Wolverhampton Wanderers LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

founded 1966



THE SEASON STARTS HERE!!!

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DECEMBER 2010



FROM THE CHAIR

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

Honorary Life President 1968-2007 Derek Dougan

Honorary President John Richards

> Chairman Stuart Earl

Deputy Chairman Stef Leonard

Honorary Members Sir Jack Hayward OBE Steve Bull MBE

> Secretary Dave Slape

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designed & printed by Lion Print, Bromley. T: 020 8466 6462 E: studio@lionprint.org.uk Oh dear, another season is well under way and despite all the summer signings, the team appear to be struggling again. I say 'appear' because we've been playing some really good and exciting football without getting anything, in terms of points, from those games. We outplayed Chelsea at Stamford Bridge, giving Petr Cech his busiest time between the sticks since he came into the Premiership, more than matched Manchester United (twice) at Old Trafford, and did ok at home to Arsenal. Our only rewards came when we stuffed Manchester City and Sunderland, coming back from losing positions both times. In all honesty, I had hoped that we would be settled comfortably in mid-table by Christmas, but it now looks as if we're in for a long, hard winter. We really must stop conceding all these early and late goals! Our injury list, though, has been mounting up which hasn't helped, although Stephen Hunt seems to be nearing fitness which should give us a bit more bite all over the pitch.

The one thing that has struck me recently, is that whenever Wolves play well or gain a victory, the press and media never seem to give us proper credit for it. They'll often report that it is the other team that are either tired/having an off day, or use the excuse that they have played/travelled in Europe that particular week. They are extremely reluctant to state that we have played our socks off. Come on press-men, credit where credit is due!

On the Club front, your committee have been hard at work preparing for the 45th Anniversary Dinner. Those of you with internet access will know that we have again secured Charlton Athletic's home, The Valley, for the 'do', and have been very busy contacting prospective guests. Even though I say so myself, the list is looking very impressive. Whilst we are keeping the guest's names secret, trust us, as we have some super surprises lined up for you. Full details of the event are included in this issue but be warned that table bookings are going rapidly. So, if you've not yet booked, please contact me as soon as possible as this will, without a doubt, be a sell out event. and we would like members to book before we throw it open to others.

We have some new London Wolves jackets for sale and they are really super. You can see them modelled on the train or in the City Bar by our two mannequins, Stef and Dave.

So, as usual at this time of year, it only remains for me to wish you and yours a very Happy Christmas and a great New Year.

-1-

Stuart



WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB 45th ANNIVERSARY DINNER TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY 16th JULY 2011 AT THE HOME OF CHARLTON ATHLETIC FC, THE VALLEY

Do you fancy a really great night out next summer? Then come along and enjoy the revelry and bonhomie at the above event. Yes, next year we are celebrating our 45th anniversary and have plans to mark the occasion with an evening to remember. Those of you who attended the 40th bash at the same venue will, no doubt, wonder how that could be achieved considering that that event was spectacular. But trust us, better it certainly will be!

We have again secured Charlton's Millenium Suite, with its fantastic views over the pitch, together with all the bar facilities that accompany it. For the connoisseurs of fine brewing, we have even managed to obtain a few barrels of 'real ale' from Fullers Brewery for your delectation. The catering at Charlton Athletic FC has a superb reputation and is second to none. An excellent menu has been selected with a measure of wine included in the price of the ticket. As with the 40th Dinner event, the whole room will be transformed and bedecked in gold and black which will leave you thinking we were back home at Molineux. The dress code, of course, will be 'collar and tie'.

We are keeping the guest list under wraps at the moment, but we do have a 'theme' in mind together with many special guests. You can be assured that you will not be disappointed at the list.

Whilst the ticket price has not been determined yet, we can assure you that it will be very reasonably priced and extremely good value. However, we are already taking bookings from the keenest members, and the response to this has been overwhelming. A deposit of £20.00 per person will secure you your place. If you are interested in attending then please see either, Stuart, Stef or Dave Slape. The reason we haven't fixed the ticket price yet is because of what we experienced at our previous dinner. Namely, we had to set a limit on the numbers attending which gave us a fixed price to work to. However, as the date of the event grew closer we found that all the 'late' bookings could not be accommodated. We were disappointed at that situation and vowed to fill as many seats as wanted to come this time around. However, we anticipate that we will have to give final numbers to Charlton by the 16th April, so if you're interested in coming to this great bash, please do not leave it too late to book.

Also, your Chairman, Stuart Earl, has booked several rooms at the local Holiday Inn at a very reasonable rate, for those who do not wish to travel any long distance in the early hours. Contact him personally if you wish to avail of a room for the night but, again, be aware that the accommodation is going fast.

AGM



WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE BROCKLEY SOCIAL CLUB ON 26TH JUNE 2010

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS: The Chairman, Stuart Earl, welcomed the few members that attended and, whilst the attendance was disappointing, he knew that several members had gone to South Africa for the World Cup. He also stated that after last year's record breaking attendance, it was inevitable that this year's turn-out would be lower.

It had been a good year for the Club regarding finances, travel, newsletter and general wellbeing, and to that end he thanked Peter Woodifield, Dave Slape, Stef Leonard and Roy Eagles for all their help and hard work throughout the season.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: P.O'Connor, S.Armett, P.Abbott, D.Pearl, G.Shead, T.Reed, G.Mastbraker, J.Engleman, T.Owers, R.Eagles, A.Colgman, P.Durbridge and R.Cotterell. C.Egan and M.Grayson from Wolves had been invited to attend but were unable to do so.

MINUTES OF THE 2009 AGM: Copies of last year's minutes were available for those who hadn't seen them. MATTERS ARISING: Stef Leonard stated that the response to the suggestion that the membership 'bombard' the government's awards office for a posthumous Knighthood for Billy Wright, had fallen on deaf ears. The minutes were approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Dave Slape reported that we had 254 members and that subscription income amounted to £2953.00. Merchandise sales brought in £32.50 and the train competitions £108.00. He also stated that the income from the parent Club's Goalden Gate scheme had been very good although he didn't have any current figures available. His expenses amounted to £906.37, of which £436.33 was attributable to the purchase of stamps.

David Hodges asked how the Club's income this year compared to last year. Dave replied that he had been unable to obtain any Pontoon tickets at present so we'd be about £40.00 down. However, the Goalden Gate money had more than doubled so we were, in fact, better off. There was also a suggestion that the Club take more of the proceeds from the train competition and put them towards the 45th Anniversary Dinner. This was accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Unfortunately, Tim Richards was unable to attend the meeting so Peter Woodifield presented a brief report on his behalf. However, details were available to members at the meeting. In summary, total income for the year 2009/2010 amounted to $\pounds 63,075.83$, whilst total expenditure amounted to $\pounds 61,476.02$. This gave us an operating profit of $\pounds 1,599.81$. As regards cash at bank, our current account stood at $\pounds 5,169.16$ as of 9th June 2010 and our deposit account $\pounds 2,122.61$ as of 24th May 2010.

TRAVEL SECRETARY'S REPORT: Peter Woodifield stated that the Club ran trips to all 22 home matches and 11 long distance away games. All trips were from Euston with one exception when Marylebone was used. Peter thanked Morris Jacobs for providing transport to some of the evening matches. He stated that the average number travelling to home matches increased from the previous season whilst the number travelling to away matches remained the same. The highest attended home trips were Blackburn: 55 and Hull: 50; the highest attendance on away trips were Everton: 31, Portsmouth: 26 and Manchester City: 25. There was a loss of £701.85 on the cost of the trips due to the Club part-subsidising a number of them. He also stated that Virgin Trains had withdrawn the Sports Group Travel tickets earlier in the season leaving just one class of Group Travel fares. This meant that the cost of fares to home games now varies. Booking as early as possible can, however, reduce this cost. He also stated that the discretionary £5.00 late cancellation charge to members was not enforced last season. The Club had purchased 7 season tickets on the 'Early Bird' scheme at a cost of £3,285.00. We made a profit of £241.00 from the match day sale of those tickets. Peter also thanked those members who 'loaned' their

AGM



season tickets to the Club when the member couldn't attend himself. Early Bird season tickets have also been purchased for the coming season, there being no increase in the price. There were 15 away season tickets purchased by members. Peter also suggested that the cost to non-members train travel be lifted from £3.00 to £5.00 and this was agreed.

Peter reported than part of the money owed by a member from season 2007/08 had been collected, with the balance promised in the near future. Outstanding money from season 2008/09 has also been collected. However, we are still awaiting monies from 6 members for last season and that no progress has been made in collection monies from earlier seasons.

Finally, Peter thanked Pam and Steve in the Wolves Ticket Office for meeting all our requests for match tickets last season, and also Dave Slape and Guy Thomas for their invaluable help during the season. David Hodges suggested that a tangible 'thank you' be given to the Ticket Office, to which the committee agreed. Peter's expenses for the year amounted to £503.79.

ENTERTAINMENT SECRETARY'S REPORT: Unfortunately, Roy Eagles was not able to be present due to work commitments, so various members of the committee presented their thoughts on events. Dog racing, horse racing, brewery visits, pub crawls, ten pin bowling and a Christmas Lunch were what Roy, ably assisted by Ruth, had laid on for us throughout the year. Where does he get the energy from(?) one member asked. All were well attended and thoroughly enjoyed. Any profits that were made had gone into our 45th Anniversary fund. Stuart placed on record our appreciation for all that Roy had done for the Club.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT: Stef Leonard reported that the usual two Newsletters had been successfully produced in the last year. All processes were running smoothly, although the usual request for member's contributions, by way of articles, was non-existent. The Chairman passed on to Stef the compliments about the newsletter he had heard from members.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: It was proposed by D.Gillmore that the committee be re-elected on bloc for all the good work they had done for the Club. The motion was passed unanimously.

MEMBERSHIP FEE: The Chairman stated that last year's $\pounds 2.00$ increase in the membership fee had raised some $\pounds 1,300$ towards the 45th Anniversary fund, and would bring in a similar sum again this year, alleviating the need to raise it any further. The membership agreed.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: David Hodges proposed that the time had come to alter the reference in our 'Club Officers' regarding Derek Dougan. He felt we should abolish the title 'Honorary Life President RIP' and replace it with 'Former Life President' together with the dates that he was President. His proposal was accepted unanimously. The Chairman announced that the date of the 45th Anniversary Dinner had been set for Saturday 16th July 2011, and be held at Charlton Athletic's home, The Valley. A small sub-committee had been formed and Stuart announced that the guest list would be kept secret to enhance the 'surprise' element. Details of the event would be published shortly.

Peter Woodifield stated that he would be investigating which player's kit we would be sponsoring for next season. Stuart said that he had some excellent large Wolves' players, autographed montage pictures for sale. They were excellent value at £250.00 unframed and £310.00 framed. They were going fast.

He also had some terrific Wolves jackets for sale which had the town crest on them with a modification which read 'London Wolves'. They were also reasonably priced at £40.00.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 16.15.



WWLSC Sponsored Player

We were happy to continue sponsorship of crowd favourite George Elokobi, who has just signed a contract extension to 2013, but have changed to full England squad member and England U21 Captain for the U21 Qualifications, Michael Mancienne, on loan for the third time from Chelsea FC





Lady Rachael

London Wolves were delighted for Rachael Heyhoe-Flint, a Wolves Vice President who has been very helpful to us over many years, and who was made a life peer by David Cameron in November. The new Baroness hadn't decided on her style and coat of arms – we suggested 3 Leaping Wolves to match the 3 Lions as a former England captain (1966-1978). Rachael is well known for her outstanding fundraising efforts for the Lady Taverners – she would have joined our 40th celebrations but it clashed with the Taverners at Lords. She's the first female member of the cricket Hall of Fame and of the MCC committee. She told us she might air her views on referees and the Wolves in her maiden speech, but she'll probably be talking until the Lords is abolished in 2015! Another Rachael fact is that her father was Billy Wright's PE teacher – and that's why he could jump so high!





London Wolves website

www.londonwolves.com has been supplemented so you can access important information from your mobile phone if you have an internet connection – just connect to (and bookmark) mobile.londonwolves.com If you can turn your phone sideways into landscape it's easier to read.

The main aim is to maintain Peter's travel page up to date so you can check on train times and fixture changes – both the travel page and the fixtures page (Wolves first team, Wolves reserves, and Wolves Allstars) fixtures and results are kept up-to-date. The London Wolves diary is on both sites as well.

We've had great help in the last couple of years with some excellent pictures from Peter Harrington (who you can still see around the pitch at matches wearing his black cap) most of which have found their way on to the Player of The Season trophy, like that last year awarded to Doyler.

You can also keep in touch through Facebook (links from every page) which Jack runs or through twitter (wwlsc). We will tweet travel, fixture and diary news.

London Wolves Competitions

The summer competitions were for an England Training top won by George in Malta and Muz from www.the-wolf.co.uk. Muz also won the Survival Season Review DVD from ILC Media along with Stef pictured receiving his DVD from Secretary Slape.





Muz and Carly from the-wolf-co.uk also arranged a collection which London Wolves contributed to for the lady, Lowes Brough, who was injured in the thug attack on the Notts County supporters coaches after the Carling Cup win. They were able to buy her travel to the next two away matches and her tickets as well as a bouquet to wish her well. Martin Swain in the Express & Star carried the story, while Wolves invited her as a hospitality guest to the match at Manchester United.

The Xmas competitions are for a special Elgar t-shirt with the first ever football chant on it from Philosophy Football Shirts and a signed Sir Jack Hayward DVD. You can buy the DVD from the megastore or use London Wolves discount of 20% at www.tikabooson.com (Wolves pages) for any of the Wolves DVDs (use the code LONWOLVES). Winners were drawn at the Xmas lunch.



London Wolves Social Events

Roy's been busy again organising a Christmas lunch in the City Bar, with guests of honour King John & Pam, Waggy & Val, Steve Daley and Wayne Clarke – it followed the Sunday home match against the Blues. (Pictures in the summer mag!)

Don't forget to book your place at the London Wolves 45th Anniversary Dinner at The Valley – Stuart is promising some really exciting surprise guests. Forms with Dave or on the website.

During the summer Geoff kindly led an expedition along the Thames path from Putney (8 Bells) to Richmond. It's a great way to navigate, although some of us only managed 6 pubs! Navigation was – The Eight Bells, FFC, The Crabtree, The Chancellors, The Blue Anchor and The Rutland And then The Dove. Stalwarts moved on to The Ship & The George & Dragon (missing Fullers Brewery) before bussing off to Richmond!





Before the season kicked off London Wolves went North to check out the Scottish beer at the pre-season friendly at Hearts. Carol's full story is on line on the web site







Roy also repeated the very popular pre-match ten pin bowling before the Stoke match and a great time preceded a great win.



London Wolves were also at the Academy Dinner to see our three most famous academy graduates get back together again. Don't forget you can win $\pounds1000$ in the Goalden Gate draw (less than two pints a month) – Dave has the forms and we've already had a winner – while the profits support the Academy and WWLSC.





Peter has also arranged a table at the Hall of Fame dinner on January 7th (FA Cup weekend at Doncaster Rovers) to see SJH and the Doog inducted into the Hall of Fame. Although the event is sold out contact Peter if you're interested in case of any cancellations.



Don't forget we're still selling our tribute to Derek Dougan "Unforgettable Doog" DVD from the website or you can buy it In the Wolves Megastores

XMAS LUNCH



LONDON WOLVES' CHRISTMAS LUNCH

What a great day Sunday 12th December turned out to be. The usual motley crew of suspects boarded the 08.50 train from Euston (although it did seem a lot earlier!), with mixed trepidations about the visit of Birmingham City. The run they were on, our recent record against them, the good away record they had, all pointed to a difficult match for our boys. Oh, we of little faith! In football parlance, the boys done good. In fact, they did better than that. A superb 1-0 victory, with many outstanding performances (especially their goalkeeper), fired us up to go and start our festivities.

Our Entertainment Officer, Roy Eagles, had, for the second year running, arranged our Christmas lunch to be held at the City Bar. And what a great event it turned out to be. Guestwise, we were graced with The Doog's long term partner and confidante, the lovely Merlyn, and two Wolves' legends, and great friends of London Wolves, Phil 'Lofty' Parkes and David 'Waggy' Wagstaffe with his equally lovely wife Val. Before we could have any food, Roy, ably assisted by the lovely Ruth, had us standing up/sitting down like demented jack rabbits while we played various games for the numerous prizes that Roy had, like a Santa Claus, to give out. Eventually, we managed to tuck into the excellent fayre that Lawson and his staff provided. It was excellent. During the meal, we were royally entertained by Ed Sumner, a close-quarter magician who performed many tricks with playing cards, foam balls, magic pens, and a particular favourite of Phil O'Connor's, some rubber bands. Ed moved around from table to table, and was excellent as he left everybody in disbelief at the magic they were seeing!

With the raffle done and dusted, and all the prizes distributed, Lofty said a few words of thanks on behalf of the guests, Stef thanked the City Bar staff, as well as Roy and Ruth for all their hard work in putting the whole event together. The train travellers then made their usual dash for the 19.45 train to Euston, reflecting on what had turned out to be a terrific day.

Merry Christmas,

STEF



WOLVES ALLSTARS

WOLVES ALLSTARS CHARITY FOOTBALL TEAM

Mel Eves manages the team of former players and Wolves stars who are dedicated to raising funds for local charities. Pictured by Peter Harrington, he's as athletic as ever, scoring here at Uttoxeter and the Allstars team are pictured at Bridgnorth supported by Bully, who gave an interview to the E&S about the fundraising and ran the auction after the match. Lofty is their President.





Mel's Match report from Bridgnorth - A welcome two goal display from evergreen Tony Dinning secured the narrow 2-1 win over the spirited 'FOX AT SHIPLEY X1'. Match organisers & Fox landlords Neil Taylor and Kerry Brummell were delighted with the occasion which raised a further £1500 in their quest to raise £10,000 for Birmingham Childrens' Hospital in gratitude for the help given to their daughter Kiahna.

This season they have played 5 matches all on Sundays. We publish the fixtures on our fixture pages on both websites. Watch out for the rearranged Vic match and more in March & April... why notr combine a home Wolves match with the Allstars on Sunday. The Allstars site is at **www.clubwebsite.co.uk/wolvesallstars**

22nd August at Albrighton Juniors won 5-4 in aid of the Air Ambulance

5th September reopening Castlecroft lost 4-2 in aid of the Compton Hospice

3rd October Uttoxeter organised by Mick Harper for Help for Heroes in memory of Lance Corporal Barry Buxton who died in Afghanistan. Us won 7-5 including a hattrick by Barry's brother Ashley.

31st October at Bridgnorth v The Fox at Shipley won 2-1 for Birmingham Children's Hospital

21st November at Brinsford v Wolves staff won 5-4 for the New X Hospital Baby unit

5th December at Wednesfield v Vic Old Boys also for the New X Hospital Neo Natal unit being rescheduled to January

And a THANK YOU from Mel

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who has played and/or supported the Wolves All Stars this year. You will all be pleased to know that this year our Charity Football games have raised in the region of £25,000 for the very worthy causes we have supported. On behalf of the Wolves All Stars we wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours in sport, Mel

Mel Eves Player/Manager Wolves All Stars Charity Football Team



OPEN SEASON

WOLVES 2-1 STOKE CITY Saturday 14th August 2010

Wolves won an opening league game for the first time in eleven years with a well deserved victory against local rivals Stoke. It was a first half bombardment from Wolves which deserved more than their two goal interval advantage, however Stoke hit back in a full-blooded second half even though it was Wolves who created and wasted the better of the chances.

It was Stoke who created the first chance of the game when Kenwyne Jones fired a shot against the Wolves crossbar with just three minutes gone, it was a tough tackling start and the dangerous Jones limped off soon afterwards following a tackle from Craddock. Wolves began to take control and created a good chance when new signing Steven Fletcher fired over from close range when well placed. The home team continued to bombard the Stoke box and cause panic in their defence, Ebanks-Blake had a shot blocked from close range by Sorensen and Fletcher had another effort blocked.



Wolves finally claimed a deserved lead in the 37th minute after Foley was fouled on the edge of the area, Henry rolled the ball to David Jones and he flicked it up before brilliantly volleying it into the top corner of the net. Two minutes later it was 2-0, Fletcher notched his first goal for the club when he got in front of Huth to head home at the far post following a cross from Berra.

Stoke got back into the game in the 55th minute when Faye rose above the static Wolves defence to plant a powerful header into the roof of the net from a corner. Wolves responded with a good spell of their own and Jarvis narrowly missed with a powerful shot from outside the area. Stoke were fortunate to survive another attack when Ward forced Sorensen to palm



the ball onto the bar with a flying volley, and when the ball worked its way back to Ward he snatched at the ball and planted his shot wide. David Jones had another chance to clinch victory in the last minute but his shot just dipped wide. There was a few moments of panic in injury time but Wolves held on for three points and a great start to the season.

Opinion: Long may this continue. Man of the match: David Jones Team Rating: 7/10 Attendance: 27,850 Team: Hahnemann, Foley, Berra, Craddock, Van Damme (Elokobi 71), Jarvis, Henry, David Jones, Ward, Fletcher (Keogh 49) (Halford 88), Ebanks-Blake Unused Subs: Hennessey, Stearman, Milijas, Guedioura Bookings: None

SYLVAN SNEAKS A BIT OF STICKY TOFFEE PUDDING

EVERTON 1-1 WOLVES Saturday 21st August 2010

Wolves picked up their first away point of the season to leave them lying sixth place in the table after their opening two games. It was a case of backs to the wall as they defended for most of the ninety minutes and then breaking away to score an equaliser with their first effort on goal with a quarter of an hour to go.

It was Everton who took the initiative and attacked Wolves from the start, they created lots of openings but continually failed to find the target when well placed. In fact it wasn't until the 25th minute they managed a shot on target, and when they did it was a long range effort from Heitinga which was acrobatically tipped over the bar by Hahnemann. With the half time break only a few minutes away Everton finally made the breakthrough, it looked like Arteta had been fouled by Ward in the box but the referee awarded a free-kick right on the edge of the area. Arteta took the kick and even though it struck the Wolves defensive wall the ball rebounded for Cahill who slammed it into the roof of the net.

The home side continued where they left off in the first half and went close when Beckford slipped while shooting in the box and then Bilyaletdinov missed a simple chance when he completely miskicked with only Hahnemann to beat.



For all their attacking and missed chances Everton only had the one goal to show for their domination and Wolves showed them how to make the most of their chances when they equalised in the 75th minute with their first attempt on target. Guedioura left Heitinga in a heap in midfield with a ferocious tackle and launched the perfect counter attack which saw him feed Doyle on the right, he then sent over a low cross to Ebanks-Blake who swept the ball into the net. Everton tried without success to gather the momentum again and the Wolves defence stood tall and strong to grab a precious point.

Opinion: Makes a change to get the rub of the green so who cares if we were lucky. Man of the match: Doyle Team Rating: 5/10 Attendance: 37,767 Team: Hahnemann, Foley, Berra, Craddock, Elokobi (Guedioura 53), Jarvis, Henry, Jones (Halford 70), Ward, Ebanks-Blake (Stearman 90), Doyle Unused Subs: Hennessey, Keogh, Milijas, Zubar Bookings: Elokobi (35 - foul),

Halford (84 – foul)



CARLING HANGOVER

WOLVES 2-1 SOUTHEND UNITED (after extra time)

Tuesday 24th August 2010 (Carling Cup 2nd Rd)

It's that time of year again when the Carling Cup starts and manager's field weakened teams to give so called "fringe" players a chance to stake a claim for a first team place. This game was no exception with Mick McCarthy making ten changes to the team which drew 1-1 at Everton three days previously. As usual with these games the action can only be described as grim, and even though ticket prices were reduced the supporters were getting anything but value for money for the entertainment on show.



Absolutely nothing of any note happened until the 27th minute when Wolves suddenly found themselves a goal up, Sam Winnall making his senior debut broke into the box and was brought down by Barker, Milijas stepped up and rifled the penalty into the top left hand corner of the net.



League two Southend gave a good account of themselves and they equalised in the 80th minute when Easton stooped low to head a cross from the right wing past Hennessey. Wolves immediately responded and Ebanks-Blake slotted home a close-range effort two minutes later, but the goal was ruled out for offside and the tie went into extra time. Wolves eventually raised the ante in extra time and in the first period Ebanks-Blake again had a goal ruled out for offside. With only seconds of the game remaining Simpson blew a chance to win it for Southend when he lifted a shot into the arms of Hennessey when wide open, it proved to be a costly miss when Wolves went straight up the other end and Stearman bundled Zubar's cross over the line to give Wolves a last-gasp victory.

Opinion: The sooner this competition is cancelled the better. Man of the match: Winnall Team Rating: 2/10 Attendance: 10,284 Team: Hennessey, Zubar, Batth, Stearman, Elokobi, Halford, Guedioura, Edwards (Foley 91), Milijas, Winnall (Doyle 70), Hemmings (Ebanks-Blake 70) Unused Subs: Ikeme, Berra, Davis, Malone Bookings: Guedioura (30 - foul), Winnall (50 - persistent fouling)

BABY JOEY SENT HOPPING AROUND

WOLVES 1-1 NEWCASTLE UNITED Saturday 28th August 2010

This was an old-fashioned blood and thunder type of game with the tackles flying in from both sides throughout the entire ninety minutes, Wolves ended up having seven players booked and Newcastle five. Wolves denied any pre-concocted plan to kick Joey Barton all over the shop but it didn't stop us all taking great pleasure watching him whine and cry like a baby to the referee at every opportunity.

Newcastle started the better and Wolves were lucky not to concede in the 8th minute when Routledge rounded Hahnemann on the left of the area, but the winger panicked and lashed a low ball across the area and fortunately for Wolves past his waiting team mates as well. From a corner in the 26th minute Wolves missed a good chance to take the lead when the unmarked Ebanks-Blake headed against the far post from just a couple of yards out.

Carroll missed a sitter three minutes before the break when Nolan teed him up eight yards out but he shot over the bar. It proved a costly miss as Wolves went ahead 60 seconds later through Ebanks-Blake, Van Damme's floated over a centre that was brought down by the striker with one



touch, and he then hammered a low drive past the keeper with his second touch.



Wolves should have been awarded a penalty in the 49th minute when Jarvis left the hapless Perch for dead and was cynically brought down, but the clueless Stuart Attwell waved play on. From potentially being 2-0 down Newcastle equalised just after the hour when Zubar conceded a free-kick on the left. Barton floated over the cross and Carroll easily beat Craddock in the air to powerfully head past Hahnemann. The visitors always looked the more likely to go on and win the game but Wolves held on to secure another point and carry on their unbeaten start to the season. Next up are two tricky trips to the capital and the same kind of never say die attitude will be required against Fulham and Spurs after the international break.

Opinion: Great to see Barton get his comeuppance. **Man of the match:** Henry **Team Rating:** 6/10 **Attendance:** 27,745 **Team:** Hahnemann, Foley, Craddock, Berra, Ward, Jarvis, Henry, David Jones (Guedioura 72), Van Damme (Zubar 56), Ebanks-Blake, Doyle (Fletcher 72) **Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Edwards, Stearman, Mancienne **Bookings:** Doyle (22 – foul), Van Damme (38 – foul), Jarvis (45 – foul), Zubar (61 – foul), Guedioura (80 – foul), Berra (82 – foul), Henry (84 – foul)



HUGHES ARE YA?

FULHAM 2-1 WOLVES Saturday 11th September 2010



It was a tight start with Fulham the slightly better of the two teams, but it was Wolves who took the lead in the 10th minute. Doyle collected the ball on the right flank and floated a cross to the back post where an unmarked Van Damme was all on his own to slot the ball home from three yards. After kicking Joey Barton all over the park in the previous game, Karl Henry put himself in the spotlight again when a challenge on Bobby Zamora ended up with the striker leaving the field on a stretcher with a broken leg. The fickle home fans were incensed by the hard tackling of Wolves and their manager Mark Hughes (one of the dirtiest players around in his time) joined in the whining when he strode onto the pitch to confront referee Phil Dowd once the halftime whistle had gone.

With only five minutes gone after the break Wolves threw away the initiative gained in the first half when they conceded an early goal. A cross from the left side fell to Gera who failed to control the ball, but it fell to Dembele who put it into the bottom left hand corner of the net as four Wolves players watched on.

With Fulham on the attack and the their fans screaming for blood every time one of their players was tackled, Sunday League referee Dowd showed a succession of unwarranted yellow cards to the players in the gold shirts. Things weren't helped when Mick McCarthy inexplicably substituted Doyle on the hour mark, even though he was our best player on the pitch at the time. Things went from bad to worse when Berra was sent off in the last minute when he received his second yellow card for body-checking Johnson. The resulting free-kick was rolled to Dembele whose shot went under the wall, which had jumped over the ball to allow it a clear path towards goal, and past a stationary Hahnemann into the bottom right-hand corner of the net.

Opinion: Shocking second half ended by gifting Fulham all three points. Man of the match: Van Damme Team Rating: 4/10 Attendance: 25,280 Team: Hahnemann, Van Damme (Fletcher 46), Mancienne, Foley, Berra, Jarvis, Henry, Craddock, Ward, Ebanks-Blake (Guedioura 85), Doyle (Jones 61) Unused Subs: Hennessey, Elokobi, Stearman, Bent Bookings: Ward (59 - foul), Jarvis (70 – foul), Berra (77 – foul), Henry

(77 - dissent), Ebanks-Blake (85 - foul), Jones (86 - foul) Sent Off: Berra (89 – 2nd bookable offence)

> <u>RUN OVER BY</u> WHITE VAN MAN

TOTTENHAM 3-1 WOLVES

Saturday 18th September 2010

There was to be no repeat of the double over Spurs last season when for the second week in succession Wolves came away from the capital with no points after conceding late goals when looking comfortable for at least a draw. Another inept refereeing performance by Mike Jones didn't help the cause with a string of crap decisions and favouritism shown in the direction of the home team. Gallas went unpunished after hacking down Jarvis and then tripping Fletcher in the box in two first half penalty appeals, but referee Jones waved play on, funnily enough he didn't hesitate to point to the spot in the second half when a player in a white shirt went down in the area.

We had to wait until the 24th minute before either keeper was forced into a save, and it was Hahnemann who blocked a shot by Bale before Mancienne and Ward threw themselves in front of Keane's follow-up. Hahnemann was called into action again six minutes later when he beat out a volley from Van der Vaart after it looped off the head of Foley, the keeper then got his fingertips to a Crouch header in the 33rd minute following a cross from Bale. However as the first half approached stoppage time Wolves took the lead, David Jones slipped a neat ball to Foley and his low cross from the right by-line was touched home by Fletcher from close range.



Spurs went close on more than one occasion before they were gifted an equaliser in the 77th minute, Ward had a rush of blood and scythed down Hutton inside the area and Van der Vaart sent Hahnemann the wrong way from the spot. To be fair Wolves responded well after the goal by getting straight back into Spurs and earning a spate of corners.

Aaron Lennon came on for Spurs in the 86th minute and was instrumental in their second goal with three minutes left, his cross was partially cleared but played back into Huddlestone whose shot was blocked straight into the path of Pavyluchenko, who then scored from eight yards. There was more misery to come for Wolves in stoppage time when a horrible mix-up between Stearman and Hahnemann ended with Stearman's attempted clearance hitting Hutton and looping back over Hahnemann into the net.

Opinion: Two points in two games lost at the death, need to keep concentration. **Man of the match:** Hahnemann **Team Rating:** 6/10 **Attendance:** 35,940 **Team:** Hahnemann, Foley, Stearman,

Craddock, Mancienne (Bent 90), Ward, Henry, Jones, Jarvis (Van Damme 54), Doyle, Fletcher (Edwards 58) **Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Elokobi, Ebanks-Blake, Guedioura. **Bookings:** Foley (19 - foul), Van Damme

(84 - foul), Hahnemann (87 - dissent)

JUST NOTTS GOOD ENOUGH

WOLVES 4-2 NOTTS COUNTY

(after extra time)

Tues 21st September 2010 (Carling Cup 3rd Rd)

It needed the presence of Kevin Doyle who came on in extra time to spare Wolves blushes with a double against Notts County in another Carling Cup sleepover at Molineux. This nothing game meant the





familiar nine team changes to give the reserves a run out and rest the precious legs of their first team counterparts. However the replacements hardly covered themselves in glory in the bid to push for a place in the Premier League line-up with performances that ranged from bad to absolute shocking.

Ex-con and murderer Lee Hughes had the ball in the net for County after only three minutes after getting on the end of a free-kick from Davies but was rightly given offside. In a lifeless game in a lifeless atmosphere ex London Wolves sponsored George Elokobi came closest to breaking the deadlock after 37 minutes following a deep in-swinging corner from Milijas, but his header crashed against the crossbar and rebounded back into play.

We had to wait until the 57th minute for the first goal and it just had to be Jailbird Hughes who scored it, he beat Hennessey with a looping header following a cross from the right. The goal seemed to inject a bit of urgency into Wolves and after a few close chances went begging they levelled the scores in the 83rd minute. County defender Liam Chilvers was sent off for hauling back Berra and Milijas stepped up and blasted the resulting penalty into the roof of the net.

As extra time kicked off on came that man Doyle to at last show a bit of class and lift Wolves up a gear, and he needed only two minutes to show his struggling team mates how it's done. The striker made a powerful break into the County box before squaring the ball across the area to Fletcher who made no mistake to put Wolves 2-1 up.

It was that man Doyle again who effectively sealed the tie in the 105th minute, he teed up Fletcher whose shot was parried out before the Irishman converted the rebound to make it 3-1. Smith pulled a goal back for County when he headed in Westcarr's cross, but Doyle ended any doubts about the outcome when he made it 4-2 with a minute remaining.

Opinion: Like spending two hours at the dentist getting your teeth pulled. **Man of the match:** Doyle **Team Rating:** 3/10 **Attendance:** 11,516 **Team:** Hennessey, Stearman, Mouyokolo (Mujangi Bia 62), Berra, Elokobi, Halford, Foley, Guedioura, Milijas, Bent (Fletcher 72), Ebanks-Blake (Doyle 91) **Unused Subs:** Hahnemann, Jones, Mancienne, Ward **Bookings:** Berra (106 - foul)

<u>REFFIN HOU'LL</u>

WOLVES 1-2 ASTON VILLA Sunday 26th September 2010



For the third week on the spin Wolves conceded a late goal to come away with no points. It was a bitter pill to swallow due to the fact that the cross supplied for Heskey to score came from Stephen Warnock, the full back who had already been booked shouldn't have even been on the pitch after another crude tackle on Doyle

Wolves created the first clear-cut opening after six minutes when Dovle's reverse pass picked out the run of Edwards into the box, but he hesitated for a split second and sliced his shot high and wide. From then on it was Villa who were the better side and they eventually opened the scoring in the 24th minute. Albrighton was given loads of space on the right and he drilled a low cross across the six-yard box where Downing was left all alone by the ball watching Foley, he made no mistake and side footed past Hahnemann from close range. It needed a double save from Friedel to keep Villa on level terms after 35 minutes, first the keeper parried away a fierce volley from Fletcher and then kept out the follow-up effort from Jones.

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Wolves made an impressive start to the second period and after a sustained period of pressure they equalised on the hour mark. Jarvis cut back inside onto his right foot and floated a dangerous ball across the box, Edwards attacked the ball but failed to get a touch and it flew across Friedel into the far corner of the net.

Wolves continued to have the lion's share of the play, but as the final whistle approached the game looked destined for a draw. Then with less than two minutes left Heskey snatched the winner, the lucky Warnock crossed from the left flank and Heskey rose above the Wolves defence to place a header into the bottom corner of the net.

In injury-time there was more bad news when substitute Guedioura was stretchered off with a broken leg after a tackle from behind by Sidwell, no doubt had it been Karl Henry then we would have been looking at a red card and replacing our skipper for the next three games.

Opinion: After the great start only one place above the relegation zone following three straight defeats. **Man of the match:** Jarvis **Team Rating:** 6/10 **Attendance:** 27,511 **Team:** Hahnemann, Foley (Stearman 76), Craddock, Berra, Ward (Elokobi 38), Edwards (Guedioura 81), Henry, Jones, Jarvis, Fletcher, Doyle **Unused Subs:** Hennessey, Ebanks-Blake, Bent, Milijas **Bookings:** Craddock (59 – foul)

CAPTAIN KARLAMITY

WIGAN ATHLETIC 2-0 WOLVES Saturday 2nd October 2010

An early start due to an early kick-off, to get to a place that can only be described as grim, to play one of the worse teams in the premier with the least goals scored in





With all the rubbish printed in the press regarding the "Over Physical" tag the order of the day was for Wolves to get their heads down, play some football and do their talking on the pitch, so what does our captain Karl Henry do after ten minutes, makes one of the worse challenges seen all season, and to boot does it in front of the Sky TV cameras. The incident happened in the 10th minute when Henry was sent off for a shocking tackle on Jordi Gomez, the referee showed a straight red card and that was where the game ended as far as Wolves were concerned. The stats show that we had two efforts off target, apparently from Fletcher and Jarvis, but to be honest I can't remember them.

Wigan finally opened the scoring in the 65th minute. Edwards was harshly penalised for pulling back N'Zogbia on the edge of the area and Gomez curled the resulting free-kick into the top corner of the net. The home team sealed victory with a second goal five minutes from time. N'Zogbia played a through ball for Rodallega, and the striker claimed the goal after Berra guided an attempted clearance onto his foot and past Hahnemann. At the end of the day Wolves were in the bottom three for the first time this season which just about summed the day up.

Opinion: It certainly doesn't get any worse than this.

Man of the match: Craddock Team Rating: 3/10 Attendance: 14,042 Team: Hahnemann, Foley, Craddock, Berra, Ward (Ebanks-Blake 82), Edwards (Bent 82), Henry, Mancienne, Jarvis, Doyle, Fletcher (Elokobi 52) Unused Subs: Hennessey, Van Damme, Stearman, David Jones Bookings: Fletcher (41 - foul), Berra (93 - foul) Sent Off: Henry (11 – foul)

THRILLER FOLLOWED BY HAMMER HORROR SHOW

WOLVES 1-1 WEST HAM UNITED Saturday 16th October 2010

It was a game of two halves as the bottom two battled it out for a precious three points. The game eventually ended up even at one goal and one point apiece, but it could have been so much better for Wolves had they taken one of the many chances they created in the first half. It was one of the best 45 minutes seen at Molineux for a long time with the passing and build up play absolutely breathtaking at times.



There was an early setback when stand-in skipper Jody Craddock limped off after five minutes, but that didn't seem to make any difference to Wolves who tore into West ham from the off. Edwards saw an early shot deflected wide before Wolves took the lead in the tenth minute, a cross from the left was punched weakly by Green and Jarvis was on hand to volley the ball straight back into the net. The onslaught continued and Green was outstanding as he denied David Jones with a great save with the very tips of his fingers, and then somehow managed he to block Stearman's header with the goal at his mercy. More chances went begging with Edwards, Doyle and Jarvis all going close, but the West Ham goal led a charmed life and somehow they went in at the break only one goal down.

After being run ragged in the first half West Ham levelled the scores with virtually their first sniff at goal in the 51st minute. Wolves had hardly been in trouble when Foley was harshly judged to have bundled over Obinna in the box, Noble stepped up and smashed it to Hahnemann's left giving the keeper no chance. Within seconds Wolves were back on the attack and Green made another wild punch allowing Jones to drill the ball back towards goal only to see the attempt blocked, and then a minute later West Ham almost turned the game on its head when Piquionne rattled the crossbar. Wolves had a massive let-off in the 93rd minute when Piquionne had the ball in the net, but the referee fortunately blew for handball saving the disappointment of losing yet more points late in a game.

Opinion: Great first half, but what did you say to the boys at half time Mick? Man of the match: Jarvis Team Rating: 7/10 Attendance: 28,582 Team: Hahnemann, Foley, Craddock (Stearman 5), Berra, Ward, Edwards (Ebanks-Blake 87), Mancienne, David Jones, Jarvis, Fletcher (Van Damme 67), Doyle Unused Subs: Hennessey, Elokobi, Bent, Milijas Bookings: None

BACK IN THE HUNT

CHELSEA 2-0 WOLVES Saturday 23rd October 2010



What a difference a year makes, in the same fixture last season Wolves were totally outrun and outplayed by the double winners from Stamford Bridge. This time around it was anything but a rout with Wolves more than matching their illustrious opponents, and they were right in the mix until Chelsea substitute Salomon Kalou finally put the game to bed with a goal in the 81st minute. This was the first in a series of games against the so called big four and Wolves put in probably their best performance of the season, even though they lost 2-0 they had more than their fair share of chances to come away with at least a point.

Wolves made a confident start and knocked the ball around with ease, defying their tag of being a dirty team, they controlled the game for the first 15 minutes taking the game to Chelsea and earning a series of corners. But it was Chelsea who

almost opened the scoring in the 13th minute when Bosingwa burst into the penalty area and his angled drive was tipped around the post by Hahnemann.

Wolves first real chance came in the 19th minute, Foley crossed from the right wing but the header from Edwards was mistimed and easily saved by Cech. There was a similar opportunity in the 23rd minute, but this time Van Damme couldn't get enough power on his header to trouble Cech. The miss proved costly as Chelsea went straight down the other end and scored. The ball was pulled back from the touchline to Malouda, and with the two centre halves AWOL the midfielder was all on his own to side foot the ball home from eight yards. Wolves finished the half strongly and Doyle was unlucky not to equalise in the 42nd minute when he got on the end of a cross from Foley but couldn't direct the ball past Cech.

With the boos ringing in his ears Stephen Hunt was introduced for Wolves at halftime for his debut. He was immediately in the thick of the action and almost equalised in the 48th minute, but his low header was cleared off the line by Essien. Doyle then forced Cech to save at the near post as Wolves continued to press forward. Hahnemann kept his team in the game in the 65th minute when he produced a superb interception to deny Drogba who was clear through on goal. Milijas then tried his luck with a long range effort in the 80th minute, but it was straight at Cech who gathered the ball comfortably. That was to be Wolves last chance, as in the first half Chelsea went straight up the other end and Kalou made it 2-0.

Opinion: Similar performances to this should see us pull out of the relegation zone. Man of the match: David Jones Team Rating: 8/10 Attendance: 41,752 Team: Hahnemann, Foley, Berra, Stearman, Ward, Jarvis (Fletcher 87), Edwards, Milijas, David Jones, Van Damme (Hunt 46), Doyle (Ebanks-Blake 86)

(Hunt 46), Doyle (Ebanks-Blake 86) Unused Subs: Hennessey, Elokobi, Mouyokolo, Davis Bookings: Stearman (33 - foul), Berra (89 – hand ball)

<u>SHOT DOWN BY</u> <u>A PEA SHOOTER</u>

MANCHESTER UNITED 3-2 WOLVES Tuesday 26th October 2010 (Carling Cup 4th Rd)

For the second year running Wolves were knocked out of the Carling Cup at Old Trafford by a second string Man United side. After a goalless first half the game produced a flurry of goals after the break with United eventually running out 3-2 winners. Wolves were more than a match for their infamous counterparts but let themselves down with some poor defending at the death and conceding a goal with extra time beckoning.

It was a dull first half at the half empty Old Trafford with both teams battling it out in midfield, and the only bright spot came when the referee blew the whistle for half time. The second half started with both teams showing much more purpose and the game began to flow from end to end.

United took the lead in the 56th minute with a stroke of luck. Bebe muscled past Elokobi and his deflected cross looped over Hennessey and dropped over the line, at first it seemed Foley had headed the ball clear but TV replays showed the ball was marginally over. No sooner had United taken the lead then Wolves equalised, Fabio blocked a Hunt shot but from the resulting corner Elokobi rose superbly above the defenders and thumped his header into the net.

Jarvis continued to torment the United full backs and Hunt clipped the bar with another opportunity created by more good work from the winger. The miss proved costly as United went straight down the other end and scored to make it 2-1, Park latched on to a ball that came to him somewhat fortuitously after Macheda lost control and placed it into the right hand side of the net.



Five mutes later and Wolves were level again, a neat build up ended with Fletcher flicking the ball to Foley who fired through Evans's legs and past Amos into the United net. It could have been even better for Wolves a few moments later when Ebanks-Blake sidestepped Smalling and hammered in a terrific shot that just passed the upright. As extra time approached then came the last minute heartache for the Wolves fans, Hernandez was left all alone to latch onto a through pass from midfield and he finished clinically by lifting the ball over Hennessey for the winner.

Opinion: Must learn to shut up shop at the death. Man of the match: Jarvis Team Rating: 7/10 Attendance: 46,083 Team: Hennessey, Foley, Mouyokolo, Berra, Elokobi, Hunt, Mancienne, David Jones, Jarvis (Doyle 85), Ebanks-Blake (Bent 80), Fletcher Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Van Damme, Edwards, Stearman, Milijas Bookings: None

<u>MAC'S PACK SPANK</u> <u>MANC PLANKS</u>

WOLVES 2-1 MANCHESTER CITY Saturday 30th October 2010



Wolves won for the first time since the opening day of the season against the billionaires from Manchester City. The excuses came in thick and fast in the form of players out injured like Tevez, late night booze ups at some Scottish university and internal unrest amongst the troops, but at no point was it mentioned they were beaten by the better team. You may have billions of pounds to waste on these overpaid prima donnas, but it doesn't matter how much money you spend you can't buy heart and loyalty and that's exactly where Wolves differ from City.



City started the better of the teams playing lots of pretty football but without really threatening Hahnemann's goal, the closest they really came was when Milner crossed to 25 million signing Balotelli but he side footed wide from two yards out. However, City did take the lead midway through the first half when Adebayor fired them ahead from the penalty spot following Stearman's unnecessary chopping down of Silva on the goal line.

But that was City's lot and Wolves stormed back, the impressive David Edwards forced a good save from Hart with a header, and then went even closer when he powered another header against the post from the resulting corner. On the half hour Wolves got the equaliser they deserved, Milijas struck a fine shot wide of Hart's left hand after a Jarvis cross was deflected into his path. Wolves were suddenly in the ascendancy and as they piled forward Jarvis supplied another telling cross which only just eluded the run of Hunt at the far post.

There was a quiet start to the second half but after 56 minutes Edwards put Wolves in front, Doyle had his shot blocked by Toure from Foley's cross but the rebound fell to Edwards who kept his cool and slid the ball past Hart and into the net. Wolves were looking full of confidence and Hart had to be alert again to get his body behind a low long range effort from Milijas. The closest City came to grabbing a point was when Adebayor ballooned the ball over the bar after Johnson found him open from the edge of the box, but Wolves comfortably held on for three precious points.

Opinion: Money can't buy performances like that. Man of the match: Jarvis Team Rating: 8/10 Attendance: 25,971 Team: Hahnemann, Foley, Stearman, Berra, Ward, Edwards, Henry, Milijas (Mancienne 83), Jarvis (Mouyokolo 88), Doyle, Hunt (Elokobi 65) Unused Subs: Hennessey, Elokobi, Bent, Milijas Bookings: Hunt (59 – foul)

DOUBLE PARKED

MANCHESTER UNITED 2-1 WOLVES Saturday 6th November 2010

While Wayne Rooney continued his world tour at the expense of the Man United supporters his team mates stole the points



against Wolves with a late goal in each half from Ji Sung Park. It was a bitter pill to swallow after Wolves had been the better team for long periods of the game, especially in a first half in which they totally dominated the play.

It was a great start from Wolves with Henry, Milijas, Hunt and Jarvis running the show in middle of the park and pushing forward at every opportunity, and they created the first decent chance of the game in the 25th minute. Milijas shot from inside the area and Vidic luckily diverted the ball just past the outside of Van der Sar's right-hand post with the keeper diving in the opposite direction.

Right on the stroke of half time United took the lead against the run of play with their first shot on target, Fletcher cut in from the left and sent a through ball into the path of the unmarked Park who evaded the ball watching defenders to slot home past the unfortunate Hahnemann.

As the second half got under way Wolves still seemed shell shocked at conceding just before the break, but they gained their composure and deservedly equalised just after the hour mark. Ebanks-Blake was in the right place to intercept a Milijas shot, turn sharply round Vidic and then drive a fine shot through the legs of Van der Sar. Fletcher missed a golden chance to put Wolves in front with ten minutes left when he found himself eight yards out with the goal at his mercy following a poor clearance by Vidic, but instead of sticking the ball in the net the striker rushed his chance and blasted it over. The miss proved more than costly when Park cut inside the area from the right wing three minutes into injury-time and drove his shot past Hahnemann to take all three points for United.

Opinion: Another late goal, another lost point, aren't they ever going to learn. **Man of the match:** Milijas

Team Rating: 8/10 Attendance: 75,285 Team: Hahnemann, Foley, Stearman, Berra, Ward, Edwards (Fletcher 65), Henry, Milijas (Mancienne 77), Jarvis, Doyle, Hunt (Ebanks-Blake 64) Unused Subs: Hennessey, Van Damme, Elokobi, Mouyokolo Bookings: None

FABREGASH YOUR SHINS

WOLVES 0-2 ARSENAL Wednesday 11th November 2010



After a disastrous start Wolves put in another good performance in the last of their five games against the so-called top four teams in the Premier. Like the previous three league games Wolves were the better team against top premiership opposition, and like in two of those games ended up on the losing side after playing some excellent football.



It was a disastrous start for Wolves when they conceded a goal after just 38 seconds, a cross from the right sailed over the head of Stearman and Chamakh was on hand to pick his spot and head home. It was all Arsenal and they nearly doubled their lead in the eighth minute when another defensive error let in Arshavin, but Hahnemann raced clear to block the strikers shot. After another good save by Hahnemann to deny Fabregas Wolves came close to equalising after 28 minutes, Hunt floated in a free-kick from the right flank and Doyle's back header was only inches over. Wolves were now having their best period of the game



and they created another good opportunity when Fabianski was forced to palm away a deflected cross from Jarvis, just taking it away from the in-charging Hunt at the far post.

Within two minutes of the restart Wolves went desperately close to levelling the scores, Jarvis's low ball across the six yard box was met by Milijas, but Sagna made a crucial block to deny him. Another Stearman mistake let in Fabregas who shot wide when clean through, but Wolves continued to camp down in the Arsenal area and in the 55th minute Fabianski tipped over a curling effort from Doyle which looked destined for the top corner of the net. Apart from the first 20 minutes it had been all Wolves, and on the hour only a desperate goal line clearance prevented Stearman from scoring following a corner from Milijas.

Fabregas received a yellow card for a dreadful lunge on Stephen Ward which resulted in the left back being stretchered off, had the midfielder been wearing a gold shirt you can assure the colour would have been red. Doyle almost rescued a point for Wolves with two minutes left when his low shot flew inches wide, and Berra went even closer in injury time when his shot from the edge of the area was superbly saved by Fabianski. Chamakh wrapped up the points when he scored on the break in the dying seconds with most of the Wolves players in the Arsenal area.

Opinion: Great performance again but still rooted in the bottom three. Man of the match: Milijas Team Rating: 8/10 Attendance: 27,329 Team: Hahnemann, Foley, Stearman, Berra, Ward (Fletcher 88), Edwards (Hunt 8), Mancienne (Ebanks-Blake 79), Henry, Milijas, Jarvis, Doyle Unused Subs: Hennessey, Elokobi, Mouyokolo, Van Damme Bookings: Stearman (86 – foul)

PREMATURE CAPITULATION

WOLVES 2-3 BOLTON WANDERES Saturday 13th November 2010

Wolves conceded a goal in just 38 seconds against Arsenal on Wednesday, today they managed to last another eight seconds against Bolton, though this time defender Richard Stearman scored it for the opponents whereas he watched on as



Chamakh scored it in the previous game. Wolves made life difficult for themselves from the off when they again fell a goal behind in the first minute. A cross from the right was only partially cleared and the ball headed straight back into the danger zone where Stearman, under pressure from Taylor, headed it past Hahnemann and into the net.

Even though it was a disastrous start Wolves tried to rally quickly and Jaaskelainen made two great saves from Milijas and Hunt. Milijas was running the show in midfield and looked dangerous every time he received the ball, and he was desperately unlucky at the start of the second half when his chip from the edge of the box clipped the bar.

With Wolves pushing for the equaliser disaster stuck just after the hour mark when Bolton scored a second goal against the run of play, and they were again punished by a defensive moment of madness. Foley raced to the by-line to keep the ball in, and in doing so gave it to a Bolton player who crossed the ball back into the box where Elmander showed quick feet to bamboozle four static Wolves defenders before slotting the ball past Hahnemann.

It was 3-0 five minutes later when Lee's cut-back was stoked home by Holden. But even when the chips are down Wolves never give up, and Foley partially made up for his part in Bolton's second goal when he found himself in a forward position and neatly stroked the ball home from 18 yards in the 69th minute. Ten minutes later Fletched dived in low to head home from Jarvis's corner to make it 3-2. The comeback appeared to be on and in the 90th minute Mouyokolo missed a glorious chance to grab an equaliser when he headed wide from a yard out with only the keeper to beat.

Opinion: Not one clean sheet all season says it all.

Man of the match: Milijas

Team Rating: 6/10 Attendance: 27,508 Team: Hahnemann, Foley, Stearman, Mouyokolo, Elokobi, Hunt (Fletcher 66), Henry, Milijas, Jarvis, Doyle, Ebanks-Blake Unused Subs: Hennessey, Van Damme, Ward, Jones, Bent, Mancienne Bookings: Hunt (25 – foul)

ROCK BOTTOM

BLACKPOOL 2-1 WOLVES Saturday 20th November 2010



Wolves played in a black strip and it certainly turned out to be a black day as they went down 2-1 to a Blackpool team that will almost certainly be fighting off relegation at the end of the season. During the season so far Wolves have thrown away countless points because they seem unable to defend at the end of games. Now the trend has changed and it seems now they can't defend at the beginning of games either, and for the third game in a row they've found themselves on the back foot after conceding a goal in the first few minutes.

The game was less than three minutes old when Wolves conceded the first goal. Varney chested down a long punt up to him on the left wing that took him around the sleeping Foley, and then as he turned he volleyed the ball on the first bounce into the top right hand corner of the net from 25 yards.

After the nightmare start Wolves enjoyed a lot of possession but without much penetration in the Blackpool penalty area. Then with half-time approaching and after the spirited fight back they conceded another dreadful goal. Hahnemann, solid as a rock for most of the season, dropped a real howler when he flapped at a cross from a corner and missed the ball, Varney headed down and Harewood stabbed the



ball over the line though a rook of players to make it 2-0.

Wolves opened up in the second half, and despite creating numerous openings the nearest they came to scoring was when Milijas smacked a shot against the foot of the post. Wolves finally pulled a goal back five minutes from time when Doyle headed home at the far post from an Elokobi cross. Doyle went close again in the dying moments but his shot went narrowly wide. Blackpool nearly scored again at the end of injury time when Hahnemann made a real hash of a clearance that went straight to Campbell just inside of his own half, but luckily for Hahnemann his snapshot went wide.

Opinion: Prince William was looking down from the stands with some of his RAF mates, pity he didn't bring his boots he could have done a lot better than most of those in a Wolves shirt.

Man of the match: Doyle

Team Rating: 4/10

Attendance: 15,922 Team: Hahnemann, Foley (Milijas 29), Stearman, Berra, Elokobi, Henry (Fletcher 60), Mancienne, David Jones, Jarvis, Doyle, Hunt (Ebanks-Blake 46) Unused Subs: Hennessey, Ward, Bent, Mouyokolo Bookings: Henry (57 - foul),

Berra (80 – foul)

BLUES ARE LEFT FEELING OFF COLOUR

WOLVES 1-0 BIRMINGHAM Sunday 12th December 2010

Wolves' patched-up team produced an excellent all-round display to win a first league game against Birmingham City in almost a decade. There was no Kevin Doyle, no Matt Jarvis, no Karl Henry and no Jody Craddock, and we had four players on the bench without a single Premier League appearance to their name.

The signs didn't bode well for us as we hadn't kept a clean sheet all season but, boy, did we alter that fact in style. Not only did we keep a clean sheet, Wayne Hennessey didn't have a single save to make, and we restricted the Blues to just three shots off target. Even our bogeyman, Kevin Phillips, managed to miss a 'sitter' at the end, which would have been a travesty had it gone in. But in between, we ran the Blues ragged. Chance after chance was created but, unlike previous games, it wasn't our poor finishing that let us down, it was a Man of the Match performance from their goalkeeper, Ben Foster, that restricted us in the 51st minute to a solitary reward when Stephen Hunt smashed home an Ebanks-Blake cross from the right.



It was the least we deserved. Dave Edwards was awesome, playing probably his best game for us, Ebanks-Blake put in a hungry-for-the-ball display, and Stephen Ward was superb as an out an out striker. Stephen Hunt was a busy little bee and Kevin Foley put in another brilliant performance. It was a really good performance against a poor Birmingham City team.

Opinion: More of the same please. Man of the match: Ben Foster - He needed to be. Team Rating: 8/10 Attendance: 25,150 Team: Hennessey, Zubar, Berra, Stearman, Elekobi, Foley, Edwards, Milijas, Hunt, Ward, Ebanks-Blake. Subs: Hahnemann, Fletcher, Winnall, Mujangi-Bia, Ebanks-Landell, Rooney, Docherty. Bookings: Stearman (40 - foul), Foley (78 - foul)

Barclays Premier League Table - 20th December 2010

					Home					Away				
		PL	W	D	L	F	А	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	Pts
1	Manchester United	16	8	1	0	25	6	1	6	0	11	10	20	34
2	Arsenal	17	5	0	3	19	10	5	2	2	15	9	15	32
3	Manchester City	18	4	3	2	9	7	5	2	2	16	8	10	32
4	Chelsea	17	6	1	1	18	4	3	3	3	13	8	19	31
5	Tottenham Hotspur	17	4	4	1	14	9	3	2	3	11	13	3	27
6	Sunderland	18	5	4	0	11	5	1	5	3	10	13	3	27
7	Bolton Wanderers	18	4	4	1	19	12	2	4	3	11	13	5	26
8	Newcastle United	17	3	3	3	19	11	3	1	4	8	15	1	22
9	Liverpool	17	5	2	1	15	6	1	2	6	6	16	-1	22
10	Blackpool	16	2	2	2	11	11	4	2	4	13	18	-5	22
11	West Bromwich Albion	17	4	2	2	11	10	2	2	5	13	19	-5	22
12	Blackburn Rovers	18	4	3	2	12	7	2	1	6	11	21	-5	22
13	Stoke City	17	4	2	3	12	10	2	1	5	9	12	-1	21
14	Everton	18	2	4	3	10	12	2	5	2	10	9	-1	21
15	Aston Villa	17	4	4	1	14	10	1	1	6	5	18	-9	20
16	Birmingham City	17	3	4	1	8	6	0	5	4	9	14	-3	18
17	Fulham	17	2	5	2	10	11	0	5	3	6	9	-4	16
18	Wigan Athletic	17	2	4	3	8	17	1	3	4	5	11	-15	16
19	Wolverhampton Wanderers	17	4	2	3	13	13	0	1	7	5	17	-12	15
20	West Ham United	18	2	3	4	11	15	0	4	5	5	16	-15	13

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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** : To be advised.

Wed 5/1/11 v Chelsea (k/o 7:45pm)	OutwardReturn	 Depart Euston 13:23 Arrive Wolverhampton 15:11 Depart Wolverhampton 22:45 Arrive Euston 01:13
Sat 22/1/11 v Liverpool (k/o 12:45pm)	OutwardReturn	- Depart Euston 08:23 Arrive Wolverhampton 10:11 - Depart Wolverhampton 15:45 Arrive Euston 17:34
Sat 5/2/11 v Man Utd (k/o 5:30pm)	OutwardReturn	- Depart Euston 12:23 Arrive Wolverhampton 14:11 - Depart Wolverhampton 20:45 Arrive Euston 23:01
Sat 26/2/11 v Blackpool	OutwardReturn	 Depart Euston 10:23 Arrive Wolverhampton 12:11 Depart Wolverhampton 17:45 Arrive Euston 19:34

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 1/1/11 v West Ham ALL-TICKET MATCH	• The nearest tube station is Upton Park which is on the District, plus the Hammersmith & City Lines. The station is a short walk from the ground. Note that West Ham tube station is nowhere near the ground. After the game it is probably best to walk to either East Ham or Plaistow stations to avoid the long queues at Upton Park. Both are about a ten minute walk from Upton Park.
Sat 8/1/11 v Doncaster (FA Cup) ALL-TICKET MATCH	 Outward Depart Kings Cross 08:10 Arrive Doncaster 09:56 Depart Doncaster 18:10 Arrive Kings Cross 20:10
Sat 15/1/11 v Man City ALL-TICKET MATCH	 Outward Depart Euston 09:00 Arrive Manchester Piccadilly 11:07 Depart Manchester Piccadilly 17:55 Arrive Euston 20:04
Tue 1/2/11 v Bolton ALL-TICKET MATCH	 No official Club trip. Any member wishing to go this match please contact Travel Secretary.
Sat 12/2/11 v Arsenal ALL-TICKET MATCH	

FA CUP DATES: 3rd Round 8/1/11; 4th Round 29/1/11; 5th Round 19/2/11 Please also note that dates and times of matches are likely to be changed because of live TV coverage by Sky Sports.

TRAVEL DETAILS



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 WOODIFIELD 94 FARNHAM CLOSE RAINHAM KENT ME8 8NS Telephone - 01634 363704 E-mail - peteraw@globalnet.co.uk

NEWSFLASH

A news article appeared in a national newspaper which brought some amusement; it read: 'Wolves players were blissfully unaware that they turned up for their Saturday Premier League fixture at White Hart Lane in a coach emblazoned with Everton FC's name, club badge and motto. Apparently the teams share the same coach provider, who had to make a late change in arrangements. A Wolves spokesman said: 'The branding was on the roof so could only be spotted by anyone looking down on the coach. It won't be happening again!' Yeah, right! Somebody obviously saw it.

Still, not as big a faux pas as those Blues builders who laid the blue paving blocks among the beige ones outside the South Bank turnstiles, spelling out their club's name! Where was the architect when he was needed!

STEF

SALES



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 or email 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 $\pounds10.00 + p\&p$ and the picture is $\pounds35$ framed or $\pounds20$ unframed.





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