was one of the shocks of the round.

The previous encounter between Wycombe and Wealdstone in any capacity was in the summer of 2023, when Garath McCleary's strike just before half-time gave the Chairboys a 1-0 victory in a pre-season friendly.

They also met in another friendly four years prior in 2019.

This also finished 1-0 with Scott Kashket getting the winner after just two minutes.

A competitive fixture between

Wycombe and Wealdstone is a throwback to when both teams would frequently meet during their respective Isthmian League and National League days in the 1970s and 1980s.

Additionally, this is the first time the two teams will meet in the FA Cup proper.

The match will take place on November 30 at 11.30am.

Tickets for this fixture will be out in due course.

SPORT



Bloomfield bouncing after smashing Stockport



The side have won nine of their 13 league games this season

MATT Bloomfield spoke of his pride after watching Wycombe Wanderers sweep Stockport County aside 5-0 to go top of League One but insists their feet remain on the ground.

Richard Kone's brace, including a penalty, and Fred Onyedimma's strike saw the visitors grab a three-goal advantage inside 18 minutes at Edgeley Park.

The Nigerian's header and Aaron Morley's strike after half-time further confirmed

Wycombe's fifth successive league win as they leapfrogged Birmingham City to the summit on goal difference.

It's the first time they have reached the top place in League One since July 2022, after they defeated Burton Albion on the opening day of that season.

But Chairboys boss Bloomfield knows the campaign has a long way to go as he reflected on beating a County side he has plenty of admiration for. He said: "We're really fortunate

to have a real special group of young men and I'm really proud of them.

"We wanted to come out of the blocks, we were so respectful of Stockport before the game, they've got a very good team and Dave (Challinor) has done a great job here over a number of years.

"We put the team together and we knew the threats they were going to pose and we felt like we needed to come out of the blocks quickly and impose

ourselves on the game.

"I want to keep a lid on it because there's so long to go.

"We've done a lot of work over the summer and put some stuff in place, but we've got a tough game at Wigan on Saturday and all our focus now has to be on recovering, preparing and making sure we turn up there with the energy we need.

"It can't be underestimated what a tough game we had so enjoy the win, take the moment, reset and get ready to go again."

The Chairboys storm to the top of League One

WYCOMBE Wanderers went top of the League One table after they thrashed newly promoted Stockport County 5-0 at Edgeley Park.

Richard Kone and Fred Onyedimma each got a brace whilst Aaron Morley fired home to make an evening to remember for the Chairboys, as they reached the summit of England's third tier for the first time since July 2022.

Matt Bloomfield's side were quick out of the traps as they were awarded a penalty inside the opening 10 minutes, when Dan Udoh was tripped by Fraser Horsfall.

Up stepped the Ivorian Kone who slotted away his ninth of the campaign.

Less than a minute later (58 seconds to be exact), it was 2-0.

A mistake at the back allowed Fred Onyedimma in on goal, and after he ran through unchallenged, he fired home his third goal since returning to Wycombe in September.

It was his second strike in two league games.

Wanderers were in cruise control at this point, as they made it three on 18 minutes thanks to another Kone finish.

A Humphreys cross/shot was parried by County keeper Corey Addai, and there was the forward to smash in his 10th goal of the season in all competitions.

His target for the campaign is 15.

Despite being 3-0 to the good inside the opening 20 minutes, it could have been a lot more for the Chairboys as Kone, Udoh, Humphreys and

By James Richings

Morely went close.

Stockport just wanted the half-time whistle, as they were flat, lethargic and one-dimensional, but Wycombe showed no mercy.

Moments after the break, they made it four thanks to another goal from Onyedimma, before Morely struck home from range to score his first for the club since joining on loan from Bolton in the summer.

It was a real 'I was there' moment for the 250-plus Chairboys fans that made the trip up, as Wycombe continued to impress.

Wanderers now sit in first place, level on points with second-placed Birmingham City who have a game in hand.

The result means Wanderers have now scored in 18 consecutive league games, their best-ever run since joining the Football League in 1993.

They have also registered 31 goals this league season – the most from any of the teams in the 92.

The 5-0 triumph against Stockport was only the club's sixth victory in 24 attempts against the Hatters, and their first at Edgeley Park.

It was also the first time Wycombe had scored five away from home in a league match since beating Northampton Town 5-0 at Sixfields in January 2003 – the day when Stuart Roberts scored a second-half hat-trick.

Up next for Wycombe is Wigan away on Saturday afternoon.



Wycombe are now top of League One following their 5-0 win at Stockport (PA)

Coventry interested in hiring Bloomfield

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Matt Bloomfield has been linked to the vacant role at Coventry City.

The 40-year-old, who has spent most of his adult life with the Chairboys as a player, coach and now as boss, is one of several names on the Sky Blues' wish list after they parted ways with Mark Robins on November 7.

Robins had one of the been the longest-serving managers in the EFL prior to his departure.

He initially joined the club in 2012 but left one year later.

He would then rejoin the club for a second spell in March 2017, which saw him achieve great success with the West Midlands side.

This includes winning the EFL Trophy in 2017, the League Two play-off final in 2018, and promotion to the Championship in 2020.

They were also close to securing promotion to the Premier League in 2023, but lost in the Championship play-off final to Luton Town on penalties.

Despite this, an infrequent start to this season has seen him leave the Ricoh Arena after seven years in charge.

Bloomfield, who has steered Wycombe to the top of League One with nine victories from 13 matches this season, is said to have been approached by Coventry as reported by the Guardian.

And according to Bonus Code Bets, Bloomfield is 6/1 odds on to take over.

The following list of candidates is as follows:

- Frank Lampard 2/1
- Lee Carsley 5/2
- Ruben Selles 3/1
- Des Buckingham 3/1
- Ryan Lowe 7/2
- Steven Schumacher 4/1
- Matt Bloomfield 6/1
- Steven Gerrard 8/1
- Dave Challinor 10/1
- David Wagner 20/1
- Michael Beale 20/1
- Dean Smith 20/1
- Tony Mowbray 25/1
- Alex Neil 40/1