

Sponsors kick schools scheme into extra time

THOUSANDS of children have learnt through football in the first year of a successful project run by Wycombe Wanderers FC.

The popular Learning Through Football scheme is now entering its second year thanks to the sponsors who have pledged their support again after hearing how more than 3,000 pupils from 44 local schools have benefited from it.

The project, which combines national curriculum subjects with the fun of football, is run



Wycombe Wanderers
Football Club Ltd.



at Wycombe Wanderers' ground Adams Park and is sponsored by the Bucks Free Press and Midland Bank.

Schoolchildren from the area

spend a day at the stadium and are shown videos and are taken on a guided tour.

The pupils learn how crowd control works at the ground and

are shown how to apply their academic skills by using calculations to find out the size of the pitch.

The youngsters also get the

chance to see the players' changing rooms and the trophy room.

The visits are so popular the ground is booked up until March. This month, two classes from Great Kingshill School have visited the ground.

After their visit the children are encouraged to write a project about the day and submit it to the club for a competition. The winning school each term will receive £100.

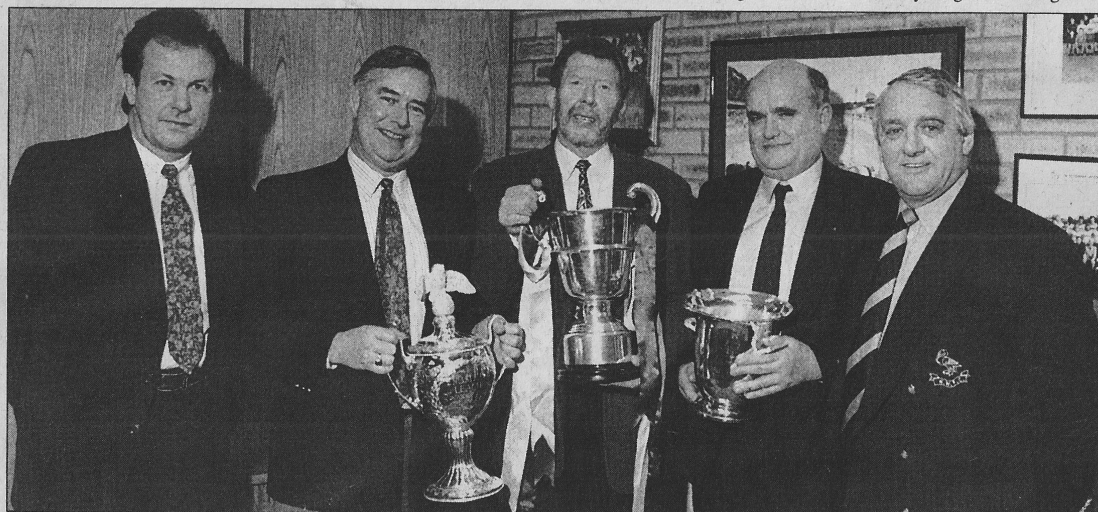
Steve Hamill, area manager of Midland Bank; Ron Christ, sales manager of the Bucks Free Press, and Jim Melvin, community officer for Wycombe Wanderers FC, met on Saturday to renew the scheme for 1995.

Fred Mullin, area service and sales manager of Midland Bank in High Wycombe, praised the project, saying he sees it as an important way of linking schools with the community.

"For us it is nice to be able to put something back into the community," he said.

Also present on the day was Ivor Beeks, chairman of Wycombe Wanderers FC, and Brian Edwards, area education manager of Buckinghamshire County Council.

Anyone interested in finding out more about Learning Through Football should contact Jim Melvin, community officer and youth team manager at Wycombe Wanderers, on (01494) 472100.



Strong supporters: Jim Melvin, Steve Hamill, Ron Christ, Brian Edwards and Ivor Beeks