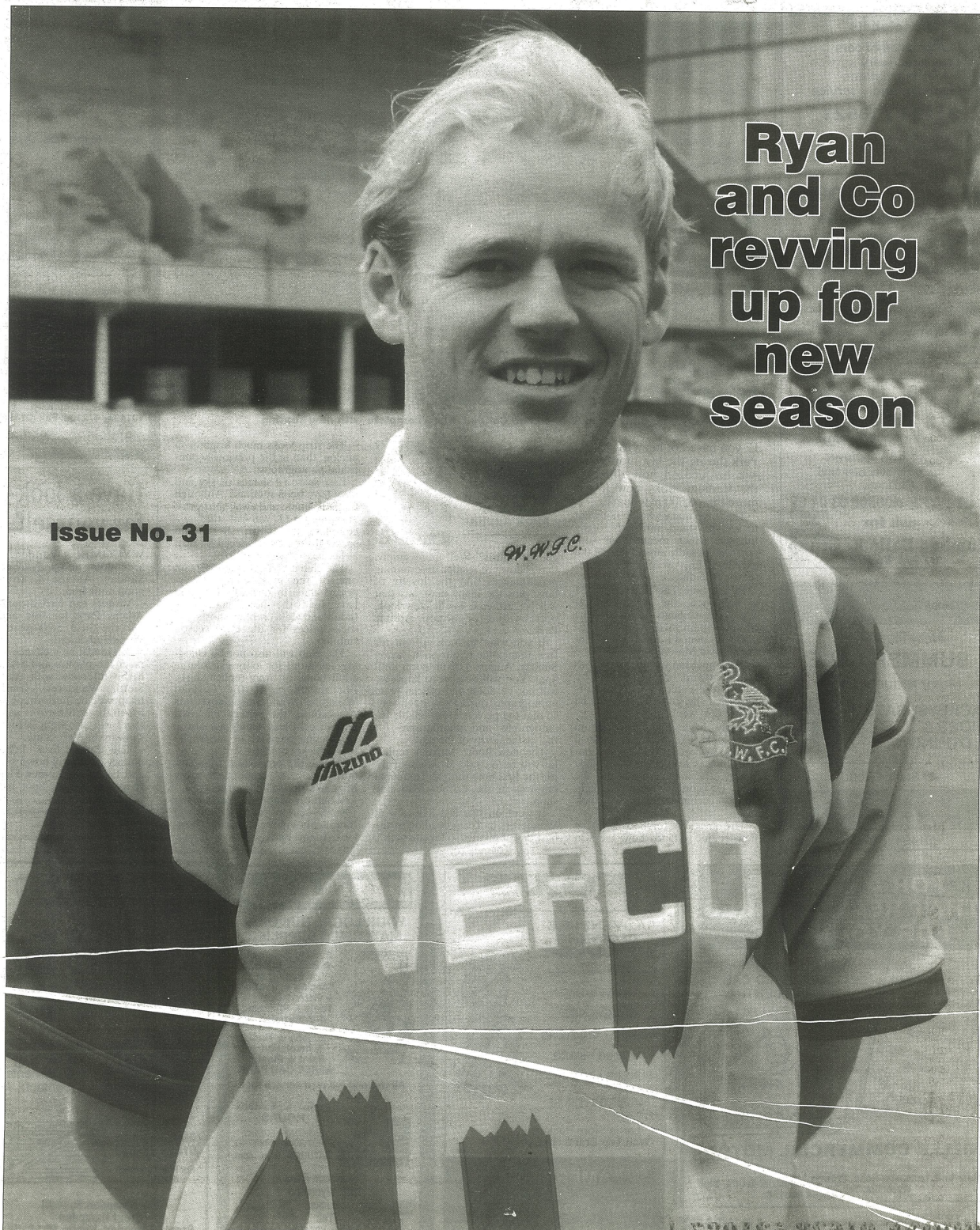




The **BLUES NEWS**

The official newspaper of Wycombe Wanderers Football Club



**Ryan
and Co
revving
up for
new
season**

Issue No. 31

180156 85010 5/00/96

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2 THE BLUES NEWS

Our ground's in another league



Sitting pretty: The Amersham & Wycombe College Stand complete with new seating

If you have not been to Adams Park during the last month you will be amazed how different the stadium looks now it has more than 6,000 new seats.

There are many who do not want to see the stand until it is totally finished, which means their support will be sadly missed during the excellent line-up of home pre-season friendlies.

By the time The Blues News 31 is published, the Amersham & Wycombe College Stand will be completely finished. It will be officially re-opened tonight by its principal David Mason.

The upper tier of the new Woodlands Stand should also be completely seated. The contractors have said the lower tier should be seated next week.

Many have said the stadium now looks like a proper football ground, whatever that means, but one thing is for certain, Wycombe Wanderers are certainly in the First Division in terms of high-quality accommodation for their fans.

The question everybody is asking now is 'nice stand, how are you

**COMMERCIAL
BREAK
By Marketing
Manager
Mark Austin**



going to fill it? Well quite simply, that is down to results, entertaining performances and the loyalty of fans, plus the many new fans that will be attracted to the new look, better-value-for-money Adams Park.

If you want to look around for free, then come to our open day on Sunday, August 4, from noon until 4pm. You will be glad to know we will not be doing the official team photographs during the open day, so that the players are available for autographs and photographs for the vast majority of the day.

The new home Mizuno replica kit will be on sale at Adams Park for the first time tonight, from 6pm onwards in the Corner Flag club shop.

It went on sale last Saturday at Wanderers in Town, leading to the best day of takings so far this year.

The strip looks much brighter in person, than in the previously published photographs.

Last season's shades of sky and navy have been retained. Although the kids' home and away shirt price has gone up £1, you can still buy a complete kit (shirt, shorts and socks) for the same special kit deal as last season at only £39.99.

The club are very keen to remain one of the most competitively-priced clubs in Division Two and have held the home and away (adult and child) replica shorts and socks prices for the third season running.

The club will also not be charging any more for extra extra large adult home or away replica shirts. For members of the Official Wycombe Wanderers Supporters Association, the replica kit costs ten per cent less if they are also a League member or a 1996/97 season ticket holder.

During the pre-season friendlies both the new home and away Mizuno strips will be worn.

Whatever happens during the 1996/97 season, I trust you will thoroughly enjoy visiting the new look Adams Park.

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Pictures for this edition of The Blues News were supplied by Wycombe Wanderers and the Bucks Free Press.

The Blues News is the official newspaper of Wycombe Wanderers. It is produced in association with the Bucks Free Press. Any correspondence should be sent to the Editor, The Blues News, Wycombe Wanderers Football Club, Hillbottom Road, Sands, High Wycombe. Telephone (01494) 472100. Fax (01494) 527633.

Have a look for yourself

WYCOMBE Wanderers are holding an open day on Sunday, August 4, from noon until 4pm.

Visitors can look around Adams Park for free and see the new 5,000-seater Woodlands stand.

There will be a chance to meet the players and listen to an interview with Alan Smith. Wanderers' youth team will be performing a football exhibition and there will also be a fashion show in the Vere Suite.

The Bucks Free Press buoy castle will be on site and both The Corner Flag shop and Centre Spot bar will be open.

The day is sponsored by Bassettsbury Balloons.

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THE BLUES NEWS

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It's all action off the pitch

By Chairman Ivor Beeks

BY the time this issue of The Blues News appears on your tables, the new all-seater stand will be well on the way to completion.

We have not encountered too many problems during the construction, which must be a credit to Linpave Contractors and their designers.

Time is always tight on most contracts and this contract is no exception at £1.6 million in 23 weeks, particularly with so many finishing trades in such a short period. It may well be that part or parts of some areas may not be finished by the start of the season, and I would ask you all to be patient for a short period.

The response to season tickets for this stand has been encouraging but in order for us to see the benefit we will need your support in filling the seats.

The concourse has had a preliminary hearing for a licence to sell alcohol in some bar areas and hopefully the final agreement will be available when we open.

Providing this type of facility is a new experience for us in all areas, with new boxes, seating at a high level, different food outlets and of course new and more staff, all of whom will need to get to know the areas.

I believe we are entering a new and exciting period of change and in due course we will be able to be counted among the leading clubs in this country.

We have to grow slowly but during the last ten years our growth has been exceptional, highlighting problems as we proceed.

Finance is always a problem at any club, particularly in the lower divisions. Each move we make has to be with a view to being income-generating. After all, the directors and supporters are all working for



Making a stand: The new 5,000 seater Woodlands development is now beginning to take impressive shape at Adams Park.

the same goal, a better and improved team on the field.

The close season has also seen the change to our ticket booths. You will need to get your ticket from one of the windows situated at each end as you look at the stadium, before entering the turnstile.

In line with many other professional clubs we have embarked in this direction to have more control and to be able to sell tickets for

matches well before the event and at our shop Wanderers in Town.

Again in the early weeks we will have teething problems and I ask you to please be patient.

The last toilet areas have now been upgraded and by mid-October a new public address system will have been installed.

I trust you will see we have been busy off the pitch to provide spectacular care.

Alan Smith has been looking at all areas of his football staff and we are delighted to welcome Paul McCarthy and Brian Parkin. Others I am sure will be coming in when all things are right.

Our youth set-up has been an inspiration with a further eight YTS boys joining us in the summer to make the total 16.

I know it is Alan Smith's intention of using, as soon as possible, some

of those young players he believes are suitable. The youth set-up is not instant success but lays the foundation for years to come which is what happened when we moved to Adams Park and look at the fruit that it has borne.

On behalf of all the directors we wish you a very happy season – as long as we get most of the detail right, most of the time, we will be on the right track.

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GC79

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Not only will you be showing your support, you really will be giving it too. For every accepted cardholder, MBNA International, the bank that issues the card on our behalf, will pay us a royalty. Then every time you make purchases with your card, a small percentage of the total transaction value goes to our funds. You'll be an official Wycombe Wanderers F.C. sponsor - at no extra cost to you!

Which would you prefer to carry: a card that supports only the bank that issues it, or one that gives valuable financial assistance to your favourite football club?

Hundreds of loyal Wycombe Wanderers supporters have already switched to the Wycombe Wanderers Visa Card. If you want to benefit yourself and the club, call today without delay.

The Wycombe Wanderers Visa card is issued by MBNA International Bank Ltd, Stansfield House, Chester Business Park, CH4 9CQ. The Wycombe Wanderers Visa card monthly interest rate on purchases is 1.45% (variable), equivalent to an APR of 18.6%. The monthly interest rate on credit card cheques, ATM cash advances and over the counter cash advances is 1.09% (variable), fixed for six months from the date your account is opened, equivalent to an APR of 13.9% for credit card cheques and an APR of 15.7% for ATM cash advances and over the counter cash advances. After six months the monthly interest rate for purchases applies to all transactions. APRs are calculated on a fee exclusive basis and £1,000 credit limit. The minimum monthly payment is just 3% of the outstanding balance (minimum £5). There will be a handling charge for ATM cash advances and over the counter cash advances of 1.5% (variable) (min £1, max £25). There is no handling charge for credit card cheques. Credit is available subject to status, only to persons aged 18 or over. Written quotations available on request.

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THE BLUES NEWS



COMMUNITY SPIRIT: The Bucks Free Press is sponsoring the new 1,738-seater family stand in the new Woodlands Stand. Bucks Free Press editor Steve Cohen said: "We are delighted to be working with Wycombe Wanderers so closely again. They are a great club and we are pleased to have a share in their success."

New kit's big night out



Home: Wycombe's new first-choice kit is available in club shops now

WYCOMBE are officially launching their new home replica kit at tonight's pre-season friendly against Queens Park Rangers at Adams Park (ko 7.45pm).

The kit will be available from the Corner Flag club shop on match days, as well as from Wanderers In Town in the Octagon Shopping Centre, opposite Littlewoods, Monday to Saturday between 9am and 5.30pm. For further information, telephone (01494) 450957.

The prices of all home and away replica adult and children's shorts and socks remain as per the last two seasons.

The new Mizuno home and away child's replica shirt costs £26.99 (sizes available 18in/20in, 22/24, 26/28 and 30/32).

The new home and away adult shirt costs £34.99 (sizes available 34/36, 38/40, 42/44, 46/48, 50/52).

All sizes of home replica shirts, shorts and socks went on sale at Wanderers in Town last Saturday, but are on sale for the first time tonight at Adams Park in the Corner Flag club shop, which opens two hours before kick-off and for 30 minutes after the final whistle.

The new Mizuno away kit will go on sale at noon on Saturday, September 7, at the Luton Town fixture, or 9am from Wanderers in Town on the same day.



Away: A red, white and blue number

Price list as follows:
 ●Child home and away Mizuno replica socks - £5.99
 ●Adult home and away Mizuno replica socks - £7.50
 ●Child home and away Mizuno replica shorts - £12.99
 ●Adult home and away Mizuno replica shorts - £17.50
 ●Child home and away Mizuno replica shirt - £26.99
 ●Adult home and away Mizuno replica shirt - £34.99
 ●Child home and away Mizuno replica kit deal (shirt, shorts, socks) - £59.99
 ●Adult home and away Mizuno replica kit deal (shirt, shorts, socks) - £79.99
 ●Child home and away Mizuno replica goalkeeper kit deal (shirt, shorts, socks) - £29.99
 ●Adult home and away Mizuno replica goalkeeper kit deal (shirt, shorts, socks) - £49.99



THE BLUES NEWS

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Marching on with grand seating plan



Done and dusted: The Amersham & Wycombe College stand awaits tonight's official reopening ceremony

New away end to be unveiled by kind sponsors



Lean on us: Sponsors' boards are put in their new homes

THE Amersham & Wycombe College Stand will be reopened before kick-off in tonight's friendly against Queens Park Rangers at Adams Park (ko 7.45pm).

The club will welcome David Mason, principal of Amersham & Wycombe College to Adams Park, along with Philip Tristram, director of marketing, and John Nicholas, chairman of the corporation.

David Mason will declare the Amersham & Wycombe College Stand officially reopened just the game begins, along with Wanderers' financial director Graham Peart.

The club wish their guests from Amersham & Wycombe College a very enjoyable evening out at Adams Park tonight and would like to thank them for their tremendous support during the last five years.

Long may the association continue!



Finishing touch: The steps are given a lick of paint

How to join Blues Club

MEMBERSHIP to the Blues Supporters' Club for the 1996/97 season will entitle you to the following:

- additional 10 per cent discount on Vere Suite/Woodlands Club membership
- additional 5 per cent discount at club shop
- free membership of Blues Travel Club. Quality travel at fair prices if you are also a season ticket holder or a Leagueline member

Application Form

I hereby apply to join the Official Wycombe Wanderers Supporters Association and in doing so agree to abide by the rules laid down by the Association.

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)

Address

Postcode

Telephone number

Signature

Existing card number (if applicable)

I enclose a cheque/PO for £7.50 made payable to OWWSA. Alternatively payment can be made at the Wycombe Wanderers Commercial Office or at Wanderers in Town accompanied by this form.

Sign up for funweek

Booking Form

Child's name

Address

Postcode

Telephone no

Date of birth

Circle where applicable. COURSE 2, 3, 4

I acknowledge and accept that the organisers providing the facilities or employees will not accept liability whatsoever in respect of any loss or damage occurring while my child is in attendance on the above course, whether such loss or damage shall be attributable to negligence or otherwise.

Signature parent/guardian

Completed forms to be returned to Matt Smith, WWC, Adams Park, Hillbottom Road, Sand, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP12 4HU. All courses are first-come, first-served. Confirmations will not be sent. We will only notify you if the course is fully booked.

■ The soccer schools are for seven to 14-year-olds at Wye Valley School in Bourne End.

Course Two: Monday, August 12 to Wednesday, August 14

A three-day course where you will meet and talk to some of Wycombe's first-team players. Cost: £21.

Course Three: Tuesday, August 27 to Friday, August 30

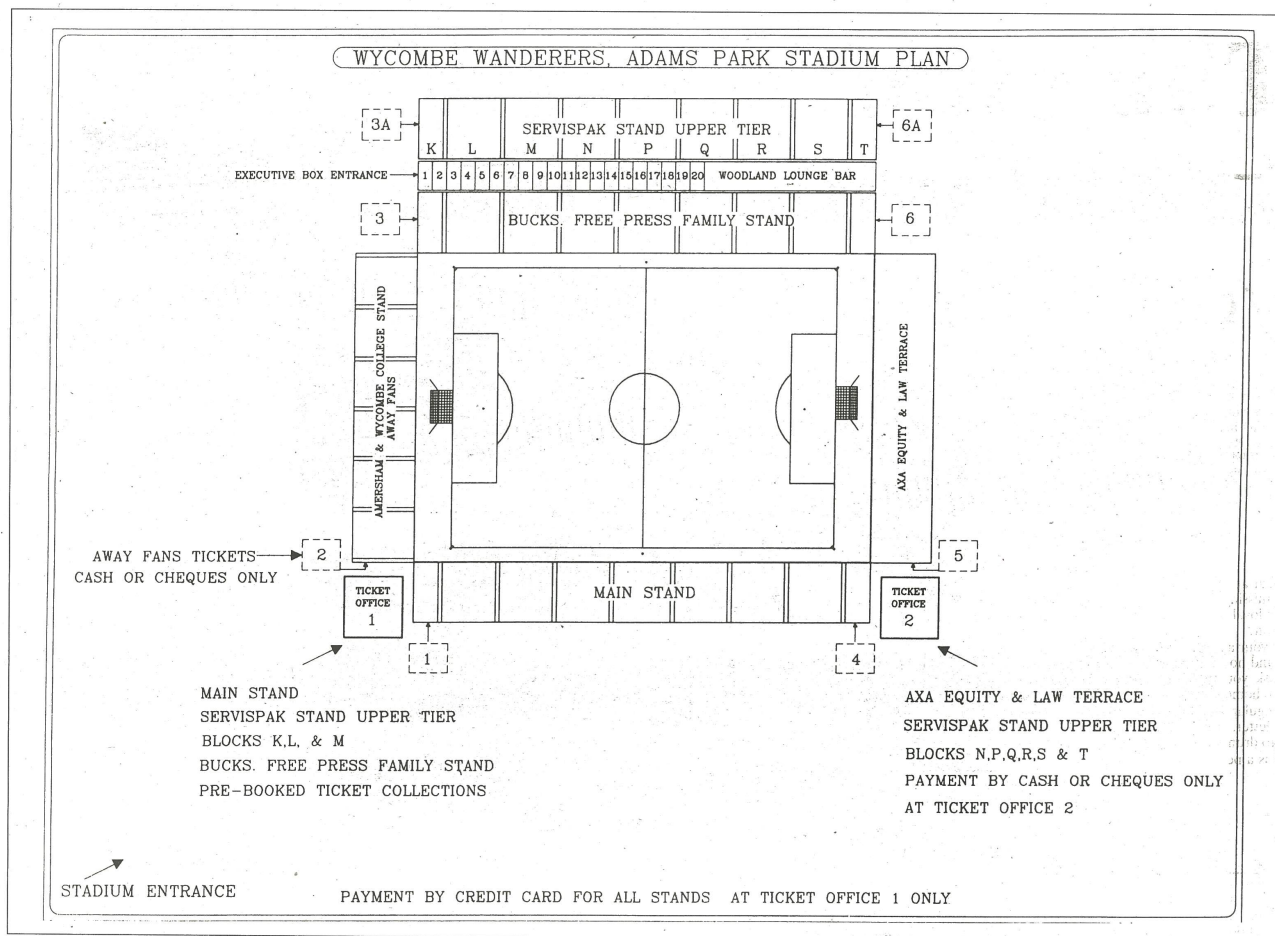
A four-day course which includes a tour of Wembley Stadium. Cost: £35. Parents are welcome to come along at an additional cost of £11.45 per person.

Course Four: Thursday, August 15

One-day goalkeeping course. Cost £12.50.

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THE BLUES NEWS



Where to get your tickets and how: A plan of the new lay-out for spectators using the new ticketing system at Adams Park

Streamlining the system

AS many of you will have read in the last issue of The Blues News, we have installed the same computerised ticketing system as employed by more than 40 other Premiership and Football League clubs.

This is the only way that clubs with large seating areas can operate efficiently, enabling customers to book season tickets and match tickets in advance, either in person or over the telephone.

The system is up and running at Adams Park already, as more than 1,400 of you who bought season tickets and club membership passes in the first two weeks of June will know.

COMPUTERISED TICKETING By Charles Colton Financial Controller

During July we will link in with Wanderers In Town and the two new ticket offices from which non-season ticket holders will buy their match tickets on the day – unless they have had the forethought to book them in advance.

The two ticket offices will be at either end of the ground and each will have four ticket windows.

Ticket Office One will be by the Corner Flag shop and will sell

tickets for the Main Stand, the whole of the Woodlands Family stand, the Hillbottom Road end of the Woodlands Upper Stand and it will also act as a collection point for pre-booked tickets.

Ticket Office Two will be at the opposite end of the Main Stand, near the programme shop.

Two windows will sell for the AXA Equity & Law Terrace and two for the Valley end of the Woodlands Upper Stand.

From late July, non-season ticket holders will be able to pre-book their matchday tickets, during office hours, for all areas of the stadium by

telephoning the credit card line on (01494) 441118 or in person at Wanderers In Town or Adams Park.

One of the advantages of this computerised system is that you will be able to buy your seat for as many matches in advance as you wish.

We hope that most of our spectators will either buy season tickets or book match tickets in advance as this will relieve the congestion at the ticket office.

The experience of all the clubs we visited prior to buying the ticketing system was that long queues for tickets developed for the first few matches until customers realised

that they either had to book in advance or arrive at least an hour before kick off if they did not wish to risk missing the start of the match.

Finally do not forget that there is no credit card booking fee on match tickets purchased with a Wycombe Wanderers MBNA Visa card.

The card is free and the interest rate is competitive.

Application forms are available at Adams Park so why not get yours now to avoid both the inconvenience of buying a ticket on the day and the extra £1 for advanced buying by any other credit card.

Super savings available for football-mad students

Freestyle



INTEREST in the new soccer season is huge following the great success of Euro 96 and the tremendous improvements being made to Adams Park.

Wycombe Wanderers, Amersham & Wycombe College and the Freestyle Leisure Scheme have teamed up to offer a special deal of new benefits for football-loving students in the area.

Season tickets for the brand new Woodlands Family Stand are discounted by almost 40 per cent on production of a Freestyle Higher Discount Card or an NUS Card. Students can therefore save a total of £60, making the season ticket only £100.

On match days, students with a Freestyle card can save £2.50 on the price of adult entry to the AXA Equity & Law Stand.

Entry to ALL reserve/youth team league matches is free of charge to all students with a Freestyle card.

Sportswear and goods in the Wanderers In Town Shop are five per cent cheaper on presentation of a Freestyle card.

The scheme is free to join. Details of all the benefits of Freestyle and how to join are available at Wanderers In Town, the Commercial Office at Adams Park and from Wycombe Sports Centre.



THE BLUES NEWS

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The club know who you are

DID you go to Wembley to see the Wanderers win the FA Trophy on that fabulous day in May 1991. And again in 1993 to see Runcorn defeated? How about May 1994 when Wycombe won promotion to Division Two at the first attempt? More than 25,000 supporters of the Blues turned out in full regalia for each of those unforgettable occasions.

Did you regularly come to Adams Park in between those glory days when all the work was done to earn the right to appear at Wembley? Or were you one of the missing thousands who did not give their loyal support at league matches last season?

If your answer is yes to visiting Wembley and not to Adams Park, I am writing to ask you to come along and sample some home matches this coming season.

Regular supporters can skip the rest of this letter. This is not a circular attempting to drum up some extra business.

It is a personal letter to you asking for your help. I know that there are many other interesting and exciting activities that occupy your Saturday afternoons but your team needs your support now more than ever. I will explain.

The football club are centred around the regular players who form the team. But their reason for playing is to entertain you. If your seat is unoccupied again this season the club will be a poorer place. Poorer due to the lack of your presence and poorer due to the missing contribution that you make when you buy your ticket.

You probably don't know that the club is owned by the town or more accurately by supporters who have been season ticket holders for the past three years. You may not realise that no profits or dividends are ever distributed to shareholders (or directors!).

There is only one other club in the Premiership or Football League set up in a similar way.

However, as no money goes out of the club to our supporter shareholders, effectively no money can go into the club from our shareholders.

Which brings me back to you, our missing supporters. Without your ticket money, modest though that can be, the club, your club, cannot thrive and build a promotion-winning team.

Wycombe Wanderers have helped make the town of High Wycombe proud again. The football club are proud to be supported by so many brilliant and

DEAR MISSING SUPPORTER

well-behaved supporters young and old, male and female.

Suddenly, almost overnight the new stand has made the stadium look grown up - a real professional football stadium with all the comforts and convenience of more famous and larger grounds with a proper ticketing system, tea bars, boxes and that wonderful view from the upper tier of the new Woodlands Stand.

But there comes a crunch. Nothing stays the same. The club, or more accurately the team and supporters, will either go forward to yet more and ever-greater glory with you, or simply slide backwards into oblivion if you do not come to the matches.

This is not an idle threat. It is a stark reality. There is no real choice here.

Surely everyone in the town wants the club to succeed and to be part of it. But this cannot happen without you occupying the seat reserved for you.

It is impossible to achieve promotion without income from ticket sales.

The time has come to put behind you the more trivial reasons for not coming to Adams Park.

The cause is more important than petty arguments about who should and should not be playing or what colour shirt your favourite player wears.

England's Euro 96 team did not turn on the style every match but the players gave their all. English supporters gave their all with their singing and chanting.

The result was a great deal of excitement and satisfaction (sorry if you are a Scot).

Nothing is impossible as long as you believe. The England supporters demonstrated that. You too can be a part of the club and gain a great deal of enjoyment by playing your role.

Indeed, you are a vital part of the club. Really, the team needs you. Please do not let them down.

Your support is vital to assist the club to build on their solid foundation and produce a winning team.

I will look out for you at the first home game on August 24.

Don't be late!!

Kind regards

GF Peart

Financial director

From 1887 to 1996

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DAVE FINCH and STEVE PEART

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Order Form

Please reserve for me a copy of THE OFFICIAL HISTORY OF WYCOMBE WANDERERS FC for which I enclose: (delete as necessary).

- ☐ A cheque/postal order to the value of £16.95 (I will collect from the club) or
☐ A cheque/postal order to the value of £20.65 (please post my copy to the UK address below)
 Please make cheques payable to: Wycombe Wanderers FC

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I should like the following name (plus town/area) to be included on the subscribers page. Maximum four words in block capitals please

Payment must be received by September 28, 1996, for inclusion on the subscribers page.

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35 4/5/96 £400 1127 MR S
HUXTABLE PILTON CLOSE,
SWINDON

35 4/5/96 £25 931 MR S CAR-
PENTER JUBILEE RD,
STOKENCHURCH

35 4/5/96 £25 1178 MR M BALL
BARONSMEAD RD, HIGH
WYCOMBE

36 11/5/96 £400 953 MR P DANN
OAKENGROVE RD, HAZLEMERE

36 11/5/96 £25 1027 MR R SHED
MAXWELL DRIVE, HAZLEMERE

36 11/5/96 £25 099 MISS E
EASTMAN EASTFIELD RD,
PRINCES RISBOROUGH

37 18/5/96 £400 793 M CRESS-
WELL DURLEY HOLLOW, HIGH
WYCOMBE

37 18/5/96 £25 908 MR P
COONEY OAKRIDGE, SURREY

37 18/5/96 £25 728 MR E ESSEX
WOODFIELD RD, PRINCES
RISBOROUGH

38 25/5/96 £400 459 MR D
CHANDLER HEATH END RD,
GREAT KINGSHILL

38 25/5/96 £25 873 MR E COL-
LINS GLENHAM RD, THAME

38 25/5/96 £25 767 MR K HALL
BLACKWELL RD, LANE END

39 1/6/96 £400 229 MR M
SEWELL AMERSHAM RD, CHAL-
FONT ST GILES

39 1/6/96 £25 1105 MR A PUT-
MAN LANCE WAY, HIGH
WYCOMBE

39 1/6/96 £25 036 KW VAUGHAN
DEEDS GROVE, HIGH
WYCOMBE

40 8/6/96 £400 356 MR P
MC MANUS CONSTANCE
CLOSE, WITHAM

40 8/6/96 £25 157 MR H COLE
WOODSWORTH RD, HIGH
WYCOMBE

40 8/6/96 £25 053 MR A KING
UNDERWOOD RD, HIGH
WYCOMBE

41 15/6/96 £400 224 MR D ROB-
ERTS THE CRESCENT, PRINCES
RISBOROUGH

41 15/6/96 £25 351 MRS S
STRINGER ST GEORGES
CLOSE, HIGH WYCOMBE

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8

THE BLUES NEWS

The players are shaping up nicely

PRE-SEASON training began two weeks ago. It was not too bad, but at the time of writing the lads are about to set off for a week at Catterick Army Camp for strength and stamina training which, I am sure, will be no picnic.

On our return we will meet with four fitness coaches who will run tests on each of us to measure our strength and stamina and assess running, sprinting and weight-training capabilities.

Each player will then be set a target to ensure we are at our best for the new season.

Pre-season friendlies will soon be upon us. These are very important, not really for the results, but to help the boss make decisions which he rarely has other opportunities to do.

The lads also look forward to these matches. Basic training of course brings up our fitness but no matter how hard we work there is never any substitute for playing in competitive matches. It normally takes around four games to be at our best.

We now take for granted the standard of the pitch at Adams Park which, at the moment, is looking quite magnificent, especially considering all the dirt and

CAPTAIN'S LOG By Terry Evans

dust from the building work. Great credit must go to Jim Gardner and his team once again.

The new stand really is looking fantastic. If the crowd can produce a big noise it will hopefully intimidate opposing players. We want Adams Park to become a fortress as other grounds have been so for us when we play away.

The best news of the summer must be the re-signing of Keith Ryan, Mickey Bell, Steve Brown and Dave Carroll. All these players are consistent performers and real assets to the club. It is very encouraging to know that the contracts for each of them has been agreed early, allowing them to concentrate fully on the job in hand.

Last season was a disappointing one for some Wycombe fans. However, I believe the club have plenty to feel positive about with the new season just a month away.

Your support, especially in the new stand, is going to be very important. The players will, in turn, be working hard to get off to a good start, which is always important for the confidence of everybody at the club.

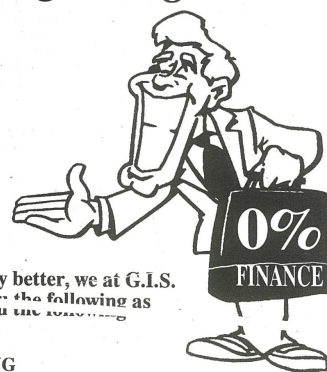


Talking tactics: Terry Evans and Alan Smith will be looking to iron out problems in pre-season friendlies

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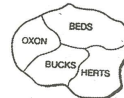
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