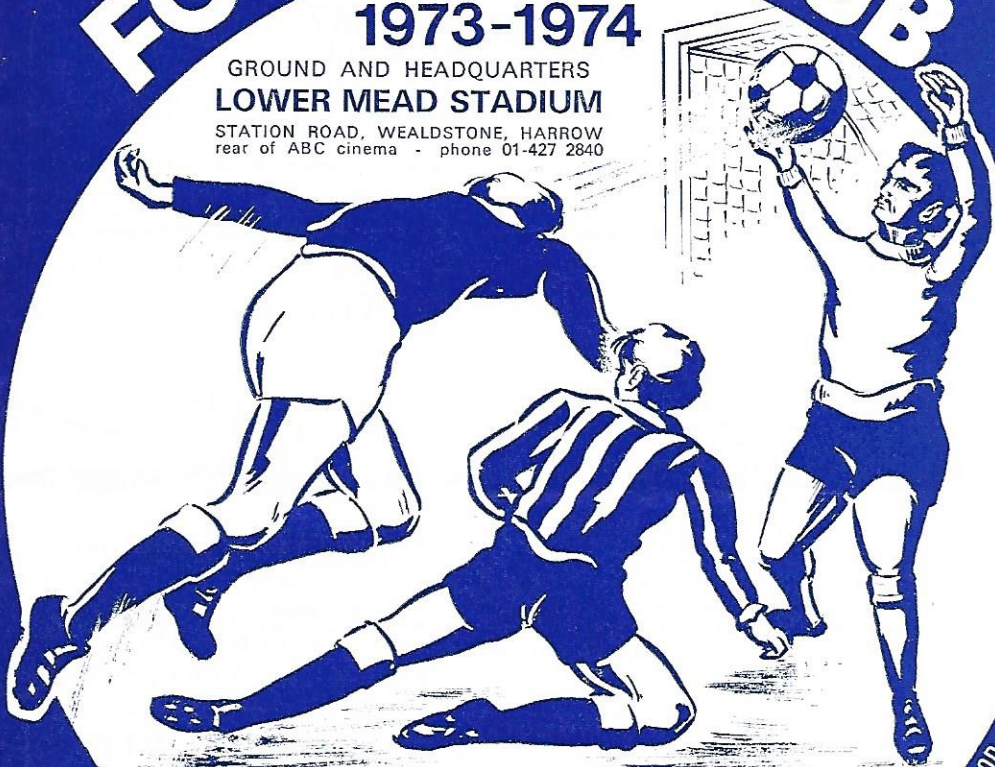


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Southern League

Kick-off 3 p.m.

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OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 5p.

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That was the match to lose !

We came back to earth with a bump on Tuesday when, following our three previous fine victories, we lost the grip we established for most of the first half against Isthmian League side Leytonstone and finally went down 4-2. After playing some delightful football for the first 30 minutes, we gave away a couple of simple goals and then failed to contain the exuberant and hard-running amateurs. But it is true to say that there wasn't exactly an air of gloom in the dressing room afterwards and a friendly is the sort of match we'd rather lose, if it had to be. We fancy some of Tuesday night's mistakes will not be repeated today, for it is surprising what the competitive urge does to the majority of players.

Firstly, though, let us accord a sincere welcome to our Supporters for our first home league game of the 1973/74 season and we sincerely hope that, come next May, you will all be able to look back on it with pride and pleasure. We are honoured to have the presence at today's match of the Mayor and Mayoress of the London Borough of Harrow, Councillor and Mrs. G. Colborne Hill, and we are delighted that our leading citizens are our guests at Lower Mead Stadium.

We could have had a much easier task for our first home league game than our friends from lovely Somerset, for Minehead, in their first season in the Southern League, surprised quite a few people by finishing third, and running hard for promotion for the whole campaign. They will largely be playing the same team which beat us 1-0 at Minehead, and drew 3-3 here last season, except for one important close season capture from Bristol Rovers, Bobby Jones, who has scored a huge number of League goals in his career. The 32-year old utility man has signed a two-year contract with Minehead on a full-time basis, rather unique in Division I (South) football.

During the close season, as many of you know, the Club has undergone important administration changes, and the names of the new Executive Committee, and General Purposes Committee will be found on the inside cover. The Club's annual meeting will be held in the Social Club on Friday, August 31st, at 8 p.m. when news of the formation of the Limited Company will doubtless be available.

Application for the licence for the new licensed bar under the main stand has now been made, and no obstacle is anticipated, in which case

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this added amenity for our Supporters should be in operation by about the middle of September.

We would like to draw your attention to the official Club Handbook which is on sale today, price 10p. We were determined to publish this season's issue on time, and many congratulations have already been received on a splendid publication, packed full of interesting articles, and with the very minimum of advertising. Sales on Tuesday surprised us, and we look for another surprise today!

We hope you like the format of our new programme, with its splendid front cover and, as you will note, with editorial matter on every page, as opposed to the original advertising section. Some advertising space is still available, and anyone interested should contact me. We do hope for increased programme sales this season, which will be of very important help to the Club.

A tribute here would not be out of place to our Printers, J. N. and H. Lock & Co. and to the firm's Principal, life member Mr. Harry Luck, whose expertise and tremendous co-operation enables us to publish one of the best programmes in the Southern League.

COLIN POPE.

In a Few Lines . . .

Earlier match posters gave the admission price for OAPs and Juniors as 15p, the same as last year. The new price of 20p had not been decided when they went to Press, and this sets the record straight. All admission prices had to be increased of course, in accordance with the League ruling on account of V.A.T.

We have had many pleasant comments passed on the excellence of our ground and this is largely due to Bar Manager Chris Ditchburn, who is now also looking after the pitch. Chris is a real enthusiast and we have a feeling he doesn't altogether like the team using the pitch!

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HARROW 18 PLUS

Introducing Wealdstone

Roy McKenzie (Goalkeeper) Signed towards the end of last season from Biggleswade.

John McCormick (Defender) Signed from Crystal Palace, and the 'Stones biggest signing since turning professional. McCormick, 6 feet, played several first division games for the Palace last season and two years ago a bid of £50,000 by Northampton was refused.

Ray Fulton (Defender) 19 years old former apprentice with West Ham, and another new signing. Reads the game brilliantly.

Chris Kinnear (Defender) An amateur on West Ham's books. Excelled last season in his role as sweeper.

John Watson (Defender) Signed at the end of last season. Classy ball player.

Paul Fairclough (Midfield) Retained from last season; has tremendous shooting ability.

John Barnes (Midfield) Another West Ham apprentice on trial. Young talented ball-player.

George Duck (Forward) Top scorer last season with 43 goals—three short of the club record. Signed early last season from Southend. Has tremendous ability in the air.

Bill Byrne (Forward) An amateur, Bill toured Japan this summer with Middlesex Wanderers.

Alick Brown (Forward) Young professional who as an amateur was on Charlton's books. Son of club chairman Mr. Don Brown. Converted last season from midfield to forward.

John Henderson (Forward) A tricky striker, on trial. Was with Bletchley and Bedford last season.

Eddie Presland (Defender) Virtually an ever-present last season. Formerly with West Ham. Gifted ball player.

Chic Brodie (Goalkeeper) Close season signing from Margate, formerly 7 years as Brentford's first choice goalkeeper.

Eric Burgess (Defender) Club captain, joined from Colchester at the start of last season.

Terry Dyson (Midfield) A member of the 'Spurs FA Cup and League winning side, and still crosses the ball with uncanny accuracy. Had a great season for Wealdstone last season, winning the 'Player of the Year' award

Jim Godfrey (Midfield) New signing from Barnet. Also a very useful front runner. On trial.

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French Priest is a Supporter . . .

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen and Wealdstone F.C. Supporters' Club sends its greeting. We estimate that nearly 150 Wealdstone fans saw our 2-1 win at Salisbury last Saturday, and this was tremendous.

A sincere welcome to Minehead's supporters, and as their team won 1-0 at Crawley, they too are in good heart. We wish them, and the team and officials a pleasant stay and safe return home.

If you are not already a Supporters' Club member, or have yet to renew your sub., please do so today, at a modest annual cost of 10p and 5p for OAPs and Juniors. This will also give you insurance against injury sustained on any ground where Wealdstone play, and also covers you when travelling away by official transport.

For our visit to Bexley next Saturday, the coach leaves the car park at 12.40 p.m. and please book with Barbara Robson NOW (or phone 422 0799) by 10 a.m. on Thursday. Don't forget our Club Office sells badges, ties and rosettes.

Incidentally, a keen 'Stones supporter is Monsieur l'abbaye J. Auneau, a French priest from Caen, Normandy, and a constant flow of information is exchanged. It's nice to see Europe coming to Lower Mead Stadium.

Former Wealdstone favourite Eddie Dillsworth has been transferred to Kettering from Chelmsford for a fee of £8,000, reputed to be a Southern League record. Eddie, from Sierra Leone, won an Amateur Cup winner's medal with the 'Stones. Kettering have spent £20,000 on three new players in the last nine months—yet scored only twice in three practice games!

CARL BENJAMIN, Publicity Officer.

Next Match at Lower Mead

We have an important cup match here on Tuesday next (7.30) when Bletchley will be our visitors in the first leg of the Southern League Cup.

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The Floodlight Pylons are dangerous to children, due to high voltage used, and accidents may be caused by climbing them. Spectators are asked to assist the club by not allowing children to indulge in this dangerous practice.

THE CLUB RESERVES THE RIGHT OF ADMISSION

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