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Royal Blue Review



10p

The Official
Programme
of

**Wealdstone
Football Club Ltd**

**Lower Mead
Stadium**

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Winners:

FA Amateur Cup

1965-6

Athenian Lge.

1951-2

Southern Lge.
Div. 1 (South)

1973-4

Thursday, 12th May, 1977

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

Southern League
Premier Division

WEALDSTONE

v.

WIMBLEDON

WEALDSTONE (Royal Blue & White)	v	WIMBLEDON (White)
C. Lightfoot	1	R. Guy
P. Thomas	2	K. Tilley
L. Prince	3	G. Bryant
J. Downes	4	D. Donaldson
D. Parratt	5	W. Edwards
<small>WATSON</small> A. Fursden	6	D. Bassett
<small>Moss</small> M. Griffiths	7	I. Cooke
<small>O'KANE</small> R. Moss	8	G. Aitken
W. Byrne	9	R. Connell
S. Brinkman	10	W. Holmes
<small>GRIFFITHS</small> R. Fulton	11	J. Leslie
<small>FULTON</small> V. O'Kane	12	R. Marlowe

Referee: Mr. A. S. Heselgrave (Maidstone)

Mr. P. F. Brown
(Hemel Hempstead)
(Red Flag)

Linesmen
Mr. D. Kelly
(Hemel Hempstead)
(Yellow Flag)

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J. Palmer, T. Jackson, G. Ayling, S. Sarson,

R. Kemp, A. Barrett, M. Lacey.

Wimbledon Wonders—Welcome!

It is with particular pleasure—and indeed pride—that we sincerely welcome the Directors, Players and Supporters of Wimbledon to Lower Mead Stadium tonight. The Plough Lane outfit have done a magnificent job in keeping the Southern League to the forefront of Non-League football, and we sincerely hope that their unique achievement in winning the Premier Division championship for the third successive year is crowned with the ultimate accolade of election to the Football League next month.

Quite apart from their fantastic league achievements, they have consistently hit the headlines with their F.A. Cup exploits and they surely have earned the right to take their place among the 'big boys'. If, as appears genuinely possible this time, they get the voting support they deserve, we wish them the very best of luck, and will follow their exploits with great interest. Mind you, the Football League's gain would certainly be the Southern League's loss . . .

While Wimbledon are already home and dry with the championship pennant, we ourselves are still fighting for our lives! Because of the time factor, this programme is having to be produced before our visit to Redditch, which was of tremendous importance. However, two more vital points against Gravesend last Saturday—plus the fact that for once results of other matches went our way—took us a giant step forward and we are now within touching distance of 36 points, regarded as a reasonable safety limit. Full marks to Chris Lightfoot, whose two reflex saves on Saturday were among the best on the ground for a long, long time. Nine times out of ten those two headers would have been goals, and those two saves could go down as having kept us in the Premier Division.

We have problems, however, with fitness in our squad, for Alan Fursden, who normally would have been ruled out last Saturday, aggravated his ankle injury and was doubtful at Redditch and again tonight. Alan has been playing in great pain, which perhaps highlights the spirit in the squad. Happily Dave Parratt, who had a stomach upset last Saturday, should be returning tonight. Bill Byrne too, has a painful knock and is playing under handicap.

We always seem to have cracking games against Wimbledon, and tonight isn't, I fancy the write-off a lot of people seem to believe. We usually come good against class football sides, and I know manager Alan Fogarty is quietly confident that we can get the two points we would like tonight to take the pressure of us a little at Chelmsford on Saturday. Mind you, if our visit to Redditch produced a win on Tuesday so much the

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better! It would be nice not having our destiny hinge on Saturday's game, for New Writtle Street has never been a happy hunting ground for us.

As this is our final programme of the season, the Club thanks all you wonderful Supporters for sticking by us through thick and thin and in a season when you've had little to cheer. No wonder nearly all clubs envy us in this direction, and you really are appreciated. We all pray that we can come up with the goods for you next season.

Meanwhile, have a happy summer, enjoy your holidays, and we look forward to seeing you all again in August.

COLIN POPE

Watson Supporters 'Player of Year'

John Watson was unanimously voted the Supporters Club 'Player of the Year' and received the Jock Law Trophy from Mrs. Law before the Gravesend match. An honour well-earned by this fiercely competitive player.

Thanks to Les Scott

Thanks once again to that stalwart supporter Mr. Les Scott for his donation of £30 to buy two match balls. Apart from these frequent generous gestures, Mr. Scott also sells programmes and undertakes stewarding duties.

Wimbledon are Almost There!

Founded in 1889 Wimbledon F.C. enjoyed many successful seasons in amateur football before turning professional and joining the Southern League for the 1964/65 season. The Amateur Cup was won in 1962/63 when they defeated Sutton United 4-2 at Wembley Stadium and in their final season as amateurs Wimbledon carried off the Isthmian League title.

The 'Dons' quickly made their mark in the Southern League finishing runners up to Hereford United in the First Division to gain promotion to the Premier Division at the first attempt. During their twelve seasons in the Premier Division Wimbledon have won the Southern League Cup twice, in 1969/70 and 1975/76, and are about to become League Champions for the third successive season. Their run in to this season's championship has been most remarkable. Following a 1-0 defeat at Nuneaton on January 24th the 'Dons' found themselves placed 11th in the league table but since then they have played 23 league matches, winning 18, drawing

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4 and losing one, at Dartford (1-0). During this run Wimbledon have scored 38 goals and conceded only 8. Maidstone and Bath are the only sides who have managed to score twice against the 'Dons' in league matches, both winning 2-0 in consecutive games last October. This could be Wimbledon's last season in the Southern League as they have applied to join the 4th Division of the Football League, and with no other non league club standing for election at the annual meeting on June 17th, their chances of success must be very high.

This evening we meet Wimbledon for the 18th time, Wealdstone having won 5 times to Wimbledon's 8 with four matches drawn. We have scored 22 goals to our opponents 35. The first of these meetings took place in February 1940 when we won a London Senior Cup tie 4-2 here at Lower Mead. K Baldwin scored three of our goals and the Mayor of Wimbledon was present at the game. The club's also met on two other occasions in the London Senior Cup, in December 1955 when we were beaten 4-1 at Wimbledon and again in May 1962 when we both reached the final. This match, played on a neutral ground, ended 1-1 after extra time so the trophy was held jointly for one season. Other encounters to take place during our amateur days were in the 1947/48 Amateur Cup and 1954/55 F.A. Cup. We won the first of these matches 1-0 with the 'Dons' achieving a 4-2 success in the F.A. Cup tie, both being played at Wimbledon.

Since turning professional we have met each other seven times in matches outside the Premier Division. The 1972/73 Mid-Surrey Floodlight League produced two wins for Wimbledon, 2-1 here and 1-0 at Plough Lane; and in the 1973/74 Southern League Cup 2nd Round the 'Dons' won 3-0 at the fourth attempt at Plough Lane after the sides had fought out 1-1, 2-2 and 3-3 draws. The same season saw us gain our revenge when we returned to their ground to win an F.A. Trophy 1st Round tie 1-0 with an Eddie Presland goal.

In the Premier Division the encounter with our visitors from South London that has given us most pleasure was our 2-1 victory at Plough Lane in April 1975 in which we completed the league double over the champions. Mick Mahon gave the home side the lead from the penalty spot after 22 minutes but Bobby Moss put us level before half time. A goal

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by George Duck in the 61st minute proved to be the winner over the team who only a few weeks before were making all the headlines with their F.A. Cup battles against Burnley and Leeds United.

After what was probably our worst display this season when we were soundly thrashed 5-1 at Wimbledon last September, we hope this evening to maintain our recent improved form (only one defeat in our last 11 home league games) by denying the 'Dons' their eighth league double of the season.

Previous League Results to date:—

Southern League Premier Division			Summary of League Encounters							
Season	Home	Away		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1974/75	1-0	2-1	Home	2	1	0	1	1	2	2
1975/76	0-2	1-4	Away	3	1	0	2	4	10	2
1976/77	Today	1-5								
(Wealdstone's score given first)			Total	5	2	0	3	5	12	4

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Supporters Club Notes

Good evening all, here we are at the last league match for this season, at the time of writing these notes it seems as though we will just avoid relegation, at least this year we have done it by our own endeavour. Let us congratulate tonight's opponents on winning the league and hope they achieve their ambition of attaining football league status. We still have a match on Saturday at Chelmsford anyone wishin to travel should book now as there are only a few seats left. Don't forget the two matches for George Duck's benefit, Sunday 15th and Friday 20th. I also have tickets for a benefit dance price £1.50, come along and meet the players, George also has draw tickets for sale, they are also being sold in the supporters office.

To you lads who have gone out of your way to create trouble this season, please grow up during the summer months, every club needs good support, but your type are a liability not an asset, get out of your nappies and help the club not hinder it. To the travelling supporters I would say thank you for your loyal support and help, the coach drivers reckon you are some of the best time keepers they've met. And to all our supporters keep the flag flying it's only about 12 weeks to next season, can't be bad can it.

On your behalf I would like to thank the players for their fight to avoid relegation, let's hope next season we are fighting to be champions.

BARBARA ROBSON (Hon. Secretary)



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SOUTHERN LEAGUE — PREMIER DIVISION (Up to and including Tuesday, 10th May, 1977)

	Home			Goals			Away			Goals			Pts	Wealdstone Results	
	P	W	D	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Home	Away			
Wimbledon	40	17	3	1	38	10	10	3	6	23	12	60			L 1-5
Kettering Town	39	13	6	2	38	20	7	8	3	24	18	54	L 0-3		L 0-2
Bath City	41	11	6	3	24	9	8	9	4	24	20	53	L 0-2		L 0-2
Minehead	39	13	4	4	37	16	7	8	3	28	20	52	L 1-4		L 1-2
Bedford Town	41	9	5	6	26	20	7	9	5	24	26	46	L 2-3		L 0-2
Nuneaton Borough	38	11	4	4	27	12	6	7	6	18	20	45	D 1-1		L 0-2
Dover	39	10	11	0	31	13	3	5	10	13	24	42	W3-1		D 1-1
Yeovil Town	39	9	7	2	33	14	3	9	9	12	25	40	D 1-1		L 1-3
Grantham	42	11	6	4	38	17	3	6	12	17	33	40	D 1-1		D 1-1
Gravesend & Northfleet	41	9	8	4	19	13	4	5	11	18	28	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
Redditch United	40	7	6	6	26	24	5	8	8	19	24	38	W1-0		D 0-0
Hillingdon Borough	41	7	4	9	26	29	7	5	9	18	29	37	D 1-1		L 0-1
Atherstone Town	39	7	7	6	18	15	6	2	11	17	27	35	W4-3		D 1-1
WEALDSTONE	40	8	6	6	36	34	4	5	11	16	31	35			
Dartford	39	9	4	7	30	21	3	6	10	17	28	34	D 1-1		W1-0
Telford United	41	9	4	7	26	24	2	8	11	10	25	34	W4-2		D 2-2
Weymouth	38	9	2	7	21	15	5	3	12	24	51	33	W2-1		L 0-2
Maidstone United	38	7	8	3	23	14	2	6	12	15	32	32	L 1-2		W2-1
Chelmsford City	39	5	9	5	31	28	4	3	13	21	33	30	L 2-4		
Burton Albion	38	7	6	5	26	18	2	4	14	12	29	28	W2-1		L 1-2
Margate	40	4	7	10	21	34	5	3	11	25	46	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 4.—Total 52.

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, Staggs 1, Griffiths 1, Parratt 1.—Total 11.

(Compiled by Roy Couch)

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