



# Wolverhampton Wanderers

## LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

founded 1966

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Phil 'Lofty' Parkes, Frank 'Bear' Munro and David 'Waggy' Wagstaffe at the Club Shop, prior to the Blackpool match, signing autographs and picture posing for legions of fans.

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# FROM THE CHAIR



## WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

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So, a cracking start to the season, albeit with a temporary blip in October, but the side are back on track, sitting on top of the automatic promotion positions and playing some very watchable stuff. Long may it continue!

Since the start of the season, sad news came in about the loss of two of Wolves' former "greats," Bill Shorthouse and Cameron Buchanon, Cameron still being the youngest ever player to represent Wolves. We at London Wolves regard ourselves as being extremely fortunate to have met both players at our various functions. Both were characters that appreciated the attention of supporters and readily attended when invited. Our sincerest condolences go to their families.

As you know, for many years we have managed to hold a "Meet the Players" event prior to the team's final match in or around the London area, at which we, most years, presented our Player of the Year trophy. However, due to the way that this year's fixtures computer has arranged things, it seems we may be unable to do so this year. Glancing at the fixture list, we do not have a London game after the QPR game in early December. The FA Cup would appear to be our only possibility so, after the 3rd Round Birmingham game, we will keep an eye on the subsequent draws and hope that we can arrange something for you!!!! Unless the draw is kind to us this presentation will, hopefully, be done on the pitch prior to a game at the end of the season. If anyone would like to be a member of the presentation party please let me know.

Recently, Peter Bartlett and I have been working with Meryn Humphrys, "The Doog's" partner, and others, with the aim of raising funds for a bust or statue of our former Life President to be located at Molineux. We have recruited a sculptor, Andy Edwards, who was responsible for the Gordon Banks statue at Stoke City, and are planning several fund raising events. Hopefully, one of these will include a dinner which will probably held at the Wolverhampton racecourse. I feel very honoured to have been assigned as one of the three trustees for the memorial fund, and we will endeavour to keep you informed of progress on this project.

By the time this Newsletter reaches you, hopefully the train services to Wolverhampton from Euston will be back to normal, so a huge vote of thanks to Peter Woodfield for keeping the travel moving during the past few difficult months.

A final thought that I came across which is accredited to Fred Allen (1894-1956). It is a definition of a committee; "A group of people who individually can do nothing, but as a group decide that nothing can be done."

As you know we're always asking for member's contributions to the Newsletter and, sitting as we are at the time of writing at the top of the table, it was interesting to see a pre-season letter from one of our members, which we publish for your perusal in this edition. Let's have more of them!

Have a great Christmas and prosperous New Year.

*Stuart*

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designed & printed by  
ALP Printers, Bromley.  
T. 020 8466 6462

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# CHARLTON BOARDROOM



## A VIEW FROM THE CHARLTON ATHLETIC BOARDROOM.

At the away fixture with Charlton, I was lucky enough to be invited, along with Stef and Jack Leonard, to watch the match from the Directors Box. We were guests of Derek Ufton, one of the great players of England and Charlton's past. It's a hard life really, but I guess that somebody has to do it, and this involved having to take refreshments in the Boardroom with all the niceties that that entailed such as free real ale and masses of food.

There, we met up with Steve Morgan, who was his usual friendly self, and one of our greatest captains, Mike Bailey, greeted us like long lost friends. An unexpected visitor at the end of the match was Andy Murray who was with his coach, John Lloyd, who is also Britain's Davis Cup coach.

During our lengthy conversation with Andy, who had enjoyed Wolves' victory, and a longer one with John, I found out that he, John, has been a life-long Wolves fan. Both came over as very pleasant personalities, and John even threatened to join London Wolves!

We also met a nice guy, John Roberts, who turned out to be the Managing Director of Fullers Brewery, and a Wolves man through and through. Having lapsed his membership of London Wolves many years ago, John asked if we still held social functions as a Club, and extended an invitation to us to tour Fullers brewery in Chiswick. Now, I'm not too sure if any of our members would be interested in this, but I think we'll take a chance and see if there are any takers!

The banter from the Charlton directors was in good spirit and the Chairman even wished us the promotion so that they didn't have to play us again! A fine afternoon and evening was therefore enjoyed, especially with the super Wolves victory, and as usual the Leonard's and the Earl were last to leave the bar, thus keeping up a long held London Wolves tradition.

*Stuart*

It's not often that we comment on players outside our club but I couldn't resist putting this one in for your amusement. On release from his jail sentence, to the best of my knowledge, he is alleged to have said it!

### STATEMENT FROM JOEY BARTON.....

*" The first day is the toughest, no doubt about it. They march you in, hand you your uniform and force you to pose for the photographer while loads of fat, tattooed, skinheads shout abuse at you. That's when you realise it's for real. A whole life blown away in the blink of an eye. Nothing left but all the time in the world to think about it. That's when it hits home. That's when you realise you've signed for Newcastle."*

**ED**

# MASTERS



## Screwfix Masters Cup: Grand Final at the NEC in Birmingham Sunday 7th September 2008



*A bevy of cheerleading beauties urging the teams (and the spectators) on.*



*While the boys celebrate, Don Goodman quenches his thirst!*



*A proud moment for the team's first success in this exciting tournament*



*'Sven Goran Ericsson and Fabio Capello pose with Peter Woodfield and Trevor Read out of gratitude for their advice on future England and Mexico match tactics!*

# MATT MURRAY



## Matt Murray

Its probably true to say that all Wolves fans felt the sadness and despair at the news that Matt had sustained a serious injury to his 'good' knee whilst playing for Hereford in his loan spell. It was severe damage that will probably keep him out of action for the best part of a year. It prompted Peter to send the following letter of encouragement.



*Hi Matt,*

*We were all devastated to hear your return to action had been so cruelly ended again last night.*

*On behalf of London Wolves can I wish you success with this week's operation and then with this year's recovery. I hope the time goes quickly and the return smoother than ever before. We all expect to see you in goal for Wolves in the Prem this decade (but have mixed feelings about you winning too many Player of the Season trophies!).*

*all the very best,*

*Up the Wolves!  
Peter Bartlett*



# MEET THE PLAYERS



## MEET THE PLAYERS

Canary Wharf Hilton Hotel - Friday 28th March 2008

Here are some further photos from our annual 'Meet The Players' event on the night before last season's away match against Charlton Athletic.





## Competition



The latest London Wolves competition has two prizes to give away this time.



The competition runs until the 8th January and winners will be drawn on 10th January before the Preston North end home game.

The winner will receive the super **Wolves Season Review 2007-8**. Although we finished 7th there is some fantastic action and it's the best produced of all the review DVD's. The runner-up prize is "**Wolverhampton Wanderers, The Complete Record**". It is a brand new publication of almost 500 pages, with every match ever played, league tables from the very beginning and features on the many legends that have graced the famous gold and black colours. It might even out-Slape Dave Slape!

So, the question is:

**Name this Wolves legend in disguise?**

- Is it
- (a) Wayne Hennessey,
  - (b) Phil "Lofty" Parkes,
  - (c) Willy Carr,
  - (d) George Berry
  - (e) Matt Murray.

*Clue: he played 382 times for Wolves.*



As usual, either enter via the website or give your answer to Dave Slape.

If you can't wait for the competition, both the DVD and "Wolves, The Complete Record" are now on sale in the Wolves shops.



## Commitment to the Cause



Since Steve Morgan bought the Club from Sir Jack for £10, which incidentally is framed in the main entrance foyer, some unkind supporters from the terraces have questioned his total commitment to the Wolves. Well as you can see, his personal jet, a Gulfstream G200, doesn't have a red livery but carries our colours, motif and personal registration.

Nice one, END OFF!!!

## INAUGURAL HALL OF FAME DINNER

Thursday 15th January 2009

We have been asked by the organisers if we would like to take a table, or two, for this event. Details of it have been published on the Wolves website and although we provisionally booked a 'Gold Package' table for ten, the places were snapped up pretty pronto. It's going to be a fabulous evening with six nominees being inducted, so far to date Billy Wright, Ron Flowers, Derek Parkin and Steve Bull have been put forward. The other two have yet to be named. So if any of you wish to take part in this memorable event, look up the details on the [www.wolves.co.uk](http://www.wolves.co.uk) site and let Stooo, Stef, Dave or Peter know asap. If anyone wants to book direct with the Club, please let us know.

**Question:** What do the letters WBAFC stand for?

**Answer:** We're Bottom Again For Christmas.

**NICE ONE!!**



# MATCH REPORTS



## NEW SUPER SUBS LAUNCHED AT PLYMOUTH

### PLYMOUTH ARGYLE 2-2 WOLVES

Saturday 9th August 2008

Another season opener and expectations were high again as Wolves kicked off the new campaign in a rain soaked game away at Plymouth and they twice came from behind to earn a point in a 2-2 draw. Michael Kightly was the star of the show but it was new boy Sam Vokes who grabbed all the headlines when he climbed off the bench to score a dramatic equaliser.

Wolves were put under constant pressure from the kick-off and the new central defensive pairing of Jody Craddock and new boy Richard Stearman looked all but comfortable. Their lack of understanding showed in the seventh minute when Plymouth opened the scoring, a long goal kick from goalkeeper Stack went over the heads of everyone including last man Craddock and Fallon who found himself on his own ran through and let the ball bounce before lobbing it over Hennessey into the net. Wolves continued to struggle but they stunned the home crowd when they scored against the run of play in the 20th minute, Kightly volleyed home from ten yards after ending a move that he started in his own half.



After dragging themselves back into the game Wolves gifted Plymouth the lead again ten minutes after half time, following a corner on the right and with the defence in complete disarray Seip volleyed home from six yards after a goalmouth scramble. In a game which would have probably been lost the season before Wolves stormed back and it was only Stack who kept the home team's noses in front with a series of brilliant saves, including a miraculous triple save where he denied Elokobi twice and Ebanks-Blake within a minute. Vokes replaced Ebanks-Blake in the 76th minute and within two minutes of coming on he grabbed the equaliser when he

drove home an unstoppable shot from inside the box after swapping passes with other substitute Iwelumo.

**Opinion:** After a shaky first half hour responded well and could have won at the death.

**Man of the match:** Kightly

**Team Rating:** 6/10

**Attendance:** 14,789

**Team:** *Hennessey, Foley, Craddock, Stearman, Elokobi, Kightly, Henry, David Jones, Stephen Ward (Jarvis 67), Ebanks-Blake (Vokes 77), Keogh (Iwelumo 67)*

**Unused Subs:** Ikeme, Collins

**Bookings:** Kightly (17 - foul), Iwelumo (81 - foul)

## NEARLY CARVED UP BY STANLEY

### WOLVES 3-2 ACCRINGTON STANLEY (aet)

Tuesday 12th August 2008 (Carling Cup 1st Rd)



Wolves were given their annual fright in the first round of the Cloth Cap Cup by League Two side Accrington Stanley. Stanley's keeper Kenny Arthur was in inspired form with a series of great saves but his brave team were finally overcome 3-2 after extra time.

It was Wolves who made all the running but keeper Kenny Arthur, a disallowed Iwelumo goal and poor finishing kept the scores level until the 40th minute when the inevitable happened and Stanley scored against the run of play. A through-ball from Cavanagh fell to Clarke whose rocket of a shot from 20 yards came back off Hennessey's crossbar and Mullin headed the rebound into the net with a diving header. Wolves laid siege on the Stanley goal and deservedly got the equaliser with 13 minutes of normal time remaining, a pinpoint cross from Keogh on the left found Iwelumo who powered in a header from eight yards.

Wolves took the lead midway through the first half of extra time when Iwelumo thundered another header into the back of the net from a corner, but just one minute later Stanley were back on level terms when Craney beat the offside trap to slot the ball past Hennessey from the edge of the area. Wolves finally killed off Stanley when Mark Davis, back from injury scored the decider in the first minute of the second extra period when he gathered a flick on from Iwelumo and coolly slotted his shot into the bottom right hand corner. Stanley's misery was completed when defender Robbie Williams proved he was no "Angels" when he was sent off in the last minute of extra-time when he brought down Stearman who was through on goal.

**Opinion:** Made hard work of it but deserved to win in the end.

**Man of the match:** Iwelumo

**Team Rating:** 5/10

**Attendance:** 9,424

**Team:** *Hennessey, Foley, Stearman, Collins, Elokobi, Gray (Davies 99), Henry, Edwards, Daniel Jones (Keogh 53), Iwelumo, Vokes (Ebanks-Blake 63)*

**Unused Subs:** Ikeme, Craddock, Stephen Ward, Potter

**Bookings:** Keogh (99 - foul)

## OWLS WANT NO MORE LUMO

### WOLVES 4-1 SHEFFIELD WED

Saturday 16th August 2008



After a sluggish first half hour in which Wolves went a goal down they fought back in great fashion to hammer Sheffield Wednesday 4-1 at Molineux. New boy Chris Iwelumo was the class act as he scored two goals to add to the brace he scored against Accrington Stanley in midweek.

After an early chance where Jarvis forced a good save from Grant in the Wednesday

# MATCH REPORTS



goal, Wolves went into a very apathetic mood, and the situation wasn't helped when Jody Craddock hobbled off after just eight minutes. Wednesday took the game to Wolves and deservedly opened the scoring in the 15th minute when winger Esajas was released by Burton and he fired home from the edge of the area. Wolves got themselves back in the game with their first real clear cut chance in the 28th minute, Iwelumo rose highest on the left side of the box to connect with Foley's cross and power a header into the bottom corner of the net.

Following the equaliser it was one-way traffic and as much as Wolves struggled in the first half they were in total control in the second, and it took them just nine minutes to go in front. Jarvis went down in the area following a tackle from McCallister and Ebanks-Blake blasted his penalty hard and low down the middle to give Wolves the lead. Five minutes later the impressive Iwelumo made it 3-1, Kightly broke down the middle and his angled shot came back off the foot of the post, but the ball rebounded kindly for Iwelumo who made no mistake from three yards out. It was basically game over at this point and there was only one team in it, the only question was how many goals the winning margin would be. After numerous close shaves there was one more goal and it came in injury time when Ebanks-Blake played in Edwards down the left and the midfielder slotted home to finish the rout.

**Opinion:** Nice to see the boys scoring for fun after the lack of goals last season.

**Man of the match:** Iwelumo, where did this boy come from?

**Team Rating:** 8/10

**Attendance:** 22,491

**Team:** Hennessey, Foley, Stearman, Craddock (Collins 7), Elokobi, Kightly (Edwards 86), David Jones, Henry, Jarvis (Keogh 75), Ebanks-Blake, Iwelumo

**Unused Subs:** Ikeme, Vokes

**Bookings:** David Jones (77 - foul)

## WOLVES HIT THE TOWN

### IPSWICH TOWN 0-2 WOLVES

Saturday 23rd August 2008

Wolves put in one of their best away



performances for a long while as they totally outplayed Ipswich on their own turf at Portman Road. However there was a bitter taste to the victory when full back George Elokobi was later diagnosed as having knee ligament damage after being stretchered off in the second half.

Wolves totally dominated the early exchanges and the new strike partnership of Sylvan Ebanks-Blake and Chris Iwelumo caused chaos in the Ipswich defence. Sure enough it was Wolves who took the lead in the 21st minute, some classy passing in the Ipswich half released Jarvis on the left and his pin-point cross found Ebanks-Blake who headed home the edge of the six yard box.

Ipswich started the better of the two teams in the second half and started to put some pressure on the Wolves defence, and on the hour mark they created their only real chance and it coincided with Elokobi's injury. The full back went down following a push from Haynes and the resulting cross caused pandemonium in the Wolves defence, the result of which saw Stearman kick the ball off the line.

The win was sealed for Wolves with just under 15 minutes remaining, Alex Bruce could have no complaints after receiving a straight red card for a two footed lunge on David Jones which the midfielder did well to jump over. From the resulting free-kick Jarvis picked up the ball and his shot from the edge of the area was spilled by the goalkeeper to the grateful Edwards who made no mistake to make it 2-0. Wolves laid siege on the Ipswich goal in the remaining minutes but the closest they came to scoring was in injury time when Jarvis rattled the outside of the post.

**Opinion:** Best away performance for a long while.

**Man of the match:** Stearman

**Team Rating:** 9/10

**Attendance:** 21,483

**Team:** Hennessey, Foley, Collins, Stearman, Elokobi (Edwards 62), Kightly (Keogh 90), David Jones, Henry, Jarvis, Ebanks-Blake (Darren Ward 64), Iwelumo

**Unused Subs:** Ikeme, Vokes

**Bookings:** Henry (60 - dissent),

Edwards (81 - kicking ball away)

## MILLERS GRIND DOWN CLUELESS WOLVES

### ROTHERHAM UNITED 0-0 WOLVES

(aet - Rotherham win 4-3 on penalties)

Tuesday 26th Aug 2008 (Carling Cup 2nd Rd)



For the second season in a row Wolves were knocked out of the Carling Cup in the 2nd round by league two opponents, this time it was at the hands of Rotherham who copied the feat of Morecambe last season. After the scare they had against Accrington Stanley in the previous round Wolves seemed to learn nothing about playing a lower division team. Even though they had the majority of the possession they again struggled to breakdown a team 68 places below them in the league tables and after 120 minutes of stalemate crashed out 4-3 on penalties.

In a drab game where the stats showed that both teams only managed nine goal attempts between them in two hours of tedium the game inevitably went to penalties. Carl Ikeme put Wolves in the driving seat when saving the first penalty against him in the shoot out, but then Kevin Foley shot wide and the clueless Elliott predictably had his penalty saved as Rotherham went through 4-3 on penalties.

**Opinion:** Don't these people ever practice penalties in training?

**Man of the match:** Henry

**Team Rating:** 1/10

**Attendance:** 5,404

**Team:** Ikeme, Foley, Collins, Stearman, Gray (Elliott 79), Kightly, Edwards (David Jones 100), Henry, Darren Ward,

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*Stephen Ward, Keogh (Iwelumo 46)*

**Unused Subs:** Davies, Daniel Jones, Potter, Hennessey

**Bookings:** None

## TIMBER EVERYWHERE AS FOREST CHOPPED DOWN

### **WOLVES 5-1 NOTTINGHAM FOREST**

Saturday 30th August 2008



Wolves produced one of their best first half performances for years when they ran riot against Nottingham Forest to record a 5-1 win, and With Birmingham only managing a point away to Norwich it was Wolves who went to the top of the Championship in style. Wingers Kightly and Jarvis were both in brilliant form and they tormented the Forest full backs into submission in what was one of the best 45 minutes of football for a long time at Molineux.

The rout started in the 14th minute with a debut goal from David Jones who fired in from outside the box after good work from Ebanks-Blake and Iwelumo. Wolves made it 2-0 on the half hour mark when Forest keeper Morgan punched a Jones free-kick onto the back of defender Smith's head and the ball rebounded back into the net. The onslaught continued and Kightly came within a whisker of Wolves third with a 35-yard screamer that nearly broke the crossbar and then Ebanks-Blake went even closer when he had a goal disallowed for offside. Two minutes before the break Wolves got the third and it came in spectacular style from Kightly when he drilled a right-footed effort from 25 yards into the top right-hand corner. A glorious 45 minutes was brought to an end when Iwelumo added a fourth after he converted a cross from Jarvis.

Forest who had spent most of the game on the back foot got a goal back in the 55th minute when Hennessey punched the ball from a corner straight into the back of Stearman's head and into the net. It was only temporary respite as Wolves continued to attack the Forest defence and after Kightly saw a free-kick tipped over by

Smith the winger produced a superb solo effort to score a fifth in the 62nd minute, he cut in from the right and went past two defenders before firing in an unstoppable shot into the opposite corner of the net.

Forest took to the tactics of trying to kick Kightly out of the game and Chambers was lucky to escape a second yellow card after hacking him down. The pressure continued to the finish and David Edwards was unlucky not to add a sixth when for the second time in the game Wolves had a goal ruled out for offside.

**Opinion:** Good old fashioned wing play at its very best.

**Man of the match:** Kightly

**Team Rating:** 9/10

**Attendance:** 25,301

**Team:** Hennessey, Foley, Collins, Stearman, Stephen Ward, Kightly (Gray 77), David Jones, Henry, Jarvis (Edwards 66), Iwelumo, Ebanks-Blake (Keogh 65)

**Unused Subs:** Darren Ward, Ikeme

**Bookings:** None

## WINNING BECOMING AN ADDICK'T

### **CHARLTON ATHLETIC 1-3 WOLVES**

Saturday 13th September 2008



Wolves came from behind and scored three unanswered goals in the second half to record victory against Charlton at the Valley, it was substitute Sam Vokes who came off the bench to net a brace in the final ten minutes and give the visitors an emphatic 3-1 victory.

Wolves got off to the worst possible start when they fell behind in the fourth minute, Stearman's header out following a free-kick fell to Bailey who volleyed the ball back into the net from about 25 yards. Following the early setback and with 3000 of their supporters noisily behind them Wolves played their way back into the game, and although they created very few chances they took control of the game. As the first half approached its conclusion it looked like Wolves had grabbed a deserved

equaliser when Keogh side footed the ball home after Weaver had parried a drive from Jones, but celebrations were cut short by linesman Mr. Magoo who raised his flag for offside.

On the hour mark Wolves finally got their just rewards when they were awarded a penalty after Bailey kicked Keogh in the area following a quickly taken free-kick and Ebanks-Blake stepped up and made no mistake from the spot. Sam Vokes replaced Matt Jarvis in the 65th minute and in the 81st minute got his leg on the end of a brilliant cross from makeshift left-back Stephen Ward to put Wolves 2-1 up. It was party time and salt was well and truly rubbed in the Charlton wounds when Vokes helped himself to his second and Wolves third goal. Karl Henry went on a long run from his own half and laid the ball to Kightly who hammered a shot that Weaver parried out for that man Vokes to nod in.

**Opinion:** Pity we couldn't finish like this last season, goals at the moment coming by the bucket load.

**Man of the match:** Vokes

**Team Rating:** 8/10

**Attendance:** 21,547

**Team:** Hennessey, Foley, Collins, Stearman, Stephen Ward, Kightly, David Jones, Henry, Jarvis (Vokes 65), Keogh (Gray 90), Ebanks-Blake (Edwards 86)

**Unused Subs:** Ikeme, Shackell

**Bookings:** Jones (82 – foul)

## CRASH LANDING FOR EAGLES

### **WOLVES 2-1 CRYSTAL PALACE**

Tuesday 16th September 2008



Wolves continued their fine start to the season with a 2-1 home win over Neil "we were hard done to" Warnock's Crystal Palace side in this midweek encounter at Molineux. The home team got off to a dream start when they went a goal up in the first minute, but they then made hard work of it by allowing Palace back into the game before sealing the points in the second half.

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Wolves made the perfect start to the game when they scored after just 19 seconds, David Jones headed Keogh's left-wing centre into the path of Ebanks-Blake who then in one movement turned and scored with a low left-foot shot into the corner of the net. Instead of going for the kill Wolves took their foot off the pedal and allowed Palace to play themselves back into the game and in the 34th minute they paid for their complacency when Ifill levelled the scores. There was no danger on the right wing when Collins failed to clear the ball, Djilali accepted the gift and crossed to the unmarked Ifill who made no mistake from eight yards.



Wolves upped the tempo again at the start of the second half and the lead was restored on the hour mark when Keogh headed home from close range after Speroni had made a point-blank save from an Ebanks-Blake shot. Kightly had a golden chance to finish things off in the 71st minute following a great run into the box from midfield, but his finish let him down when he scooped the ball over the bar with only Speroni to beat.



**Opinion:** After failing to capitalise on the early goal ground out the result when needed.

**Man of the match:** Kightly

**Team Rating:** 6/10

**Attendance:** 22,200

**Team:** Hennessey, Foley, Stephen Ward, Henry, Stearman, Collins, Kightly, David Jones (Edwards 28), Ebanks-Blake (Shackell 90), Keogh, Vokes (Gray 66)

**Unused Subs:** Ikeme, Friend

**Bookings:** Foley (68 - foul), Ebanks-Blake (75 - foul)

## THREE'S ALL ROUND

### PRESTON NORTH END 1-3 WOLVES

Saturday 20th September 2008



Wolves continued their unbeaten start to the season with an outstanding win at third placed Preston. It was three's all round with three sending off's, three goals and three points clear at the top of the table. The main talking point was the sending off of Chris Iwelumo after he had scored a brilliant hat-trick, but this shouldn't hide an outstanding display by the team in a match that looked difficult on paper.

The game kicked off 15 minutes late due to traffic problems but when it did start it was an end-to-end affair with both sides having numerous chances; Kightly and Iwelumo both went close before Wolves finally took the lead ten minutes before half time. A corner kick from the right was headed against the bar by Collins and the ball was partially cleared to Jones who crossed it back in to Iwelumo who was as the back post to score with a brilliant overhead kick.

Wolves took the field in the second half with Mick McCarthy watching from the stand after being sent there for applauding the referee off at half-time, but it didn't make any difference to what was happening on the pitch as they added a second after 66 minutes. Keogh won the ball in midfield and sent Kightly racing into the area and when the winger pulled the ball back Iwelumo was on hand to make it 2-0. It was attack after attack as Wolves kept pushing forward and when Kightly was upended in the area Iwelumo stepped up to put the resulting penalty in the top right hand corner for his hat-trick. However, four minutes later Iwelumo's game came to an end when he was shown a straight red card for an alleged head butt on St Ledger.

After McCarthy and Iwelumo, Hennessey became Wolves third sending off in injury-time for bringing down Mellor, Jason Shackell put on the keepers jersey but

Mellor picked himself up to score from the resulting penalty.

**Opinion:** Disappointing end to the game but that's now six wins on the run and three points clear at the top of the league.

**Man of the match:** Iwelumo

**Team Rating:** 9/10

**Attendance:** 17,567

**Team:** Hennessey, Foley, Collins, Stearman, Stephen Ward, Kightly, David Jones (Edwards 69), Henry, Jarvis (Shackell 89), Iwelumo, Ebanks-Blake (Keogh 61)

**Unused Subs:** Ikeme, Vokes

**Bookings:** Jones (26 - foul),

Kightly (75 - dissent)

**Sendings-off:** Iwelumo (75 - violent conduct), Hennessey (90 - prof. foul)

## WHO'S THE "BIGGER CLUB" McINDOHH...

### WOLVES 2-0 BRISTOL CITY

Saturday 27th September 2008

Wolves put in a high-tempo performance to outgun visitors Bristol City at Molineux, it was their seventh successive win in the league and following the other results put them three points clear at the top of the championship.



Wolves flew out of the blocks and caused the visitors all kinds of problems, the two wingers Jarvis and Kightly went on the rampage as early chances went begging. Bristol did have the occasional counter attack but it was Kightly especially who was in the thick of everything, and not surprisingly it was he who opened the scoring in the 17th minute. A looping free-kick from the touchline flew over the heads of everybody including keeper Weale and into the top right-hand corner of the net. Bristol to their credit tried to fight back and forced Ikeme into two decent saves, but it was Wolves who finished the half in the ascendancy with Ebanks-Blake guilty of missing two clear-cut chances.

City started the second half in the same manner as they finished the first, on the

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back foot and keeper Weale had to be at his best to first deny Keogh with a superb stop before producing an even better save when keeping out an Ebanks-Blake's effort. A few minutes later former Wolves "has been" Michael McIndoe clubbed a great chance wide when it seemed easier to score and the new City superstar was made to pay for his miss in the 68th minute when Wolves increased their lead. The visiting defence only half cleared a Jarvis cross and Jones headed the ball back towards Ebanks-Blake who scored with a spectacular overhead kick from six yards. It was game over for City and Wolves continued to create chances as the game entered the closing stages with Kightly in the thick of everything and earning man of the match with a mile to spare.

**Opinion:** What a picture to see McIndoe, "who left for a bigger club" leaving the field to a chorus of "This club's too big for you" ringing in his ears.

**Man of the match:** Kightly

**Team Rating:** 8/10

**Attendance:** 24,324

**Team:** Ikeme, Foley, Stearman, Collins, Stephen Ward, Kightly (Gray 90), Henry, David Jones, Jarvis (Edwards 81), Keogh, Ebanks-Blake (Vokes 86)

**Unused Subs:** Murray, Shackell

**Bookings:** Kightly (66 - foul)

## NO ROYAL PARDONS ON OFFER

### WOLVES 0-3 READING

Tuesday 30th September 2008

Even though they remained two points clear at the top of the league Wolves unbeaten start to the season came to a spectacular end with a 3-0 defeat at home to Reading. The visitors who were relegated from the Premiership last season showed they still had plenty of class in their side and were good value for their win. The night ended in more misery as wingers Jarvis and Kightly both suffered hamstring injuries with Jarvis rumoured to be out for two months after being stretched off.



Wolves started brightly with two early corners but to be honest that was as good as it got on the night and after four minutes Hennessey made a real hash of a corner from the right and pushed the ball into his own net when under pressure from Doyle. There was lots of hustle and bustle but no penetration from Wolves and on the half hour they had a real escape when Foley kicked it off the line following a header from Doyle. However from the clearance Kightly broke forward and put in Keogh who had a great opportunity to equalise but weakly side-footed it straight at Hahnemann.

Wolves battled away bravely in the second half but were unable to break down a solid Reading defence and after a let off when Kebe hit the post in the 55th minute Reading increased their lead with 20 minutes to go when Bikey headed home from close range. The visitors by this time were in complete control and after two more close efforts from Doyle and Hunt they made it 3-0 with two minutes left when Cisse latched on to an through ball to steer a low drive under the advancing Hennessey.

**Opinion:** One of those nights.

**Man of the match:** Stephen Ward

**Team Rating:** 4/10

**Attendance:** 24,302

**Team:** Hennessey, Foley, Stearman, Collins, David Jones, Kightly (Vokes 40), Henry, Jarvis (Edwards 77), Stephen Ward (Shackell 77), Ebanks-Blake, Keogh

**Unused Subs:** Ikeme, Gray

**Bookings:** Stearman (25 - foul)

## STATUES OF LIBERTY

### SWANSEA CITY 3-1 WOLVES

Saturday 4th October 2008

Having started the season with an unbeaten eight game run its now two defeats in five days as Wolves were well beaten 3-1 at the Liberty Stadium by Championship newcomers Swansea. Mick McCarthy made four changes from the team who started against Reading with the injured Kightly, Jarvis and Ebanks-Blake replaced

by David Edwards, George Friend and on-loan winger Carlos Edwards. Wayne Hennessey was also dropped and replaced by Carl Ikeme, presumably due to the Welsh keepers' indifferent game against Reading in midweek.



In weather conditions reminiscent to those at Plymouth on the opening day Wolves got off to a nightmare start when Swansea took the lead with a goal from Jordi Gomez after just 26 seconds. The striker received a pass on the edge of the area before cutting in past a static Wolves defence to fire a low shot into the bottom left hand corner. After the shocking start Wolves slowly fought their way back into the game and after 16 minutes levelled the scores with virtually their first opening. Good work by David Edwards put in Keogh who slipped in between two defenders before slotting home from ten yards.

Considering the rain and gale force winds both teams played some entertaining football with Swansea just having the better of the possession. Wolves had a lucky escape in the 35th minute when Gower blasted the ball into the net, but a slight touch from Gomez in an offside position made sure the scores stayed at 1-1. Swansea went close again on 39 minutes when Scotland headed the ball against the crossbar from just two yards out, but two minutes later Wolves luck finally ran out, their defence was all at sea again as Scotland found acres of space in front of goal to make it 2-1.

Swansea had most of the play after the restart but it was substitute Sam Vokes who nearly grabbed an early equaliser when forcing a great save from De Vries from six yards out. Just before the hour mark it was game over when Swansea added a third, it was Scotland again who picked up the ball about 40 yards out, he ran another 20 yards totally unchallenged before driving it hard and low past Ikeme from the edge of the area. Swansea totally dominated affairs following the goal but Wolves to their credit did fight on to the

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final whistle and were only denied a consolation goal five minutes from the end when Leon Britton cleared Stearman's header off the line.

**Opinion:** Woeful defending from start to finish, need to steady the ship at the back as a matter of urgency.

**Man of the match:** Keogh, but should be all of the soaking wet 2,470 away supporters.

**Team Rating:** 3/10

**Attendance:** 17,556

**Team:** Ikeme, Collins, Stearman, Friend (Vokes 52), Foley, Henry, David Edwards, Jones, Carlos Edwards (Shackell 81), Keogh, Ward

**Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Potter, Hemmings

**Bookings:** Keogh (40 – foul)

## EVERY CLOUD HAS A SYLVAN LINING

### WOLVES 2-1 COVENTRY CITY

Saturday 18th October 2008

After two defeats on the spin it was back to winning ways again as Wolves went back to the top of the Championship when they came from behind to record a 2-1 win over neighbours Coventry. Mick McCarthy described the win as “the best of the season because we’ve won ugly and had a bit of fortune”. The visitors had the best of the first half but Wolves came back strongly in the second half to turn the game in their



favour.

For the third game in succession Wolves found themselves up against it by conceding yet another early goal and it was Freddy Eastwood who was booted out in the summer who came back to haunt Mick McCarthy. In the sixth minute the striker traded passes with Doyle on the edge of the area before playing in Mifsud who slotted under Ikeme from five yards. Coventry continued to play the better football and it was only Ikeme who kept Wolves in the game, he denied Best after a mistake by Collins and then frustrated Osbourne and Tabb with smart saves.



Wolves continued to struggle and it wasn't until 15 minutes before the break that they carved out their first real chance when a Stearman header was cleared off the line by Fox. The near miss lifted his team mates and after a spell of pressure Kightly levelled the scores three minutes before the break, the winger took a cross from Keogh and ran across the face of goal before turning back to lash in the equaliser. Wolves were much more positive at the start of the second half and it was Kightly who was instrumental in giving them the lead on the hour, his shot was only half parried by keeper Westwood and Ebanks-Blake who had been off the pitch returned back on to head the loose ball over the line. The decision infuriated Chris Coleman but the whinging manager failed to mention the perfectly good goal that Iwelumo had disallowed a few minutes later. Carl Ikeme who surprisingly kept his place in goal ahead of Wayne Hennessey then performed some more late heroics with a great double save from Tabb and Morrison to earn Wolves all three points.

**Opinion:** Who cares if it was UGLY, three points is three points.

**Man of the match:** Ikeme

**Team Rating:** 6/10

**Attendance:** 25,893

**Team:** Ikeme, Foley, Stearman, Collins, Ward (Shackell 85), Kightly, Henry, Jones, Keogh (David Edwards 69), Ebanks-Blake (Carlos Edwards 69), Iwelumo

**Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Vokes

**Bookings:** Kightly (47 - holding), Foley (81 - foul), Henry (84 - foul), Iwelumo (90 - foul)

## CANARY STUFFING

### NORWICH CITY 5-2 WOLVES

Tuesday 21st October 2008

Having ground out what Mick McCarthy described as an ugly win against Coventry the previous weekend there can be no doubts that this performance ranks as one of the ugliest for a long time. Wolves were well and truly spanked 5-2 by what can only be described as a good pub team, they were second to nearly every ball

against a Norwich team who at the start of play were fourth from bottom with only 2 wins and 8 goals in 11 championship games.



Throughout the entire game the Wolves defence was an absolute shambles and Norwich must have thought Christmas had come early as goal after goal was gifted to them. The first goal came on the half-hour mark when Ikeme made a real hash of Clingan's inswinging free-kick and instead of pushing the ball over the bar he tried to catch it and the momentum took him over the goal line along with the ball into his own net. Lita made it 2-0 six minutes before half time when he was given acres of space in the penalty area and his shot across the six yard box was helped in by Foley. Against the run of play Wolves got themselves back in the game just before the break when a Neill Collins header cut the deficit to 2-1.

Wolves started slightly better in the second half but on the hour mark Carlos Edwards finished any chance they had of getting back in the game when with nobody anywhere near him he headed the ball back towards goal only to find Lita who made no mistake to make it 3-1. Ebanks Blake gave Wolves a lifeline when he netted from the penalty spot with 20 minutes to go but then Stearman immediately gave the upper hand back to Norwich when he was sent off for a needless second yellow card and Lita made it 4-2 from the resulting free kick. Croft grabbed a fifth in the 74th minute to finish the rout.

**Opinion:** For all Wolves fans the highlight of the game was the final whistle.

**Man of the match:** It would be an embarrassment to any player named.

**Team Rating:** 1/10

**Attendance:** 24,351

**Team:** Ikeme, Foley, Collins, Stearman, Ward, Kightly (Jones 78), Henry, David Edwards, Carlos Edwards (Keogh 63), Ebanks-Blake, Iwelumo (Shackell 73)

**Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Vokes

**Bookings:** Stearman (26 - holding), Henry (62 – delaying free-kick)

**Sending-off:** Stearman (68 – holding, second bookable offence)

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## FO'LEYS A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW

### WATFORD 2-3 WOLVES

Saturday 25th October 2008

After the midweek hammering at Norwich Wolves got back to winning ways with an entertaining 3-2 win at Watford. It was end-to-end stuff in a rollercoaster of a game that could have finished 5-5. Mind you some joke decisions against Wolves from a Sunday morning standard referee were even worse than Steve Bennett from the weekend before, which seemed impossible, one offside decision from a throw-in just about summed the idiot up.



Wolves got off to a dream start with a goal after just 43 seconds, a long ball forward was flicked on by Ebanks-Blake and Iwelumo chested the ball past the onrushing keeper and into the net. Watford equalised in the 21st minute with virtually their first chance, the Wolves defence allowed Hoskins acres of space and his 20 yard shot was touched onto the post by Ikeme after a deflection by Shackell, but the Polish plank Rasiak was on hand to tap the ball into the empty net. The game went from end to end but it was Wolves who regained the lead again five minutes before the break following a foul outside the area, Kightly touched the free-kick to Jones whose left-footed shot beat the keeper at his near post.



Schoolboy defending gifted Watford an equaliser just two minutes into the second half, a needless free-kick was given away just outside the area and the defence froze as O'Toole ran in totally unmarked at the far post to level the scores. Things nearly got worse on the hour mark when Watford were awarded a harsh looking penalty, but



justice was done when Smith blazed it over the bar.

Watford were made to pay for the penalty miss ten minutes later when Wolves took the lead for the third time, Kightly raced clear into the right side of the Watford box and drew the keeper before squaring the ball to Gray who applied the final touch. With Watford pushing forward Foley was Wolves hero with two stunning goal-line clearances within a two-minute spell. Firstly he somehow managed to head a volley off the line and then he threw himself into the path of McAnuff on the goal line after Ikeme had blocked Smith's shot.

**Opinion:** Great win after the midweek massacre but defence always looks like conceding goals.

**Man of the match:** Foley

**Team Rating:** 7/10

**Attendance:** 16,386

**Team:** Ikeme, Foley, Shackell, Collins, Ward, Kightly, Henry, Jones, Gray (David Edwards 76), Ebanks-Blake (Keogh 81), Iwelumo (Vokes 86)

**Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Friend

**Bookings:** Henry (59 – foul), Collins (69 – foul), Iwelumo (83 – persistent fouling)

## SYLVAN TWO GOOD FOR SWANS

### WOLVES 2-1 SWANSEA CITY

Tuesday 28th October 2008

Wolves ground out a narrow 2-1 victory against a Swansea side that had beaten them earlier in the month to move back to the top of the championship. At a snow covered Molineux it was that man Ebanks-Blake who overcame the conditions to settle the game with a goal in each half.

In the first half Wolves were easily the better of the two teams and should have had more than a 45th minute Ebanks-Blake goal to show for their efforts, though it must be said that Swansea played their part by at least attempting to play football and not shut up shop in hope of a draw. The opening goal when it came was a great piece of skill by Ebanks-Blake, the



striker picked up the ball on the edge of the area and turned and powered his way into the box, he then shook off the pursuing defenders before driving a low shot past keeper Krysiak. Apart from the goal Iwelumo also went close with two powerful shots just over the bar and he was unfortunate to have a goal ruled out in between when he was adjudged to be pushing when heading home a Carlos Edwards cross.



Swansea picked up the pace at the start of the second half and levelled the scores within three minutes of the restart, Pratley picked up a cross from the left and fired a lot shot into the corner from just outside the area. Even though the visitors were in the ascendance they were only level for seven minutes as Ebanks-Blake restored the lead when he glanced in a header at the near post from a Carlos Edwards cross. Swansea hit back and were unlucky not to grab another equaliser on the hour when a Gower thunderbolt rattled the underside of the bar and bounced to safety. There were further chances for both sides with the closest coming from another Iwelumo effort which was disallowed for an infringement, but Wolves held on to go back to the top of the division.

**Opinion:** Much better after the dodgy run at the start of the month.

**Man of the match:** Ebanks-Blake

**Team Rating:** 6/10

**Attendance:** 21,988

**Team:** Ikeme, Foley, Collins, Shackell (Keogh 87), Ward, Kightly (David Edwards 67), Henry, Jones, Carlos Edwards (Mancienne 81), Ebanks-Blake, Iwelumo.

**Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Vokes

**Bookings:** None

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## PAIR OF ACES CANT BE BEATEN IN CARD GAME

### CARDIFF CITY 1-2 WOLVES

Saturday 1st November 2008



Wolves broke their recent habit of conceding early goals and reversed the role on Cardiff as they scored two early goals of their own at Ninian Park. It was basically all over after eight minutes and the new defensive pairing of Richard Stearman and Michael Mancienne, on

loan from Chelsea looked solid as a rock and hardly ever looked troubled by the Cardiff attack.



Wolves got off to a dream start when Iwelumo fired them in front after just four minutes, he latched on to Karl Henry's long header, the ball looped over Johnson and Iwelumo charged through and evaded a Ledley challenge before slotting home clinically across the goalkeeper. They then doubled their advantage four minutes later when Kightly sent a precision ball in from the right flank to Ebanks-Blake who evaded the offside trap and then side footed the ball into the net from an acute angle on the right-hand side of the six-yard box.



With virtually their first chance of the game Cardiff pulled a goal back after 19 minutes following a lapse of concentration in central defence that was punished by McCormack, the striker who Mick McCarthy described as one of the best in the division found himself unmarked ten yards out and

clinically finished to give Cardiff a lifeline. The game flowed from end to end and but it was Wolves who nearly bagged a third on the stroke of half-time when Heaton's punch from a Dave Jones corner looped goal wards but was cleared off the line by Whittingham.

Wolves looked comfortable in the second half and the for all their hustle and bustle Cardiff never really looked like breaking down the Wolves defence and their best chance came two minutes from time when Johnson prodded Whittingham's corner over from three yards with the goal gaping. Following a miss by Keogh in stoppage time it was Johnson again who nearly stole a point but his half-volley was well saved by Ikeme.

**Opinion:** Apart from the one lapse of concentration for the goal the best defensive display for a long time.

**Man of the match:** Mancienne

**Team Rating:** 8/10

**Attendance:** 17,734

**Team:** Ikeme, Foley, Stearman, Mancienne, Gray (Collins 85), Kightly (David Edwards 89), Henry, Jones, Ward, Ebanks-Blake (Keogh 78), Iwelumo

**Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Carlos Edwards

**Bookings:** None

## KIGHTLY IS LONG JOHN MCCARTHY'S TREASURE

### WOLVES 2-0 BURNLEY

Saturday 8th November 2008

Since the drubbing at Norwich it's now four wins on the trot to extend Wolves lead at the top of the Championship to six points. Burnley set out their stall from the outset and played with the attitude that a point gained by whatever means would be a good result for them, and the bully boy tactics they employed in search of a result earned them six bookings and one red card.



Wolves started with all guns blazing and outplayed Burnley in a one-sided first half, but despite having six corners inside the opening 25 minutes all they had to show for their total domination was a single Kightly goal on the half hour mark. Ebanks-Blake found some space on the edge of the area and laid the ball off to Kightly whose strike beat Jensen but rebounded off a post, but the winger followed up and made no mistake at the second attempt when he tapped the ball into the empty net.



Regardless of Owen Coyle's comments after the game stating that Burnley "got back in the game in the second half and were comfortable", the facts are that a Chris Eagles shot in the 48th minute was their one and only attempt on target in the entire match. Wolves continued to control matters and Iwelumo should have doubled the lead after 65 minutes but Jensen produced a stunning reaction save to keep out the striker's header from four yards. Kightly put the game to bed with his second of the game after 75 minutes, the tireless midfielder picked up the ball on the halfway line and played in Ebanks-Blake down the right before receiving it back eight yards out and firing past Jensen to send Wolves six points clear.

**Opinion:** Things are looking up with Stearman and Mancienne looking as if they have played together as centre backs for years.

**Man of the match:** Kightly

**Team Rating:** 7/10

**Attendance:** 23,711

**Team:** Ikeme, Foley, Stearman, Mancienne, Ward, Kightly, Henry, Jones, Carlos Edwards (David Edwards 84), Iwelumo (Keogh 78), Ebanks-Blake (Vokes 87).

**Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Collins

**Bookings:** Jones (69 - holding)



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## THE GHOST OF ST MARYS LAID TO REST

### **SOUTHAMPTON 1-2 WOLVES**

Saturday 15th November 2008

It was eighteenth time lucky as Wolves beat Southampton for the first time since 1980 and in the process scored their first ever goal at the St Mary's Stadium. Wolves started as if they were on a mission and were two goals up within the first 17 minutes.



It was Iwelumo who opening the scoring in the ninth minute, Carlos Edwards burst down the left and swung in a perfect cross to the unmarked striker who made no mistake to head the opener. It was all Wolves and the home side looked to be heading for a hammering when David Jones doubled their lead eight minutes later, Edwards was again the provider as Jones dispatched a left-footed shot past Davis from 12 yards.



Wolves looked to be in total control and a minute later it should have been three as a Kightly effort was wrongly disallowed for an apparent foul, however they were caught napping three minutes later when Southampton were gifted a soft goal. Ikeme tipped over a Surman effort for a corner and defender Pearce wasn't picked up by the Wolves defence from the resulting set play and he headed powerfully past Ikeme. Southampton lifted by the goal pressed for an equaliser but their job was made all the more difficult when they were reduced to 10 men right on the stroke of half time, Jason Euell was given his marching orders for going over the top in a tackle with Stearman.

Surprisingly it was the 10 men who had the better of the second half as Wolves failed to capitalise on having the extra man and in the 51st minute they had a lucky escape when Bradley Wright-Phillips drove against the inside of the post from 18-yards with the ball bouncing back into the six-yard box before being cleared. Wolves were also guilty of wasting chances with the unmarked Jones heading wide from Ward's cross with the goal at his mercy. Substitute Vokes fired into the side-netting in the final moments but the score remained at 2-1 and Wolves hung on to stay six points clear at the top.

**Opinion:** Should have killed off the game but allowed the 10 men back in it.

**Man of the match:** Mancienne

**Team Rating:** 7/10

**Attendance:** 17,812

**Team:** Ikeme, Foley, Stearman, Mancienne, Ward, Kightly (Vokes 90), Henry, Jones, Carlos Edwards (David Edwards 85), Iwelumo, Ebanks-Blake (Keogh 67)

**Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Collins

**Bookings:** Mancienne (55 – foul), Henry (78 – dissent)

## IWELUMO DOUBLES UP AS CAPTAIN

### **WOLVES 2-0 BLACKPOOL**

Saturday 22nd November 2008



Its now six wins on the run for Wolves following a comfortable 2-0 victory over Blackpool at Molineux, stand-in captain Chris Iwelumo was the hero of the day scoring a goal in each half. Not for the first time this season Wolves were thwarted by a visiting keeper and this time it was Paul Rachubka who was in brilliant form to keep the score goalless in the first half hour as Wolves put the Blackpool goal under siege. He brilliantly tipped over an early effort by Stearman, who might have had a hat-trick of headed goals in the first 27 minutes. But the breakthrough Wolves deserved finally came in the 30th minute when Iwelumo latched on to a loose ball in the area and took one touch before

unleashing a ferocious strike into the top corner.

Once the goal came it looked like a cricket score was on the cards but Blackpool upped their game in the second half and should have equalised in the 48th minute when Gow shot wide when left unmarked six yards out. Blackpool went close on two more occasions before Wolves extended their lead in the 66th minute. Kightly swung in a corner from the left and ironically it was Rachubka who had kept the visitors in the game who made a real hash of things when attempting to clear the ball and it fell to Iwelumo who knocked it in the net from a yard out. It was game over and Wolves took complete control again and could have extended their lead even more except for some poor finishing and that man Rachubka.



**Opinion:** Easy win but need to keep a foot on the gas when opponents are under the cosh.

**Man of the match:** Iwelumo

**Team Rating:** 7/10

**Attendance:** 22,044

**Team:** Ikeme, Foley, Collins, Stearman (Shackell 54), Ward, Kightly, David Edwards, Jones, Gray, Iwelumo (Vokes 78), Ebanks-Blake (Keogh 67)

**Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Potter

**Bookings:** David Edwards (63 - foul)

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## THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN RIDE AGAIN

### SHEFFIELD UNITED 1-3 WOLVES

Tuesday 25th November 2008

Wolves pulled off the result of the night when they went to Bramall Lane and recorded a superb 3-1 win against in-form Sheffield United. It's now seven wins on the spin for Wolves and for the second time in five days Chris Iwelumo bagged himself two goals with strike partner Ebanks-Blake also getting himself on the score sheet.



In line with recent away games Wolves again scored an early goal when they went ahead in the fifth minute. Michael Kightly split the home defence with a pass to Iwelumo and the striker held off two defenders before drawing Paddy Kenny off his line and scoring from an acute angle. Kightly almost added a second for Wolves when his clever footwork turned Morgan inside out but his final shot from the edge of the area was just wide. As the half progressed United started to dominate the play but the Wolves defence stood resolute and the when the stronghold was breached Ikeme responded with a stunning one-handed save to keep out a Kilgallon volley. However, it was to be Ikeme's last contribution before he was stretchered off five minutes before half-time after pulling up in the area.



There was controversy at the start of the second half when United thought Hennessey had pulled the ball back from behind the line after Howard's corner seemed to evade everybody at the near-post, but the linesman ruled otherwise and play was waved on. Just after the hour

mark it was 2-0, Karl Henry made a blazing run down the left side of the penalty box and pulled it back across the area where Iwelumo was waiting to score from ten yards with a shot that nearly broke the net. Five minutes later it was game over as Ebanks-Blake received a pass from Kightly and smashed a powerful effort past Kenny into the top corner of the net. United pulled one back with a quarter of an hour left when Spring scored via the inside of the post from just inside the area but that was to be the end of the scoring, though both teams went close in the last five minutes but were denied by the woodwork following efforts by Collins and Henderson respectively.

**Opinion:** Seven wins from 10 away games this season, dare we mention the "P" word yet?

**Man of the match:** Iwelumo

**Team Rating:** 9/10

**Attendance:** 27,111

**Team:** Ikeme (Hennessey 41), Foley, Collins, Stearman, Ward, Kightly, Henry, Jones (Shackell 46), Edwards (Friend 16), Ebanks-Blake, Iwelumo

**Unused Subs:** Keogh, Vokes

**Bookings:** Foley (45 – foul), Ebanks-Blake (79 – kicking the ball away), Hennessey (80 – time wasting)

## PLAY MISTY FOR ME

### WOLVES 1-1 BIRMINGHAM CITY

Saturday 29th November 2008

It was honours shared and a point a piece as the top two sides in the division played out a closely fought 1-1 draw at misty Molineux. It was a game of two halves with Birmingham shading the first half and Wolves the better of the two teams after the break.

As expected chances were at a premium in the early stages but it was Wolves who came closest to an opener in the 14th minute, a long throw from Ward put Ridgwell under pressure and the defender headed against his own post with Taylor stranded. A few minutes later and it was Birmingham who went close when Bent ran onto a through ball and lobbed it over the onrushing Hennessey, but Stearman raced back and did brilliantly to clear the ball off the line. Old foe Kevin Phillips twice went close when he firstly stung Hennessey's fingers from distance and then right on the stroke of half time shot straight at the keeper who gratefully hung on when saving a weak shot from six yards.



The visitors finally broke the deadlock in the 48th minute, Stearman was at fault when he failed to clear a ball down the middle and Jerome took advantage of the slip and ran through holding off the chasing defenders before picking his moment and firing past Hennessey. The goal sparked Wolves into life and Henry fired just wide before Ward went on a mazy dribble into the area before seeing his final shot blocked. Wolves continued to push forward and they were finally rewarded in the 73rd minute, Ward broke free down the left side of the penalty area and evaded a sliding challenge from Jaidi before slipping the ball across to Ebanks-Blake who slotted home.

Man of the match Stearman did brilliantly with a last ditch tackle when he took the ball away from Jerome just as the striker was about to shoot. Wolves finished the stronger of the two sides and Sam Vokes nearly stole it at the death but Taylor pulled off a smart save even though it must be said the shot was at a comfortable height for him.

**Opinion:** On reflection a draw was a fair result.

**Man of the match:** Stearman, even though he was at fault for the goal.

**Team Rating:** 6/10

**Attendance:** 26,329

**Team:** Hennessey, Foley, Stearman, Mancienne, Ward, Kightly, Henry, Jones (Edwards 72), Gray (Keogh 56), Ebanks-Blake, Iwelumo (Vokes 62)

**Unused Subs:** Higgs, Collins

**Bookings:** Iwelumo (29 - foul), Stearman (79 – shirt-pulling)

## HOOPLESS

### QPR 1-0 WOLVES

Saturday 6th December 2008

Prior to this game "Manager of the Month" Mick McCarthy openly praised the qualities of manager Paulo Sousa and his QPR team, however it seemed to have an adverse effect on his own team who responded

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with one of their worst performances of the season when losing 1-0 at Loftus Road. The West London club controlled the match throughout and the prolific strike force of Sylvan Ebanks-Blake and Chris Iwelumo who had scored 27 goals between them in the current campaign hardly had a sniff at goal between them.



This definitely wasn't Wolves day and they were on the back foot from the off with the central defensive pairing of Mancienne and Stearman looking uncharacteristically fragile. Mancienne looked especially uncomfortable against the team he was on loan to last season and it was his early mistake that nearly let in Agyemang who was only denied by Hennessey who spread himself well to block the striker's effort. Despite spending the early stages on the back foot it was Wolves who nearly broke the deadlock in the 22nd minute when Jones was agonisingly close with a free-kick from the edge of the area. QPR immediately hit back and five minutes later there was total panic in the Wolves penalty area when Hennessey came for and completely missed a free-kick, but Blackstock was unable to take advantage

in the mayhem that followed. The hesitant keeper soon made amends though with good saves from Helguson and Cook leading up to the half time interval.

QPR started the second half in the same manner as they finished the first and Hennessey was soon in action again, he produced another fine save when rushing out to block another Helguson effort after the striker found himself clean through after more hesitation in the centre of the Wolves defence. At the other end Cerny was forced to fingertip another Jones free-kick around the post before the midfielder was replaced by Jarvis on the hour. The winger made an immediate impact and when he put in a precision cross with pinpoint accuracy onto the head

of Ebanks-Blake the striker should have scored but instead headed weakly at Cerny from a yard out. But just as Wolves were having their best spell of the game QPR took the lead in the 63rd minute, Rowlands collected the ball at the edge of the area and hit a speculative shot which dipped viciously at the last minute and flew over Hennessey into the back of the net. Vokes went close with a header in the dying minutes when Wolves pushed for an equaliser but on reflection it was a below par effort from the visitors who were never really in the game.

**Opinion:** Well they had to beat us eventually, 13 undefeated league games since 1999 is a long time.

**Man of the match:** David Edwards

**Team Rating:** 3/10

**Attendance:** 13,416

**Team:** Hennessey, Foley, Stearman, Mancienne, Ward, Kightly, Edwards, Henry, Jones (Jarvis 58), Iwelumo (Vokes 72), Ebanks-Blake (Keogh 78)

**Unused Subs:** Higgs, Collins

**Bookings:** Mancienne (73 – persistent fouling)

## CHAMPIONSHIP 2007-2008 (after 23 games)

Pos	Name	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Wolves	23	17	2	4	50	27	23	53
2	Birmingham	23	14	5	4	32	20	12	47
3	Reading	23	14	4	5	48	21	27	46
4	Burnley	23	11	7	5	36	30	6	40
5	Cardiff City	23	9	10	4	32	24	8	37
6	Preston	23	11	4	8	31	28	3	37
7	Sheffield Utd	23	10	6	7	31	21	10	36
8	Crystal Palace	23	10	6	7	33	24	9	36
9	QPR	23	9	6	8	20	22	-2	33
10	Sheffield Wed	23	9	6	8	24	32	-8	33
11	Swansea City	23	7	11	5	32	29	3	32
12	Ipswich Town	23	8	7	8	32	25	7	31
13	Plymouth	23	8	6	9	25	26	-1	30
14	Coventry City	23	7	7	9	25	29	-4	28
15	Bristol City	23	6	10	7	24	28	-4	28
16	Blackpool	23	7	7	9	22	29	-7	28
17	Watford	23	7	5	11	36	39	-3	26
18	Derby County	23	6	8	9	27	34	-7	26
19	Barnsley	23	7	4	12	23	30	-7	25
20	Norwich City	23	6	5	12	28	36	-8	23
21	Southampton	23	5	7	11	21	35	-14	22
22	Nottm Forest	23	3	9	11	19	32	-13	18
23	Charlton	23	4	6	13	25	39	-14	18
24	Doncaster	23	4	6	13	11	27	-16	18

# LETTERS



01760 721059

Mr M. BERRY  
126 SOUTHLANDS  
SWAFFHAM  
NORFOLK  
PE37 7PQ.

UNSUNG HEROES.

I am writing this letter to say a big Thank You to STUART, DAVE and Peter. I don't think many of us realize what a fantastic job these three guys do for us. They spend so much time sorting out travel arrangements, obtaining tickets and giving up a large chunk of their lives to help us all see the WOLVES.

Also good luck to Stuart (ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAY) with the benefit dinner for Ian Cartwright. I was with him on the journey back from the Norwich and he was on the phone talking to people about the dinner and trying to get newspaper publicity about the situation. go

Yours Sincerely -

Michael Berry

# LETTERS



*Here is an e-mail which was received from Davowolf at the start of the season. Strange how things have turned round for both clubs since then!*

## **Wolves in sheep's clothing. Wrexham 1 : 0 Wolves**

*I walked away from the Racecourse Ground, Wrexham yesterday afternoon with son Andy and wife Shirley, even more pleased that I'd kept my £475 Wolves season-ticket money in my pocket this year. I will be going to some games next season but more on a match-by-match basis. My original reason was increasing number of mid-week games these days making a ST very costly for the long distance supporter who just can't get to Wolverhampton from Buckinghamshire for a Tuesday evening 7.45pm KO. Although Andy has been with me to Wolverhampton this season to see a couple of games, Shirley hadn't been to a football match for several years, the last time being when Wolves pulled a 0 : 3 half time deficit against Leicester back to a thrilling 4 : 3 victory. She enjoyed that of course and curiously enjoyed this one more than I did. (Secretly I think that's because she's a closet Wrexham supporter, her home town team.) And the last time we went to see Wrexham together was against Plymouth Argyle before we were married 35 years ago.*

*For those of you who don't know, Wrexham have just been relegated from the football league and are now playing in the illustrious 'Blue Square' league in the company of the likes of Ebbsfleet Utd, Rushden & Diamonds and Eastbourne Borough. Wolves on the other hand are planning a campaign in the coming season to get back into the Premiership to compete with the Manchester Uniteds, Chelseas and Arsenals of this world. That speaks for itself then doesn't it, looking at this score line? Wolves were outplayed from start to finish and hardly made a serious effort on goal whereas Wrexham were the brighter side throughout, wanted to win this match and could have scored three or four times from open play although their only, and in the end winning goal came from a superbly struck 30 yard free kick which David Beckham himself would have been proud of. Carle Ikeme in goal looked vulnerable. Not to be too negative however about Wolves, Michael Kightly did make a few incisive runs into the Wrexham box from the right wing reminding us of his potential before his recent injury, but was generally well chaperoned by the Wrexham defence. Jody Craddock looked solid enough in the Wolves defence. But generally Wolves clearly hadn't recovered from their summer hols, gave the ball away too cheaply (now there's a familiar story) and seemed to prefer to pass the ball side-ways or backwards instead of setting up an attack. The Wrexham players seemed to be an average of one-and-a-half stones heavier man-for-man than the Wolves but were, despite this, faster on and off the ball. The best player on the pitch for me, was the Wrexham inside-left who reminded me of Steve Bull in build and style - yes folks, no less than the man himself. He made several decisive runs through the Wolves defence like a knife through butter, just like our Steve used to, leaving the Wolves players no more than spectators and was unlucky not to have scored a couple of times.*

*One bright spot of the afternoon, occurred before the game even started which had me in stitches. Football terrace humour can be cruel and I was observing the usual mock-threatening, arm-in-air, finger-pointing chanting between the adjacent corners of opposing fans when all of a sudden one of the Wolves fans on the front row pulled out a life-size white, woollen sheep and pointed it animatedly at the Wrexham fans. I think he was trying to suggest what he thought was a pastime of the Wrexham fans, many being sheep farmers down from the Welsh hills.*

*Perhaps you can't draw too many conclusions from a friendly, after all the last one I went to, Wolves lost away to Wycombe Wanderers 1 : 0, but still kept their place in the Championship league, but if it is any measure of things to come, all I can say is, Manchester Utd had better look out in a couple of seasons from now, but I don't mean from Wolves. The Wrexham I was watching on Saturday could well turn out to be a team of wolves in sheep's clothing.*

# TRAVEL REPORTS



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

### Home Matches

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

**Fare** : Members £17; Junior Members £8.50

Guests £20; Junior Guests £10.00

**Sat 10/01/09 v Preston**

**Sat 31/01/09 v Watford**

**Sat 28/02/09 v Plymouth**

all 3 = ◆ Outward - Depart Euston 10:23 - Arrive Wolverhampton 12:11  
◆ Return - Depart Wolverhampton 17:45 - Arrive Euston 19:34

**Sat 5/2/09 v Norwich City**

◆ Outward - Depart Euston 14:23 - Arrive Wolverhampton 16:11  
◆ Return - Depart Wolverhampton 22:45 - Arrive Euston 01:13

**Mon 21/02/09 v Cardiff City**

◆ Outward - Depart Euston 08:23 - Arrive Wolverhampton 10:11  
◆ Return - Depart Wolverhampton 15:45 - Arrive Euston 17:34

### 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.

**Sat 3/01/09 v Birmingham (FAC3)**

FARE TBA. ALL-TICKET MATCH

◆ Outward - Depart Euston 10:43 - Arrive Birmingham New St. 12:08  
◆ Return - Depart Birmingham New St. 18:10 - Arrive Euston 19:34

**Sat 17/01/09 v Bristol City** (K.O. 5:20pm)

FARE TBA. ALL-TICKET MATCH

◆ Outward - Depart Paddington 13:00 - Arrive Bristol Temple Meads 14:42  
◆ Return - Depart Bristol Temple Meads. 20:33 - Arrive Paddington 22:17

**Tue 27/01/09 v Reading**

*approx 30 minutes. There are No.79 'Football Special' buses, which leave just down from the station; once you come out of the main station entrance turn right and they are about 100 yards down the road on the opposite side. The fare is £3 return for adults and £1.50 for children and normally takes about fifteen minutes to get to the ground.*

◆ No official Club trip arranged. Fast trains to Reading depart from Paddington. Journey time

**Sat 07/02/09 v Coventry**

FARE TBA. ALL-TICKET MATCH

◆ Outward - Depart Euston 11:03 - Arrive Coventry 12:01  
◆ Return - Depart Coventry 18:11 - Arrive Euston 19:14

**Sat 14/02/09 v Burnley**

FARE TBA. ALL-TICKET MATCH

◆ Outward - Depart Euston 08:30 - Arrive Preston 10:38  
Depart Preston 10:54 - Arrive Burnley Manchester Rd. 11:27  
◆ Return - Depart Burnley Manchester Rd. 17:57 - Arrive Preston 18:33  
Depart Preston 19:01 - Arrive Euston 21:47

Any member wishing to book a train ticket for travel to home or away matches from Euston, must now contact Travel Secretary AT LEAST 9 DAYS prior to the match. Bookings for travel with other train operators, must be made 3-4 weeks before the match. This is because early booking is essential in order to obtain the cheapest tickets. Fares will be collected on the outward journey. Payments in advance are accepted. Cheques/P.O's payable to WWLSC.

Any member booking a train ticket, who subsequently cannot travel, must contact the Travel Secretary at least 9 days before the match to cancel, or they will have to pay for the ticket. This also applies to members who book a ticket and fail to show up on the day, as the train companies will not offer any refunds on unsold tickets, except in exceptional circumstances.

Members requiring match tickets for HOME matches please contact Travel Secretary AT LEAST 16 DAYS prior to match. Please enclose s.a.e. with postal applications.

Please note that for all-ticket away matches where Wolves allocation is limited, ONLY AWAY SEASON TICKET HOLDERS CAN BE GUARANTEED A MATCH TICKET. Tickets for every away match go on sale 21 days before the match to away season ticket holders & also to home season ticket holders, unless Wolves have a limited allocation. Home season ticket holders can apply for away tickets, by ringing the Wolves Ticketline on 0871 222 1877 between 9 am - 5 pm, and giving their Supporter Number.

There are 7 club season tickets available to members on a match to match basis. Full match day price will be charged. Members must travel on the official club trip for the particular game for which the ticket is required.

Members travelling or using WWLSC tickets are expected to be of good behaviour whilst travelling to or from the matches. Breaches of this will be considered by the Committee as grounds for expulsion from WWLSC under the WWLSC rules.

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

**TRAVEL SECRETARY - PETER WOODFIELD**

94 FARNHAM CLOSE, RAINHAM, KENT ME8 8NS

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



To commemorate the Doog's life and his Presidency of London Wolves, we have produced a DVD with excerpts of his life. Included are his home debut hat trick, his goal for LA Wolves, his goal against Brazil, the post match interview at Wembley, interviews about George Best and his appearance on BBC's Question Time.

*For availability, check the London Wolves website [www.londonwolves.com](http://www.londonwolves.com) or email [doog@londonwolves.com](mailto:doog@londonwolves.com). All proceeds will go to The Doog's International charity for ex Professional Footballers, (Xpro).*

We have some autographed copies of "The Doog's" book, '**The Sash He Never Wore...Twenty Five Years On**' for sale, as well as some signed limited edition prints of him celebrating his goal for us in the 1974 League Cup Final. If you'd like to be the proud owner of one of these rare items then contact Dave Slape. The book is £10.00 + p&p and the picture is £35 framed or £20 unframed.



**WWLSC  
large key ring  
£1.00 + sae.**

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**WWLSC 40th  
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£3.50 + sae.**

**WWLSC 25th  
Anniversary badge  
£3.50 + sae.**

**WWLSC  
car fob  
£1.00 + sae.**

**Programmes from the 1980's also available.**

The above are available from: Dave Slape, 26 Brockenhurst Way, London SW16 4UD

## FEEDBACK

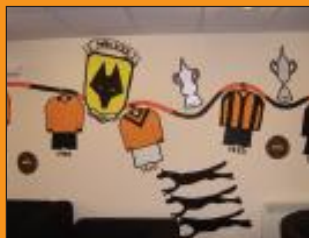
Please do write to us on all, or any, aspects which you feel would be of any interest or benefit to the Club from a supporter's perspective.

**address:** 26 Brockenhurst Way, London SW16 4UD      **e-mail:** [londonwolves.66@btinternet.com](mailto:londonwolves.66@btinternet.com)  
**contacts:** Stuart Earl 01760 756278 Dave Slape 0208 764 8023 Peter Woodfield 01634 363704

# STUDY CENTRE



## THE WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS STUDY CENTRE



Situated under the Jack Harris (South Bank) stand the Centre is aimed at providing young people of Wolverhampton with a dedicated modern facility. Andy Morgan runs the centre with the Playing For Success programme. Although the programmes have a focus on primary school age the study centre enables NVQ qualifications in cooperation with the University of Wolverhampton. Over 160,000 children and young adults have been touched by the scheme in the past year - a tremendous achievement.

The design of the centre was chosen by its users and they chose to have it associated with Wolves' greatest players and Wolves' history. Here are some great pictures of the centre courtesy of Wolves' youth development officer - Andy Morgan. The pictures are the excellent work of local artist Neil Sullivan and the Study Centre users. Some 500 local children will benefit from regular use.

Bert Williams greets the visitors at the bottom of the stairs and a mural of Molineux is planned for the stairs. Top scorer Bully is just inside the entrance accompanied by NI captain and previous Chairman of Wolves Derek Dougan. England star Billy Wright comes next followed by The Hair (George Berry) and Johnny Hancocks.

The opposite wall shows every shirt and badge worn by Wolves since the beginning. And a nice touch is Sylvan's Golden Boot from last season.

The centre was formally opened by the Mayor of Wolverhampton, Christine Mills, and Wolves Chairman Steve Morgan on 4th December.

