

**RYMAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE – WEEKLY NEWS AND MATCH BULLETIN**

**Season 2008-2009 No: 01 - : - 11th August 2008**

**LEAGUE NEWS LEAGUE NEWS**

**SEASON 2008-09 WELCOME**

“Best wishes to all Member Clubs of the Ryman Football League in season 2008/09.

“As always, last season the three Divisions were particularly competitive, with the titles and play-off places only being settled late in the season, and I see no reason that 2008/09 will be any different.

“We warmly welcome the nine new member clubs to our League, competing in a very strong Premier Division and two regional First Divisions.

“At the same time we have had to say goodbye to a similar number of clubs, and we wish them every success and enjoyment in their respective new Leagues this season.

“Hopefully, we will also see the success, as last season at Staines Town, Horsham and AFC Wimbledon, in the national cup competitions – the FA Cup and the FA Trophy – as well as in the respective County Cup games.

“I also look forward with much anticipation to the second season for Youth League, now with twenty clubs competing in two Divisions, with another very successful season.

\*The Ryman Football League is fully committed in its support of The FA’s “Respect Programme”, and look to the full co-operation of all Member Clubs of the League with this initiative to enhance our game.

“Good luck to every Club in our League, and thank you for your support.”

**Alan Turvey**

**Chairman**

**ANDREW LETTS**

It was with great sadness that the League heard that Sutton United Football Club President, and former Vice President of the Isthmian Football League, Andrew Letts, passed away on Saturday, 2nd August, aged 93.

Originally introduced to Sutton United by his neighbour Charles Collingwood, who was himself President of the Club, Andrew became active in the early Supporters' Club before moving onto the Club's management committee after the war. He was one of the hardy group of volunteers who helped construct their main grandstand and his far-sightedness was instrumental in Sutton United becoming one of the first clubs to seek limited company status in 1953, a move that paved the way for what would become some four decades of almost continual success. One of the pivotal people in the history of Sutton United, his role in creating the Club we know today should never be underestimated.

Andrew was the first Chairman of the limited company, a position he held until stepping down in 1974, and then became Club President. He remained the company's major shareholder and played an active part in Club affairs, attending board meetings as often as he could until quite recently. A lawyer by profession, Andrew also served the community as an alderman and became the first Mayor of the new borough of Sutton & Cheam in 1965.

He is survived by his second wife, Doris, son Howard and daughters Carol and Sheila. Two of Andrew's grandsons, Philip and William, are continuing in the family tradition by supporting the U's home and away. Phil is our current Safety Officer and William, a lawyer like his grandfather, provides us with legal advice.

The League send its sympathy and condolences to the family at this sad time.

The Club will be holding a minute's silence before their first home league game, against Ramsgate on Tuesday, 19th August.

Andrew's funeral will take place on Wednesday 13th August, at St. Paul's Church in Nork. All who wish to pay their respects are very welcome to attend the memorial service, which will commence at Noon. This will be followed by a private cremation.

The Club have set up a book of condolences for Andrew and this is available to sign at the club, but you can also make your entry on-line, simply e-mail secretary@suttonunited.net with your name (or names if there's more than one of you) and a brief message. The completed book will be given to the family.

**ISTHMIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE APPOINTS REPRESENTATIVE TO THE FA**

The Isthmian League Board of Directors has elected Nick Robinson to be the League’s representative on the Council of The Football Association this season. The appointment follows the restructuring of The FA, allowing the League to have a representative on their Council for the first time, twelve months ago.

Nick is also the League’s new Vice Chairman following his election to that office at the Annual General Meeting in June.

**RYMAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE STATISTICAL REVIEW –SEASON 2007/08**

The eleventh edition of “The Statistical Review of the Ryman Football League” – 2007/08 season is now available.

It includes all the results, goalscorers and attendances of League, League Cup, Youth League, Youth Cup, Veterans Cup, Womens Cup, FA Cup, FA Trophy and County Senior Cups of each member club with listed player appearances for League matches including regular playing position. An index of players in alphabetical format is also included.

Also included is an index of players in alphabetical format of each player used in the Ryman League and their regular playing position.

The book costs £5.50 + 78p (1st) or 67p (2nd) to cover postage.

Copies may be purchased from: **Mike Wilson, 71 Elm Road, Slade Green, Kent DA8 2NN**

**LEAGUE RULE 15.3 – MATCH OFFICIALS**

Rule 15.3 was amended at the Annual General Meeting to read as follows:

In the event of any of the Match Officials appointed for a match not being in attendance at the match or becoming unable to complete the match it shall be completed under the control of the remaining Match Officials unless the competing Clubs are able to agree upon a substitute who is acceptable to the Match Referee; should the appointed Match Referee fail to appear then the senior Assistant Referee must take charge. Any substitute agreed for a match shall be considered a Match Official for the purposes of that match.

In the event that a Club causes a match to be abandoned in relation to the operation of this Rule then that Club shall be charged with failing to fulfil a fixture (Rule 8.6 refers).

**NATIONAL LEAGUE SYSTEM SEASON 2008/09 - STEP 1 TO 5 PROMOTION AND RELEGATION**

The Football Association have confirmed the procedures relating to promotion and relegation at the conclusion of season 2008/2009. Set out below are the details of how this will operate, taking into account the changed structure for this season.

Therefore, the following procedures will apply:

###### **Step 1 and Step 2**

The clubs finishing in the bottom four places at Step 1 at the end of the playing season will be relegated to a feeder pool and placed in the most geographically appropriate division at Step 2. They will be replaced by the clubs finishing in 1st position in each of the divisions at Step 2 together with a further two clubs which win a series of play-off matches involving those clubs finishing in a play-off position (normally positions 2 to 5) in each of the divisions at Step 2. In exceptional circumstances where a club in positions 2 to 5 does not meet the criteria to enter the play-offs they should be replaced by a club finishing in the next eligible position. Clubs finishing below position 7 would not be considered.

###### **Step 2 and Step 3**

The clubs in the bottom three places in each of the two divisions at Step 2 at the end of the playing season will be relegated to a feeder pool and placed in the most geographically appropriate division at Step 3. They will be replaced by the clubs finishing in 1st position in each of the divisions at Step 3 together with a further three clubs determined by a series of play-off matches involving those clubs finishing in a play-off position (normally positions 2 to 5) in each of the divisions at Step 3. In exceptional circumstances where a club in positions 2 to 5 does not meet the criteria to enter the play-offs they should be replaced by a club finishing in the next eligible position. Clubs finishing below position 7 would not be considered. The promoted clubs will also be placed in a feeder pool and placed in the most geographically appropriate division at Step 2.

###### **Step 3 and Step 4**

The clubs in the bottom four places in each of the three divisions at Step 3 at the end of the playing season will be relegated to a feeder pool and placed in the most geographically appropriate division at Step 4. They will be replaced by the club finishing in 1st position in each of the divisions at Step 4 together with a further six clubs to be determined by a series of play-off matches involving those clubs finishing in a play-off position (normally positions 2 to 5) in each of the divisions at Step 4. In exceptional circumstances where a club in positions 2 to 5 does not meet the criteria to enter the play-offs they should be replaced by a club finishing in the next eligible position. Clubs finishing below position 7 would not be considered.

The promoted clubs will also be placed in a feeder pool and placed in the most geographically appropriate division at Step 3.

###### **Step 4 and Step 5**

In normal circumstances, the clubs in the bottom two places in each of the six divisions at Step 4 will be replaced by the twelve most suitable clubs from the leagues at Step 5 as determined by the LC. Each of these leagues will nominate the club finishing in 1st position subject to meeting the entry criteria and wishing to be considered for promotion. In the event of the 1st placed club not being nominated, the club finishing in 2nd position can be nominated subject to the same criteria. Both the clubs relegated from Step 4 and the clubs to be promoted from Step 5 will be placed in a feeder pool and allocated to the most geographically appropriate league.

In the event that there are more clubs qualifying for promotion than spaces available, priority will be given to the Champion clubs in Step 5 leagues. If there remains vacancies, clubs finishing in 2nd place in Step 5 leagues will be ranked according to the average number of points gained per games played.

Clubs seeking promotion from Step 5 to Step 4 must make application in writing to The Football Association, copied to their existing league, by 31st December in the relevant year. The application must be accompanied by the agreed grading fee, as determined by the LC, which is non refundable. The Football Association will arrange for ground grading visits to take place before 31st March in the relevant year. A final list of clubs eligible to be considered for promotion will be published by 15th April. Final promotion will be subject to the criteria outlined in the paragraph above.

**MATCH OFFICIALS FEES AND EXPENSES**

Match fees for match officials remain the same for the new season, but The FA have increased the travelling expenses.

They are as follows:

Referee match fee £45.00

Assistant referee match fee £30.00

Travelling expenses 34p per mile

The match fees, inclusive of travelling expenses, for officials in the Ryman Youth League are:

Referee match fee £35.00

Assistant referee match fee £27.00

**MATCH OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS**

A reminder that Contributory League Match Official appointments are no longer distributed by The FA by post but are available online at:

<http://www.TheFA.com/ContributoryLeagueOfficials>

This link can also be accessed by visiting [www.TheFA.com](http://www.TheFA.com), selecting THE FA tab at the top of the page, then Refereeing on the left of the page, and then clicking the link to Contributory League Officials. Appointments will be available in accordance with the dates outlined below.

September - Week Commencing 18th August 2008

October - Week Commencing 15th September 2008

November - Week Commencing 13th October 2008

December - Week Commencing 17th November 2008

January - Week Commencing 15th December 2008

February - Week Commencing 12th January 2009

March - Week Commencing 6th February 2009

April/May - Week Commencing 16th March 2009

**RYMAN LEAGUE CLUBCALL - TELEPHONE 09066 555 777**The Ryman League ClubCall is the League's official telephone information service. The line is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

ClubCall presents a daily bulletin of news and interviews. We like to speak to the clubs that are in the news each day.

All the match results are available on the ClubCall line each midweek night after around 10pm and every Saturday after 6pm.

Calls are charged at 60p per minute. The call revenue helps the Ryman Football League.

RYMAN LEAGUE CLUBCALL

Telephone 09066 555 777

**FIXTURES FIXTURES**

**Saturday, 16th August, 2008**

**Premier Division**

Canvey Island vs. Horsham

Carshalton Athletic vs. Margate

Dover Athletic vs. Harrow Borough

Harlow Town vs. Sutton United

Hastings United vs. Ashford Town (Middx)

Hendon vs. Dartford

Heybridge Swifts vs. Maidstone United

Ramsgate vs. AFC Hornchurch

Staines Town vs. Billericay Town

Tooting & Mitcham United vs. Boreham Wood

Wealdstone vs. Tonbridge Angels

**Division One North**

Aveley vs. Cheshunt

Brentwood Town vs. Concord Rangers

Chatham Town vs. Ilford

East Thurrock United vs. Waltham Abbey

Enfield Town vs. Maldon Town

Great Wakering Rovers vs. Wingate & Finchley

Hillingdon Borough vs. Redbridge

Potters Bar Town vs. Leyton

Waltham Forest vs. Northwood

Ware vs. Thamesmead Town

Witham Town vs. Tilbury

**Division One South**

Ashford Town vs. Walton Casuals

Burgess Hill Town vs. Leatherhead

Chipstead vs. Whitstable Town

Cray Wanderers vs. Godalming Town

Croydon Athletic vs. Metropolitan Police

Dulwich Hamlet vs. Eastbourne Town

Fleet Town vs. Corinthian-Casuals

Sittingbourne vs. Kingstonian

Walton & Hersham vs. Crowborough Athletic

Whyteleafe vs. Merstham

Worthing vs. Folkestone Invicta

**Monday, 18th August, 2008**

**Division One South**

Kingstonian vs. Fleet Town

**Tuesday, 19th August, 2008**

**Premier Division**

AFC Hornchurch vs. Carshalton Athletic

Ashford Town (Middx) vs. Wealdstone

Billericay Town vs. Tooting & Mitcham United

Boreham Wood vs. Hastings United

Dartford vs. Dover Athletic

Harrow Borough vs. Heybridge Swifts

Maidstone United vs. Canvey Island

Margate vs. Hendon

Sutton United vs. Ramsgate

Tonbridge Angels vs. Harlow Town

**Division One North**

Cheshunt vs. Hillingdon Borough

Concord Rangers vs. Aveley

Leyton vs. Brentwood Town

Maldon Town vs. East Thurrock United

Northwood vs. Enfield Town

Redbridge vs. Waltham Forest

Thamesmead Town vs. Potters Bar Town

Tilbury vs. Ware

Waltham Abbey vs. Witham Town

Wingate & Finchley vs. Chatham Town

**Division One South**

Corinthian-Casuals vs. Walton & Hersham

Crowborough Athletic vs. Ashford Town

Folkestone Invicta vs. Chipstead

Godalming Town vs. Burgess Hill Town

Leatherhead vs. Worthing

Merstham vs. Sittingbourne

Metropolitan Police vs. Cray Wanderers

Walton Casuals vs. Dulwich Hamlet

Whitstable Town vs. Croydon Athletic

**Wednesday, 20th August, 2008**

**Premier Division**

Horsham vs. Staines Town

**Division One North**

Ilford vs. Great Wakering Rovers

**Division One South**

Eastbourne Town vs. Whyteleafe

**Saturday, 23rd August, 2008**

**Premier Division**

AFC Hornchurch vs. Dover Athletic

Ashford Town (Middx) vs. Tooting & Mitcham United

Billericay Town vs. Wealdstone

Boreham Wood vs. Ramsgate

Dartford vs. Hastings United

Harrow Borough vs. Carshalton Athletic

Horsham vs. Heybridge Swifts

Maidstone United vs. Harlow Town

Margate vs. Canvey Island

Sutton United vs. Hendon

Tonbridge Angels vs. Staines Town

**Division One North**

Cheshunt vs. Chatham Town

Concord Rangers vs. Enfield Town

Ilford vs. East Thurrock United

Leyton vs. Waltham Forest

Maldon Town vs. Ware

Northwood vs. Aveley

Redbridge vs. Potters Bar Town

Thamesmead Town vs. Great Wakering Rovers

Tilbury vs. Hillingdon Borough

Waltham Abbey vs. Brentwood Town

Wingate & Finchley vs. Witham Town

**Division One South**

Corinthian-Casuals vs. Sittingbourne

Crowborough Athletic vs. Fleet Town

Eastbourne Town vs. Croydon Athletic *(kick-off 12 noon)*

Folkestone Invicta vs. Walton & Hersham

Godalming Town vs. Ashford Town

Kingstonian vs. Whyteleafe

Leatherhead vs. Cray Wanderers

Merstham vs. Dulwich Hamlet

Metropolitan Police vs. Worthing

Walton Casuals vs. Chipstead

Whitstable Town vs. Burgess Hill Town

**Monday, 25th August, 2008**

**Premier Division**

Canvey Island vs. Billericay Town

Carshalton Athletic vs. Horsham

Dover Athletic vs. Margate

Harlow Town vs. Dartford

Hastings United vs. Maidstone United

Hendon vs. Ashford Town (Middx)

Heybridge Swifts vs. AFC Hornchurch

Ramsgate vs. Tonbridge Angels

Staines Town vs. Harrow Borough

Tooting & Mitcham United vs. Sutton United

Wealdstone vs. Boreham Wood

**Division One North**

Aveley vs. Thamesmead Town

Brentwood Town vs. Ilford

Chatham Town vs. Tilbury

East Thurrock United vs. Redbridge

Enfield Town vs. Leyton

Great Wakering Rovers vs. Maldon Town

Hillingdon Borough vs. Wingate & Finchley

Potters Bar Town vs. Cheshunt

Waltham Forest vs. Waltham Abbey

Ware vs. Northwood

Witham Town vs. Concord Rangers

**Division One South**

Ashford Town vs. Whitstable Town

Burgess Hill Town vs. Eastbourne Town

Chipstead vs. Leatherhead

Cray Wanderers vs. Merstham

Croydon Athletic vs. Kingstonian

Fleet Town vs. Walton Casuals

Walton & Hersham vs. Godalming Town

Whyteleafe vs. Corinthian-Casuals

Worthing vs. Crowborough Athletic

**Tuesday, 26th August, 2008**

**Division One South**

Dulwich Hamlet vs. Metropolitan Police

Sittingbourne vs. Folkestone Invicta

**Saturday, 30th August, 2008**

**Premier Division**

AFC Hornchurch vs. Staines Town

Ashford Town (Middx) vs. Canvey Island

Billericay Town vs. Carshalton Athletic

Boreham Wood vs. Dover Athletic

Dartford vs. Wealdstone

Harrow Borough vs. Ramsgate

Horsham vs. Harlow Town

Maidstone United vs. Hendon

Margate vs. Heybridge Swifts

Sutton United vs. Hastings United

Tonbridge Angels vs. Tooting & Mitcham United

***FA Cup – Preliminary Round***

Ash United or Sevenoaks Town vs. Folkestone Invicta

Ashford Town vs. Leatherhead

Brentwood Town vs. Erith Town or Potton United

Burgess Hill Town vs. Hailsham Town or Worthing United

Camberley Town or Lordswood vs. Worthing

Chatham Town vs. Dorking or Chessington & Hook United

Cheshunt vs. Southend Manor or AFC Kempston Rovers

Clapton or Stewarts & Lloyds vs. Corinthian Casuals

Cobham or Southwick vs. Merstham

Cogenhoe United or Northampton Spencer vs. Wingate & Finchley

Concord Rangers vs. Kingsbury London Tigers or Eton Manor

Cray Wanderers vs. Crawley Down or Chichester City United

Crowborough Athletic vs. Ringmer or Rye United

Croydon Athletic vs. Kentish Town or Wellingborough Town

Dulwich Hamlet vs. Long Buckby or Broxbourne Borough V&E

East Thurrock United vs. Brimsdown Rovers or Hatfield Town

Fleet Town vs. Brockenhurst or Reading Town

Great Wakering Rovers vs. Bedfont Green or Barking

Hanwell Town or Wootton Blue Cross vs. Aveley

Hassocks or Shoreham vs. Kingstonian

Hillingdon Borough vs. Enfield Town

Horley Town or Raynes Park Vale vs. Godalming Town

Leyton vs. Romford or Biggleswade Town

Northwood vs. Metropolitan Police

Oxhey Jets or Hertford Town vs. Ilford

Pagham or Hythe Town vs. Walton & Hersham

Potters Bar Town vs. Waltham Abbey

Redbridge vs. Uxbridge

Redhill or Herne Bay vs. Chipstead

Sidley United or Farnham Town vs. Eastbourne Town

Sittingbourne vs. Chertsey Town or Deal Town

Tilbury vs. Leighton Town

Waltham Forest vs. Thamesmead Town

Walton Casuals vs. Wick or Molesey

Ware vs. London Colney or Sporting Bengal United

Whitstable Town vs. Selsey or Egham Town

Whyteleafe vs. Littlehampton Town or Peacehaven & Telscombe

Witham Town vs. Maldon Town

**PLAYER MOVEMENTS**

**Players Registered to date: 1,342**

**Player From To Date**

Perry, Lee Heybridge Swifts Maldon Town 2nd August 2008

Sjelton, Phillip Aveley Brentwood Town 2nd August 2008

**FIXTURE CHANGES TABLE**

**Division One North**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Match** | **Original Date** | **New Date** |
| Thamesmead Town vs. Potters Bar Town | 19th August 2008 | 20th August 2008 |
| Thamesmead Town vs. Concord Rangers | 14th October 2008 | 15th October 2008 |
| Thamesmead Town vs. Waltham Forest | 9th December 2008 | 10th December 2008 |

**Division One South**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Match** | **Original Date** | **New Date** |
| Walton Casuals vs. Dulwich Hamlet | 19th August 2008 | 18th August 2008 |
| Walton Casuals vs. Godalming Town | 30th September 2008 | 29th September 2008 |
| Walton Casuals vs. Corinthian-Casuals | 14th October 2008 | 13th October 2008 |
| Kingstonian vs. Burgess Hill Town | 6th September 2008 | 7th September 2008 |

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**RYMAN YOUTH LEAGUE**

**FIXTURES FIXTURES**

**Tuesday, 19th August 2008**

**South West Division**

Croydon Athletic vs. Lewes

**Thursday, 21st August 2008**

**North East Division**

AFC Wimbledon vs. Woking

**Tuesday, 26th August 2008**

**North East Division**

Woking vs. Godalming Town

**Wednesday, 27th August 2008**

**North East Division**

Corinthian-Casuals vs. Kingstonian

Staines Town vs. Hampton & Richmond Borough

Walton & Hersham vs. Tooting & Mitcham United

**South West Division**

Eastbourne Town vs. Tonbridge Angels

Croydon Athletic vs. Burgess Hill Town

Whyteleafe vs. Lewes

**Thursday, 28th August 2008**

**North East Division**

AFC Wimbledon vs. Carshalton Athletic

**South West Division**

Horsham YMCA vs. Worthing

Maidstone United vs. Horsham

**Monday, 1st September 2008**

**North East Division**

Hampton & Richmond Borough vs. Corinthian-Casuals

**South West Division**

Burgess Hill Town vs. Horsham YMCA

Lewes vs. Maidstone United

Tonbridge Angels vs. Croydon Athletic

Worthing vs. Eastbourne Town

**Wednesday, 3rd September 2008**

**North East Division**

Godalming Town vs. Staines Town

Kingstonian vs. Carshalton Athletic

Tooting & Mitcham United vs. AFC Wimbledon

Walton & Hersham vs. Woking

**Thursday, 4th September 2008**

**South West Division**

Horsham vs. Whyteleafe

**Wednesday, 10th September 2008**

**North East Division**

Staines Town vs. Woking

**South West Division**

Whyteleafe vs. Maidstone United

**Thursday, 11th September 2008**

**South West Division**

Horsham vs. Croydon Athletic

**Week beginning Monday, 8th September 2008**

***FA Youth Cup - Preliminary Round***

Burgess Hill Town vs. Bisley

Carshalton Athletic vs. Oakwood

Corinthian Casuals vs. North Greenford United

Deal Town vs. Lewes

Godalming Town vs. Three Bridges

Hampton & Richmond Borough vs. Dulwich Hamlet

Hanwell Town vs. AFC Wimbledon

Hassocks vs. Walton & Hersham

Horsham YMCA vs. Kingstonian

Mile Oak vs. Tonbridge Angels

Tooting & Mitcham United vs. Worthing

**Tuesday, 16th September 2008**

**North East Division**

Woking vs. Hampton & Richmond Borough

**Wednesday, 17th September 2008**

**North East Division**

Corinthian-Casuals vs. Carshalton Athletic

Kingstonian vs. Staines Town

Tooting & Mitcham United vs. Godalming Town

**South West Division**

Croydon Athletic vs. Worthing

Eastbourne Town vs. Horsham

Whyteleafe vs. Tonbridge Angels

**Thursday, 18th September 2008**

**North East Division**

AFC Wimbledon vs. Walton & Hersham

**South West Division**

Horsham YMCA vs. Lewes

Maidstone United vs. Burgess Hill Town

**Week beginning Monday, 22nd September 2008**

***FA Youth Cup – First Round Qualifying***

Arundel or Cobham vs. Burgess Hill Town or Bisley

Camberley Town vs. Tooting & Mitcham United or Worthing

Carshalton Athletic or Oakwood vs. Horsham

Chertsey Town vs. Woking

Corinthian-Casuals or North Greenford United vs. Hayes & Yeading United

Croydon Athletic vs. Enfield Town

Faversham Town or VCD Athletic vs. Deal Town or Lewes

Godalming Town or Three Bridges vs. Shoreham

Hampton & Richmond Borough or Dulwich Hamlet vs. Hanwell Town or AFC Wimbledon

Horsham YMCA or Kingstonian vs. Colliers Wood United

Kentish Town or Uxbridge vs. Staines Town

Maidstone United vs. Dartford

Rye United vs. Mile Oak or Tonbridge Angels

Westfield or Epsom & Ewell vs. Hassocks or Walton & Hersham

Whyteleafe vs. Tunbridge Wells

**HANDBOOK AMENDMENTS**

**CHESHUNT FC**

The e-mail address of Cheshunt Club Secretary Howard Wilkins should read thehmanathome@hotmail.com

**DOVER ATHLETIC FC**

The e-mail address of Match Secretary Vikki Pawley should read as victoria.pawley@doverathletic.com

**LEYTON FC**

The E-mail address has changed to leytonfc@btconnect.com

**NOTICEBOARD**

**FOLKESTONE INVICTA FC**

Club Secretary Neil Pilcher will be on holiday from Friday 8th August to Monday 1st September and will not have access to e-mail. Any e-mails during that time should be sent to the Club’s Chairman Jim Pellet at jim.pellatt@uwclub.net.

Neil will be available for phone calls during that time although it may be best to use his mobile number of 0788 074 5772 in emergencies.

**SITTINGBOURNE FC**

Club Secretary John Pitts is on holiday from Saturday 8th to Saturday 16th August. Please copy any emailed correspondence from now up to Saturday 16th to Peter Pitts at peterpitts@blueyonder.co.uk - mobile number 0778 590 6627.

**CLUB GOSSIP**

**ASHFORD TOWN (MIDDX) FC**

With the exception of Anthony Joseph (Bromley) and Paul Burgess (holiday), just about every regular first team player from last season has now signed on for Ashford Town (Middx) FC’s new campaign.

Three new players signed last weekend, namely Billy Jeffreys a tall commanding central defender who has come to the club after being released by Millwall, Francis Luke, a speedy midfielder who lists both Dagenham & Redbridge and Sutton United amongst his previous clubs and Gareth Teuten, who was with the Staines Academy side and who impressed in a recent reserve match against Bracknell. Also now signed on Ryman forms are promising Under-18 players Danny Byron and Nick Hardy.

**BOREHAM WOOD FC**

Boreham Wood Football Club completed the transfer of Simon Thomas to Coca Cola Championship Club Crystal Palace, Tuesday 22 July 2008, for an undisclosed fee, with the usual add-ons and a Pre-Season Friendly next Season included.

The Club, which worked very hard to complete a successful transfer, wishes Simon Thomas all the very best in his new Career.

In his time at Boreham Wood Simon made a total of 71 First Team Appearances over two Seasons, scoring 33 goals. Last Season, Simon was the Club's leading goalscorer with 27 goals in 50 First Team appearances, including eight from the penalty spot.

The Club have announced a major new signing in that Mario Noto has joined the Club.

Mario is a 23 year old attacking midfield player who joined Boreham Wood from Chelmsford City by signing a Contract with his new Club on the 7 August 2008. Mario began his Career at Tottenham Hotspur in August 2002 and Reading, whom he joined in March 2003 before a short spell with Crystal Palace ended when he joined Canvey Island in January 2005. He made 36 appearances for them before transferring to Chelmsford City in July 2006, where he became a firm crowd favourite with several spectacular long range goals. Wood fans can expect to see more of his trademark long range efforts, silky skills and fine distribution in the future.

**CARSHALTON ATHLETIC FC**

The Club were delighted with the news that Sutton Council have this week given planning permission for further improvements at their attractive Colston Avenue ground. The main terrace at the ground has long been regarded as one of the best in non-league football, giving spectators an outstanding view of games and generating a great atmosphere. Their enjoyment should be further enhanced with the erection of new floodlights to appreciably improve visibility for players and spectators on winter Saturdays and for midweek evening games.

The new installations will replace the existing 40 year old pylons and will be on attractive single masts sited around the pitch. The new masts are lower than the old pylons and the light spill will be controlled. Local residents are also expected to welcome the new installations as the level of light pollution will be much reduced. The club hopes the new lights will be operational in September.

The same planning meeting approved plans to construct a new block at the School end of the ground which will contain new toilet facilities (including provision for disabled supporters) and a large kitchen which can be used on match days for hospitality as well as upgrading the present take-away catering offered to supporters.

The Club hope to have the new facility open by Christmas 2008.

**CROYDON ATHLETIC FC**

Croydon Athletic Football Club have this week appointed "JJ" Johnny Johnson as Kit Manager.  JJ joins us having spent the past 7 years carrying out the same role at Carshalton Athletic FC.  Prior to this he was previously both Coach and Manager at neighbours Croydon FC and back in his playing days turned out for Barking and Tooting & Mitcham FC to name but a few.

Chairman Dean Fisher commented, "I am delighted that JJ has agreed to join us.  I have looked after our kit requirements for the past 23 years and this part of the club alone is like a full-time job making sure that all of the teams have everything that they require for training and matches plus dealing with the laundry.  Therefore I am pleased to get someone who can take this task from me and also continue to look after the players to the high standard that we have set over the many years. We welcome JJ who will be a great addition to the Club.

**GREAT WAKERING ROVERS FC**

Inner London Group are the new first team sponsors of Great Wakering Rovers Football Club. In fact the Company is no stranger to the Rovers as last season they sponsored the reserve side.

Two old favourites have returned to help run the club and a new face, Robert Lilley, joins as Commercial Manager and Webmaster. The two returning to the fold are Fred Smith and Steve Swain.

**KINGSTONIAN FC**

Kingston’s premier record shop is to throw its support behind Ryman League team Kingstonian Football Club as club sponsor for the 2008/09 season.

In a move reminiscent of Skint Records’ support for Brighton & Hove Albion, and also of Cherry Red Records’ sponsorship of K’s in the mid ‘90s, Banquet knows that music and football are two passions that go hand in hand for many of its punters. However, more than this, it is a move to show the importance of ‘community’ on both the football and music worlds.

Dave House, who handles the marketing for all sides of Banquet commented, ”Here at Banquet Records, community plays a huge role in what we do. From the outside we may be your local record shop, stocking all the latest titles from all sides of the musical spectrum – indie to funky house, punk to d&b, soul to rock, but we’re really much more than that. We’ve been running music events in the Kingston area for over a decade from all ages in-stores, small pub gigs at The Peel or The Fighting Cocks to our regular club nights at McClusky’s, Bacchus and The Works.”

Just like what happens at Jack Goodchild Way on match day, these events are truly significant to those involved in the thriving and enthusiastic community that both these worlds share.

Banquet Records MD Jon Tolley a fan of the K’s since his school days added, “There are many similarities between the way both football club and the shop work. For both of us it’s a battle to get in punters when there are so many big boys out there competing for the bums on seats or feet on the shop floor. But we both know that what we have is not only a great product, but in each case the tradition and the community feel brought by both institutions is an important part to, not only the fans, but also the wider Kingston community.”

Kingstonian Joint-Chairman Mark Anderson commented on the deal, “We are really pleased to have such an enthusiastic group and well known local brand, Banquet Records, sponsoring the Club this season. The stuff we can do together in terms of joint marketing is really exciting and something we will be actively promoting during the course of this the first year of what we hope will be a long term relationship. Having the "Banquet Community" supporting K's will be great for the Club!”

**NORTHWOOD FC**

It's been a good year for Northwood's 17-year-old Aryan Tajbakhsh, who scored his first senior goal for the club in midweek at Arlesey Town. Back in May he was selected to take part in the Cesc Fabregas show and appeared alongside the Arsenal and Spain star in a contest designed to show how well each player controlled the ball.

Northwood have allowed the youngster to sign on dual-registration non-contract terms with Coca-Cola League Two side Barnet, and he could even be in their squad for the opening games. Aryan has been training with the Bees for the past two weeks and has certainly impressed Manager Paul Fairclough with a couple of appearances in warm-up games.

**WEALDSTONE FC**

Following the recent announcement of an affiliation with Pinner United FC, Wealdstone FC has stated their aim to build and promote relations with other junior football clubs in the area and is therefore delighted to announce an affiliation with Ruislip Rangers FC.

Ruislip Rangers FC, with well over 400 players playing under its’ banner, is the largest youth football club in the area. It is also the oldest, formed in 1969. A holder of 'Charter Standard' status, the club is hugely successful with a number of players attracting the attention of professional clubs. Winners of the Harrow Youth League U18 Premier Division Championship last season, together with Fairplay/Sportsmanship award for the last two consecutive seasons the Club will cater for all ages from five year olds to adults in the coming season including fielding two girls teams at U14 and U12 level. Home games are played at King’s College Playing Fields, Ruislip.

As part of the agreement between the two clubs Wealdstone FC will provide additional coaching to Ruislip Rangers. It is hoped that this link will be of benefit to both clubs and enhance the chances of players reaching their goal of becoming a professional footballer.

The agreement also entitles each playing member of Ruislip Rangers to free entrance to Wealdstone’s Ryman’s Premier League matches and discounted admittance to their parents and coaches. Ruislip Rangers players are also invited to take part in matchday activities at Wealdstone’s home games such as half-time shoot-outs.

There will be reciprocal arrangements in that both clubs’ websites will link to each other and Ruislip Rangers news will also be carried in the Wealdstone matchday programme.

It is hoped that this will be the start of a long and fruitful relationship between the two clubs.

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