

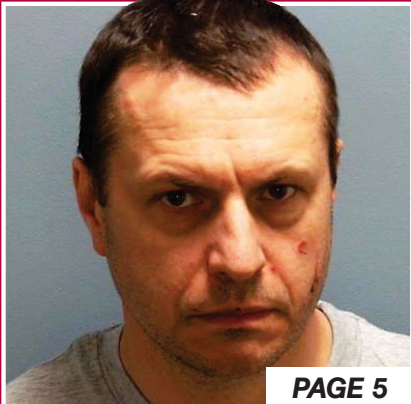
Bucks Free Press

Friday, April 3, 2026

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CONFESSION OF MURDERER ON THE M40



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IS FIGHTING FOR
EVERY BREATH'

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LIDO UNDER THREAT



Future of Rye pool at risk as leisure charity enters administration

THE future of Wycombe Rye Lido is at risk as the charity who runs it has gone into administration.

Fusion Lifestyle filed for administration on April 1, after a prolonged period of financial difficulty.

Now, the Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure, Peter Brazier, has said the council will work with administrators to "support continuity of service" and ensure the Lido remains open "for now".

He said: "Buckinghamshire Coun-

By Isabella Harris

cil is aware that Fusion Lifestyle, the charity operating a number of leisure facilities across England, including Wycombe Rye Lido in Buckinghamshire, has entered administration.

"Wycombe Rye Lido is a valued and much-used local facility which plays a vital role in supporting the health and wellbeing of our local communities."

Full story: Page 2

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Young fighter wins first championship title



Kaiden Bolton

KAIDEN Bolton, a 15-year-old fighter from Chesham, won his first championship at the AF50 4 Nations Championship over the weekend.

Bolton, who trains at WB May thai and fitness in chesham, faced an opponent who outweighed him by 5 kilograms. Despite the weight difference, he outperformed his opponent in all aspects of the fight.

Bolton utilized clinch work and knee strikes, dropping his opponent in the first round. He continued to dominate with spinning kicks and fast hand combinations, along with more clinch work that put his opponent on the mat several times throughout the bout.

Bolton remained undefeated in his fight career and claimed his first title at the 4 Nations Championship. His dedication to training paid off, helping him bring home the gold strap.

'We need to be together in push for play-offs'

MICHAEL Duff wants 'everyone' at Wycombe Wanderers to be 'together now' as they continue their push for a play-off place, following their 4-0 home thrashing of Port Vale.

Strikes from Cauley Woodrow, Connor Taylor, Fred Onyedimma and Junior Quitirna secured the Chairboys' second 4-0 victory of 2026, lifting them up to eighth, just two points off the top six.

Of their final six fixtures, Wycombe will face four teams fighting for promotion, including play-off hopefuls Huddersfield Town, Bradford City and Stockport County.

Top-of-the-table Lincoln City could be parading the League One trophy when Wanderers visit Sincil Bank at the end of April, which will be their final away game of the season.

Their other two fixtures are against Blackpool and Rotherham United, both battling to avoid relegation to League Two.

Duff said: "The message I've just sent to them is that next weekend, you can't pick and choose when you're at your best.

"You're going to have to be at your best for the next two games.

"I think it's really important that we're all together now. Supporters, players, board, everyone pushing in the same direction."

Wycombe boss praises Connor Taylor's form

MICHAEL Duff has praised the attitude of central defender Connor Taylor after the latter scored his first Wycombe goal in Wanderers' 4-0 home thumping against Port Vale on Saturday.

The former Stoke City and Bristol Rovers man got the second in the resounding victory, as the Chairboys move within two points off the play-off places with six games to go.

Since his transfer to Adams Park in the summer, Taylor's form has been hit and miss, with the head coach eventually selecting Anders Hagelskjær and Dan Casey as the club's first-choice centre back partnership. However, with the Dane and Irishman expected to miss the remainder of the campaign through injury, Taylor has stepped back into the fold and has looked impressive.

He played every league outing in the month of March, in which he helped the Chairboys keep three clean sheets from their six games played.

Speaking after the win against the Valiants, he said: "He's been good. He's been good probably since the last three performances now, I think he's been excellent.

"I'm pleased for him because he's worked hard."

Teenage golfer to represent England at European Cup

ELLIE Lichtenhein from Buckinghamshire has been selected to represent England at the European Nations Cup in Sotogrande, Spain.

Lichtenhein, 16, is joined by Charlotte Naughton and Annabel Peaford in the three-player England women's team. The tournament is a 72-hole stroke-play event, with the best three men's scores counting each day, and the top two women's scores counting.

Tom Osborne and Eliot Baker – winner and runner-up respectively of the recent Spanish Amateur Championship – are part of the four-player England Men's Team, alongside Ben Bolton and Kris Kim.

England has historically been successful in the men's event, having won 13 of the 26 editions. However, the women are still seeking their first victory, having participated in four

of the six tournaments.

Jenny Henderson, the England women's captain, expressed confidence in her team.

"Sotogrande is always a superb test, with fast, demanding greens and a strong European field befitting such a historic and prestigious tournament," Henderson said. "Although the Women's Team is young, they have already achieved a great deal, and with their collective potential, they'll be aiming for English success both as a team and individuals at this event."

Lichtenhein's selection comes on the heels of several notable achievements. She recently won the Sunningdale Foursomes and secured a win at the 2025 European Young Masters. She also finished in the top five at the 2025 Scottish Girls' U18 Championship, taking home the trophy for the top U16 player.



Ellie Lichtenhein Image: England Golf

Club to hold 'Legends Day' to mark 125 years

AYLESBURY United and the Supporters Trust, known as 21CD, have jointly announced Legends Day, a commemorative event scheduled for Saturday, April 11, 2026, at The Meadow in Chesham during the Ducks' home match against Stotfold FC, according to an announcement. The event is set to run from 1 p.m. through 5 p.m., with the match itself scheduled to kick off at 3 p.m.

Legends Day is designed to honor the individuals who have played pivotal roles throughout the 125-plus-year his-

tory of Aylesbury United, according to the announcement. The event offers an opportunity for supporters to reconnect with their heroes and share in the collective memory of the club's storied past.

One of the key highlights will be the opportunity for fans to meet and interact with Aylesbury United Legends who have represented the team over the years. This includes a number of individuals who played in the memorable friendly against England in 1988. According to the announcement, support-

ers will have the chance to "meet and chat with the heroes who wore the green and white in years gone by." This aspect of the celebration is intended to foster a sense of continuity and shared pride among fans of all ages.

The club will also host a memorabilia exhibition. According to the announcement, the exhibition will be "a fascinating exhibition...featuring a collection of historic items that tell the story of 'The Ducks'."

In an effort to further involve the fan

base, the club is offering free entry to the match for supporters who bring and share their own personal collections of Aylesbury United memorabilia. This initiative aims to encourage community participation and ensure that personal stories and artifacts become part of the celebration. According to the announcement, "supporters who bring along and share their own personal collection of Aylesbury United Memorabilia will gain free access to the match against Stotfold FC."

Sport

Beaconsfield beaten by two goals at home

BEACONSFIELD were beaten again at home, with Leverstock Green taking the points with a 2-0 win.

There was a lightning fast start to the game with sides having shots on goal within the opening minute.

It only took till the 8th minute for a goal to be scored, Leverstock Green took the lead with a calm finish from Sekyere after he found space in the box.

The game entered a cagey period after the goal and there was limited chances for the remainder of the half.

The second half was largely played as the first finished, with Beaconsfield struggling to get any hold on the game and Leverstock spurning chances when they came their way.

As the game looked to fizzle out the away side found space in the box and a ball across goal was not cleared by Beaconsfield allowing Jack Allen a tap in to make it 2-0 at the end.

Beaconsfield return to action away at Biggleswade Town on Good Friday.



Beaconsfield were beaten at home by Leverstock Green

Greens notch up sixth league win on the run

COMBINED Counties Football League – Division One Bedford 2 Holmer Green 4

THE Greens notched up their sixth successive league win.

With usual 'keeper Sam Bell and Mason Green unavailable, young George Morley again came in behind the defence, and Carlo Paul debuted at left back. The home side took the lead on 11 minutes. After some uncertainty in front of him, the through ball caught the new man out on his inside, and the winger raced through to neatly put the ball beyond the exposed Morley. By 17 minutes the home side hopeful of winning automatic promotion, knew that they would be in for a difficult afternoon. A ball out of defence by Liam Butters, was neatly moved on to Oskar Esplund-Evans. The turn and shot from 25 yards sailed over the home 'keeper, but came back into play off the crossbar. Almost immediately from a right-wing corner by Saunders, Harrison Holbrook got his head to the ball at the near post. The goalkeeper was nowhere, but the ball was hacked off the goal-line. These two reprieves only delayed the inevitable as Holmer took the game to Bedford and levelled on 23 minutes. Along throw on the left from James Mangan was not dealt with well. Saunders battled for the ball with a couple of opponents, and the ball fell to Butters. His shot from 18 yards swept firmly and low beyond the 'keeper. One minute later a free-kick routine involving Esplund-Evans and Butters centrally and from 22 yards, saw the former strike the goal-frame for the second time.

The Greens were looking more comfortable at the back now with Morley catching everything coming his way in the air. On 39 minutes the home side thought that they were in again. A cross from the by-line to the near post was met well, then beaten out by Morley. The ball was loose and in a dangerous position, but Zac Webster used his body well to allow Morley to regain possession. Holmer now saw to it that they pressurised the home side until the break. In stoppage time, Saunders played in a sumptuous diagonal ball from in front of the main stand. It cleared the centre-backs and dropped nicely for Peck to run in and drill the ball past the goalkeeper. HT 1-2

The second half began with Holmer looking to extend their lead. The Greens used the wind much better than the home side in the first period. Not long before the hour mark Bedford unwittingly gave the ball away in their own penalty-area, presenting the ball to two Holmer attackers. But the duo was so surprised, neither took control and the chance was gone. On 58 minutes Mangan persevered in the Bedford box and forced the ball home from an unpromising position. Three minutes later another corner found Esplund-Evans just beyond the far post; his downward header evaded defenders and 'keeper, bouncing up into the roof of the net to give Holmer a 4-1 lead. The home side then scored from a breakaway but Holmer hold out fairly comfortably until almost five o'clock

Mixed emotions for Marlow Hockey Club after final fixtures

MARLOW'S women's and men's first teams had mixed emotions after a topsy-turvy final weekend of England Hockey League West Conference fixtures.

The women started the day in seventh place in a ten team league, with the bottom two to go down, but despite having a two point cushion over the teams below them, they needed a point to make absolutely sure of retaining their place in the league. In the event, a decisive 3-0 win away at Cheltenham relegated the home side, and Marlow ended the season in a comfortable sixth place.

After early home pressure, a pass from Lottie Porter put Lena Sykora though into a one-on-one with the Cheltenham goalkeeper, who took the player rather than the ball, and Porter calmly slotted the resultant penalty stroke to settle any nerves, and leave Marlow 1-0 up after the first quarter. That remained the score at half time, and Marlow extended their lead early in the third quarter when lovely skill from Keira Allen found Jess Rees-Gray in the circle, and she created space and then finished beautifully; one of the goals of the season.

From this point, the result didn't ever look in doubt, and a third goal from Allen at a penalty corner wrapped things up, with the celebrations being delayed only by a brief stoppage for hail. An extraordinary set of results elsewhere determined the second relegation position, with bottom of the table Slough conjuring an unlikely draw with champions Bath - a result whose significance only became clear when news filtered through that Clifton Robinsons 2s had lost 3-0 at Trojans. That loss left Slough level on points with Clifton, and with an identical goal difference. Slough escaped relegation by virtue of having scored more goals, condemning Cheltenham and Clifton to the drop.

Marlow's men headed to Bristol

Ramy Abou-Setta

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University on Sunday, needing a win to retain a chance of the title, should season-long league leaders Clifton Robinsons slip up with their own (much more difficult) away fixture at Ashmoor.

Whilst nothing is ever routine, Marlow met their half of the bargain by beating Bristol 4-0, with penalty corner goals from Tom McKinley and Callum White, and field goals from White and Jayden Zammler. At Ashmoor, meanwhile, Clifton nerves were settled by an early goal for the league leaders, before being shredded by two Ashmoor goals in five minutes early in the second quarter. The score remained 2-1 to Ashmoor for 44 long minutes, a result which would have seen Marlow promoted as champions in their first season in the England Hockey League, but a last minute penalty corner goal for Clifton gave them point they needed to take the title on goal difference. A cruel twist, but much to be proud of for Marlow after their first season at this level.

It is not overstating things to say that, after a slow start, Marlow ended the season as the strongest side in the league, and away teams, officials and supporters have been universally complimentary about the style of play, the skill levels, the quality of goalscoring, and the spirit with which the team has played. Many have remarked on the atmosphere at Pound Lane and the hospitality provided by the club; all strong signs for next season.

Elsewhere in the club, Marlow's M3s, M4s, W5s and M7s all won their respective titles, and all the eleven other adult teams comfortably retained their league places. The M2s showed solidarity with the M1s by missing out on promotion by fine margins, while the W4s face a promotion play off.



Jess Rees-Gray, scorer of a brilliant goal for Marlow at Cheltenham
Image: @GMWSportPhoto

Wycombe thrash Port Vale to move within two points of play-off zone

James Richings

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WYCOMBE Wanderers returned to winning ways after they defeated a poor Port Vale side 4-0 at Adams Park.

The Chairboys took on the bottom-of-the-table Valiants after losing three of their last league matches.

For Vale, relegation back to League Two seems inevitable, as they put out a second-string side ahead of their FA Cup quarter-final trip to Chelsea next week.

Wycombe started off the better of the two teams and nearly went ahead inside the opening two minutes, when Aaron Morley's cross nearly caught Joe Gauci out.

It was attack after attack after attack, as Andre Vidigal saw his header go wide, while on-loan Stoke City forward Nathan Lowe saw his attempt nearly find its way in.

All of these chances came inside the first 10 minutes.

Thankfully, the home side didn't need to wait long to go front, as Cauley Woodrow opened the scoring on 24 minutes.

Fred Onyedina's cross caused confusion between Gauci and Cameron Humphreys, with the ball eventually falling to the patch of the on-loan Luton Town man, who fired home.

It was his 11th of the season in all competitions, his eighth in the league, and his sixth in his last 12 matches.

Vale looked toothless in a very flat first-half, as they offered nothing up top.

Wycombe hoped to have increased

their lead before the break as Vidigal again went close with a fierce drive, while a Jack Grimmer volley flew wide.

The second period saw the visitors improve as they bossed the latter 45 for large portions.

In the opening 30 seconds, George Hall was just inches away from connecting an Ethon Archer cross, while latter tried his luck 10 minutes later.

A long ball over the top found the forward who took a touch before unleashing a thunderbolt at goal, which just went over Norris' goal.

The basement team then hit the post on 61 minutes when Jordan Lawrence-Gabriel's header crashed the woodwork.

However, Port Vale's hopes rescuing a point at Adams Park came to an end when Connor Taylor scored his first Wycombe goal with 20 minutes remaining.

A Caolan Boyd-Munce corner was not dealt with by the away side, with the ball eventually finding its way to the former Stoke City man.

Taylor took one touch before having a crack at goal, which took two deflections before evading Gauci and into the back of the net.

It was then 3-0 with five minutes remaining, when Luke Harris played through Fred Onyedina, who chipped it over the keeper.

It was the Nigerian's 10th of the season – the first time he has ever reched double digits in a single campaign for the club.

Junior Quitirna put the cherry on top of the cake in the final minutes of stoppage time, when he buried a fantastic left-footed drive from the edge of the box.



Junior Quitirna was head over heels after scoring his side's fourth goal. All images: Steven Paston



Connor Taylor scored the second goal



Cauley Woodrow celebrates scoring



Fred Onyedina and Connor Hall battle for the ball



Junior Quitirna celebrates

SPORT

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‘Late judgement’ set to be made on Jamie Mullins



Republic of Ireland's Jamie Mullins celebrates scoring

WYCOMBE Wanderers head coach Michael Duff has provided an update on midfielder Jamie Mullins.

The 21-year-old played in both of the Republic of Ireland Under 21's qualifying matches against Moldova and Kazakhstan, scoring the only goal in the former as the Greens draw 1-1, before beating the latter 1-0.

His call-up meant he missed the Chairboys' 4-0 home victory against Port Vale on March 28, but Duff is hoping to include the

former Brighton & Hove Albion man in either one of the two Easter fixtures.

Duff said: "He played two 90 minutes and we think he took a bit of a knock, so we will have to make a late judgement on that."

"I think he's coming from Kazakhstan, so it's a long way away."

"We'll get him in in the morning [April 2] and see how he looks."

"Obviously, there's a lot of

contact with the sports and medical team., and they give well-being scores so we get all the data of where he's at."

"We all know Jamie's a good player. Like you said, it's whether we think he's right physically or not."

"We've got a lot of good players at the minute and not only picking the right starting 11, which is going to be really tough, but you've got to try and pick the right bench as well, so it's not just the same bench as

last week.

"How we think, as a staff, the game is going to pan out practically."

"Certain scenarios that might happen, certain areas we might need to cover more than others. All those things get factored in."

"At the minute, we're leaving good players out of the squad as well."

Since joining Wycombe from Brighton, he has scored three goals in 33 appearances in all competitions.

Duff: weekend is key to Wycombe play-off hopes

WYCOMBE Wanderers head coach Michael Duff has admitted that if the Chairboys were to lose their upcoming Easter fixtures, they will be out of the play-off race.

The Adams Park side take on fellow promotion hopefuls Stockport County on Good Friday and Bradford City on Easter Monday.

Of the next six league matches Wycombe will play this season, four of their opponents are aiming for a place in the Championship, as Huddersfield Town and Lincoln City are also on the list for Wanderers.

However, Duff believes that facing clubs in and around the same position is 'the best way to make up ground', as the Chairboys sit two places and two points off the top six.

Speaking ahead of their trip to Edgeley Park, he said: "There's no hiding away from the fact that if you lose both games, you're out of it."

"But there's a flipside to that as well, that you might win both."

"So if we're going to make gaps up on teams, you might as well play teams above you as it's the best way of making ground up, but it also means they're very good teams."

"Friday is no different."

"Obviously, there's been a lot of money spent at Stockport over the last few years, but there's almost a similar sort of trajectory to Wrexham."

"Probably not without the headlines, but I think Dave

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[Challinor] has been well-documented.

"I don't think he's ever finished outside the top six in any league that he's been in. So he's been around it for a long, long time."

"They've got some good players, good budget."

"He's really strong at home and they scored in the first five minutes in the last three home games, so they started quick."

"So we'll have to be at our best, no doubt about that, but I think we've been good recently as well, so I think we've got a chance as well."

Roughly 48 hours after the match against Stockport, Wycombe will be back in action, this time at home to Bradford City on Easter Monday.

It will be the first meeting between the two sides at Adams Park since February 2019, while Wanderers' last win on home soil against the former Premier League side came in November 2010.

On the quick turnaround, he added: "I don't treat it any different to a Saturday, Tuesday because it isn't."

"It's Friday, Monday and everyone seems to make a big thing."

"The games come thick and fast, but they come three hours quicker than a Saturday, Tuesday, which we do regularly during the week."

"We work as normal."



Wycombe Wanderers manager Michael Duff. Image: Steven Paston/PA Wire

Wycombe Wanderers quintet are named in League One Team of the Week

FIVE Wycombe Wanderers players have made it into the current League One Team of the Week.

Captain Jack Grimmer, Connor Taylor, Niall Huggins, Fred Onyedimma and Cauley Woodrow were all included after the Chairboys thumped bottom-of-the-league Port Vale at Adams Park on March 28.

The result has moved Michael Duff's side into eighth on 59 points, two points behind Reading who occupy the last play-off place with six games of the season remaining.

In the Vale hammering, Woodrow opened the scoring midway through the first-half with his sixth goal in his last 12 games.

Taylor got the second with 21 minutes remaining, which was his first strike for Wanderers following his move from Bristol Rovers in the summer, before Onyedimma popped up five minutes before the end to chip in his 10th of the campaign.

The win was wrapped up in the final few moments of stoppage time, when Junior Qutirna fired home a terrific fourth.

Up next for Wycombe are the Easter fixtures, which involve an away trip to Stockport County on Good Friday, and then a home bout versus Bradford City on Easter Monday.