

We've still got all to play for



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VIEW FROM THE STAND

Who says the league table doesn't lie? After 27 games Wanderers have a perfectly even record – won nine, drawn nine, lost nine. Their goal tally is almost perfectly level too – scored 28, conceded 29.

What you might call a “pretty average” season so far.

So, how come we are down in sixteenth place instead of being mid-table?

The good news is we are still, just, above Oxford United and a very healthy 15 points ahead of the two dreaded relegation places.

The even better news is that, despite a very up and down season, Wanderers are still only five points off a coveted promotion play-off place.

Looking at the current league table, and ignoring the top three teams who appear to be breaking away, there are just ten points covering 14 clubs chasing the four play-off spots.

Wanderers meet ten of these sides in their remaining games, so there are plenty of six pointers to look forward too in the next few months, starting with Macclesfield on Saturday.

With the arrival of the much travelled Steve Claridge, Wanderers are now onto their fourth loan player of the season for their vacant role of target man.

Judging by his performance at Swansea, Steve Claridge is going to be far better than his predecessors Messrs Abbey, Broughton and Savage.

Mind you, that's not saying much! In their total of eight games these three all failed to find the net.

On the other hand, the very impressive Adam Birchall scored five goals in his 14 appearances on loan from Arsenal.

Like his namesake, Steve Guppy, you can tell Claridge has spent most of his career playing at a higher level.

Hopefully these two can quickly recreate the successful partnership they had at Leicester and help Wanderers get up amongst the leading promotion pack.

Claridge's presence and goalscoring reputation should also take some of the attention off Nathan Tyson and give him the time and space to help discover his early season confidence and clinical finishing.

If things don't work out as planned with Steve Claridge up front, John Gorman could always revert to plan B and dig up Keith Scott again!