
Bucks Free Press

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Whingers are true Blues supporters

WYCOMBE Wanderers are a great football club and John Gregory is a first-class manager.

They have the strong support of almost everybody in the area, including the Bucks Free Press.

However, we simply cannot accept the sentiments voiced by Mr Gregory in today's Blues News.

He attacks fans who criticised the club during their poor spell at the end of last year, and infers such critics are not true supporters.

We disagree. In most cases, only true supporters would give up their valuable time to write a letter to their local paper voicing their concerns about their club.

These 'whingers' might sometimes be misplaced, they might sometimes be unfair, but the fans have every right to make them.

They pay a lot of money to support their team and any defeat is shattering for their morale.

Of course the fans should get behind the lads in bad times and cheer them on to greater things.

But they should also have the right to express what they think.

Do Wycombe Wanderers really want a passive bunch of fans who never dare to speak their minds?

We think not, for such passivity normally comes hand in hand with apathy – and empty stadiums.

Our first earnest wish for 1998 is that the Blues and John Gregory achieve the success they deserve.

Our second wish is that the club recognises that these so-called whingers, the people who really care about the Blues, are perhaps the club's greatest asset.

A resolution for all refs

OFFICIAL LINES

By Keith Blagborough
of WWOCS

WHEN you start a new year, you make all sorts of resolutions – here are some of my wishes for 1998.

For referees: Please get together and sort out some semblance of consistency in application of the laws.

Not only will the players know where they stand from week to week, but supporters will enjoy matches more.

For the players: Stop acquiring self-inflicted yellow cards for trivial offences, like talking back and kicking the ball away. We have a small enough squad without this.

For Graham Peart: Find a pot of gold so that the manager can strengthen the squad.

For John Gregory: Get us to the play-offs.

For all supporters: Lots of noise and along with a happy, healthy and prosperous new year, a trip to Wembley in the spring?

Just before Christmas I had a telephone call from Neil Smillie telling me that he has now obtained the kit for the teams involved in the youth development scheme.

This, you may remember, is as a result of the cheque presented to him last year and we were able to do this as a result of you supporting our events.

Come to think of it, I have another wish for this year, and that is for Neil to build on his success and produce some more members for the first team squad.

The BFP's sister paper Midweek has been trying to find the supporter who lives the farthest away from Adams Park. We have a member in New Zealand, with whom we correspond, and who orders from the club shop. John Howland lives in New Plymouth, NZ. Can anyone beat that?

For coaches to Fulham (we seem to have spent all our time playing them this season), Carlisle and all away matches, the Blues Supporters Club will be running our usual service to these matches. Rena will be taking bookings in the foyer of the Vere Suite before and after tomorrow's match. You can also book by calling (01296) 429307.

The supporters quiz night will be held at Adams Park on January 29 at 7.45pm.

We charge £10 for a team of up to six people, but if you want to come along please do, we make up scratch teams on the night and give great prizes.