

RIP former player Ian Barkus

Wycombe's oldest ex-player dies at 95



After a horrendous year when we lost eight members, Wycombe Wanderers Ex-Players Association are sad to report the death of another of their old heroes. Ian Barkus, the Association's oldest ex-player, passed away on Monday, just a month after celebrating his 95th birthday.

He first played for the Wanderers in 1944 then had another two-year spell from 1947. He totalled 16 games in a competitive Isthmian League side that also included such notable stars as Ken Butler, Jock McCallum and two other prolific scorers, Harold Hunt and Rex Avery.

Ian was particularly close to teammate Peter Birdseye and his family with daughter Helen god-mother to Paul and Barbi Birdseye's daughter Zoe.

Although Ian's playing career with the Blues ended at Loakes Park half a century earlier, he still enjoyed visits to the new ground and was a regular with his family at many of our social events including the annual quiz.

Our thoughts are with them all at this sad time.

John D Taylor (WWEPA)

Photo: Ian Barkus enjoying the WWEPA Quiz with friends and family back in 2016. Left to right: Granddaughter Katie, son Graham, Ian (centre), Maggie and Graham McColm.