

The feeling is mutual Martin

IT was uplifting to hear the comments of Celtic manager Martin O'Neill when he returned to High Wycombe last Friday.

O'Neill, who was at Adams Park to help commemorate Wycombe Wanderers' ten years in the Football League, spelt out his devotion to his old club in no uncertain terms.

And he said of Wanderers' fans: "They have always been terrific for me and will always hold a place in my heart."

The inspirational Irishman also lifted the mood of gloom around the club after a mediocre season by saying: "It's so great to be back at this magnificent stadium and to see how far this club has come in such a short space of time."

"The team under Lawrie Sanchez is doing great and it's wonderful to see the support of the fans is still as strong as ever."

There is no doubt he is right. The team's awful end-of-season form may have been depressing, but this doesn't detract from Wycombe Wanderers' achievements over a decade.

When O'Neill became manager, they were a relatively obscure non-league club. By the time he'd left, they were pushing for promotion from Division Two.

Sadly, this promotion has never yet been achieved. Instead, the club has enjoyed a long period of consolidation.

Wanderers fans would have grabbed this present scenario with both hands all those years ago when O'Neill first arrived. But his brilliance raised expectations to such a giddy level that supporters were bound to be disappointed. His comments last Friday hopefully put things into perspective.

We shouldn't labour too much on the past when there is so much to look forward to.

But it's still worth returning Martin O'Neill's compliment by telling him: "You have always been terrific for us and will always hold a place in our hearts."