



# Match Days at the Boleyn



A trip to 'Nathan's' Pie and Mash shop is a match day tradition for many

The build up to home matches – the atmosphere around Barking Road and Green Street - is etched into supporters' memories:

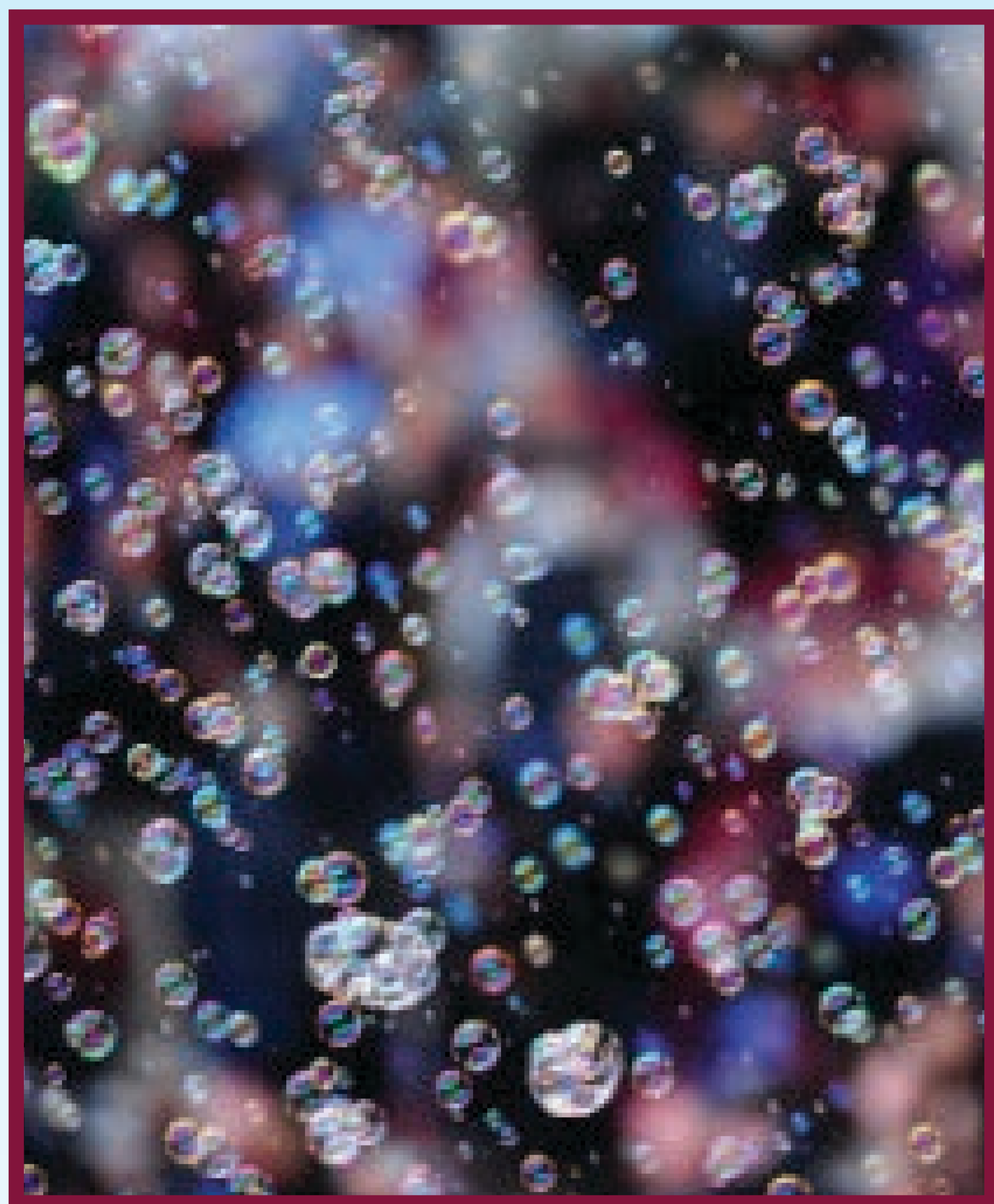
“We got it all set out... we drive all the way, my son drops me off in Barking Road, and I get in the queue for Pie n' Mash, which is a hell of a long queue, I think the last time we was there we stood in the queue for an hour and a half, he goes and parks the car and then he comes round and meets me in the queue, so that's our ritual, if we've got time... We will see if we can get into the Boleyn Pub and have, I will have 'alf a cider... have a round of 'Bubbles in the Air' and then we make our way to the stadium.” Patricia (b.1949, fan)

“But yeah you'd get the same people coming in... every day that there was a match on so... if you had walked in, you know I would know exactly what you wanted, you want a programme you want these chocolates... these two chocolates and this drink.” Gopal (b. 1984, Kiosk Manager at Upton Park Station)

“... electric...it depends who they're playing but the reality is, is its electric. It's a sort of sea of claret and blue and there's only one stall in Green Street that will sell the opposing teams colours, every, all the other stalls that sell scarves and hats and flags and what have you will all be selling West Ham ones.” Cecilia (b.1958, fan)



The Boleyn Pub



...Forever blowing bubbles

“I lived for the day...the whole atmosphere, the smell of the food, the men walking around the pitch with a little tray with the Percy Dalton peanuts that you bought from them over the wall and gave them the money and the big shells all round the ground where people were eating peanuts... the people shouting out their wares...West Ham singing, I'm forever blowing bubbles' and the banter between the rival supporters, it became addictive. I live for Saturdays.” Michael (b.1946, fan)

“...the atmosphere would gradually build up from about half past two, more and more people arrived in the stadium and the atmosphere got better and better and they'd sing, 'Forever blowing bubbles' as the team came out, sing it again just before kick-off ...Half time – 'I'm forever blowing bubbles' again just before the second half and then again at the end so there's all that singing and chanting going on.” Martin (b. 1966, fan)

Fans arrive in their thousands to support West Ham United



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