



Roscoe Dsane

Having been AFC Wimbledon's leading scorer in 2006/07 with 21 goals in 47 appearances across all competitions, Roscoe Dsane knows the area around Plough Lane and its environs very well, but not for football reasons (which we're happily putting right this evening) but because of his day job as a firefighter, currently working out of Wimbledon Fire Station!

A Crystal Palace youth product, Dsane was spotted then scouted at Epsom Eagles and after joining on YTS terms, signed professionally at 18, but after being released in 2001 made his Football League debut for Southend United following a successful trial. Moving nearer home with Woking, it was a call from then Aldershot Town manager Terry Brown that got his fledgling career back on track however. "Terry was very good at bringing out the best in me. I was 21, played nearly every game for them in the Ryman Premier League, scored 18 goals and made my debut for the England non-league team. Aldershot were promoted into the Conference, I scored another 27 there and only a penalty shootout defeat to Carlisle United in the play-off final stopped us going straight through and back into the EFL."

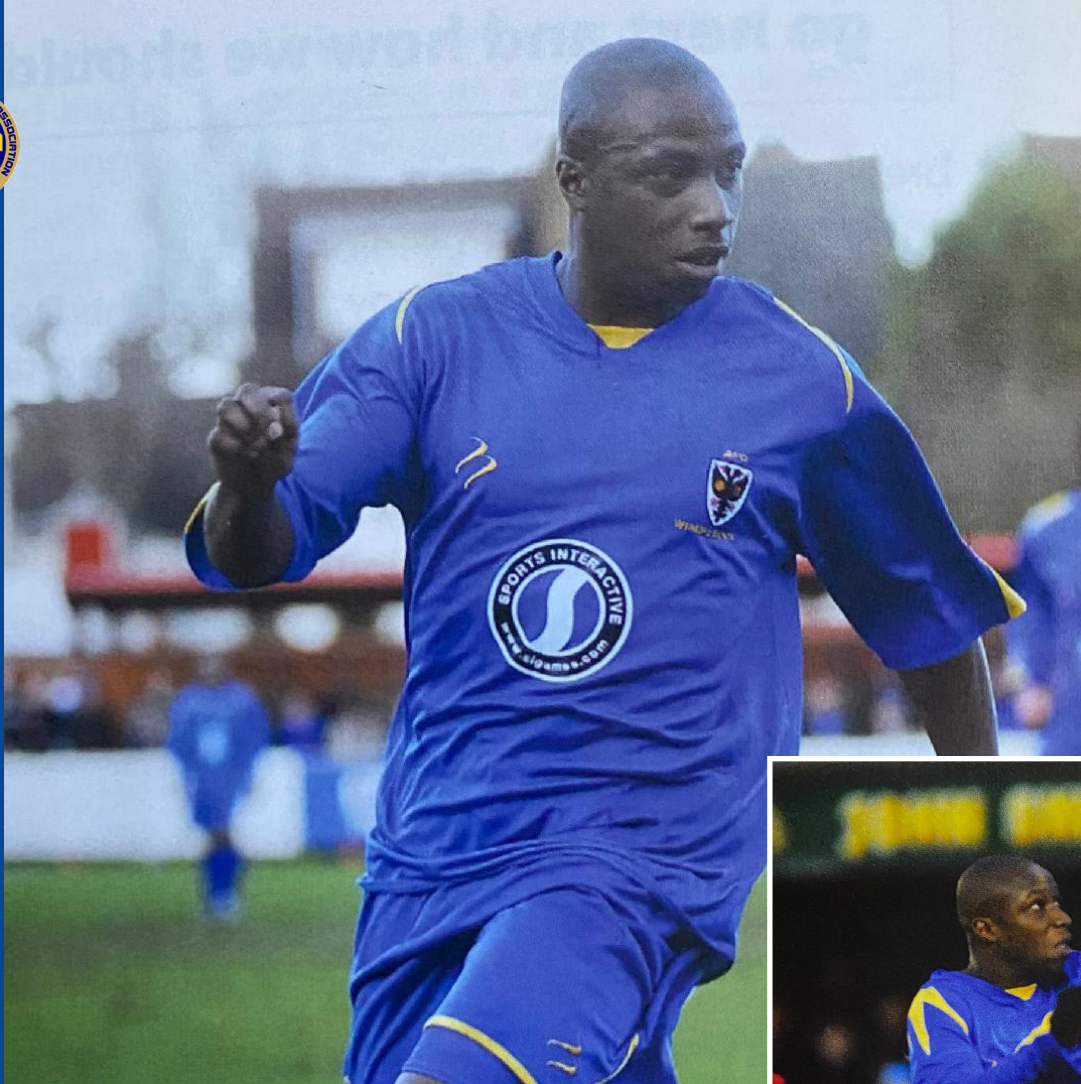
Unfortunately, Roscoe developed tendonitis in both knees which would ultimately affect the remainder of his career. "Aldershot went full-time and I was happy to do that but I needed rest and to build up other muscles to compensate. At that age I didn't realise the importance or significance of that." Reverting to part-time football, AFC Wimbledon manager Dave Anderson quickly snapped him up and his goals helped the Dons into the Ryman Premier League play-offs but,

for a second successive season, they faltered and the Club parted company with Anderson. Ironically that summer, Roscoe's former boss Brown replaced the Ulsterman, but the pair's paths crossed like ships in the night as the forward was already on his way back into the professional game via a contract offer from Accrington Stanley.

Roscoe ("I'm not sure where that first name comes from – somebody suggested it might be from Rosco P Coltrane, a character in the 'Dukes of Hazzard' – but my Dad said it was from a DJ on a US radio station!") spent the first part of 2007/08 at

Accrington, scoring eight goals in 23 games, but then an undisclosed fee took him to the other end of the country and Torquay United, where he found the net 15 times in 59 Gulls appearances.

In January 2011, after a year's absence from the game, Dsane and Brown were reunited at AFC Wimbledon, initially with the striker on a non-contract basis and subsequently on a dual-registration with Beaconsfield SYCOB. He played briefly under former Crystal Palace teammate (and, briefly, an AFCW Don) Andrew Martin, before winding down his playing days with



spells at Whyteleafe and Walton Casuals.

Away from the game, Roscoe has variously worked for the Foster Care Association, been a lettings

negotiator, a housing advisor, developed his own shinpad and sports apparel supply company and for the past four years has been a SW19 firefighter. Hopefully he won't get a 'shout' during the game tonight though! We are delighted to welcome him back to the Club.

