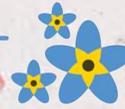




Yn Gweithio i fod yn
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2016-2017



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MAIDSTONE UNITED

Friday, April 14th 2017
Kick-off: 3.00pm
Vanarama National League

MAKING HIS MARX...

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WREXHAM AFC

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Email: info@wrexhamfc.tv

Directors: Spencer Harris, Gavin Jones, John Mills, Alan Watkin, Mark Williams, Phil Salmon
President: Dixie McNeil
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Manager: Dean Keates
Assistant Manager: Andy Davies
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CFE Manager: Andy Davies
Youth Coach: Joey Jones
Club Doctor: Dr. Nathan Sznerch
Matchday Doctor: Dr. Hywel Hughes
Safety Officer: Martin Bradley
Paramedic: Evan Meredith
Club Secretary: Geraint Parry
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Stadium Operations Manager: Phil Bennett
Matchday Programme Editor: Andrew Poole

GROUND REGULATIONS

- Wrexham Football Club reserves the right to refuse admission to the ground or any part of it to any individual or group
- Refusal to admit to a search will mean no admission or ejection
- Alcohol brought into the ground by spectators will be confiscated
- Anyone climbing onto or over the pitch perimeter wall, at any time without permission, will be removed from the ground and banned
- No ball games are allowed around the perimeter of the pitch
- No objects are to be thrown onto the pitch
- Any racial abuse will result in instant expulsion from the ground
- Please listen to and comply with any loudspeaker announcements
- Stewards are present to ensure crowd safety – please comply with their instructions – failure to do so will lead you to be removed from the ground
- Parents/Guardians are to make sure that small children are kept under supervision at all times whilst in the ground
- SMOKING is NOT permitted in ANY STAND or other buildings in the ground. Wrexham Football Club has a legal duty to apply to the law and individuals breaking the law will be subject to removal from the ground and/or prosecution



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DEANO

The thoughts of the manager...

WELCOME back to The Racecourse for this Good Friday encounter with Maidstone United.

Looking back at our last home game against Tranmere Rovers earlier this month, I asked for a reaction from our previous home encounter and I got it.

I was pleased with the passion, desire and enthusiasm displayed by my players and in the end I felt that we deserved to take something out of the game.

We created chances and had a real go at them in the final 20 minutes or so but I felt that we didn't ask enough questions in the opening 25 minutes of each half and it ended up costing us.

At Bromley I felt that we played really well during the first half; we moved the ball around sharply and created the better chances but ended up going in two goals down.



Character

It then became a test of character after they got their third goal and we were forced to change a few things around for various reasons as the second half went on, but we kept going to get ourselves right back into the game.

Unfortunately it was they who got the crucial next goal as the ball took a deflection on its way into the net. You can't legislate for these things, but credit to the lads because they kept battling and managed to pull another goal back, however, it wasn't enough to give us any points reward.

I know what the expectations are at this club and what the supporters want and deserve. I am working extremely hard to be able to deliver that next season; this club needs to be right up there challenging not sitting in mid-table.

This is a big club with a passionate support. We have the tradition and facilities to attract a good calibre of player here. Sometimes it's not all about the finances and I will be doing all I can to get us organised and secure a strong nucleus of players who possess the kind of characteristics that will serve us well and get us to where we need to be.

Motivate

These final games of the season are all about preparing for next season. The players need to keep themselves going; yes, the coaching staff are around to motivate them but it also has to come from within as ultimately it is their jobs that are on the line.

All we ask is that they come in every day with the right mentality to show



us that they want to be part of things moving forward.

This afternoon we face a Maidstone United who have seen an upturn in their fortunes recently as they pull away from danger. They will come here well-organised and prepared to battle all the way for the points.

We have to ensure that we display the right attitude so that we can get ourselves back into winning ways and end this season in a positive run of form.

May I take this opportunity to welcome Jay Saunders and everyone connected to our visitors before wishing them a safe journey home afterwards.

Thank you for your support this afternoon. One of the few consistencies of this season has been the excellent backing that you have given to the players and I know that this will continue. Hopefully we will give you something to cheer about today.

Enjoy the game...

DEAN





“I know what the expectations are at this club and what the supporters want and deserve. I am working extremely hard to be able to deliver that next season; this club needs to be right up there challenging not sitting in mid-table...”



PROUD TO CONTINUE OUR ASSOCIATION WITH

WREXHAM AFC INTO 2016/17

HERE'S TO A SUCCESSFUL SEASON...



FROM THE BOARDROOM

John Mills, Director

GOOD afternoon to all and a very warm welcome to The Racecourse, and to the officials, players and especially the fans of Maidstone United Football Club for today's Vanarama National League encounter. Our second meeting of the season with The Stones, and following a 2-2 draw on the artificial pitch at the Gallagher Stadium back in September, today will hopefully result in a favourable scoreline for the Dragons.

After last week's defeat by the odd goal in a 'thriller' of seven, we are hoping Dean's team can get back on track and put some more points on the board. It's been a few games since our last win, at Braintree Town, although there have been some good individual performances, especially from the younger players in the team. We may be at a low ebb on the pitch with that 'end of season' feel, but it is now we really need to get behind the team, and start building impetus for next season. The 'Team' is all of us, not just the players on the pitch, we all have our parts to play.

Looking forward with only four more games to go in this season, it would be good to finish with a flourish, and I am certain the manager, backroom staff and players will be giving their all to usher in what we intend will be the start of a new, successful era in the long history of Wrexham Association Football Club. Whilst this season may be drawing to a close, the entire club is focusing on delivering that success next, and in subsequent, seasons.

Although the action on the pitch will soon be over for this year, everyone at the club will be continuing to work towards the ultimate aim of returning Wrexham AFC to League football. In fact, our planning has already begun in earnest, and there will be some important announcements over the



coming weeks that will illustrate just some of plans that we have in place to further this aim. There is hard work ahead, and undoubtedly some ideas may be delayed or deferred, but we have a clear vision of where we are going, and how we will get there.

The future is bright, we all just

need to believe, but to focus on the present, I hope you all enjoy today's match, cheer the Dragons onto a victory, and have a safe homeward journey.

C'mon the Town!

JOHN

“There will be some important announcements over the coming weeks that will illustrate just some of plans that we have in place to further this aim...”

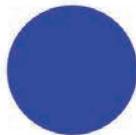




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ONE OF OUR OWN

The skipper has his say...



THERE was a great crowd here for our last home game and a fantastic atmosphere. Tranmere Rovers are up there for a reason; they are a good side but I felt that our young squad acquitted themselves well against them.

It was an unfortunate deflected goal which gave them the lead and they managed to hold on to what they'd got despite our best efforts as we found them difficult to break down.

Last weekend's game at Bromley was one of the strangest that I have been involved in. I felt that we started really brightly but then all of a sudden they grab two goals, both taking heavy deflections on their way in.

Luck

You know that the luck is against you when this happens, but after falling further behind, we came back at them with two goals of our own. Sadly Bromley were able to further their lead and even though we pulled another back, we just fell short.

It leads into a busy Easter weekend that gets underway with the visit of Maidstone United this afternoon. Their form has really picked up just lately and it has enabled them to climb away from danger.

I am expecting an open game today where hopefully we will be able to make home advantage count to get the three points to take into Monday's trip to York City.

There is extra spice added to this one with the various Wrexham connections at York. It will certainly be an interesting one, but I must say that I played some of my best football under Gary Mills here last season and personally I have a lot to be thankful to him for as he gave me my chance.

Fighting

York are fighting for the points to avoid the drop and we need to go there, concentrate fully on our own game and not the occasion and make sure that we come away with the points.

They are going to be two totally different games this weekend but I am really looking forward to them both and I'm sure our supporters are too.

Let's have you right behind us as we aim to get back into winning ways and make this a positive end to the season.

Enjoy the game..



"They are going to be two totally different games this weekend but I am really looking forward to them both and I'm sure our supporters are too..."

ROBBIE





RACECOURSE NEWS

All the latest news with Geraint Parry...

MASCOTS

This afternoon we have two mascots to help lead the team out onto the pitch.

First is 12 year-old Kiera McDade, a pupil at Castell Alun High School. Although born in Glasgow, she moved to Wrexham in 2011 with her mum and dad.

Kiera has been supporting The Reds since 2013 and enjoys going to the games with both her Dad and Nana, her mum even came once! She names Robbie Evans as her favourite player.

Also accompanying the players will be Rylan Davies, aged 11.



GORDON RICH - RIP

The club was saddened to hear of the passing of one of our former groundsmen – Gordon Rich, at the age of 80.

He arrived at the club when Fred Tomlinson was chairman, initially to look after maintenance at The Racecourse, but soon found himself also in charge of the pitch.

On his retirement from the club, Gordon was present with a silver salver by the club.

His funeral will take place this coming Tuesday at Christ Church, Rossett at 11.00am.

Our sympathies are extended to his wife Shelia and the rest of his family and friends at this very sad time.

LEX GLYNDWR FC

The club would like to add their

congratulations following the success of our neighbours Lex Glyndwr in securing promotion from the Welsh National League Division One last weekend.

They secured the title in some style by beating Acrefair Youth 9-0 away from home and now face New Brighton Villa in their final fixture of the season at Stansty tomorrow, with a 2.30pm kick-off.

With rivals Penley slipping up at home to Rhostyllen, Lex can enjoy their season finale and they would welcome your support.

PREMIER PROGRAMME FAIR

Programme and football memorabilia collectors will have the best opportunity of the year to buy and sell items at the Royal National Hotel, Woburn Place, London WC1H 0DG on Saturday, 3 June 2017 from 11am to 4pm.

This will be the largest gathering of football traders and collectors in the country this year, providing a perfect opportunity for football memorabilia buyers to browse through hundreds of thousands of items, ranging in value from a few pence to hundreds of pounds, and from pre-World War I items to current season issues. Admission is £1.00 for adults, schoolchildren free.

Advice will be on hand for those who wish to develop an interest in the hobby, or have items they wish to sell or have valued. With so many collectables now purchased online, this annual gathering gives football collectors an ideal opportunity to view a massive range of items.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Penblwydd Hapus to Belinda Davies from Connah's Quay, who will be in the 1864 Suite this afternoon – this comes from her husband Bernard and the rest of the family.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wrexham AFC would like to invite all members of Wrexham Supporters Trust to the latest annual general meeting of Wrexham AFC Limited to receive the Report of Directors and Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June 2016.

Members can view our fully audited accounts by following this link on the club website, while the abbreviated version of which were filed at Companies House on 31st March 2016.

The AGM, which is to take place at the Centenary Club on Monday, 24 April 2017 at 7.30pm, will include a full detailed analysis of the financial accounts along with a trading update of the current financial year.

HANSLEY WILLIAMS - RIP

We have received the following tribute for a loyal supporter who passed away last year:

My dad was brought up on Crispin Lane, being best friends with Alan Jarvis (Hull and Everton) and legend Arfon Griffiths. He played on the fields surrounding the ground, got to know the ground staff and players, while helping the kit lady washing the strip after games. He was at the ground that much, that the players used to take him to away games on the bus with them, without my nana knowing where he was, imagine that now!!

He played for the local schoolboys' team before signing for the Wrexham youth team and regularly scored goals. He was on the verge of signing a contract, when the then club chairman saw him out in town on a Friday night drinking and smoking. He was released on the Monday morning.

He then trained with Chester five days a week and impressed to the point that they were about to give





him a month's contract for the first team and take it from there. He used to catch the bus there every day until Saturday came, but his Friday nights out were too enjoyable for him.

His love of football rubbed off on his sons and grandchildren, who have all and still do, visit the Racecourse every week. Age 74, he even got to see his home town team at Wembley. He was also a regular member of the Memories FC dementia group run by Wrexham AFC and loved seeing old friends. Dad passed away in May 2016.



PLAYER OF THE SEASON DINNER

The Wrexham AFC 2016/17 Player of the Season Dinner is being held on Sunday, 30 April 2017 at the Centenary Club, Wrexham starting at 1.00 for 1.30pm.

Manager Dean Keates and the full Wrexham squad will be in attendance to enjoy a relaxing afternoon of entertainment, which will begin with our after dinner speaker, former Liverpool European Cup winner, Alan Kennedy, who also played for Wrexham during his illustrious career.

He will be followed by top comedian Denny Waters, who is one of the finest comedians to come out of Liverpool. His material is clean and topical, and will have any audience in stitches.

The cost of the dinner is £35.00

WREXHAM DISABILITY FC PLAYERS MAKE WALES SQUAD



The club has learnt that David John Povey, Jordan Wright and Jamie Hall all made the Wales LD (learning disability) Squad, whilst Aron Hall is named on the standby list.

This means that on Easter Monday the trio will fly out from Birmingham Airport to Dublin to take part in a Home Nation International Tournament, where they will come up against the likes of Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland and Scotland. The trip will last five days in total.

Manager Carl Austin said: "Well done to all the lads, who now have a massive opportunity to represent their country in the coming weeks.

They have worked so hard to get to where they are and it's brilliant for them to get their just rewards.

"They have grown into fine young men in the last year, while their attitude and contribution to our club has been fantastic!

"I'm hopeful Aron still has a strong chance and he must be proud because he has come on so much in the last year - winning our Player of the Year award, so hopefully it will work out for him."

Wrexham Disability FC would like to put on record their sincere thanks the staff at St Christopher's in Wrexham, who have supported these lads brilliantly.

and includes a three-course meal followed by coffee.

We hope that all fans will make the effort to support this event, and enjoy an entertaining afternoon. Tickets can be purchased from the Club Shop.

PROYRTECHNICS

Can we thank all supporters for their help during the recent derby game against Tranmere Rovers, which passed off with no smoke bombs released from the Wrexham areas of the ground. There were devices ignited in the visitors' section, but that will be for the away club to

answer any questions from the FA.

That was a first hurdle for us to clear since the FAW fined us following the away game at Chester, so we would once again remind supporters about the importance of having no flares or smoke bombs let off at any of our games - home or away.

Having a large suspended fine hanging over us, means we have to continue to vigilant about any further incidents involving Wrexham supporters. This is a serious situation for the club and we ask help from our fans to make sure the club is not punished further.





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THE MATCH

It's the first game of an Easter double-header this afternoon as we take on Maidstone United...

LET'S GET ROLLING AGAINST THE STONES FOLLOWING our seven-goal thriller at Hayes Lane six days ago, we return to The Racecourse for an Easter weekend double header, starting today against Maidstone United.

It's been a tough time as of late with Wrexham struggling to pick up points since passing the 50-point mark. But last weekend's 4-3 loss to Bromley pretty much summed it all up. It was a slow start to say the least going into the break 2-0 down before Bromley's third moments into the second half.

But we showed character in the second period as Jordan White scored his first goal in nearly two months to pull one back before substitute, Ntumba Massanka, reduced the deficit just before the hour-mark. Sadly, it wasn't to be as Blair Turgott made it four for the home side and Massanka made it interesting with his second and Wrexham's third, but it wasn't to be.

It now leaves us without a win in our last six games going into the final four matches of the campaign.

Today's visitors are in quite opposite form, at the time of writing before Tuesday's game against Macclesfield Town, they are unbeaten in their last nine games and on a run of three straight wins, Jay Saunders' side have not just dragged themselves out of the bottom four, but flown out. They sit in 16th five points above the final relegation spot and with two games in hand over their rivals and are considered safe by most.

Last weekend saw them come up against play-off hopefuls Gateshead where they took and impressive three points in the north-east. A defensive error gave Gateshead the lead before Liam Hogan put the ball into his own net to level for United on 73 minutes. Three minutes later Bobby-Joe Taylor's great finish wrapped up a massive three points.

We've met Maidstone just twice before, the first time coming in December 2014 in the FA Cup. It was the second round and United were at the time flying high in the Ryman Premier Division. Wrexham won the game at The Racecourse 3-1 with a goal from Manny Smith and an Andy Bishop brace. Following successive promotions, we met earlier this season in the league at the Gallagher Stadium. The 2-2 draw saw both Wrexham goals coming from Callum Powell under then-manager Gary Mills.

Some players to watch out for include the aforementioned Bobby-Joe Taylor

who has nine goals so far this season. The former Chelsea youngster has experience higher up in the game with the likes of Cambridge United. Aged 22 he helped secure promotion for the Stones last season and has progressed well this term. Experienced goalkeeper Lee Worgan has risen through the divisions with Maidstone, the former Wales Under-21 shot-stopper has been with the likes of Wimbledon, Wycombe and Cardiff City and joined United in 2013 after over 230 league games for Tonbridge Angels.

With just two games left of the season at home it's time to get behind the side like we always do, with so much riding on our support we go into the summer of 2017 as one of the biggest ever and what better way to see us into it than with a string of wins starting this afternoon, sounds like the perfect Easter present...

OLLIE'S OPINION

IT'S safe to say this season has been hugely disappointing, but with just four games to go we're beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel as it were. But the summer of 2017 is perhaps the biggest and most important we'll have in years.

Build the Budget is a brilliant scheme that has seen clubs like Grimsby Town over the line and back into The Football League. But it made me think why, time and time again, supporters dig deep and spend their money, their time volunteering, fund-raising and supporting this wonderful football club? Well, here's my five reasons...

1- It's Our Local Team

Simple as. Why would I realistically bother with a top-flight fancy club who I have no connection with? With Wrexham we can see our team represent our town every second Saturday and showcase who we are on the road. We may not win every week, but the odd piece of silverware here and there or trip to Wembley has us beaming with pride a lot more when it's the name Wrexham.

2- We're All Welcome

It doesn't matter who you are, what you do for a living, your race, gender, sexuality, ability, it's not a problem. As soon as you fall under that red flag flying high your part of something special. We lead the way in the community and have been praised for our work with the Disabled Supporters Association from things such as our



platform built on the Mold Road Stand. Football for everyone? Count me in.

3- History Only Tells the Story

Mickey Thomas against Arsenal, beating FC Porto, flying the flag in Europe, winning more Welsh Cup's than any other side, taking home the FA Trophy at Wembley, taking home The Football League Trophy at Cardiff, Joey Jones' fist clench, Trundle and Morrell, Tommy Bamford's shooting boots, King Karl's volley, the 97' Cup run, beating Chester and of course our massive, massive floodlights...

4- The Wrexham Talent Factory

We're not all about spending big money to acquire our players. North Wales is full of young talent which Wrexham take full advantage of. Look at the current first team for example. The club has produced Leo Smith, Olly Marx, George Harry and, of course, our skipper Rob Evans. There's nothing better than seeing local lads do well for us, especially and one of them scores in the derby, good work, skip.

5- It's Ours!

We worked tirelessly for it; we shook buckets and marched through the streets so that Wrexham AFC wouldn't die like so many clubs had. Wrexham fans turned around and said enough is enough, using money from savings for weddings etc. just to see us turn out for the 2011/2012 season. We did it, we own our club and run it ourselves. When this club was slipping away on the operating table, we gave it the kiss of life. Some of the greatest supporters in the world run this football club for absolutely nothing in return so we have something to do on a Saturday afternoon, and I think that's pretty, well, tidy!

OLLIE WILLIAMS



@OllieWills01



THE MATCH

Jack Woodfield takes a closer look at our visitors...



TOM MILLS



BOBBY-JOE-TAYLOR



JAY SAUNDERS

MAIDSTONE UNITED IN A NUTSHELL
IT SEEMED for a long time as if Maidstone United were struggling to adapt to the rigours of The National League following consecutive promotions. Having courted the relegation places for much of the season, the Stones were only two points clear of the bottom four prior to their 1-1 draw with York City on February 11th.

Then the unbeaten run began.

In a sensational turnaround, Maidstone went nine National League games without defeat prior to Tuesday's trip to Macclesfield Town, a run which included notable victories against play-off chasers Gateshead, Dagenham & Redbridge and Barrow.

Whilst still not mathematically safe from relegation just yet, there's a collective confidence surging through Maidstone. They're the League's form team, and their striking improvement has steered them away from the teams nervously occupying 19-21st, all of whom are jammed on 45 points.

But a second-straight season in The National League is still far from secure, especially given Maidstone's unenviable run-in.

The division's top three (Lincoln City,

Tranmere Rovers and Forest Green Rovers) are among Maidstone's final four fixtures, and although the Stones have a game in hand over the teams below them, there's an urgency not to slip up now ahead of a considerably daunting finale.

Consequently a good result today at The Racecourse Ground could be of significant importance. While Maidstone fans will fondly remember this unbeaten run for years, its impact will be diminished if the end result is relegation.

Survival, though, would mark another season of vast improvement at the Gallagher Stadium. The likes of goalkeeper, Lee Worgan, defenders Kevin Lokko and **TOM MILLS** plus midfielders Jack Paxman and **BOBBY-JOE-TAYLOR** have all been regulars this term and developed well as the season has gone on.

Two years ago Maidstone were challenging for promotion in the Isthmian Premier League, a feat which they achieved. Their subsequent promotion from The National League South one year later – a division in which Maidstone were playing in for the first time since the reformation in 1992 – led to another first; this

is Maidstone United's first season in English football's fifth-tier, and survival would be pretty astonishing given that the Stones were playing in the Kent League Premier Division as recently as 2006.

The progress off the pitch has been noteworthy too. On March 21st, Maidstone marked going their sixth League game unbeaten with the opening of the new North Stand at the Gallagher Stadium.

The £750,000 stand raised the capacity of the Gallagher Stadium to 4,200, an increase of 1,768 fans, and offered a tangible indication of how Maidstone's owners, Oliver Ash and Terry Casey, want to capitalise on the club's improved fortunes.

Just ten days later, Maidstone boss **JAY SAUNDERS** was named National League Manager of the Month for March. It's been a remarkable few months for Stones fans.

Yet defeat to the Red Dragons could still rattle some nerves. Football, as we all know, can be a ruthless game, and with so many teams desperately clamouring to avoid relegation, even a single lost game could be pivotal in dictating a club's fate, for better or worse.





We look at the key men for the visitors...



JAMAR LOZA

GAME CHANGERS

As Maidstone United look to pull away from danger in the lower reaches of the table, talented front-man, **JAMAR LOZA**, certainly made a statement during the course of last month with six goals in just three games to take his tally for the season to eight.

Starting his career with Norwich City where he emerged through the Carrow Road ranks before making his senior debut during a loan spell at Coventry City.

He went on to make a Premier League appearance for The Canaries on the final day of the 2013/14 season, but with his path to the first-team blocked, the Jamaica International was sent out on loan to the likes of Leyton Orient, Southend United, Yeovil Town and Stevenage before being released at the end of last term.



JOE PIGOTT

Arriving at the Gallagher Stadium earlier this season, he has given a good account of himself.

Also amongst the goals in recent weeks has been on-loan striker, **JOE PIGOTT**, who joined his hometown club on loan from Cambridge United at the turn of the year.

He started his career with Charlton Athletic where he came through the ranks to make his debut at the start of the 2013/14 campaign.

Loan spells with Gillingham, Newport County, Southend United and Luton Town followed before he joined Cambridge United on a permanent basis during the summer and despite starting the season in the team, he failed to hold down a regular place and was allowed to join The Stones' quest to consolidate their National League status.

He scored the opening goal in the recent victory over Barrow at the



ALEX FLISHER

start of this month.

The popular **ALEX FLISHER** has been a regular in the side this term. An all-attack midfielder who likes to get forward at every opportunity to support the attack, he is a product of the club's youth system.

Impressing greatly whilst coming through the ranks, his talents saw him come under the gaze of clubs from higher levels, but The Stones secured him on a contract and he has repaid them with some assured displays in the engine room of the side.

The 2014/15 campaign was interrupted by injury but last term he was one of the key figures in the club's promotion from The National League South via the play-offs.

He has adapted well to life at the higher level and has been one of The Stones' most consistent performers this season.



THE MATCH

Chris Williams goes all numbers and letters...

113,137

People live in Maidstone, once a centre for brewing and paper making. Presumably not at the same time.



0.014

In 2002/03 the club missed the Kent League title by 0.14 points! After leading the table for almost the entire season the late resignation of Faversham Town meant the League decided that the title would be awarded to the club with the highest earned points per match average. So with Maidstone and Thamesmead Town both achieving 63 points from 30 games, the unusual situation arose that the championship was won by Cray Wanderers with 62 points (from 29 games.) The Stones lost the league title by 0.14 points!

1648

During the English Civil War, the Battle of Maidstone took place in 1648, resulting in a victory for the Parliamentarians. Andrew Broughton, who was Mayor of Maidstone in 1649 was responsible for declaring the death sentence on Charles I, and today a plaque in Maidstone Town Centre memorialises Broughton as 'Mayor and Regicide'.



007

Maidstone is mentioned several times in Ian Fleming's 1955 James Bond novel, Moonraker. Villain Hugo Drax passes through King Street and Gabriels Hill and later stops at the Thomas Wyatt Hotel. Sadly he doesn't take in any football.

TWENTY NINE

The number of caps so far for Manchester United and England defender Chris Smalling, who started his career at Maidstone after being released by Millwall as a junior. He moved on to Middlesbrough but homesickness meant he ended his stay after a month to sign for Fulham before his move to Old Trafford.

3,030

The club's record attendance came at the Gallagher Stadium on 5 April 2016, when 3,030 spectators saw the Stones play Sutton United in the National League South.

323

The new club's appearance record is held by Tom Mills with 323, closing in on the original club's Fred Baker who played 383 games.

13

Manager Jay Saunders is the 13th man in the hot seat since the club was formed in 1993 when Bill Tucker and Jack Whiteley took joint charge of the team. Lloyd Hume (May 2004 - February 2010) was the longest serving with 282 matches.

2-2

Our game at the Gallagher Stadium back in September ended with honours even as Ben Greenhalgh gave our hosts the lead only for Callum Powell to turn the scoreline on its head before Liam Enver-Marum equalised with 13 minutes to go.



EIGHT

The number of League goals that Jamar Loza has to his name this season, including a run of six goals in just three games last month.

16,532

People currently follow @maidstoneunited on Twitter

THIRTY EIGHT

The age of both managers this afternoon.

M

is for Maidstone United, founded in 1897 but after a spell in The Football League re-founded in 1992 as Maidstone Invicta. The original Maidstone United existed from 1897 to 1992 and played in The Football League fourth division from 1989 until





their demise in 1992, playing home games at Dartford's Watling Street Ground.

A is for Army. Maidstone has hosted a large Army barracks since Napoleonic times. It has seen settlement by the Romans and the Normans and played its role in pivotal moments of English history such as the Peasants' Revolt and the English Civil War.

I is for International. Manchester United and England defender Chris Smalling kick-started his career at Maidstone after being released by Millwall as a junior. He moved on to Middlesbrough but homesickness meant he ended his stay after a month to sign for Fulham before his move to Old Trafford.



D is for Demise. The original Maidstone were Alliance Premier (now The National league) in 1984 but lost out in the re-election system. That antiquated system had been replaced by automatic promotion by the time they won the League again in 1989, but by then they had sold their ground to MFI and were ground sharing with Dartford – crowds dropped by around 1,000 as a result. However they only lost the Division Four play-offs when Dion Dublin scored two extra time goals for Cambridge. However planning permission was refused on a new ground in Maidstone and with debts spiralling the club were declared bankrupt before 1993/94 could kick off. This also caused The Football league to scrap plans to extend to 94 clubs.

S is for Stadium. After an eight-year ground share with Sittingbourne there were two seasons at The Homelands in Ashford before the £2.6million Gallagher Stadium was completed. 2,226 watched the first match, between Maidstone and Brighton & Hove Albion. It was the first ground in senior football to feature a 3G, artificial, playing surface.



T is for Andy Townsend. The former Chelsea, Villa and Ireland midfielder was born in Maidstone and originally made his name when playing for Welling United and Weymouth before taking up a career as a TV pundit. Very much so Clive.

O is for the Office. Famous people from Maidstone include wonky faced Office star Mackenzie Crook, TV Artist Tony Hart, ex-Chelsea star Jon Harley and Barry off EastEnders.



N is for National League. Having won promotion to the National League South in 2014/15 Maidstone gained a second successive promotion to the National League in 2016, bringing fifth-tier football back to the town for the first time since the old club was promoted to The Football League in 1989.

E is for England. Among the former club's former players are two England managers. Both Peter Taylor and Roy Hodgson had spells as players with Maidstone United.



EXPERIENCED HEAD

POPULAR defender, Martin Riley, is enjoying his role as one of the experienced heads in an otherwise youthful line-up as manager, Dean Keates, gives our talented youngsters the chance to shine between now and the end of the season.

"You look at the squad now and I am one of the senior pros," admitted the 28 year-old who rejoined the club from Tranmere Rovers during the summer. "As such it's important that I am able to pass on my experience to those younger lads around me and help them.

Knowledge

"As you get older it is something that comes naturally anyway; you know the game that little bit more and you're able to pass that knowledge on.

"It's something that I enjoy. When I was making my way in the game I was grateful for the help I received from my more experienced team-mates, so hopefully the young lads here feel the same.

"They have adapted well. We've been forced to play people out of position and give youngsters their first taste of senior football, but there have been plenty of positives to come out of our recent

performances and it bodes well for the future."

One player who Riley has been able to monitor at particularly close quarters is Olly Marx. The youth team defender made his debut in a physical encounter at Barrow, which saw him pick up a late head injury before returning to action to put in an impressive display against Tranmere Rovers in our last home game.

"Olly has done really well in what have been two tough games," added Riley. "It's certainly been a baptism of fire for him but he has handled it well.

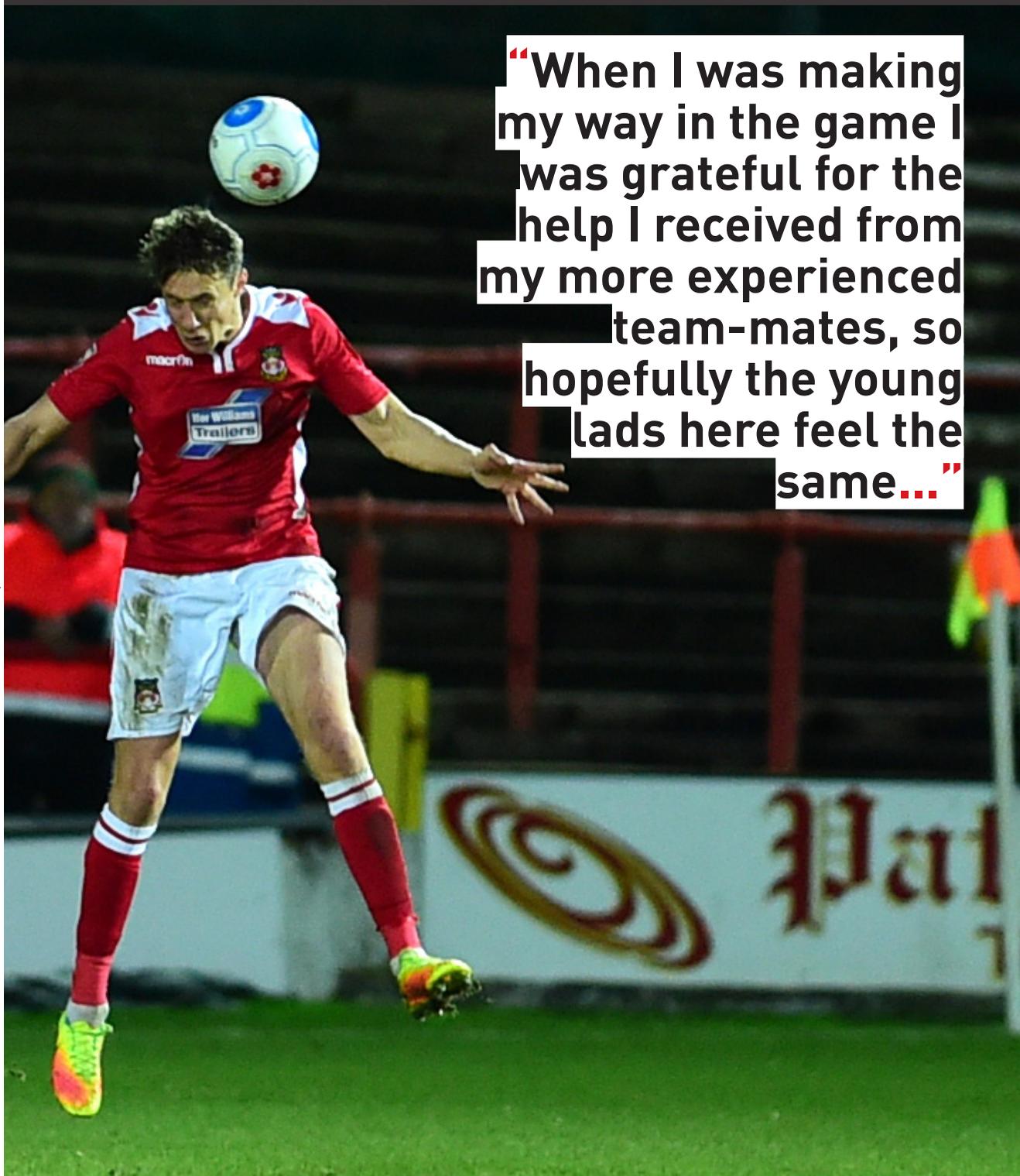
Ability

"He has showed that he has the ability to handle himself at this level and he is one of a number of talented youngsters who are going to serve this club well.

"It would be nice to end the season with a positive run of results to give us something to build upon next season.

"We want to get back into winning ways on home soil and give our excellent support something to cheer about – they certainly deserve it having given us outstanding backing throughout what has been a tough season."





“When I was making my way in the game I was grateful for the help I received from my more experienced team-mates, so hopefully the young lads here feel the same...”



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SECOND STRING

THE SECOND-string travelled to Bradford City and were beaten 3-0 in our final game of the season.

Our hosts took the lead within the opening minute when Callum Gunner waltzed his way through before firing home.

We had to soak up the early pressure as The Bantams started well, but we started to get into our stride as the half went on and created a couple of chances before our hosts were able to double their advantage just before the break from the penalty spot.

Right on the stroke of half-time a neat four-man move from the Reds ended with Niall Freeman firing straight at the 'keeper.

The second period started with Jalal (pictured) doing well to deny Gunner and then Devine before Iffy Allen played in George Harry with a neat through-ball but he was thwarted by the home 'keeper.

Then some positive play from Leo Smith ended with him picking out Freeman who fired wide of the target.

Bradford grabbed a third goal with 15 minutes to go when Jalal did well to save from Taglione but the loose ball was seized upon by Pybus who turned the ball home from close range.

The game petered out after that, although Jalal did make two smart stops late on.

WREXHAM: Jalal, Stephens, Burrows, Etherington, Tharme, Creamer, Smith, Allen, Freeman, Harry, McHarrie. Subs: Rigby, McGregor.

You will be able to keep up-to-date with all the latest news and match reports from the reserve team here in the Matchday Programme.



CENTRAL LEAGUE NORTH-WEST DIVISION FIXTURES 2016/17

Date	Oppo		
Tue 06/09	MORECAMBE	(h)	3-1
Wed 28/09	BRADFORD CITY	(h)	1-2
Wed 12/10	Burton Albion	(a)	0-4
Tue 08/11	PORT VALE	(h)	2-2
Tue 15/11	Walsall	(a)	0-2
Tue 06/12	WALSALL	(h)	1-3
Wed 25/01	Port Vale	(a)	0-6
Wed 15/02	BURTON ALBION	(h)	2-2
Tue 07/03	Morecambe	(a)	0-1
Tue 04/04	Bradford City	(a)	0-3

Fixtures subject to change, so please check our various media outlets...

THE CENTRAL LEAGUE NORTH-WEST DIVISION - LATEST TABLE

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Gd	Pts
1 Walsall	10	8	1	1	19	6	13	25
2 Port Vale	10	5	3	2	22	12	10	18
3 Bradford City	10	5	0	5	10	16	-6	15
4 Burton Albion	10	4	2	4	18	9	9	14
5 Morecambe	10	3	0	7	9	18	-9	9
6 Wrexham	10	1	2	7	9	26	-17	5





YOUTH MATTERS



EFL NORTH-WEST YOUTH ALLIANCE FIXTURES & RESULTS 2016/17

Date	Oppo	
Sat 06/08	ROCHDALE	1-4
Sat 13/08	Walsall	0-1
Fri 19/08	CARLISLE UNITED	0-1
Sat 27/08	Port Vale (League Cup 1)	1-1
Sat 03/09	Blackpool	3-3
Sat 10/09	CHESTERFIELD (League Cup 2)	0-0
Sat 17/09	Bury	1-3
Sat 24/09	Fleetwood Town	0-2
Sat 01/10	Morecambe	0-4
Thur 06/10	NORTH FERRIBY (FAYC2Q)	2-1
Sat 08/10	Wigan Athletic	1-3
Mon 17/10	Pontefract Collieries (FAYC3Q)	4-0
Sat 22/10	Notts County (League Cup 3)	0-2
Sat 29/10	SHREWSBURY TOWN	2-2
Wed 02/11	ACCRINGTON STANLEY (FAYC1)	0-2
Sat 05/11	Accrington Stanley	3-0
Sat 12/11	TRANMERE ROVERS	1-1
Sat 19/11	PORT VALE	3-3
Sat 03/12	Burnley	0-0
Sat 07/10	MORECAMBE	2-4
Sat 28/01	WIGAN ATHLETIC	1-1
Wed 01/02	Tranmere Rovers	2-2
Sat 04/02	FLEETWOOD TOWN	3-4
Sat 11/02	ACCRINGTON STANLEY	1-0
Sat 18/02	Shrewsbury Town	0-6
Sat 04/03	Port Vale	1-2
Sat 18/03	Preston North End	0-3
Sat 25/03	PRESTON NORTH END	0-0
Sat 01/04	Rochdale	0-6
Sat 08/04	WALSALL	0-5
Tue 11/04	BURNLEY	0-2
Fri 21/04	Carlisle United	(a) 13:00
Sat 29/04	BLACKPOOL	(h) 11:00
Sat 06/05	BURY	(h) 11:00

Fixtures are subject to change, please check our various media channels for details. Home games will be played at Stansty Park...

EFL NORTH-WEST YOUTH ALLIANCE - LATEST LEAGUE TABLE

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Gd	Pts
1. Blackpool	22	13	5	4	55	22	33	44
2. Walsall	20	12	4	4	35	21	14	40
3. Port Vale	21	11	5	5	36	27	9	38
4. Burnley	19	10	5	4	36	25	11	35
5. Shrewsbury Town	23	9	8	6	37	34	3	35
6. Rochdale	18	10	4	4	35	20	15	34
7. Bury	21	11	1	9	33	37	-4	34
8. Wigan Athletic	22	7	8	7	40	36	4	29
9. Fleetwood Town	21	7	5	9	42	48	-6	26
10. Accrington Stanley	19	7	4	8	23	32	-9	25
11. Preston North End	22	4	11	7	32	39	-7	23
12. Morecambe	20	6	3	11	32	37	-5	21
13. Tranmere Rovers	22	3	7	12	15	30	-15	16
14. Wrexham	20	2	7	11	25	46	-21	13
15. Carlisle United	20	4	1	15	22	44	-22	13



MOVE over Olly Murs, youth team defender, Olly Marx, has been enjoying the adulation of the fans here at The Racecourse following an impressive home debut against Tranmere Rovers earlier this month.



The 18 year-old put in an assured display to earn rave reviews.

"It was a great occasion to make my home debut," he said. "The atmosphere was unbelievable; our fans really got behind us all through the game.

"Their backing certainly helped me and gave me that extra yard when I was starting to tire near the end.

"I thought I did okay. I just want to play as many games as I can between now and the end of the season and help us keep clean sheets and add to our points tally.

"We want to climb the table and finish as high as possible. If I can help us do that and earn myself a professional contract at the end of it, I will be delighted.

"I'm just enjoying the moment and taking every game as it comes and enjoying playing my football.

"I try and just keep as focused as possible and keep my head. I have worked so hard to get into this position and I want to make sure that I grab the opportunity and give it everything that I have got, that's all I can do."

The Youth Department now has a new Twitter account where you can keep up-to-date with all the latest youth team matters – why not give them a follow @wxfamcyouthdept

The Youth Department are also on the look-out for potential sponsors, with the aim to get all teams from Under-9s upwards sponsored as well as individual players and staff. Get in touch to find out more.

YOUTH ON OUR SIDE

RYAN WILLIAMS



BIRTH PLACE & DATE:
Bangor, 7/10/1998

POSITION:
Midfielder

WHAT QUALITIES DO YOU FEEL THAT YOU BRING TO THE TEAM?

Versatility, leadership and energy

WHAT TARGETS HAVE YOU SET YOURSELF FOR THE SEASON AHEAD?

I want to progress and be involved with the first-team as much as possible and eventually earn a professional contract

WHO HAVE BEEN THE BIGGEST INFLUENCES ON YOUR FOOTBALL CAREER SO FAR AND WHY?

My parents have always been

there for me and pushed me on

FAVOURITE TELEVISION SHOW(S):

A League of their Own

FAVOURITE MUSIC:
R&B

FAVOURITE FOOD:
Spaghetti Bolognese

FAVOURITE FOOTBALL TEAM AND WHY:

I have followed family tradition by supporting Liverpool

FAVOURITE TEAM-MATE AND WHY:

Terry [Tom Creamer], but only when he doesn't smell!

FAVOURITE PLAYER AND WHY:

Steven Gerrard is a player that I have always looked up to

ANY HOBBIES AWAY FROM FOOTBALL:

I enjoy playing golf and spending time with my friends and family



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RED DRAGON ACTION



A round-up of the best of the action from our last home game against Tranmere Rovers through the lens of Alun Roberts and Lloyd Jones...







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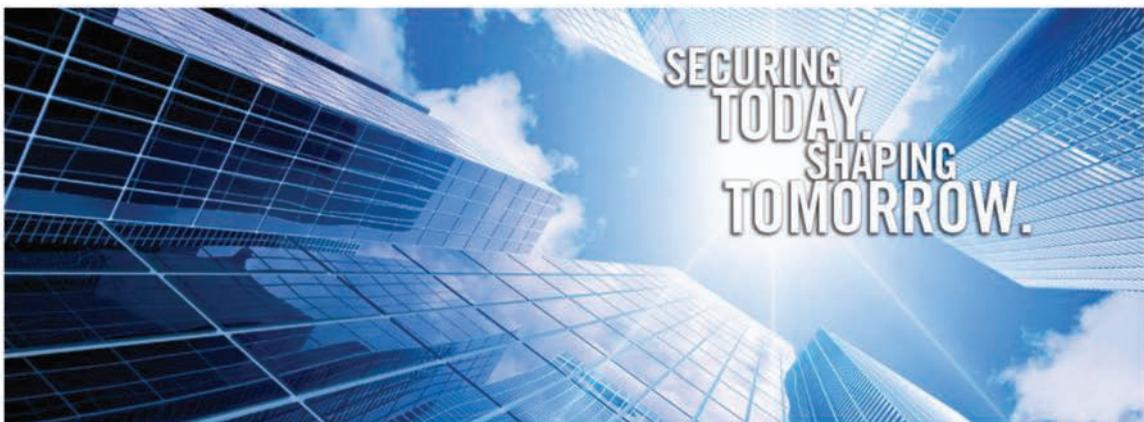
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DTCC has offices all over the world and Wrexham is recognised as a Centre of Excellence and a key location for the business. We are expanding and always looking for local talent, so why not take a look at www.dtcc.com or contact MBA Recruitment Team on behalf of DTCC on 01244 689 440 or avoxcareers@mattburtonassociates.co.uk and find out if we can shape your tomorrow!





COMMERCIALY SPEAKING

with Geoff Scott

GOOD afternoon and welcome to The Racecourse Ground for our penultimate home match of the season against Maidstone United. Welcome to all the travelling who have made the journey from Kent - enjoy the match and have a safe journey home. Both teams will be looking for maximum points so let's hope for an entertaining game.

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We are pleased to welcome joint Match Sponsors, Brian Hayes of Hayes Electrical, and Stephen Price Memorials.

Hayes Electrical, situated in Brynteg, are the place to go for any electrical car problems. Meanwhile Stephen Price Memorials are based in Pentre Broughton and have created many cherished memorials and have a strong and excellent reputation in the industry.

Welcome both to the match. We hope that their guests have an enjoyable afternoon with us.

Matchball Sponsor

Our Matchball Sponsor today is Nigel Roberts who is sponsoring his third Matchball of the season. Thank you once again, Nigel, for the fantastic backing that you have given to the club.

Matchday Programme Sponsor

Our Matchday Programme Sponsor is Mark 'Bob' Williams, who sponsored the Matchball previously against Guiseley earlier this season. Bob, who works at Contas, one of our pitch-side board suppliers and producers of our names on seats. Thanks once again for your support, Bob.

RETAIL DETAILS

Our limited-edition Retro Range for summer will be in shortly. So if you are looking for something different before next season's leisurewear and replica

kit come in, then take advantage before stock runs out. Make use of our online shop and Ticket Office to make life easier when purchasing Official Club Merchandise and tickets.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

If you would like to sponsor your club next season or have any ideas of what to sponsor, then please get in touch. We have a stadium, stands, corner flags, dug-outs, tunnel, tracksuits, floodlights, goals, nets, substitutes' boards, ball boys/girls, matches, team sheets, fixture cards, washroom advertising, season-ticket wallets, half-time sponsor and fixture cards, all of which could be sponsored. Let's have a chat about a sponsorship package tailored to your needs.

PLAY ON THE PITCH

We have launched our Play on the Pitch for companies, supporters' groups or individuals. All the money

goes to Dean's budget. See elsewhere in this issue of the Matchday Programme for more details.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to all our retail and ticket staff this season, namely; Daniel Sear, Matt Jones, Steve Lloyd, Chris Purvis, Dave Weaver, Cerys and Ffion Walker, Alice Scott, Paul 'Doggy' Evans, Huw Davies, Steve Claire, Fuzzy Jones, Darryl Bathers and Ian Belton.

BUILD THE BUDGET

Our Build the Budget initiative has done amazingly well with over £35,000 already raised for Dean's playing budget for next season.

Our fans are truly fantastic! Well done to everyone who has helped and donated so far.

Geoff Scott

Wrexham AFC Commercial Manager

Contact me on 01978-891 864 or email: Geoff.scott@wrexhamafc.tv



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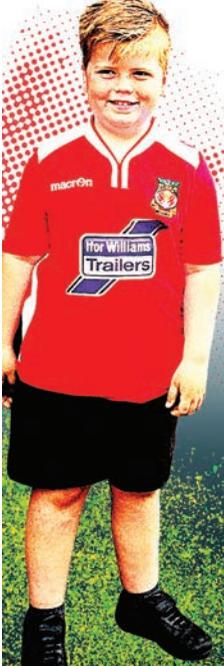
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The club's commercial team are offering a variety of different packages, which includes the full use of the pitch, match officials for the game, half-time refreshments and the use of the home and away dugouts.

**PLEASE CONTACT GEOFF FOR AVAILABILITY ON THE ABOVE PACKAGE
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For more information please contact Geoff Scott on:

01978 891864 or email geoff.scott@wrexhamfc.tv



ON THIS DAY

14 APRIL

How have Wrexham fared when playing on today's date in previous years? Mark Thompson takes a look and highlights the matches...



1902

It is sometimes said that winning a championship is 'easy', keeping it is harder. That is what Wrexham managed to do in 1901/02, retaining their Combination League title after finishing Champions for the first time in 1901. Under the captaincy of the ever-present Ted Robinson, Wrexham lost only two League games all season (frustratingly to mid-table opposition in the form of Newton-le-Willows and Nantwich respectively). At The Racecourse just before Christmas, Wrexham had turned on the style to beat Tranmere 3-0 but Rovers proved tougher opponents on Monday 14 April 1902 in front of a crowd of 500 at Ravenshaw's Field (otherwise known as Old Prenton Park).

Wrexham and Wales 'keeper Bob Evans was the busiest player on the park but, nevertheless, the visitors won 2-1 (Hughes and Pountney the scorers) to consolidate their place at the top. The Championship was retained nine days later in the most satisfying fashion – a 3-0 win at Chester!

Wrexham line-up versus Tranmere

Rovers: Bob Evans, Dai Davies, Llew Davies, Bert Grainger, Ted Robinson, Billy Harrison, Dick Hughes, Bert Jones, George Pountney, Tommy Gordon, Joe Owens.

1922

Wrexham and Stalybridge Celtic were two of 20 founder members of Division Three (North) in 1921. Towards the end of their first season in The Football League it was the club from north-east Cheshire which looked in better shape. On Good Friday, 14 April exactly 95 years ago, it was something of a surprise when Wrexham beat the Celts 2-0 at The Racecourse Ground, thanks to goals from former Dulwich Hamlet right-winger Cyril Northam and former Stoke left-winger Matt Burton. Stalybridge gained revenge later that month, beating Wrexham 4-1.

The Bower Fold club finished seventh (compared to Wrexham's 12th) and posted another top-half finish the following season, before surprisingly resigning from The Football League. As their reason for taking Stalybridge into the Cheshire League, the club's directors said they were concerned that the town could not sustain a Football League club. It was a peculiar claim, as their attendances in 1922/23 were far from the lowest in the division. At 5,480, roughly the same as Wrexham, Stalybridge's average crowd was 2,000 more than their nearest neighbours Rochdale, who have sustained their League place to this day despite hardly ever topping a

5,000 average.

Wrexham line-up versus Stalybridge

Celtic: George Godding, Bob Simpson, Jaf Settle, Tommy Matthias, Jack Moorwood, Ted Roberts, Cyril Northam, Bert Goode, Matt Burton, Lot Jones, Ernest Lloyd.

1969

Wrexham finished 1967/68 in fine fettle in Division Four, unbeaten in their last 13 games. Following his arrival from Southend, it had taken manager Alvan Williams a year or so to mould the team how he wanted, but the club's prospects now looked good. However, 1968/69 began with defeat at Aldershot and in the early matches Wrexham's form was patchy at best. After a run of four successive defeats in September, Williams resigned. Swiftly, the directors appointed his coach, John Neal, to replace him.

At first, the job seemed easy for Neal, as Wrexham won his first four games in charge but no promotion push materialised. In January 1969, Neal paid a club record fee of £14,000 to sign Brian Tinnion from Workington. It was to prove money well-spent but there was no immediate dividend, Wrexham losing 3-0 at home to Colchester on Budgie's debut. When Newport visited The Racecourse



on Saturday 14 April 1969, Wrexham were confident of victory, as they had beaten the same opponents 2-0 at Somerton Park a week earlier. Confidence was not misplaced; goals from Ray Smith (2), Ian Moir and Albert Kinsey (pictured) secured a season's best 4-0 win. Wrexham went on to finish ninth. Newport had to apply for re-election.



Wrexham line-up versus Newport County: Gordon Livesey, Steve Ingle, Alan Bermingham, Terry Bradbury, Eddie May, Tony Beanland, Arfon Griffiths, Ian Moir, Ray Smith, Brian Tinnion, Albert Kinsey.

2003

When Rhyl arrived in town for the semi-final of the Welsh Premier Cup on Monday 14 April 2003, it was arguably an unwanted distraction from Wrexham's push for promotion from Nationwide Division Three. Two days earlier, a Racecourse crowd of 5,330 had seen Wrexham win 3-2 in a pulsating clash with Bristol Rovers but only 1,537 were present for the Rhyl game.

The fans had to be patient as resilient Rhyl absorbed everything Wrexham could throw at them for the first hour. Paul Barrett then rifled in a shot from the edge of the penalty area to break the deadlock. The floodgates opened and Wrexham added more goals through Dennis Lawrence, Shaun Holmes and Hector Sam (pictured) to secure their place in the final against Newport.

A crowd of over 4,000 turned out at The Racecourse for the Welsh Premier Cup final, which Wrexham won even more emphatically than they had the semi. A 6-1 win – and the trophy to go with it – was the perfect way to celebrate promotion and marked 10 wins out of 10 to finish the season.

Wrexham line-up versus Rhyl: Paul Whitfield, Carlos Edwards (sub Steve Thomas), Shaun Holmes, Stephen Roberts, Craig Morgan, Dennis Lawrence, Jim Whitley (sub Dan Bennett), Paul Barrett, Lee Trundle (sub Hector Sam), Lee Jones, Darren Ferguson.



2015

It is only two years since Wrexham last took to the field on 14 April, when they travelled to Welling for a rearranged fixture on a Tuesday night. Under Carl Darlington's (pictured) astute caretaker-management, Wrexham had enjoyed a good run, beaten only once in their previous 10 matches, while the Wings had looked like relegation certainties all season. On the Saturday, three days earlier, Wrexham had won 1-0 at Grimsby thanks to Joe Clarke's goal. Welling had beaten Kidderminster 3-0.

In front of a Park View Road crowd of 612, the hosts maintained their revival beating out-of-sorts Wrexham 2-1. Sam Berry put Welling ahead early on and a superb finish from Dom Vose made it 2-0. Andy Bishop pulled a goal back on 82 minutes but it proved too little too late. Bish was released in the summer and his place taken by Vose! Wrexham finished the season in 11th place. Welling survived by the skin of their teeth, a 2-2 draw at Alfreton

proving crucial in their penultimate game, as the Derbyshire club went down instead, alongside Telford, Dartford and Nuneaton.

Wrexham line-up versus Welling

United: Andy Coughlin, Steve Tomassen, Neil Ashton, Manny Smith, Blaine Hudson, Jay Harris (sub Louis Moul), Kyle Storer, Sam Finlay, Andy Bishop, Joe Clarke (sub Robbie Evans), Connor Jennings.



WREXHAM'S RESULTS ON 14 APRIL:

COMPETITION	YEAR	VENUE	OPPONENTS	SCORE	ATT
Combination	1902	A	Tranmere Rovers	2-1	500
Birmingham Lge	1911	H	Wolves Reserves	5-1	4,000
Birmingham Lge	1914	A	Coventry City Reserves	2-0	2,000
Div 3 North	1922	H	Stalybridge Celtic	2-0	6,300
Div 3 North	1923	A	Wigan Borough	1-1	9,000
Div 3 North	1928	A	Lincoln City	0-5	3,551
Div 3 North	1933	A	Doncaster Rovers	1-1	12,854
Div 3 North	1934	H	New Brighton	5-4	2,904
Wartime	1941	H	Stoke City	5-2	3,337
Wartime	1945	A	Everton	3-5	10,500
Div 3 North	1951	A	New Brighton	0-3	2,500
Div 3 North	1952	H	Carlisle United	3-1	6,992
Div 3 North	1956	A	Grimsby Town	0-1	14,000
Div 4	1962	H	Crewe Alexandra	1-1	10,139
Div 4	1969	H	Newport County	4-0	3,240
Div 4	1970	A	Scunthorpe United	3-1	4,107
Div 3	1973	A	Charlton Athletic	1-2	4,065
Div 2	1979	H	Preston North End	2-1	13,419
Welsh SF 2ndleg	1981	A	Swansea City	1-1*	10,761
Div 4	1984	H	Crewe Alexandra	0-1	2,102
Div 4	1987	A	Lincoln City	1-0	1,540
Div 4	1990	A	Scunthorpe United	1-3	2,860
Div 2(3rd tier)	2001	A	Wycombe Wanderers	1-1	5,482
Welsh Prem SF	2003	H	Rhyl	4-0	1,537
Lge 2(4th tier)	2007	A	Lincoln City	3-0	4,279
Conference	2012	H	Grimsby Town	2-2	2,917
Conference	2015	A	Welling	1-2	612

* = Wrexham lost on away goals having drawn first leg 2-2.

	Home					Away				
Played	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A
27	8	2	1	29	14	5	4	7	31	14



MEMORY MATCH

THE FACTS

07-04-1990

Wrexham v Maidstone United

Football League Division Four
Racecourse Ground

Result: 4-2

Wrexham: O'Keefe, Salathiel, Kennedy, Reck, Beaumont, Youds, Preece (Armstrong), Thackeray, Sertori, Worthington, Bowden.
Goalscorers: Youds (4), Worthington (6, 75), Sertori (85)

Maidstone United: Johns, Barton, Rumble, Berry, Golley, Roast, Pritchard, Elsey, Charlery, Butler, Lillis (Gall).

Goalscorer: Butler (9, 57)

Attendance: 2,806

THE MATCH

After the heartbreak of defeat in the 1988/89 Division Four Play-Off Final, Wrexham struggled to bounce back. Preparations for the new season were difficult with Kevin Russell joining Leicester City for £175,000, and Charlton Athletic paying £100,000 for Mike Salmon.

Replacements were signed in the form of Vince O'Keefe on a free transfer from Blackburn Rovers, Gary Worthington joined from Darlington at a price of £15,000, Sean Reck was snapped up from Oxford United for £35,000 and Robbie Barnes signed from Manchester City on a free transfer. However, these new arrivals failed to gel and a poor start to the season saw a frustrated Dixie McNeil resign at the end of October with the team struggling near the foot of the table.

Enter Brian Flynn. Things got even worse before they got better as the new man in charge won only one of

his opening 18 League matches. Relegation to the Conference looked a real possibility before centre-half Eddie Youds was loaned from Everton and the club stumped up £30,000 for Mark Sertori from Lincoln City to kick start a revival based on a new 3-5-2 formation.

The new-look Robins seemed to be making little progress when all of a sudden they won five games on the trot and hauled themselves off the bottom of the table. After a couple of blips on the road against Aldershot and Cambridge United that left us in 22nd position, it was time for promotion-chasing Maidstone United to visit The Racecourse.

Wrexham profited from home advantage and made a blistering start with two goals in the opening seven minutes. Eddie Youds was first off the mark with a belter from a Sean Reck free-kick before Gary Worthington ended a fine five-man move by calmly lifting the ball over the advancing Nicky Johns in the Maidstone goal.

However, it wasn't long before the visitors – unbeaten in five – got back into the game. Ken Charlery eased past Alan Kennedy and delivered a cross that was met by the head of Jason Lillis who saw the ball crash against the crossbar. Steve Butler reacted to the rebound before Vince O'Keefe and Youds to keep the game alive with his head.

The Stones were now in the ascendency with Warren Barton and Karl Elsey running the show. O'Keefe reacted well to keep out a deflected Charlery shot at his near post and we were lucky to maintain our lead after a speculative Reck back pass fell ideally for Butler who was denied an equaliser by an in-form O'Keefe.

It was only a matter of time though and on 57 minutes Butler got the better of our Warwickshire-born shot

stopper for his second of the afternoon after good work from Elsey and Barton.

With only a handful of games remaining to decide which team would be relegated to the Conference, Wrexham could not afford to settle for a point. The Robins had to dig deep and were rewarded when Worthington restored the lead after Mark Sertori had failed to control a perfect through ball from Jon Bowden.

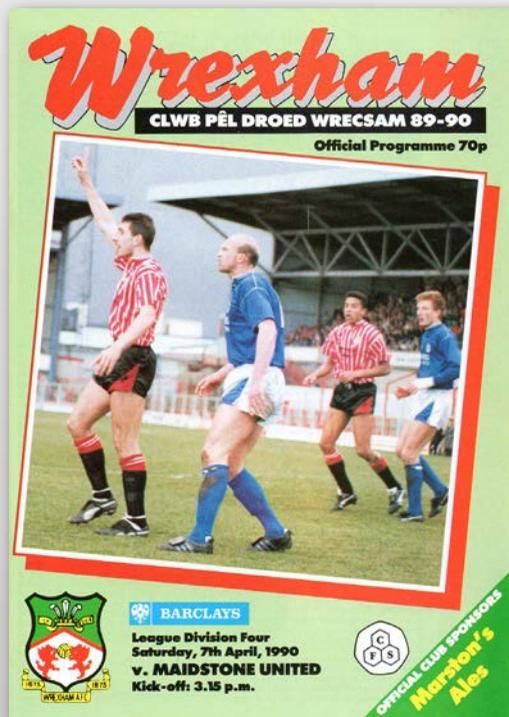
The high-flyers were not giving up without a fight and O'Keefe was on call again to deny substitute Mark Gall before Sertori sealed a vital victory with a shot on the turn after Chris Armstrong had headed down a Reck free-kick.

FOOTNOTE

Wrexham won a further three League games that season and finished the campaign in 21st spot. The club that fell through the trap door that season was Colchester United.

NATHAN LEE DAVIES

**Thanks to Andy Mills for the images...*



Alex Whilding looks at what's going on elsewhere in The National League...

AS THE battle for promotion heats up, the top four all secured good wins going into the Easter fixtures.

Lincoln City had to work hard to overcome Eastleigh at the Silverlake Stadium with goalkeeper, Paul Farman in particularly impressive form.

They eventually snatched a winner with just over ten minutes to go when Sean Raggett bravely headed home.

Second-placed Tranmere Rovers went goal crazy to sweep aside Solihull Moors by nine goals to nil at Prenton Park as Cole Stockton and Connor Jennings (pictured) both helped themselves to hat-tricks whilst Andy Cook, Liam Ridehalgh and Aaron Collins also got their names on the scoresheet.

Forest Green Rovers remained on their coat-tails with a hard-fought success at Guiseley.

The game was decided by that man, Christian Doidge, whose goals have been so vital for Mark Cooper's side this term.

Dagenham & Redbridge had an impressive 4-1 victory at a Macclesfield Town side who still had hopes of making the play-offs themselves.

It was The Silkmen who took the lead in this game when Mitch Hancox continued his impressive recent scoring run but things started to go wrong for John Askey's side the moment that Luke Guttridge equalised just before the break.

Then on 67 minutes Neill Byrne received his marching orders for a professional foul and The Daggers took full advantage with Corey Whitely converting the resulting penalty and then a brace from Jordan Maguire-Drew in the closing stages added extra gloss to the scoreline.

In-form Aldershot Town were held to a home draw by struggling Torquay United, who took the lead through Ruairi Keating. The Gulls frustrated their hosts until 14 minutes from time when Kundai Benyu was able to find the net from a free-kick.

Try as they might in 13 minutes of stoppage time, The Shots could not find a winner as Scott Rendell ended the game in goal following an injury to Jake Cole.

There was late drama as Dover Athletic travelled to Braintree Town.

The home side took the lead early on through Michael Cheek but they were pegged back in the second half when Connor Essam equalised against the run of play.

Worse was to follow for Braintree when Craig Braham-Barrett was sent off and then top scorer, Ricky Miller, found a late winner for Dover.



Barrow saw their play-off hopes take a hit against a Woking side who are battling to maintain their National League status.

The Bluebirds were reduced to ten men at the end of the first when Paul Turnbull was dismissed for a deliberate handball and Jamie Lucas converted from the spot.

The Cumbrian outfit levelled matters through Jordan Williams only for Keiran Murtagh to restore The Cards' lead. However, Barrow were able to take a point when Richie Bennett scrambled home an equaliser late on.

The result kept Woking out of the relegation zone on goal difference ahead of Braintree Town, with today's visitors, York City, just above Garry Hill's side on the same 45 points after The Minstermen picked up a crucial three points with a 2-0 win against out-of-form Chester FC, for whom this was a sixth consecutive home defeat.

It was a big three points for Gary Mills' side, who deservedly sealed victory with goals in each half from Vadaine Oliver after 25 minutes and Danny Holmes on 75 minutes.

Bobby-Joe Taylor came off the bench

to help Maidstone United to victory at the International Stadium against Gateshead, whose top five hopes now look slim. The Stones trailed at the break following a bizarre 26th minute own goal from Tom Mills.

But eventually Taylor forced the corner which led to United's equaliser 17 minutes from time as Heed defender Liam Hogan put through his own net. And three minutes later he scored what proved to be the winner as Jay Saunders' side made it nine games unbeaten and moved into 16th place, five points above the drop zone.

The situation is looking increasingly grim for Southport who drew at Sutton United. Kieron Cadogan gave the home side the lead before an own goal from Dan Spence levelled the scores.

Southport went in front courtesy of Neil Ashton but right at the death, Roarie Deacon netted what could prove to be a crucial equaliser.

North Ferriby United are just a point better off than Southport and are also looking for huge favours and a big turnaround in their own form after going down to a 4-2 home defeat to Boreham Wood, making it just one win in the last six matches.

Wood led 2-0 at the break with goals from Morgan Ferrier after 12 minutes and a Mark Gray own goal after 31 minutes. Robbie Tinkler eventually reduced the deficit in the 74th minute, only for Bruno Andrade to restore Wood's two-goal advantage five minutes later.

Another own goal, this time credited to Danny Emerton, made it 4-1 to the visitors, with Reece Thompson netting a stoppage time second for the Villagers.

@alexwxm99





Reaching out to the local community...

EASTER SOCCER SCHOOLS OFF TO A FLYING START Earlier this week, five Wrexham schools visited The RCF to participate in a Health and Wellbeing Festival as part of a healthy living project.

The school holidays only mean only one thing for the coaches at The RCF - Holiday Soccer Schools!

Our first camp of the Easter break got off to a great start on Tuesday, with over 50 children attending and learning all the skills necessary to succeed in the game.

The morning saw the players split into small groups, with a number of technical coaching sessions put on, covering aspects such as passing, dribbling, turning, shooting and defending.

The afternoon then involved the players taking part in a round-robin tournament, allowing them to show off the skills they had picked up during the morning session.

On Wednesday, we took the Soccer School on the road to Denbigh Town FC, where over 20 players came to experience the same set-up.

Our Soccer Schools have been a huge part of our delivery programme over the years and continue to grow and develop. We have two more camps coming in Wrexham and Denbigh next week, for information on how to book, please see the opposite page for details.

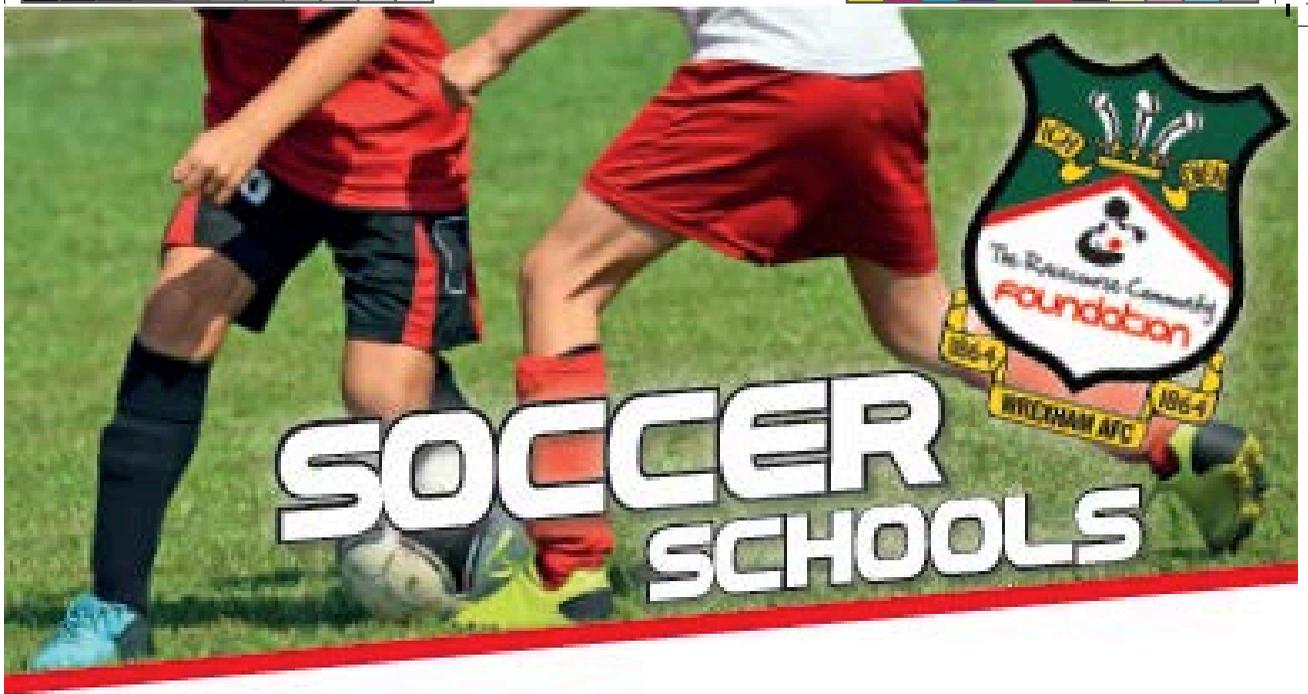


FIND OUT MORE

Twitter: @Racecourse_C_F

Website: www.thercf.co.uk





Easter 2017 Sessions...

Venue: Glyndŵr University Sports Centre (LL11 2AW)

Dates: Tuesday 11th April
Thursday 20th April

Venue: Denbigh Town FC (LL16 3EW)

Dates: Wednesday 12th April
Wednesday 19th April

Times: 10am-1pm

Cost: £10 per session (with a discount for Junior Dragons).

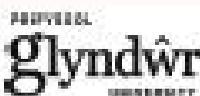
Open to boys and girls ages 5-12. Please bring suitable clothing for the day, still drinks and trainers. **Places are by booking only due to limited numbers.**

We will be taking and publishing photographs at the soccer schools. If parents would like to opt-out of this, please inform us at point of booking.

 @Racecourse_C_F

 The Racecourse Community Foundation

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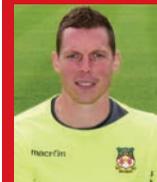
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Keep up-to-date with all the latest news and information from the Wrexham AFC youth department via our new twitter account.

@wxmafayouthdept
GIVE US A FOLLOW TODAY!





THE WORLD FAMOUS CAMBRIA BAND!

Ryan David Jones on a 'beautiful noise'...



IF YOU'RE a regular you'll have seen the Cambria Band do their thing; I encountered them for the first time last year and they've been my favourite thing ever since. I never waste an opportunity to sing their praises. I love them.

So there I was in Mold Town Centre on Daniel Owen Square, blowing onto my hands and wishing I'd brought a bobble hat. I'd extracted myself from the sofa to show my solidarity with the family of the Sikh doctor who was violently attacked in a race-related incident just weeks earlier, along with a few hundred other North East Walians, we all wanted to send out the message that we are an inclusive tolerant community, welcoming to people from anywhere, and to mourn together something so heinous happening on our doorstep. This was like a secular prayer, we were angry, sad, confused and in need of something.

Some people addressed the crowd, we held candles, David Shinn gave an impassioned speech and then it happened. I watched them get into order under the watchful eyes of Daniel Owens statue and waited.

Someone yelled the first command, the drum boomed into the cold sky, immediately a flute salvo filled the dark with hope, with light. The gathered few fell silent, and the band moved as one in a collective thought, in prayer, in defiance, in love. The music spread over the square and into my heart, in the way only a noise which touches your very soul can. A noise so imbued

with the spirit of a people that it cannot be denied. Something as pure as a child's laughter, as old as the language, as wise as the mountains, and in your bones you know it belongs to you.

And so it was that against the horror of such a senseless attack, a community came together and listened to a joyful noise of resistance and love on a calm and cold Winters evening, music said what we couldn't say, as it so often does, it led us home and took us back to our beds, and the music helped us heal and gave us strength, it gave me optimism and helped me see that people wanted to show the world that our culture and heritage is one of understanding and reaching out, of embracing differences and growing, we are our brothers and sisters keeper.

My mood was pensive on my arrival in the Square that night, but by the time I made my way back to the car I felt like I had been given an injection of optimism and a general feeling of wellbeing had washed over me. Very seldom in our modern lives do we experience an unadulterated joy, I felt it first-hand and held onto it for all I could.

I knew instinctively what the Cambria Band were about, the kind of Wales I dreamt of, and after all what is a country but an idea, something fluid and ephemeral that moves around the language like water around a rock, ready to return to us when we need it the most, ready to welcome us home

and welcome the world.

Saying we are Cymru, Croeso.

I've seen the Cambria Band on a few occasions since and consider Adam Balchder and David Shinn (who is currently pursuing solo projects) to be brothers. I watched them at Rhos carnival, walked through Wrexham with them on St. David's Day last year, and attended the Liberation of Hope Parade at Caegwrle Castle (Google it). They do their thing to promote Welsh History, language and Culture. A beautiful thing.

Cambria Band are ours, embrace them. They are of course Partisans CPD Wrexham.

Up the Town!

RYAN DAVID JONES

**Check out my latest Blog:
Shinner1978.wordpress.com**



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The logo features a large, light blue stylized monogram 'MJ' enclosed within a circular border. The letters are interconnected, with the 'M' and 'J' sharing a vertical stem.

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SMOKE BOMBS

Significant financial penalty for Wrexham AFC...



FOLLOWING our recent away fixture at Chester FC, we were charged by The Football Association of Wales following the release of smoke bombs in the Wrexham end of the stadium.

As a result of an FAW Disciplinary Panel hearing earlier this week, we have been given a £500 fine (although £400 is suspended until end of 2017/18, assuming no further incidents).

It is therefore imperative that supporters realise that any future incidents will see the club receive a hefty financial penalty over and above the suspended fine. This will start to undo the good work by people raising money and supporting their club so that we can prosper on the pitch.

We need to be clear that every pound we have to spend in fines will be a pound less we can spend on the first-team and directly hurts your club.

The emphasis is being placed on us as a football club to be responsible for the actions of our supporters 'in having in their possession or igniting such pyrotechnic devices'.

We all want to generate a good atmosphere at our matches, but such devices are dangerous, are against the law and have no place either at The Racecourse or when we travel away.

Supporters should also be aware that it is an offence for a person to enter or attempt to enter a football ground while in possession of a flare, smoke bomb or firework.

As well as a sanction against the football club, the sentence for these offences can be as much as three months in prison, and in such cases, fans who have no previous convictions are being given prison sentences for attempting to enter a football ground with a smoke bomb in their pocket as the courts take these offences very seriously.

In addition, it is highly likely that the court will impose a football banning order on a fan who is convicted of



possession of a firework, flare or smoke bomb at a football match.

Most football banning orders imposed by a court after a conviction for a football related offence are for three years. This does not only prevent the fan from attending football matches for the next three years, but can stop them from entering the town of their football team on matchdays and the requirement to hand in their passport to the Police when the Wales national team are playing overseas.

A football banning order will show up on a Criminal Records Bureau check and may prevent supporters from obtaining a visa to travel to countries such as the USA, or gain employment in certain professions, such as working with children.

While it might seem like fun at the time, the consequences can be very serious.

So we would ask all fans to assist the club in making sure that no such incidents happen in the future – as

the only people to suffer will be ourselves.

In the last year, here are a few examples of punishments banded down by the courts:

- A Plymouth fan received a three-year football banning, fined £300 and banned indefinitely from Home Park, after releasing a smoke bomb at Yeovil Town.

- A Scunthorpe United was banned for five years from football, given a six-week curfew, ordered to undertake 200 unpaid hours work and fined £150, after throwing a smoke bomb at Doncaster Rovers fans at a local railway station.

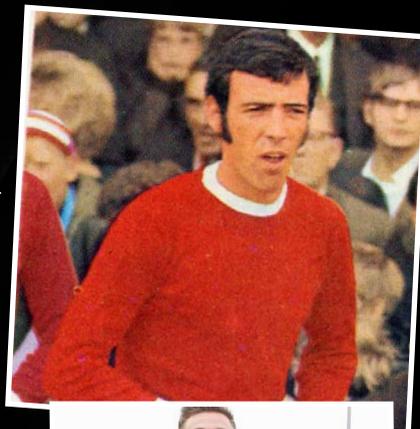
- After a Hamilton v Motherwell derby, a fan was given five months in a Young Offenders Institute and a further two year football banning order for releasing a smoke bomb inside the ground.

- A Grimsby Town fan was given a five-year football banning order after throwing a smoke bomb at the Bogor Regis goalkeeper at last season's FA Trophy semi-final.

TEN TO TACKLE

Try to answer the following to find out how much you know about Wrexham and this afternoon's visitors from Kent – Maidstone United...

1. Name the current Manchester United and England defender who started his career with Maidstone (he moved to Old Trafford after helping Fulham to the Europa League Final).
2. Name the former Manchester United and England defender who started his career with Maidstone (a European Cup winner with the Manchester giants in 1968, his surname suggests he might be from Walsall instead of from Kent).
3. Name their Kent rivals whom Maidstone beat on penalties away at Stonebridge Road to win promotion from the National League South in 2016.
4. Wrexham boss Brian Flynn described the atmosphere around The Racecourse as 'after the Lord Mayor's Show' when Wrexham entertained in-form Maidstone in January 1992 in Division Four. It was exactly a week after Wrexham had knocked Arsenal out of the FA Cup, while the Stones had recently won 5-0 at Cardiff. What was the result?
5. In what season did the following all happen: Maidstone lost 2-1 at their London Road ground against Charlton in an FA Cup third round replay (the furthest the Stones have ever progressed in the FA Cup); Wrexham drew 1-1 away and 1-1 at home to Charlton in Division Two; Nottingham Forest won the European Cup.
6. Who am I? On 6 December 2014, with a quarter of an hour left of the FA Cup second round tie between Wrexham and Maidstone in front of a crowd of 3,093 at The Racecourse, I came on as sub for Wes York. 13 days ago, I put Motherwell 1-0 up against Rangers in front of a crowd of 49,198 at Ibrox Park.
7. With whom did the Stones groundshare from 1988 until the dissolution of the original Maidstone United club in 1992 (Wrexham played there three times in Division Four)?
8. Stones' keeper Lee Worgan has five under-21 caps for what country?
9. There was only one booking in the Wrexham v Tranmere game earlier this month. Name the miscreant (no surprise, Rovers' former Wrexham midfielder).
10. What a difference a few months can make. Apart from a trio of midfielders and possibly a 'keeper out injured since New Year's Day, none of the Wrexham team who takes to the field this afternoon played against the Stones away from home earlier this season. From their initials, name the Wrexham team who drew 2-2 with Maidstone last September in front of a Gallagher Stadium crowd of 2,550. 1 – SJ (injured at Southport), 2 – KE (now playing for Connah's Quay), 3 – SN (started season as Captain, now with York), 4 – HB (also playing for York), 5 – CT (now at Forest Green), 6 – MC (still here), 7 – AB (still here) sub NN (now at Solihull Moors), 8 – PR (still here), 9 – SH (now at Torquay) sub MB (now at Warrington), 10 – JR (now with Guiseley), 11 – CP (scored both Wrexham's goals, now with Tamworth).



ANSWERS: 1. Chris Smalling; 2. David Sadler; 3. Ebbsfleet United; 4. 0-0; 5. 1978/79; 6. Louis Moult; 7. Dartford; 8. Wales; 9. Jay Harris; 10. 1 – Shwan Jeral; 2 – Kai Edwards; 3 – Sean Newton; 4 – Hamsa Bencheriff; 5 – Curtis Tilt; 6 – Mark Carrington; 7 – Anthony Barry; 8 – Paul Rutherford; 9 – Shaun Harrad; 10 – John Rooney; 11 – Callum Powell. Subs – Nortel Nortey and Michael Bakare.

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WREXHAM AFC 2016/17

Date	H/A	Opponent	Score	Att	Referee	Pos	Starting XI
AUGUST							
Sat 6th Aug	H	Dover Athletic	0-0	5,603	K. Evans	-	Dunn, J. Evans, Bencherif, Newton, Barry (72), Riley, Rooney, Carrington, Rutherford, Harrad (62), I
Tue 9th Aug	A	Guiseley	3-2	1,130	J. Johnson	7	Dunn, Bencherif, Riley, Carrington, Rooney, Barry, Newton, Rutherford, J. Evans (89), Harrad (52),
Sat 13th Aug	A	Aldershot Town	0-2	1,907	C. Hicks	15	Dunn, Bencherif, Riley, Rooney, Newton, J. Evans (46), Barry (46), Carrington, Rutherford, McDonag
Tue 16th Aug	H	Solihull Moors	1-0	4,017	A. Backhouse	13	Jalal, Edwards, Riley, Carrington, Newton, Bencherif, Barry (48), Tilt, McDonagh (64), Rutherf
Sat 20th Aug	H	Eastleigh	0-0	4,034	T. Nield	11	Jalal, Bencherif, Riley, Rooney, Newton, Tilt (65), Edwards, Carrington (86), Rutherford, McDonagh
Sat 27th Aug	A	Dagenham & Redbridge	0-3	1,256	C. Hatzidakis	15	Jalal, Bencherif, Riley, Edwards, Rooney, Tilt, Newton, Carrington, Rutherford, McDonagh, Re
Mon 29th Aug	H	York City	2-1	4,005	R. Johnson	10	Jalal, Bencherif, Tilt, Edwards, Rooney, Barry, Newton, Carrington, Rutherford, Harrad, Harv
SEPTEMBER							
Sat 3rd Sep	A	Maidstone United	2-2	2,550	R. Whitton	13	Jalal, Rooney, Newton, Tilt, Barry, Harrad, Rutherford, Carrington, Bencherif, Powell, Edwa
Sat 10th Sep	H	Sutton United	1-0	3,980	K. Evans	11	Jalal, Bencherif, Tilt, Rutherford, Newton, Rooney, Carrington, J. Evans, Powell (44), McDonagh (76)
Sat 17th Sep	A	Woking	0-2	1,213	C. Brook	14	Jalal, J. Evans, Riley, Bencherif, Newton, Tilt, Rooney (84), Carrington, Rutherford, Harrad (67), Hai
Sat 24th Sep	H	Chester	0-0	5,058	M. Coy	14	Jalal, Newton, Riley, Bencherif, Rooney, Tilt, Carrington, Rutherford (82), R. Evans, Harrad (3E
Tue 27th Sep	A	Macclesfield Town	0-3	1,579	S. Rushton	14	Jalal, Tilt, Newton, Bencherif, Edwards (46), J. Evans, Carrington, Rooney (54), Rutherford, R. Evan
OCTOBER							
Sat 1st Oct	A	Boreham Wood	1-0	458	S. Barrow	11	Jalal, J. Evans, Tilt, Edwards, Newton, Rutherford, Carrington, R. Evans, Rooney, Bench
Tue 4th Oct	H	Lincoln City	1-2	3,847	A Backhouse	15	Jalal, Carrington, Edwards, Bencherif, Newton, Tilt, Rooney (54), R. Evans (54), J. Evans, Harvey
Sat 8th Oct	A	Tranmere Rovers	0-2	5,644	S. Ross	15	Jalal, Newton, Edwards, Rooney (77), Tilt, J. Evans, Bencherif, Carrington, Rutherford (77), R. Evan
Sat 15th Oct	A	Stamford AFC (FAC4Q)	1-1	1,264	R. Whitton	-	Jalal, Edwards, Bencherif, Riley, Newton, Carrington, Barry, Rooney, Harvey (72), J. Evans (72), Hai
Tue 18th Oct	H	Stamford AFC (FAC4QR)	2-3AET	1,598	K. Evans	-	Jalal, Bencherif, Tilt, Edwards, Newton, Barry, R. Evans, Carrington, Rooney (62), Harrad, McD
Sat 22nd Oct	H	Bromley	2-1	3,531	J. Johnson	14	Jalal, Bencherif, Tilt, R. Evans (67), Edwards, Barry (55), Carrington, J. Evans, Harrad, McDonagh, I
Tue 25th Oct	H	Barrow	2-2	3,616	A Miller	14	Jalal, Edwards, Bencherif, Smith (83), J. Evans, Tilt, Carrington, Rooney, McDonagh, Hari
Sat 29th Oct	A	Gateshead	2-2	832	T. Nield	14	Jalal, Edwards, J. Evans, Rooney, Tilt, Smith, Carrington, Bencherif, Powell, Harrad (55)
NOVEMBER							
Sat 5th Nov	A	North Ferriby United	0-0	528	A Young	14	Jalal (22), Edwards, J. Evans, Rooney, Bencherif, Smith (57), Tilt, Carrington, Powell, Harrad, McD
Sat 12th Nov	H	Braintree Town	0-1	3,413	S. Rushton	14	Coddington, Tilt, Edwards, Barry (69), J. Evans, Smith (77), Bencherif, Rooney, Carrington, Powell,
Sat 19th Nov	A	Torquay United	1-1	1,484	N. Hair	14	Coddington, Bencherif, Tilt, R. Evans, Edwards, Rooney, Carrington, J. Evans, Powell (86), Harrad,
Sat 26th Nov	H	Forest Green Rovers	3-1	3,472	M. Coy	15	Coddington, Edwards, Rooney, Carrington, J. Evans, Rutherford (77), Tilt, R. Evans, McDonagh, Harrad (6
Tue 29th Nov	A	Lincoln City	0-1	3,344	D. Rock	15	Coddington, Carrington, Tilt, J. Evans, Rooney (82), McDonagh (59), R. Evans, Rutherford, Bencherif, Pyk
DECEMBER							
Tue 6th Dec	H	Macclesfield Town	0-3	3,204	S. Oldham	15	Coddington, J. Evans (67), Tilt, Carrington, Bencherif, Edwards, Rooney, Rutherford (70), R. Evans, Harrad, M
Sat 10th Dec	H	Tranmere Rovers (FAT1)	0-1	2,159	A Serrano	-	Jalal, Riley, Tilt, Barry, White (66), Rooney, Edwards, Carrington (66), R. Evans, J. Evans,
Sat 17th Dec	A	Sutton United	0-1	1,613	A Bromley	15	Jalal, Riley, Tilt, Edwards, White, Barry (61), Rooney, Carrington (67), Rutherford, J. Evans
Mon 26th Dec	H	Southport	1-0	4,317	S. Barrow	15	Jalal, Riley, Edwards, J. Evans, Smith, Rooney, Tilt, Rutherford, McDonagh, White (86), R
JANUARY							
Sun 1st Jan	A	Southport	2-3	2,066	S. Rushton	16	Jalal (46), Riley, Tilt, Rutherford (19), Rooney, White, Barry, R. Evans, J. Evans, McDonag
Sat 7th Jan	H	Woking	2-1	3,575	P. Wright	15	Dunn, Carrington, Jennings, Smith (61), Tilt, Riley, Barry, Rooney, R. Evans, McLeod, Whi
Sat 14th Jan	H	North Ferriby United	1-0	3,625	A. Bromley	14	Dunn, Jennings, Riley, Carrington, Barry (84), Tilt, Rooney, Rutherford (83), Penn, White,
Sat 21st Jan	A	Chester	1-1	3,961	C. Hicks	13	Dunn, Jennings, Riley, Rooney, Barry (84), Tilt, White, McLeod (71), Carrington, Rutherf
Sat 28th Jan	H	Boreham Wood	2-1	3,664	S. Allison	12	Dunn, Rutherford, Jennings, Tilt, Carrington, McLeod (65), Shenton, Penn (47), Barry (78), \
FEBRUARY							
Sat 4th Feb	H	Guiseley	3-1	3,730	N. Hair	10	Dunn, Jennings, Barry (78), Carrington, Riley, Rutherford (60), Tilt, Shenton, Lund, McLeod (8
Sat 11th Feb	A	Dover Athletic	1-1	1,057	A. Quelch	10	Dunn, Lund (78), Jennings, Carrington, Tilt, Riley, McLeod (78), Rutherford, Penn, Massanka
Sat 18th Feb	H	Aldershot Town	0-2	4,308	S. Oldham	10	Dunn, Lun (75), Jennings, Rutherford (75), Tilt, Riley, Carrington, Shenton (80), Penn, Massan
Sat 25th Feb	A	Solihull Moors	1-0	1,349	S. Rushton	10	Dunn, Lund, Riley, Carrington, Barry (84), Tilt, McLeod (72), Rutherford (71), Penn, Massan
MARCH							
Sat 4th Mar	A	Braintree Town	2-1	698	A. Bromley	10	Dunn, Jennings, Riley, Carrington, Barry, Tilt, Shenton (89), Rutherford, Penn, Massanka (79),
Sat 11th Mar	H	Gateshead	0-2	3,986	A. Coggins	10	Dunn, Rutherford (75), Jennings, Tilt, Carrington, Massanka, Shenton (75), Penn, Barry, McLe
Sat 18th Mar	A	Forest Green Rovers	0-3	2,146	S. Allison	10	Dunn, Jennings, Riley, Rutherford, Barry (52), Tilt, Carrington, Penn (89), Shenton, McLea
Tue 21st Mar	A	Barrow	1-1	1,009	J. Johnson	10	Dunn, Jennings, Riley, Evans, Smith, Tilt (80), Barry (74), Marx, Shenton, White, Massank
Sat 25th Mar	H	Torquay United	1-1	3,328	P. Wright	10	Dunn, Smith (66), Riley, Penn, Rutherford (83), Carrington, Evans, Shenton, Harry (66), Wl
APRIL							
Sat 1st Apr	H	Tranmere Rovers	0-1	4,630	S. Oldham	10	Dunn, Carrington, Riley, Barry (87), Shenton, Marx, Rutherford (64), Evans, Penn, Massank
Sat 8th Apr	A	Bromley	3-4	1,006	C. O'Donnell	12	Jalal, Riley, Allen (80), Penn, Rutherford, Carrington, Evans, Shenton, Marx, White, McL
Fri 14th Apr	H	Maidstone United					
Mon 17th Apr	A	York City					
Sat 22nd Apr	H	Dagenham & Redbridge					
Sat 29th Apr	A	Eastleigh					



Subs		Goals
Edwards (72), Bakare (62), Powell (63), McDonagh, Nortey		-
Nortey (89), McDonagh (52), Powell (89), Edwards, Bakare		Rooney, McDonagh, Rutherford
Powell (46), Bakare (46), Nortey (46), Edwards, Harrad		-
Bakare (48), Powell (64), J. Evans, Harrad, Nortey		Carrington
Powell (39), Harvey (65), Nortey (86), Barry, Harrad		-
Harvey (46), Harrad (46), Powell (66), Barry, J. Evans		-
Powell (51), Riley, McDonagh, Nortey, Reid		Rooney, Newton
Nortey (46), Bakare (58), Riley, McDonagh, Harvey		Powell (2)
Harrad (44), Edwards (76), Bakare (46), Riley, Barry		Newton
Reid (84), McDonagh (67), R. Evans (84), Edwards, Nortey		-
Powell (82), J. Evans (38), McDonagh (89), Edwards, Harvey		-
Harrad (46), Powell (54), McDonagh (46), Nortey, Harvey		-
Barry, Powell, McDonagh, Harrad, Marx		Rooney
Harrad (54), Powell (54), Barry, McDonagh, Nortey		Bencherif
McDonagh (69), Barry (77), Powell (77), Harrad, Nortey		-
Powell (72), Brandon Burrows (72), McDonagh, Ben Burrows, Marx, Harry, Dunn		Harrad
J. Evans (62), Harvey (107), Powell, Dunn, Marx, Brandon Burrows		Harrad, J. Evans
Powell (67), Rooney (55), Smith (60), Bailey-Nicholls, Dunn		Harrad, McDonagh
Nortey (83), Riley, Bailey-Nicholls, Harry, Dunn		Tilt, Rooney
Bailey-Nicholls (55), Nortey, Marx, Harvey, Dunn		Rooney, Bencherif
Dunn (22), Barry (57), Bailey-Nicholls (66), Nortey, Harvey		-
R. Evans (69), McDonagh (77), Bailey-Nicholls (58), Riley, Nortey		-
Rutherford (86), Barry, White, Smith, Jalal		McDonagh
Powell (66), Bencherif		Harrad, McDonagh (2)
White (59), Barry (63), Powell (82), Riley, Jalal		-
Pyke (46), Barry (67), White (70), Powell, Jalal		-
Harrad (66), McDonagh (66), Bencherif, Powell, Dunn		-
R. Evans (61), Pyke (61), Powell (67), Harrad, Dunn		-
Harry (86), Barry, Pyke, Powell, Dunn		Edwards
Powell (19), Dunn (46), Bencherif (89), Bailey-Nicholls, Harry		White, Rooney
Powell (61), Bencherif, Davies, Harry, Jalal		Rooney, R. Evans
Massanka (68), Smith (83), Bencherif (84), Harry, Jalal		McLeod
Massanka (71), Shenton (84), Smith, Harry, Jalal		Rooney
R. Evans (47), Massanka (65), Rooney (78), Harry, Jalal		Barry, Rooney
Rooney (60), R. Evans (78), White (85), Harry, Jalal		Massanka, Rooney (2)
White (78), Rooney (78), R. Evans (89), Barry, Jalal		White
Barry (75), Evans (75), White (80), Smith, Harry		-
Evans (71), White (72), Smith (84), Marx, Harry		Barry
White (59), Smith (79), Evans (89), Lund, Jalal		Massanka, Shenton
White (75), Smith (75), Harry (81), Evans, Jalal		-
Allen (52), Massanka (52), Evans (89), Harry, Jalal		-
Rutherford (74), Carrington (80), Harry (89), Allen, Jalal		Rutherford
Barry (66), Massanka (66), Allen (83), Williams, Jalal		Harry
Allen (64), McLeod (64), Smith (87), Harry, Jalal		
Massanka (53), Smith (80), Barry, Harry, Dunn		White, Massanka (2)

VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE - AS AT 10.04.2017

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Lincoln City	40	26	7	7	75	36	+39	85
2 Tranmere Rovers	41	26	7	8	70	34	+36	85
3 Forest Green Rovers	41	23	9	9	81	50	+31	78
4 Dagenham & Redbridge	42	24	4	14	72	49	+23	76
5 Aldershot Town	42	20	12	10	58	35	+23	72
6 Dover Athletic	41	22	6	13	76	56	+20	72
7 Barrow	42	18	15	9	64	45	+19	69
8 Gateshead	42	18	13	11	67	44	+23	67
9 Macclesfield Town	40	19	6	15	57	49	+8	63
10 Boreham Wood	42	14	13	15	46	40	+6	55
11 Bromley	42	16	7	19	51	62	-11	55
12 Wrexham	42	14	12	16	42	55	-13	54
13 Eastleigh	42	13	14	15	52	57	-5	53
14 Chester	41	14	10	17	59	58	+1	52
15 Sutton United	42	13	11	18	51	59	-8	50
16 Maidstone United	40	14	8	18	53	68	-15	50
17 Guiseley	42	13	10	19	47	61	-14	49
18 Solihull Moors	42	13	9	20	55	71	-16	48
19 York City	42	10	15	17	49	63	-14	45
20 Woking	42	12	9	21	60	76	-16	45
21 Braintree Town	42	12	9	21	48	69	-21	45
22 Torquay United	42	11	11	20	46	57	-11	44
23 North Ferriby	42	11	3	28	29	73	-44	36
24 Southport	42	9	8	25	48	89	-41	35

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THE FINAL WORD

Mark Pitman takes a closer look at the significant opportunity that has presented itself to Wales...

Why Toulon has been too long



The month of June already features heavily on the Football Association of Wales calendar this year with the finals of the UEFA Champions League and the UEFA Women's Champions League set to be staged in the capital city of Cardiff. A significant event for the FAW, a team of staff have worked around the clock for the last year ensuring that nothing is left to chance, and hosting these two key events successfully will be a defining moment for the reputation of the FAW within the corridors of power at UEFA. Meanwhile, Chris Coleman's national team had to Serbia for a must-win fixture in their frustrating 2019 FIFA World Cup qualifying campaign, but the focus will be on who isn't there as Gareth Bale sits out this key match following his yellow card against the Republic of Ireland in Dublin last month.

But there is much more to June than listed above, and what will inevitably be a side-story to other events could prove to be one of the most significant changes to the FAW calendar. Between the 29th May and the 10th June, Wales will compete in the prestigious and well-respected Toulon Under-20 tournament alongside eleven other nations from across the world. The competition, staged in the south of France, has been expanded this year such is its success and respect, and will allow new Wales Intermediate team manager Robert Page the chance to see his young players tested in an intense and competitive environment ahead of their respective UEFA qualifying campaigns. This will in fact be the 45th year of the tournament, a tremendous feat considering the changes that have taken place across the world game in that time.

So what is so significant about Wales' participation? The lack of major tournament experience for the senior international team has been well-documented, and 58-years of disappointment since 1958 was finally exorcised last summer as Coleman's side made headlines across the world by reaching the semi-final stages of UEFA



EURO 2016. The tournament was a major learning curve for everyone involved, from the players to the backroom staff, from dealing with the logistics of it all to the administrative red tape and the demands of the world's media. Wales embraced the whole event as a collective unit, and while months of detailed preparation left few stones unturned in ensuring that the side were provided with the best possible environment, things would still be done differently next time as a direct result of the experience.

Such situations cannot be replicated or faultlessly planned for. Competing in the finals of a major tournament is demanding on all fronts, and while the Toulon tournament does not hold anywhere near the same status of the European Championships, it will offer the young squad the experience of being away for a period of time and playing a number of competitive games close together. The likes of Gareth Bale, Aaron Ramsey, Joe Allen etc. missed out on such an experience as they progressed through the youth ranks, despite coming close under Brian Flynn in 2008/09, and while they quickly adapted to the challenges they faced in France they had to learn very quickly. There is no doubt that the current crop of players coming through the ranks are blessed with talent, and adding tournament experience can only benefit them and Wales in the short and long-term.

Wales have appointed former international Robert Page to be responsible for the progression and development of the next generation.

Replacing Geraint Williams, Page inherits a group of talented players, and his remit will centre around bringing the best out of them and ensuring they quickly establish themselves in the senior side. Giving youth an opportunity has proved to be the cornerstone of Wales' success in recent years, and it is a blueprint the FAW will be keen to encourage and continue as they approach this exciting new era. Circumstances dictate that the primary focus of the summer will not be on the fortunes of Page's young stars as they head to France, but that may not be a bad thing as he starts to implement his own ideas. Last summer set a new standard for the national team, and future teams will inevitably be compared with Chris Coleman's team of 2016, the side that will now be considered as the best Wales team ever for what they achieved. It is a tough act to follow, but setting high standards in football means that you are also setting high hopes and dreams. The fortunes of the likes of Bale and Ramsey in France has inspired players in the current Intermediate squads to emulate their achievements, and success in France this summer would be a great way to mark their arrival.

Mark Pitman is a freelance football reporter and contributes to a number of publications including the official websites of UEFA and the Football Association of Wales. Visit www.markpitman1.com and follow @markpitman1 and UEFAcomMPitman for more...



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TODAY'S TEAMS



WREXHAM

Manager: Dean Keates

Shwan Jalal	1	○
Iffy Allen	2	○
James Jennings	3	○
Martin Riley	5	○
Anthony Barry	7	○
Jordan White	9	○
Izale McLeod	11	○
Mark Carrington	13	○
Paul Rutherford	14	○
Robbie Evans	15	○
Russell Penn	16	○
Ntumba Massanka	18	○
Ryan Williams	19	○
Leo Smith	21	○
Ollie Shenton	23	○
Chris Dunn	24	○
Ben Burrows	25	○
Olly Marx	27	○
George Harry	28	○
Brandon Burrows	30	○



MAIDSTONE UNITED

Manager: Jay Saunders

○	1	Lee Worgan
○	2	Callum Driver
○	3	Tom Mills
○	4	Jamie Coyle
○	5	Kevin Lokko
○	7	Vas Karagiannis
○	8	Stuart Lewis
○	10	Jack Paxman
○	11	Alex Flisher
○	13	Ben Bridle-Card
○	14	Reece Prestedge
○	15	Anthony Acheampong
○	16	Bobby-Joe Taylor
○	17	Ben Greenhalgh
○	18	Jack Richards
○	19	Elliott Capel
○	20	Jake McCarthy
○	21	Harry Phipps
○	22	Seth Nana Twumasi
○	23	Yemi Odubade
○	25	Jamar Loza
○	32	Joe Pigott

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee:
TBA

Assistant Referee:
Abbas Khan

Assistant Referee:
Richard Watson

Fourth Official:
Mark Billingham

NEXT AT THE RACECOURSE

Saturday, April 22nd 2017
Kick-off 3.00pm

DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE



Vanarama National League

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