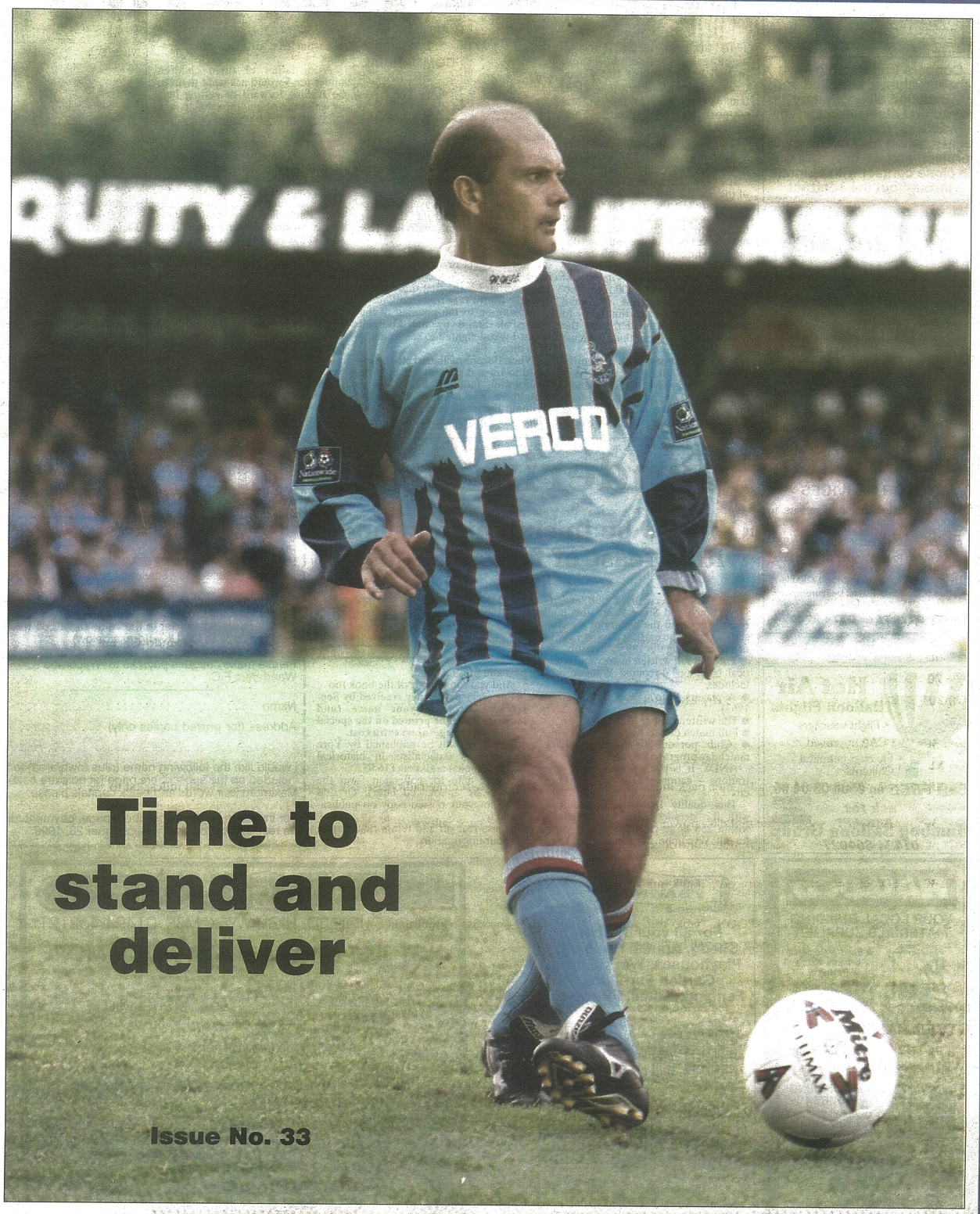
The BLUES NEWS

The official newspaper of Wycombe Wanderers Football Club



Time to stand and deliver

Issue No. 33

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Congratulate
The Blues
and are pleased to be associated with the development of the new stand
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Tel: 0171 729 4200 Fax: 0171 729 7135
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STRUCTURAL STEELWORK - FABRICATION - PIPEWORK INSTALLATIONS - MAINTENANCE
Coopers Engineering have manufactured, supplied and installed all secondary structural steelwork, canopy walkway, handrailing and balustrading for the complete project, and we have worked in close contact with Linpaue throughout the contract
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• Traditional Ironmongery
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We can offer more because we are small enough to care.
CALL IN TODAY FOR GOOD VALUE & OLD FASHIONED SERVICE PLUS A RANGE OF GOODS WHICH MAY SURPRISE YOU.
240118

It's a stadium to be proud about

THE atmosphere on Tuesday night against Nottingham Forest in the 2nd round of the Coca-Cola Cup was absolutely electric. Wycombe Wanderers' fans support was sensational. They really got behind the side, and were thoroughly entertained by a give-all gutsy performance from the lads.

It was so nice to see the upper tier of the ServisPak Stand nearly full. It was the fullest the new 5,000 seater stand has been since it was first used for the Reading match. All 20 executive boxes of ten were full Tuesday night, adding to the atmosphere and sense of occasion. This was further enhanced by chants of "what a load of rubbish" from the 800-plus Nottingham fans who saw Wycombe Wanderers force extra time, only to go out to a late header from the transfer listed (yes that haircut) Jason Lee.

With the Woodlands Executive Club virtually full (upper tier season ticket holders only), the new ServisPak Stand is operational. The only areas yet to be completed are the St John Ambulance First Aid Room



COMMERCIAL BREAK By Mark Austin

supported by Monsanto plc and the executive box reception area. The club has sold ten of the 20 executive boxes of ten on a four-year lease basis. The two half-way line boxes have been retained at the wise instructions of our chairman Ivor Beeks, for day lets.

Boxes one to eight are also available for day lets or annual lease or four-year lease. Any company paying up-front for the first three years, gets the fourth year rent free!!

Moving on to the opening of the ServisPak Stand by the Football Trust I was delighted to see so many kids there.

When dozens of them rushed forward to try and grab one of the free Nationwide footballs I was giving out, there was a bit of a bundle. Without the metal safety fences, the club will have to re-think how it gives out free gifts, for safety reasons.

As a father of three children under ten I would not want them to be rushing forward or getting hurt by others rushing forward to not miss out on the free goodies.

Back to the ServisPak Stand. If you have not tried the view from the upper tier, then I suggest you do so at the earliest opportunity.

You will find it hard not to come again, especially as the large concourse has such excellent toilets, teabars, Ladbrokes, programme stalls and a licensed drinking area. The new kitchens in the executive level are top-drawer, serving the 20 executive boxes and the new Woodlands Club, which is now available on a non-match day as a superb function room, with a fantastic view of the pitch, lovingly maintained by our Wilkinson Sword Division II Groundsman of the Year, Jim Gardner.

All in all, Adams Park is a first division stadium and excellent conference and banqueting facility.

Both fans and everybody in South Bucks can be extremely proud, as it is unrivalled.

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Page 6 Letter to the fans
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Page 8 Captain's log

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.

Wandering down the years

Offer to be in club history book with a feast of facts for fans

WRITTEN by recognised club 'experts' Dave Finch and Steve Peart, this book records in detail the history of the club, starting from the earliest days in 1887 up to and including the 1995/96 season.

The first full written history and statistical book on Wycombe Wanderers, it includes:

- A players Who's Who section (from 1963)
- The written history of the club
- Full match details from 1887 to 1996
- Club personalities, Loakes Park, matchday programmes, etc.

AND... It is packed with many illustrations – action photos, team groups, etc.

This quality hardback is crammed with the detailed history of the club within 256 large pages, and is a 'must' for all Wycombe fans; young and old, past and present alike.

And you can be part of the book too!

For every paid order received by September 28, 1996; your name (and town/area) will be printed on the special 'Subscribers Page' at no extra cost.

The book will be published by Yore Publications (specialists in historical football books) and costs £16.95.

(Exact date for collection from the club to be announced later). Or add £3.70 for your posted copy on publication day.

Please tear off and retain this portion for your information.

THE OFFICIAL HISTORY OF WYCOMBE WANDERERS FC, FROM 1887 TO 1996
Available from October 26, 1996

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 F.C.

Name .....

Address (for posted copies only) .....

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I would like the following name (plus town/area) to be included on the subscribers page (at no extra cost). Maximum four words and block capitals please:

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For inclusion on the Subscribers page, payment must be received by tomorrow, September 28, 1996.

Time to mark a man

PLAYERS sponsored for the 1996-97 season are:
Alan Smith – James, Harry and Victoria Sumner
Graham Hall – Sharon and Gary Trimby
Miquel Desouza – Hampden Saw Mills
Mickey Bell – Graphic Arts Supplies Ltd
Steve Brown – John Palmer
John Williams – Frances Carvell
Paul McCarthy – Denzil, Margaret and Andrew Ashcroft
Dave Farrell – Denzil, Margaret and Andrew Ashcroft
Dave Carroll – Mike Clark
Gary Patterson – The Adams Family Fanzine
Matt Crossley – Ann Cohen and Co Solicitors, (01494) 677421
Damien Markman – The Wycombe Wanderers Independent Supporters Club
Brian Parkin – Chairboys On The Net 100746.232@compuserve.com
Terry Evans – Carvells Newsagents, Marlow
Matt Lawrence – Gerald Edelman – Chartered Accountants
Keith Ryan – Link Precision Services (01844) 347062
Terry Skiverton – City Index Spread Betting 0171 528 9887
Dave Kemp (assistant manager) – Francis Glenister, Salmon Brothers Int. Ltd
Jason Cousins – Liz Baines

Remaining players available for sponsorship are:
Steve McGavin
Jason Rowbotham



Dave Carroll has been snapped up but there are others who still need sponsors

Brian McGorry
Anthony Clarke
John Cheesewright
Neil Smillie (youth team manager)

The whole package includes:
- A full colour headshot of your player will appear in every matchday programme along with the shirt sponsor's name.
- Various PA announcements pre-match and recognition within the Blues News on a regular basis throughout the season.
- Sponsor's name being announced post match if your player was chosen as man of the match for that particular game.
- Sponsor's name appearing in the Laurent Perrier Man Of The Match section in the matchday programme if your player won the man of the match award for the previous home match.
- Involvement in the player of the month presentation if your player is chosen by the supporters. All presentations take place on the pitch prior to a home fixture.
- Two tickets for the last home League fixture of the season.
- Presentation of the sponsored player's football shirt they have worn during the season after the Bristol City match on 3/5/97.
- A complimentary 10" x 8" framed photograph of the special presentation.
- A Wycombe Wanderers football which will be signed by this season's first team squad.

The whole package costs only £200 + VAT.

For a chance to Mark Your Man, or for more information on the scheme, you should contact Tim Arnold at Wycombe Wanderers on (01494) 472100.

Children go for a quid

WYCOMBE Wanderers are delighted to announce the dates of the two Quid-A-Kid promotions it will be running during the 1996/97 season.

Saturday, October 26 – Wycombe Wanderers v Wrexham, 3pm kick-off. Saturday, March 29 – Wycombe Wanderers v Shrewsbury Town, 3pm kick-off.

These dates coincide with school holidays. Where concessions are offered to under 16s the club will only be charging "A Pound in the Ground" or "A Quid-A-Kid" on the above dates. Tickets for £1 can be bought from the Commercial Offices, Adams Park (Monday-Friday 9.15am-5.15pm and matchdays), Wanderers in Town, Octagon Shopping Centre, (Monday-Saturday 9am-5.30pm) and on the credit card hotline (01494) 441118.

All children under eight must be with an adult. Over 16s pay £8 to sit or £7 to stand, unless a student, OAP or disabled, who pay £5 to sit and £4.50 to stand in concessionary areas.

Be a steward

WE are looking for more stewards.

Are you aged 18 to 55, fit and active?

Pay is not high but you will be provided with protective clothes and be able to attend home matches without paying.

Call at club reception at Adams Park for an application form or phone (01494) 472100.

WYCOMBE WANDERERS FOOTBALL CLUB

W.W.F.C.

NEW AWAY KIT LAUNCH

AVAILABLE FROM WANDERERS IN TOWN (OPPOSITE LITTLEWOODS) IN THE OCTAGON SHOPPING CENTRE, THE CORNER FLAG CLUB SHOP AT ADAMS PARK.

CHILDS KIT DEAL (SHIRT, SHORTS, SOCKS) £39.99 RETAIL £45.97

ADULTS KIT DEAL (SHIRT, SHORTS, SOCKS) £54.99 RETAIL £59.99

299305

ANNUAL FEE NIL



- The Wycombe Wanderers Visa Card has NO ANNUAL FEE
- You pay reasonable interest rates - just 18.9%APR (variable) for purchases
- You can chop the interest you pay on transfers from your existing credit cards down to just 13.9%APR, fixed for six months
- Plus there's a comprehensive collection of financial benefits - at no extra charge

Are you scoring an own goal by paying an annual fee for an ordinary credit card... You could be showing your support for Wycombe Wanderers F.C. on and off the pitch with the Wycombe Wanderers Visa Card - a credit card with NO ANNUAL FEE and no booking fee on the Creditcard Hotline.

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.

Get a FREE Information pack now:
Please quote reference GT 79
0800 776262
Lines are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Please rush me information about the fee-free Wycombe Wanderers Visa Card.
Name _____
Address _____
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_____ Postcode _____
Telephone: (_____) _____ Day
(_____) _____ Evening
Please return to: MBNA, International Bank Ltd, PO Box 1048, FREEPOST, Chester CH4 922

GC79

If you don't want to cut your paper, simply call on the freephone number quoting reference GT79, or write to MBNA at the address above quoting reference GC79.

The Wycombe Wanderers Visa card is issued by MBNA International Bank Ltd, Stanfield House, Chester Business Park, CH4 9QG. The Wycombe Wanderers Visa card monthly interest rate on purchases is 1.45% (variable), equivalent to an APR of 18.9%. The monthly interest rate on balance transfers and 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. Annual means the monthly interest rate for purchases applies to all transactions. APRs are calculated on a new exclusive basis and £1,000 credit limit. The minimum monthly payment is just 5% 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.

Good stand for the Wanderers

THE Football Trust officially opened the new 5,000-seater ServisPak Stand on Saturday before the match with Brentford.

They have donated £1.1 million towards its construction and ServisPak are sponsors for three years.

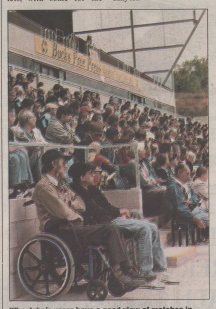
It has 20 executive boxes, each accommodating ten, and 50 wheelchair spaces.

There is also the popular supporters' bar, a 1,738-seater family enclosure and associated tea bars and toilets, with some for the disabled including easy access.

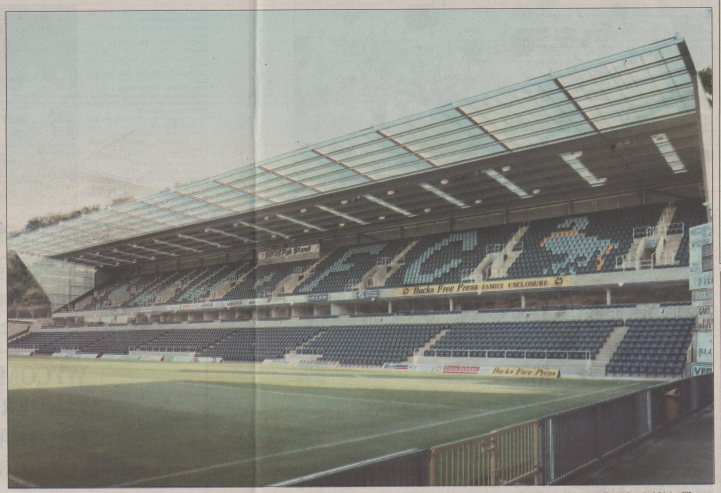
Verco Office Furniture Ltd, the official club sponsors, officially opened the executive level. Derek Vere and Allan Davies, directors of Verco, officiated.

Mrs Claire Hampson-Payne, advertisement manger for the Bucks Free Press Group, opened the family enclosure.

The executive boxes are available to rent on a four-year lease, annual rent or a daily let.



Wheelchair users have a good view of matches in front of the Bucks Free Press Family Enclosure which seats 1,738 fans



Bigger and better facilities – plus panoramic views of matches – are available in the new ServisPak Stand which was officially opened on Saturday. The Football Trust donated £1.1 million towards construction costs. The contractors were Linpave Construction Ltd of Lincoln who started work six months ago



A section of the new stand with executive boxes in the middle tier and the family enclosure below.



Wycombe MP Ray Whitney snips the opening tape of the new stand, accompanied (left) by Ivor Beeks, club chairman, and John Dequidt of the Football Trust



Alec Tuckerman, chairman of ServisPak, sponsors of the new stand

Special buses running for Blues matches

FIVE special football services run from the areas set out in the following text. These specials pick up passengers at all the bus stops along the routes listed and take them to Adams Park.

Also detailed are the special buses arranged by Wycombe Bus Company.

These special bus services operate for all home league games.

Please note: Persons in possession of a concessionary fares permit, under 16s and senior citizens travel at half-fare. (All fares given are for a return ticket.)

Route A (operated by Classic Coaches) from:
The Common, Holmer Green, Saturday 1.30pm, Weekday 6.15pm, fare £2; Park Parade, Saturday 1.35pm, Weekday 6.20pm, fare £2; Hazlemere Crossroads, Saturday 1.40pm, Weekday 6.25pm, fare £2; Tyzack Road/Totteridge Lane, Saturday 1.47pm, Weekday 6.32pm, fare £1.50; Hollis Road, Saturday 1.49pm, Weekday 6.34pm, fare £1.50; Hicks Farm Rise, Saturday 1.51pm, Weekday 6.36pm, fare £1.50; Micklefield Road, Saturday 1.53pm, Weekday 6.38pm, fare £1.50; Wycombe Marsh, Saturday 1.58pm, Weekday 6.43pm, fare £1.50; Homebase, Hatters Lane, Saturday 2pm, Weekday 6.45pm, fare £1.50; WWFC arrive, Saturday 2.15pm, Weekday 7pm.

Route B (operated by Classic Coaches) from:
Blind Lane, Green Dragon, Saturday 1.25pm, Weekday 6.10pm, fare £2; Bourne End. The Parade, Saturday 1.30pm, Weekday 6.15pm, fare £2; Cores End Road, Saturday 1.34pm, Weekday 6.19pm, fare £2; The Green, Saturday 1.39pm, Weekday 6.24pm, fare £2; Boundary Road, Saturday 1.42pm, Weekday 6.27pm, fare £2; Station Road, Saturday 1.44pm, Weekday 6.29pm, fare £2; Raymers Avenue, Saturday 1.49pm, Weekday 6.34, fare £2; Hatters Lane, Saturday 1.54pm, Weekday 6.39pm, fare £2; Hillary Road, Saturday 1.56pm, Weekday 6.41pm, fare £1.50; Totteridge Road/Healey Avenue, Saturday 1.58pm, Weekday 6.43pm, fare £1.50; Bowerdean/London Road, Saturday 2pm, Weekday 6.45pm, fare £1.50; WWFC arrive, Saturday 2.15pm, Weekday 7pm.

Route C (operated by Classic Coaches) from:
Mill Lane, Monks Risborough, Saturday 1.40pm, Weekday 6.15pm, fare £2; Place Farm Way, Saturday 1.42pm, Weekday 6.17pm, fare £2; Princes Risborough Market Place, Saturday 1.45pm, Weekday 6.20pm, fare £2; Lacey Green, The Whip, Saturday 1.51pm, Weekday 6.26pm, fare £2; Walters Ash, Prestwood, Saturday 1.55pm, Weekday 6.30pm, fare £2; Naphill Post Office, Saturday 1.59pm, Weekday 6.34pm, fare £2; Cosenbe Lane Bottom, Saturday 2.03pm, Weekday 6.38pm, fare £2; Haghenden Avenue, Saturday 2.06pm, Weekday 6.41pm, fare £1.50; The Pastures, Saturday 2.09pm, Weekday 6.44pm, fare £1.50; WWFC arrive, Saturday 2.25pm, Weekday 7pm.

Route D (operated by Classic Coaches) from:
Penn Post Office, Saturday 1.30pm, Weekday 6.20pm, fare £2; Church Road, Saturday 1.32pm, Weekday 6.22pm, fare £2; New Road, Saturday 1.34pm, Weekday 6.24pm, fare £2; Curzon Avenue, Saturday 1.36pm, Weekday 6.26pm, fare £2; Rose Avenue, Saturday 1.40pm, Weekday 6.30pm, fare £2; Hazlemere Crossroads, Saturday 1.45pm, Weekday 6.35pm, fare £2; Terriers, Saturday 1.50pm, Weekday 6.40pm, fare £1.50; Hamilton Road, Saturday 1.58pm, Weekday 6.48pm, fare £1.50; Haghenden Road, Saturday 2.02pm, Weekday 6.52pm, fare £1.50; The Pastures, Saturday 2.05pm, Weekday 6.55pm, fare £1.50; WWFC arrive, Saturday 2.20pm, Weekday 7.10pm.

Route E (operated by Classic Coaches) from:
Micklefield Road/Woodside Road, Saturday 1.40pm, Weekday 6.25pm, fare £1.50; Hicks Farm Rise, Saturday 1.45pm, Weekday 6.30pm, fare £1.50; Totteridge Drive, Saturday 1.50pm, Weekday 6.35pm, fare £1.50; Amerson Avenue/Walton Drive, Saturday 1.53pm, Weekday 6.38pm, fare £1.50; Totteridge Road/Morning Star, Saturday 1.55pm, Weekday 6.41pm, fare £1.50; Wycombe train station, Saturday 2pm, Weekday 6.45pm, fare £1.50, WWFC arrive, Saturday 2.15pm, Weekday 7pm.

●Return service departs from Adams Park 15 minutes after the final whistle. Single flat fare from the ground to any point en route is £1.50 with half price fares for Under-16s, senior citizens and concessionary fare permit holders.

Football Specials
High Wycombe train station: Evenings 6.35pm (arr 6.50pm), 7.05pm (arr 7.20pm), Saturdays 1.55pm (arr 2.10pm), 2.25pm (arr 2.40pm).

High Wycombe bus station: Evenings 6.40pm (arr 6.50pm), 7.10pm (arr 7.20pm), Saturdays 2pm (arr 2.10pm), 2.30pm (arr 2.40pm).

●Buses return to the station ten minutes after the final whistle.

Further information from Classic Coaches, on (01494) 717818, or Wycombe Bus Company, on (01494) 520941.



League badges now available

NOW available at Wanderers In Town are the Nationwide Football League sleeve badges which have been used throughout the season by all Football League sides.

The badges, which have been redesigned to incorporate the Nationwide Building Society logo following its three-year sponsorship deal with the Football League, are available in two formats.

Badges can be applied to the sleeve by either ironing on or by the use of the heat transfer machine at Wanderers In Town.

● Iron-on badges – pack of two – £2.99

● Heat transfer badges – pack of two - £2.99

Heat transfer numbers are also available at Wanderers In Town with the size being the same as that used by the players. 9" chunky numbers come in both navy and white costing £3 each. 2½" letters again in navy or white are 50p each.

Wanderers In Town has a heat fusion press and is able to put any number and any name on the back of any football replica shirt while you wait.

Birthday boxes

WITH the construction of the new executive boxes in the Servispak Stand Wycombe Wanderers are offering a special deal on a birthday box as a trial offer. The package will include:

● Car park passes
● Tickets for a party of ten people
● Two rounds of sandwiches pre-match
● Matchday programmes
● Tour of facilities
● Half-time happy birthday PA announcement
● Half-time refreshments
● A Wycombe Wanderers signed football

This special package is available on a trial offer and is open to children's parties celebrating birthdays under 16. Each party can have a maximum of four adults attending along with the children.

Price for the birthday box offer is £180 + VAT unless the birthday child is a Junior Blue and in which case the cost is an amazing £150 + VAT.

To make your birthday box reservation please ring Mark Austin or Tim Arnold on 01494 472100.

This is a trial offer and bookings do depend on availability.

Leagueline winners

The Blues Leagueline Society
Week 2 – September 14, 1996
£400 – No.300, Mr M Pope, Beaconsfield;
£25 – No.386, S M Weston, Hazlemere;
£25 – No.309, Mr D Percy, Beaconsfield.

Join the Blues Leagueline Society today!

Call in to the commercial office or telephone (01494) 472100 for an application form.

THE OFFICIAL HISTORY OF WYCOMBE WANDERERS F.C. FROM 1887 TO 1996

Available from 26th October 1996

Written by recognised Club "experts" Dave Finch & Steve Peart, this book records in detail the History of the Club, starting from the earliest days in 1887 up to and including the 1995/1996 season. The first full written history and statistical book on Wycombe Wanderers.

INCLUDES:

* A players Who's Who section (from 1963)

*The written history of the club

* Full match details from 1887 to 1996

* Club personalities, Loakes Park, Matchday Programmes etc.

AND... Packed with many illustrations - action photos, team groups etc.

This quality hardback is crammed with the detailed history of the Club within 256 large pages, and is a "must" for all Wycombe fans; young and old, past and present alike, and you can be part of the book too!

For every paid order received by 28th September 1996, your name (and town/area) will be printed on the special "Subscribers Page" at no extra cost.

The book will be published by Yore Publications (specialists in historical football books) and costs £16.95.

(Exact date for collection from the Club to be announced later) or add £3,70 for your posted copy on publication day.

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Address (for posted copies only): _____

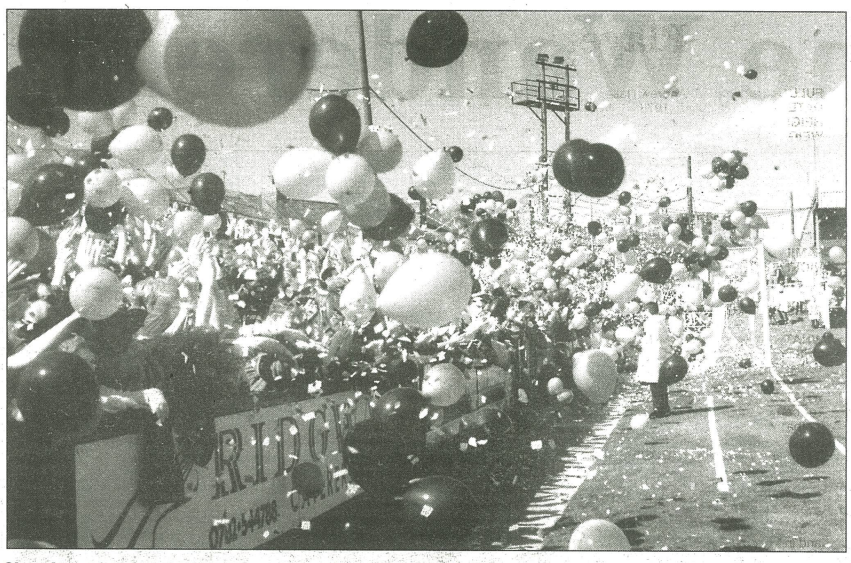
_____

I should like the following name (plus town/area) to be included on the subscribers page (at no extra cost). Maximum 4 words and block capitals please:

_____

For inclusion on the Subscribers page, payment must be received by 28th September 1996.

248711



Glory days when fans had hopes soaring with celebration balloons

Have faith – and come back to us

LETTER TO A REAL SUPPORTER
By Graham Peart, Financial Director

I WAS privileged recently to be present at a cookery demonstration which was given by a star performer called Ian Ironside.

This man, nearing retirement age, had such enthusiasm for his job that he held his audience totally captivated by his skills, knowledge and stories. (He is the Chief Pastry Chef at Gleneagles in Perth with 15 years service at the Savoy and ten years with the Roux Bros).

He was talking about changing tastes literally and attitudes in his customers. He made a statement which applies to each and every business in the world: "At the end of the day your customers dictate what you can sell."

These are encouraging or chilling words depending whether you choose to describe a glass as half empty or half full.

At the time of me writing this letter to you we have played two home games, one before around 4,600, our average for last season and one before only 3,700. Our average last season was about 1,200 down on the season before. Say about 20 per cent or one in five.

The problem was that last season we were average. We finished 12th out of 24 – bang in the middle. We won, lost and drew about the same number of games. We scored and conceded about the same number of goals.

Our average home attendance was, well, average in our division. The play particularly at home was often average and the players deserved the average vocal encouragement from the average size of crowd.

I cannot escape the facts. It was an ordinary sort of average season. But considering where we had come from in the last ten seasons, four divisions lower in the Vauxhall Opel Premier Division, the performance was remarkable. Surely it is better to be average against Burnley, Notts County and Swindon than excellent against Crawley Town, Carshalton and Harrow Borough?

I have seen comments recently referring to our "disastrous" last season. If statistical average equals "disastrous" how do you describe the performances of poor Brighton, Swansea and Hull who were relegated? I like to keep my glass half full.

Returning to Ian Ironside, this wise old Chef, he is correct. At the end of the day our fans will decide. The stadium has been developed into something very special. Even Yeovil supporters would be envious now. They used to be our big opposition 11 seasons ago, as you will remember. Our team has been improved and the style of play this season is very entertaining.

The matchday presentation by Alan Hutchinson is excellent. What about the band? Brilliant!

The PA system now works properly for the first time. Even the last two toilet blocks have been refurbished. We even have beer on the concourse in the new stand.

What more can you wish for? In the immortal words of Danny Baker: "I do not care about the toilets, the tea bars or the turnstiles, all I want is a defence which can clear a corner." He was of course referring to his beloved Millwall some five years ago and who visit us for a League match in December. The irony of his words is that his team have the best stadium in Division Two (and better than some Premier) were top of Division One in November last season, couldn't clear a corner after that and now play us in Division Two.

Our playing problem is not so much as clearing a corner, but more of scoring from one. Our problem as a business is that if we do not supply excellence to our fans (to some, excellence is expected as normal) then a goodly number decide to spend their money in Payless or B&Q. Ugh! Frustration!

Chef Ironside came out with another brilliant comment: "If you tell the truth to your customers you can get away with murder". He really understands his customers. If you have contact with your regular customers during your daily task, try it – it really works.

So, dear supporter, I am being honest with you. If we cannot persuade the lost 1,200 supporters to return to home matches, the loss of vital revenue will make it very difficult for us to make progress in the League. I am hoping that an occasional lack of excellence, in our product on the field will not prevent you from coming to Adams Park this season. Am I now getting away with murder?

I cannot resist telling you this short and true story. The four of us only a few weeks ago went into the professionals shop in Dunblane, Scotland, (how could such a lovely place experience such tragedy?).

With me was my son, son-in-law to be, I hope, and a person who probably wishes to be nameless but the clue is that he has masterminded the club's progress in recent years. We paid our green fees, bought lots of balls in readiness for Scottish conditions and got our scorecards.

Nameless said to this dour old Scot: "Do you have a map of the course?" The Scot without a pause or change in expression said "No sir, in Scotland we make it easy, we number the holes 1-18 and you play them in order 1-2-3-4 etc".

Nameless was speechless. Laugh – I couldn't hit a ball straight for another hour.

If you are honest with your customers you can get away with murder.

'If we cannot persuade the lost 1,200 supporters to return to home matches, the loss of vital revenue will make it very difficult for us to make progress in the League'

THE BLUES NEWS 7

Player profile – Graham Hall

FULL NAME: Graham Andrew Hall
DATE OF BIRTH: July 9, 1978
HEIGHT: 6ft
WEIGHT: 12st
HOME: Tring (Herts)
CAR: Fiat Punto
MARRIED: No
CHILDREN: No
DAD'S JOB: Cancer research scientist
BROTHERS & SISTERS: One sister, Alison
FAMILY PETS: No
NICKNAME AT CLUB: Beardo

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

WHAT WAS YOUR AMBITION AS A CHILD?
To become a professional footballer.

WHAT IS YOUR AMBITION NOW?
To be as successful as possible within football.

WHO WAS YOUR BOYHOOD HERO?
Gary Lineker

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST THRILL IN LIFE?
Being at Wembley when England beat Holland in Euro '96.

WHAT IS YOUR SADDEST MOMENT IN FOOTBALL?
Being rejected by West Ham as a schoolboy.

WHICH PRESENT-DAY FOOTBALLER DO YOU ADMIRE MOST?
Eric Cantona.

WHO IS THE GREATEST PLAYER THERE HAS EVER BEEN?
Pele.

WHO HAS BEEN THE GREATEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR CAREER?
My parents.

WHO IS THE TOUGHEST OPPONENT YOU HAVE FACED?
Simon Garner.

WHICH MANAGER HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR CAREER?
Neil Smillie.

WHAT JOB WOULD YOU BE DOING IF YOU HADN'T MADE IT AS A FOOTBALLER?
I would have gone to university.

AWAY FROM FOOTBALL, WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR GREATEST SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT?
Being part of the school tennis team, which reached the last 16 of England.



WHAT IS THE FUNNIEST MOMENT YOU HAVE SEEN ON A FOOTBALL PITCH?
Seeing somebody I knew streak when England played Aylesbury.

WHAT WAS YOUR MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT IN FOOTBALL?
Scoring an own goal in a school cup final.

WHICH TEAM DID YOU SUPPORT AS A BOY?
Everton

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE GROUND?
San Siro

WHAT OTHER SPORTS AND HOBBIES DO YOU ENJOY?
Tennis, golf and rugby.

DO YOU HAVE ANY UNUSUAL FOOD THAT IMPROVES YOUR GAME?
No.

AWAY FROM FOOTBALL, WHO IS YOUR FAVOURITE SPORTSMAN?
Linford Christie

WHAT IS YOUR MOST PRIZED POSSESSION?
My car.

DO YOU PLAY ANY MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS?
No.

IS THERE A SPORTING DREAM YOU WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE ACHIEVED IN ANOTHER SPORT?
To win the Olympic 100 metres.

WHAT REALLY ANNOYS YOU IN FOOTBALL?
People cheating other players.

WHAT ARE YOU PET HATES OUTSIDE FOOTBALL?
Smoking.

FAVOURITES

TV PROGRAMME: Men Behaving Badly
POP STAR/GROUP: Oasis
FOOD: Pizza
DRINK: Orange juice
FILM: The Life of Brian
FILM STARS: Will Smith
HOLIDAY RESORT: Los Angeles
TV STARS: David Jason
COMEDIAN: Frank Skinner & David Baddiel
CITY: Las Vegas
SOAP: EastEnders
SOAP CHARACTERS: Phil & Grant Mitchell

COMPILED BY STEVE HAYES

Player profile – Brian Parkin

FULL NAME: Brian Parkin
DATE OF BIRTH: October 12, 1965
HEIGHT: 6ft 3in
WEIGHT: 14st 3lb
HOME: Bath
CAR: XR2
MARRIED: Single
CHILDREN: None
DAD'S JOB: Family tyre business
BROTHERS & SISTERS: Two brothers, Roy & Kevin, one sister, Linda
FAMILY PETS: Golden Labrador called Charlie
NICKNAME AT CLUB: Parks

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

WHO DO YOU SHARE A ROOM WITH ON AWAY TRIPS?
At Shrewsbury it was David McCallum (the invisible man!)

DOES HE HAVE ANY ANNOYING HABITS?
When you want to speak to him you can never find him!

WHAT WAS YOUR AMBITION AS A CHILD?
To play for Liverpool and England.

WHAT IS YOUR AMBITION NOW?
To play until I am 40.

WHO WAS YOUR BOYHOOD HERO?
Ray Clemence.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST THRILL IN LIFE?
I once pulled a darling on a night out.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT IN LIFE?
She bombed me out!

WHAT IS YOUR SADDEST MOMENT IN FOOTBALL?
I lost two pals from my local at the Hillsborough disaster.

WHO IS THE GREATEST PLAYER THERE HAS EVER BEEN?
Tony the Tiger.

WHO HAS BEEN THE GREATEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR CAREER?
Colin Darcy – ex-Everton keeper

WHO IS THE TOUGHEST OPPONENT YOU HAVE FACED?
They are all tough.

WHICH MANAGER HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR CAREER?
Gerry Francis

WHAT JOB WOULD YOU BE DOING IF YOU HADN'T MADE IT AS A FOOTBALLER?
Draughtsman

AWAY FROM FOOTBALL, WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR GREATEST SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT?
A paltry 68 break at snooker.

WHAT IS THE FUNNIEST MOMENT YOU HAVE SEEN ON A FOOTBALL PITCH?
Steve Bull and Andy Mutch played a one-two around our static centre-half, Geoff Twentyman. His contact lens had come out and he couldn't see a thing.

WHAT WAS YOUR MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT IN FOOTBALL?
The linesman flagged offside, so I passed to the forward for the free-kick. He fortunately gave it to our defender but the referee had waved play-on.

WHICH TEAM DID YOU SUPPORT AS A BOY?
Liverpool.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE GROUND?
Anfield/Wembley.

WHAT OTHER SPORTS AND HOBBIES DO YOU ENJOY?
Golf and snooker.

DO YOU HAVE ANY UNUSUAL FOOD THAT IMPROVES YOUR GAME?
Garlic – keeps everybody away!

AWAY FROM FOOTBALL, WHO IS YOUR FAVOURITE SPORTSMAN?
Nick Faldo – terrific under pressure

WHAT IS YOUR MOST PRIZED POSSESSION?
2nd division championship medal

DO YOU PLAY ANY MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS?
No, and I can't sing either – but as my teammates will tell you I am a great moaner!

IS THERE A SPORTING DREAM YOU WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE ACHIEVED IN ANOTHER SPORT?
To win the US Masters Golf Tournament

WHAT REALLY ANNOYS YOU IN FOOTBALL?
Referees and linesmen

WHAT ARE YOU PET HATES OUTSIDE FOOTBALL?
Little people with umbrellas

FAVOURITES

TV PROGRAMME: Friends
POP STAR/GROUP: Varied music tastes
FOOD: Fish
DRINK: Tea!
FILM: Pulp Fiction
FILM STARS: Sean Connery, Sharron Stone
HOLIDAY RESORT: Greek Islands
TV STARS: Harry Enfield
COMEDIAN: Roy Chubby Brown
CITY: Chester
SOAP: Home & Away
SOAP CHARACTERS: Angel (Home & Away)

COMPILED BY STEVE HAYES

246713

The Blues SUPER CASHLINE weekly draw

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SECTION ONE MUST BE COMPLETED AND SECTIONS TWO OR THREE, AS APPLICABLE

PLEASE ENROL ME AS A MEMBER. I AM OVER 16 YEARS OF AGE.

PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

1) NAME (Mr. Mrs. Miss. Ms) .....
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ADDRESS .....
.....
POSTCODE .....
TEL NO: .....

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ADAMS PARK
HILLBOTTOM ROAD, SANDS
HIGH WYCOMBE
BUCKS, HP12 4HJ

We're striving to improve



THERE was a good turnout for the recent forum at Adams Park. An honest and open debate took place where supporters had their chance to put views directly to some players, the manager and chairman.

We are aware the the season has not got off to a good start. This was evident by the amount of criticism and shows that people really care about the club. However, most was aimed at the boss.

It is worth mentioning that he could easily decide not to attend any of these events, but instead he wants to hear what supporters have to say and, where possible, answer questions for which I believe he deserves some credit.

Nobody in any job enjoys being criticised but, as I have stated in this column before, the 11 players chosen should shoulder a large portion of the responsibility for our poor start. If we do not carry out instructions by the manager he can hardly be blamed.

As a team we start each game without an advantage. We cannot expect to control the whole game against any opposition but when we are in the driving seat pressurising we must punish them and not let them off the hook – something which has happened too often this season already.

Terry Evans, blighted by injuries in the past but now much fitter and hoping for success

CAPTAIN'S LOG By Terry Evans



I do, however, feel that we have produced some battling performances and most games could have gone either way. Burnley was probably the best example. We took an early lead, conceded two first-half goals before continually pressurising them in the second half yet went home with nothing.

Chances

On the other hand, at home to Reading we could have gone in at half-time two down but we rode our luck, had a few good breaks, took our chances and went into the next round.

● The supporters have been first class this season. The noise from the new stand certainly makes a difference, especially in the Reading game which helped to produce a true Cup atmosphere.

Fans sticking behind us really does make all the difference. I am sure we are capable of putting a string of good performances together which is the least you deserve.

It was a great experience to play in the same team as Ray Wilkins. I know it was only one game and a defeat at that but his influence together with the discussions we had taught me a few things.

As a player you are never too old to learn, especially from a player who has achieved so much from the game.

It is only a few weeks since Keith Ryan underwent surgery on his damaged knee yet already he is up and about and looking good. When a team like Wycombe has a small squad a serious injury to an influential player makes a big difference, though the lads who have come in have done well. Keith is still a big loss to the club.

As stated previously, football is all about highs and lows. A personal high was my pre-season training which was very good.

It is the first time in three seasons that I have been able to work hard to prepare properly for the big kick-off.

In the past there have been serious or nagging injuries preventing me from putting in maximum effort.

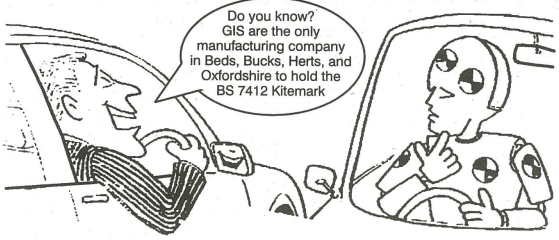
I can honestly say that I have never felt fitter but in truth the team performance is what really counts.

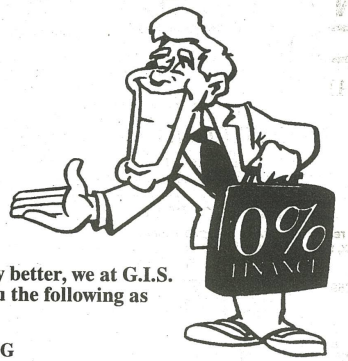
Looking up at the rest of the teams in our division from close to the bottom is a big low and not a position that I enjoy.

The quicker we can start to move up the table the better for all of us.

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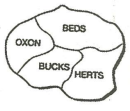
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