



# Moving On



Crowds outside the Boleyn Pub

In recent years West Ham United had mixed fortunes on and off the pitch. In 2006, an Icelandic consortium bought the club for 85 million pounds. In 2010 new co-owners took over the club – David Gold and David Sullivan.

“West Ham Football Club has been my life. I’ve always wanted what’s best for the club and I feel we’re going forward now. We had dark times a few years back as I say, with the Icelandics, I really did worry about the club what direction it was going in... now since the two Davids have taken over I’m more than happy. I know they’re supporters and that makes me happy but I’m glad they’re business people ‘cause you can’t just run a club on heart, my faith is in them.” Stephen M (b. 1948, fan)

It was an emotional move from the Boleyn Ground to the London Stadium but progression, change and growth is at the heart of West Ham United’s history.

“You know what I think a little part of, like me and the club, it’s kind of died in a way because now with the Olympic Stadium it’s as if it’s sort of like a chapter’s closed and another one’s beginning. But my chapter is definitely at Upton Park and not really the Olympic Stadium...It’s like growing up in a house and you move, whenever you drive past that house the memories flood back and that feeling... that’s what Upton Park is for me.” Lee (b. 1979, fan)

“I’m obviously incredibly sad because all my memories of watching West Ham’ll be there, but I accept that I’m gonna be fifty soon and it’s not about me, it’s about my boys generation, it’s about people of your age who need to go and make their own memories, and they’ll be at Stratford, you know. But as I say, I accept that the club’s gotta move on, so move on. It’s not about my generation it’s about the younger generation, so this stadium’s for them.” Anon (fan)



Farewell firework display



Vacant Boleyn Ground

“I just think, it’s an exciting time moving forward for West Ham. It’s an exciting time for Newham if you like. It’s an exciting time for the people of East End. I’m really pleased that we’re moving ... you can’t stop progress and it’s an exciting time for the club to kind of increase themselves and because I want them to achieve and to increase their profile and maybe you know, maybe one day win the Premier League or something like that, who knows, but it’s, you know, exciting times.” David (b. 1964, fan)

The new grounds at Stratford



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