



MAR 83

# LONDON



# WOLVES

WOLVERHAMPTON  
WANDERERS  
SUPPORTERS  
CLUB



OFFICIAL  
CLUB  
MAGAZINE

40 p



## WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS

FOUNDED 1886

### London Supporters' Club

Honorary President: Derek Dougan.

Secretary: Dave Slape.

Treasurer: Adrian Lewis.

Editor: Peter Abbott.

Quiz Team Secretary: Stan Armett.

Committee Members: Ray Stock, Grant Saunders.

Chairman: Stuart Earl.

Travel Secretary: Terry Peachey.

Sales Officer: Doug Pearl.

Pontoon Sales Officer: Colin Whiting.

December 1982 to March 1983

#### EDITORIAL

I think most Wolves fans would back us for promotion at this stage, but what of the Championship?

As I write Q.P.R. look favourites despite Wolves being in top spot. Rangers are in good form whereas Wolves are certainly not enjoying as good a spell as at Christmas and New Year, when notably Rangers themselves were thumped 4-0.

The decider could well be at Subbuteo Stadium (or "Lino Lane" as our typist calls it) on May 7th when Wolves have to contend with the dreaded "carpet" on which the home side are almost unbeatable.

I'm backing Wolves to finish the season in top form and that final away game could be a cracker.

Regular train travellers tell me I'm the eternal optimist. Well, it's true that you won't catch me moaning before every game, but on the other hand I realise that not everything in the Molineux garden is rosy.

The current Wolves side is easily among the best five in the Second Division (Leicester, Sheffield Wednesday, and the current top three) and when we win promotion - the object of the exercise - we all know that certain areas will need to be strengthened. I know it, you know it, Graham Hawkins knows it and Derek Dougan knows it, but first things first: promotion, the Championship, and then we tackle Division One. In that order.

Wolves need all of our help in this final run-up to the end of a successful season, so let's support them!

Finally, I invite all the moaners and those who think this Wolves team is the greatest, to have their say in the next issue of this magazine. What do you - the members - really think of Wolves in 1983?

*PA6670*

FRONT COVER: John Burridge in fine form.

## GRAHAM HAWKINS

The draw at Derby on Saturday pleased me in a number of ways. The tactic of using Ken Hibbitt as sweeper in the second half worked well and we might have won.

We used the tactic at Leicester when we went 0-4 down, and although they scored again that day I thought we could use it against similar types of opposition - in this case, at Derby. We were going to use it from the start but decided not to. At half-time we realised it was necessary and so we decided to change things around by getting Kenny to drop back.

I was very pleased with the general attitude on Saturday. The lads played with good enthusiasm, they found their legs as it were, and were full of running.

We let Derby in for their goal by not marking at the corner, but overall I went away from the ground more satisfied with our performance than for a few weeks.

If I could guarantee this attitude and good play for the rest of the season, then we will pick up enough points to ensure promotion.

We have sat back on the field lately, and we must go out there without the attitude that we'll win easily. I know there's a fair old gap opened up, especially as there are only 11 games left, but the attitude must be right for every game.

Our last two games, at Q.P.R. and at home to Newcastle, will be good ones and we'll be going out to win them both. Although Newcastle are now pulling into the promotion race, I fancy Leicester to worry the top three the most. They were really fluent against us, and as you know put eight past us in the two games.

No, Peter, we haven't signed Gary Owen yet. We maybe need a really natural left-sided midfielder player at the Club, and Gary fits the bill. It's proof that Jim Barron, Frank Upton and myself are looking ahead, and not basking in the Club's glory this season.

As we get nearer to the seventy-point mark, we can be more sure of what we can do with regard to new players. It's important that this Club gets promotion. If we don't go up, then we may not be able to buy anybody. We won't be able to guarantee bigger crowds to bring the money in.

Derek tells me that 12 months ago this Club couldn't buy anybody at all and we don't want to go back to that situation again!

#### W.W.L.S.C. - 1982/83 PLAYER OF THE YEAR:

As usual at this time of a season, we ask members to vote for their player of the year. A voting form is enclosed with this magazine and should be returned as soon as possible to our Secretary, Dave Slape.

Sadly for Paul Bradshaw he cannot notch up a hat-trick of victories this season, having been out injured for most of it. But I'm sure Paul will offer his good wishes to whoever succeeds him this year.

Please don't forget to vote.



# LEXPO SOCIAL

"A good drink and chat with players and officials - all in all a good social evening."

My own summing-up of our hastily arranged meeting at the Lexpo in Piccadilly on the night of December 1st 1982.

From Molineux we had the pleasure of receiving Vice-Chairman Doug Hope, goal-keepers John Burridge and Paul Bradshaw, and defender Mick Hollifield. From London, the WWLSC Committee were joined by about 20 other members who were fortunate enough to know of the event in advance.

John Burridge and Doug Hope had just returned from a meeting in London regarding John's contractual problems on leaving Q.P.R. Unhappily, John lost his case on this occasion but tells us he'll appeal against the decision.

Despite these problems, John was quick to point out that he respected Terry Venables as a manager and went into great detail about his earlier career traumas with Crystal Palace and Q.P.R.

Back to our meeting though, which, as intended, was an informal affair. Doug Hope said: "We are very pleased that we have such a large, loyal following in London. We're glad to come down just for a chat."

Our guests held a captive audience all evening.

I talked especially to 'keeper John Burridge. John rates Andy Gray as the best forward he's seen, and proceeded to give us a demonstration of Andy's heading ability when jumping close to an opponent. Best defender? John's vote goes to Kenny Sansom at Arsenal, but he rates John Humphrey and John Pender to come good in their careers.

"Humphrey's main fault - and I'm trying to rid him of it," said John, "is that he often finds himself chasing a winger, whereas when he comes across to challenge he should be getting goalside of the attacker. But John is very good in the tackle and moves up into attack well."

"John Pender is a very young player, but is a real tiger on the field. He challenges well, and despite my rather loud 'encouragement' to him, he doesn't hide. Off the field, though, he's as quiet as a mouse!"

On himself, John insisted: "I am not an entertainer. All my antics before a game are to work myself up for the match. I'm glad you enjoy watching me, but it all comes naturally once I'm out on the field because it's all part of my job. No, I don't try to entertain you in that sense."

We begged to differ - 'Budgie' is quite a lively character!

To round off the evening, our 1981/82 Player-of-the-Year, Paul Bradshaw, made the draw for the autographed football. Bill Foreman of Newmarket was the lucky winner.

Doug Hope then thanked us on behalf of the Club for our support - and it was only then that we remembered that we hadn't held our scheduled Committee Meeting!

## BILLY KELLOCK:

Signed from Luton Town for only £20,000 on March 8th, we welcome Billy Kellock to Molineux. Billy seems to have been a much-travelled man prior to his arrival at Peterborough in 1979. Before that he had played 38 League games (scoring 3 goals) at Cardiff and Norwich and had also been on the books of Aston Villa, Chelmsford and Kettering. Billy made 134 League appearances for Peterborough, scoring 43 goals, before his £25,000 move to Luton in July 1982. He had made 3 appearances (plus 5 as substitute) and scored 2 goals for the Hatters this season.

# THINGS THEY SAY:

"Wolves showed their true mettle when they offered to help Tranmere Rovers. In fact, they were the FIRST club to do so."

Programme cover for Tranmere v Wolves friendly.

"The merits of Joe Gallagher as a player are not at issue here. They never were. What was on the line was a very important principle. A contract is a two-way street. So is co-operation between players and management, club and players, club and supporters. We are all in this together, and we will all win - or lose - together. Our triumphs will be yours, and we will share the inevitable disappointments. But so long as we are together, in the real sense of the word, then we can all face the future with confidence, dignity and satisfaction. Anything less will not be enough."

Derek Dougan.

"The important thing is they always do as they're told if I set them a certain course of treatment. It is also a big advantage having them there all the time to keep an eye on."

Dennis Conyerd, Physio.

"If Manchester United were to win all 42 League games in a season, I'm still not sure if we'd finish above Liverpool." (!)

Ron Atkinson, United manager.

"So we are looking for the title. We all like to think we are winners at this club now, and there would be no better way of showing that than to lift the Championship."

Geoff "Zico" Palmer.

"Now, surely, we have earned the right to self-respect. The town can see that behind the words are workers; that we have developed a spirit and determination, both on and off the field, which merits general approval at least, and confidence that we are wanted in this town. This is why I am so saddened that the town council in its wisdom, saw fit to reject the application of Allied Properties for planning permission to build a food supermarket as the primary stage in the Molineux redevelopment."

Eric Woodward, General Manager.

"Chelsea and London-based Wolves fans shared the same 11.40 am Wolverhampton-bound express from Euston in complete harmony."

Bill Day, "The Mail on Sunday".

"I used to love going out to night-clubs and as a result got some bad publicity along the way. But that's gone for good now, and my contented home life is being reflected where it matters - on the pitch."

Andy Gray.

"Mick Matthews seems to come on in leaps and bounds every week and is surely Wolves most improved player of the season."

Stan Armett.



## EARLY DAYS ....

"Towards the end of last season Derek Dougan was asked to become our President. He readily agreed and said he would help us in whatever way he could. Derek asked us to extend his thanks to all the members who had donated to his fund for the mentally handicapped; in all, £15.2.6 was handed over to him."

The above is taken from the very first issue of "London Wolves" - although then called the Wolverhampton Wanderers London Supporters Club Monthly Newsletter - published in August 1967 and edited by Chris Stonell.

Sixteen years on, Derek Dougan is still our President and we're still collecting monies for a good cause.

The Committee line-up in that first issue was Stuart Earl (current Chairman), Chris Stonell, Dave Bell, Dave Grafton, Neil Freed, Terry O'Connor, and a certain Dave Slape (current Secretary) who will soon reach his 900th appearance at Wolves fixtures - almost all of which involved travelling from London!

I'm sure that those early pioneers were convinced that we'd still be going strong today - and of course, we are.

Back to that early newsletter, though.

"The Committee has decided that if we are still allowed to go through the main entrance again this season then everyone should go straight through into the ground as we started to cause a nuisance in the latter part of last season. Also, that no-one should go back in the entrance afterwards. We are privileged in going in free so why abuse this gesture of gratitude by the club officials?"

Dave Slape tells me that this privilege was indeed stopped soon afterwards, but not because a nuisance was caused. It ceased because travelling numbers were on the increase and it was decided by the WWLSC Committee that it just wasn't fair to the football club.

Looking through the newsletter, I note that all trips were undertaken by coaches from Victoria. The first home game of the coming season, against Q.P.R. (Aug. 17th), was advertised as leaving Victoria at 9.30 am at a cost of 15/- (equivalent 75p) except that Under-13's and lady members could travel for only 10/- (50p).

The away game at Leicester (Aug. 28th) was to cost 20/- (£1) and that compares with the current price of £4.50 for our trip in February 1983 - an increase of 350% (!)

The first-ever pen-picture of a Wolves player included in the newsletter was of Phil Parkes:

"When Phil was suspended after being sent off in the last minute of the home game against West Bromwich last season, it took him a long time to regain his first-team place and he finally made it against Leicester away, and held it, despite some strong criticism from the crowd for the rest of the season, to play some great games including the two against Chelsea and the last match against Spurs."

All in all, that first issue was very well done and successive editors since have continued the good work. Also, over the years Committee members have fulfilled the respective positions with distinction and no doubt all are inspired by the way in which the early travellers went about the task.

Here's to the next fifteen years - and more!

## QUIZ NEWS:

Since the last issue of "London Wolves" it has been success all the way in the Cup for our Quiz team but mixed fortunes in the League.

In the knock-out competition resounding wins over London Everton (62-20), Southend (74-27), and London Forest (62-38) have earned us a semi-final tie away to either Romford or London Rangers. We are quite capable of beating either of these sides and thus confident of a place in the Final where our opponents would be either Wimbledon or London Coventry. This match is likely to take place on Thursday 12th May 8.00 pm at the Cock Tavern, Phoenix Road, NW1. Our 2nd round win over Southend, incidentally, saw us record our second highest ever victory margin, only two points less than a Cup win over Hampton more than six years ago.

In the League, four matches have been played. Victories were achieved against Southend away and London Forest at home, but a narrow defeat at the hands of likely section winners Barking and a disappointing reverse against APFSCIL, where we faltered a little on a rather stiff set of questions, have probably put paid to our hopes of topping Division One (East). At the time of writing we lie second with 8 points from 6 games; leaders Barking have won all 7 games played and have 14 points.

London Wolves' team in the above matches was Peter Abbott, Stan Arnett, Peter Woodfield (Captain), Steve Howard, Brian Restall, Dave Slape, with Grant Saunders replacing Stan Arnett for the Everton game.

We would like to record our thanks to Brian Restall, whose work commitments have meant a recent move to Scotland, for his great contribution to the team's success this season. Many thanks, Brian - we'll miss you.

A fair measure of success too in the Individual Competition, with Peter Woodfield and myself taking part in the final at London Rangers venue, the New Inn, Tottenham Court Road, on Thursday 21st April at 8.00 pm. Brian Restall also qualified but will be unable to take up his place due to his move.

We still have three remaining League fixtures at home - The Crown, Brewer Street, W1 (Piccadilly Circus Underground) - and one away at Romford. Also of course the Cup semi-final at either Romford (again) or London Rangers, and hopefully the Final. Your support would be much appreciated. Please check with me or any team member for confirmation of venues, dates and starting times. Hope to see you at one of our forthcoming games.

Stan Arnett, WWLSC Quiz Team Secretary: Flat 3, 38 Priory Road, London NW6 4SJ.  
Tel: (01) 629 5071 (office).

### WOLVES SURVIVAL FUND:

Dave Slape has supplied the (almost) final figures for the fund and they are as follows:

Match Ball Raffle:	£126.00
Donations:	£184.62
Jumble Sale:	61.28 (not final figure)
	<u>£371.90</u>

We hope to contact Wolves shortly to discuss how best to use the monies, and we will keep members informed as usual through the magazine.



# LETTERS...

Ohlenschlagerstrasse 10,  
8000 Munich 70.

Although I'm living in a city reputed to boast one of the world's top football teams (Bayern), I'd much rather watch good old English football any day. I'm sure that many fans back home are under the impression that the eyes of the world and not just England are glued to their t.v. sets on Cup Final day. Well, either we'd better stop believing our own publicity or it's just that the Germans are too proud to show English football; I've been here almost three years now and the only action I've seen on the box is in a European competition against a German team!

It's a frustrating and not inexpensive hobby following the Wolves out here, not least because an English Sunday paper costs about 90p a go.

This letter is therefore a plea from the heart to all Wolves fans with a VHS video system. Should anyone have recorded the likes of Wolves versus Crystal Palace, Q.P.R. or Fulham for posterity, I'd pay a realistic price in order to borrow them for a few days to transfer them onto one of my cassettes. I would pay in full for any loss or damage and in return offer to tape any local soccer should anyone be mad enough to want to watch it.

Well, that's enough for now; thanks for the excellent magazine - it's particularly appreciated in all its detail by we far-away folk. Keep it up and greetings from West Germany.

Gareth Lyons

Molineux Grounds,  
Wolverhampton.

Many thanks for your hospitality during our visit to your Club meeting in London. It is nice to know that we have such loyal support.

May I congratulate you on your publication, 'London Wolves'. Keep up the good work.

Douglas Hope, Vice-Chairman.

Prenton Park,  
Birkenhead.

Thank you very much indeed for your kind letter and cheque for £20.50. I am sure you will thank the "train-trip contributors" for their generosity and indeed for their kind thoughts.

It is good for "football old-timers" like myself to see Wolves doing well again - I hope for their supporters' sake and for football in general, that the progress continues in an upward direction. Very many thanks.

Jack Butterfield,  
General Manager/Secretary,  
Tranmere Rovers F.C.

38 Redhurst Drive,  
Fordhouses, Wolverhampton.

Would you please insert the following exchange in your next edition of 'London Wolves':

Beer Mat Collector requires clean beer mats in exchange for football programmes. Please write first.

T. Rowden

# JOHN BURRIDGE

All my life I have wanted to be a professional footballer. I started life in a small pit village where most of the men were rugby players. On Sundays, after the pubs were closed, it was time for the weekly game - Skins v Shirts.

My father and his 6'3" tall brother, both miners, played and at the age of 11 I was considered good enough. But this was not my game.

My only Christmas present as a lad was a football, which you would hear being kicked against the wall day and night. But I think the rugby background is probably why I'm now a 'keeper.

I signed for Workington straight from school, then went to Blackpool for five years. Next it was Aston Villa, where I had a bad working relationship with Ron Saunders, so it was time for another move. On to Crystal Palace, and we earned promotion to the First Division. After two years I moved to Q.P.R., where I lost my consistency on the Omniturf and could not do the extra training which I feel is needed for my game.

So, on the road again, this time north - to Wolves, who had just been saved from extinction.

I feel well suited to the work-rate here, and coach Jim Barron is also a workaholic.

I enjoy good relationships with all the crowds I have played for. This is maybe because they regard me as an entertainer, and I enjoy making people happy and sending them home with value for money and a good result - both of which I achieve with 100% dedication.

I would like to thank the Wolves crowd for making me feel at home.

I believe the world loves a tryer and I will keep trying until we have European football at Molineux.

## MANCHESTER & NORTH-WEST WOLVES:

Dear Editor,

Having gone up to the wonderful metropolis of Rochdale for the Christmas holiday, I was thinking of driving down to the Burnley match. Then I remembered that I had the telephone number of Keith Christie, of the M. & N.W. Wolves.

I rang him to make arrangements, and we duly met outside the "Two Tubs" pub in Bury. We were to join the others in Manchester in order to get the minibus to Wolverhampton. Alas, just that day it broke down, so the 12 of us had to jump into three cars to make the trip down.

Keith's car made it, and so did one other, but unfortunately the third one did not. It also broke down, and some of the lads had to hitch.

Anyway, even with all the problems, Wolves won! We were all happy, had a nice trip back up north, and thanks to Keith and the rest of the lads I enjoyed the day very much.

By the way, there is a restaurant come local pub called the "Winston Churchill" in Rochdale, where the under-manager is none other than Jim McCalliog. We have great chats when I go north and Jim sends all Wolves fans his best wishes. He says he'll do an interview for our magazine soon.

I'll sign off now, but once again, thanks to Keith and all at M. & N.W. Wolves.

Ray Stock.





JOHN BURRIDGE CHATS TO MEMBERS AT THE LEXPO FUNCTION (DEC 1st)



THE TWO BIG MEN — TERRY PEACHEY DISCUSSES A POINT WITH PAUL BRADSHAW

## TRAVEL.....

Travel Details to the end of the season are as follows:

Home Games: Mon. Apr. 4th v SHREWSBURY TOWN ) Meet local Booking Office,  
 Sat. Apr. 16th v BOLTON WANDERERS ) Euston. Depart 11.40.  
 Sat. Apr. 30th v CRYSTAL PALACE ) Arrive Wolves 13.41.  
 Sat. May 14th v NEWCASTLE UNITED ) Depart 17.30. Arr. Euston 19.31.  
 Fare: £5.50.

Away Games: Sat. Apr. 2nd v BURNLEY. Meet local Booking Office, Euston. Depart 9.20,  
 change Preston, arrive Burnley 13.24. Depart 18.05, change Preston,  
 arrive Euston 22.37. Fare: £9.00.  
 Sat. Apr. 9th v ROTHERHAM UNITED. Meet adjacent platform of departure  
 St. Pancras. Depart 10.30, change Sheffield, arrive Rotherham 13.52.  
 Depart 17.01, change Sheffield, arrive St. Pancras 19.46. Fare: £6.50.  
 Sat. Apr. 23rd v MIDDLESBROUGH. Meet adjacent platform of departure  
 Kings Cross. Depart 9.30, change Darlington, arrive Middlesbrough 13.03.  
 Depart 17.20, change Darlington, arrive Kings Cross 20.51. Fare: £10.00.  
 Mon. May 2nd v CHARLTON ATHLETIC. London game, therefore no trip.  
 Sat. May 7th v Q.P.R. London game, therefore no trip.

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All times are subject to confirmation by British Rail. Please make all telephone bookings between 5 & 7 pm any day except match-days and Thursdays. Thank you for your co-operation.

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All bookings must be received at least 3 days prior to a game unless otherwise stated. Fares will be collected on the outward journey, but advance payments are accepted provided that cheques/postal orders are made payable to W.W.L.S.C. No "credit" will be given. Guests travelling with the club are subject to a surcharge of 50p. No member under the age of 16 will be allowed to travel unless accompanied by an adult. Train tickets are to be collected at the specified assembly point no later than ten minutes before the advertised departure time. Please enclose an SAE when making enquiries.

Fines for Non-attendance and Late Cancellations:

Any member having previously made a booking and failing to collect his/her ticket will be subject to a fine of £1.00. Until paid the member will not be allowed tickets for any subsequent trips. The same is imposed on a member cancelling a booking after the advertised closing date.

Travel Secretary's Address: 77 The Street, Ashted, Surrey. Tel: Ashted 77660.

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Derek Dougan has asked for continued support through the turnstiles on this, the final run-in to (hopefully) the Division Two Championship. So, how about WML SC members who've thought about going to Molineux this season, but haven't quite managed it yet, making an extra effort to get to a game. The lads need, and this season deserve, all the support we can muster.



# NEWS &

....'London Wolves' welcome Alan Dodd to the fold after his £40,000 transfer from Stoke City in November. Alan was born in Stoke and since joining his home town club made 354 League appearances, scoring 3 goals up to the end of last season. This season he had made 3 (2 as sub) more appearances for the Potters before his debut for Wolves in that memorable 4-3 victory at Crystal Palace on November 27th. Amazingly Alan has already scored three times for Wolves and has immediately put his previous scoring record to shame. No complaints from Wolves' fans though and here's to Alan's success at Molineux.

...I must apologise for the hand-written sections of our previous issue but this was due to us wanting to include certain late items of news. I hope it didn't spoil your reading. Martin Hall of Shepherds Bush fame has once again typed this issue for me, for which I am indebted - thanks a bundle, Martin. Further we have new printers this time around - *Tony King of Orpington, Kent - a great job* and in a shorter space of time. Last, but not least, I once again thank the Express & Star, Wolverhampton, for allowing us to reproduce their photographs in this issue.

....Much travelled Stan Armett attended a rather boring F.A. Vase fixture back in November between two Sussex sides, Southwick and Bexhill. The final score was 0-0 after extra time and I was amused to read the paragraph that I've reproduced below, from the local paper supplied by Brighton fan, Paul Sparrow - the famous translator of my West German correspondence.

"Just about the most noteworthy event of the whole evening was the performance of Southwick's secretary Malcolm Grinstead, to whom I must award man of the match. Daredevil Grinstead ripped his trousers trying to miss an oncoming train as he attempted to retrieve the match ball from the nearby main Brighton to Portsmouth line. The ball was not so lucky and was last seen heading in a westerly direction at 60 m.p.h."

....Pontoon tickets of this Supporters' Club are still crying out for more sellers. It doesn't take much effort to help your Club in this way and we appreciate all of our sellers, knowing they do a really good job. They can be sold to your family, friends, workmates and you can have a go yourself. All profits are ploughed back into this Supporters' Club helping us to function in the way you have come to expect.

Colin Whiting is our Pontoon Sales Officer and distributes the tickets in monthly batches. He'll be delighted to hear from you. Please write to 51b, Chichele Road, London, NW2.

....As you all know, Joe Gallagher has left Molineux. He is reported to have told a local newspaper that he wasn't giving everything in his appearances for the Wolves. If that was the case, there will be no love lost on the part of the fans, or from the Wolves management who sacked him (see "Things They Say" on page 5). For the record, John Barnwell signed Joe in August 1981 from Birmingham for £400,000 and he made his debut in the 1-0 home win over Liverpool on August 29th 1981. His final match for Wolves was in the 2-4 home defeat against Fulham on November 20th 1982. The full appearance record reads: League 31, F.A. Cup 1, League Cup 2, scoring one goal.

# VIEWS

....Mann's, the brewers, have joined forces with the Wolves in a reported six-figure deal. New equipment will be provided at Molineux in order that all fans can enjoy a better pint of beer before a match. As Derek Dougan says, "Dispensing beer in a football ground is hardly as easy as pulling a pint at your local, but Mann's have taken up the challenge. They know we are going places and they want their products to follow."

....Graham Hawkins has fined himself £70 for his outburst at Craven Cottage when he jumped from the dugout protesting about the penalty awarded against us.

....'London Wolves' supporters raised over £20 for Tranmere Rovers' Survival Fund on the train up to the cup-tie at Prenton Park on January 8th. Well done lads, especially to Paul Whitlock from Andover and his friends who instigated the collection.

....There is a fully authenticated story of an occasion after Wolves had played Portsmouth at Fratton Park during the 1950's. The then England International goalkeeper, Bert Williams, was asked by an acquaintance just how hard Pompey's Duggie Reid had hit a ball at him. Bert's answer was simple and to the point. He opened his shirt and pulled up his vest to reveal a large blue bruise the size of a football on his ribs. His enquirer swears the seams of the ball were clearly visible!

The above gem of a story is reproduced with the kind permission of Eddy Wilson of the Portsmouth Football Supporters' Club (London Section).

....If any of our members have friends living in London or the South-East who support clubs like Portsmouth and other provincial clubs, I would be delighted to put them in contact with their respective club's London Supporters' branch. APFSCIL are the main body to whom these branches belong, and although W.W.L.S.C. are not members I have access to names and addresses of each of APFSCIL's member branches. So, if you do know anyone who needs our help in this way, ask them to write to me at the address below.

....The Molineux Stand is to be named the "John Ireland Stand", it was announced during January. It is well known that the "Doog" especially, appreciated greatly the service to the Club from Mr. Ireland: "He is the most outstanding director I have met in football". No doubt there will be an official ceremony in the near future to formally name the Stand.

....'London Wolves' is the official publication of the Wolverhampton Wanderers London Supporters' Club and the next issue will be available near to the end of this season. Contributions are always welcome.

Editor's address: 61 Haig Road West, Plaistow, London E13.  
Home telephone number: 01-472-1331



# MISC.....

....The away victory at Fulham earned Wolves the honour of being the first winners of the Fiat "Performance of the Week" award. It also made a local Wolverhampton Boys Club £250 richer and gave them a new set of playing strip.

....Congratulations to Terry (Travel Secretary) and Gill on the birth of Helen Joanna Peachey during February.

....Well done, Graham Hawkins, on receiving the award of Bell's Whisky Division 2 Manager of the Month for December 1982.

....Also, great to hear that John Humphrey was rewarded for his recent superb performances by being named Robinson's Barley Water Player of the Month for January. John's cheque for £250 has been donated to a local Institute for the Blind, but the bad news is that John's call-up to the England Under-21 squad promised by Bobby Robson can not be considered as he is 6 months too old. Here's to a full England cap, John.

....Young Matthew Sharp was showing me recently his project on the Wolves in which he has detailed every chapter of this season's events. It is really splendidly done. Maybe in a few years time my position as Editor will be in serious jeopardy. Well done, Matthew.

....Wolves have been fined £500 by the Birmingham F.A. for not fielding their strongest side in the Birmingham Senior Cup-tie at Willenhall on February 8th. In front of a crowd of only 1,084 Wolves went down 3-4 after leading through an own goal scored by Richard Heath. Other scorers were Gary Matthews (3) and Simon Brown for Willenhall, with David Wintersgill scoring our other two goals. The "under-strength" Wolves line-up was: Bradshaw, Laws, Hollifield (Miller), Cartwright, Pugh, Coy, Wintersgill, Rudge, Richards, Livingstone, Butler.

....Sadly, Mick Hollifield was substituted in the above game because of an injury, causing a set-back to his recovery plans from the back complaint he has suffered all season. Mick obviously needs some good luck to come his way and we wish him well.

....The friendly game versus Stoke City due to be played on Saturday 19th February was postponed and a date for your diary is the friendly clash at Aggborough against Kidderminster of the Southern League on Monday 16th May - hopefully it will a match of Champions as Kidderminster are currently leading their League as of course are Wolves.

....Things They Say - "If I could have chosen a player to play alongside, John Pender would have been the ideal one. He is very dominant in the air and strong in the tackle and allows me to play my favourite type of game, sweeping up just behind him." - Alan Dodd.

....Look out for an announcement of Geoff "Zico" Palmer's Testimonial match which could be played before the end of this season.



WOLVES YOUNGSTER, DALE RUDGE, TASTES THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE F. A. CUP AT VILLA PARK



# MATCH ACTION:

Sunderland 5 Wolves 0 (Agg. 6-1). Wednesday 27th October 1982. Att. 11,091 (Football League Cup, 2nd Round, 2nd Leg).

Wolves were hurried out of the League Cup at chilly Roker Park - a nightmare first fifteen minutes left the visitors stunned. But they must be given credit for pulling themselves together and giving at least as good as, if not better than, they got for the rest of the game; and it should be remembered that they found 'keeper Turner in fine form again.

The misery began in the second minute. A throw-in on the left led to a cross not properly cleared and CHISHOLM hammered in the loose ball. In the tenth minute Burridge made a good punched clearance from a corner, but the ball came straight back in and HINDMARCH dived forward to net a powerful header. A minute later, Buckley's fierce shot was blocked by Palmer but ricocheted up onto the bar and as it came down the scramble ended with CHISHOLM firing home his second. The X-certificate stuff for Wolves continued and after fifteen minutes a misunderstanding as Coy touched a long clearance back to Burridge saw the ball roll past him, leaving ROWELL with a simple tap-in.

After 54 minutes, Wolves' night of woe was completed when Sunderland made it five in only their second real attack since the opening four-goal salvo. Daniel made it a gift, 30 yards from his own goal, and when it was fed through to McCOIST he was left with only Burridge to beat and made no mistake.

After that both sides played out time, with Wolves' task hopeless and the Rokerites not looking likely to score again.

WOLVES: Burridge 6, Humphrey 5, Palmer 6, Hibbitt 6, Pender 5, Coy 6, Daniel 5, Clarke 6, Gray 7, Eves 6, Matthews 5. Sub: Butler 8 (replaced Matthews at half-time).

Wolves 2 Derby County 1. Saturday 30th October 1982. Att: 13,804.

Wolves got back to winning ways but made hard work of beating struggling Derby. Paul Butler was given his first full outing and was soon in the action, crossing well, but generally both sides lacked inspiration and looked devoid of ideas.

The break Wolves desperately needed came after 41 minutes. Midfielder and ex-Wolf John McAlle gave the ball away and Eves latched on to it. Eves reached the by-line and his cross was adjudged by referee Vickers to have been handled by Foster. It seemed rather harsh - a case of ball-to-hand - but that didn't worry PALMER as he blasted home the penalty.

The second goal came after 53 minutes when Matthews picked up a loose ball, fed Eves on the right and he beat his man and crossed beautifully for GRAY to send a flying header into the far corner of the net. On the hour, though, Wolves were caught out when County quickly broke down the left and McAlle found WILSON who had plenty of time to beat Burridge and put Derby back in contention. Two minutes later Eves missed a sitter, and Wolves had to sweat it out until the final whistle before claiming a victory.

WOLVES: Burridge 6, Humphrey 6, Palmer 6, Matthews 6, Pender 6, Coy 6, Hibbitt 6, Clarke 6, Gray 8, Eves 7, Butler 5. Sub: Miller (not used).

Cambridge United 2 Wolves 1. Tuesday 2nd November 1982. Att: 4,571.

By far Wolves' worst display of the season to date saw them dominate the opening half hour then give away two ludicrous goals from free-kicks before Eves' last-minute consolation. Wolves began with four strikers on parade - Clarke, Gray, Eves and Livingstone - and winger Butler on the sub's bench, and were well in control for the opening spell. Livingstone fired over and Clarke shot wide, but with almost their first useful kick United went in front after 34 minutes.

A "foot-up" offence was controversially given and the short free-kick was played to LOCKHART who hammered a low shot through the wall and in off Burridge's hands. It was one Budgie should perhaps have saved.

In the second half, Cambridge split open the demoralised Wolves' defence on two or three occasions, but Hibbitt's cross was headed against a post by Eves at the other end.

With 15 minutes to go, Gray was pulled up for a remark made to the referee and the free-kick was curled in for REILLY, ghosting in, to drill the ball back into the opposite corner.

Wolves pulled one back when EVES headed home, but by then the self-inflicted damage had been done.

WOLVES: Burridge 6, Humphrey 6, Palmer 5, Matthews 5, Pender 6, Coy 6, Hibbitt 6, Clarke 6, Gray 5, Eves 6, Livingstone 6. Sub: Butler 7 (replaced Livingstone after 63 minutes).

Wolves 3 Grimsby Town 0. Saturday 6th November 1982. Att: 12,701.

Wolves silenced the knockers and bounced back to form with a sparkling performance which rejuvenated their own promotion challenge. The chief architect was Peter Daniel who was drafted in along with Joe Gallagher who replaced John Pender. Wolves scored in the 15th minute with a well-worked goal. Clarke won the ball in midfield and fed Eves, who succeeded in laying off a fine through ball for GRAY to run on to and hammer home a low shot.

After 28 minutes came one of the afternoon's highlights when Palmer surprised everyone with a long-range shot which sped goalwards like an Exocet missile and which Grotier saw for the first time as it rebounded back into play off the angle of the woodwork.

Within a couple of minutes of the second half Wolves increased their lead with the move of the match. Daniel sent Matthews away on a great run down the left and EVES flashed home his cross with a header high into the net. On 62 minutes, Gray played a one-two with Clarke and fed Eves, whose shot was parried and CLARKE was there to pick up the pieces.

WOLVES: Burridge 7, Humphrey 7, Palmer 8, Hibbitt 7, Gallagher 7, Coy 7, Daniel 8, Clarke 7, Gray 8, Eves 9, Matthews 8. Sub: Butler (replaced Palmer after 80 minutes).

Oldham Athletic 4 Wolves 1. Saturday 13th November 1982. Att: 7,962.

Wolves caught a cold at chilly Boundary Park and it was goals given away from set-pieces which again cost them dear. But it could all have been very different if Mel Eves' 47th-minute header, with a gaping goal waiting to swallow it, had been six inches lower instead of bouncing off the top of the crossbar.



Wolves began well with Hibbitt sending a twenty-yard shot over the bar, but then Gallagher was penalised - harshly it seemed - for a spot of pushing 25 yards out, and Edwards tapped the kick to RYAN who drove home into the bottom corner.

Within minutes of that Eves miss, Oldham broke away through Atkinson up the left and he laid the ball off to McDonough who played it in to the near post, where slack marking by Gallagher allowed WYLDE to turn it home.

Wolves were back in it with 25 minutes to go when Hoolickin gave the ball away to Eves and he fed HIBBITT whose fine long-range shot dipped over the 'keeper and into the net; but they were killed off by two late Oldham goals. First, Burridge had touched over a fierce cross shot by Roger Palmer and, though the Wolves 'keeper seemed to be impeded as he tried to reach the flag kick, a goal was awarded when WYLDE bundled the ball home at the second attempt. Then, six minutes from the end, another left wing corner was flicked on by McDonough and WYLDE slotted it in at the far post to complete his hat-trick and Wolves' anguish.

WOLVES: Burridge 6, Humphrey 7, Palmer 7, Hibbitt 7, Gallagher 5, Coy 6, Daniel 7, Clarke 6, Gray 7, Eves 6, Matthews 7. Sub: Cartwright (replaced Clarke after 79 minutes, making his first team debut).

Wolves 2 Fulham 4. Saturday 20th November 1982. Att: 14,448.

For an hour, Wolves were on top form and looked well on course for a notable victory over fellow high-flyers Fulham, but an atrocious defensive mix-up between Gallagher and Coy let in Gordon Davies to square it at 2-2 and from that moment Wolves inexplicably crumbled and the Cottagers seized their chance to grab a win that had never looked likely.

After only nine minutes, Wolves went in front. A long ball out of defence found Gray to the left of goal, and he turned and crossed for the incoming CLARKE to lunge forward 15 yards out and send a fine header sailing over Peyton.

Gray was unlucky to see a 26th minute effort deflected over the bar, but a minute later Fulham levelled rather against the run of play. Davies got away down the left, checked, and pulled the ball back for LEWINGTON to hammer home from the edge of the box.

Four minutes from the break, though, Wolves regained the lead when a pass by Eves sent the overlapping Palmer away down the left and he crossed perfectly for GRAY at the far post to dive forward and head powerfully home.

But just before the hour mark, Peyton's long clearance looked harmless until Coy left it to run on for Gallagher, who failed to realise what was going on, and DAVIES nipped in between them to fire past Burridge.

Inspired by that early Christmas gift, Fulham completely took over and it was no surprise when they went ahead for the first time after 72 minutes with a well worked goal, Coney playing a short through ball to DAVIES who tucked it neatly past Burridge.

From a late corner, Fulham confirmed their victory as Coney's shot was cleared off the line by Matthews, but WILSON was there to rifle in the loose ball.

WOLVES: Burridge 7, Humphrey 7, Palmer 7, Hibbitt 7, Gallagher 6, Coy 6, Daniel 7, Clarke 7, Gray 8, Eves 6, Matthews 7. Sub: Cartwright (replaced Eves after 78 minutes).

Crystal Palace 3 Wolves 4. Saturday 27th November 1982. Att: 10,225.

What a start for Alan Dodd! The experienced defender, a £40,000 midweek signing from Stoke, was drafted into a Wolves rearguard that had sprung a few alarming leaks in recent games, and he must have wondered what he had let himself in for when Wolves found themselves two down to the South Londoners after only four minutes.

What a disastrous opening! Dodd was penalised for a tackle from behind on Jones out near the corner-flag on Wolves' right, and when Giles floated the free-kick in, CANNON rose to head Palace in front with less than two minutes gone. Within sixty seconds, Eves had a shot blocked and Gray lifted the rebound over the top from an acute angle. Then Palace built up through Murphy and Hilaire and when Hinschelwood played a low ball to the near post, JONES was there to stab it home.

Wolves looked dead and buried at that moment, but hit back just two minutes later when Palmer crossed from the left, Eves headed back and MATTHEWS fired home.

Eves, with a shot into the side netting, and Hibbitt, volleying just over after a beautiful Gray chest-down were only inches away before Wolves levelled after 33 minutes when CLARKE chipped Barron from the edge of the box and the 'keeper, falling backwards, lost his grip on the ball and it hit his thigh as he fell and trickled over the line. And Wolves completed a remarkable turnabout three minutes before half-time when Eves collected Burridge's kick and laid it off to Hibbitt, who crossed from the left for GRAY to stroke a superb header inside the far post.

Ten minutes into the second half HINSHELWOOD was first to a Dodd clearance and carried the ball on before hammering in a low 25-yarder which may have taken a tiny deflection to deceive Burridge.

But Wolves were not to be denied and hit back to grab a superb winner when Humphrey galloped away up the right and crossed for MATTHEWS to send a finely directed header just inside a post, though Burridge and Matthews had to combine near the end to keep out Hilaire's volley with the midfielder blocking on the line before Budgie pounced on it.

WOLVES: Burridge 7, Humphrey 6, Palmer 7, Hibbitt 7, Pender 7, Dodd 6, Cartwright 6, Clarke 7, Gray 8, Eves 7, Matthews 9. Sub: Coy (not used).

Wolves 4 Middlesbrough 0. Saturday 4th December 1982. Att: 11,856.

Malcolm Allison's recently rejuvenated relegation battlers were sent packing pointless back to the North-east by a four-goal Wolves salvo, and just to make matters worse, they even missed a penalty.

Middlesbrough, for reasons best known to themselves, used leading scorer David Shearer in a right-back role throughout the afternoon, and Wolves gave them even more to think about with an opening goal after just two minutes. Gray won an aerial battle 30 yards from goal and laid off to EVES who jinked his way past two lunging, tackles before rounding Platt and slotting the ball home.

Platt had to produce fine saves to thwart Clarke and Gray before CARTWRIGHT scored a memorable second for Wolves after 20 minutes. Hibbitt dummied over a ball from the right and the youngster controlled and surged forward to blast a 15 yard shot high into the net. And a fine team goal made it three just after the half-hour. Matthews collected the ball from Eves after a Hibbitt throw and passed it out of defence to Palmer, who went on a run up the left and sent over a long cross to Gray who nodded on for EVES, involved in the move for the second time, to fire home across Platt into the far side of goal.

Boro were given a chance to pull one back after 54 minutes. Currie crossed from the left and when Otto went down in the goalmouth as he challenged for the ball, referee Clive Thomas pointed to the penalty spot. But to typify the miserable day the visitors were having, Kennedy's shot struck the bar and was cleared.

There was excitement in the Boro goalmouth with Clarke, Gray and Eves all having efforts blocked, then after 83 minutes Hibbitt took a throw-in near the corner-flag to Gray, who gave him a return ball and Kenny measured his cross to the far post where DODD, unmarked, headed a simple goal.

WOLVES: Burridge 7, Humphrey 7, Palmer 7, Hibbitt 8, Pender 7, Dodd 8, Cartwright 8, Clarke 7, Gray 7, Eves 8, Matthews 7. Sub: Coy (not used).



Newcastle United 1 Wolves 1. Saturday 11th December 1982. Att: 19,485.

Wolves won few friends in the Geordie crowd - the lowest League gate of the season at St. James Park - with their cautious approach, but the moans were probably justified by the point gained from what has always been a notoriously difficult fixture for the Molineux men.

The home side were lacking twin strikers Keegan and Varadi, both out injured, and had a 17 year old apprentice in the number 11 shirt. And with a slightly more positive attitude Wolves could surely have come away with all three points as Newcastle's initial enthusiasm, fired by an early goal, died away.

Early Magpies' 100 m.p.h. pressure paid off after 6 minutes when Anderson's swinging cross from the right was pulled down in the area by WHARTON who hooked it home from 8 yards.

But ten minutes later, when the fury had subsided and proceedings were a little calmer, Wolves got back on level terms. Gray picked up a loose ball by Hedworth and knocked it on to EVES who had time and space to hammer past Carr from 15 yards.

Coloured striker Gayle, on loan from Liverpool, was about the only danger to Wolves, Burridge having to dive at his feet on one occasion and a cross by him being deflected over his own bar by Andy Gray.

Midway through the second period, Wolves had a couple of chances to go in front. First, a long forward ball found Gray who nodded down for Eves to volley just wide; then Eves ran down the left and centred for Clarke to poke his shot just wide from 20 yards.

But late on there was a let-off for Wolves when McDermott laid a "goal" on a plate for Gayle who put it in from close range, but thankfully a linesman had spotted someone offside and Wolves survived to take home their point.

WOLVES: Burridge 8, Humphrey 6, Palmer 6, Hibbitt 7, Pender 6, Dodd 6, Cartwright 6, Clarke 6, Gray 6, Eves 7, Matthews 7. Sub: Coy (not used).

Wolves 4 Queens Park Rangers 0. Saturday 18th December 1982. Att: 15,423.

Rangers' six-point advantage was halved by Wolves' scintillating second-half show on a snow-sprinkled Molineux surface, and the Second Division title pretenders went home soundly beaten. And after this outstanding display Wolves can surely begin to aim not only for promotion but also for the Championship.

The second 45 minutes though were almost as stark a contrast to the first as one might ever see in football. That opening period, between two sides who are the pick of the division, was desperately disappointing.

After the break, it all started happening. Youngster Dale Rudge, having a fine debut in midfield, burst through straight from the kick-off to try a twenty-yarder which Hucker held; a scorching Hibbitt volley was touched round a post; there were a couple of desperate scrambles in the QPR box; and Dodd sent a flying header just over.

Then suddenly, after that series of near misses, the goals began to come. After 51 minutes Wolves attacked down the right, HUMPHREY picked up Daves' clearance, looked up, and floated a superb shot over Hucker and right into the far corner from around 25 yards.

Hibbitt was just off the mark with another shot, then on 74 minutes Wolves raided through Clarke and the ball was scrambled to Eves who passed to Rudge on his left. The youngster fed Hibbitt on the left touchline and his cross was turned home by CLARKE, sticking out a boot at the near post.

The third came four minutes later when Daves panicked under pressure, handled Hibbitt's cross to stop it reaching Gray, and PALMER drove the spot-kick into the bottom right-hand corner.

A minute from time, Wolves made it four. QPR charged out hoping for offside after a fruitless Wolves corner, but Matthews played the ball back to Palmer who found Hibbitt wide on the right, and his floated cross was flicked on by Clarke for Dodd to send in a piledriver. Hucker blocked the shot at point-blank range only for the ball to rebound off DODD into the net and round off the second-half slaughter.

WOLVES: Burridge 7, Humphrey 7, Palmer 8, Rudge 8, Pender 7, Dodd 7, Hibbitt 8, Clarke 8, Gray 8, Eves 7, Matthews 9. Sub: Coy (not used).

Shrewsbury Town 0 Wolves 2. Monday 27th December 1982. Att: 13,336.

A goal in each half by Wayne Clarke gave Wolves the perfect start to the holiday programme and sent the sizeable contingent of visiting fans joyously home celebrating their heroes' return to the top of the Division Two table. Victory on away soil in a local derby is always particularly sweet, and QPR's morning defeat on their own astroturf by arch-rivals Chelsea - enabling Wolves to take over top spot - made Gay Meadow an especially happy place for everyone connected with Molineux, notably Graham Hawkins, formerly assistant manager of the Shropshire side.

There was an extraordinary start to the afternoon with John Burridge being cautioned by Sandbach referee Don Shaw before the game had even started for marking the six-yard line with his boot.

The opening half-hour was a little too frantic and uncontrolled, with the struggle for supremacy unresolved. But after 33 minutes Wolves nosed in front. A slow build-up saw Hibbitt find Matthews out on the right, and his centre was met by CLARKE's diving header which flew home via the underside of the bar.

Wolves had a real slice of luck right on the break when Palmer missed Dodd's back-header and Brown took possession, jinked and turned to make space, and netted a chip shot - only to find that a linesman had spotted another Shrewsbury player offside. It was difficult to see who had infringed, though, and as the teams came off for half-time Shrewsbury boss Graham Turner appeared to be questioning the decision with Mr. Shaw.

The home side's disappointment at having that "goal" wiped out increased still further ten minutes into the second half. Hibbitt took a throw-in down the right touchline to Eves, who took the ball to the goal line before pulling it back for CLARKE, running in with a defender, to stick out a boot and poke in number two, sending the Wolves fans behind that Station End goal wild with delight.

Despite a lot of second half possession, Shrewsbury failed to put Wolves under any great pressure, though there were a couple of minor scares and Burridge had to show his worth on two occasions. Generally though, Wolves defended their advantage well and there was even time, right at the death, for Eves to miss his customary "sitter", pulling his shot wide after Clarke had set up a clear chance for him with a pass across the area.

WOLVES: Burridge 7, Humphrey 7, Palmer 7, Rudge 7, Pender 7, Dodd 9, Hibbitt 7, Clarke 8, Gray 8, Eves 7, Matthews 7. Sub: Coy (replaced Matthews after 76 minutes).

Wolves 2 Burnley 0. Tuesday 28th December 1982. Att: 21,961.

The margin of victory was comfortable enough in the end, and Wolves extended their lead over second-placed QPR to 3 points; but determined Burnley, seeking points to pull away from the wrong end of the Division, made it very hard for the home side, and it wasn't until the last 20 minutes that Wolves were able to stamp any authority on the game. The Clarets were certainly one of the more impressive sides to have visited Molineux this season.

In front of Molineux's biggest gate of the season, Wolves began sluggishly, with Burnley having slightly the better of things. It wasn't until the second half that the action began in earnest, when first Eves had 'keeper O'Rourke stretching to take a header from a Humphrey cross, then Rudge volleyed just over when the Burnley defence failed to clear a corner.

Soon afterwards, there was a big melee in the Burnley goalmouth with Gray and Eves both close to turning the ball home, but the breakthrough Wolves were striving for finally came after 69 minutes. Palmer pumped the ball forward out of defence and Gray, stretching backwards, managed to head down for EVES on the edge of the box to thump home a perfectly-placed shot just inside a post.



Burnley were still not out of it, though, and inside the last ten minutes Cassidy sent a diving header just wide. Then, with the last few seconds ticking away, Eves paid off his debt to GRAY by galloping down the right before crossing for the Scot to power home a header.

WOLVES: Burridge 7, Humphrey 6, Palmer 6, Rudge 7, Pender 7, Dodd 8, Hibbitt 7, Clarke 6, Gray 7, Eves 6, Smith 6. Sub: Coy 6 (replaced Rudge after 57 min.)

Fulham 1 Wolves 3. Saturday 1st January 1983. Att: 17,196.

This thoroughly competent and professional performance was ample revenge for Fulham's victory at Molineux in November, and firmly established Wolves as the Championship favourites.

In a match played on a heavy, cloying pitch which cut up quite badly and made close control and passing very difficult, the home side enjoyed much of the early play. But after 25 minutes, Lock leapt up to handle a Gray header that was passing above him and was rewarded with a booking. Despite Fulham's protests about a linesman's raised flag earlier in the move, which may have been signalling an infringement against Wolves, the outcome was a free-kick just outside the box for Lock's handball. Clarke tapped the ball short to Matthews, who crossed to his left for PENDER to rise well at the far post and head his first senior goal for Wolves.

Ten minutes later a dubious decision this time went against Wolves, Palmer being adjudged the offender when an awkwardly bouncing ball struck his arm as he tried to bring it out of the penalty area. Though Burridge parried LEWINGTON's initial spot-kick, the Fulham man followed up to force in the rebound.

After a few sticky moments, Wolves quickly hit back to snatch the lead again after 44 minutes. Hibbitt's left-wing corner was only cleared as far as Matthews, who shot from the edge of the area and CLARKE, eight yards out and facing away from goal, flicked out a boot to divert it wide of Peyton.

It was a quiet second half with Fulham not troubling Wolves unduly. Though rather out of the blue, Wolves sealed it with a third after 77 minutes. Hibbitt's right-wing corner caught the Fulham defence flat-footed and EVES, unchallenged, had a simple task to stoop forward and head in from only three yards, rounding off a very satisfying afternoon for Wolves.

WOLVES: Burridge 8, Humphrey 6, Palmer 7, Smith 6, Pender 7, Dodd 7, Hibbitt 7, Clarke 7, Gray 8, Eves 7, Matthews 8. Sub: Coy (not used).

Typist's note: Apologies to John Burridge for neglecting to mention his superb save from Roger Brown's header in the second half at Craven Cottage!

Wolves 3 Leeds United 0. Monday 3rd January 1983. Att: 22,567.

Another polished 90 minutes saw Wolves complete a maximum 12-point holiday haul and march yet another step nearer the twin aims of promotion and Championship. It was Wolves' fifth successive win, their eighth consecutive game without defeat, and only Leeds' third away defeat in Division 2 this season.

Wolves were first to threaten after 12 minutes, with Hibbitt sending Eves away down the left. Mel cut inside for a shot which Lukic blocked and Clarke fired the loose ball across the face of goal. Just after the half-hour, Palmer was put away up the left by Matthews and centred for CLARKE to rise and head Wolves in front with a simple goal.

The second half opened with Humphrey playing a one-two on the edge of the box and firing just over, then Gray heading a Smith cross inches too high. An almighty scramble in front of the South Bank goal saw a Thomas shot blocked and both Gray and Palmer clearing Leeds' headers off the line.

After 69 minutes a Gray lay-off on the edge of the box allowed Clarke to crack in a low shot, but Lukic dived to his right to pull off a superb save. Then, in Wolves' next raid, Humphrey crossed from the left for Hibbitt to send in a diving header which Lukic responded to with another brilliant stop, but unluckily for the 'keeper GRAY was on hand to ram in the loose ball. And the contest was settled eight minutes from time when a Palmer cross was knocked down just outside the box by Gray to Matthews, who set up EVES to slam number three into the bottom corner.

WOLVES: Burridge 7, Humphrey 7, Palmer 8, Smith 6, Pender 7, Dodd 7, Hibbitt 8, Clarke 8, Gray 9, Eves 7, Matthews 7. Sub: Coy (not used).

Tranmere Rovers 0 Wolves 1. (FA Cup 3rd Round). Saturday 8th January 1983. Att: 10,803.

On paper this was an intriguing Cup-tie, between one club which pulled through its survival crisis and another currently undergoing the same traumas but finding many encouraging signs in the struggle to live on. And the game attracted a five-figure crowd to Prenton Park to help swell the Tranmere coffers. But it turned out to be a very drab affair indeed, played on a pitch which was just a morass of mud in the centre, with very little memorable on-field action for the fans to discuss as they trekked home.

A first-half corner count of 8-0 in Tranmere's favour told just how much pressing the home side were doing, and Wolves were certainly being given plenty to think about. Kerr headed just wide, Brown forced Burridge to a fine diving save, and winger Griffiths was Tranmere's star man causing Wolves quite considerable problems.

The Molineux were hardly in it, with only Matthews (volleying over early on), Clarke (forcing 'keeper Endersby to a diving save), and Matthews again (sending in a shot which the 'keeper held) posing any threat at all.

But out of the blue Wolves broke through after 67 minutes with a sloppy goal. Gray raided down the left, and when his centre came across Smith's effort was blocked; but when the ball ran loose, Eves pushed it across for HIBBITT to tap home from close in.

Tranmere now seemed to lose heart, and Eves and Hibbitt both had gilt-edged chances to add to the lead when clean through with only Endersby to beat, but the 'keeper saved Eves' effort, and when Hibbitt had his opportunity moments later Endersby forced him wide and the shooting chance was lost.

WOLVES: Burridge 7, Humphrey 6, Palmer 6, Smith 5, Dodd 8, Pender 7, Hibbitt 6, Clarke 6, Gray 6, Eves 6, Matthews 7. Sub: Coy (not used).

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Our ace reporter Studs First has been privileged to obtain an interview with the much-travelled soccer superstar Phil McGlassup, now sadly retired but still retaining a fervent interest in the game. The full interview will appear in the next issue of this magazine, and there follows a brief extract to whet your appetites:

"Well, Brian, I mean, it's a funny old game. Is it your round? I mean, what's it all about, you know? I think it was John Bond who once said: 'I tell my lads to keep it tight at the back and then they go out and play as if they're on Ex-lax.' You can't make a silk purse out of a pig's trotter though, can you Gary? I mean, when all's said and done, it's all said and done, know what I mean? But you know Simon, it really is a game of two halves. I'll never forget the referee who came into the dressing-room before a match and said 'It's getting foggy out there lads, we'd better play the second half first.' Listen Clive, I said, \*EX\* @ \*E\*, know what I mean? After all, Barry, when the chips are down, you need the salt and vinegar, right?"

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