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CLUB COMMENT

Good Afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen,

This afternoon we are very pleased to welcome you all back to Brooklands, and extend a special welcome to the Officials, Players and Supporters of the Tottenham Hotspur Football Club.

Last season Tottenham provided the opposition for one of our Public Practice Matches, and in fact sent a very strong and experienced side, winning the game by four goals to one. We can be certain that today's side will also be a strong one, combining some experienced players with some of their young professionals.

Next Tuesday, 5th August, 1975, Boro renew their friendship with ILFORD, when they meet them in a Public Practice Match at Newbury Park, kick-off 7.30 p.m.

The following Saturday, 9th August, COLCHESTER UNITED will be our visitors for our third Practice game, kick-off 3.00 p.m.

Boro commence their games full of confidence, and have high hopes of achieving a good measure of success in the Southern League's Division One South this season. Manager Ray Freeman signed three players (Ernie Batten, Paul Davies and Joe Peck), during the latter part of last season; and during the summer break has added Ray Harford (ex-Colchester United) to his professional squad.

We commence the first weeks of the new season with a few team problems. Terry Parmenter and Terry Tapping miss early games due to suspension by the Football Association, and David Mann is still fighting to regain full fitness following a bone fracture in a reserve game at the end of last season. There are also some doubts regarding Tony Burge and Robin Chandler.

The Cup Ties

Boro are due to meet Basingstoke Town in the 1st Round of the Southern League Challenge Cup. The 1st Leg will be played at Basingstoke, on Wednesday, 27th August, 1975 (kick-off 7.30 p.m.), and the return game will be played at Brooklands on Tuesday, 2nd September, 1975, kick-off also 7.30 p.m.

On Saturday, 13th September, 1975, Boro start battle in the F.A. Challenge Cup, when WARE (now an Isthmian League Club) will visit Brooklands for the first time.

Boro are exempt until the First Round Proper in the F.A. Challenge Trophy, and this match will be played on Saturday, 10th January, 1975.

The Essex Professional Cup has a New Look this season, and we understand that fifteen teams will be competing. Barking, Dagenham, Ilford, Leytonstone and Walthamstow Avenue and several other leading amateur clubs are now semi-professional and these are all included in the Essex Professional Cup Competition. The Draw for the first round is due to be made about this time and we will let you know details in due course.

Lucky Mascot

At every home game this season, Boro will come onto the field, led by a lucky team mascot. This afternoon Manager Ray Freeman's daughter Lisa will lead the team's entrance.

Continued on Page 4

continued from Page 3

We invite our young supporters (Girls and Boys under the age of twelve years at today's date) to apply for a turn as mascot.

Applicants should post their name and address, together with their date of birth and a telephone number if possible to the Secretary's Office.

Match Football

The Match Football for today's game has been very kindly donated by Mr. Chris. Hussey, to whom we extend our grateful thanks. The cost of match footballs increase every season and this kind gesture from Chris is much appreciated.

Cheerio for now, JOHN HALEY

TODAY'S MASCOT

Team Mascot for today's game is Manager Ray Freeman's daughter Lisa, who has been interested in football and the Romford team in particular since Ray played for the Club.

Lisa has no favourite player, and claims they are all her favourites.

She is ten years of age and attends St. Mary's Convent at Cambridge for her schooling. Much travelled, Lisa has been resident in the United States of America, and more recently, Norway. She has a younger sister Maria, who has also been with the family in Norway.

NEXT MATCHES AT BROOKLANDS

Saturday, 9th August, 1975

COLCHESTER UNITED

Public Practice Match

Kick-Off 3.00 p.m.

Saturday, 16th August, 1975

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MANAGER'S NOTES

Good Afternoon Everyone,

Welcome back to Brooklands all of you, and straight away a special 'thank you' to all the supporters who have helped out on the ground in the close season.

Today we entertain a Spurs XI in the first of our four pre-season games. I'm sure it will be an excellent work-out for our lads as will all our pre-season games, each providing a different type of opposition, and each having a different purpose.

The lads have worked really hard in their training and have positive thoughts about the coming season. Today Ray Harford makes his debut and I'm sure he will settle quickly as he is an excellent professional. I was delighted in being able to persuade Ray to leave Colchester and he will team up with Joe Peck and new Club Captain Dave Bickles in the heart of our defence. Dave Mann is making excellent progress and we expect him back within four weeks. Unfortunately Robin Chandler is now out for a considerable time with a confirmed hernia.

All managers are optimistic pre-season, but looking at my squad this season I feel I have special reasons to be.

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SOUTHERN LEAGUE First Division (South) FIXTURES 1975-76

1975	Opponents	Goals Grnd For Agst
Aug. 2	Tottenham XI (PP)	H 2-1
5	Ilford (PP)	A
9	Colchester (PP)	H
11	Leytonstone (PP)	A
16	Salisbury	H
23	Hastings U	A
27	Basingstoke (SLC)	A
30	Ramsgate	H
Sept. 2	Basingstoke (SLC)	H
6	Trowbridge T	A
9	Basingstoke T	H
13	Ware (F.A. Cup)	H
20		
23	Chelmsford C. (E.F.C.)	H
27	Poole T	A
Oct. 4†	Dartford	H
11*	Bognor Regis T.	A
18†	Ashford T.	H
25	Andover	A
28	Bognor Regis T	H
Nov. 1†	Waterlooville	H
8*	Bexley U	H
17	Chelmsford C. (E.F.C.)	A
22†	Guildford & D'king	A
29*	Dorchester	H
Dec. 6	Crawley T	H
13†	Canterbury C	H
20	Minehead	A
26	Metropolitan P	A
27	Ramsgate	A
1976		
Jan. 1	Dorchester T	A
3†	Folkestone	H

SOUTHERN LEAGUE First Division (South) FIXTURES 1975-76

1975	Opponents	Goals Grnd For Agst
10*	(F.A. Trophy)	
17	Trowbridge T	H
24†	Canterbury	A
31*	Dartford	A
Feb. 7	Poole T	H
14	Guildford & D.	H
21*	Ashford T	A
28	Bexley U	A
Mar. 6	Waterlooville	A
13	Andover	H
20	Salisbury	A
27	Crawley T	A
Apr. 3	Folkestone & S	A
10	Hastings U	H
16	Metropolitan P	H
17	Basingstoke T	A
19	Minehead	H
24	F.A. Trophy Final	
May 1	F.A. Cup Final	
† F.A. Challenge Cup dates		
* F.A. Challenge Trophy dates		

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Essex Professional Cup: Winners 1968-69; Finalists 1965-66
Eastern Professional Floodlight Competition: Winners 1967-68; Runners-up 1966-67, 1971-72
F.A. Amateur Cup: Finalists 1948-49; Semi-Finalists 1935-36, 1937-38

ROMFORD F.C. SUPPORTERS and SOCIAL CLUB NOTES

Good Afternoon Everyone,

Welcome to the 'new look' Brooklands for the start of the 1975-76 season. I hope everybody has had a good Summer break and is now rarin' to go! There has not been a break for some people though, as work has continued at Brooklands right through the close season. Just take a look around and will see some fantastic changes. Mr. Dave Welton (Romford Director) said he can remember grass, weeds, etc. growing on the terraces since 1965. The 'clock' has been painted splendidly and returned to its rightful place, even though it is getting too old to work. The groundsmen have done a fine job on the pitch and it is looking superb. Anyway, thanks to everyone who has helped bring Brooklands back to life, and don't forget the special evening in the Clubhouse tonight at 8 p.m. in appreciation for the many hours work put in by our supporters. Ray Freeman and some of the players will be present, so we hope you will all turn up, plus a guest.

A special welcome to Tottenham who will no doubt provide strong opposition this afternoon. Last season the Boro' lost 1-4 to 'Spurs in a similar fixture. Pat Ferry scoring Romford's first goal of the season in front of a 925 crowd. We also met 'Spurs in a friendly at home on 13th August 1966 when the visitors won again, this time by 3 goals to 1.

Other events during the close season:- On 22nd May, Ray Freeman met members of the Supporters Club in the Clubhouse in an effort to meet Supporters and discuss the Club etc. It was a huge success with 73 people present, and another meeting is hoped for in the future. Last Thursday the Supporters Club A.G.M. was held and the following officers were elected to serve on the Committee for the coming season:- Chairman: E. Paveley. Secretary: D. Sharp. Treasurer: P. Redwin. Entertainments: S. Pye. Assistant Entertainments: I. Jones. Membership/Publicity: A. Gollege. Transport: C. Hussey. Club Shop: J. Hughes. Assistant Club Shop: A. Mills. Again there was an excellent turnout of 83 members. Congratulations to Steve Redwin on becoming 'Supporter of the Year'. He was presented with a season ticket.

The Roy Sanders Sponsorship run last season in his testimonial year raised £130 plus. Thanks to everyone who sponsored Roy. It was a fine effort.

The Rothmans Quiz team finally completed their fixtures in June, losing 12-69 to Fulham. Although we finished bottom of the league with Arsenal on 2 points, the lads thoroughly enjoyed the matches. If anyone is interested in playing next season would they see me in the near future.

Membership can be paid in at the Social Club for the coming season and I hope we can surpass last year's total of 326. I hope you will make the effort to join, and 30p is not a lot to ask compared with many other non-league Supporters Clubs.

Don't forget the away match against Ilford on Tuesday where we have a score to settle. Let's make an effort to bring friends and old Romford supporters to Brooklands this season, and get right behind the team. There's plenty to look forward to and I am sure it is going to be a great season.

Andy Gollege

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