

Best Xmas in 19 years

Christmas time, mistletoe and wine, children singing Christian rhyme, With logs on the fire and gifts on the tree, a time for rejoicing in all that we see.

The last time Wycombe enjoyed such a good Christmas, Sir Cliff was at number one and Kevin Durham and Mark West were leading Wycombe to a memorable festive double over Aylesbury United. It was the 1988-89 season.

Fast forward 19 years and Wycombe fans are rejoicing again. Four wins and a draw has put us right back into the promotion race.

The players can take great credit for the turn around since the 6-0 embarrassment of Stockport, just four weeks ago. But so too can manager, Paul Lambert.

Lambert was castigated by a fair proportion of fans following the Edgeley Park debacle, but he has to take a fair bit of the praise for the recent turn around.

I don't think he's put a foot wrong recently in terms of tactics and indeed it was a masterstroke at Brentford to turn the game around. Although Wycombe had played fairly well in the first half at Griffin Park, they had been somewhat over-run in midfield. With Brentford down to 10 men, Lambert brought on Tommy Doherty and Wycombe really stretched the Bees.

A fantastic backs-to-the wall performance at Shrewsbury saw another three points and Wycombe were slightly unfortunate not to beat Barnet on New Year's Day.

The team looks far more balanced and has a bit more flair to it. And with a couple of new signings expected this month, our hopes may have been raised again.

Frank Fielding looks set to sign on loan until the end of the season. He's probably been Wycombe's best goalkeeper since Martin Taylor and it is easy to forget that he is only 19. Fielding will go far so to have him at Adams Park is a joy. You have to feel sorry for Jamie Young, who is back in training, because Young is a fantastic keeper himself. But Fielding is better, and you want the best.

Two massive games follow at Mansfield and against Rochdale and it would be great to keep the run going.

If we can, who knows? In May it could be:

Congratulations. And Celebrations.

Ian Baker is on the Board of Wanderers Supporters Trust. For details about the Trust and how to join see www.wwst.org.

