

WANDERERS SWITCH XMAS FIXTURE LIST

W Y C O M B E
Wanderers' long-awaited trip to Sutton United on Saturday, fell victim like the rest of the local football programme to the wintry weather.

In readiness for this clash at the top of the Berger Isthmian League Premier Division, leaders Sutton had acquired the services of Peter Sharratt on a free transfer from Marlow.

Twenty-four hours before the match they had high hopes of play, having cleared the snow from the Gander Green Lane pitch but another night's heavy frost proved too much for their efforts.

The recent football programme has been totally disrupted but Wycombe's drastic re-scheduling of fixtures in the next fortnight has nothing to do with the weather.

Late switch

For instance, they have brought forward their Hitachi Isthmian League Cup 3rd round match at Slough 24 hours, due to the wedding of a Slough official.

It will now be played, weather permitting, tonight (Monday, December 21). This decision was only made public on Friday and leaves fans little time in which to be notified of the change.

Wycombe's Christmas programme has also been altered. They will still be meeting Hayes twice but on different dates and venues to those previously published.

Now they will have no game this Saturday (December 26). Instead they will be entertaining Hayes at Loakes Park on Monday, December 28 with a 7.30pm start.

Normally matches on Bank holidays are played in the afternoon but Wanderers fixture secretary Mr Bill Cleere says, "We think we will get greater crowds in the evening."

It will be interesting to see

how this experiment goes for it is normally considered that afternoon matches prove more attractive especially in cold weather.

The return match at Hayes will now be played on Saturday, January 2 at 3pm.

Reserves home

The reason for these changes is to accommodate Wycombe Reserves' home draw against St John's Hospital in the fourth round of the Berks and Bucks Intermediate Cup. This will now be played at Loakes Park on January 2.

This will be the Reserves'

first Intermediate Cup match on the ground. When previously drawn at home they played the match at Broomwades because of a fixture clash.

If Wanderers first team had actually beaten Barnet, they would have been at home to Brighton in the FA Cup on that date.

There's no truth in the rumour that they would have played that epic cup-tie at Broomwades!

STOP PRESS: Hitachi Cup tie between Wycombe and Slough tonight (Monday) postponed due to unfit pitch. To be played on January 5.

Slough, now managed by Terry Reardon, have two more ex-Wycombe players in their ranks. They are centre-half and captain Steve Hardwick, and forward Dylan Evans, who left Hillingdon recently following the payment dispute at the Southern League club.

Wanderers making their third appearance at Wexham Park this season, have yet to lose there. They won the Dylon Charity Shield 3-1 on the first day of the season and then drew 3-3 in the league.

The winners of that tie will be away to either Bishop's Stortford or Carshalton Athletic in the next round.