

Wycombe are the **giant first hurdle in** **Aylesbury's F.A. Cup bid**

AYLESBURY United will face an enormous first hurdle when their bid to reach the first round of the F.A. Cup for the third year running starts in September.

Trevor Gould's side will face old rivals, Wycombe Wanderers, at The Stadium on September 12 in the first of the four qualifying rounds if they are to match their best ever run of the last two seasons.

Wanderers — Berks & Bucks Senior Cup winners at Wolverton in April when they beat a fatigued Aylesbury side 3-2 in extra time — lost their exemption to the fourth qualifying round as a result of a 5-1 home defeat against VS Rugby last season and despite their runaway win in the Vauxhall-Opel League and starting next season in the GM Vauxhall Conference for the second time, they too will not welcome a bout of cup fever on only the fourth Saturday of the new season.

The game will attract a packed house and the Aylesbury club are already considering the possibility of making the game all-ticket.

An extra step of hard standing area has been added around The Stadium pitch during the summer but the game may well pull in more than the ground record of 2,040 who watched the game against Fisher at the end of last season and the club will be anxious so early in the season not to allow a repeat of the scenes which marred the tail end of last term.

The winners of the first qualifying round tie won't have things much easier after that either with two away trips to follow.

Any one of Eastern Counties League pair Braintree and Sudbury and Southern league newcomers, Hounslow will be the opposition in the second qualifying round, and in the third round Staines, Ware, Hendon, Grays, Hertford or Potters will be the home side.

● Aylesbury will face three sides from the lower divisions in the first round of the Westgate Insurance Cup — formerly the Bill Dellow Cup — next season.

Near-neighbours Buckingham and Dunstable and Southern Division side Ruislip make up Aylesbury's group with the top two teams moving through to the last 32 of the competition — the group winners guaranteed £200 prize money and a home draw in the second round.