

Fans save Celtic clash

JASON Cousins' testimonial against Celtic will definitely go ahead on Tuesday after fans rallied round to save the clash.

Earlier in the week Cousins feared he would have to scrap the match against Martin O'Neill's Scottish champions because fans had been slow to take up tickets.

He was facing financial disaster having only sold 1,400 tickets for the all-ticket affair. He needed to sell 3,500 just to break even after paying Celtic's costs and the police bill.

But after the Bucks Free Press Midweek broke the story on Tuesday fans have rallied round to make sure the game goes ahead.

Supporters snapped up 700 tickets on the day the paper went out and worried fans went that extra mile by e-mailing Celtic supporters clubs and football websites to advertise the game.

Cousins said: "I can't thank those

DAVE PETERS

WANDERERS

fans enough. I want to say a massive thank you to all those supporters who have been e-mailing the Celtic websites for me.

"I've been taken aback that people have gone out of their way to help me like that.

"The game will definitely go ahead now and that is a great relief to me.

"I was at my wits end on Monday. I was distraught. I thought I would have to telephone Celtic and tell them that the game was off. It would have been the most embarrassing phone call of my life.

"Maybe I was a bit naive. I just thought that a match against Celtic would sell itself."

But although the match will go ahead, Cousins is still only on course to break even and there is still more work to be done before he can look at making a

deserved profit for his 11 years service at Adams Park.

Tickets are still on sale at Adams Park and Cousins will be at the club tomorrow morning selling tickets personally for the match.

And the game promises to be a cracker.

Former Wanderers boss Martin O'Neill, who signed Cousins for Wycombe from Brentford in 1991 has promised to bring some of his biggest stars down to Adams Park.

He told Cousins on Tuesday that, barring injury, Henrik Larsson, Neil Lennon, Chris Sutton and Steve Guppy will be on parade.

Cousins was released by Wanderers last summer and is now playing for Ryman League Aldershot after a sparkling Chairboys career. He was part of O'Neill's team which won promotion to the Football League, scored in an FA Trophy Final at Wembley and was a



Jason Cousins

member of the team which reached the FA Cup semi-final 18 months ago.

Tickets for the match, which is all-ticket on police advice, are available all week from Adams Park. They can be bought in person or from the credit card hotline on 01494 441118.