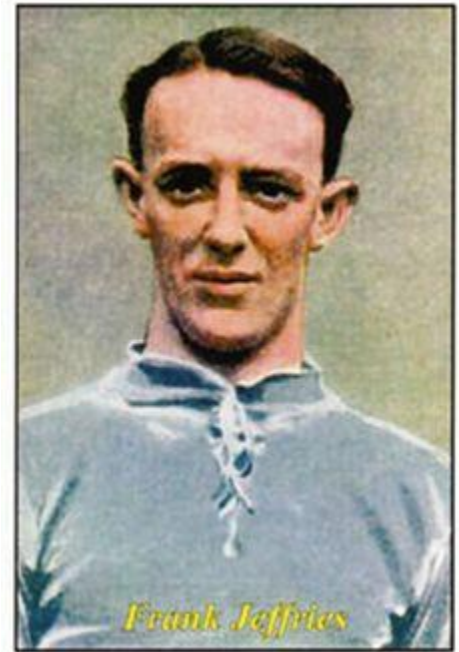




## Jefferis Breaks the Deadlock Everton and Brighton's First Encounter

Today marks the 17th meeting between Everton and Brighton and Hove Albion. Our League encounters date back to when The Seagulls gained promotion to the First Division under the managership of Alan Mullery. That encounter, on 8th December 1979, was a 2-0 home win for the Blues thanks to goals from Brian Kidd and Andy King.

We must go back a further 66 years, however, for the first time the two clubs locked horns. Brighton had been formed in 1901 and competed in the Southern League until admission was obtained to Division Three in 1920. The club was competing in the FA Cup long before that, however, and was paired with the Toffees in the 2nd Round of the 1912/13 season competition.



**Pictured: Frank Jefferis**

The Merseysiders travelled to the Goldstone Ground, having overnighted in London, on February 1st 1913. Athletic News reported:

*'The conditions were all against good football. The ground was very soft to begin with and was churned up into a very bad state before many minutes had gone. There was a persistent downpour of rain throughout the first half, and although fine subsequently, accurate passing and shooting were very difficult. Bearing this in mind, the football was surprisingly good, the pace being brisk and the players exceptionally keen.'*

Everton coped with an injury to Alan Grenyer which rendered him a virtual bystander and held out for a goalless draw in front of 11,000 spectators. A replay at Goodison Park was hastily arranged for the following Wednesday. Short mid-winter hours of daylight necessitated a 2:45 kick-off. With Grenyer out of contention, dual cricket and football international Harry Makepeace returned to the team after an injury-enforced absence. In the region of 30,000 supporters managed to get off work to attend the match.

Once again Brighton offered stiff competition and the match remained scoreless after 90 minutes. The tie then went into a period of extra time in which Everton's Frank Jefferis finally decided the outcome with the solitary goal. Jefferis had played for Brighton's Southern League Southampton FC before spending nine years at Goodison Park - during which he earned two senior England caps. Along with Makepeace and Grenyer he would contribute to Everton's second Football League title win in 1914/15. After spells at Preston and Southport Jefferis worked as a trainer for Millwall FC - it was there whilst working at The Den that role that he collapsed suddenly and died in 1938.

Brighton's revenge for the Goodison defeat would come eleven years later when the sides next met - again in the 2nd round of the FA Cup. It was a Goldstone Ground goalfest in which Jack Cock and Wilf Chadwick's goals for the Toffees were in vain as the hosts put five past Alfie Harland, the Blues' goalkeeper.

**Rob Sawyer – Everton FC Heritage Society**

THE KENTISH MERCURY; MA

## TRAINER DIES IN ARMS OF MILLWALL MANAGER.

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Mr. Frank Jefferis, trainer of the Millwall Football Club, collapsed in the offices of the club at the Den, New Cross, on Saturday, and died in the arms of his friend, Mr. Charles Hewitt, who is the general manager of the club.

After a successful playing career—he was “capped” for England many times—Jefferis went to Millwall as trainer in April, 1936, after a period in a similar post at the Southport F.C.

He was conscientious in his duties and he helped considerably in the success which Millwall has experienced in gaining promotion from the third to the second division.

His sudden death occurred just after he had experienced one of the happiest moments of his life, for he had been called into the offices to receive a cheque in recognition of his services.

On Saturday night the B.B.C. were to have broadcast a talk, and Mr. Jefferis was talking about it to the manager when he put his hands over his eyes and fell to the floor.

### THE INQUEST.

At Monday's inquest at Deptford, John Frank Jefferis, of 27, Hill-lane, Southampton, a police constable, son of the dead man, said his father, who was 50 years of age, had perfect health. When he last saw him on Friday night, he seemed perfectly well. He had been trainer to the Millwall Football Club for two years, and went to the club on Saturday morning.

Early on Saturday afternoon, while witness was at the Oval watching the cricket (Australians v. Surrey), he was told he was wanted at the Millwall ground at once. He went there and was told his father was dead.



**Mr. Frank Jefferis in his playing days.**

a rehearsal at the B.B.C. in the afternoon. When I told him I would pick him up in my car he was very happy. He then stood talking to me; turned half left, put his hands over his eyes and fell to the floor. I picked him up and held him in my arms, and we sent for a doctor and for other assistance.”

Answering the Coroner, Mr. Hewitt said he thought the trainer caught his head on the wall as he fell, or his head might have knocked against the floor. He added that he gave instructions that the first available doctor was to be called, and said he would like to pay a tribute to the doctor who came, for he was in the office within four minutes of being called.

**“ MY FRIEND WAS DEAD.”**

“When he arrived,” said witness, his voice shaking with emotion, “he told me my friend was dead.”

Dr. Arthur Davies, the pathologist, said there was a small bruise consistent