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**EDITORIAL TEAM** 

Managing Editor: David Charles

Editor: John Woodruff

Contributing Editors: Ray Armfield

and Stephen Crabtree

Photographs: Paul Willatts, Rob Beatty and Zoe Linkson

Proofreading: Sue Chapple

Advertising: advertising@afcwimbledon.co.uk

Editorial: editor@afcwimbledon.co.uk

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London Senior Cup winners 1931, 1934, 1962, 1975, 1977 Surrey Senior Cup winners 1936, 1940, 1949, 1955, 2005

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Surrey Combination Cup winners 1929, 1931 Surrey Charity Shield winners 1925, 1926, 1927, 1931, 1935

South London Charity Cup winners 1906, 1931

Herald Cup winners 1901

South Western Cup winners 1901

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The names of all the Dons Trust Board members are on page 47

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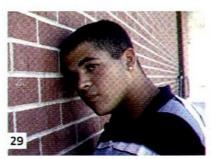
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## MINDING OUR LANGUAGE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE **ERIK SAMUELSON** LOOKS AT A SUBJECT THAT CROPS UP PERIODICALLY – THE LANGUAGE THAT IS DIRECTED BY FANS AT OPPOSITION PLAYERS, NOT ONLY INSIDE THE STADIUM DURING MATCHES, BUT OUTSIDE AND AT AWAY GAMES

To the fans, officials and players of Swindon Town.

From time to time I get letters complaining about the behaviour and especially the language used by some of our fans. This has been the subject of debate at least once at a Special General Meeting, where the views expressed ranged from "We must cut out all obscene language" to "As a fan I see it as my role to put their players off and I will continue to do so" to

"Get a life – this happens everywhere". These are my recollections of what I heard at the SGM, and certainly these are sentiments I've heard in other conversations.

This isn't an easy subject. On the one hand, we want to continue to be a family-oriented club and attract the young fans of the future, while on the other-hand, all football clubs have a deeply embedded culture of swearing and chanting, designed either to put an opposing player off or to mock opposition fans.

I looked at the FA Rules on the subject. They are pretty clear that we are responsible for ensuring that "...directors, players (a long list follows) and all persons purporting to be supporters or followers...refrain from...racist, violent, threatening, abusive, obscene or provocative behaviour, conduct or language whilst attending or taking part in a match in which it is involved, at its own ground or elsewhere...".

This is incredibly far-reaching as it implies that we can be held responsible for the misbehaviour of fans at away games, where we have little or no control over the arrangements. In the event of a charge, our defence can be that we had "...used all due diligence to ensure (our) responsibility was discharged".

We go to great lengths to meet these responsibilities – I talked

#### "THERE'S A REAL IRONY THAT IT IS US WHO SHOULD HAVE BEEN ON THE RECEIVING END OF A COMPLAINT"

about some of the processes in my page in the programme for the Scunthorpe game – but they can be undermined by a small number of fans. And if you read the FA Rules, you will see that they apply to fans both inside and outside the stadium on a matchday.

By now you can probably guess where this is going. We have never had any problems at this stadium when opposing players leave the ground, but following recent allegations (which I'm not going to go into in detail) we are now obliged to put security on the players' door to ensure that they leave safe from abuse. We have never needed to do this

before. The cost is not the issue, but the potential damage to our reputation is serious and there is also potential for being subjected to a charge with an accompanying fine — or worse — from the regulatory bodies. So just how do people who indulge even in "banter" towards opposing players off the pitch think they are helping the club?

At a recent away game Eileen and I went to stand behind the goal. Less than two minutes into

the game I heard one of our fans obscenely abusing the opposition goalkeeper. Apart from wondering what the keeper had done to deserve this, other than putting on his goalie's

jumper, I was very aware that we, as a board, are responsible for this fan's behaviour and if we don't discourage it we could be subject to a charge from the FA.

From time to time we suffer appalling behaviour from visiting clubs, so there's a real irony that it is us who should have been on the receiving end of a complaint. As a result of this complaint, we will have to look again at what we can do and need to do about obscene and abusive language. We will be realistic and recognise that in times of frustration or excitement there will be a lot of "language" – but we do need to protect the club from excess.

Enjoy the game.



### **CLUB NEWS**

#### HALF-SEASON TICKETS

AFC Wimbledon half-season tickets are now on sale.

If you want to be sure of seeing the Dons' home games for the rest of the season, and are not already a season-ticket holder, then the best way is to buy a half-season ticket. That way, you can see all 12 of AFC Wimbledon's post-Christmas home npower League 2 matches, starting with the game against Oxford United on Boxing Day.

Half-season tickets are available for the John Smith's Stand and Kingston Road End and cost £135 for adults. Other prices are: Concessions £80; Young Adults £40; Under-16s £15.

These half-season tickets will guarantee your entry to the matches that will determine the promotion and playoff places for npower League 2 in 2011/12.

Fans who apply and pay by Thursday 8 December may also attend the Accrington Stanley game at no additional charge – please enquire at the office for details (020 8547 3528).

You can collect an application form from the complimentary tickets window before or after today's game. Alternatively you can download a copy from the official website or call at the club's office to collect one, between 9.30 am and 5.00 pm on weekdays.

If you would like to pay for your half-season ticket in monthly instalments by direct debit, please ask the office for details.

#### NARROW DEFEAT IN FA YOUTH CUP

The Dons' youth team were put out of the FA Youth Cup last Tuesday night at The Cherry Red Records Stadium by a strong Bristol Rovers side.

The Pirates went ahead in the opening minutes and doubled their lead close to half-time. Wimbledon struck back almost immediately with a goal from Andre Morgan, but despite piling on the pressure in the second half they failed to change the scoreline.



Andre Morgan scores for the Dons against Bristol Rovers

#### MIKE RAYNER'S INJURY NOTES

At the time of writing, **Gareth Gwillim** had returned to training and we were aiming for him to have played 45 minutes against Tooting & Mitcham in the Surrey Senior Cup last Tuesday. If there was no reaction, he would have trained Thursday and Friday and will start to become available for full selection.

Sammy Moore received a heavy impact blow to his foot and ankle against Scunthorpe last Saturday. The area became very swollen, although the swelling has since been settling day by day. We will be monitoring his progress closely to assess whether he will be fit for today's game.

Kieran Djilali's hamstring pain has been shown to be more nerve tightness with no evidence of a muscle strain. At the time of writing he was responding very well to treatment, and I am hopeful he will be back running again next week. Once he is able to run I will be sending him for video analysis of his gait.

Mat Mitchel-King has been increasing his running progressions without reaction. We hope that he will be able to return to training next week.



#### **FA CUP DRAW**

In the draw for the Second Round of the FA Cup with Budweiser, the winners of the replay between the Dons and Scunthorpe next Tuesday were given an away tie at Bradford City, to be played on 3 December.

#### **BAN FOR JAMIE**

Jamie Stewart misses today's game, having received a one-match ban for collecting five bookings.

#### DONS' SHORTS...

#### **GOLDEN GOALS**

There were no goals in the game last Saturday against Scunthorpe United, and the £100 first prize was won by Ed Smith, holder of the ticket for a 0–0 final score. There was no second prize, so £25 has been added to the amount raised on the day.

Barnet: The £100 first prize – for scorer number 11 on the team sheet, in the 45th minute – has now been claimed by John Butcher.

So far this season, sales of Golden Goal tickets have raised £5,757 for the Dons Trust Stadium Fund. In all, £126,911 has been raised since sales began in August 2002.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY MATT

Congratulations to season-ticket holder Matthew Couper, who celebrated his 40th birthday yesterday. Matthew is famed for writing the AFC Wimbledon musical A Fans' Club. He was also a mascot for Wimbledon against Hull City in 1983.



For Dons fan Micky Fernandes, who played for the reserves in our Ryman League days and made one firstteam appearance, last Saturday was the 1,000th AFC Wimbledon game he has watched (counting all the Dons sides). To mark the occasion he was presented with a shirt signed by all the first-team squad.

#### KIDS GO FREE FOR STANLEY

For our forthcoming home npower League 2 fixture against Accrington Stanley on Saturday 10 December, all under-16s will be admitted free of charge to the terraces, subject to the availability of places in the various stands. Proof of age may be asked for.

Please publicise this offer and help to make it a bumper attendance at our last scheduled first-team game before Christmas. Kick-off is at the usual time, 3.00 pm.

#### DONS PROGRESS IN CUP

Last Wednesday, AFC
Wimbledon won their Surrey
Senior Cup Second Round tie
2–1 against Tooting & Mitcham
United in front of a crowd of
319 at Imperial Fields. Louie
Theopanous opened the
scoring and Ryan Jackson
added a second before Tooting
replied. In the Third Round the
Dons will play the winner of
the tie between Molesey and
Corinthian-Casuals (date to
be announced).



Alan Keen making a speech in the House of Commons

#### **ALAN KEEN MP**

It is with sadness that we heard of the death of Alan Keen, the Labour MP for Feltham and Heston, at the age of 73 after a long battle with cancer. You may wonder why you are reading about

a Labour MP in your football programme today, especially as this particular MP was, along with his wife Ann, branded "Mr and Mrs Expenses" over their "use" of the expenses system with regard to their second home.

It's because Alan Keen was passionate about football. Before becoming an MP, he worked as a football scout for Middlesbrough for 18 years. Alan was particularly supportive of AFC Wimbledon, especially during the early days, and before the formation of AFC Wimbledon he was highly supportive of the Dons Trust and Supporters Direct.

Alan chaired the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Football, and was a member of the Commons Culture, Media & Sports Committee. He frequently spoke up for grassroots football and fans in Parliament and helped to conduct two inquiries into English football governance.

Our condolences go to his wife Ann.





10th DECEMBER 2011

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## LOOKING TO GET BETTER ALL THE TIME

THE DONS HAVE TO PLAY THEIR OWN BRAND OF FOOTBALL IF THEY WANT TO SUCCEED IN THE LONGER TERM, SAYS MANAGER TERRY BROWN, OH, AND IT'S NICE TO BE BACK.



FROM THE DUGOUT

OOD AFTERNOON AND A WARM welcome to Paulo Canio and his players for today's important league fixture. Swindon come to us in great form, sitting in sixth position in the league and having dispatched a very good Huddersfield Town side 4-1 on Saturday in the FA Cup to earn themselves a Second Round tie at Colchester. Before that they edged past us in the Johnstone's Paint Trophy on penalties after the sides finished the 90 minutes level.

Our current form has been patchy over the past month or so. Four consecutive league wins were followed by three consecutive defeats in which we conceded 12 goals. After the defeat at Torquay we

focused on making the back four more solid and determined to keep some clean sheets. This has largely been successful over the past four games, but like most things in life it has come at a price: only two goals conceded in those four games has to be measured against only two goals scored.

The midfield in particular has been a lot more resilient defensively but at the expense of some attacking flair. The message to our players is a simple one: in this league the concentration levels, especially in defence, have to improve. However, do



#### "THE MESSAGE TO OUR PLAYERS IS A SIMPLE ONE: IN THIS LEAGUE THE CONCENTRATION LEVELS, ESPECIALLY IN DEFENCE, HAVE TO IMPROVE"



not lose sight of the fact that when we play our own game with courage and commitment we need fear nobody. Cheltenham Town, Bradford City, Gillingham and Morecambe were dispatched by playing fast, attacking football, scoring 11 goals in the process.

I want the Dons to be playing their football with a smile on their face and playing to our strengths rather than worrying about what our opponents might be doing. We will suffer defeats some of them heavy, but this new

learning curve on our nine-year journey will stand us in good stead for our future success. The continuity of our playing staff and the belief the management team has in our young players will allow our

squad to grow at a pace we can afford.

I would like to close on a personal note and thank the supporters and everyone at the club for all their good wishes during a difficult period for my family. My wife Susan is currently recovering from surgery and has told me that it's about time we started to win some games again.

It's nice to be back. Thanks for your support.

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#### Hi boys and girls!

After the recent cup games we are back to the league today as we take on Swindon Town. We played them at their ground recently and lost on penalties, so let's hope we can improve on that today! Please keep sending in your photographs and drawings – I need lots to cover my burrow walls and to put on this page. Today I've put together a quiz for you. Please email or post your answers to me – the first correct answer pulled out of my hat on 10 December will win a prize. Good luck! Come on you Dons!

#### Haydon the Womble

#### Junior Dons' birthdays

Congratulations to all the Junior Dons who have celebrated their birthdays recently.

Callum Castling	13
Ben Clark	13
Christopher Vlietinck	15
Issa Soulemane	15
David Skone	16
Charlie Smith	10
Cala Thornton	14
Ella Simpson	5
Ben Fitzgerald	10
Billy Frost	15
George Oakley	16
Syrus Stewart	14
Anton Ostermeier	4
Tanaka Gabaza	13

My burrow walls are still looking a bit bare, so please send your photos, paintings and drawings to Haydon@ afcwimbledon.co.uk or The Burrow, c/o AFC Wimbledon, Jack Goodchild Way, 422a Kingston Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 3PB.

#### JOIN THE JUNIOR DONS!

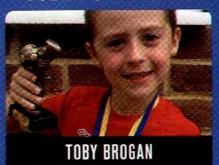
If you would like to become a Junior Don (for under-16s it costs £10), please email membership@ thedonstrust.org. By being a member you'll get a birthday card and a Christmas card signed by the players, and I will mention your birthday on this page.



Can you find the five players' names hidden in the word search square? Some might go backwards, upwards or diagonally, so look carefully. If you spot the names, email them to me along with your name, age, address and a contact

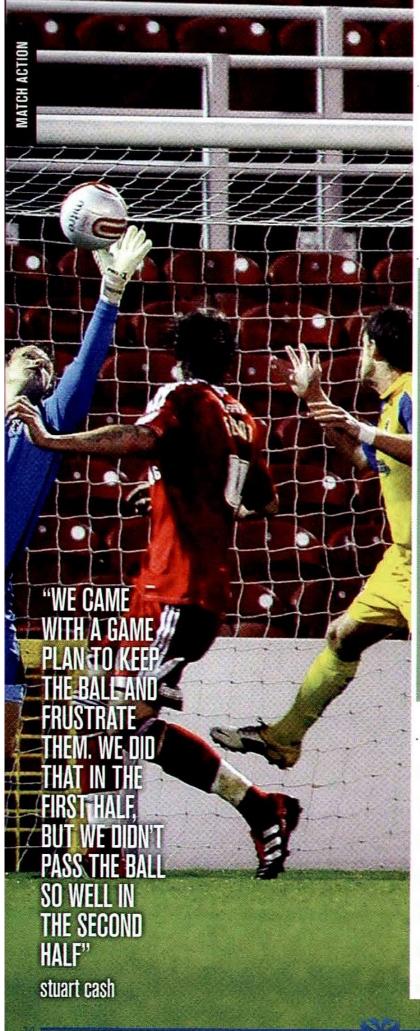
telephone number, at Haydon@ afcwimbledon.co.uk or you can copy and post the page to me at the address below. I need to receive them by Saturday 10 December. The first correct entry pulled out of my hat will win a prize!

#### TODAY'S MASCOT



Seven-year-old Toby is from Rudgwick, West Sussex and has a season ticket for the Tempest End. He watches the Dons with his dad Kevin, godfather Jon, grandad and younger brother Edward. Toby's first Wimbledon game was the 3–2 win at Horsham in 2004, when he was just six weeks old.

His hobbies include attending Beaver Scouts, karate and golf. He plays in defence for Rudgwick Juniors FC Under-8s in the Horsham & District league. Toby's favourite footballers are Brett Johnson and Lionel Messi. He is joined today by his parents, brother and sister, grandparents, uncles and aunties, cousins and friends!



Tuesday 8 Novem ber 2011

Johnstone's Paint Trophy • The County Ground Attendance: 4,329



INDON 3-1 Own on Pens



AFC Wimbledon

Risser 68

Yussuff 82

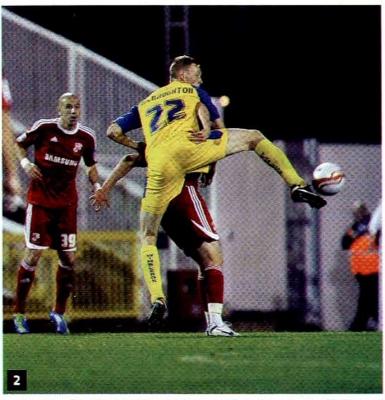


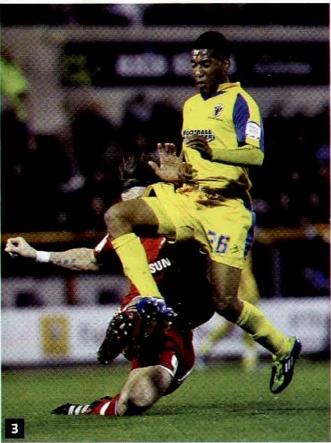


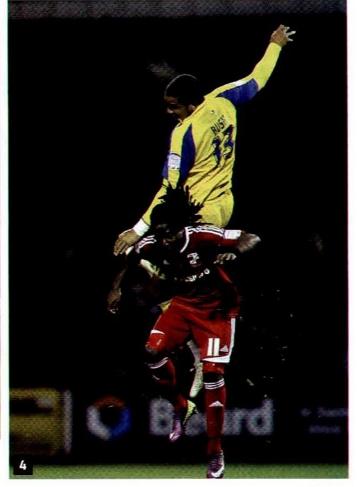
Kennedy, McCormack Turner, L. Moore











Left. Seb Brown palms the ball away to safety

- 1. Ricky Wellard jumps high to win a header
- 2. Callum McNaughton's rearguard action
- 3. James Mulley is struck by Aden Flint
- 4. Chris Bush reaches new heights

Saturday 12 November 2011 The FA Cup with Budweiser The Cherry Red Records Stadium Attendance: 2,933



0 - 0



AFC WIMBLEDON

SCUNTHORPE United



#### Unused subs

Turner, Mulley, Minshull, L. Moore Byrne, Robertson, Norwood, Wint, Palmer, Johnstone

SHOTS ON TARGET











Left. Brett Johnson beats Bobby Grant to the ball

- 1. Ryan Jackson at full stretch
- 2. The Dons' defensive wall does its job
- 3. Christian Jolley keeps the Iron defence guessing
- 4. Sammy Moore man of steel

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## COMMUNITY FOOTBALL SCHEME FRUST



### WONDERLAND AND WORKSHOPS

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY ADMINISTRATOR DAN STEVENS HAS NEWS OF THE CLUB'S PARTICIPATION IN NEXT WEEK'S WINTER WONDERLAND EVENING IN WIMBLEDON AND TWO IMPORTANT NEW COMMUNITY INITIATIVES.

TH JUST OVER A month to go to Christmas. the festive period is about to begin. For the club, the most notable event at this time is Winter Wonderland. which this year takes place on Thursday 24 November. The local community will gather in Wimbledon town centre to see the switching on of the Christmas lights, the firework display on the roof of the Centre Court shopping centre, and the parade from one end of the

high street to the other. It would be great to see plenty of AFC Wimbledon colours on show among the thousands of people expected to attend, promoting our club in the very heart of our own home town.

The Community Football Scheme will be running our inflatable shooting game which always proves to be popular at public events. We will be joined on the piazza (the pedestrianised area outside Morrisons

and the Odeon cinema) by the youth and first-team squads, and of course Haydon the Womble, before they set off on the parade. There will be plenty of other stalls and activities, so make sure you come down to Winter Wonderland this Thursday for what is always a very enjoyable evening of entertainment! The event gets under way at 5.00 pm and will finish at around 8.00 pm.

At what is a busy time of year for the CFS, we have a

few other events coming up that we would like to bring to your attention. Being promoted to the Football League has given us many more opportunities to be involved with the community. In recent programmes we've mentioned the AFC Wimbledon npower Football League Girls Cup (for Under-13 girls) and npower Football League Kids Cup (Under-11 boys) for schools that are taking place on Monday 28 November and Thursday 1 December, respectively. We are also now working on two further projects: the Respect programme and What's Your Goal?

Many of you will be familiar with some aspects of the Respect programme - you may have seen the advert where Rav Winstone takes the role of a dad watching his son play football, highlighting the type of behaviour by parents that has no place in football. The campaign goes much deeper than that, using football as a



Coaches Filipe Goncalves, Stephen Quinn, Adam Wicks and Scott Lockwood with the "players of the day" at Wimbledon Park



model to promote respect in everyday life and in all areas of society. The CFS will be putting on Respect workshops for Year 6 classes in local primary schools, with three main aims: to help children identify unacceptable behaviour and its effect on others, to develop an understanding of respect and how this can be implemented in daily life, and to see situations from other people's perspectives.

What's Your Goal? is a football-based initiative that has been launched to get young people to think about their future careers. In our case, there will be the opportunity for students to apply for up to five job roles at the club over a four-day work experience placement



during the 2012 Easter holidays. This will be after we have visited schools and delivered workshops to students in Years 10 and 11 (ages 14 to 16) about their possible future careers and job applications. The programme aims to build on young people's love of football to get them thinking about their career

opportunities and skills by experiencing what it is like to work in the world of football.

The Respect programme and What's Your Goal? will both commence at the start of 2012. These projects represent a fantastic opportunity for youngsters to benefit from their local football club, and are a great chance for AFC Wimbledon to have a positive impact on young people's lives. As we always say, if you would like a school you are linked with to get involved with either of these initiatives, please do contact us (contact details are below).

Our Saturday Football Club and Future Dons courses are continuing to run every Saturday morning from 10.00 am to 11.30 am, and have proved to be so popular down at Wimbledon Park this term that we often have to change to five groups instead of the usual four. It would be great to see you down there - all the information on our current courses is to be found on the right of this page.

Enjoy today's game, and remember to mark Thursday 24 November in your diary for Winter Wonderland.

#### **CURRENT COURSES (BLOCK 2)**

Sat 5 Nov to Sat 17 Dec Second half of the autumn term

#### SATURDAY FOOTBALL CLUB

Ages 4-14

Sat 5 Nov to Sat 17 Dec (seven sessions)

Every Saturday during school term time

Wimbledon Park

Revelstoke Road, London, SW18 5NN

10.00 am to 11.30 am

£6 per session: just turn up on the day

#### **FUTURE DONS**

School years Reception and Year 1

Sat 5 Nov to Sat 17 Dec (seven sessions)

Every Saturday during school term time

King's College London Sports Ground Windsor Avenue, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 5HA

10.00 am to 11.30 am

£6 per session: just turn up on the day

#### COURSES COMING UP (BLOCK 3)

SATURDAY FOOTBALL CLUB AND FUTURE DONS

Courses begin on Sat 7 Jan 2012



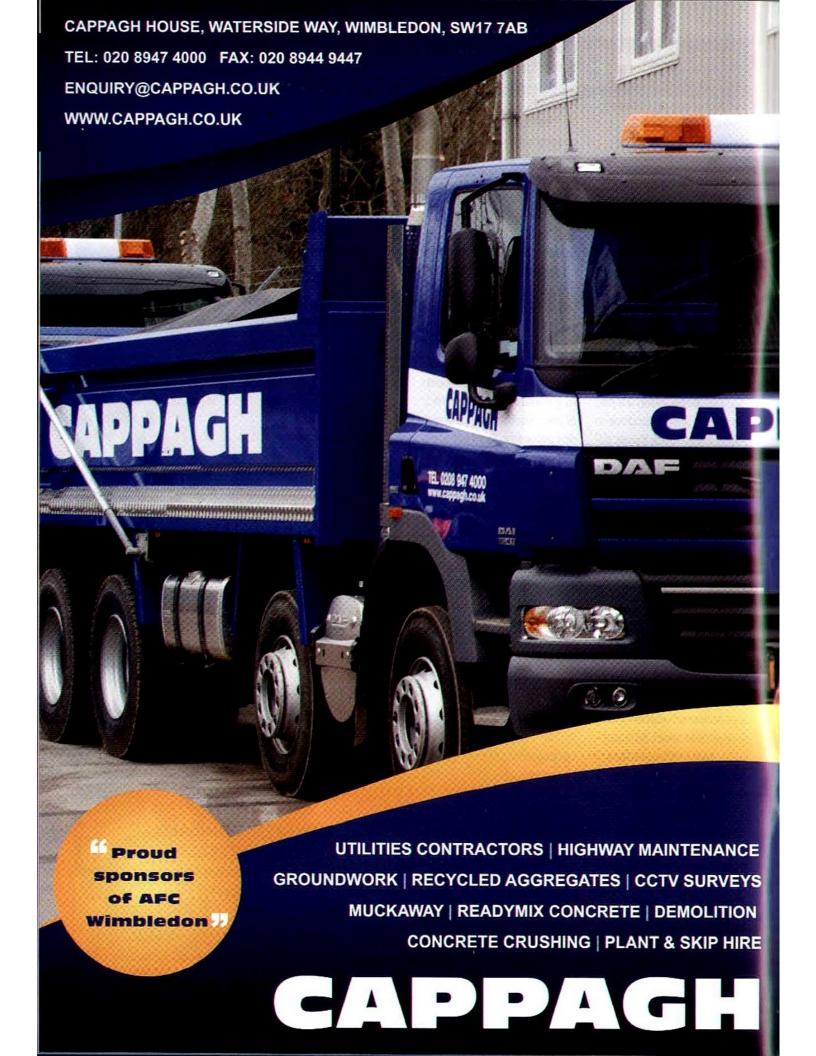
CHARTER STANDARD
COMMUNITY CLUB

For more information about the courses and the Community Football Scheme, see our page on the official website: www.afcwimbledon.co.uk and click on the "Community" tab

Contact us: communityfootball@afcwimbledon.co.uk call: 020 8974 5712

Follow us on Twitter: @afcwimbledon.cfs





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## SAMMY MOORE

## Moore Questions and Answers

SAMMY MOORE, A SUMMER 2010 CAPTURE FROM DOVER, IS APPROACHING 50 APPEARANCES FOR THE DONS AND HE'S MADE THE MIDFIELD ANCHOR ROLE HIS OWN. HAVING RECOVERED FROM THAT BAD LEG INJURY AT THE END OF LAST SEASON, HE WAS CLATTERED LAST SATURDAY AND HAS BEEN FIGHTING TO GET FIT FOR TODAY.

one for Sammy Moore as he battled to get fit for today's game. "I'm doubtful for Saturday," he told us earlier this week. "I have loads of bruising on my metatarsal and I'm having treatment each morning with Mike Rayner. I passed a late fitness test last Saturday and I'm desperate to be fit to face Swindon – a decision will probably be made on the day of the game."

Having established himself in the midfield anchor role, Sammy does not want to miss out – competition for a starting place is currently very fierce. "I've really enjoyed playing in front of the back four. It's a role I played when I was a kid at Chelsea and it seems to suit me. It helps playing ahead of someone as experienced as Jamie Stuart – he's always talking to me and telling me what to do. I've been

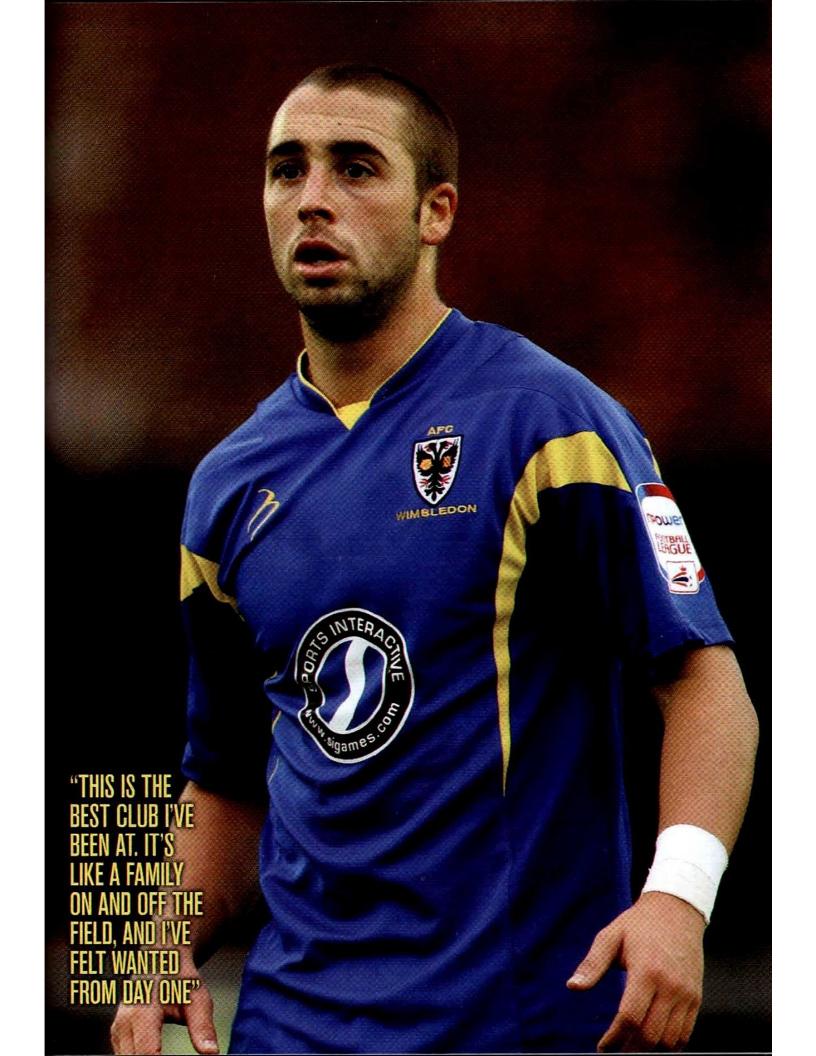
pleased with my performance since I moved there."

As a keen student of the game, he keeps his eye on what is happening elsewhere. He caught the highlights of the international against Spain last Saturday, and not surprisingly he was impressed with the man who plays in the same position for England, Scott Parker. "His work rate was magnificent. He broke the play up and then looked for a simple pass. If we can beat a team as good as Spain, we must have a chance in the Euros."

After Sammy was substitute for the first few games this season, Terry Brown brought the 24-yearold into the starting XI at Plymouth. He was instrumental in a fine win at Home Park and since then has been almost ever present. "We're delighted with how we've adapted to League 2. Everyone was on a high after our promotion summer, and we were determined to do well. We did start well but we've had some mixed results recently. We need to become more consistent as a team, especially at home."

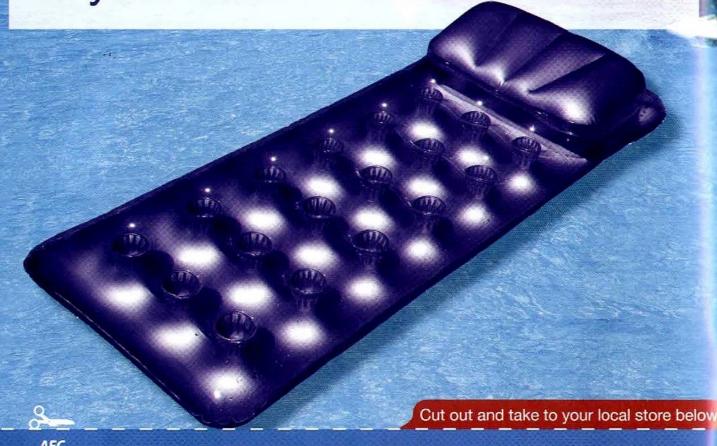
Sammy came back for preseason training super-fit, having kicked his heels for three months after a nasty injury against Kidderminster Harriers ended his last campaign prematurely. "It was frustrating to have to sit and watch when I was desperate to be out there with the lads, but I was as delighted as everyone else when we won up in Manchester. When I joined the club, Bass and Cashy told me I'd be a Football League player – and they weren't wrong!"

His career with the Dons is a second coming for the Kent-born midfielder, who made a single first-team appearance for Ipswich





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as a youngster. He went on to play a few games for Brentford before dropping down into non-league. "I took two steps back in order to move two forward when I joined Dover. I really enjoyed my time there, but my ambition ever since I was a kid has been to play in the League. This is the best club I've been at. It's like a family on and off the field, and I've felt wanted from day one."

After commuting in every day from Kent last year, Sammy moved into the local area in the summer. "I'm sharing a house with Jolls [Christian Jolley], Fraser Franks and Bushy [Chris Bush]. It's fantastic being just five minutes from training. It means I can get up at 8.30 now rather than 6.30 like I did all last year!

"Jolls is head of the house, and we make sure we have meals together. We keep it nice and tidy. It's working out well between the four of us. I got to know Fraser really well when we were doing rehab together after I dislocated my knee. He's been out on loan with Hayes & Yeading this year and they wanted him to stay on as he'd done so well, but he's come back as he wants to fight for his place here. It's great to see him back.

"Everyone knows how well Jolls has done this year. I wasn't really surprised because he's been so determined to keep improving every aspect of his game. He and Jack Midson have formed a lethal partnership up front, and his pace frightens teams. One of the differences in this league is that clubs scout each other properly, and they've started double-marking Jolls. He's having to learn to adapt and find more space."

Sammy is frustrated that the Dons have drawn so many recent games. "I just think we need a little more quality in the final third. We've done well against every team we've played this year, but

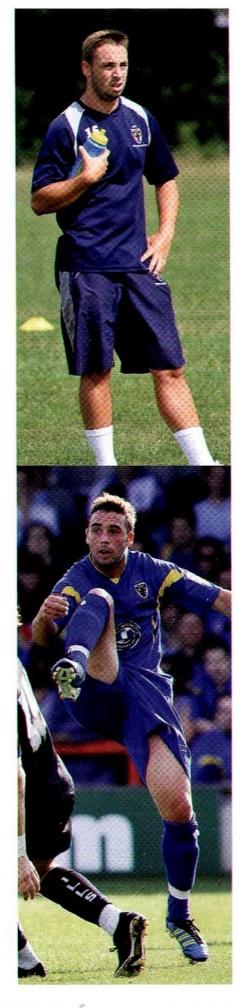
it was disappointing not to beat
Barnet two Saturdays ago. In my
new position I don't get forward
so much, so I was really pleased to
score from inside the box. One of
my best mates in the game – Graz
[Giuliano Grazioli] – is their assistant
manager, and he wasn't talking to
me after the game!"

After the draw at home to Scunthorpe last week, Sammy is upbeat about the team's chances in the replay. "Everyone knows that the FA Cup is the best competition in the world, and we'd all love to be in the hat in the New Year. We did well last week against a team who've just come down from the Championship. Seb made a few good saves, but we could have nicked it at the end. There's no reason why we can't go up there and win it.

"If we do, then I fancy our chances against Bradford in the next round as we've already beaten them away – our performance up there was one of our best this season." And who would he like in the Third Round? "I'm a West Ham fan, so I'd love to play the Hammers, but it would be fantastic to play against any of the big four. Arsenal or Man United would be a dream come true."

For now, though, Sammy is concentrating on getting AFC Wimbledon enough points to thrive in League 2. "The game against Swindon will be really hard. I spoke to one of my mates, who plays for Huddersfield, and he told me they were passed off the pitch in the FA Cup last Saturday. We will have to play well to win."

After nearly 50 games for the Dons, Sammy Moore has become a key member of the side. "Like every player I want to play as a high as I can, and I hope to move up with AFC Wimbledon. In the long term there's no reason why we can't make the Championship. This club is set up to succeed."



THE FRIENDS OF THE DONS TRUST PRESENT

# CHRISTMAS DISCO KARAOKE PARTY

**SATURDAY 17TH DECEMBER** 

CHERRY RED RECORDS STADIUM

### Back by popular demand!

Come along to celebrate the festive season with your friends, fellow supporters and fans' favourites Jon Main, Mikey Haswell, Elliott Godfrey, plus maybe one or two surprise guests, as we celebrate our 10th Christmas together since the formation of AFC Wimbledon.

The party starts at 8pm, with carriages at 1am to allow plenty of time for those travelling to Rotherham that day to join in the fun upon their return.

Tickets £10 each (including a cold buffet) on sale NOW from the Dons Trust Table.

Buy your ticket on or before Saturday 19th November and receive a voucher for a shot for only £1 on the night\*

\*over 18's only, subject to sight of valid ID, no cash or drink alternative

## MY VOICE LONDON

BACK IN SEPTEMBER, DONS TRUST MEMBERS VOTED FOR THE CHARITIES THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO FUNDRAISE AT ONE OF OUR HOME MATCHES. TODAY'S CHARITY IS WIMBLEDON-BASED MY VOICE LONDON. PLEASE READ ABOUT THE WORK THEY DO AND DIP INTO YOUR POCKETS FOR THEM TODAY.

Wimbledon is dedicated to its local community, particularly the younger generation. My Voice London works throughout South London with children from 7 to 19. Working through mentors, they motivate underachieving children to complete their education, enabling them to move forward to further studies or to successfully enter the workplace, and accept a role in society.

Often, the children are vulnerable, with difficult backgrounds, and face extreme challenges, like Deano: "When I was nine I left school and done crime and got in trouble with the police a lot and done things I shouldn't do, and you gave me a mentor. He changed my life. Without you I would be in prison or dead."

The challenges

facing the children that My Voice London works with can be wideranging, but every one of them has a need to stop and take stock of their lives, identify areas they want

to change, and find solutions for themselves. My Voice London and their mentors provide the support and the direction.

In the last year, they have

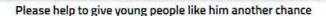
worked with 1,138 children, providing:

- · one-to-one mentoring support
- advocacy for parents/carers in acute circumstances
- support and advice to parents and carers
- employment and related experiences for children, including those with special needs.

During the past year 165 business and community volunteers

- including AFC Wimbledon -

frontline actually to the children, no meetings to discu Unemploymer beneficially more public sector proje mear be fer children.



supported the work of My Voice London. This summer they helped us to host a mad keen football fan from a local special needs school, following sessions held at the school with some of our first-team players.

As well as providing mentors, My Voice London works with schools throughout South London, helping teachers to implement
MicroSociety. This programme
introduces children, in a very handson way, to their challenges and
opportunities in society and the
real world. One teacher said, "You
are one of the few organisations
actually working with children and
having an effect. You are in the
frontline actually delivering benefit
to the children, not just having
meetings to discuss them."

Unemployment, inflation and

benefit cuts will put families under even more pressure. Cuts in public and voluntary sector funding and projects are likely to mean that there will be fewer places that children and families can go to for support.

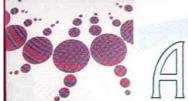
Your club knows first hand what a great job this charity does, and we know how much they need your financial support. We encourage

you, as usual, to give generously.



For more information, go to www.myvoicelondon.org.uk







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## **WELCOME TO THE UNDER-15S**

THE AFC WIMBLEDON UNDER-15 SIDE, SO SUCCESSFUL IN THE PAST AS THEY ROSE THROUGH THE AGE GROUPS TOGETHER, ARE NOW THRIVING AS A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE TEAM PLAYING SIDES FROM OTHER LEAGUE CLUBS IN SOUTH-EAST ENGLAND.

THEIR MANAGER TONY WILSON HAS A PROGRESS REPORT.

Under-15 squad live local to the club. They have played together for the past five years – and three of them were in the team that started as the Under-7s back in 2003. Mark

Robinson and I have heen with them all the way through their progression, and we have recently been joined by Michael Hamilton. who has provided some great coaching ideas to help support their development.

secutive games and remained unbeaten for nearly four years.

This season was always going to be challenging for them as they entered a new era for them and for the club with the arrival of Centre of Excellence footCrawley and a well-regarded Millwall Under-15 side

- three of the boys stepping up to play for the Under-16s and holding their own
- the team's strong attacking style – they have scored in

every game they've played

 a sound defence - they have kept three clean sheets so far this season. All these boys have fantastic potential, and with the continued support from the coaching infrastruc-



The Under-15s on the attack against Wycombe Wanderers

These boys have been the most successful AFC Wimbledon side at youth level, and indeed one of the most successful youth teams in the country. Along the way they have won six league titles and twelve cup finals, and were English Champions in 2010. They won 107 con-

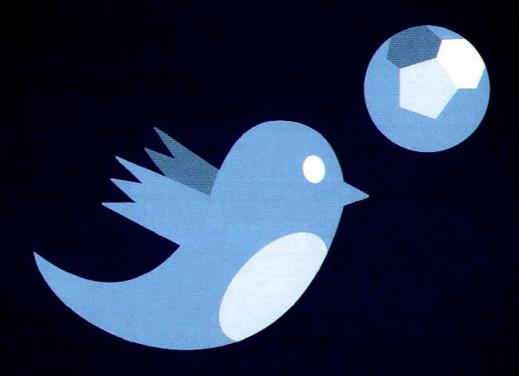
ball. But the boys have coped extremely well, and in their ten games against Football League teams they have won six, drawn two and lost two.

Some of the highlights for the team this year have been:

 very strong performances early in the season against ture that we have at the club for youth players, they may one day be playing for the first team in front of you and your fantastic support.

I'm sure you will join us in giving them a big round of applause as they walk round the pitch in the half-time interval.

The strict rules that govern the operation of Centres of Excellence prevent us from publishing details of results and fixtures and information on individual players as we have done in previous seasons.



### PLAY YOUR PART @FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Have your say and keep up with all the action and official news from Football League HQ, as we tweet the hottest issues of the day. Plus, don't miss out on our regular weekly fun and games with #TuesdayTrivia as well as #WheresJon & #WheresJackie!

To follow us, go to www.twitter.com/football\_league or to send us a message, tweet @football\_league





## REWIND ...LOOKING BACK AT EVENTS THIS WEEK 1, 5, 10 AND 20 YEARS AGO



On 18 November AFC Wimbledon win an epic FA Cup First Round replay 3-2 at Ebbsfleet United. The Dons look to be heading out of the competition until a 94th-minute equaliser from Sammy Moore takes the tie into extra time and he repeats the trick in the 120th minute.

Three days later, the Dons regain top spot in the Blue Square Bet Premier with a 3-2 win over Kettering Town, Mindful of an upcoming FA Cup game against Stevenage live on ITV, Terry Brown rests Danny Kedwell and Steven Gregory. Luke Moore is on target with two goals.

It's not such a good afternoon for the AFC Wimbledon Ladies. who crash 7-1 at home to Borehamwood in a London & South Eastern Regional Women's League game on 14 November. It proves to be the Dons' last league action for two months - when they lose 7-0 in the return game.

Two weeks beforehand, Tonbridge Angels had left Kingsmeadow on the end of a 3-2 defeat in the FA Trophy, but now AFC Wimbledon end up on the wrong end of the same scoreline in a Ryman League encounter. A Mark Green own-goal adds to Scott Fitzgerald's first-half headed opener.

It's one in and one out for Dave Anderson's squad. A month after being placed on the transfer list, midfielder Scott Curley leaves AFC Wimbledon for AFC Hornchurch, while experienced free agent Jermaine Darlington - once of Wimbledon FC, of course - agrees formal terms until the end of the season.



JERMAINE DARLINGTON

The Reserves win 2-1 at Merstham in a Suburban League Southern Division fixture. Casey Maclaren and Dwaine Williams are on target for Wimbledon, who field a few unfamiliar names, including striker Byron Harrison (now plying his trade at League 1 Stevenage after a successful season with Carshalton Athletic].

Late equalisers have been Wimbledon's speciality this season, but the Dons are on the receiving end at home to Walsall when Jorge Leitao's 88th-minute strike gives the Saddlers a point from a 2-2 draw. A David Connolly double almost gives the Dons their first home midweek win in four years.

Seven days after scoring for Sweden against England, 30-year-old midfielder Hakan Mild - capped 74 times for his country becomes a surprise addition to the Wimbledon squad. Putting pen to paper in a deal bringing him over from Gothenburg, Mild says: "It is very exciting and I am delighted to be here."



Wimbledon supporter Laura Smith opens the scoring for the Dons Ladies in their 6-1 win over lowly Berkhamsted in an FA Women's Premier League Southern Division encounter. She adds two more for a memorable hattrick before Sandra Hughes, Julie Kirk and Charlie Simm also weigh in with goals.

On 20 November holders Millwall are dumped out of the FA Youth Cup by a determined Wimbledon side on a bitterly cold evening at Plough Lane. The Lions eliminated the Dons at the quarter-final stage the previous season, but the Dons go through this time with goals by Paul Jennings and Leighton Allen.

Three days later, Wimbledon - missing talismanic captain John Fashanu - and Liverpool - eight months into Graeme Souness's destructive reign both look toothless shadows of their former selves. It comes as no surprise that they grind out a goalless draw at Selhurst Park and remain stuck in mid table.

Wimbledon fail to persuade Fulham coach Ray Lewington to join the club to provide much needed support for Peter Withe, Instead the Dons turn to former Huddersfield and Scunthorpe manager Mick Buxton. "He's very well respected, especially around the northern scene, and can offer us a great deal," explains Withe.



5 YEARS 10 YEARS 20 YEARS





#### AFC WIMBLEDON

. MANAGER: TERRY BROWN

ASST MANAGER: STUART CASH COACH: SIMON BASSEY

PHYSIO: MIKE RAYNER SPORTS THERAPIST: RHIANNON LUKE

COLOURS: BLUE SHIRTS WITH YELLOW TRIM, BLUE SHORTS WITH YELLOW TRIM, BLUE SOCKS

#### OT NOUNINS

MANAGER: PAOLO DI CANIO

ASST MANAGER: FABRIZIO PICCARETA

PHYSIO: PAUL GODFREY FITNESS COACH: CLAUDIO DONATELLI

COLOURS: RED SHIRTS, RED SHORTS, RED SOCKS





2	RYAN JACKSON
	<b>GARETH GWILLIM</b>
4	MAX PORTER
□ □ 6	BRETT JOHNSON
7	SAM HATTON
8	RICKY WELLARD
9	CHARLES ADEMENO
10	JACK MIDSON
	LUKE MOORE
12	<b>CHRISTIAN JOLLEY</b>
13	CHRIS BUSH
14	LEE MINSHULL
15	SAMMY MOORE
	FRASER FRANKS
17	MAT MITCHEL-KING
	<b>BRENDAN KIERNAN</b>
19	KIERAN DJILALI
20	JACK TURNER
21	REECE JONES
22	CALLUM McNAUGHTON
23	RASHID YUSSUFF
26	JAMES MULLEY



Up to and including games played on Saturday 5 November 2011.

			HOME					AWAY						
POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	А	W	D	L	F	А	GD	PTS
1	SOUTHEND UNITED	17	6	2	1	16	6	6	0	2	17	9	18	38
2	CRAWLEY TOWN	17	7	1	1	20	8	4	2	2	14	15	11	36
3	CHELTENHAM TOWN	17	5	1	2	11	6	5	1	3	13	11	7	32
4	SHREWSBURY TOWN	17	6	2	0	14	5	3	2	4	9	12	6	31
5	MORECAMBE	17	3	2	3	17	11	5	4	0	17	6	- 17	30
6	SWINDON TOWN	17	5	2	1	18	7	4	0	5	9	8	12	29
7	OXFORD UNITED	17	4	4	0	17	7	4	1	4	9	9	10	29
В	BURTON ALBION	17	5	3	1	12	8	3	2	3	14	14	4	29
9	GILLINGHAM	17	5	2	1	14	7	3	1	5	17	17	7	27
10	PORT VALE	17	4	1	4	18	17	3	3	2	14	9	5	25
11	AFC WIMBLEDON	17	3	2	4	17	20	4	2	2	9	11	-5	25
12	TORQUAY UNITED	17	3	4	2	20	16	3	2	3	8	9	3	24
13	MACCLESFIELD TOWN	17	4	3	2	12	6	3	0	5	7	11	2	24
14	ROTHERHAM UNITED	17	4	2	2	12	9	2	4	3	18	20	1	24
15	ALDERSHOT TOWN	17	3	1	4	8	7	4	1	4	14	13	2	23
16	BRISTOL ROVERS	17	4	1	4	12	12	2	2	4	11	17	-6	21
17	ACCRINGTON STANLEY	17	4	1	4	10	12	0	6	2	6	10	-6	19
18.	CREWE ALEXANDRA	17	2	1	5	10	14	4	0	5	9	12	-7	19
19	HEREFORD UNITED	17	3	1	5	6	17	1	4	3	8	11	-14	17
20	NORTHAMPTON TOWN	17	1	3	4	б	11	3	1	5	14	17	-8	16
21	BRADFORD CITY	17	3	1	4	11	11	0	4	5	7	14	-7	14
22	DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE	17	2	1	6	9	17	2	0	6	6	13	-15	13
23	BARNET	17	2	2	5	11	19	1	2	5	9	18	-17	13
24	PLYMOUTH ARGYLE	17	1	2	5	6	13	1	1	7	7	21	-21	9

#### OTHER LEAGUE 2 GAMES TODAY

ALDERSHOT TOWN v GILLINGHAM

BRADFORD CITY v ROTHERHAM UNITED

BRISTOL ROVERS v BARNET

CHELTENHAM TOWN v PORT VALE

CRAWLEY TOWN v OXFORD UNITED

DAGENHAM & REDBRIDGE v SOUTHEND UNITED

HEREFORD UNITED v BURTON ALBION

MACCLESFIELD TOWN v ACCRINGTON STANLEY

MORECAMBE v CREWE ALEXANDRA

NORTHAMPTON TOWN v SHREWSBURY TOWN

TORQUAY UNITED v PLYMOUTH ARGYLE

#### **NEXT HOME FIXTURE**

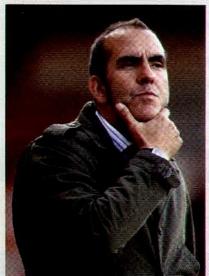
npower LEAGUE 2 SATURDAY 10 DECEMBER KICK-OFF 3.00 PM

AFC WIMBLEDON V Crington Stani F

	APPEARANCES													
	А	APPEARANCES			GOALS	5		APPEARANCES			GOALS			
PLAYER	LGE	CUP	TOTAL	LGE	CUP	TOTAL	PLAYER	LGE	CUP	TOTAL	LGE	CUP	TOTAL	
ADEMENO	3 (8)	- (4)	3 (12)	1	or was a	1	McNAUGHTON	11	2	13				
BROWN	17	3	20				MIDSON	17	4	21	9	1	10	
BUSH	3 (4)	3 (1)	6 (5)				MINSHULL	10 (3)	1 (1)	11 (4)				
DJILALI	3 (3)	2	5 (3)				MITCHEL-KING	-	-	-				
FRANKS	-	1	1				MOORE L	14(1)	1	15 (1)	1	1	2	
GWILLIM	11	1	12	1		1	MOORE S	15 (1)	2(1)	17 (2)	1		1	
HATTON	17	3	20		1	1	MULLEY	1 (3)	2	3 (3)				
JACKSON	- (2)	-(1)	-(3)				PORTER	9 (4)	2 (2)	11 (6)	1		1	
JOLLEY	10 (5)	1	11 (5)	6		6	STUART	17	3	20	1		1	
JOHNSON	9 (2)	3	12 (2)				TURNER		1	1				
JONES	-	-	-				WELLARD	8 (4)	2 (2)	10 (6)	1		1	
KIERNAN	- (2)	-	- (2)				YUSSUFF	11 (3)	4	15 (3)	2	2	4	

## **SWINDON TOWN**





#### MANAGER: PAOLO DI CANIO

Rome-born Paolo Di Canio began his playing career with Lazio in 1985, and moved to Juventus in 1990. After spells with Napoli and AC Milan he came to the UK in 1996 to sign for Celtic, and a year later joined Sheffield Wednesday. He made his mark on English football during his four seasons with West Ham, scoring 48 goals in 118 appearances, including a spectacular strike against Wimbledon in March 2000. Released when the Hammers were relegated from the Premier League, Di Canio spent a season with Charlton and saw out his playing days back in Italy with Lazio and Cisco Roma. In May this year he began his first managerial role, with Swindon Town.

#### 1. MATTIA LANZANO

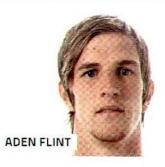
20-year-old Italian keeper signed from Gavorrana in July on a two-year deal. A youth player with Serie B side Piacenza, he did not appear for their first team.

#### 3. CALLUM KENNEDY

Defender who made just 16 appearances in the past four seasons but is now first-choice left-back. Spent time on loan at Gillingham (2010) and Rotherham (2011).

#### 4. ADEN FLINT

Defender signed last January from Alfreton Town, to where he returned on loan from March till the end of the season. While at Alfreton he went on loan to Matlock Town.



#### 5. JOE DEVERA

Right-back who can also play as a centre-back. Di Canio's first signing, last June, he had come through the youth set-up at Barnet to make 177 first-team appearances.

#### 6. ALBERTO COMAZZI

32-year-old Italian defender signed in June from Spezia. A product of AC Milan's youth system, he made 170 appearances for Verona between 2002 and 2007.

#### 7. PAUL CADDIS

Versatile right-sided player, most often appearing at right-back. Signed together with fellow Celtic youth-team graduate Simon Ferry in August 2010. Was made club captain in August this year.

#### 8. SIMON FERRY

Midfielder signed from Celtic in August 2010, following a highly successful season on loan to Swindon in which he made 42 starts. Had been with Celtic since the age of 12.



#### 10. MATT RITCHIE

Attacking left-sided midfielder. A product of Portsmouth's Academy, he had several loan spells, notably with Dagenham & Redbridge in 2008/09. Signed last January following two separate loan spells at Swindon.

#### 11. ETIËNNE ESAIAS

Dutch winger signed in July. Made 65 appearances in three seasons for Sheffield Wednesday, moving there from Vitesse Arnhem. Spent last season in Holland with Helmond Sport.



#### 12. ALAN McCORMACK

Irish midfielder signed in July after his release by Charlton. Started at Preston, switching to Southend in 2006, initially on loan, and appeared 130 times for the Shrimpers before joining Charlton in 2010.

#### 13. OLIVER RISSER

Experienced defensive midfielder/centre-back, signed in July. A Namibian international of German descent, he has played in Germany, Iceland, Norway and Finland.

#### 14. JORDAN PAVETT

Centre-forward who won a professional



# **WHO ARE YOU?**

contract with Swindon in a nationwide competition for amateur players. Formerly a youth player with Colchester.



## 15. NATHAN THOMPSON

Right-back who graduated from Swindon's successful youth team, signing pro forms in 2009. Made his first-team debut at the end of last season.

## 17. ALAN CONNELL

Experienced striker signed in July from Grimsby, for whom he scored 29 goals last season. Former Spurs youth player whose other clubs have included Bournemouth, Hereford and Brentford.

# 18. MARK SCOTT

20-year-old keeper who is yet to make his first-team debut. A former Southampton youth player, he joined Aldershot in 2007 and Swindon a year later.

# 19. MATT CLARK

Young central midfielder who can also operate wide on the right and has come through the Swindon youth ranks. Yet to make a competitive first-team appearance.

## 20. ABDUL SAID

Somalian midfielder who joined from Coventry City on a two-year scholarship in 2009 and signed pro forms in the summer.

# 21. LANDER GABILONDO

Basque winger signed in August. A youth player with Real Sociedad, he played for their B team before joining Osasuna in 2009, notching up a total of 159 games in the Spanish 2B division.

## 23. RAFFAELE DE VITA

Italian striker and former Blackburn youth player signed in June. Failed to make the first team at Ewood Park and signed for Livingstone in 2008, scoring 21 goals in 67 appearances.



## 24. JONATHAN SMITH

Midfielder who joined from York in June. The ex-Morecambe youth player signed for Forest Green in 2007 and moved to York in 2010 after over 100 appearances.

## 26. PHIL SMITH

31-year-old keeper who was a youth player with Millwall. After a handful of first-team appearances he dropped into non-league in 2001. After two seasons with both Margate and Crawley he joined Swindon in 2006.

## 27. ALESSANDRO CIBOCCHI

Italian left-back signed in July. Up to then he had spent his entire career in his native Italy, playing in lower-league and regional football.

## 28. MILES STOREY

17-year-old winger and second-year scholar who has stepped up to the first team. Played youth football with Wolves and Coventry and came to the County Ground in 2010.

# 29 LUKÁŠ MAGERA

Czech target man signed in August. Spent the last few seasons with Politehnica Timişoara in Romania, having played previously for Czech side Banik Ostrava, where he came through the youth system.

# 30. LEIGH BEDWELL

Keeper and second-year scholar who came

up through youth ranks. With Phil Smith and Mark Scott both injured, he began 2011/12 on the first-team bench.

### 32. AHMED ABDULLA

Saudi central midfielder on a four-month loan from West Ham United. Joined the Hammers from Arsenal at age 16 and is yet to appear for their first team.

## 33. JAKE JERVIS

Striker on loan from Birmingham until the end of the year. Made two brief first-team appearances for the Blues and spent time on loan at Hereford and Notts County.

# 35. WES FODERINGHAM

Keeper on a three-month loan from Crystal Palace. A youth player with Fulham, he moved to Palace in 2010 and has been on loan to Bromley, Boreham Wood and Histon.

## 36. LIAM RIDEHALGH

Left-back on loan until January from Huddersfield, where he rose through the youth ranks to make 26 appearances for the first team.

## 37. LOUIS THOMPSON

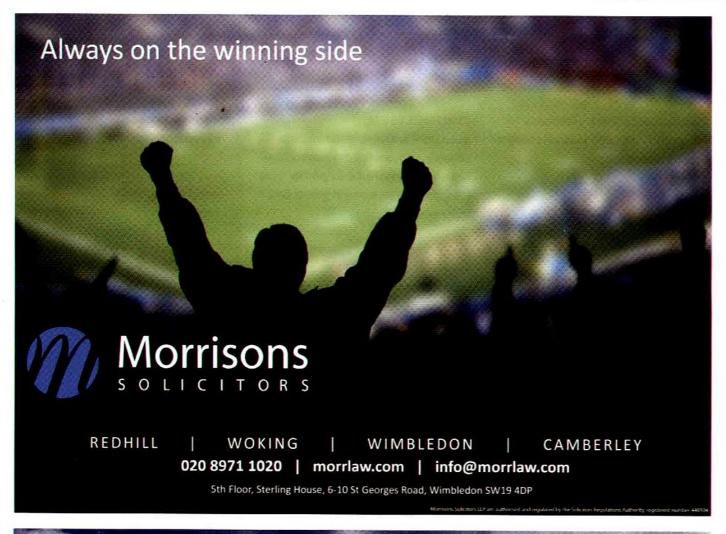
Defender and younger brother of Nathan who broke into the first team this month to make the bench in the FA Cup tie against Huddersfield.

# 39. MEHDI KERROUCHE

Algerian striker signed in July. He has played his football in France, Belgium and Portugal, and most recently for UAE side Al-Oruba, for whom he scored 12 goals in 18 games last season.











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# **WE'VE MET BEFORE**

THE RECENT JOHNSTONE'S PAINT TROPHY MEETING WITH SWINDON TOWN REVIVED ANOTHER RIVALRY FROM THE DAYS OF WIMBLEDON'S FIRST ENTRY INTO LEAGUE FOOTBALL, WRITES STEPHEN CRABTREE.

ou have to go back to the Months just after Mrs Thatcher was elected as Prime Minister for the first clash between the sides who face each other this afternoon. Having been elected to the Football League in the summer of 1977, the Dons won promotion during their second season to set up a Division Three meeting at Plough Lane in October 1979. 4,207 fans watched as two

goals from Alan Cork, one either side of half-time, gave Dario Gradi's side just their fourth win of the campaign.

The Robins were back in town the following month for a League Cup Fourth Round clash played in front of a bumper 7,478 crowd, boosted by a sizeable contingent who had travelled up from the west. Chic Bates hooked home a late winner to earn the visitors a quarter-final tie with Arsenal. Swindon forced a draw at Highbury, and Bob Smith's side won

a memorable replay. They bowed out when Wolves narrowly beat them in a two-legged semi-final.

In mid February the Dons made their debut at the County Ground and lost 2–1; their first foray into the third tier of English football ended in relegation. Two years later, now managed by Dave Bassett, Wimbledon were back, but

both clubs were set for a disappointing campaign. A 4–1 victory in Wiltshire on the opening day should have set Swindon up for a fine season, but by the time of January's 1–1 draw in SW19 both sides were in the bottom four and ended up going down together.

The next season, as the two clubs began their ascents to the very top of the English game, both were among the favourites for promotion. More than 8,000 were in attendance as the Dons rode their luck to win 1–0 at second-placed Swindon in late December. By the time

of the return, a scoreless draw on April Fools Day, the visitors had not won in eight matches while Bassett's boys were in the middle of a 22-game unbeaten run that would carry them to the title.

Wimbledon reached the top flight in 1986, but Swindon's climb took seven years longer. Having led the Robins to promotion in the spring of 1993, Glenn Hoddle

departed for Chelsea and left John Gorman in charge. Sadly, the Scot was unable to keep Wiltshire's finest in the Premiership for more than a season. Goals from John Fashanu, Gary Blissett and Dean Holdsworth gave the Dons an easy 3–0 win at Selhurst Park in November and left the visitors rock bottom.

Wimbledon travelled down the M4 to administer the last rites in late April. A crowd of 12,237 saw Fashanu give the Londoners the lead

with what proved to be the last goal of his eventful eight-year Dons career. Nicky Summerbee levelled before Robbie Earle scored twice to restore the advantage. Warren Barton's own goal with ten minutes left could have set up an exciting finish, but Holdsworth quickly swept home the fourth to complete a victory that confirmed

Swindon's relegation.

The Robins have spent most of the decade and a half since then playing in the third tier of English football, while the Dons' relegation from the Premier League in the millennium year was quickly followed by the formation of a new club in 2002. Swindon dropped out of League 1 last year as AFC Wimbledon competed their remarkable nine-year rise from the nether reaches of the non-league game. The JPT fixture played 11 days ago marked the resumption of an old rivalry.



in October 1979

It proved to be their top-flight swansong. John Fashanu and Lawrie Sanchez, never easy bedfellows in the Crazy Gang team that had stormed into Division One eight years earlier, cut contrasting figures at the County Ground. The scorer of the winner in the 1988 FA Cup final looked isolated as he struggled to make an impression in a sorry-looking Swindon side, while the leader of the Dons' attack for so long scored his last, and possibly best, goal for the club.

It is a measure of how far today's teams have fallen that their last league meeting came in the Premier League. After the excitement of promotion under Glenn Hoddle, Swindon fans had to endure a season of humiliation as John Gorman proved himself unequal to the task of keeping their team up. It fell to the Dons to deliver the killer blow as a dismal Robins' campaign reached its inevitable conclusion.

Having recently beaten both title favourites, Blackburn Rovers and Manchester United, Joe Kinnear's men arrived in Wiltshire in eighth place and hungry to feast on some easier pickings. They had the advantage of that astonishing early goal from Fashanu. Receiving a long clearance, he controlled under pressure from Brian Kilkine, worked the ball onto his right foot and curled the ball over the amazed Nicky Hammond from fully 40 yards.

Both Fashanu and goalkeeper Hans Segers were injured and replaced at half-time. As the

# **CHOICE ENCOUNTER**

23 April 1994 FA Carling Premiership

# SWINDON TOWN

Summerbee 67, Barton (o.g.) 80

# -4

Fashanu 13, Earle 71, 75, Holdsworth 81



The travelling Dons look on as John Scales clears from Shaun Taylor

visitors regrouped, Swindon equalised when Nicky Summerbee fired home after Jan Åge Fjørtoft had flicked on Paul Bodin's cross. But that goal merely spurred the Dons into concerted action, and Robbie Earle scored twice from close range as the home defence panicked when put under pressure from crosses, first from Andy Clarke and then from Warren Barton.

Barton then turned a Summerbee corner past his own keeper, but that just prompted Vinnie Jones to release Dean Holdsworth, and the current Aldershot manager drove home the 92nd goal Swindon had conceded that season. The result rubberstamped the Robins' relegation.

Gorman admitted afterwards that "It wasn't the way to go down. After the pride we had shown in recent weeks, it was our worst performance for a long time."

Fashanu, who joined Aston
Villa that summer, remains a
controversial figure among Dons
supporters, while Sanchez – never
a fans' favourite during his playing
days – gained respect for his
recognition of AFC Wimbledon from
the start. Seventeen years on from
that meeting, "The Mexican" is now
attempting to preserve Barnet's
League status after a nomadic
managerial career, while "Fash
the Bash" maintains a high profile
through his various media roles.

SWINDON TOWN: Hammond, Fenwick, Bodin, Nijholt, Kilkine, Taylor, Horlock, Summerbee, Fjørtoft, Scott, Sanchez.

WIMBLEDON: Segers (Sullivan 45), Barton, Scales, Blackwell, Elkins, Fear, Jones, Earle, Gayle, Fashanu (Clarke 45), Holdsworth.



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Each lottery ticket costs £2 per month, and you can buy as many or as few as you like. Even a single ticket helps the Trust and gives you a chance of winning.

Signing up is easy, and can be done in two ways:

1 Go to www.afcwimbledon.co.uk/donsdraw and sign up online.

2 If you prefer to fill in a paper form, download one from the website or pick one up on a matchday from the Dons Trust table by the back bar.

Return the completed form to the Trust table or post it back to the club.

The Dons Draw is a lottery run by the Dons Trust and registered with, and authorised by, the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames. The draw takes place on or around the 15th of each month.

Entrants must be aged 16 or over, and have a bank account. To minimise costs (and maximise the prizes and fundraising), money is collected from entrants monthly by direct debit.

www.afcwimbledon.co.uk/donsdraw

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If you're an AFC Wimbledon shareholder or season ticket holder, be sure to ask about the 15% Dons Discount.

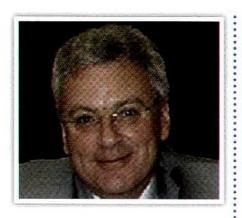
# DONS TRUST BOA

# THEY WANNA BE ELECTED!

weeks left until the close of voting in this year's Dons Trust Board elections, we've invited each of the five candidates to say in a few words why they think they deserve your vote.

The candidates will be out and about today in and around the stadium to answer your questions and talk to you about their ideas and plans should they be elected. They'll all be wearing yellow and blue rosettes so that you can identify them. If you miss them today, you can put questions to them on the special election forum, where all candidates have their own sections and have been engaging with members, at http://s.coop/dtelect.

All Dons Trust members should by now have received a ballot paper, either electronically or in the post, and campaigning has now been taking place online for two weeks. If you haven't received your ballot paper and election communications, or if you want to swap from paper to electronic voting or vice versa, then email elections@ thedonstrust.org as soon as possible.



# DAVID GROWNS

I have been Vice Chair of the Dons Trust Board for the past two years and I'm seeking re-election. I have begun a sustained change in the way we communicate and I want to continue moving things forward with communications, as well as increasing Kingsmeadow's capacity and continuing the search for a new stadium. I believe the experience and knowledge I have gained working on your behalf will enable me to make further significant contributions to the continued success of our club over the next two years. I am committed to using that experience to make sure that the club is run sensibly, sustainably and in all our best interests.

Please continue to give me your support! Thank you.



# NICOLE HAMMOND

When I stood for election two years ago, my main aims were for Wimbledon to remain a fansowned club, and to work towards moving back to Wimbledon. Having chaired the Survey Working Group, it was gratifying to learn that these priorities are also shared by most Dons fans.

It's been a genuine pleasure to serve on a Board which has such common purpose and drive; if reelected, I aim to continue with the group, seeking and incorporating members' input into the new strategy for the Club and Trust. Additionally, I worry that the role of the Trust is being gradually forgotten: we own a League club! Who wouldn't want to be a part of that? I intend to increase membership by raising the profile of our fantastic ownership model.

REMEMBER... VOTING CLO



# RD ELECTION









With the election in full swing, many will have had a chance to cast votes already. If you've already voted for me, thank you.

I believe being a Trust member is an important part of being a Wimbledon fan, and I'd like the opportunity to play my part on the Board to ensure our club is run in the best interests of us all.

We've achieved so much together – more than any of us would have dared wish for – but we still have dreams of a home in Wimbledon, and I would like to represent your views and opinions as we continue our journey.

I hope I can win your support in this election. I can always be reached on zoelinkson@ blueyonder.co.uk if you have questions for me.





If you do me the honour of reelecting me, my priorities for my two-year term will be:

- making sure your Board is fully accountable to you
- making sure your Board does its job – managing the Football Club Board
- pressing hard for a return home.

The best way of making these things happen is to have a dynamic Board with the right mix of experience and fresh ideas. Nicole and David have shown their value to the board since being elected, and Zoe has shown through her hard work for the Club and involvement in Trust activities what an asset she would be. I hope you can give me one of your votes, and I hope you can join me in voting for Zoe, Nicole and David.

http://electkris.wordpress.com

# **TOM ADAM**

I have been a member of the Dons: Trust Board for more than nine years. During that time I chaired the Board for over two years, and I also chair the Stadium Working Group. I am seeking re-election for membership of the Dons Trust Board so that I can continue to represent the interests of all members in shaping and discharging the Board's responsibilities as well as : 'seeing the job through" in terms of the further Kingsmeadow development until we can build a new stadium, given that I've been at the heart of our current stadium development and new stadium search. I will also give advice and support, as I have done for several years, in regard to obtaining a new stadium back home in Wimbledon.

# SES AT 5.00PM ON MONDAY 5 DECEMBER



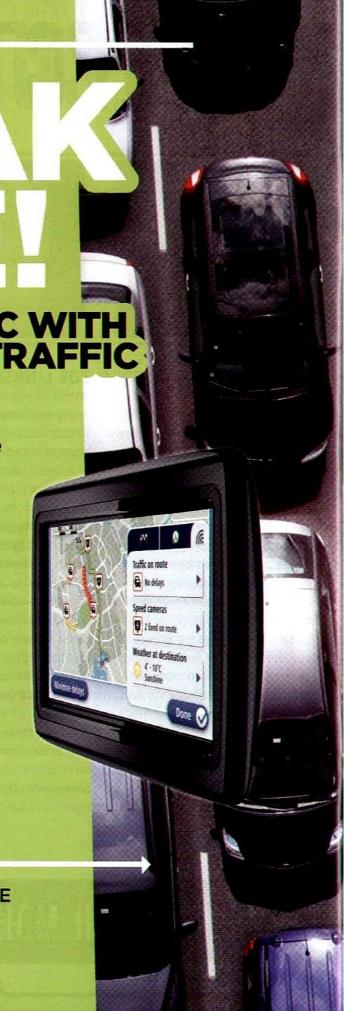


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# **NEWS FROM THE DONS TRUST**

# IT ONLY TOOK NINE YEARS - BUT WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

KATE TERRIERE REPORTS ON THE PROGRESS OF THE STRATEGY REVIEW SHE IS LEADING ON BEHALF OF THE DONS TRUST BOARD.

s some Dons Trust members may be aware, we have been writing the new strategy for the football club. While we have achieved significant success over recent years, we needed to take stock and look at where the club goes next. A strategy is a vital part of running any organisation as it sets the direction of the business – all activities and decision-making should be in line with agreed aims and objectives.

Before we could go about writing the new strategy we felt we should review our performance against our previous strategy, to celebrate where we had met objectives but also to acknowledge where we had not. In September a paper was prepared for December's AGM that set out that performance review, identified our vision and values, and defined our revised aims. These are outlined below:

# VISION

"To maintain supporter ownership of a successful, financially stable, professional football club playing at the heart of our communities."

# VALUES

- Passion and commitment.
- Integrity.
- Open and honest communication.
- Involving people in decisions.
- · Respecting other people's opinions.

We will not forget the past, but will look to the future.

# AIMS

- · Continuing with Trust ownership.
- Ensuring sound financial management and governance.
- Actively engaging and supporting all our communities.
- Maintaining a successful first team through an appropriate supporting player and coaching infrastructure.
- · Obtaining a new stadium.
- · Improving communication.
- Increasing fundraising.

The strategy sets the framework for all activities carried out. Responsibility for delivery is generally shared between the Dons Trust Board and the Football Club Board. The Trust Board may be responsible for some specific actions, but generally it has a strategic role.

We have since been working on developing the objectives that sit below our aims. These go into more detail about what the aims actually mean in practice and the goals that we will work towards. The objectives will provide the foundation of our actions over future years and guide our business decision-making. The strategy is currently being reviewed by the Dons Trust Board and the Football Club Board. The final version, setting out our vision, values, aims and objectives, will be shared with Dons Trust members at the AGM in December.

We are also working on an action plan to support the strategy. The action plan provides a further level of detail setting out clear actions against all objectives and with responsibilities assigned to individuals. It will also summarise the anticipated outputs of each action and the deadlines for delivery. Actions will be split between the Dons Trust Board and the Football Club Board, and each is currently developing their respective action list. This will be a "live" document, so that actions can be added and removed (once complete) as appropriate.

Having produced the strategy, it is important that we keep the momentum going and check our progress against it. We will therefore regularly review our performance against each aim and objective and report this to Trust members. It is proposed that this review will be conducted three times a year – in line with the AGM/SGM cycle.

Our next challenge is to look at governance across the club. We believe that we need clear guidelines on roles and responsibilities, reporting lines and approaches to decision-making. I have been liaising with Supporters Direct to learn from their experiences as well as looking at different models at other clubs so that we can develop the most appropriate and efficient structure for us. We have lots to do, but we made it to the Football League in only nine years, so this part should be simple!

# THE DONS TRUST BOARD

Tom Adam, Simon Bath, Matthew Breach, David Growns, Nicole Hammond, Sean McLaughlin, Iain McNay, Kris Stewart and Kate Terriere.





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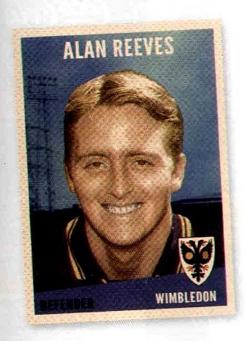
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"REEVESY" SPENT
THE LAST 12 YEARS
OF HIS PLAYING
CAREER WITH
WIMBLEDON AND
SWINDON - WHERE
HE WAS RELEASED
BY ONE ROBINS
MANAGER AND
THEN RE-SIGNED
BY THE NEXT!

ALAN REEVES

IRKENHEAD-BORN ALAN REEVES and his twin brother both played in the Football League - but while Alan was a central defender, David was a striker, with Carlisle and Preston. Alan began in local non-league football with Heswall (alongside his brother) and was signed for a nominal fee by Norwich City in 1988, but he didn't make a first-team appearance for the Canaries and was sent on loan to Gillingham the following season.

A £10,000 fee took Alan back to the North-West with Chester City, and he spent two seasons at Sealand Road before joining Rochdale in 1991. He would prove an immensely popular figure during his four years at Spotland, being voted Player of the Year for 1993/94. when he also featured in the PFA Division 3 team of the season, alongside his twin. Some impressive displays had several teams courting him, but it was a surprise when Wimbledon manager Joe Kinnear smashed the Rochdale transfer record, paying £200,000 to bring him to Selhurst Park as a replacement for the departing John Scales.

Those were big shoes to fill. Reeves found it tough to win a regular place at the heart of the Dons defence when he was competing with homegrown talent in the shape of Dean Blackwell, Chris Perry, Brian McAllister and

# Full Dons debut

10 September 1994 FA Carling Premiership Leicester City (h) W 2–1 Scott Fitzgerald. But what he lacked in top-flight quality, Alan always tried to make up for with endeavour, and he remained a popular character in the dressing room.

In 1997 there was talk of him returning to Norwich as part of a swap deal that would bring Darren Eadie to London. It didn't materialise, and the following year Alan almost moved back to Lancashire with Preston – then managed by former Dons captain Gary Peters – but he eventually signed for Swindon Town on a Bosman free transfer.

He struggled at first to win over the Robins fans, and his fortunes fluctuated under a succession of managers at the County Ground. Steve McMahon signed him, Colin Todd released him - and then Andy King reinstated him as captain! After three red cards in 2002 he lost the armband, but three years later he became Swindon's playercoach and later assistant manager. A broken leg in August 2005 signalled the end of his playing days.

Alan left the club the following year and briefly registered as a player with Sutton United before becoming Scott Fitzgerald's number two at Brentford. When the pair left Griffin Park in April 2007, Alan was unsuccessfully interviewed for the vacant manager's job at Crawley Town. He has since returned to the North-West.

## Dons career stats

Appearances	57
Goals	4



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Coca Cola

















































Burton Albion F.C.



Coca Cola





# tat Pac

# MANAGERIAL RECORDS

## Terry Brown

Played 17 Won 7 Drawn 4 Lost 6 For 26 Against 31 Av Pts/game 1.47 Biggest Win(s) AFC Wimbledon 4 Cheltenham 1 (17/09/2011). Biggest Loss(es) Macclesfield 4 AFC

# Paolo Di Canio

Played 17 Won 9 Drawn 2 Lost 6 For 27 Against 15

Av Pts/game 1.71

Biggest Win(s) Swindon 4 Barnet 0 (24/09/2011). Biggest Loss(es) Burton Albion 2 Swindon 0 (17/09/2011).

# **PRESS** ASSOCIATION

Sport



# MANAGER HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played1	Terry Brown0	Paolo Di Canio0
Draws 1	Goals 1	Goals 1

GAMES SINCE

# Player with the most...

Wimbledon 0 (27/08/2011).

## shots

Jack Midson 26

# shots on target

Jack Midson 15

# shots off target

Christian Jolley 13

## assists

Samuel Hatton 6

# crosses

Samuel

# Hatton 36

fouls Jamie Stuart 20

# free-kicks-won

Sammy Moore 25

# tackles

James Mulley

# Player with the most... shots

Matt Ritchie 42

## shots on target Matt

# Ritchie 24 shots off target

Matt Ritchie 18

# assists

Matt Ritchie 5

# crosses

Callum

# Kennedy 29 fouls

Raffaele De Vita 24

# free-kicks-won

Paul Caddis 34

# tackles

Ahmed Abdulla

7	a win	0
5	a home win	0
3	an away win	0
4	a defeat	9
2	a home defeat	8
2	an away defeat	4
1	a score draw	1
0	a no score draw	3
1	conceding a goal	0
1	scoring a goal	0
4	conceding > 1	7
5	scoring > 1	0
0	keeping a clean sheet	2
0	failing to score	3
9	back to back wins	4
4	back to back defeats	15
0	gaining a point	0

0

9

# SHARP SHOOTERS

losing a point

win by > one

loss by > one

AFC Wimbledon	FL (	Cup	Tot	Swindon	FL C	Cup	To
Jack Midson	9	1	10	Mehdi Kerrouche	6	2	8
Christian Jolley	6	0	6	Matt Ritchie	6	0	6
Rashid Yussuff	2	2	4	Cristian Montano	5	0	5

# TEAM HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played0	AFC Wimbledon wins 0
Draws 0	Goals 0 (0 per game)
0-0's 0	Times failed to score 0

9

Swindon wins .....0 Goals 0 (0 per game) Times failed to score 0

# Biggest League win at AFC Wimbledon for each team:

No wins for AFC Wimbledon

No wins for Swindon

# LEAGUE STATS



11	Position	6
17	Played	17
7	Won	9
4	Drawn	2
6	Lost	6
26	Goals For	27
31	Goals Against	15
25	Points	29



# Record Against Top Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
4	1	2	4	4	0	4	7
	R	ecord	Against E	ottom	Half	of Table	
W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
3	3	4	18	5	2	2	9

# **Record When Scoring First**

VV	D	L	HANK	W	D	L	RANK
5	1	0	17	8	1	1	8
		Rec	ord When	Conce	ding F	First	(C) (C) (C)

### D RANK RANK L 0 5 11

# **Match Scores**

Wins: 2-0[2], 2-1[2], 3-1[1], 3-2[1], 4-1[1], Losses: 0-3[1], 0-4[2], 1-3[1], 2-3[1], 2-5[1], Draws: 0-0[1], 1-1[3]

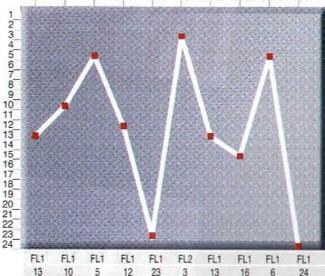
W

Wins: 1-0[1], 2-0[4], 3-0[2], 3-2[1], 4-0[1], Losses: 0-1[2], 0-2[2], 1-2[2],

Draws: 0-0[1], 3-3[1]

# SWINDON - TEN SEASON RECORD

01/02 02/03 03/04 04/05 05/06 06/07 07/08 08/09 09/10 10/11



up to and including 13/11/2011



# ARE YOU AGED 16 · 24?

Chlamydia is a sexually transmitted infection, which often has no symptoms. If left untreated it can lead to serious health problems, such as infectible, (unable to have children). Throughout the contract infectibility (unable to have children). 1 in 10 young people are infected with Chlamydia, but don't know it. lead to serious health problems, such as infertility (unable to have children). Thankfully, Chlamydia is yen; easyle treat with patibletics is very easy to treat with antibiotics.

Why not check yourself with a free self-testing kit?

WANT A FREE CHLAMYDIA TESTING HIT SENT TO YOU? GO TO WWW.CHECKURSELF.ORG.UK

For contact details go to www.checkurself.org.uk





# Stat Pack

# SHARP SHOOTERS

Player	Team	Lge	Cup	Ttl
Izale McLeod	Barnet	9	3	12
Danny Hylton	Aldershot	9	3	12
Lewis Grabban	Rotherham	9	2	11
Justin Richards	Burton Albion	9	1	10
Jack Midson	AFC Wimbledor	9	1	10
Matthew Tubbs	Crawley Town	9	1	10
Wesley Thomas	Bournemth	8	0	8
Billy Kee	Burton Albion	8	0	8
Leon Clarke	Chesterfield	8	0	8

MULEDE TO CEE COMO

WHERE TO S	EE GOAL	.5	(By C	cound)
Ground	Home Team	M	Gls	G/Mt
Cherry Red Records	Wimbledon	9	37	4.11
Plainmoor	Torquay	9	36	4.00
Vale Park	Port Vale	9	35	3.89
Globe Arena	Morecambe	8	28	3.50
Underhill Stadium	Barnet	9	30	3.33
County Ground	Swindon	8	25	3.12
Broadfield Stadium	Crawley Tn	9	28	3.11
Alexandra Stadium	Crewe	8	24	3.00
The Kassam Stadium	Oxford Utd	8	24	3.00
L.B Barking & Dag	Dag & Red	9	26	2.89
Coral Windows	Bradford	8	22	2.75
Memorial Stadium	Bristol Rvs	9	24	2.67
Don Valley Stadium	Rotherham	8	21	2.62
KRBS Priestfield Stad	Gillingham	8	21	2.62
Edgar Street	Hereford	9	23	2.56
Fraser Eagle Stadium	Accrington S	9	22	2.44
Roots Hall	Southend	9	22	2.44
Home Park	Plymouth	8	19	2.38
Greenhous Meadow	Shrewsbury	8	19	2.38
Pirelli Stadium	<b>Burton Albion</b>	9	20	2.22
Whaddon Road Ground	Cheltenham	8	17	2.12
Sixfields Stadium	Northampton	8	17	2.12
Moss Rose Ground	Macclesfield		18	2.00
The EBB Stadium	Aldershot	8	15	1.88

# TEAM LEADERS

Team with the most...

shots on target 117 Southend, shots off target 141 Crawley Town. corners 141 Dag & Red. hit woodwork 8 Aldershot. offsides 61 Shrewsbury. fouls 214 Oxford Utd. yellow cards 36 Southend. red cards 5 Accrington Stanley.

## PLAYER POWER

Player with the most...

Shots 44 Gareth Evans (Rotherham). Shots on target 25 Ryan Hall (Southend). Shots off target 26 Matthew Tubbs (Crawley Town). Assists 9 Ryan Hall (Southend). Crosses 69 Lionel Ainsworth (Shrewsbury). Offsides 26 Izale McLeod (Barnet). Fouls 37 Matt Harrold (Bristol Rvs), Free-kicks won 34 Paul Caddis (Swindon).

# PRESS ASSOCIATION Sport

**GOAL COUNTER** 573 RIGHT FOOT 311 goals 54.3% LEFT FOOT 146 goals 25.5% **HEADERS** 106 goals 18.5%

Own goals 8 (1.4%), Other body part 2 (0.2%)

# QUICK-FIRE GOALS

From the start of a match Ben Tomlinson (Macclesfield vs Morecambe) 0:07

By a substitute after coming on Jeff Goulding (Acc Stanley vs Cheltenham) 0:31

# DISCIPLINARY



3.2 cards per match

0.2 cards per match

# QUICK-FIRE CARDS

From the start of a match Jamie Stuart (Wimbledon vs Bristol Rovers)6:40

By a substitute after coming on Andrew Fleming (Southend vs Morecambe)1:29

# 2011/12 SEASON



In the npower RESULTS

Football League How many times each Two this season there have been result has occurred this 2249 shots on season target, goals home sides score shown 0-0 8

constitute 25.5% of all shots (doesn't include own goals). The woodwork has come to the rescue of the defending side on 84 occasions (the biggest beneficiaries Northampton 7). There have been 60 penalties awarded this season and of those 54 have been scored (a success rate of 90.0%). Gillingham have been awarded most penalties -9. Dag & Red have given most penalties away 7. The team to score the most penalties is Gillingham 8. AFC Wimbledon missed 2 penalties in the npower Football League Two this season.

0-2 12 0-3 6 0-4 3 0-5 1-0 17 1-1 24 1-2 12 1-3 6 1-4 1-5 1-6 2-0 20 2-1 16 2-2 10 2-3 6 2-4 2-5 3 3-0 8 3-1 11 3-2 5 3-3 3 3-4 3-5 3-6 1 4-0 3 4-1 4-2 4-3

4-4

4-5

5-0

5-1

5-2

5-3

5-4

5-5

6-0

0-1 19

# SUB TOTALS

Subs used	1010
Offsides	
Corners	2237
Shots Off Targe	et 2264 i

# BEAT THE TRAFFIC

Total number of goals you would have missed by leaving every match ten minutes early

b

up to and including 13/11/2011



# TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

# IVOR HELLER INTRODUCES TODAY'S MATCHDAY SPONSORS

I'd like to thank the WUP Guestbook Collective for sponsoring today's match against Swindon. WUP, or the Womble Underground Press to give it its full name, should be familiar to many fans as they produce the club's fanzine and provide one of the most active online forums for discussing all matters about the club. I'd like to thank today's group for sponsoring the match, especially David Growns for his help with organising this sponsorship. I would also like to welcome them all to our corporate hospitality. We hope you enjoy the day and that Terry and the boys can get you a result today. For more information about WUP, see the box below.

# MATCH SPONSOR



The WUP Guestbook Collective is a bunch of Dons fans, most of them familiar by their tags to those who frequent the

WUP guestbook (aka The Old Centrals' Repository), who sponsor a game each season. The WUP guestbook is a forum where Dons fans spend their own and their employers' time discussing anything and everything at all hours of the day and night, and at other times too. Why not visit the guestbook (at www.wupgb.co.uk) this evening and share your thoughts about today's performance, or at any other time

and wibble away about whatever you want to. Dons fans from all over the country – and indeed all over the world – gather there. On matchdays the virtual stadium, iPlough Lane, is open at http://stadium.wimbledonstadium.com.

# **BACK IN FASHION**



For everyone who purchased one of our striped New Era fashion scarves, there were two who were disappointed. So we booked additional factory time and are pleased to announce that they are now back in stock. And talking of stock-ins, Christmas products are now on sale as we approach the festive period. The long-awaited car window stickers have also arrived, as have a new range of baby wear. Visit the club shop on matchdays or buy online at www. afcwimbledon.co.uk/shop/shop.php

# BALL SPONSOR



Talbot Productions are the UK's leading corporate production company. Over the past 25 years they have produced more than 600 awards ceremonies, product launches and other events in London and around the world, from Palm Beach to Istanbul, New York to Barcelona. They've also been supporting the Dons since 1990. For more information, see www.talbotproductions.co.uk

# PROGRAMME SPONSOR

# moorad choudhry



The programme sponsor for the fifth season running is Moorad Choudhry, an MD at the Royal Bank of Scotland and a Professor of Finance at the London Metropolitan University. Moorad was inspired by the original Crazy Gang and is a lifelong supporter of the Dons.



# **SCUNTHORPE PRESENTATIONS**

(1) Man of the Match Brett Johnson with match sponsor Signal Solutions. (2) Chris Bush with mascot Darcey O'Shea.





# **COMMERCIAL BREAK**



# WINTER Wonderland 2011

This year, Wimbledon's Christmas celebration, Winter Wonderland, is on Thursday 24 November. It features a

parade through the town centre followed by fireworks from the roof of the Centre Court Shopping Centre.

This is always a fantastic promotional opportunity for the club as several thousand people from the local community in Wimbledon flock to the event.

This year the club will have a presence on the piazza in front of Morrisons and the Odeon cinema, alongside corporate partners Paul Strank Roofing and Jimmy Spices. The club always has a strong presence in the parade, with the first-team players, Haydon the Womble and many of our Centre of Excellence players taking part.

There will be a wide range of family attractions including live entertainment, fairground rides and food stalls. We are also pleased to announce that there will be a post-Winter Wonderland party at Jimmy Spices – see below for a special offer.

We would like as many fans as possible to come to the event and stop by the piazza to mingle with the players and coaching staff. We will also be looking for volunteers to help hand out leaflets to promote the club's upcoming games. If you can spare a couple of hours on the night, please email commercial affection co.uk.



# SPECIAL OFFER FROM JIMMY SPICES

We are really pleased to announce a special offer from corporate partner Jimmy Spices for the post-Winter Wonderland party. Jimmy Spices have given us a limited number of tickets for their full buffet for only £10 each – a discount of £6 on the normal price. Guests of honour will be the first-team squad and coaching staff, and the restaurant have reserved a special area for Dons fans and players. There will also be a very special Dons cake for dessert. To purchase your tickets, visit www.afcwimbledon.co.uk/shop/tickets.



# KIT SPONSORS 2011/12



HOME KIT Tony and Mary

AWAY KIT Iwash Hunt Solicitors

**3RD KIT** 

HOME SOCKS The Whittington Clan

**AWAY SOCKS** 



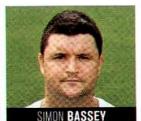
HOME KIT n memory o E.M. and D. Kay

AWAY KIT Strezz Factory Ltd

**3RD KIT** 

HOME SOCKS Mike and Elizabeth Berry

AWAY SOCKS Harriet and Matilda



HOME KIT Eileen

AWAY KIT Paul Strank Roofing Ltd

> 3RD KIT Strezz Factory Ltd

HOME SOCKS Ava and Joshua Bassey

AWAY SOCKS Brian and Carol Hunt



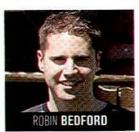
HOME KIT Janice and Graham Williams

AWAY KIT www.wimbledonsw19.com

> **3RD KIT** lames Petrie

HOME SOCKS James Edward Farrow

AWAY SOCKS Thomas "Torntorn" Thomson



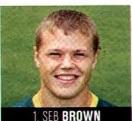
HOME KIT Colin Gales

AWAY KIT Available

**3RD KIT** Available

HOME SOCKS Joshua and Reuben

AWAY SOCKS Words Fail Me ! Podcast



HOME KIT Robert and Liam Sollis

AWAY KIT Diane Neill Mills

GLOVES William and Michael Lonsdale SOCKS Dean "Gherkins" Perkins

and Big Mick Onion



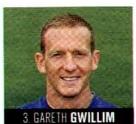
HOME KIT he Iordan Williams team

AWAY KIT

**3RD KIT** 

HOME SOCKS Stephen Cooles

**AWAY SOCKS** Luke, Amelie and Maya



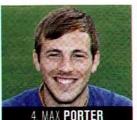
HOME KIT Old Sarun and Bob M

**AWAY KIT** Nick Le Faye

**3RD KIT** "Scribbler" Leach

HOME SOCKS

AWAY SOCKS Ella Louise Farrow



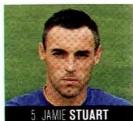
HOME KIT Mark Bunworth

**AWAY KIT** Pat Simon and Ryan **3RD KIT** 

The Harris family, Kent

HOME SOCKS www.wup.me.uk

AWAY SOCKS Wow! Ness is a wild and wonderful wife!



HOME KIT

AWAY KIT Samuel "Tiger" Leach

> 3RD KIT Bernie, Neville Tony and Phil HOME SOCKS Paul Merritt

**AWAY SOCKS** John Lynch



HOME KIT Sharon Matthews

AWAY KIT Barnaby and Oscar Athill 3RD KIT Steve and Part

HOME SOCKS Rob Woodward

AWAY SOCKS Essex Womble



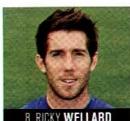
HOME KIT Anuk, Millie and Leela Teasdale

AWAY KIT 3RD KIT

Diana Harri

HOME SOCKS Highland Hobbits

**AWAY SOCKS** Malteser Dons



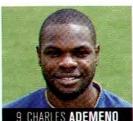
B. RICKY WELLARD

HOME KIT Smitho and Woody AWAY KIT

US Dons HOME SOCKS Down InderDon

**3RD KIT** 

Max Erwood and his Dad



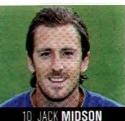
9 CHARLES ADEMENO

HOME KIT In memory of Bernard Whaley AWAY KIT PLC

SRD KIT Wimbledon Shaw Smith

> HOME SOCKS Ben and Jamie

AWAY SOCKS Charlie, Peter and Millie



HOME KIT

Friends and family of Natalie AWAY KIT The Bedfords

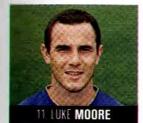
SRD KIT Alex, Max, Joe, Tom and Caits

> HOME SOCKS Trevorwomble

AWAY SOCKS Alex Mitchell



# TO BECOME A KIT SPONSOR, CALL KEITH MCGUINNESS ON 020 8547 3336 OR EMAIL COMMERCIAL@AFCWIMBLEDON.CO.UK



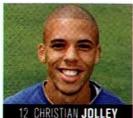
HOME KIT The Linksons

AWAY KIT Cyrus and Clemency

> 3RD KIT Nick and Mike

HOME SOCKS www.afcdons.net

**AWAY SOCKS** Malteser Dons



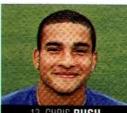
HOME KIT

AWAY KIT

**3RD KIT** Pat and lackie

HOME SOCKS Bailey, Paige and Taya

AWAY SOCKS



13 CHRIS BUSH

HOME KIT Martin and Daniel Riordan AWAY KIT

Ion Harry and Devon West **3RD KIT** 

Steve, Cathy, Emma, Chrissie, Paul. Anne and Lizzie HOME SOCKS

Brewers and Son

AWAY SOCKS Congratulations to Gavin and Alex on their wedding



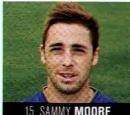
14. LEE MINSHULL

HOME KIT Richard and Steve Lonsdale AWAY KIT

David and Sharon Charle **3RD KIT** 

> HOME SOCKS Rob Cornell

AWAY SOCKS The Pope



15. SAMMY MOORE

HOME KIT Weird & Wonderful World

> **AWAY KIT** Alan and Connie Parker **3RD KIT** Derek and Susan Goodhew

HOME SOCKS Jim, Jan, Mana and Laura Potter

**AWAY SOCKS** George Jones



16. FRASER FRANKS

HOME KIT Jack and Kerry Yeomanson

AWAY KIT Mackey Family (investments) Ltd **3RD KIT** 

Available

HOME SOCKS Neil Messenbird

**AWAY SOCKS** Jonathan Ling



17. MAT MITCHEL-KING

HOME KIT Tima Massey

**AWAY KIT** 

**3RD KIT** 

HOME SOCKS Luke, Rhiannon and Lol Watkins

> **AWAY SOCKS** Mutts



18. BRENDAN KIERNAN

HOME KIT The Harris fami Wimbledon

AWAY KIT Thai Rack Restaurant Gerrards Cross

**3RD KIT** 

HOME SOCKS Mikey and Joey Gleeson

**AWAY SOCKS** George, Molly and Arthur Gleeson



19. KIERAN DJILALI

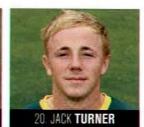
HOME KIT Cretan Dor

AWAY KIT Available

> **3RD KIT** Available

HOME SOCKS Cretan Don

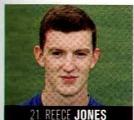
**AWAY SOCKS** Digs, Meaks and Hank Sr



HOME KIT Joe and Roxy

AWAY KIT Available

GLOVES Nathan, Rebecca. Kern and Aidan SOCKS Jill and the cats



HOME KIT Millie and Lola Jezzard

AWAY KIT Matt Jezzard, Mark Murphy and Roy Douglas **SRD KIT** 

Available HOME SOCKS Millie and Lola Jezzard

**AWAY SOCKS** Ollie and Tom Wilson



23. RASHID YUSSUFF

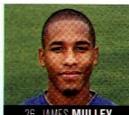
HOME KIT

AWAY KIT SweDons - Pelle, Markus Paul and Henrik SRD KIT

Dennis Beckett HOME SOCKS

Tony, Rachael and Luke

**AWAY SOCKS** Malteser Dons



26. JAMES MULLEY

HOME KIT 911 Womble

AWAY KIT Julian, Pete and Andy-The Gumbo Crew 3RD KIT

HOME SOCKS Mike and Elizabeth Berry

AWAY SOCKS Johny Wah Wah from On Trial



HAYDON THE WOMBLE

HOME KIT Paul Strank Roofing Ltd

AWAY KIT Peter and Michael Cork

HOME SOCKS Kelly, Charlotte and Emily

**AWAY SOCKS** Libby and Georgie Messenbird



# KIT SPONSOR

CALL KEITH MCGUINNESS ON 020 8547 3336

OR EMAIL COMMERCIAL@ AFCWIMBLEDON.CO.UK



**Haydon** will be overseeing the fun and party favourite **RockinPaddy** will be dj-ing and organising the party games.

**Terry Brown and his players** will be joining in the fun and Father Christmas has even agreed to leave the North Pole for a couple of hours to hand out presents.

# JUNIOR DONS CHRISTMAS PARTY Sunday 11 December - 11.00am to 2.00 21

Back Bar, Cherry Red Records' Stadium - Kingsmeadow

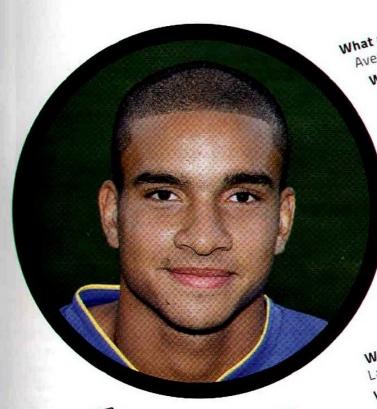
Admission is FREE to Junior Dons and junior season ticket holders, £10 for others, on a first come first served basis.

Spaces are limited so we recommend that you apply before 30 November.

Please send Junior Don's name, age, gender, membership number and details of any allergies or medical conditions to the club's office for the attention of Aideen Rochford.

If you have any queries, or would like to join the Junior Dons in time to attend the party, please contact info@afcwimbledon.co.uk

# CHRIS BUSH



Who do you room

What's been your worst moment in a match? with on away trips?

Charles Ademeno Scoring an own goal against Crawley

What's Your typical pre-match meal?

Of the goals you've scored for Wimbledon, what's Chicken and pasta

Your ravourner

My goal in the shoot-out against Stevenage in the What's going through your head 30 seconds before your favourite? Johnstone's Paint Trophy

Who's the best-dressed player in the squad? kick-off? Three points!

Me, of course!

What music motivates you?

Spurs away in the Third Round, and we win 1-0 If you could play abroad, where would it be? Dream FA Cup draw? R&B

What do you do on your day off? Sleep, catch up with friends and family America

What are you like at karaoke?

What was your favourite toy when you were ten? Average at best Here's £1000 - what would you buy?

40-40

What's your favourite gadget? Save for a car

iphone

What makes you happy?

What film part do you see yourself in?

Can you cook? What's your signature dish?

Where did you go on your last holiday?

What was the last book you read? Last week's matchday programme

What's the funniest show on TV?

Celebrity Juice

Hit the dancefloor or stay by the bar? Evenly split the bill or work out yours only? Dancefloor

pay it all if it's a date!

What's your dream car?

Hot & spicy or cool & creamy? Bentley GT

Hot and spicy

All Saints or Zara?

All Saints - not that it fits Buy online or go to the shops?

Go to the shops

Xbox or PS3?





# **SCUNTHORPE UNITED**

GLANFORD PARK, JACK BROWNSWORD WAY, SCUNTHORPE, NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE, DN15 8TD STADIUM CAPACITY 9,088 (NOT ALL SEATED) • RECORD ATTENDANCE 8,921 V NEWCASTLE UNITED (CHAMPIONSHIP, 2009)



Glanford Park, on the edge of the town, is a rather box-like stadium. The home end is terracing, with seated stands on the other three sides. Visiting fans are allocated the AMS (South) Stand, where two supporting pillars interrupt the view a little. Hot snacks are available in the ground; there are eating outlets such as KFC and McDonalds in the retail park across the road. The Old Farmhouse pub at the ground entrance welcomes all fans, but no colours are allowed. The Berkeley, by the first roundabout on the main road towards Scunthorpe, is a favourite haunt of away supporters. Recommended are the Ironstone Wharf, about a mile away on the A18, and the Honest Lawyer on Oswald Road, not far from the station.

www.scunthorpe-united.co.uk admin@scunthorpe-united.co.uk 0871 221 1899

# THE IRON'S HOME FORM

29 Oct	Tranmere Rovers	4-2
25 Oct	Huddersfield Town	2-2
8 Oct	Leyton Orient	2-3
4 Oct	Oldham Athletic (JPT)	0-1
24 Sep	Yeovil Town	2-1
10 Sep	Sheffield United	1-1

# TICKET INFO

Dons fans will be accommodated in the allseater AMS (South) Stand and should enter by gates 6 A, B, and C or 7 A and B.

AFC Wimbledon will not be selling tickets in advance, and tickets will be available at the turnstiles on the day of the match.

\* Prices Adults £15; Concessions £9; Under-16s £2.

Matchday programme: £3.00.

# SHOW YOUR COLOURS



The Dons will be in their usual yellow away strip.

By road The ground is on the outskirts of Scunthorpe and very easy to find. Leave the M180 at Junction 3 and take the M181 for Scunthorpe. At the end of the M181 you will see the ground on your right. Turn right at the first roundabout onto the A18 and right again into the stadium car park.

Parking The car park at the ground has space for 600 cars and costs £3. There is some street parking in the surrounding area.

By rail Scunthorpe is reached by taking a train from London King's Cross and changing at Doncaster. The journey time is about 2 hours. A return journey the same evening is not possible. For more information, use National Rail Enquiries (www.nationalrail. co.uk, 08457 484950).

The station is over two miles from the stadium, so the easiest way to get there from the station is by taxi. Alternatively, turn left out of the station and head towards the crossroads (facing a church) and then right into Oswald Road. Past a set of traffic lights you will find the Honest Lawyer and Blue Bell pubs. At the next traffic lights turn left into Doncaster Road, where there are a number of fast food outlets. Continue straight down this road and you will eventually reach Glanford Park on your left. Otherwise, as you pass the Blue Bell pub on your left, turn left

into Doncaster Road from where you can catch a No.909 bus to the ground.

By coach The supporters' coach will be picking up from The Grove at 12.30 pm and from The Cherry Red Records Stadium at 1.00 pm. The price is £15, and places on the coach may be reserved at the complimentary tickets window before or after today's game. Alternatively, bookings may be made by contacting the club office on 020 8547 3528 during normal office hours or at the online ticket shop, accessed via the front page of the official website.

Some of this information is based with permission on Duncan Adams' Football Ground Guide. For more details see www.footballgroundguide.com/scunthorpe\_united/





# **BURTON ALBION**

THE PIRELLI STADIUM, PRINCESS WAY, BURTON-ON-TRENT, DE13 OAR
CAPACITY 6,912 (2,034 SEATED) • RECORD ATTENDANCE 6,192 V OXFORD UNITED (2009)



The stadium was completed in 2005 and is near the Pirelli factory. The all-seater Main Stand runs along one side; on the other side and at both ends are steeply banked covered terraces. The range of food available includes faggots and mushy peas, and there is a bar for away fans. Burton boasts many excellent pubs. The Beech Inn is on Derby Road in the opposite direction from the town centre, and the Great Northern is on Wetmore Road, off the roundabout near the stadium entrance. Near the railway station are the Roebuck, the Devonshire Arms, and the 19th-century Cooper's Tavern in Milton Street.

www.burtonalbionfc.co.uk bafc@burtonalbionfc.co.uk 01283 565938

# **BREWERS' HOME FORM**

22 Oct	Bristol Rovers	2-1				
14 Oct	14 Oct Cheltenham Town					
1 Oct	Bradford City	2-2				
17 Sep	Swindon Town	2-0				
13 Sep	Crewe Alexandra	1-0				
3 Sep	Plymouth Argyle	2-1				

## TICKET INFO

We have been allocated 380 seats and 1,400 terrace places. Fans wanting seats are advised to buy their tickets in advance from Burton Albion. Terrace tickets (and seats, subject to availability) will be on sale on the day.

Seats The seats are in the South Stand, accessed via Turnstiles A. Bland C. Prices are:

Adults £16; Over-65s and Students (17–22) £14; Under-16s £6

Terrace The away terrace is in the Coors East Stand, accessed via Turnstiles T, U, V and W. Prices are:

Adults £14; Over-65s and Students (17–22) £12; Under-16s £4

Matchday programme: £3.00.

# SHOW YOUR COLOURS



The Dons will be in their blue strip. By road Leave the M1 at Junction 22 and join the A511 (signposted Ashby and Coalville). Beware: there are many speed cameras along this road. Stay on the A511, crossing the Trent Bridge and continue to the set of lights underneath the Brewery flyover, turning right there into Hawkins Lane Go straight across at the roundabout just after the railway bridge into Princess Way. The entrance to the ground is 300 yards on the right. An alternative route is via the toll section of the M6. Take the M40 from London, and where the M40 meets the M42 join the M42 northbound (for Birmingham Airport and NEC). At Junction 9 join the M6. Leave the M6 at Junction T4 and follow signs for the A38 to Burton. On approaching Burton, go past the Branston interchange and leave the A38 at the next interchange, Clay Mills (there is a 180-degree left turn at the exit), and follow signs for Burton A5121. Go straight across at the first roundabout, after half a mile, and turn right at the next roundabout into Princess Way. The entrance to the ground is 300 yards on the right.

Parking There is no parking at the ground for visiting fans, parking is available at the nearby Rykneld Indistrial Estate on Derby Road at a cost of £2. There is also some street parking in the area.

By rail Burton-upon-Trent is reached by taking a train from London St Pancras and changing at Derby. The overall journey time is about 2 hours 10 minutes. For more information, use National Rail

Enquiries (www.nationalrail.co.uk, 08457 484950). The train station is about 25 minutes' walk from the ground. On leaving the station, turn left down the hill and then right into Derby Street (A5121). Keep going for about 1½ miles, straight across the first roundabout by the Derby Turn, then left at the next roundabout into Princess Way.

A taxi from the station to the ground should cost around £5. The Trent Barton V1 and V2 bus service runs every half-hour from directly outside the station to the stadium.

By coach The supporters' coach will be picking up from The Grove at 8.30 am and from The Cherry Red Records Stadium at 9.00 am. The price is £15, and places on the coach may be reserved at the complimentary tickets window before or after today's game. Alternatively, bookings may be made by contacting the club office on 020 8547 3528 during normal office hours or at the online ticket shop, accessed via the front page of the official website.

Disabled fans' Disabled supporters in receipt of the medium or higher disability allowance are entitled to have a carer accompany them free of charge, and should book their own tickets in advance by contacting Burton Albion on the number above.

Some of this information is based with permission on Duncan Adams' Football Ground Guide. For more details see www.footballgroundguide.com/burton\_albion/



# A Winning Team

# AFC Wimbledon & Radio Jackie



www.radiojackie.com

Design and photography by www.pictureperfectionist.co.uk

# **NPOWER LEAGUE 2**

SATURDAY 17 DECEMBER 2011 3.00 PM KICK-OFF

# ROTHERHAM UNITED

DON VALLEY STADIUM, WORKSOP ROAD, SHEFFIELD, S9 3TL

CLUB: ROTHERHAM UNITED FC, MANGHAM HOUSE, MANGHAM ROAD, BARBOT HALL INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, ROTHERHAM, S61 4RJ

CAPACITY 25,000 (ALL SEATED) • RECORD ATTENDANCE 7,082 V ALDERSHOT TOWN (L2 PLAYOFF SF, 2005)



After 101 years at their Millmoor home, Rotherham have moved to Sheffield's Don Valley athletics stadium while their new ground is being constructed; it should be ready for the start of 2012/13. Don Valley's large covered 10,000-capacity main stand is used for Rotherham's games and accommodates home and away fans in separate blocks. Away fans normally enter and exit the stadium by different routes. There is a basic bar under the main stand, which also sells food, that away fans can use. Pubs in the surrounding area are pretty average. Faras, near the stadium entrance, welcomes away fans. There are some good pubs in the city centre, and the Sheffield Tap, at Sheffield train station, is strongly recommended.

# www.themillers.co.uk office@rotherhamunited.net 0844 414 0733

# MILLERS' HOME FORM

5 Nov	Aldershot Town	2-0
22 Oct	Shrewsbury Town	1-1
8 Oct	Burton Albion	0-1
4 Oct	Sheffield United (JPT)	1-2
24 Sep	Southend United	0-4
10 Sep	Dagenham & Redbridge	3-1

# TICKET INFO

This game is not all ticket.

Adults £18; Concessions\* £10; Juveniles (12–16) £6; Juniors (8–11); £5; Under-8s free.

\*Students (with a valid NUS Card – non-NUS card-holders will need a letter on headed paper signed by a representative of the college/university stating that the holder is on a full-time course), Disabled fans (higher-and middle-rate DLA) and Over-60s.

Matchday programme: £3.00.

# SHOW YOUR COLOURS



The Dons will be in their usual yellow away strip.

By road Leave the M1 at Junction 34 and take the A6178 towards Sheffield City Centre. Continue on the A6178 (Attercliffe Road) and you will come to the stadium on your left. After passing the stadium, turn left at the next set of lights into Worksop Road, and then left again for the stadium entrance. Junction 34 is also the turn-off for the Meadowhall Shopping Centre, so allow a little extra time as the traffic can be quite heavy coming off the motorway.

Parking Matchday car parking is available at Pic Toys, on Worksop Road, at £3 per car; the car park is signposted. Otherwise there is plenty of street parking on the right side of Attercliffe Road, opposite the stadium.

By rail Sheffield is served by half-hourly trains from London St Pancras. The journey time is 2 to 21/2 hours. For more information, use National Rail Enquiries (www. nationalrail.co.uk, 08457 484950).

The most convenient way to get from the

train station to the stadium is to take the tram to the Arena Don Valley Stadium stop. The journey, with one change, takes about 15 minutes and for adults costs £3 return. Alternatively, the 69 bus from the

train station stops only a couple of minutes' walk from the stadium; the journey time is 7–8 minutes. Many other buses run along Attercliffe Road by the stadium, including numbers 2. 8. 9. 59. 130 and 287.

By coach The supporters' coach will be picking up from The Grove at 8.30 am and from The Cherry Red Records Stadium at 9.00 am. The price is £15, and places on the coach may be reserved at the complimentary tickets window before or after today's game. Alternatively, bookings may be made by contacting the club office on 020.8547.3528 during normal office hours or at the online ticket shop, accessed via the front page of the official website.

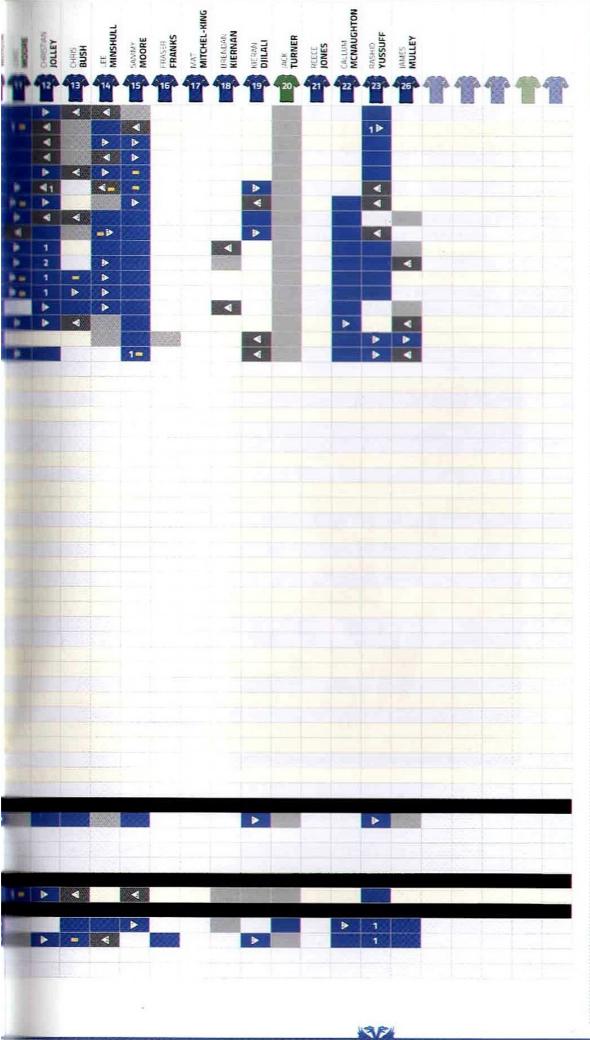
Some of this information is based with permission on Duncan Adams' Football Ground Guide. For more details see www.footballgroundguide.com/rotherham\_united/





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SAT 17 DEC	15:00	A	ROTHERHAM UNITED														
MON 26 DEC	12.15	н	OXFORD UNITED														
SAT 31 DEC	15:00	н	SOUTHEND UNITED														
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SAT 7 JAN	15:00	н	MACCLESFIELD TOWN														
SAT 14 JAN	15:00	Α	PORT VALE														
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# KEY

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# **POLICY ON** BANNING **FANS**

Fans may be banned for offences which include violent. threatening or disruptive behaviour; racist or homophobic language or obscene chanting and obstructing steward in the performance of their duty.

If a fan is banned, that ban is indefinite until the fan demonstrated that their behaviour has improved sufficiently for readmission to be agreed. In the meantime, the club will encourage other clubs to enforce the ban at away games.

Banned fans can appeal this exclusion order to the AFC Wimbledon Chief Executive. They also have the right to appear before a selected Disciplinary and Complaints Panel to make representations to be readmitted.

# IT ONLY TOOK NINE YEARS

THE NEWS THAT JOHN FASHANU HAD REMARRIED EARLIER THIS YEAR REMINDED STEPHEN CRABTREE THAT THE BIG MAN'S LAST APPEARANCE IN A DONS SHIRT WAS AGAINST TODAY'S OPPONENTS, OVER 17 YEARS AGO.

whom one life was never going to be enough.

Barnardo's boy, footballer, businessman, agent, international ambassador, television personality, professional celebrity, friend to pop stars, confidant of presidents... acquitted of match-fixing, accused again of match-fixing. These are just a few of the chapter headings in the life story of one of the Dons' most intriguing old boys.

It was during Wimbledon's last league visit to Swindon in 1994 that we saw the end of John Fashanu the player. His brilliant 40-yard chipcum-lob, which fooled keeper Nicky Hammond, proved to be the big striker's 130th and final goal for the club. For over seven seasons he had epitomised the Wimbledon team of that era - brash, selfconfident and carrying more than a hint of menace. Like so many of his team-mates, he had been shunned by the bigger clubs as a youngster and had a point to prove.

Fashanu and his brother
Justin were the sons of a Nigerian
barrister who split from their
mother when John was four.
They were sent to a children's
home in London, then fostered
out to Alf and Betty Jackson and
brought up in rural Norfolk. After
this unconventional childhood, it
was inevitable that the brothers
would struggle with their sense

of identity. For Justin, the struggle would end in suicide. John, the tougher of the two, survived.

And as a footballer he not only survived but thrived. After making his name in George Graham's nononsense Second Division Millwall side, he transferred to Wimbledon in

John Fashanu celebrates another Selhurst Park goal

the spring of 1986 as the Dons were poised to enter the top flight. His arrival was a statement that the club meant business. He scored four goals in eight games as Dave Bassett's side completed their unlikely journey to the top of the English game.

Brilliant in the air and totally fearless on the ground, John's bravura often terrified opponents and allowed him to make the most of his somewhat limited ability.

Despite being placed 22nd in a 2007

Times newspaper poll of the 50

worst Premier League footballers

ever, he was good enough to be

part of the Dons side that won the

FA Cup in 1988 and to be capped

twice by England the following year.

But controversy was never far away.

He shattered the cheekbone of Tottenham's Gary Mabbutt with his elbow during an aerial challenge at White Hart Lane in 1993. and he later had to fight off allegations of match fixing in the courts. He won, but was ordered to pay substantial costs. By the time he left South London for Villa Park his playing days were numbered, but his craving to be the centre of attention had not dimmed. While he has kept himself in the public eye in the years since, you sense that he has rarely found peace.

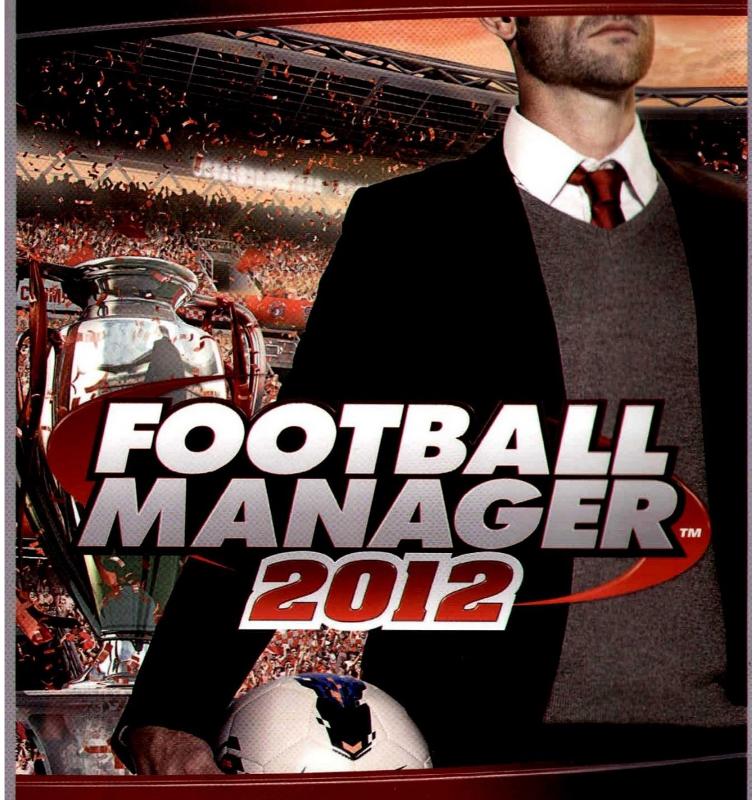
In April this year newspapers reported that the now 48-year-old was to

wed again – this time to a Nigerian barrister. "Getting married to Abigail is the best thing to happen to me," he was quoted as saying. "Life has never been this sweet. It has been wonderful." For a man who appears to have spent much of his adulthood running away from the rejections of his youth, one hopes that his obvious joy will last.



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# THE GREATEST JOB ON EARTH



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