



Welcome to this latest edition. A lot has happened since my last effort. I hope that you enjoy reading it. If so perhaps you can pass it on to anyone who is not a member.

#### COMMITTEE NEWS

Our A.G.M. was held last month and a good turnout voted in the following changes to the Committee: Chairman- Keith Blagbrough,  
Treasurer- Michelle Phillips,  
Committee Members- Sue McCloud and Louise Stone.

Also Marion Lunnon, who stood down under our rotation rule, was duly re-elected.

I would like to welcome the new additions and, once again, thank John and Sandie Derben for their wonderful service over the last few seasons. Sue has taken over the mantle of social organiser from Sandie.

#### A.G.M.

After the formal side of the meeting there was an open forum with Club Chairman Trevor Stroud, Commercial Manager Michael Davies and new goalkeeping coach Andy Fairman. It was really good to get to know the latter and to know that we will have normal goalkeeping jerseys in future!

#### SOCIAL EVENTS

Our first social event, the Race Night, was held in the Woodlands Lounge recently and, despite a disappointing turnout, was

successful in that we raised some £900 towards the Club's funds. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sue McCloud, who worked tirelessly in her first event to sell every single race and horse. Well done Sue!

Next up is the Quiz Night on Friday, 25th January and will be held in the Caledonian Suite. The usual start time of 7:30 applies, with food and drink being available from 6:30.

Teams can be made of up to eight people at a cost of £5 a head. Please contact Sue by phone on 01494 916117 or 07730497745 or E-Mail [mccloudsue80@gmail.com](mailto:mccloudsue80@gmail.com)



#### TRAVEL

Coming up is the eagerly awaited trip to the Stadium Of Light this coming Saturday. The coaches will leave Adams Park at 7:00 and will cost £34 for adult members, £33 for senior members and £32 for junior members. The cost for non-members is £39 across the board. After this is the regular Tuesday night trek to Accrington on the 27th. Departure time is 13:30, with the cost for adult members being £28. The usual discounts for senior and junior members apply, as does the £5 surcharge for non-members. Please contact Rena (07702348678) or Graham (07876267301) in the normal way for any away trips



R. I. P.

On Wednesday, 24th October the Club's oldest surviving ex-player, George Wharton, passed away at the age of 97. For Lynden and I it is a personal tragedy as he was her Father. Christened Leslie George but always known by his middle name, he first played during the 1940/41 season and made further appearances when home on leave from service in the Navy. He was actually made a prisoner-of-war in North Africa after his ship had been torpedoed and the rescue ship had run aground. On his return to England after the War he continued to play for the Club until 1948. Although his overall record for the first team (9 goals in 16 appearances) wasn't great he was a goal-scoring regular on the left-wing for the Reserves and was a member of the side that won the Isthmian League Reserve Section and Wycombe Senior Cup double in the 1946/47 season. After leaving the Club he went on to play for Loudwater and Flackwell Heath before retiring from the game. He was a true gentleman and a wonderful Father and Father-in-Law. Lynden and I are approaching our 50th Wedding Anniversary and, in all that time, never has there been a cross word spoken between George and I. He will be truly missed.

A further loss was Ena Stanmore a lovely lady who, until she could no longer physically go to matches, was a regular both home and away and, at one time,

served on our Committee. I remember the lively banter between her and fellow supporters on the away coaches. She would never have a bad word to say about the team, even if we had put in a poor performance. When I organised a little group to go to Ireland for pre-season in the summer of 2001 she was part of it and was wonderful company.

Our condolences go out to her family and friends

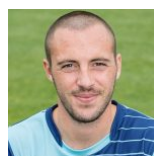
#### ON THE FIELD

This is being compiled after disappointing exits from two cup competitions, which obviously leaves us to concentrate on consolidating our place in the Division. We have won our last four home matches (which is crucial) and showed in the last one, when we made a good Peterborough side look ordinary, what we are capable of and we can certainly look forward to the remainder of the season with a great deal of optimism.

Since my last newsletter, several players have reached personal appearance milestones.



Joe Jacobson 200<sup>th</sup>



Michael Harriman 150<sup>th</sup>



Sido Jombati 150<sup>th</sup>



Adam El-Abd 50<sup>th</sup>



Scott Kashket 50<sup>th</sup>



Jason McCarthy 50<sup>th</sup>

Well done to all with, hopefully, many more to come.

#### FROM THE PAST

There was something in the Walsall game that doesn't happen that often both teams scoring an own goal! It got me thinking about when it last happened during a Wycombe game. At the moment I just don't have the time to go through all my records and check. However, one game did spring immediately to mind. On 13<sup>th</sup> April 1987 (a Monday evening) we travelled down to Bognor Regis, knowing a win would clinch the Isthmian League championship. The game remained goalless until the 73rd minute when defender Kevin Day put through his own goal to give them the lead. Within three minutes, Kevin Durham (who sadly departed at such a young age) equalised. Then, with a minute to go. Bognor's

centre-half and captain, Billy Gill, headed a cross into his own net, the cue for wild celebrations!

#### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

There was a good article in the Guardian recently about Dannie Bulman, who is approaching his 40<sup>th</sup> birthday and is currently the oldest player in the Football League. He names Tony Adams as the worst manager that he has played under. No surprises there! On the management front are the following appointments: Dennis Greene (Tamworth), Hakan Hayrettin (Braintree, his 2<sup>nd</sup> spell), Ben Strevens (Eastleigh).

I wish them well.

We also recently came across Russell Martin, the new player-coach at Walsall. It was disappointing though to hear that a minority of our supporters gave him an unpleasant reception. Is that really necessary for someone who served us so well?

Player wise,  
Marvin McCoy is now at Aldershot,  
Stephen McGinn is captain at St Mirren,  
Gozie Ugwu is at Boreham Wood,  
Stuart Lewis at Dover  
Angelo Balanta at Dagenham.

Also, I saw an Australian League match recently on BT Sport which featured an ex-player on each side, Jamie Young for



Brisbane Roar and Steven Taylor for their opponents, Wellington Phoenix (I know Wellington is in New Zealand!). On the goal-scoring front, Luke O'Nien has opened his account for Sunderland, while Max Kretschmar leads the way at Woking and is among the leading scorers in the National League South. To finish, it's great to see Kadeem Harris score his first top-flight goal for Cardiff. He now seems to feature regularly for them. A reward for his patience, having left us for them 6 years ago.

#### FOOTBALL MATTERS

It was disappointing to read a newspaper article recently about the decline in Football League attendances, particularly in the lower two divisions and especially for evening games. In recent seasons there has been a drop of 10% in League One and, alarmingly, 16% in League Two, with the blame being largely attached to BT Sport's blanket coverage of the Champions League. Live streaming of games is also causing fewer supporters to travel away, although I feel, no matter what the powers that be may come out with, that some of the ridiculous Tuesday night away matches doesn't help. It is a shame to watch the League show on Saturday evening and see stadiums sometimes only a third full, with some stands completely empty, often in the Championship as well. Worrying times indeed.

As usual the views on anything football wise are mine and not necessarily those of the Committee. If anyone has any comments regarding the content of this newsletter please contact me on 07484 723982 or [dfinch105@btinternet.com](mailto:dfinch105@btinternet.com)  
Dave Finch (OWWSA Committee Member)