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BRAVE PHYSIO MAKES HISTORY

Solo Polar mission
in minus 30C

- Page 10



BIRTH OF A SIXTIES ICON

The girl who
invented Dusty
Springfield - Page 40

STRUCK GOLD!

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is declared
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a decade'

Page 5



NEWS

Payout after
man left
'isolated'



Page 3

IN MEMORY

Tributes to
campaigner



Page 7

Ban for man who kept dog chained inside a trolley

Story
Page 9

INSIDE

• Planning roundup 24

• Nostalgia 40-42

• TV 43-49

• Sport 62-64

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NEWS



Buzz Gym also have sites in Reading, Slough, Swindon, Oxford and Harrow

New gym to open in Eden Centre

A NEW gym is set to open in High Wycombe town centre later this year.

Buzz Gym will open at the Eden Shopping Centre on the ground and the first floor of Eden Shopping Centre opposite Waterstones in March.

It will be open for 24 hours and members will be allocated free parking in Eden car park.

Buzz Gym founder and CEO, Adam Stowell said: "Our aim is to create a buzz in the club. From our luxury fit-out to our Live DJs and unique Track & Field zone, Buzz Gym brings a new fresh face of

fitness to Wycombe and surrounding areas."

Eden director, Andrew Norton, said: "We're delighted that Buzz Gym will be joining our expanding line-up of quality retail and leisure operators."

"We pride ourselves on the experience we deliver for our customers, and we have no doubt the arrival of this unique, high energy, gym offering will further improve add to our excellent offer."

The Buzz Gym currently have sites in Reading, Slough, Swindon, Oxford and Harrow.

Bill's daughter to run marathon in dad's memory

By James Richings

THE daughter of late broadcaster and ever-popular Wycombe Wanderers fan Bill Turnbull has said she will run the London Marathon in his memory.

Flora Turnbull wants to raise awareness of prostate cancer after the former BBC Breakfast presenter passed away at the age of 66 in August last year.

She announced the news on Wednesday, January 25 on what would have been the journalist's 67th birthday.

Her father, who was an ambassador for Prostate Cancer UK, died at his home in Suffolk after a 'challenging and committed fight against prostate cancer', his family said in September.

Flora told BBC Breakfast: "Losing dad was such a huge thing for us, and our family obviously."

"I think, first of all, I wanted to have a purpose this year and to remember Dad in the most purposeful way possible, and this felt like I could pay tribute to him in a way that was personal for him because he ran the marathon a few times and also in a way to highlight this cause for Prostate Cancer UK."

She has set up a JustGiving page to raise money for Prostate Cancer UK, which funds research, awareness, and support.

At this present moment,



Flora Turnbull (inset) will run the marathon in her father's name

£6,844 has been raised of her £7,000 target.

She added: "He was the most wonderful dad, he was everything you would want a father to be."

"He was fun, he was gregarious, he was like he was on television, he was great to be around."

"He could also be grumpy in the best way possible, where we would all tease him and he would tease us."

"He was the real light of our lives really, and he was the centre of our family so losing him has been a huge, huge loss for us, but equally I feel so incredibly lucky to have him as a father."

"I think he was a very em-

powering father and he wanted me to feel like I had that inner strength, so I really feel that exemplifies what he was like as a dad."

Bill was best known for co-hosting BBC Breakfast between 2001 and 2016, alongside commenting on his beloved Wycombe Wanderers on BBC 3 Counties Radio.

He also received an honorary degree from Buckinghamshire New University in 2014 for his charity work within the county.

To help Flora reach her goal, visit www.justgiving.com/fundraising/flora-turnbull-london-marathon.

SEEKING A NEW CHALLENGE?

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Join us at **The Town Hall, Queen Victoria Road, High Wycombe HP11 2XE** on **Wednesday 8th February** from **11am-7pm** and explore your next career move with the area's biggest and brightest employers.



Striking teacher speaks



Castlefield School

ONE of the hundreds of Buckinghamshire teachers who took part in Wednesday's national walkout says they are striking as the "existing pay offer is impossible to accept as it essentially means yet another pay cut."

The Castlefield School teacher has spoken out on anonymously on the National Education Union website, explaining why they're striking today.

They warned that schools starved of cash were struggling to provide the support that youngsters needed.

They wrote on the payupsos website: "Teaching has never been a well paid career but the existing pay offer is impossible to accept as it essentially means yet another pay cut."

"Just as important is the fact that this increase is having to be funded by existing school funds - the government has provided not a single penny towards the raise."

"How are schools supposed to do this in the current cost of living crisis?"

"It means fewer staff and fewer resources and this directly negatively impacts our pupils."

The walkout, by members of the National Education Union (NEU), means a large number of schools in Buckinghamshire and elsewhere will be forced to shut.

Teachers say their pay has dropped by 20 per cent in real terms since 2010. However, they also point to many other problems affecting the profession.

SPORT

Holmer well beaten at home

HOLMER Green suffered a humiliating loss at home as they were 7-3 by Rugby Borough.

The Greens held Rugby off for 20 minutes, but were undone when a ball over the top was converted despite Josh Ameganvi getting a hand to the shot.

On 27 after Ameganvi had kept out a shot, the home defence failed to react quickly enough and the loose ball was fired home from 15 yards.

Four minutes later, they made it 3-0 and just before the break, the game was all but over as Rugby got a fourth, but Darren Page did pull one back for Holmer.

There was hope 15 minutes left when Martin Lancaster made it 4-2, but Rugby scored three in the final 10 minutes, before Ollie White scored in the dying embers to make it 7-3.

For more sports news, visit www.bucksfreepress.co.uk/sport or follow James Richings on Twitter (@James_BFP).

Also, send in your sports reports to james.richings@newsquest.co.uk and we will try and get them published for you.

Bragging rights in Bucks

BEACONSFIELD Town recorded one of their largest wins at their new stadium as they smashed Buckinghamshire rivals Chesham United 5-2 on January 28.

The Rams fell behind thanks to a Bradley Clayton goal, but the home side responded in brilliant style as Elliot Buchanan bagged himself a hat-trick.

Callum Webb and Kyel Reid, who was once of Wolverhampton Wanderers, West Ham United and Bradford City, also got on the scoresheet before Clayton pulled one back for the Generals.

A total 395 people attended the match, making it one of the highest for the club since their Holloways Park home was opened in October 2021.

They then drew 1-1 against Plymouth Parkway three days later in Devon, with Dan Bradshaw getting a late strike.

Double victories for the women



The women were back in action after a stop-start January due to the cold and freezing weather (PA)

HERE is how the Wycombe Wanderers Women team's did over the last week.

Milton United Ladies 1-5 Wycombe Wanderers League Cup

A Fraya Harris hat-trick helped Chairgirls put out a dominant display in the League Cup as they smashed Milton United 5-1.

Wycombe took it to their opponents and scored five very impressive first-half goals to book their route into the next round.

A very early Harris tap in and a fantastic lob by Katie Riddington put Milton on the back foot in the fixture's infancy.

The fixture was then wrapped up via a rare Amy Lynch goal, who scored from an excellent Kine Andersen corner.

Harris then completed her treble with two more smart finishes before the break.

Milton improved after the break and got a consultation goal.

Manager, Carl Simon, said: "It was good to get the win and see such good performances throughout the squad today."

"Freya Harris was a constant threat and scored a hat-trick, Katie Riddington is also showing a level of consistency that we can rely on but the Player of the Man was Kine Andersen who ran the midfield with an assured passing display"

Next game to be announced on social media.

By Craig Anderson

Goring United 1-3 Wycombe Wanderers Reserves

The Reserves where back in action after having a couple of called off games, once they settled, they began to dominate possession and look to find ways to break down the stubborn Goring defence.

A cross from Amy Norfolk on the right side of the penalty area, was converted by Shannon Read to set the team on their way.

A free kick then gave Wycombe a chance to extend their lead and Shannon Read despatched her effort from 30 yards to slot it into corner of the net.

Wycombe found Goring a bit more of a challenge in the second half as the host picked up a goal despite goalkeeper Frankie Commons getting a touch.

Goring continued to create chances but, in the end, cross from Emily Norfolk into the Goring penalty and at the second time of asking, Jess Gomes finished to get her first of the season and Wycombe's third.

Reserves next match, Home vs Eversley and California Women's Reserves Sunday, February 5 with a 2pm kick-off.

The Under 18s where not in action last week, but their ext game will be away vs Millwall on February 4.



Lilli Deste (pictured) performed well in Chile despite the 'below expected' scores at the championships in January

'Amazing' time in Chile despite flat performance

A SIXTH Form student from Buckinghamshire recently took part in the IWWF World Under 17 Waterski Championships in Chile.

Lilli Deste, 17, who is a student at the Dr Challoner's Grammar School in Little Chalfont, flew out to South America at the start of January for the four-day competition, which saw her finish in 16th place, whilst TEAM GB secured ninth-place.

She said: "I continued my full training schedule throughout the autumn before flying out to Florida for three weeks of training in the warm water."

I lived and trained with the Canadian junior team before travelling to Chile five days before the competition started. Despite my scores being below my expectations, I was happy with my performance overall.

"I was happy with my performance overall. Travelling and meeting people from different continents as well as seeing friends I've made previously, competing in Europe was very enjoyable and the entire experience in Chile was amazing."



Harvey Cartwright (pictured in April 2022) has joined Wycombe Wanderers on loan until the end of the season (PA)

New faces at Adams Park

WYCOMBE Wanderers have confirmed the signings of Hull City goalkeeper, Harvey Cartwright, and Wolverhampton Wanderers midfielder, Chem Campbell, on loan until the rest of the season.

The 20-year-old shot-stopper, who has played three times for the Tigers, will act as a backup to current number one, Max Stryjek.

The arrival of Cartwright at Adams Park has led Tyla Dickinson to join Sutton United on loan for the rest of the season.

The incoming keeper will wear the number 38 shirt for the Chairboys.

Meanwhile, the arrival of Campbell from Premier League Wolves is to help the club try and squeeze a place in the play-off places for the second consecutive season.

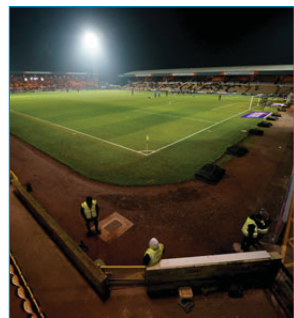
Speaking on his entrance at Adams Park, Campbell said: "You can expect me to be direct, take players on and create chances for myself and for the team."

"I'll try and excite the fans as much as I can."

He will don the number 27 shirt which was last worn by Connor Parsons.

To read more about Wycombe's transfer activity in January, visit www.bucksfreepress.co.uk/sport

Alan Parry's Previews: Looking at Port Vale



Vale Park (PA)

DESPITE pocketing a club record transfer fee, the departure of fans' favourite Anis Mehmeti on deadline day was a major setback for Wycombe, but the man signed to replace him could soften the blow of losing their star player.

Chem Campbell, recruited on loan from Wolverhampton Wanderers, is also an exciting prospect and has already made a handful of appearances in the Premier league.

At just turned 20, Campbell is younger than Mehmeti and a source close to Wolves told me: 'He's very well thought of at Molineux. He's got pace and strength and an eye for goal.'

On the occasions he's played for the first team he's looked very promising.'

Campbell is set to make his Chairboys debut on Saturday, February 4 at Port Vale where his new 'gaffer' - Wanderers manager Gareth Ainsworth - is a popular figure.

Even though Ainsworth left the club 25 years ago, he remains the most expensive player Vale have ever bought or sold.

He made 55 appearances for the Staffordshire club, and endeared himself to their supporters in his two seasons in what was then League One, the equivalent of today's Championship.

Coincidentally, Ainsworth made his final league appearance for the Chairboys in a 1-1 draw against Vale at Adams Park in 2013 and was warmly applauded by Valiants supporters on a lap-of-honour at the end.

Vale fans had another reason to cheer when they visited Wycombe earlier this season, twice coming from behind to force a 2-2 draw. It was the eighth time in seventeen meetings the clubs have shared the points with Wycombe winning six games and Vale three.

A goal by Andy Rammell gave Wanderers victory in their first ever visit to Vale Park in 2000, and they also triumphed on their last trip to Burslem in 2017 thanks to goals by Adebayo Akinfenwa (2) and Paris Cowan-Hall in a 3-2 win.

Vale's form has fluctuated since they won promotion to League One last season, but they aren't far behind Wanderers in the table despite being one of the lowest scoring teams in the division.

Why Anis Mehmeti made the move away



Anis Mehmeti (pictured playing against Portsmouth in December) has left Wycombe to join Bristol City (PA)

GARETH Ainsworth has revealed that Anis Mehmeti's move from Wycombe Wanderers to Bristol City was partly inspired by the Albanian's desire 'to look after his family.'

The 22-year-old joined the Robins on Transfer Deadline Day [January 31], for a club-record fee for the Chairboys.

The figure is undisclosed, but it is expected to be between £1m and £5m, which will include performance-based add-ons.

Mehmeti, who is English-born to Albanian parents, was signed by Wanderers in September 2020 following a successful trial period with the club.

Four weeks later, he made his professional debut as a second-half substitute in Wycombe's 2-1 home loss against Millwall in the Championship.

Speaking on the winger's departure to Bristol City, Ainsworth said: "Away from football, Anis is a boy who has not had it easy."

"His parents are Albanian, they came over to England, he was born here and he played in the cages across London."

"He was released here, there, and everywhere, and I'm sure that he didn't live in the fanciest of houses in London, so this move is a massive success for Anis."

"He told me that he 'wanted to look after his family' and that is brilliant to hear."

"He's humble, a hard worker and his performances are down

By James Richings

to his determination to improve, as I really do believe he will play in the Premier League one day."

Mehmeti's time at Adams Park saw him score 19 goals in 97 appearances, which included nine goals in 30 games this campaign.

He had only signed a contract extension with the club in November 2021, but positive displays since July has seen his stock increase, as multiple scouts visited Adams Park to see him in action during December.

In the end, Bristol City fought off competition from Nottingham Forest and Queens Park Rangers to sign the former Tottenham Hotspur, Fulham, and Norwich City youth player.

Ainsworth added: "It's a fantastic achievement for Anis."

"He came on trial, began training with the first team, established himself as a first-team regular before wowling all the managers in the leagues above which has led us to receive the highest fee ever for a player."

"He's been brilliant for us, and it's a great advert for our development team that if you join us, you will get a chance."

"It's also a testament to my scouting and coaching staff."

"They've helped him become the person he is now."

Mehmeti will wear the 11 shirt at Ashton Gate.

SPORT

0963-2336



Lynch played eight times for the club (Anita Ross Marshall)

Ex-Wanderers keeper who shined at Wembley retires aged just 27

FORMER Wycombe Wanderers goalkeeper Alex Lynch has confirmed his retirement from football at the age of 27.

The ex-Chairboy shot-stopper, who played eight times for the club, announced the news via his Twitter account in the evening of January 31.

His decision to hang up his

gloves at a relatively young age was due to 'having another major operation needed on his foot', coupled with three injury-hit years between 2018 and 2021.

Taking to social media, Lynch said: "Seems a bit strange writing this at the age of 27 and having three years out in the middle, but after a meeting with my sur-

geon and needing another major operation on my foot, I've decided to call it a day on my playing days.

"Football has given me some unbelievable memories and a chance to live my childhood dream.

"All things considered, I'm happy to have played a few games in the Football League, National League,

Welsh Premier League and to be capped for Wales at all the youth levels."

Speaking on his time at Wycombe, he continued: "Getting to play at Wembley and the play-off experience with Wycombe will stay with me forever."

He is now a coach at his hometown club, Holyhead Hotspur, in Anglesey, Wales.

January exits are explained

WYCOMBE Wanderers manager Gareth Ainsworth has explained why he decided to let several of his attacking players leave the club this January.

Overall, nine faces departed Adams Park with six either being forwards or wingers.

Daryl Horgan, who is out of contract at the end of the season, joined League Two Stevenage on loan, whilst Sullay Kaikai had his deal terminated by mutual consent to sign for Milton Keynes.

Ali Al-Hamadi was snapped up by AFC Wimbledon, Anis Mehmeti penned a lucrative contract with Bristol City, Connor Parsons was purchased by Irish side Waterford Town, whilst D'Mani Mellor moved to Rochdale on loan.

Speaking on his decision to let the players leave, Ainsworth said: "There were lots of factors going into it, but I prefer to have a squad of players I know I am going to be using regularly.

"I'm not saying that the players I let go were not good enough for me, not at all, because the likes of Daryl Horgan and Sullay Kaikai are quality players.

"They just needed to spread their wings and crack on with their careers.

"Daz [Horgan], became a father to twins during the week so that's five children for him now.

"Congratulations to him, and playing regular first-

By James Richings

team football in the league below should help him secure a contract somewhere which is very important.

"Similar with Sullay - I am really pleased that he's now going to be at a club where he'll be playing more often because he is a quality player."

The 49-year-old also insisted that rotations to his starting 11 will be made between now and May, as Wycombe prepare for their remaining 19 league matches this season.

This will include 10 fixtures across a six-week spell between February and March.

He continued: "The squad will come into play.

"They may not see the changes come at first, but in the next few games, the lads coming out of the team will be gutted.

"I have got to make sure that the players will play their part from now until May.

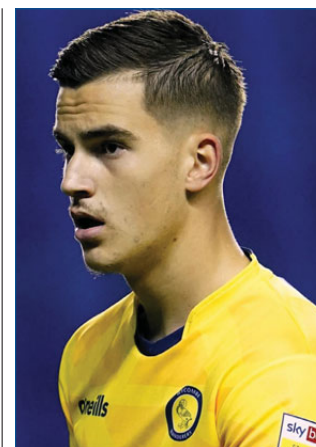
"I chose to trim the squad down a little bit, and some of the development boys may be in and around the squad and that is great for us."

To read more about Wycombe's transfer news from the last month, visit www.bucksfreepress.co.uk/sport.

Alternatively, you can follow James Richings on Twitter (@James_BFP), for all of the latest Chairboys information and more.



Daryl Horgan left Wycombe to join Stevenage on loan (PA)



He left on January 31 (PA)

Mehmeti thanks Wanderers

EX-WYCOMBE winger Anis Mehmeti has thanked the club for the 'opportunity to once again enjoy and love football'.

The 22-year-old penned a three-year deal with Championship side Bristol City on January 31 in what was a club record fee for the Chairboys, who allegedly received between £1m and £5m for his services.

In all, he played 97 times for the club and scored 19 goals which included nine strikes this term.

He said: "I owe everything to Wycombe.

"They gave me the opportunity to once again enjoy and love football.

"Special thank you to Gareth who believed in me and gave me the opportunity to make my debut in the Football League.

On the supporters, Mehmeti added: "I can only say thank you to the club, members of staff, and the fans that have supported me since the first day I wore the shirt.

"Of course, thank you to my teammates who helped and pushed me to become who I am today."