

Bucks Free Press

Friday, January 5, 2024

Covering Wycombe, South Bucks, Chilterns and Aylesbury since 1856

£1.60

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closes**



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Four pages of nostalgia – Pages 60-63

‘Unsafe’ level of staffing at hospital

Improvements ordered by watchdog

**Bucks health
board pays
consultants up
to £4,800 a shift
for strike cover**

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A MATERNITY ward has revealed how many midwives it had on duty during a period of “unsafe” staffing levels.

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) ordered Stoke Mandeville Hospital in Aylesbury to improve its maternity department in June 2023.

Several staff told CQC inspectors during a visit that they felt “unsafe” due to “low numbers of staff” and that sickness rates were increasing as “more staff became stressed”.

By Charlie Smith

A total of 13 midwives were on duty during the night shift that began on June 11, the Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust has said, with a similar number the following night.

In its response, the Trust also confirmed that there were 255 patients in the maternity department on 12 June 12.

Full story – Page 6

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Aiming for gold when the Games take place this year

THE heavy metal chords of 'Bazball' continue to reverberate around British sport and now Team GB's men's hockey team hope the philosophy can catapult them to Olympic gold.

The attacking approach popularised by Brendon McCullum's Test cricket side has become a movement in high performance circles, a byword for removing invisible barriers to success.

Hockey is the latest sport to take up the mantle, propelled towards Paris 2024 by head coach Paul Revington who preaches positivity in a bid to make history.

Britain's men – based at Bisham Abbey – haven't won gold at the Games since Seoul 1988 and Barry Davies' immortal line, 'Where were the Germans? Frankly, who cares?'

The question Revington asks his players every day is a simple one.

"We have a saying, if a man and his dog walk past our training pitch, would they stop?"

The South African wants every training session to be a spectacle and has had to rewire Britain's hockey DNA to make that happen.

"It is definitely shackles off, which hasn't always been GB's main philosophy," he says.

"The word to capture it would be relentless and the way the guys have trained and played for a long time has been relentless."

These aren't just words - it's working. European silver in the summer was England's best result in 14 years and only the third time they'd



The Olympics will take place in France this summer (PA)

ever made the final.

Revington's side finished second in last season's Pro League - their highest-ever finish since the circuit's inception - a 16-game, six-month long test against the top teams in the world.

If Revington is McCullum, then the part of Ben Stokes is played by Zach Wallace.

Nominated for the FIH Rising Star of the Year Award in 2019, he's one of the most gifted players in the world game. The 24-year-old's stun-

ning 'tomahawk' volleyed strike against New Zealand in April has been heralded as one of the greatest hockey goals in recent memory and is emblematic of his team's approach.

"The style of play we had before wasn't really true to the personalities we had," says Wallace. "We're ruthless, relentless and it suits the young and hungry group we have."

Such strikes as the tomahawk are no accident - Wal-

lace tries them every day in training. He tells of one incident where he nearly got injured trying a creative finish.

"We don't have a training session where we come off thinking, 'that was chilled out,'" said Wallace. "We're crawling off the pitch. It's brutal, and it's exactly what we wanted."

Striker Phil Roper has been part of the GB programme for a decade and a veteran of the quarter-final exit at the Tokyo Olympics.

"Working with Revs has given me a new lease of life," says Roper. "I'm still learning at 31 and this is the most exciting group I've ever been part of."

As hockey prepares for its four-yearly entry into the national consciousness at the Games, the question on the lips of Team GB fans will be whether these Bazballers can emulate the boys of '88.

Revington says: "The answer to that is yes, most definitely. Without a doubt."

NON LEAGUE Another loss for the Greens

HOLMER Green ended the year in disappointing fashion as they lost at home 2-1 to Eversley & California.

The Greens went a goal down inside the opening 10 minutes before Luka Clark equalised eight minutes later.

It was his first goal for the club.

Both sides attacked and defended well for the remainder of the first half as each side had attempts to go ahead.

This was despite two Eversley players being sin binned but unfortunately Holmer could not capitalise as the home team concentrated on defending.

At the start of the second half, the visitors fell behind again.

Despite this, the Greens tried their best to find an equaliser but to no avail.

Holmer failed for most of the game to get behind a well organised Boars' defence which has been part of a team that have had nine home wins from their 13 matches and conceded sixteen goals.

So, another good performance against a team currently lying sixth in the league.

The Greens on 10 points remain in 20th position in the league, five points behind 19th placed Brook House whose match against Hillingdon Borough was postponed.

However, Holmer Green do have a game in hand.

It has not been the best of starts of the season for Holmer, as they have won just three of their 25 matches in all competitions, losing an incredible 21 fixtures.

This includes getting hammered 8-0 to Amersham Town just before Christmas

Holmer Green Team: Matt Messer, Max Fanstone, Ewan Philpot, Sam Hill, Aaron Bryan, Callum Monks, Aiden Murrell, Luca Clark, Ryan Hennessy (Francis Ketter), Ollie White (Lloyd Majaya), Kizzy Kahari (Kudzai Chunga).

Substitutes not used: Jack Avery, Ben Hodges.

The Greens' next match is hosting 15th placed Woodley United at Watchet Lane on Saturday 6th January 2024.

Attendance: 24

To read more about the latest sports news that is taking place in Buckinghamshire, go to the Bucks Free Press website (www.bucksfreepress.co.uk) or follow James Richings on X (@James_BFP).

CHEERING ON THE CHAIRGIRLS

The midway point for Wycombe Women

WITH the winter break among us and 2024 around the corner, let's take a look back on the Wycombe Women's 2023/24 season so far.

Despite a rocky start to the season after falling to defeat against Ascot Women in the Premier Division, the Chairgirls have demonstrated stark improvements from last season, amassing 11 points in their seven fixtures.

Dominating performances against Winchester, Badshot Lea, and Eastleigh saw Wycombe clench their first three wins of the season so far.

With three games in hand to league leaders, Ascot, Wycombe look to continue to climb up the table and continue to secure the vital points.

Away from league action, Wanderers have also put on some convincing performances in the Berks & Bucks Cup, FA Cup, and League Cup, earning their furthest

progression of the season to the League Cup semi-finals following an outstanding 6-0 domination against Milton.

Contributions from across the entire team have rewarded the Bucks side with their season success so far, with strong defensive performances offering the clinical edge needed in maintaining point-worthy results, as well as intelligent finishes in the final third to keep Wycombe ahead in the 90 minutes.

At this point of the season, Katie Riddington takes the lead for top goal scorer across all competitions, as she clinched her first hat-trick of the season in the Chairgirls' final game of 2023.

Wycombe head back to the pitch on the January 7, 2024 away to Oxford City in the league as they look for their fourth win of the season in a bid to jump to fourth in the table.

Kick off is at 2pm. Wycombe's first home game of 2024 will see them host Woodley at the 1878 Stadium.



It has been a mixed season for Wycombe Women so far (PA)

Sport

SPORT: MANCHESTER CITY LOANEE RETURNS

Breckin leaves Wycombe after six months

MANCHESTER City have recalled central midfielder Kian Breckin from Wycombe Wanderers.

The 20-year-old, who joined the Chairboys on a season-long loan in the summer, only featured in two league outings for the Adams Park side.

In total, he appeared in nine matches with his last appearance being in the 3-2 victory over the Fulham U21s in the EFL Trophy on December 5.

Talking to Instagram, the youngster said: "Thanks for everything @wvofficial, all the best for

the rest of the season."

It is not exactly known where Breckin will be playing his football for the rest of the campaign, but rumours are suggesting that the midfielder could join Southampton in the Championship.

He had been linked to the Saints in the summer before joining Wanderers.

Breckin made his Wycombe debut in the 3-0 home defeat to Exeter City on the opening day of the season, where he was substituted at half-time with the Chairboys 2-0 down.

Both goals were scored in the opening four minutes of the contest, whilst the Grecians missed a penalty three minutes later.

He was then limited to appearances in the League Cup, EFL Trophy and FA Cup, whilst his second and last appearance in the league came in the 1-0 away loss against Barnsley at the end of November, where he played for 84 minutes.

Last season, Breckin scored eight goals in 24 appearances as Man City 21's won the Premier League 2 title.



The 20-year-old only played nine times for the Chairboys (PA)

SPORT: NEW YEAR

Ex-referee will receive an MBE

A FORMER High Wycombe referee has been awarded an MBE for his services to the community in Buckinghamshire.

William 'Bill' Cleere, who was also once part of the Wycombe Wanderers committee, began his refereeing career at the age of 14 where he eventually worked his way up the officiating ladder.

He was the first fourth official to appear in an FA Cup Final when Ipswich Town defeated Arsenal 1-0 in 1978, whilst also being an assistant referee in several European matches.

High Wycombe & District Referees Society took to social media following the announcement and said: "Bill has been involved in the Referees Association for over 60 years where he has held a wide variety of roles in the society and county. "He became Chairman of HWDRS after retiring and held the post for 28 years, he is now our president of the society.

"We would like to congratulate him for his achievement and thank him for all of his ongoing work and support."

The news was announced on January 2.

SUB: CHARITY RUNS CONFIRMED FOR 2024

Helping everyone out with races across the county

THOSE based in the county are being invited to sign up for Cancer Research UK's Race for Life in Aylesbury and High Wycombe.

The event, which raises funds for life-saving research, is returning to the county's landmarks such as Waddesdon Manor and The Rye, with both races expected to take place this summer.

The one in Waddesdon is scheduled for May 15, whilst the Rye race is planned for July 21, with the distances being 3k, 5k and 10k respectively.

Money raised at Race for Life enables scientists to find new ways to prevent, diagnose and treat cancer - moving closer to a world where everyone can live longer, better lives free from the fear of cancer.

Elisa Mitchell, Cancer Research UK's spokesperson for Buckinghamshire, said: "No matter how cancer affects us, life is worth racing for."

"Sadly nearly one in two of us will get cancer in our lifetime but Race for Life has the power not only to transform lives, but to save them. We're proud that Race for Life has already helped double survival rates in the UK.

"We'd love for as many people as possible across Bucks and beyond to join us at Race for Life."

"There is a race for everyone and we mean everyone. Walk, jog, run or take on the course however it suits best."

"It's a chance to feel the power of moving together with fellow Race for Lifers and have fun with it."

"January is the perfect time to commit to getting a little more active."

By James Richings

Whether people are living with cancer, taking part in honour of or in memory of a loved one with cancer, in it for the medals or just for the fun of fundraising, there is a place for everyone."

Since it began in 1994, more than 10 million people have taken part in Race for Life, funding 30 years of hope and progress.

Money raised has helped develop radiotherapy which benefits more than 130,000 people with cancer in the UK every year.

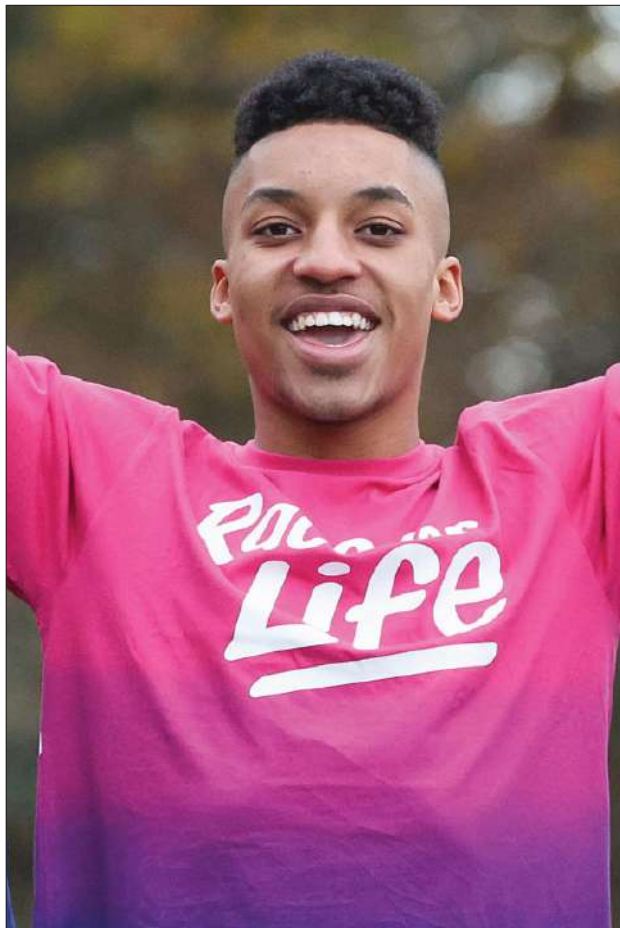
Cancer Research UK-funded scientists led the development of the Human Papillomavirus Virus vaccine, which is expected to prevent almost 90 per cent of cervical cancers in the UK.

"The charity also funded many large clinical trials looking at the effectiveness of the drug tamoxifen and the research shaped the way the drug is used to treat breast cancer today.

Andy Curran, Chief Executive of Standard Life, part of Phoenix Group, said: "We are incredibly proud to continue as headline sponsor for Cancer Research UK's Race for Life, with the opportunity to encourage participation across the country.

"By working to raise funds for life-saving research, we can move towards a future where people live longer and healthier lives, free from the fear of cancer."

Anyone who joins this January can claim 50 per cent off the entry fee as part of a special 'early bird' sale by using the code RACE24NY.



(Left to right) Cancer survivor Crystal Manuel taking part in a Race for Life event. Her two teenage children were also present

CHAIRBOYS

Update given on transfers

Wycombe Wanderers manager Matt Bloomfield has admitted he is looking to add some 'creativity' to his squad this transfer window.

The Chairboys are in the market for an attacker following the long-term absence of Brandon Hanlan who is expected to miss the remainder of the season, whilst Sam Vokes has struggled for fitness.

The club already acquired Ivorian forward Richard Kone from Athletic Newham this month, and he hopes to add more in the coming weeks.

He said: "We need to be open-minded but I do think we need a bit more creativity."

"We're looking at bringing someone in to help at the top of the pitch as we've lost Brandon to injury,

"Sam Vokes has had time out so we need to make sure he's available as much as possible.

"We're in discussions and we've had discussions with people and plans are in the background, but nothing is done and dusted."

Wycombe have also confirmed that striker D'Mani Mellor has returned to the club following his six-month loan spell at Sutton United.

The ex-Manchester United man only played eight times for the Amber Army, starting twice and where he failed to complete 90 minutes.

SPORT: CAPTAIN IS SENT OFF

Boss on Scowen's red card in home thriller



The red card was Wycombe's first at Adams Park (pictured) since April 10, 2021 - a run that lasted nearly three years (PA)

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Bloomfield has revealed he is 'not sure' if he will appeal Josh Scowen's red card following the club's 3-2 victory over Bristol Rovers.

The Chairboys captain was sent off on the hour mark for accidentally connecting with Sam Finley's face with his boot when clearing the ball.

After the Rovers skipper received treatment, referee Leigh Doughty sent Scowen off for the challenge.

He said: "I'll be honest, I thought the referee had given a foul in Josh's favour as he got the ball and then the collision happened.

"It was on the blind side so I didn't see it but I saw all the blood afterwards on the lad's face.

"I genuinely didn't think a red was going to get given as he kept his head down, and

Josh got the ball.

"That was surprising for me and then to be given a yellow card myself was even more surprising, as I didn't say or do anything derogatory.

"I don't know if we'll be able to appeal Josh's red card, but if I'm able to appeal my yellow then I might.

"I took my medicine against Exeter on the first day of the season but it's frustrating when you see different standards in different games.

"There was an incident at Orient where a manager held onto the ball and we've been told that leads to punishment and it wasn't, then I'm booked today [January 1] as the referee claims I've done something but I haven't.

"If I can appeal it, I will because on both my girls' lives, I didn't do anything wrong."

WYCOMBE WANDERERS 3-2 BRISTOL ROVERS

Lucky number 13 as three points are secured on NYD

Ten-man Wycombe Wanderers secured their first league victory in nearly four months following a thrilling 3-2 victory over Bristol Rovers.

The Chairboys started the better as they dominated chances and possession, as Kieran Sadlier's cross/shot forced goalkeeper Matthew Cox into a save before the young shot-stopper was on hand to deny Sadlier once again.

Sam Vokes hit the post, Garath McCleary tried his luck,

whilst Scowen and Dale Taylor also went close.

Rovers didn't lay a glove on Wanderers in the opening exchanges, and the home side's superiority finally came to fruition on 29 minutes thanks to Ryan Tafazolli's first goal of the season.

The centre back got on the end of a Sadlier corner as Cox stood stranded.

Wycombe continued their dominance into the second half but things took a turn for the

worst when Scowen was shown a straight red card just before the hour-mark.

The Chairboys captain was penalised for a late tackle on Rovers' skipper Sam Finley, as Wanderers suffered their first sending home at Adams Park in 996 days.

The last player to get on the receiving end of a red card was Josh Knight in April 2021, when Wycombe lost 3-1 to Luton Town.

The sending off put the wind in Rovers' sails as Chris Martin, Jevani Brown and Grant Ward went close, but in the final 15 minutes, Wanderers sealed their first victory in 13 league attempts.

First, Tafazolli's knockdown was prodded home by Vokes for his first strike since October; before Luke Leahy scored a close-range strike moments later.

It was the latter's eighth of the campaign.

Despite a mass exodus from the away end, Rovers two pulled goals back in injury-time thanks to a Chris Martin double.



The win was Wycombe's first in the league since October 7, and their first at home since September 30

FACTS FROM THE VICTORY

The result means Wycombe have secured their first league win since October 7 when they defeated Fleetwood Town 4-1 at Highbury Stadium, and their first at Adams Park since September 30 when they defeated 10-man Carlisle United 2-0.

The victory was also the first time Wanderers had scored three in a league match at home since August 15, when they defeated 10-man Leyton Orient, which was the club's inaugural victory of the league campaign.

Each of Wanderers' last three league wins have involved a player getting sent off, whilst the Chairboys are now unbeaten in their last seven matches against the Gas - a run that dates back to the 2018/19 season.

Wycombe have now moved up to 16th where they are now five points clear of the relegation zone.

If the club failed to have beaten Bristol Rovers on New Year's Day, it would have been their 13th league game without a victory.

This would have recorded their joint-worst winless run since joining the Football League in 1993, as the last time they went 13 without a win was during the 2003/04 season - the year they finished bottom of League One with a weak 37 points.

Josh Scowen's red card was Wanderers' first at Adams Park since April 10, 2021 - a run that lasted an incredible 996 days.

It was Wycombe's second sending off this campaign, following Harry Boyes' dismissal against Barnsley at Oakwell on November 28, 2023.

Many players to come and go this January

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Matt Bloomfield has confirmed that the club will be active in the transfer market this January.

The Chairboys announced the signing of striker Richard Kone ahead of their 3-2 home victory against Bristol Rovers on New Year's Day, and it is believed that new faces will arrive, several departures will also take place too.

No names have been mentioned as of yet, but Bloomfield signings were 'inevitable' as he continues to change the phi-

losophy of Wycombe's playing identity.

When asked if Wanderers will be busy this month, he said: "I think so.

"We are a club in evolution and after the changes we had in the summer, it was inevitable there were going to be some more in January.

"We'll be looking to do a bit more business as we've got a few more things going on in the background.

"There will be movement both in and out."

His comments were said after Wy-

combe defeated Bristol Rovers for what was their first league win in 13 matches - a run that dates back to October.

The win was also the club's first at Adams Park in League One since September, and it was the first time since August that the Chairboys had scored three goals in a domestic fixture at Adams Park.

He continued: "It's understandable that questions are asked but in my opinion, we dominated Port Vale, we were average against Exeter and even though we hit the post, we weren't good that day and

then we got a good point away at Leyton Orient.

"I've not seen the goals but back but the ending was frustrating as you're 3-0 up in the final moments, we should see the game out.

"I understand that the points we've gained are not enough but the boys have a deep desire to do well and they deserved the win.

"At 11 against 11, we were good and even though we went down to 10, we managed to get two goals as they worked so hard."

AP'S PREVIEWS

Let's strike whilst the iron is hot

NEW year, new Wycombe!

The Chairboys' exhilarating win against Bristol Rovers was the perfect way to begin 2024 and they will be looking to continue the improvement when they travel to Derbyshire to take on Burton Albion on Saturday, January 6.

The depressing run of twelve league games without a win ended in brilliant style with the 3-2 victory over an in-form Rovers team that had recently beaten Portsmouth and Bolton Wanderers, the top two teams in the division.

A change of formation, the return from injury of players like Sam Vokes and Freddie Potts, and a revival of the high pressing style that made Wanderers so successful under Gareth Ainsworth, were key factors in the highly encouraging victory.

The benchmark has been set, play like that for the rest of the season and Wanderers can start to look upwards at a place in the top half of the table instead of downwards at the bottom four.

Their next opponents Burton sacked manager Dino Maamria last month after a run of six successive defeats in League One.

Former first team coach Gary Mills, who enjoyed a playing career for clubs including Nottingham Forest, Derby County and Leicester City, was put in caretaker charge.

He has overseen half-a-dozen games including home wins against Blackpool and Shrewsbury Town and an away draw at Charlton Athletic.

However, they lost away to promotion chasing Bolton on New Year's Day and Mills record in charge now reads W2 D1 L3.

When Albion visited Adams Park at the start of the season it ended 0-0, the first draw between the clubs in 18 meetings in all competitions with Burton winning nine games to Wycombe's eight.

Wanderers last victory came on the opening day of the 2022/23 season, a comfortable 3-0 home win, but they were beaten 2-1 in the return fixture and have lost five of their seven visits to the Pirelli Stadium.

Burton are just one point below Wanderers in the table and have one of the worst scoring records in the division with only 20 goals in 25 games.

STAT: Wanderers last win over Burton at the Pirelli Stadium came on the final day of the 2021/22 season.

SPORT

0963-2336



A year of many ups and downs for Matt Bloomfield



Matt Bloomfield took over the role in February 2023 (PA)

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Matt Bloomfield has reflected on his 2023 in charge of the Chairboys since taking over in February earlier this year.

The Adams Park side are now winless in 12 league games after Friday's 0-0 draw against Leyton Orient, with the Adams Park faithful making their frustration heard at full-time.

In what was the concluding matchday of the year for League One clubs, it caps off what has been a mixed year for the Blues.

Speaking after the stalemate at Brisbane Road, Bloomfield said: "I've

learnt a huge amount this year, both about myself and the football club. "I've learnt incredible amounts.

"The game throws challenges at you at all times."

"When you're trying to create something settled and it's hard to do so with all the challenges thrown at you.

"You have to be adaptable, and you have to be willing to roll with the punches at times.

A year that started with six wins from seven games in the third tier with Gareth Ainsworth in charge at Adams Park also saw the long-serving Wycombe boss

depart the club for Queens Park Rangers in February, after spending over 10 years in Buckinghamshire.

In stepped club legend Matt Bloomfield, who returned to the club as manager after a short spell at historic rivals Colchester United.

However, without a win since October, it hasn't all gone Bloomfield's way.

He continued: "You have to be resilient, and stick to what you believe in at all times.

"At the tougher times, there's only you.

"When you're driving or when you're

at home when you're thinking, you have to rely on yourself.

"There's no one else who's going to pick you up.

"When you're a manager of a football club, you have to make sure you're ready to fight and ready to keep learning and improving.

"I think I have learnt that, but I think I already knew it after a long football career.

"You don't stay in this industry for that long without knowing you have to have that resilience and I'm proud of the players and of our supporters."

Bloomfield banned for the Burton battle

By James Richings

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Matt Bloomfield will serve a touchline ban after picking up his third yellow card of the season – a decision he has called 'disappointing'.

The 39-year-old was cautioned in the Chairboys' 3-2 home victory against Bristol Rovers on New Year's Day [January 1], but was booked following Josh Scowen's straight red card on the hour mark with the score at 1-0 to Wanderers.

Referee Leigh Doughty decided to penalise the manager for alleged dissent, a claim that Bloomfield strongly denies.

His previous yellow cards came in the opening day defeat to Exeter City on August 5, and in the home loss to Shrewsbury Town on December 9.

The suspension means he will not be allowed to give orders when the Chairboys take on Burton Albion at the Pirelli Stadium on January 6.

Assistant manager Richard Thomas and goalkeeper coach, Lee Harrison, will take charge of the fixture in Staffordshire.

Speaking to the press, Bloomfield said: "I refute it completely.

"I don't know what I'm allowed to say but I certainly refute two of the three yellows I got.

"The first one against Exeter when we lost [3-0 on the opening day] was justified as I got frustrated that we didn't get a penalty, so I took my medicine on that.

"The other two weren't and I'm extremely disappointed.

"The second booking was against Shrewsbury when there were six separate substitution breaks I believe, and we

were told at the start of the season that this will be added on at the end.

"We then see four minutes are put up and to be fair to Shrewsbury, you're 1-0 up away from home, I'd also take my time but earlier on in the season, we saw added on minutes reaching sevens, eights and nines.

When I asked the official, 'four?', as in four minutes, I got booked for it.

"So it looks like I'm not allowed to say a number loudly or clap my hands together."

Bloomfield also criticised the FA and PGMOL for their handling of the situation, in which he revealed he was passed on from both organisations to each other to get the matter resolved.

He continues to refute the claims that he showed dissent in both the Shrewsbury and Bristol Rovers games, whilst also calling the lack of help 'disappointing'.

He continued: "I spoke to the PGMOL and they told me to speak to the FA.

"I then speak to the FA and they tell me to call the PGMOL.

"It doesn't look like there is a huge amount of support for me to talk to anybody and try and figure out what's going on so it's very disappointing.

"I'm being taken away from the one place I love the most on a Saturday afternoon."

The touchline ban is the first of Bloomfield's managerial career.

Wanderers' match against Burton will kick-off at 3pm.



Matt Bloomfield was not happy with the outcome, as he will sit in the stands for Wycombe's game against Burton (PA)

New face as transfer activity begins

WYCOMBE Wanderers have made their first signing of the January transfer window.

The Chairboys confirmed the arrival of Non League striker Richard Kone from Athletic Newham subject to EFL and FA approval and ratification of the relevant documents.

The Adams Park side had been linked with the Ivorian forward since the summer when the youngster was spotted playing for the Chairboys in several pre-season friendlies.

Most notably in Wanderers' 2-1 victory over Aldershot Town on July 22, when he scored just 10 seconds after coming on as a substitute.

He has continued to train with the club whilst playing for Athletic Newham in the Essex Senior League.

Manager Matt Bloomfield said: "I'm delighted to get this deal over the line.

"We've been keeping close tabs on Richard for a little while and he's looked very good in training along when playing in the friendlies.

"Whilst it's only been announced, this has been in the making for around four or five months and we're delighted to have him at Wycombe.

Prior to his move to Adams Park, Kone had scored 100 league goals in just 108 matches for Athletic Newham between 2021 and 2023.

He also had a trial at Colchester United several years ago but no move materialised due to issues surrounding a workplace visa.

Kone is expected to feature in the development games and could make his debut for the club in Wycombe's EFL Trophy match against the West Ham United 21s on January 9.

The match will kick-off at 7pm.