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Bucks Free Press

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ELECTION SHOCK

Special report from the night Lib Dems shocked Bucks and UK - *Pages 6,7,8&9*

Murder arrest in cold case

65-year-old investigated as police hunt for mystery 'Lady in the Lake' killer from 1987

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NEWS

Centre shops speak out on housing fear

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CRIME

Death sparks major probe

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GUNMAN TERROR AMID 999 HUNT

FULL STORY: Page 5

INSIDE • Wanderers fixtures revealed • E-scooter fury • Star's home for sale • 16 pages of TV • Puzzles

Wycombe Wanderers' League One fixtures are revealed

WYCOMBE Wanderers' league fixtures for the 2021/22 season have been revealed, with the Chairboys starting off their campaign with a home match against Accrington Stanley on Saturday, August 7. This is then followed by two consecutive away games against newly promoted Cheltenham Town a week later, before a midweek trip up to Wigan Athletic.

A month later in September will see Gareth Ainsworth's men take on sides who are tipped to do well in the league this season, with fixtures against Ipswich Town, Oxford United, Charlton Athletic and MK Dons in the space of three weeks. The Chairboys will take on Cambridge United at home on Boxing Day before ending the season away at Burton Albion.

The EFL has since confirmed that it has developed an 'interchangeable' fixture list for Derby County and Wycombe Wanderers, while the Rams' disciplinary process is finalised. The fixture list for both the Championship and League One will be published in full based on the 2020/21 final standings, pending any appeals relating to this decision. Wycombe could still be a Championship club, if Derby are punished for breaching EFL the financial rules.

Here are Wycombe's League One fixtures in full:

Sat Aug 7: Accrington Stanley (H)
Sat Aug 14: Cheltenham Town (A)
Tue Aug 17: Wigan Athletic (A)
Sat Aug 21: Lincoln City (H)
Sat Aug 28: Sunderland (A)
Sat Sep 4: Ipswich Town (H) *(International Weekend)*
Sat Sep 11: Oxford United (A)
Sat Sep 18: Charlton Athletic (H)
Sat Sep 25: Milton Keynes Dons (A)
Tue Sep 28: Shrewsbury Town (A)
Sat Oct 2: Morecambe (H)
Sat Oct 9: Gillingham (H) *(International Weekend)*
Sat Oct 16: Doncaster Rovers (A)
Tue Oct 19: Rotherham United (A)
Sat Oct 23: Crewe Alexandra (H)
Sat Oct 30: Fleetwood Town (A)
Sat Nov 13: Portsmouth (H) *(International Weekend)*
Sat Nov 20: Bolton Wanderers (H)
Tue Nov 23: Plymouth Argyle (A)
Sat Nov 27: Sheffield Wednesday (A)
Tue Dec 7: Burton Albion (H)
Sat Dec 11: A.F.C. Wimbledon (H)
Sat Dec 18: Bolton Wanderers (A)
Sun Dec 26: Cambridge United (H)
Wed Dec 29: Ipswich Town (A)
Sat Jan 1: Charlton Athletic (A)
Sat Jan 8: Sunderland (H)
Sat Jan 15: Oxford United (H)
Sat Jan 22: Morecambe (A)
Sat Jan 29: Milton Keynes Dons (H) *(International Weekend)*
Sat Feb 5: Cambridge United (A)
Tue Feb 8: Shrewsbury Town (H)
Sat Feb 12: Lincoln City (A)
Sat Feb 19: Cheltenham Town (H)
Tue Feb 22: Wigan Athletic (H)
Sat Feb 26: Accrington Stanley (A)
Sat Mar 5: Crewe Alexandra (A)
Sat Mar 12: Rotherham United (H)
Sat Mar 19: Portsmouth (A)
Sat Mar 26: Fleetwood Town H) *(International Weekend)*
Sat Apr 2: Doncaster Rovers (H)
Sat Apr 9: Gillingham (A)
Fri Apr 15: Plymouth Argyle (H)
Mon Apr 18: A.F.C. Wimbledon (A)
Sat Apr 23: Sheffield Wednesday (H)
Sat Apr 30: Burton Albion (A)

SPORT

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SPORT: Wanderers prepare for life in League One

Are Uche and Anis key to next season's plans?

Uche Ikpeazu (left) and Anis Mehmeti (right) both had brilliant campaigns with Wycombe last season despite the club's relegation. In their first year with the Chairboys, the duo played a total of 59 matches in all competitions last season, and scored 11 goals between them. (PA)

By Jamie Cameron

IT'S been a quiet summer so far in terms of incomings at Adams Park, but keeping hold of some of the Chairboys' key players could arguably be more important than any additions.

Youngster Anis Mehmeti was a real breakout star of the 2020/21 season, and his performances would've had bigger clubs interested, but thankfully for Wycombe fans, the Albanian's contract was extended at the end of the campaign.

Despite most of the Chairboys squad looking secure at Adams Park for the immediate future, star striker Uche Ikpeazu has been linked with a move to the likes of Cardiff and Nottingham Forest in recent weeks.

This came as something of a surprise, but it really shouldn't have been after the Ugandan recovered from an injury-affected start to the season to become one of the Chairboys' key players.

His hold-up play and strength were admirable, and he also showed class in front of goal with some excellent footwork and a few majestic finishes.

With Fred Onyedinma having been sold earlier in the window, the last thing Wycombe need is to lose another important part of the team.

Should a significant fee be received for the frontman, Gareth Ainsworth would have sufficient cash from the two deals combined to bring in some exciting players.

Despite that, it's still crucial to keep Ikpeazu in south Bucks, where he was one of the key figures in an excellent end to the season that nearly ended in a great escape.

After his first four strikes in blue all came in defeat, Ikpeazu was part of a fairytale win against Bristol City with a back-post header, before his wonderful strike from 25 yards saw off a strong Bournemouth side in the final home game.

If the 26-year-old can produce moments like that in the Championship, he could certainly scare some defences in League One, which is one of the reasons why it's so crucial to keep him at Adams Park.

The aforementioned new deal for Mehmeti came at the same time as confirmation that club legend Adebayo Akinfenwa was still in talks over a contract extension.

There's still no news either way on that, and with the players' return to training only a week away, it's unusual for a player's future to still be up in the air.

However, Akinfenwa is no normal player and he understandably may need some extra time to come to a decision due to his various media commitments.

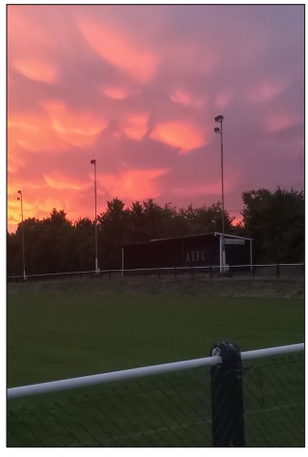
At the age of 39, no one is expecting him to play loads of football for the Chairboys next season, but after the service he's given to the club, it would be nice if he stayed for one more season.

He'd still get some minutes, as he did in the Championship, but you feel Akinfenwa's main role would be to help nurture the younger players in the squad if he did sign a new deal.

It would also be great for the Chairboys' record Football League goalscorer to receive a proper send-off from the fans after his goals went a long way to getting the club where they are today.

The first new signings of the summer will surely start to arrive soon, but the more important question may be whether these two key strikers are still at Wycombe come August.

Wanderers fixtures revealed - See page 51



Amersham Town's stadium

Friendly confirmed in July

THE TWO TEAMS WILL BATTLE IT OUT FOR THE JOHN HEARN CUP

A FRIENDLY match between Amersham Town and Chesham United will be played next month.

The pre-season bout will happen at Amersham's stadium in Spratleys Meadow on Saturday July 10, with the fixture kicking off at 2pm.

And despite it being a friendly, the neighbours will battle it out for the John Hearn Challenge Cup.

Amersham chairman Simon Damery said: "This cup was donated in, we believe, the 1950s by John Hearn who played for both clubs before he emigrated to Canada.

"It was contested regularly for the next few years but then went largely into abeyance.

"With the restart of soccer at our levels after its suspension due to lockdown it seemed to both clubs a wonderful opportunity to resurrect the competition and we are grateful to Chesham United for agreeing to the fixture.

"We will have young mascots from Kings Church Amersham FC, our associated club, leading out both teams and signifying the closer relationship between Amersham and Chesham.

"The bar in our rebuilt clubhouse will, of course, be open serving draught beer"

Chesham United Chairman, Peter Brown, added: "We are delighted to be rekindling our relationship with Amersham Town in the prestigious John Hearn Challenge Cup.

"It has been a very tough time for non-league football in recent months and it is really important that local clubs unite to support each other and build on local rivalries that whet the appetite of the supporters."

Entry is £5 for adults, £3 for senior citizens with free entry for under 16s.

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