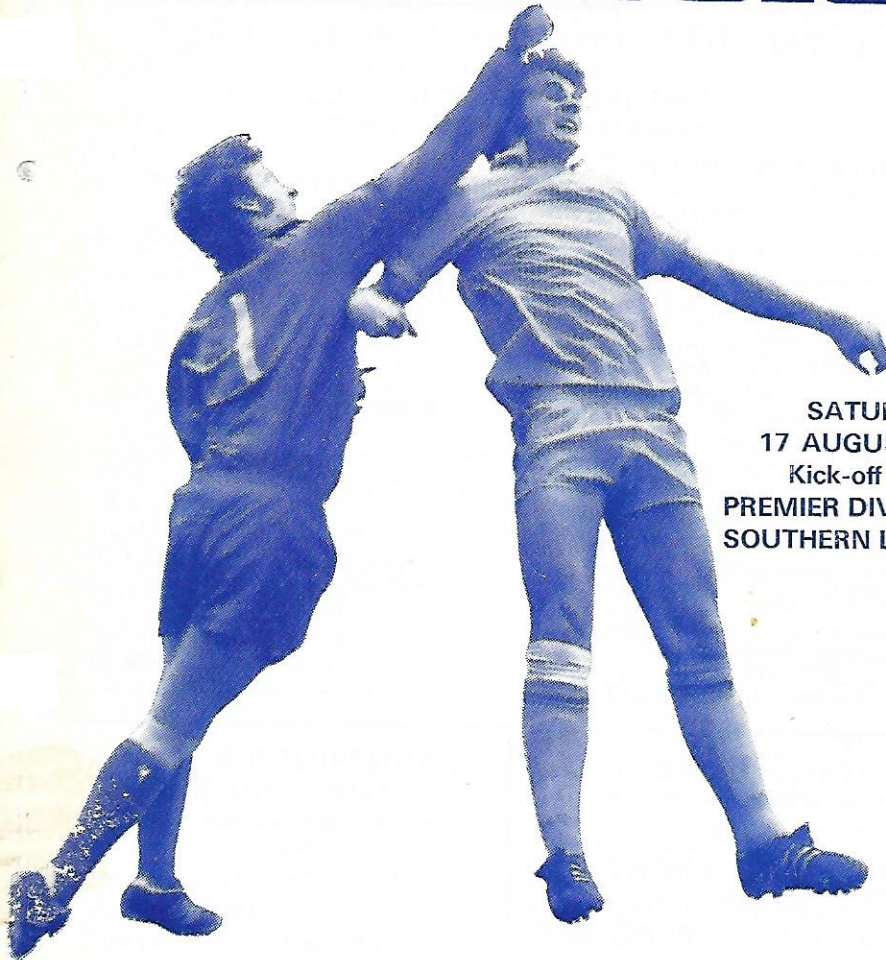


# WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB



SATURDAY,  
17 AUGUST, 1974  
Kick-off 3 p.m.  
PREMIER DIVISION  
SOUTHERN LEAGUE

WEALDSTONE v WEYMOUTH



OFFICIAL  
PROGRAMME



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R. KELLY (Stadium Manager)

C. ADAMS

B. HENDERSON

F. RYDER (Social Club Treasurer)

G. YOUNG

Secretary, Lower Mead Social Club :  
J. HOWLAND, 90 Locket Road, Wealdstone.  
01-863 4081.

Team Manager : E. PRESLAND  
10 Swift Close, Cranham, Upminster, Essex  
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### Today is the Day our Dream Comes True

This is a very proud day in the life of Wealdstone F.C. as we joyfully set the seal on 75 years of existence by making our debut in the Premier Division of the Southern League. When we turned professional and left the ranks of the Isthmian League three seasons ago, we dreamed of the time when we would gain promotion and take what we always regarded as our rightful place among the 'Big Boys' of the Southern League. Thanks to the magnificent performances of our squad last season (and who will ever forget that magnificent run-in to the Championship when we swept all before us) that day is now with us. What makes it even more pleasurable is the fact that every single player who got us to the Premier Division is still with us, and it is doubtful whether in those 75 years, we have ever had a better team spirit. We are blessed with a squad which has not got one single 'difficult' player among them and they richly deserve to prosper.

We could have had a much easier baptism in the Premier than Weymouth will assuredly provide, but we are delighted to make the acquaintance of their Directors, Players and Supporters, and we know they will find the hospitality of Lower Mead Stadium well up to the standard they have become accustomed to.

We do thank our excellent Supporters for turning up in such numbers to see our practice games against Walthamstow Avenue and Hendon—especially as an hour before the Hendon game the rain came down in buckets and never ceased. It was a highly successful approach to the season, with a 1-0 win over the Avenue, and a 3-0 victory over near neighbours and arch-rivals Hendon on Saturday. Newcomer Terry Evans, with his three goals in two games is soon on target and his understanding with his twin Derek is a delight to watch.

The team proved against Hendon that they are quickly running into the rhythm which proved so compelling in the Southern Section last season and there were times when Hendon must have felt that they had blundered into a hornets' nest. I know our really dyed-in-the-wool Supporters really relished licking Hendon, for we had one or two old scores to settle! We must sympathise, though, with our former Isthmian colleagues for losing several players to Ilford, and one or two of their officials were wishing they had taken the plunge with us and turned professional.

Elsewhere in this programme you will find pen pictures of our Dorset visitors, and you will quickly see that they are a team to be reckoned with. Some shrewd close season signings have been made while they again have the dynamic Alan Beer up front who, like our own George Duck, knows a thing or two about getting goals! Luckily, the groin injury our skipper John McCormick received against Hendon was more painful than serious, and John, like the rest of the team, is rarin' to get to grips with the Premier Division!

I know he won't thank me for it, but it must be said that manager Eddie Presland certainly resumed on the field where he left off last season. As a newcomer to Lower Mead told me: "I can't see how he can drop himself—and what a delight to see such controlled kicking". It must be

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nice to be able to lead by example as Eddie did against Hendon. Almost certainly we shall, in fact, be seeing him in action today, as both John Watson and Ray Fulton are under suspension for the first two weeks of the season. Which is a blow it would be foolish to deny.

Finally, a word to that magnificent Elmslie Stand crowd. You did a lot towards us reaching the Premier Division last season, as the players are the first to admit. You can do a lot to see we stay there, and even make a name for ourselves! You know what the lads would like to hear . . .

COLIN POPE.

## Deserved Honour for Frank Harbud

It is with particular pride and pleasure that we announce the election of Mr. Frank Harbud as a Life Vice-President of the Club in honour of his magnificent 50 years service to Wealdstone as a player and official. Frank, now in his seventies, still acts like a young man, very seldom misses a match either home or away and is known and respected wherever we go. After many years stalwart service as a 'Stones player, Frank decided when he hung up his boots to put something back into the game, with the result that he has half a century's unbroken service—a proud record indeed.

Frank is also a Life Vice-President of Middlesex County F.A. and joins the other two 'Stones Life Vice-Presidents, Harry Luck and Jack Holt. Chairman of the Club's General Purposes Committee, which backs up your Executive Committee, Frank's loyalty and enthusiasm is a model to us all.

## Let's all Rally Round Ray!

We are happy to acknowledge the fine example set by ardent 'Stones supporter Ray Corner, who on his days off during the summer has, in splendid solitude, been repainting the white railings around the ground. But tackling a job of this magnitude on your own is mind-bending to say the least, so we make a special appeal to those young fans of ours who brighten up the Elmslie Stand so wonderfully with their marvellous vocal support. How about doing your bit by giving up a Sunday morning and joining Ray? We'll supply free beer and it would make the Stadium really smart. We reckon if only a dozen turned up it could be completed in a couple of Sunday mornings. So how about giving it a go, lads? See you any time after 10 a.m. tomorrow morning!



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### Club's A.G.M. Next Month

It now looks almost certain that the annual general meeting of the Club will be held in the last week in September. As you know, we have delayed this so that we are in a position to combine it with the extraordinary general meeting of members to launch the Public Limited Company, rather than have two separate meetings. The Articles of Association and Memorandum will shortly be returned from the F.A. with their approval, and the accounts are now at the auditors. Notices convening the meeting will be going out early next month.

Incidentally, response to our recent share invitation has been encouraging in the extreme, and many people who don't necessarily attend our games are all keen to buy £1 shares. And surprisingly, applications have come in from all parts of the country.

### Supporters' Club Notes

Good afternoon everyone, and welcome back to Lower Mead Stadium for the first game of the 1974-75 season. We offer Weymouth a very warm welcome and hope they had a good trip up from the West Country, and have a safe journey home this evening.

Today is yet another start to a new chapter in the story of the 'Stones with the club making its debut in the Premier Division, especially as this is the club's 75th season. Last season the vocal support given to the boys was magnificent and I hope that you intend carrying on today where you left off last May.

On behalf of the Supporters' Club I would like to take this opportunity of saying welcome to our new boys, John Morton from Dartford, and the Evans twins from Trowbridge. We hope you enjoy your stay with the 'Stones.

The Supporters' Club will be once again putting on coaches for the away games commencing next Saturday at Tonbridge. Only members of the Supporters' Club can be taken on the coaches because of insurance reasons, and so will you please visit the office and take out membership, which is only a very modest 10p (Juniors and Senior Citizens 5p).

Now down to the serious business of cheering the boys in blue as they start what we trust will be a season of good football.

*UP THE 'STONES!*

PHILLIP J. TRICKER (Publicity Officer).

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### Move to 'Go It Alone' Rejected

An extraordinary general meeting of the Southern League on Sunday rejected a proposal that in future, only one club should be allowed to apply for Football League status—thus avoiding the position which now applies, namely that several clubs apply and split the vote. Although the voting was 21-17 in favour of the proposal, it was not sufficient to give the necessary two thirds majority.

The idea was that the club finishing highest in the Premier table should apply, for it was recognised that some clubs have no wish for League football. One of the prime instigators of the proposal was Jimmy Hill, who spoke feelingly at the League's annual dinner in June that Premier clubs ruined their own chances of breaking the 'old pals' act' when five or six applied for the League.

For the record, Wealdstone supported the proposition, for we at Lower Mead Stadium certainly DO eventually want League status.

Which raises an interesting point our chairman, David Martle, has been discussing with me. We, which is the Executive Committee, certainly have ambitious plans and are not content to remain in the Southern League longer than we have to. But what do our Supporters want? We should be interested to hear of your reactions and whether or not you feel we should set our sights on higher things. Put simply, do we want to be a big fish in a small pond, or vice versa? You will all have ideas on what you want for the 'Stones, so we would like to know them. Our chairman, being the type he is, believes it all only worth while if we aim for the stars, and personally is not content to now sit back just because we are in the Premier Division.

COLIN POPE.

### Paul Fairclough Married

We offer our sincere congratulations to popular Paul Fairclough on his marriage last Saturday to Kenton schoolteacher Sharon Rowland, who looked gorgeous in her wedding finery. The merrymaking went on at a luxury Bushey motel until midnight, and judging from his neat footwork on the dance floor, Paul's father could show his son a thing or two! Colleague Jim Godfrey was best man.



## **MAKE MORE OF LIFE**

New members aged 18—30 are always very welcome at 18 PLUS. Your local group meets every Friday at 8.15 p.m. above 'The Case is Altered' in Wealdstone High Street. Contact Mike on 427 5818 for further information.

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### **New Look for the Social Club**

With another new season upon us, we are looking forward to all the new faces we shall be seeing, and new friends we shall be making.

We were hoping to have had the new frontage to the Social Club done for the opening match, but we all know the formalities to be gone through with regard to obtaining planning permission. However, there has been no problem with the plans we have presented to the Council, and work will commence very shortly. The moment the new front has been done, a new look will be given to the interior, and the television/VIP lounge will be extended and greatly improved.

Every Saturday evening we have dancing from 8 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. with a different band every week. On Sunday evenings Charlie Barber's Band performs, and we also have a really first class cabaret. Tomorrow night, for instance, we present singer Eddie Dean.

There is Bingo every Wednesday evening at 8 p.m., and despite its long run, it is still proving very popular with a lot of people. Incidentally, our darts and cribbage teams are always on the lookout for new fixtures, so if you have any ideas, please give us a call.

It would be well worth your while becoming a member of the Lower Mead Social Club, and there is always a committeeman around to give you all the details.

JACK HOWLAND.

### **Ticket Agents Urgently Required**

Agents are urgently needed for our Development Fund scheme, to sell tickets, bingo, lucky numbers, pontoon and fruit machine symbols, and a free competition draw is held every 10 weeks. Excellent commission is paid and this supplement to their income might prove of interest to Senior Citizens especially. Anyone interested should contact Mr Mick Mylcreest, who can be found in the Programme Office before every game, or in the Social Club after the match, or most evenings.

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### **In a Few Lines . . .**

We are grateful to former club chairman Don Brown for kindly donating today's match ball. He and his wife Eileen will be attending virtually all our games this season, much to our delight.

Because of housing complications, former Supporters' Club chairman Jim Brigden has not moved to Basingstoke and there seems every hope now that Jim will be staying here and resume his active role with the Supporters' Club. We certainly hope so, for officials of Jim's calibre are hard to come by.

Bath City have made a spectacular entry into the Premier Division, for we hear that their 15 professionals have been made full time under former Palace manager Bert Head. Their latest signing is Kenny Brown, the South Shields striker who played against us in the F.A. Challenge Trophy replay last season.

Manager Eddie Presland and PRO Colin Pope were interviewed on London Broadcasting Company's sports programme on Thursday evening on Wealdstone's hopes and ambitions for the future. The result, and scorers, of every match will be broadcast by L.B.C. Southern League results are given by the B.B.C. every Saturday at 6.45 p.m.

We offer our best wishes to Social Club Member George Sales, who happily is back with us again following a recent spell in hospital after a heart attack.

Don't forget, Supporters, if you have any complaints about anything at all, let us know! It is much better than harbouring a grievance privately, and anyway if we don't know we can't do anything about it. If we do know, we still perhaps can't, but at least you'll feel better to get it off your chest! Let's all be involved together . . .

Dartford, last season's champions, and F.A. Challenge Trophy finalists visit us here on Tuesday for a League match, kick-off 7.30 p.m. This will obviously draw a bumper gate, and if you can get here a bit earlier and not all crowd in from 7.20 onwards it will help us cope better! But the main thing is to turn up and help towards a record Southern League gate. We can safely say the football the 'Stones play is worth watching, and Dartford can play a bit, too. Your encouragement could be a vital factor!

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## Weymouth Pen Pictures

**Barry Smith.** Goalkeeper. Aged 22. Came from Walsall after a spell with Sunderland and Colchester. Played over 40 games for Colchester. When not playing football likes to sketch various Dorset landscapes. Works as store Manager.

**Brian Lawrence.** Full-back. Joined from Bournemouth. In his second season, having played 70 games last season. Can play in either of the full-back positions, and had quite a following of League scouts watching him last season.

**Chris Foote.** Defender and Midfield. A new signing from Cambridge Utd. Quiet man of the team. Played in the Cambridge promotion team, season 1972-73.

**Tony Hobson.** Defender. In his 17th season with the club, is one of the most consistent centre backs in the S.L. Has played over 700 games for Weymouth, and has been the backbone of the team throughout this period.

**Ralph Miller.** Centre Back. Plays alongside Tony Hobson and is the strong man of the team. Never knows when he is beaten, and in his fourth year with the Club. He has a weight room at home, which keeps him in peak condition throughout the year.

**Steve Arnold.** Defender-Midfield. Another new signing, joining from Rochdale after spells with Crewe and Liverpool. At one stage of his career Liverpool paid £15,000 to Crewe for his services.

**Bobby Brown.** Midfield. Arrived at Weymouth via Bristol Rovers, now in his third season. When Bobby is playing well, the whole team functions well, due to his accurate passing.

**Keith Walley.** Midfield-Forward. Another new player who came from Crystal Palace. Played a dozen first team games for Crystal Palace last season. Born in Weymouth and is sure to move on to better things, as he is still only 19.

**Rodney Adams.** Front Runner. In his sixth season with the Club, a very big favourite with the Weymouth fans, and one of the fastest front runners in the S.L. Is known as the team's "quiz king".

**Derek Courtney.** Front runner. A local player, has come up through the youth teams and has scored some incredible goals in vital games, one of them being after 10 seconds against Maidstone last season. Aged 20.

**Brian Owen.** Centre-forward. Joined at the end of last season from Hereford, was part of Hereford's cup team, who also played with them in the S.L. Another of the game's "grafters" who is also a very capable finisher.

**John Brown.** Forward. Joined towards the end of last season, when he was transferred from Yeovil at a bargain price. Very good ball player and also very good in the air.

**Alan Beer.** Forward. A Welshman in his third season with the Club, and top scorer for two seasons. Has also been "Player of the Year". Scorer of over 20 goals last season, could have been more but for a shoulder injury which kept him out of the game for some weeks. Weymouth turned down a double figure fee for the player.

**Graham Williams.** Defender. Player Manager. There is not a lot he has not achieved in football as a player, having represented his country (Wales) during most of his career. Is now hoping to make his mark as a Manager in the game. His whole life is centred round football, and hopes for success with Weymouth to further his career on the management side.



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##### 1974

##### August

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20 Dartford Home  
24 Tonbridge Away  
27 Bury Town (S.L.C.) Home  
31 Margate Home

##### September

4 Bury Town (S.L.C.) Away  
7 Kettering Town Away  
11 Yeovil Town Away  
14 Hampton or Burnham (F.A. Cup) Away  
17 Romford Home  
21 Finchley (F.A. Trophy) Away  
24 Stourbridge Home  
28 Atherstone Town Home

##### October

5 Maidstone United Away  
19 Margate Away  
26 Maidstone United Home

##### November

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9 Telford United Home  
16 Guildford & Dorking Away  
23 Tonbridge Home  
30 Stourbridge Away

##### December

7 Bath City Away  
14 Guildford & Dorking Home  
21 Dover Away  
26 Barnet Away  
28

##### 1975

##### January

1 Wimbledon Home  
4 Chelmsford City Away  
11 Cambridge City Home  
18 Weymouth Away  
25 Grantham Home

##### February

1 Romford Away  
8 Burton Albion Home  
15 Grantham Away  
22 Dover Home

##### March

1 Telford United Away  
8 Kettering Town Home  
15 Atherstone Town Away  
22 Chelmsford City Home  
29 Cambridge City Away  
31 Barnet Home

##### April

1 Wimbledon Away  
5 Dartford Away  
12 Nuneaton Borough Home  
19 Burton Albion Away

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