

# London Owls Newsletter

JANUARY 2012

[www.londonowls.co.uk](http://www.londonowls.co.uk) - [londonowls.enquiries@gmail.com](mailto:londonowls.enquiries@gmail.com)



## League One's "Big Five"

Whilst the result against Charlton last Saturday was extremely disappointing the Owls can still look forward to the rest of the 2011/12 season as one of promise.

Both manager Gary Megson, and his old Wednesdayite sparring partner Mel Sterland, have all but conceded the League One title to Charlton. However, both still put Wednesday firmly within the group of four teams – United, Huddersfield and MK Dons being the others – vying for second place.

It's no surprise that these teams find themselves at the top of the table, all are in the top six for average attendance and many were extremely active in the transfer market this summer.

### Useful Contacts

#### Email us

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#### Write to us

The London Owls, PO Box 233,  
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#### Follow the Current Squad on Twitter

Cecil Nyoni - @CessK92  
Chris Lines - @Linesy8  
Clinton Morrison - @morrisonclinton  
Danny Bath - @Danny\_Bath  
Giles Coke - @RealCokes  
Jon Otsemobor - @semi36  
Julian Bennett - @B13NNT  
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Matthew Tumilty - @Matty\_Tumilty  
Richard O'Donnell - @RichODonnell23  
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Mel Sterland has said: "Gary Megson is 100 per cent right when he says Charlton will win the title. The main thing from our point of view is to get promotion. It doesn't matter how we do it, whether it is automatically or through the play-offs, just so long as we go up."

Few fans would disagree with those sentiments.

A win against Hartlepool on Saturday and a Charlton v Sheffield Utd draw will put the Owls only two points behind Danny Wilson's men with a game in hand and an extra home match to play.

But of course this is just one of the myriad of possibilities which the rest of the season holds. To help you keep track of the twists and turns this month's newsletter contains a handy guide to the run-in fixtures for the "Big Five" on the next page.

One of positive which immediately leaps out from the page is that Wednesday have 11 more home games to play, and that only Charlton have as many.

We also only have three more matches to play against Big Five rivals, whilst Huddersfield and MK Dons have four. Crucially, Wednesday are also at home to Wycombe (currently in 22nd place) on the last day of the season, whilst United are the only Big Five team to have to travel on this important date.

One things for sure, it will go right down to the wire.





# Your London Owl's guide to the run-in for League One's "Big Five"

	Charlton pl 25 pts 57	Sheffield United pl 26 pts 53	Hfield pl 26 pts 50	The Wednesday pl 25 pts 49	MK Dons pl 24 pts 46
<b>Jan-21</b>	<b>SHEFF UTD</b>	Charlton	BRENTFORD	HARTLEPOOL	Notts County
24				Scunthorpe	Stevenage
28	Exeter	SCUNTHORPE (tbc)	Tranmere		<b>CARLISLE (tbc)</b>
31	BURY			MK Dons	<b>SHEFF WED</b>
<b>Feb-04</b>	ROCHDALE	Colchester	MK DONS	YEOVIL	Huddersfield
11	Chesterfield	WYCOMBE	Leyton Orient	Exeter	BURY
14	<b>MK DONS</b>	Huddersfield	<b>SHEFF UTD</b>	STEVENAGE	Charlton
18	Tranmere	PRESTON	Stevenage	Chesterfield	OLDHAM
25	STEVENAGE		EXETER		Bournemouth
26		<b>Sheffield Wed</b>		<b>SHEFF UTD</b>	
<b>Mar-03</b>	Bournemouth	OLDHAM	Bury	Rochdale	Hartlepool
6	COLCHESTER	Walsall	HARTLEPOOL	BURY	YEOVIL
10	NOTTS COUNTY	Brentford	ROCHDALE	BOURNEMOUTH	EXETER
17	Scunthorpe	TRANMERE	Colchester	Notts County	Chesterfield
20	YEOVIL	Notts County	Chesterfield	WALSALL	LEYTON ORIENT
24	<b>Huddersfield</b>	CHESTERFIELD	<b>CHARLTON</b>	Leyton Orient	Wycombe
31	LEYTON ORIENT	Hartlepool	Carlisle	PRESTON	BRENTFORD
<b>Apr-07</b>	Oldham	BOURNEMOUTH	<b>SHEFF WED</b>	Huddersfield	Preston
9	WALSALL		Bournemouth		TRANMERE
10		Rochdale		OLDHAM	
14	Carlisle	LEYTON ORIENT	Preston	Colchester	Scunthorpe
21	WYCOMBE	<b>MK Dons</b>	SCUNTHORPE	CARLISLE	<b>SHEFF UTD</b>
28	Preston	STEVENAGE	Walsall	Brentford	Rochdale
<b>May-05</b>	HARTLEPOOL	Exeter	YEOVIL	WYCOMBE	WALSALL

## KEY

Home games in capital letters, away games in lower case

Games highlighted in green are clashes between two members of the "Big Five"

Games in red have been postponed and not yet given a confirmed re-arranged date

# Keeping up with the Joneses

The January transfer window has already proven to be a busy one for Gary Megson and Sheffield Wednesday. Stephen Bywater and Miguel Llera have signed on permanent deals and Danny Batth has renewed his loan deal until the end of the season.

Last Thursday Wednesday also completed the signing of Bury star (and former sparring partner of Ryan Lowe) Mike Jones for an undisclosed fee thought to be around £100,000.

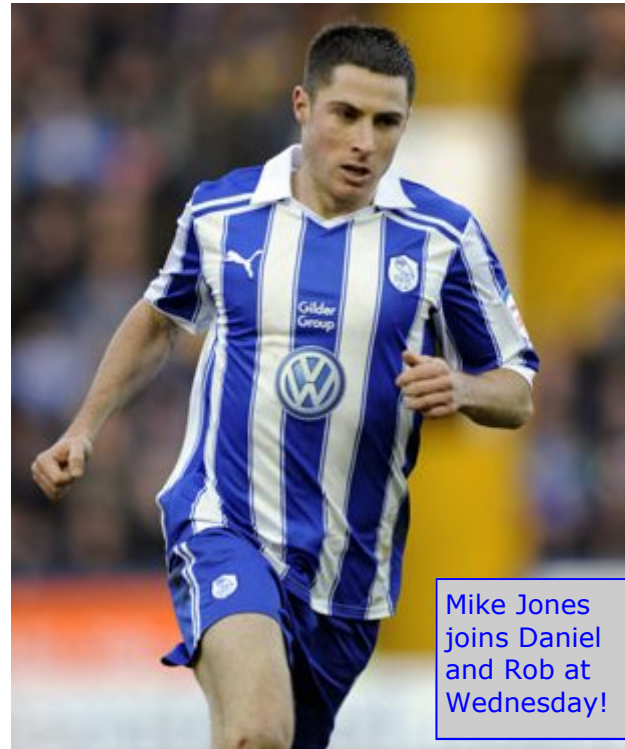
Jones is primarily a right winger but can also play in the middle. After early spells at Bromley, Bury and Tranmere, Jones got his big break when he joined Shrewsbury on loan in 2007 and scored on his debut.

A year later he joined Bury on a permanent transfer and became a fixture in the side which eventually won promotion to League One and set up a feast of goals of Ryan Lowe in the process. He has a good scoring record for a winger, netting 24 times in 158 games.

Jones is the second player Wednesday have beaten one of their local Championship rivals too this season. In August Barnsley boss Keith Hill lamented how Wednesday outbid him to land Chris O'Grady, and this week Hill has also spoken of his disappointment on losing out in the battle of Jones' signature.

Hill said: "We wanted to sign Jones, but unfortunately we didn't manage to get out of the starting blocks. Sheffield Wednesday are going for promotion and they've done well to sign him; we were very interested but they got their first."

Along with the continued pursuit of Ben Marshall, Owls' chief Milan Mandaric has confirmed that the club are looking to add three more faces in January. There may well be more new faces to introduce in the next newsletter.



Mike Jones joins Daniel and Rob at Wednesday!

## Derby travel arrangements

It might be over a month away but eyes are already turning to the Steel City Derby on 26 February. If you are interested in travelling up to the match with fellow exiled Wednesdayites there are a couple of options.

If you want to travel up on the Sunday please email [fredrodgers@btconnect.com](mailto:fredrodgers@btconnect.com). The earliest train is the 09.00 from Kings X to Doncaster arriving at 11.34. Whilst there is a train to Sheffield at 11.42 arriving at 12.07 it probably means a cab from Doncaster to Hillsborough. The cheapest return fare to Doncaster is currently £36.50 (17.26 arriving at 19.18 but there are slightly dearer alternatives at 16.46 (18.34), 17.12 (18.50) with connecting appropriate services from Sheffield. The return fare from Doncaster to Sheffield is £5.70. The cost of the cab will depend on the number of passengers of course.

If you want to make a weekend of it and go up on the Saturday email [iancol@clara.co.uk](mailto:iancol@clara.co.uk) is looking for a train going north on Saturday and returning on Sunday evening for approximately £32.00.

## Got a story to tell?

We're always on the lookout for new stories for the newsletter, and in particular are hoping to get match reports from every game from a wide variety of fans.

If you have any contributions no matter how big or small please email [mattkelcher@gmail.com](mailto:mattkelcher@gmail.com) or tweet @mattkelcher and they will be included in a future newsletter.