

# Blue Blood

**A Historical Everton Fanzine**

**Volume 7 issue 45**



**The Life Story Of Dixie Dean  
Premier of Theatrical Play**

**See page 4**

**Price £1.50**

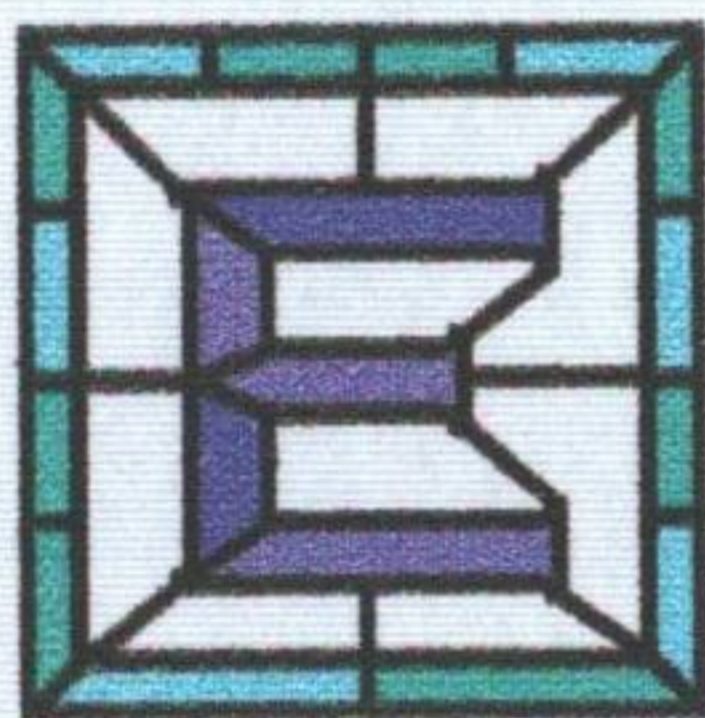
**On sale outside the Winslow before home games**



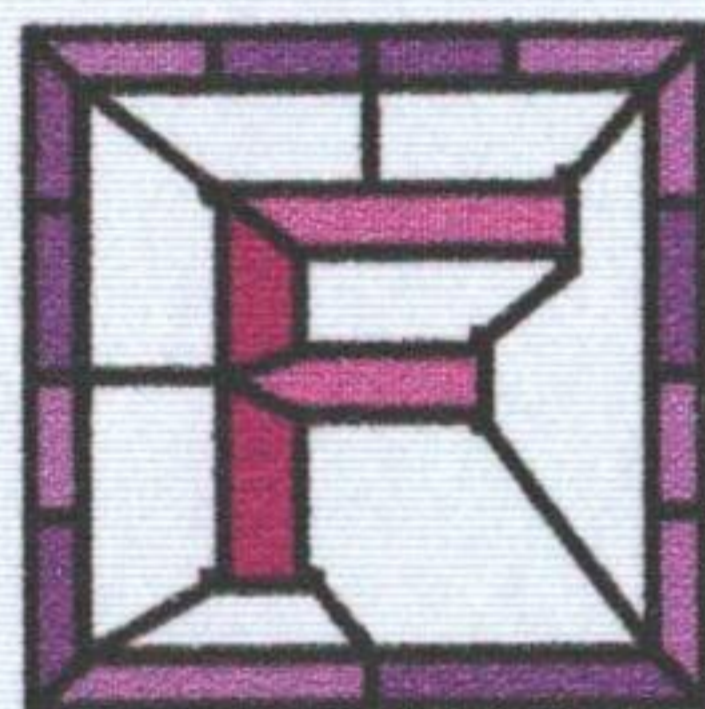
# Editorial Blue Blood

Editor George Orr email [george.blueblood@googlemail.com](mailto:george.blueblood@googlemail.com)  
Or write to Blue Blood 7, Beechwood, Forest Hill Skelmersdale, Lanc's WN8 6UT

Radio Merseyside can be heard on [www.bbc.co.uk/liverpool](http://www.bbc.co.uk/liverpool)



Thank you for all the articles and emails, keep up the good work. For those of you who are interested, on Friday nights between 8 & 8.30pm I do a small spot on Radio Merseyside 95.8fm, it's called Blue Watch and is all about E.F.C.



## No Obstructed Views

As long as your item is not racist, violent or offensive it will be considered for publication. All the views expressed in this fanzine are those of the contributor and not the editor so please don't sue me.



**Mick Lyons.**  
Born Croxteth

A fantastic all rounder. Mick 'Bled' for Everton and on more than one occasion. A fine leader of men never say die attitude. In the 1970's the fans loved him, he was the battler on the pitch.

434 +26 subs 39 goals

## Subscriptions & Single Issue Prices

A Single Issue will cost £1.50p (UK only)

Subscriptions : For Six Issues

U.K.

£12.00

Europe

£20.00

USA / Africa

£24.00

Rest of the World £26.00

Please make all cheques payable to George Orr  
Back Issues available from me outside the Winslow (not many left)



## Editors Page "Orrsome View"

So much has happened since the last issue but first of all I must wish a speedy recovery to the Cannonball Kid Dave Hickson. I was outside Goodison on the Saturday when the ambulance passed by. I was told that it was for Dave and that he had collapsed. It was shocking news and matched the grey dull day. During the game which we won 7-1 my thoughts flickered to Dave, I hoped that he would pull through and be told the score as this would be bound to lift his spirits. Merry Christmas to everyone this issue will be on sale at the Fulham, Bolton and Arsenal home games throughout December the next issue will not be until January 2008.

I ended the last issue saying that Luton stood in our way of a good Cup run, they were duly put to the sword and we were rewarded with another away game. West Ham, not the hardest but at home would have been nice.

Birmingham at home and what a game, we didn't get into it at all until the dying minutes, just hoof, hoof, hoof from Howard, why does he do it? The midfield was by passed all the time and it wasn't until the late subs that we played the ball on the floor and won.

Nuremberg away and the Carnival began, the People the Police and the Evertonians were all up for it. What a great advertisement for English Football Fans but of course UEFA will still say it was a RISK Match!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Young Victor Anichebe once again our hero, what a good lad he is turning out to be, hard but fair, skilful but not greedy, a great Evertonian in the making.

Chelsea away, will Everton turn up was the Cockney Press attitude, well we turned up alright and the £120,000 a week glamour boys were made to work for their overpaid jobs. Cahill scored a "Beaut" and the London Lovelies lost two points.

The International Break, I will not say anything here, it's hard to type when you are laughing.

The shock news that Alan Irvine was to leave and join Preston as Manager meant that Andy Holden was called up to the first team for the visit of Sunderland. I hope that Andy gets the job, what he has done in bringing on the likes of Vaughan, Anichebe and others who have all come into the first team with the right attitude is no mean feat.

Sunderland Where do you start? They were not the best opposition but hey, no one else has hammered them and we played some sweet football. Pienaar, Osman, Cahill, Yakubu all candidates for Man Of The Match and that is leaving out Arteta who was excellent but did overdo it a bit. I was annoyed with Joe Royle on Sky TV's Football First, he said typical ROUTE ONE Football when Yakubu scored the first. Well Joe when a goal like that is scored by any of the Top Four Clubs it is always described as a Defence Splitting Pass from the goalkeeper, why isn't it the same when Everton do it? Cahill's two goals weren't Route One, neither was Osman's, the performance is one which we have been threatening for ages. Neville at right back was not giving the ball away in mid field. There was no Tiny Hibbert to mess things up and the ball was played on the ground from the defence to the midfield to the forwards, it's called "FOOTBALL" and that is all we have ever asked Moyes to play, not work rate, not Hoof, but passing skill. Lets hope that Andy Holden had something to do with it and Moyes promotes him.

I along with Paul Wharton and others mentioned inside this fanzine went along to Goodison Park on Thursday 29th November to help launch the Dixie Dean Story a theatrical play about the Great Man. For many months Arts2U, The Everton Shareholders Association, Paul Wharton, Myself, Keith Wilson, Steffi Underhill and others have been trying to get Everton to commit to this project, it has been hard work, they have dallied at every opportunity and have not in the end given assured support even though they seemed to have done so. On the Launch Night they did not send any official to represent the Club, they were at Radio City's Sports Night which obviously is more important than Dixie Dean's Achievements. Sky T.V. did however turn up and gave it great coverage, Radio Merseyside had Gillian Beattie in for a "Live" interview. Everton did send a young girl to take quotes from us to put out on their Web Site. It is unbelievable that a Club that is owned by a Theatrical Man, more than used to putting on Hit Plays show little interest in a Play about the Greatest Ever English Goal Scorer, The Greatest Ever Merseysider, The Greatest Ever Everton Player, But we the fans will not forget.





# Arts2u "The Dixie Dean Story"

## Premier Studios

Paul Wharton and George Orr from the Everton Shareholders Association advised that our exciting 2008 project in honour of Dixie Dean would be of interest to you and close to your heart. Arts2u are working in conjunction with the Everton Shareholders and Everton to pay tribute (in various guises) to the man, heralded as Merseyside's greatest hero and to ensure that a slice of the great club's history is prominent in the 2008 City of Culture.

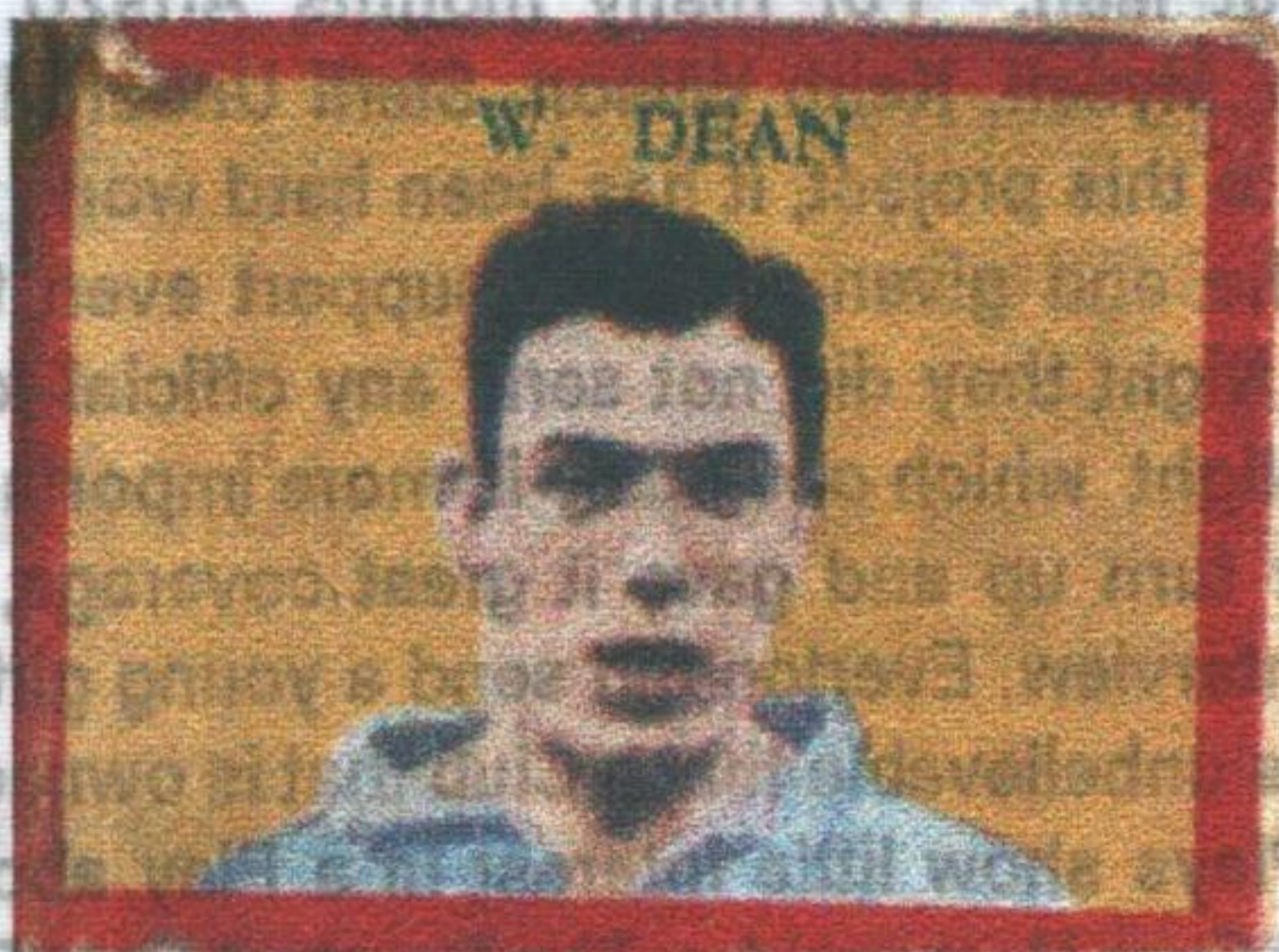
*Our aim is to reach the younger generation and bring awareness of Dixie Dean and his legacy. 5<sup>th</sup> May 2008 sees the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of an unbeaten record of 60 goals in one season.*

In short, Arts2u are producing *The Dixie Dean Story* written by John Keith (Dixie Dean's biographer), to be held at the Liverpool Olympia Theatre in West Derby Road. This theatre experience will incorporate digital technology, music and football. The two-hour production will showcase Dixie's triumphant times through to his dying day. There will be special guest appearances from Dixie's family with participation from past and present football players. Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> May 2008 will see the Premiere and Corporate performance, Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2008 – an afternoon performance specifically for Merseyside schools followed by a further evening performance.

In the build up to Dixie Dean's anniversary, Arts2u are outreaching to schools and youth groups throughout Merseyside for football training (with professional players) and competitions of poetry and art. Finishing with an awards presentation held on the historic day of May 5<sup>th</sup> 2008.

If you have any questions or require further information about sponsorship, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to speaking with you in the near future.

Yours sincerely  
Lesley Beattie  
Director of Sponsorship  
[lesley.beattie@arts2ulimited.com](mailto:lesley.beattie@arts2ulimited.com)





Arts2u  
98-100 Longmoor Lane  
Aintree  
Liverpool  
L9 0EF  
Tel: 0151 2847067.  
Email - [info@arts2ulimited.com](mailto:info@arts2ulimited.com)  
Website [www.arts2ulimited.com](http://www.arts2ulimited.com)

As you will have seen on the cover and page 4 I have been working hard to make sure the name Everton is not overlooked next year in the Capital Of Culture Celebrations. Paul Wharton a fellow Evertonian and shareholder came up to me outside the Winslow in March 2007 and said that he thought Everton were getting no mention in the build up to the celebrations. I agreed with him and between us we decided to do something about it. Paul is a very busy man, he is self employed and every minute is precious to him. I also have to work 40 hours a week for my living and also spend hours on the computer getting Blue Blood ready to hit the streets.

2008 sees the 80th Anniversary of Dixie Dean's 60 Goals, it is also Everton Football Clubs 130th Birthday. And it is also the 120th anniversary of the formation of the Football League, which Everton were one of the 12 Founding Members.

We arranged a meeting with Everton to explain what needed to be done, who we were going to contact and if they would help us financially.

During the time we were waiting for the meeting to be arranged Paul contacted Arts2u a Theatrical Group. They were positive from the start, full of ideas and enthusiasm.

I contacted John Keith, Dixie Dean's Biographer about producing a Play of Dixie's life. He responded and told me he had been planning a Play on the Great Man but would be delighted to join in with us.

Things were taking shape, I wrote to certain people, who will remain anonymous because for all their self importance and position, they didn't reply. Undeterred I carried on, Steffi Underhill a Student from John Moores University and Season ticket holder at Everton, joined us. Keith Wilson an Evertonian through and through also came on board.

Emails were sent around the World to various Evertonians, most responded with helpful ideas.

I wrote to Arsenal Football Club explaining that on the May Bank Holiday Weekend 2008 Everton visit the Emirates Stadium and that when Dixie got his 60th goal on May 5th 1928 Arsenal were the opposition at Goodison Park.

I asked if we could have a page in their programme for the Everton visit recalling the event. They agreed and we will confirm this in the New Year, they also agreed to let Dixie Dean's Great Grandson Daniel wear a Replica Everton Kit from the 1928 Season and be the Mascot for the day. Scarlett Dixie's Great Granddaughter will also be dressed as the Toffee Lady.

Paul had during this time met with the Everton Shareholders Association and told them of his aims. He also convinced them to put on a Dinner in Honour of the event, the Shareholders Association have been excellent in their co operation with this event.

The meeting took place at Goodison Park with Robert Elstone who seemed impressed by our proposals, however he could not confirm anything from Everton until he took it HIGHER. Another meeting was arranged

Continued on page 6



## Dixie Dean The Play

The next meeting with Everton went very much along the same lines as the first, Everton full of enthusiasm but no financial commitment was forthcoming.

It was obvious that if we were to succeed in doing what we intended then we would need sponsors and plenty of them.

Everybody involved contacted whoever they thought could help, but when you ask for money it will always be a uphill struggle.

Arts2u's Gill Beattie started to contact possible investors and laid out a sponsorship package. Everything was printed out and sent to the people we thought could help.

Newspapers and radio Stations were asked to spread the word. A launch date was set for Thursday 29th November at Goodison Park. The Media were invited and I opened the Evening with a short talk about who and what we were, I then passed over to Gillian Beattie who in turn asked Paul Wharton to announce the Shareholders Dinner. Sky TV turned up as did Blue Kipper, Dixie Deans family, David France, John Keith was on the head table as Dixie dean's Biographer and chief organiser of the Dixie Dean Play.

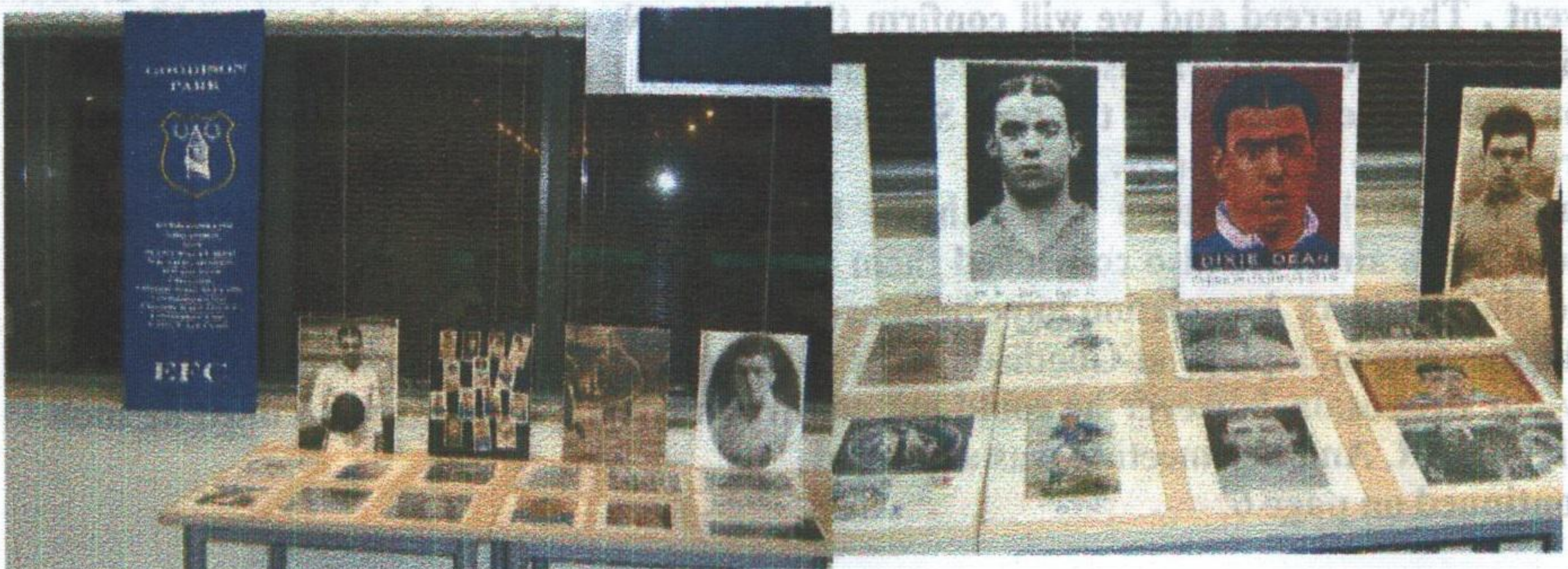
The press launch looked good, the display was well received and Scarlet & Daniel Dixie Deans Great Grandchildren both dress up Scarlet as the Toffee lady & Daniel as a player from 1928 they looked brilliant.

We have done all we can to promote this event it now up to you the fans to make it happen by buying tickets and getting people to help sponsor it.



Top photo Me getting interviewed by Peter Stevenson from Sky TV Top Middle old style ball & boots plus rattle. Top right Scarlet & Daniel in their kit' Bottom pictures show some of the presentation photos.

George Orr





## **EVERTON PLAYERS CAPPED ONCE (PART ONE)**

While at an academy match recently Ian Kidd and myself were in a discussion about players capped once by the home countries and Eire, while at Everton. We came up with the obvious ones such as Colin Harvey (criminal under use of talent) and David Unsworth, so I decided to do a bit of research. I came up with 30 players who fall into this category made up as follows :- England 15, Scotland 9, Wales 3, Eire 3. No Northern Irish players fall into this category. In the first part of this article I include brief details of the 15 English players :-

**Walter Abbott** ; Long serving inside-left was capped v Wales 1902, his only cap. Played in both 1906 and 1907 FA Cup Finals.

**W. Baker** ; Famous amateur international goalkeeper who earned 1 of his 2 caps in 1905 while on the Everton staff

**M. Ball** ; Full back who appeared as a second half substitute in Sven Torp Eriksson's first game as England manager. Still waiting a second but now increasingly unlikely chance

**T. Booth** ; Like Baker gained 1 of 2 caps while with Everton in 1903. Was unfortunate enough to miss both the 1906 and 1907 FA Cup Finals through injury.

**W. Cresswell** ; Gained 7 caps in total but only his last v N Ireland 1929 at the age of 32 was as an Evertonian. Part of successive Champions /FA Cup winning teams of 1932/1933.

**N. Cunliffe** ; Known as Nat unfortunate to be a contemporary of first team then Lawton, but good enough to win 1 of his 2 caps while at Goodison v Belgium in 1936. Despite limited appearances still managed to score 5 goals for the Toffees.

**D. Dobson** ; Cost a record fee for a midfielder when purchased from Burnley in 1974. The elegant midfielder was chosen by Joe Mercer to play against Czechoslovakia at Wembley, consequently substituted and never seen again at international level. Won 4 other caps. Has recently written a football related children's novel.



**R. Downs ; 3 caps included an appearance in 1920 v Ireland while at Everton. This full back was renowned for his skill at the relatively new sliding tackle technique.**

**C Harvey ; The white Pele made his sole appearance for the national team ,on Maltese pitch resembling Blackpool beach in 1971. Part of the fabled Holy Trinity criminally ignored along with Howard Kendall who amazingly only ever made the England replacement bench. Why they never were selected as a unit is one of footballs biggest mysteries.**

**R. Howarth ; 1 of 5 caps earned as an Everton player in 1894. A skilful full back who on leaving the game became a fully qualified solicitor.**

**A. Kay ; Earned his only cap soon after signing for the Blues in 1963. Managed a goal scoring debut v Switzerland in that year but was subsequently suspended sine die for alleged match fixing while at Sheff Weds. But for that would surely have won more caps even allowing for the presence of the late great Bobby Moore.**

**D. Temple ; Everton legend whose dramatic goal clinched the FA Cup win of 1966 after being capped once only v West Germany in 1965. Was in Alf Ramsey's World Cup squad of 40 but did not make the final 22 being omitted for John Connelly and Ian Callaghan. Was a prolific goalscorer in schoolboy football prior to signing for Everton, Still seen at most Everton home matches.**

**T.White ; Centre forward who converted to centre half and was good enough to win 7 caps in total but only 1 v Italy as an Evertonian.**

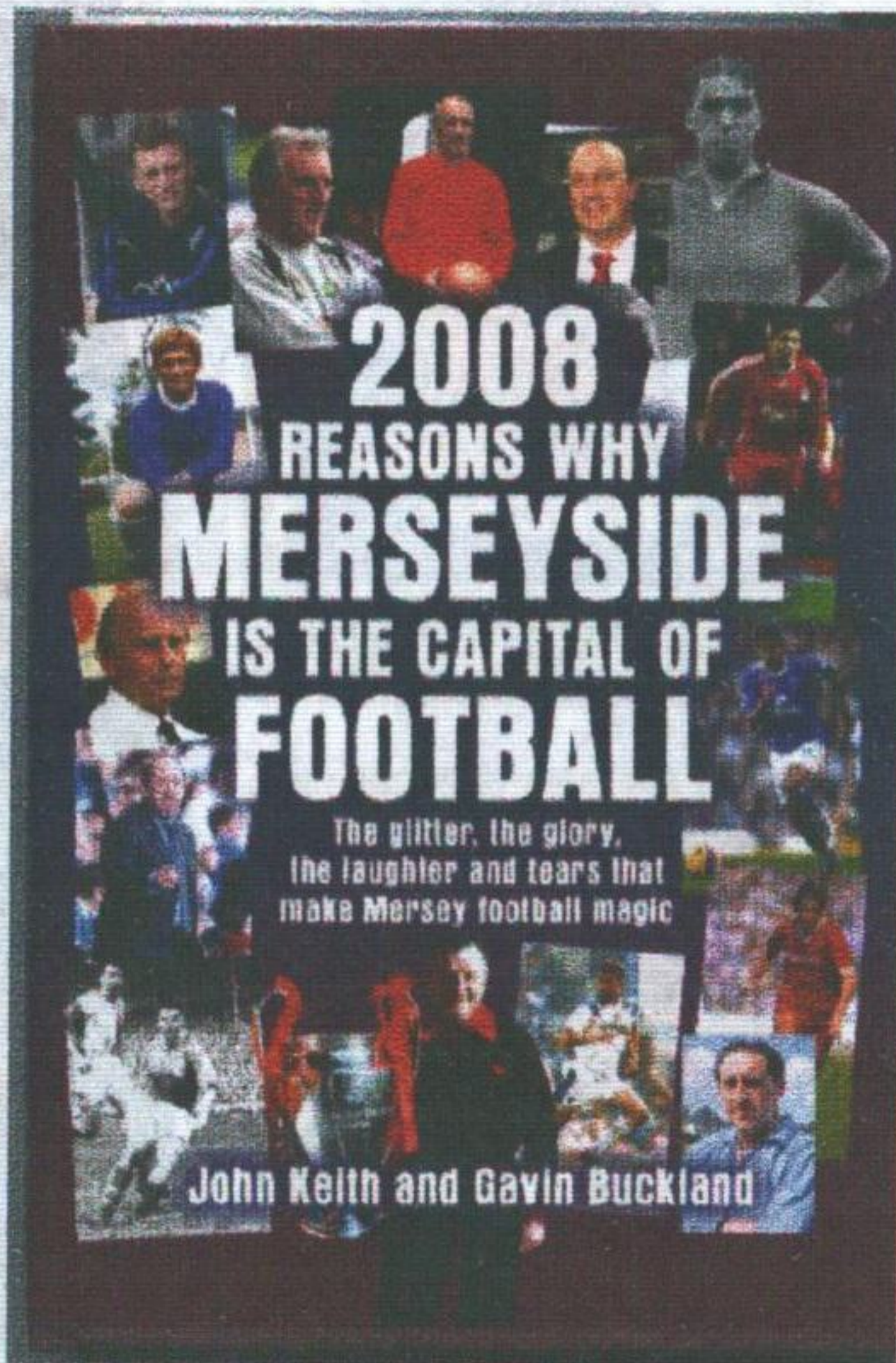
**S.Wolstenholme ; A 1904 appearance v Scotland while at Everton was 1 of 3 caps for this stylish wing half.**

**D.Unsworth ; Soon after a commanding FA Cup Final appearance v Man Utd at Wembley , Rhino made a quick return to the Old Stadium as part of an " experimental" England team ,v Japan a matter of weeks later. Understandably several of the "experiments " were less than convincing and England scrambled a 2-1 win against their lowly opponents. David was never selected again but served Everton magnificently in two periods at the club. Still plays for Championship side Burnley after spells at West Ham ,Aston Villa( six days) ,Portsmouth , Wigan and Sheffield United .**

**The second part of this article will look at players from the other home countries and Ireland. Barry Hewitt.**



## Christmas Book Review



This excellent book is unique because it is a perfect opportunity for every Evertonian to give a Liverpool fan a book on Everton's achievements under the guise of Merseyside. Seriously though this is a fantastic book crammed full of amazing facts and figures but never boring it is one of those 'unputdownable' books .

I read it from the start, though others might want to dip in and out for the facts that they have long been searching for.

It shows just how much Football means to this City and it's people but not only the City itself, Tranmere get excellent coverage as do Southport, Skelmersdale and others. Start the Celebration Of Culture early buy this book now.

John Keith and Gavin Buckland have excelled themselves in this book. Many rare photos and snippets of long lost events are brought back to life 360 pages of Gold and only £16.99 .

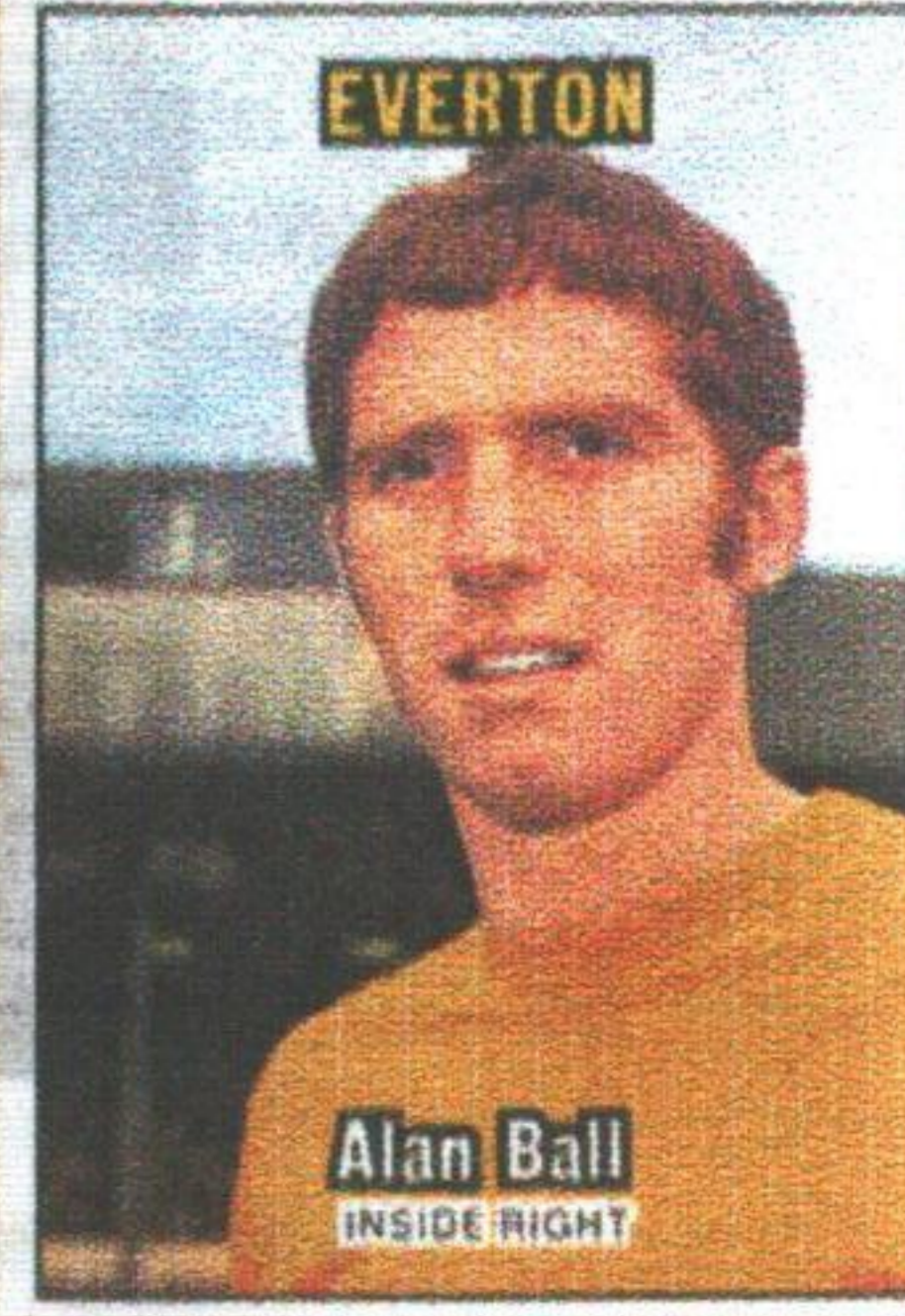
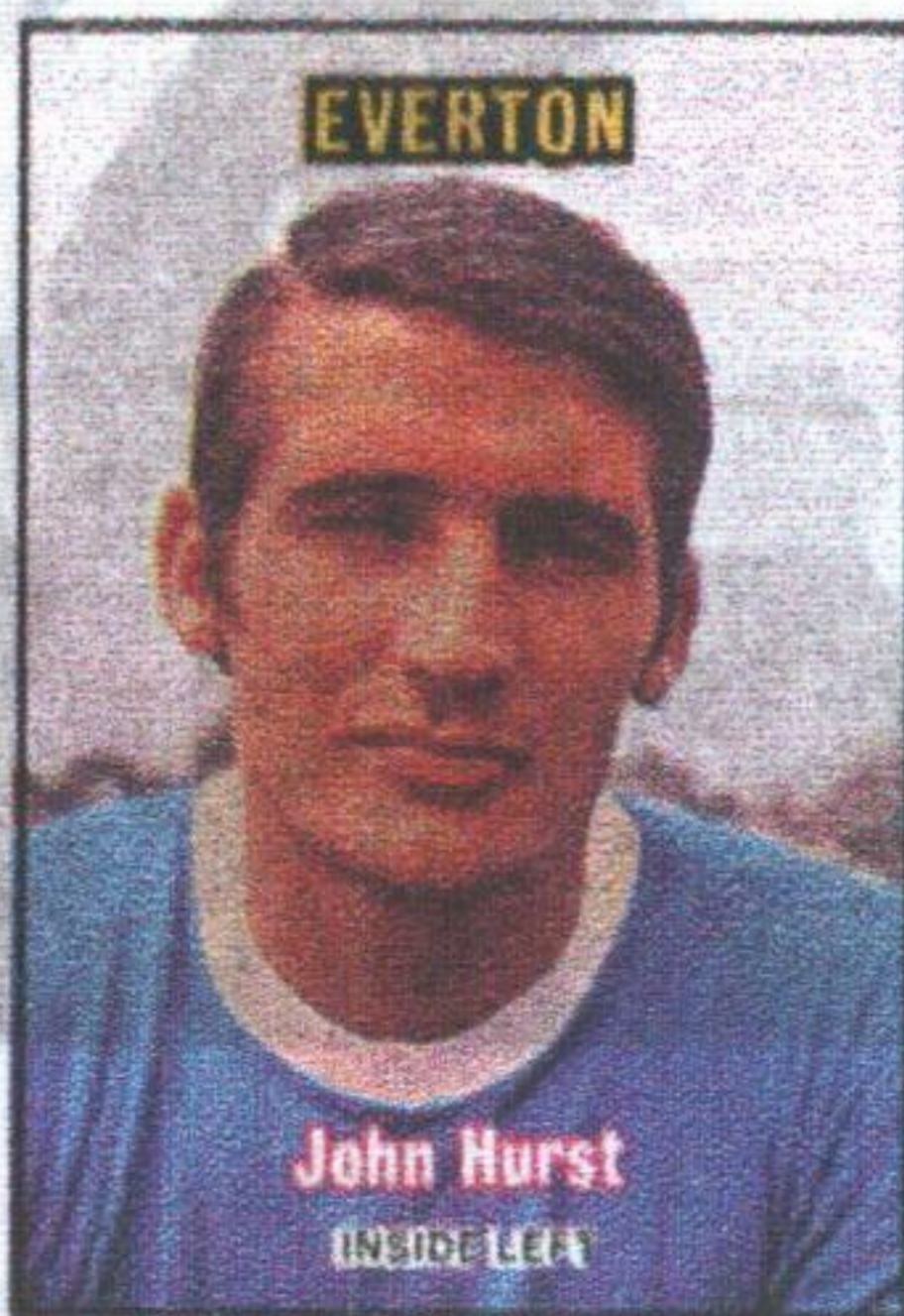
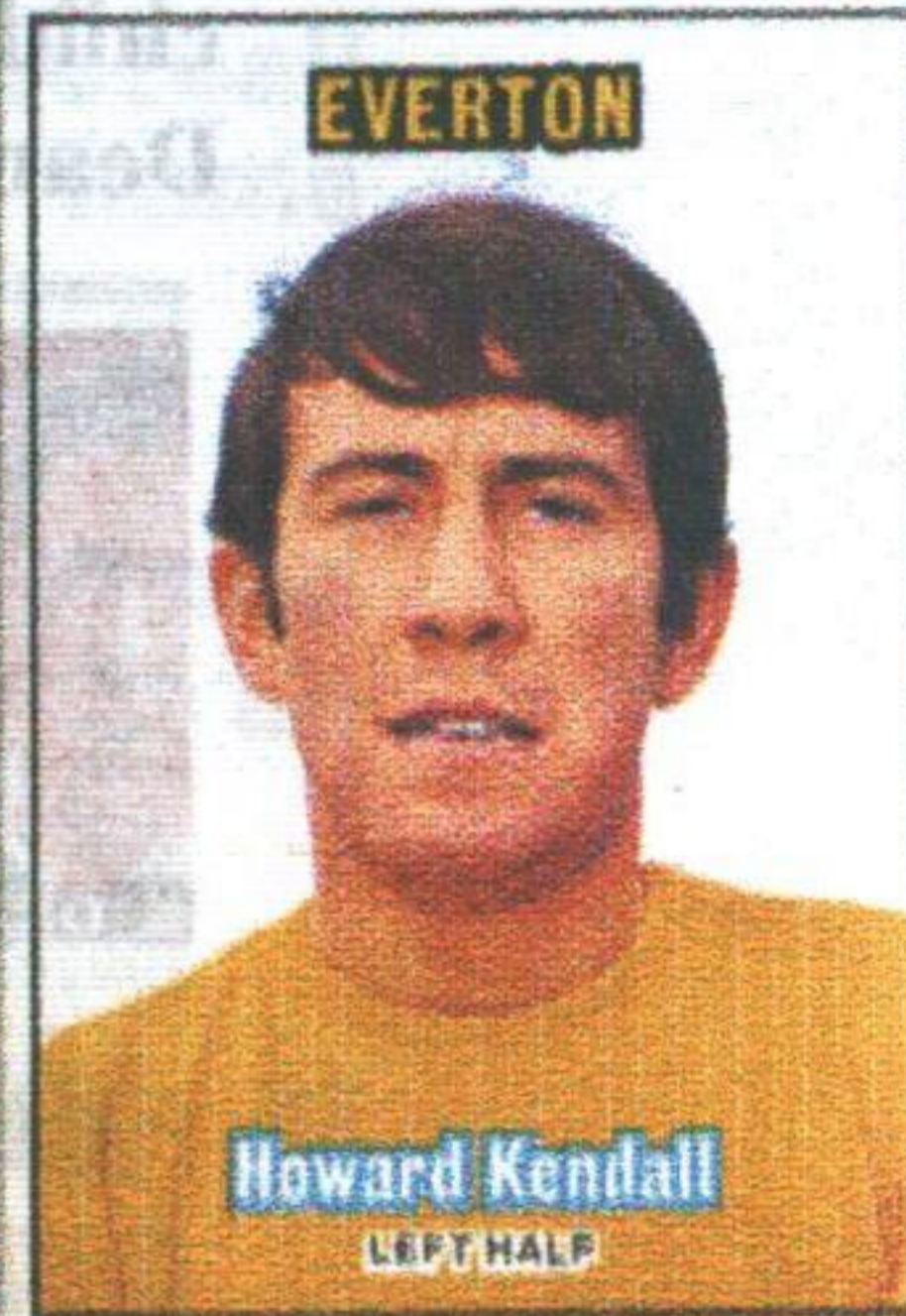
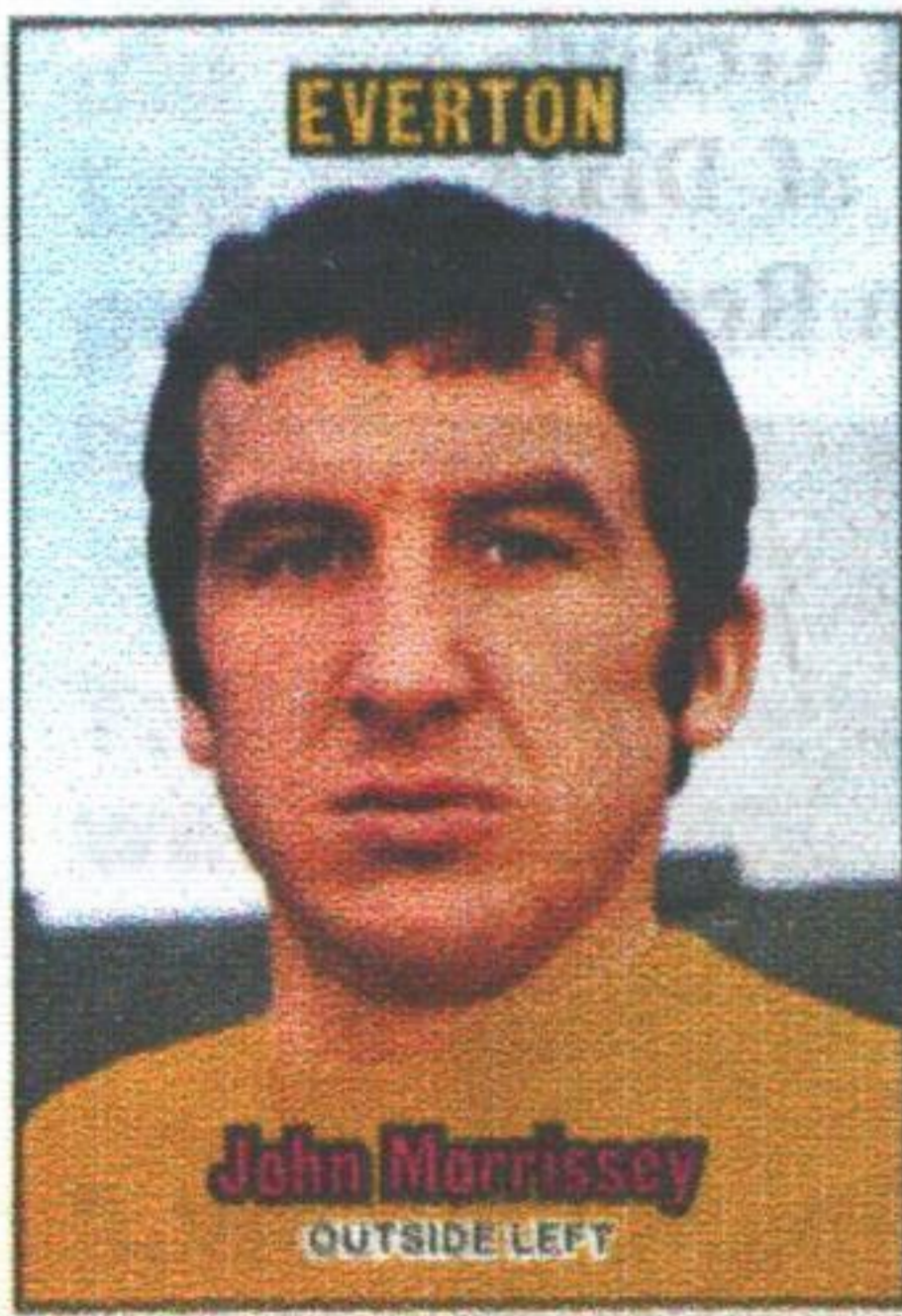
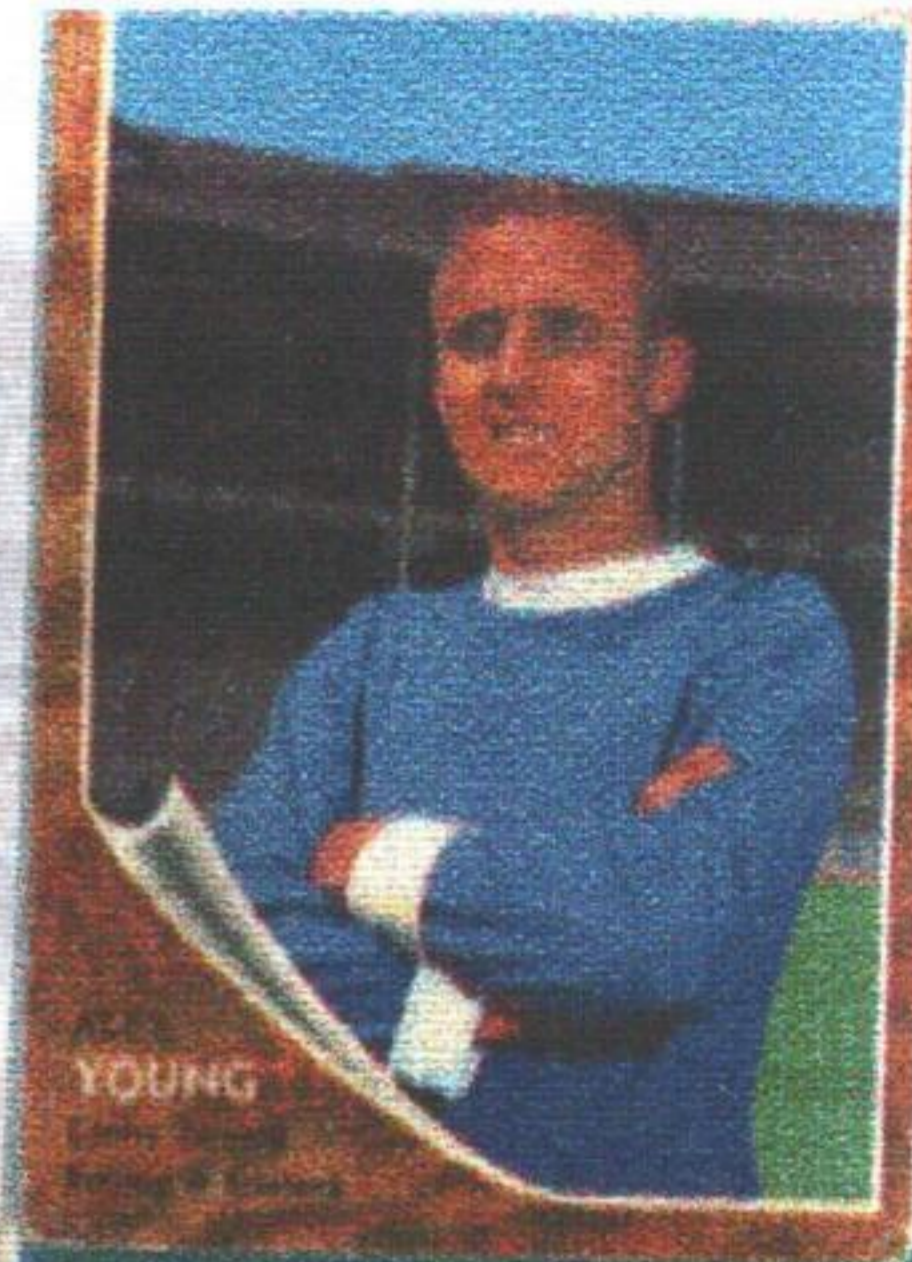
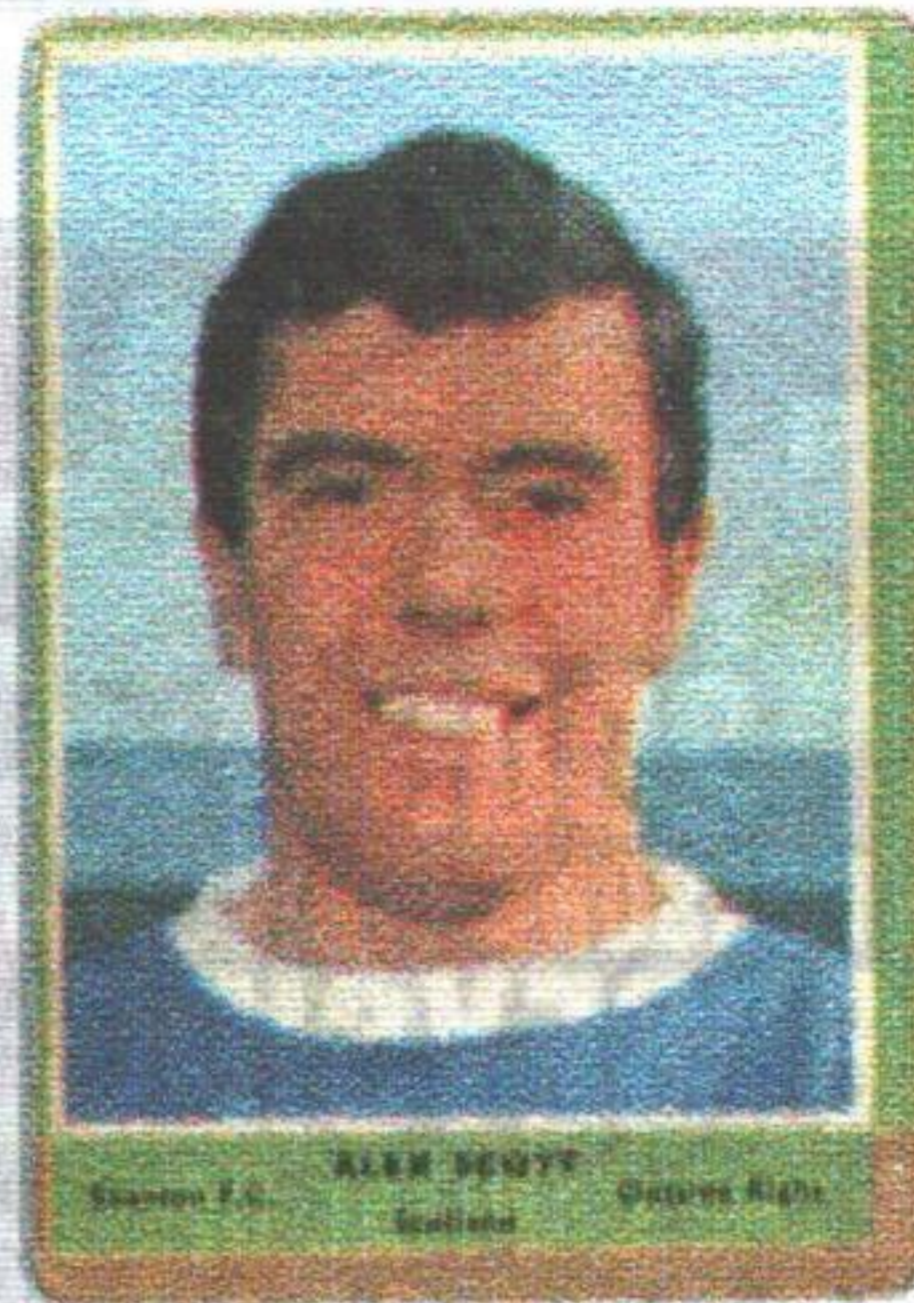
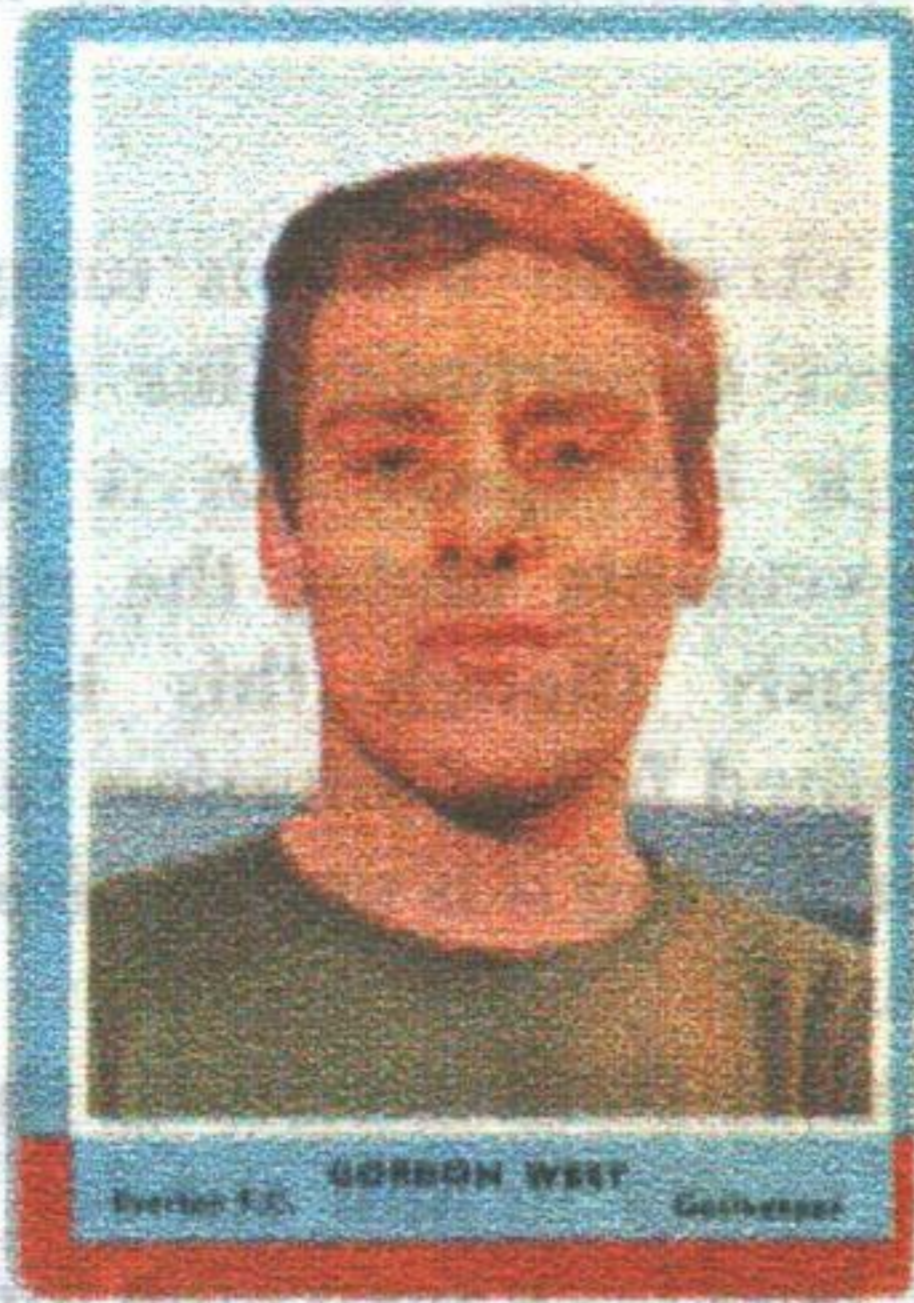
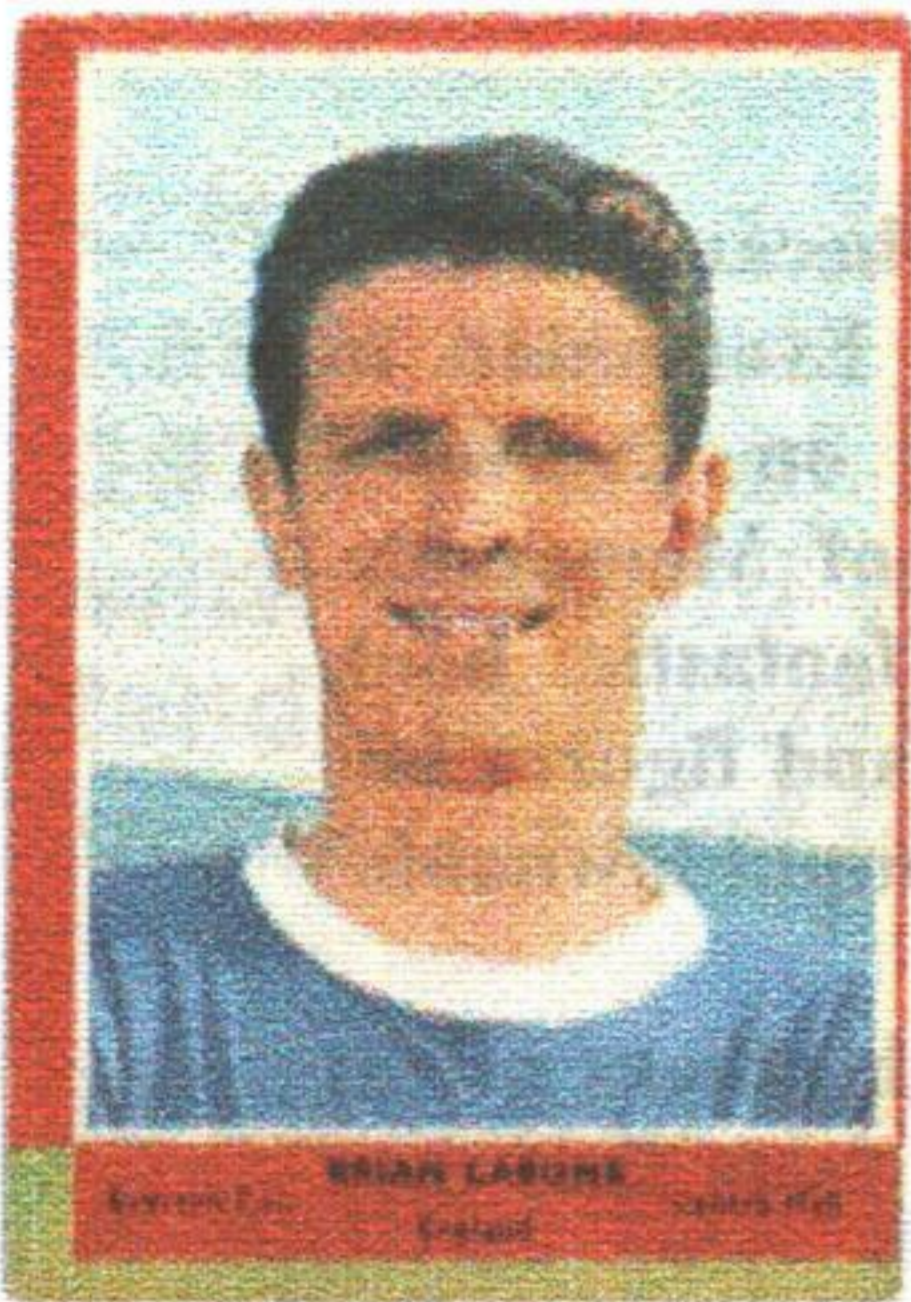
### Dixie Dean Launch Night

**The Replica Outfits to be Worn by Dixie Dean's Great Grandchildren during the Capital Of Culture Celebrations of Dixie Dean's 80th Anniversary of his 60 Goals In One Season Record**





# Everton Players in The 1960's





# Return Of "The Derby" 1962

WITH SO MANY SCOTSMEN AVAILABLE FROM BOTH CLUBS —



—THE GAME COULD LOOK LIKE A BURNS NIGHT AT GOODISON—

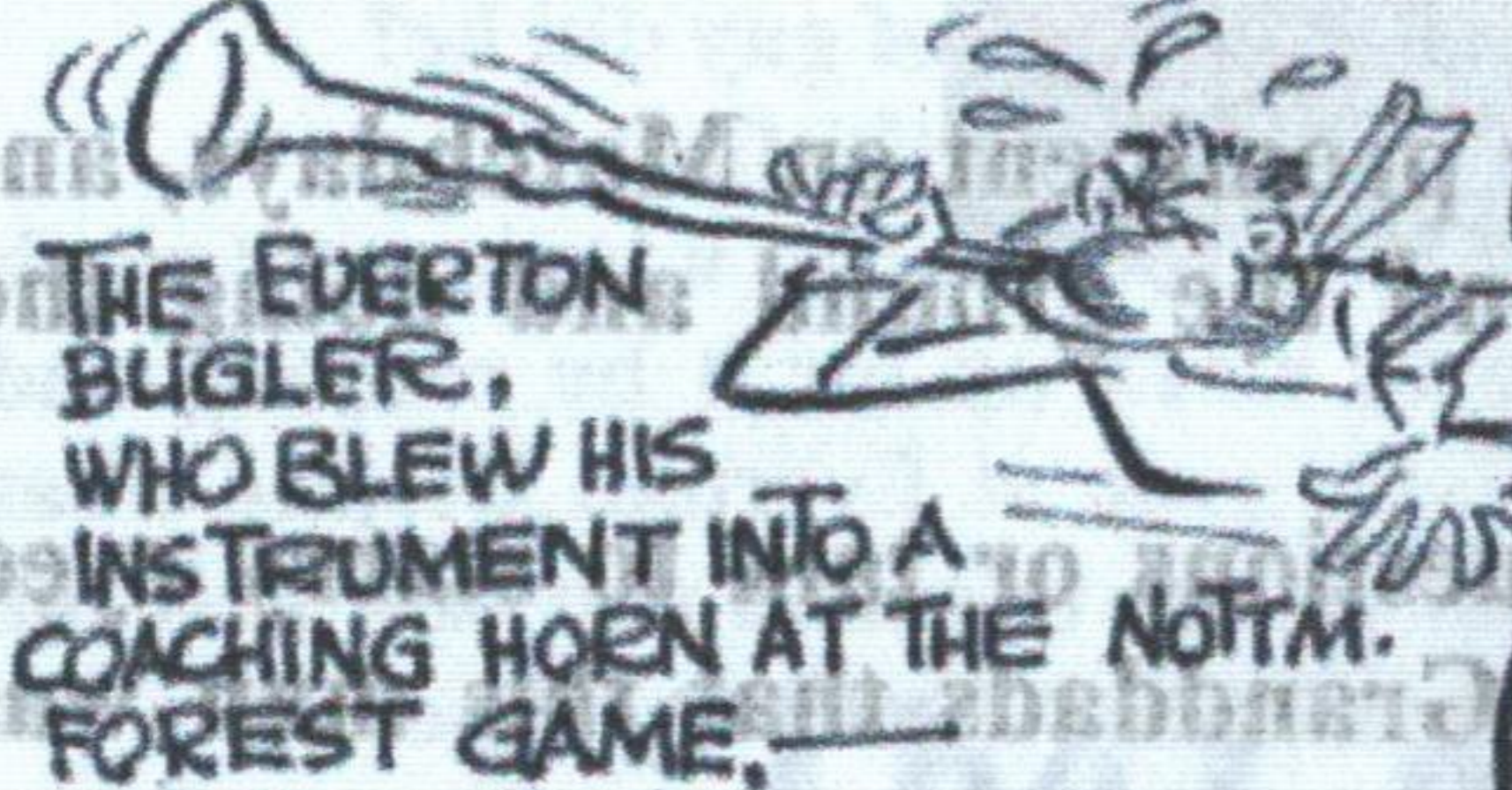
—AND EVEN ROY VERNON HAS CHANGED HIS NAME TO ROB ROY TO SWELL THE CROWD.



EVERY PREPARATION HAS BEEN MADE FOR THE MATCH. THE PLAYERS ARE TRAINED TO THE LAST HAIR AND —



JIMMY MELIA IS TRAINED TO THE LAST HAIR BUT 127.



—AND SO TO THE GAME — AND MAY THE BETTER TEAM WIN!



## The Cannonball Kid

After the sad news about Dave Hickson the other week I thought that maybe we do not tell these heroes from the past just how much they mean to us.

Dave Hickson was my first Everton hero, my Dad took me to Goodison in 1958 and it was as if an electric light bulb had been switched on inside my head, I had been lead out of the dark into the light.

The ground, the atmosphere and most of all the players had a huge effect on me. Dave Hickson was a STAR he was invincible up there with Zorro, Tarzan and Batman. No comic book had a hero like Dave, he could run through walls, he would carry on with blood dripping down his shirt. He was scared of no one, even the Referee, nobody could restrain this man, the word Unstoppable was invented to describe Hickson.

I would go home to my house in Bootle glowing like the Ready Brek Kid. At school on the Monday I told all my mates about Super Dave. They all listened in awe, "How Big Is He" I was asked, "Seven Foot" I replied. "Did he score" "Yes he got a hat trick" he only got one actually but they wouldn't know.

Even my best mate Kevin Mosher, who was always saying he liked Liverpool better than Everton was impressed. After a few games of football in the Park, where I was Hickson, of course, he saw just how tough and brilliant Dave was by my impressions of the Great Man.

Kevin became a True Blue like myself and still goes to the matches 40 odd years later.

Dave Hickson was a Blue Eyed Blonde Haired Hero who played his heart out for Everton, he didn't shirk a tackle and he didn't let anyone stop him from his quest, which was to put the ball in the net for Everton.

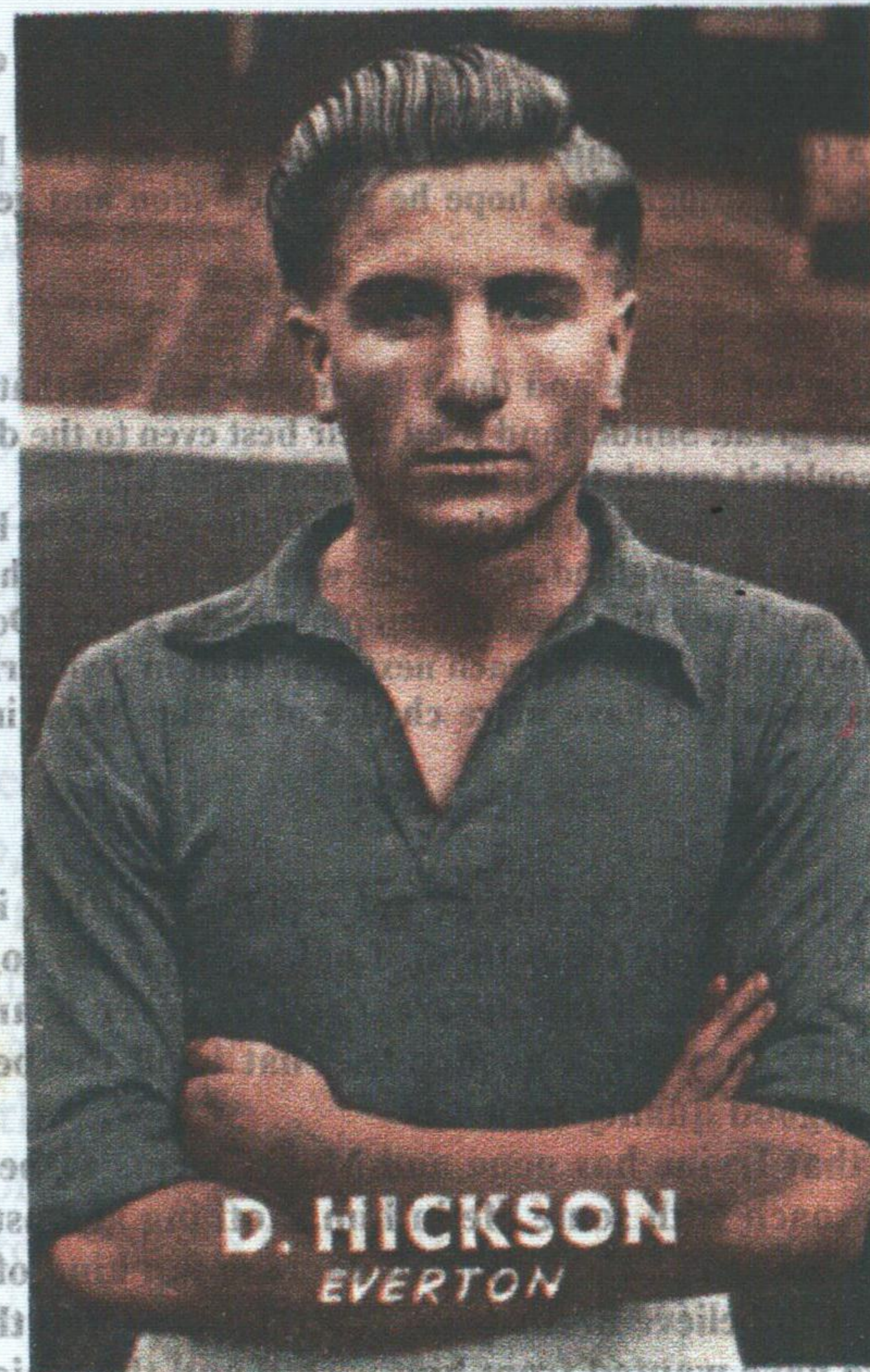
Over the last few years he has been very prominent on Matchdays, answering questions, guiding people around the ground and doing the Club Tour during the week.

He was always there to help, answer questions or talk to starry eyed youngsters who had been told by their Granddads that this man was Everton's own Superman.

Through all of this the thing that stood out was that Dave Hickson was not only a fine footballer but a fine human being, a Gentleman of the Highest Order. A man more than qualified to be called an Everton Legend. I have been privileged to see him play, proud to have spoken to him and forever glad that he is a BLUE. George Orr

E-Mails

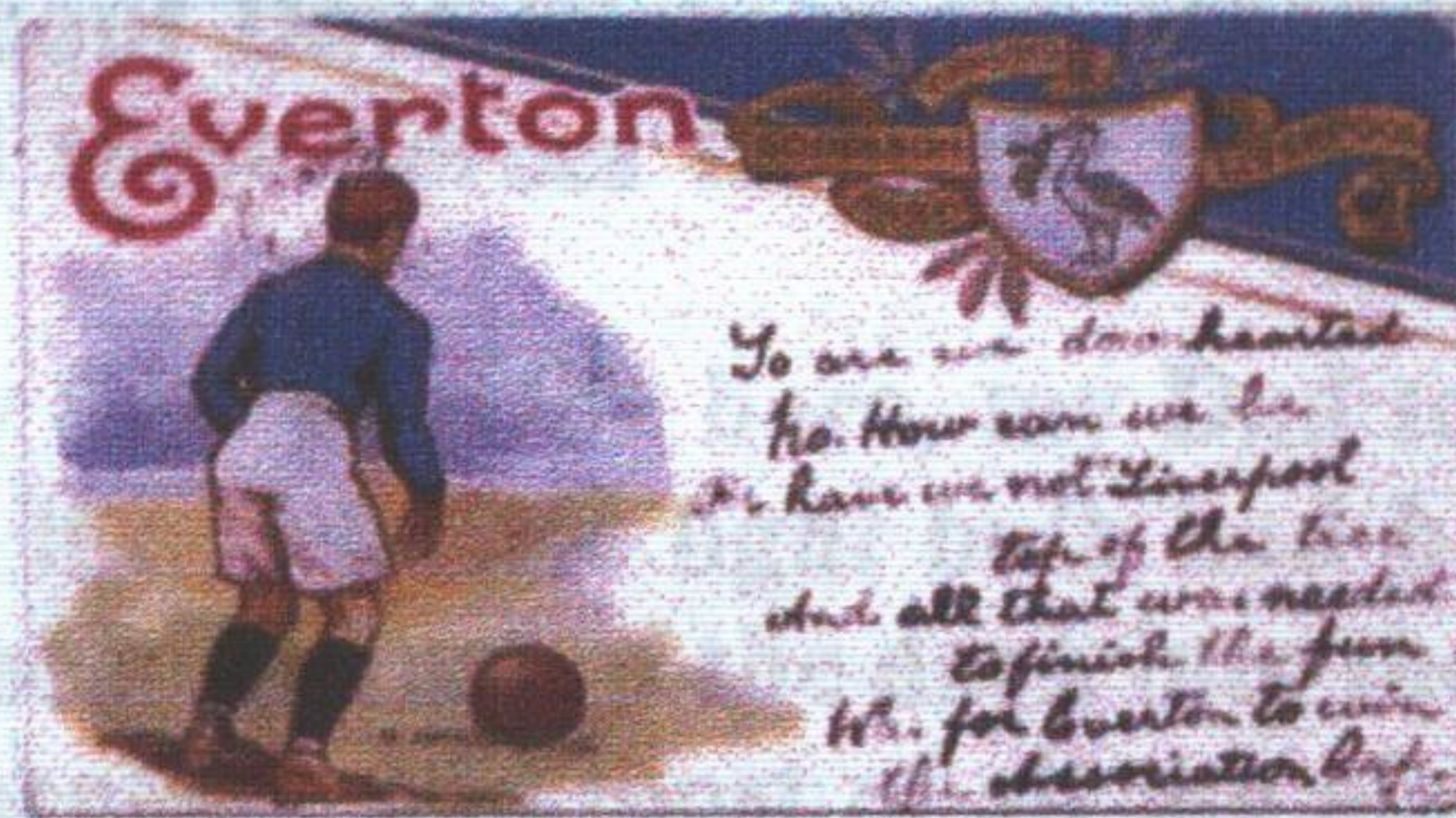
Letters



'The Cannonball Kid'



## Letters



## E-Mails

### Blue Blood

Very sad news about Dave Hickson, he was a great player. He gave everything for the Blues and loved them as much as any other Evertonian.

Such a nice man, a true gentleman always pleasant and cheerful. Never troubled by a request for a photo or an autograph I hope he gets well soon and gets back to watching his first love EFC.

Stuart Davis

### Blue Blood

7-1 get hold of that, what a game and don't let anyone kid you that Sunderland were crap, they weren't we were great. Sunderland tried their best even to the dying minutes they never gave up. But they couldn't match the skill or passion of the Blues.

This is what David Moyes should do all the time with the players he has got in this squad.

If they want to rebuild the England team then what is wrong with Leon Osman? What is wrong with James Vaughan? It is time to stop playing the Prima Donnas like Beckham and Lampard, they would rather be on a beach next year than in Switzerland or Austria.

The only trouble is we would have more chance of getting them injured on International duty.

Paul Graham

### Blue Blood

Portsmouth away tough match, but we got a point and that is not to be sniffed at, not many will take anything from them. Looking forward to the Russians coming to Goodison, it will be something different, I had never heard of them before the draw but apparently they are a good side. That is all the better because Everton play better against good quality teams.

I hope that now that Irvine has gone and Moyes seems to be a bit more confident that he will get a coach with some life in him. Nothing against Irvine but be honest he didn't come across as the all singing all dancing fun kind of guy did he?

Moyes should start to believe in the team and the squad and the fans.

The only thing we have wanted from him is skill and the ethic of winning not work rate. Work rate is for teams of poor quality who make up for it by running and chasing the ball down. Those days should be long gone at Everton. Despite what many people will tell you Moyes has had a lot of money to spend and now that the mixture of cash and youth are blending it is time for him to think positive.

Those who say where are the critics now should realise that Moyes is now doing what he wasn't and that is why he was criticised in the first place. He is giving young lads a game, he has at last seen that Neville is crap in midfield and Hibbert is crap at right back. And he is attacking instead of pulling every player into defence. Frank Jones

*Blue Swayed Views*



## The Brian Labone Story

### CHAPTER ONE

#### *The Decision to Quit*

I suppose I might have created something of a record. For, at the age of twenty-seven, as everyone in soccer knows, I handed in my cards at Everton.

I was skipper of a grand club, still well on top of my centre-half job, and there was still plenty of fire in me for the game – and the club – I had served since my seventeenth birthday.

To be blunt, there were no signs of Labone 'going over the hill'.

Few, if indeed any, international players with a First Division club, certainly at that age and in post-war football, have tendered their resignations and decided to chuck up football for ever.

'He's being a mug, an absolute mug!' scores must have said when, early in the 1967-68 season, the news broke that I had informed Everton manager Harry Catterick of my intention to give up football.

Goodbye to wages of around the £100-a-week mark. Farewell to the scores of friends and, let's admit it, the occasional enemy I must have made in the world's soccer arena. Goodbye to those thousands of loyal Goodison Park fans, who have cheered and hooted me, but remain the most likeable, knowledgeable football fanatics in Britain. Farewell, also, to my close-up admiration of the tenacity and brilliance of that ball of fire, Alan Ball, the smooth-as-silk wizardry of Alex Young, and the many up-and-coming kids on proud Everton's books.



It's history now that I told Mr Catterick I would be retiring from football in June, 1969, at the end of the option period he had on my services, or before that date if Everton could see their way clear to release me.

Two things prompted my decision: I was lucky being able to switch to our family business without suffering any financial hardship; I had not been enjoying my football as much as I used to do.

But, primarily, the decision to quit soccer's top wage bracket and pull off my boots for the last time with Merseyside's 'Millionaires' was hastened by my directorship and fast-growing interest in my father's expanding business as merchants to the heating trade.

I decided to redirect my activities elsewhere. It's as simple as that. And, yet, there was naturally a wrench, a hell of a big wrench, knowing that at any time I would be leaving the game in which I had sampled so much glory, and shared so many triumphs and quite a few setbacks.

And now I'll let you into a couple of secrets . . .

Firstly, and ironically, my own game improved from the moment I got it off my chest and announced my forthcoming retirement. All the tension suddenly flowed out of me; much of the old self-confidence returned; and I realised that my captain's and centre-half position in that Everton squad was no longer getting too much for me.

Secondly, I'm leaving Goodison in safe hands – and on safe feet. I know the tremendous potential of those youngsters, just aching and almost ready to make the grade with the Everton senior side. Believe me, the future of the present team is assured. It should have a fantastic run ahead of it. In fact, to my mind, this could easily turn out to be the most brilliant Goodison outfit of all time.

Understandably, I had qualms when I handed in my

cards. 'Was I leaving them in the lurch?' I kept asking myself. Well, I needn't have lost a single wink of sleep. For, as I have just said, those young 'uns are going to be the absolute tops once they have blended perfectly with the established class and older heads in Everton's senior line-up.

I leave, of course, with a certain amount of regret. I will miss playing in front of all those terrific crowds. I will miss soaking up that almost unbelievable and indescribable atmosphere that has lived with me from being a lad, and right through my career with one of the greatest clubs in the world. I will miss my team-mates' understanding and tolerance when I struck a bad patch in my play. I will miss the excitement of a good run in the Cup, and the challenge, so strong I could almost taste it, whenever I met a star, 22-carat centre-forward. All these things, and more, became part of my waking and sleeping life. For soccer was my life. And, even from the sidelines and an occasional seat in the stand, I hope it will continue to be a part of it.

But now is the time to go back to the beginning. To a schoolboy with soccer stardust in his eyes. To a kid who realised his dream. To a bloke who turned his back on World Cup glory and chose romance instead . . .

Now I don't claim any credit for being a footballer at all. I didn't at school. I never had done so during my heyday with Everton – and they don't come much higher than that!

No, I was just lucky. You see, my father played for Liverpool boys and Lancashire schoolboys and although he wanted me to go to University from my school, Liverpool Collegiate, he was behind me all the way once I'd decided to sign professional forms for Everton at seventeen.

Now I don't think I was really cut out for three or



four years' hard slogging at university. I wasn't exactly backward. But I wasn't exactly brilliant. The fact that I had six G.C.E. passes doesn't mean a thing. For I knew, in my own heart, that it was going to mean swot, swot, swot for young Labone in order to keep up the pace in higher-grade education. I expect I would have got there in the end, but it would have been one long struggle to stay the course.

So I told my dad: 'Sorry, but it's soccer boots for me, not school books.' To his credit, he has been behind me all the time ever since the decision was made.

I threw away my books, picked up my boots instead, and could do no more than wait and see what the future might have in store for me at Goodison.

I was suddenly among players who had been my heroes. I never dreamed that, in a comparatively short space of time, I would make the grade in a big way, and eventually, be skipper of the club that always had the biggest pulling-power on my schoolboy pocket-money.

Peter Farrell was the Everton captain at that time – one of the finest skippers I have ever played under. Their regular centre-half was T. E. Jones. Other notable players were Wally Fielding and Dave Hickson, that tearaway, powerhouse, unpredictable centre-forward who had just re-signed for Everton.

Well, I didn't do so badly at our Bellefield training ground in practice games way back in '57. Often, I was up against dashing Dave – that's Hickson, of course – and he didn't seem to give me too much trouble.

Yet I was surprised when, finally, I went straight into the Everton reserve side, leap-frogging over the 'A' team, which I naturally thought was going to afford me my baptism in pro. football.

So, it was into the reserves in my natural position as centre-half. It was a specialist's job in those days. I'm

afraid it's not so much of that nowadays. But more about that later.

I was in the Everton reserve side until February, 1958, when I made my league debut as a local lad for his local team.

The late Ian Buchan, then manager at Goodison, and millionaire chairman Mr John Moores were giving me plenty of encouragement. I just had to justify the faith they had in me – and also that of the keen-as-mustard Everton supporter who once stopped me and said: 'Keep it up, young un. You'll captain this club and play for England one day.'

Well, it's all come true, hasn't it? Yet, in those days, especially when I had secured a regular berth in the reserves, I would even have felt at the top of the tree if I had had a regular spot in the Everton 'C' team.

In my first game with the reserves we played Aston Villa. I'll not forget it in a hurry. We got licked four-nil.

Yet in that same 1957–58 season we did the double over Manchester United's 'second-string', which had Bobby Charlton, Geoff Whitefoot and Alex Dawson (later, Preston North End and Bury) in a very impressive reserve line-up. We won 4–2 at Old Trafford before a crowd of about 15,000. And 10,000 spectators watched us win by two goals to one at Goodison.

They were two fantastic games. Players in our side included Johnny King (now with Tranmere), Eddie Thomas (later with Derby County) and Brian Harris, who, as I write, is with Cardiff City. To pull the double over Busby's Babes was some going. Those are matches which will stick in my memory for ever; even when certain other more important fixtures have faded into a blur of dates, times and places.

In March, 1959, I came into the Everton first team, and after five or six games, I kept my place.



How did I make the grade so speedily? How did I hit the big-time so quickly as a centre-half after being a nipper of a schoolboy inside-forward who thought of nothing but scoring goals?

I'll tell you. I was LUCKY enough to play in a public practice game against Dave Hickson. I was LUCKY enough to play reasonably well. I have been LUCKY with injuries when you consider I've had eleven seasons at Everton. And I've been LUCKY to have been playing with terrific players like Alex Young, Alan Ball and Co. - and not against them.

I have had plenty of luck. Possibly more than my share of it. Yet I like to think that the enthusiasm I have always had for this great game of ours, plus the encouragement I have had from so many quarters, and the natural ability I expect I gained from my schoolkid days, have also played a huge part in my career.

Luck is a grand thing to have on your side. It has deserted me more quickly than a George Best dash at times. For, believe me, you need more than luck - a heck of a lot more - if you're going to come out on top at Maine Road, or Molineux, Highbury or Hillsborough, and, above all, at wonderful Wembley.



## CHAPTER TWO

### *Breaking into the Big-Time*

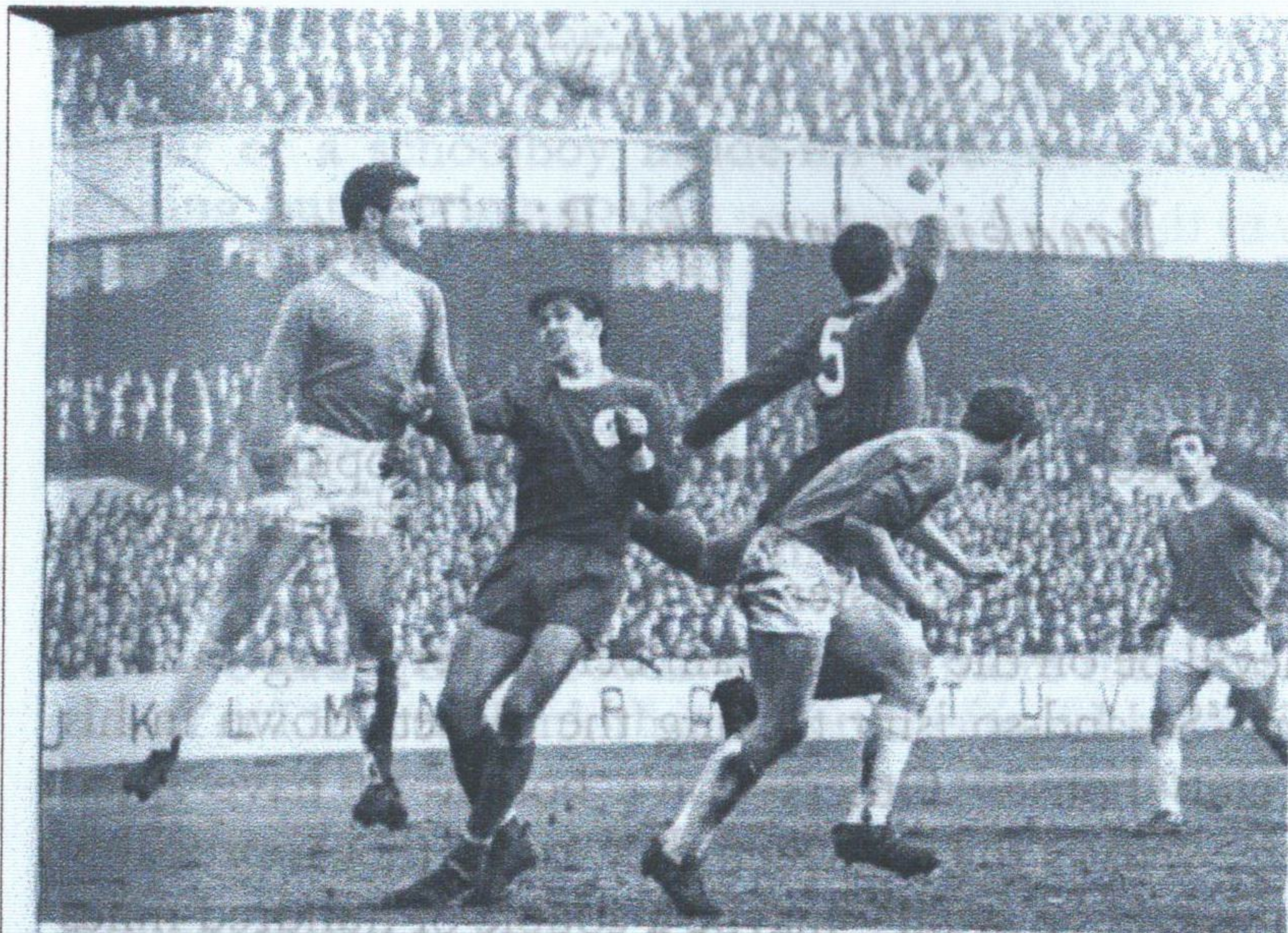
In top soccer-playing circles there's a popular saying about a few players who have itchy feet. They move to a club at a fair-sized transfer fee, but we all know it's odds-on they'll be on the move again before very long. And so we say 'So-and-so isn't tacking the carpets down in his new club house.' Others don't bother to have fitted carpets. What's the use when they know they'll probably be on the move again - maybe a couple of hundred miles or so away - inside a couple of seasons?

Now, as you know, I'm a local lad, Merseyside born and bred, and proud of it. My signing-on fee with Everton, if memory serves me correctly, was £20. Yes, twenty pounds . . . followed by a £750 benefit I collected four years ago . . . and the £1,000 after ten years' service with the club for which I will qualify at the end of the 1968-69 season, my last one at Goodison.

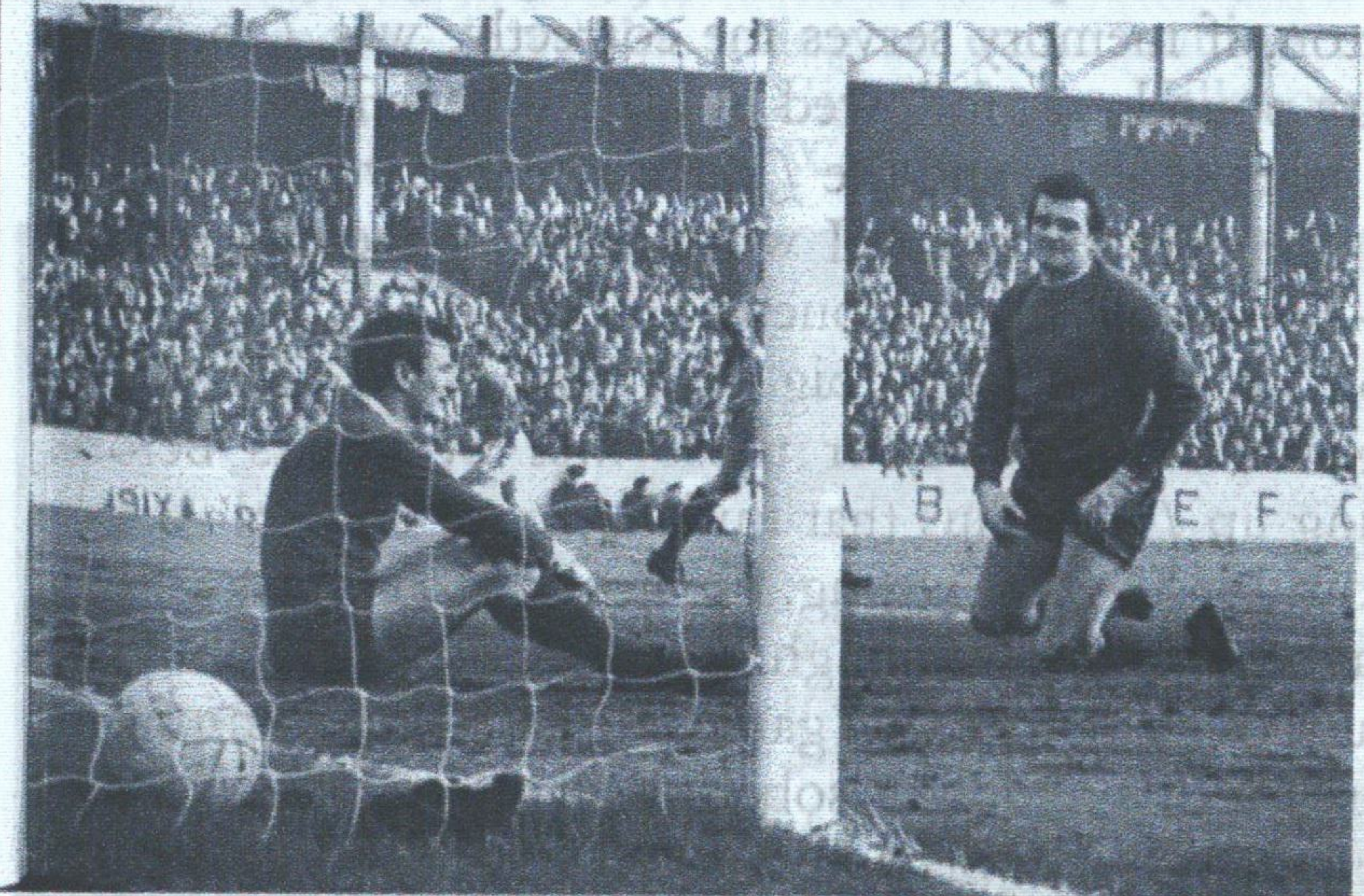
So, while watching 'big signings' come and go, I flogged my guts out for those first five years before picking up £750. Plus that initial £20, of course!

Now don't get me wrong. I'm not decrying the fact that I'm a local lad. Even though I've not collected a fabulous amount of brass from the game. Nor am I speaking from bitterness. It's simply a sobering thought. And it's the system that is to be blamed. For it doesn't need any pencil and paper work to calculate that a top-class player, if he makes a couple of good moves, can make ten times the amount I will have been handed in those couple of benefits.





Above Everton centre-half, Brian Labone heads clear from Liverpool's Tony Hateley and Ron Yeats. Below Tommy Smith sits it out watched by Liverpool goalkeeper Tommy Lawrence after Kendall (not in picture) had scored for Everton



By the way, my next and final benefit at Goodison, £1,000, will wind up as £750 after tax! But I still wouldn't swap my great, happy days with Everton with any of those blokes who don't tack down their carpets, or purchase fitted ones, when they join new clubs. It's no secret that one or two don't intend staying too long with a top club before they're trying to be on the move again.

Such players, in my view, are simply like meteors flashing through the firmament of football. It makes you wonder if some blokes, so eagerly acclaimed as 'star players', are all they are cracked up to be.

From my own experience, I've always found it has its good points being a home product player. For, to be fair, at least local-born footballers aren't usually expected to pull their team back when they're five goals down - as a £100,000 star is frequently expected to do. I have heard it said: 'Well, that fellow was only born round the corner and only cost us twenty quid. So you can't hope for miracles from him!'

They might not chant your name so often; but they don't criticise you so often either. No, you aren't expected to win matches every week, like certain big-name imported players. Also, you are near your family most of the time, and that's a big thing in my opinion. Indeed, it has been an absolute boon to me in spending my life and my career on Merseyside. I've never experienced the heartbreak of homesickness, which I know has affected drastically the standard of play of a few stars, who have moved hundreds of miles from their home surroundings into a completely strange environment.

My name must have been sung and hollered from our famous Merseyside terraces on fewer occasions than any other Everton or Liverpool first-team regular. Again, it's possibly because I'm a local lad. On the other hand, I've always felt that the name Labone is hard to fit in some of



## Who made their Everton League Debut in the...1960's ?

By: Smart Arridge.  
Article 4 – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2007

*This is the fourth article in the series on Everton Debutants that I will provide for Blue Blood throughout this season. I have been looking at Everton's Post-War Debutants, and intend to provide you with a decade-by-decade run down of the players who have pulled on the Royal Blue Jersey. And as the articles cover League Debuts for the Post-War period, everything you read refers to Post-War League only, they should appeal to the young as well as older readers.*

*At the end of the season, you will be armed with some very interesting facts about the men who have made Everton Great, and also a unique reference guide that accurately details when EVERY player made his Everton LEAGUE Debut\*.*

*I don't believe this is available in such a concise format anywhere else.....*

This article will unfortunately have to be in two Parts. This is Part One. Part Two and the full 60's debut table will be in the next issue of Blue Blood, in the New Year.

Everton's fortunes were about to take a dramatic upturn with the appointment of John Moores to Chairman of Everton Football Club in June 1960.

With Moores' financial backing, transfer fees started to soar, as Everton went after the players they thought would bring them success. With the arrival of Roy Vernon, Jimmy Gabriel and Alex Young in 1960, it was Johnny Carey who started to splash the cash.

Later, others arrived including Kay, Pickering, and Ball.

However, despite this transfer activity, and the fact that Peter Kavanagh was the SEVENTH left winger to play in that position during the 1960/61 season alone. The Sixties decade actually saw the LEAST number of debutants of any decade, apart from the war ravaged 1940's !

There were three debut League scorers in the Sixties. Pickering, Rees and the 'Goal-Legend' - Alan Ball.

Bally was only the second post-war player to score on his debut, and go on to be Everton's top League scorer the same season.

Pickering and Vernon were prolific scorers for Everton in the first half of the decade.

Roy Vernon was top scorer in 4 seasons, and finished as the overall top scorer for Everton for the Sixties decade.

The other goal-scoring phenomenon was Fred Pickering. Most people know that he scored a debut hat-trick for Everton against Nottingham Forest, and a hat-trick on his England debut. But he also scored a hat-trick at Goodison AGAINST us, earlier in the same season as his transfer from Blackburn !

Fred also currently holds the most European goals record for the Blues, although that tally of 6 goals looks as though it could be broken in the not too distant future.

However, later in the decade there was an even more successful scorer, in terms of number of seasons he achieved top League scorer status. He made his debut in the 1965/66 season, and played into the 1970's, ending up as top League scorer in 5 seasons during his Everton career (some as joint top scorer). His name - Joe Royle.

Joe was the youngest post-war player to appear for the Blues, beating Alan Tyrer's record from 1960.

Tyrer himself, although making only 9 league appearances, was also once the youngest player to score for Everton, a record that lasted for over 42 years until a certain Mr. Rooney's effort.

## Who Made Their Debut in the 1960's ?

During the 1960's, nine players had the same surname as others who have also played for Everton: Ball, Humphreys, Jackson, Morrissey, Newton, Stevens, Turner, Wilson, and Wright.

Both Humphreys and Morrissey also had family members who played for Everton - Gerry Humphreys' father John played for the Blues in the 1940's.

And Johnny Morrissey, who was the first post-war signing from across the park, made his Blues debut in a Championship winning season. Twenty years later he was emulated by his son, when Johnny junior also, amazingly, debuted in a Championship winning season !!

One player's name that first appeared in March 1967 was to re-appear again 14 years on, and again, and again - in a number of roles - player, player/manager, and then Manager on a further two occasions - take a bow the modern era Mr. Everton - Howard Kendall.

Following in the footsteps of Britton, Carey, Catterick and Bingham before him, Howard was a player, then Manager, of Everton Football Club.

Three other one time Everton Managers would also make their playing debut for the club in the Sixties - Royle, Harvey, and Jimmy Gabriel who was Caretaker manager on two occasions.

The Sixties though belonged to only ONE manager - Harry Catterick, who managed the Blues for all but the first season. Taking over from Johnny Carey in July 1961, after the infamous 'taxi incident'.

Carey's last game is reported to have been the 5-1 demolition of Cardiff at Goodison Park in April 1961, the day AFTER the taxi ride. (If true, it reminds me of the Martin Jol fiasco this season).

Incidentally, Cardiff visited Goodison in April of the following year and were thrashed 8-3. Six different players scored for Everton in that game, a record that still stands today, although we came mighty close to equalling it last week.

One other Manager connection, is that whilst three future Everton Managers would all play in the 1968 FA Cup final team together; Harvey, Kendall, and Royle, a former player was managing his team to the Championship that same season - Joe Mercer and Manchester City.

Talking about Championship winning teams, Everton welcomed Liverpool back from their prolonged stint in the Second Division by promptly winning the League ! And we did it in style, by not losing a single League game at home all season !

By the way, you must have read about Alex Young's problem with blisters on his feet..... apparently this was not a problem in the 1962/63 Championship winning season, as he was an ever present, along with Dennis Stevens.

*Next up is the 1960's Part 2...*

**You know You Want to Know your History...so keep reading !**

**See page 10 for some great Everton players in the 1960's**



The Board had made changes too often the team were not good enough, the players were getting too much money and had become lazy, all these excuses and more were used by the fans but none of them were true. Only 18,000 watched the game and Everton lined up as follows, Fern, Downs, McDonald, Peacock, Fleetwood, Hart, Jones, Spencer, Irvine, Crossley, Harrison. Not a brilliant team but good enough to beat Boro and beat them well, Everton win 4-1. Crossley, Fleetwood, Irvine & Spencer all get a goal each.

Three days later home again to Bradford, a poor team that would be relegated at the end of the season. Everton make only one change and it is a shock one, Irvine is dropped and new signing Wilf Chadwick from Rossendale, a tall strong player who found the net on a regular basis. He started his Everton career with two goals against Bradford in a 2-0 win.

Bradford away and surely an away win!!! Irvine is back in place of Crossley and Livingstone replaces Downs. 21,000 Bradfordonians (is that right) who have not had too much to cheer watch as they beat Everton easily 3-1 Chadwick the scorer for Everton.

Chedgzoy and Weller come into the team, it is only Weller's second game of the season and Chedgzoy had missed the last three matches. The opposition is Tottenham Hotspur and 30,000 Evertonians are there to watch what they soon find out to be a poor game it ends 0-0.

Three days later Preston North End away 18,000 Deepdale was not a happy place, Preston had slipped from their early glory days. Three changes for Everton but another defeat 1-0.

Serious concern over relegation was now taking a grip on the fans and Board. The rot had to stop, a few more defeats and Everton's fate would be sealed.

Chelsea away 30,000 Cockneys and if that wasn't bad enough Everton make changes once again. Blair comes in for only his second game of the season at centre forward, Chadwick is dropped.

It would be Blair's last game for the Blues he left for Oldham after playing six games and scoring three goals for Everton. Alex Wall replaced Crossley, Peacock replaced Hart, Chedgzoy and Downs come into the team as well. None of it works, Everton lose 1-0.

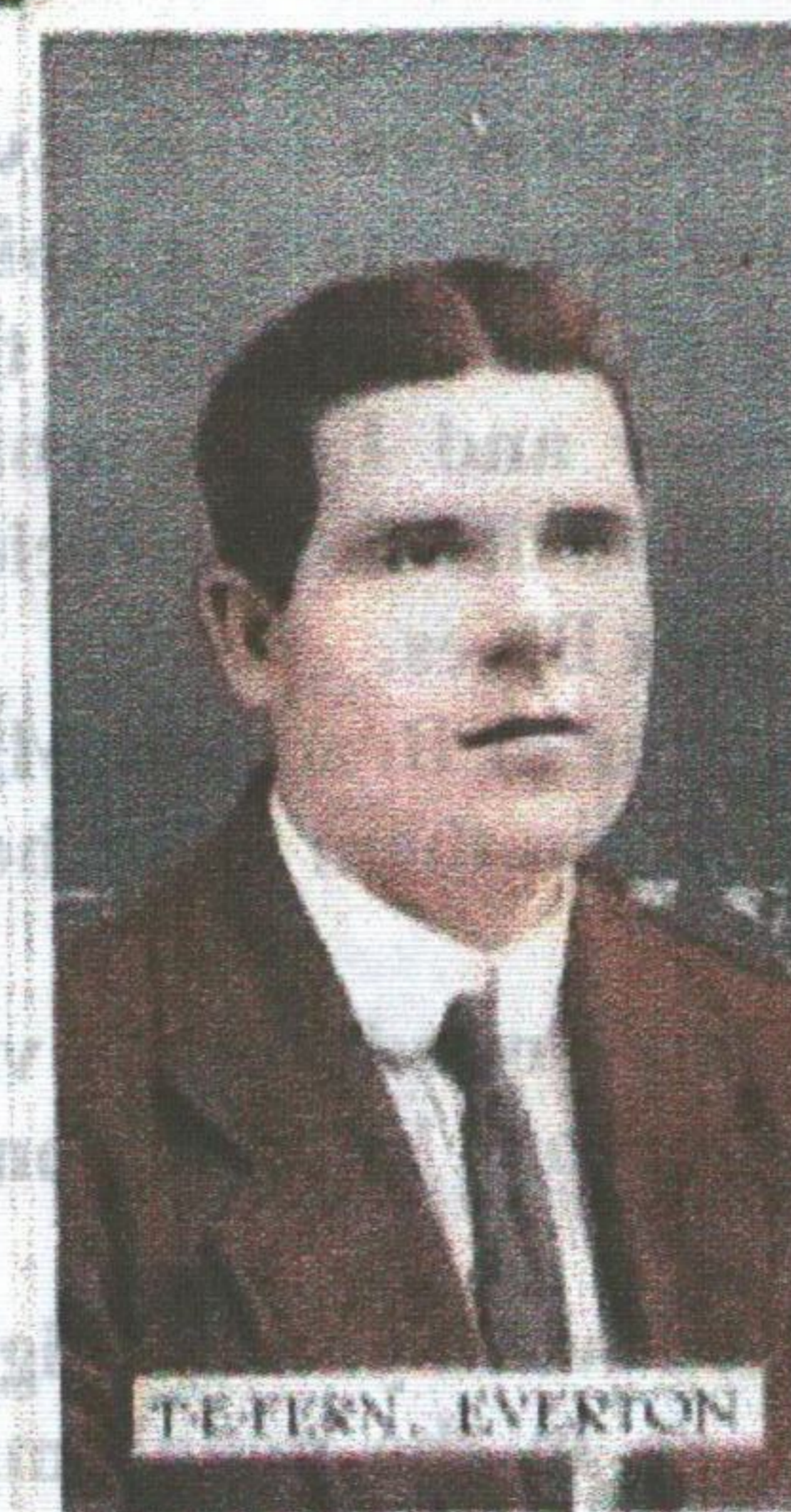
April 8th 1922 and home to Chelsea 30,000 fans try to get their team a win by cheering none stop. Once again there are four changes to the team, this is not helping the players, chopping and changing every match.

Reid had missed the last seventeen games but he found the net twice in this one. Sadly it wasn't enough, Everton lose again 3-2.

Seven games left and Everton have got to start winning or the reality of relegation will hit them right on the chin.

Preston North End at home, the attendance isn't known but it would not have been a packed Goodison Park that watched an abysmal 0-0.

Huddersfield at home and 40,000 are known to have turned up and willed Everton to a win and what a win? 6-2 Chedgzoy gets a hat trick and so does Irvine, Everton can breathe more easily.



**Tom Fern** Born in Measham, Leicestershire on 1st April 1886 joined Everton in December 1913 from Lincoln, Won the League with Everton in 1915.

Nicknamed "Evergreen" because he was reliable and nearly always fit. It wasn't until his last two seasons at Goodison that injuries interrupted his career. Played 231 games for Everton left for Port Vale then Colwyn Bay.

Died in Bootle 21st March 1966

### The Two Everton Goalkeepers for the 1922/23 Season

**Alfred Harland** was born in Crookstown Northern Ireland about 1894.

Joined Everton from Linfield. Signed as cover for Tom Fern and took his chance when Fern was injured, played for nearly four months until Fern regained his fitness.

A good quality understudy who went on to play seventy times for Everton before leaving and joining Runcorn in 1926.





## The History Of Everton Football Club

The next day Everton play at Sheffield United 20,000 see Everton slump back to a loss of form. They lose 1-0 and despite the three changes to the team they never had a look in.

Huddersfield away 29,000 Leeds Road Huddersfield was on every Evertonians mind, if they were not there in body they were there in spirit. Everton had put six past the Terriers only a few weeks before but that meant nothing as every Evertonian knew. Grenyer and Irvine scored and Everton came back from Yorkshire with two of the most precious points in their History. 2-1 was good enough for most Blues.

Three games to go and Everton were four points clear of Bradford Manchester United were already doomed. So we need to win them all or hope that Bradford fall apart.

30,000 are at Goodison Park for the game, Sheffield United are the visitors, the match is full of tension and Everton are nervous but hang on to a draw 1-1 Brewster being the Everton goal hero.

A trip to third placed Burnley is not what you need when you are fighting relegation but that is where Everton had to go in the penultimate game of the season. A pitiful 15,000 watched the men from Turf Moor beat Everton 2-0. But thankfully Bradford had not done any better.

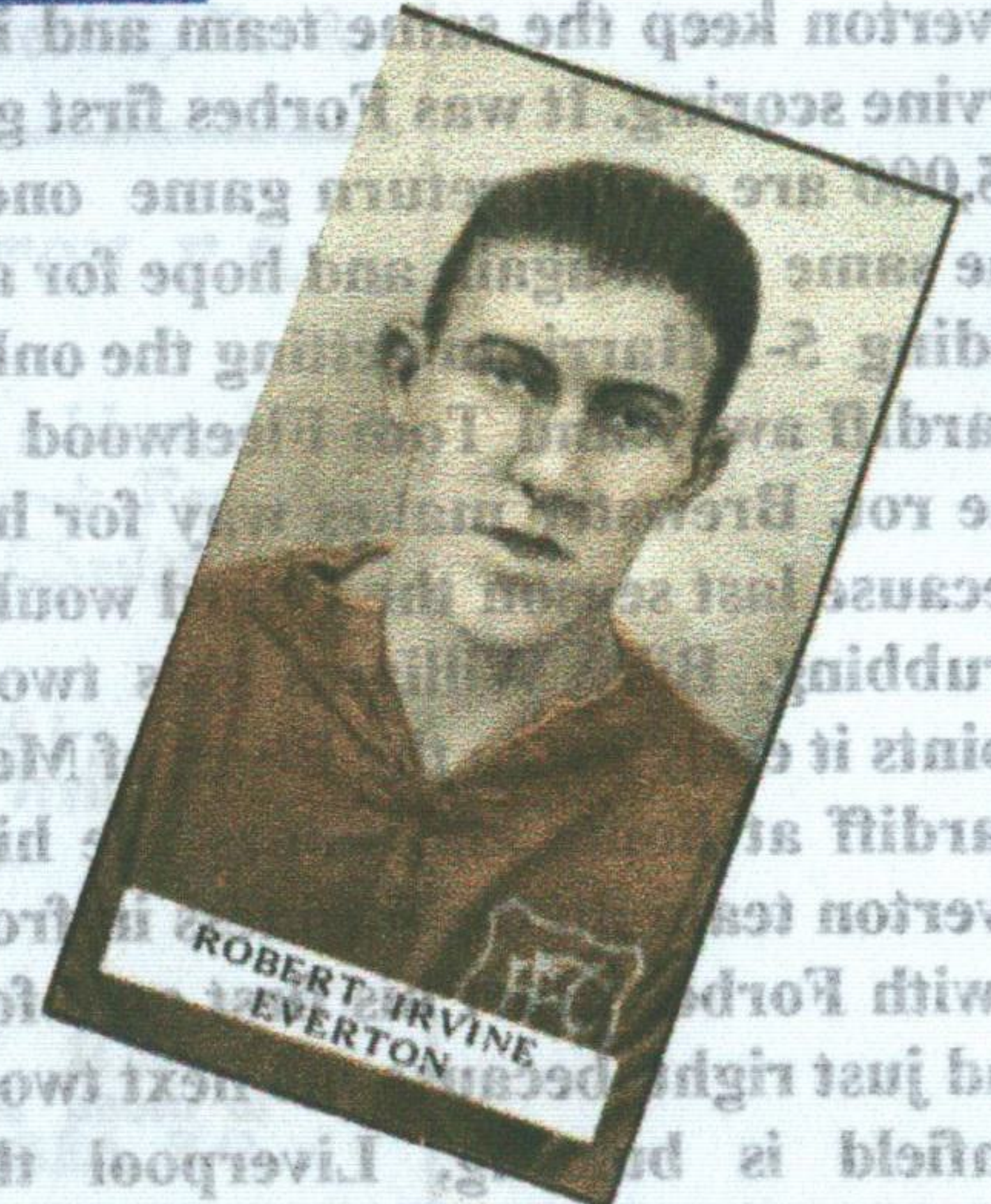
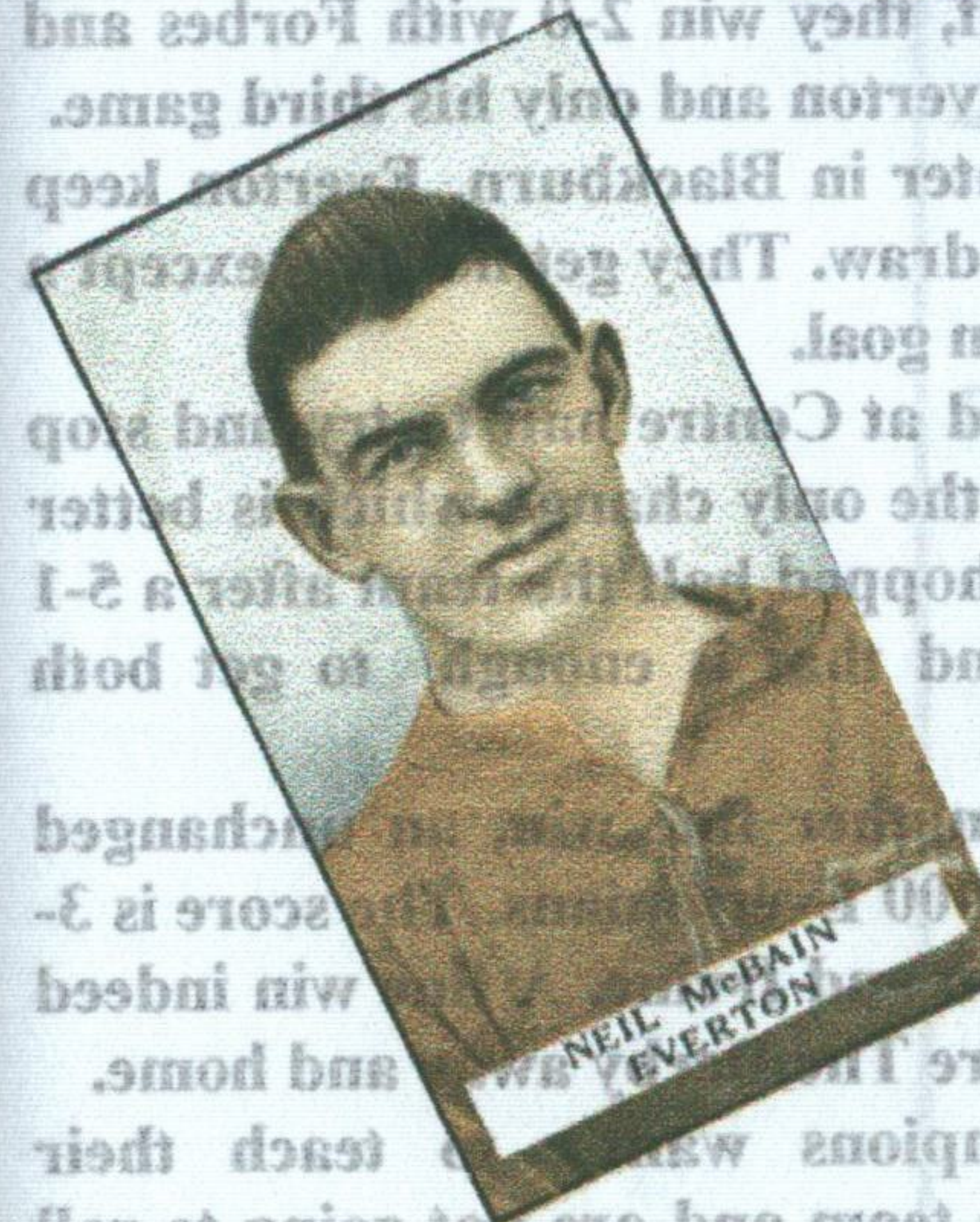
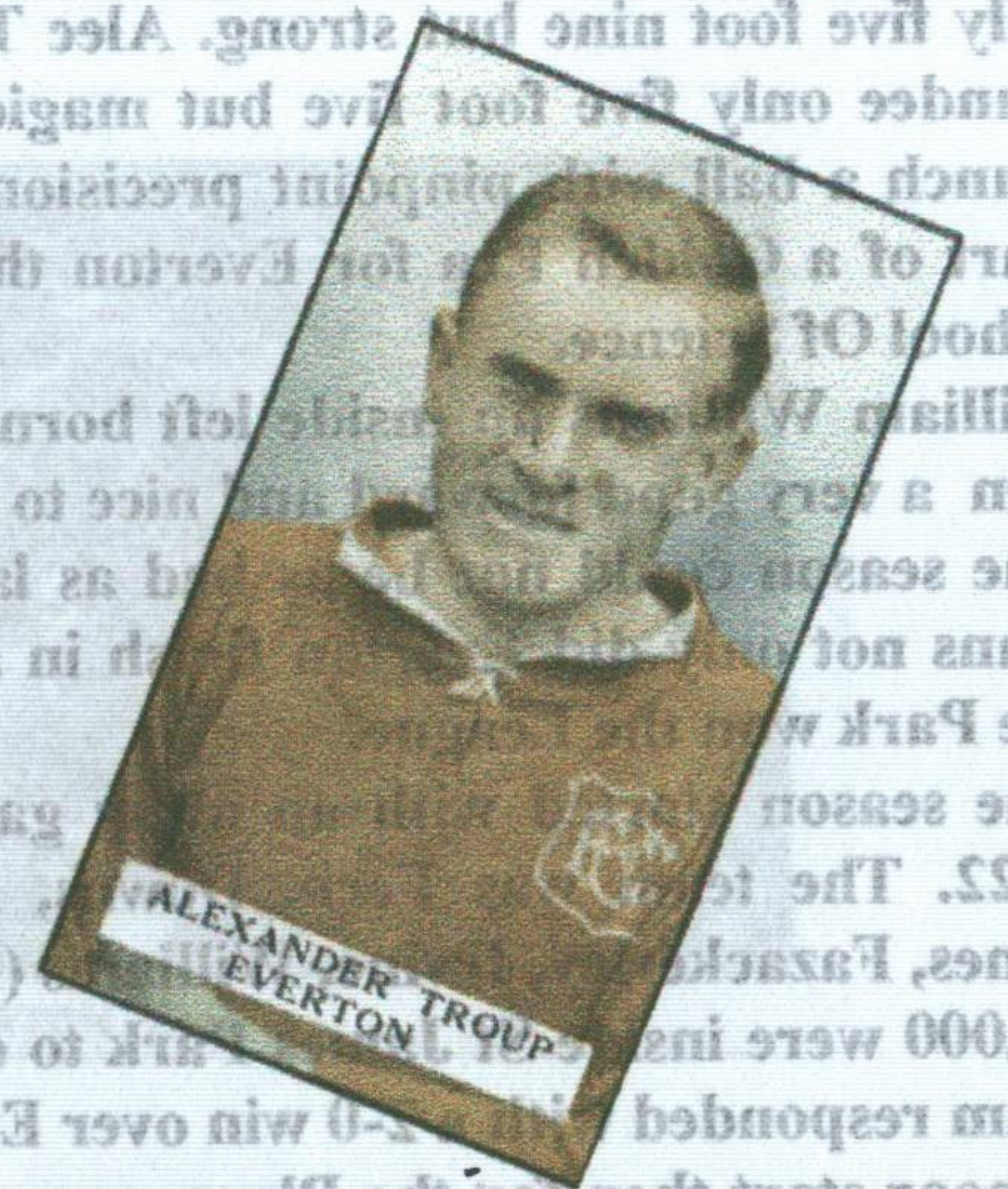
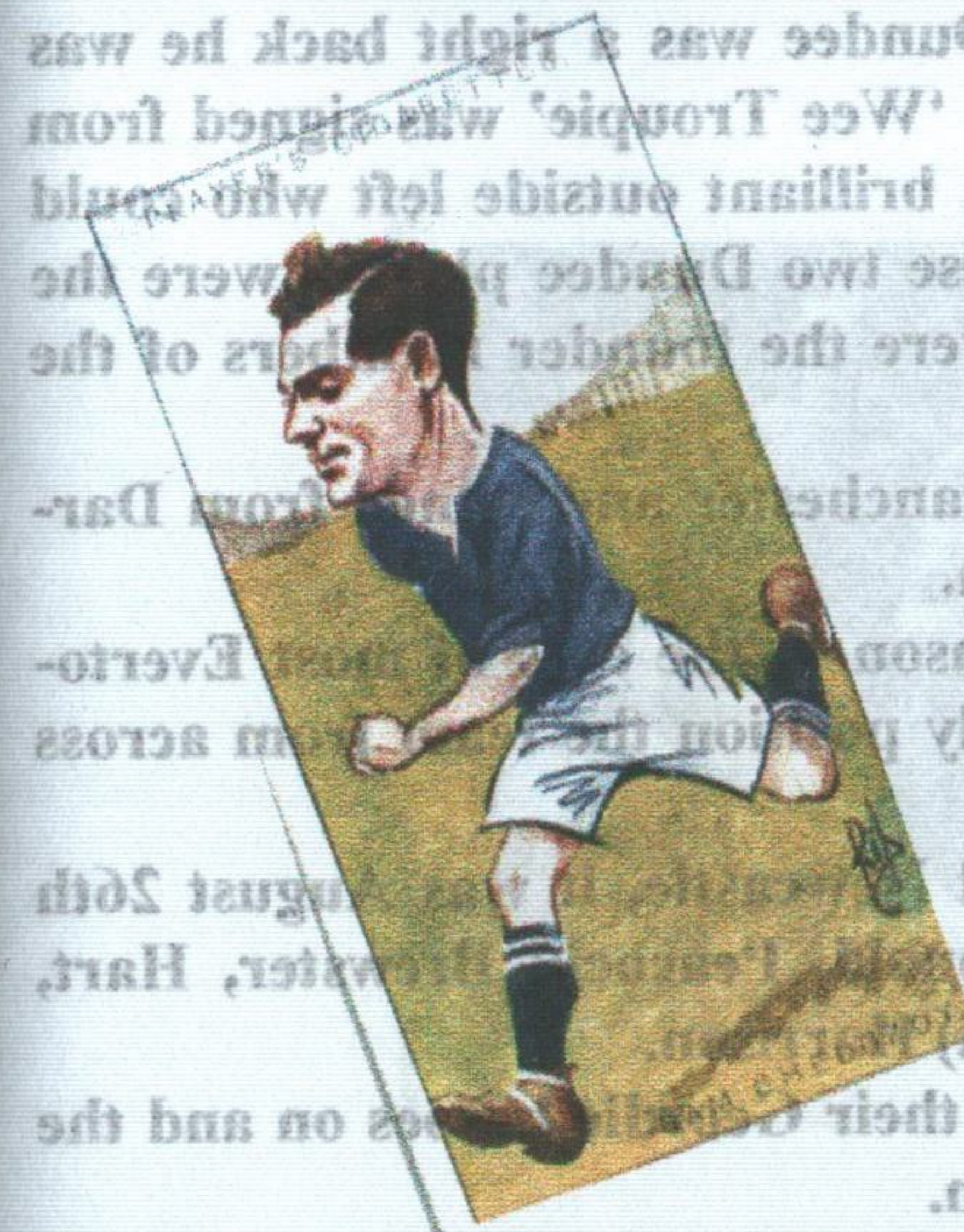
Everton could relax for the last game of the season a home game against Burnley. The Everton team that day were: Fern, Downs, Livingstone, Fleetwood, Brewster, Hart, Chedgzoy, Fazackerley, Irvine, Wall, Harrison. Fazackerley and Wall scored in a 2-0 win, everybody went home happy. Everton had finished 20th a very poor season won 12 Drew 12 lost 18.

### 1922/23 Season

New faces were the order of the day and Everton took it upon themselves to replace some of the squad. Alford, Blair, Clennell, Crossley, Davies, Spencer & Weller all left the Club. The new signings were John (Jack) Cock a Cornishman signed from Chelsea late in the season a centre forward and all round player, could hit the ball with either foot and also able be head it with accuracy and power.

Fred Forbes another forward was signed from Hearts a tricky forward who could play in any forward role. Alf Harland was a goalkeeper who was born in Northern Ireland, bought to cover Fern he was a good signing from Linfield. Neil McBain a half back from Manchester United was a tough lad and hard to beat as a defender.

Henry Miller was signed as cover for the forwards from Leyland. Frank Parry was also signed as cover for the injury prone Chedgzoy, he was a local lad born in Aigburth and played for Seaforth where Everton picked him up and signed him as a professional.





### The History Of Everton Football Club

David Raitt a Scottish lad signed from Dundee was a right back he was only five foot nine but strong. Alec Troup 'Wee Troupie' was signed from Dundee only five foot five but magical. A brilliant outside left who could launch a ball with pinpoint precision. These two Dundee players were the start of a Golden Era for Everton these were the founder members of the School Of Science.

William Williams an inside left born in Manchester and signed from Darwen a very good forward and nice to watch.

The season could not be as bad as last season in the eyes of most Evertonians not only did Everton finish in a lowly position the team from across the Park won the League.

The season started with an away game at Newcastle, it was August 26th 1922. The team was Fern, Downs, McDonald, Peacock, Brewster, Hart, Jones, Fazackerley, Irvine, Williams (Debut) Harrison.

50,000 were inside St James Park to cheer their Geordie heroes on and the team responded with a 2-0 win over Everton.

A poor start then for the Blues, one week later the return fixture at Goodison 35,000 watch this game, Frank Forbes makes his debut at Centre Forward. Brewster, Irvine and Williams another player to score on his debut for Everton.

Tottenham away 24,262 attend this game, David Raitt makes his debut at right back replacing Downs who had been injured badly.

Everton struggle to get form and lose 2-0. It is a blow to their hopes of a good start to the season.

35,000 still turn up at Goodison for the game against Blackburn Rovers. Everton keep the same team and it pays off, they win 2-0 with Forbes and Irvine scoring. It was Forbes first goal for Everton and only his third game. 15,000 are at the return game one week later in Blackburn. Everton keep the same team again and hope for at least a draw. They get nothing except a hiding 5-1 Harrison getting the only Everton goal.

Cardiff away and Tom Fleetwood is recalled at Centre half to try and stop the rot. Brewster makes way for him, it is the only change which is better because last season the Board would have chopped half the team after a 5-1 drubbing. Billy Williams gets two goals and that is enough to get both points it ends 2-0 to the Blues of Merseyside.

Cardiff at home and hopes are high for another fine win, an unchanged Everton team do the business in front of 50,000 Evertonians. The score is 3-1 with Forbes, Hart his first goal for Everton and Irvine. A fine win indeed and just right because the next two games are The Derby away and home.

Anfield is buzzing, Liverpool the Champions want to teach their neighbours a lesson, Everton have the same team and are not going to roll over and die ( to be continued in next issue 47 )



A very nice card given free with "Pals" magazine a highly collectable item for all young boys in the 1920's

"PALS"  
Football Series, No. 8.

---

EVERTON F.C.

Back Row: Hart, Brewster, Peacock, Fern, McDonald, Chedgzoy.

Front Row: Harrison, Downs, Irvine, Forbes, Williams.

Look out for next week's "PALS." It contains a splendid photo of CHELSEA F.C.



