



Wolverhampton Wanderers

LONDON SUPPORTERS CLUB

founded 1966



FLYING THE PREMIERSHIP FLAG!

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FROM THE CHAIR



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A very warm welcome to you all in this, the first Newsletter of, hopefully, a long stay in the Premiership. This edition appears as the team find themselves just above the relegation zone despite many stirring performances. There is no doubt, though, that in many of the games the battle has been well and truly taken to the opposition. Dare I say it, but we are definitely making a better fist of it this time round and, therefore, all credit to Mick and his team.

Apart from a few inexplicable shaky games, the lads have played well in what was always, surely, going to be a difficult baptism for us. Mick has instilled a fighting spirit in the lads, as was clearly seen in the fightbacks for draws against Stoke and Aston Villa, and the superb performance for the win at Tottenham Hotspur. It also has to be said that we've suffered badly at the hands of the officials in several games which, undoubtedly, has cost us several valuable points. Still, as Mick has said..." if these things are supposed to balance themselves out by the end of the season, then we must be in for a hell of a second half"! Lets hope so.

On our Club front, our new entertainment Officer, Roy Eagles, has been extremely busy! He's organised for us horse and greyhound racing (not together, of course), and a Christmas lunch in the City Bar in Wolverhampton after the Burnley game. At all these events he's held raffles and sold Club pens in order to raise money for our 45th Anniversary fund. Well done Roy, so far this has been our most productive year for Club events for some time. Do try and come along to future ones, they really are great fun. Also on the social events side we had an excellent visit to the Fullers Brewery prior to the Portsmouth game, and discussions are also underway concerning our 45th Anniversary celebrations which, I understand, are to be held again at the home of Charlton Athletic FC, The Valley.

And speaking of events, it was shortly after our 40th Anniversary dinner that I was approached by Bobby Thompson. He asked me when we could have such a great do again, to which I replied that it would probably be in five years time, at our 45th. To this he replied that ..."as we were all getting older, some of us might not be around in five years. Couldn't you organise this kind of do every year"? Well, I don't know if Bobby knew then that he had cancer, but his words turned out to be quite prophetic as he passed away a few months ago. With his passing, Wolves have lost a great player, a thoroughly nice man, and a friend of London Wolves.

In conclusion, once again my sincerest thanks go to everyone involved in the smooth running of all that is London Wolves. It's greatly appreciated by me and the membership.

All that remains is for me to hope that you all had a very Merry Christmas and have a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Be good, and continue your great support of Mick and the boys.

Stuart

WOLVES NEWS



GEORGE ELOKABI KIT SPONSORSHIP



With last year's sponsorship recipient, Neil Collins, going to Preston North End we at London Wolves were delighted to be offered another left back for sponsorship, namely George Elokobi, the previous one being our old friend Lee Naylor. The 22 year old Cameroonian joined us last season from Colchester but spent most of that time injured. The robust George has already made an impact on the Premiership, at 5'9" and 14 stones it's a long way for wingers to run to get round him.

THE LONDON WOLVES WEBSITE

Peter Bartlett runs the London Wolves Website for us. (www.londonwolves.com) Don't forget that you can get the latest travel news, fixtures, results, and pictures from London Wolves events from the website at www.LondonWolves.com We are planning to bring you a mobile site in the new year where you'll be able to easily check travel and fixtures from your mobile phone. Competitions, such as the copy of God's Footballer (which Dave Slape won) will remain on the main site.



SUPER MICK

Now everyone, of course, knows that Wolves won the Championship in 2008-9 in style. What you may have missed though is while Sylvan Ebanks-Blake was winning the Golden Boot as division top scorer, our Manager Mick McCarthy was named Manager of the Season, a well deserved award which, no doubt, Mick would share with all the backroom staff. Sylvan also won the London Wolves Player of the Year trophy. Pictured presenting the trophy at Molineux are Graham Stancombe (also with Wolfie!), Paul and Dave Slape.



WOLVES NEWS



LONDON WOLVES SOCIAL EVENTS.

Roy Eagles took on the mantle of Entertainments Secretary at our last AGM and what a whirlwind period we've had since then. Hardly a week goes by without a call from Roy to the committee asking 'what do you think about this for an idea....' or 'do you think there'd be support for this event, or that event'. The grass is certainly not growing under his feet! So far, we've been horse-racing, dog-racing (twice), had a Fullers Brewery beer tasting visit, and a Christmas lunch in the City Bar after the Burnley game. And we're only halfway through the season!

After the Wimbledon dog meeting, Roy writes: "*We met at 5.00pm in the Prince of Wales pub for a 'warm up' drink and then shuffled around the corner to the dog track for a very entertaining evening. I saw that there was a dog called Newtown Surprise running in one of the heats and, as I actually live in a place called Newtown, everybody backed it, and lo and behold it actually won!!! A big thank you to all who attended, a special thanks to Graham and Ruth for donating the raffle prizes and to Ruth individually for selling the raffle tickets. As with all our events , all monies raised go into a special fund created solely for our 45th Anniversary bash in 2011.*"

Roy also arranged our Christmas Dinner in the City Bar in King Street in Wolverhampton. At the time of going to press with this Newsletter, it hasn't been possible to produce a detailed report on the event. Suffice to say, though, it was an outstanding success. Over 40 members attended and enjoyed the company of our Honorary President, John Richards and his wife Pam, Phil 'Lofty' Parkes, 80's Wolf Dean Edwards, and for a short time, Steve Daley. The food and the company was magnificent, as was the after dinner entertainment by local Wolves fan and legend, Ian 'Sludge' Lees. The only downside of the 'do' was that we needed another hour of time to finish it at leisure. We'd beaten Burnley, had a great meal, in great company with a great comedian, and yet we had to rush at the end for the 6.38pm train back to London.

For your diaries, here are the next items on the social calendar:

- Hall of Fame Dinner – Molineux – 14th January 2010
- Kit Sponsor's day – Molineux – 2nd February 2010
- Meet the Players – London – March/April 2010
- Annual General Meeting – London – July 2010
- Our 45th Anniversary Dinner – Charlton Athletic FC – summer 2011

Pictured below outside the City Bar is the Guvn'r Lawson; John Richards thanking us for our hospitality, and Lofty Parkes.



MATCH REPORTS



SPADEWORK DONE BY GREEN FINGERS

WOLVES 0-2 WEST HAM UNITED

Saturday 15th August 2009



If you were to believe everything you read in the Sunday newspapers following our first match on the return to the Premier League then we are in for a nightmare this season. Don't believe any of the crap that was printed, this was an impressive return to the big time with naivety the worst enemy as West Ham punished two lapses of concentration to give them a somewhat flattering 2-0 win.

Wolves made the brighter start and Ebanks-Blake had their first real chance when he headed over the bar from six yards in the 14th minute, and just a minute later Keogh created himself a bit of space but fired over from the edge of the area when under pressure from the West Ham defence. It was Wolves making all the running but against the run of play the visitors took the lead in the 22nd minute, a long ball up field to Cole on the left was squared back across the park to Noble on the edge of the area, and he clinically



ashed it in with Mancienne and Ward giving him the time and space to pick his spot. Wolves stunned by the goal were suddenly under the cosh for the first time, and West Ham in the ascendance nearly doubled their lead on the half hour, Cole beat the offside trap but his shot was saved by

the legs of Hennessey, and when Dyer followed up the rebound Craddock was on hand to clear off the line.

Wolves made a great start to the second half and within the first two minutes of the restart Green had twice denied Milijas, firstly by tipping a twenty yarder over the bar and then by beating out another drive from round about the same distance. Six minutes later some sloppy defending almost cost Wolves another goal, but Foley saved the day when he cleared off the line from Collison after Craddock had missed his clearance. Following another long range effort from Milijas the Serbian became the provider when he slotted an inch perfect pass through to Ebanks-Blake, but the striker was again denied by the legs of Green. With twenty minutes remaining Wolves were dealt a killer blow when West Ham punished them again for some slack defending, Noble floated over a corner from the left and Craddock gave Upson too much space and he picked his spot to head home from six yards. For all the huffing and puffing there was to be no consolation goal for Wolves but hopefully the lesson has been learned that if you give teams in the Premier half an inch of space in front of goal then you are going to be punished.

Opinion: The result was a bit harsh but the step up in class shows that unlike the Championship if you give the ball away cheaply then you don't see it again for 10 minutes.

Man of the match: Milijas

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 28,674

Team: Hennessey, Foley (Vokes 75), Mancienne (Stearman 66), Craddock, Stephen Ward, Halford, Henry, Milijas (Edwards 80), Jarvis, Keogh, Ebanks-Blake

Unused Subs: Hahnenmann, Elokobi, Surman, David Jones

Bookings: None

AWAY WE GO

WIGAN ATHLETIC 0-1 WOLVES

Tuesday 18th August 2009



During their only season in the Premiership in 2003-04 Wolves failed to win a single



game away from home when losing 12 and drawing 7 in the process, but they broke their duck at the first attempt this time around with a deserved 1-0 win at Wigan. Wolves were outstanding from the first whistle and after dominating all the early play in which they went a goal up they then fought for every ball right through to the final whistle.

Andy Keogh playing as a lone striker up front was in the thick of everything and went desperately close in the fourth minute, positioned on the left of the area he cut back onto his right foot to curl a shot which came back off the underside of the bar. However two minutes later Keogh did open the scoring, Milijas sent over a free-kick from the left which the striker met with a glancing header that went in off the post. Wolves continued to dominate and should have made it 2-0 in the 15th minute when they missed a sitter, Keogh flicked on a Milijas corner but Halford ballooned the ball over from eight yards when he was left totally unmarked. Wigan managed to win a succession of corners shortly before the break and during this period N'Zogbia had their best chance of the game when he ran on to Rodallega's flick but his shot was a bit tame allowing Hennessey to easily save.

Wolves continued to hold their own at the start of the second half and should have had a penalty in the 55th minute when Bramble clearly clipped the ankles of Keogh inside the area, much to the amazement of everybody (including Bramble) referee Mick Jones booked Keogh for diving. It was a joke decision and a real escape for Wigan and would have been really harsh on Wolves had a late header from Sinclair crept in rather than go just inches wide. Keogh was replaced by Vokes with ten minutes



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remaining to a standing ovation from the 4,000 travelling Wolves fans.

Opinion: A bit frantic at the finish but held on bravely for a deserved win.

Man of the match: Keogh

Team Rating: 9/10

Attendance: 16,661

Team: Hennessey, Stearman, Craddock, Mancienne, Stephen Ward, Halford (Surman 65), Edwards, Henry, Milijas (David Jones 56), Jarvis, Keogh (Vokes 81)

Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Elokobi, Zubair, Spray

Bookings: Keogh (57 - diving), Stearman (72 - foul), Edwards (90 - foul)



disallowed in the 67th minute. With twenty minutes left Wolves suddenly realised they were still in the game and Keogh was desperately unlucky with a superb volley that rattled the underside of the bar following a long clearance that was knocked back into his path. Wolves continued to push forward in search for an equaliser but time finally ran out and the final whistle came immediately after a Stearman effort that went over the bar.

Opinion: The Gallagher brothers Noel and Liam watched on in different parts of the stadium, a bit like Mancienne and Craddock at times.

Man of the match: Edwards

Team Rating: 6/10

Attendance: 47,287

Team: Hennessey, Stearman, Craddock, Mancienne, Stephen Ward (Vokes 74), Henry, Halford (Elokobi 46), Edwards, Jarvis, Milijas (Doyle 46), Keogh

Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Surman, David Jones, Berra

Bookings: Stearman (30 - foul)

knocked Wolves for six but eventually they regained their confidence and started to dominate possession as the half progressed, but they lacked the cutting edge where it mattered in the goal area. Keogh did have a few half chances as the half reached its conclusion but it was Hull who went into the interval a goal to the good.



MANCHESTER CITY 1-0 WOLVES

Saturday 22nd August 2009

Wolves put up a late spirited fight against the newly assembled multi million pound team from Manchester City, but in the end they were well beaten despite the 1-0 score line suggesting otherwise. They gave the Arab owned team too much respect for much of the game and could have been five goals down at the break had the team built at as estimated £200 million not been so wasteful.

After a tight start with both teams looking to find their feet it was the home team who scored what turned out to be the decisive goal in the 17th minute. Bridge's cross was deflected away from Barry who was positioning himself to volley, but the ball fell kindly to Tevez on the other side of the area and his deft touch back across goal found Adebayor who shot hard and low past Hennessey to score.

Having scored with their first shot on goal City then laid siege on the Wolves goal, and they missed a series of chances to put the game to bed with the £50 million strike force of Adebayor and Tevez both guilty of spurning chances when well placed. Wolves did have moments of their own though and five minutes before the break Jarvis forced Given into a spectacular save, he left two City defenders for dead and then unleashed a 20 yard shot that looked destined for the top right hand-corner until the keeper intervened.

The second half continued in the same manner as which the first half finished with Ireland and Adebayor shooting wide when easily placed and Robinho seeing a goal

disallowed in the 67th minute. With twenty minutes left Wolves suddenly realised they were still in the game and Keogh was desperately unlucky with a superb volley that rattled the underside of the bar following a long clearance that was knocked back into his path. Wolves continued to push forward in search for an equaliser but time finally ran out and the final whistle came immediately after a Stearman effort that went over the bar.

Wolves got the dream start to the second half with a goal in the first minute. Mancienne sent over a free-kick into the Hull area and Craddock flicked it onto Stearman who volleyed it into the roof of the net from ten yards. It was just what the doctor ordered and Wolves went for the jugular, it was wave after wave of attack with so many chances created it was difficult to keep count. It was that man Keogh who squandered the best of the chances with 75 minutes on the clock, he was put though on goal by a pinpoint pass from Elokobi, but he weakly dragged his shot wide with only the keeper to beat. When Wolves did hit the target a few minutes later they were denied a certain winner when a Doyle volley from six yards was somehow blocked on the line by Turner. Vokes came on with two minutes remaining and he too was guilty of yet another missed chance when he headed wide with the goal gaping.

Opinion: Great second half performance but need to take the chances when created, points dropped against poor opposition like Hull could be costly next May.

Man of the match: Stearman

Team Rating: 6/10

Attendance: 27,906

Team: Hennessey, Stearman, Craddock, Mancienne, Elokobi, Halford, Henry, Milijas, Jarvis, Doyle, Keogh (Vokes 89)

Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Edwards, Surman, David Jones, Berra, Zubair

Bookings: None

DUNN OVER

BLACKBURN ROVERS 3-1 WOLVES

Saturday 12th September 2009

Despite a bright start to both halves of the

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game Wolves were easily beaten 3-1 at Ewood Park, it was a pretty inept performance and the margin of victory could have been even greater had it not been for keeper Wayne Hennessey who pulled off a series of good saves.

Wolves started brightly and missed a glorious chance to take an early lead. The game was only six minutes old when Rovers keeper Robinson flapped at a free kick from the left leaving Berra with an open goal six yards out, but as he turned and shot it went horribly wrong and the ball went high and wide. That miss proved to be very costly and in the 19th minute Wolves paid the price when Rovers opened the scoring. A hospital pass from Henry and a subsequent half hearted 50-50 challenge from Mancienne let Diouf in on a clear run at goal, and when he finally hit a low shot from the edge of the area it just managed to squirm under the body of Hennessey. His celebration in front of the Wolves fans brought the inevitable boos but there was to be no retaliation by the low life striker, not even he can spit as far as the upper tier. Rovers pressed forward in search of a second and created several chances that included Hennessey saving from Pederson and Andrews before Pederson hit the post from a free-kick right on the stroke of half time.

Maierhofer replaced Milijas for his Wolves debut at the start of the second half and almost made an instant impact when he hit a screamer from about 30 yards which just whistled past the post, but it was only brief respite until Rovers scored a second in the 56th minute. Mancienne and Henry, already responsible for the first goal stood glued to the spot as Givet ran between the pair of them from a corner and headed powerfully towards goal with the ball hitting the net via a deflection off Roberts. Six minutes later it was 3-0, a pathetic attempt at the offside trap left Roberts one on one with Hennessey and even though the keeper half blocked his effort Dunn was on hand to tap the ball into the empty net.

To be fair to Wolves they never gave up and a superb long range effort from Doyle just after the goal was tipped over by Robinson. As the clock wound down and following some more heroics from Hennessey Wolves grabbed a late consolation goal through Maierhofer who fired home from six yards following a corner.

Opinion: Defence needs major surgery, all three goals down to avoidable mistakes.

Man of the match: Hennessey

Team Rating: 4/10

Attendance: 24,845

Team: Hennessey, Stearman, Berra, Mancienne, Hill, Halford (Edwards 46), Henry, Milijas (Maierhofer 46), Jarvis, Doyle (Surman 78), Keogh

Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Elokobi, David Jones, Vokes

Bookings: Stearman (64 - dissent), Berra (85 – foul)

THAT'S MUCH BERRA

WOLVES 2-1 FULHAM

Sunday 20th September 2009

Wolves registered their first home win of the campaign with a 2-1 win over Fulham. It was all so easy for an hour as the home team ran riot in the Sunday afternoon sun. But two goals up and strolling it became a nervy final half hour when Murphy pulled one back for the visitors when he converted a penalty.

Wolves just about edged the early play and in the 18th minute they put themselves in the driving seat when they opened the



scoring. It was the lively Doyle with his first goal since signing from Reading who did the damage, he was quickest to react to Berra's flick-on from Halford's long throw and he nodded the ball past the stranded Schwarzer from close range. Wolves pressed for a second and Fulham hardly got a kick as their midfielders were put under constant pressure every time they had a sniff of the ball. During the last few seconds of the half Keogh looked to have doubled the lead when he found the net from 15 yards, and even though it looked legitimate he was given marginally offside. The second half started where the first finished with Wolves in the ascendancy and just five minutes into the second half it was 2-0. A quick break from his own half found Keogh in the inside right channel and he knocked the ball back across the area where Edwards lashed it in from ten yards. Fulham had not even registered one chance at that point and it was still Wolves who continued to press, and the pressure continued when a cross from the left by Keogh was flicked backwards by Hughes and Schwarzer came to the rescue when he tipped the ball onto his own crossbar.

Just after the hour mark Fulham enjoyed probably their best spell of the match and following a long range effort from Etuhu that was beaten out by Hennessey they were gifted a lifeline by Wolves. Mancienne needlessly pulled back Zamora for a penalty and Murphy stepped up to confidently slot the spot kick home. With ten minutes left and Wolves looking shaky there was a massive let-off when an attempt to play the offside trap saw Johnson five yards clear on goal, Hennessey did well to block the shot initially and Elokobi then tracked back to clear Kamara's follow-up off the line. That was about it as far as Fulham were concerned and Berra stood as solid as a rock and marshalled his defence as the clock ran down.

Opinion: Need to take chances and put games to bed to help avoid the last minute heart attacks.

Man of the match: Berra

Team Rating: 8/10

Attendance: 27,670

Team: Hennessey, Halford, Mancienne, Berra, Elokobi, Edwards (Maierhofer 70), Henry, Castillo, Jarvis (Kightly 86), Doyle (Ebanks-Blake 77), Keogh

Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Hill, Milijas, Zubac

Bookings: Doyle (18 – goal celebration), Halford (90 – foul)

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FERG ET THAT CARLING

MANCHESTER UNITED 1-0 WOLVES

Wed 23rd September 2009 (Carling Cup 3rd Rd)



Wolves made a good account of themselves against Manchester United's second eleven in the Carling Cup game screened live by Sky. It was a good even contest for 30 minutes then the flow of the game was totally changed when Fabio was sent off for United following a cynical foul on Kightly when he was clean through on goal.

Wolves kicked off attacking the Stretford End and had the first attempt at goal in the 12th minute when Ebanks-Blake hit a rasping drive from 20 yards that went just over the bar. Then on the half hour came the sending off, Maierhofer won an aerial dual in the centre circle and the ball bounced into the path of Kightly who raced clear, with only the goalkeeper between Kightly and goal Fabio rugby tackled Kightly to the ground from behind and immediately got his marching orders. From the resulting free-kick the ball was teed up for former United player David Jones who hit a rasping shot from the edge of the box which produced an excellent one-handed save from Kuszczak.

United's best chance of the first half fell to Owen who headed straight at Hahnemann after being left wide open after a cross from Neville, and it was Neville who then nearly gifted a goal to Jones when he miss-kicked a clearance outside his own box but the Wolves midfielder shot high over the bar when attempting to lob the keeper.

When it eventually came in the 66th minute the goal was a class piece of finishing from United, Welbeck played the ball to Owen just outside the Wolves box, he then returned a perfectly weighted pass for the young striker to score with a low right foot shot from 12 yards. Wolves continued to create chances with most of them falling to Kevin Doyle who replaced Ebanks-Blake in the 65th minute. Doyle had four good

chances after coming on with the best effort being a shot from the right edge of the area which was saved by Kuszczak at full stretch.

Opinion: Played well up to the sending off then seemed to lose their rhythm when playing against ten men.

Man of the match: Kightly

Team Rating: 6/10

Attendance: 51,160

Team: Hahnemann, Foley, Berra, Craddock, Elokobi, Kightly (Keogh 77), Castillo (Milijas 46), Henry, David Jones, Ebanks-Blake (Doyle 66), Maierhofer

Unused Subs: Ikeme, Halford, Zubair, Hill

Bookings: None

IS THAT REFEREE BENT?

SUNDERLAND 5-2 WOLVES

Sunday 27th September 2009

It was a crazy Sunday afternoon in which Wolves can consider themselves rather unfortunate to be the wrong end of a 5-2 scoreline at the Stadium of Light. Wolves recovered from two penalties to nil down to get on level terms within ten minutes of the second half, but then they threw the game away when conceding another three goals in the last twenty minutes.



Sunderland got the breakthrough in the ninth minute when they were awarded their first penalty after Castillo was adjudged to have brought down Bent, the striker got up dusted himself down and made no mistake from the spot. Wolves shaded it for the rest of the first half and Edwards was desperately close in the 25th minute with a glancing header which went agonisingly past the post. Doyle was causing the home team plenty of problems and on the half hour mark he was denied a stonewall penalty when Turner flattened him from behind, no penalty from referee Lee Mason though, what a shocker!!!

The second half was less than a minute old when Sunderland were awarded penalty number two, Berra dived in on Bent and the referee without any hesitation pointed straight to the spot, this time it was Jones who stepped up and dispatched it past Hennessey. Two minutes after the goal Wolves were thrown a lifeline, Berra pushed forward down the left and he fired over a low cross that Gordon parried out, but it bounced straight against Mensah and back into the net for an own goal. Five minutes later it was 2-2, Richardson played a back pass which flew back towards his own goal, Gordon made the save to stop a certain goal and conceded a free-kick for handling the back pass, the initial free-kick hit the wall but the ball fell back to Doyle who fired in the equalizer.

After getting themselves back in to the game poor defending by Wolves allowed Sunderland to snatch the lead yet again. With 20 minutes left Bent nodded a long ball back to Jones and Berra stood off and watched as the striker drilled it low into the bottom left hand corner from outside the box. Three minutes later it was game over after some more woeful defending, a corner from the left found Turner who was left all alone to pick his spot and head home. Richardson cleared Halford's 76th minute header off the line to deny Wolves another lifeline, but in injury time salt was well and truly rubbed into the wounds when Bent's shot deflected off the boot of Mancienne and past Hennessey for number five.

Opinion: Game mindlessly thrown away after great comeback in the adversity of incompetent refereeing.

Man of the match: Doyle

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 37,566

Team: Hennessey, Halford, Berra, Mancienne, Elokobi, Edwards, Henry, Castillo (Kightly 46), Jarvis, Doyle (Ebanks-Blake 76), Keogh (Maierhofer 77)

Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Craddock, Milijas, Foley

Bookings: Doyle (21 - foul), Henry (40 - foul), Halford (57 – foul)

POM PEE ALL OVER US

WOLVES 0-1 PORTSMOUTH

Saturday 3rd October 2009

With Portsmouth players unpaid and pointless after seven games, and allegedly owned by an Arab businessman with no

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money this game was an accident waiting to happen for Wolves, and as it turned out it became a complete car crash as Mick McCarthy's men lost to probably the worst team in the Premiership.

Howard Webb is supposedly one of the best referee's in the premiership but he turned down three good calls for a penalty with one appeal for a handball that Mr Magoo would have spotted, the linesman somehow missed it as well (all is forgiven Uriah Renney). It was obvious that Webb didn't want Kevin Doyle's shirt after the game because Boeteng showed throughout the afternoon that he wanted it, the Portsmouth defender spent most of the game holding on to it without any punishment from this clueless official. But Webb can't be blamed for the overall result, it was a poor performance from Wolves with too many passes going astray and a general lack of idea in the final third of the field.

The way that the game started you would have thought it was Wolves who were rooted to the bottom of the league, it was all Pompey early doors and after twice going close through Boateng they opened the scoring in the 19th minute. It was awful defending for the goal with Yebda sneaking in between Mancienne and Edwards to power home a free header past Hennessey from a yard, although it was questionable whether it was a corner or not that led to the goal.

Smith went close again for Pompey before Wolves created their first real chance on the half hour mark, a well worked free kick on the right edge of the box ended up with



Berra's goal bound shot deflected away for a corner. In first half injury time a cross into the area ended with James producing a reflex save from point blank range to deny Keogh, and then the ball fell to Doyle whose shot was blocked on the line by Ben Haim.

Wolves threw caution to the wind in the second half and showed a bit more purpose, and Jarvis went close with a shot from the edge of the area that looked to be heading in until it took a deflection off a defender for a corner. Then on the hour came the infamous penalty decision, it was obvious from that point onwards it wasn't going to be Wolves day and everything was summed up with two minutes remaining when David James denied Halford with a stunning save from a free-kick on the edge of the area and then Ebanks-Blake followed up and lifted the rebound over the bar from six yards

Opinion: Even though the referee didn't help the cause we should still beat teams as poor as Portsmouth.

Man of the match: Berra

Team Rating: 4/10

Attendance: 29,023

Team: Hennessey, Foley (Kightly 46), Mancienne, Berra, Elokobi (Maierhofer 80), Halford, Henry, Edwards, Jarvis, Doyle, Keogh (Ebanks-Blake 46)

Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Craddock,

Milijas, Zubair

Bookings: Kightly (55 – ungentlemanly conduct)

HOFF HIS HEAD

EVERTON 1-1 WOLVES

Saturday 17th October 2009

Wolves were just two minutes away from an unexpected win at Goodison Park in what would have been a great result against one of the so called bigger clubs. The game ended 1-1 and Wolves finished with ten men after substitute Maierhofer was sent off in injury time following two bookings.

Wolves made a confident start and shaded the opening stages in terms of possession, but when Craddock left the field to get some stitches in a head wound in the 13th minute Everton created the first chance to open the scoring. Saha headed down a long ball into the path of Cahill who was ideally placed, but he sent his shot blazing over the bar when all that stood in his way was Hennessey. Wolves continued to



press forward and on the half hour mark Doyle took possession of the ball with his back to goal on the edge of the box, and in one movement he turned and let fire with a ferocious drive that Howard did well to turn away. As half time approached Wolves went close on two occasions, firstly when Halford touched a header to Doyle and his miss-kick ended with Ebanks-Blake knocking the ball wide, and secondly with an even closer effort a minute later when Doyle dummied Zubair's cross from the right and Ebanks-Blake rolled a shot just inches wide.

The second half started with Everton on the attack and the within the first minute an angled cross was met by Saha who headed the ball downwards, but Hennessey was well placed to tip the ball over the bar as the ball flew upwards on the rebound. Hennessey was in the thick of things again when he raced off his line and did well to block Bilyaletdinov who was through one-on-one with the keeper. As the last half hour approached it was end to end and Saha forced Hennessey to stretch every single muscle to turn behind a low shot, and then seconds later a long throw from Halford ended with Ebanks-Blake shooting just wide.

With 15 minutes remaining Wolves made the breakthrough, Doyle ran onto a long through ball and with the Everton defence all over the shop he coolly guided his shot under the stranded Howard into the bottom corner. Five minutes after the goal Maierhofer replaced Ebanks-Blake up front and with virtually his first touch was booked for a clumsy tackle on Cahill. With two minutes left it was heartbreak for Wolves when Everton grabbed the equaliser, Jo sent in a low hard cross from the left and Bilyaletdinov was left unmarked by Elokobi at the far post and the Russian made no mistake. The game ended in controversy when referee Stuart Attwell who is renowned for awarding a "ghost goal" for Reading at Watford showed Maierhofer a second yellow card for an innocuous brush against the side of Howard. However, when Howard retaliated and pushed Maierhofer in the head from

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behind Attwell showed just how clueless he is with another miss-interpretation of the rules by only showing a yellow card when usually raising your hands to an opponent constitutes a red one.

Opinion: Third game in a row where bad defending has cost us points.

Man of the match: Hennessey

Team Rating: 6/10

Attendance: 39,319

Team: Hennessey, Zubar, Berra, Craddock, Elokobi, Kightly (Jarvis 58), Edwards, Henry, Halford (Castillo 66), Doyle, Ebanks-Blake (Maierhofer 79)
Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Stearman, Keogh, Milijs

Bookings: Kightly (29 - foul), Edwards (69 - foul), Maierhofer (85 - foul and 90 - ungentlemanly conduct)

Sent Off: Maierhofer (90 - second bookable offence)



through on goal and should have scored but he shot weakly at Hennessey, that was about it for the first half as far as Villa were concerned and it was all Wolves from then onwards.

Two minutes later came the controversial decision when referee Walton waved play on after Doyle was held back by Dunne, perhaps if Doyle had gone down like Drogba usually does instead of staying on his feet then the decision may have been different. Wolves' domination was relentless and after a flurry of early corners Berra was only just off target with a glancing header from Henry's angled cross in the 13th minute. Kightly looked dangerous on the flanks and created two good scoring chances for the front men leading up to half time, firstly for Doyle who was unlucky when a scrambled attempt was kicked off the line by Milner, and then Ebanks-Blake hooked another delivery from the midfielder over the bar from close range.

Villa started the second half which much more purpose and after being outplayed in the first half the contest was more evenly balanced in the second. There were chances at either end but nothing to really bother either keeper except when Hennessey flapped at a cross from the left and the ball fell to Sidwell whose shot looked destined for the net until it was blocked his own player Dunne.

Villa broke the deadlock with ten minutes remaining, Elokobi was wandering aimlessly back and left Heskey unmarked on the right hand side of the area, the Villa sub rolled the ball back into the path of Agbonlahor who turned Craddock with ease before slotting the ball past Hennessey from six yards. It was a cruel blow for Wolves but five minutes later they were thrown a lifeline when Sidwell lunged at Kightly in the area, but this time not even referee Walton could have any doubts and a penalty was given. Ebanks-Blake stepped up and blasted the ball down the middle, it was no more than Wolves deserved.

Opinion: Never mind a good point gained it was another two lost to inept refereeing.

Man of the match: Henry

Team Rating: 7/10

Attendance: 28,734

Team: Hennessey, Zubar, Craddock, Berra, Elokobi, Edwards (Milijs 75), Henry, Castillo, Kightly (Halford 86), Ebanks-Blake (Iwelumo 86), Doyle

Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Stearman, Keogh, Jarvis

Bookings: Zubar (61 - foul)

CRADDOCK GOES POTTY

STOKE CITY 2-2 WOLVES

Saturday 31st October 2009



Wolves looked dead and buried and looking at certain defeat when losing 2-0 at half-time at the Britannia Stadium, but the inspired introduction of Nenad Milijs for the ineffective Segundo Castillo in the second half led to an unlikely comeback. The Serbian midfielder was an inspiration and created both goals for Jody Craddock to earn Wolves a creditable draw.

As early as the second minute the optimism among the Wolves fans was raised when Kightly tried his luck from long range but his effort was easily collected by Sorensen. Within a minute the defensive shambles started, Stoke had a corner and Collins was left at the far post without a defender within a mile of him, he headed the ball back across goal and it started an almighty scramble that was somehow cleared by Wolves.

Stoke opened the scoring in the 18th minute and it was almost a carbon copy of the goal conceded at Everton only two weeks earlier with Elokobi at fault again, Etherington left Zubar for dead on the left and when he hit a low cross into the box Elokobi saved Beattie the trouble of putting the ball in the net by scoring an own goal. Stoke continued to pile on the pressure and even though Wolves defended in numbers they were still in total disarray every time the ball was pumped into the area. Beattie was causing all kinds of problems and after blasting over following another goalmouth scramble a powerful header from the striker forced Hennessey



SPOT ON AT LAST

WOLVES 1-1 ASTON VILLA

Saturday 24th October 2009

Wolves deservedly earned a point after a committed and tenacious performance, but not for the first time this season a referee in charge of a Wolves game was the main topic of conversation. This season the home team have been involved in more than their fair share of disputed decisions with regards to penalties awarded or should I say the lack of them being given.

The game got off to an frantic start and in the first minute Agbonlahor was put clear



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into a superb save after he easily out jumped Elokobi. Right on the stroke of half time it was 2-0, a long-throw from Delap caused more panic in the Wolves area and a poor headed clearance from Berra went straight to Etherington who again had time and space to volley the ball straight back into the top left hand corner of the net.

After a poor first half a Wolves comeback looked unlikely, but within a minute of the restart the deficit was reduced when a cross from substitute Milijs was headed onto the far post where Craddock stuck out his leg and diverted it past Sorensen. Suddenly it was a totally different Wolves and now it was the turn of Stoke to panic, and the away supporters were sent delirious when Craddock was there again with another header to score his second in the 63rd minute from a Milijs corner. Suddenly Wolves were looking as though they believed they could win it and pressed forward in search of a third, but it was Stoke who nearly got the winner near the end when Faye headed over from six yards when he was left unmarked from a corner.

Opinion: Shocking defending at times, God help us if we defend like that against Arsenal and Chelsea in the next two games.

Man of the match: Craddock

Team Rating: 6/10

Attendance: 27,500

Team: Hennessey, Zubair, Berra, Craddock, Elokobi (Stearman 59), Edwards, Castillo (Milijs 46), Henry, Kightly, Iwelumo (Maierhofer 73), Doyle

Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Ebanks-Blake, Halford, Jarvis

Bookings: Kightly (31 - foul), Edwards (39 – foul), Elokobi (54 – foul)



GUNNERS A DIFFERENT CALIBRE

WOLVES 1-4 ARSENAL

Saturday 7th November 2009

After a bright start in which Wolves failed to turn their dominance into goals they were left chasing the game following three goals in the last fifteen minutes of the first half, two own goals by Zubair and Craddock and a strike by Fabregas left the home team a mountain to climb in the second half and Arsenal eventually ended up 4-1 winners.



Due to the late kick-off Wolves had already dropped into the bottom three and from the start they made all the running in search of three precious points. Doyle went close to opening the scoring in the seventh minute when his header from a Milijs corner was cleared off the line by Gibbs, two minutes later another Milijs corner was met by Ebanks-Blake who this time headed just wide. Berra then squandered another glorious opening when he lost his bearings in front of goal after Milijs picked him out from a free kick.

Wolves were made to pay dearly for all those missed chances in the 28th minute when Arsenal went ahead through the first of the own goals. Hennessey flapped at a corner from the left and the ball deflected in off the leg of Zubair. Seven minutes later it was own goal number two, a breakdown in a Wolves attack led to a rapid counter-attack which resulted in Ramsay finding Eduardo on the edge of the box, his chip



over Hennessey looked to be going wide but the ball deflected off Craddock's head and into the top corner. Right on the stroke of half time it was 3-0 and game over, another lightning attack was finished when Sagna fed the ball into the path of Eduardo whose pass to Fabregas was dispatched with ease.

The second half was a bit of a non entity to start with and neither team managed a shot on goal until Arshavin forced a save from Hennessey in the 66th minute. From the resulting corner Arsenal made it 4-0, the ball was cleared out to the edge of the box and Arshavin hit a first time shot directly back at goal that found the bottom left hand corner of the net. Craddock grabbed a consolation goal for Wolves right at the end of normal time when he powered home a header from a Jarvis corner.

Opinion: Desperately need to start winning a few games and get themselves out of the relegation area before a rot sets in.

Man of the match: Edwards

Team Rating: 5/10

Attendance: 28,937

Team: Hennessey, Zubair, Craddock, Berra, Stearman, Edwards (Mancienne 80), Henry, Castillo (Kightly 65), Milijs (Jarvis 74), Doyle, Ebanks-Blake

Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Keogh, Halford, Maierhofer

Bookings: Ebanks-Blake (27 – handball), Milijs (60 – foul)

A BRIDGE TOO FAR

CHELSEA 4-0 WOLVES

Saturday 21st November 2009



Wolves were never expected to get anything out of this game against league leaders Chelsea and when they appeared from the tunnel before kick-off wearing white shirts perhaps they were making some kind of statement regarding surrender. When the game finally kicked off it was so one sided it was embarrassing. Chelsea were superior in every single department and the speed of their passing would have undone any team in the Premier never mind Wolves.

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The game was all over and Wolves had all but given up as early as the 22nd minute at which point Chelsea were already 3-0 up. After a half chance in the fifth minute when Edwards just failed to get on the end of a low cross by Jarvis Chelsea went straight up the other end and scored. Craddock made a real hash of a header in the centre circle and the ball fell to Malouda who pushed forward totally unchallenged before he lashed it in from 25 yards. Six minutes later it was 2-0, after Hennessey had tipped a Kalou shot round the post Essien was left unmarked from the resulting corner and he had all the time he needed to pick his spot and head home. Chelsea made it three in the 22nd minute when Essien was again left unmarked on the edge of the area, and even though he miss-hit his shot Hennessey somehow let the ball squeeze under his body.

Wolves almost scored a goal out of nothing in the 39th minute when a header from Ebanks-Blake was superbly kept out by Cech, but that was about as close as they got to scoring. Chelsea made it four in the 56th minute when Kalou teed up Joe Cole who didn't seem to strike the ball with too much venom but still scored from ten yards, again it was poor effort from Hennessey with the ball seemingly going over his arm.

Lastly lets acknowledge the superb support Wolves received throughout a game in which their team were totally outplayed and it was noted by those supporters the contempt the players showed after the final whistle. The entire team bar David Edwards couldn't even be bothered to go over to the corner and applaud them, I don't regard putting your hands above your head and clapping when you're walking towards the tunnel as acknowledging the massive effort the supporters had made both getting to and during the game.

Opinion: After a 9-1 defeat at Spurs this very same weekend the Wigan players promised to refund their supporters their fare and ticket money, perhaps the

Wolves players should take notice.
Man of the match: Edwards

Team Rating: 3/10

Attendance: 41,786

Team: Hennessey, Berra, Craddock, Stearman, Halford, Edwards, Henry, Castillo (Kightly 53), Surman, Ebanks-Blake (Keogh 62), Jarvis

Unused Subs: Hahnemann, Elokoobi, Milijas, Foley, Maierhofer

Bookings: Berra (79 - foul),

Keogh (90 – dissent)



Premier. However it certainly wasn't going to be his last touch, and before the half had ended it was mainly due to Hahnemann that Wolves were still in contention as his ten team mates were given the run around by an equally poor Birmingham side. Hahnemann made smart saves from Larsson and Jerome before superbly tipping a drive from Bowyer over the bar that had taken a big deflection off Kightly. In what was probably the worst 45 minutes at Molineux from a Wolves team in a long time, the only effort at goal came from Edwards who mistimed a header that went wide following a cross from the left by Jarvis.

BOW YER HEADS IN SHAME

WOLVES 0-1 BIRMINGHAM CITY

Sunday 29th November 2009



If you thought the Wolves performance against Chelsea was bad then the garbage served up in this game was taken down to a totally different level, apart from a bit of energy shown at the beginning of the second half and a mad two minutes in time added on that was about it as far as effort and commitment were concerned. This defeat was a major body blow which left Wolves four points adrift in the relegation zone and eight league games without a victory.

Straight from the kick-off it was Birmingham who started as if they were the home team as they confidently knocked the ball about, and they made sure Wolves got off to the worst possible start when they scored a goal after just two minutes. It was Bowyer, the quiet unassuming London Boy who made the early breakthrough. The ball was passed back to him on the edge of the area by Larsson and he was given acres of space to look up, take out a tape measure and check the distance from goal, wipe the mud off his right boot and then pick his spot before sticking the ball in the top right hand corner from 20 yards.

Poor old Marcus Hahnemann must have wished that Wayne Hennessey hadn't been one of the players dropped following the rout at Chelsea as he picked the ball out of the net with his first touch for Wolves in the

Things got marginally better for Wolves immediately after the break and the expectations were lifted for a short while following a Doyle effort from outside the area which was just wide. Substitute Stephen Ward prevented City doubling their lead in the 72nd minute when he blocked a goal bound drive from McFadden, while at the other end City keeper Joe Hart was a virtual spectator as Wolves toiled in search of an equalizer. He was only called into serious action once when forced into a good reflex save to keep out a fierce volley from Matt Jarvis in the 75th minute. Wolves' frustrating afternoon was summed up four minutes from time when the out of form and unmarked Ebanks-Blake headed an Edwards cross wide from just eight yards.

Opinion: Dire performance... If you can't make an effort against your local neighbours who are also struggling at the wrong end of the league then there's not much hope.

Man of the match: Wolfie

Team Rating: 1/10

Attendance: 26,668

Team: Hahnemann, Mancienne (Ward 46), Craddock, Berra, Stearman, Halford (Kightly 31), Henry, Edwards, Jarvis, Ebanks-Blake, Doyle, Kightly (Milijas 66)

Unused Subs: Hennessey, Keogh, Maierhofer, Castillo

Bookings: Berra (58 – foul), Ebanks-Blake (90 – foul)

TRAVEL NEWS



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

Home Matches

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

Fare : To be advised.

- Tue 26/01/10 v Liverpool (K/O 7:45pm)** ◆ Outward - Depart Euston 14:23 - Arrive Wolverhampton 16:11
 ◆ Return - Depart Wolverhampton 22:45 - Arrive Euston 01:13

- Wed 10/02/10 v Spurs(k/o 7:45pm)** ◆ Outward - Depart Euston 14:23 - Arrive Wolverhampton 16:11
 ◆ Return - Depart Wolverhampton 22:45 - Arrive Euston 01:13

- Sat 16/01/10 v Wigan** ◆ Outward - Depart Euston 09:23 - Arrive Wolverhampton 11:11
◆ Return - Depart Wolverhampton 17:45 - Arrive Euston 19:34

- Sat 20/02/10 v Chelsea** ◆ Outward - Depart Euston 09:23 - Arrive Wolverhampton 11:11
◆ Return - Depart Wolverhampton 18:45 - Arrive Euston 20:56

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.

- Tue 02/02/10 v West Ham (K/O 19.45)**

◆ 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 06/02/10 v Birmingham (Fare TBA) ♦ Outward - Depart Euston 08:23 - Arrive Birmingham 09:45
(K/O 12 Noon) ALL-TICKET MATCH ♦ Return - Depart Birmingham 15:30 - Arrive Euston 16:54**

FA CUP DATES: 3rd round 02/01/10; 4th round 23/01/10; 5th round 13/02/10

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

TRAVEL NEWS



Travel Club Terms and Conditions

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

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Just before Christmas I heard a rendition of the Christmas Carol "The Twelve Days of Christmas." It went like this..... "*we're in twelth place at Christmas, Mick McCarthy said to me; Eleven points off Europe; Ten points*"

**Nice One
ED**

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 £10.00 + p&p and the picture is £35 framed or £20 unframed.



**WWLSC
large key ring
£1.00 + sae.**

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enamelled badge
£3.50 + sae.**

**WWLSC 40th
Anniversary badge
£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

WWLSC Pens.

Roy Eagles has some great London Wolves pens - **£2.50** each or a bargain at **5 for £10**.



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
contacts: Stuart Earl 01760 756278 Dave Slape 0208 764 8023 Peter Woodifield 01634 363704

FULLERS TRIP



LONDON WOLVES VISIT TO FULLERS BREWERY

On the eve of the match against Portsmouth, twenty brave members ventured across to Chiswick in west London, to partake in a long-standing invitation from John Roberts, Managing Director and avid Wolves fan, for our tour of Fullers Brewery.

Meeting in the Mawson's Arms, a pub which stands on the grounds of the brewery and is actually two pubs in one, we were met by John and the Head Brewer John Keeling, and proceeded to receive a very informative tour, taking in the history of the company, and viewing both existing equipment as well as earlier obsolescent pieces.

After a very interesting tour, we went to the Old Cellar Bar, where we were forced to take the taste test, sampling brews that even I, as an avid London Pride drinker did not know existed.

We were shown smell and tasting methods, not dissimilar to wine tasting, and I think even the non-bitter drinkers were impressed with some of the brews. We were forced to try London Pride, (great hardship), HSB, Honey Dew and Golden Pride, to mention but a few, and as the evening drew to a close, we staggered back to The Mawson's Arm, to be met by a superb buffet, kindly laid on by John Roberts.

The evening ended with silly grins and people began to drift away roundabout 10.00pm.

May I extend, on behalf of WWLSC, our thanks to the two Johns, and Fullers for their hospitality and generosity. For which they were offered honorary membership to London Wolves, although John Keeling declined as he was a Manchester United fan.

