



*April 1999*

# **London Wolves**

*London Wolves Official Club Magazine*



# From the Chair



Stuart Earl

Whilst we are looking good for a play-off spot, nothing is certain yet, and this uncertainty has us in a dilemma regarding the magazine to wrap up the season with. We have, therefore, decided to issue a mini version for now and follow it up in May with a full edition of the season's close. Hopefully it'll contain a report on the Wembley play-off final !!!

What a difference there has been to our club from the carbon copied information sheets to the members in 1966, to the high-tech newsletter and website. Have you managed a visit yet? Many, many thanks to Jim Richards who has been instrumental in setting the site up and updating it regularly.

This site is not intended to replace the newsletter, but to both supplement and complement it. If you've not yet managed a visit, we are at [WWW.LONDONWOLVES.COM](http://WWW.LONDONWOLVES.COM) it's certainly worth a visit.

Despite the article in the last issue by Morris Jacobs deriding me, I will still talk to him, but only after we win the European Champions League and he stops spending his Sunday afternoons watching the nudists down at Brighton, where we know he moved for this purpose, and not as he maintains for work reasons.

I missed the "Meet the Players" evening due to my being in sunnier climes, but I would like to express my thanks to Colin Lee for bringing the team, and his secretary, Dot, who was a great help to me in arranging it, and Tim Richards and Stefan Leonard for dealing with this end. I was greatly impressed with the reported turn-out for a Friday evening, especially as it was at such short notice, and sorry to have missed what seems from all reports, a great time, even warranting a comment from John Richards in the matchday programme against Bristol City.

*Stuart Earl, Chairman*



# Match Reports

By Stuart Earl

**Wolves v Arsenal (AXA FA CUP 4th Round)**

**24th January 1999**



## ***Overmars, over the moon, then blown sky high***

**W**olves had only themselves to blame, as they fell behind in the early stages of this fast and furious fourth round tie at Molineux. Marc Overmars, gaining possession deep in his own half, ran directly at the heart of the Wolves defence and as one by one the defenders fell away from him, and he calmly placed a low right foot shot wide of the diving Stowell's right hand post and into the net.

Neither side had another direct shot at goal during the first half, but there was plenty of midfield action and Wolves deservedly equalised when Kevin Muscat sent a high centre in from the left, and Harvard Flo leapt high above the oncoming keeper to head home into an empty net.

**Half-time: Wolves 1-1 Arsenal**

Wolves came out for the second period with even more venom, and after eleven minutes, Muscat, who was having a storming match, centred again and this time Flo took the ball on his chest, spun, and cracked a fierce shot which cannoned off of

the post, and rebounded safely into the arms of a very relieved Manninger.

With twenty minutes remaining, Arsenal struck a cruel blow. Mark Atkins cleared the ball from a corner on the right and the ball fell for Berkamp. The Dutchman's shot was apparently covered by Stowell when Flo tried to head clear, only to deflect it onto Curle, this second deflection left the Wolves keeper totally wrong-footed for the visitors second.

Arsenal then stepped up a gear, and Stowell needed all of his skill to save twice from Denis Berkamp and then Overmars with fine one handed saves. In an attempt to up the pace, Wolves sent on all three substitutes for the final ten minutes, but the solid Arsenal defence held firm and sailed through to the fifth round.

**Final score: Wolves 1-2 Arsenal**

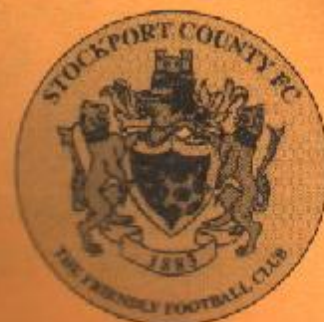
**Att: 27,511**

London Wolves members on this trip: 44

**WOLVES TEAM:** STOWELL, ATKINS, MUSCAT, RICHARDS, CURLE, ROBINSON (CONNOLLY), OSBORN (SEDGLEY), EMBLEN, GILKES, (SIMPSON), KEANE, FLO



**Stockport County v Wolves**  
**30th January 1999**



# ***Stowell takes the mickey and gives Wolves the edge***

**M**ike Stowell and the rest of the defence played possibly the meanest game of the season, knitting together well and blunting a very sharp looking home side.

Dean Richards and Keith Curle played superbly together and the keeper always looked as if he was going to be very difficult to beat, standing firm during a first half onslaught, and saving well from Wolves' old adversary Brett Angell and former Wolves favourite Paul Cook.

**Half time: Stockport County 0 - 0 Wolves**

The all-action match exploded in the ninth minute, when Wolves forced a corner on the right. Osborn floated a cross to the far post and Dean Richards rose unmarked to power a header past Nash. This lead lasted only two minutes, as the defence relaxed for the first time, Flynn took a long throw, it was headed on and Angell backheaded into the net at the near post.

Havard Flo looking better with each game he plays, struck the post for the second successive week and caused the home defence plenty of problems.

Fifteen minutes from time, Carl Robinson latched onto a through pass from Michael Gilkes and lashed a shot goalwards. Home skipper Flynn, attempting to clear, only managed to deflect the ball past his own keeper.

County again came forward in numbers, but Stowell and co. managed to hold firm to take Wolves to within four points of a play-off place position.

**Full-time: Stockport County 1 - 2 Wolves.**  
**Attendance: 8,654**

Train comp winner: Bob White  
London Wolves members on this trip: 20

**WOLVES TEAM:** STOWELL, ATKINS, RICHARDS, CURLE, MUSCAT, ROBINSON,  
OSBORN, EMBLEN (SEDGLEY), FLO, GILKES, KEANE.  
**Subs not used:** CONNOLLY, SIMPSON.





**Wolves v Oxford Utd**  
**6th February 1999**



# ***One shotton target puts the wind up Wolves***

**O**ne lapse of concentration was enough to gift Oxford a share of the spoils at a rainy and windswept Molineux. From the off, Wolves attacked with a purpose and Oxford were reeling under numerous onslaughts, but they kept playing a very dangerous offside trap with it seeming that it would only be a matter of time before it was broken. Oxford had been let off twice in as many minutes, when first Keane, and then Osborn missed gilt edged chances. But the same two players were to be involved when Wolves did spring the trap on thirty-six minutes.

Osborn played a glorious ball into the centre from the right, and Keane, bursting past two defenders, controlled the ball before rounding the advancing Gerrard, and lashing a fierce, rising shot into the net, via the head of Powell, who could only help it on it's way. Visions of a Wolves avalanche of goals appeared, but hopes were dashed only three minutes later, when

United's top scorer, Windass, latched onto a glancing header from Francis, to rifle a shot past Stowell from ten yards. Wolves continued to bombard the visitors goal but lacked any finishing power.

## **Half-time: Wolves 1 - 1 Oxford Utd**

The second half was a very frustrating affair, and if the truth be known, Wolves failed to muster a single shot on target. Recent signing Flo again looked as if he will be value for money, and, when introduced, Paul Simpson livened the midfield, but the team were still booed from the pitch at the close.

**Full-time: Wolves 1-1 Oxford Utd.**  
**Att: 20,811**

London Wolves members on this trip: 44  
Train comp winner: Graham Rinaldi.

**WOLVES TEAM:** STOWELL, MUSCAT, CURLE, RICHARDS, ATKINS, OSBORN, ROBINSON, (SIMPSON), SEDGLEY, GILKES, (CONNOLLY),  
**Subs not used:** FLO, KEANE.



**Wolves v Port Vale**  
**13th February 1999**

# ***Seventh Heaven***



**W**olves moved into seventh position, just off the play-off zone, with this smart victory over an enthusiastic and lively Vale side. The game was only two minutes old, when Paul Simpson, wide on the left, crashed an unstoppable shot in off a post, to give Wolves an early lead.

But, as on so many previous occasions, the visitors were level within two minutes when Bogie prodded hopefully towards the Wolves goal, only for Mike Stowell to make one of his rare mistakes, and totally mis-read the bounce for the equaliser. Latching onto a great through ball from Steve Sedgley, Keane left the defence standing, to beat Musslewhite from just inside the box. Good value for their lead, Wolves almost went further in front when Simpson shook the visitors' keeper with a thunderous shot that he could only parry, but Aspin was able to clear the danger.

## **Half time: Wolves 2-1 Port Vale**

Wolves came back strongly from this setback and instead of being rattled, went close on several occasions before Robbie Keane added a second. Wolves kept the heat on right from the off, and Musslewhite was forced into two magnificent saves in the first couple of minutes. The first from Keane, was tipped over, and then the keeper dived bravely at the feet of Connolly, to keep the arrears to a minimum. Wolves did get one more though, when seconds before the end, Keane was pulled back as he advanced on goal, and Keith Curle fired the spot kick home.

## **Full time: Wolves 3-1- Port Vale** **Attendance: 20,952**

London Wolves members on this trip: 41

**WOLVES TEAM:** STOWELL, ATKINS, (EMBLEM), RICHARDS, CURLE, MUSCAT, SEDGLEY, SIMPSON, ROBINSON, (CONNOLLY), OSBORN, FLO, (NAYLOR), KEANE.



**Sunderland v Wolves**  
**20th February 1999**



# ***Last minute deNail***

After doing more than enough to secure a point at the Stadium of Light, Wolves succumbed to a last minute goal from Sunderland for the third time in three matches. Wolves, defending well, and looking dangerous in attack, fell behind in the tenth minute, when Quinn sent Johnson through, and catching the Wolves defence flat footed, the Scottish international drove a fierce shot under the diving Stowell.

Wolves could have equalised three minutes later, when Robbie Keane darted through, and curled a right footer towards the top corner of the goal, only to see the athletic Sorensen fling himself skywards to tip the ball away. Just before half time, Wolves did equalise, when Simon Osborn lobbed a hopeful ball goalwards, the wind caught the ball, and defender Melville deflected it past his own keeper, with Keane in close attendance.

## **Half time: Sunderland 1-1 Wolves**

Wolves fought hard in the second period, and Keane looking very sharp had two efforts dis-allowed, one, a header, looked to be a perfectly good effort.

However, the last minute lapse occurred yet again, and a ball that could have been cleared fell to Niall Quinn deep in injury time, just when both sides had seemed to settle for a point, which seemed to be a fair result. A ball from Gray, was deflected, and fell to Quinn, who stole in to secure all three points.

## **Full Time: Sunderland 2-1 Wolves** **Attendance: 41, 268**

**WOLVES TEAM:** STOWELL, ATKINS, CURLE, RICHARDS, MUSCAT, SIMPSON,  
SEDGLEY, EMBLEN, OSBORN, KEANE, FLO.  
**Subs (not used)**



**Wolves v Huddersfield**  
**28th February 1999**

# ***Denied yet again in last seconds***



**W**olves stormed into early season pacesetters Huddersfield, and took the lead as early as the tenth minute. Robbie Keane's drive was touched away to Carl Robinson, who smashed the ball home from the tightest of angles. Wolves continued to dominate for the rest of the half, and came close on several occasions.

**Half time: Wolves 1-0  
Huddersfield**

The first fifteen minutes of the second period, were much as the first had been, with Wolves totally on top, but gradually, Town came back into the match. Baldry crossed from the

left, and skipper Gray beat Mike Stowell at the foot of the post with a downward header. However, his joy was short lived, as he headed an own goal at the other end in the 64th minute. Town still popped away at the home defence, and for the fourth time this season, Wolves conceded an injury time goal, this time it was on loan Hamilton who pinched the points from them.

**Full Time: Wolves 2-2 Huddersfield**  
**Attendance: 21,778**

**WOLVES TEAM:** STOWELL, ATKINS, RICHARDS, CURLE, GILKES, ROBINSON, OSBORN, SEDGLEY, EMBLEN, KEANE, (JONES), FLO,  
**Subs not used:**



**Queen Park Rangers v Wolves**  
**6th March 1999**

# ***Sedgley heads for play-offs***



**I**n a first half in which Wolves looked the brighter to begin with, it was Rangers who looked more likely to score, with Kulcsar going close, and Gallen bringing a fine diving save from mike Stowell.

Robbie Keane faded after a bright start, and only managed to slip his marker on a few occasions, and only then to fire wide. Jeanne tested Stowell with a low drive, but all in all, the two defences remained tightly closed.

## **Half time: Q.P.R. 0-0 Wolves**

The second half started brightly, and Michael Gilkes rifled in a drive after a fine run, only to see Miklosko stop his shot, with a fine diving save. With just under an hour gone, Rangers were

reduced to ten men when Michael Pierce was sent off after a second bookable offence, having floored Harvard Flo. Then Wolves were also down to ten, after Mark Atkins was shown the yellow card after kicking out at Jeanne, who had been giving Wolves a torrid time.

However, Wolves snatched the lead on 84 minutes, when Sedgley stooped to head home a fine cross from Gilkes. Wolves then defended desperately, as Rangers pressed for an equaliser, and sent on Corica and Robinson for two forwards, Keane and Simpson, as they bravely held on for maximum points.

## **Final Score: Q.P.R. 0-1 Wolves**

**WOLVES TEAM:** STOWELL, ATKINS, RICHARDS, CURLE, GILKES, EMBLEN, OSBORN, SEDGLEY, SIMPSON, (CORICA), KEANE, (ROBINSON), FLO.  
**Subs not used:**



**Wolves v Bristol City**  
**13th March 1999**

# ***Wolves Flo into play-off position***



**W**olves moved into sixth in the division, with this less than convincing win over a poor City side. Wolves took the lead when Harvard flo converted a brilliant cross from Paul Simpson in the 14th minute, but if the truth be known, the visitors could have easily been four or five goals to the good at half time, if only they had managed to hit the target. Akinbiyi, Tinnion and Locke all went close, and Wolves' defence looked very ragged at times.

## **Half time: Wolves 1-0 Bristol City**

The second half followed much the same pattern as we had seen in the first, but the whole context of the game was changed after 53 minutes, when a harmless looking backpass from Sebok eluded the feet of keeper Steve Phillips, for the most laughable own goal seen for quite some time.

This seemed to give Wolves the confidence they had lacked, and they now advanced with some purpose, and Flo grabbed his second of the game, when yet another pinpoint cross from the left by Paul Simpson, found the Norwegian on the edge of the area, and his volley bounced once, before beating Phillips low and to his right.

City could still have had a consolation, but for a brilliant diving save by Stowell, who had only this one effort actually on target. Thank goodness they were worse than Wolves.

## **Full Time: Wolves 3-0 Bristol City** **Attendance: 25,237**

London Wolves members on this trip: 45  
Free Trip winner: Jim Heath

**WOLVES TEAM:** STOWELL, ATKINS, RICHARDS, CURLE, GILKES, EMBLEN, (ROBINSON), OSBORN, (CORICA), SEDGLEY, SIMPSON, (CONNOLLY), KEANE, FLO.  
**Subs not used:**



**Bury v Wolves**  
**17th March 1999**



# ***A touch of the shakes***

**F**or anyone who didn't know the relevant league positions of these two sides, it would not have been apparent that Wolves were the ones nearer the top. Wolves only shot of any significance of the half came in the eighth minute, when Harvard Flo hammered a shot, which flew over the bar. This apart, Wolves relied on Mike Stowell and his defence to alleviate the dangers.

Stowell saved brilliantly from Barnes, and was then forced into action by Keith Curle, who mis kicked a clearance, before watching helplessly, as Paul Simpson cleared off the line in the thirty third minute, following a corner. In a half of almost non stop pressure, Stowell was forced to make two more good stops in the closing minutes of the half.

## **Half-time: Bury 0-0 Wolves**

The second half followed a similar tack, but Wolves gradually came to terms with the situation, and started to break out of defence. Steve Corica was introduced to the play, and livened up the midfield, Flo looked dangerous up front, but it was Mark Atkins who came closest to scoring for Wolves.

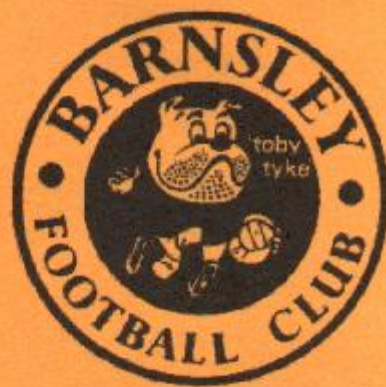
With seventeen minutes remaining, he burst through, but fired a rising shot across the face of the goal. With this being one of two games in hand, Wolves really wanted a victory, but have remained in a play-off position.

**Final score Bury: 0-0 Wolves**  
**Attendance: 5,204**

**WOLVES TEAM:** STOWELL, ATKINS, RICHARDS, CURLE, GILKES, EMBLEN, OSBORN, SEDGLEY, SIMPSON, (CORICA), KEANE, FLO.  
**Subs (not used)**



**Barnsley v Wolves**  
**20th March 1999**



# ***Dean Tykes all three points***

A great comeback by Wolves had looked a distant dream, as after just half an hour, they were trailing by two goals. After thirty one minutes, Dean Richards had unwittingly given the home side the lead, when a shot from Craig Hignett hit his chest, to completely deceive Mike Stowell.

Wolves had not recovered from this shock, when they were two down. Corica pulled Moses down just outside the area, and from the resulting free kick, Jones' shot took a deflection from the wall, to once again leave Stowell wrong footed.

However, Wolves' new attitude when behind was very evident. Muscat, playing with a cast on his damaged hand, pulled a perfect ball across to Neil Emblen, who placed the ball wide of Bullock to reduce the arrears.

**Half time: Barnsley 2-1 Wolves**

In the second half, both sides had opportunities to win it, and after ten minutes, Wolves thought they had equalised, when Steve Corica volleyed, and then saw Bullock hurl himself across goal, to produce the save of the match.

Twelve minute from time, Wolves were level however, Connolly, with his first touch since arriving as substitute, converting a fine Simon Osborn through pass. Richards made up for his earlier mistake, when with almost the final action of the game, he went upfield as Wolves pressed, and found himself open, to place a smart shot past Bullock, and give Wolves a fine away result.

**Full time Barnsley 2-3 Wolves**  
**Attendance: 16,587**

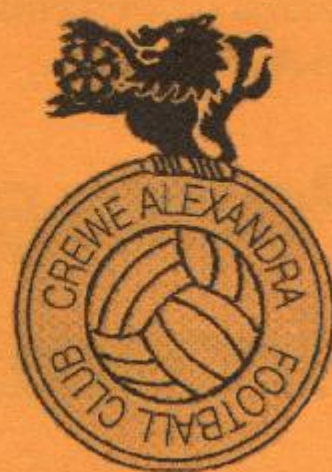
London Wolves members on this trip: 22

**WOLVES TEAM:** STOWELL, RICHARDS, CURLE, EMBLEN, MUSCAT, OSBORN, SEDGLEY, CORICA, GILKES, KEANE, (CONNOLLY), FLO.  
**Subs (not used)**



**Wolves v Crewe Alexander**  
**30th March 1999**

# ***You're jester*** ***Motley*** ***Crewe***



**W**olves tore into a very poor Crewe side, even before they were reduced to ten men after thirteen minutes. Carl Lightfoot was dismissed for a second bookable offence, when he scythed David Connolly's legs from under him. From the resulting free-kick, Kevin Muscat's cross was met by Carl Robinson, and he smartly turned the ball over the line, via the legs of keeper Kearton.

Ten minutes later, and Wolves were two up. Again, Muscat crossed from the right, and this time, it was Harvard Flo who added to his goal tally, and looking a real bargain buy. Mike Stowell did not have a real save to make in this half, as Wolves took total control.

**Half Time: Wolves 2-0 Crewe**

The second half continued in the same fashion, and it would be no exaggeration to say that double figures looked a distinct possibility. However, there was to be only one more goal in an action packed match.

The lively Connolly tormented the visitors defence, and when he rounded Kearton, the keeper took his legs, and man of the match Muscat fired home a perfect spot kick.

Wolves now have a six point cushion in the play-off positions.

**Full time: Wolves 3-0 Crewe**  
**Attendance: 24, 197**

London Wolves members on this trip: 22

**WOLVES TEAM:** STOWELL, MUSCAT, GILKES, RICHARDS, SEDGLEY, EMBLEN, ROBINSON, OSBORN, CORICA, CONNOLLY, FLO.  
**Subs not used:**



**Wolves v Portsmouth**  
**3rd April 1999**



# ***Pompey and circumstances***

**F**or the second match running, a visiting defender was sent off, and left Wolves facing ten man opposition. Wolves once again made all the running, but were unable to break down a Stubborn Pompey defence, despite being on top for the whole of the half. David Connolly worked tirelessly, and Flo came close on a couple of occasions.

## **Half time: Wolves 0-0 Portsmouth**

The one man advantage came just after the hour, when French midfielder Peron, hacked down Kevin Muscat rather crudely, and was shown his second yellow card. Wolves did not take full advantage for a further ten minutes, and then Simon Osborn passed to Muscat on the edge of the area, and the hard working Aussie

unleashed a low, hard drive along the ground, to beat the stranded Knight.

Five minutes later, Knight gifted Wolves a free kick just inside the area, when he picked up a back pass from Thorgerson, a short pass from Connolly to Flo, resulted in the Norwegian smashing a shot through the defensive wall, and past the wrong-footed Knight.

Wolves continued to press forward, but failed to add to their tally in a thoroughly entertaining game, in which Stowell once again had very little to do.

**Full time: Wolves 2-0 Portsmouth**  
**Attendance: 23,262**

London Wolves members on this trip: 55

**WOLVES TEAM:** STOWELL, MUSCAT, RICHARDS, CURLE, GILKES, ROBINSON, OSBORN, (CORICA), EMBLEN, CONNOLLY, FLO.  
**Subs not used:**



# **Wolverhampton Wanderers London Supporters Club**

# **Magazine**

The magazine will be published on the 1st day of August, October, December, February, April, June.

Articles can be sent to any of the following Committee members.  
They should be received not less than 21 days prior to publication dates.

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## **Get Writing!**

*If anybody has an interesting article, or a point of view, on any aspect of Wolves or football in general, please write to any of the Committee members above. This is YOUR magazine, and it is only as good as the articles that go in it. Don't forget it takes Committee members many hours to put together the magazine – but it need only take you a few minutes to jot down your most interesting match, or who your favourite players are, etc.*

*We look forward to your articles!*



