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WEALDSTONE



# HANDBOOK

1967-8

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---

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## INTRODUCTION from the PRESIDENT

Season 1967-68 is due to start in a few weeks and we approach the campaign with confidence and optimism. The great achievement of winning the F.A. Amateur Cup in 1965/66 was followed by a very disappointing season and we have now got to climb back to the top.

The Players, the Coach and Training Staff, the Committee, the Members and the Supporters, will all have to play their part remembering that success can only come through united effort.

Much has been done for the comfort and convenience of everyone. The new stand and the new Car Parks have both been completed and other improvements made and these will be followed by greater improvements as soon as these can be financed.

So as we move into the new Season may I wish the Players and Coach the best of luck and to the Members and Supporters may you witness some good games with plenty of excitement and finally a word of appreciation to Jim Brigden, Chairman of the Supporter's Club who has again been chiefly responsible for the production of this book.

H. A. LUCK, President.

### FRONT COVER PICTURE

Bernie Bremer leaps joyfully after pushing home Wealdstone's second goal at Wembley.

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# AMATEUR CUP STORY

by Jim Bridgen

April 16th, 1966, the day when history was made at Lower Mead. April 16th, the day a dream came true. April 16th the day Wealdstone won the coveted Amateur Cup for the first time, in the 66th year of the Club's existence. Truly a day to remember.

It all began on the first day of 1966 when we met Hitchin Town in the first round of the Amateur Cup here at Lower Mead. We were a goal down at half-time but goals by Lindsay 2, Bremer and Cooley gave us a pass into the next round and another home match versus the Northern side Tow Law Town. It was a tough game but Lindsay and Wortley found the net to give us a 2-1 victory. February 12th and a third round trip across London to Barking and a fairly comfortable win by three goals to one. The scorers Childs 2 and Townsend. March 5th and another home game in the 4th round with Leatherhead as our opponents and by now everyone talking of the possibility of getting to Wembley. This seemed remote when at half-time we were again one goal down. However the team took a grip on the game, the Wealdstone choir found its voice, Charlie Townsend scored the equaliser and our Jim the winning goal almost on time.

Now to the 19th March and the Semi-Final at Stamford Bridge, with the chance of revenge over our country cousins Alvechurch, who had knocked us out of the cup the previous season. This was the first time that Wealdstone had reached the Semi-Final stage and everyone new that it was now or never. A bit of gamesmanship by Arthur Paisley in goal, a penalty pushed round the post, a goal by Brian Allen that went just inside the far post and we were there.

To some, the game at the Bridge was more exciting, more emotional, more dramatic than the Final at Wembley. For me yes, that dream had come true, we had got to Wembley. That we would win the Cup neither players, officials or supporters had any doubts whatsoever.

We had four weeks to wait for the Final before meeting our near neighbours and old rivals, Hendon. Miserable weeks they were weather-wise. Heavy snow fell a couple of days before and with heavy rain overnight the pitch was very wet and a drying machine was used on the morning of the match.

With the blue and white of Wealdstone predominant in the 45,000 crowd and to the roar of their supporters the 'Stones' went into the attack from the kick-off. The move was stopped with Lindsay being fouled by Cantwell. Bremer made ground on the left before slipping the ball to Lindsay whose shot was blocked by Sleap. Alas after only five minutes play a centre by Hyde was scrambled away only for Geoff Riddy to hit the ball hard through the crowded goalmouth into the net to give Hendon the lead. One down and against the run of the play. A knock-out blow thought some, but the 'Stones' picked themselves up and went all out for the equaliser.

Hendon fell back on defence to try and stem the Wealdstone onslaught for the order was attack, attack, attack. This Wealdstone did with Townsend and Lindsay making the openings. After 40 minutes play Jim Cooley moving on the left wing pushed the ball to Bobby Childs who shot on the turn from the edge of the penalty box. Swannell in the Hendon goal appeared slow to go down for the ball rolled under his diving body into the net to give Wealdstone the equaliser.

Page Four



John Ashworth and the lads with the Amateur Cup after the victory. L. to R. Childs, Lindsay, Dillsworth, Sedgley, Cooley, Townsend, Goymier, Allen, Doyle and Bremer.

Page Five





**John Ashworth and the lads with the Amateur Cup after the victory. L. to R. Childs, Lindsay, Dillsworth, Sedgley, Cooley, Townsend, Goymer, Allen, Doyle and Bremer.**



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### (AMATEUR CUP—Continued)

Just before half-time Goymer gave Wealdstone supporters heart failure by dropping the ball but retrieved the situation by scooping the ball from the goal line. Half Time, Wealdstone 1 — Hendon 1.

The second half saw Wealdstone moving once again into the attack getting three corners in as many minutes but being unable to take advantage of any of them. Townsend and Lindsay were now dominating the game and had taken complete midfield control. Hughie Lindsay was taking a bit of buffeting but, displaying guts and superb soccer skill showed his colleagues that no match is lost until the final whistle. Hendon at this stage were being played into the ground. The 'Stones' were swinging the ball about in complete contrast to Hendon's close passing. But for some magnificent saves by Swannell Wealdstone would have taken the lead. The 'Stones' did get the ball in the net after 70 minutes. Lindsay centred for Childs to head on to Allen who netted from close in. The ref had no hesitation in giving offside.

With ever-increasing cheers from their supporters and to the chant of Wealdstone—Wealdstone—the goal we had all waited for had to come. In the 87th minute and from Wealdstone's 16th corner this time taken by Townsend, the ball went to the head of Jim Cooley who nodded it down for Bernie Bremer to tap it into the net to put the 'Stones' in front.

A last gasp move by Hendon broken up by the resolute Wealdstone defence and we were into injury time. Another of Hughie Lindsay's pile drivers was charged down by Swannell only for Bobby Childs to pounce on the ball and bang it home for Wealdstone's third and final goal. Time for a few more chants of WEALDSTONE—WEALDSTONE—WEALDSTONE and the referee—Mr. N. C. H. Burtenshaw blew up for time. Wealdstone had won the Amateur Cup.

A magnificent game acclaimed by many as the best Amateur Cup Final ever. To fight back and win after being one goal down was no mean achievement. Wealdstone won by brilliant open football and with every man playing his part.

Congratulations to the Lads, to the reserves who played in earlier rounds, to the Coach Vin Burgess and to all supporters who helped to make this a day to remember.

### FROM THE EDITOR

I extend my sincere thanks to the advertisers, to the contributors and to the printer. May this handbook be of interest to Wealdstone supporters, to fellow Isthmians and to those into whose hands it might fall. Good Luck, Good Football,

See you at Wembley.

JIM BRIGDEN.





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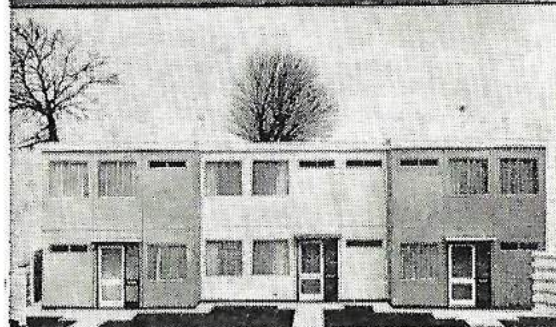
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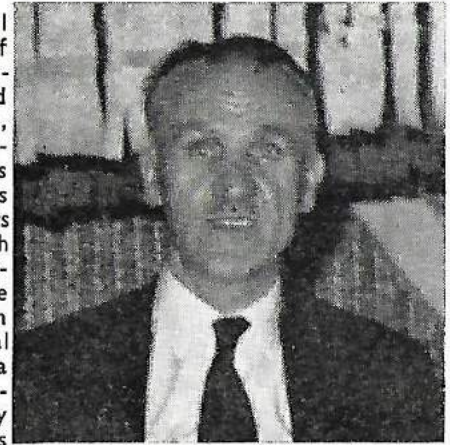
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## TOM (Jock) LAW

The name of Law is as well known at Wealdstone as that of his namesake Dennis of Manchester United and Scotland fame, Thomas Law was born, March 1909, in the Glasgow suburb of Moss End some ten miles from the centre of this famous city. Close to Moss End is the village of Bellshill the birth place of such well known footballers as, Matt Busby, Hughie Gallagher and Alex James. Tom used to turn out for the local Moss End side and had many a duel with these lads little knowing at the time that later they would become national figures in the world of football.



Although having the choice of watching such sides as, Motherwell, Glasgow Rangers and Celtic it was the well know Scottish Amateur side Queens Park that Tom favoured. When Tom came south some thirty six years ago it seems natural that he should follow the fortunes of another Amateur club, Wealdstone. Soon after moving south of the border he joined Kodak and apart from war service with the R.A.F. has been with that organisation for more than thirty years. Working locally has been of great help to Tom and to Wealdstone, for he has been able to introduce a good many supporters and players to the club.

An active member of the Football Club for the last twenty years Tom was very rightly honoured with Life Membership for his services in 1963. A founder member of the Supporter's Club he was elected Chairman at the inaugural meeting in February 1958 and filled that position with distinction until January 1965.

Jock, as he is inevitably called, has always been and still is the most dynamic force in the Supporter's Club. You name it and Tom has had a hand in it. Some of his work is not visible to the supporter while in others it is more visible than it should be. Jock will agree with me when I say that he believes in getting the job done and getting things going as quickly as possible. He dispenses with plans and drawings and the finer points of architecture. Why use a screwdriver when a hammer will do! In many respects this has been an asset for we would probably still be waiting for many things that are now accomplished facts.

Tom now has the important post of Catering Manager, purchasing stock and organising the refreshment huts including the Thursday Market refreshment hut run by the Supporters Club. Tom is assisted in his refreshment activities by his charming wife Cynthia to whom we extend our grateful thanks for allowing us to take up so much of Toms valuable time.

We all sincerely hope that Jock will be around for many more seasons not only saying what should be done but putting his words to action. If Tom serves for another twenty years then Wealdstone F.C. will be a better place for it.

J.C.B.



# LOWER MEAD SOCIAL CLUB

by K. E. WILTSHIRE

(Hon. Secretary Wealdstone F.C.)

The "Lower Mead" Social Club, was founded on a sound footing 23 years ago under the guidance of Eric Bryant, as its Secretary and Messrs Dan and Bill Wiltshire as its Committee men.

Having moved from the old Pavilion into the present club house in 1954 the Club has gone from strength to strength.

A few changes have taken place since that move, a new lounge bar has been added and progress is now being made in the other major alterations. It is hoped that the new board room and television lounge should be completed during the closed season. Further changes are also planned for the old bar and a new entrance.

The activities of the Club have also progressed with time and now not only do we have dancing to a band every Saturday and Sunday we now run Floor-Shows direct from the West-End, together with our own shows produced by ourselves and staged with our own cast made up from the Members.

The "Old Tyme Music Hall" put on by the members proved a tremendous success, so much so that it was decided to try and produce our own "Black and White Minstrel Show".

After months of giving up their Sunday afternoons for rehearsals the cast, some eighteen strong, gave a first class performance and as a result were asked by the members for a repeat. The show was again put on within six weeks. This meant more rehearsals, and in order not to repeat themselves too much they made one or two changes. Again this proved a tremendous success. Our thanks must therefore go to the boys and girls in the company for the wonderful effort they put into it. Here there must be a special reference to the girls for not only were they called upon to sing and dance, they were also responsible for the design and making of their wonderful costumes. (See picture)

The continual rise in prices has placed a heavy burden upon the Social Club and in order to survive the activities must be increased still further. It is therefore to the members such as those who participated in the Black and White Minstrel Show that we owe our success and gratitude. With their continued support we feel we can progress even further.

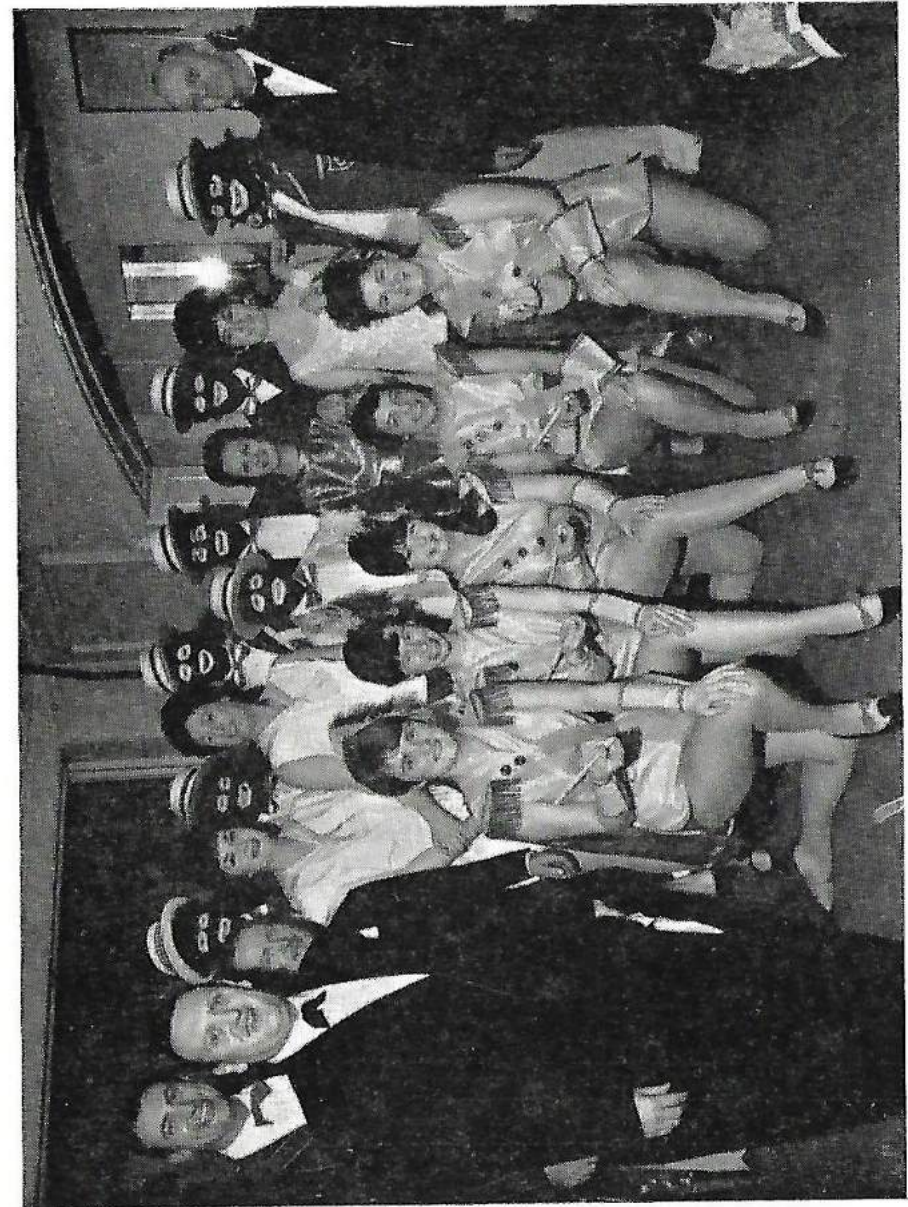
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If one cold, wet and windy Saturday afternoon our 'man in blue' should offer you a sweet - beware. Menthol and Eucalyptus says Eric but it could be one of his 'specials'. Now Eric's 'specials' have been known to lay a man low. They are a solidified version of an Indian Curry, a bloody Mary, a Black and Tan, a Whisky and Vodka and a Micky Finn.

Your throat starts to burn, ears hum, chest feels like an oven, hair stands on end, your eyes bulge and you start to see double. It is seeing two Refs and four Linesmen that finally sends you round the bend.

I'm sticking to the hole with the mint round it, thank you.

J.C.B.



The 'Boys and Girls' of the Wealdstone 'Black and White Minstrel Show'.





The 'Boys and Girls' of the Wealdstone 'Black and White Minstrel Show'.



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Wembley—Bobby Childs scoring Wealdstone's third goal after Swannell has failed to hold a stinging drive from Hughie Lindsay.

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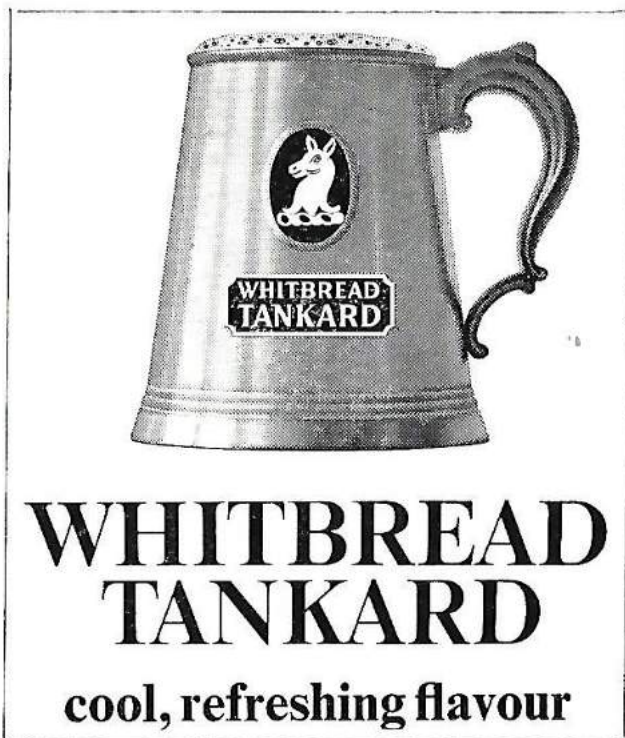
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## MAN IN THE MIDDLE by JOHN McCULLOCH

Having been requested to submit a few lines about the duties, tribulations etc., of a Football Referee's life, I think it would help the average supporter of a Football Club if I described first of all the various stages through which a Referee has to pass before he finally emerges in the Senior Section middle of an Isthmian League match.

He starts his career by being coached, usually by a Referees' Society, on the Laws of the game. He then takes the examination held under the auspices of his County Football Association. If he is successful he is placed in Class 3. He then makes application to Junior Amateur Leagues and takes charge of games on the local parks and recreation grounds.

His ambition is obviously to be promoted by his County Football Association from Class 3 to Class 2 and then to Class 1. This is done by means of the Club marks he attains from the games he is Refereeing and also from the reports on him from independent Referee Assessors who give up most of their spare time to watch the up and coming Referees. From these marks and reports the County Football Association not only promote him as far as classification is concerned but also recommend him to Senior Amateur Leagues where he normally starts on the Linesmen's List

A Referee cannot be included in the Linesmen's List of a "Contributory" League (i.e. Football Combination, Isthmian Senior Section or Southern) unless he is Class 1 and also Refereeing in the Senior Section of a "Feeder" League. The "Feeder" Leagues from which the Isthmian League recruit Linesmen are:—

Essex & Suffolk Border.  
Greater London.  
Hellenic.  
Herts. County.  
Kent Amateur.  
Kent Floodlight.  
Kent Premier.  
Metropolitan.

Oxfordshire Senior.  
South Midlands.  
Spartan.  
Surrey Senior.  
United Counties.  
Warwickshire Combination.  
(14 in all).

They are promoted from the Linesman's List to the Referees List according to the marks they obtain on the "Feeder" League. The Football League take their Linesmen from the Referees Lists of the "Contributory" League.

A Referee is very lucky indeed to attain the Referees' List of a "Contributory" League much under ten years from passing his examination, and so he has certainly served his "apprenticeship" by the time he arrives.

Now what are the duties of a Referee once he has stepped on to the field of play. He must act as timekeeper, control the game and administer the laws as laid down by the Football Association. He is Judge and Jury. His decisions have to be made in a split second as the speed of the modern game does not permit anyone to have second thoughts. He has that thorny problem at all times - to decide whether or not to allow play to go on when there has been an infringement,

Page Fifteen



**(MAN IN THE MIDDLE—Continued)**

when to stop play would give an advantage to the offending side. He is, apart from the help of his linesmen, nearly always ploughing a "lone furrow," and knows that whatever his decision there will be some who do not agree with it. "Advice" from the terraces is taken as a matter of course. His aim must at all times be to start and finish with 22 fit players on the field.

Now what, in my humble opinion, is required in a competent Referee? He should:

Be Fit.

Be Smart.

Be Confident.

Give decisions quickly and decisively.

Work as a team with his linesmen.

Have the ability to deal with different types of players.

Have a sense of humour.

Have courage.

It is often said that the best Referees are those that you hardly notice. This is certainly true as long as by being inconspicuous they still have control of the match in question.

I hope that you will not think that a Referee's life is all hard work, grim and no fun at all. This is certainly not the case. While we must all agree that he has to be a dedicated individual, he still must enjoy his function in order to continue Refereeing. To enable him to do this he has to make full use of his sense of humour, strained though it may be at times.

Perhaps I can best illustrate the "lighter" moments by relating two true stories, both of which took place on Isthmian Grounds. The first was an occasion when a Linesman had to take over from the appointed Referee at half-time. The game was being played in the evening under floodlights and the change had not been noticed apparently by the officials and spectators with the exception of the "old Lady" who was quite notorious as a "Referee baiter." When the substitute Referee left the field of play at the end of the match she leaned over the railings and remarked "and you were as bad as the b.....r we had in the first half." The second story concerns a Linesman who was registered with the Middlesex County Football Association and therefore wore a badge with three scimitars. During the whole of the second half he had been receiving verbal "attention" from one certain spectator. Nearing the end of the game the play was stopped so that an injured player could receive attention. The said spectator leaned over the fence and said "Mr. Linesman are those daggers you've got on your badge." The Linesman, rather foolishly, rose to the bait and answered "Yes they are." Back came the quick reply "Well take one your-self, give one each to the Referee and other Linesman and cut your xxxxxx throats." I can assure you that these comments caused as much amusement to the recipients as to the bystanders.

A Referee's life is, however, a rewarding one. He makes a great number of friends amongst fellow Referees, Club Officials and players. I am sure he has only regrets when the time comes to "hang up his boots."

I trust that these few lines will bring the spectator and the Referee closer together, because I am certain that the underlying sentiment of us all is a desire to further this great game in every sense.



Wembley—Bobby Childs, with raised arm, scores the equaliser.  
Also in the picture Brian Allen and Jim Cooley.

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## R. (Charlie) TOWNSEND

by Jim Brigden



Of the many players to have worn the Wealdstone colours none have been more talented or popular than Charlie Townsend. We like to think of Charlie as a home product being born near enough, Bushey, July 1938, to be called a local lad. Starting his football career with his school team Bushey Manor he moved on to Bushey United then Watford Juniors and came to Wealdstone at the start of the 1957-58 season. His first game with the seniors was at centre forward in a side of:-

Culver; Hurrell, Randall; Gibbons, Kingsland, Hannam; Moore, James, Townsend, Birrell and a lad named Evans.

Under the Coaching of Edgar Francis Charlie was moved to half back and although having played in all half back positions and in the forward line it is at right half that he excels and prefers to play. After numerous representative games for Middlesex, London F.A. and Athenian League he gained his first England Cap versus France on April 29th, 1961 playing right half. Up to March 1967, Charlie had played 30 times for England with games in France Germany, Holland, Italy, Iceland, Greece, Luxembourg, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and Eire. Quite a Cooks Tour don't you think.

During his ten years at Wealdstone, Chas has thrilled us with his brilliance. Very fast, a good shot and able to read a game to the advantage of his side. Scrupulously fair in his play, never resorts to the rough stuff or the questionable late tackle and relies on his speed and footballing ability to get himself out of trouble and to beat his man to the ball. His off days have been few and far between and during the last

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(CHARLIE TOWNSEND—Continued)

couple of seasons has been consistency itself. To me Charlie is a perfectionist and like all who aim for the ultimate he sometimes despairs at the failings of others to take advantage of his moves. A natural attacking half he has of late shown that he excels as a defender as well for, due to injuries to the regular pivots, and despite his shortness of stature has given some sterling displays at centre half. On the field of play Charlie seems to me to be unemotional winning or losing, although he prefers to differ. His one thought seems to be to get out there and score goals and win the game. I have never seen Charlie make a fuss hugging a team mate who has scored a goal. Just a 'well done' or a pat on the back. Charlie I feel saves endearments for his wife Margaret to whom he was married in June, 1967.

On and off the field of play Chas is two different men. A veritable Jekyll and Hyde. Meet Charlie out and he is quiet and unassuming and has very little to say. Once the game starts Mr. Hyde takes over and he lets all and sundry know he is around, with his cries of:- Hold it; Hold it; Help him; Help him; or 'Good ball or 'Move it' and when they don't get the message a few choice words that would make even the B.B.C. raise their eyebrows.

I asked Chas about the games that have given him most pleasure and the one he would like to forget. In the first category came the Amateur Cup Final at Wembley when we defeated Hendon by three goals to one. Those of us who saw this memorable game will remember his fine display and I can vouch that he enjoyed the Mayor of Harrows celebration party afterwards. He must have done if he downed his drink everytime someone said 'Cheers Charlie'. The game Charlie wants to forget was the Amateur Cup game at Alvechurch when we were knocked out of the competition by the local side. Maybe Charlie blames himself for not taking that penalty kick that Bernie Bremer eventually took and missed. Surely you made amends at Stamford Bridge when we beat them in the Semi-final the following season Chas. Of all the goals he has scored the most pleasing to Charlie and the one he thinks the most important was the equalising goal that he scored versus Leatherhead on the way to the Wembley triumph.

Charlie is a non smoker and due to his England calls for training and games gets very little time for hobbies, but likes to get in a round of golf when he can. When his playing days are over, and we all hope that is in the distant future, he would like to remain in football in one capacity or other. Thank you Chas for the pleasure that you have given not only Wealdstone supporters but supporters of other clubs who have appreciated your play. Long may we see the name of R. Townsend in the England line up.

J.C.B.

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Page Twenty-one



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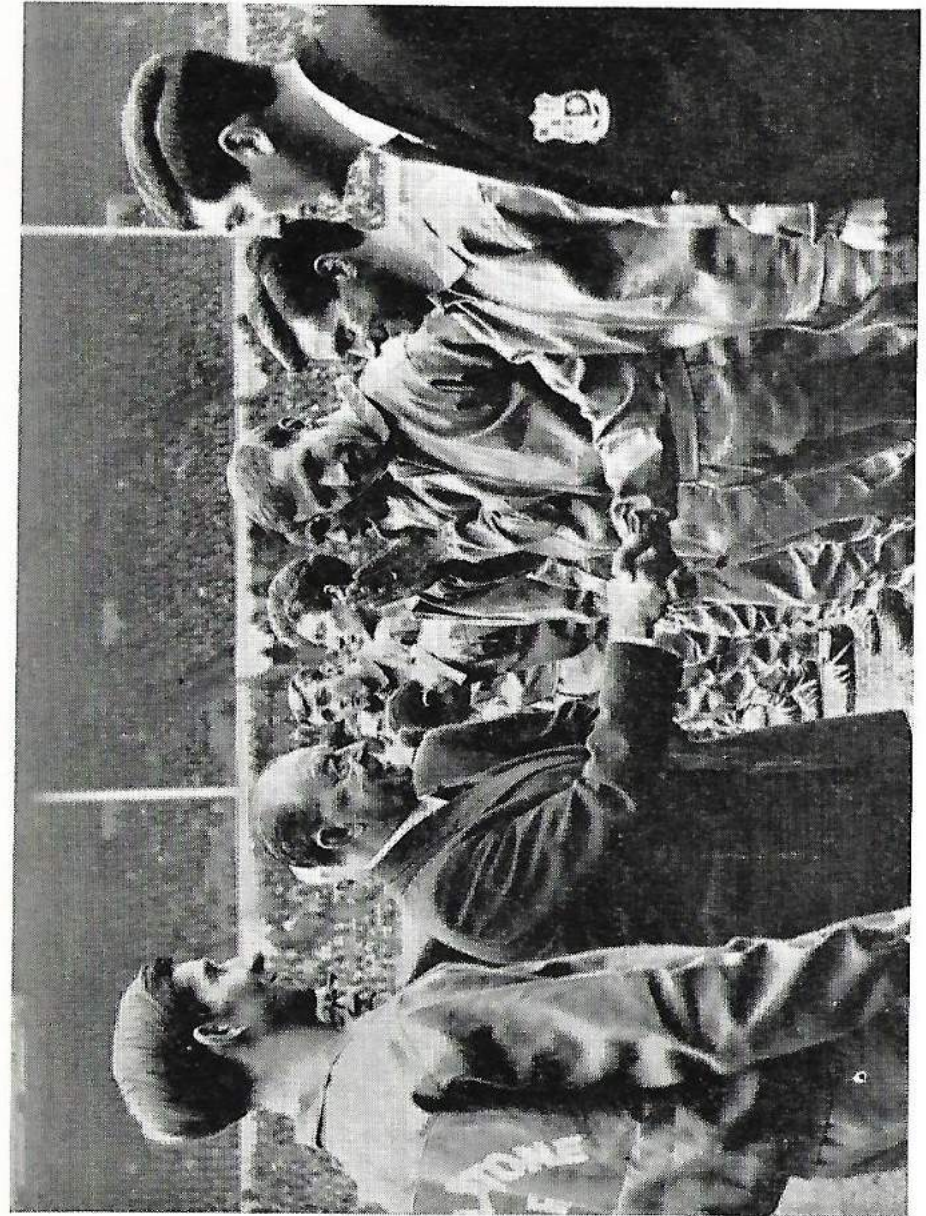
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Earl Alexander of Tunis shaking hands with Charlie Townsend before the kick-off at Wembley.  
Also in the picture:—Ashworth, Sedgley, Allen, Doyle, Dillsworth, Goymer and Vin Burgess.





Earl Alexander of Tunis shaking hands with Charlie Townsend before the kick-off at Wembley. Also in the picture:—Ashworth, Sedgley, Allen, Doyle, Dillsworth, Goymer and Vin Burgess.



# THE GROUND

by Ron Guildford

It is considered essential that top class players need a top class playing surface on which to demonstrate their skills and it is with this object in mind, that the clubs officials strive to produce this ideal.

Finance obviously plays an important part and with the limited resources available it is considered that this club has produced this surface which is equal to any Amateur Soccer Clubs.

No doubt many members and supporters who travel to other grounds will say that others have more grass on their pitch than we have but in many cases you will find it very difficult and bumpy to play on those 'lush acres'.

One must remember all the factors that are needed to produce a good playing pitch. We are ourselves rather unfortunate in having a very heavy clay sub-soil which brings great problems regarding surface water. For the past two seasons we have been introducing large quantities of clean sharp sand in an attempt to break up the heavy clay panning that has resulted over the years. Together with the very efficient new spiking machine, made possible by our good friends the Supporters Club we now are able to turn a flooded area into a playing surface within a matter of a few hours. This we consider quite an achievement over the days of "ploughing through the mud".

In order to arrive at and keep a good pitch it is most important that the care of the ground should be in the hands of a competent and qualified groundsman. Furthermore it is essential that the problem of the maintenance of the pitch should receive the same attention and thought as the club devotes to the findings and coaching of a successful team. This club is now fortunate in having secured the services of "Nobby" Clark, an expert in his own rights.

It is necessary to provide ones groundsman with the items of equipment with which he needs to carry out this work. Over the past few years we have been able to build up this equipment which is now a credit both to the parent club and the Supporters' Club.

The Groundman's working year can be divided into 3 parts:-

- (a) **Renovation—after Season treatment**  
This necessitates complete redressing, seeding, fertilizing and weed-killing, which has to be carried out in a very short time.
- (b) **Late Summer period** which resolves itself into regular cutting and light rolling.
- (c) **Maintenance during the playing season**

Once play has commenced general ground maintenance will inevitably increase. After each game or training session, which means that the pitch may be used some 4 days out of 7, the deep holes have to either be trodden or forked in and this is time well spent. The pitch will then be completely harrowed and well spiked to keep the soil open. On no account do we heavy roll the pitch nowadays as this only leads to further trouble in disposing of water.

The maintenance of the pitch whilst of paramount importance is not the only work that needs to be carried out on the ground. The general maintenance of buildings, fences, etc. take up a considerable amount of time and more often than not we must look to volunteers to help in this connection.

## (THE GROUND—Continued)

You will all have now observed that after considerable difficulty we have erected further covered accommodation at the cinema end of the ground. This now provides covered accommodation at Lower Mead for some 5000 spectators. Planning has also commenced for an extension to the main stand in which will be incorporated new dressing rooms and washing facilities.

This year we have been in a very transitional period on the ground owing to the various activities in building works but next season the whole place will have had a spring clean to become the best in the League.

Furthermore, by careful negotiation it will be seen that we have been able to provide considerably more car parking space by utilising the land behind the Elmslie Stand. This in itself will help to preserve the playing pitch as this can be used on wet evenings as a training area.

Your committee are very conscious of spectator relationship and as times goes by it is hoped to provide even more amenities.

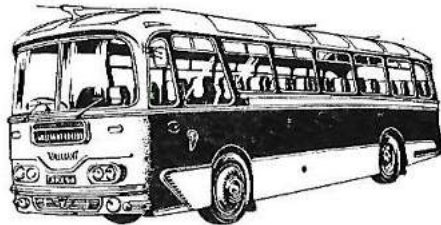
## SUPPORTER'S CLUB

The Supporters' Club was inaugurated in February 1958; the officials being Tom Law, Tom Verrall who is now on the committee of the Football Club, and Eric Metcalfe our "man in blue". Tom Law is still an official and our hardest worker; besides being the Catering Manager, which entails running and supplying three tea huts, he also runs Bingo every Wednesday evening, is our representative on the Football Club's Planning Committee, and assists in many other activities including the "200 Club". Another member who has been on the committee since the Club was founded, is Sam Burrows who is now a Vice President and our Vice Chairman.

Jim Brigden was elected Chairman in January 1965, and has since proved to be an able negotiator. Jim edited the 1965/66 Handbook, which I think you will agree was a great success especially his dream entitled "Wealdstone Go To Wembley", and he has edited this edition with, I consider, equal success. I would add that Jim writes the club notes in the programme. We have also been fortunate in having Bert Simson as our Treasurer as he is a cashier by profession, and according to our Auditor, Mr. H. Finney, the financial arrangements have never before been run so efficiently. Another asset to the committee is the Assistant Secretary, Barbara Robson, who arranges coaches to convey the supporters to away matches; there is great deal of work involved in organising this service and I am sure that Barbara's dedication is appreciated by our members.

As well as the aforesaid services, namely tea huts and coaches to away matches, this club has since 1958 taken out insurance cover for all their members against accident whilst travelling to away matches by either coach or rail and also when attending as a spectator on any ground in Gt. Britain where our team is playing, but in addition to these services, one of the main aims of the Supporters' Club is to assist the Football Club to improve the amenities for both the Supporters and Players, and in this respect floodlights were provided for which final payment was made to the finance company in February 1965, also a powered Digger was purchased in January 1967 to improve drainage





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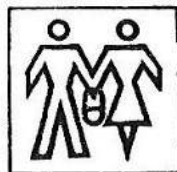
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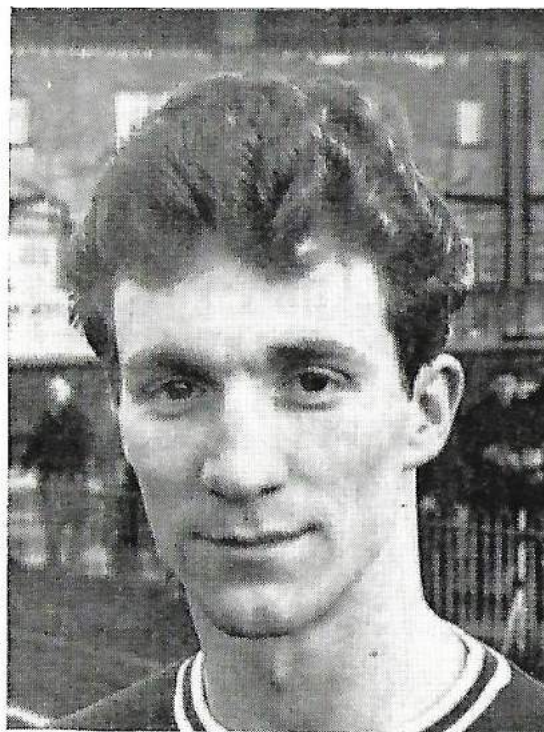
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**(SUPPORTER'S CLUB—Continued)**

of the pitch. The result of the latter is self evident and is due to the expert use of this machine by groundsman, Nobby Clarke. There is a great deal more that could be done and any criticism or advice would be welcomed, but I suggest it would be preferable if it were backed by an active participation as the Committee, including the ladies who assist in the tea huts, are a voluntary body and their spare time is therefore limited.

The success of the Supporters' Club depends to a great extent on the strength of its membership, and if you are not a member, why not enrol now at our Office adjoining the tea hut by the "Elmslie" stand.  
J. B. Palmer, Hon. Secretary.



**PLAYER  
OF THE  
YEAR**

**MICKEY  
DOYLE**

Michael John Doyle came to Wealdstone four years ago from Fulham F.C. A Lancastrian Micky played for Barrow Youth before moving South and has had representative honours with Lancashire, Middlesex and F.A. XIs. His hobbies are Tennis and Badminton and likes to do a spot of rock climbing when he can find the time. Micky is single, 21 years old and an Electrical Engineer. Started his footballing days as an outside right but has settled for the right back position which he made his own shortly after coming to Lower Mead. Always ready to have a go with the attack yet quick to recover when necessary. A great favourite with Wealdstone supporters.



# LEAGUE TABLES

## SENIOR SECTION

Sutton United	38	26	-7	5	89	33	59
Walthamstow Avenue	38	22	12	4	89	47	56
Wycombe Wanderers	38	23	8	7	92	54	54
Enfield	38	25	2	11	87	33	52
Hendon	38	20	9	9	64	37	49
Tooting & Mitcham United	38	19	10	9	76	60	48
Leytonstone	38	19	9	10	67	38	47
St. Albans City	38	16	12	10	59	45	44
Kingstonian	38	18	8	12	60	49	44
Oxford City	38	15	9	14	74	61	39
Woking	38	13	10	15	65	71	36
<b>Wealdstone</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>34</b>
Barking	38	11	12	15	56	61	34
Bromley	38	12	7	19	50	67	31
Clapton	38	10	8	20	49	92	28
Ilford	38	8	10	20	43	77	26
Corinthian-Casuals	38	9	7	22	45	68	25
Maidstone United	38	6	10	22	43	90	22
Hitchin Town	38	8	6	24	39	89	22
Dulwich Hamlet	38	3	4	31	33	107	10

## RESERVE SECTION

Championship determined by play-off, Rule 8 applying.

Kingstonian	30	18	7	5	72	39	43
Sutton United	30	19	5	6	67	42	43
Hendon	30	15	10	5	59	34	40
St. Albans City	30	17	5	8	81	48	39
Tooting & Mitcham United	30	17	4	9	73	41	38
Ilford	30	16	4	10	55	48	36
Walthamstow Avenue	30	15	4	11	75	50	34
<b>Wealdstone</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>34</b>
Bromley	30	15	3	12	54	58	33
Barking	30	14	4	12	57	59	32
Enfield	30	12	7	11	65	48	31
Leytonstone	30	12	6	12	45	48	30
Corinthian-Casuals	30	9	10	11	53	59	28
Clapton	30	9	6	15	52	67	24
Woking	30	9	6	15	41	64	24
Wycombe Wanderers	30	6	11	13	40	54	23
Oxford City	30	8	5	17	48	67	21
Dulwich Hamlet	30	7	5	18	39	69	19
Hitchin Town	30	5	9	16	34	74	19
Maidstone United	30	2	5	23	29	82	9

# DOWN WITH A CRASH

by Vin Burgess (Club Coach)

After our glorious Season of 1965/66 last year's campaign can certainly be described as, "After the Lord Mayor's Show".

I myself am particularly disappointed at the turn of events, and I can imagine how you supporters must feel. However talking about it will not put things right. We, from the outset of pre-season training, (and by "we" I mean myself, trainers, players, Committee and supporters) can all pull together and re-double our efforts, no matter in which capacity we serve Wealdstone F.C., to put the club back on top.

I do not not believe in making excuses, I, the players and the club failed dismally last season from the playing point of view and after accepting the glory bestowed upon us previously we must now accept the criticism. (No strange situation for a coach or manager).

I have heard many reasons by so called experts on where we went wrong, let's face facts, we played badly over a long period of the season, and achieved what we deserved—NOTHING!

I will agree, it was a major blow when three of the Wembley side, John Ashworth, Jim Cooley and Gordon Sedgeley, decided to leave the Club, and this broke up a side which was only just beginning to show its' real potential.

Thus we had to find replacements, not an easy job, and although I tried various combinations I failed to achieve the right blend.

Since our Amateur Cup defeat at Skelmersdale I have spent many hours searching for the right players to strengthen the team, with the loyal help of the Management Committee under the Chairmanship of Bill Roberts, no stone has been left uncovered, and I feel confident that you will see a better balanced side at Lower Mead this coming season.

Therefore, providing we all strive and work very hard I am sure good times are just around the corner once again. May I take the opportunity of wishing you all a happy season and let's hope we can give you something to shout about.



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## **VIEW FROM THE TERRACE**

by Jim Brigden

In the summer mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the mid-day sun. In the Winter the dogs sit round the fire and the mad Englishmen stand out on the wide open terrace in the cold, wind and rain watching their favourite team. This is the true supporter who follows his team week in week out, home or away, win lose or draw. The followers who keep the club going by standing by the side, in form or out, through its ups and downs in league and cup. They are not to be confused with the hangers on who jump on the bandwagon when their team has a run in the Cup and come up to town for a day out.

The ground and its amenities are very important to the home and visiting supporter. Not all amateur grounds are as well equipped as Wealdstone as regards the comfort of the spectator. Toilet and refreshment facilities leave a lot to be desired on quite a few grounds. The so called programme is invariably an advertising sheet with the teams printed in small type in the middle. Here at Wealdstone we have ample toilet facilities, a refreshment service second to none, and a well printed and informative programme. Team changes are inevitable and usually the loudspeaker announcements are lost in the roar of the crowd as the teams come on to the pitch. I would like to see a team changes board just inside the ground together with an amenities direction indicator. Programmes could help by printing the league positions of both teams and in the case of cup games a note as to whether extra time will be played and the date of any replay.

No need to print the rules, we know them. At least we give the ref our interpretation of them and remind him when he goes wrong, not forgetting our friend with the flag who seldom gets the offside decision right. It is always a puzzle to us on the terrace why the team keep on with the wrong tactics. It usually takes us about fifteen minutes to sum up the play but it seems that the coach, captain or who ever is in charge finds out about ten minutes from the end of the game and by that time the team are too set in their play or too weary to change their ideas.

Most of us prefer the old system of teams playing as numbered. The present idiom is for No. 7 to play double centre half or right half to play outside left or the centre forward in goal, or so it seems. It only confused the man on the terrace, not the opposition. Maybe the brains in the Stands get the old computer going and work it out as to who is what and where.

Although we don't mind the occasional shower we do like a bit of shelter and of course it is nice to have your feet dry. Here at Wealdstone we have a solid foundation underfoot and now that the new Stand is up - thank you Mr. Wealdstone - plenty of cover overhead. There are quite a few grounds where the grass is round your ankles and the only roof is the cloud in the sky. Still it takes more than wet feet to dampen the true supporter. Win or loose we like a laugh and again at Lower Mead, we have our share of wits, fortunately they outnumber the half-wits.

At times, especially during Cup matches the emotional atmosphere and tension can be felt round the ground. The Ooohs when the shot goes over the bar, the gasps when the ball is scrambled away and the cry it's there' when the ball is at the back of the net, these and the

Page Thirty-one



**(VIEW FROM THE TERRACE—Continued)**

choir' singing lustily and the roar of the crowd can turn a moderate side into a good one and tip the scale in favour of one good side over another. Cheers and tears go together in football. How elated we were when we beat Stevenage 6-5 right on time. How choked the Stevenage supporters must have been. For sheer emotion and drama I don't think you will find one greater than the World Cup Final at Wembley between England and West Germany.

Supporters appreciate good play on either side and admire a good referee although we never tell the long haired, half blind whatsit that he has done a good job. It isn't done. It is the same on the terrace when we cross swords with our opposite number and tell them what a lot of scrubbers they are. We would rather die than admit that they have a very good side and that we would like half of them in our team. Nevertheless we always end good friends at the end of the game and are the first to cheer a good footballing side whether we have won or not.

As the years go by and we are forced by circumstances to move our homes from one part of the country to another we can never forget our first love, the team that Dad took us along to see. Despite how loyal we are to our present club Saturday night finds us looking up the result of that old side. The real test comes when your present club is drawn against the team of your youth I am pleased to say that when this happened to me I was proud to join in the cry of 'COME ON THE 'STONES'.



Hendon 'keeper John Swannell dives to rob inside right Bobby Childs during the game at Wembley.

## WEALDSTONE RESERVE XI

by Harry Benjamin

When I was first appointed reserve team secretary, two seasons ago, little did I know then, what a great amount of both worry and pleasure, I would be getting, in doing the job.

The worry side starts early in the season, when at least 40 young trialists, who write in for a trial, have to be put through their paces to see what ability they have, and in conjunction with Vince Burgess, and Edgar Francis a close scrutiny is given each player, and usually two or three trial games are arranged, and everybody is given trial, and one or two lads are usually discovered in this way, and one such person being Keith Searle, who came along last season, as a raw young lad, and finished up being given the honour of Player of the Year, and a regular first teamer in the season just finished. It is very worrying in the early games of the season, when only 11 players can play, and Thursday evenings when team selection is done, it is pitiful to see the expressions on the faces of the keen youngsters, who are left out of the side, but somehow only a very small percentage get fed up and leave the club to try elsewhere, while the others are absorbed in the A team under Les Boyle when they start their season in September, and that starts the general competition for places, for the remainder of the season.

The pleasure comes, when some of the reserves, are given a chance to show their paces in the first XI, when called upon, through injuries, loss of form, England international calls etc. and it is very pleasing when officials and supporters back slap you, and tell you "your chap played very well, and didn't let you down" it makes one feel great! and feel that the job you are doing is really worthwhile. I have been helped immensely in the season just finished by Bob Croucher the reserve team trainer, who was connected with the youth side at Watford for a number of years, and has brought a number of players to Wealdstone, it is very difficult to find a man so dedicated to his football duties and Wealdstone, as this man Croucher.

Our reserve side usually has to be changed from week to week, mainly to give all the promising lads a chance, plus first team calls, and to try some of the "A" team chaps, hence, we might win comfortably against strong opposition, one week, and then lose to a poor side a week later, but I am sure that every supporter who comes along to watch the reserves, will understand the position, and realise that these kids do try their utmost and all that we ask for is encouragement from the fans, and patience, and if the reserves can produce one or two first teamers a season, then it is a job well done.

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## SCORERS AND APPEARANCES

	IL	FAAC	FAC	OTHERS	TOTAL	GOALS		IL	FAAC	FAC	OTHERS	TOTAL	GOALS
Brian Allen	20	4	0	0	16	40	1	Arthur Peel	0	0	0	2	1
Peter Anderson	12	0	0	0	6	18	0	Micky Praede	2	7	0	2	1
Brian Baigent	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	Tony Quick	0	0	0	6	0
Micky Blythe	18	5	1	1	18	42	0	Geoff Ridley	6	0	0	2	0
Bernie Bremer	31	5	1	1	20	57	17	Steve Shalet	5	0	0	3	8
Bobby Childs	28	5	1	1	15	49	27	Keith Searle	29	5	1	20	55
Andy Cronshaw	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	Mick Stanley	12	0	1	5	18
Eddie Dillsworth	35	1	1	1	18	55	5	Charlie Townsend	34	5	1	18	58
Micky Doyle	31	5	1	1	19	56	5	Bobby Warman	16	5	0	12	33
Roy Drake	19	5	1	1	12	37	2	Cedric Wilkinson	9	0	0	5	14
Kenny Fulkes	11	0	0	0	8	19	5	<b>Opponents (OG)</b>					3
Micky Garman	3	0	0	0	1	4	0	<b>Possible Appearances</b>					
Brian Goymer	10	0	0	0	5	15	0	<b>Total Goals Scored</b>	38	5	1	24	68
Bobby Harper	5	0	0	0	3	8	1	<b>IL Isthmian League</b>					
Joe Harper	2	0	0	0	1	3	1	<b>FAAC F.A. Amateur Cup</b>					
Mike Howard	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	<b>FAC F.A. Challenge Cup</b>					
John Hutchinson	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	<b>OTHERS</b>					
Alan Jones	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	East Anglian Cup					
Roy Lavender	2	0	0	0	1	3	0	London Senior Cup					
Dave Lambert	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	Friendly					
Dave Leonard	28	5	1	1	22	56	0	Hitchin Centenary Cup					
Hugh Lindsay	24	5	1	1	14	44	20	London Challenge Cup					
Miguel McCoy	3	0	0	0	4	7	0	Middlesex Senior Cup					
Frankel Oria	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	Alway Memorial Trophy					
Arthur Paisley	9	0	0	0	1	10	0						



Left half Eddie Dillsworth just gets a foot in front of left winger David Hyde preparing to shoot at Wembley.



# RESULTS

Date	Opponents	Home or Away	Competition	Result F. A.
20. 8.66	Corinthian-Casuals	H	Isthmian League	2-2
23. 8.66	Enfield	A	Isthmian League	0-2
27. 8.66	Clapton	A	Isthmian League	1-2
29. 8.66	Hitchin Town	H	Isthmian League	7-0
6. 9.66	Tooting & Mitcham Utd.	H	Isthmian League	2-2
10. 9.66	Kingstonian	H	Isthmian League	0-1
13. 9.66	Stevenage Town	H	Hitchin Centenary Cup	1-0
17. 9.66	Leytonstone	A	Isthmian League	0-4
19. 9.66	Walthamstow Avenue	H	London Challenge Cup	2-0
24. 9.66	Barking	H	Isthmian League	4-3
26. 9.66	Hilal Sporting Club	H	Friendly	3-1
28. 9.66	Hemel Hempstead Town	A	East Anglian Cup	3-0
1.10.66	Dulwich Hamlet	A	Isthmian League	3-2
3.10.66	Arsenal	H	London Challenge Cup	1-4
6.10.66	St. Albans City	A	Isthmian League	0-2
8.10.66	Maidstone United	A	Isthmian League	3-2
11.10.66	Oxford City	H	Isthmian League	1-1
15.10.66	Walthamstow Avenue	H	Isthmian League	0-1
17.10.66	Clapton	H	Isthmian League	4-0
22.10.66	Woking	A	Isthmian League	1-1
27.10.66	Stevenage Town	H	East Anglian Cup	1-0
29.10.66	Leytonstone	H	Isthmian League	0-0
31.10.66	Ilford	H	Isthmian League	3-0
5.11.66	Sutton United	A	Isthmian League	2-3
8.11.66	Wycombe Wanderers	A	Isthmian League	5-2
12.11.66	Hampton	H	Middlesex Senior Cup	1-4
14.11.66	Middlesex Wanderers	H	Alaway Memorial Cup	3-2
19.11.66	Corinthian-Casuals	H	London Senior Cup	0-0
26.11.66	Nuneaton Borough	H	F.A. Cup	0-2
13.12.66	Hillingdon Borough	H	Hitchin Centenary Cup	2-3
17.12.66	Corinthian Casuals	A	London Senior Cup	2-0
27.12.66	Hendon	A	Isthmian League	1-2
31.12.66	Hitchin Town	A	Isthmian League	2-0
7. 1.67	Carshalton Athletic	A	London Senior Cup	3-1
14. 1.67	Stowmarket	H	F.A. Amateur Cup	1-1
21. 1.67	Stowmarket	A	F.A. Amateur Cup	1-1
24. 1.67	Stowmarket	†N	F.A. Amateur Cup	5-2
28. 1.67	Brook Sports	A	F.A. Amateur Cup	3-0
31. 1.67	Enfield	H	Isthmian League	2-6
4. 2.67	Bromley	H	Isthmian League	2-1
11. 2.67	Skelmersdale	A	Amateur Cup	0-1
14. 2.67	Sutton United	H	Isthmian League	0-3
18. 2.67	Corinthian Casuals	A	Isthmian League	2-1
25. 2.67	Barking	A	Isthmian League	4-2
28. 2.67	Hendon	H	Isthmian League	2-2
4. 3.67	Kingstonian	H	London Senior Cup	1-1
7. 3.67	Hitchin Town	A	East Anglian Cup	1-0
11. 3.67	Woking	H	Isthmian League	1-2
13. 3.67	Hertford Town	H	East Anglian Cup	1-1
18. 3.67	Kingstonian	A	London Senior Cup	1-3
21. 3.67	Oxford City	A	Isthmian League	2-4
25. 3.67	St. Albans City	H	Isthmian League	1-6
27. 3.67	Tooting & Mitcham Utd.	A	Isthmian League	0-7
30. 3.67	Walthamstow Avenue	A	Isthmian League	0-1
1. 4.67	Maidstone United	H	Isthmian League	1-1
3. 4.67	Hertford Town	A	East Anglian Cup	3-0
5. 4.67	Kingstonian	A	Isthmian League	1-2
8. 4.67	Ilford	A	Isthmian League	1-1
10. 4.67*	Hillingdon Borough	A	Hitchin Centenary Cup	1-2
15. 4.67	Wycombe Wanderers	H	Isthmian League	7-0
24. 4.67	Dagenham	H	East Anglian Cup	4-1
29. 4.67	Dulwich Hamlet	H	Isthmian League	4-0
2. 5.67	Luton Town	H	Friendly	1-1
6. 5.67	Bromley	A	Isthmian League	1-2
11. 5.67	King's Lynn	A	East Anglian Cup	2-3

\* Postponed Ground Unfit

† At Colchester United F.C. Ground.

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