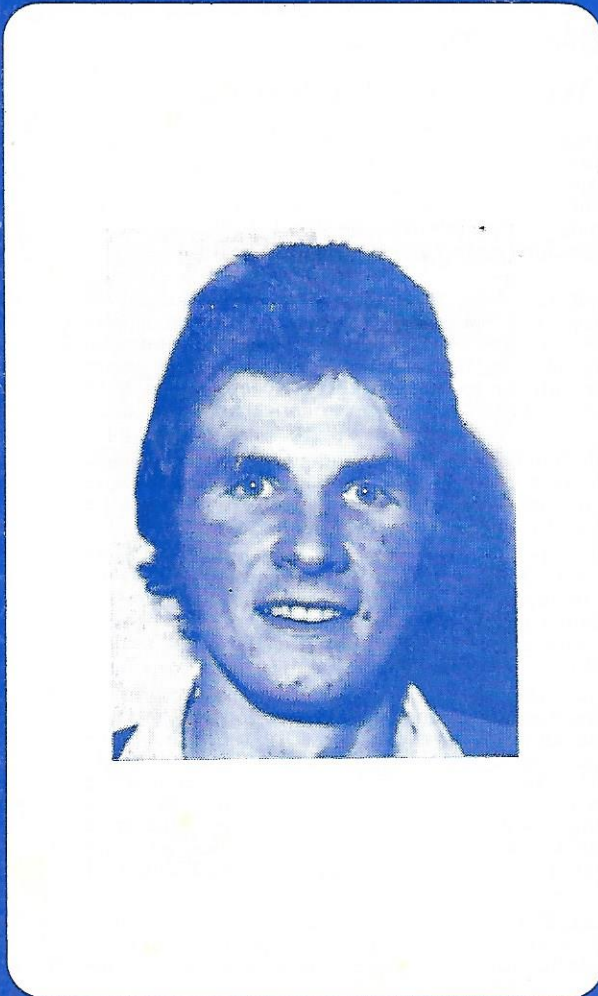


Royal Blue Review



10p



The Official
Programme
of

Wealdstone
Football Club Ltd.

**Lower Mead
Stadium**

Station Road
Harrow Middx
01-427 2840

Winners:

FA Amateur Cup

1965-6

Athenian Lge.

1951-2

Southern Lge.

Div. 1 (South)

1973-4

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To George Duck — Whose Boots Were Meant for Scoring

The lot of a Public Relations Officer is not always a happy one—especially during a season like the one we've just experienced (or last year come to that!)—when good news isn't exactly thick on the ground. But tonight makes a very pleasant exception indeed, for we are here to pay tribute to that fine gentleman of Wealdstone Football Club, and goal scorer extraordinaire—the one and only George Duck.

There can have been few finer men to wear the Royal Blue and White of the 'Stones, both on and off the field, than George Duck. He came to us rather a disillusioned young man, believing that his soccer career was finished. Persuaded by former manager Syd Prosser—himself a man who brought fame and glory to the club with his promotion team a few years back—that he still had many talents to offer, George accepted the bait, and season after season, statistics as far as George is concerned have done the talking.

Top scorer every season he has been with us; holder of the Club's post-war scoring record; how on earth can that be topped? And with those educated feet, and superb headwork, goes a really nice guy who must be a dream for any team manager to handle, and have in his squad.

When Wealdstone lose, George is really hurt, and the hurt shows, as anyone who has had a drink with him after the match knows. His weekend is spoiled, and that kind of loyalty to a club doesn't exactly grow on trees. That, to my mind, is almost as big a contribution to the club's well-being as the deadly finishing which has made him one of the most feared strikers in non-League football.

His conduct on the field has invariably been beyond reproach, and he is not easily given to losing his cool. How many will ever forget the twin striking partnership of George and Bill Byrne in our Div 1 South championship team, and I for one will be a happy man when we produce football of the quality we did that season! When that happens we shall more likely to be championship-chasing rather than relegation-haunted It must have been a daunting sight for a goalkeeper to see this pair bearing down, one with the finesse to accept even a half-chance, and the other with the ability to screen the ball, evade countless tackles and still come forward.

All of us at Lower Mead Stadium, without exception, pay tribute tonight to a true Sportsman in George Duck, whose exploits here have become a legend in his own lifetime. We wish this benefit match the suc-

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cess it deserves, for we shall perhaps never again have an occasion when it is more deserved.

We do appreciate the gesture of Mr. Elton John, chairman of Watford F.C., his fellow directors and the manager in sending our illustrious Football League neighbours to provide such worthy opposition.

George, you have given us a tremendous amount of pleasure week in and week out for a long, long time. On behalf of Wealdstone Football Club, and its Supporters, we are proud to be associated with this benefit match; thank you for giving us such magnificent service, and we look forward to a happy relationship for many seasons to come. GOOD LUCK to you, and your wife, Sue.

COLIN POPE

Facts and Figures

George Duck joined Wealdstone Football Club in the summer of 1972 from Southend United and since arriving at Lower Mead he has made 275 appearances for the 'Stones in league and cup matches plus another 17 appearances in friendlies. During that time George has scored exactly 200 goals for the club (32 of them from the penalty spot) made up of 43 in 1972/73, 62 in 1973/74, 34 in 1974/75, 32 in 1975/76 and 29 this season. Here are some of the personal milestones George has reached during his five years with Wealdstone :—

- 1 Aug 1972 Debut v. Harrow Borough, Friendly, at Earlsmead.
- 2 Sep 1972 First goal in eighth match v. Bideford, Southern League, at Lower Mead.
- 30 Sep 1972 First hat-trick v. Andover, F.A. Trophy, at Andover.
- 7 Aug 1973 First penalty v. Barnet, Friendly, at Lower Mead.
- 21 Aug 1973 Fiftieth goal v. Bletchley, Southern League Cup, at Lower Mead.
- 5 Dec 1973 Four goals (incl. 2 penalties) v. Boston F.C., F.A. Trophy, at Lower Mead.
- 2 Feb 1974 Four goals (incl. 3 penalties) v. Hastings Utd., F.A. Trophy, at Lower Mead.
- 23 Apr 1974 Hundredth goal v. Met. Police, Southern League, at Imber Court.
- 4 May 1974 Sixty-second goal of the season (club record) v. Trowbridge, Southern League, at Lower Mead.
- 18 Oct 1975 One hundred and fiftieth goal v. Dagenham, F.A. Cup, at Lower Mead.
- 2 Oct 1976 Hundredth Southern League goal v. Telford Utd., Southern League, at Lower Mead.
- 27 Nov 1976 Two hundred and fiftieth appearance (all matches excluding friendlies) v. Croydon, F.A. Trophy, at Croydon.
- 26 Mar 1977 Two hundredth goal v. Burton Albion, Southern League, at Lower Mead.

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A Message from George Duck

“Here’s to Another Five”

First and foremost I would like to take this opportunity of saying a big Thank You to the Chairman, Manager and Directors of Wealdstone Football Club for awarding me this benefit match against Watford in recognition of my five years service with the club. My thanks also to Watford Football Club for providing the opposition this evening, and to everybody who has helped, advised, assisted and supported the various fund raising activities.

When I first signed for the club back in 1972 I wasn't quite sure what I'd let myself in for, but the very first night's training changed all that. The atmosphere in the dressing room and the attitude of the players was something else. No prima donnas or gods, just all the lads chatting, having a laugh and a joke, followed by a hard night's training and a quick drink in the bar afterwards, it was great. To me that was the difference between full time and part time football, being happy and contented.

The Manager at that time, Syd Prosser, had a big influence on my development as a player and I would like to thank him sincerely for his help.

I do feel privileged to have played with some great players at Wealdstone and to have also spent so much time in the company of so many wonderful characters. If the next five years are half as good as the last five then there are great times ahead.

One group of people I purposely haven't mentioned as yet are you the supporters. True supporters turn up and watch through the good times and bad times, in good weather and bad weather, and I know from experience that our club has certainly got as good a bunch of true supporters as any club anywhere. The support we get at away matches is fantastic and must be the best in the Southern League. Even at faraway places like Yeovil and Telford on a wet winter's evening it's nice to know that familiar faces are there urging us on. The players don't get much of an opportunity to thank you for your support but we really do appreciate it.

Thanks once again to each and every one of you and Cheers, heres to another five happy years with Wealdstone Football Club.

GEORGE

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George Duck Benefit Match

Friday, 20th May, 1977

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

WEALDSTONE v. WATFORD

WEALDSTONE (Royal Blue & White)	v	WATFORD (Gold Shirts, Black Shorts)
Chris Lightfoot	1	Steve Sherwood
Paul Thomas	2	Trevor How
Alan Fursdon	3	Keith Pritchett
John Downes	4	Dennis Bond
Dave Parratt	5	Guy Bristow
John Watson	6	Alan Garner
Steve Brinkman	7	Bobby Downes
Bobby Moss	8	Roger Joslyn
Billy Byrne	9	Keith Mercer
George Duck	10	Luther Blissett
Micky Griffiths	11	Alan Mayes
Ray Fulton	12	Peter Coffill
Len Prince	13	
Vince O'Kane	14	
John Morton	15	

Referee: Mr. M. Dimbelbee (Stevenage)

Linesmen: Mr. A. R. Titcombe (Greenford) and Mr. P. Clayton (Kenton)
(Red Flag) (Yellow Flag)

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Supporters Club Notes

Good evening all, I hope that tonight's match will be as entertaining as our past encounters with Watford. Did you know Watford Supporters have their own football team and that Wealdstone Supporters team have beaten them in both matches played.

This match tonight is in aid of George Duck's benefit, and to show your appreciation how about buying a chance to win a holiday in Majorca by purchasing a draw ticket, these are on sale in the office as are tickets for the dance to be held on Friday 27th May. I am sure you all hope that George will be fit to resume playing next season.

The trophy for the best supporters in the Southern League has been passed on to Gravesend, they had the most support among our travelling members. Let's hope there will come a time when we can win the shield back again, we certainly didn't deserve it this year due to a small mob who ruined our good name.

We still have not received all the money in for the sponsored walk, it will probably work out in the region of £200 when all is paid in. Don't forget we want articles for the magazine as we hope to publish the first edition in August. We would appreciate all items as soon as possible, send them to my home address if necessary, and a it's under new management time will be required to sort things out.

Now to this evening, get behind the lads, they are doing their bit for George, we can't have the supporters letting him down. Don't forget the draw tickets, also the dance.

BARBARA ROBSON



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SOUTHERN LEAGUE — PREMIER DIVISION (Up to and including Thursday 19th May, 1977)

	Home				Goals		Away			Goals		Pts	Wealdstone Results	
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A		Home	Away
Wimbledon	42	17	3	1	38	10	11	4	6	26	12	63	D 0-0	L 1-5
Minehead	41	13	4	4	37	16	9	8	3	32	20	56	L 1-4	L 1-2
Kettering Town	42	13	6	2	38	20	7	10	4	28	26	56	L 0-3	L 0-2
Bath City	42	12	6	3	27	10	8	9	4	24	20	55	L 0-2	L 0-2
Nuneaton Borough	41	12	4	4	28	12	7	7	7	21	23	49	D 1-1	L 0-2
Bedford Town	42	10	5	6	30	21	7	9	5	24	26	48	L 2-3	L 0-2
Yeovil Town	41	11	7	2	41	17	3	9	9	12	25	44	D 1-1	L 1-3
Dover	41	10	11	0	31	13	3	5	12	15	29	42	W3-1	D 1-1
Grantham	42	11	6	4	38	17	3	6	12	17	33	40	D 1-1	D 1-1
Gravesend & Northfleet	42	9	8	4	19	13	4	5	12	19	30	39	W1-0	W2-1
A.P. Leamington	42	9	7	5	23	16	3	8	10	21	37	39	W7-2	L 0-1
Maidstone United	41	9	8	3	28	17	3	6	12	16	32	38	L 1-2	W2-1
Redditch United	42	7	6	8	26	30	5	8	8	19	24	38	W1-0	D 0-0
Wealdstone	42	8	7	6	36	34	5	5	11	18	32	38		
Hillingdon Borough	42	7	5	9	27	30	7	5	9	18	29	38	D 1-1	L 0-1
Atherstone Town	41	8	7	6	22	18	6	2	12	18	29	37	W4-3	D 1-1
Weymouth	41	11	2	7	26	17	5	3	13	24	52	37	W2-1	L 0-2
Dartford	41	10	4	7	32	22	3	6	11	20	32	36	D 1-1	W1-0
Telford United	42	9	4	8	26	25	2	8	11	10	25	34	W4-2	D 2-2
Chelmsford City	42	5	10	6	34	32	4	3	14	22	36	31	L 2-4	W2-1
Burton Albion	42	8	6	7	27	20	2	4	15	14	32	30	W2-1	L 1-2
Margate	42	4	7	10	21	34	5	3	13	26	51	28	D 1-1	W2-0

Goalscorers :

League—Duck 17 (1 pen), Moss 7, Byrne 6, Parratt 3, Griffiths 3, Fulton 2, Lawrence 2, Watson 2, Brinkman 2 (1 pen), Woolgar 1, Kinnear 1, Light 1, Fursdon 1, Own Goals 6, Total 54.
F.A. Cup—Duck 6 (1 pen.), Byrne 4, Arnold 2.—Total 12.
F.A. Trophy—Duck 2, Byrne 2, Parratt 1, Lawrence 1.—Total 6.
Middx. Senior Cup—Parratt 2, Byrne 2, Joseph 1, Duck 1, Watson 1.—Total 7.
Friendlies—Duck 3, Moss 2, Byrne 2, Edmundson 1, Stagg 1, Griffiths 1, Parratt 1.—Total 11.

(Compiled by Roy Couch)

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