

Testimonial match for loyal servant



JOCK SHEPPARD . . . served under nine managers.

OLD PLAYERS RETURN TO HONOUR JOCK

ANY thoughts that Jock Sheppard's Testimonial match at Loakes Park on Sunday, would be a glorified exhibition game were dispelled this week by former Wycombe Wanderers captain John Delaney, writes **MICHAEL KNOX.**

Well-known both for his forthright play and comments, John said: "It won't be an exhibition. I want it to be a good competitive game, as a tribute to Jock."

Delaney will be a prominent member of the Wanderers' Seventies XI which will be playing against a Wanderers' Middlesbrough XI in honour of the club's long-serving and loyal servant.

Jock first joined Wycombe as a player from the Reserves in 1945 and after spells with Maidenhead, Chesham and Flackwell Heath, returned to Loakes Park as trainer in 1957.

Tribute

For the next 22 years, he tended the breaks, strains and cuts of the Wanderers players. When Brian Lee was appointed manager in 1968, Jock gave up his job as a polisher in the furniture trade to take over as groundsman, a job he was

forced to give up two years ago.

Mr Lee commented: "This game is but a small tribute that we can pay in bringing people together for Jock Sheppard."

Here is a selection of the players who will be in action on Sunday — Len Worley, Tony Horseman, Larry Pritchard, Geoff Anthony, Dave Bullock, John Maskell, Terry Reardon, Keith Mead, Alan Phillips, Mick Holfield, Peter Suddaby and Dave Alexander.

All but two of the legendary side which faced Middlesbrough in the 1974/75 campaign will be playing. How-

ard Kennedy, who organised a dinner for Jock several years ago, had already a school trip in the West Country, while Steve Perrin is sidelined through injury.

Brian Lee will manage the 'Middlesbrough' XI while his former assistant, John Reardon, takes charge of the Seventies XI, which will also include the current management team of Mike Keen and Alan Davies.

The match kicks off at 3pm, but an hour earlier begins a penalty competition for youngsters from the Risborough and Wycombe Boys League.

The competition has been

divided into various age groups — under 10, under 12 and under 14. The three best in each group will qualify for the final at half-time.

A football, autographed by the England team will be one of the prizes in an attractive raffle, and overall organiser Paul Birdseye is hoping for a big turn-out so that Jock will benefit financially from this entertainment.

Delaney put it slightly more bluntly. "I want people to get off their bums for two hours on a Sunday afternoon and show their appreciation for the Old Fella. He deserves it!"