

Read by over 119,000 in print and online every week

Bucks Free Press

Covering South Bucks & Chiltern Districts
Friday, July 28, 2017

Celebrating 160 years at the heart of the community

www.bucksfreepress.co.uk

90p

12-page music festival picture special **Inside**

PENNFEST

STATE OF EMERGENCY?

Campaigners claim cost cutting is crippling fire service across Bucks

By Shruti Sheth Trivedi

OUT-OF-AREA firefighters from miles away are being picked to tackle emergency situations in a bid to "cut costs", while other stations do not even have enough people to man local fire engines, it has been claimed.

The extraordinary claim from an ex-firefighters' charity worker comes after it was revealed that Bucks had seen the second highest drop in firefighter numbers in the last five years. See page 4

NEWS

Horror bus crash victims in limbo - 7 months on



Page 9

NEWS

Best Kept Village results revealed



Page 10

CHARITY OFFER

Fundraising available for local groups



Page 19

GOLD & JEWELS OF CHESHAM

WE PAY TOP PRICES FOR SCRAP OR UNWANTED GOLD AND JEWELLERY
25% OFF SECOND HAND JEWELLERY
UP TO 50% OFF SELECTED ITEMS
01494 774849

Payne's of Glass

Conservatories, Garden Rooms, Orangeries, Windows, Doors and Home Extensions.

Aluminium, Hardwork, Softwood or PVC

Triple Glazing Specials - No Extra Cost - Ten Year Insurance Backed Guarantee

Company based in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire

2 Bayley Gardens, Naphill, High Wycombe, Bucks HP14 4QW

Mobile: 07793 639130 email: ray@paynesofglass.co.uk

www.paynesofglass.co.uk

01494 565526

Briants
FENCE PANELS From £14.95
STIHL
MS180 - 14" CHAINSAW
NOW £169
SUPPLIERS OF FENCING, GATES, DECKING & GARDEN MACHINERY
01844 343663 www.briantsonline.co.uk info@briantsonline.co.uk

SPORT

Bucks Free Press
Sport is sponsored byMICHAEL
GRAHAMNew
deal for
Bean

WYCOMBE WANDERERS

MIDFIELD stalwart Marcus Bean has signed a new contract with Wycombe Wanderers, extending his stay at the club for another season.

The 32-year-old has played 79 times for the Chairboys since signing from Colchester United in January 2015.

Bean is an integral member of the squad, with experience spanning 15 years in the game.

On Friday, Bean put pen to paper and extended his contract to remain at Adams Park.

Speaking to wycombewanderers.co.uk, he said: "I'm delighted to have signed for the club. It looks longer than I and the club would have liked, but it's great to get back in and see the boys again.

"I said to the gaffer after the last game of last season against Cambridge that it might be my last game in football; it was something I'd been considering for a while and an opportunity had arose that I thought was too good to turn down, but the gaffer convinced me to sign on. I feel I've got unfinished business here as well; I want to go out with a bang by winning promotion and I feel we've got a chance of doing that."

Winter
fixtures
revealed

WYCOMBE WANDERERS

DATES and ticket prices for Wycombe Wanderers' Checkatrade Trophy Group C fixtures have now been confirmed.

The Chairboys will be joined in Group C by Bristol Rovers, Swindon Town and West Ham United U21s.

Wycombe will host Rovers and the Hammers at Adams Park, and will travel to the County Ground to take on Swindon.

The fixtures are as follows:

Wycombe Wanderers v Bristol Rovers - August 29 at 7.45pm

Swindon Town v Wycombe Wanderers - October 31 at 7.45pm

Wycombe Wanderers v West Ham United U21 - November 28 at 7.45pm

For more information about the games and tickets, visit www.wycombewanderers.co.uk

New Wycombe away kit
launched at Eden Centre

By Andrew Colley

WYCOMBE WANDERERS launched their new 2017/18 away kit in front of an audience at High Wycombe's Eden Shopping Centre.

Chairboys stars Adam El-Abd, Luke O'Nien and Paris Cowan-Hall modelled the new orange and gunmetal grey away, sponsored by Utilita Energy and produced by O'Neills, on Monday.

The live launch came 24 hours ahead of the club's pre-season game against AFC Wimbledon, but will be worn for the first time as the squad take on Maidenhead United in a friendly tonight.

The away kit completes this year's line-up, with the home kit remaining unchanged.

And the two new goalkeeper kits received worldwide attention when launched earlier this month due to their eye-catching designs, while Wanderers' new training kit also follows the orange and grey theme.

Wanderers' commercial manager Damian Irvine, who hosted the event, said: "After months of work which went into the creation of the new kit from our supplier O'Neills and our coach Barry Richardson, it was fantastic to launch it in front of a large public audience in the heart of our local community.

"We had a phenomenal response across the globe to the launch of our goalkeeper kits earlier this month which was a more digital project, but sometimes there's no better way to engage with your own core fanbase than by meeting them face-to-face. The players were, as always, a credit to the club in how they interacted with the supporters and we'd like to thank Eden Shopping Centre."



Luke O'Nien and Paris Cowan-Hall with fans during the Eden Shopping Centre away kit launch. Picture by PRIME Media

AINSWORTH: Confident ahead of new season

'It can only go one way
from here' says the boss■ Continued from back
page

Wycombe Wanderers manager, Gareth Ainsworth

"Now, it's putting the little things that I saw out there right, getting everything spot on because there were one or two bits that went wrong, but a lot went right and we have worked hard on bringing the right characters and the right players in."

The squad have one more friendly, away to Maidenhead United tonight (Friday), before the season begins, but nobody has yet been pencilled on to the team sheet for the first game

of the season.

"Someone once said seven days in football is a long time, and we've got 10 so that's an eternity," Ainsworth said.

"We'll assess the boys, we've got some tired legs and we've got a lot of games in the first month so whoever makes the first team on August 5 isn't necessarily set for the season, and people have got to understand that."

"We're a team of 20 outfield players of great quality, I don't get 14 then bolster with loads of bodies I try to get the best quality I can and I'm really pleased. I don't think we have a

weakness, everyone can step up and we've got the basis of a really good squad. Hopefully we can keep them fit and everyone together, and then fingers crossed we know what we can achieve."

Ainsworth also refrained from saying what the squad's aims were for the season.

He added: "I'm not going to put any actual position on it. If we can keep everyone fit I know not many teams will get the better out of us."

"Over the last four years we've grown and grown every year, making things better, and it can only go one way from here."

MICHAEL
GRAHAM

MICHAEL GRAHAM

Town & country property sales & lettings. Call Princes Risborough 01844 396000

MICHAEL
GRAHAM

ANALYSIS: Wanderers in home victory over AFC Wimbledon Beauty from the Beast in 2-0 win

By Lee Irving

WYCOMBE Wanderers will start the 2017/2018 season with some silverware already under their belt after they beat AFC Wimbledon 2-0 to claim the Cherry Red Records Cup.

In the clash of the supporter-owned clubs, a Luke O'Nien effort and a stunning volley from Adebayo Akinfenwa were enough to see off the League 1 side.

It was the Chairboys' penultimate pre-season friendly before the real action kicks off a week tomorrow, and boss Gareth Ainsworth started a strong side.

They started in a 4-2-3-1 formation, with El-Abd and Muller joined in defence by Jacobson and Harriman, Gape and O'Nien shielding the back four, with new signing Nathan Tyson, Hayes and Saunders playing in a three behind Akinfenwa up top.

The game's first chance fell to Akinfenwa after five minutes, who scuffed a Michael Harriman cross well wide.

Tyson, who was announced as the club's second signing of the summer before the game, could be a useful weapon for the Wanderers next season.

Despite being 35, he still possesses explosive pace, and caused the Dons full-backs problems.

He was also useful in the air attacking set pieces, sending a powerful header from a Saunders corner just over the bar after 15 minutes.

Wimbledon's first effort of the game fell to Nightingale on 18 minutes, after he headed a Francomb cross narrowly wide.

Shortly after, O'Nien put Wycombe ahead. Jacobson pounced on some lacklustre defending by Kwasi Appiah, nicking the ball off him and racing to the byline and crossing for O'Nien, who slotted past Long.

On the half hour mark, Scott Brown, looking resplendent in the new luminous-pink goalkeeper kit, did well to keep out a Cody McDonald effort. Akinfenwa bagged a spectacular second just after.

O'Nien turned provider to nod



Akinfenwa scored a brilliant second during the pre-season victory on Tuesday night

down a long ball up front, which fell to the Beast who lashed a half-volley into the top left hand corner.

It was a stunning effort, and even earned a round of applause from the travelling Wimbledon fans.

Wimbledon searched for a way to get back into the game, but the new centre back pairing of El-Abd and Muller were solid at the back, and

nullified any attacking threat as the Chairboys went in 2-0 up at half time. Wycombe made one change at the break with Nick Freeman replacing Akinfenwa, with Paul Hayes spearheading the attack.

The second half took a while to warm up, with Scott Brown fumbling an Andy Barcham effort round the post on 55 minutes. Wimbledon

were the better side after the break as they tried to claw themselves back into the match, but Wycombe's defence stood resolute, with O'Nien and Gape in midfield harassing the opposition.

On the hour mark, both sides made a raft of changes, Wycombe making six and Wimbledon three. As is customary in pre-season, the game be-

came a little disjointed, but the Dons continued to probe.

Brown did well to parry a low McDonald drive for a corner, on 70 minutes, and Francomb fired a snapshot from outside the penalty area 10 minutes before full time.

But that was as good as it got for the visitors, and the Chairboys rode out 2-0 winners.

'Season could be intense'

ADEBAYO AKINFENWA made an instant impact as preparation continues ahead of the start of the new season, scoring a sublime volley to help beat his former teammates on Tuesday.

The 'Beast' was granted an extended summer break to pursue ventures outside of football, but returned to training a fortnight ago before featuring against AFC Wimbledon at Adams Park.

Ahead of Tuesday's match, Akinfenwa said: "Training has been tough because I came back a couple of weeks after everyone else so they're ahead of me in terms of fitness, but it's been a good first week back and I'm pleased that I've been able to go straight into playing games

which is helping me.

"It feels like we're just picking up where we left off last season, which finished really strong, so the mood in the camp is buzzing and everyone's bubbly and getting on well.

"It's nice to see the familiar faces and we want to use the end of last season as a springboard to kick on now."

He played against AFC Wimbledon for the first time since leaving the club in 2016, having netted a penalty at Wembley in the play-off final to seal their place in League 1.

He said: "To score at Wembley was priceless and there was no better way for me to sign off as a Wimbledon player.

"It's the biggest moment of my career, even better than scoring against Liverpool, and I'll never forget it.

"I'm lucky that I always seem to strike up good relationships with the fans at my clubs and that was definitely the case at Wimbledon."

Looking ahead to the new season, he said: "If it's anything like the first year, it'll be intense!

"I played more games than I expected and there's so many plus points to take from it, so I want to take them into this season, get fitter and stronger, and bring whatever I can on and off the pitch.

"We'll set our goals and aims and do all we can to achieve them."



Akinfenwa scored a memorable goal at Wembley in his last appearance for AFC Wimbledon

SPORT

Football
Wanderers away
kit unveiled
- Page 66



WWFC: New signings add to pre-season confidence

Solid performance shows side in good shape



Boss Gareth Ainsworth

WYCOMBE boss Gareth Ainsworth is making his final preparations for the new season – but has warned Chairboys' fans not to expect too many more signings.

THE side is feeling confident after a good pre-season campaign.

A well-taken Luke O'Nien goal and a stunning volley from Adebayo Akinfenwa earned the Wanderers a comfortable 2-0 win against AFC Wimbledon, in what was their first and last pre-season game at Adams Park.

It was also the first time fans saw

new summer signings Adam El Abd and Nathan Tyson – who was announced shortly before kick-off – in Wycombe colours.

But, Ainsworth said he doubted he'd make any more 'key additions' to the side in the transfer window.

Speaking after the game, he said: "If there are any additions now, they won't be key additions.

"Adam El-Abd has played at a high level all his career and so has Nathan Tyson, and they're two really good signings for us.

"They're both in their 30s so they

add some good experience for us, especially with Aaron Pierre leaving us in defence, and Myles Weston left a hole which has been filled by Nathan Tyson.

"People will say Sam Wood and Garry Thompson have both gone, but we bought well in January, and I'm really happy with where we are, I don't think there's any big gaping gaps to fill."

It was a solid performance from the Chairboys against their League 1 opposition, with both O'Nien and Tyson impressing.

The defence, with a new pairing of Max Muller and Adam El-Abd, also looked resolute, with Joe Jacobson also displaying flashes of brilliance.

But, Ainsworth said he wouldn't be placing too much stock on the game.

He said: "Results aren't anything in pre-season, of course they're nice and we'll come here on August 5 knowing we've won our last game and created some good chances, but there won't be any celebrations.

■ Continued on page 66

WWFC: Forward has 'unfinished business' at Adams Park

Tyson's back for round 2: Striker re-joins Chairboys

NEW signing Nathan Tyson admits the prospect of resolving "unfinished business" lured him back to Adams Park.

The 35-year-old, who plied his trade north of the border at Kilmarnock last season, penned a one-year-deal at the Chairboys and was officially announced before the pre-season friendly against AFC Wimbledon.

Tyson enjoyed a successful spell at Adams Park 11 years ago, netting 29 times in 68 appearances, before he was snapped up by Nottingham Forest.

The Berkshire-born striker showed glimpses of his ability in the friendly against the Dons, and speaking after the game, said he was delighted to be back.

He said: "It's a bit weird really, I've been on trial for last two to three weeks now, and it's been good, I've really fitted in well with the lads and I've really enjoyed it.

"It's fantastic to be back. I obviously was here before, Tony Adams brought me in on loan and then I signed, and it's just a nice place. I feel it's a place where my career really progressed, it worked out well, and now coming back there's still some unfinished business I want to finish off.

"When I first came back, I wasn't sure if it would work out, but it's been fantastic and my family all live in Reading, so I've been spending time with them. They've already been pestering me for tickets."

The pacey forward started on the

By Lee Irving

left of a front three against Wimbledon, and showed glimpses of his pace and directness.

Where boss Gareth Ainsworth deploys him this season is yet to be seen, but Tyson admitted the manager was a big factor in his move.

"His man-management is spot on, and I've only seen his coaching for a short space of time and you can't judge it too much in pre-season as there's a lot going on, but he's made me feel very welcome.

"I've played under a few managers, and he isn't the worst I'll tell you that! But in all seriousness, I know Baz (Barry Richardson) from my Forest days and he always encouraged me.

"It's nice to see the managers out there encouraging players, he's one of these new-age managers, and the club's going to benefit from him.

The Wanderers face Maidenhead United in their final pre-season friendly tonight (Friday), before they return to league action against Lincoln on August 5.

The forward added he was looking forward to getting stuck in, and felt he would adapt well to League 2 after playing in the SPL last season.

He said: "There's not much difference between the SPL and League 2. You've got Celtic, Aberdeen, Hearts and Rangers, but the rest is not much different from League 2 to be honest, especially the way football's now played in League 2."



Nathan Tyson was announced as a new signing this week