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# Wealdstone Football Club

FOUNDED 1900

## Official Handbook 1962-63.

### President :

H. H. HARRISON.

### Chairman :

H. A. LUCK.

### Deputy Chairman :

J. ROGERS.

### Vice-Chairman :

F. W. HARBUD.

### Hon. Secretary :

K. E. WILTSHIRE,

8, Imperial Way, Kenton, Harrow, Middx.

Telephone : Wordsworth 4782.

### Hon. Assistant Secretary :

M. EMERSON.

### Hon. Ground Secretary :

R. D. GUILDFORD.

### Hon. Press Secretary :

J. RYAN.

### Hon. Social Secretary :

E. J. BRYANT.

### First Team Hon. Secretary :

J. H. PYERS, Snr.

### Res. Team Hon. Secretary :

R. KELLY.

### "A" Team Hon. Secretary :

J. PYERS, Jnr.

### Colts' Hon. Secretary :

M. EMERSON.

### Committee :

F. Amor, R. Batty, H. J. H. Finney, B. G. Henderson, J. Holt,  
G. F. Reason, W. Roberts, C. B. Voice, T. Waite, W. C. Waterlow,  
D. Wiltshire, H. J. Wright.

### Hon. Trainers :

F. WELCH, E. PITT,  
E. STACEY.

### Hon. Coaches :

V. BURGESS, E. T. FRANCIS.

### Ground :

Lower Mead, Station Road, Wealdstone (Tel : HARrow 2840).

Dressing Room : On Ground.

### Colours :

Royal Blue and White Shirts ; Blue Stockings with White Tops.

Supporters' Club (Tel. Harrow 2408).

**IN REMEMBRANCE OF OUR LATE HON.  
SECRETARY, W. G. LEADBETTER.**

by

**K. E. WILTSHIRE, HON. SECRETARY OF THE CLUB.**

This past season will go down in the history of the Club as a tragic one. For it was with deep regret that we heard the news that our Hon. Secretary and Life Member, Bill Leadbetter, passed away in his sleep whilst abroad in Peru on business.

"Bill" as he was so affectionately called will be missed not only by this Club; its committee and its members; but by the football administration world in general. He was the Commercial Manager for George Wimpey & Co. Ltd., Chairman of its Pension Fund and Director of many of their subsidiary companies.

In spite of these many commitments he found time to serve as our Secretary and our Social Club Secretary. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the many, many Clubs and Associations for their letters of sympathy and condolence in respect of this tragic loss. We should like also to convey to Mrs. Leadbetter and their son, John, our deepest and sincere sympathy at their very great loss.

"Bill" will be sadly missed by us all.

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**HIGH-LIGHTS ON SECRETARY'S REPORT,  
1961-62 SEASON.**

by

**K. E. WILTSHIRE, HON. SECRETARY OF THE CLUB.**

**Playing Record**

Season 1961-62 can be looked upon as a satisfactory one as far as the First Team is concerned, for although unable, once again, to get through the first round proper of the Amateur Cup, we were able to finish third in the league table. We are also joint holders of the London Senior Cup (the honour being shared with the Isthmian League side Wimbledon), Finalists in the Middlesex Senior Cup and Semi-Finalists in the Middlesex Charity Cup.

Our floodlight friendlies during the past season have shown that the team is quite capable of giving a good account of itself against the professional sides—bearing in mind the Watford game on the night of February 14th.

The second eleven were not able to achieve any great honours, however, mainly due to the heavy burden placed upon it by the first team, due to injuries and the unfortunate skin complaint that swept through the team. Nevertheless its players when called upon to play in the senior eleven did credit to the side.

This season the "A" team were more or less in the same position as the Reserves; drained of their best players who were assisting the second eleven they were unable to bring home any trophies or



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honours. They did however, have the following players honoured by being selected to play for the Harrow and Wembley District Football League : Messrs. B. Cashen (goalkeeper) ; R. Pottle (right-half) ; M. Marks (left-half) and P. Pattwell (inside-left). All these players played in the Reserves in the latter end of the season.

Under the guidance of their Secretary, come coach, come trainer, and ably assisted by his wife, Mrs. Emerson, the "Colts" did once again have a fairly good season. They have added yet another "Trophy", the Harrow Youth League Championship, to the already long list of trophies and honours achieved by this side. They also finished up finalists in the Middlesex Youth Cup, being the first team in this area to have reached the final.

### Players Honoured.

During the season the following players were honoured :

- C. Townsend—England, Middlesex, and London F.A., the F.A., Middlesex Wanderers, Athenian League, A.F.A. XI.
- G. Mowle—Middlesex F.A.
- R. Good—Middlesex F.A.
- J. Low—Middlesex Junior F.A.
- A. Knox—Middlesex F.A., Athenian League.
- A. Peel—Middlesex F.A., Athenian League, A.F.A. XI.
- J. Moran—A.F.A. XI.
- V. Evans—Welsh Trialist, Athenian League.
- G. Davies—Welsh International.
- M. Farrell—Athenian League.
- L. Illsley—Middlesex Junior.
- J. Hall—Middlesex Junior.
- J. Morley—Middlesex Junior.

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### Coaching

The coaching has been in the hands of Vince Burgess, ably assisted by Edgar Francis. Both have been retained for season 1962-63 and it is hoped that in their capable hands we will at last achieve the ultimate goal of any Senior Amateur Football Club—namely the Amateur Cup, or at least, if we are unable to achieve that, a good run in the F.A. Cup.

### Social Club.

The object of the Lower Mead Social Club is to do everything in its power to assist, to promote and extend the interests, welfare and social amenities of the Wealdstone Football Club and this it has well and truly done this year once again. Our warm thanks are due to the Entertainments Sub-Committee who have worked hard to make the regular week-end dances and the additional Carnival Dances and Cabarets so pleasurable. The membership is steadily growing due to their efforts and it is interesting to note how wide an area it covers. In addition to the local members, they come from several parts of London, Edgware, Mill Hill, Bushey and Oxhey, Watford, Hemel Hempstead, Abbots Langley, Barnet and Maidenhead. It is also gratifying to see the players supporting our Social events regularly.

The activities include Whist Drives (Tuesdays), Bingo by the Supporters' Club on Wednesdays, Old Time Dances (alternate Thursdays), Darts matches and socials (Mondays and Fridays). We trust that more and more members will become interested and come along to support these activities.

We must not forget the Staff who attend to us at the functions, especially the ladies of the kitchen who prepare, cook, and serve the meals for both teams after the match and during the football season. They have cooked and served over 2,000 hot meals during the 1961-62 season as well as prepared sandwiches and snacks for various social and football receptions, etc. A vote of thanks must strongly go to Mr. Eric Bryant who puts in a lot of hard work in organising the meals, the bar, and the finances of the Social Club.

### Supporters' Club.

Season 1961-62 saw another milestone laid in the progress of the Football Club. The floodlights were switched on for the first time—unfortunately under appalling weather conditions—on January 23rd, v Wycombe Wanderers in the A.F.A. Cup. The installation of the lights was only made possible by the hard work and enthusiasm of our Supporters' Committee. The Club is greatly indebted to its Supporters' Club for this wonderful achievement. The cost of the project has been entirely borne by the Supporters' Club, who still require all the help that they can possibly get in order to meet the heavy financial commitments that they have placed upon themselves in order that the lights should be installed.



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#### Tour.

At Whitsun a party of 25 players and officials travelled to Amsterdam and played two games. Once again we returned from the Continent undefeated.

The teams played and results are as follows:—

- v. Den Helder (second in the Senior Amateur League of Holland).  
Won 4-1.
- v. Purmerend (first in the Senior Amateur League of Holland).  
Drew 2-2.

In spite of the heavy play by the Dutch teams our players in the best tradition of the club—as experienced over the past season—played in a sportsmanlike manner, to achieve great praise from the Dutch spectators.

#### Sportsman of the Year.

The Committee has decided that the trophy that in previous years has been awarded to the sportsman of the year, shall be re-named "The Leadbetter Sportsman of the Year Trophy". This year it has given us much pleasure to present it to Viv Evans. We feel sure that the members will agree with this decision.

#### Life Membership.

The Committee has great pleasure in recommending that "Life Membership" be conferred on Mr. Jack Holt the Hon. Ground Secretary and Mr. Bert Finney the retiring Hon. Treasurer.

Mr. Holt has been Ground Hon. Secretary for well over ten years and it has been due to hard work and enthusiasm on his part, that has given this club one of the best playing surfaces in the Amateur Football world. As chairman of last season's selection committee he has played his part in giving us a successful season.

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#### Next Season.

Mr. Finney has been our Hon. Treasurer now for twelve years and as stated in previous remarks on finance has carried out the arduous office of Hon. Treasurer more than satisfactorily.

The Committee has decided to recommend, with regret, that the membership subscription for next season shall be increased to coincide with the increases in admission charges that took place during January last season.

In order to raise funds for the club the Committee is having a big drive with its "Tote" scheme this coming season and would appreciate more help in selling the tickets. Sub-agents are needed urgently. The Club will meet all satisfactory expenses.

Floodlight matches. Next season we have entered a floodlight competition of which we are founder members. The competition will be known as "The Mithras Floodlight Cup Competition". The following seven clubs with lights in being or installation commenced agreed to form such a competition—Barking, Barnet, Enfield, Finchley, Maidenhead, Oxford City, Wealdstone. These clubs then agreed to include in the competition for 1962-63 Hendon, Hemel Hempstead Town and Hitchin Town on the understanding that these clubs would install lights during next season but until their lights are ready their home games to be played on opponents' grounds. The ten clubs then agreed that Clapton, Dulwich Hamlet and Ilford would have the opportunity of joining providing they apply before 21st June.

At the time of writing this report most of last season's recognised first team players have re-signed and we are also receiving many applications from other players for trials.

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### Presentation.

A presentation was made at the Annual Dinner (held at the Rest Hotel on June 6th) to our Hon. Reserve Team Secretary, Mr. Richard Kelly, of a Transistor Radio, in recognition of the splendid work carried out by him in the installation of the floodlights. Dick could be seen—at times until the early hours of the morning—up one of the pylons completing the final wiring up. The Committee would therefore like to thank him most sincerely for his tremendous efforts.

### Acknowledgments.

The Committee would like to thank the following :—

The Supporters' Club and the ladies for organising refreshments on match days and training nights.

The Supporters' Club for the hard work put in to enable the floodlights to be installed.

The "Tote" Sub-committee and their Agents.

The Entertainments Sub-Committee.

The St. John's Ambulance Corps.

The Stewards.

Dr. Wolmuth for his help during the season.

The Matron and Staff of the Harrow Hospital.

The Police for their help in many ways.

Mr. Lemmings, retiring Asst. Treasurer after twenty years service on the Committee.

The Local Press.

Messrs. J. Hobbs and W. Wiltshire for their help on the gates.

For all those who helped in the installation of the floodlights.

Mrs. Emerson for again looking after the "Colts" and their kit.

To all those who in some way helped the Club during the past season.

Lastly and by no means least, to all our members and supporters who attended the matches.

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### "THE CLOSED SEASON"

by

K. E. WILTSHIRE, HON. SECRETARY.

When the Referee has blown his whistle for the last time to end yet another season, the spectators and players can get away from it all for a few weeks. They can find time to relax ; time to enjoy that other national sport of ours—you know the one that depends on the sun so much—or even find the time and the patience to enjoy standing in a queue on one of our many good coastal roads.

However, this is not possible for the officials and members of both the main football club or its supporters' club. To them the "Closed Season" means the beginning of the next, for it is during this "break from it all" that they are to be found preparing for the August kick-off.

The Treasurer must prepare for the Annual General Meeting and keep a watchful eye on the expenditure during the time that renovations and repairs are in progress, for it is at this period that he must keep a tight grip on the reins in order that his Committee are not too extravagant and overspend.

The Club Secretary is to be found preparing the Annual Report to be presented at the Annual General Meeting, attending meetings for this and that Cup or League Competition, some of them involving

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a considerable amount of travel, e.g. to Cambridge for the East Anglian Cup and various other special meetings that require the Club to send its representative, in order to arrange fixtures, etc. Besides the large amount of correspondence that requires attention, there is the legal side of the administration such as the completion of the various insurances ; the registration of the Club to all the competitions that it plays in ; the registration of the players ; the hiring of grounds for the junior teams and innumerable other items that would take a page in itself.

Throughout the "Closed Season", the Social and Entertainments Sub-Committee must "reap the harvest" from its bars and social functions to enable the financial position to show a healthy balance at the beginning of the next season.

Whilst all the clerical and administration work is being carried out, one must not forget the Ground Secretary, his Groundsmen and the hosts of Supporters' Committee who are to be found at this time of the year doing all the manual work around the ground. You will see them any evening and at week-ends either mixing cement, laying bricks or painting the floodlight pylons and stands, etc.

Lastly and by no means least, after they have had their well-deserved rest, the players, under their Coach and Trainers, are to be found hard "at it" training so as to give you your entertainment during the "football season".

Hope you all enjoyed your "Closed Season" sitting in cars, watching that very slow game—you know that other national game of ours—or even sitting at home just doing nothing. If you did not enjoy it why not come along next "Closed Season" and enjoy being out in the fresh air at your local football ground and give a hand.

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## “SOCCER CHATTER”

by  
**VIN BURGESS.**

Another football season is well under way and as always arguments rage furiously. The present time gives the football enthusiast ample topics for discussions, with the recent World Cup series fresh in our minds and Walter Winterbottom's resignation from the F.A. The Football Association wisely making two separate posts instead of the combined Team Manager/Director of Coaching post held by Mr. Winterbottom.

To the followers and supporters of English football once again the World Cup series was bitterly disappointing. People keep on saying, "We still have the best footballers in the world". However we still fail at top world level competition. Many reasons have been given for this, changes in environment, ground conditions and food are often put forward for our players' seemingly sub-par performances. First and foremost we must ask ourselves honestly, do we have the best footballers in the world? Possibly we have the finest raw material in the world. I think the answer lies in the lack of facilities to develop our raw material.

Are we now seeing the light? The apprentice professionals who can be re-installed as amateurs if and when they fail to make the grade. Why not go a step further—Soccer Schools. Obviously there are many snags—but then we expect them. Let us think along these lines, that every large city and town had a football school, where boys from 11-16 years of age did their academic work in the morning and during the afternoon session had football coaching, skills, practice and training by fully qualified coaches. Then

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at sixteen the boys fitted could progress to the apprentice professional stage. You may well ask how would the boys be selected for such a school? Well let's have something along the lines of the English Schools F.A. Proficiency Test for boys, taken during their last year at Primary School, which incidentally is proving a good incentive and helping to raise the standard in schools' football. Bad habits are formed during the early days and sometimes cannot be rectified—surely the age to rectify these faults is earlier than 17. Obviously there would be many problems and criticisms levelled at the above idea. People would say the boys would be over-coached and lose some of their natural ability—well that would be the fault of the coach, not the system. It would need full co-operation from the F.A., Ministry of Education, Football League, and the Schools' F.A.

We know the F.A. send coaches to visit schools—but six coaching sessions are only like a ripple in the ocean. After all, we have technical colleges and schools for aspiring engineers!

## **TOUR OF AMSTERDAM (HOLLAND)**

**JOHN RYAN.**

A party of 21 players and officials left Lower Mead on Whit Saturday, at 8 a.m. and made their way by coach and train to Harwich; then by boat to the Hook.

Once aboard Bill Fowler suggested and persuaded everyone to follow him and George Mowle to the bar for the usual buying of duty-free cigarettes, and Roger getting something for his mum.

On arrival at the Hook after a count up, one was found to be missing. After about half-an-hour he was found in the smallest room on board asleep.

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Our first game against Dendelder we won 4-1, about twenty miles from our Headquarters. Tour of the Dutch Fleet, a first-class game, and the usual hospitality afterwards. Our old friend from Maidenhead, Jimmy Price, acted as honorary coach for this game.

Our second game against Permirund (drawn 2-2) was a very close one, with the travelling, heat, etc. telling on our boys. We earned a well deserved draw.

#### TIMES WE SHALL REMEMBER.

George Mowle mixing one of his unusual drinks, after shave lotion, and Ben Trueman, Ken Merry and Mike Gilhooly, having a different brand of milk delivered, visits to Billy's place, Charlie Townsend trying his strength with a hand-cart, Vic Evans acting as courier in Canal Street, Jimmy Pyers and Fred Walsh, our Trainer, going to bed early in case they missed the K.O., collection on the coach for the driver, Viv, Ken, Mike, Charlie and Bill all getting their hand in and acting as Harbour Masters on the pier.

Once again our lads gave all they had and the brand of football served up was of a high standard. The name of Wealdstone ranks high in Holland. Well done.

K. Wiltshire, Hon. Sec., J. Ryan, Hon. Press Sec., J. Pyers, Team Sec., B. Henderson, Committee, R. Batty, H. Waterlow, Committee, F. Welsh, Trainer.

Players: W. Fowler, M. Cilhooley, G. Mowle, R. Good, C. Townsend, M. Emmerson, J. Hall, A. Young, T. Knox, G. Knox, J. Moran, K. Merry, V. Evans.

Supporters: G. Harrison, M. Bryant, J. Salvat, N. Ritchens R. Barrett

Thank you all for making this tour a big success.

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### **PEN PICTURES OF "THE BOYS IN BLUE".**

**BILL FOWLER** (Goalkeeper). Born at Hemel Hempstead in 1937. His hobby is football. Previous Club, Hemel Hempstead, whom he joined when only 15 years of age. Played for a German team (Borgentreich) whilst serving in the R.A.F. He is an inspector at an engineering firm. Married, has one child.

**JOHN LOW** (Right-back). Joined the Club in 1956. Played for Watford Juniors with C. Townsend before coming to Wealdstone. Honours : Selected for Middx. Juniors. Outstanding Performances : Chelsea, Millwall and West Ham matches.

**ROGER GOOD** (Left-back). Joined the Club from Tooting the season before last. Married. Has played for the London F.A., Football Association XI, Middlesex F.A., Isthmian League and Surrey F.A.

**CHARLIE TOWNSEND** (Right-half). Club Captain. Born in Wealdstone in 1938. Charlie, like John Low, joined us from Watford Juniors. England International. Has also played for Middx. F.A., London F.A., Middx. Wanderers, and was in the team that won the Army Championships in 1959-60 season. He is a carpenter by trade and is single.

**RON KING** (Centre-half). Born at Twickenham in 1934. His hobbies are cricket and football (has the reputation of being a good bowler). A silk screen printer by trade. Married, has one child.

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**DAVE RICHARDS** (Left-half). Born in Aberystwyth. Joined us from Kingstonians this season. Honours: Welsh Trialist, London F.A., Surrey and Middx. F.A. Greatest thrill since joining the Club, the Chelsea and West Ham games. At the time of writing his wife has presented him with a girl. Has a reputation of being a first-class cabaret entertainer.

**ARTHUR PEEL** (Outside-right). Joined us from Worthing. Single. A school teacher by profession. Born in north-east England. Teaching at present at Kenton. Honours: International Cap, has also played for Middx., Lancs. and Sussex F.A.'s.

**HUGH LINDSAY** (Inside-forward). Returned to the Club from Kingstonians. Local boy, played in the Reserves along with C. Townsend and Jimmy Valentine. All three have now become International players. School teacher by profession. Single, but engaged. Honours: England, Middx., London, Middx. Wanderers, Surrey F.A.

**KEN MERRY** (Centre-forward or Wing-half). Joined Wealdstone from Southall. Married. At the time of writing his wife presented him with his second child—same day as Dave Richards. Honours: Middx. F.A., Corinthian League, Athenian League.

**TONY KNOX** (Inside-forward or Wing-half). School teacher by profession at Greenford. Single. Born in the north of England. Joined us from Tooting. Honours: Isthmian and Athenian Leagues, Middx., London and Durham F.A.'s, Football Association.

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**VIV. EVANS** (Outside-left). Present holder of the Leadbetter Trophy awarded to the Sportsman of the year. Joined the Club from Kingsbury Town in 1953. Employed at Kodak Works, he is married and is living at Kingsbury. Honours: Middx. Wanderers, Welsh Trialist, Athenian League, Middx. F.A.

**MIKE GILHOOLEY** (Goalkeeper). Joined this year from West Auckland. Born in Stockton. Draughtsman by profession. Toured with us in Holland. Is now living locally. Single.

**GEORGE MOWLE** (Right-back). A family man with a boy and girl who can always be seen watching their father from the stand. George came to us from Barnet. His hobby is home decorating and he is a cocktail barman by trade.

**PHIL WEST** (Centre-forward). Born in Isleworth. Joined Wealdstone this season. Previous Club, Hayes.

**CLIVE JONES** (Inside-forward). Joined the Club from Enfield. Stationed at Stanmore in R.A.F. Got married recently.

**BILLY SMITH** (Inside-forward or Centre). Joined us from Hendon this season, having played in their first team last season.

**FRED WELCH** (Trainer). Played for Club in 1926. Took over Trainer's job from Billy Williams in 1956. Also Trainer for the Amateur Boxing Board of Control. Father of Elaine Welch. Husband, Len Armstrong and herself have just won the World and European Dancing Championships.

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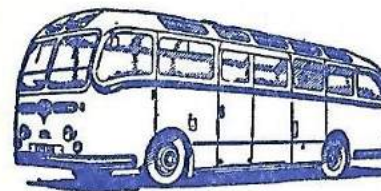
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