The BLUES NEWS

The official newspaper of Wycombe Wanderers Football Club



Brucie and Blues play their cards right

Issue No. 44

"The college is briliant and the teaching excellent"
Amersham & Wycombe College student Cameron Ritchie, HND Travel & Tourism management

ACHIEVE YOUR GOAL...

it's time to enrol

at Amersham & Wycombe College
• Amersham • Chesham • High Wycombe

AW
bringing out the best in you

Call at Amersham, Chesham & High Wycombe campuses to enrol during the following times:

Mon to Thur	9.00am - 8.00pm
Friday	9.00am - 4.00pm
Saturday	10.00am - 1.00pm

ENROL at our Guidance shop & information shop, Chilterns Centre, High Wycombe
Monday to Friday 9.00am - 5.00pmSaturday 9.00am - 4.00pm



amersham & wycombe college you

460891

PHONE 01494 735500
or visit our WEBSITE http://www.amerwyc.coll.as.uk

Manager calls for fans to get behind the Blues tomorrow

Hornets will get stung

Blues boss John Gregory looks ahead to tomorrow's game

TOMORROW we face a tough away game at Vicarage Road, Watford.

Last season our performance at Watford was one of the best away league performances of the season.

Despite having most of the possession, we did not quite manage to convert any of our chances.

For the tremendous support we received from the 2,000 plus Wycombe Wanderers faithful fans who turned up on a wet Tuesday night last November, we lost to a single goal against the run of play with only a minute or so left on the referee's watch.

Naturally Richard Hill and myself would have preferred to reward those Blues fans who travelled to Vicarage Road with at least a point, particularly as we out sung the 5,000 or so Watford fans, and certainly made the louder noise over the 90 minutes.

I hope that Wycombe Wanderers fans will turn out in similar numbers and get right behind the lads tomorrow as we endeavour to get our first ever league points at the Hornets nest.

In our first two away Division Two league matches this season we have scored six goals.

If we can continue this strike rate tomorrow and keep it tight at the back we should get the result we all want.

This season we intend to improve upon last season's away league record and attract more travelling support, certainly to date the entertainment value has been terrific and is a credit to the players.

Next weekend sees our first Quid-a-Kid match against Carlisle United at Adams Park, which will be one of four matches this season where the club is hoping to attract new youngsters to enjoy our fantastic facilities.

I am personally delighted the club has decided to double the number of opportunities for youngsters to come and support their local team for only £1, whether they choose to sit or stand.

Wycombe Wanderers' growing reputation as a family club, combined with our wonderful Adams Park stadium, means that parents can bring their children in comfort and safety.

Please believe me when I say that the support Richard and I have received since we joined the club last autumn has been absolutely fantastic.

My hope is that all Wycombe Wanderers fans who travel to Vicarage Road tomorrow will get right behind the lads as well as at Adams Park next week against Carlisle United to help us try and pick up maximum points.



John Gregory: Looking for a win at Vicarage Road

CONTENTS

Page 3
Manager's view

Page 4
Why Scott the Wanderer was happy to return

Page 4
Supporters shout

Page 6
Community football

Page 7
Youth triumph

Page 8
John Goldsworthy asks: "Is it worth it?"

Page 11
Hutch previews the month ahead

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

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 (0494) 472100. Fax (0494) 527633.

Could you be a special agent

DOOR to door lottery agents are needed by the club for established rounds in Wycombe.

The following areas have vacancies: Loudwater, Downley, Holmer Farm, Bowerdean, Stokenchurch and Booker.

Agents will receive commission and bonuses. For more information call Mike Phillips on (01494) 472100.

ACE DENTURE CENTRE
DEDICATED TO THE CARE OF DENTURE WEARERS - ESTABLISHED 20 YEARS
- We make natural looking dentures at affordable prices.
- Sunken features can be supported
- Economy dentures for senior citizens
- Delicate chrome plates
- Comfortable soft linings
- Quality teeth available
- Evening appointments available
- Friendly patient service

PHONE FOR A FREE INFORMATION PACK
DENTURE REPAIRS WHILE YOU WAIT
156 Micklefield Road, High Wycombe, situated off the A40, High Wycombe with private parking
174 Desborough Road, High Wycombe, Public car park at the rear.
CALL 01494 520515
24 HR HELP LINE
YOUR DENTURE PROBLEMS SOLVED

MOTTS TRAVEL
We're on the ball when you need to get away!
Supplier of coaches to Wycombe Wanderers
Tel: 01296 613831
Fax: 01296 613175

Needhams BINGO AND SOCIAL CLUB
BINGO EVERY NIGHT AND FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AFTERNOONS
OVER £7,000 TO BE WON EACH WEEK ON OUR "LINK" GAMES
OVER £6,000 TOTAL "HOUSE" PRIZE MONEY PAID OUT EACH WEEK
PLUS UP TO £100,000 CAN BE WON ON THE NATIONAL GAME
Played every night
TEL: (01494) 521523
241 DESBOROUGH ROAD, HIGH WYCOMBE
LICENSED BAR - SNACKS AVAILABLE AT REASONABLE PRICES
£100 Game FREE, each Thursday Night during September

Adams Family suits Wanderer

By Keith Scott

WELL it doesn't seem three years and 10 months since I left Wycombe in November 1993 to go to Swindon Town, but it is – and a lot of water has gone under the bridge since then.

In that time I have played for three different clubs and have had some good and bad times on the way.

Obviously the highlight was playing in the Premier League with Swindon Town, but unfortunately it was all over too soon, but at least I have fond memories of my time there.

I left Swindon to join Stoke City which at the time seemed a very good move, but a year later I was rescued from my Potteries nightmare by Martin O'Neill who took me to Norwich in a swap deal which saw Mike Sheron go the other way.

This move was a dream come true because not only was I re-united with a manager who I respect professionally and personally but I was at a club which had a great chance of returning to the Premiership which is where every player at every level wants to play.

I couldn't have been happier I was in a lovely part of the country and I was playing in a team which was full of players who were as eager as me to get back into the Premiership.

However, I could not have foreseen what was going to happen and Martin O'Neill parted company with the club to join Leicester and the next two managers made it clear I was not in their plans. So after 18 enjoyable months at Norwich I found myself in a nice situation where I could have joined one of four clubs – so why did I choose Wycombe?

One of the reasons was that I had the opportunity to work with and get to know John Gregory and Richard Hill. In my time there on loan it was clear that they were determined to get the club moving forward and were not satisfied with just staying in the second division, also I have a great affection for the club but the most important reason was my family, especially my son. Ever since he was born I've always been playing for clubs away from my home which meant I was living away for long periods of time, so I felt it was about time I put him first.

If people reading this think I have signed for Wycombe Wanderers just to see out my playing days then they are wrong. I believe there are good times ahead for the club and I want to be part of that along with everybody else at Adams Park.

But it cannot be achieved without hard work from everybody and that includes every supporter who comes to home and away games.

Hopefully, with the help of all the players and the backing of you the supporters we can get the club into the first division.



Wanderer returned: Keith Scott back in action for the Blues

Listen to us

OFFICIAL LINES
By Elaine Butler
Official Supporters Club

HAVE you ever thought that as a supporter no one really listens to you. I am not talking about the noise we make on Saturday afternoons, but the voice we have on the future of the game.

Yes, on a local level you can express your views about the future of the club and we as the Official Supporters Association represent those views at board level and the board does listen.

How often have all supporters complained about general things like the policy of changing strips at frequent intervals and unequal treatment of away supporters.

At last a chink of light seems to be appearing with the creation of the Football Task Force headed by David Mellor. I use the word "seems" deliberately because as yet we do not know the composition of this Task Force and although it will almost certainly include representatives of the Premier and Nationwide leagues, the FA, Football Supporters Association and the National Federation of Supporters Clubs and no doubt major clubs, there is a real danger that it will be dominated by the institutions and voices of smaller clubs will not be heard.

We are hit by the concerns they are addressing, more than fans of the larger clubs and our views should be given equal weight. If they are not a real opportunity to influence the future will have been missed. We have written to make this very point – will they listen? .

- We are holding a forum at Adams Park on September 11 at 7.45pm with a cross section of staff including Richard Hill, David Jones, Alan Hutchinson, Frank Knowles, Neil Smillie and chairman Ivor Beeks
- Our AGM is on October 27 at Adams Park.
- Our commitment is to run coaches to matches without profit. We will try to hold prices for the third consecutive year. Rena continues to take bookings in the Vere Suite before and after home matches or you can book by telephone on (01296 29307).

Feeling the pinch after the Bosman transfer ruling

COMMERICAL BREAK
By Mark Austin

THE 1997 Deloitte & Touche Annual Review of Football Finance demonstrated the growing gap between the Nationwide League and the Premiership, stating Manchester United and Newcastle's turnover was greater than all second and third division clubs combined.

The review was based upon all 92 league club's annual returns for the 1995/96 season. I wonder what the gap is now after United's championship win?

The increases in players wages in 1995/96 is nothing compared to what next year's report will show. The Bosman ruling did not really affect wages in 1995/96, but it certainly did last season, and dominated re-negotiations for players who renewed contracts for the 1997/98 season onwards.

Generally clubs are paying players more for longer periods to try and create stability and ensure they get a decent transfer fee for any player under contract. We know only too well the repercussions of losing players out-of-contract, losing Steve Guppy to Newcastle and Mickey Bell to Bristol City, both for only £150,000 despite them both being offered lucrative contracts to stay. The present system at least enabled us to earn £300,000 for their registrations, something that is set to disappear from the Premiership at the end of this season and from the Nationwide League by the end of the 1998/99 season.

In 1995/96 wages and salaries in Division Two represented 69% of turnover. In Division One it was 76% and 50% in the Premiership. Deloitte & Touche conclude that "Division One clubs do not have the Premier League income streams to support these costs and the effect on their trading results is dramatic."

Unfortunately the wages spiral will surely lead to wages being capped. "The total wages and salaries bill for football clubs continues to grow at 23%, far in excess of inflation. This was not matched by growth in turnover in any of the four divisions."(Deloitte & Touche Annual Review of Football Finance, August 1997).

Wycombe cannot sustain continual increases in wages unless it is matched by greater income. One of the great challenges at Adams Park is to find new income to support our growth. Tony Leese, the food and beverage manager has done a great job since the club took back the running of the six tea bars within the stadium two years ago.

Since then they have been refurbished and two more tea bars have been added in the ServisPak Stand. Tony also runs the conference and banqueting centre as well as the five fixed bars, which are overseen by Andy Pembroke. Mike Phillips the promotions manager, runs all the weekly draw schemes, scratch cards, the Leagueline Society, the 50/50 Matchday Draw and recently introduced the Premier Instant ticket with a top prize of £10,000 and brought in a new retail distribution network to increase sales. Considering the damaging effect of the National Lottery on clubs' income, Mike has done an excellent job for the Blues. Many clubs have given up door to door selling, but Mike and his team have kept the income flowing. Fortunately Wanderers are not saddled with the sort of debts most clubs have. It is particularly important we try and make profit this year, as we have always done as a limited company, apart from the last three years.

Deloitte & Touche found that "Other loans remained the dominant form of football club finance particularly in Division Three where they accounted for 87% of finance. These loans were primarily from directors and related companies which struggled to raise funds from commercial shareholders and the banking community."

The Blues have had the support of Lloyds Bank to date, due to our healthy assetts and previous trading record, but are unable to raise income from shareholders as Wanderers' constitution prevents dividends being paid to any of it's 500 shareholders or board of directors. Because of this restriction income from supporters, sponsors and advertisers is highly valued because without their support we would not be able to sustain league football.



Champagne Hot Air Balloon Flights

- Fly locally over the beautiful Chilterns
- Flight Gift Vouchers available
- Commemorative flight certificate and champagne
- Professional friendly service
- Gift wrapped boxed Helium Balloon available for that extra special present

Humbugs Vouchers make that unforgettable Christmas Gift

Humbug Balloon Group

VISA MasterCard

High Wycombe
(01494) 56 40 40

CAA
CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY
CERTIFIED AIR OPERATOR

460487

SUMMER SPECIAL
ON
CENTRAL HEATING BOILERS
12 MONTHS INTEREST FREE CREDIT
NO DEPOSIT
12 MONTHS WARRANTY
With prices starting from £895
DON'T LET THE SUN GO DOWN ON YOUR OLD BOILER
call
Quality Heating Services
FREEPHONE 0500 353544
Interest Free Credit Example: Cash price £895. Interest Free Credit Terms: Pay NO DEPOSIT. Pay balance in twelve monthly instalments of £74.58. Interest Free Credit Price £895 (APR 0%). Finance is subject to status. Written details on request. All prices include VAT. This offer is for a limited period only.
CORGI REGISTRATION 131694
460565

International Football
is returning to
Adam's Park
BUY YOUR TICKET NOW
U21 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING MATCH
ENGLAND
v
MOLDOVA
Tuesday, 9th September 1997
Kick-Off 7.45pm, Adam's Park
MAIN STAND:
FAMILY STAND:
GOAL AREA:
STANDING AREA:
CREDIT CARD HOTLINE
01494 441118
TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE FROM: ADAM'S PARK & THE OCTAGON CENTRE CLUB SHOP

Learn the dynamic Martial Art of Taijutsu for self-defence and physical fitness
Classes: Monday and Wednesday
KYO SHIN
TAIJUTSU
Sands Middle School
Mill End Rd
High Wycombe
Children 7.00-8.00pm
Adults 8.00-9.00pm
Tuesday
Women only 8.00-9.00
Everyone Welcome
PRIVATE TUITION ALSO AVAILABLE
01494 520338
460497

Live the dream

By Nas Bashir
Blues Community Officer

I HAVE been playing football for as long as I could walk, all I wanted to do was play and now I am helping others do the same.

As you may already know Blues' community officer Matt Smith has left the club.

Since his departure the club decided that the community scheme needed improving so that we could offer more opportunities to a wider range of children.

The club decided to have two community officers, myself Nas Bashir, and my assistant Dave Evans.



Community spirit: Nas and Dave

I have been coaching with Wycombe for over two years at the Centre of Excellence, as well as being manager of the under-16s. During my time at the club I have gained the full FA Coaching awards.

My early desire to be involved in football led to me playing for both High Wycombe District and Bucks County.

On leaving school I joined Reading Football Club on a two year YTS which led to a two year professional contract, my best ever moment was scoring on my debut.

Unfortunately, Reading released me and I have been playing semi-professional ever since.

● **Assistant Dave Evans writes:** As children, we were never given the opportunity to be coached by a professional football club, our main objective is to offer boy and girls this opportunity on a regular basis.

In my previous job I was a Sports Development Officer with Wokingham District Council.

My main aim was to set up a coaching structure in the community, to give children the opportunity of quality coaching in and out of school.

I achieved this by running after school clubs, coaching courses in and out of primary schools and setting up football camps.

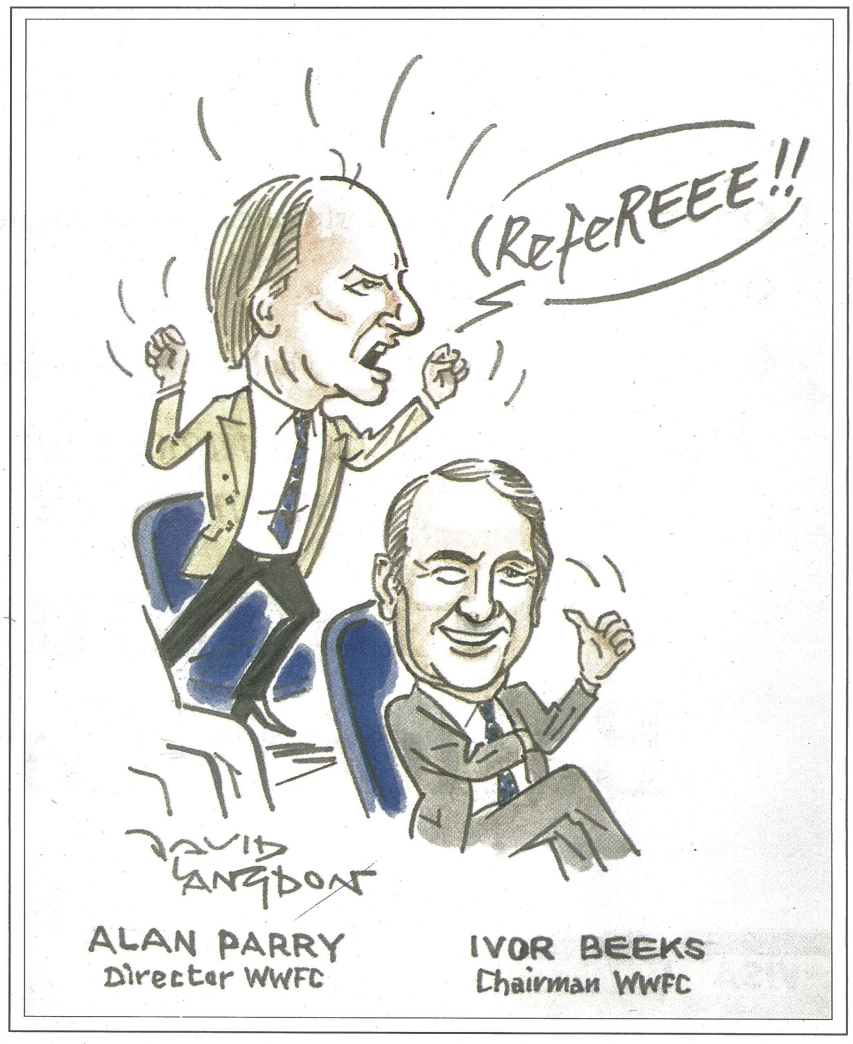
I have held my coaching qualification for nearly ten years and currently coach and manage the under-13s School of Excellence at Bisham Abbey.

We have just finished our summer soccer courses which were a great success with a positive feedback from children and parents.

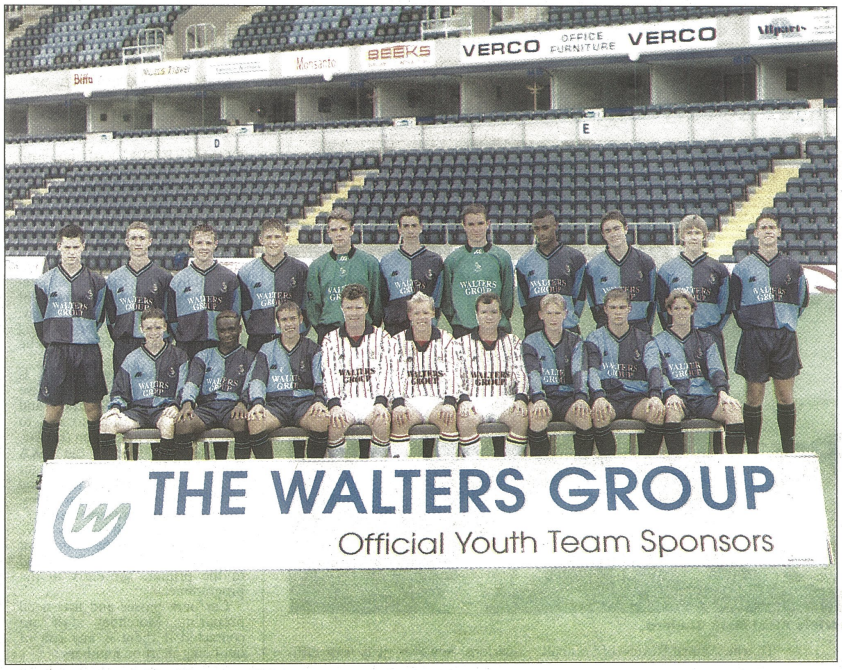
We have been running the community scheme for eight weeks and we have got a lot of ideas which we will be putting into practice very soon.

Our aim is to cover the whole of the High Wycombe area offering professional coaching to boys and girls of all abilities and developing homegrown talent.

If you want more information please call us on (01494) 472100.



Wanderers youngsters prove equal to foreign opposition as they clean up in tournament



Smillie's success: The Blues youth team

Blues youth love going Dutch

TWO weeks ago, Wycombe Wanderers' youth team travelled to Holland for the four day VELO football tournament. Blues youth manager Neil Smillie talks about how they tackled foreign opposition.

THE VELO tournament came about when we inquired to the Premier League at the end of last season about the possiblity of playing opposition abroad.

After a number of weeks of negotiation and organisation we were finally booked onto a tournament which was to be held just outside Amsterdam.

The tournament, which included eight teams, seemed to be a great opportunity for us to pit our wits against foreign opposition and try a completely different way of approaching the game.

On our first morning, we carried out a light training session before travelling to the council offices to be greeted by the Major of Wateringen.

Our first game was that evening against Ibaragi of Japan. The one eye opener to me during the event was the all-round ability of the two teams from Japan.

After a push from Ibaragi we managed to win 3-0 with goals from Richard Teal, Barry McCoy and Nicky Leach.

I was extremely pleased to get the first win of the tournament under our belt and encouraged by the way the team adapted itself to the hot weather.

We had three games in our qualifying rounds with the winner progressing to the semi-finals.

Day two, and the opponents were Quick of Holland who ended up being the poorest side we played, we beat them 7-0 with Richard Teal claiming a hat-trick.

An hour-and-a-half after the final whistle we were off again playing another side from the host country.

DSO proved to be much more gifted than the previous Dutch side but goals from Smith and Powell proved to be enough and we were through to the semi-finals.

From my point of view, it was extremely interesting to play a side who approached and were taught the game in a totally different manner to what we encounter week-in week-out in the South East Counties.

DSO were always looking to pass the ball and very rarely was the ball pumped forward.

Day three, and we were ready for our semi-final against Urawa Minami.

We managed to win 3-0 but it did prove to be one of the hardest games of the tournament with the hot weather no help.

In the final we faced Racing Genk of Belgium. After an indifferent start from the team they impressed me no end with their composure.

We ended up beating Racing Genk 3-0 and winning the first tournament Wycombe Wanderers Youth Team have ever entered.

It proved to be a great experience for the boys as they were able to sample different styles of football in a tight schedule while playing in hot temperatures with little time to rest and prepare.

After the tournament we had a few pleasing comments made about the style of football we played.

Comments were made regarding the players discipline, quality of play and the fact we didn't play the perceived English way.

Thanks must go to the Morgan Angel Foundation for giving us the opportunity to broaden the boys' football education by providing funds.

Get on the case with Adams Park wine offer

WYCOMBE Wanderers supporters are being offered the chance to buy wine by the case load, at cost price.

For further information or to place an order please contact Tony Leese, Andy Pembroke or Mark Rawlings at the club on (01494) 472100.

Wine will be available for collection 48 hours after placing order.

SUMMER SPECIAL on BOILER SERVICING

Have your Gas Boiler Serviced

FOR ONLY £39.50*

WHY NOT BEAT THE WINTER THIS YEAR and SAVE MONEY

Call the Service Professionals

Quality Heating Services

on

FREEPHONE 0500 323221

*OFFER AVAILABLE ON MOST BOILERS UP TO 30kW INPUT - CHECK FOR ELIGIBILTY
PRICE INCLUDES VAT
CORGI REGISTRATION 131694

460571

SOUTHERN COUNTIES SAW COMPANY

461110

Manufacturers and repairers of Saw Blades

Suppliers of Titman Router Cutters

Titman The best in router tooling

Southern Counties Saw Company Ltd
Lincoln Road, Cressex Industrial Estate
High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP12 3RQ
Telephone: 01494 520611/2/3 Fax: 01494 465373

HALL&CO
BUILDING MATERIALS SUPPLIER

We will be pleased to quote and supply you for all your building requirements

460510

Free Local Delivery • Car Park

Main Agents for Marshalls Landscape Materials

Opening Hours
Monday-Friday 7.00am-5.00pm Saturday 8.00am-1.00pm

Hall & Co Limited
Central Region
RMC House, Coronation Road,
High Wycombe, Bucks, HP12 3RX
Telephone 01494 521100 Fax: 01494 462418

SWITCH ACCESS VISA DELTA

A worthy pursuit

Director decides following Blues is a delight

IT'S a common enough expression, was my journey worth it.

About three weeks ago I visited Hinckley, primarily to see our side play a friendly, and secondly to visit a book warehouse that specialises in books on aviation.

The reason for the book warehouse was due to my having ordered three books some 12 months previously, two arrived in the post almost by return together with a note saying the third was out of print and would be forwarded when re-printed.

Some 12 months later no book, but a credit note. Thanks to Richard Hill's great desire to take a team to his place of birth I thought here's the opportunity to kill two birds with one stone.

The match was arranged for Tuesday, August 5, but sure enough sod's law had a hand and the book arrived on my doormat on Monday, August 4.

However, I decided to undertake the planned journey. But was it worth it? Of course it was.

Firstly, I visited the book warehouse and decided to buy three more aviation masterpieces.

Then to the ground. Up to last season there were two teams in Hinckley. The Athletic played in the Interlink Express Midland Alliance and the Town in the Midland Division of the Dr. Marten's League.

Having joined forces the newly founded United were accepted in place of Town in the Dr.Marten's League. Obviously they are having a few teething troubles, having two committees, two managers and two chairmen but they seem to be working well together.

We watched the game from a little stand and saw our youngsters give a creditable performance against the pick of the combined clubs.

It was good to visit once again the non-league scene, it makes you pause and think where you came from.

We have just started our fifth season in the Football League and it is easy to forget the decades the club spent in the non-league world, and I think it does you good to go back to your roots, to be grateful for your current position.

It also makes you realise the giant steps the club has taken over the last seven years since we last played at Loakes Park.

So folks when things are not going the way you wish, give a thought to where you came from and you should be a little humble, particularly if you then visit one of the local non-league clubs.

Then ask yourself "is it worth it?" The answer must be a massive yes.



Fans line-up: Young supporters meet Mark Stallard

IS IT WORTH IT?
by John Goldsworthy

● Recently I have been reading and studying the latest Deloitte & Touche Annual Review of Football Finance.

Doubtless many of you have read odd extracts in the national press. Although the figures relate to season 1995/96, there is no doubt that the downward financial trends are continuing, which are very concerning.

The most damaging trend is the continuing increase in the adverse difference between annual turnover and wages and salaries costs.

The problem is not so critical in the Premier League due to the Sky money, but in the Nationwide League the problem is increasing.

You may ask why, the answer is simple, the solution very difficult. Salaries and wages – as is the case in most businesses. We know that those at the top end can hope to meet the demands. In the lower divisions, however, it is very difficult to resist the wages demands, without being accused of being unambitious and no self-respecting chairman and board of directors could admit to that accusation.

But somewhere along the line perhaps the players and their agents should be reminded that no football club means no players.

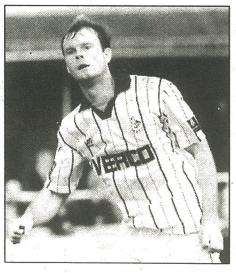
Contracts always involve on top of the wages, a signing-on fee, appearance money, bonuses and the club's bonus scheme. People I have spoken to agree with me that the whole thing should be simplified.

A contract should contain a reasonable weekly wage, an incentive of an appearance fee if appearing on the field for at least 15 minutes and the club's current bonus scheme. That's all.

He used to want money and fame, now he wants happiness

NAME: Keith Scott
DATE OF BIRTH: 9.6.67
HEIGHT: 6ft 2"
WEIGHT: 14 stone
HOME: 3 bed semi
CAR: BMW 520i
MARRIED: Yes
CHILDREN: Jordan, two-and-a-half years
DAD'S JOB: Prison officer
BROTHERS & SISTERS: Two brothers and two sisters
FAMILY PETS: None
NICKNAME AT CLUB: Scottie

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
WHO DO YOU SHARE A ROOM WITH ON AWAY TRIPS? Keith Ryan
DOES HE HAVE ANY ANNOYING HABITS? No
WHAT WAS YOUR AMBITION AS A CHILD? To be rich and famous
WHAT IS YOUR AMBITION NOW? To be happy, healthy and successful
WHO WAS YOUR BOYHOOD HERO? Allan Clarke (ex Leeds Utd and England)
WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST THRILL IN LIFE? Being at the birth of my son Jordan
WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT IN LIFE? At the time when it happened failing my driving test



WHAT IS YOUR SADDEST MOMENT IN FOOTBALL? Being relegated from the Premier League with Swindon
WHICH PRESENT-DAY FOOTBALLER DO YOU ADMIRE MOST? Dennis Bergkamp
WHO IS THE GREATEST PLAYER THERE HAS EVER BEEN? Pele
WHO HAS BEEN THE GREATEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR CAREER? Martin O'Neill and John Gorman
WHO IS THE TOUGHEST OPPONENT YOU HAVE FACED? Tony Adams
WHICH MANAGER HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR CAREER? Martin O'Neill and John Gorman
WHAT JOB WOULD YOU BE DOING IF YOU HADN'T MADE IT AS A FOOTBALLER? I think I would be in sales
AWAY FROM FOOTBALL, WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR GREATEST SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT? Holding the school's hurdling record
WHAT IS THE FUNNIEST MOMENT YOU HAVE SEEN ON A FOOTBALL PITCH? There have been many
WHAT WAS YOUR MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT IN FOOTBALL? Getting beaten 7-1 at Newcastle in front of 30,000 people
WHICH TEAM DID YOU SUPPORT AS A BOY? Leeds
WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE GROUND? For prestige - Wembley, for atmosphere Anfield
WHAT OTHER SPORTS AND HOBBIES DO YOU ENJOY? Golf and weight training
DO YOU HAVE ANY UNUSUAL FOOD THAT IMPROVES YOUR GAME? No - I just eat healthy
AWAY FROM FOOTBALL, WHO IS YOUR FAVOURITE SPORTSMAN? Nick Faldo
WHAT IS YOUR MOST PRIZED POSSESSION? My health, my family and their health
DO YOU PLAY ANY MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS? No
IS THERE A SPORTING DREAM YOU WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE ACHIEVED IN ANOTHER SPORT? To win an Olympic 100 metres gold medal
WHAT REALLY ANNOYS YOU IN FOOTBALL? People who think they know about football but don't.
WHAT ARE YOU PET HATES OUTSIDE FOOTBALL? People who always want more, when they have plenty.

FAVOURITES
TV PROGRAMME: Only Fools & Horses
POP STAR/GROUP: There are many
FOOD: Pasta, salads
DRINK: Diet Coke
FILM: Braveheart
FILM STARS: Mel Gibson
HOLIDAY RESORT: Cyprus
TV STARS: David Jason
COMEDIAN: Freddie Starr
CITY: New York

COMPILED BY STEVE HAYES

Everyone's involved in the build-up

Matchday Administration by Charles Colton, Blues Financial Controller

COMMERCIAL office and accounts staff have to handle many varied tasks related to matches, other than the obvious one of selling tickets.

These are basically split into before and after kick-off.

Before kick-off, one of the fundamentals is for the football secretary to give his best estimate of the crowd, both home and away, which gives the basis for deciding how ticket sales for visitors will be handled.

If the number of visitors is expected to exceed 1000 then we print their ticket allocation and send them the tickets to sell, to avoid excessive queues on the day.

Tickets for sale at the AXA Equity & Law and The Roger Vere Stands need printing and batching for sale on the turnstiles, since these are unreserved areas.

The mascots will already have been arranged for the match but their details need to be forwarded to the printers for entry in the programme.

Car park passes and lists need preparing. Matchday staff are contacted if there is any risk of our being short on numbers.

You may be surprised to learn that approximately 200 casuals work every matchday.

These include stewards, turnstile operators, ticket office staff, programme and 50/50 draw ticket sellers, car park attendants, tea bar staff, waitresses and bar staff.

We monitor ticket sales regularly and liaise with the police intelligence unit to update our crowd estimates. These numbers are useful when ordering programmes, deciding how many turnstiles should be opened and the number of staff required in each tea bar.

On top of that, thousands of pounds in change is required each match.

Spectator safety is probably the most important aspect of any football match. The control room requires accurate and immediate information on numbers entering each of the five stands and the available capacity.

This is achieved by a computerised counting system at the turnstiles with a mechanical counter on each turnstile as a back-up.

The computer is set up for the match from the office but taking the opening readings on the mechanical counters requires a brisk walk round the 20 turnstiles on matchday and takes at least half an hour - pleasant on a sunny morning, bracing on a frosty one and unpleasant on a wet one.

Other tasks which can only be done on matchday include setting up the ticket office computers, sorting out floats, typing and copying team sheets, preparing the referee's expenses and generally resolving problems as they arise.

In between times the phones ring madly, tickets are being sold and matchday staff arrive and are allocated their duties.

When they are all in position we can breathe a sigh of relief and just hope for a big crowd and the right result.

● **Next month: Charles lets us into the after match routine.**

457604

Wycombe Wanderers

Football Club Limited

QUID-A-KID



Saturday 13th September
3pm Adams Park

WWFC
v
Carlisle United

Children under 16 can get in for only £1 to sit down *or* stand on the terraces.

Tickets available from Wanderers in Town, the commercial offices *or*

Creditcard Hotline
(01494) 441118

END OF SEASON 600 LOT

GARDEN AND LEISURE AUCTION

On Saturday, 6th September 1997
Sale commences 10.30am at
Meadowbrook Farm
Aylesbury Road, Little Kimble
Bucks HP17 0UE
Tel: 01296 614638 Fax: 01296 614711
Viewing: Friday 5th September, 9.00am to 6.00pm
plus morning of sale from 8.00am
Catalogues available from the above address at £1.00 each
Lots include:

RIDE-ON MOWERS & MINI TRACTORS (NEW, EX-DEMO & S/H) PLUS ATTACHMENTS & ACCESSORIES: 16hp FORD TRACTOR, COUNTAX 12hp RIDER, BOLENS RIDER, TORO 7/25, TRAILERS, MTD RIDER, WESTWOOD TRACTOR C/W POWERED GRASS COLLECTOR, TRAILED SWEEPERS, ROLLERS, NICKERSON 36PTS MOTORISED SWEEPER, SET 3 RANSOMES MINIGANGS ETC.

GARDEN MACHINERY & OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT (NEW, EX-DEMO AND FACTORY REBUILD): LAWNMOWERS (ROTARY & CYLINDER), BRUSHCUTTERS & STRIMMERS, LAWNRAKES, HEDGETRIMMERS (PETROL & ELECTRIC), CULTIVATORS & ROTOVATORS, SCARIFIERS, BACKPACK SPRAYERS, PROFESSIONAL MACHINERY, RANSOMES, TURNER, FLAIL, 42" BUNTON SHREDDERS (PETROL & ELECTRIC) VICTAS, SUFFOLKS, MOUNTFIELDS, FLYMOS, HAYTERS, VACUUMS, SWEEPERS, BLOW 'N'VAC, NYLON LINE, METAL BLADES, ENGINES, FERTILISERS DISTRIBUTORS, CHAINSAWS, GUIDEBARS & CHAINS, SPARES & ACCESSORIES.

2 x DEAVINGSONS 5hp HONDA ENGINED FAST TRACK GO-KARTS TERRACOTTA & GLAZED POTS: PLANTERS, URNS, KONG JARS, FLOWER POTS ETC.

CONCRETE STATUARY AND ORNAMENTS, PLANTERS, BIRDBATHS, FOUNTAINS, ANIMAL FIGURES.

TOOLS, MACHINERY & EQUIP: 2 KARCHER PRESSURE WASHERS (HOT & COLD), SPANNERS, SOCKETS, SCREWDRIVERS, 5hp GENERATOR, TAPS 'N' DIES, DRILL BITS, PUNCHES, CHISELS, PICKHEADS, STOTHERT & PITT VIBROLL, TYRE CHAINS, HAYNES MANUALS, JACKS, GARDEN TOOLS, SAWS, AIR TOOLS, CHISEL KNIVES, 24" ROLLER, KAMASA TOOLS ETC.

OTHER ITEMS INCLUDE: WINDOW BARS, HARDWOOD GARDEN FURNITURE, WATER CARRIERS, WORKCOATS, KNEELING CUSHIONS, OFFICE CHAIRS, TUBS LIME, PLATES AND CUTLERY, TABLES, CHAIRS, MOD SURPLUS, WEB STRAPS, CANVAS TENTAGE PLUS MUCH MORE. 460960

FOR A GARAGE THAT REALLY CARES FOR YOUR CAR . .

- Top quality repairs and servicing
- National parts guaranteed
- Expert fitting and advice
- Value for money

CALL YOUR UNIPART APPROVED CAR CARE CENTRE

CAR CARE CENTRE

452202

MILLER COMMERCIAL MOTORS
Rear Unit, Lancaster Road, Cressex Industrial Estate, High Wycombe. Tel: 01494 448158

Your local Independent garage backed by UNIPART

AMERICAN LINE DANCING IN AMERSHAM

For Parties, Dances, Fetes, Fundraisers + Corporate Functions

For a great nights Line Dancing, book:

DONNA LINE DANCING

Dance tuition provided plus a great **Country Music + Line Dancing Disco**

Phone Donna: 01494 862737

460960

ANNUAL FEE NIL



Get a FREE Information pack now:
Please quote reference TE47
0800 776262
Lines are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

- The Wycombe Wanderers Visa Card has NO ANNUAL FEE
- You pay reasonable interest rates - just 19.9%APR (variable) for purchases
- You can chop the interest you pay on transfers from your existing credit cards down to just 9.9%APR, fixed for the first six months from the date your account is opened
- 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.**

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?

Over 600 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.

☑ Please rush me information about the fee-free Wycombe Wanderers Visa Card.

Name _____

Address _____

_____

_____ Postcode _____

Telephone: (_____) _____ Day

(_____) _____ Eves

Please return to: MBNA, International Bank Ltd,
PO Box 1048, FREEPOST, Chester CH4 9QQ

TD47

If you don't want to cut your paper, simply call on the freephone number quoting reference TE47, or write to MBNA at the address above quoting reference TD47.

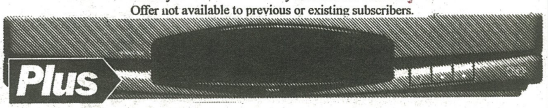
The Wycombe Wanderers Visa card is issued by MBNA International Bank Limited, Chester Business Park, Wrexham Road, Chester CH4 9QQ. The monthly MBNA interest rate on purchases is 1.53% (variable), equivalent to an **APR** of **19.9%**. The monthly interest rate on credit card cheques, ATM cash advances and over the counter cash advances is 0.79% fixed for six months from the date your account is opened, equivalent to an **APR** of **9.9%** for credit card cheques and an **APR** of **11.6%** for ATM cash advances and over the counter advances. After six months the monthly interest rate for purchases applies to all transactions. APRs are calculated on the basis of a £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 £1.50, max £25). There is no handling charge for credit card cheques. Credit is available subject to status, only to UK residents aged 18 or over. Written quotations available on request. For security telephone calls may be monitored and/or recorded.

Watch Brentford v Wycombe W Live on SKY sports Friday 19th September '97



Satellite System only £49.99* plus installation

When you subscribe to all Sky channels for 6 months.
Offer not available to previous or existing subscribers.



Watch the Ryder Cup LIVE on Sky Sports

26th to 28th SEPTEMBER

P.D.S. AERIAL SYSTEMS

1 WINDMILL PARADE, GEORGES HILL, WIDMER END

(FREE) 0800 - 585796
01494 711769
01296 334333

- NEW INSTALLATIONS
- REPAIR SERVICE

Standard installations **£49.99*** when you subscribe to all Sky Channels for six months at £29.99 per month. Minimum subscription period 6 months. Prices may vary after that minimum period. Pay per view events or programmes are not included within this subscription. A one-off connection charge of £12.00 is payable with your first subscriptions payment. This offer is not open to pubs, clubs or similar establishments. Subscribers must be 18 years or over, eligibility subject to status. Information correct at time of going to press (August 97). Full details of subscription from Sky Subscribers Services Ltd, PO Box 43, Livingston, West Lothian EH54 7DD. Ask in store for details.

457096

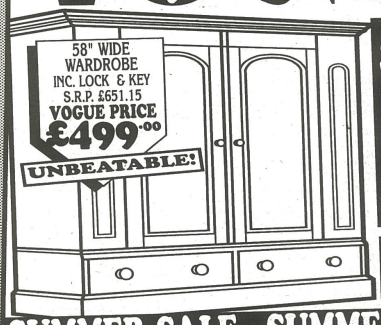
ducal

PINE HOTLINE
FOR INFORMATION & BROCHURES
PHONE
01494- 538466

LARGEST DUCAL SHOWROOM IN THE UK

VOGUE PINE





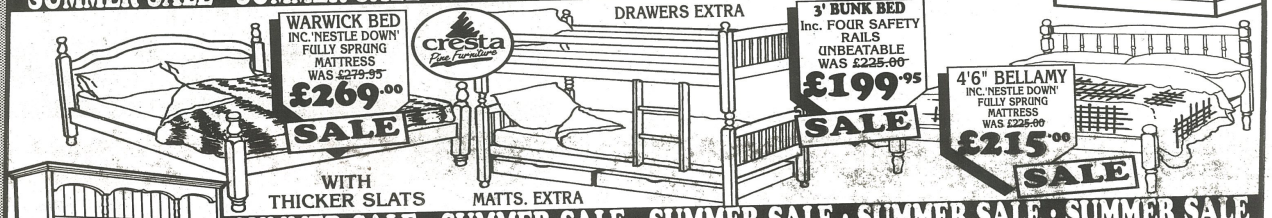
SAVE 20% OFF AND 25%/30%
ducal
ON VERY SLIGHT SECONDS

SUMMER SALE · SUMMER SALE · SUMMER SALE

SUMMER SALE · SUMMER SALE · SUMMER SALE · SUMMER SALE



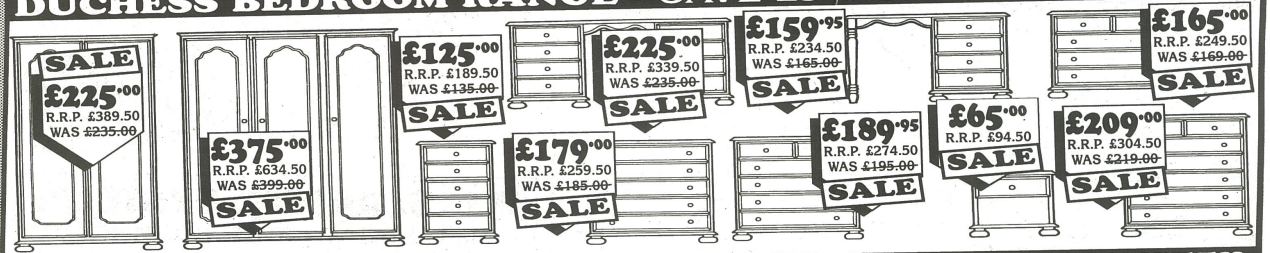
SUMMER SALE · SUMMER SALE · SUMMER SALE · SUMMER SALE · SUMMER SALE



SUMMER SALE · SUMMER SALE · SUMMER SALE · SUMMER SALE · SUMMER SALE



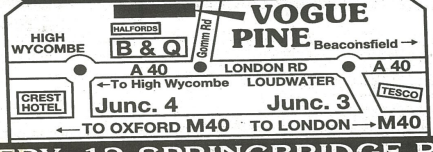
DUCHESS BEDROOM RANGE · SAVE 25%–30% RRP OR MORE



ALSO OPEN SUNDAY
10am-4pm

Vogue Pine Superstore
(Next to B&Q & Halfords
off GOMM ROAD
Just off London Rd, A40
High Wycombe
Tel: 01494 538466

WYCOMBE MAP



OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Vogue Superstore
Pine Warehouse
62,Oxford Road
New Denham, Uxbridge
Tel: 01895 259580
(Just off the A40 250 yards from Denham roundabout.)

ALSO AT VOGUE GALLERY. 12 SPRINGBRIDGE RD. EALING BROADWAY

Out for revenge

Alan Hutchinson previews the month ahead for Blues

TOMORROW we travel to Watford for only our second league match there.

Last season we were very unlucky not to take a point with the Hornets scoring on 89 minutes to win 1-0.

Watford will be there or thereabouts this season. Many changes have taken place behind the scenes the most noticeable being the return of Graham Taylor as manager and Elton John as part of the consortium supplying the money.

They have spent £700,000 of the £1,325,000 they received mainly for goalkeeper Kevin Miller and have begun well.

After that we move onto Saturday, September 13, when Carlisle United visit Adams Park. They will be keen to continue their success of last season when they won the Autowindscreen Shield at Wembley and finished third in Division Three to gain automatic promotion.

We have met six times and lost once, 4-2 at Carlisle in November, 1995. Former West Ham keeper, Mervin Day, has done a good job as Director of Football, but they could struggle this season.

Before the game we hope to have a mini rugby match between Wycombe and Marlow starting at 2pm.

Following that our next encounter is on Friday, September 19 at Griffin Park, Brentford in front of the live Sky television cameras.

Previous meetings between us have always provided plenty to talk about. Some of the edge may have been taken away now Terry Evans has departed but Jason Cousins is desperate to be available for this one. Dave Webb has now become supremo with Eddie May taking over as manager and Clive Walker the coach. Brentford led the way for long periods last season, saw off Bristol City in the play-off semi-final but lost to Crewe at Wembley and have made a stuttering start.

The final match for September is at home to Preston on Saturday 27th. Results have been mixed in the past and last season we lost both matches. The game at Adams Park suffered from a calamity of refereeing decisions and poor defending as did the defeat at Deepdale. Like ourselves PNE were involved in the struggle for survival, finally finishing 15th. Since then they have spent in excess of £600,000 on four players while raking in £1.5 million on sales.



TOP MAN: Blues' Steve Brown received a Coca-Cola CD radio football from marketing boss Mark Austin after winning the man of the match award in Wycombe's Coca-Cola Cup clash with Fulham.

We're on the up, up, up and away with Gregory

IT was a great feeling getting that first away win at Blackpool, bearing in mind last season we achieved only two at Bristol Rovers and Notts County, **writes secretary John Reardon.**

And it was particularly pleasing to see Alan Beeton doing so well on his debut and Maurice Harkin coming on as substitute. I would like to think this is the youth scheme starting to repay the initial outlay.

Under John Gregory I feel we can look forward to a more successful season. He has strengthened the squad and prefers a close-passing game, which is a welcome change from that adopted by the previous manager.

Before the season, I felt a mid-table position finish would be likely, bearing in mind the strength of the division and the resouces of clubs like Wigan, Fulham and Watford. Talking to our fans, their aspirations are much higher.

The status of Wanderers is growing every week and that's reflected in the club being invited to stage the England v Moldova under 21 international match on Tuesday September 9.

It is no secret that Glenn Hoddle likes the pitch here which is a tribute to groundsman. A successful evening could mean more internationals at Adams Park so let's have a big crowd.

IN SHORT

See England play at Adams Park

INTERNATIONAL football comes to Adams Park on Tuesday with the U21 European Championship qualifying match between England and Moldova (ko 7.45pm).

Glenn Hoddle asked the FA to play the match at Wycombe because he was so impressed with the quality of the Adams Park pitch when he used it for a behind-closed -doors friendly between an England A side and an England B side last year.

Tickets for the Moldova game are now available.

Tickets in the Amersham and Wycombe College Stand are all £9. For the Bucks Free Press Family Enclosure it is £7 adults and £3 children. The Roger Vere Stand is £7 for all and it is £5 adults and £3 children in the AXA Equity & Law stand.

Talking cricket

THERE are six tables left for the forthcoming Sportsmans Dinner at Adams Park where ex England cricket captain and opening batsman Graham Gooch will be speaking.

Eddie Archer will be the comedian for the evening. Tables cost £370 for 10 people. Wanderers Director and Sky Sports commentator Alan Parry will be the Master of Ceremonies. To book or for further information ring Mark Austin or Tim Arnold on (01494) 472100.

There are also tables at the four other Sportsmans Dinners to be held during the season with: Mike Summerbee, Thursday, November 20; Ian Robertson, Monday, January 26; Ian St John, Monday, March 30 and Wilf McGuiness, Monday, May 18.

Stewards needed

WANDERERS need matchday stewards and safety officers. Stewards will be paid £18 for a four hour stint between 1pm and 5pm. Turnstile operators will get£12 for working between 1pm and 3.30pm.

Anyone interested should contact the club on (01494) 472100.

457244
D & E MOULDS LTD
TOOLMAKERS AND INJECTION MOULDERS TO THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY
THE COMPLETE SERVICE
ADVICE • DESIGN
TOOLING
MOULDING • ASSEMBLY
OGILVIE ROAD, HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS HP12 3DS
Telephone: (01494) 463111
Fax: (01494) 461194

VERNON BROWN
MOTOR SERVICES
For all vehicle repair and service requirements at competitive rates.
Propshaft repair specialist
Mini & Metro Radius Arms, supplied and fitted from £65.
Hydrolastic pump up service available.
Unit D, Garlands Estate, Desborough Avenue, High Wycombe (opp Midland Bank)
01494 527891 or 0374 270224
452177

driver HIRE NATIONWIDE
Require Drivers
All Classes
HGV • HIAB • ADR TANKER • NLGV MULTI-DROP TACHO EXPERIENCE 2 years driving experience
EXCELLENT RATES
DRIVER HIRE CHILTERN
Telephone now on:
01494 433099
452180

YOUR LOCAL MOTORING SUPERSTORE
QUALITY CAR PARTS & ACCESSORIES FOR THE PROFESSIONAL * DIY MECHANIC
AT UNBEATABLE PRICES
SALE
ON SELECTED ITEMS
• Draper Tools 25% OFF
• Cycles 20% OFF
• Alpine speakers 20% OFF
SPECIAL OFFER ON MAYSTAR CD PLAYER
was £199.99
now £166.99
AA MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE HERE
AUTOBASE A1 MOTOR STORES
47 West Street, Marlow. Tel: 01628 471175
452200

461255
Looking for a promising sponsorship opportunity?
To promote your company within BLUES NEWS
Call Nick Hopton
01494 755007

RELAXATION THERAPY
Gentlemen I offer a complete superb Swedish Massage in delightful private surroundings.
7 days. Access/Mastercard.
Please phone between 8am-8pm.
01494 472742
452194

Wycombe Wanderers
Football Club Limited

CLUB SPONSOR
VERCO
OFFICE FURNITURE

QUID-A-KID
WYCOMBE WANDERERS V CARLISLE UNITED
Saturday 13th September



ADAMS PARK • HILL BOTTOM ROAD • SANDS • HIGH WYCOMBE • BUCKS • HP12 4HJ

TELEPHONE: (01494) 472100 • TICKET CREDITCARD HOTLINE (01494) 441118 • RINGING THE BLUES 0891 446855