

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS
LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

(FOUNDED 1966)

NEWSLETTER NO.6 VOL.III

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

FOUNDED 1966

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NEWSLETTER

EDITORIAL

I must apologise for the delay of this issue of the Newsletter, but due to the postal dispute last month's issue had to be scrapped and the extra material has taken longer to edit.

The team's performance has improved since the upset of the Cup exit at Derby with only two major defeats, both to the two sides above Wolves. We have also had an opportunity of watching Wolves Youth team at West Ham in the quarter-final and Arsenal in the semi-final of the Youth Cup, and Wolves have in the Youth team some very promising youngsters, especially in Eastoe and Daley.

The Sales Officer informs me that programmes for all future matches will be available for 6p and 3p postage, and a complete sales list is available from:

Sales Officer,
W.W.L.S.C.,
26, Brockenhurst Way,
London, S.W.16.

JANUARY MATCH REPORT

After their unsteady form of December, it was good to see the Wolves start off 1971 with a flow of good football and generally pleasing results, the Derby Cup tie excluded!

The month started with the F.A. Cup, and gave Wolves their first home tie since the McGarry reign. Second division Norwich City were the opposition, and turned out to be an easier one than most people must have imagined. Wolves, in black and white, played out a rather disappointing first half after McCalliog had put them ahead with a 6 minute penalty, gained through a Dougan header being handled on the line, only to see Norwich draw level soon after to turn round all square.

However, in the second half we saw a barrage of goals - all from the Wolves. First Hibbitt got his head to a Bailey centre for a spectacular F.A. Cup "debut" goal after 47 minutes. Then, within a quarter of an hour Gould got two, both with his head, after first a Hibbitt shot and then a McCalliog effort had come back off the bar. McCalliog completed the scoring with a diving header of his own in the 76 minute, while Norwich's only hope of reply was wasted when Foggo missed a late penalty given against McCalle.

If Dougan's effort had been the goal it deserved, this would have been a nap hand of headers, surely something quite unique!

The following Saturday saw Wolves away to Derby, and sweet revenge for the earlier season Molineux defeat. Both Wolves goals came from free kicks, Shaw's after two minutes being his first for the Club. Once again Wolves conceded a penalty, the sixth time they have done so away from home this season, which must have so annoyed Phil Parkes, who had such a splendid game. Although Dougan didn't appear on the score sheet he had two goals disallowed, but all was forgiven when Bobby Gould popped up from nowhere in the last minute to volley Wolves' winner.

The third game of the year was at home to local rivals Coventry City - and what a disappointment! This match could have provided Wolves with their first double of the season, but in the pouring rain turned out to be quite a washout, and a goalless one at that. Both Dougan and Shaw missed good first-half chances, both laid on by McCalliog, and things got no better with substitute Curran's appearance for a limping Wagstaffe in the second half. In the end Wolves were thankful to their defence, especially Bailey, Munro and Parkes, for the point they got.

The 4th round of the Cup saw Wolves return to Derby, and Derby return the scoreline. The game was played in atrocious conditions on a sea of mud, and governed by a "referee", Kevin Howley, whose decisions seemed influenced by sea sickness. Derby opened the scoring in the

27 minute with a doubtful penalty, once again given against Munro. For the next 53 minutes Wolves battled away, seemingly against eleven Derby players and three officials (not to mention the swamp), until finally, in the 80 minute substitute John Richards, on for Bobby Gould, forced the ball over the line for his own Cup debut goal, after a McCalliog header had rebounded off the bar. Then, when a replay seemed certain (on a football pitch), O'Hare, as if remembering Bobby Gould's effort a couple of weeks earlier, grabbed the Derby winner with just 54 seconds of the match remaining.

Just as the eleven Wolves players must have felt they were doing throughout the 90 minutes, every Wolves heart in the ground must surely have sunk.

The return to Molineux a week later was indeed a happier one. No mud this time - just snow, as Wolves ran out 2-1 winners against Crystal Palace. Derek Dougan scored both goals, the first in the 28 minute after a long range Hibbitt effort had rebounded to him off a post, and the second nine minutes from time in typical Doog fashion, heading home a clever short Wagstaffe chip. It really was Doog's match, for in between he had a goal disallowed (McCalliog offside), hit the post with another header and more than once, along with a host of other Wolves players, tested an agile Jackson in the Palace goal.

Hibbitt and McCalliog both had their names taken for arguing, but both had a splendid game, along with the other midfield worker, Bailey. It was also good to see Waggy returning to form, although once again Gould disappointed, and was substituted.

Overall the month provided an excellent return for the Wolves league-wise, with a five goal cup spree thrown in. The Derby F.A. Cup knock-out was of course a great disappointment, but was balanced up by many happier memories: Hibbitt's first home goal, in his Cup debut, Richards' Cup debut goal, Shaw's first goal for the Club and wins over both of recently promoted clubs Derby and Palace, which had availed the Wolves previously.

RESULTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponents</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Goals</u>		<u>Scorers (Time)</u>
			<u>F</u>	<u>A</u>	
Jan. 2nd	Norwich (F.A.C. Rd.3)	home	5	1	McCalliog (6, 76) (one pen.), Hibbitt (47), Gould (49, 60)
Jan. 9th	Derby	away	2	1	Shaw (2), Gould (89)
Jan.16th	Coventry City	home	0	0	
Jan.23rd	Derby (F.A.C. Rd. 4)	away	1	2	Richards (80)
Jan.30th	Crystal Palace	home	2	1	Dougan (28, 81)

Played Won Drawn Lost Goals For Goals Against Points Max. Pts. Poss.

5 3 1 1 10 5 7 10

FEBRUARY MATCH REPORT

The 2-1 win over Palace Wolves had gained on the final Saturday of January had boosted them to 5th place in the table, their best of the season. However, the next six games were to quickly test if Wolves could "stay the distance", because five of the opposing clubs were "close neighbours" among the top eight!

The easier of these six games (four played during February) was to be the first, away to struggling Blackpool. Blackpool had only amassed 14 points throughout the season, the same number as Wolves' 13 away games had gained them. However, after a first-half that showed a flair for goalmouth incidents it was obvious that Blackpool meant to quickly improve their weak league position. Twice, through a Pickering header and a Burns' shot, Blackpool beat goalkeeper Phil Parkes only to see the ball hit the bar, as well as having a Tony Green effort disallowed for a foul on Parkin.

Wolves, certainly living dangerously, were nevertheless also goal poaching, the best efforts coming from a McCalliog shot and a Curran header, which also hit the woodwork. The second-half certainly quietened down, but just as most people had settled for a scoreless draw the Wolves struck. Derek Dougan, back on the goal trail, turned a Waggy cross into the net to put the Wolves ahead with just four minutes to go and suddenly we were watching a new game. Wolves - as if they had gone a goal down, not up - stormed into the attack against a now shattered Blackpool, and it was no surprise to see them score again, this time via a McCalliog shot after yet another jinkling Wagstaffe run.

Perhaps it was the lucky black and white strip that so changed the game, but whatever the reason this 2-0 win gained Wolves two valuable points (and also their first double of the season) that throughout the previous eighty-six minutes never looked like coming.

Wolves' next game, at home to Chelsea, provided them with the chance to further climb the table, all the more sweeter as it would be at Chelsea's expense. Although the game was rather slow moving Wolves took the opportunity well, with a well deserved 1-0 win. The goal, which once again sent Chelsea home pointless from Molineux, came from Ken Hibbitt, by far the most adventurous player on the day, when in the 55 minute he fastened onto a Curran right wing centre to send a spectacular eighteen yard shot past the helpless John Phillips. In doing so Hibbitt achieved what the other forwards on both sides seemed unable to do, especially the Wolves players, as Dougan, McCalliog and near the end Hegan all missed far easier chances with only spasmodic efforts.

All told, however, this was a good result for the Wolves. Once again, Munro and McCalle were king pins in the defence, with Parkes bravely stopping the little that got past them. Although they did have their

Probably the most pleasing aspect of the month of February was that at last Wolves seem to have found success at the back, which a return of three clean sheets from four games shows. This can be put down to a regular back four and midfield trio: for the 10 games beginning with Tottenham away and ending with the away fixture at Leeds, Wolves fielded the same back seven, Shaw, Parkin, Bailey, Munro, McCalle, McCalliog and Hibbitt. To this formation can be added Phil Parkes, also ever present, and Dave Wagstaffe who played in all but one of these 10 matches (the league game at Derby).

This clearly shows that the key to success is a regular squad. The fact is also well emphasised in attack, where Wolves have lately only averaged a goal a game with several players, Dougan, Curran, Gould and Richards among them constantly chopping and changing in an attempt to fill the two striking positions.

RESULTS

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			<u>F</u>	<u>A</u>	
Feb. 6th	Blackpool	away	2	0	Dougan (86), McCalliog (88)
Feb. 13th	Chelsea	home	1	0	Hibbitt (55)
Feb. 20th	Leeds United	away	0	3	
Feb. 27th	Liverpool	home	1	0	O'Grady (13)

<u>Played</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Drawn</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Goals For</u>	<u>Goals Against</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Max. Pts. Poss.</u>
4	3	0	1	4	3	6	8

TRAVEL NEWS

The response to some of the trips has been disappointing but this is perhaps understandable due to the lack of knowledge about the trips because of the postal dispute. I hope the response to the remaining matches will be better as the team is playing so well at present.

TRIPS TO THE END OF THE SEASON

Apr. 10th	Everton	away	£2.50	
Apr. 12th	Man. United	away	£2.00	approx. by coach
Apr. 17th	Southampton	home	£1.40	
Apr. 24th	Huddersfield	away	£2.80	approx.
May 1st	Burnley	home	£1.40	

Members should meet at the LOCAL BOOKING OFFICE, EUSTON, at 10.30 for the home matches.

DEPART EUSTON 11.15

DEPART WOLVES 18.15

Fares for female members and under 14's will now be £1.25 for home matches.

For further details of away matches, please write enclosing an S.A.E. to:

TRAVEL SECRETARY,
W.W.L.S.C.,
29, Gauntlett Court,
Wembley,
Middx.