

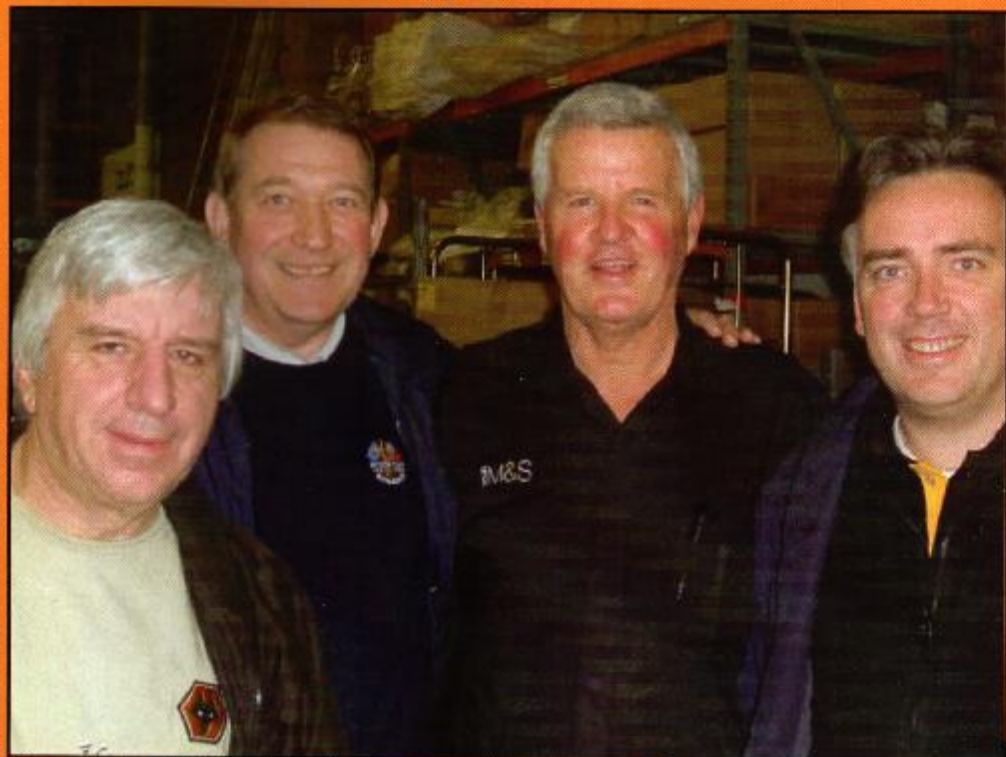


# Wolverhampton Wanderers

## LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

founded 1966

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# FROM THE CHAIR



## WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

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Well, I think the season so far has gone much better than any of us dared to hope four months ago.

MM has taken a group of players, most of whom have not played together before, and got them fighting for each other. The team has hovered around the play-off places, along with quite a few others so, maybe with a few transfer window additions, we may be there or thereabouts come May.

On the Club front, we have had a few comings and goings.

Newsletter Editor, Phil O'Connor, has resigned after a disagreement with the rest of the Committee. John Engleman also resigned, but this was due to a personal difference of opinion with another Committee member.

I would like to thank these two for their efforts over the years. Phil had voiced an opinion at one of our events, and when I asked him to "put it in writing," he did, and then took over and re-vamped our magazine into what it is today.

John has been involved with the Club since the early days, and his contribution has been much appreciated.

Sarah Knapp has taken over on the entertainment front, and Steve Ray has joined us as Committee member and taken charge of the match reports you will see inside.

This leaves us short in the editorial position, so if there are any budding Tony Roches out there who fancy a go, please let one of the Committee know.

As you will see in this edition, Ian Cartwright, a player in the eighties, has had a setback with his cancer treatment and "The Doog" is trying to organise some fund raising activities to help out. The Committee have decided to put the proceeds of this month's pontoon tickets towards the total and we have also arranged to have a table at a fund raising dinner, so if anyone would be interested in attending, please let me know.

All that remains is for me to wish you all the season's greetings, and as Dave Slape would say, "I hope your team wins."

*Stuart*



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## LOOK WHO WE BUMPED INTO!



You will all know by now what a great success our 40th Anniversary bash was. It was your Chairman, Stuart Earl, who came up with the idea that the focal point of the event should be the players in the team that played on the day of our inaugural trip to Molineux. We would also include players that were in the squad that year, as well as other former players who we have also had the highest regard for. Again, as you already know, what a fantastic turn out it proved to be.

However, despite exhaustive efforts by the past players and some of our own Club members, we failed to snare one particular man that would have provided 'the icing on the cake' on our guest list. I quote these words because they are not mine; they are from the players who attended our 'Do'. That man, of course, was Peter Knowles.

Those of us who were privileged to actually be around at the time when Peter was strutting his stuff at Highbury, Anfield, Old Trafford, etc, have never forgotten what a great player he was. With no exaggeration, he was the first 'George Best'. A brilliant player, great goalscorer (look up his record), and destined for a marvellous England future. But it all came to a sudden end.

Because of his well-documented religious beliefs, Peter retired from football and never played again. Wolves held onto his registration in the hope that he would return. He never did. It is true to say that the nation, let alone Wolverhampton, was stunned by his decision. But, fair play to the man. From the day he left the Wolves, to this day, he has been steadfast and true to his beliefs. Because of this I doubt if any supporters ever held any long-term grudges. We certainly didn't and that is why we tried every which way to get Peter to attend our anniversary bash.

Yes, I know, that what I'm about to say is in the wrong religious context, but I thought that if Mohammed won't come to the mountain, then the mountain will have to go to Mohammed. To this end, I found out where Peter was working in Wolverhampton and set off with Peter Woodfield and Phil O'Connor in tow to see him. And, boy, what a nice man he still is. As you can see from the photographs, it's only the grey hair that makes him look different from the Peter Knowles of 40, yes 40, years ago. We chatted with him for some 10 minutes or so, and emphasised how we would have been privileged to have had him at our celebrations. His reply shook us a little. He said he didn't come because he'd have felt a fraud because of his actions 40 years ago!! We told him in no uncertain terms that he was wrong, so very wrong, to think that way.

During our chat he asked if the tall, slim, long-haired bloke in charge was still with us. We told him he was now the Chairman but apart from the description 'tall', he'd changed quite a bit!!!! Peter recalled that after playing in an evening game at Molineux, he'd seen three or four Wolves supporters standing at a bus stop in the early hours. With a few hours to go before the bus' 2.00am departure back to London, Peter insisted that they all come home with him back to his mum's house for some grub. With Peter's fiancé driving the small sports car, Dave Slape and Jeff Ball got in the back and Peter ended up sitting on Stuart's lap in the front!!

As time was pressing and we both had to go our separate ways, Peter wished the Supporters Club well for the future, apologised again for missing the 40th event, BUT did ask when the next one was! So, here's hoping that we have a 45th event and that we're more successful with our invitation to the legend that is Peter Knowles.

**STEF LEONARD**

### FEEDBACK

Please do write to us on all, or any, aspects which you feel would be of any interest or benefit to the Club from a supporter's perspective.

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# MATCH REPORTS



## TEN OUT OF TEN

### WOLVES 1-0 IPSWICH TOWN

8th August 2006

With four players making their home debuts, Wolves totally outplayed their visitors, despite having Cort red carded for a stupid elbow on De Vos., which left Wolves fighting a huge battle with only ten men.

The home side could have been several goals to the good before Bothroyd fired home from more than twenty yards. Leaving Supple looking rather less so than his name suggested



Ipswich, as could be expected, took heart from their extra man, and kept Murray on his toes, and no more so than when the referee awarded a penalty for a push by Craddock on Forster. Murray responded by saving low to his right, and the ten held on for a hard earned victory.

**Opinion:** Worked hard after a senseless sending off.

**Team rating:** 7/10

**Man of the match:** Breen

## JAY'S FLUID

### WOLVES 1-3 PRESTON NE

11th August 2006

For the first fifteen minutes, Wolves looked as if they would continue where they had left off, and subjected the visitors to an opening barrage, which culminated with new boy Bothroyd cutting in from the right, and firing a shot home from seven yards.

The Home side could have been in front prior to this, when, first Bothroyd, and then Ricketts had shots stopped by Nash.



Almost immediately, Murray flapped at a cross, and Nugent volleyed home the equaliser, and as Wolves began to look dishevelled, the same player fired the Lillywhites into the lead.

Wolves looked unlikely to score, and were reminiscent of a side playing together for the first time, and when Whalley scored in injury time it was no more than Preston deserved.

**Opinion:** Looked very bedraggled.

**Team rating:** 3/10

**Man of the match:** Craddock

## JEM OF A BUY

### BURNLEY 0-1 WOLVES

19TH AUGUST 2006



New signing Johnson gave Wolves a very significant edge at Turf Moor, as he scored the winner, and came close on several other occasions.

He gave Wolves the lead after eighteen minutes, when he latched onto a long clearance from Breen, and raced away to fire past Jensen.

Wolves were more or less running the show, and Jones forced a fine save from Jensen, when an attempted lobbed shot forced the keeper to fling himself backwards to tip over, and then rattled his upright with a well worked free kick

With Olifinjana, for once, running the midfield, Wolves rarely looked in trouble,

and on the few occasions the home side did get through the solid-looking defence, Murray was in commanding form in his area.

**Opinion:** The team worked hard together.

**Team rating:** 7/10

**Man of the match:** Olifinjana

## WET AND MISERABLE MISERY

### CHESTERFIELD V WOLVES

Carling Cup - 1st Round

Wednesday 23rd August 2006

In conditions more suited to ducks, Wolves failed to break down lower league opponents and crashed out of the competition on penalty kicks. Torrential and incessant rain throughout the afternoon and evening gave the open 'away end' a thorough soaking but, nonetheless, good vocal support was there for the players.

On a slippery surface Wolves had the better of the first half chances where the conditions and deflected shots took their toll. It was a more even contest in the second half with both teams having good chances to break the deadlock, but to no avail.

In extra-time, two good chances fell to Jemal Johnson to seal a victory. Some eight minutes from time he was unceremoniously brought down in the penalty area, but the referee failed to see the foul that was obvious to the whole stadium. Then, with three minutes to go, he beat the goalkeeper and a defender only to see the ball roll along the goalline and be cleared at the other side of the post.

In the shoot-out, with Chesterfield shooting first, Johnson, Ricketts, Potter and Clapham took Wolves into a 3-4 lead. At 4-4, Henry's shot was saved, and Clarke stepped up to then make the score 5-5. At 6-5 down, Craddock blazed the ball over the bar and that was that. A thoroughly miserable night, and an equally miserable drive home, leaving us to 'concentrate on the League.'



# MATCH REPORTS



## GRAND SHOWING

### WOLVES 1-0 LUTON TOWN

26th August 2006



£100 000 signing Johnson proved to be the match winner for the second game running, as he led the Luton defence a merry dance, with his darting runs, and thoughtful use of the ball.

Wolves had most of the play during the first period, and Johnson could have done better with a volley after fourteen minutes, but alongside a rejuvenated Cort, caused a lot of problems which should have seen Wolves go into the break with the lead.

This situation was rectified before many had retaken their seats after half time, as Wolves caught the visitors cold. Receiving the ball outside the area, Johnson thundered a shot past Beresford to give Wolves a deserved lead.

Murray gave the home fans a worry when he went off with a knee injury, but these were later shown to be unfounded. His deputy, Ikeme, proved up to the task as Luton pressed for an equaliser in the last fifteen minutes, watching drives from both Parkin and Edwards going just wide.

**Opinion:** Worked hard for this result.

**Team rating:** 7/10

**Man of the match:** Johnson

## STOKE POTTY TRAINED

### WOLVES 2-0 STOKE CITY

23rd September 2006

Wolves got back to winning ways at home with a comfortable 2-0 win over

their Midlands rivals Stoke City at Molineux. Stoke on a three game unbeaten away run were always second best following goals in either half from Clarke and Olofinjana which took Wolves up to sixth place in the table.

Stoke started the livelier of the two teams and took the game to Wolves in the first 15 minutes but were unable to break down the rock steady partnership of Breen and Craddock. Eventually Wolves started to look interested and produced their first real threat in the 19th minute when Johnson crossed from the right to Ricketts at the back post, the ball was nodded down to Henry, playing against his former club, but the midfielder saw his diving header blocked by Duberry. However, Wolves were in front just 60 seconds later though as Clarke went on a mazy run which took him past three Stoke defenders before firing a low shot from right to left and under Simonsen for his first goal of the campaign. The advantage would have been doubled but for a superb reaction save from Simonsen who denied Johnson at point-blank range following Ricketts cross in the 39th minute.



Most of the play was now in the Stoke half but a lack of concentration could have been costly just before half time when Matt Murray was called on to save one-handed from Fuller before a sharp dive to his right frustrated Sidibe who had fired on the turn.

Even though Stoke finished the livelier of the teams at the end of the first half, they never again posed the same threat in attack in the second period. Wolves should have doubled their advantage after 65 minutes when Davies saw his goalbound shot blocked by Higginbotham, but they did not have to wait long to seal their

success when the unmarked Olofinjana powered home a close-range header from a well flighted Ricketts cross. Wolves never looked troubled in the second half and Stoke's frustration finally boiled over when Hill was sent off five minutes from the end following a second yellow card.

**Opinion:** Solid in defence with Breen and Craddock in total command.

**Man of the match:** Breen

**Team Rating:** 7/10

**Attendance:** 19,489

**Team:** Murray, Edwards, Breen, Craddock, Mulgrew, Potter, Olofinjana, Henry, Ricketts, Johnson (Gobern 82), Clarke (Davies 62).

**Unused Subs:** Ikeme, Jones, Little.

**Bookings:** Edwards (29 – Unsporting Behaviour).

## NINIAN PARK NIGHTMARE

### CARDIFF CITY 4-0 WOLVES

30th September 2006

A poor refereeing decision ensured that Wolves were left with a mountain to climb when Gary Breen was sent off after just 23 minutes of this encounter. Cardiff showed 10 man Wolves no mercy as they piled forward and made their one man advantage count to take all three points with a 4-0 victory and extend their lead at the top of the Championship.



Both teams were prepared to attack from the opening whistle until Wolves were left with a hopeless task when Breen was shown a red card for violent conduct by referee Pat Miller. Breen went up for a challenge with Thompson and in the appeal that followed to the linesman he lifted his arms and appeared to



# MATCH REPORTS



catch the Cardiff player in the face. Not even a quick tactical substitution and formation change by Mick McCarthy could stop the inevitable Cardiff pressure and this led to them taking the lead just before the break. Parry's corner swirled into the area and Olofinjana allowed Scimeca to rise for a free header, which he placed into the bottom corner of the net.

A troubled afternoon for Wolves showed no signs of improving as Cardiff doubled their lead five minutes after the break with an own goal. Parry swung over a cross and Mulgrew's header struck the unlucky Craddock on the chest before flying into the net past the helpless Matt Murray.

The game was all but over when Kamara struck Cardiff's third with a right-footed drive low into the corner of the net. Parry completed the rout scoring the fourth with a drive from the edge of the box, leaving Mick McCarthy's team with just three points from their last four games.

**Opinion:** Woeful defending following Breen's dismissal

**Man of the match:** Potter

**Team Rating:** 3/10

**Attendance:** 19,915

**Team:** Murray, Edwards, Mulgrew, Potter, Breen, Craddock (capt), Henry, Clarke (Clapham 28), J. Johnson (Bothroyd 67), Olofinjana, Ricketts (Davies 67).

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Little.

**Bookings:** Olofinjana (34 - Unsporting Behaviour), Johnson (39 - Timewasting)

## JAYDREAM BELIEVER

### WOLVES 1-0 COLCHESTER UNITED 14th October 2006

In a closely contested game Wolves were good value for the three points gained against a spirited Colchester United, it was a tough match against the Championship newcomers who were on a run of 6 games undefeated. The visitors soon found themselves

on the back foot as Wolves took the game to them from the onset and the early pressure nearly paid off in the fifth minute when Ricketts lifted his effort well over the bar from 10 yards out. After 15 minutes Bothroyd was even closer when he fired a fierce drive from about 20 yards out which rattled goalkeeper Davison's right hand post. Soon after, as the home team piled forward, a spectacular long range shot from Johnson zoomed narrowly over the Colchester crossbar.

Garcia wasted a good opportunity for the visitors when he shot wide from ten yards out after a header was nodded on from a corner. But Wolves were soon back on the attack with an angled shot from Ricketts going through the arms of Davies on and trickling inches wide of the far post. In stoppage time the keeper made another good save when he turned behind an effort from Olofinjana after Ricketts had seen his shot blocked by a defender.



Both sides ran out unchanged for the start of the second half which opened in earnest when Ricketts earned a free kick on the Wolves left. From his low delivery into the six yard box Bothroyd slid in late to open the scoring in the 50th minute. Moments later and with Colchester on the back foot, Wolves could have doubled their advantage when Johnson dithered too long in the box before feeding Potter a misplaced pass which was driven over the crossbar. In a rare Colchester attack an effort from midfielder Izzet was inadvertently blocked by Clapham and then Cureton nodded wide in the next attack. With 15 minutes remaining Izzet's effort forced Wolves goalkeeper Matt Murray into his first save of the game as the shot was touched onto the right hand post.

**Opinion:** Need to start finishing teams off, could have been punished in the

closing stages after dominating for most of the game.

**Man of the match:** Bothroyd

**Team Rating:** 6/10

**Attendance:** 19,318

**Team:** Murray, Clapham, Craddock, Breen, Edwards, Ricketts (Clarke 79), Henry, Olofinjana, Potter, Johnson (Gobern 86), Bothroyd (Davies 81).

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Mulgrew.

**Bookings:** Olofinjana (20 - Foul),

Gobern (90 - Retaliation).

## UNBEARABLE FOR GRIZZLY ADAMS

### WOLVES 1-0 COVENTRY CITY 17th October 2006

A solid display in defence coupled with a slice of good luck by the way of an own goal helped Wolves to all three points in this close midlands derby. Mick McCarthy would have been very content with the defence who kept their seventh clean sheet of the season but concerned by the continuing lack of goals from his strikers.

Chances were far and few between until the deadlock was broken in the 18th minute. Jemal Johnson began the move which led to the goal,



accelerating past the Coventry midfield before releasing

Ricketts into space to cross the ball to Olofinjana, who spun on the penalty spot before sending in a shot which deflected off Ward and past the wrong footed Marshall into the bottom right corner.

The strike pairing of Johnson and Bothroyd were proving to be a constant threat with the two combining to almost double the lead. Johnson found Bothroyd down the right flank who then crossed to the back post where Henry was a whisker away from



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connecting with the ball. Coventry enjoyed much of the possession in the final 15 minutes of the half although Murray was rarely troubled.

Wolves continued to push forward in the second half with Olofinjana and Johnson both testing Marshall early on. Wolves should have doubled their lead in the 70th minute, Clarke made a well timed run to meet Potter's free kick from wide on the right, but his powerful six yard effort flew just above the right angle of the post with Marshall beaten. Only minutes later Wolves were handed a golden opportunity to seal the points, Olofinjana's pass sent Davies clean through but the striker's first touch took him too wide enabling Coventry defender Page to recover and make an interception.

Coventry enjoyed long spells of possession in the second half but failed to pose any threat in attack and what little they could muster up front was easily dealt with by Murray. Breen was again outstanding at the heart of the defence and ironically it was he who came closest to netting for the away side, slicing a cross agonisingly over his own bar.

**Opinion:** Desperately need some firepower up front

**Man of the match:** Breen

**Team Rating:** 7/10

**Attendance:** 19,823

**Team:** Murray, Clapham, Breen, Craddock, Edwards, Ricketts, Henry, Olofinjana, Potter, Bothroyd (Clarke 61), Johnson (Davies 61).  
**Unused Subs:** Goben, Ikeme, Wheater.

**Bookings:** Bothroyd (56 – Dissent), Olofinjana (74 – Foul), Clarke (82 – Foul)

## DISASTER AT HIGH NOON

### WBA 3-0 WOLVES

22nd October 2006

Apart from the first five minutes,

Wolves were overrun in every department during a dismal first half of the first local derby with WBA in five years and it came as no surprise when Greening put the home side ahead in the 11th minute. Koumas rolled the ball into the path of the former Man United reject 20 yards from goal afforded acres of space he steadied himself before hitting an unstoppable shot past the diving Murray.

Wolves only contribution of the first half came in the 17th minute when they were presented with an opportunity to equalise but crucially squandered it. Zuberbuhler in the home team's goal, whose handling was suspect all match, spilled a long range drive from Bothroyd, the ball ran to Potter who wasted the chance as he fired the ball straight back at the recovering goalkeeper. It was a crucial miss as the home team effectively put the game out of Wolves reach ten minutes later. Jamie Clapham allowed himself to be muscled out of the way down the right flank by full back Albrechtsen and the eventual cross was headed in by the unmarked Kamara past the exposed Murray from the edge of the six yard box.

Following the break and with nothing to lose apart from pride Wolves took the game to their local rivals, they looked a different team and showed a bit of urgency forcing a string of corners with Ricketts causing all kinds of problems. Johnson had a shot on the turn deflected wide, Olofinjana was not far off target with a long range effort and Zuberbuhler got his body behind a Bothroyd volley.

Wolves got caught on the break with six minutes remaining while still pushing forward in the hope of salvaging something from the game. Substitute Little was adjudged to have brought down Kamara just inside the box and up stepped Hartson to despatch the penalty to make it 3-0.

**Opinion:** Didn't start performing until the damage had been done

**Man of the match:** Ricketts

**Team Rating:** 3/10

**Attendance:** 26,605

**Team:** Murray, Edwards (Little 83), Breen, Craddock, Clapham, Ricketts, Henry, Potter (Craig Davies 72), Olofinjana, Bothroyd, Johnson (Clarke 63).

**Unused Subs:** Ikeme, Wheater.

**Bookings:** Craddock (50 – Foul), Henry (79 – Foul), Little (85 – Foul).

## DEFENSIVE HOWLERS ORDER OF THE DAY

### WOLVES 2-2 SHEFFIELD WED.

28th October 2006

Following three consecutive home wins Wolves had to settle for a point with managerless Sheffield Wednesday even though they enjoyed the luxury of scoring twice in a game for only the second time this season. Leon Clarke was recalled to the starting line up in the place of Jemal Johnson and bagged a brace in the process.



Wolves had most of the early attacking play but nearly fell behind in the 23rd minute when

Tudgay saw his 25 yard shot tipped over by Murray, while Ricketts was denied by Jones at the other end. Murray also foiled Burton before Wolves deservedly edged ahead on the half hour mark when Clarke rose to head home Clapham's centre from the left of the six-yard box. Wednesday's equaliser came in the 36th minute following a mistake by Clapham whose loose ball was intercepted by Small who then burst into the area from the right and took advantage of a fortunate bounce to steer over Murray from 12 yards.

The high tempo was maintained in the second half with Wednesday taking



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the initiative and Tudgay being denied by a Rob Edwards' goal line clearance following a half-clearance by Murray. And it was the same Wednesday player who brought a tremendous save from Murray in the build-up to his side's second goal in the 53rd minute, Edwards only partly dealt with the loose ball and Brunt fired home. Only a fine save by Jones prevented Ricketts from levelling matters



moments later and then Craddock headed a Lewis Govern cross wide as

the Wolves piled on the pressure. Clarke should have levelled matters in the 69th minute but he headed wide from close range when it seemed easier to score. However, the striker made amends four minutes later when he took advantage of some sloppy Wednesday defending, Cort headed on a long through ball to Ricketts and when Hills slipped in making his attempted clearance the ball dropped to Clarke in the box who lashed in a volley giving the keeper no chance.

**Opinion:** Clarke rescues the day after schoolboy defending

**Man of the match:** Clarke

**Team Rating:** 5/10

**Attendance:** 20,637

**Team:** Murray, Edwards, Clapham, Potter (Govern 57), Breen, Craddock (capt) (Little 66), Henry, Bothroyd (Cort 11), Clarke, Olofinjana, Ricketts. Unused Subs: Davies, Ikeme.

**Bookings:** None

## ALL SAINTS CALL THE TUNE

### SOUTHAMPTON 2-0 WOLVES

1st November 2006

A goal in each half gave Southampton a 2-0 win over Wolves in a dire encounter at the St Mary's Stadium, it was Wolves fourth away defeat in succession each without scoring a

goal. David Wheeler on loan from Middlesbrough made his Wolves debut in the centre of defence and Cort came in for the injured Bothroyd.

In an uninspiring first half neither side managed a worthwhile shot at goal until Wright-Phillips struck six minutes before the break, he turned Breen inside out before curling a shot past Murray from the edge of the penalty box. Southampton had started the stronger of the two teams before Wolves slowly took control, however they failed to make any impact in the last third of the pitch and the only attempts on goal were two long range efforts wide of the mark from Olofinjana and Henry.

Chances continued to be few and far between after the break, but just as Wolves were enjoying their best spell of attacking pressure in the game Southampton increased their lead in the 70th minute. A long punt upfield was chased by Wheeler and Jones before the striker seemed to control the ball with his hand to help him evade Wheeler and then hit a low shot past Murray. In the dying moments Murray made two good saves to keep the score respectable.

**Opinion:** Worst of the season so far and not one shot on target all night.

**Man of the match:** Murray

**Team Rating:** 3/10

**Attendance:** 18,979

**Team:** Murray, Edwards (Little 84), Clapham, Potter (Govern 57), Breen (capt), Wheeler, Henry, Cort, Clarke (Johnson 57), Olofinjana, Ricketts. Unused Subs: Ikeme, Craig Davies. **Bookings:** Potter (34 - Foul).

## SHRIMP SUPPER FOR CLARKE

### WOLVES 3-1 SOUTHEND

4th November 2006

Following the midweek shambles at Southampton, Wolves got back to winning ways with a 3-1 victory over basement team Southend at Molineux.

All the Wolves goals came in the first half with a pair from Leon Clarke and



a stunning goal from Jody Craddock. Southend started the livelier of the two teams and could have taken the lead as early as the first minute when a free kick from outside the area rattled the top of Murray's crossbar. Following a scrappy first ten minutes in which Wolves constantly gave away possession they suddenly took the lead, Edwards sent Govern chasing a ball down the right flank and when the youngster pulled the ball back across the area the keeper fumbled the ball to Clarke who despatched the ball into the net.

Two minutes later it was 2-0 when a Breen free kick was nodded down by Cort to Craddock who hit an unstoppable over the shoulder volley into the net via the underside of the bar. Wolves were rampant now and on the quarter hour Henry had Flahavan in the Southend goal at full stretch with a powerful drive. The game was all but over in the 23rd minute when Clarke headed home Wolves third from a Ricketts' free-kick flighted from the left wing.

The second half was pretty much an anti climax as Wolves took their foot off the pedal and sat back on their three goal lead. Southend threatened to get back in to the game when Harrold shrugged off Ricketts' challenge to head home in the 57th minute but that was to be Southend's only goal of the afternoon. Eastwood briefly threatened again when he hit an upright in the last 15 minutes but that was towards the end of a game that had effectively finished at half time.



# MATCH REPORTS



**Opinion:** First half fireworks followed by second half damp squib

**Man of the match:** Clarke

**Team Rating:** 6/10

**Attendance:** 17,904

**Team:** Murray, Edwards, Breen, Craddock, Clapham, Goben (Potter 78), Henry, Olofinjana, Ricketts (Little 66), Clarke (Bothroyd 64), Cort. Unused Subs: Ikeme, Johnson.

**Bookings:** Olofinjana (74 Ungentlemanly Conduct).

## TIGERS MAUL TOOTHLESS WOLVES

### HULL CITY 2-0 WOLVES

11th November 2006

After a game where Mick McCarthy was quoted as saying "We failed To Compete" Wolves carried on from where they left off in the previous away game at Southampton with a display that can only be described as inept. Over 1,000 travelling supporters made the long trip on a rain swept day that saw Wolves lose their fifth consecutive away fixture, each without a goal.

Hull began the stronger of the two sides and the first real chance

came in the third minute when Mills found



Parkin 15 yards from goal, he was afforded the time to turn and rifle in a shot which Murray did well to tip over for a corner. Hull were soon ahead though courtesy of some woeful Wolves defending, former England defender Mills lofted a deep free-kick into the box and the ball was flicked on towards the back post where Fagan was lurking to slot the ball home. Wolves had a real let off a minute later, the score could easily have been 2-0 when Forster nodded Delaney's cross over the bar from just six yards.

Wolves came close to levelling in the latter stages of the half as Clarke got round Myhill on the by-line, he played the ball back to Clapham who with only a defender to beat on the line crashed his shot against the side-netting from close range.

After a first half where Wolves had made little threat on the Hull goal Mick McCarthy made a double substitution after the break, off went the ineffective Charlie Mulgrew and Leon Clarke and on came Lewis Goben and Jemal Johnson.

Johnson at least tried to make some impact and six minutes into the second half he had a good call for a penalty when he intercepted a back pass, as he moved forward Myhill looked to have fouled the striker but he stayed on his feet and our old friend Uriah Rennie waved play on (he's never given Wolves anything in any of their games in which he's been involved and you wouldn't expect him to start now). Following this Wolves enjoyed their best period of the game but without really threatening and they got caught on the break on 75 minutes when Fagan reached the right-hand by-line and cut the ball across the face of goal for Elliott to dispatch into the net and finish off a day to forget.

**Opinion:** Dull in Hull

**Man of the match:** Difficult to find one.

**Team Rating:** 4/10

**Attendance:** 16,962

**Team:** Murray, Edwards, Breen, Craddock, Mulgrew (Goben 46), Ricketts (Davies 80), Henry, Potter, Clapham, Cort, Clarke (Johnson 46). Unused Subs: Ikeme, McNamara.

**Bookings:** Breen (40 - Ungentlemanly Conduct), Craddock (77 - Foul)

## CRADDOCK'S SINGING THE BLUES

### BIRMINGHAM CITY 1-1 WOLVES

18th November 2006

Following five successive away

defeats Mick McCarthy made five changes to the side beaten at Hull the previous week and it paid dividends as Wolves shared the points at St. Andrews. A controversial late equaliser from Jody Craddock ended the barren away sequence and send the Wolves fans home happy.

There was a lot more spirit compared with the lack lustre performance at Hull the previous week and Wolves held their own during the early stages of the game. As the first half progressed Birmingham put more and more pressure on the Wolves defence and when the rearguard was broken Matt Murray was in outstanding form and produced a series of brilliant saves to keep the scores level. However, the deadlock was finally broken in the 29th minute when McSheffrey hit a rising drive from the edge of the box past the despairing dive of Murray.

Birmingham continued to press in the second half and had the better of the chances but Wolves stuck to the task in hand and Murray again remained defiant with more outstanding saves defying the home team. Wolves gained their reward in the 88th minute when Jody Craddock scored the controversial late equaliser. Birmingham were furious when referee Mark Halsey waved play on after Wolves defender Gary Breen collided with Larsson deep in the Wolves half with the Birmingham player reacting as though he had been hit by a snipers bullet. The end result was a Wolves corner taken by Rohan Ricketts which was flicked-on by Bothroyd and turned home by Craddock at the far post.



There were two late scares for Wolves when Bendtner had a goal disallowed for offside and





# MATCH REPORTS



McSheffrey dragged a shot across goal from close range.

**Opinion:** A gritty performance to end the run of away defeats.

**Man of the match:** Murray, back to his very best.

**Team Rating:** 5/10

**Attendance:** 22,256

**Team:** Murray, Little, Breen, Craddock, Mulgrew (Edwards 34), Gubern, Olofinjana, Potter (Johnson 80), Henry, Jones (Ricketts 71), Bothroyd.

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Craig Davies.

**Bookings:** Gubern (79 – Foul)

## TWO POINTS THROWN HOWAY THE LADS

### WOLVES 1-1 SUNDERLAND

24th November 2006



What a shocker... Mick McCarthy didn't end up chinning Roy Keane but shaking his hand instead, so there it was, all that fixture changing by Sky TV to Friday night achieving nothing except inconvenience for supporters of both teams.

Sunderland had the first clear chance of the game in the eighth minute when Craddock's misplaced pass was intercepted by Miller who raced forward to find ex Wolves player Connolly, his cutback was cleared by Clapham against Miller but goalkeeper Matt Murray was quickly off his line to save as Leadbitter tried to lift in the ricochet.

Slowly Wolves took control and Gubern swung over a right wing free kick that was met by Craddock's header and palmed away one handed by Ward in the Sunderland goal. Five minutes before half time Craddock was again in the thick of the goalmouth

action, he met Gubern's corner with a volley that Ward partially saved and Whitehead cleared as the Wolves players appealed that the ball had crossed the line. But there was no doubt about the opening goal in the 43rd minute as Johnson bulged the net with a superb 30-yard strike after picking up a Bothroyd flick-on.

Substitute Leon Clarke, on for Bothroyd, wasted a glorious chance to settle matters 15 minutes before the end. After a fine attacking move his close range effort was more or less straight at Ward, a chance that even Stevie Wonder would have found difficult to miss. Five minutes later Wolves paid the ultimate price when a Sunderland attack into their area ended up in a pinball type melee before a deflected Elliot shot from 12 yards beat the unlucky Murray.

Wolves only had themselves to blame for throwing away a golden chance to secure their seventh home win of the season after dominating the game for long periods.

**Opinion:** One point gained and two points lost, should have buried the game long before the equaliser.

**Man of the match:** Dan Jones

**Team Rating:** 6/10

**Attendance:** 27,203

**Team:** Murray, Little, Breen, Craddock, Clapham, Gubern, Olofinjana, Henry, Jones, Bothroyd (Clarke 63), Johnson (Davies 84).

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Collins, Potter.

**Bookings:** Jones (62 – Unsporting Behaviour).

## NO BREAKING THE PALACE STRONGHOLD

### WOLVES 1-1 CRYSTAL PALACE

28th November 2006

For the second time in five days after dominating the game Wolves paid the ultimate price when they conceded a late equaliser at home to Crystal Palace. A host of chances went begging and Mick McCarthy must be desperate for the January transfer window to open

so that he can bring in a quality striker who knows where the net is.

Young Daniel Jones carried on his impressive form from the Sunderland game, he caused havoc in the Palace ranks supplying several good crosses from the wing which unfortunately none of the strikers seemed able to convert into goals. In the 17th minute a quick throw by Murray sent the youngster dribbling his way past most of the Palace players before he shot agonisingly wide of the far post. Wolves were frustrated again after 21 minutes when a Jones corner was headed goalwards by Olofinjana only for Hughes to clear the ball off the Palace goal line.

Wolves continued to enjoy most of the attacking play and took the lead in the



63rd minute Gubern a product of the youth academy chose the perfect time to score his first ever goal. The tricky winger's curling 20 yard free kick looked like it was intended as a cross but somehow managed to evade everyone including the Palace goalkeeper Turner, before creeping inside the post.

Five minutes from the end Freedman, who had received his usual hostile welcome after coming on as a substitute had been on the pitch for only a few minutes before he was set up by a flick on from Kuqi and drilled his shot past Matt Murray for an undeserved equaliser.

**Opinion:** Bitterly disappointing to concede another late equaliser for the second consecutive game.

**Man of the match:** Dan Jones

**Team Rating:** 6/10

**Attendance:** 17,806

**Team:** Murray, Little, Breen, Craddock, Clapham, Gubern, Olofinjana, Henry, Jones (McIndoe 70), Clarke, Johnson (Davies 69).

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Collins, Potter.

**Bookings:** None



# TRAVEL NEWS



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

### Home Matches

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

**Fare** : Members £16; Junior Members £8

Guests £19; Junior Guests £9.50

- Sat 9/12/06 v Leicester City** ♦ Outward - Depart Euston 10:10 - Arrive Wolverhampton 12:14  
♦ Return - Depart Wolverhampton 17:35 - Arrive Euston 19:34
- Sat 23/12/06 v Norwich City** ♦ Outward - Depart Marylebone 09:45 - Arrive Birmingham Moor St 11:51  
♦ - Depart Birmingham New St 12:00 - Arrive Wolverhampton 12:20  
♦ Return - Depart Wolverhampton 17:22 - Arrive Birmingham New St 17:45  
♦ - Depart Birmingham Snow Hill 18:12 - Arrive Marylebone 20:37
- Mon 1/1/07 v Barnsley** ♦ Outward - Depart Euston 09:40 - Arrive Wolverhampton 11:36  
♦ Return - Depart Wolverhampton 18:06 - Arrive Euston 19:59

- Sat 20/1/07 v Cardiff City** ♦ **Sat 3/2/07 v Plymouth** = ♦ Outward - Depart Euston 09:59 - Arrive Wolverhampton 12:14  
**Sat 17/2/07 v Burnley** ♦ **Sat 24/2/07 v Leeds** ♦ Return - Depart Wolverhampton 17:35 - Arrive Euston 19:43

### Away Matches

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

- Sun 2/12/06 v Southend** ♦ Outward - Depart Liverpool St 10:55 - Arrive Prittlewell 11:48  
ALL-TICKET MATCH ♦ Return - Depart Prittlewell 17:28 - Arrive Liverpool St 18:21
- Sat 16/12/06 v QPR** ♦ No official club trip arranged. Nearest underground stations: White City/  
ALL-TICKET MATCH Shepherds Bush (Central Line); Shepherds Bush (Hammersmith & City Line).  
All are a short walking distance from the ground.
- Wed 26/12/06 v Derby** ♦ No official club trip arranged, due to no trains running on Boxing Day.  
ALL-TICKET MATCH Any member wishing to travel to this match, please contact Travel Secretary.
- Sat 30/12/06 v Colchester** ♦ Outward - Depart Liverpool St 11:00 - Arrive Colchester 11:49  
ALL-TICKET MATCH ♦ Return - Depart Colchester 18:03 - Arrive Liverpool St 18:54
- Sat 13/1/07 v Stoke (Fare TBA)** ♦ Outward - Depart Euston 09:40 - Arrive Stoke 12:03  
ALL-TICKET MATCH ♦ Return - Depart Stoke 18:22 - Arrive Euston 21:27
- Tue 30/1/07 v Norwich (Fare TBA)** ♦ Outward - Depart Liverpool St 15:00 - Arrive Norwich 16:52  
ALL-TICKET MATCH ♦ Return - Depart Norwich 22:00 - Arrive Liverpool St 00:03
- Sat 10/2/07 v Preston (Fare TBA)** ♦ Outward - Depart Euston 08:50 - Arrive Preston 12:24  
ALL-TICKET MATCH ♦ Return - Depart Preston 17:47 - Arrive Euston 21:30
- Tue 20/2/07 v Ipswich (Fare TBA)** ♦ Outward - Depart Liverpool St 16:00 - Arrive Ipswich 17:08  
ALL-TICKET MATCH ♦ Return - Depart Ipswich 22:08 - Arrive Liverpool St 23:34

**FA CUP DATES:** 3rd round 6/1/07; 4th round 27/1/07; 5th round 17/2/07

Please also note that dates and times of matches are likely to be changed because of live TV coverage by Sky Sports.

**TRAVEL SECRETARY - PETER WOODFIELD**

94 FARNHAM CLOSE RAINHAM KENT ME8 8NS

Telephone - 01634 363704 E-mail - peteraw@globalnet.co.uk



# NEWS



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**DIXONS**  
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Wolves Allstars vs.  
West Bromwich Albion Allstars

Date

17th December 2006

Venue

London, London, 17th  
The Stadium  
London, London  
West Midlands  
B29 1JL

Kick Off

19.30pm

Price

Adults £10.00

Kids £5.00



Tel: 01384 211743 - www.tividalefc.co.uk/tividalefc-fund-raiser

## IAN 'IGGY' CARTWRIGHT

Sunday 3rd December 2006

Whilst browsing through the London Wolves website, I noticed that there was to be a benefit football match at Tividale FC between 'All Star' teams from Wolves and West Bromwich Albion. As I was going to be 'uuup north' that day anyway, and as I'd remembered Iggy as a player and that his plight saddened me, I decided to give him some support. I was not alone. In the tiny ground, some 2000 people filled the place and helped to raise Iggy's fund to over £14,000, with some further events still to take place.

After talking to Iggy at some length, it was obvious that he desperately needs the medication that our 'wonderful' NHS are denying to him. It certainly makes me mad as hell that NHS money can't be found for life-saving drugs, but is readily available for dancing lessons for fat people or for buck teeth or ingrowing toenail problems. Moreso, if you've come from abroad..... but let's not go there.

The 'Doog' was in attendance and I confirmed that London Wolves will be taking at least one table at the forthcoming benefit dinner. He and Iggy were very grateful for all the support that we were giving to the cause.

The 'Doog' was in fine form and sends his best wishes to all our members. There were many other former players in attendance such as Phil Parkes, Tim Flowers, Robbie Dennison, Geoff Thomas, Keith Downing, Don Goodman, Cyrille Regis, Phil Robinson, Mel Eves, Mick Holmes, Dean Edwards, Neil Edwards, Jon Purdie and Dale Rudge to name but a few. As regards to the match itself, well, what can I say? With most of our players showing thicker waistlines than theirs, we duly lost 7 - 2 with Bob Taylor (4), Cyrille Regis (2) and Richard Sneekes scoring for the Baggies and Phil Robinson and Jon Purdie replying for us.

On the money side, Dave Slape organised a collection for Iggy on the train going to the Leicester City match, and we also decided to donate the proceeds of our scratchcards to the fund for that day. At the time of writing, I believe that about £100 has been raised. I also understand that London Wolves member, Phil Bant, will run next April's London Marathon for Iggy's benefit. Please continue to give your generous support for Iggy and Phil's efforts. Last year Phil ran the London Marathon and raised over £3,000 for the National Autistic Society and the Autism West Midlands charities. In November 2007, he will be running the New York Marathon in aid of the Dreams Come True charity, ([www.dctc.org.uk/dreams.htm](http://www.dctc.org.uk/dreams.htm)).

**STEF LEONARD**

**Any kind donations for Ian can be made to:**

Either Lloyds Bank Account 00263507 sort code 30 98 44 Ian Cartwright Fight Against Cancer Trust  
or cheque to Ian Cartwright Fight Against Cancer Trust c/o Simon Dunkley, 18 Aldershaws, Shirley, Solihull,  
West Midlands B90 1SQ

Other details please contact: Tividale FC on 01384 211743 Or SIMON DUNKLEY 07831 210899