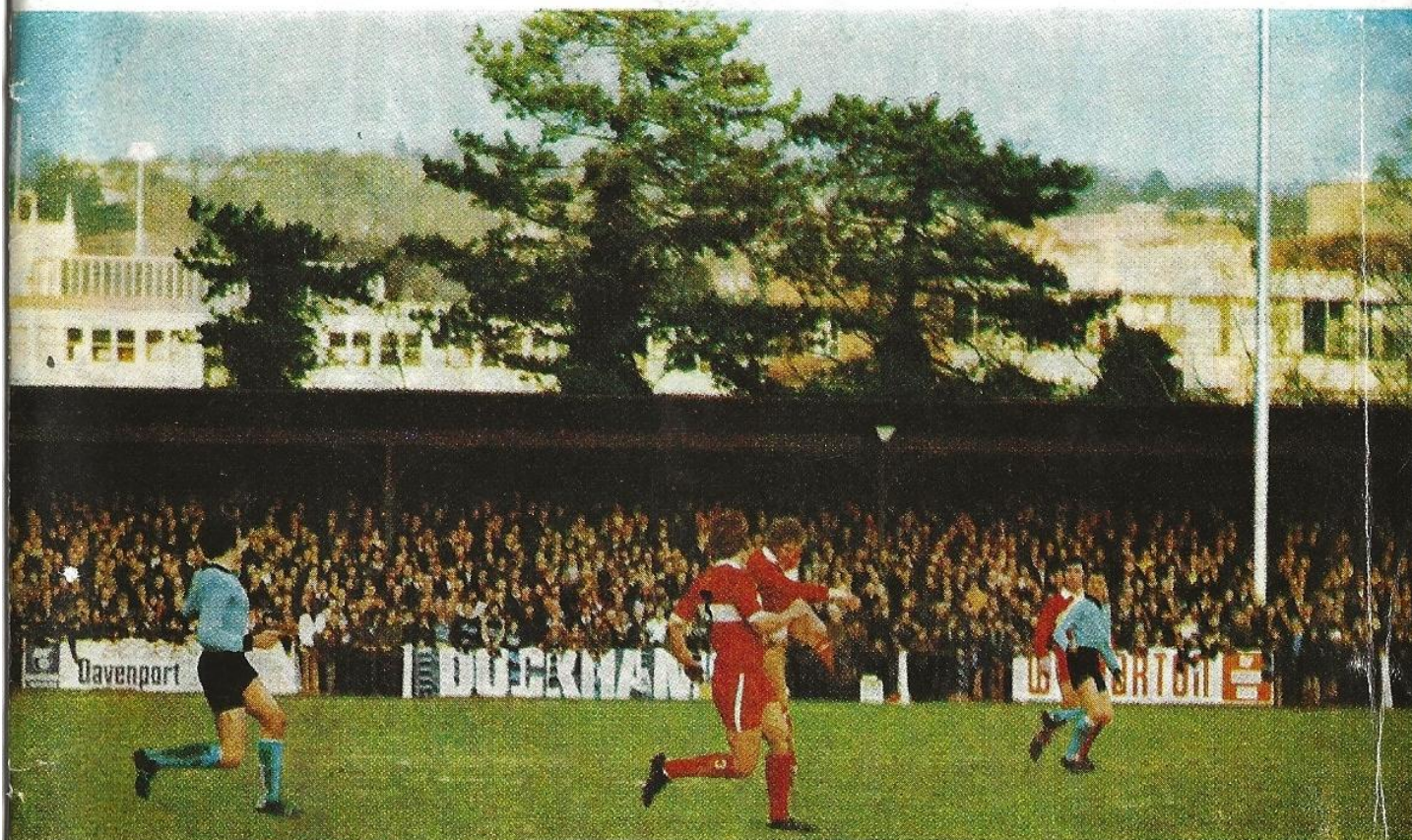




# WYCOMBE WANDERERS

## FOOTBALL CLUB

Loakes Park – High Wycombe



**ROTHMANS  
ISTHMIAN  
LEAGUE**



*versus*

# REST OF LEAGUE XI

Tuesday, 14th October, 1975

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

Official Programme 10p





**WYCOMBE WANDERERS F.C.**

Loakes Park, High Wycombe

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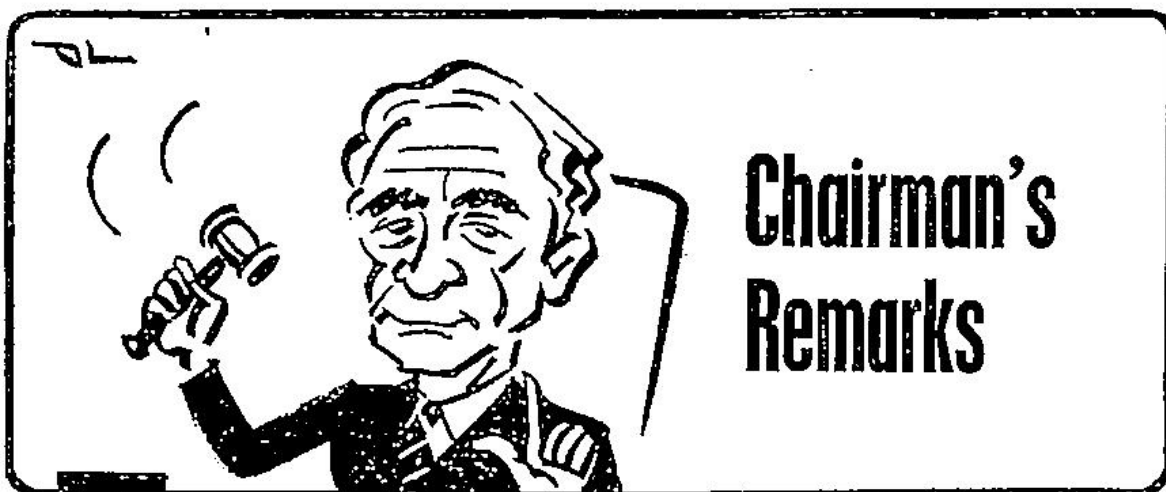
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*Team Manager:* Brian Lee

*Assistant Manager:* John Reardon

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Looking at the names of the players selected to represent the Rothmans Isthmian League side for tonight's game makes one realise the quality of the players and the high standard which is aimed at in the League in 1975.

Not very many years ago, a large gap existed between 'League' and 'Non-League' football. If a player reached the age of 16 or 17 years of age and had not been signed by a League side, it was assumed that he would remain outside the League. Today, a player will remain non-league from choice or will decide to go to a League side in his middle twenties if the offer is attractive enough and he, himself, thinks he is good enough.

Any one of the players in the Rothmans Squad tonight could go into a 'League' side tomorrow and from a footballing point of view would slot in immediately. What exercises my mind, and would be of interest to all supporters of Rothmans Isthmian League Clubs, would be for someone to sign the whole squad, employ Billy Miller as Manager, put them into the 3rd Division of the Football League and take bets on where in the League they would be at the end of the season. Top four!

J. SMETHURST  
*Chairman*



## Secretary's Notes

For the second time this year we throw our gates open to the Rest of the League for the Champions v. Rest of League match. Due to last year's game not being held till the end of the season the two games are closer together than is usual. The game should be as good as last Wednesday's against Monza although there will not be so much strain. We can all sit back and enjoy watching the best that the league can offer.

Now that the Anglo Italian trophy has been finished the club can look to its achievement with a great deal of pride. If only all international matches could be played as sportingly as the two legs of this competition international football would have a far better name. Not only this,

having seen the Monza team play on their own ground I can truly appreciate how well the team did to contain the sheer brilliance of the opposition and to stop them from settling as a team for ninety minutes. While on the subject of Monza a couple of credits were missed from last week's programme. Parker Knoll Ltd. are giving us financial backing for which we are grateful. We must also thank the South of England Building Society for the window display that they allowed us to put on during the weeks before the game.

On Saturday 18th October we visit Walthamstow Avenue and then we have two home games, against Hendon on Tuesday 21st and against Ilford on 25th.

## OUR VISITORS

by STUART EARP *Bucks Free Press*

If tonight's match lives up to the corresponding game last year we could be in for a feast of good football. You will probably remember. The final score was 4—3 to the champions who were 2—0 down at one stage.

Howard Kettleborough put the Rest of the League a goal up after 20 minutes and Alec Jackson made it two, a minute after half time. But

then Wanderers hit back with three goals in 10 minutes, Dylan Evans, Dave Bullock and Graham Mackenzie scoring. John Knapman of Walthamstow then fired home the best of the seven goals from 20 yards but it was fittingly left to the club skipper Alan Phillips to hit the winner with 84 minutes gone. It was a fitting finale to the season.

**TERRY MOORE** (Goalkeeper): After playing a large part in Bishop's Stortford's Amateur Cup triumph, Terry decided to switch to Ilford this season. A former Stortford Player of the Year and has toured with Middlesex Wanderers. Carpenter by trade.

**DAVE SARGEANT** (Full back): One of Leatherhead's F.A. Cup heroes last year. A former Walton & Hersham defender.

**PHIL FRY** (Full back): One of three Enfield players in the squad. Left-sided defender who can play anywhere in the back four or in midfield.

**ALAN PHILLIPS**: Captains the Rest XI. Wycombe's skipper last year but moved to his former club Hendon during the close season—a great loss to Wycombe. Outstanding in Wanderers' F.A. Cup and championship run and formed an almost impregnable barrier with Keith Mead.

**PETER DEADMAN** (Centre back): For many years Peter has been regarded as 'Mr. Consistency' of the R.I.L. Although not heavily built, he is an outstanding performer, defending intelligently and using the ball well. Another of the Hendon 'greats', now with Ilford.

**TREVOR BLADON** (Midfield): Very experienced footballer who was formerly with Sutton United.

**LARRY PRITCHARD** (Midfield): Holder of many England caps, Larry is no stranger to Loakes Park. Spent three years with Wycombe and played a major part in the club's success. Telephone engineer by trade.

**DEREK BAKER** (Midfield). A Hendon player for several years before switching to Enfield two years ago. Can be used either in midfield or as a front runner. Fast and aggressive.

**CHRIS KELLY** (Striker): Chris became almost a household name with Leatherhead's Cup exploits last season. His 'confident' attitude and outlook made him our answer to Mohammed Ali.

**KEITH SEARLE** (Striker). Another player needing no explanation. The best target man in the league, Keith spent four happy years at Loakes Park before joining Enfield during the close season.

**JOHN BUTTERFIELD** (Striker): Played for Enfield until joining Ilford last season. Another England amateur, John is one of the best finishers in the game. Equally good in the air or on the ground.

**JOHNNY BAKER** (Striker): Topped Dulwich Hamlet's goalscoring charts last season with over 30—a club record. Re-joined his former colleagues at Hendon this season and is top scorer there. Very fast.

**MICK PRESTON** (Defender): The England Amateur centre-half before the team disbanded. Very tall and strong, ginger haired Mick is regarded as one of the best around.

**GARY HAND** (Defender): Another former Wanderer who soon became a firm favourite of the Loakes Park crowd. Aggressive and quick in the tackle, Gary rejoined Hendon this season.

**JOHN SWANNELL** (Goalkeeper): John has had a long and illustrious career, regarded as the number one goalkeeper in amateur football. Gained many England caps when he was a regular first choice.

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**Wycombe Wanderers**

light and dark blue

J. MASKELL  
P. BIRDSEYE  
R. EATON  
K. MEAD  
J. DELANEY  
D. ALEXANDER  
D. BULLOCK  
M. HOLIFIELD  
D. COTTERILL  
T. REARDON  
H. KENNEDY  
G. MACKENZIE  
A. HORSEMAN  
D. EVANS  
D. HARRIS  
G. ANTHONY

**Rest of League XI**

green and white

1 T. MOORE (Ilford)  
2 SARGEANT (Leatherhead)  
3 P. FRY (Enfield)  
4 A. PHILLIPS (Hendon) capt.  
5 P. DEADMAN (Ilford)  
6 T. BLADON (Dulwich H.)  
7 L. PRITCHARD (Sutton U.)  
8 D. BAKER (Enfield)  
9 C. KELLY (Leatherhead)  
10 K. SEARLE (Enfield)  
11 J. BUTTERFIELD (Ilford)  
12 J. BAKER (Hendon)  
13 M. PRESTON (Sutton U.)  
14 G. HAND (Hendon)  
15 J. SWANNEL (Leatherhead)

Referee: K. J. Underwood

Linesmen:

N. S. Butler (red flag)  
C. J. Pennell (orange flag)

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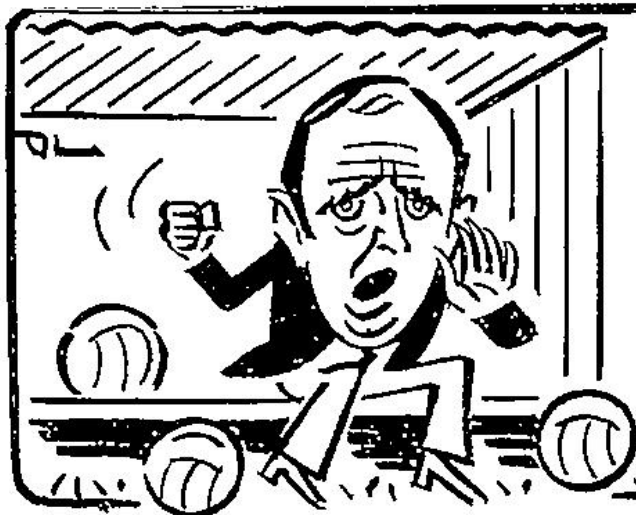
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## Manager's Moments

Following the excellent team performance in the Anglo Italian Trophy last week, we are again involved in a match that occurs as a direct result of last season. The League have chosen a strong team representative of the best in our competition and which could include four ex-Wanderers. It is indeed a tribute to us that the League have selected such a strong party and it is hoped that it will be a good example of what this standard of football can offer.

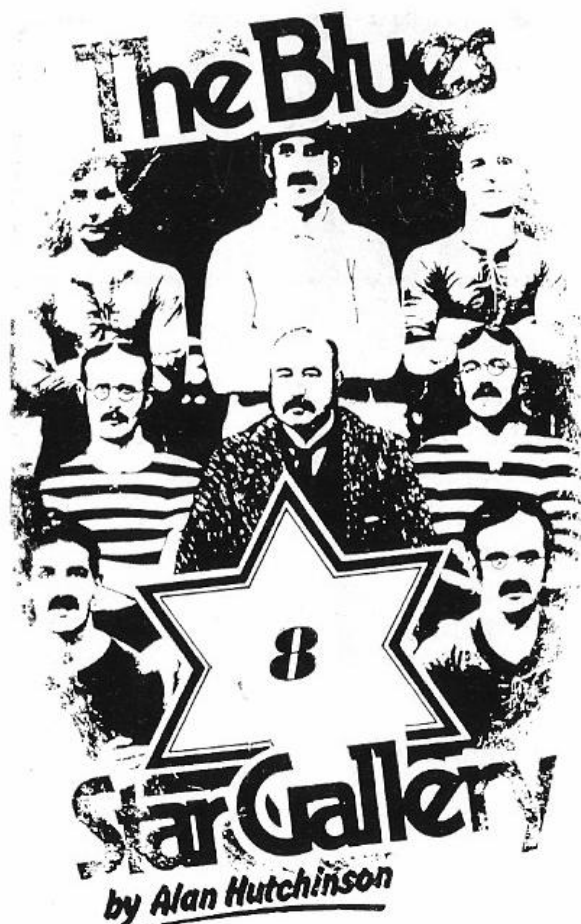
Last Wednesday evening proved to be one of my proudest moments since it was the first time that I personally had been involved in European football. 'John Delaney set an excellent example to the rest of the Squad with his best game to date since his return from Bournemouth and was, in the main, responsible for the level of team play that we saw. The Italians for their part contributed to an exciting game by continuing to attack, a rare sight in Italian football in recent years where skilful players have rarely fulfilled their potential due to poor organisation and lack of self-discipline.

Whilst last Wednesday is a memory, tonight's visit of the League XI is a reality and one

that could be more important than at first envisaged. Since the change in players' status the chance for individual players' ability to be recognised has greatly diminished and in fact to represent the Isthmian League this evening could be the only honour that players may win as 'individuals' this season. It so happens that the League Squad includes nearly a dozen 'old internationals' but what will we be able to say about the League XI in say four years time?

There are plans afoot to recognise players' individual talents whether they play for a top-of-the-table side like Enfield or a mid-table side like Hayes. I am sure that if we can restore some opportunity for individual players' abilities to be rewarded then we in turn will increase interest in *all* clubs and encourage *player loyalty* in some small way. From a spectator's point of view just think of the talking point there is when Don Revie selects his Squad—his selections don't *all* play for Man. United or Liverpool—it MUST be good for Southampton, the Second Division and 'football' that Mike Channon has been selected for the latest England Squad this week.





Freddie Gearing, the utility player, that's what he was known as to the fans of Wycombe. Born at Loudwater on 27th May 1920 Freddie started his football career with Loudwater Rovers before moving to Loakes Park to join his brothers Jack and Joe. Freddie was one of four footballing brothers, Jack was killed during the Second World War, Joe played at Wycombe before the War and Arthur was a regular with Flackwell Heath.

Gearing was 18 when he joined the Blues as a winger. He made a good impression and soon became a member of the 1st team in 1938. During the war he played for the R.A.F. against Belgium, Holland and also appeared in the Inter-Services Cup Final against the Army. Some of the names on parade that day included Bernard Joy, Bob Hardisty, Arthur Turner and Bernard Stretton. Fred says,

'This was a big occasion for me and provided me with real experience for my days to come at Wycombe. When I re-joined the club after being de-mobbed we had to pick up the pieces and start again.' Pick them up and start again they did. With Bert Crump as captain the side began to build for the future and during season 1948-49 the Blues had a great run in the Amateur Cup, reaching the 4th round and being drawn away to Bishop Auckland. This was to be the very first meeting with the side that has proved to be our 'bogey' team. Fred has his own opinions about this occasion: 'This for me was the start of the great days, until then everyone had talked about the 1931 cup win, and rightly so, but this really put us on the football map once again. Although we lost 6-2 we learned a lot that afternoon and should have beaten Bishops at Brentford two years later.' It was



**FREDDIE GEARING**

during this period that Bert Crump and other members of the club persuaded Fred to change from the right wing to right-half. 'I was very doubtful about the switch at first but decided to have a go and settled into the position very quickly.' He was first selected to play for the County in 1947 as a winger but his conversion to wing-half made no difference as he continued to play for Berks & Bucks for 4 consecutive seasons. In season 1949-50 Freddie Gearing was elected captain of the Wanderers, a position he held until he left the club in 1951. On greatest moments Fred considers the 4th round tie against St. Albans at Loakes Park in 1950 to be the best, 'The crowds had followed us all season in the Cup and sure enough you couldn't breath at Loakes Park on the day, 16000 had got in to cheer us into the semi-final. It was a great day.' He regards the Brentford semi-final as an anti-climax'. When the draw was announced all the lads were convinced that we could avenge the defeat suffered at Bishops' in '48. But when the time came to play at Brentford we found it very hard to raise ourselves enough to believe we could win. A penalty early on went against us, another goal and the start of the second half really hit our morale. Although we began to play our best football after that goal, and Johnny Way pulled one back, we missed many other chances on the day and Wembley was suddenly a dream again.'

At the end of season 1950-51 Fred moved to Finchley after 13 years at Loakes Park. He stayed one season at Finchley before going to Aylesbury United where he finished a splendid career in

1954. Today he enjoys pottering in the garden and spending holidays abroad. During the past three years Fred and his wife have visited Jamaica, Barbados and Kenya.

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<i>Appearances</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Goals</i>
Alexander, D.	9	2	3	0
Anthony, G.	11	2	3	1
Birdseye, P.	14	2	3	0
Bullock, D.	5	1	2	0
Cotterill, D.	2	0	2	0
Delaney, J.	13	2	3	3
Eaton, R.	13	2	2	0
Evans, D.	13	2	3	3
Harris, D.	7	0	3	2
Holifield, M.	13	2	1	0
Horseman, A.	14	2	2	8
Kennedy, H.	8	1	3	1
Mackenzie, G.	2	0	2	0
Maskell, J.	13	2	2	0
Mead, K.	14	2	3	1
Reardon, T.	11	2	2	1

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## RESULTS

Wimbledon (a) F.....	0—1
Witney Town (h) F.....	4—0
Staines Town (h) L.....	2—1
Slough Town (h) L.....	0—1
Kingstonian (a) L.....	1—0
Hayes (a) L.....	1—0
Sutton United (h) L.....	2—1
Oxford City (h) L.....	0—0
Tooting & Mitcham (a) L..	1—0
Hendon (a) L.....	0—2
Bishop's Stortford (h) L....	1—1
Addlestone (h) F.....	1—1
Dagenham (a) L.....	0—1
Monza (a) A.I.T.....	0—1
Enfield (h) L.....	2—1
Slough Town (a) L.....	3—4
Hitchin Town (a) L.....	0—2
Monza (h).....	2—0
Bishops Stortford (a) L....	2—2
Rothmans XI (h) F.....	
Walthamstow Ave. (a) L....	

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