

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB



FOUNDED 1966

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2002



FOUNDED 1966



FROM THE CHAIR STUART EARL



A very happy New Year to all of our members. I do hope you're not suffering from too much Christmas self abuse, and lets hope it continues to be a happy one for The Wolves team as they strive for that elusive place in The Premiership.

With the New Year comes the change in the editorial set up of our newsletter that the members (those who turned up) voted for at the AGM, and I would like to welcome as editor Karl Conlon. Longer standing members will recall that Karl was our editor twelve years ago, and he is showing the same enthusiasm now as he did then. (Was it really that long ago Karl?).

Well the response to the last newsletters question "would you be interested in receiving your newsletter by 'e' mail" has even astounded me, as not one member even bothered to answer. So we plod on sending them out in envelopes.

At the time of wring it is eight weeks to my annual sojourn to The West Indies, and so I'm unavailable for the March edition, (hold the cheers), Stefan is borrowing my pipe and slippers for the next issue writing From The Chair and the match reports, so I do hope he can think up some good titles for you're the reports. I think that this year it's going to be very difficult to laze about in the sun, with the obligatory Banks Beer (yes it is called that), and having to wait until the following morning to get the results. Lets hope that when they arrive they are positive.

Stefan and I have spent some time redesigning the front of your magazine, and unfortunately if it is not to your liking its here for the rest of the season, because we have tried to cut the production costs, and have had the covers printed for the rest of the 2001/2 season.

You will notice that Dave has a new item on his sales list, a special issue badge set, featuring four badges commemorating the eighteen hat tricks, three hundred and six goals, thirteen England caps and the awarding of the MBE to Steve Bull. I have mine already, and it looks good alongside the special limited edition set of Billy Wright badges.

Christmas post permitting, this as well as your other edition s this season, you should now be receiving your Newsletters at or very close to the beginning of the month. This is in no small part down to Stefan, who has been taking the final proofs to the printers, picking the finished article up, and then delivering the final printed matter to Dave for dispatch. My thanks to Stefan for his time and efforts.

Finally, we are already preparing for our annual Meet The Players event, and if the manager is agreeable, we hope to arrange this after the Millwall match. Two venues are already in the pipeline, any other ideas would be very welcome, but they would have to be convenient for the team coach, en route for the return trip reasonably priced, and taking the opposition into consideration, safe.

Stuart

'THE THINGS THEY SAY'

(QUOTES FROM THE FAMOUS)

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

Honorary Life President
Derek Dougan

Honorary President
John Richards

Chairman
Stuart Earl

Honorary Member
Sir Jack Hayward OBE

Secretary
Dave Slape

Treasurer
David Hodges

Travel Secretary
Peter Woodifield

Entertainment Officer
Tim Richards

Minutes Secretary
Leo Masters

Committee Members
Stefan Leonard
Stan Armett
John Engleman
Geoff Newbound

Club Contacts

Stuart Earl
01760 756278

Dave Slape
0207 648023

Peter Woodifield
01634 363704

e mail

londonwolves.66@btinternet.co

INTERVIEWER: "Would it be fair to describe you as a volatile player?"

DAVID BECKHAM: "Well, I can play in the centre, on the right and occasionally on the left."

DAVID BECKHAM: "My parents have been there for me ever since I was about seven."

MARK VIDUKA: "I would not be bothered if we lost every game as long as we won the league."

RONNIE WHELAN: "He's put on weight and I've lost it, and vice versa."

RONALDO: "We lost because we didn't win."

PAUL GASCOIGNE: "I've had fourteen bookings this season – eight of which were my fault, but seven were disputable."

ALAN SHEARER: "I've never wanted to leave, I'm here for the rest of my life, and hopefully after that as well."

MARK DRAPER: "I'd like to play for an Italian club, like Barcelona."

PETER SHILTON: "You've got to believe you're going to win, and I believe we're going to win the World Cup until the final whistle blows and we're knocked out."

STAN COLLYMORE: "I faxed a transfer request to the club at the beginning of the week, but let me state that I don't want to leave Leicester."

ADE AKINBIYI: "I was watching the Blackburn game on TV on Sunday when it flashed up that George (Ndah) had scored in the first minute at Birmingham. My first reaction was to ring him up. Then I remembered he was out there playing."

IAN WRIGHT: "Without being too harsh on David Beckham, he cost us the match."

LES FERDINAND: "I was surprised, but I always say that nothing in football surprises me."

RICHARD RUFUS: "It was like the ref had a new yellow card and wanted to see if it worked."

GARY LINEKER: "There's no in between, you're either good or bad. We were in between."

VINNY JONES: "Winning doesn't really matter as long as you win."

DAVID BECKHAM: "Alex Ferguson is the best manager I've had at this level. Well, he's the only manager I've actually had at this level."

UGO EHIOGU: "I'm as happy as I can be, well I have been happier."

JONATHON WOODGATE: "Leeds is a great club and it's been my home for years, even though I live in Middlesbrough."

IAN RUSH: "I couldn't settle in Italy, it was like being in a foreign country."

STEVE LOMAS: "Germany are a very difficult team to play...they had eleven internationals out there today."

ROBBIE EARLE: "If you're 0-0 down there's no better to get you back on terms."

THIERRY HENRI: "Sometimes in football you have to score goals."

SWEET FA

PINT SIZE PAUL'S PUBS

Once again it's pub time, and this time, The Wolves are away to Norwich City.

The pub Slape's posse have chosen is "The Complete Angler" which occupies a site on the bank of the river Wensome directly opposite the main railway station.

This hostelry is run by the T & J Brewery, and surprise surprise, on this day they just happen to be hosting a beer festival.

We have no problems getting into the pub as it is well known for its hospitality to away supporters, and set on two floors it is set in an old-fashioned style with an L shaped bar, and it has quite a large floor area with views overlooking the river, and plenty of tables so that you can sit and enjoy your pint (or two as the case may be).

There appeared to be some background music, but either I am going deaf in my old age or the volume was way down to its minimum level, but the atmosphere was good and very relaxing.

There were a few regulars in the bar but most of the clientele consisted of Wolves' supporters. Even the Brighton mob made it up to Norwich, in fact they had decided to make a weekend of it, along with John The Fireman and Big Bazza. I'm sure these two could spin a yarn or two, but you probably couldn't print it anyway.

Back to the pub and the most important thing, the beer, and I'll get the lager out of the way first, because at a beer festival shouting that you like a drop of the amber nectar is not the done thing. Becks on tap, Fosters and 1664, Strongbow, a small selection of alcopops, and a wine list, which is something of a first for me. Being a wine buff, I have to say that for a pub they had quite a good selection.

Now for the ales. The first The Posse tried was Cains F A, which got a big thumbs up, and a big 10/10 from Geoff Castro, (he could teach you a thing or two about beer, and a few other things I bet).

Next came Adams, which wasn't bad, and achieved a mark of 8/10 from Peter Woodfield, and Morrell's Oxford Blue, which didn't impress Simon at all, giving it 4/10, and added that he would be cheering for Cambridge in the next Boat Race, before ordering another pint of F A.

We also sampled the pub grub. Much the usual, but I did order the T & J Bernard "all in one pie" which I would highly recommend.

So, just to sum up "The Complete Angler": I thoroughly enjoyed our couple of hours in there, and it deserves another visit in the near future.

Enjoy your ale.

Pint Size Paul

MEMBERS LETTERS



Yes we do get one occasion

Dear Fellow Members,

I enjoyed an excellent trip to Mol for the pre-season friendly against Liverpool, my first with London Wolves.

The result was an eye opener for us, possibly the Molineux management might have been expecting this result. It's a good job we don't meet them this every week in Division One.

The influx of new players is welcome but nonetheless disconcerting, in having seen this move before, leading to a customary failure, hopefully this will be the case this season as this crop of new players seem to be of good quality and are knitting well into the squad.

It was a pity to lose Tony Dinning, Temuri Ketsbaia and Neil Embler, though I thought these were good squad players.

The Stadium is superb, and it is now the time for the management and players to take the club up where it belongs, having started well enough there is a long way to go, and the home form must improve, and this can only be done by a settled squad that is free of injuries.

I started this letter a few weeks ago when we were unbeaten in eleven matches, but several home defeats bode well for championship form, losing both Kennedy and Miller will help. Lets hope they're not out for long.

Yours expectantly,

G Christodoulides
London NW4



MATCH REPORTS

COOKED

WOLVES 3-0 BURNLEY
27th October 2001

The first half provided possibly the best performance for a long while from Wolves, roaring into a three-goal lead almost before Burnley had finished lacing their boots.

After ten minutes, Kennedy crossed superbly from the right for Taylor to head strongly past his own 'keeper.

Twelve minutes later, Kennedy again crossed and Rae, unmarked, fired an overhead kick into the net.

And then on thirty-nine minutes Cameron hit a thunderbolt which former Wolves man Cook deflected past Micholopoulos.

To be fair, the attacking flair with which Wolves hit Burnley over the first period could have led to five or six showing on the scoreboard by half time, with Burnley hardly getting a look in.

The second half was a different story, and we could all have gone home as, apart for the odd break, Wolves put the shutters up.

Oakes stopped the only clear cut chance from Burnley, which came with ten minutes remaining, when a long shot from Taylor brought a flying save at full length.

Rae marked his first full start with an outstanding display, running the midfield and adding more venom to both attack and defence.

A fine all round performance. Promotion material?

Attendance: 24,893

League position: = 1st

Team Rating: 8/10

STINGRAE

WOLVES 1-0 MILLWALL
31st October 2001

Alex Rae struck a fine goal with seconds remaining to give Wolves a victory that set them three points clear at the top of the table.

Branch, working very hard on the right, got in a killer centre which Rae met on the edge of the six yard box and powered a downward header out of reach of the grasping Warner.

Wolves had battled gamely to break down a stubborn Millwall defence, but they too often gave the ball away, and on the occasions they did threaten Warner was a solid last line.

On the break Millwall often looked dangerous, and only a fine diving save from Oakes moments before halftime kept the scores even.

Blake, Newton and Branch all tested the agile Warner, but on every occasion he was more than up to the task.

There was a definite air of no surrender from Wolves, and they pressed forward right up to the goal to frustrate former manager Mark McGhee.

Attendance: 23,018

League position: 1st

Team rating: 7/10

NORFOLK 'N GOOD

NORWICH 2-0 WOLVES
3rd November 2001

This was the match where something had to give. Norwich unbeaten at home, Wolves unbeaten away, and to say Wolves had an off day would be an understatement, as they came east to give a very poor performance to a side who looked intent on doing some damage for most of the game.

Norwich came out hungry from the off, and it was only seven minutes before former Wolves' front man Roberts stabbed home the first goal after woeful defending from Wolves.

Less than half an hour later and it was two nil as McVeigh hammered a shot home from the edge of the area.

Then just before half time it looked like three as Nedergaard unleashed a ferocious shot from at least thirty yards out, which beat Oakes before crashing against the bar and away to safety.

Wolves looked a little more up for it in the second half, and Sinton went close with a long-range effort, before the diving Green denied Blake.

Muscat was having a very torrid time and for once looked as if he was allowing the crowd baiting to get at him, and the normally cool Lescott and Butler were looking less than comfortable.

Attendance: 20,335

League position: 1st

Team rating: 5/10

WHAT AN 'OWLER!

WOLVES 0-0 SHEFFIELD WED
9th November 2001

There is very little to report on this match. Wolves were booed off at the break. Wolves were booed off at full time.

Three points were required to retake top spot, but with the departure of Kennedy in the first few minutes, with a leg injury, all ideas Wolves may have had about the direction of the visitors goal in this dire display disappeared.

There was not one shot from either side on target, and neither side's keeper really needed to shower after the game.

Wolves appeared to pass to the opposition as often as they passed to their own players, and the only really clear cut chance came after the break, when Sinton finally released a decent cross which beat the whole defence, only for Newton to idly stab the ball into the side netting.

In fact, Wednesday looked the more likely to break the deadlock, and possibly they should have been awarded a penalty when Lescott, arriving late, tackled Morrisson from behind, but the referee waved play on.

Attendance: 19,947 League position: 2nd Team rating: 4/10

STURR FRIED!

WIMBLEDON 0-1 WOLVES
24th November 2001

This turned out to be a very drab affair and Wolves rarely looked like a side battling to be amongst the promotion contenders. In fact if Oakes had not stopped a point blank header from Shipperly, it might have been a different scenario.

As it was Wolves improved over the final ten minute spell, and debutant Sturridge scored from the most acute of angles to ensure the points, and after a disputed back pass gave Wolves an indirect free kick ten yards out. From the resultant free kick Blake hammered a fierce shot against the home defence, who had gathered en mass on the goal line.

A good result secured from a very average performance, something that has in the past been missing, and is desperately needed if the end of season goal is to be achieved.

Attendance: 9,873
League position: 2nd
Team rating: 5/10

TREBLE TOP

WOLVES 4-1 BARNSELY
27th November 2001

Wolves once again regained pole position with this emphatic, if not too polished, performance over lack-lustre Barnsley.

Nine minutes into his home debut, it was Sturridge who ghosted in on the far post to meet Naylor's free kick, and slot the ball past Miller. After thirty-three minutes, when Blake nodded a long punt from Oakes into his path, Newton drove the ball into the corner of the net, in a bustling move not too unlike a certain Stephen George Bull.

Nerves were on edge as Barnsley reduced the arrears after sixty-eight minutes, but Newton calmed Wolves down as he picked up an inch perfect ball from Pollet, and lifted the ball past the advancing Miller, to put Wolves back in control.

Sturridge completed a deserved hat trick in the seventy-fifth minute, when he arrived in the area to accept a cross from Camara, who had gone down the left like a greyhound after the hare.

Attendance: 19,231
League position: 1st
Team rating: 7/10

DONKEY DERBY

WOLVES 0-1 WBA
2nd December 2001

Wolves were limited to just a couple of shots on target in a display which had home fans wondering what all the table topping fuss had been about.

Kennedy, Naylor and Newton looked about as lively as dead dogs, and Blake as if he had stayed in bed.

Albion always appeared to be the more dangerous in this local derby, and the real highlight of the first half was when Jordao launched a disgraceful two footed tackle on Rae, a dozen players decided it was time to get their handbags out.

Six players were booked in quick succession, by a referee who kept his notebook moving in and out of his pocket faster than a fiddlers elbow.

Jordao fortunate to still be on the pitch, hit the winner after fifty-eight minutes, firing over Oakes from a narrow angle on the left hand side of the area.

Attendance: 27,515 fans, 719 riot police
(And 1 helicopter)
League position 2nd
Team rating: 5/10

LONDON WOLVES TRAVEL NEWS

Provisional travel arrangements for matches during January, February and March are:-

Home Matches

Meeting place: Euston Station concourse outside main ticket office, at least 20 minutes before train departure.

Fare: Members £16; Guests £19.

Sat 5/1/02 v Gillingham (FAC3)

Sat 2/2/02 v Rotherham Utd

Sat 16/2/02 v Bradford City

Sat 2/3/02 v Gillingham

Sat 16/3/02 v Grimsby Town

Sat 23/3/02 v Norwich City

- ◆ *Outward - Depart Euston 09.25 Arrive Wolves 11.42*
- ◆ *Return - Depart Wolves 17.19 Arrive Euston 19.38*

Sun 13/1/02 v Coventry City (k/o 2.15pm)

- ◆ *Outward - Depart Euston 08.35 Arrive Wolves 11.25*
- ◆ *Return - Depart Wolves 16.49 Arrive Euston 19.04*

Tue 26/2/02 v Walsall

- ◆ *Outward - Depart Euston 14.40 Arrive Wolves 16.45*
- ◆ *Return - Depart Wolves 22.49 Arrive Euston 01.25*

Away Matches

The following times are provisional. Please contact Travel Secretary for confirmation of travel arrangements. Please also note that the majority of away matches are likely to be all-ticket for Wolves fans.

Tue 1/1/02 v Crewe

Fare £23

ALL-TICKET MATCH

- ◆ *Outward - Depart Euston 10.00 Arrive Crewe 12.48*
- ◆ *Return - Depart Crewe 17.25 Arrive Euston 19.51*

Thu 17/1/02 v Portsmouth

ALL-TICKET MATCH

- ◆ *No club trip arranged. Trains to Fratton depart from Waterloo at 08, 23 and 38 mins past hour. Journey time approx. 90 mins. Return train departs Fratton at 22.26. arriving Waterloo at 00 14*

Tue 29/1/02 v Barnsley **ALL-TICKET MATCH**

- ◆ No Club trip arranged. Any member wishing to travel to this match, please contact Travel Secretary.

Thu 7/2/02 v Crystal Palace **ALL-TICKET MATCH**

- ◆ No club trip arranged. There are three stations near the ground, all about 10 mins. walk. Trains to Thornton Heath, Selhurst run from Victoria; to Norwood Junction from Victoria and London Bridge. Journey times approx. 25 mins.

Sat 23/2/02 v Stockport County **Fare £25** **ALL-TICKET MATCH**

- ◆ Outward - Depart Euston 08.50 Arrive Stockport 12.17
- ◆ Return - Depart Stockport 17.36 Arrive Euston 21.12

Wed 6/3/02 v Nottingham Forest **ALL-TICKET MATCH**

- ◆ No Club trip arranged. Any member wishing to travel to this match, please contact Travel Secretary.

Sat 9/3/02 v Birmingham City **Fare £15** **ALL-TICKET MATCH**

- ◆ Outward - Depart Euston 10.25 Arrive Birmingham New St 12.20
- ◆ Return - Depart Birmingham New St 17.45 Arrive Euston 19.38

Sat 30/3/02 v Burnley **Fare TBA** **ALL-TICKET MATCH**

- ◆ Outward - Depart Kings Cross 08.10 Arrive Burnley Manchester Rd 12.18
- ◆ Local train between Leeds & Burnley
- ◆ Return - Depart Burnley Manchester Rd 17.56 Arrive Kings Cross 22.17
- ◆ Local trains between Burnley/Leeds & Leeds/Doncaster

F.A.Cup dates: 26/1/02 - 4th round 16/2/02 - 5th round 9/3/02 - 6th round

Any member wishing to travel to home or away matches should contact Travel Secretary for Saturday/Sunday matches by the preceding Wednesday and for midweek matches by the preceding Sunday at the latest. Fares will be collected on the outward journey. Payments in advance are accepted. Cheques/P.O's payable to WWLSC.

Any member booking a train ticket, who subsequently cannot travel, must contact the Travel Secretary at least 3 days before the match to cancel, or they will have to pay for the ticket. This also applies to members who book a ticket and fail to show up on the day, as the train companies will not offer any refunds on unsold tickets, except in exceptional circumstances.

Members requiring match tickets please contact Travel Secretary AT LEAST 16 DAYS prior to match. For all-ticket matches, particularly away matches, it is advisable to contact the Travel Secretary AT LEAST 4 WEEKS before the match. Please enclose s.a.e. with postal applications.

Please note that for all-ticket away matches season ticket holders have priority. FOR AWAY MATCHES WHEN WOLVES TICKET ALLOCATION IS LIMITED, ONLY AWAY SEASON TICKET HOLDERS CAN BE GUARANTEED A MATCH TICKET.

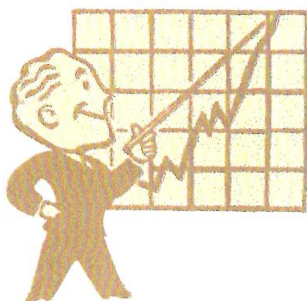
There are 7 club season tickets available to members on a match to match basis. Full match day price will be charged. Members must travel on the official club trip for the particular game for which the ticket is required.

Please also note that some matches are likely to be switched to Thursday/Sunday because of live TV coverage by ITV. Thursday matches kick-off 7.45 p.m., Sunday matches kick-off 2.15 p.m. or 6.15 p.m.

TRAVEL SECRETARY - PETER WOODFIELD
94 FARNHAM CLOSE
RAINHAM KENT
ME8 8NS

Telephone - 01634 363704

E-mail - peteraw@globalnet.co.uk



SLAPE'S SALES



- London Wolves** Tee Shirts small/medium £9:00 +86p p&p, large/XXL £11:00 + 86p p&p
- London Wolves** Enamel badges £2:50 + sae, car fobs £3:50 + sae, key rings £3:00 + sae
- Programmes** Home league & cup £2:00, away league & cup £2:00 approx
- Liverpool (pre-season friendly) £2:50
Away friendlies-complete set £21:00
- A Load Of Bull** Fanzine £1:50 + 30p p&p
- Old programmes** Some 60s, 70s & 80s programmes are available. Prices from 10p + p&p
- Steve Bull** Commemorative badge set comprising four badges, £15:00 + £1:00 p+p

Available from: **Dave Slape, 26 Brockenhurst Way, London SW16 4UD. Tel:020 87648023**