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Bucks Free Press

Covering Wycombe, South Bucks & Chiltern Districts
Friday, June 22, 2018

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SPORT

Wycombe league
fixtures revealed



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Man tries to snatch schoolgirl

By Stephanie Wareham

A MANHUNT has been launched after a stranger attempted to abduct a young schoolgirl in broad daylight on a quiet south Bucks street.

Neighbours have told of their shock, days after an 11-year-old girl

was approached by a man with distinctive tattoos in Briery Way, Amersham – just yards from a nursery and a junior school – on June 11.

The schoolgirl was approached at around 3.15pm – when neighbours said the road is often busy with parents on the school run – and the man asked her to get in his car.

He was disturbed by a hero passerby, who stepped in and advised the girl to go home.

Those living in the residential road said the terrifying incident happened in an alleyway that runs behind the houses and criticised the area for being a "prime spot" for attackers because it is "overgrown

and dark". Debbie Woodbridge, who lives close to the alleyway, said she was terrified when she heard what happened because she has a young grandson.

She said: "It has scared the life out of me. I phoned my daughter to just tell her to be careful.

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COMMENT

With
**NICHOLAS
TUNNEY**

WELL, even though we are in the height of summer, football has really captured the imagination of the nation in the past week or two.

With the World Cup now in full swing, there is the usual optimism over whether England can bring the Jules Rimet trophy home.

After an encouraging start against Tunisia, the optimism continues to swell and hopefully on July 15 in Moscow, we will see Harry Kane and the team lifting the trophy.

Once this prestigious tournament is over, it is then only 20 days until the season begin and Wanderers found out this week who they will face on August 4.

They have a home tie against Blackpool, followed by a run of three tricky trips in four games away from Adams Park.

All in all though, I think it is a favourable start

as all five games in the opening month are winnable and Wycombe have a quite remarkable record on the road, having not lost away since December 22 last year.

Two quality signings have joined the ranks and it seems that everything is rosy at the club at this present time and I can't wait to be at Adams Park again for the start of the season.

Next week, I get the pleasure to interview Gareth Ainsworth for the first time since that amazing end to last season and am sure he will be in buoyant mood as usual.

The England ODI team are also producing the goods at the moment and Chesham boy Alex Hales scored a blistering 147 to help his side amass a world record 481/6 from 50 overs.

The Australians were blown away and it was key knock for Hales, who could make way for Ben Stokes when back from injury so that stunning knock will hopefully keep the wolves from the door.

Bucks begin their three-day sea-

son next week and thanks to High Wycombe's impressive start to the season, they are heavily represented in the Bucks squad.

Dan Marles is likely to be make his debut after a sparkling few games for Nathan Hawkes's men and Teddie Casterton gets a chance to show his undoubted potential in the three-day format.

After a rocky start, Amersham have made it three wins on the

spin and once again Madhuka was the star man with another magnificent all-round display to blow away Burnham by seven wickets.

It was also good to see Tyrrell Hatton enjoy an excellent tied sixth finish in the US Open at Shinnecock Hills and am sure that will pave the way for him to have an exceptionally strong summer as the lure of the Ryder Cup gets ever closer.



Alex Hales in action. Photo: Mike Egerton/PA Wire

SIX OF THE BEST

Bucks v Beds- June 24 to June 26

BUCKS kick off their three-day season with a home game against Bedfordshire at Tring Park, beginning on Sunday.

Four players from High Wycombe, including the captain Tom Hampton, are in the Bucks team for their first three-day Unicorns Counties Championship Eastern Division match of the season.

Teddie Casterton, Cameron Par-



sons and Dan Marles will also be in the side and in Marles' case, it will be his championship debut for the county.

Matt Rance and Robin Pritchard of Chesham are also in the squad

having had very solid starts to the season.

High Wycombe v
Horspath- Saturday, June 23

THIS could be a season-defining match for High Wycombe after their gritty draw against Henley last weekend.

The draw and nine points saw them slip to second in the table, just a point behind and a point ahead of Tring Park, who are in turn two clear of Aston Rowant.

It really couldn't be tighter at the top of the table and Wycombe holding on for a draw could be absolutely crucial at the end of the season.

In Horspath, they will be facing a side who have improved in the last couple of games and Wycombe will have to replicate their performances from the Aston Rowant and Finchampstead matches to get that winning feeling back.

England v Australia-
Sunday, June 24.

THIS is the last game in the five-match series and one which England have utterly dominated, including that historic win at Trent Bridge.

Alex Hales, on his home ground, wowed the crowds with a remarkable 147 as England racked up 481/6, the highest ever one-day total in the

history of the game.

Coming into the game with his place in the side under scrutiny, Hales smashed the Australian bowlers to all parts of Nottingham and with the likes of Ben Stokes coming back from injury, his timing of that century could not have been better.

Amersham v Harefield-
Saturday, June 23

WHAT a few weeks Amersham have had, completely turning their season around to record three huge wins on the bounce against some tough opposition.

Since that brilliant away win at fierce rivals Chesham, they have recorded another two victories to see

them comfortably up the table and away from the relegation scrap.

Undoubtedly the star in those three wins has been Madhuka Liyanapathirana, who scored a key 70 in that run chase at The Meadow before two six-wicket hauls in a row against Shipton-under-Wychwood and Burnham.

He has also been brilliant with the bat, scoring 33 in the Shipton match before an unbeaten 41 in a comfortable run chase at the weekend.

With Andrew Viney hitting form too, the Shardeloes will be on the crest of a wave and will be hoping to continue their wonderful run.

Great & Little Tew v
Chesham- Saturday, June 23

AFTER a miserable time of it, Chesham had an excellent win last weekend when they smashed Dinton by 61 runs.

Key players such as Rance and Pritchard were in top form for the home side and their contributions will be needed once again against a very good side.

Much like their arch-rivals Amersham, that Dinton victory could propel them to a great bit of form and that is what the Chesham side will be looking for as the season gets congested.

Ingram and Goff at

Croft- June 23/24

With the BTCC season hitting its straps, both Tom Ingram and Jack Goff are still in with huge shouts at the title.

The track at Oulton Park didn't suit either driver last time but both will be hoping for better luck at Croft, where the cars should be more suited to the circuit.

The championship will be a lot clearer after this weekend and it should be a great showdown between south Bucks' finest.

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SPORT

Golf

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with a bang
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Cricket

Wycombe cling
on for draw
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Blues begin season with Tangerines test

Wanderers also announce double signing



By Nicholas Tunney

WYCOMBE Wanderers will open up their League One campaign with a home game against Blackpool on August 4.

The Chairboys face Gary Bowyer's men at Adams Park in a hugely anticipated clash in south Bucks as Gareth Ainsworth's men play League One football for the first time in almost a decade.

Their first away trip will be against Doncaster Rovers on August 11 before a home game the

following week against Bristol Rovers.

Other notable fixtures include a home game against Luton Town on September 1, a local derby against Oxford at Adams Park on September 15 and an away trip to Sunderland on November 17.

On Boxing Day, Wycombe face a trip to newly-relegated Burton Albion and the final match of the season sees them pitted against Joey Barton's Fleetwood Town on May 4.

For a full list of fixtures, read

next week's Bucks Free Press.

Meanwhile, Ainsworth has delved into the transfer market, signing two players in the past week to boost the squad.

Goalkeeper Ryan Allsop (pictured above) has joined the Blues on a three-year deal from Bournemouth having made 18 appearances for the club on loan in the 2015/16 season.

Ainsworth said: "Ryan was our number one priority when we started making plans for next season so I'm delighted to be able to bring him back to the club, but on a permanent

deal this time.

"He's a fantastic shot-stopper but he's also great in the air and his distribution is first class, which he proved when he played against us for Lincoln a couple of months ago.

"It's a hugely important signing for us and with Yves Ma-Kalambay signed up already for next year, we have two excellent keepers on our books who can compete for the number one jersey."

Last week, Ainsworth signed AFC Wimbledon defender Darius Charles on a free transfer.

Hales' 147 smashes Australia

Cricket

ALEX Hales hit 147 as England walloped Australia by 242 runs whilst recording a record score of 481-6 at Trent Bridge in their third one day international.

Former Chesham Grammar School student Hales struck 16 fours and five sixes in his 92-ball knock as England also secured their biggest one-day win in history.

Jonny Bairstow hit a brutal 139 as England briefly threatened to post 500 in the third ODI.

Australia were bowled out for 239 in 37 overs as Adil Rashid took 4-47.

England's win, which gave them an unassailable 3-0 lead in the series with two games to play, came only 11 days after New Zealand made the highest total in a women's ODI - 490-4 against Ireland in Dublin.

While the innings of Hales and Bairstow, which both lasted 92 balls, laid the platform, skipper Eoin Morgan provided the late impetus with a rapid 67.

The left-hander hit a 21-ball half-century - the fastest by an England player - in becoming his country's all-time top ODI run-scorer.

Hales told The Telegraph: "What a ground. We've had some great memories here as a team and today is another special day.

"My plan was just to keep the momentum going. I know the ground like the back of my hand so it was nice to do something special.

"It (scoring 500) was murmured. Morgs (Eoin Morgan) was saying if ever there's a chance to do it, now's the time. We just couldn't get going at the end there with the wide slower balls, but what a day."

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